

October 3, 2008

## Consumer Price Index, base September 2000 September 2008

*The Central Bureau of Statistics presents the most important findings for the Consumer Price Index for the month of September 2008.*

- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for September 2008 is **142.67**, a decrease of **0.24%** compared with the index of August 2008 (**143.01**).
- The percentage change for the first 9 months (January to September 2008) of the CPI is 7.50, compared to 6.89 for the same period of last year.
- The percentage change of the CPI over the last 12 months (September 2007 and September 2008) is 10.84, an increase of 5.07 percentage points compared to the percentage change for the same period of last year (5.77).
- The period average percentage change of the CPI for the period September 2007 - September 2008 is 9.13, an increase of 4.77 percentage points compared to the period average percentage change over the period September 2006 - September 2007 (4.36).

**Table 1 Overview percentage change CPI**

Period		2008	2007
Current month	Aug-Sep	-0.24	0.10
Year-to-date	Jan-Sep	7.50	6.89
Last 12 months 1	Sep-Sep	10.84	5.77
Last 24 months 2	Sep-Sep	9.13	4.36

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

1 End of period inflation  
2 Period average inflation

In September the sectors that show the highest positive percentage changes in the CPI are:

CPI	-0.24
• Clothing and footwear	2.04
• Household operation	0.49
• Food	0.42
• Housing	-1.04
• Transport and communication	-1.45

**Table 2 Percentage change by sector**

Sector	Percentage changes			
	Monthly Sep	Year to date Jan - Sep	End of period Sep 07 - Sep 08	Period average Sep 07 - Sep 08
<b>Consumer Price Index</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>7.50</b>	<b>10.84</b>	<b>9.13</b>
Food	0.42	10.07	12.66	8.86
Beverages and tobacco products	-0.38	2.34	1.81	5.39
Clothing and footwear	2.04	1.02	6.86	5.93
Housing	-1.04	13.07	18.50	16.02
Household operation	0.49	3.85	3.79	3.48
Health	0.00	0.39	0.42	0.15
Transport and communication	-1.45	6.82	10.20	8.50
Leisure and recreational goods	0.02	4.99	7.10	6.84
Goods and services n.e.c.	-0.10	4.45	6.42	6.14

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

## Monthly Percentage Change

The prices of goods and services in the consumption basket of the CPI show a decrease of **0.24%** for the month of September 2008 compared to the prices observed in August 2008.

The consumption basket of the CPI consists of 374 goods and services. Compared to August, 39.0% of these products had an increase in price, while 37.7% showed a decrease and the remaining 23.3% had no change in price.

In September 2008, the sectors that had the greatest influence in the percentage change of the CPI are:

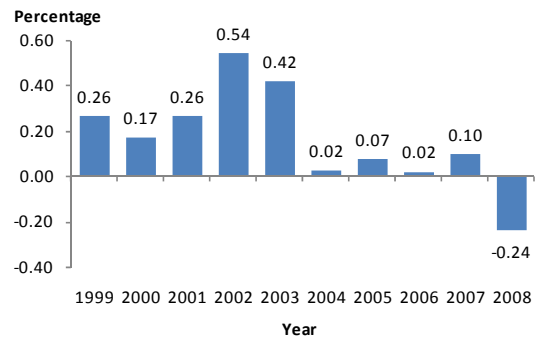
- Clothing and footwear, where increases in prices were registered in the category "Clothing and accessories" and decreases in the category "Footwear".
- Transport and communication, where decreases in prices were mainly registered in the category "Vehicle supplies".
- Housing, where decreases in prices were mainly registered in the categories "Domestic fuel and power" and "Water supply" and increases in prices in the category "Property maintenance goods".
- Food, where increases in prices were mainly registered in the categories "Meat, poultry, game, fish and shellfish" and "Potatoes, vegetables and fruit".

