

**ECONOMICS & STATISTICS OFFICE
CAYMAN ISLANDS**

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CONSUMER PRICES UP BY 9.7 PERCENT OVER SECOND QUARTER 2004

The level of prices, in the Cayman Islands, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, stood at 141.7 in June 2005, an increase of 9.7 percent when compared with the same period in 2004. Six of the eight major groups used in the index calculation registered increases over the same period a year ago, with the Clothing and Personal Goods and Services Group the only two registering declines of 5.9 and 0.8 percent respectively.

The increases in the Groups ranged from a high of 32.6 percent in the Housing Group to a low of 0.6 percent in the Household Equipment Group. There were increases in both sub-groups of the Housing Group. The index for the Rent, Maintenance and Insurance sub group, increased by 36.2 percent to increase to 152.8, caused by increases in insurance premiums and rental prices which are a ripple effect from Hurricane Ivan. Prices in the Utilities sub-group continued upward and registered an increase of 15.2 percent to take the index for the sub-group to 130.0.

Although all the sub-groups in the Food Group registered increases Meat, Bread and Cereal and Other Foods sub groups played a significant part in this increase, because of their overall weights. The Food index grew by 4.4 percent to 132.6.

Education and Medical also had increases in both the sub-groups, with Education increasing by 1.3 percent and Medical to 4.8 percent, giving rise to an overall 2.8 percent increase in the index figure for this group.

The Transport and Communications Group increased by 2.6 percent despite decreases in two of the three sub-groups (Travel decreasing by 7.1 percent and Communications by 2.2 percent). The index for this group moved to 122.0.

The other two Groups had increases of less than 2.0 percent with Alcohol and Tobacco increasing by 1.7 percent, while Household Equipment grew by 0.6 percent.

When compared with the previous quarter, the All Items Index decreased by 0.1 percent. Five of the eight major groups showed increases, with Food registering the highest increase of 1.9 percent, followed closely by Education and Medical with an increase of 1.5 percent, then by Alcohol and Tobacco with an increase of 1.2 percent. The other two increases were Personal Goods and Services by 1.0 percent and Household Equipment increasing by 0.8 percent. The three major groups with decreases were Clothing which declined by 3.7 percent, Transport and Communication decreasing by 2.1 percent and Housing which decreased by 0.9 percent. Table 3 provides more detail.

Further information and the latest statistics on the Consumer Price index can be obtained from the Government Statistics Office, located on the fourth floor of the Elizabethan Square (Phase Four) Building. The Office's telephone number is 949-0940.

NOTES ON THE INDEX COMPILATION

1. For one month in each quarter of the year the namely March, June, September and December, staff of the Statistics Office collect prices for more than 500 different items on which consumers spend their money, from over 100 different shops and other outlets in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. Every kind of spending is included, from weekly supermarket trips, school lunches, rental payments and insurance to the prices of cars and bicycles. In total about 1,800 prices are collected each quarter.
2. The items have been assigned weights depending upon their importance in the total pattern of consumer spending based on the 1990/91 Household Income and Expenditure survey. The item weights combined with the prices are then compiled to arrive at the published index.

TABLE 1

CAYMAN ISLANDS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

JUNE 1996 - JUNE 2005

(SEPTEMBER 1994 = 100)

		INDEX	Percentage change from:	
			3 months ago	one year ago
1996	June	104.9	1.3	3.0
	September	105.2	0.2	1.7
	December	106.4	1.1	3.2
1997	March	107.4	0.9	3.6
	June	107.2	-0.2	2.2
	September	107.3	0.1	1.9
1998	December	109.5	2.0	2.9
	March	110.5	0.9	2.9
	June	110.6	0.1	3.2
1999	September	111.1	0.5	3.5
	December	112.1	0.8	2.3
	March	113.9	1.5	3.0
2000	June	119.9	5.3	8.4
	September	120.2	0.3	8.2
	December	120.8	0.5	7.8
2001	March	121.1	0.2	6.3
	June	121.5	0.3	1.3
	September	122.3	0.7	1.7
2002	December	122.6	0.2	1.5
	March	123.3	0.6	1.8
	June	123.6	0.2	1.7
2003	September	122.7	-0.7	0.3
	December	123.5	0.7	0.7
	March	125.9	2.0	2.1
2004	June	125.9	0.0	1.9
	September	126.3	0.3	2.9
	December	127.2	0.7	3.0
2005	March	126.2	-0.8	0.2
	June	126.6	0.3	0.6
	September	127.3	0.6	0.8
2004	December	128.1	0.6	0.7
	March	127.7	-0.3	1.2
	June	129.2	1.2	2.1
2005	September	131.5	1.8	3.3
	December	142.3	8.2	11.1
	March	141.9	-0.3	11.1
	June	141.7	-0.1	9.7

NOTE:

The index changes shown in the "one year ago" column on this page reflect the period to period changes and do not take into account fluctuations in price levels which may have occurred during the interim.

