



INFLATION FALLS SLIGHTLY

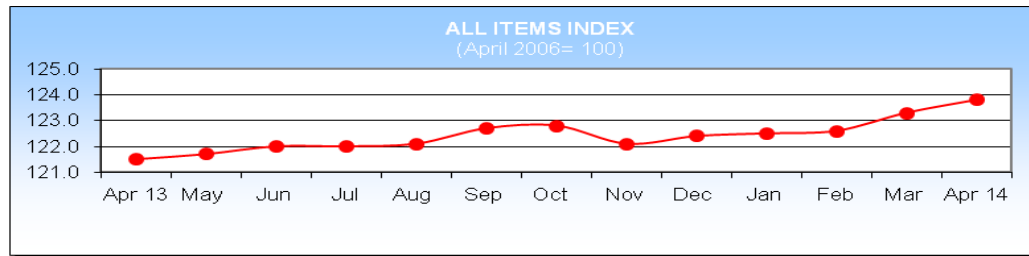
Consumers paid 1.9 per cent more in April 2014 than they did a year ago for the basket of goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This level of inflation decreased 0.1 percentage points from the 2.0 per cent measured in March 2014.

Between March 2014 and April 2014, the average cost of goods and services in the Consumer Price Index increased 0.4 per cent. The all-items index increased to 123.8 index points in April. This means that the basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in April 2006 now cost \$123.80.

YEAR-TO-YEAR ANALYSIS

The Health & Personal Care sector remained the largest contributor to the twelve-month rate of price increase. The annual increase in April 2014 measured 6.6 per cent year over year, led by increased costs for health insurance premiums.

The Food and Rent sectors also impacted strongly on the annual rate of inflation. Price shifts in these two sectors were 2.5 per cent and 1.0 per cent, respectively.



**Inflation
Rate
1.9%**

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
2013			2012		
Apr	121.5	+1.7	Q1	118.2	+2.8
May	121.7	+1.7	Q2	119.6	+2.7
Jun	122.0	+1.9	Q3	120.3	+2.5
Jul	122.0	+1.8	Q4	120.5	+1.8
Aug	122.1	+1.3			
Sep	122.7	+1.8	2013		
Oct	122.8	+1.6	Q1	120.6	+2.0
Nov	122.1	+1.3	Q2	121.7	+1.8
Dec	122.4	+1.9	Q3	122.3	+1.7
			Q4	122.4	+1.6
2014			2014		
Jan	122.5	+1.8	Q1	122.8	+1.8
Feb	122.6	+1.7			
Mar	123.3	+2.0			
Apr	123.8	+1.9			

MONTH- MONTH ANALYSIS

Health & Personal Care

The Health and Personal Care sector had the largest impact on the CPI increase in April. The average cost of health insurance premiums surged 8.2 per cent, leading to a 5.3 per cent increase in the Health & Personal Care sector.

Fuel & Power

The Fuel & Power sector increased 1.1 per cent in April following a 2.1 per cent increase in March. Residential consumers paid 3.2 per cent more for electricity due to an increase in the fuel adjustment rate.

Education, Recreation & Reading

The Education, Recreation & Reading sector rose 0.2 per cent in April. Pet costs and upkeep increased by 3.4 per cent.

Rent

The Rent sector increased 0.1 per cent in April. Rental units subject to rent control increased 0.1 per cent.

Tobacco & Liquor

The Tobacco & Liquor sector rose 0.4 per cent. Average costs of spirits and wines increased 0.5 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively.

Household Goods, Services & Communications

The Household Goods, Services & Communications sector was static in April.

Clothing & Footwear

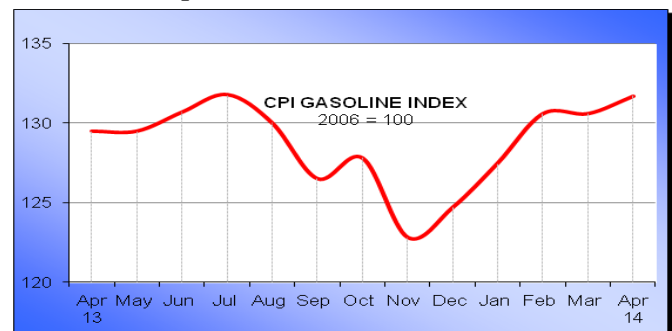
The Clothing & Footwear sector declined 0.3 per cent. On average, children's clothing prices fell 6.7 per cent.

Food

Food prices in grocery stores dipped 0.2 per cent in April. Fresh and frozen lamb legs (-8.3 per cent), dried spices (-4.1 per cent) and eggs (-4.1 per cent) were the largest contributors to the overall decrease.

Transport & Vehicles

The Transport & Vehicle sector dropped 2.4 per cent in April, following three consecutive months of increases. The average price of overseas hotel accommodations and airfare fell by 8.9 per cent and 6.7 per cent, respectively. In contrast, premium fuel increased 0.8 per cent.



