

## **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX**

**June 2021** 

#### ANNUAL INFLATION DECLINES SLIGHTLY

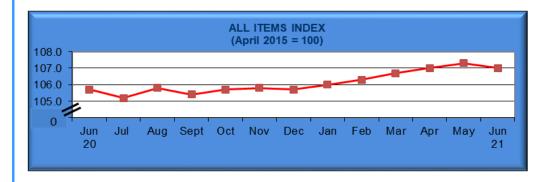
Consumers paid 1.2 per cent more in June 2021 than they did a year ago for the basket of goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This level of inflation was marginally down from the May 2021 annual inflation rate of 1.4 per cent.

Between May 2021 and June 2021 the average cost of goods and services in the CPI decreased 0.3 per cent. The all-items index decreased from 107.3 to 107.0 in June 2021. This means that the basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in April 2015 now costs \$107.00.

#### YEAR-TO-YEAR ANALYSIS

The Transport & Foreign Travel sector continues to be the largest contributor to the twelve-month increase in the CPI (+7.7 per cent). The average cost of airfares increased for a third consecutive month, rising 25.2 per cent.

The Health & Personal Care sector and the Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector also impacted strongly on the annual rate of inflation, as price shifts in these sectors measured 2.7 per cent and 2.4 per cent, respectively.



Annual Inflation Rate +1.2%

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 supplying in the required price data.

SUMMARY STATISTICS								
	Monthly				Quarterly			
Period	Index	Annual per cent Change		Period	Index	Annual per cent Change		
2020	405.7	.00		2019	405.0	.4.0		
June	105.7	+0.0		Q1	105.3	+1.2		
Jul	105.2	-1.4		Q2	105.7	+0.7		
Aug	105.8	-0.7		Q3	106.4	+1.1		
Sept	105.4	-0.7		Q4	105.7	+0.7		
Oct	105.7	-0.2						
Nov	105.8	-0.1		2020				
Dec	105.7	+0.3		Q1	106.1	+0.8		
				Q2	105.8	+0.1		
2021				Q3	105.5	-0.8		
Jan	106.0	-0.3		Q4	105.7	+0.0		
Feb	106.3	+0.2						
Mar	106.7	+0.8						
Apr	107.0	+0.9		2021				
May	107.3	+1.4		Q1	106.3	+0.2		
June	107.0	+1.2		Q2	107.1	+1.2		

#### **MONTH-TO-MONTH ANALYSIS**

# Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading

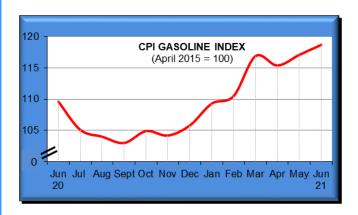
The Education, Recreation, Entertainment & Reading sector moved up 0.9 per cent in June. The average cost of pleasure boats rose 13.8 per cent.

#### **Health & Personal Care**

The Health & Personal Care sector increased 0.7 per cent for the month. The average cost of health insurance was up 1.0 per cent.

## Transport & Foreign Travel

The Transport & Foreign Travel sector rose 0.8 per cent. Travelers saw higher prices in the average cost of overseas car rentals (+27.2 per cent) overseas hotel accommodations (+6.7 per cent) and entrance fees to overseas theme parks (+4.8 per cent).



#### Food

The Food sector edged up 0.5 per cent for the month. The main items contributing to the rise was the average cost of spare ribs (+12.7 per cent), cantaloupes (+14.1 per cent) and green peppers (+11.8 per cent). In addition, the average cost of restaurant dining moved up 1.0 per cent.

## **Household Goods, Services & Supplies**

Following the 0.3 per cent increase in May, the Household Goods, Services & Supplies sector was unchanged in June.

## Clothing & Footwear

The Clothing & Footwear sector was static for the month.

## Tobacco & Liquor

The Tobacco & Liquor sector dipped 1.3 per cent. The average cost of beer (-5.4 per cent) and spirits (-0.3 per cent) were the main factors behind the decrease.

#### Rent

The Rent sector was down 0.3 per cent as the average cost of properties not subject to rent control slid 0.7 per cent.

#### **Fuel & Power**

The Fuel & Power sector dropped 14.1 per cent as the average cost of electricity fell 14.7 per cent in June.

