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**1 ⇨ CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
Year 2000**

**2 ⇨ SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS
1994/95 - 1999/2000**

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Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic Indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - 2000

1. Main movements in the Consumer Price Index in 2000.

Price changes during the year 2000 resulted in an inflation rate of 4.2%. This rate was 6.9% for the year 1999.

During the year 2000, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by +5.6 points (or 4.7%), from 119.6 in December 1999 to 125.2 in December 2000 (*Table 1*). The monthly increases during the year averaged 0.5 point with a peak increase of 2.7 points in October 2000.

Table 2 shows the net contribution of the main commodities that influenced the CPI in 2000. The main causes for the increase were:

- higher rates for water charges during the first quarter,
- higher prices of cigarettes in July,
- price increases of electricity, gasoline, diesel oil, cooking gas, kerosene and taxi fares in October, coupled with
- price decreases of fresh vegetables.

2. Changes in Major Commodity Group Sub-indices.

Table 3 shows the evolution of the major commodity group indices (sub-indices) from December 1999 to December 2000. All sub-indices registered increases between 1.4% and 20.7%.

The sub-index for the major commodity group "*Food and non alcoholic beverages*" increased by 1.8% during the year. This was the combined effect of price increases of bread (+21.4%), indian cakes and snacks (+16.2%), frozen fish (+13.9%), prepared meals (+12.5%), colas and aerated minerals (+10.1%) and pastry (+9.9%), and price decreases of cooking oil (-15.1%), fresh fruits (-12.4%) and fresh vegetables (-7.7%).

The sub-index for "*Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*" increased by 3.9% mainly due to an increase in the prices of cigarettes (+6.6%) and rum (+5.7%).

A rise of 1.5% was recorded in the sub-index for "*Clothing and footwear*" as a result of price increases of some clothing materials (+4.1%), footwear (+2.2%) and readymade clothing (+0.8%).

The sub-index for "*Fuel and light*" moved up by 20.7% due to significant increases in the prices of kerosene (+92.2%), cooking gas (+29.9%) and electricity charges (+15.8%).

The sub-index for "*Housing and household operations*" went up by 7.0%. This is mainly attributable to higher rates for water charges (+54.0%) and domestic services (+6.8%) and higher prices of furniture and fixtures (+3.5%) coupled with a decrease in the price of some imported household appliances (-9.4%).

The sub-index for the major group "*Medical care and health expenses*" increased by 2.3% due to higher rates for medical services (+11.6%) partly offset by lower prices of some medicinal products (-4.4%).

The "*Transport and communication*" sub-index registered a rise of 10.4% due to price increases of diesel oil (+71.4%), gasoline (+52.4%) and taxi fares (+19.9%).

An increase of 1.4% was recorded in the sub-index for "*Recreation, entertainment, education and cultural services*" mainly due to higher pre-primary school fees (+13.3%) partly offset by lower prices of audio and video equipment (-11.1%).

The sub-index for "*Miscellaneous goods and services*" rose by 5.0%. This is mainly attributable to higher prices of food consumed in bars and restaurants (+7.9%), some personal care goods and jewellery.

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Port Louis

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Table 1 - Monthly Consumer Price Index , January 1994 - December 2000

<u>Month</u>	<u>(Base : July 1991 - June 1992 = 100)</u>				<u>(Base : July 1996 - June 1997 = 100)</u>			
	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
January	119.4	126.9	133.7	145.9		105.5	114.6	120.0
February	119.9	127.4	134.3	145.9		106.0	114.9	120.6
March	120.8	128.2	134.3	146.2		106.7	115.1	121.0
April	121.0	128.8	134.9	146.1		107.4	115.6	120.9
May	122.6	129.0	135.6	146.7		108.0	115.8	121.0
June	123.2	129.8	139.6	147.9		109.6	117.4	121.0
July	123.2	130.0	140.4		103.0	109.7	117.8	121.3
August	123.8	131.4	141.7		103.3	110.0	118.3	121.7
September	124.2	131.7	141.7		103.6	112.1	118.5	121.9
October	124.2	132.4	142.3		103.5	112.7	118.5	124.6
November	124.9	132.9	142.5		103.6	113.1	118.9	124.8
December	125.6	133.1	142.9		103.9	113.4	119.6	125.2
Yearly average	122.7	130.1	138.7		102.5	109.5	117.1	122.0
Annual change (%) (Inflation rate)	+ 7.3	+ 6.0	+ 6.6		+ 6.6	+ 6.8	+ 6.9	+ 4.2

