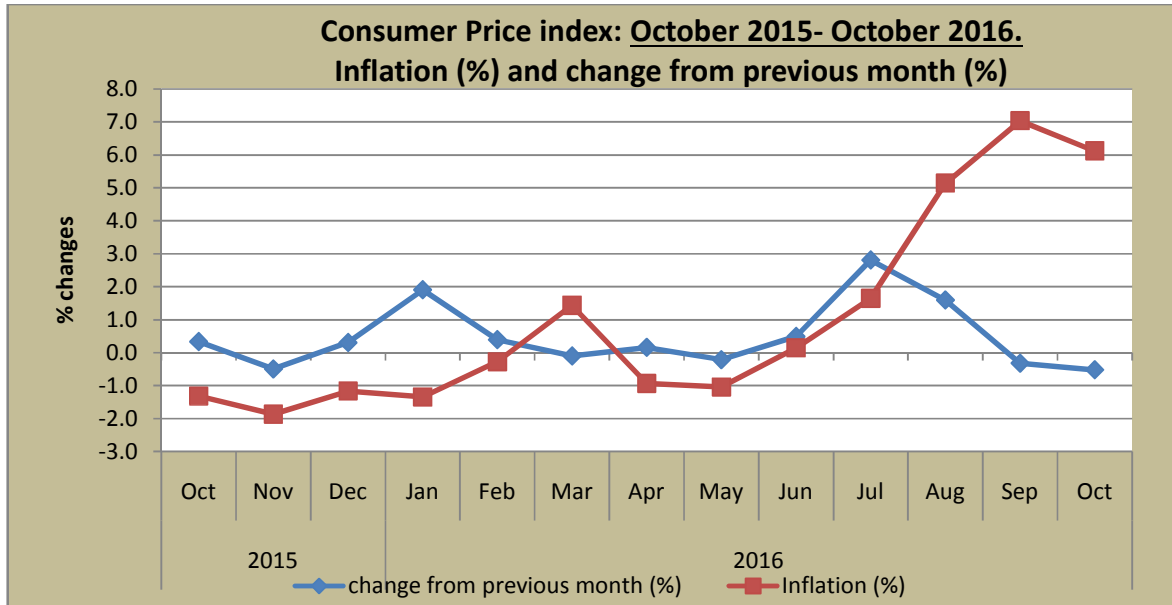




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA  
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA RELEASE

**Consumer Price Index for October 2016 recorded a decrease of 0.5%**  
**With an Annual Inflation Rate of 6.1%.**



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **October 2016** recorded a decrease of **0.5%** from **September 2016 (113.4)** and now stands at **112.8**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded a decrease of **1.8%** and import index increased by **0.5%**. For the previous two months, **September 2016** recorded a decrease of **0.3%** and **August 2016** increased by **1.6%**.

The **annual rate of inflation** for **October 2016** was **6.1%** compares to **7.0%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **October 2015** was **1.3% (Deflation)**. **Local Index** marked an increase by **7.0%** and **Imported Index** increased by **5.5%** in **October 2016**.

- **Food Group** recorded a decrease of **1.4%** towards the index position of **October 2016**. This was mainly due to decrease in prices of some **fruits and vegetables and meat, fish & poultry** items. Prices of some imported items especially with mutton flap, chicken pieces and chicken whole frozen and other packaged food decreased throughout the month.
- **Housing Group** recorded no change compared to the previous month.
- **Household Operation** group recorded a decrease of **0.1%** towards the index position of **October 2016**. This was due to decrease in price of **kerosene** compares to the previous month.
- **Tobacco, alcohol & kava Tonga group** index marked an increase by **0.9%** towards the index position of **October 2016**. This was due to increase in price of **tobacco** and **kava Tonga** compares to the previous month.
- **Clothing & footwear group** index recorded no change compares to the previous month.
- **Transportation group** index recorded an increase by **1.4%** towards the index position of **October 2016**. This was due to increase in price of **petrol** comparing to the previous month.
- **Misc. Goods and Services group index** recorded a decrease by **0.4%** in the index position of **October 2016** due to decrease in price of some **Cosmetics and Toiletries** items compared to the previous month.

Detailed information from this release is available from the Statistics Department Or visit our website at [www.spc.int/prism/tonga/](http://www.spc.int/prism/tonga/)