





# Table of Contents

<b>A note to the reader.....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>1 MONTHLY CHANGE OF THE CPI .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 CPI AND INFLATION .....	1
1.2 CHANGES IN SECTOR .....	1
1.3 CHANGES IN CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES .....	1
<b>2 END OF PERIOD CHANGE OF THE CPI.....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1 END OF PERIOD CHANGE CPI FOR JANUARY 2014 .....	2
2.2 CHANGES IN SECTOR .....	2
2.3 CHANGES IN CATEGORIES.....	2
2.4 END OF YEAR CHANGE CPI 2005 - 2014.....	2
2.5 PERIOD AVERAGE CHANGE CPI FOR JANUARY 2014.....	2
<b>3 DEVELOPMENT OF INDICES OF MAIN SECTORS AND UTILITIES.....</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1 INDICES MAIN SECTORS .....	3
3.2 ELECTRICITY .....	3
3.3 WATER.....	3
3.4 GASOLINE AND DIESEL.....	3
<b>4 PERCENTAGE CHANGE CPI OF ARUBA’S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
4.1 COMPARISON OF THE CPI OF ARUBA AND THE USA .....	4
<b>5 CORE INFLATION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1 CORE INFLATION .....	5
5.2 MONTHLY CHANGE OF THE CORE INFLATION.....	5
5.3 END OF YEAR CHANGE OF THE CORE INFLATION, 2009 - 2014 .....	5
<b>6 DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD &amp; CATERING SERVICES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
6.1 MONTHLY CHANGE OF FOOD & CATERING SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2014.....	6
6.2 END OF PERIOD CHANGE OF FOOD & CATERING SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2014.....	6
<b>7 SUBSISTENCE LEVEL.....</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1 SUBSISTENCE LEVEL.....	7
7.2 MONTHLY CHANGE OF THE SUBSISTENCE LEVEL FOR JANUARY 2014 .....	7
7.3 COMPARISON OF THE SUBSISTENCE LEVEL AND MINIMUM WAGE .....	7
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
APPENDIX 1: MONTHLY AND YEARLY % CHANGES IN THE CPI FOR JANUARY 2014 .....	8
APPENDIX 2: EFFECT ON THE CPI PER SECTOR AND CATEGORY FOR JANUARY 2014 .....	9
APPENDIX 3: MONTHLY & YEARLY CHANGES (%) AND EFFECT IN THE FOOD & CATERING SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2014.....	10
APPENDIX 4: COURSE OF INDICES FOR 2008 UP TO JANUARY 2014 .....	11
<b>GLOSSARY .....</b>	<b>12</b>



## A note to the reader

The following report presents the price statistics for January 2014.

- At the end of January 2014 the Consumer Price Index (CPI) shows a decrease of 0.3% compared to the end of December 2013. The sector which affected the CPI the most was “Recreation and culture” (-7.1%), which led to an effect of -0.64 percentage points (ppts) on the  $\Delta$  CPI of January 2014 (-0.3%).
- Compared to January 2013 the CPI decreased by 0.2%. The sector which affected the CPI the most was “Recreation and culture” (-4.2%). Specifically, the price of “Holidays” decreased by 31.1% and caused an effect of -0.27 ppts on the end of period inflation of January 2014 (-0.2%).
- The period average inflation for the period January 2013 - January 2014 is -2.1%, which is 1.9 ppts lower compared to the period average inflation for the period January 2012 - January 2013 (-0.2%).
- Utilities (Water and Electricity) did not register price changes in January 2014. The price of gasoline increased by 2.0% and caused an effect of 0.13 ppts. The price of diesel registered an increase (2.1%) in January 2014 and had an effect of 0.01 ppt on the  $\Delta$  CPI of January 2014 (-0.3%).

This report is divided in 7 sections. An overview of the monthly percentage changes in the CPI and index per sector is presented in section 1. Section 2 provides the yearly percentage changes in the CPI and index per sector. The development of indices of main sectors and utilities is outlined in section 3. Section 4 presents the percentage change in the CPI of Aruba’s major trading partners and compares the CPI of Aruba and the USA. Section 5 presents an overview of the monthly and yearly percentage changes of the core inflation. Section 6 presents the price movements in food & catering services. The development of the subsistence level is presented in section 7 and is followed by the appendices.

For other specific information contact us at CBS or visit [www.cbs.aw](http://www.cbs.aw).

