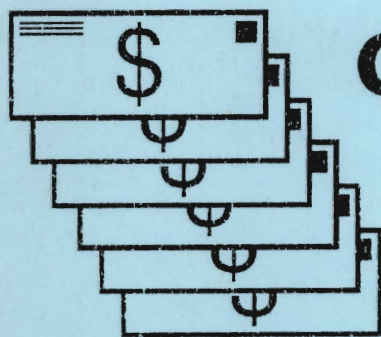
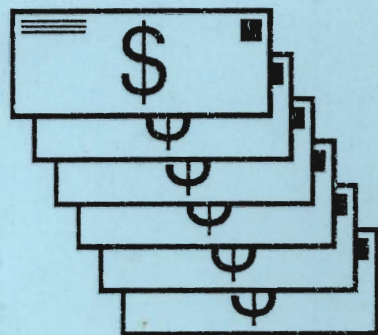


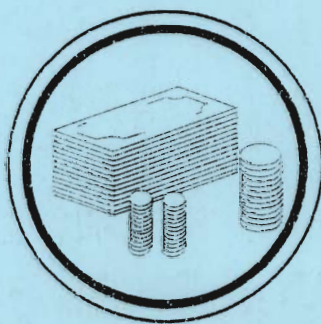
Commonwealth of Dominica



**CONSUMER
PRICE
INDICES**



1997



**Central Statistical Office
Ministry of Finance, Industry & Planning
Roseau, Dominica**

PREFACE

The Consumer Price Index is based on the 1992 Household Expenditure Survey which covered the four most populous parishes or population zones in Dominica: St. George, St. Paul, St. Patrick and St. Andrew. From a total of 13,576 households (total of all four parishes), eight hundred and fifty-five (855) were selected for the survey. Five hundred and seventy-four (574) questionnaires were completed, representing a 67.1% response rate. The number of items selected from the 1992 survey was more than twice that of 1982 reflecting a more detailed Consumer Price Index. A total of three hundred (300) items came from eighty-one (81) sources. These sources excluded Rent, which was measured in seven categories from forty-four (44) households.

The addition of new sub-groups and the increase/decrease in the weights of others showed the change in consumer spending patterns, over the last ten years. The shifts (decreases) in group indices **FOOD, HOUSING and UTILITIES, FURNITURE and HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT, and ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO** were absorbed by movements (increases) in **TRANSPORTATION, CLOTHING and FOOTWEAR and MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.**

A national expenditure survey facilitates the compiling of a Consumer Price Index where a basis of consumer spending is measured. The All Items Index is calculated out of 1000 and is segmented into group and sub-group indices. Following a household expenditure survey, weights are derived by calculating the total value of items consumed to the total quantity consumed.

The public often makes the error of assuming that the monthly and/or yearly Consumer Price Index measures the prices of all items on retail shelves and every service available. It must be explained that the index covers selected consumer items and services based on a Household Expenditure Survey. Such items and services rarely change (in the Index) until another survey is conducted. The price the consumer pays for these items are recorded on a monthly basis and within a specific period.

From the 1992 survey, new sub-groups were represented as follows:- Repairs to House, Insurance Payments, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Services, House Cleaning, Repairs to Equipment, Purchase of Motor Vehicles, Transport Insurance and Fees, Clothing Accessories and Personal Life Insurance. February 1994 was established as the base in calculating this new series.

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CHIEF STATISTICIAN (AG.)

DATE: 3RD FEBRUARY, 1998

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REVIEW

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1997

The All Items Consumer Price Index registered a 2.42 percent increase over the year and a 4.57 percent rise over the February 1994 base (Table 3). The 1997 All Items Index registered the highest annual increase over the last five years (1993 to 1997).

For the current year, the September Index registered the highest increase 1.04 (Table 2). This sharp rise was influenced by the 108.3 percent hike in pre-school fees. Over the year the **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES** group index recorded the highest increase, 8.9% (Table 5); the **TRANSPORTATION** index reflected the lowest increase, 0.1 percent.

In the last five years (1993 to 1997), three group indices recorded the highest percentage increase in the current year: **FOOD**, 3.6; **HOUSING AND UTILITIES**, 1.4; and **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES**, 8.9. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO** and **TRANSPORTATION** reflected their highest increase in the last year (1996).

From the base period (February 1994) to February 1997, the All Items Index recorded a 3.6 percent increase. The **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO** group index registered the highest increase, 11.7 percent. The **TRANSPORTATION** and **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES** group indices registered almost similar movements, increasing by 8.1 and 8.3 percent respectively. From the base period to December 1997 the All Item Index recorded a 5.7 percent increase (Table 6A). In the same period the **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES** and **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO** registered 16.7 and 14.0 percent increases respectively. The percentage increases in **FOOD** and **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES** almost doubled from February to December 1997 (over the 1994 base period). **FOOD** moved from a 1.6 percent increase (from February 1994 to February 1997) to 3.5 percent (from February 1994 to December 1997). **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES** moved from 8.3 percent to 16.7 over that period.

Over the three year period (February 1994 to February 1997), significant percentage increases were noted in Dairy Products, 18.1; Purchased Transportation, 12.5; Educational Expenses, 13.4; Meat (fresh, chilled, frozen) 12.2; Alcoholic Beverages, 11.8; Tobacco Products, 11.5; Purchase of Motor Vehicles, 11.4; Cereals 9.6; Medicines and Health Expenses, 9.5. However by December 1997, Educational Expenses increased sharply by 39.4 percent. Medicines and Health Expenses almost doubled the February 1997 increase, registering 18.0 by the December 1997 period. Conversely the **TRANSPORTATION** index reflected a lower percentage increase, from 12.5 percent to 4.1 by December 1997.

From the February 1994 base price to December 1997 the following items recorded between 50 and 75% increase in prices: mutton, salted beef, carrots, cabbages, lettuce, oranges and nutmegs. Imported pork, tomatoes and dasheens registered between 76 to 100% increases. Pre-school fees recorded the highest increase, 163.12 percent (Table 8). For the same period bacon, cucumbers, green bananas, tannias, green plantains, lentils, pawpaw, ripe bananas and boy's casual shoes reflected between 30 and 49% decrease in prices.

**TABLE 1: MONTHLY CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
1992-1997**

GROUPS	WEIGHTS	YEAR	FEBRUARY 1994=100.00												AVG
			JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
FOOD	401.81	1992	94.10	94.28	96.05	96.83	96.88	97.87	100.95	99.30	99.35	99.35	99.21	100.05	97.85
		1993	100.66	100.51	97.47	95.81	96.94	104.43	101.22	101.20	99.91	99.46	100.57	100.77	99.91
		1994	99.11	100.00	95.47	94.12	93.95	93.86	93.52	95.66	96.50	97.62	96.76	96.91	96.12
		1995	97.28	97.96	97.49	97.56	98.43	98.24	97.89	97.34	97.73	96.73	96.89	99.27	97.73
		1996	98.86	98.01	98.09	98.60	98.74	98.98	100.21	99.43	100.77	99.84	101.29	101.93	99.56
		1997	102.05	101.64	102.55	102.57	103.38	103.22	103.59	103.94	103.85	103.63	104.31	103.49	103.19
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & TOBACCO	16.16	1992	95.02	95.37	94.86	95.19	95.19	96.02	97.75	97.52	97.77	97.85	97.85	97.99	96.53
		1993	98.42	98.51	97.65	97.06	97.66	97.65	98.12	98.17	99.87	99.23	99.65	99.65	98.47
		1994	100.00	100.00	99.96	99.96	99.96	99.96	99.61	101.28	101.67	101.72	101.27	101.27	100.56
		1995	100.22	99.96	99.83	97.86	100.36	100.85	100.95	100.95	100.93	100.92	103.20	105.38	100.95
		1996	107.61	107.61	108.51	108.38	108.47	108.66	109.87	111.98	112.93	114.22	113.86	112.39	110.37
		1997	112.87	111.70	111.50	111.58	111.70	111.69	112.92	113.07	114.35	113.06	113.96	113.96	112.70
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	1992	97.06	98.16	98.21	98.87	98.93	98.50	99.97	99.71	99.82	100.45	100.15	99.96	99.15
		1993	99.73	99.66	99.63	99.96	100.04	100.32	100.03	99.97	99.99	99.60	99.67	99.70	99.66
		1994	100.12	100.00	100.06	100.05	99.75	99.93	100.35	100.27	100.10	100.16	100.36	100.29	100.12
		1995	100.40	100.34	100.30	100.31	100.09	100.60	100.63	99.76	99.00	99.35	99.33	99.29	99.95
		1996	99.38	99.56	99.90	100.04	99.95	99.95	99.51	99.75	99.95	100.65	100.62	100.77	100.00
		1997	100.66	100.50	102.25	101.99	100.85	101.24	101.19	101.45	101.53	101.48	101.64	101.97	101.40
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT	57.79	1992	98.48	98.48	98.43	98.43	98.43	98.43	98.48	98.35	98.35	96.57	96.57	96.57	97.96
		1993	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	96.56	100.33	99.62	97.13
		1994	100.00	100.00	99.83	99.83	99.98	99.98	98.46	96.86	97.47	97.55	97.72	97.59	98.77
		1995	97.26	97.35	96.80	96.57	96.32	95.45	97.03	96.87	96.98	96.57	96.55	95.71	96.62
		1996	95.69	95.42	95.26	95.46	95.52	95.70	95.90	95.92	95.62	95.70	95.75	95.84	95.65
		1997	95.92	96.00	96.30	96.41	96.47	96.47	96.72	96.97	96.92	96.62	97.07	96.97	96.57
TRANSPORTATION	162.02	1992	96.52	96.52	96.52	96.52	96.52	96.52	96.52	99.20	99.20	99.20	99.20	99.20	97.64
		1993	99.20	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.93
		1994	100.00	100.00	100.00	101.16	101.16	101.16	102.66	102.66	102.07	102.34	102.34	102.29	101.49
		1995	102.29	102.15	102.15	102.12	100.95	100.84	104.51	104.71	103.03	102.13	102.13	104.36	102.61
		1996	105.31	105.67	105.67	105.80	105.14	104.53	106.22	106.40	106.40	106.09	106.09	106.95	105.86
		1997	108.08	108.08	107.22	106.88	106.51	106.48	106.56	105.68	105.45	105.98	105.41	105.98	106.53
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	1992	92.50	93.92	93.72	93.09	93.70	94.08	92.41	89.05	90.54	91.06	91.07	87.54	91.89
		1993	90.94	90.81	95.00	95.38	93.10	96.38	94.44	94.93	94.86	96.19	96.86	99.12	94.83
		1994	99.97	100.00	101.72	101.72	101.72	101.72	101.06	101.17	101.15	100.42	103.75	103.79	101.52
		1995	102.80	102.09	102.14	102.44	102.19	102.33	104.41	103.82	103.25	102.55	102.37	102.71	102.76
		1996	104.21	103.78	103.91	104.09	103.82	104.35	104.07	103.74	103.20	103.25	103.25	103.29	103.75
		1997	103.63	103.63	103.85	103.85	103.73	104.00	104.29	104.38	104.38	104.52	104.54	104.54	104.11
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	1992	95.35	95.33	98.72	98.25	98.16	98.16	98.68	98.49	98.53	98.63	99.02	98.92	98.02
		1993	97.77	97.73	97.62	97.42	97.35	97.38	97.38	97.06	99.89	100.04	100.11	100.13	98.32
		1994	99.96	100.00	99.60	101.19	101.19	101.19	103.89	104.25	104.32	104.18	104.03	104.10	102.33
		1995	104.10	104.08	104.08	104.61	105.40	105.83	106.11	105.99	106.63	106.38	106.31	106.37	105.49
		1996	106.46	106.60	106.61	106.68	106.74	108.47	107.65	107.89	106.94	107.01	107.89	107.69	107.22
		1997	108.12	108.33	108.07	108.33	108.33	108.27	108.30	109.00	116.07	116.07	116.59	116.69	111.01
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	1992	95.16	95.54	96.75	97.08	97.15	97.55	99.10	98.33	98.50	98.57	98.51	98.55	97.57
		1993	98.89	98.89	97.92	97.21	97.54	101.06	99.49	99.47	99.34	99.19	99.96	100.20	99.10
		1994	99.63	100.00	98.23	98.13	98.03	98.02	98.48	99.32	99.59	100.03	99.92	99.96	99.11
		1995	100.03	100.21	99.99	100.08	100.35	100.35	101.09	100.72	100.57	99.96	100.03	101.36	100.40
		1996	101.51	101.23	101.33	101.61	101.54	101.86	102.45	102.25	102.63	102.33	103.05	103.42	102.10
		1997	103.74	103.57	104.02	103.99	104.10	104.09	104.30	104.47	105.56	105.52	105.85	105.67	104.57

**TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGES
1992-1997**

GROUPS	WEIGHTS	YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
FOOD	401.81	1992	1.36	0.19	1.88	0.81	0.05	1.02	3.15	-1.63	0.05	0.00	-0.14	0.85
		1993	0.61	-0.15	-3.02	-1.70	1.18	7.73	-3.07	-0.02	-1.27	-0.45	1.12	0.20
		1994	-1.65	0.90	-4.53	-1.41	-0.18	-0.10	-0.36	2.29	0.88	1.16	-0.88	0.16
		1995	0.38	0.70	-0.48	0.07	0.89	-0.19	-0.36	-0.56	0.40	-1.02	0.17	2.46
		1996	-0.41	-0.86	0.08	0.52	0.14	0.24	1.24	-0.78	1.35	-0.92	1.45	0.63
		1997	0.12	-0.40	0.90	0.02	0.79	-0.15	0.36	0.34	-0.09	-0.21	0.66	-0.79
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & TOBACCO	16.16	1992	0.89	0.37	-0.53	0.35	0.00	0.87	1.80	-0.24	0.26	0.08	0.00	0.14
		1993	0.44	0.09	-0.87	-0.60	0.62	-0.01	0.48	0.05	1.73	-0.64	0.42	0.00
		1994	0.35	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.35	1.68	0.39	0.05	-0.44	0.00
		1995	-1.04	-0.26	-0.13	-1.97	2.55	0.49	0.10	0.00	-0.02	-0.01	2.26	2.11
		1996	2.12	0.00	0.84	-0.12	0.08	0.18	1.11	1.92	0.85	1.14	-0.32	-1.29
		1997	0.42	-1.04	-0.18	0.07	0.11	-0.01	1.10	0.13	1.13	-1.13	0.80	0.00
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	1992	-0.17	1.13	0.05	0.67	0.06	-0.43	1.49	-0.26	0.11	0.63	-0.30	-0.19
		1993	-0.23	-0.07	0.17	0.13	0.08	0.28	-0.29	-0.06	0.02	-0.39	0.07	0.03
		1994	0.42	-0.12	0.06	-0.01	-0.30	0.18	0.42	-0.08	-0.17	0.06	0.20	-0.07
		1995	0.11	-0.06	-0.04	0.01	-0.22	0.51	0.03	-0.86	-0.76	0.35	-0.02	-0.04
		1996	0.09	0.18	0.34	0.14	-0.09	0.00	-0.44	0.24	0.20	0.70	-0.03	0.15
		1997	-0.10	-0.16	1.74	-0.25	-1.12	0.39	-0.05	0.26	0.08	-0.05	0.16	0.32
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT	57.79	1992	0.00	0.00	-0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	-0.13	0.00	-1.81	0.00	0.00
		1993	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.90	-0.71
		1994	0.38	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.15	0.00	-1.52	-1.63	0.63	0.08	0.17	-0.13
		1995	-0.34	0.09	-0.56	-0.24	-0.26	-0.90	1.66	-0.16	0.11	-0.42	-0.02	-0.87
		1996	-0.02	-0.28	-0.17	0.21	0.06	0.19	0.21	0.02	-0.31	0.08	0.05	0.09
		1997	0.08	0.08	0.31	0.11	0.06	0.00	0.26	0.26	-0.05	-0.31	0.47	-0.10
TRANSPORT- ATION	162.02	1992	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		1993	0.00	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		1994	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.00	0.00	1.48	0.00	-0.57	0.26	0.00	-0.05
		1995	0.00	-0.14	0.00	-0.03	-1.15	-0.11	3.64	0.19	-1.60	-0.87	0.00	2.18
		1996	0.91	0.34	0.00	0.12	-0.62	-0.58	1.62	0.17	0.00	-0.29	0.00	0.81
		1997	1.06	0.00	-0.80	-0.32	-0.35	-0.03	0.08	-0.83	-0.22	0.50	-0.54	0.54
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	1992	2.77	1.54	-0.21	-0.67	0.66	0.41	-1.78	-3.64	1.67	0.57	0.01	-3.88
		1993	3.88	-0.14	4.61	0.40	-2.39	3.52	-2.01	0.52	-0.07	1.40	0.70	2.33
		1994	0.86	0.03	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.65	0.11	-0.02	-0.72	3.32	0.04
		1995	-0.95	-0.69	0.05	0.29	-0.24	0.14	2.03	-0.57	-0.55	-0.68	-0.18	0.33
		1996	1.46	-0.41	0.13	0.17	-0.26	0.51	-0.27	-0.32	-0.52	0.05	0.00	0.04
		1997	0.32	0.00	0.21	0.00	-0.12	0.26	0.28	0.09	0.00	0.13	0.02	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	1992	0.19	-0.02	3.56	-0.48	-0.09	0.00	0.53	-0.19	0.04	0.10	0.40	-0.10
		1993	-1.16	-0.04	-0.11	-0.20	-0.07	0.03	0.00	-0.33	2.92	0.15	0.07	0.02
		1994	-0.17	0.04	-0.40	1.60	0.00	0.00	2.67	0.35	0.07	-0.13	-0.14	0.07
		1995	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.51	0.76	0.41	0.26	-0.11	0.60	-0.23	-0.07	0.06
		1996	0.08	0.13	0.01	0.07	0.06	1.62	-0.76	0.22	-0.88	0.07	0.82	-0.19
		1997	0.40	0.19	-0.24	0.24	0.00	-0.06	0.03	0.65	6.49	0.00	0.45	0.09
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	1992	0.81	0.40	1.27	0.34	0.07	0.41	1.59	-0.78	0.17	0.07	-0.06	0.04
		1993	0.35	0.00	-0.98	-0.73	0.34	3.61	-1.55	-0.02	-0.13	-0.15	0.78	0.24
		1994	-0.57	0.37	-1.77	-0.10	-0.10	-0.01	0.47	0.85	0.27	0.44	-0.11	0.04
		1995	0.07	0.18	-0.22	0.09	0.27	0.00	0.74	-0.37	-0.15	-0.61	0.07	1.33
		1996	0.15	-0.28	0.10	0.28	-0.07	0.32	0.58	-0.20	0.37	-0.29	0.70	0.36
		1997	0.31	-0.16	0.43	-0.03	0.11	-0.01	0.20	0.16	1.04	-0.04	0.31	-0.17

**TABLE 3. ALL ITEM INDICES BY YEAR AND MONTH
1985 – 1997**

FEBRUARY 1994 = 100.00

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR INDEX	% CHANGE
1985	70.14	70.69	70.83	70.41	70.62	70.90	71.45	71.73	71.94	72.73	72.73	73.28	71.45	2.10
1986	72.38	72.24	71.68	72.10	72.38	72.73	73.36	74.54	75.86	75.24	75.38	75.52	73.62	3.04
1987	75.73	75.94	76.08	77.19	77.33	77.75	77.89	78.17	76.29	77.34	78.94	77.76	77.20	4.86
1988	77.97	77.34	76.02	76.58	77.48	77.41	78.16	79.69	79.90	80.31	84.34	81.77	78.91	2.22
1989	81.63	81.84	83.09	83.71	84.76	84.41	84.97	83.65	86.71	87.20	88.80	88.45	84.94	7.64
1990	86.65	86.93	84.22	84.50	86.24	86.10	87.07	86.79	88.46	90.82	91.58	92.55	87.66	3.20
1991	92.27	90.78	91.38	92.36	91.02	91.86	92.30	92.51	93.95	93.26	93.96	94.40	92.50	5.52
1992	95.16	95.54	96.75	97.08	97.15	97.55	99.10	98.33	98.50	98.57	98.51	98.55	97.57	5.48
1993	98.89	98.89	97.92	97.21	97.54	101.06	99.49	99.47	99.34	99.19	99.96	100.20	99.10	1.57
1994	99.63	100.00	98.23	98.13	98.03	98.02	98.48	99.32	99.59	100.03	99.92	99.96	99.11	0.01
1995	100.03	100.21	99.99	100.08	100.35	100.35	101.09	100.72	100.57	99.96	100.03	101.36	100.40	1.31
1996	101.51	101.23	101.33	101.61	101.54	101.86	102.45	102.25	102.63	102.33	103.05	103.42	102.10	1.69
1997	103.74	103.57	104.02	103.99	104.10	104.09	104.30	104.47	105.56	105.52	105.85	105.67	104.57	2.42

