



STATISTICS UPDATE: CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

DECEMBER QUARTER 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

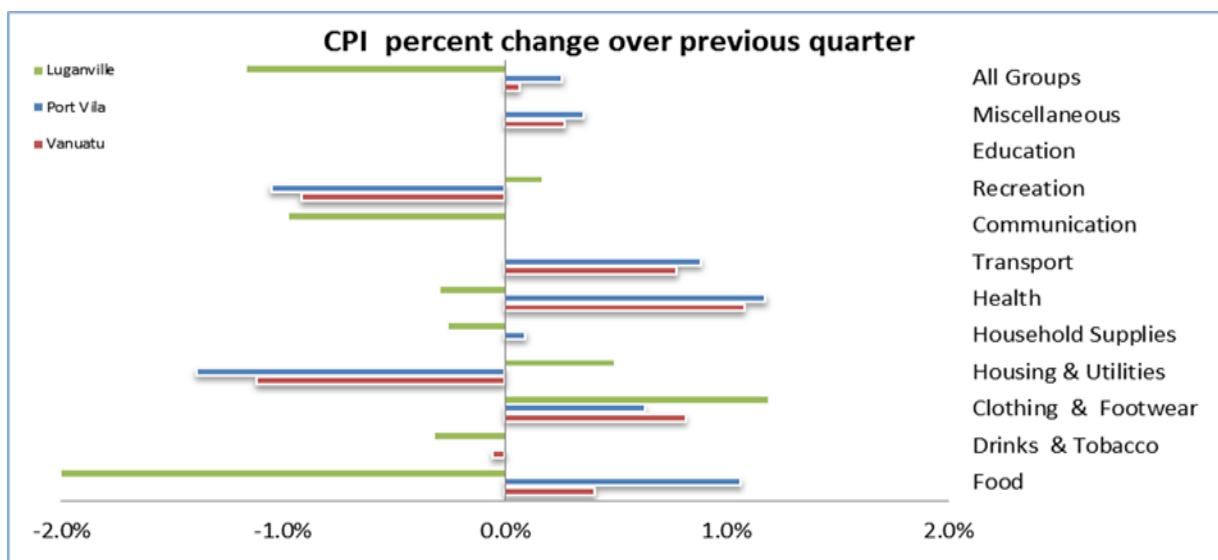


Figure 1: CPI per cent change over previous quarter

CPI QUARTERLY MOVEMENT

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) of December, 2017 indicated an increase of (+0.1 %). Port Vila slightly increased by (+0.3%) while Luganville dramatically decrease by (-1.2%), compared to the previous quarter. The expenditure group that contributed to the increase in the CPI were: Health (+1.1%), Clothing and Footwear and Transport (+0.8%) respectively, Food (+0.4%), Miscellaneous (+0.3%), Housing Supplies, Education and Communication remain constant. However, group that contributed to the decrease in price movement was Housing Utilities (-1.1%), Recreation (-0.9%) and Drinks and Tobacco (-0.1%). The main contributor in prices was due to the increases in price movements of purchasing of, formal and Island dress for woman, international Airline tickets, root crops, fruits and vegetables, in both regions and toiletries and personal care products in Port Vila. The sub group that showed negative impact on the price movements was the purchase of electricity supply charges in Port Vila and Hiring of DVD disc in both regions.

CPI ANNUAL MOVEMENT

When compared to the December quarter of 2016, the Vanuatu index increased by (+3.2%), Port Vila index increased by (+3.6%) and Luganville index slightly increased by (0.7%). At national level, the expenditure groups that contributed to the increase over the same quarter of last year were: Food (+6.4%), Transport (+6.3%), Education (+3.2%), Health (+1.3%), Clothing and Footwear, and Communication (+0.5%) each, Drinks and Tobacco, and Housing Utilities also contribute (+0.2%) respectively. The increases in these expenditure groups were the result of increases in price movements of , Root crops, Fruits and Vegetables, purchasing and hiring of motor vehicle, International airline tickets, charge of petroleum per litre and School Fees While the other groups that shows negative impact were Recreation (-2.0%), Household Supplies (-0.5%) and miscellaneous (-0.4%).

