

## Anguilla Government Statistics Department ANGUILLA'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

3rd Quarter: July - September 2010

Inflation Rate -0.1%

The cost of living, measured by the Anguilla Consumer Price Index (AXACPI) for the 'All Items' index, remained about the same, down 0.1% in the third quarter of 2010 to 141.3. For the quarter, there was a decline in prices in key spending areas such as 'Accommodation' (-2.2%) and 'Transport & Communication' (-0.1%).

The index for 'Food', 'Drinks & Tobacco' and 'Clothing & Footwear' were the only components to post an increase this period up 1.0%, 0.5% and 1.2% respectively.

Prices were flat this quarter in many of the components, with many of the indices showing no change from the second quarter to this period.

Over the last 12 months, the index for 'All Items' rose 1.2%, moving from 139.6 to 141.3. This increase reflected the 'Fuel' index which rose 12.3% as a result of higher electricity and LPG prices. Grocery store food prices as reflected in the 'Food' index were also up 1.3%.

Rising at a similar rate were 'Drinks & Tobacco' and 'Personal Services', up 1.1% and 1.2% respectively.

The 'Transportation & Communication' index had a higher increase, up 2.8%; with gasoline prices, insurance premiums and new car prices higher than 12 months ago.

Table 1: Consumer Price Index by Category and Weights

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Categories	New Weights 2001	Sept '09	June '10	Sept '10	Quarterly % Change Sept '10/June '10	Annual % Change Sept '10/Sept '09
Food	321.2	146.7	147.2	148.6	1.0%	1.3%
Drinks & Tobacco	2.9	125.2	126.0	126.6	0.5%	1.1%
Accommodation	171.5	114.0	112.8	110.3	-2.2%	-3.3%
Fuel	68.6	121.6	136.5	136.5	0.0%	12.3%
Clothing & Footwear	30.7	110.1	105.9	107.2	1.2%	-2.7%
Household Goods	97.3	163.0	163.9	162.4	-0.9%	-0.4%
Transportation & Communication	235.3	138.0	142.0	141.9	-0.1%	2.8%
Medical	30.9	218.8	219.2	219.3	0.0%	0.3%
Education	9.9	218.0	216.4	216.4	0.0%	-0.7%
Personal Services	16.4	134.1	135.7	135.7	0.0%	1.2%
Other	15.3	89.4	87.7	83.3	-5.0%	-6.8%
All Items	1000	139.6	141.4	141.3	-0.1%	1.2%

## **Quarterly Analysis**

As in the second quarter (April to June 2010), this quarter experienced another decline in the *All Items* index by 0.1%; with somewhat lower prices in four of the components and another four remaining unchanged.

The 'Food' index, which has the largest weight, rose 1.0% after falling 0.5% in the second quarter. Many of the main grocery

store groups saw increases in items such as bread, flour and cereals; meat, poultry and fish; sugar and preserves; fruits and vegetables; and other foodstuff.

The 'Drinks & Tobacco' index was up 0.5% as a result of an increase in the price of rum and wine.

After four straight quarterly declines, the 'Clothing & Footwear' index increased this quarter by 1.2%, more specifically in footwear and men's clothing.

Compared with the second quarter of 2010, the indices for 'Fuel', 'Medical', 'Education' and 'Personal Services' remained unchanged; with consumers paying, on average, the same amount on these items.

The 'Accommodation' index was down 2.2%, with lower prices recorded in materials for maintenance and repair such as cement.

Consumers paid 0.9% less on 'Household Goods' compared with the previous quarter.

Prices barely slipped; down 0.1% this quarter in 'Transportation & Communication'. The sub category, communication remained unchanged with changes mostly in the Transportation sub category.

In the 'Other' category, the index was down 5.0%, partly due to miscellaneous items like toiletries, personal hygiene products and power tools.

## **Annual Analysis**

Consumer prices increased in six of the eleven categories in the 12 months to September 2010, including the top two weighted categories *Food* and *Transportation & Communication*.

The 'Food' index went up 1.3% with price increases in many of the sub categories, with poultry, fish and soft drinks being the exception.

Alcoholic '*Drinks and Tobacco*', which carries the lowest weighting of all the categories, had a year-on-year increase of 1.1%.

Compared to 2009, the September 'Fuel' index advanced 12.3%, the largest year-on-year change of all the categories. This is as a result of households having to spend more on electricity and LPG or cooking gas.

'Transportation and Communication' costs went up 2.8% with airfares, gas prices, insurance premiums and vehicle repair items higher.

Consumer costs for 'Medical' care edged up 0.3% for the year.

Prices for 'Personal Services', which covers beauty parlour and barber services, gym services, spa treatments and so on, were up 1.2% for the year.

'Accommodation', consumers' third largest category in terms of weight, was down 3.3% during the 12-month period to September, partly due to lower costs in repair and maintenance.

The 'Clothing & Footwear' index experienced a decrease by 2.7%. 'Household Goods' and 'Education' both had a small downward change in their index by 0.4% and 0.7% respectively.

The 'Other' category which includes various miscellaneous items used by households was down 6.8%, the greatest downward price movements of all the categories. This decline was in part due to prices for personal hygiene items like toothpaste and deodorant being slightly lower; and electrical goods like power tools.







The CPI can be used in employer and employee contract negotiations to adjust wages, in rental agreements and child support agreements, pensions and other contractual price setting arrangements.

This report, along with similar reports for CPI, is available at the Government of Anguilla Statistics Department's website: www.gov.ai/statistics

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