

ANGUILLA'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – 1ST QTR 2001 (Jan- Mar)

For the quarter ending March 31, 2001, the price change for the Consumer Price Index was 1.1% with an overall estimated annual change of 4%. This rate is based on a new basket of goods, which were obtained from a Household Income & Expenditure Survey, which was conducted in 1998/1999. This new basket for the CPI came into effect as of this year.

The largest movement occurred in the Drinks & Tobacco Item. This item saw an increase of 2.7%, which reflects a 0.66% difference between the revised and the previously used weights. This difference can be attributed to the increase weight allotted to Cigarettes and Cinzano White. This affects the effect of the price increase on whisky relating to tax increase on imported Alcohol.

Various items in Accommodation saw a significant increase in the weights assigned to them. This contributed to the increase of 1.8% resulting in a 0.8% difference in the two weights.

The weights allocated to Transport & Communication were reduced. Specifically the weights assigned to Petrol, Airfare & Insurance were reduced. However, there was a significant increase in the weight allotted to Motor Vehicles. Together with the increase in prices of Motor Vehicles resulted in an increase of 2.5%, giving a minor difference of 0.2% in the weights.

The Other Item saw a small decrease of 0.1%, which shows a slight difference of 0.6% in the two weights used. This can be attributed to education and Medical no longer forming part of the other or Miscellaneous Item.

There was little or no change in the Fuel, Clothing & Footwear, Household goods, Personal Services, and Medical categories

Table 1: Quarterly percentage change in the Consumer Price Index and its item groups

ITEM	Weights	Revised Weights	Dec-00	Mar-01	Previous Mar01/Dec00	Revised Mar01/Dec00	Difference In %Change
Food	344.6	321.2	100.0	100.6	1.0%	0.6%	0.40%
Drinks & Tobacco	2.5	2.9	100.0	102.7	3.4%	2.7%	0.66%
Accommodation	118.2	171.5	100.0	101.79	1.0%	1.8%	-0.77%
Fuel	76.8	68.6	100.0	100.0	0.0%	0.0%	-0.01%
Clothing & Footwear	36.0	30.7	100.0	100.1	-0.3%	0.1%	-0.37%
Household Goods	96.9	97.3	100.0	99.8	0.0%	-0.2%	0.20%
Transport & Communication	249.4	235.3	100.0	102.5	2.3%	2.5%	-0.16%
Medical	25.0	30.9	100.0	100.0	-----	0.0%	-0.01%
Education	14.7	9.9	100.0	102.1	-----	2.1%	-2.14%
Personal Services	20.0	16.4	100.0	100.0	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.06%
Other	12.9	15.3	100.0	99.9	0.5%	-0.1%	0.57%
ALL ITEMS	1000	1000	100.0	100.0	1.0%	1.1%	-0.04%

With this new basket, new items were added and some items that were in the old basket were excluded from the new basket. (*see table 2*). This has made the basket of goods that are priced more representative of what consumers in Anguilla purchase today. The old basket was in use for the past 16 years, since 1985.

Table 2: Comparison of additional Items and items dropped in basket of Goods for the Consumer Price Index.

Item	Additional Items	Items Dropped
Food	78	0
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	0	0
Rent & Rates	3	0
Fuel & Light	0	3
Clothing & Footwear	16	6
Household goods	30	1
Transportation & Communication	4	2
Other	20	19
TOTAL	151	31