

STATISTICS UPDATE: CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

DECEMBER QUARTER 2011 HIGHLIGHTS

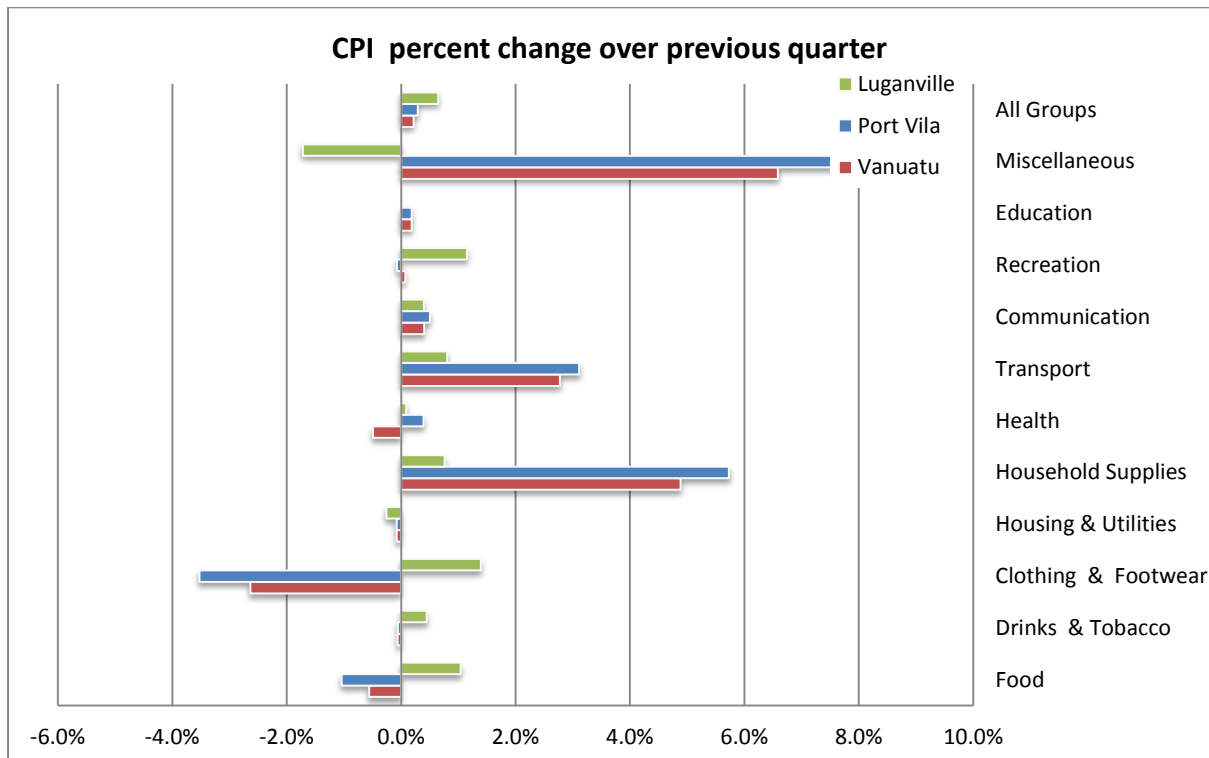
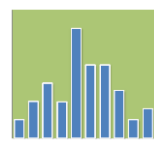


Figure 1: CPI percent change over previous quarter

CPI QUARTERLY MOVEMENT

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for December quarter of 2011, slightly increased by 0.4%. The Port Vila index and Luganville index both rose by 0.3% and 0.7% respectively when compared to the previous quarter. The following expenditure groups had significant increases as compare to September quarter of 2011: Miscellaneous (+6.6%), Household Supplies (+4.9%) and Transport (+2.8%). Slight increases were also recorded for the following groups: Communication (+0.4%) and Education (+0.2%) and Recreation (+0.1%). The main contributors to the movement were the rise in the prices of furniture and the fuel. However, here were also expenditure groups that recorded price decline: Clothing and Footwear (-2.6%), Food (-0.6%), Health (-0.5%), Alcoholic drinks & tobacco and Housing utilities recorded (-0.1%) each. These decreases were due to price reduction in women and children clothing, fruits and vegetables, packets of cigarettes and stationary.



