



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

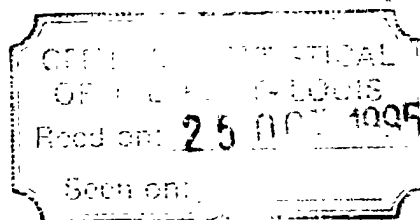
Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

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1. Consumer Price Index
3rd Quarter 1995
2. Producer Price Index - Manufacturing
(PPI - M)
Food, Beverages and Tobacco
(April - June 1995)



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PORT LOUIS
MAURITIUS

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

3rd QUARTER 1995

1. Main movements in Consumer Price Index in 3rd Quarter 1995.

The Consumer Price Index (C.P.I) increased by +1.9 points (or 1.5%) during the third quarter of 1995 to reach 131.7 as at September 1995. The main items which have contributed to that increase were: meat, fresh fish and fruits, soft drinks, alcoholic drinks, cigarettes, newspapers and services of domestic servants, carpenters and masons. Partially offsetting these increases were falls in prices of flour, bread and fresh vegetables.

An increase of +1.0 point (or +0.8%) was registered during the corresponding quarter of 1994 (*Table 1*).

2. Changes by Major Commodity Group and Items.

Table 2 shows the evolution of the subindices of different major commodity groups of the C.P.I. Except for the two major commodity groups "*Clothing & footwear*" and "*Fuel & light*" which remained stable, all the remaining major commodity groups registered increases in the range of +0.6% to +6.7% during the third quarter of 1995.

The major group "*Alcoholic beverages & tobacco*" which increased by about 7%, was the largest contributor to the change of the "*All groups index*", accounting for about 35% of the total change in that quarter. This increase was caused mainly by price increases of cigarettes (+14%) and beer (+8%).

Increases in prices of a large variety of commodity items, such as personal care, writing materials, etc. pushed the index of the group "*Miscellaneous goods and services*" by +4.4% during the third quarter.

The remaining major groups registered marginal increases in the range of +0.6% to +1.9%.

It might be noted that although the major commodity group "*Food and non alcoholic beverages*" index advanced by only +0.7%, this is the net result of changes in prices of a large range of commodity items within this group, namely fresh beef (+7%), frozen meat (+9%), fresh fish (+9%), fresh fruits (+3%), soft drinks (+8%), bread (-6%), flour (-13%), fresh vegetables (-6%), and a large variety of other food products.

Table 3 gives the net contribution of commodities that have affected the index during the third quarter of 1995.

3. **Rate of inflation.**

The rate of inflation for financial year ending June 1995 works out to 6.1%, compared to 9.4% for the previous financial year. This rate was 7.3% for calendar year 1994.

On the basis of available figures for the first nine months of calendar year 1995, and of foreseeable price movements for the remaining three months, it is estimated that the rate of inflation for the calendar year 1995 will be around 6%. (*Table 4*).

Central Statistical Office.
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development,
PORT LOUIS
October 1995.

Table 1 - Monthly Consumer Price Index - (July 1992 - September 1995)

(Base : July 1991 - June 1992 = 100)

<u>Month</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>
January		109.0	119.4	126.9
February		110.2	119.9	127.4
March		110.7	120.8	128.2
April		111.1	121.0	128.8
May		114.0	122.6	129.0
June		114.7	123.2	129.8
July	104.0	115.4	123.2	130.0
August	105.6	116.3	123.8	131.4
September	106.4	117.2	124.2	131.7
October	106.6	117.3	124.2	
November	106.8	117.9	124.9	
December	107.6	118.5	125.6	
<i>Yearly average</i>	103.5	114.4	122.7	
<i>Annual change (%) Inflation rate</i>	+4.6	+10.5	+7.3	

Table 2 : Monthly sub-indices by major commodity group - (January - September 1995)

(Base: July 1991 - June 1992 = 100)

Major Commodity Group	Weight	Jan-95	Feb-95	Mar-95	Apr-95	May-95	Jun-95	Jul-95	Aug-95	Sep-95	% change from June 95 to Sept 95
1. Food and non alcoholic beverages	392	131.8	133.1	134.5	134.3	134.3	134.7	134.6	135.1	135.7	+0.7
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	82	123.9	123.7	124.0	124.5	124.5	124.7	124.6	133.1	133.1	+6.7
3. Clothing and footwear	88	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.8	128.8	130.8	130.8	130.8	130.8	-
4. Fuel and light	52	107.5	107.5	107.5	112.8	112.8	112.8	112.8	112.8	112.8	-
5. Housing and household operations	131	121.6	121.5	121.9	123.0	124.0	126.2	127.8	128.0	128.5	+1.8
6. Medical care and health expenses	36	131.9	132.4	133.0	133.0	133.4	133.5	133.8	134.7	134.6	+0.8
7. Transport and communication	97	124.4	124.4	125.4	125.5	125.4	126.1	126.4	126.7	126.8	+0.6
8. Recreation, entertainment, education and cultural services	66	131.5	131.2	131.7	131.6	132.2	133.1	133.4	135.3	135.6	+1.9
9. Miscellaneous goods and services	56	120.9	121.2	121.4	124.5	124.9	125.7	126.0	130.6	131.2	+4.4
ALL GROUPS	1000	126.9	127.4	128.2	128.8	129.0	129.8	130.0	131.4	131.7	+1.5