**TABLE 4: MONTHLY INDEX OF FOOD AND NON-FOOD GROUPS
1986 - 1997**

GROUPS	February 1994=100.00											
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Jan Food	73.5	75.2	79.3	85.0	85.5	92.8	94.1	100.7	99.1	97.3	98.9	102.1
Non-food	74.1	76.1	77.2	79.4	87.8	92.3	96.1	97.7	100.0	101.9	103.3	104.9
Feb Food	73.3	75.7	77.7	84.7	86.2	88.5	94.3	100.5	100.0	98.0	98.0	101.6
Non-food	74.1	76.1	77.3	80.1	87.8	93.0	96.6	97.9	100.0	101.7	103.4	104.9
Mar Food	72.4	76.1	74.7	86.7	80.8	87.9	96.1	97.5	95.5	97.5	98.1	102.6
Non-food	73.7	76.3	77.3	80.8	87.1	94.3	97.4	98.3	100.1	101.7	103.5	105.0
Apr Food	73.4	78.0	75.0	87.1	81.8	90.0	96.8	95.8	94.1	97.6	98.6	102.6
Non-food	73.7	76.8	78.0	81.5	86.8	94.4	97.4	98.3	100.8	101.8	103.6	104.9
May Food	73.9	78.1	76.9	89.2	84.1	87.2	96.9	96.9	94.0	98.4	98.7	103.4
Non-food	73.9	77.0	78.1	81.7	88.1	94.2	97.5	98.1	100.8	101.8	103.4	104.8
Jun Food	73.1	79.6	77.7	88.3	83.6	88.6	97.9	104.4	93.9	98.2	99.0	103.2
Non-food	75.0	76.6	77.4	81.9	88.3	94.6	97.4	98.6	100.8	101.8	103.8	104.7
Jul Food	75.1	80.3	79.7	88.8	85.5	89.4	101.0	101.2	93.5	97.9	100.2	103.6
Non-food	74.7	76.4	77.3	82.5	88.6	94.8	97.8	98.3	101.8	103.2	104.0	104.8
Aug Food	77.9	81.0	82.1	85.7	84.3	89.5	99.3	101.2	95.7	97.3	99.4	103.9
Non-food	74.8	76.3	78.2	82.4	89.0	95.1	97.9	98.2	101.8	103.0	104.1	104.8
Sep Food	80.8	76.9	82.5	85.3	87.3	92.2	99.4	99.9	96.5	97.7	100.8	103.9
Non-food	75.0	76.1	78.2	88.1	89.7	95.5	98.1	99.0	101.7	102.5	103.9	106.7
Oct Food	78.9	79.1	83.3	87.1	87.6	90.7	99.4	99.5	97.6	96.7	99.8	103.6
Non-food	75.3	76.3	78.4	87.6	93.6	95.4	98.2	99.1	101.7	102.1	104.0	106.8
Nov Food	78.7	81.4	92.8	90.5	89.5	92.3	99.2	100.6	96.8	96.9	101.3	104.3
Non-food	75.7	77.3	78.5	87.9	93.6	95.4	98.2	99.6	102.0	102.1	104.2	106.9
Dec Food	79.2	78.9	86.2	89.6	92.5	92.8	100.1	100.8	96.9	99.3	101.9	103.5
Non-food	75.6	77.2	79.0	87.9	92.9	95.8	97.7	99.8	102.0	102.8	104.4	107.1
AVG. Food	75.8	78.3	80.6	87.3	85.7	90.2	97.9	99.9	96.1	97.7	99.6	103.2
Non-food	74.6	76.5	77.9	83.5	89.4	94.6	97.5	98.6	101.1	102.2	103.8	105.5

**TABLE 5. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN GROUP INDICES
1986-1997**

February 1994 = 100.0

GROUP	WEIGHTS	% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE	
		1986	'85-'86	1987	'86-'87	1988	'87-'88	1989	'88-'89	1990	'89-'90	1991	'90-'91
FOOD	401.81	75.8	2.1	78.3	3.3	80.6	2.9	87.3	8.3	85.8	-1.8	90.2	5.1
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & TOBACCO	16.16	74.2	8.2	77.8	4.9	81.8	5.1	85.3	4.3	87.5	2.5	91.4	4.5
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	67.9	0.2	68.7	1.2	69.6	1.2	78.5	12.9	93.1	18.6	98.0	5.2
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT	57.79	77.4	2.3	78.4	1.2	80.6	2.8	85.1	5.7	90.5	6.3	96.8	7.0
TRANSPORTATION	162.02	86.0	6.4	87.5	1.7	87.9	0.5	88.1	0.3	92.0	3.8	96.5	4.9
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	62.5	6.9	65.5	4.8	67.4	2.9	71.8	6.6	73.7	2.7	84.2	14.2
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	80.3	3.7	82.4	2.7	83.8	1.7	90.4	7.8	90.7	0.4	93.7	3.3
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	73.6	3.0	77.2	4.8	78.9	2.2	84.9	7.6	87.6	3.2	92.5	5.6

**TABLE 5 cont'd. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN GROUP INDICES
1986-1997**

February 1994 = 100.0

GROUP	WEIGHTS	% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE		% CHANGE	
		1992	'91-'92	1993	'92-'93	1994	'93-'94	1995	'94-'95	1996	'95-'96	1997	'96-'97
FOOD	401.81	97.9	8.5	99.9	2.1	96.1	-3.8	97.7	1.7	99.6	1.9	103.2	3.6
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & TOBACCO	16.16	96.5	5.6	98.5	2.0	100.6	2.2	101.0	0.3	110.4	9.3	112.7	2.1
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	99.2	1.2	99.9	0.7	100.1	0.2	99.9	-0.2	100.0	0.1	101.4	1.4
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT	57.79	98.0	1.2	97.1	-0.8	98.8	1.7	96.6	-2.2	95.7	-1.0	97.0	1.4
TRANSPORTATION	162.02	97.6	1.1	99.9	2.4	101.5	1.6	102.6	1.1	105.9	3.2	106.0	0.1
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	91.9	9.1	94.8	3.2	101.5	7.1	102.8	1.2	103.8	0.9	104.5	0.7
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	98.0	4.6	98.3	0.3	102.3	4.1	105.5	3.1	107.2	1.6	116.7	8.9
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	97.6	5.5	99.1	1.6	99.1	0.0	100.4	1.3	102.1	1.7	104.6	2.4

**TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES BY GROUPS AND SUB-GROUPS
FEB 1986 – FEB 1997**

February 1994= 100.0

GROUPS Sub-groups	WEIGHTS	Feb 1986	Feb 1987	Feb 1988	Feb 1989	Feb 1990	Feb 1991	Feb 1992	Feb 1993	Feb 1994	Feb 1995	Feb. 1996	Feb. 1997
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	72.3	76.0	77.4	81.9	86.9	90.8	95.6	98.9	100.0	100.2	101.2	103.6
FOOD	401.81	73.3	75.7	77.7	84.7	86.2	66.5	94.3	100.5	100.0	98.0	98.0	101.6
Meat(fresh,chill. or frozen)	36.37	73.0	81.2	77.9	85.9	89.4	100.1	98.1	97.2	100.0	108.2	97.7	112.2
Meat(preserved)	11.80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	98.4	99.6	103.0
Fish and Fish Preparations	39.98	51.8	55.1	66.1	58.6	66.2	77.9	86.2	92.9	100.0	100.6	104.4	103.1
Dairy Products	36.57	81.8	86.9	91.8	98.3	100.3	98.6	99.8	100.5	100.0	100.0	114.4	118.1
Oils and Fats	8.97	96.8	97.5	91.8	96.8	96.1	99.3	98.8	100.0	100.0	100.7	101.7	102.4
Cereals	70.49	69.4	69.4	70.2	77.8	75.8	82.6	88.4	100.2	100.0	101.5	106.5	109.6
Vegetables and Fruits	64.60	62.4	73.9	75.1	91.1	88.5	80.8	93.9	106.7	100.0	114.2	92.7	94.7
Fruit and Fruit Preparations	58.39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	98.3	113.0	116.0
Sugar and Other Sweets	15.24	76.3	78.6	80.7	94.5	98.3	97.9	95.6	98.3	100.0	100.1	90.5	101.1
Miscellaneous Items	29.67	81.9	87.6	86.0	85.7	102.9	107.2	115.9	106.4	100.0	101.8	101.6	105.9
Meals Taken Away From Home	20.78	72.8	73.5	76.5	78.2	82.3	89.3	92.7	100.0	100.0	98.4	103.1	103.
Non-alcoholic Beverages	8.95	82.2	89.7	91.3	86.9	89.8	91.4	94.5	93.6	100.0	96.3	99.0	102.1
ALCOHOLIC BEV. & TOBACCO	16.16	73.6	76.7	79.6	84.2	86.6	89.0	95.4	98.5	100.0	100.0	107.6	111.7
Alcoholic Beverages	12.11	73.8	77.7	81.0	86.5	88.5	91.3	98.0	100.5	100.0	99.2	108.6	111.8
Tobacco Products	4.05	72.6	72.9	74.4	75.4	79.5	80.3	85.6	91.0	100.0	102.3	104.8	111.5
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	68.7	68.9	69.1	72.3	90.5	97.1	98.2	99.7	100.0	100.3	99.6	100.5
Rent (excluding electricity)	35.28	60.6	61.5	61.5	61.5	91.1	94.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.0	102.5
Fuel Supplies	15.16	82.2	79.8	88.5	90.6	88.7	112.8	100.7	101.1	100.0	103.3	100.0	100.0
Utility Services	55.31	79.1	78.6	74.5	87.1	84.3	88.4	91.2	97.7	100.0	100.3	100.6	101.8
Repairs to House	17.61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	99.4	93.6	94.0
Insurance Payments	2.89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Home Help Service	5.89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Laundry and Dry Cleaning Serv.	1.57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	94.5	90.8	90.8
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIP.	57.79	77.5	79.2	80.3	82.0	86.3	94.1	98.5	96.6	100.0	97.4	95.4	96.0
Furniture & Furnishings	10.97	70.1	71.5	70.3	71.9	73.0	86.2	95.9	92.1	100.0	100.6	101.6	100.9
Kitchen Equipment	11.13	83.1	85.1	88.1	89.8	96.7	100.3	100.5	100.0	100.0	99.6	91.2	91.4
Recreational Equipment	11.69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	91.9	83.6	83.1
Laundry and Cleaning Equip.	3.58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	102.7	92.6	91.9
House Cleaning	19.27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	96.2	99.7	102.1
Repairs to Equipment	1.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
TRANSPORTATION	162.02	84.4	86.9	87.9	88.9	88.0	96.5	96.5	100.0	100.0	102.2	105.7	108.1
Purchased Transportation	50.34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	103.4	105.3	112.5
Purchase of Motor Vehicles	50.89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	100.3	111.1	111.4
Operational Expenses	46.29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	98.8	99.2	99.5
Insurance and Fees	14.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	115.1	108.6	108.6
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	60.2	64.8	66.6	67.8	73.0	77.0	93.9	90.8	100.0	102.1	103.8	103.6
Clothing	49.69	58.2	63.4	63.0	64.3	68.8	73.9	93.5	91.7	100.0	103.7	102.7	103.4
Footwear	15.77	66.2	69.3	77.7	78.5	85.8	86.4	95.0	87.9	100.0	97.8	106.7	103.8
Clothing Accessories	2.89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	98.9	106.4	106.4
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	79.4	82.2	83.0	87.2	92.0	93.0	95.3	97.7	100.0	104.1	106.6	108.3
Personal Care & Supplies	38.21	82.1	83.1	83.1	91.6	101.5	100.7	100.6	100.5	100.0	100.2	102.0	108.6
Medicines and Health Exp.	15.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	104.2	106.8	109.5
Personal Life Insurance	4.80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Educational Expenses	49.59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	111.0	113.5	113.4
Sporting & Other Recreation	30.06	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100.0	101.6	101.6	101.6
Other Miscellaneous	21.75	66.6	70.3	73.7	77.2	78.4	87.1	91.1	95.7	100.0	99.3	107.1	106.6