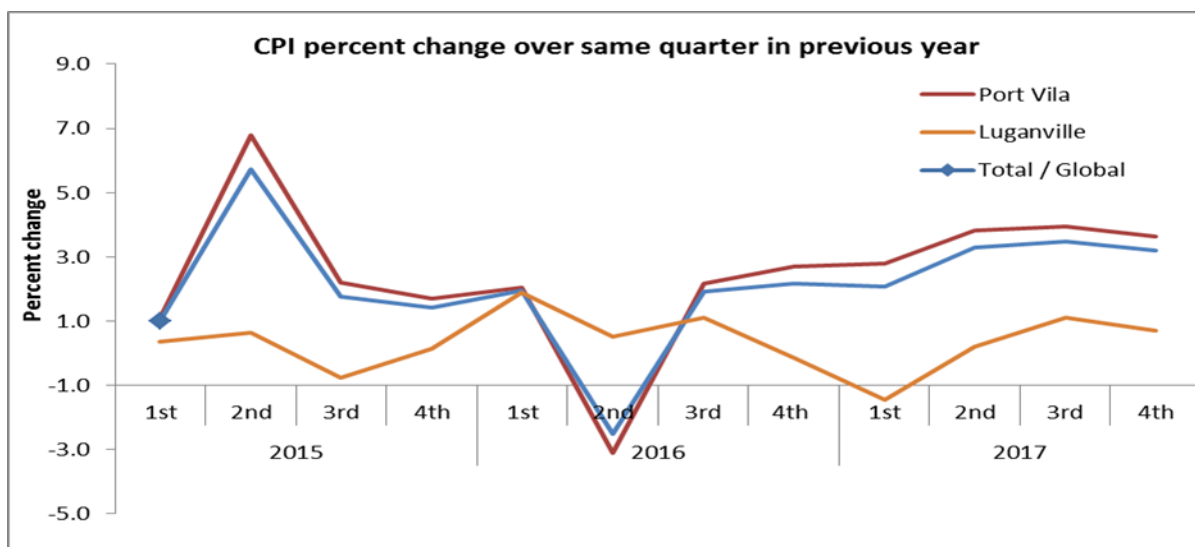


Figure 2: CPI per cent change over same quarter in previous year

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. In December quarter of 2017, underlying inflation slightly decreased by (-0.1 %) over the previous quarter, and increased by (+0.8%) over the same quarter of 2016.

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

4th of May, 2018

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**

		Consumer Price Indices				Rate of Change (%)			Rate of Change (%)				
		<i>Underlying Inflation Index</i>				Variation par rapport			Variation				
Year	Quarter	Indice des prix à la consommation										Année	Trimestre
		Total / Global	Port Vila	Luganville	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				
2012		138.8	138.6	139.9	126.8	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.5	2012	
2013		140.8	140.6	142.1	129.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7	2013	
2014		142.0	141.7	143.2	130.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.2	0.5	2014	
2015		145.5	145.9	143.3	131.9	2.5	2.9	0.1	1.4	1.7	0.1	2015	
2016		146.7	147.2	144.5	133.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	2016	
						Over Previous Quarter / au trimestre précédent			Over Same Quarter of previous year / au même trimestre de l'année précédente				
2012	1st	138.6	138.3	139.8	126.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	2.1	2.1	2.0	2012	1er
	2nd	138.7	138.5	139.7	126.9	0.1	0.1	-0.1	1.5	1.5	1.3		2ème
	3rd	138.9	138.7	139.9	126.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1	1.1		3ème
	4th	139.0	138.8	140.0	127.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.9	0.5		4ème
2013	1st	140.5	140.3	141.2	129.0	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.0	2013	1er
	2nd	140.8	140.5	142.3	129.3	0.2	0.1	0.8	1.5	1.4	1.9		2ème
	3rd	140.9	140.6	142.6	129.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.4	1.4	1.9		3ème
	4th	141.1	140.8	142.4	129.5	0.1	0.1	-0.1	1.5	1.4	1.7		4ème
2014	1st	141.5	141.3	142.7	129.9	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.7	1.1	2014	1er
	2nd	141.7	141.4	143.3	130.6	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.7		2ème
	3rd	142.0	141.7	143.7	130.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.8		3ème
	4th	142.6	142.5	143.1	131.3	0.4	0.6	-0.4	1.1	1.2	0.5		4ème
2015	1st	142.9	142.8	143.2	130.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.1	0.4	2015	1er
	2nd	149.8	151.0	144.2	132.8	4.8	5.7	0.7	5.7	6.8	0.6		2ème
	3rd	144.5	144.8	142.6	131.4	-3.5	-4.1	-1.1	1.8	2.2	-0.8		3ème
	4th	144.6	144.9	143.3	132.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.4	1.7	0.1		4ème
2016	1st	145.7	145.7	145.9	133.3	0.8	0.6	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	2016	1er
	2nd	146.0	146.2	144.9	133.4	0.2	0.3	-0.7	-2.5	-3.1	0.5		2ème
	3rd	147.3	148.0	144.2	133.2	0.9	1.2	-0.5	1.9	2.2	1.1		3ème
	4th	147.8	148.9	143.1	132.5	0.3	0.6	-0.8	2.2	2.7	-0.1		4ème
2017	1st	148.8	149.9	143.8	132.3	0.7	0.7	0.5	2.1	2.8	-1.5	2017	1er
	2nd	150.8	152.0	145.2	133.4	1.3	1.4	1.0	3.3	3.8	0.2		2ème
	3rd	152.6	154.1	145.8	133.7	1.2	1.4	0.4	3.5	4.0	1.1		3ème
	4th	152.7	154.5	144.1	133.6	0.1	0.3	-1.2	3.2	3.6	0.7		4ème