**Contact information:**

Central Bureau of Statistics  
L.G. Smith Boulevard 160  
Oranjestad - Aruba  
Phone: 583-7433 ext 296  
Fax: 583-8057  
E-mail: LdSilva@cbs.aw



## 1 Monthly change of the CPI

### 1.1 CPI and Inflation

The CPI of the total population of Aruba for the month of January 2014 is 116.54; a decrease of 0.3% compared to the CPI of December 2013 (116.94). An overview of the percentage change in the CPI ( $\Delta$  CPI) for different periods during 2013 and 2014 is shown in Table 1. The terms percentage change in the CPI and “inflation” (deflation) are considered similar and are used interchangeably. The deflation over the last 12 months (end of period inflation) is 0.2%, while the deflation over a period of 24 months (period average inflation) is 2.1%.

**Table 1: Overview of  $\Delta$  CPI**

Period		% Changes		Index	
		2014	2013	Current	Last
Monthly	Dec - Jan	-0.3	-0.1	116.54	116.94
Last 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Jan - Jan	-0.2	-3.5	116.54	116.78
Last 24 months <sup>2</sup>	Jan - Jan	-2.1	-0.2	117.24	119.76

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

<sup>1</sup> End of period inflation

<sup>2</sup> Period average inflation

Figure 1 depicts the monthly  $\Delta$  CPI over a period of one year starting from January 2013, whereas the  $\Delta$  CPI for the month January for the years 2005 to 2014 is illustrated in Figure 2.

### 1.2 Changes in sector

Figure 3 provides an overview of the percentage changes for the indices per sector for January 2014. The percentage change in index is further denoted as  $\Delta$  I. The largest  $\Delta$  I is observed for the sectors “Recreation and culture” (-7.1%).

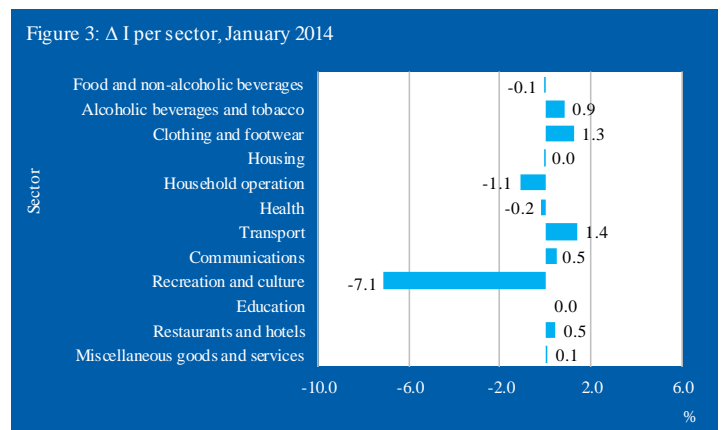
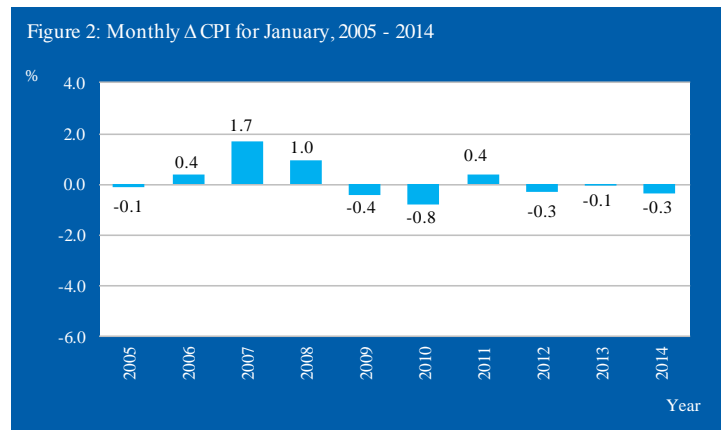
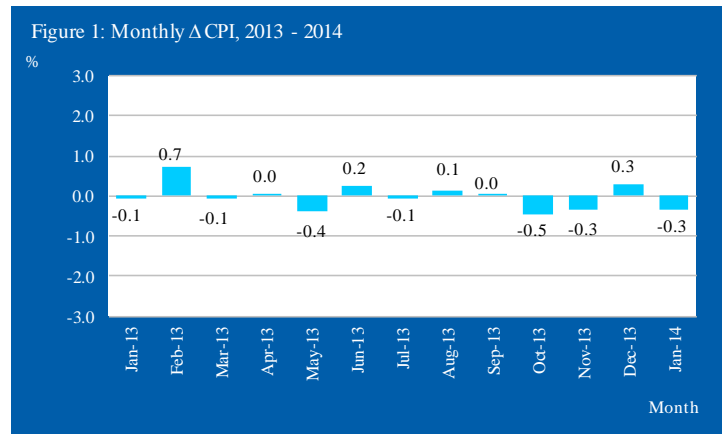
### 1.3 Changes in categories and subcategories

The largest positive and negative  $\Delta$  I is seen in the categories “Accommodation services” (15.7%) and “Holidays” (-52.1%), respectively. In the “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” sector an increase of 0.1% is observed for the category “Non-alcoholic beverages”, while the “Food” category shows a decrease of 0.1%. In the “Recreation and culture” sector the major  $\Delta$  I is observed for the category “Holidays” (-52.1%), which is mainly the result of a decrease in “Cruise ship, including accommodation costs and transport” of 50.0%<sup>1</sup>.

