



KINGDOM OF TONGA

Consumer Price Index

Statistical Bulletin

JANUARY 2018



Statistics Department
P.O. Box 149
Nuku'alofa
Kingdom of Tonga

Website: www.spc.int/prism/tonga/

E-mail : dept@stats.gov.to

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STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JANUARY 2018

(Base Period: October 2010=100.0)

Consumer Price Index for JANUARY 2018 increased by 1.0%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 6.0%

The Consumer Price Index covers price changes in the Tongatapu Division only. The weights were derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (2009).

1. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **January 2018** increased by **1.0%** to **120.7** from **119.5** in the previous month. Over the previous two months, the index for all items increased by **0.8%** in **December, 2017** and decreased by **1.0%** in **November, 2017**.
2. When comparing the **local and imported** indices for **January 2018** to the previous month, local index increased by **1.2%** and import index increase by **0.9%**.
3. The **annual rate of inflation for January 2018** was **6.0%** compares to **5.5%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **January 2017**, was **5.4% (Inflation)**.
4. When comparing the **annual change** in the **local and imported indices** for **January 2018**, the local index recorded an increase of **2.9%** and import index also increased by **8.2%**.

Changes in each group compared with the previous month are as follows:

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------|
| A. | FOOD | 1.3% |
| | Food Group recorded an increase towards the index position of January 2018 . This was mainly due to increase in prices of some local fruits and vegetables items such as tomatoes, peanuts, pineapples, potatoes, carrot, cucumber. Prices of mayonnaise, butter block and some meat, fish & poultry items such as sea urchin, clam, octopus, suckling pig, eggs, beef (rump steak), cockle pipis, mutton flaps, salted beef, chicken pieces increased throughout the month. | |
| B. | HOUSING | 1.3% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to an increase in price of high gloss paint and coral aggregate compare to the previous month. | |
| C. | HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS | 0.1% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to an increase in price of kerosene and portable radio player compare to the previous month. | |
| D. | CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR | 2.9% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded an increase in boys khaki shorts and girls' school uniform compare to the previous month. | |
| E. | TRANSPORTATION | 1.9% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to an increase in price of Diesel and Petrol compare to the previous month. | |
| F. | TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA TONGA, | 1.1% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to an increase in price of Kava Tonga , and Tobacco such as Winfield and Pall Mall compare to the previous month. | |
| G. | MISC. GOODS AND SERVICES | -0.1% |
| | Price of items in this group recorded a decrease due to decrease in price of deodorant compare to the previous month. | |

Dr. Viliami K Fifita

Government Statistician

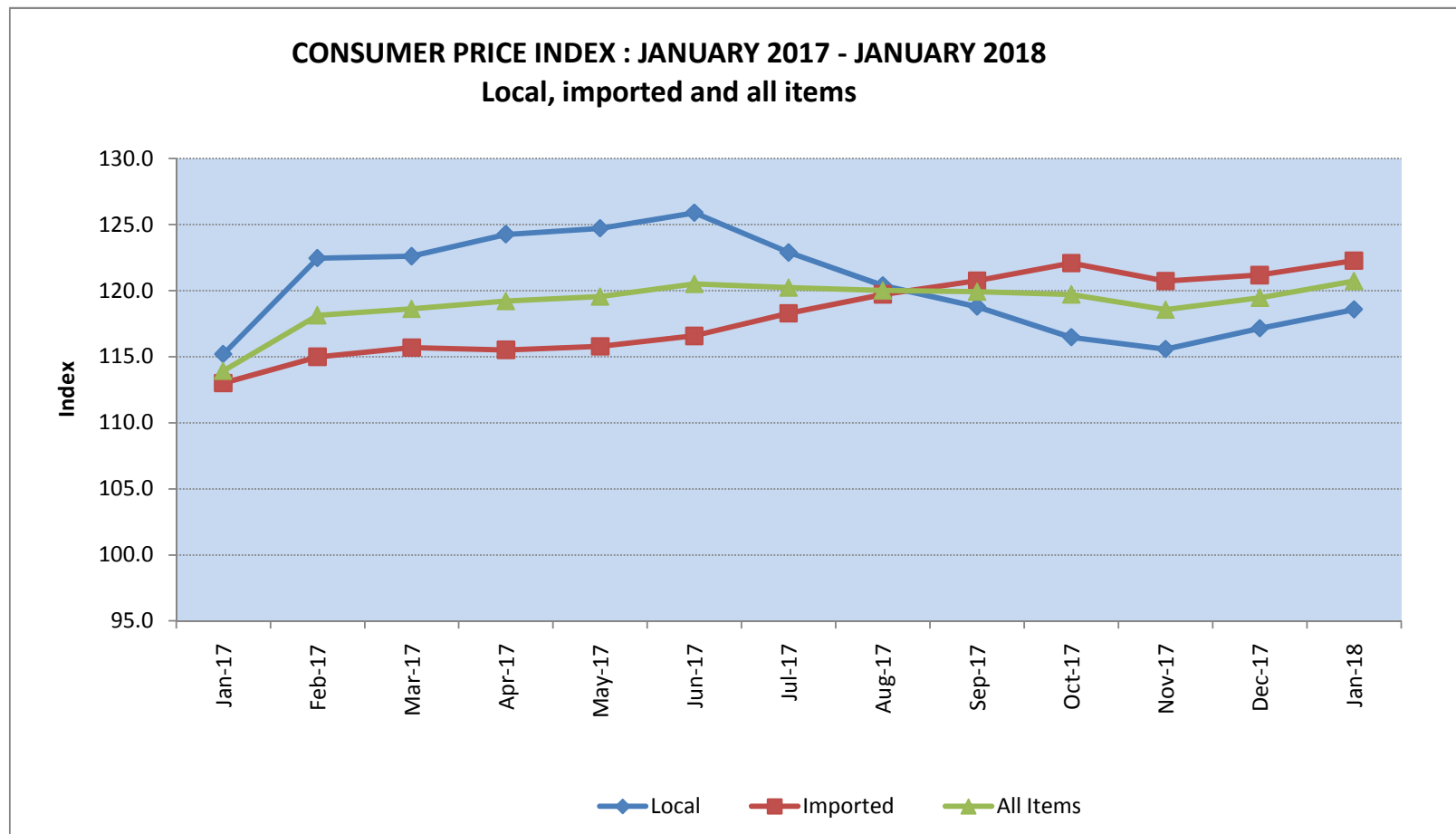


Fig 1: Graphical representation of Consumer Price Index for Total, Local and Imported Components