TABLE 2**CAYMAN ISLANDS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX****ANNUAL AVERAGES 1994 TO 2004****(SEPTEMBER 1994 = 100)**

YEAR	INDEX	Percentage change from a year ago
1994	99.9	
1995	102.4	2.5
1996	105.0	2.6
1997	107.9	2.7
1998	111.1	3.0
1999	118.7	6.9
2000	121.9	2.7
2001	123.3	1.1
2002	126.3	2.4
2003	127.1	0.6
2004	132.7	4.4

TABLE 3: CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAJOR GROUPS - JUNE 2005

Major Group	(Weight)	Index	Percentage change	
			3 months ago	one year ago
01 Food	119	132.6	1.9	4.4
Bread and Cereal	10	122.8	-0.8	3.8
Meat	17	134.2	-1.6	0.6
Fish	3	114.7	-6.8	1.1
Dairy Products and Eggs	9	135.3	1.4	0.3
Oils & Fats	2	138.9	3.6	4.1
Fruit and Vegetables	12	131.1	-2.6	7.6
Drinks (non-alcoholic)	12	119.4	0.5	0.3
Sugar Products	2	128.9	1.2	9.3
Other Foods	53	137.7	5.5	6.6
02 Alcohol and Tobacco	16	128.9	1.2	1.7
Alcoholic Drinks	13	126.7	1.5	2.7
Tobacco	3	139.5	0.0	-2.6
03 Housing	311	149.0	-0.9	32.6
Rent, Maintenance, Insurance etc	258	152.8	-2.9	36.2
Utilities	53	130.0	12.2	15.2
04 Clothing	46	102.2	-3.7	-5.9
Men and Womens Clothing	29	95.6	-8.2	-10.7
Boys and Girls Clothing	6	130.2	5.7	0.3
Other Clothing	2	98.2	0.1	5.0
Footwear	9	106.9	3.1	3.0
05 Household Equipment	59	135.5	0.8	0.6
Furniture and Floor Coverings	22	130.2	-1.1	-3.5
Household Appliances	13	101.7	0.0	0.0
Household Equipment	24	158.2	2.7	4.3
06 Transport and Communications	168	122.0	-2.1	2.6
Household Vehicles	128	135.3	1.1	3.8
Travel	7	122.7	-14.6	-7.1
Communications	33	70.8	-17.4	-2.2

07 Education and Medical	65	260.0	1.5	2.8
Education	25	380.6	0.0	1.3
Medical Care	40	184.2	3.4	4.8
08 Personal Goods and Services	216	127.6	1.0	-0.8
Home Entertainment	21	94.1	2.3	-4.5
Outside Entertainment	1	164.8	4.2	8.7
Culture, Pastimes, Hobbies	30	120.6	2.8	4.9
Holiday Expenses	71	158.8	1.3	2.4
Personal Services	38	121.3	0.0	-12.4
Personal Goods	16	113.0	-1.0	1.8
Domestic Services	39	104.1	-0.1	0.9
Gifts and Subscriptions	1	166.7	0.0	0.0
ALL ITEMS	1,000	141.7	-0.1	9.7