The categories which influenced the CPI calculation the most are “Holidays”, “Purchase of vehicles” and “Operation of personal transport equipment”, which had an effect of respectively, -0.64, 0.13 and 0.12 ppts on the  $\Delta$  CPI. Reference is made to tables 16 and 17 in Appendices 1 and 2. Table 16 provides an overview of the indices for the months January 2013, December 2013 and January 2014 together with corresponding weights per sector and the monthly, end of period and period average percentage changes for January 2014. In table 17 an overview of the effect on the monthly, end of period and period average CPI per sector and

<sup>1</sup> The focus is on the four major sectors which are: Housing, Transport, Food and non-alcoholic beverages and Recreation and culture. Together these sectors form 64% of the total weight of the basket of goods and services.

category for January 2014 is presented. The course of indices for 2008 up to January 2014 is illustrated in Appendix 4.



## 2 End of period change of the CPI

### 2.1 End of period change CPI for January 2014

The CPI decreased from 116.78 in January 2013 to 116.54 in January 2014, a decrease of 0.2%. This  $\Delta$  CPI is the second lowest registered over a period of 5 years for the month January, and is 3.3 pts higher than the  $\Delta$  CPI registered in 2013 (-3.5%) (see table 2).

Table 2: End of period  $\Delta$  CPI for January, 2010 - 2014

Period	$\Delta$ CPI	Index
2009-2010	6.3	114.26
2010-2011	0.5	114.78
2011-2012	5.4	121.01
2012-2013	-3.5	116.78
2013-2014	-0.2	116.54

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

### 2.2 Changes in sector

An overview of the percentage change per sector over the period January 2013 - January 2014 is presented in table 3. The largest  $\Delta$  I is observed for the sector "Recreation and culture" with a decrease of 4.2%. The decrease in the "Recreation and culture" sector is mainly caused by a decrease in the category "Holidays" (-31.1%). Furthermore, decreases of 2.5% and 2.4% are observed for the sectors "Clothing and footwear" and "Household operation" respectively. A comparison of the  $\Delta$  I's for the years 2013 and 2014 is provided in figure 4.

Table 3: Percentage change for January, 2013 - 2014

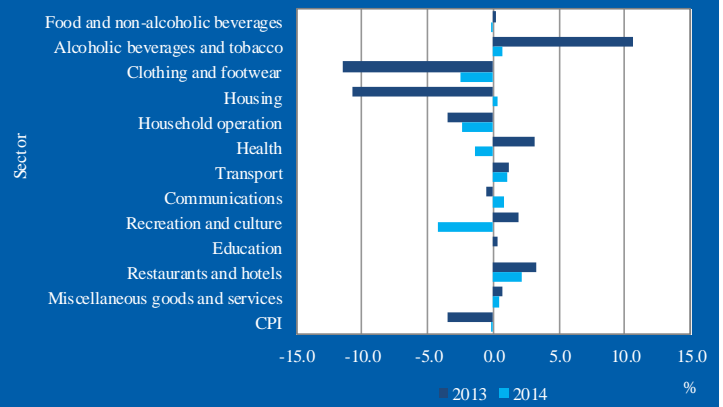
Sector	% Change
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.7
Clothing and footwear	-2.5
Housing	0.4
Household operation	-2.4
Health	-1.3
Transport	1.1
Communications	0.8
Recreation and culture	-4.2
Education	0.0
Restaurants and hotels	2.2
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.4
CPI	-0.2

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

### 2.3 Changes in categories

The largest positive and negative  $\Delta$  I in categories observed over a period of one year are respectively, "Telephone and telefax equipment" (11.3%) and "Holidays" (-31.1%). For an overview of the end of period percentage changes per category refer to table 16 in Appendix 1.

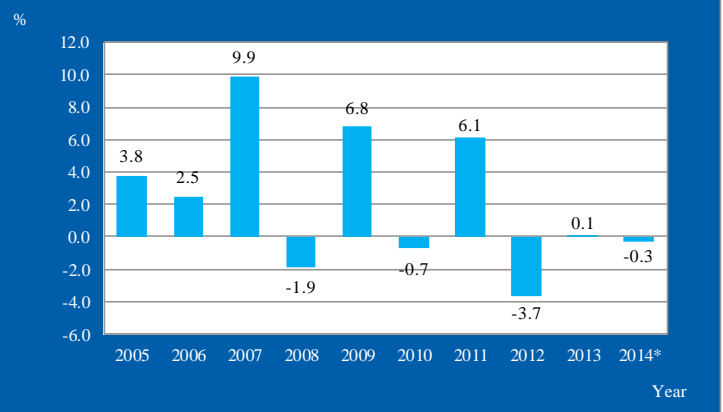
Figure 4:  $\Delta$  I per sector



### 2.4 End of year change CPI 2005 - 2014

The end of year  $\Delta$  CPI for the period 2005 - 2014 is shown in figure 5. The  $\Delta$  CPI for 2014 is calculated by comparing the CPI of January 2014 with the CPI of December 2013. At the end of each year, the end of year percentage change equals the ytd  $\Delta$  CPI. The ytd  $\Delta$  CPI for January 2014 is -0.3%.