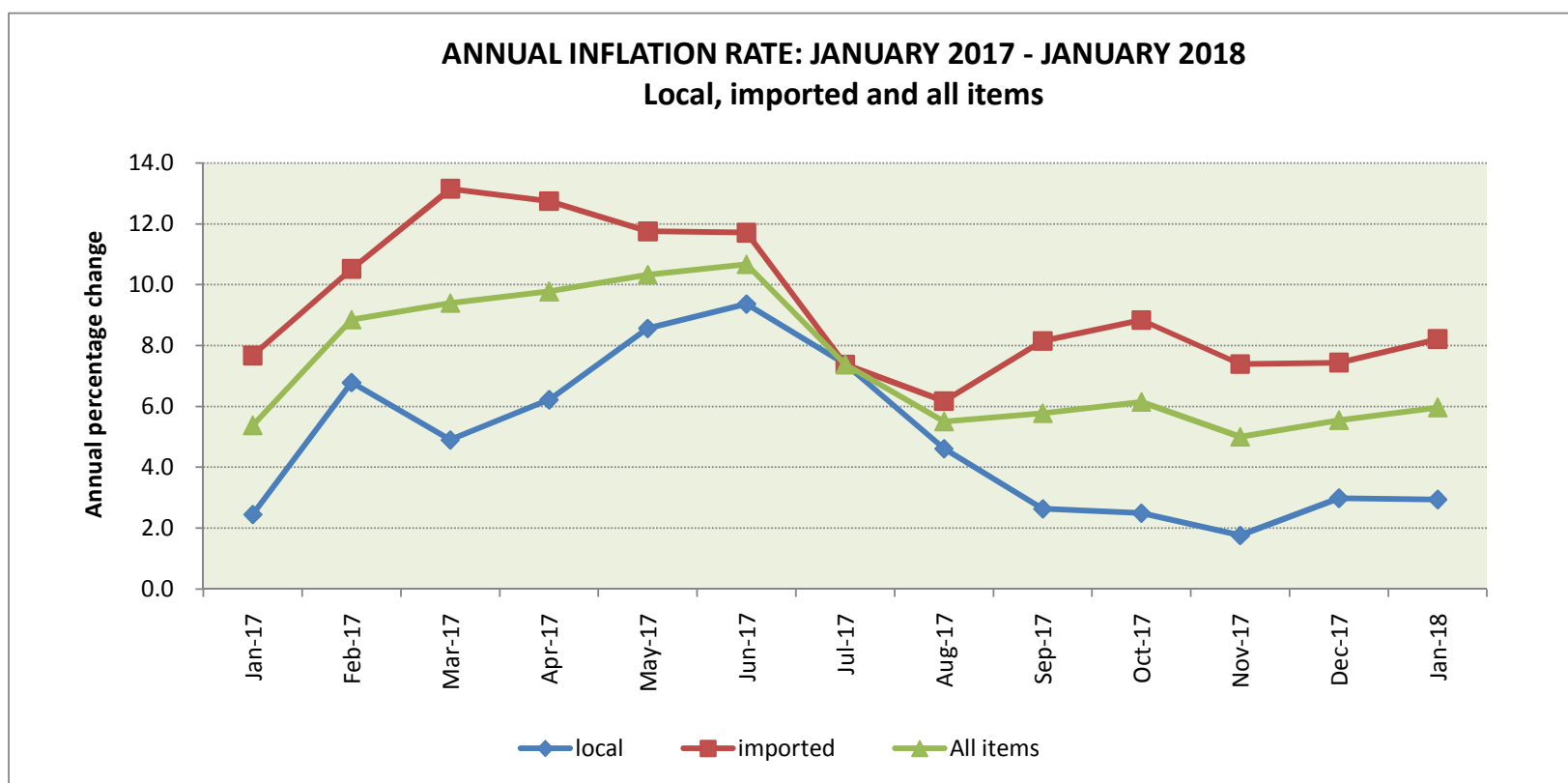


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Annual Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Fig 3: Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups
December 2017 to January 2018 1.0%.

Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food	0.40	0.20	0.60
Housing	0.03	0.00	0.03
Household Operation	0.00	0.01	0.01
Clothing, footwear	0.00	0.11	0.11
Transportation	0.00	0.20	0.20
Tobacco, Alcahol, Kava	0.08	0.01	0.09
Misc Good & Services	0.00	-0.01	-0.01
TOTAL	0.5	0.5	1.0