**Table 3 Categories with the greatest effect on the CPI of September 2008**

Category	Monthly change	Effect
Clothing and accessories	2.73	1.50
Household supplies	2.96	0.28
Property maintenance goods	0.95	0.26
Meat, poultry, game, fish and shellfish	1.14	0.22
Potatoes, vegetables and fruit	0.19	0.10
Water Supply	-0.81	-0.17
Footwear	-1.43	-0.20
Vehicle supplies	-3.18	-1.10
Domestic Fuel and power	-3.26	-1.18

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

**Graph 1 Monthly percentage change of the CPI for September, 1999 – 2008**

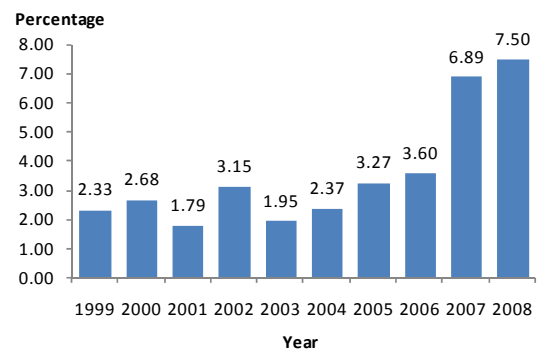


Graph 1 shows that the monthly percentage change of the CPI decreased by 0.34 percentage points to -0.24 in September of 2008 from (0.10) in September of 2007.

## Year-to-date Percentage Change

The year-to-date percentage change from January to September 2008 is 7.50 (Table 1). The sectors which had the greatest effect on the percentage change of this period due to changes registered in the prices of goods and services are Housing (3.00), Food (1.62), Transport and communication (1.33) and Goods and services n.e.c. (0.50).

**Graph 2 Year-to-date percentage change of the CPI for January to September, 1999 – 2008**



The year-to-date percentage change of the CPI for September 2008 amounts to 7.50, an increase of 0.61 percentage points compared to the figure recorded in September 2007 (graph 2).

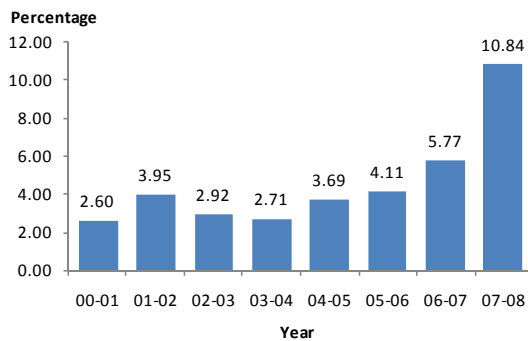
## Percentage Changes last 12 and 24 Months

Table 4 Percentage changes by month, 2007 – 2008

Sector	Percentage changes							
	2007				2008			
	Monthly	Year-to-date	End of period	Period average	Monthly	Year-to-date	End of period	Period average
January	2.62	2.62	4.82	3.66	0.63	0.63	8.06	6.27
February	0.04	2.67	4.14	3.63	0.64	1.27	8.71	6.66
March	0.69	3.38	5.03	3.68	0.47	1.75	8.47	6.94
April	0.19	3.58	4.71	3.76	0.50	2.26	8.80	7.28
May	0.91	4.52	4.41	3.80	0.83	3.11	8.72	7.64
June	1.80	6.40	5.97	3.96	1.49	4.64	8.38	7.84
July	-0.32	6.06	5.42	4.08	1.35	6.06	10.20	8.25
August	0.68	6.79	5.68	4.21	1.60	7.75	11.21	8.71
September	0.10	6.89	5.77	4.36	-0.24	7.50	10.84	9.13
October	0.31	7.22	7.27	4.82				
November	1.15	8.45	8.54	5.37				
December	1.62	10.21	10.21	6.00				

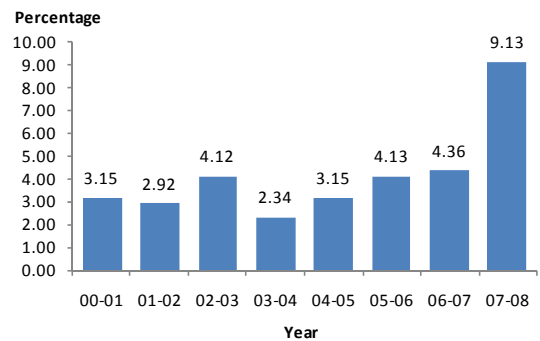
Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

Graph 3 Percentage change of the CPI (last 12 months) September to September, 2000 – 2008



The percentage change of the CPI (last 12 months/end of period) of 10.84, is the highest change registered in the last 8 years for the month September.

Graph 4 Average Percentage change of the CPI (last 24 months) September to September, 2000 - 2008



The average percentage change of the CPI for the month September (last 24 months/ period average) has been increasing since 2003 and reached 9.13 in September 2008, which is 4.77 percentage points higher than the year before.