Figure 5: End of year  $\Delta$  CPI 2005 - 2014



\*ytd

### 2.5 Period average change CPI for January 2014

The period average change CPI ( $\Delta$  ACPI) for January 2014 is -2.1%. Table 4 provides an overview of the  $\Delta$  ACPI for the month January for the years 2010 to 2014. The  $\Delta$  ACPI for 2014 decreased by 1.9 pts compared to 2013.

Table 4: Overview of  $\Delta$  ACPI for January, 2010 - 2014

Period	$\Delta$ ACPI	Index
2009-2010	-1.4	112.66
2010-2011	1.6	114.47
2011-2012	4.8	119.95
2012-2013	-0.2	119.76
2013-2014	-2.1	117.24

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba



## 3 Development of indices of main sectors and utilities

### 3.1 Indices main sectors

The four major sectors, “Housing”, “Transport”, “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” and “Recreation and culture”, constitute 64% of the total weight of the basket of goods and services, which are observed on a monthly basis. An overview of the course of indices for 2008 up to January 2014 per sector and for the CPI is provided in figures 9-1 to 9-12 in Appendix 4.

Changes in the indices of the sectors “Housing” and “Transport” are mainly the result of changes in the international oil prices and prices of utilities during the respective months. The development of prices of utilities during the respective months. The development of crude oil, fuel surcharge, electricity, water, gasoline and diesel prices is provided in table 5 and in the adjoining figures 6-1 and 6-2.

Table 5: Prices of utilities, gasoline and diesel, 2013 - 2014

Month	Crude oil per barrel <sup>1</sup>	Fuel surcharge <sup>2</sup>		Electricity <sup>3</sup>	Water <sup>4</sup>	Gasoline <sup>5</sup>	Diesel <sup>5</sup>
		≤ 500 kWh	501-1000 kWh				
Jan-13	94.04	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	218.80	206.40
Feb-13	96.21	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	227.80	210.40
Mar-13	93.00	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	242.00	218.80
Apr-13	91.86	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	239.50	209.00
May-13	94.39	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	231.40	201.60
Jun-13	95.77	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	232.40	200.10
Jul-13	104.53	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	228.90	197.60
Aug-13	106.30	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	239.40	204.20
Sep-13	106.61	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	237.80	208.30
Oct-13	101.23	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	223.50	207.60
Nov-13	94.42	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	217.10	204.50
Dec-13	97.61	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	215.10	201.50
Jan-14	95.07	24.60	30.90	306.75	137.05	219.50	205.80

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

<sup>1</sup> Average West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil price per barrel in US\$ (Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration)

<sup>2</sup> Fuel surcharge in Afl. cents per kWh

<sup>3</sup> Electricity price in Afl.

<sup>4</sup> Water price in Afl.

<sup>5</sup> Gasoline and diesel prices in Afl. cents per liter

### 3.2 Electricity

The price of electricity is determined in Aruban florins (Afl.) for an average usage by households. The average usage is 725.5 kWh per month. The electricity price for an average consumption of 725.5 kWh did not change in January 2014, it remained at Afl. 306.75. Figure 6-1 provides an overview of the course of changes in the electricity price for the period 2009 to 2014.

The component in the electricity tariff which is sensitive to price changes is the fuel surcharge (brandstofclausule). Fuel surcharge for a usage of electricity up to 500 kWh surcharge did not change in January 2014, it stayed at Afl. 24.60 cents per kWh. Fuel surcharge for a usage of electricity between 501 - 1000 kWh did not change in January 2014, it stayed at Afl. 30.90 cents per kWh.

### 3.3 Water

The price of water is determined in Afl. for an average usage (water consumption) by households. Figure 6-1 provides an overview of the course of changes in the water price for the period 2009 to 2014. The water price for an average usage by households did not change in January 2014, it remained at Afl. 137.05.

### 3.4 Gasoline and Diesel

The retail price of gasoline increased by 2.0% from 215.1 cents per liter in December 2013 to 219.5 cents per liter in January 2014. In January 2014, the retail price of diesel registered an increase of 2.1% from 205.8 cents per liter in December 2013 to 205.8 cents per liter.

