



INFLATION REMAINS UNCHANGED

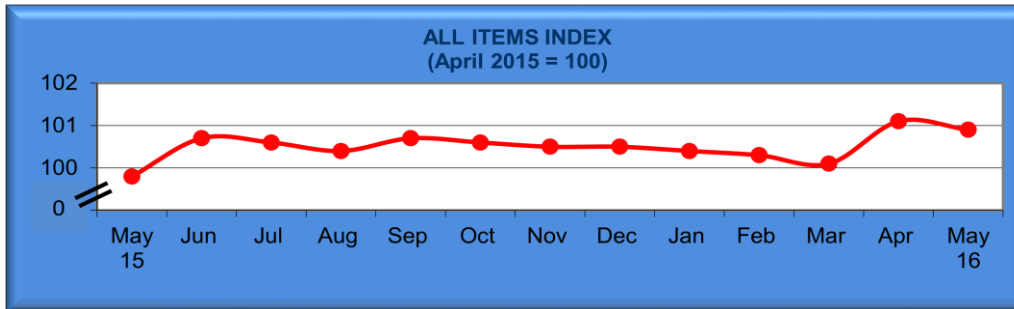
Consumers paid 1.1 per cent more in May 2016 than they did a year ago for the basket of goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The level of inflation was unchanged from the level measured in April 2016.

Between April 2016 and May 2016, the average cost of goods and services in the CPI decreased by 0.1 per cent. The all-items index dropped to 100.9 in May. This means that the basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in April 2015 now costs \$100.90.

YEAR-TO-YEAR ANALYSIS

The Fuel & Power sector continued to have a strong impact in the overall inflation rate, falling 12.2 per cent year-over-year. The major driver in this sector was the lower cost of electricity.

In contrast, the Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector and the Tobacco & Liquor Sector increased 4.3 per cent and 5.6 per cent, respectively.



**Inflation
Rate
1.1%**

The compilation of the CPI involves the processing of several thousand price quotations. The Department of Statistics wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the business community in supplying the required price data.

SUMMARY STATISTICS					
Period	Monthly		Period	Quarterly	
	Index	Annual per cent Change		Index	Annual per cent Change
2015			2014		
May	99.8	+1.2	Q1	97.5	+1.8
Jun	100.7	+2.1	Q2	98.5	+2.0
Jul	100.6	+1.9	Q3	99.1	+2.1
Aug	100.4	+1.4	Q4	99.3	+2.2
Sep	100.7	+1.0			
Oct	100.6	+0.6	2015		
Nov	100.5	+1.4	Q1	98.9	+1.5
Dec	100.5	+1.8	Q2	100.2	+1.7
			Q3	100.6	+1.5
2016			Q4	100.5	+1.2
Jan	100.3	+1.7			
Feb	100.2	+1.3	2016		
Mar	100.1	+1.0	Q1	100.2	+1.3
Apr	101.1	+1.1			
May	100.9	+1.1			

MONTH-TO-MONTH ANALYSIS

Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading

The Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector increased 0.5 per cent in May. On average, the cost of pleasure boats and jet skis increased 8.0 percent.

Tobacco & Liquor

The Tobacco & Liquor sector increased 1.5 per cent in May, following a 2.0 per cent increase in April. On average, cigarette prices increased 3.0 per cent while beer prices rose 1.5 per cent.

Rent

The Rent sector edged up 0.1 per cent as repair & maintenance material prices increased 0.3 per cent.

Clothing & Footwear

The Clothing & Footwear sector was unchanged in May following a decrease of 0.5 per cent in April.

Household Goods, Services & Supplies

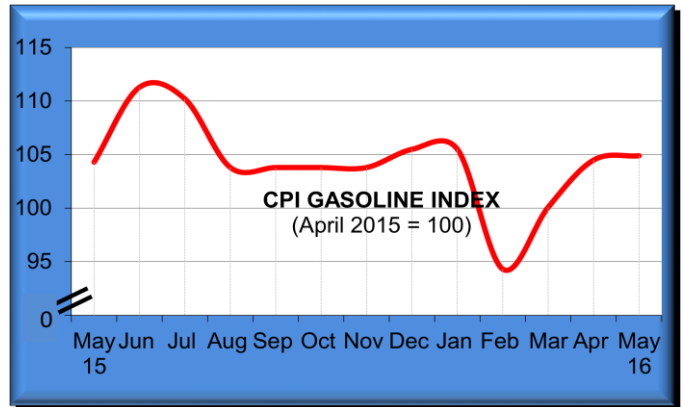
The Household Goods, Services & Supplies sector was static for the second consecutive month.