COMPUTING PRICE INCREASES

The Department of Statistics receives numerous 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.statistics.gov.bm.

a) Month-to-Month Price Change

The price change between November and December, 2012 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Dec 13 index} - \text{Nov 13 index}}{\text{Nov 13 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{122.4 - 122.1}{122.1} \times 100$$

$$= -0.3\%$$

b) Year-to-Year Price Change

The price change between December 2011 and December, 2012 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Dec 13 index} - \text{Dec 12 index}}{\text{Dec 12 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{122.4 - 120.1}{120.1} \times 100$$

$$= 1.9\%$$

c) Particular Period Price Change

The price change between February 2010 and January, 2013 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Jan 14 index} - \text{Feb 10 index}}{\text{Feb 10 index}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{122.5 - 111.7}{111.7} \times 100$$

$$= 9.7\%$$

BERMUDA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

APRIL 2006 = 100

	All Items	Food	Rent	Clothing & Footwear	Tobacco & Liquor	Fuel & Power	Household Goods, Services & Communications	Transport & Vehicles	Education, Recreation & Reading	Health & Personal Care
2004 WEIGHT	1000	146	325	37	20	30	140	139	71	92
ANNUAL AVERAGE (per cent)										
2009	+1.8	+5.4	+1.9	+3.0	+5.9	-6.3	+0.7	-4.3	+5.3	+6.7
2010	+2.4	+3.0	+1.3	+2.4	+1.9	-0.8	+1.6	+1.8	+2.5	+8.1
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
MONTHLY (per cent)										
2012										
Apr	+0.9	Nil	+0.1	+1.5	+0.7	Nil	Nil	+1.3	+0.2	+5.6
May	+0.2	+0.5	-0.1	+0.2	-0.1	Nil	Nil	+1.1	+0.2	Nil
Jun	Nil	+0.2	+0.2	Nil	+0.4	+5.3	-0.7	-1.8	+0.3	+0.1
Jul	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	-1.8	+0.5	+2.4	+0.2	-0.5	Nil	-0.1
Aug	+0.6	+0.6	+0.3	Nil	+0.1	-1.8	+0.1	+4.1	-0.1	+0.1
Sep	Nil	+0.1	-0.2	Nil	+0.2	Nil	+0.3	-1.0	+2.1	+0.3
Oct	+0.3	+0.4	Nil	-2.0	+0.3	-1.9	+0.2	+1.3	+0.3	+1.5
Nov	-0.4	-0.4	+0.1	Nil	Nil	-7.8	Nil	Nil	+0.1	+0.1
Dec	-0.3	-1.0	Nil	Nil	+0.1	+2.9	Nil	-2.0	Nil	-0.1
2013										
Jan	+0.2	+2.3	-0.1	+1.1	+0.5	-1.4	+0.1	-1.2	+0.2	Nil
Feb	+0.2	Nil	+0.1	Nil	-0.2	+1.4	Nil	+1.3	Nil	Nil
Mar	+0.2	+0.4	-0.5	Nil	Nil	+2.8	Nil	+1.4	Nil	+0.1
Apr	+0.5	+0.4	-0.3	+0.8	+1.7	Nil	Nil	-1.9	Nil	+6.3
May	+0.1	-0.4	Nil	Nil	+2.0	-2.7	+0.1	+1.2	Nil	+0.7
Jun	+0.3	+0.1	Nil	Nil	+0.4	+1.8	-0.1	+1.6	-0.1	+0.1
Jul	Nil	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	-1.8	-0.1	+0.1
Aug	+0.1	+0.8	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	+0.9	+0.4	-0.5	+0.1	Nil
Sep	+0.4	+0.2	Nil	Nil	-0.1	+0.8	-0.1	+2.2	+1.6	Nil
Oct	+0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+1.0	Nil	-0.8	+0.1	+0.5	-0.1	+0.4
Nov	-0.6	-0.4	Nil	+0.2	+0.4	-2.7	Nil	-3.2	-0.1	Nil
Dec	+0.3	-0.8	+0.1	Nil	+0.1	Nil	Nil	+2.6	+0.1	+0.1
2014										
Jan	+0.1	+1.5	+0.5	+0.7	+0.4	-2.9	Nil	-1.7	-0.1	Nil
Feb	+0.1	+0.3	Nil	Nil	-0.1	-2.1	Nil	+1.2	+0.2	-0.1
Mar	+0.5	+1.2	Nil	Nil	Nil	+2.1	+0.1	+2.0	Nil	Nil
Apr	+0.4	-0.2	+0.1	-0.3	+0.4	+1.1	Nil	-2.4	+0.2	+5.3
Apr '14	123.8	133.1	111.4	122.5	136.6	151.1	111.6	109.3	131.8	174.4
<u>Apr'14</u> Apr'13	+1.9	+2.5	+1.0	+1.9	+3.7	-4.5	+0.5	+1.5	+1.8	+6.6

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 & Vehicles
- Household Goods, Services & Communications
- Education, Recreation & 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 2006.

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 79.1 for January 1998 with 82.9 for January 2000, reveals that prices have increased by 4.8 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 2006.

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 Consumer Price Index (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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	Apr 14
Bermuda	2.4	2.7	2.4	1.8	+1.9
United States¹	1.5	3.0	1.7	1.5	+2.0
Canada²	1.8	2.9	1.5	0.9	+2.0
United Kingdom³	4.6	5.2	3.2	3.0	+2.5

Sources:

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

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