#### **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: https://www.gov.bm/department/statistics.

#### A) Month-to-Month Price Change

The price change between February 2020 and January 2020 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{Feb\ 20\ index\ -\ Jan\ 20\ index}{Jan\ 20\ index} \times 100$$

$$=\frac{106.1-106.3}{106.3}\times100$$

$$=-0.2\%$$

#### B) Year-to-Year Price Change

The price change between March 2020 and March 2019 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Mar } 20 \text{ index } - \text{Mar } 19 \text{ index}}{\text{Mar } 19 \text{ index}} \times 100$$

$$=\frac{105.9-105.6}{105.6}\times100$$

$$=0.3\%$$

#### C) Particular Period Price Change

The price change between February 2020 and March 2018 is calculated as follows:

$$= \frac{\text{Feb 20 index} - \text{Mar 18 index}}{\text{Mar 18 index}} \times 100$$

$$=\frac{106.1-104.3}{104.3}\times100$$

$$=1.7\%$$

### BERMUDA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

### **APRIL 2015 = 100**

	All Items	Food	Rent	Clothing & Footwear	Tobacco & Liquor	Fuel & Power	Household Goods, Services & Supplies	& Foreign	Education, Recreation, Entertain. & Reading	Health & Personal Care
2013 WEIGHT	1000	115	267	25	31	39	116	130	147	130
				ANNUAL	AVERAGE	( per cent	)			
2016 2017 2018 2019 2020	+1.5 +1.9 +1.4 +1.0 +0.0	+1.9 +2.2 +2.1 +2.7 +4.5	+1.0 +0.1 +0.2 +0.9 -1.8	+0.4 +1.5 +1.5 +1.9 +0.9	+5.1 +7.8 +4.3 +3.8 +2.3	-3.3 +7.8 +5.8 +1.1 -1.8	+1.6 +0.5 -0.2 Nil +0.3	-2.2 +3.6 +0.3 -3.0 -4.6	+3.3 +2.0 +2.1 +0.4 +1.1	+4.5 +1.3 +3.1 +3.4 +2.8
				MON	NTHLY (per	cent)				
2019 Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec  2020 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec	+0.3 +0.9 -0.2 -0.4 -0.2 Niil -0.5 +0.9 -0.2 -0.2 +0.1 -0.5 +0.6 -0.4 +0.3 +0.1	+1.0 +0.4 -0.1 +0.2 -0.1 +0.5 -0.1 +0.8 Nil -0.3 +0.8 +0.7 +0.2 +0.1 +0.5 -0.1	-0.4 +2.1 +0.2 -0.2 -0.9 -0.2 Nil +0.9 -0.5 -0.4 -0.3 -0.9 -0.5 -0.4 +0.3 -1.3 +1.2 -0.2 +0.5	Nil +0.2 Nil Nil +0.5 Nil Nil Nil +0.5 Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil	+1.1 -0.6 +0.2 +1.1 -0.3 -0.7 +0.2 -0.4 +0.8 +0.6 +0.8 -0.5 +0.1 -0.2 +0.3 +0.9 -0.6 +0.1 -0.6	+0.8 Nil Nil -4.2 -2.7 -1.5 Nil	Nil Nil +0.1 Nil +0.1 Nil -0.4 +0.3 +0.1 Nil +0.1 Nil +0.1 +0.1 +0.1 +0.1 +0.3 +0.2 +0.7	+0.7 +2.7 -1.7 -3.0 +0.8 +0.9 -2.8 +2.2 -0.7 -0.6 -1.7 +0.1 -0.4 -1.9 +0.2 -1.3 +0.1 +1.5 -2.2	-0.2 +0.2 -0.3 +0.4 +0.1 Nil +0.1 Nil -0.1 +0.1 Nil +0.1 Nil +0.1 Nil +0.1 -0.1 -0.1	+1.4 +0.1 Nil Nil +0.4 Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil +1.2 Nil Nil Nil +1.2 Nil
2021 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun	+0.3 +0.3 +0.4 +0.3 +0.3 -0.3	+0.1 +0.3 +0.3 Nil -0.1 +0.5	+0.5 Nil +0.2 Nil -0.7 -0.3	+0.5 Nil Nil -0.6 Nil Nil	+0.3 -0.8 Nil +0.1 -0.1 -1.3	+1.0 Nil Nil +1.5 +0.2 -14.1	Nil Nil Nil +0.3 +0.3 Nil	+1.5 +2.2 +2.2 +0.7 +3.7 +0.8	-0.1 +0.2 Nil Nil +0.1 +0.9	Nil Nil +1.1 Nil +0.7
<u>Jun '21</u> Jun '20	+1.2	+1.2	-0.3	+0.1	-1.8	-14.8	+2.1	+7.7	+2.4	+2.7

## 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 subcomponents 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

	2017	2018	2019	2020	Jun 21
Bermuda	+1.9	+1.4	+1.0	+0.0	+1.2
United States <sup>1</sup>	+2.1	+2.4	+1.8	+1.2	+5.4
Canada <sup>2</sup>	+1.6	+2.3	+1.9	+0.7	+3.1
United Kingdom <sup>3</sup>	+3.6	+3.3	+2.6	+1.5	+3.9

#### Sources:

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

August 2021

Department of Statistics Cedar Park Centre, 48 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton HM 11

P.O. Box HM 3015 Hamilton HM MX, Bermuda

Tel: (441) 297-7761, Fax: (441) 295-8390

Website: <a href="https://www.gov.bm/department/statistics">https://www.gov.bm/department/statistics</a>