CPI ANNUAL MOVEMENT

When compared to the December quarter of 2010, the Vanuatu index increased by 1.0%, with 1.4% for Port Vila Index and a 0.4% for Luganville. At the national level, the following expenditure groups had significant change over the same quarter of 2010: Education (5%), Recreation (4.8%), and Miscellaneous (4.5%). Housing and Utilities (1.5%), Alcoholic Drinks and Tobacco (1.8%) and Household Supplies (1.1%) increased moderately during the same period. In exception of Transport, and Clothing and Footwear which declined by 2.3% and 0.6% respectively, all the other expenditure groups recorded a fall of less than 1% each. The main contributors to the 1% increase were the rise in the prices of furniture, fuel, housing rent, cooking gas and structural materials. However, the items contributing to the slight decreases in Transport and Clothing Footwear were airfares and footwear.

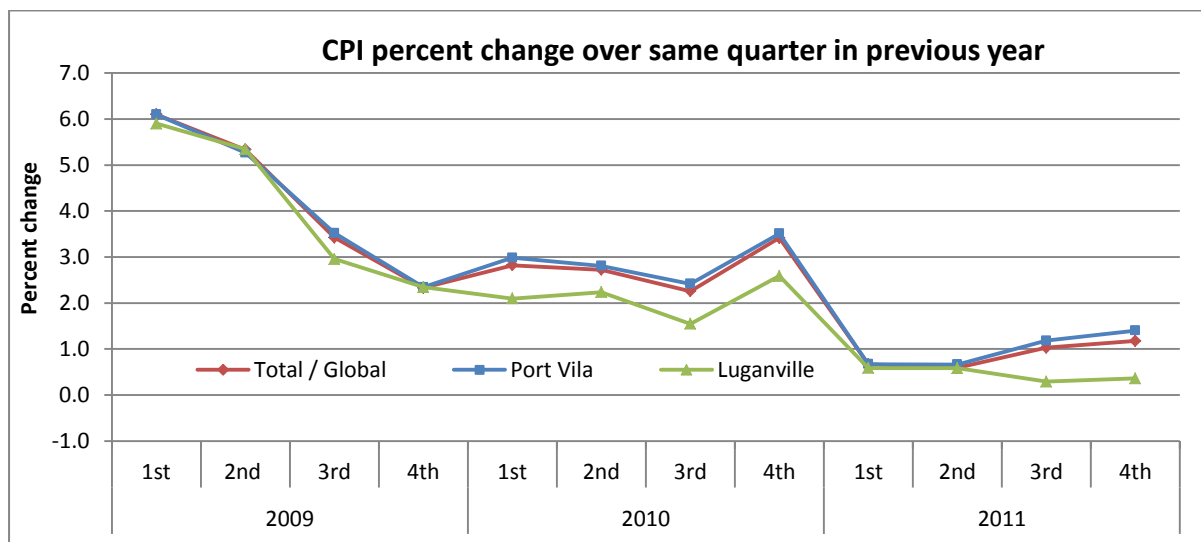
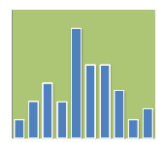


Figure 2: CPI percent change over same quarter in previous year

UNDERLYING INFLATION

'Underlying inflation' is a measure derived from the CPI excluding items which typically have unstable or volatile prices; because of things like seasonal variation or policy decisions. Underlying inflation increase by 0.2% in December quarter of 2011 compared to the previous quarter (September 2011). Meanwhile, it also recorded an increase of 1.9% over the same quarter of 2010.



CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used to measure the changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in Port Vila and Luganville over a period of time. The separate indices for these two major commercial centres are then combined to create the Vanuatu CPI.

This change in prices is sometimes called inflation. Retail stores, supermarkets, liquor outlets, transport operators, service stations and other providers of goods and services help supply the Vanuatu National Statistics Office with the information to calculate the CPI.

Prices are collected for exactly the same goods and services each quarter. This ensures that changes in the cost of goods and services over time are not due to changes in the quantity or quality of the goods and services purchased.