**TABLE 6A. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES BY GROUPS AND SUB-GROUPS
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM BASE PERIOD
TO FEBRUARY 1996 AND DECEMBER 1997**

GROUPS Sub-groups	WEIGHTS	FEB 1994 = 100.0					
		Feb 1995	Feb. 1996	Feb 1997	Dec. 1997	% CHANGE FEB. '94 TO FEB. '97	% CHANGE FEB. '94 TO DEC. '97
ALL ITEMS	1000.00	100.2	101.2	103.6	105.7	3.6	5.7
FOOD	401.81	98.0	98.0	101.6	103.5	1.6	3.5
Meat(fresh,chill. or frozen)	36.37	108.2	97.7	112.2	111.3	12.2	11.3
Meat(preserved)	11.80	98.4	99.6	103.0	102.6	3.0	2.6
Fish and Fish Preparations	39.98	100.6	104.8	103.1	103.3	3.1	3.3
Dairy Products	36.57	100.0	114.4	118.1	117.6	18.1	17.6
Oils and Fats	8.97	100.7	101.7	102.4	102.4	2.4	2.4
Cereals	70.49	101.5	106.5	109.6	109.8	9.6	9.8
Vegetables and Fruits	64.60	114.2	92.7	94.7	104.9	-5.3	4.9
Fruit and Fruit Preparations	58.39	98.3	113.0	106.0	106.8	6.0	6.8
Sugar and Other Sweets	15.24	100.1	90.5	102.1	103.5	2.1	3.5
Miscellaneous Items	29.67	101.8	101.6	105.9	104.4	5.9	4.4
Meals Taken Away From Home	20.78	98.4	103.1	103.1	103.1	3.1	3.1
Non-alcoholic Beverages	8.95	96.3	99.0	102.1	113.4	2.1	13.4
ALCOHOLIC BEV. & TOBACCO	16.16	100.0	107.6	111.7	114.0	11.7	14.0
Alcoholic Beverages	12.11	99.2	108.6	111.8	114.6	11.8	14.6
Tobacco Products	4.05	102.3	104.8	111.5	112.1	11.5	12.1
HOUSING & UTILITIES	133.71	100.3	99.6	100.5	102.0	0.5	2.0
Rent (excluding electricity)	35.28	100.0	101.0	102.5	103.6	2.5	3.6
Fuel Supplies	15.16	103.3	100.0	100.0	105.7	0.0	5.7
Utility Services	55.31	100.3	100.6	101.8	102.6	1.8	2.6
Repairs to House	17.61	99.4	93.6	94.0	95.6	-6.0	-4.4
Insurance Payments	2.89	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Home Help Service	5.89	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Laundry and Dry Cleaning Serv.	1.57	94.5	90.8	90.8	90.8	-9.2	-9.2
FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EQUIP.	57.79	97.4	95.4	96.0	97.0	-4.0	-3.0
Furniture & Furnishings	10.97	100.6	101.6	100.9	101.3	0.9	1.3
Kitchen Equipment	11.13	99.6	91.2	91.4	91.3	-8.6	-8.7
Recreational Equipment	11.69	91.9	83.6	83.1	83.7	-16.9	-16.3
Laundry and Cleaning Equip.	3.58	102.7	92.6	91.9	93.6	-8.1	-6.4
House Cleaning	19.27	96.2	99.7	102.1	103.3	2.1	3.3
Repairs to Equipment	1.15	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
TRANSPORTATION	162.02	102.2	105.7	108.1	106.0	8.1	6.0
Purchased Transportation	50.34	103.4	105.3	112.5	104.1	12.5	4.1
Purchase of Motor Vehicles	50.89	100.3	111.1	111.4	111.4	11.4	11.4
Operational Expenses	46.29	98.8	99.2	99.5	101.3	-0.5	1.3
Insurance and Fees	14.50	115.1	108.6	108.6	108.6	8.6	8.6
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	68.35	102.1	103.8	103.6	104.5	3.6	4.5
Clothing	49.69	103.7	102.7	103.4	103.9	3.4	3.9
Footwear	15.77	97.8	106.7	103.8	106.2	3.8	6.2
Clothing Accessories	2.89	98.9	106.4	106.4	106.4	6.4	6.4
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	160.16	104.1	106.6	108.3	116.7	8.3	16.7
Personal Care & Supplies	38.21	100.2	102.0	108.6	107.3	8.6	7.3
Medicines and Health Exp.	15.75	104.2	106.8	109.5	118.0	9.5	18.0
Personal Life Insurance	4.80	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Educational Expenses	49.59	111.0	113.5	113.4	139.4	13.4	39.4
Sporting & Other Recreation	30.06	101.6	101.6	101.6	101.6	1.6	1.6
Other Miscellaneous	21.75	99.3	107.1	106.6	105.1	6.6	5.1

**TABLE 7. PRICE MOVEMENTS OF SELECTED ITEMS IN
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 1991–FEBRUARY 1997**

ITEMS	UNIT	1984	FEB	FEB	FEB	FEB	FEB	FEB	FEB	% CHANGE 1984 BASE PRICE TO FEB. 94 BASE PRICE
		BASE PRICE	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	
FOOD										
Beef (local)	kg	8.25	13.20	13.20	15.03	15.40	15.40	13.20	13.93	86.67
imported	kg	16.17	14.86	14.90	11.92	12.19	12.19	11.48	12.13	-24.61
Chicken (backs & necks)	kg	2.83	3.76	3.67	3.82	3.66	3.78	3.41	4.31	29.33
w/ wings	kg	5.64	6.74	6.76	6.12	6.45	6.53	6.18	7.67	14.36
w/ whole legs	kg	6.36	6.43	5.98	5.65	6.26	6.42	5.82	7.15	-1.57
Fish (pot)	kg	8.25	11.00	11.00	14.67	14.30	14.30	15.40	15.4	73.33
tuna	kg	8.25	13.20	13.20	13.20	15.40	15.40	15.40	15.4	86.67
Salted fish	kg	7.61	16.53	17.98	16.93	16.22	16.51	18.18	16.68	113.14
Evaporated milk	410gms	1.20	1.46	1.48	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.89	2.01	26.67
Powdered milk	1800gms	14.46	20.95	20.24	19.94	22.41	22.26	25.14	25.12	54.98
Butter	250gms	5.33	5.01	5.01	5.01	3.28	3.17	4.09	4.13	-38.46
Cheese	kg	9.70	14.15	15.56	17.90	14.80	14.97	16.66	16.52	52.58
Eggs	dozen	5.73	6.08	6.23	5.50	6.37	6.04	5.94	6.44	11.17
Cooking Oil	1 litre	4.84	5.17	5.17	5.09	8.11	8.11	8.11	8.11	67.56
Sandwich loaf	sliced	2.50	2.75	2.75	2.88	2.88	2.75	2.92	2.98	15.20
Flour	kg	1.75	1.92	1.92	1.90	1.85	1.98	2.09	2.09	5.71
Rice	kg	1.98	1.95	2.04	2.04	2.07	2.05	1.88	2.03	4.55
Tomatoes	kg	6.60	4.40	8.43	6.60	4.40	11.00	7.43	9.23	-33.33
Carrots	kg	3.30	7.90	5.70	11.00	6.36	6.60	7.60	6.22	92.73
Cabbage	kg	5.50	4.40	3.67	4.40	4.40	6.60	3.58	6.33	-20.00
Onions	kg	3.56	3.91	4.02	3.90	3.96	3.67	3.69	3.72	11.24
Beans	kg	4.35	6.14	6.10	6.82	7.16	7.09	6.74	7.43	64.60
Lentils	kg	3.52	4.75	5.66	5.12	4.57	3.70	3.59	4.09	29.83
Oranges	each	0.54	0.33	0.30	0.33	0.33	0.50	1.00	0.57	-38.89
Grapefruit	each	0.25	0.18	0.13	0.14	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.17	-20.00
Melons	kg	1.28	2.71	2.57	1.31	3.30	1.98	2.20	2.08	157.81
White sugar	kg	1.45	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.12	2.13	1.85	2.09	46.21
Brown sugar	kg	1.58	1.85	1.80	1.87	1.90	1.9	1.66	1.91	20.25
Salt	kg	0.92	1.20	1.27	1.20	1.26	1.35	1.41	1.27	36.96
Tomato Ketchup	375 ml	3.89	5.44	5.16	4.21	3.93	4.87	4.83	5.11	1.03
Coffee (beans)	kg	12.05	13.60	13.95	13.96	13.42	13.42	13.42	13.74	11.37
instant	50 gms	9.69	6.47	7.03	6.06	6.06	7.67	8.47	8.48	-37.46
Coca-cola	296 ml	0.80	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.25	50.00
Ham sandwich	each	2.25	3.40	3.50	3.88	3.88	4.00	4.25	4.25	72.44
Roti	each	4.50	5.75	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.50	6.75	6.75	33.33