Figure 6-1 Electricity price, water price and fuel surcharge in Afl., 2009 - 2014

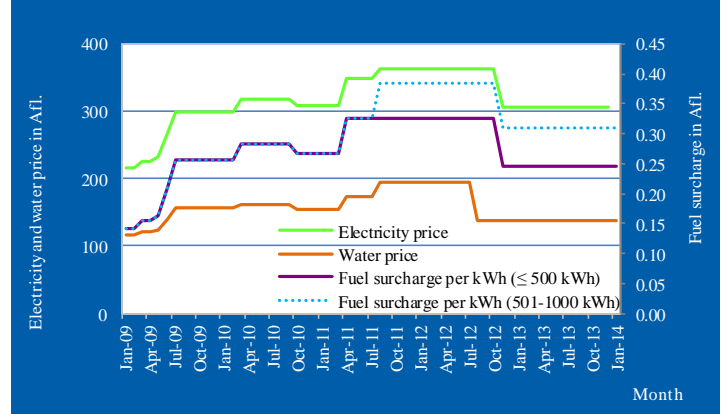
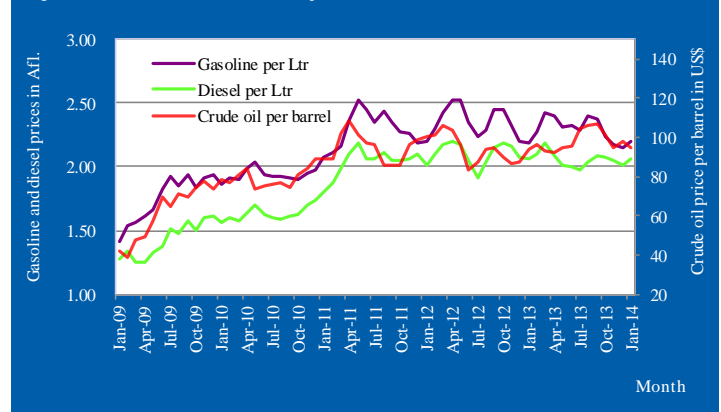


Figure 6-2 Gasoline, diesel and crude oil prices, 2009 - 2014



## 4 Percentage change CPI of Aruba's major trading partners

### 4.1 Comparison of the CPI of Aruba and the USA

Table 6 provides an overview of the  $\Delta$  CPI of Aruba's major trading partners starting from January 2013. In January 2014 the  $\Delta$  CPI of the USA and the Netherlands were respectively 0.4% and -0.2%. The  $\Delta$  CPI of Curaçao for January 2014 is not yet available.

**Table 6: Monthly  $\Delta$  CPI 2013 - 2014 per Country**

Period	Aruba	USA	Curaçao	Netherlands
Jan-13	-0.1	0.3	-0.5	0.0
Feb-13	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8
Mar-13	-0.1	0.3	0.7	1.1
Apr-13	0.0	-0.1	0.6	0.1
May-13	-0.4	0.2	-0.5	0.0
Jun-13	0.2	0.2	-0.5	-0.4
Jul-13	-0.1	0.0	-0.8	0.8
Aug-13	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Sep-13	0.0	0.1	-0.2	0.1
Oct-13	-0.5	-0.3	0.3	-0.3
Nov-13	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.5
Dec-13	0.3	0.0	n.a.	0.1
Jan-14	-0.3	0.4	n.a.	-0.2

Source: CBS Aruba, Bureau of Labor Statistics (USA), CBS Curaçao and CBS Netherlands

The USA is considered Aruba's largest trading partner<sup>2</sup>. Table 7 provides an overview of the  $\Delta$  CPI for Aruba and the USA for 2014. Aruba's monthly  $\Delta$  CPI for January 2014 is 0.7 ppts lower than the  $\Delta$  CPI of the USA.

**Table 7: Overview of  $\Delta$  CPI, 2014**

Period	Aruba	USA	
Monthly	Dec - Jan	-0.3	0.4
Year-to-date	Dec - Jan	-0.3	0.4
Last 12 months <sup>1</sup>	Jan - Jan	-0.2	1.6
Last 24 months <sup>2</sup>	Jan - Jan	-2.1	1.5

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

<sup>1</sup> End of period inflation

<sup>2</sup> Period average inflation

The  $\Delta$  CPI of Aruba over the last 12 months is 1.8 ppts lower compared to the USA's 12-month  $\Delta$  CPI. The  $\Delta$  CPI over the last 24 months for Aruba is 3.6 ppts lower than the  $\Delta$  CPI of the USA. The monthly inflation for both Aruba and the USA is depicted in figure 7 over a period of one year. Furthermore, an overview of the end of year  $\Delta$  CPI over the period 2004 - 2014 for Aruba and the USA is provided in table 8 and figure 8.