Table 2 - Net contribution of main commodities that have affected the index during the year 2000

Commodity	Change in index point	% change in price between December 1999 & December 2000
Bread	+0.4	+21.4
Prepared meals	+0.2	+12.5
Pastry	+0.1	+9.9
Indian cakes and snacks	+0.1	+16.2
Frozen chicken	+0.1	+5.3
Fresh fish	+0.1	+5.2
Frozen fish	+0.2	+13.9
Powdered milk	+0.1	+6.1
Cooking oil	-0.2	-15.1
Fresh fruits	-0.2	-12.4
Fresh vegetables	-0.6	-7.7
Colas and aerated minerals	+0.1	+10.1
Other food products	+0.3	+1.5
Rum	+0.1	+5.7
Cigarettes	+0.4	+6.6
Ready made clothing	+0.1	+0.8
Electricity charges	+0.5	+15.8
Cooking gas	+0.4	+29.9
Kerosene	+0.1	+92.2
Water charges	+0.7	+54.0
Household appliances	-0.1	-9.4
Domestic services	+0.1	+6.8
Furniture and fixtures	+0.1	+3.5
Other household goods	+0.1	+1.4
Medical services	+0.1	+11.6
Gasoline	+1.4	+52.4
Diesel oil	+0.1	+71.4
Taxi fare	+0.2	+19.9
Pre-primary school fees	+0.1	+13.3
Expenditure for consumption in bars & restaurants	+0.1	+7.9
Other goods & services	+0.4	-
Overall	+5.6	+4.7

Table 3 : Monthly sub-indices by major commodity group, December 1999 - December 2000

(Base: July 1996 - June 1997 = 100)

Major Commodity Group	Weight	Dec. 1999	Jan. 2000	Feb. 2000	Mar. 2000	Apr. 2000	May 2000	Jun. 2000	Jul. 2000	Aug. 2000	Sept. 2000	Oct. 2000	Nov. 2000	Dec. 2000	% Change between December 1999 & December 2000
1. Food and non alcoholic beverages	364	118.6	118.5	117.7	118.2	117.7	118.2	118.1	118.0	118.4	118.9	119.4	119.8	120.7	+1.8
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	87	153.2	153.3	153.3	154.6	154.5	154.7	154.3	155.9	159.1	159.2	159.2	159.2	159.2	+3.9
3. Clothing and footwear	79	113.9	114.2	114.3	114.3	114.6	114.5	114.8	114.8	115.1	115.5	115.5	115.6	115.6	+1.5
4. Fuel and light	44	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	101.0	122.5	121.9	121.9	+20.7
5. Housing and household operations	132	111.4	112.6	119.2	119.6	119.6	119.7	119.1	120.0	120.0	120.0	118.9	118.9	119.2	+7.0
6. Medical care and health expenses	38	120.8	122.5	123.5	123.8	123.9	122.5	122.4	123.2	122.9	122.7	123.5	123.6	123.6	+2.3
7. Transport and communication	142	117.5	117.7	117.5	117.4	117.3	116.9	117.3	117.3	117.3	117.3	129.0	129.3	129.7	+10.4
8. Recreation, entertainment, education and cultural services	60	122.9	124.3	124.4	124.6	124.6	125.1	125.0	124.9	124.8	124.7	124.7	124.6	124.6	+1.4
9. Miscellaneous goods and services	54	116.3	117.0	118.5	119.3	119.7	120.0	120.0	121.1	121.1	121.6	121.9	122.0	122.1	+5.0
ALL GROUPS	1000	119.6	120.0	120.6	121.0	120.9	121.0	121.0	121.3	121.7	121.9	124.6	124.8	125.2	+4.7

Table 4 - Inflation rate (%), 1975 - 2000

<i>Calendar year</i>	<i>Inflation rate</i>	<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Inflation rate</i>
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	6.0	1994 - 95	6.1
1996	6.6	1995 - 96	5.8
1997	6.6	1996 - 97	7.9
1998	6.8	1997 - 98	5.4
1999	6.9	1998 - 99	7.9
2000	4.2	1999 - 2000	5.3