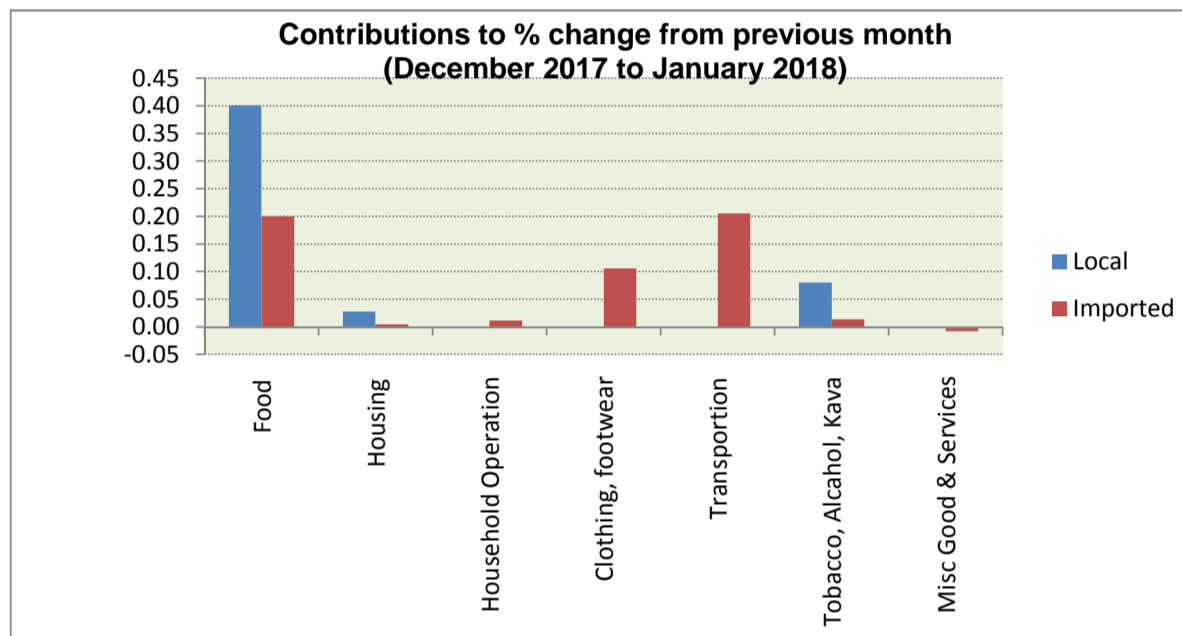


Fig 4: Contribution to % change from last year, All groups
January 2017 to January 2018 6.0%.

	Local	Imported	Total
Food	0.0	2.8	2.8
Housing	0.3	0.0	0.3
Household Operation	0.5	0.2	0.7
Clothing, footwear	0.0	0.2	0.2
Transportation	0.0	0.8	0.8
Tobacco, Alcahol, Kava	0.4	1.0	1.4
Misc Good & Services	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
TOTAL	1.3	4.7	6.0

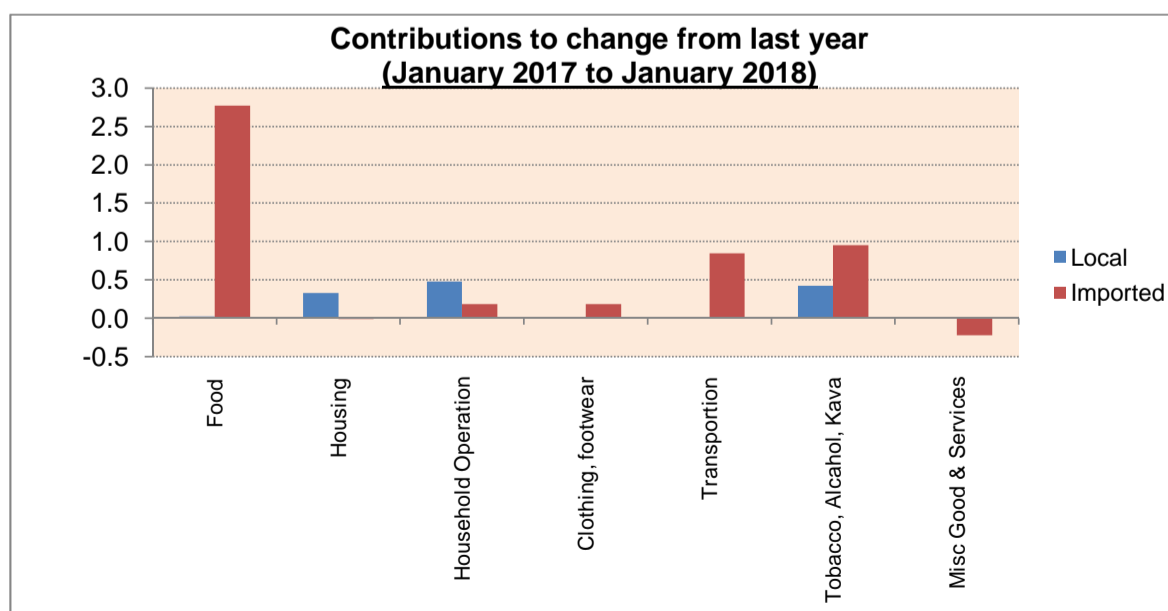


Table 1: Consumer Price Index by major groups
(Base Period : October 2010=100.0)
JANUARY 2018