**TABLE 4: CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAJOR GROUP JUNE 2000 - JUNE 2005
(SEPTEMBER 1994=100)**

PERIOD/MAJOR GROUP	FOOD	ALCOHOL & TOBACCO	HOUSING	CLOTHING	HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT	TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION	EDUCATION & MEDICAL	PERSONAL GOODS & SERVICES.	ALL ITEMS
WEIGHT	119	16	311	46	59	168	65	216	1,000
2000									
JUNE	112.7	118.8	119.6	113.8	119.1	110.4	202.1	116.2	121.5
SEPTEMBER	111.9	120.3	118.2	113.8	121.9	111.6	207.4	119.1	122.3
DECEMBER	114.1	120.8	118.4	112.1	121.9	112.9	209.4	117.7	122.6
ANNUAL AVERAGE	112.6	120.1	119.0	113.1	120.4	111.5	204.8	117.0	121.9
% CHANGE PREV YEAR	1.7	-1.5	0.6	-0.4	0.6	0.2	14.7	4.2	2.7
2001									
MARCH	114.4	120.2	118.5	111.6	121.5	113.6	211.5	119.4	123.3
JUNE	117.6	119.8	116.7	112.1	122.6	113.4	211.0	121.4	123.6
SEPTEMBER	117.3	119.5	117.1	110.8	121.9	112.0	212.8	118.3	122.7
DECEMBER	116.7	119.8	118.6	110.0	123.7	112.8	213.5	119.0	123.5
ANNUAL AVERAGE	116.5	119.8	117.7	111.1	122.4	113.0	212.2	119.5	123.3
% CHANGE PREV YEAR	3.5	-0.2	-1.1	-1.7	1.7	1.3	3.6	2.2	1.1
2002									
MARCH	116.5	122.3	119.0	113.6	124.0	114.1	227.6	123.3	125.9
JUNE	118.5	121.6	119.4	114.1	122.7	114.2	228.2	121.5	125.9
SEPTEMBER	120.2	122.6	121.3	109.4	125.9	113.3	230.8	119.9	126.3
DECEMBER	120.9	121.4	120.4	109.1	122.7	114.0	237.4	123.1	127.2
ANNUAL AVERAGE	119.0	122.0	120.0	111.6	123.8	113.9	231.0	122.0	126.3
% CHANGE PREV YEAR	2.2	1.8	2.0	0.4	1.1	0.8	8.9	2.0	2.4
2003									
MARCH	122.1	123.1	116.4	109.2	130.1	117.0	240.0	118.7	126.2
JUNE	122.2	121.5	115.8	109.4	133.1	115.6	241.1	120.9	126.6
SEPTEMBER	122.2	122.5	116.0	109.8	129.1	114.9	248.8	123.3	127.3
DECEMBER	125.0	123.4	117.0	112.8	129.4	114.8	248.7	123.1	128.1
ANNUAL AVERAGE	122.9	122.6	116.3	110.3	130.4	115.6	244.7	121.5	127.1
% CHANGE PREV YEAR	3.2	0.5	-3.1	-1.1	5.3	1.5	5.9	-0.4	0.6
2004									
MARCH	125.9	123.8	116.6	111.9	133.3	113.1	250.2	121.7	127.7
JUNE	127.1	126.7	112.4	108.6	134.6	118.9	253.0	128.7	129.2
SEPTEMBER	129.5	121.5	117.5	105.2	142.6	117.9	257.5	129.0	131.5
DECEMBER	130.3	125.3	153.0	96.4	133.9	122.2	260.1	127.3	142.3
ANNUAL AVERAGE	128.2	124.3	124.9	105.5	136.1	118.0	255.2	126.7	132.7
% CHANGE PREV YEAR	4.3	1.4	7.4	-4.3	4.4	2.1	4.3	4.3	4.4

2005

MARCH	130.1	127.3	150.3	106.1	134.3	124.6	256.2	126.4	141.9
JUNE	132.6	128.9	149.0	102.2	135.5	122.0	260.0	127.6	141.7

TABLE 5

CAYMAN ISLANDS: AVERAGE PRICES OF SELECTED FOOD ITEMS JUNE, 2005

	ITEM	QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICES (CI\$)		
			June 2005	Mar 2005	June 2004
101-04	Wholewheat bread(imported)	1 lb. 4 oz	1.68	1.68	1.83
107-01	Long grain rice	5 lb.	5.74	4.99	5.74
108-12	Cornflakes	24 oz	4.54	4.54	4.21
111-01	Stew beef	1 lb.	3.32	4.06	3.99
114-01	Bacon	1 lb.	6.08	5.58	5.74
125-02	Snapper fillets (frozen)	1 lb.	5.02	5.69	6.16
127-05	Canned Tuna in water	6.5 oz	1.09	1.09	1.08
130-02	Eggs(Grade A Large)	1 doz.	1.43	1.43	1.81
131-02	Anchor Butter	1 lb	3.36	3.36	2.63
133-05	Fresh milk(McArthur)	1 gal.	5.19	4.89	5.19
135-09	Evaporated milk	14.5 oz	0.81	0.81	0.81
139-19	Shortening	3 lb.	4.91	4.91	5.00
141-01	Plantains	1 lb.	0.86	0.79	0.79
142-07	Idaho potatoes	1 lb.	0.72	0.69	0.69
147-11	Lettuce	Head	1.89	1.52	1.39
146-15	Sweet potatoes	1 lb.		1.02	1.09
151-01	Tomatoes	1 lb.	2.32	2.79	1.76
152-03	Ripe bananas	1 lb.	0.68	0.68	0.68
153-01	Apples(Golden Delicious)	1 lb.	1.69	1.69	1.69
155-11	Oranges	each	0.45	0.56	0.40
161-01	Tea bags(Liptons)	48	2.43	2.43	2.35
163-02	Instant coffee(Maxwell House)	8 oz. 12 oz.	5.19	5.59	5.56
166-02	Soda	can	0.70	0.70	0.7
171-01	White sugar	2 kg.	1.86	1.86	1.73
172-02	Strawberry Preserves	12 ozs	2.74	2.74	2.64
181-02	Canned vegetable soup	10.5 oz	1.34	1.21	1.06
182-04	Corned beef hash	15 oz	2.14	2.14	2.14
186-16	Salt	8 oz	0.61	0.61	0.66