Health & Personal Care

The Health & Personal Care sector was static in May, after being the largest contributor to the month-to-month increase in April.

Transport & Foreign Travel

The Transport & Foreign Travel sector declined 0.3 per cent in May. A 4.9 per cent rise in the average cost of overseas accommodations was offset by a 3.0 per cent decrease in the cost of air travel.



Food

The Food sector fell 0.3 per cent in May following a 0.3 per cent increase in April. Leading factors behind the decrease were the average price of fresh red grapes (-7.8 per cent), fresh lettuce (-5.9 per cent) and sugar (-3.4 per cent).

Fuel & Power

The Fuel & Power sector declined 5.0 per cent in May as the fuel adjustment rate fell 5.3 per cent.

COMPUTING PRICE INCREASES

The Department of Statistics receives calls daily requesting the rate of inflation over specific periods of time. The following calculations are provided to guide users as to how to compute rates of price increases. The monthly index numbers can be obtained from our website www.gov.bm.

A) Month-to-Month Price Change

The price change between November and December, 2014 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Nov 15 index} - \text{Oct 15 index}}{\text{Oct 15 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{100.5 - 100.6}{100.6} \times 100$$

$$= -0.1\%$$

B) Year-to-Year Price Change

The price change between December 2013 and December, 2014 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Dec 15 index} - \text{Dec 14 index}}{\text{Dec 14 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{100.5 - 98.7}{98.7} \times 100$$

$$= 1.8\%$$

C) Particular Period Price Change

The price change between February 2013 and January, 2015 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Jan 16 index} - \text{Apr 14 index}}{\text{Apr 14 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{100.4 - 98.3}{98.3} \times 100$$

$$= 2.1\%$$

BERMUDA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

APRIL 2015 = 100

	All Items	Food	Rent	Clothing & Footwear	Tobacco & Liquor	Fuel & Power	Household Goods, Services & Supplies	Transport & Foreign Travel	Education, Recreation, Entertain. & Reading	Health & Personal Care
2013 WEIGHT	1000	115	267	25	31	39	116	130	147	130
ANNUAL AVERAGE (per cent)										
2011	+2.7	+2.3	+1.1	+5.7	+3.1	+11.3	+2.0	+0.6	+2.6	+7.5
2012	+2.4	+3.5	+0.2	+4.3	+2.5	+9.3	+1.0	+1.6	+2.7	+6.6
2013	+1.8	+3.0	-0.3	+0.1	+4.4	-1.9	+0.5	+1.4	+2.5	+8.3
2014	+2.0	+3.1	+0.8	+2.0	+2.4	-2.4	+0.8	+1.7	+1.9	+6.7
2015	+1.5	+2.7	+0.6	+1.3	+1.2	-8.9	+2.1	-1.3	+0.9	+7.8
MONTHLY (per cent)										
2014										
May	+0.3	-0.2	Nil	Nil	+0.1	+0.8	Nil	+2.6	+0.1	Nil
Jun	Nil	+0.2	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	+0.7	+0.5	-1.2	+0.1	+0.1
Jul	Nil	+0.7	Nil	+0.2	+0.1	+1.8	+0.2	-1.4	+0.1	+0.1
Aug	+0.3	+0.7	Nil	Nil	-0.1	+1.3	Nil	+1.4	+0.1	Nil
Sep	+0.7	+0.1	+0.1	Nil	Nil	+0.8	Nil	+4.3	+1.5	+0.1
Oct	+0.3	+0.1	Nil	+0.5	+0.1	-2.6	+0.1	+1.0	-0.1	+1.7
Nov	-0.9	Nil	Nil	Nil	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	-7.2	Nil	Nil
Dec	-0.5	-0.7	Nil	Nil	-0.1	-9.0	Nil	Nil	-0.1	-0.1
2015										
Jan	Nil	1.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	-2.5	+0.4	-1.7	Nil	+0.1
Feb	+0.2	+0.2	Nil	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil	+1.9	-0.6	Nil
Mar	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	+1.3	Nil	+0.7	-0.1	Nil
Apr	+1.0	Nil	+0.2	+0.5	+0.4	Nil	+0.1	+0.4	+0.1	+6.5
May	-0.2	+0.4	+0.1	Nil	Nil	-2.6	Nil	-1.0	Nil	Nil
Jun	+0.8	+0.1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	+5.9	+0.3	Nil
Jul	-0.1	+0.1	Nil	+0.7	Nil	+4.0	+2.1	-3.6	-0.1	Nil
Aug	-0.2	+0.3	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil	-1.6	-0.2	+0.1
Sep	+0.3	-0.1	Nil	Nil	+0.2	Nil	+0.3	+0.9	+0.9	-0.1
Oct	-0.1	+0.2	+0.1	Nil	Nil	-1.3	Nil	-1.2	+0.2	+0.5
Nov	-0.1	-0.5	Nil	Nil	Nil	-1.3	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil
Dec	Nil	-0.2	+0.1	Nil	+0.3	-2.0	Nil	+0.4	+0.1	Nil
2016										
Jan	-0.2	+1.2	-0.1	+0.1	+0.4	-3.7	+0.1	-1.6	Nil	Nil
Feb	-0.1	+0.6	+0.1	Nil	+1.1	Nil	Nil	-1.4	-0.3	+0.1
Mar	-0.1	-0.1	Nil	Nil	Nil	-0.8	+0.1	-0.7	+0.2	Nil
Apr	+0.9	+0.3	Nil	-0.5	+2.0	-2.6	Nil	+0.8	+2.7	+3.2
May	-0.1	-0.3	+0.1	Nil	+1.5	-5.0	Nil	-0.3	+0.5	Nil
May '16	100.9	102.0	100.5	100.3	105.6	85.5	102.6	96.4	104.3	103.8
May '16	+1.1	+1.6	+0.4	+0.3	+5.6	-12.2	+2.6	-2.6	+4.3	+3.8
May '15										