Year/month	All items	Food	Housing	Household operations	Clothing & footwear	Transportation	Tobacco, alcohol & kava	Misc. goods & services
<i>Weight</i>	<i>100.00</i>	<i>45.76</i>	<i>2.52</i>	<i>20.80</i>	<i>3.16</i>	<i>11.93</i>	<i>6.00</i>	<i>9.83</i>
2015 January	109.6	115.8	101.2	102.4	127.7	101.0	104.0	105.9
February	108.8	117.2	100.9	99.6	127.7	94.1	104.8	105.9
March	106.9	114.0	101.2	97.5	127.7	93.6	104.7	105.9
April	109.6	119.1	100.7	97.5	127.7	97.0	104.8	105.9
May	109.5	117.6	101.3	99.3	127.7	98.5	105.2	105.9
June	108.7	115.9	101.4	97.8	127.7	100.7	105.6	105.9
July	110.1	118.0	101.0	98.0	127.7	104.1	106.2	105.9
August	108.2	113.3	101.1	97.9	131.5	104.1	107.4	106.0
September	105.9	109.5	101.7	97.3	131.5	100.6	107.5	106.0
October	106.3	110.6	102.1	97.6	131.5	99.0	107.7	106.0
November	105.8	109.5	102.0	97.6	131.5	98.4	108.3	106.0
December	106.1	110.7	101.5	96.6	132.3	97.6	109.4	105.8
2016 January	108.1	111.7	102.9	100.4	138.7	95.1	111.1	113.0
February	108.5	112.2	103.6	100.4	138.7	92.6	119.3	113.0
March	108.4	114.1	102.9	97.5	138.7	90.0	118.1	113.4
April	108.6	114.1	102.9	97.5	138.7	90.5	119.4	113.5
May	108.4	113.1	103.2	97.6	138.7	92.5	119.4	113.4
June	108.9	112.7	104.0	97.5	138.7	95.3	125.3	113.5
July	112.0	117.1	103.7	98.4	138.7	98.4	132.8	113.8
August	113.7	120.5	104.0	98.6	138.7	98.7	136.8	113.2
September	113.4	120.0	103.6	98.3	138.7	97.7	137.5	113.2
October	112.8	118.3	103.6	98.3	138.7	99.1	138.7	112.8
November	112.9	117.9	103.6	98.3	138.7	101.0	139.9	112.8
December	113.2	117.7	103.9	99.0	137.5	101.9	142.0	113.1
2017 January	113.9	119.3	103.9	99.0	137.5	101.3	142.5	113.2
February	118.1	125.0	103.9	102.2	137.5	105.8	149.6	113.1
March	118.6	125.7	103.8	102.7	137.5	105.9	150.2	113.1
April	119.2	126.0	117.5	103.8	137.5	104.9	150.2	113.1
May	119.6	126.4	117.4	103.8	139.1	104.6	153.4	112.6
June	120.5	128.6	117.6	103.8	139.1	104.5	153.4	112.5
July	120.2	128.2	117.6	102.1	139.1	102.5	161.4	112.2
August	120.0	127.6	117.6	102.2	139.1	101.1	165.5	112.1
September	119.9	127.0	117.8	102.4	139.1	103.0	165.8	110.8
October	119.7	126.3	117.4	102.3	140.3	104.4	165.8	110.7
November	118.6	123.4	116.9	102.3	140.3	105.4	166.1	110.7
December	119.5	124.7	116.9	102.6	140.3	107.3	166.7	110.7
2018 January	120.7	126.3	118.4	102.6	144.3	109.3	168.6	110.6
Percentage change between DECEMBER 2017 and JANUARY 2018 .	1.0	1.3	1.3	0.1	2.9	1.9	1.1	-0.1
Percentage change between JANUARY 2017 and JANUARY 2018 .	6.0	5.8	14.0	3.7	4.9	8.0	18.3	-2.3

Table 2: Consumer Price Index and annual inflation rate
(Base Period: October 2010=100.0)
JANUARY 2018

Year/month		Local	Import	All items	Monthly change for all items (%)	Annual inflation rate for period (%)	Average index for year	Average annual inflation rate (%)
2015	January	105.7	112.4	109.6	2.1	0.1		
	February	104.6	112.0	108.8	-0.7	-1.1		
	March	103.8	109.2	106.9	-1.8	-4.0		
	April	109.7	109.6	109.6	2.6	-1.5		
	May	110.1	109.1	109.5	-0.1	-0.6		
	June	109.8	108.0	108.7	-0.7	0.2	108.5	0.1
	July	112.6	108.3	110.1	1.3	1.6		
	August	109.7	107.0	108.2	-1.8	-1.0		
	September	105.0	106.6	105.9	-2.1	-1.9		
	October	106.2	106.4	106.3	0.3	-1.3		
	November	105.1	106.3	105.8	-0.5	-1.9		
	December	106.9	105.5	106.1	0.3	-1.2	108.0	-1.1
2016	January	112.4	105.0	108.1	1.9	-1.3		
	February	114.7	104.1	108.5	0.4	-0.3		
	March	116.9	102.3	108.4	-0.1	1.4		
	April	117.0	102.5	108.6	0.2	-0.9		
	May	114.9	103.6	108.4	-0.2	-1.0		
	June	115.1	104.4	108.9	0.5	0.1	107.8	-0.6
	July	114.4	110.2	112.0	2.8	1.6		
	August	115.1	112.8	113.7	1.6	5.1		
	September	115.7	111.7	113.4	-0.3	7.0		
	October	113.6	112.2	112.8	-0.5	6.1		
	November	113.6	112.4	112.9	0.1	6.8		
	December	113.7	112.8	113.2	0.3	6.7	110.7	2.6
2017	January	115.2	113.0	113.9	0.6	5.4		
	February	122.5	115.0	118.1	3.7	8.9		
	March	122.6	115.7	118.6	0.4	9.4		
	April	124.3	115.5	119.2	0.5	9.8		
	May	124.7	115.8	119.6	0.3	10.3		
	June	125.9	116.6	120.5	0.8	10.7	115.7	0.9
	July	122.9	118.3	120.2	-0.2	7.4		
	August	120.4	119.7	120.0	-0.2	5.5		
	September	118.8	120.8	119.9	-0.1	5.8		
	October	116.5	122.1	119.7	-0.2	6.1		
	November	115.6	120.7	118.6	-1.0	5.0		
	December	117.1	121.2	119.5	0.8	5.5		
2018	January	118.6	122.3	120.7	1.0	6.0	119.6	7.5

Table 3: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from previous month
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)
JANUARY 2018