ATTACHED:

Table 1 Consumer Price Index: All Items

Table 2 Consumer Price Index: Expenditure Groups

NEXT UPDATE (QUARTERLY)

RELEASE DATE

March

15th May, 2012

MORE INFORMATION

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Table 1 Consumer Price Index

Base: 1st Quarter 2000 = 100

Tableau 1 Indice des prix à la consommation

Base: 1^{er} Trimestre 2000 = 100

Year	Quarter	Consumer Price Indices			Underlying	Rate of Change (%)			Rate of Change (%)			Année	Trimestre
		Indice des prix à la consommation			Inflation Index	Variation par rapport			Variation				
		Total / Global	Port Vila	Luganville	Total / Global	Total / Global	Port Vila	Luganville	Total / Global	Port Vila	Luganville		
						Over Previous Year / à l'année précédente			4th Quarter over 4th Quarter of previous year / du 4ème trimestre au 4ème trimestre de l'année précédente				
2008		126.7	126.1	129.4	119.6	4.8	4.6	5.7	5.8	5.4	7.3	2008	
2009		132.1	131.5	134.7	123.6	4.3	4.3	4.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2009	
2010		135.8	135.4	137.6	122.3	2.8	2.9	2.1	2.8	3.0	2.1	2010	
						Over Previous Quarter / au trimestre précédent			Over Same Quarter of previous year / au même trimestre de l'année précédente				
2008	1st	123.7	123.2	126.1	115.6	1.6	1.4	2.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	2008	1er
	2nd	125.6	125.3	127.3	117.9	1.6	1.7	0.9	3.9	3.9	4.1		2ème
	3rd	128.6	127.9	132.0	122.4	2.4	2.1	3.7	6.0	5.5	8.1		3ème
	4th	128.8	128.1	132.2	122.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	5.8	5.4	7.3		4ème
2009	1st	131.2	130.7	133.5	123.7	1.9	2.0	1.0	6.1	6.1	5.9	2009	1er
	2nd	132.3	131.9	134.1	123.9	0.8	0.9	0.4	5.3	5.3	5.3		2ème
	3rd	133.0	132.4	135.9	124.0	0.5	0.4	1.3	3.4	3.5	3.0		3ème
	4th	131.8	131.1	135.3	122.7	-0.9	-1.0	-0.4	2.3	2.3	2.3		4ème
2010	1st	134.9	134.6	136.3	123.3	2.4	2.7	0.7	2.8	3.0	2.1	2010	1er
	2nd	135.9	135.6	137.1	121.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.7	2.8	2.2		2ème
	3rd	136.0	135.6	138.0	122.0	0.1	0.0	0.7	2.3	2.4	1.5		3ème
	4th	136.3	135.7	138.8	122.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	3.4	3.5	2.6		4ème
2011	1st	135.8	135.5	137.1	122.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.2	0.7	0.7	0.6	2011	1er
	2nd	136.7	136.5	137.9	122.3	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6		2ème
	3rd	137.4	137.2	138.4	124.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.3		3ème
	4th	137.9	137.6	139.3	124.5	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.2	1.4	0.4		4ème

