

ANGUILLA'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

January 2003

The Statistics Department is conducting the Consumer Price Index survey monthly from January to March 2003 to monitor the impact of the 1 percentage point increase in import duties across the board (surcharge), announced in the 2003 Budget Speech, delivered by the Minister of Finance in December 2002.

The Anguilla Consumer Price Index (AXACPI) recorded a decrease of 1.3%, for the month of January 2003, which continues the trend of price decline seen in December 2002.

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

	Weights	Sep-02	Dec-02	Jan-03	% change Dec 02/Sept 02	% change Jan 03/ Dec 02
FOOD	321.20	102.4	101.1	99.1	-0.6%	-2.6%
DRINKS & TOBACCO	2.90	99.3	98.5	98.5	-0.8%	0.0%
ACCOMMODATION	171.50	106.0	99.7	93.5	-6.0%	-6.2%
FUEL	68.55	94.3	94.1	94.1	-0.2%	0.0%
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	30.65	117.5	111.8	114.8	-4.8%	2.7%
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	97.30	105.0	105.4	104.5	0.4%	-0.9%
TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION	235.28	101.9	100.5	102.3	-1.4%	1.8%
MEDICAL	30.85	98.1	98.2	100.6	0.0%	2.5%
EDUCATION	9.94	125.0	110.5	110.3	-10.4%	-0.2%
SERVICES	16.42	114.5	114.6	116.6	0.0%	1.8%
OTHER	15.30	103.4	105.3	105.3	1.8%	0.0%
ALL ITEMS	1000	103.4	101.5	100.1	-1.8%	-1.3%

Weights revised – 1998
Base year Dec. 2000 = 100

The largest upward movement for the month occurred in the Clothing & Footwear category, which increased by 2.7% as shown in Table 1. It should be noted that it is difficult to track price changes of clothing as items change regularly.

Food and Household Goods showed a decline of 2.6% and 0.9% respectively. This suggests that the imposed increase in import duties has not taken effect as yet. Drinks & Tobacco, Fuel and Other categories showed no price changes, again not yet showing a response to the change in import duty.

The index also saw a moderate upward movement in the Medical category of 2.5%. Medicines and Health Insurance Premium were the main contributors to this increase. Services and Transport & Communication followed Medical with 1.8% each.

The category experiencing the largest decline for the month amounting to 6.2% was Accommodation with Rent being the major contributor.

There was also hardly any change in Education.

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>