

ANGUILLA'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

3rd Quarter: July - September 2003

The Anguilla Consumer Price Index (AXACPI) recorded an annual increase of 4.3% for September 2003/2002 up from a 3.0% increase for June 2003/2002.

The index for the quarter July to September 2003 showed an increase of 0.9%. While the quarterly increase is slower, it compares with a 5.5% increase for the previous quarter April to June 2003. Price increases do tend to slow during the third quarter due to lowering of prices in the tourist off-season.

Table 1
Quarterly and Annual % change for the Anguilla CPI by category and weights

	Weights	Sept-02	Jun-03	Sept-03	% change Sept 03/Jun 03	% change Sept 03/Sept 02
FOOD	321.20	102.4	98.7	99.3	0.6%	-3.0%
DRINKS & TOBACCO	2.90	99.3	98.2	98.4	0.2%	-0.9%
ACCOMMODATION	171.50	106.0	90.2	90.4	0.2%	-14.7%
FUEL	68.55	94.3	99.3	103.3	4.1%	9.6%
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	30.65	117.5	115.0	114.7	-0.2%	-2.4%
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	97.30	105.0	105.1	109.7	4.3%	4.4%
TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION	235.28	101.9	128.6	128.6	0.0%	26.2%
MEDICAL	30.85	98.1	128.6	129.4	0.7%	31.9%
EDUCATION	9.94	123.3	111.6	110.8	-0.7%	-10.2%
SERVICES	16.42	114.5	117.0	113.4	-3.1%	-1.0%
OTHER	15.30	103.4	103.3	107.8	4.4%	4.2%
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	103.4	106.9	107.8	0.9%	4.3%

Weights revised – 1998

Base year Dec. 2000 = 100

CPI is based on prices collected within the 1st week of the last month of the quarter

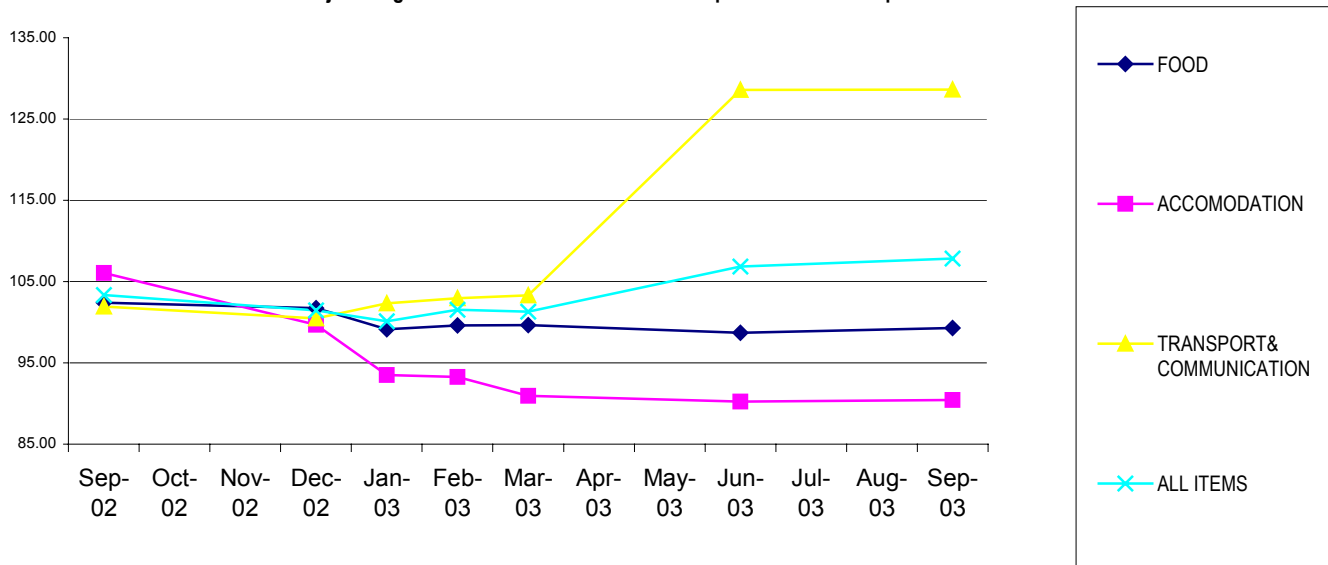
The categories that contribute the greatest weight to the Consumer Price Index are Food, Accommodation and Transport & Communication. On a closer annual analysis of these categories in the period September 2002 to September 2003 we find the following:

In the Food category, price increases were steady from September 2002 to December 2002, followed by a slight decline in January 2003 with a marginal increase occurring in February 2003, which was maintained around the current level up until September 2003.

Looking at Accommodation, as at December 2002, prices declined from September 2002. This decline was further perpetuated in January 2003, leveling in February 2003 and again declining in March 2003. Since March 2003 there seems to be a leveling in prices in the Accommodation category up until September 2003.

Examination of the Transportation & Communication category shows that there was a slight decline in December 2002 from September 2002, whereas in January 2003 there was an increase in the price level. There was a constant but gradual increase in February and March 2003. However, in the quarter ending June 2003 there was a significant increase in prices, due largely to an increase in telephone rental charges. For September 2003 prices remained constant over the quarter.

Table 2
Movement of major categories and all items in the CPI for September 2002 to September 2003



An analysis of the quarter showed that the largest quarterly increases occurred in the Other, Household Goods and Fuel categories, which increased by 4.4%, 4.3% and 4.1% respectively as shown in Table 1. In the Other category the increase can be attributed to the price change for power tools, whereas the Household category saw price changes in the furniture and the linen groups while the Fuel category saw an increase in the price of cooking gas, which maybe due to the change in the costs to the importer.

There were minor price increases in the Medical category resulting in an overall quarterly increase of 0.7%, and the Food category resulting in an overall quarterly increase 0.6%. The Drinks & Tobacco and the Accommodation categories both showed slight increases of 0.2%.

The categories experiencing a decline in prices for this quarter were Services with 3.1%, Education with 0.7% and Clothing & Footwear with 0.2%.

There was no change in the Transport & Communication category.

For more information, please feel free to contact the Statistics Department on 497-3901/5731 or visit our website <http://gov.ai/statistics/statistics.htm>