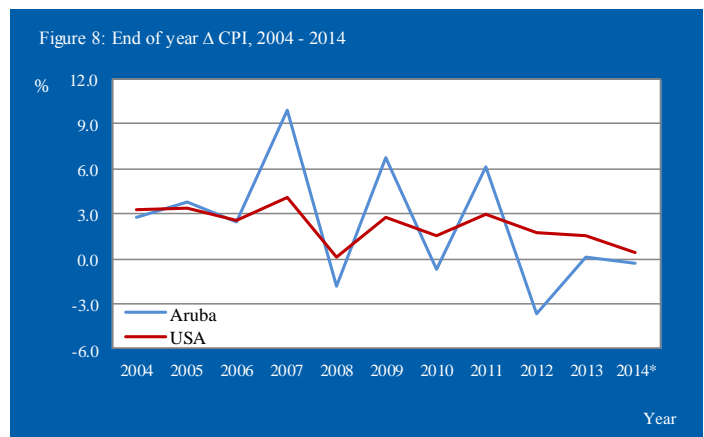
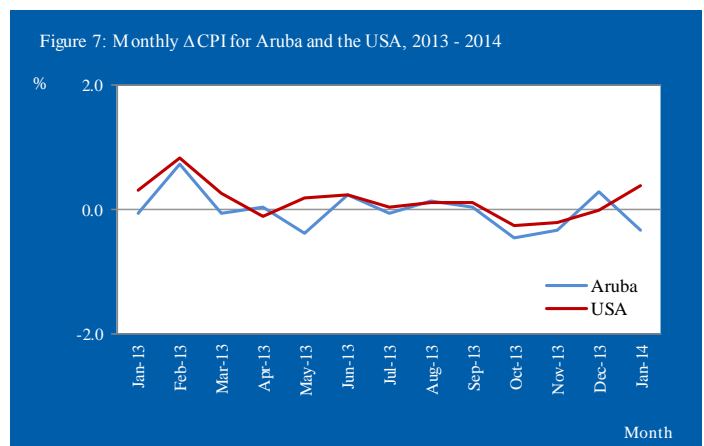
<sup>2</sup> "55% of Aruba's import by sea and air originates from the USA" (Source: Foreign Trade Statistics Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2013).

**Table 8: End of year  $\Delta$  CPI, 2004 - 2014**

Period	Aruba	USA
2004	2.8	3.3
2005	3.8	3.4
2006	2.5	2.5
2007	9.9	4.1
2008	-1.9	0.1
2009	6.8	2.7
2010	-0.7	1.5
2011	6.1	3.0
2012	-3.7	1.7
2013	0.1	1.5
2014*	-0.3	0.4

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

\* ytd



## 5 Core inflation

### 5.1 Core inflation

Core inflation is a measure of inflation which excludes certain items that face volatile price movements e.g. food products and energy. By calculating the core inflation these more volatile components are eliminated from the inflation. Core inflation indices serve to assess the mid- and long-term trend of the overall price level. For the purpose of adjusting monetary policy, many economists focus more intently on the core rate of inflation, as this allows for an in-depth assessment of inflationary processes ongoing in the economy.

### 5.2 Monthly change of the core inflation

In January 2014 the core inflation (measured over the period January 2013 – 2014) was 0.3%, 0.4 ppts higher compared to January 2013. In January 2014 the food index was virtually unchanged, while the energy index had a decrease of 10.4%. Over the past year the food index decreased by 2.0 ppts and the energy index decreased by 8.9 ppts. Table 9 provides an overview of the monthly inflation and core inflation starting from January 2013.

**Table 9: Monthly inflation<sup>1</sup> and core inflation, 2013 - 2014**

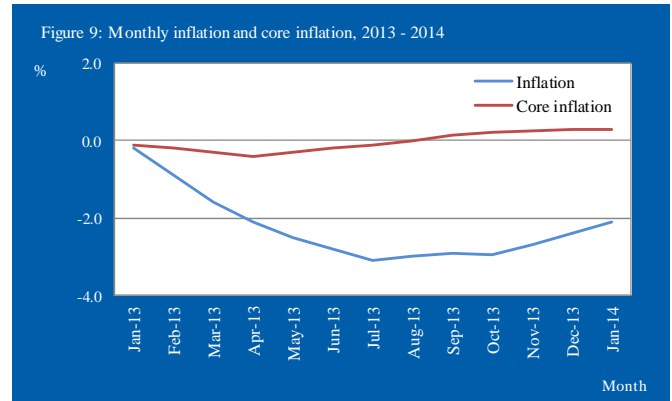
Period	Inflation	Food	Energy <sup>2</sup>	Core Inflation
Jan-13	-0.2	2.0	-1.5	-0.1
Feb-13	-0.9	1.5	-4.0	-0.2
Mar-13	-1.6	1.2	-6.5	-0.3
Apr-13	-2.1	0.9	-8.5	-0.4
May-13	-2.5	0.5	-10.3	-0.3
Jun-13	-2.8	0.3	-11.8	-0.2
Jul-13	-3.1	0.1	-13.3	-0.1
Aug-13	-3.0	-0.1	-13.0	0.0
Sep-13	-2.9	-0.1	-13.1	0.1
Oct-13	-2.9	-0.2	-13.5	0.2
Nov-13	-2.7	-0.1	-12.6	0.2
Dec-13	-2.4	0.0	-11.6	0.3
Jan-14	-2.1	0.0	-10.4	0.3