**TABLE 7contd. PRICE MOVEMENTS OF SELECTED ITEMS IN
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FEBRUARY 1991-FEBRUARY 1997**

ITEMS	UNIT	1984 BASE PRICE	FEB. 1991	FEB. 1992	FEB. 1993	FEB. 1994	FEB. 1995	FEB. 1996	FEB. 1997	% CHANGE 1984 BASE PRICE TO FEB.94
ALCOHOLIC BEV. & TOBACCO										
Rum	75 cl	8.40	10.18	9.91	9.57	9.67	10.18	10.34	12.31	15.12
Whisky	75 cl	18.25	29.96	38.25	41.14	40.38	39.79	41.17	41.17	121.26
Beer	284 ml	2.33	2.98	2.81	2.86	2.86	2.72	3.12	3.27	22.75
Cigarettes(hillsb.) (b&h)	pkt./20 pkt./20	1.65 2.93	2.19 3.57	2.50 3.62	2.51 4.01	2.75 4.42	2.75 4.60	2.75 4.80	3.03 4.98	66.67 50.85
FUEL										
Kerosene	gal.	4.00	4.80	3.82	3.94	3.62	3.62	3.62	3.62	-9.50
Gas	9.1 kg	24.51	28.85	27.70	27.70	27.70	27.70	27.70	27.7	13.02
UTILITIES										
Electricity	month	34.21	38.14	31.58	41.28	43.14	93.49	94.29	95.03	26.10
Telephone	month	40.44	40.44	40.44	40.44	40.44	58.64	58.64	58.64	0.00
Water	month	9.17	16.50	25.00	25.00	26.89	26.89	26.89	26.89	193.24
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT										
Refrigerator	15 cu.ft.	3078.3	3303.12	3303.12	3258.44	3258.4	2509.9	2357	2355.4	5.85
Radio-recorder		485.00	909.20	909.18	909.20	909.18	803.93	745.93	795.00	87.46
Black & white t.v.	17"	580.00	606.67	606.67	606.67	606.67	326.43	311.24	311.24	4.60
Colour t.v.	19"	1770.25	1648.26	1648.26	1618.26	1618.3	1821.9	1487.00	1433.8	-8.59
CLOTHING										
Women's dress	casual formal	49.98 68.74	75.07 155.56	123.50 197.98	114.75 196.41	118.53 193.44	85.00 245.00	97.75 265.00	97.75 265.00	137.15 181.41
Girl's dress		39.98	58.36	82.52	89.81	96.78	80.93	65.98	93.04	142.07
Boy's shirt		36.45	35.00	38.66	46.65	42.53	42.66	45.89	35.54	16.68
trousers		32.48	36.00	39.98	39.98	42.55	40.75	40.88	40.88	31.00
FOOTWEAR										
Women's shoes	casual formal	39.98 77.50	52.82 75.86	49.75 75.25	50.13 66.95	59.72 72.43	57.56 72.68	80.19 82.23	73.31 77.07	49.37 -6.54
Men's shoes	casual formal	57.50 75.00	65.56 100.00	108.79 142.97	87.04 131.70	114.86 146.51	79.57 127.68	79.57 130.85	79.57 130.39	99.76 95.35
MISCELLANEOUS										
Toilet soap	145 gm	1.54	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.26	1.47	1.63	1.94	-18.18
Tooth paste	76 gm	3.93	6.75	6.74	6.75	6.97	4.85	5.05	6.62	77.35
Deodorant	110 gm	9.40	13.21	13.03	13.21	13.14	12.92	13.88	13.76	39.79
Doctor's fees	per visit	20.00	30.00	40.00	40.00	45.00	55.00	55.00	60.00	125.00
Television fees	month	30.00	40.00	40.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	66.67
School fees(pre-school)	month	20.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	31.67	40.00	40.00	40.00	58.35
Patrol	gal.	6.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	8.33
Vehicle license	year	229.60	330.00	330.00	330.00	330.00	440.00	440.00	440.00	43.73

**TABLE 8. PRICE MOVEMENTS OF SELECTED ITEMS IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
FEBRUARY 1994 BASE PRICE COMPARED WITH
DECEMBER 1997 AND 1996 PRICES**

FEB. 1994 = 100.0

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
ALL ITEMS						
1 FOOD						
MEAT						
1.01 MEAT (fresh, chilled or frozen)						
Beef						
(a) local	Kg	15.40	13.57	15.03	-2.40	10.76
(b) imported	Kg	12.80	11.64	11.97	-6.48	2.84
Chicken						
(a) backs and necks	Kg	3.68	4.14	4.14	12.50	0.00
(b) wings	Kg	6.45	7.32	7.42	15.04	1.37
(c) wholelegs	Kg	6.26	7.58	6.70	7.03	-11.61
(d) thighs	Kg	5.64	6.72	6.58	16.67	-2.08
Pork						
(a) local	Kg	12.10	13.20	13.20	9.09	0.00
(b) imported	Kg	11.23	23.99	28.01	149.42	16.76
Mutton	Kg	14.97	21.42	24.75	65.33	15.55
Turkey drumsticks	Kg	5.96	6.14	6.02	1.01	-1.95
1.02 MEAT(Preserved)						
Salted Beef	kg	7.93	11.95	11.95	50.69	0.00
Comed Beef	340.5g	5.23	6.00	5.05	-3.44	-15.83
Salted Pork	Kg	7.93	8.47	9.63	21.44	13.70
Sausages	666.8g	13.82	15.44	15.44	11.72	0.00
Sausages	140g	1.97	1.92	1.92	-2.54	0.00
Bacon	kg	18.35	9.37	9.37	-48.94	0.00
Ham	450g	14.98	15.15	14.05	-6.21	-7.26
1.03 FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS						
Fish (fresh)						
(a) pot	Kg	14.30	15.40	15.40	7.69	0.00
(b) tuna	Kg	15.40	15.40	15.40	0.00	0.00
(c) red snapper	Kg	15.40	15.40	15.40	0.00	0.00
Salted Fish	Kg	16.53	17.67	16.95	2.54	-4.07
Smoked Fish	Kg	7.17	8.36	8.87	23.71	6.10
Canned Fish						
(a) sardines	106g	2.04	2.36	2.21	8.33	-6.36
(b) tuna	174.8g	3.32	3.40	3.59	8.13	5.59
1.04 DAIRY PRODUCTS						
MILK						
Fresh Milk	75 cl.	3.00	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Evaporated Milk	410g	1.52	2.01	1.95	28.29	-2.99
Powdered Milk	1800g	22.41	25.79	25.79	15.08	0.00
Butter	250g	3.28	4.12	3.99	21.65	-3.16
Cheese	Kg	14.63	15.93	16.51	12.85	3.64
Eggs	Doz	5.99	6.50	6.41	7.01	-1.38
1.05 OILS & FATS						
Cooking Oil	1 litre	8.11	8.11	8.11	0.00	0.00
Margarine	kg	4.19	4.56	4.61	10.02	1.10