**Table 3 - Net contribution of commodities that have affected the index
in the third quarter of 1995**

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Change in index point</u>	<u>% Change in price</u>
Bread	- 0.2	- 5.9
Flour	- 0.1	- 13.0
Fresh beef	+ 0.1	+ 6.7
Frozen meat	+ 0.2	+ 8.5
Fresh fish	+ 0.2	+ 9.0
Fresh fruits	+ 0.1	+ 3.2
Fresh vegetables	- 0.4	- 5.7
Soft drinks	+ 0.2	+ 8.2
Other food products	+ 0.3	-
Alcoholic beverages	+ 0.2	+ 4.4
Cigarettes	+ 0.5	+ 14.3
Workmen's wages	+ 0.1	+ 6.2
Domestic services	+ 0.1	+ 6.2
Newspapers	+ 0.1	+ 11.5
Personal care goods	+ 0.1	+ 2.7
Writing materials	+ 0.1	+ 9.3
Other goods and services	+ 0.3	-

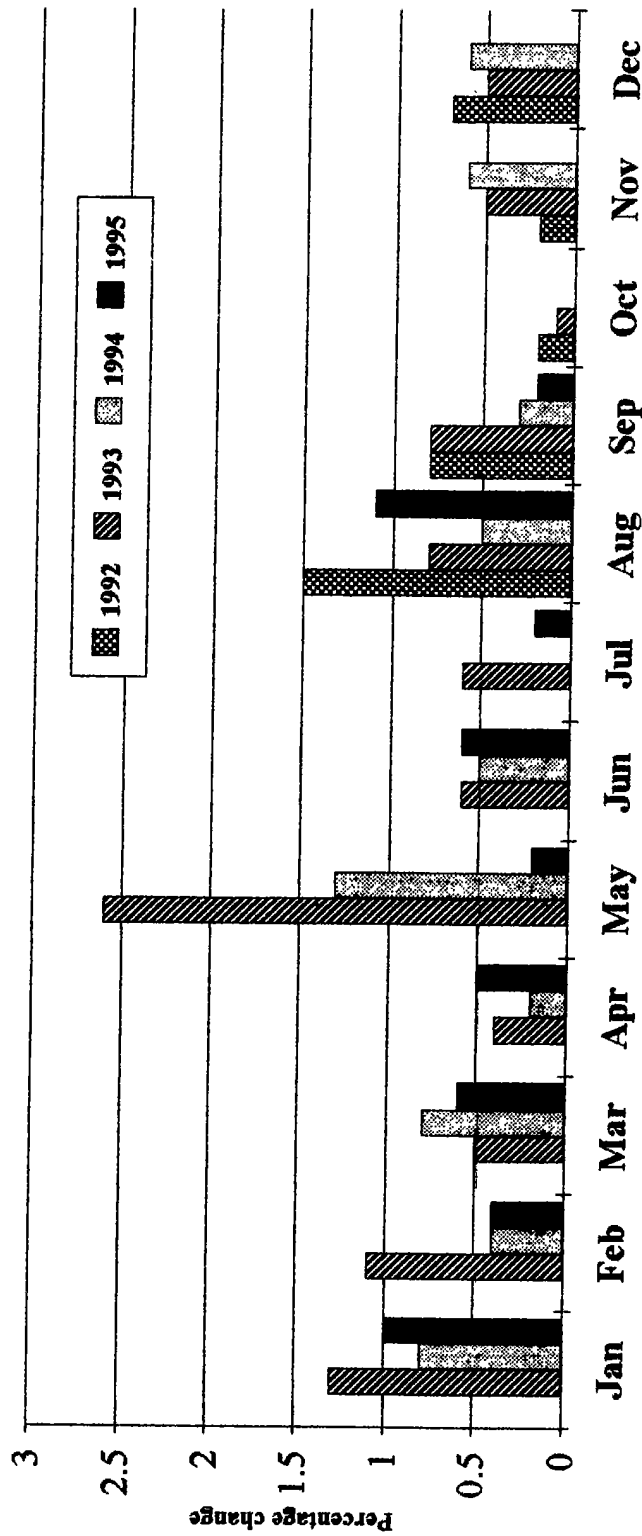
TOTAL	+ 1.9	

Table 4 - Inflation rate (%), 1975 - 1995

<u>Calendar year</u>	<u>Inflation rate</u>	<u>Financial year</u>	<u>Inflation rate</u>
1975	14.7	1974 - 75	20.6
1976	13.4	1975 - 76	14.7
1977	9.2	1976 - 77	9.6
1978	8.5	1977 - 78	10.1
1979	14.5	1978 - 79	8.0
1980	42.0	1979 - 80	33.0
1981	14.5	1980 - 81	26.5
1982	11.4	1981 - 82	13.4
1983	5.6	1982 - 83	7.5
1984	7.3	1983 - 84	5.6
1985	6.7	1984 - 85	8.3
1986	1.8	1985 - 86	4.3
1987	0.6	1986 - 87	0.7
1988	9.2	1987 - 88	1.5
1989	12.6	1988 - 89	16.0
1990	13.5	1989 - 90	10.7
1991	7.0	1990 - 91	12.8
1992	4.6	1991 - 92	2.9
1993	10.5	1992 - 93	8.9
1994	7.3	1993 - 94	9.4
1995	<i>Around 6.0</i> *	1994 - 95	6.1