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

<sup>1</sup> Period average inflation

<sup>2</sup> Energy : Electricity, water, gasoline and diesel

The monthly inflation and core inflation for Aruba is shown in figure 9 over a period of one year starting from January 2013.



### 5.3 End of year change of the core inflation, 2009 - 2014

The end of year core inflation of the total population of Aruba for the year 2014 (up to January) is 0.3%, 0.2 ppts higher than the core inflation of 2013. Table 10 provides an overview of the end of year inflation and core inflation over the period 2009 - 2014.

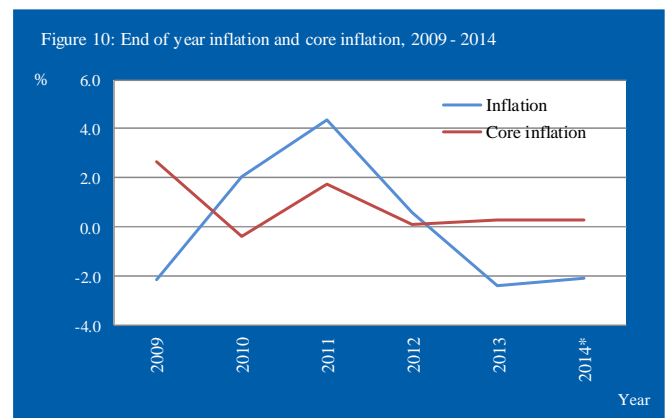
The end of year inflation and core inflation is presented in figure 10 over the period 2009 - 2014.

**Table 10: End of year core inflation, 2009 - 2014**

Period	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*
Inflation	-2.1	2.1	4.4	0.6	-2.4	-2.1
Food	4.6	-2.7	4.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Electricity	-18.5	18.0	10.3	2.5	-13.3	-12.1
Water	-18.8	14.0	11.5	-3.6	-19.9	-17.6
Gasoline and diesel	-22.6	10.6	18.9	2.7	-2.5	-2.5
Core inflation	2.7	-0.4	1.7	0.1	0.3	0.3

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

\*current month



\*current month

## 6 Development of Food & catering services

### 6.1 Monthly change of Food & catering services for January 2014

The “Food & catering services” index shows a slight increase of 0.01% in January 2014, after an increase of 0.3% in December 2013. The index for “Food at home” shows a decrease of 0.1% in January, as seven of the eleven “Food at home” indices decreased in January 2014. The “Vegetables” and “Potatoes and other tubers” indices registered the largest decrease (1.2%) in January. Furthermore, decreases of 1.1%, 0.6% and 0.2% were posted in the indices for “Fruit”, “Fish and other seafood” and “Sugar, jam, honey and other confectionery”, respectively. The “Milk, cheese and eggs” index registered the largest increase (1.1%), while “Bread and cereals” index shows an increase of 0.4% in January.

Table 11 provides an overview of the corresponding weights per food group together with the percentage changes and effect for January 2014.

Table 11: Percentage change of Food for January 2014

Food	Weight	% Change	Effect
<b>Food &amp; catering services</b>	<b>1,492.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Food at home</b>	<b>1,125.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.01</b>
Bread and cereals	205.2	0.4	0.01
Meat	229.8	-0.1	0.00
Fish and other seafood	56.4	-0.6	0.00
Milk, cheese and eggs	140.0	1.1	0.02
Oils and fats	31.6	-0.1	0.00
Fruit	72.0	-1.1	-0.01
Potatoes and other tubers	18.5	-1.2	0.00
Vegetables	75.7	-1.2	-0.01
Sugar, jam, honey and other confectionery	49.6	-0.2	0.00
Food products n.e.c.	82.7	0.1	0.00
Non-alcoholic beverages	163.9	0.1	0.00
<b>Food away from home</b>	<b>367.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.01</b>

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

Reference is made to table 18 in Appendix 3. Table 18 provides an overview of the monthly and end of period percentage changes and effect for January 2014 for the food groups.