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
1.06 CEREALS						
Bread						
(a) sandwich loaf(sliced)	pkg	2.75	2.98	3.00	9.09	0.67
Other Cereal Products						
Flour (loose white)	Kg	1.90	2.09	2.04	7.37	-2.39
Rice						
(a) loose white	Kg	2.18	2.03	2.00	-8.26	-1.48
(b) brand packaged	908g	2.91	3.80	3.80	30.58	0.00
Macaroni	206g	2.31	2.60	2.53	9.52	-2.69
Corn Meal	Kg	3.57	4.29	3.85	7.84	-10.26
Cassava Farine	Kg	11.17	11.37	12.05	7.88	5.98
Cornflakes	198g	7.46	8.46	8.47	13.54	0.12
Oats	550g	5.17	5.88	5.43	5.03	-4.08
Breakfast Food(Drinks)						
Instant Chocolate	198g	6.11	6.06	6.36	4.09	4.95
Coffee						
(a) instant	50g	6.06	8.48	6.32	4.29	-25.47
(b) local beans	kg	13.42	13.42	15.73	17.21	17.21
Tea	pkg/25 bags	4.73	4.90	4.90	3.59	0.00
Ovaltine	400g	11.91	12.33	12.32	3.44	-0.08
Milo	450g	11.91	9.45	10.05	-15.62	6.35
1.07 VEGETABLES AND FRUITS						
VEGETABLES(Fresh)						
Tomatoes	Kg	4.40	14.30	11.55	162.50	-19.23
Carrots	Kg	6.36	9.49	10.74	68.87	13.17
Cabbages	Kg	4.40	5.86	6.60	50.00	12.63
Onions (imported)	Kg	3.79	3.36	3.63	-4.22	8.04
Garlic (imported)	Kg	20.14	17.55	16.15	-19.81	-7.98
Cucumbers	Kg	4.72	2.55	2.98	-36.86	16.86
Pumpkins	kg	2.93	2.67	2.73	-6.83	2.25
Lettuce	medium head	1.50	2.31	2.50	66.67	8.23
Sweet Peppers	Kg	11.00	11.73	8.85	-19.55	-24.55
Celery	bundle	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Parsley	bundle	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Thyme	bundle	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Scallions(chives)	bundle	1.00	1.50	1.00	0.00	-33.33
STARCHY FOODS						
Yams	Kg	4.40	4.40	4.40	0.00	0.00
Dasheens	Kg	1.62	1.54	3.22	98.77	109.09
Bananas(green)	Kg	0.39	0.22	0.23	-41.03	4.55
Potatoes(not sweet)	Kg	3.35	2.41	2.61	-22.09	8.30
Potatoes(sweet)	Kg	3.06	3.85	2.99	-2.29	-22.34
Tannias	Kg	5.87	3.65	3.89	-33.73	6.58
Plantains (green)	Kg	1.98	2.26	1.11	-43.94	-50.88
Plantains (ripe)	kg	2.93	1.03	2.67	-8.87	159.22
Breadfruits	Kg	1.69	0.73	0.73	-56.80	0.00
DRIED VEGETABLES						
Peas	Kg	7.61	9.22	6.82	-10.38	-26.03
Beans	Kg	7.36	6.80	7.43	0.95	9.26
Lentils	Kg	5.18	3.69	3.29	-36.49	-10.84
CANNED VEGETABLES						
	241.2g	2.99	3.34	2.82	-5.69	-15.57
1.08 FRUIT AND FRUIT PREPARATIONS						
Fresh Fruits						
Oranges	Each	0.33	0.41	0.55	66.67	34.15
Grapefruits	Each	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.00	-20.00
Limes	kg	3.66	3.47	4.85	32.51	39.77
Coconuts						
(dry)	each	0.29	0.33	0.33	13.79	0.00
(jelly)	Each	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
Ripe Bananas	kg	1.10	0.66	0.73	-33.64	10.61
Melons	Kg	3.30	2.08	2.93	-11.21	40.87
Pawpaw	Kg	2.93	1.00	1.30	-55.63	30.00
Soursop	Kg	2.34	2.07	2.07	-11.54	0.00
Peanuts (unshelled)	Kg	13.90	13.20	15.29	10.00	15.83
Dried Fruit(prunes)	kg	12.85	11.00	11.00	-14.40	0.00
1.09 SUGAR AND OTHER SWEETS						
SUGAR OR EQUIVALENT						
White Sugar	kg	2.12	2.09	2.09	-1.42	0.00
Brown Sugar	kg	1.90	1.91	1.91	0.53	0.00
1.10 MISCELLANEOUS						
CONDIMENTS AND SAUCES						
CONDIMENTS						
Salt	kg	1.25	1.27	1.12	-10.40	-11.81
Nutmegs	kg	22.00	35.00	35.00	59.09	0.00
Ginger	kg	3.67	6.09	4.62	25.89	-24.14
SAUCES AND RELISHES						
Tomato Ketchup	750ml	4.59	5.04	4.82	5.01	-4.37
Pepper Sauce	85ml	1.96	1.99	1.99	1.53	0.00
Mustard	175ml	3.68	4.11	4.11	11.68	0.00
BABY FOODS						
(a) Cereal		6.38	8.54	8.71	36.52	1.99
(b) Strained/puree food		2.45	2.85	2.65	8.16	0.00
MEALS TAKEN AWAY FROM HOME						
Ham Sandwich	each	4.17	4.25	4.25	1.92	0.00
Roti	each	6.50	6.75	6.75	3.85	0.00
DRINKS TAKEN AWAY FROM HOME						
Passion fruit juice	medium glass	3.17	3.25	3.25	2.52	0.00
Grapefruit juice	medium glass	3.25	3.38	3.38	4.00	0.00
1.11 NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
Coca-cola						
Coke	85ml	1.25	1.25	1.50	20.00	20.00
Ju-C	85ml	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00
Instant drink	350g	7.20	7.68	7.62	5.83	-0.78
2.0 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO						
2.01 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
Rum	750ml	9.64	12.31	13.13	36.20	6.66
Whisky	75cl	40.38	41.17	41.17	1.96	0.00
Brandy	70cl	15.40	16.96	16.65	8.12	-1.83
Gin	75cl	28.07	32.71	36.27	29.21	10.88
Wine	750ml	8.14	7.95	8.30	1.97	4.40
Beers	8.75 fl.oz.	2.86	3.27	3.20	11.89	-2.14
Stout	275ml	3.09	3.34	3.42	10.68	2.40
2.02 TOBACCO PRODUCTS						
Cigarettes	pkg/20	2.76	3.03	3.03	9.78	0.00
	pkg/20	4.38	4.98	4.98	13.70	0.00
Tobacco	kg	33.00	35.20	39.60	20.00	12.50

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
4.0 FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT						
4.01 FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS						
Living Room Furniture						
three piece set	set	1533.94	1628.30	1628.34	6.15	0.00
Carpet (vinyl)	yard	15.97	12.51	12.52	-21.60	0.08
Dining Room Furniture						
Table with 4 chairs	set	935.14	937.39	972.58	4.00	3.75
Bedroom Furniture						
Beds (double-wooden)	each	1068.67	968.89	976.22	-8.65	0.76
Mattresses (double,6")	each	303.97	332.03	332.03	9.23	0.00
Sheets (4 piece full)	set	88.30	84.46	84.46	-4.35	0.00
Wardrobes(standard,mirror,5 drawers)	each	1537.50	1449.50	1344.50	-12.55	-7.24
4.02 BABIES' FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT						
Cribs (standard)	each	827.50	877.50	877.50	6.04	0.00
Blankets 30"*30"	pkg/2	30.00	27.00	27.00	-10.00	0.00
4.03 KITCHEN EQUIPMENT						
Refrigerator 15 cu.ft	each	2511.43	2355.38	2355.38	-6.21	0.00
Stove 4 burner	each	834.85	740.67	740.67	-11.28	0.00
Blender 7 speed,1 1/4 litre cup	each	239.13	180.77	173.82	-27.31	-3.84
Pots regular 26cm	each	35.33	34.59	35.09	-0.68	1.45
4.06 RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT						
Radios with recorder(high speed, cont. play)	set	1026.43	795.00	795.00	-22.55	0.00
Stereo Sets(double deck,6 band equaliser, cd,tun table,radio am/fm)	set	2073.93	1870.43	1870.43	-9.81	0.00
Television Sets						
(a) black & white	set	483.88	326.43	357.59	-26.10	9.55
(b) colour 20 inch remote control	set	1744.75	1433.79	1417.93	-18.73	-1.11
VCR'S(Video Players/Recorders)	set	1395.00	1295.00	1295.00	-7.17	0.00
4.07 LAUNDRY & CLEANING EQUIPMENT						
Washing Machines 7 cydes	each	1526.93	1377.84	1377.84	-9.76	0.00
Iron steam	each	152.12	167.10	167.10	9.85	0.00
4.08 HOUSE CLEANING LAUNDRY SUPPLIES						
Soap						
(a) bar	each	0.75	0.93	0.93	24.00	0.00
(b) powder	400g	3.40	3.66	3.79	11.47	3.55
Bleach	16 fl.oz.	3.00	2.75	2.75	-8.33	0.00
Fabric Softener	1 litre	6.60	7.18	7.18	8.79	0.00
SPRAYS AND DISINFECTANTS						
Insect Spray						
Baygon	400ml	13.95	10.58	10.38	-25.59	-1.89
Insect Repellants						
Fish Coil	pkg/6	1.62	1.63	1.80	11.11	10.43
Toilet Disinfectant	340g	4.23	4.29	4.29	1.42	0.00
Air fresheners	300ml	6.70	6.90	6.92	3.28	0.29
4.10 REPAIRS TO EQUIPMENT/FURNITURE						
Refrigerator(minor)	each	182.50	182.50	182.50	0.00	0.00
Television (minor)	each	95.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	0.00

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
5.0 TRANSPORTATION						
5.01 PURCHASED TRANSPORTATION						
Bus Fares						
(a) 8 miles from city(1 way)	fare	3.00	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Taxi Fares 3 miles from city(1 way)	fare	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Air Fares						
(a)Dom/New York/Dom 21 dys	fare	1696.00	2005.00	1800.00	6.13	-10.22
(b)Dom/St.Maart/Dom 21 dys	fare	596.00	641.00	641.00	7.55	0.00
Sea Travel						
(a)Dom./G.loupe/Dom.	fare	224.00	230.25	237.25	5.92	3.04
5.02 PURCHASE OF MOTOR VEHICLES						
Motor Cars	each	54000.00	55000.00	55000.00	1.85	0.00
Vans	each	47000.00	55500.00	55500.00	18.09	0.00
Bicycles	each	360.50	458.35	458.35	27.14	0.00
5.03 OPERATIONAL EXPENSES						
Petrol regular	gall.	6.50	6.50	6.70	3.08	3.08
Oil & Grease						
(a) oil	can	11.00	11.00	11.00	0.00	0.00
(b) grease	can	10.00	10.30	10.30	3.00	0.00
Tyres	each	157.59	162.23	162.33	3.01	0.06
Batteries	each	231.75	231.75	231.75	0.00	0.00
Servicing(labour)						
(a) motor car 1300cc (minor serv.)	per service	95.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	0.00
(b) van	per service	115.00	115.00	115.00	0.00	0.00
Servicing(vehide parts)						
(a) motor car 1300cc (minor serv.)	per service	250.00	215.00	215.00	-14.00	0.00
(b) van	per service	265.77	265.77	265.77	0.00	0.00
5.04 INSURANCE, TAXES,FEES						
Insurance	year	4384.00	4384.00	4384.00	0.00	0.00
Vehide License	year	330.00	440.00	440.00	33.33	0.00
Drivers License	year	60.00	80.00	80.00	33.33	0.00
6.0 CLOTHING FOOTWEAR AND ACCESSORIES						
6.01 CLOTHING						
6.011 WOMENSWEAR						
Dresses						
(a) casual	each	76.47	97.75	97.75	27.83	0.00
(b) formal	each	260.00	265.00	280.00	7.69	5.66
Blouses	each	37.06	38.00	38.00	2.54	0.00
Skirts	each	59.58	69.72	69.72	17.02	0.00
Suits	each	159.30	196.65	196.65	23.45	0.00
Dressmaking	2 piece	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Dressmaking Material						
(a)formal	per yard	11.63	11.28	11.80	1.46	4.61
(b)semi-formal	per yard	13.60	10.77	11.28	-17.06	4.74
6.012 GIRLSWEAR						
Dresses						
(a) casual	Each	59.21	65.98	65.98	11.43	0.00
(b) formal	Each	99.88	120.10	113.85	13.99	-5.20
Girls' blouses	each	41.15	38.50	38.50	-6.44	0.00