*** Forecast**

**Consumer Price Index - All Groups
Monthly changes - (August 1992 - September 1995)**

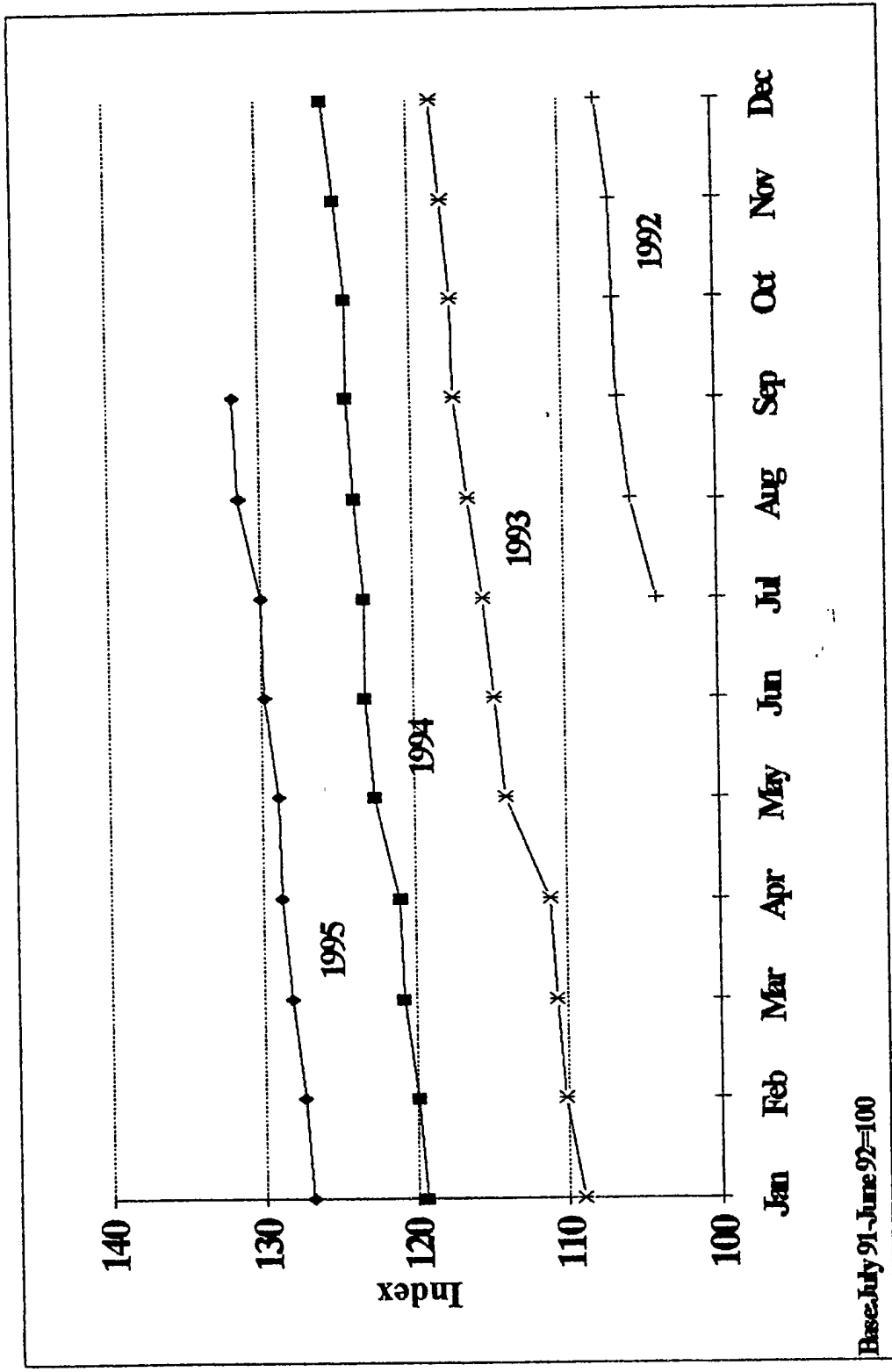


1992	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.4	2.6	0.6	0.6	1.5	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.7
1993	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.2	1.3	0.5	-	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.5	0.5
1994	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.2	1.1	0.3	-	0.6	0.6
1995	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

Base: July 91 - June 92=100

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS

Monthly Indices - (July 1992 - September 1995)



Base: July 91, June 92=100