	Weights			January 2018			December 2017			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. FOOD	17.8	27.9	45.8	122.3	128.8	126.3	119.6	128.0	124.7	2.2	0.7	1.3
Fruit and Vegetables	6.5	0.9	7.5	131.0	113.4	128.8	121.9	110.5	120.4	7.5	2.6	6.9
Meats, Fish & Poultry	3.7	14.6	18.4	122.8	138.1	134.9	124.7	138.1	135.4	-1.5	-0.1	-0.3
Dairy Farm & Vegetable Products	0.5	3.2	3.6	110.8	121.8	120.4	105.0	118.6	116.8	5.6	2.7	3.1
Cereals and Cereal Products	3.4	3.5	6.9	125.7	111.5	118.4	127.9	111.0	119.2	-1.7	0.4	-0.7
Other Food	0.0	5.7	5.7	0.0	122.3	122.3	0.0	120.5	120.5	-	1.5	1.5
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away from home	3.7	0.0	3.7	104.9	0.0	104.9	104.9	0.0	104.9	0.0	-	0.0
B. HOUSING	1.7	0.8	2.5	124.6	105.6	118.4	122.7	105.0	116.9	1.6	0.6	1.3
House Maintenance Goods	0.1	0.8	0.9	137.5	105.6	109.3	106.3	105.0	105.1	29.4	0.6	3.9
House Maintenance Services	1.6	0.0	1.6	123.8	0.0	123.8	123.8	0.0	123.8	0.0	-	0.0
C. HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS	17.3	3.5	20.8	103.0	100.9	102.6	103.0	100.5	102.6	0.0	0.4	0.1
Domestic Fuel and Power	6.0	1.1	7.1	97.4	98.2	97.6	97.4	99.1	97.7	0.0	-0.9	-0.1
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Utensils	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	106.4	106.4	0.0	103.7	103.7	-	2.6	2.6
Household Furni., Furn. & Textiles	1.4	0.0	1.4	142.9	0.0	142.9	142.9	0.0	142.9	0.0	-	0.0
H/hold Supplies & Services	4.7	1.2	5.9	94.0	97.9	94.8	94.0	98.6	94.9	0.0	-0.7	-0.2
Communications Services	5.2	0.0	5.2	106.9	0.0	106.9	106.9	0.0	106.9	0.0	-	0.0
D. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0	144.3	144.3	0.0	140.3	140.3	-	2.9	2.9
Clothing Supplies & Services	0.0	2.1	2.1	0.0	155.0	155.0	0.0	149.0	149.0	-	4.0	4.0
Footwear	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	122.0	122.0	0.0	122.0	122.0	-	0.0	0.0
E. TRANSPORTATION	0.5	11.5	11.9	107.0	109.4	109.3	107.0	107.3	107.3	0.0	2.0	1.9
Public Transportation	0.5	2.9	3.4	107.0	104.2	104.6	107.0	104.2	104.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Private Transportation	0.0	8.6	8.6	0.0	111.2	111.2	0.0	108.4	108.4	-	2.6	2.6
F. TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA	1.5	4.5	6.0	230.0	148.2	168.6	223.6	147.8	166.7	2.9	0.2	1.1
Tobacco	0.0	2.9	2.9	0.0	170.4	170.4	0.0	169.9	169.9	-	0.3	0.3
Alcohol	0.8	1.6	2.4	119.6	108.0	111.8	115.7	108.0	110.5	3.4	0.0	1.2
Kava	0.7	0.0	0.7	357.3	0.0	357.3	348.1	0.0	348.1	2.7	-	2.7
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	3.5	6.4	9.8	127.5	101.4	110.6	127.5	101.6	110.7	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Medical Health Services & Supplies	0.2	0.3	0.6	100.0	106.9	104.0	100.0	111.1	106.5	0.0	-3.7	-2.3
Cosmetics and Toiletries	0.0	5.3	5.3	0.0	99.1	99.1	0.0	98.5	98.5	-	0.5	0.5
Personal Goods	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Newspapers & Stationery Supplies		0.6	0.6	100.0	120.2	117.9	100.0	124.0	121.3	0.0	-3.1	-2.8
Leisure, Recreational & Craft Supplies	0.4	0.0	0.4	306.6	0.0	306.6	306.6	0.0	306.6	0.0	-	0.0
Other Goods and Services	0.8	0.0	0.8	103.1	0.0	103.1	103.1	0.0	103.1	0.0	-	0.0
Education	2.0	0.0	2.0	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	42.2	57.8	100.0	118.6	122.3	120.7	117.1	121.2	119.5	1.2	0.9	1.0

Table 4: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from same month of previous year
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)
JANUARY 2018

