

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

2nd Quarter 2002

1. Main movements in the Consumer Price Index – 2nd Quarter 2002.

The Consumer Price Index (C.P.I) which stood at 135.4 in March 2002 registered an increase of +0.5 point (or 0.4%) over the second quarter of 2002 to reach 135.9 in June 2002 (*Table 1*). This is mainly attributable to price increases of prepared meals and snacks (+0.1 point), milk (+0.1 point), some other food products (+0.1 point), medicinal products (+0.1 point) and other goods and services (+0.2 point), partly offset by price decreases of fresh fish (-0.1 point) as shown in *Table 2*.

2. Changes in Major Commodity Group Sub-indices.

Table 3 shows the evolution of the major commodity group indices (sub-indices) during the second quarter of 2002. Except for “*Fuel and light*” and “*Recreation, entertainment, education and cultural services*”, all sub-indices registered changes during the second quarter of 2002.

The sub-index for “*Food and non alcoholic beverages*” increased by 0.5%. This was mainly due to increases in price indices of milk (1.8%), pastry (3.4%), trader’s rice (2.0%), eggs (4.7%), butter (7.1%), fresh fruits (1.0%) and biscuits (3.2%) coupled with price decreases of fresh fish (4.7%).

The “*Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*” sub-index increased marginally by 0.1% following price increases of cane spirits (0.7%), whisky (0.2%) and wine (0.1%)

The sub-index for “*Clothing and footwear*” also went up by 0.1% due to price increases of some ready made clothing (0.1%) and higher tailoring charges (0.8%).

A rise of 0.3% was recorded in the sub-index for “*Housing and household operations*”. This is mainly attributable to higher prices of housecleaning supplies (1.3%) and glassware (1.6%).

The sub-index for “*Medical care and health expenses*” increased by 1.0%, because of price increases of some medicinal products (2.0%).

The sub-index for “*Transport and communication*” increased by 0.2%. This was the effect of higher prices of personal transport items such as motor vehicles (0.8%), air and sea fares (1.7%) and tyres and tubes (4.1%).

The sub-index for “*Miscellaneous goods and services*” went up by 0.5% mainly due to price increases of some personal care goods (1.5%).

3. Rate of inflation

The rate of inflation for financial year 2001/2002 was 6.3% compared to 4.4% for financial year 2000/2001. The rate of inflation for calendar year 2001 was 5.4% (*Table 4*).

Central Statistics Office

Ministry of Economic Development, Financial Services and Corporate Affairs

Port Louis

July 2002.

**Contact person: Mr L. Persand
Statistician, CPI Unit
Phone: 212 2316 / 17**

Note: Monthly Consumer Price Index data are available on CSO website <http://statsmauritius.gov.mu> within 5 working days after the end of the reference month.

Table 1 - Monthly Consumer Price Index, January 1994 - June 2002

<i>Month</i>	<i>(Base : July 1991 - June 1992 = 100)</i>				<i>(Base : July 1996 - June 1997 = 100)</i>					
	<i>1994</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>
January	119.4	126.9	133.7	145.9	105.5	114.6	120.0	125.9	133.5	
February	119.9	127.4	134.3	145.9	106.0	114.9	120.6	126.5	134.7	
March	120.8	128.2	134.3	146.2	106.7	115.1	121.0	126.3	135.4	
April	121.0	128.8	134.9	146.1	107.4	115.6	120.9	126.5	135.7	
May	122.6	129.0	135.6	146.7	108.0	115.8	121.0	126.8	135.9	
June	123.2	129.8	139.6	147.9	109.6	117.4	121.0	127.8	135.9	
July	123.2	130.0	140.4		103.0	109.7	117.8	121.3	129.7	
August	123.8	131.4	141.7		103.3	110.0	118.3	121.7	129.9	
September	124.2	131.7	141.7		103.6	112.1	118.5	121.9	130.1	
October	124.2	132.4	142.3		103.5	112.7	118.5	124.6	130.5	
November	124.9	132.9	142.5		103.6	113.1	118.9	124.8	131.1	
December	125.6	133.1	142.9		103.9	113.4	119.6	125.2	131.8	
Yearly average	122.7	130.1	138.7		102.5	109.5	117.1	122.0	128.6	
<i>Annual change (%)</i> <i>(Inflation rate)</i>	+ 7.3	+ 6.0	+ 6.6		+ 6.6	+ 6.8	+ 6.9	+ 4.2	+ 5.4	

Table 2 - Net contribution of main commodities that affected the index during the second quarter of 2002

Commodity	Change in overall index point	% change in price index between March & June 2002
Prepared meals and snacks	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Fresh fish	- 0.1	- 4.7
Milk	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Other food products	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Medicinal products	+ 0.1	+ 2.0
Other goods and services	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Total	+ 0.5	+ 0.4

Table 3 : Monthly sub-indices by major commodity group, January 2002 - July 2002

(Base: July 1996 - June 1997 = 100)

Major Commodity Group	Weight	Jan-02	Feb-02	Mar-02	Apr-02	May-02	Jun-02	% Change in price between March & June 2002
<i>1. Food and non alcoholic beverages</i>	364	129.2	131.4	133.2	133.8	134.1	133.9	+0.5
<i>2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</i>	87	176.0	176.0	176.0	176.1	176.1	176.1	+0.1
<i>3. Clothing and footwear</i>	79	117.5	117.5	117.7	117.8	117.8	117.8	+0.1
<i>4. Fuel and light</i>	44	135.8	135.8	135.8	135.8	135.8	135.8	-
<i>5. Housing and household operations</i>	132	126.2	126.5	126.9	127.0	127.1	127.3	+0.3
<i>6. Medical care and health expenses</i>	38	130.4	132.1	132.3	132.7	133.4	133.6	+1.0
<i>7. Transport and communication</i>	142	136.0	135.7	135.8	135.6	135.7	136.1	+0.2
<i>8. Recreation, entertainment, education and cultural services</i>	60	135.4	140.2	140.3	140.3	140.3	140.3	-
<i>9. Miscellaneous goods and services</i>	54	126.8	127.2	127.4	127.7	127.9	128.1	+0.5
ALL GROUPS	1000	133.5	134.7	135.4	135.7	135.9	135.9	+0.4

Table 4 - Inflation rate (%), 1975 - 2002

<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
2001	5.4	2000 - 2001	4.4
		2001 - 2002	6.3