



Statistical Institute of Belize  
 1902 Constitution Drive  
 Belmopan City, Belize C.A.  
 Phone: 501.822.2207 / 2352  
 Fax: 502.822.3206  
 Email: info@statisticsbelize.org.bz  
 Web: www.statisticsbelize.org.bz

# Belize *CPI*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

## ANNUAL 2013

Inflation at 0.5% for 2013

January 29, 2014

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of December 2013 was 103.6 (February 2011 = 100). This represents an increase of 1.6 percent over the 102.0 in December 2012. Food prices, which were the largest contributor to this increase, were up by almost 3 percent.

As can be observed from Figure 1, the increase in prices accelerated in the last five months of 2013, putting inflation for the year at 0.5 percent, down from 1.3 percent in 2012. This relatively low rate was the result of lower Clothing and Footwear prices and health insurance and motor vehicle insurance premiums. During the year, there were increases in the prices of food, electricity, hospital accommodation fees and transportation.

Prices for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages rose by 1.5 percent during 2013, with the most significant increases being in beef (↑12.6 percent), poultry (↑1.3 percent) and rice (↑8.0 percent).

An increase in electricity tariffs, from an average of 41.81 cents to 48.86 per kilowatt hour, in January 2013 was reflected in an increase in the index for that item, while higher prices for hospital accommodation were the main cause of the 3 percent increase in the Health index.

Transport prices rose by 1.7 percent during 2013, owing primarily to higher international airfares (↑14.3 percent). While gasoline and diesel prices fluctuated throughout the year, there was on average very little change when compared to their 2012 averages.

At the municipal level, Belmopan recorded the highest inflation rate for 2013 (↑1.4 percent), followed by Corozal Town (↑1 percent). The lowest was in Dangriga, where no change was recorded.

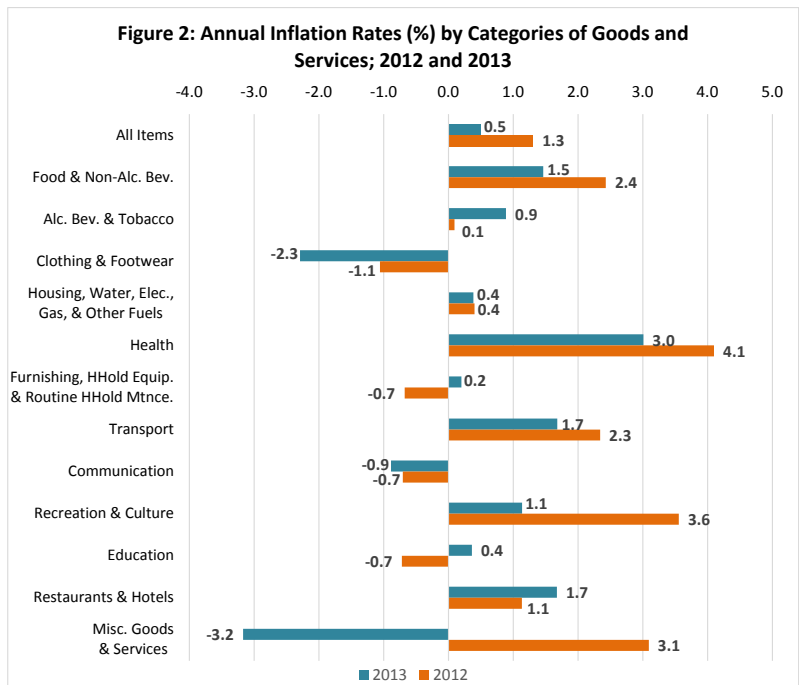
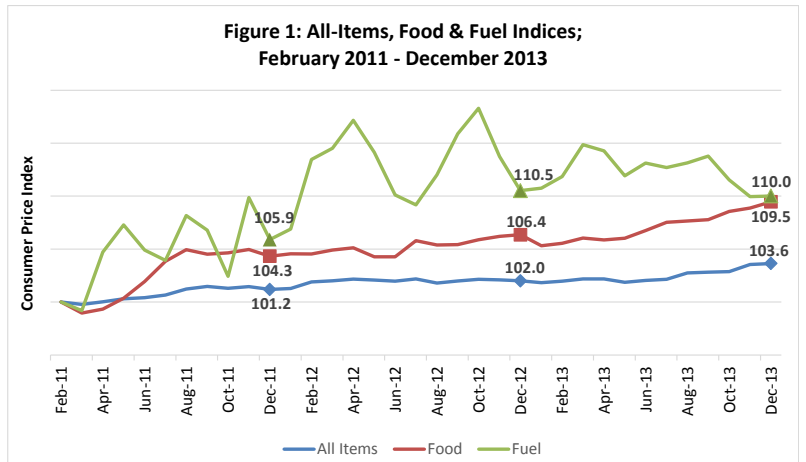


Table 1: Average Prices of Selected Foods and Fuel, 2012 and 2013

Category	2012	2013	% Change
Ground Beef	1 Lb 4.29	4.78	↑ 11.7
Rice (Retail)	1 Lb 1.08	1.13	↑ 4.8
Flour (Gitana)	1 Lb 0.92	0.94	↑ 1.9
White Sugar	1 Lb 0.53	0.54	↑ 1.6
Red Kidney Beans	1 Lb 1.76	2.08	↑ 18.3
Eggs	1 Dozen 2.90	3.24	↑ 11.7
Condensed Milk (Dutch Lady)	397 G 2.55	2.45	↓ -4.0
Milk (La La Light)	1 L 2.91	3.16	↑ 8.4
Yellow Onions	1 Lb 1.83	1.86	↑ 1.1
Sweet Pepper	1 Lb 3.95	4.13	↑ 4.5
Whole Chicken	1 Lb 2.59	2.64	↑ 1.9
Premium Gasoline	1 Gal 11.89	11.87	↓ -0.2
Regular Gasoline	1 Gal 11.38	11.47	↑ 0.8
Diesel Fuel	1 Gal 10.67	10.72	↑ 0.4
Butane	100 Lbs 118.25	114.84	↓ -2.9

Table 2: Inflation Rates by District; December 2013 and 2013 Annual

Category	INFLATION RATES (%)	
	Dec. 2013	2013
Country	1.6	0.5
Corozal Town	2.3	1.0
Orange Walk Town	0.8	0.1
Belize City	1.6	0.5
Belmopan	2.5	1.4
San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town	1.7	0.2
Dangriga	1.5	0.0
Punta Gorda Town	1.2	0.7