	Weights			January 2018			January 2017			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. FOOD	17.8	27.9	45.8	122.3	128.8	126.3	122.2	117.5	119.3	0.1	9.6	5.8
Fruit and Vegetables	6.5	0.9	7.5	131.0	113.4	128.8	137.8	104.7	133.6	-4.9	8.3	-3.6
Meat, Fish & Poultry	3.7	14.6	18.4	122.8	138.1	134.9	110.8	123.2	120.7	10.9	12.0	11.8
Dairy Farm & Vegetables Products	0.5	3.2	3.6	110.8	121.8	120.4	106.7	107.0	107.0	3.9	13.9	12.6
Cereals and Cereal Products	3.4	3.5	6.9	125.7	111.5	118.4	125.7	109.9	117.6	0.0	1.4	0.7
Other Food	0.0	5.7	5.7	0.0	122.3	122.3	0.0	115.6	115.6	-	5.8	5.8
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away from home	3.7	0.0	3.7	104.9	0.0	104.9	104.9	0.0	104.9	0.0	-	0.0
B. HOUSING	1.7	0.8	2.5	124.6	105.6	118.4	102.4	106.8	103.9	21.7	-1.1	14.0
House Maintenance Goods	0.1	0.8	0.9	137.5	105.6	109.3	106.3	106.8	106.8	29.4	-1.1	2.3
House Maintenance Services	1.6	0.0	1.6	123.8	0.0	123.8	102.2	0.0	102.2	21.2	-	21.2
C. HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS	17.3	3.5	20.8	103.0	100.9	102.6	99.8	94.9	99.0	3.2	6.3	3.7
Domestic Fuel and Power	6.0	1.1	7.1	97.4	98.2	97.6	88.9	84.3	88.1	9.7	16.5	10.7
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Utensils	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	106.4	106.4	0.0	102.6	102.6	-	3.8	3.8
H/hold Furniture , Furniture & Textiles	1.4	0.0	1.4	142.9	0.0	142.9	131.5	0.0	131.5	8.7	-	8.7
H/hold Supplies & Services	4.7	1.2	5.9	94.0	97.9	94.8	94.0	97.4	94.7	0.0	0.6	0.1
Communications Services	5.2	0.0	5.2	106.9	0.0	106.9	109.3	0.0	109.3	-2.2	-	-2.2
D. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0	144.3	144.3	0.0	137.5	137.5	-	4.9	4.9
Clothing Supplies & Services	0.0	2.1	2.1	0.0	155.0	155.0	0.0	145.0	145.0	-	6.9	6.9
Footwear	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	122.0	122.0	0.0	122.0	122.0	-	0.0	0.0
E. TRANSPORTATION	0.5	11.5	11.9	107.0	109.4	109.3	107.2	101.0	101.3	-0.3	8.3	8.0
Public Transport	0.5	2.9	3.4	107.0	104.2	104.6	107.2	104.2	104.6	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Private Transport	0.0	8.6	8.6	0.0	111.2	111.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	11.3	11.3
F. TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA	1.5	4.5	6.0	230.0	148.2	168.6	197.8	124.2	142.5	16.3	19.4	18.3
Tobacco	0.0	2.9	2.9	0.0	170.4	170.4	0.0	136.7	136.7	-	24.7	24.7
Alcohol	0.8	1.6	2.4	119.6	108.0	111.8	115.7	101.4	106.2	3.4	6.4	5.3
Kava	0.7	0.0	0.7	357.3	0.0	357.3	292.5	0.0	292.5	22.1	-	22.1
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	3.5	6.4	9.8	127.5	101.4	110.6	127.5	105.4	113.2	0.0	-3.7	-2.3
Medical Health Services & Supplies	0.2	0.3	0.6	100.0	106.9	104.0	100.0	111.1	106.5	0.0	-3.7	-2.3
Cosmetics and Toiletries	0.0	5.3	5.3	0.0	99.1	99.1	0.0	100.6	100.6	-	-1.6	-1.6
Personal Goods	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Newspapers & Stationery Supplies	0.1	0.6	0.6	100.0	120.2	117.9	100.0	147.1	141.7	0.0	-18.3	-16.8
Leisure, Recreational & Craft Supplies	0.4	0.0	0.4	306.6	0.0	306.6	306.6	0.0	306.6	0.0	-	0.0
Other Goods and Services	0.8	0.0	0.8	103.1	0.0	103.1	103.1	0.0	103.1	0.0	-	0.0
Education	2.0	0.0	2.0	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	42.2	57.8	100.0	118.6	122.3	120.7	115.2	113.0	113.9	2.9	8.2	6.0

Table 5 : Consumer Price Index
Groups and subgroups - index numbers
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)
January 2018