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
6.013 MENSWEAR						
Shirts	each					
(a) long sleeve	each	84.00	87.09	87.09	3.68	0.00
(b) short sleeve	each	49.56	43.36	43.36	-12.51	0.00
Suits	Each	331.67	285.00	285.00	-14.07	0.00
Pants						
men's dress pants	each	79.66	80.33	80.33	0.84	0.00
Men's Jeans	each	113.63	104.06	104.06	-8.42	0.00
Sportswear						
(a) sneakers	pair	79.95	79.95	79.95	0.00	0.00
(b) shorts	each	37.83	30.35	30.35	-19.77	0.00
6.014 BOYSWEAR						
Shirts						
(a) long sleeve	each	42.66	45.89	45.89	7.57	0.00
(b) short sleeve	each	25.70	25.19	25.19	-1.98	0.00
Pants	each	40.75	40.88	40.88	0.32	0.00
Boy's Jeans	each	52.80	43.24	43.24	-18.11	0.00
6.015 INFANTSWEAR						
Disposable diapers (pkg/12)	Pkg/12	14.17	17.72	17.45	23.15	-1.52
Cotton Diapers (pkg/12)	dozen	41.15	41.15	41.15	0.00	0.00
6.02 FOOTWEAR						
6.021 WOMENS' SHOES						
(a) casual	pair	63.30	73.31	76.83	21.37	4.80
(b) formal	pair	65.62	77.07	83.78	27.67	8.71
6.022 GIRL'S SHOES						
(a) casual	pair	39.09	46.30	46.30	18.44	0.00
(b) formal	pair	63.15	66.67	66.87	5.57	0.00
6.023 BOY'S SHOES						
(a) casual	pair	68.15	39.06	39.09	-42.64	0.08
(b) formal	pair	49.16	56.32	56.32	14.56	0.00
6.024 MEN'S SHOES						
(a) casual	pair	79.57	79.57	79.57	0.00	0.00
(b) formal	pair	127.74	130.39	130.39	2.07	0.00
6.03 CLOTHING ACCESSORIES						
Watches						
Women's	each	272.50	255.00	255.00	-6.42	0.00
Men's	each	360.00	395.00	395.00	9.72	0.00
Handbags/Pocket Books	each	59.20	70.26	70.26	18.68	0.00
7.0 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES						
7.01 PERSONAL CARE SUPPLIES						
Personal Hygiene						
Toilet Soap	135g	1.48	1.94	1.95	31.76	0.52
Tooth Paste	80ml	4.87	5.62	6.13	25.67	9.07
Deodorant	175ml	13.08	14.12	13.76	5.20	-2.55
Tooth Brushes	each	4.30	4.30	4.30	0.00	0.00
Personal Toilet Supplies						
Cosmetic Cream	10 oz.	21.45	23.45	23.45	9.32	0.00
Body Lotion	16 fl.oz.	12.73	12.95	12.95	1.73	0.00
Perfumes	50ml	39.73	37.23	36.23	-8.81	-2.69
Colognes	2 fl.oz.	19.73	19.73	18.73	-5.07	-5.07
Hair Care and Supplies						
Hair cuts(men)	one	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Hair dressing(ladies)						
Hair perm	one	46.67	46.67	46.67	0.00	0.00
Hair wash & set	one	18.33	16.67	16.67	-9.06	0.00

TABLE8 . continued

ITEMS DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATION	UNIT	BASE PRICE FEB. 1994	DEC. 1996	DEC. 1997	% CHANGE BASE PRICE TO DEC. 1997	% CHANGE DEC. 1996 TO DEC. 1997
7.02 PATENT MEDICINES						
Liquid Medicine	120ml	11.43	12.58	12.93	13.12	2.78
Medicated Cream	30g	8.73	10.43	11.00	26.00	5.47
Vitamin Supplement(liquid)	300ml	16.43	21.43	22.98	39.87	7.23
7.03 CONTRACEPTIVES						
Oral Pills	pkg	3.60	3.60	3.60	0.00	0.00
Condom	pkg	4.95	3.95	3.95	-20.20	0.00
7.04 HEALTH EXPENSES						
Doctor's Fees	per visit	50.00	60.00	60.00	20.00	0.00
Dentist's Fees	per visit	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Specialist	per exam.	60.00	60.00	80.00	33.33	33.33
Health Insurance	month	25.67	25.67	25.67	0.00	0.00
7.05 PERSONAL LIFE INSURANCE	month	99.50	99.50	99.50	0.00	0.00
7.06 SPORTING ACTIVITIES						
Entrance Fees To Spectator Sports	one ticket	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
7.07 OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES						
Marpin TV Service	month	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Cinema Fares	one ticket	4.00	5.00	5.00	25.00	0.00
7.08 READING MATERIAL & OTHER EXPENSES						
Newspaper	each	1.25	1.75	1.75	40.00	0.00
Magazines	each	6.18	6.18	6.18	0.00	0.00
7.09 EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES						
School fees	month	31.67	40.06	83.33	163.12	108.01
Music lessons	month	40.00	50.00	50.00	25.00	0.00
Text Books						
(a) English form 1	each	27.37	27.02	27.02	-1.28	0.00
(b) English form 4	each	34.30	30.20	30.20	-11.95	0.00
(c) Maths form 1	each	28.75	32.20	32.20	12.00	0.00
(d) Maths form 4	each	33.28	39.11	39.11	17.52	0.00
(e) Science form 1	each	26.00	29.41	31.73	22.04	7.89
(e) Biology form 4	each	39.55	40.69	44.69	13.00	9.83
7.10 STATIONERY & WRITING EQUIPMENT						
Envelopes						
Envelopes airmail	pkg/25	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.00	0.00
Envelopes inland	pkg/25	1.12	1.42	1.42	26.79	0.00
Stamps						
Stamps airmail to U.K.	each	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00
Stamps airmail to USA	each	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00
Stamps airmail(domestic/inland)	each	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00