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices by Expenditure Group

Base: 1st Quarter 2000 = 100

Tableau 2 Indice des prix à la consommation par poste de dépense

Base: 1^{er} Trimestre 2000 = 100

Year	Quarter	Food Produits alimentaires	Alcoholic drinks and Tobacco Boisson alcoolisée et tabac	Clothing & Footwear Habillement	Housing & Utilities Loyer, eau, et énergie etc.	Household Supplies Mobilier et équipement ménager etc.	Health Santé	Transport	Communication	Recreation Loisir	Education	Miscellaneous Autres	All Groups Indice Global	Année	Trimestre
Vanuatu															
2009	1st	133.3	155.1	101.1	127.7	104.8	100.3	145.4	100.7	119.3	104.8	100.3	131.2	2009	1er
	2nd	135.5	158.0	101.1	127.5	103.9	100.0	142.8	100.7	127.7	105.3	100.9	132.3		2ème
	3rd	136.9	158.2	102.4	127.5	104.3	100.0	143.9	100.7	127.6	105.3	102.9	133.0		3ème
	4th	135.2	158.5	102.7	125.8	104.0	100.7	144.6	96.5	129.0	105.3	103.0	131.8		4ème
2010	1st	140.0	170.2	100.7	128.0	104.2	101.0	146.4	98.7	131.3	100.9	102.3	134.9	2010	1er
	2nd	141.7	172.1	100.7	129.7	103.6	101.4	146.5	98.7	130.1	101.0	102.3	135.9		2ème
	3rd	141.6	172.4	100.4	129.9	103.8	101.1	147.5	98.7	130.1	101.0	102.2	136.0		3ème
	4th	142.2	173.9	100.5	129.6	104.1	100.5	147.7	98.9	130.1	101.0	102.2	136.3		4ème
2011	1st	140.8	172.1	100.5	129.3	103.7	101.6	147.8	98.9	130.2	104.4	102.1	135.8	2011	1er
	2nd	141.8	173.5	101.5	131.7	101.6	101.6	150.5	98.8	129.7	104.1	102.4	136.7		2ème
	3rd	144.0	177.2	102.6	131.7	100.3	101.8	140.4	98.8	136.3	105.9	100.2	137.4		3ème
	4th	143.2	177.1	99.9	131.6	105.2	101.3	144.3	99.2	136.4	106.1	106.8	137.7		4ème
Port Vila															
2009	1st	132.0	158.2	102.9	124.5	104.3	100.0	147.7	100.8	118.8	105.9	100.3	130.7	2009	1er
	2nd	134.3	162.0	102.9	124.3	103.4	100.0	144.9	100.8	128.7	106.5	100.9	131.9		2ème
	3rd	135.2	162.2	104.0	124.2	103.8	100.0	146.0	100.8	128.5	106.5	103.2	132.4		3ème
	4th	133.5	162.4	104.0	122.3	103.4	100.8	146.4	95.8	130.1	106.5	102.9	131.1		4ème
2010	1st	139.5	175.9	101.6	124.4	103.4	101.2	148.1	98.5	132.9	101.9	102.1	134.6	2010	1er
	2nd	141.4	177.5	101.6	126.3	102.7	101.6	148.1	98.5	131.4	102.0	102.1	135.6		2ème
	3rd	140.8	177.9	101.3	126.5	102.9	101.3	149.2	98.5	131.4	102.0	102.0	135.6		3ème
	4th	141.2	178.3	101.3	126.3	103.2	100.7	149.4	98.5	131.4	102.0	102.1	135.7		4ème
2011	1st	140.2	176.0	101.3	126.3	102.7	100.9	149.9	98.6	131.5	106.3	102.0	135.5	2011	1er
	2nd	141.3	177.4	102.4	128.8	100.3	100.9	152.8	98.6	131.2	105.9	102.0	136.5		2ème
	3rd	144.4	181.8	105.1	127.6	99.4	101.0	141.3	98.5	138.9	106.7	99.5	137.2		3ème
	4th	142.9	181.7	101.4	127.5	105.1	101.4	145.7	99.0	138.8	106.9	107.4	137.6		4ème
Luganville															
2009	1st	139.7	138.8	94.5	145.4	106.5	102.7	132.9	100.0	122.0	100.8	100.1	133.5	2009	1er
	2nd	141.4	138.8	94.5	145.0	106.1	100.0	132.1	100.0	122.3	100.8	100.4	134.1		2ème
	3rd	145.0	138.8	96.4	145.3	106.5	100.0	132.7	100.0	122.6	100.8	101.0	135.9		3ème
	4th	142.9	139.1	97.9	145.3	106.7	100.0	134.8	100.3	122.6	100.8	103.4	135.3		4ème
2010	1st	143.3	144.7	97.7	148.3	108.3	99.4	137.6	100.3	122.4	97.5	103.8	136.3	2010	1er
	2nd	144.3	147.3	97.6	148.8	108.3	99.4	138.4	100.3	122.3	97.5	103.8	137.1		2ème
	3rd	146.3	147.4	97.5	148.9	108.4	99.5	138.6	100.3	122.6	97.5	103.8	138.0		3ème
	4th	147.4	152.7	97.5	147.5	108.4	99.5	138.6	101.3	122.9	97.5	103.1	138.8		4ème
2011	1st	144.5	152.7	97.7	145.0	109.0	106.8	137.0	100.7	122.9	97.5	103.1	137.1	2011	1er
	2nd	145.3	153.7	98.3	146.7	109.3	106.8	138.8	100.1	121.4	97.6	104.8	137.9		2ème
	3rd	143.9	154.9	93.0	155.7	104.8	107.5	135.9	100.1	121.4	102.9	104.9	138.4		3ème
	4th	145.4	155.6	94.3	155.3	105.6	107.6	137.0	100.5	122.8	102.9	103.1	139.3		4ème