TONGA
SDT:23-374

Group or Subgroup	Annual		Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18
	2013	2014													
A.FOOD GROUP	108.2	112.2	119.3	125.0	125.7	126.0	126.4	128.6	128.2	127.6	127.0	126.3	123.4	124.7	126.3
Fruit and Vegetables	103.1	109.6	133.6	163.3	165.7	166.6	167.1	173.9	158.9	140.8	130.2	122.9	114.0	120.4	128.8
Meats, Fish & Poultry	114.1	120.6	120.7	122.0	121.7	121.5	122.8	125.4	130.3	134.6	139.9	139.6	135.1	135.4	134.9
Dairy Farm & Vegetable Produ	108.2	110.7	107.0	108.0	111.0	111.9	112.2	113.8	114.1	117.4	115.4	115.9	117.0	116.8	120.4
Cereals and Cereal Products	107.6	108.2	117.6	117.9	118.1	118.4	118.2	117.8	118.1	119.1	117.3	117.4	118.8	119.2	118.4
Other Food	102.2	101.7	115.6	117.1	118.4	119.6	118.0	117.1	117.7	119.3	114.9	118.8	120.0	120.5	122.3
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away f	100.1	100.7	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9
B.HOUSING GROUP	100.7	101.4	103.9	103.9	103.8	117.5	117.4	117.6	117.6	117.6	117.8	117.4	116.9	116.9	118.4
House Maintenance Goods	101.9	103.9	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.3	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.4	106.3	105.1	105.1	109.3
House Maintenance Services	100.0	100.0	102.2	102.2	102.2	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8
C.HOUSEHOLD OPERATION GROUP	103.4	104.0	99.0	102.2	102.7	103.8	103.8	103.8	102.1	102.2	102.4	102.3	102.3	102.6	102.6
Domestic Fuel and Power	108.5	110.5	88.1	97.5	98.8	102.2	102.2	102.2	97.6	97.6	96.8	96.8	96.8	97.7	97.6
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Ute	100.0	100.1	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	103.7	103.7	103.7	103.7	106.4
Household Furni., Furn. & Text	107.5	107.6	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	131.5	142.9	142.9	142.9	142.9	142.9
H/hold Supplies & Services	100.0	99.8	94.7	94.7	94.7	94.7	94.6	94.6	94.3	94.4	95.4	94.8	94.9	94.9	94.8
Communications Services	100.0	100.0	109.3	109.3	109.3	109.3	109.3	109.3	109.3	109.3	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9	106.9
D.CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR GROUP	104.6	119.1	137.5	137.5	137.5	137.5	139.1	139.1	139.1	139.1	139.1	140.3	140.3	140.3	144.3
Clothing Supplies & Services	106.8	124.7	145.0	145.0	145.0	145.0	147.3	147.3	147.3	147.3	147.3	149.0	149.0	149.0	155.0
Footwear	100.0	107.5	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0	122.0
E.TRANSPORTATION GROUP	113.1	112.8	101.3	105.8	105.9	104.9	104.6	104.5	102.5	101.1	103.0	104.4	105.4	107.3	109.3
Public Transportation	105.0	105.0	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6
Private Transportation	116.3	115.9	100.0	106.3	106.4	105.0	104.6	104.5	101.7	99.7	102.4	104.3	105.7	108.4	111.2
F.TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA GROU	99.8	100.4	142.5	149.6	150.2	150.2	153.4	153.4	161.4	165.5	165.8	165.8	166.1	166.7	168.6
Tobacco	102.5	102.4	136.7	147.0	148.1	148.1	148.1	148.1	164.7	167.3	167.9	168.0	168.5	169.9	170.4
Alcohol	96.6	98.1	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	110.5	110.5	110.5	110.5	110.5	111.8
Kava	100.0	100.0	292.5	311.1	311.1	311.1	338.8	338.8	338.8	348.1	348.1	348.1	348.1	348.1	357.3
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	102.5	105.3	113.2	113.1	113.1	113.1	112.6	112.5	112.2	112.1	110.8	110.7	110.7	110.7	110.6
Medical Health Services & Sup	100.4	108.8	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	106.5	104.0
Cosmetics and Toiletries	102.8	103.4	100.6	100.5	100.5	100.5	99.6	99.4	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.5	98.5	98.5	99.1
Personal Goods	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Newspapers & Stationery Supp	114.5	132.5	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7	121.3	121.3	121.3	121.3	117.9
Supplies	100.0	100.0	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6	306.6
Other Goods and Services	100.0	100.0	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1
Education	100.0	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8
ALL GROUPS	106.4	109.1	113.9	118.1	118.6	119.2	119.6	120.5	120.2	120.0	119.9	119.7	118.6	119.5	120.7

Table 6: Monthly average price of selected local items

TONGA
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	Unit	2015	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	
<u>ROOT CROPS</u>																
1	Talo - Futuna	1 kg	1.88	1.86	1.82	1.71	2.07	1.97	2.08	2.21	1.94	2.12	2.11	1.87	1.93	1.90
2	Talo - Tonga	1kg	2.15	2.87	1.89	2.37	2.56	2.08	2.24	2.49	3.06	2.83	1.73	2.29	2.02	1.89
3	Manioke	1 kg	0.64	0.59	0.48	0.46	0.47	0.57	0.55	0.53	0.53	0.50	0.48	0.52	0.50	0.45
4	Kumala	1 kg	2.32	2.19	1.66	1.70	1.74	2.09	2.62	2.50	2.88	2.62	2.33	2.00	2.23	2.31
5	Yams; early	1 kg	5.96	6.93	4.70	4.42	4.14	4.64	4.68	5.06	5.20	6.32	6.65	5.05	5.14	4.50
6	Yams, late	1 kg	2.83	3.13	4.00	2.68	2.60	2.60	2.76	2.65	2.56	3.66	5.53	2.50	2.50	2.50
<u>VEGETABLES</u>																
1	Lu	1 kg	5.74	8.04	10.27	7.31	7.67	7.13	8.45	8.27	6.53	5.24	5.58	6.06	4.44	2.91
2	Pele	1 kg	2.36	2.76	1.93	2.39	1.70	1.78	2.35	2.11	2.15	1.65	1.30	1.10	1.55	1.05
3	Tomatoes	1 kg	4.39	2.11	10.81	11.73	11.24	10.74	9.65	7.27	3.75	1.84	1.38	1.41	2.24	5.42
4	H/Cabbage	1 kg	2.54	2.60	4.08	5.30	5.34	4.50	3.34	1.67	1.14	1.11	0.90	1.07	1.76	1.30
5	Carrots	1 kg	4.12	3.44	4.19	3.93	5.29	4.72	4.95	4.51	3.81	2.70	2.44	2.53	2.05	2.52
6	Capsicum	1 kg	7.04	7.80	5.64	9.20	8.68	9.96	18.50	11.18	8.32	9.34	8.04	6.45	8.60	5.87
<u>FRUITS AND NUTS</u>																
1	Bananas ripe	1 kg	3.25	2.84	2.39	2.57	2.51	2.45	3.96	4.26	4.12	5.44	5.38	4.98	3.63	2.77
2	Watermelon	1 kg	1.94	1.51	1.09	1.44	1.58	1.58	1.79	2.23	1.96	1.39	1.27	1.35	1.44	1.19
3	Pineapple	1 kg	6.44	5.25	6.33	6.33	6.18	6.83	10.78	12.40	14.04	12.03	8.61	3.97	3.55	5.37
4	Pawpaw	1 kg	1.99	1.52	1.20	1.63	1.91	1.60	1.73	1.94	1.99	1.87	1.73	1.33	1.42	1.40
5	Coconut (dry)	1 kg	0.46	1.17	1.08	0.95	0.82	0.78	0.81	0.77	0.81	0.83	0.98	1.01	1.11	0.96
6	Coconut (green)	1 kg	0.89	1.29	1.38	1.06	1.03	1.01	1.34	1.27	1.16	1.40	1.42	1.16	1.05	0.98
7	Peanuts	1 kg	23.10	24.00	20.00	18.40	20.67	18.67	18.93	18.67	18.67	16.67	17.33	15.95	16.44	18.86
<u>MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS</u>																
1	Sausages	1 kg	6.76	6.45	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	6.70	7.00	7.00	7.03	6.65	6.65	6.45
2	Eggs	1 egg	16.54	16.00	15.88	16.38	16.38	16.38	16.63	16.63	16.38	16.38	15.38	15.75	15.75	16.63
3	Tuna	1 kg	10.06	11.17	10.92	11.07	10.88	11.33	10.13	12.00	13.00	13.00	11.00	11.50	14.00	12.25
4	Octopus	1 kg	17.04	23.72	12.13	11.74	14.15	16.60	16.32	16.98	15.05	18.30	20.07	21.67	22.43	28.60
5	Cockles (to'o)	1 kg	4.69	4.36	3.44	3.04	3.95	3.95	5.13	5.80	5.42	5.33	4.64	4.59	4.50	5.18
6	Stringed fish (Mixed)	1 kg	8.11	8.10	8.13	7.69	8.33	8.57	8.15	8.63	9.58	8.90	8.07	8.00	8.70	8.26