WHAT IS THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX?

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a statistical tool used for measuring changes in the general level of prices of consumer goods and services purchased by private households.

The index measures price movements of a given quality and quantity of goods and services. The mix of these consumer goods and services comprising the index, are figuratively thought of as a “shopping basket.” In constructing this “shopping basket”, the selected goods and services are organized first by commodity type. They are then divided into sub-components and assigned to a major expenditure group. The Bermuda CPI is structured into nine expenditure groups or sectors:

- Food
- Rent
- Clothing & Footwear
- Tobacco & Liquor
- Fuel & Power
- Transport & Foreign Travel
- Household Goods, Services & Supplies
- Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading
- Health & Personal Care

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Base Period

The time period which is used as a reference point for measuring the price change of goods and services. The base period for the Bermuda CPI is April 2015.

Price Index Number

A single figure that shows how a set of prices has changed over a specified period of time. An index number on its own means nothing. It must be compared with an index number from another period to have meaning. For example, a comparison of the index number 97.2 for January 2014 with 100.4 for January 2016, reveals that prices have increased by 3.3 percent.

Laspeyres Equation

The CPI is computed using this statistical equation. This formula calculates the total amount of money a household needs today to purchase the same basket of goods and services that it bought in the base period, April 2015.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE

A mathematical formula that takes into account the relative importance of an item’s price change compared to the overall change in the sector or CPI.

Inflation

Inflation is the process of rising prices, resulting in diminishing purchasing power of a given sum of money.

Cost of Living Index

Many individuals refer to the CPI as a cost-of-living index. The CPI is an index of pure price change only. A cost-of-living index reflects the changes in buying or consumption patterns that consumers would ordinarily make to adjust to any change in the price of a good or service.

A COMPARISON OF RATES OF INFLATION (%) Selected Countries & Bermuda

	2012	2013	2014	2015	May 16
Bermuda	2.4	1.8	2.0	1.5	+1.1
United States¹	1.7	1.5	0.8	0.7	+1.0
Canada²	1.5	0.9	2.0	1.1	+1.5
United Kingdom³	3.2	3.0	2.4	1.1	+1.4

Sources:

1. US Bureau of Labour Statistics
2. Statistics Canada
3. UK Office of National Statistics

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