CHART 1
MONTHLY ALL ITEMS INDICES - 1997

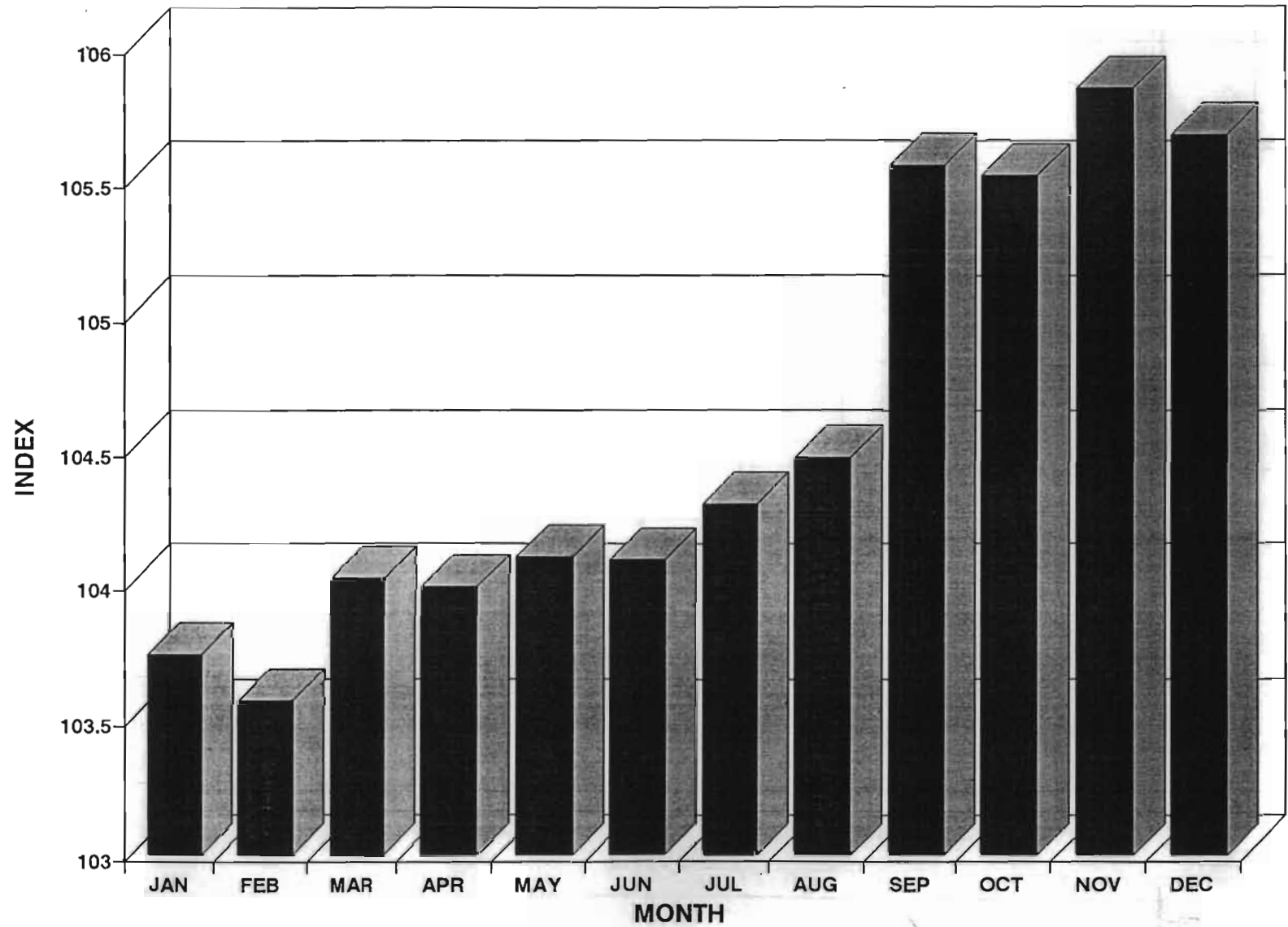


CHART 2
PERCENT CHANGE IN ALL ITEMS INDICES

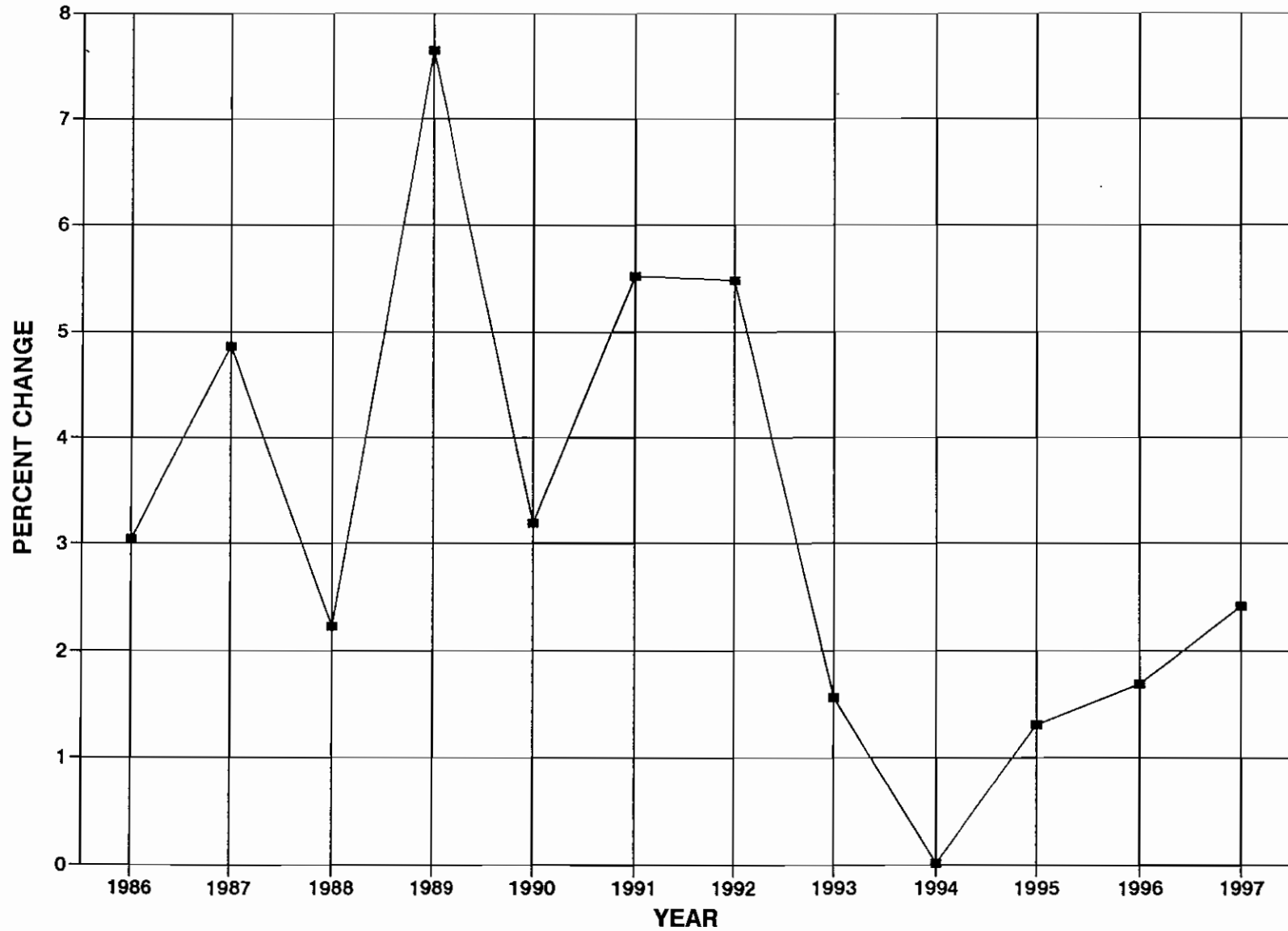


CHART 3
PERCENT CHANGE IN GROUP INDICES: 96-97

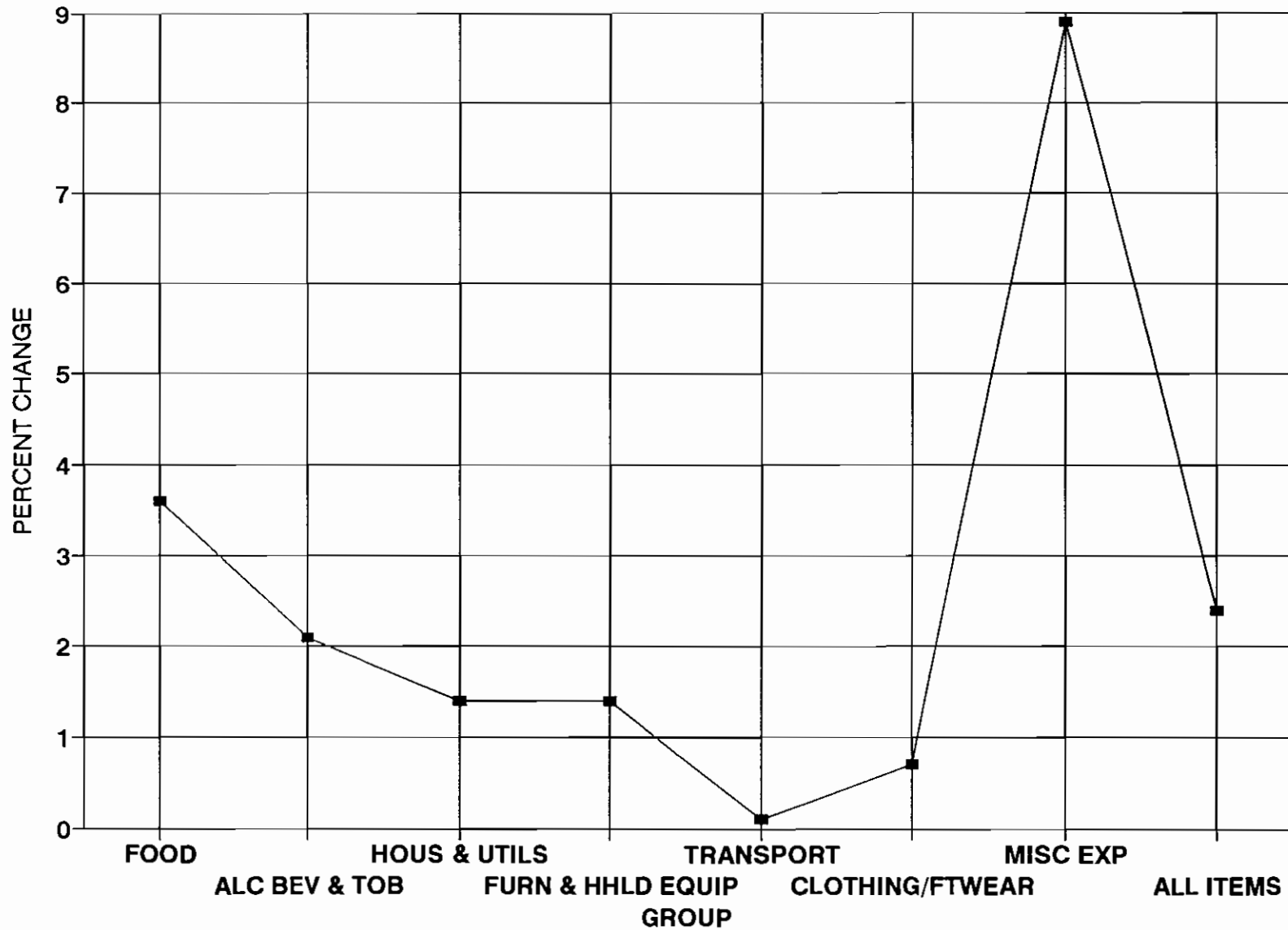
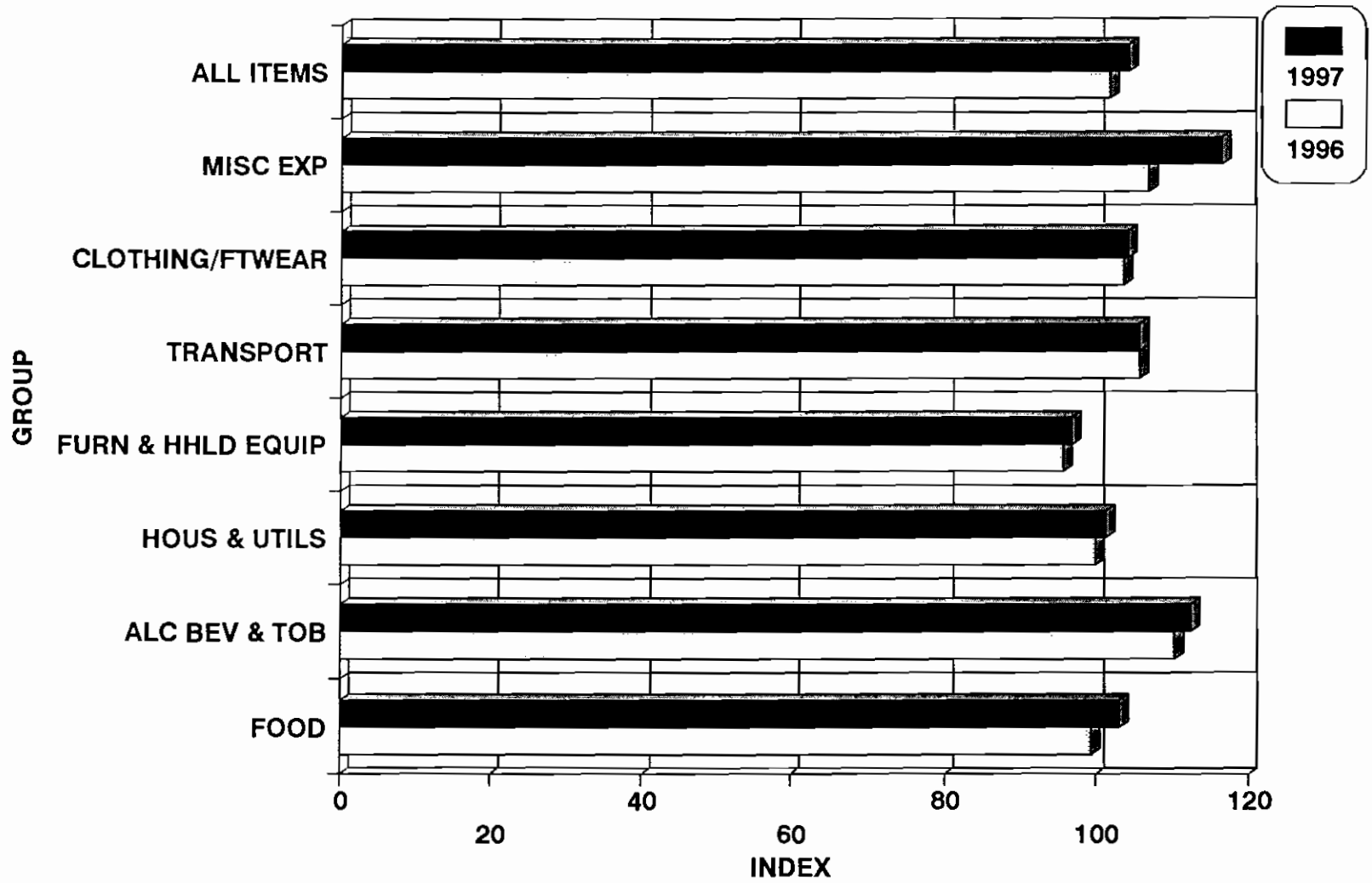


CHART 4
GROUP INDICES: 1996-1997



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