Table 7: Monthly average price of selected imported items

	Unit	Annual															Annual change %	
		2014	2015	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	June 17	July 17	Aug 17	Sept 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Dec 18		
FOOD																		
Fruits and Vegetables																		
1	Potatoes	1 kg	3.05	3.38	2.35	1.20	3.11	1.91	2.86	1.73	2.74	1.99	3.06	3.06	3.06	3.06	3.73	59%
2	Onions	1 kg	3.28	3.35	2.99	3.43	3.43	3.31	3.31	3.31	3.31	3.19	3.19	3.19	3.19	3.19	3.31	11%
3	Apples	1 kg	8.58	8.59	7.67	7.53	7.53	7.53	7.53	8.09	8.09	8.09	8.82	8.82	8.82	8.82	8.43	10%
4	Oranges	1 kg	12.63	10.21	9.35	9.75	9.75	8.25	8.25	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.95	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.43	1%
Meats, Fish & Poultry																		
1	Mutton Flaps	1 kg	13.52	12.00	13.33	13.38	13.46	13.49	13.76	14.09	14.58	15.20	15.41	15.70	15.46	15.51	15.49	16%
2	Chicken Pieces	1 kg	3.77	3.45	3.61	3.57	3.60	3.55	3.71	3.91	4.07	4.18	4.64	4.70	4.07	3.99	3.95	9%
Other Food																		
1	Flour	1 kg	1.74	1.70	1.70	1.72	1.73	1.76	1.73	1.71	1.75	1.79	1.77	1.76	1.73	1.74	1.76	3%
2	Sugar	1 kg	1.99	1.94	2.51	2.59	2.69	2.90	2.75	2.65	2.62	2.64	2.34	2.43	2.34	2.32	2.27	-10%
TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA																		
Tobacco																		
1	Winfield Blue	Packet	11.25	12.64	15.52	16.46	16.59	16.59	16.59	16.59	18.73	18.99	18.99	18.99	19.11	19.32	19.38	25%
2	Port Royal Tobacco	Packet	23.21	23.02	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.46	23.35	0%
TRANSPORTATION																		
Private Transportation																		
1	Petrol	litre	2.82	2.36	2.40	2.57	2.57	2.53	2.52	2.52	2.45	2.39	2.47	2.51	2.54	2.61	2.68	12%
2	Diesel	litre	2.87	2.32	2.37	2.50	2.51	2.49	2.48	2.47	2.40	2.37	2.41	2.48	2.53	2.59	2.67	13%

About the Consumer Price Index

The Monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the Statistics Department is accepted as the official measure of inflation in Tonga. The CPI measures the changing price of a fixed basket of goods and services purchased by Tongan households. The selection and relative importance of the goods and services in the CPI basket represents the overall expenditure pattern of Tongan households.

The CPI is used by ministries and other agencies for monitoring economic performance and by the National Reserve Bank of Tonga to help set monetary policy.

The new index reference period of October 2010 (=100.0) was first published for the month of October 2010. Data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2009 was used to determine the expenditure pattern of consumers. The proportion of expenditure on each item or group is referred to the weight. The previous reference period was November 2002 based on the results of HIES 2001.

There are 222 items in the Tonga basket classified to seven major groups. The items are further classified by whether they are imported or have been produced locally. The pricing outlets selected in Tongatapu include the Talamahu market (agriculture produce), the Vuna Wharf (fresh fish), super-markets, village stores, petrol stations, restaurants, airlines etc. The CPI covers price changes in Tongatapu Division only due to communication problems with outer island divisions.

The groups and their index reference period weights are shown in the table below.

CPI group	October 2010 Weights		
	Local	Imported	Total
A. Food	17.82	27.94	45.76
B. Housing	1.70	0.82	2.52
C. Household operations	17.29	3.51	20.80
D. Clothing and footwear	-	3.16	3.16
E. Transportation	0.46	11.47	11.93
F. Tobacco, alcohol and kava	1.50	4.51	6.00
G. Miscellaneous goods and services	3.47	6.36	9.83
Total	42.23	57.77	100.00

Further definitions

A **price index** measures the change in price between time periods for a given set of goods and services. It summarises a set of prices for a variety of goods and services collected from a number of outlets.

The **index reference period** is the benchmark to which prices in other periods are compared (e.g. if the index number in a later period is 115, prices have increased by 15.0 percent since the index reference period). Prices for later periods can also be compared in similar fashion.



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