



Solomon Islands Government

Statistical Bulletin: 10/2010

**HONIARA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(August 2010)**

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Commentary

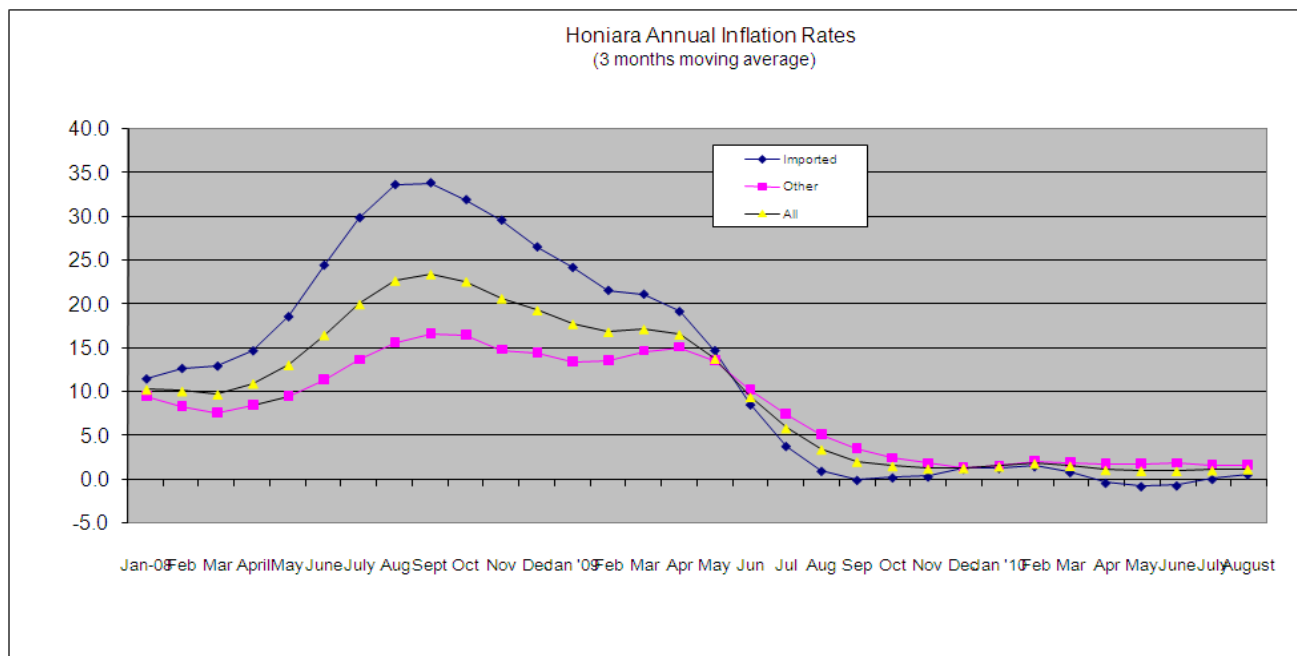
The Honiara Consumers Price Index for August 2010 was basically steady, falling just 0.4% from 147.9 in July to 147.4. The slight drop was largely due to declines in the prices of rice and fresh fruit and vegetables at the Honiara market, partly offset by increases in the prices of furniture and new cars.

The price of rice slightly dropped 0.6% to \$171.50 per 20kg bag. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices also fell in August, notably bush cabbage which declined 32% to \$6.71/kg, tomatoes (down 22% to \$10.47/kg), green pepper (down 50% to \$12.53/kg) and chinese cabbage (down 11.5% to \$11.5%). These falls outweighed minor price increases elsewhere in the food section to result in a drop of 1.7% in the overall Food sub-index

The Household Operations sub-index on the other hand rose 3% in August. This was on account of increases in the prices of furniture, notably standard food safes which rose 32% to \$1,916 per unit, dining chairs (up 31% to \$690/unit) and double beds (15% to \$2,160). Minor increases in other sub-indexes were as follow:-

- Transport & Communication was up 1% on account of a rise of 13% in the price of new cars.
- Drinks and Tobacco was up 0.2% due to 1% rise in the price of betel nut (from 60.0cents to 60.7cents/nut).

The above increases were however, outweighed by the drop in the Food sub-index to result in marginal decline of 0.4% in the overall Consumer Price Index.



The annual inflation rate to August 2010 calculated on a 3-month moving average remained stable at its June and July levels of 1.0%. The inflation rates for imported and other items were 0.5 % and 1.3 % respectively.

