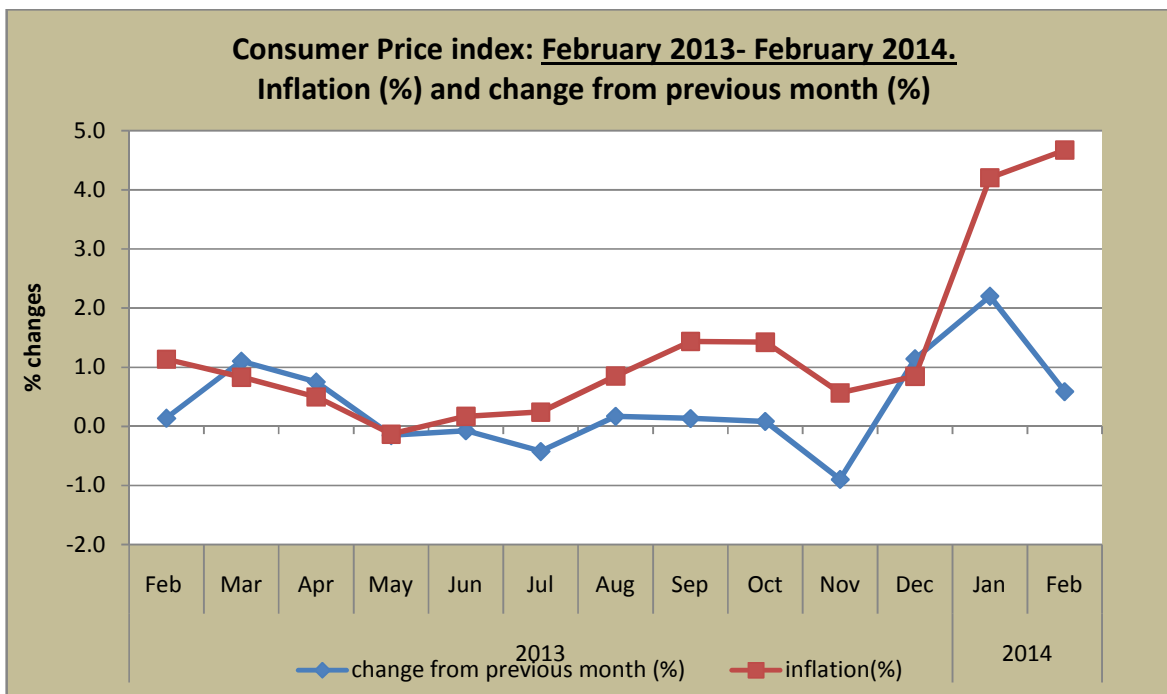




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA  
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA RELEASE

**Consumer Price Index for February 2014 recorded an increase of 0.6%**  
**With an Annual Inflation Rate of 4.7%**



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **February 2014** recorded an increase of **0.6%** from **January 2014 (109.5)** and now stands at **110.1**. In comparison with the previous month, local index increased by **1.7%** while import index decreased by **0.2%**. For the previous two months, **December 2013** recorded an increase of **1.1%** while **January 2013** increased by **2.2%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate for February 2014** was **4.7%** in comparison to **4.2%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **February 2013** was **1.1%**. Local Index marked a huge increase by **6.9%** while Imported Index increased by **3.2%**.

The **Food Group** marked an increase of **1.0%** towards the index position of **February 2014**, due mainly to increase in prices of most **local Roots crops, Fruits and vegetables, Meat, fish & Poultry**. Prices of items decrease although some imported food items such as tinned & packaged food and frozen meat increase throughout the months.

**Housing group** marked an increase by **0.2%** due to increase in price of Paint.

An increased of **0.6%** in the index position of **Transportation group** was due mainly to increasing prices of fuel both Unleaded and Diesel.

**Household Operation group** marked an increase of **0.1%** in the index position due to increase in price of Electricity.

**Misc. Goods and Services, Clothing and Footwear and Tobacco Alcohol & Kava Tonga** groups recorded no change throughout the 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/)