Table 5. COMPARATIVE PRICES OF SELECTED COMMODITIES

DESCRIPTION	2002				2003				2004				2005				2006				2007				2008				2009				2010							
	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year					
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4				
QUCE (Solives 20kg bag)	67.69	81.08	83.85	91.70	95.10	97.72	103.07	103.21	103.18	107.07	109.00	112.51	119.45	160.73	196.09	203.08	207.23	206.33	204.67	205.17	205.50	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	187.58	
NOODLE (Maggi 85g pkt)	1.50	1.76	1.84	2.02	2.04	2.11	2.19	2.26	2.28	2.27	2.25	2.27	2.30	2.40	2.60	2.69	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82	2.82
FLOUR (plain white flour 25kg bag)	60.23	93.36	114.86	110.05	113.13	114.13	114.63	114.63	116.79	121.13	123.02	149.18	167.63	177.29	182.96	200.51	205.00	194.61	178.83	177.17	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50	176.50
CHICKEN WINGS (imported 500g pkt)	15.44	20.42	20.63	18.67	19.00	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	23.50	24.83	27.50	27.50	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
TUNA (second grade Tampo 180g can)	3.73	3.93	4.70	4.94	5.03	5.03	5.05	5.06	5.07	5.33	5.29	5.25	5.27	6.36	6.71	6.73	6.71	6.71	6.71	6.37	6.53	6.53	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.50	
KUMARA HEAPS (\$/kg)	3.65	2.05	1.72	2.28	2.40	2.31	2.21	2.19	2.31	2.50	2.29	5.71	3.27	3.50	4.16	3.77	3.50	4.14	4.27	3.85	3.83	3.68	3.98	3.87	3.06	3.06	3.25	3.20	3.42											
Slimpex Cabbage \$/kg	5.82	3.88	4.24	4.94	3.69	4.32	5.39	6.64	6.97	5.93	6.39	5.42	6.01	9.77	11.09	10.18	8.34	9.57	8.35	7.22	7.04	6.50	6.50	7.85	8.47	10.39	8.75	9.88	6.71											
WHITE SUGAR (Newseason 500gpm pkt)	2.77	3.22	3.36	3.47	3.57	3.62	3.68	3.70	3.86	4.40	4.43	4.45	4.61	4.78	5.06	4.95	4.59	4.66	4.87	6.11	6.63	6.47	6.82	6.78	6.87	6.95	6.95	7.12												
SALT (5kg sack, 1kg)	3.17	3.95	3.71	4.22	4.49	4.49	4.51	4.53	4.56	4.76	4.64	4.46	4.43	4.46	4.50	4.44	4.54	4.57	4.57	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47	4.47		
DRINKS & TOBACCO																																								
SOLBREW BEER (Solbrew, 355ml bottle)	4.87	6.07	6.07	6.16	6.87	6.80	6.82	6.84	6.87	7.84	8.00	8.50	8.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10	9.10		
WINST TOBACCO (per stick)	5.50	7.02	7.02	7.31	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.43	7.51	7.51	7.51	7.52	7.83	7.88	7.88	7.85	9.14	11.14	11.98	13.73	15.23	15.23	15.23	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50		
UTILITIES																																								
WATER CHARGES (500gal)	26.13	29.20	29.20	29.20	29.20	29.20	29.20	29.20	29.20	61.86	61.86	61.86	61.86	61.86	61.86	63.13	65.66	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00			
ELECTRICITY (40 units)	44.89	74.50	74.50	81.90	101.02	101.02	101.02	101.02	101.02	120.69	121.33	122.62	156.80	156.80	181.80	212.80	213.00	190.62	178.17	188.99	185.80	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02	181.02			
TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION																																								
PETROL (cents per litre)	247.36	350.20	350.20	499.08	537.48	529.92	533.28	542.07	556.97	637.45	638.05	680.50	788.90	984.90	1169.00	891.00	703.33	769.67	868.33	856.33	84.00	872.00	905.00	908.50	957.10	957.10	957.10	927.10	897.05											
TELEPHONE CHARGES (per call within hours)	0.46	0.61	0.61	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.68	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70			
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS & SERVICES																																								
BATH SOAP (6in 85g cake)	1.54	1.73	1.73	1.80	1.84	1.84	1.82	1.81	1.80	2.01	2.04	2.14	2.19	2.25	2.35	2.45	2.39	2.41	2.46	2.46	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.68	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78				
TOOTH PASTE (Colgate 110g)	6.63	7.91	7.91	8.88	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.46	10.01	12.74	13.54	13.27	12.74	14.27	15.36	15.56	15.56	15.56	15.68	15.68	15.68	15.68	18.18	18.18	18.18	18.18	17.18	17.18										