In January 2014, “Food at home” and “Food away from home” as a group show a slight increase in price of 0.01% compared to December 2013, and had an insignificant influence on the CPI, while the remaining goods and services, as a group, experienced a decrease in price of 0.4%, causing an effect of -0.34 pts on the CPI.

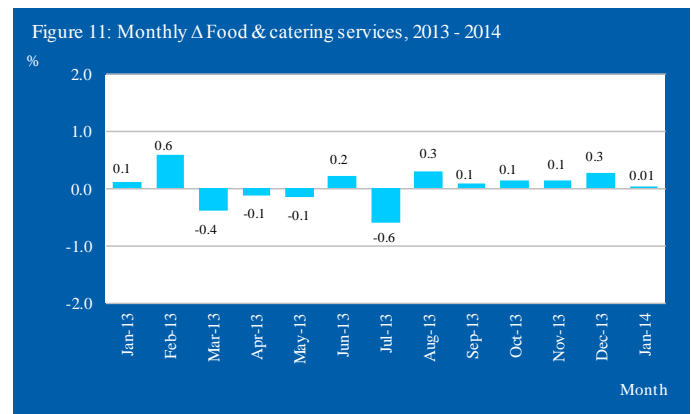
An overview of the percentage change and effect for “Food at home” and “Food away from home” for January 2014 is presented in table 12.

Table 12: Effect on the CPI of January 2014 of “Food at home” and “Food away from home”

Category	Weight	% Change	Effect
Food at home	1,125.3	-0.1	-0.01
Food away from home	367.5	0.3	0.01
Total group	1,492.8	0.01	0.00
Remaining goods and services	8,507.2	-0.4	-0.34
CPI	10,000.0	-0.3	-0.34

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

Figure 11 depicts the monthly  $\Delta$  Food and catering services over a period of one year starting from January 2013.



### 6.2 End of Period change of Food & catering services for January 2014

Over the last 12 months the “Food & catering services” index has increased by 0.5%. The “Food at home” index shows a slight decrease of 0.02%. The “Bread and cereals” index increased by 3.2%, the largest increase among the “Food at home” food groups, while the “Vegetables” index shows the largest decrease (-8.3%). The index for “Food away from home” shows an increase of 0.3% in January, after an increase of 0.4% in December 2013 and has increased by 2.3% over the last 12 months.

## 7 Subsistence level

### 7.1 Subsistence level

The subsistence level is the minimum level of income which is perceived necessary to achieve an adequate standard of living in a given country. The subsistence level is usually determined by estimating the cost of all the essential resources that an average adult consumes in one month or year. This is commonly called a basic needs index, and varies according to the price of food, clothing, housing, transport and other items in the "basket". Equivalence scales are used to adjust for the assumed standard of living, of households of different sizes and composition. The scale assigns a weight of 1.0 for the first adult and 0.5 for each additional adult in the household (aged 15+) and a weight of 0.3 for each child (aged 0-14 years). The subsistence level is based on figures of the report "Bestaansminimum 2010" published by the CBS in December 2010 and is monthly updated for inflation using the monthly CPI. The reference unit used in this report is one of a household consisting of two adults and two children (aged 0-14 years).

### 7.2 Monthly change of the subsistence level for January 2014

Table 13 provides an overview of the subsistence level for a family of two adults and two children (aged 0-14 years) by sector registered over a period of 5 years for the month January. Over a period of one year the subsistence level decreased by Afl. 9, from Afl. 4,269 in January 2013 to Afl. 4,260 in January 2014. The "Recreation and culture" sector shows the largest decrease (-Afl. 8), while the largest increase was registered for the "Housing" (Afl. 5) over this period.

**Table 13: Monthly subsistence level in Aruba (in Afl.) by sector for a family of 2 adults and 2 children (aged 0-14 years) for January, 2010 - 2014**

Sector	Jan-10	Jan-11	Jan-12	Jan-13	Jan-14
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	1,416	1,439	1,519	1,521	1,521
Clothing and footwear	320	300	297	263	256
Housing	1,333	1,363	1,524	1,360	1,365
Household operation	145	144	140	135	131
Health	67	67	66	68	67
Transport	231	235	250	253	256
Communications	118	119	124	123	124
Recreation and culture	185	181	182	186	178
Education	59	61	63	63	63
Miscellaneous goods and services	295	294	295	297	299
Total	4,170	4,202	4,459	4,269	4,260

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

An overview of the subsistence level, for the most common family types, over the period January 2013 - January 2014 is presented in table 14.

**Table 14: Subsistence level in Aruba (in Afl.) by family size and composition, January 2014 (Base period December 2010)**

Period	Equivalence scales				
	1 1 adult	1.3 1 adult + 1 child	1.5 2 adults	1.8 2 adults + 1 child	2.1 2 adults + 2 children
Jan-13	2,033	2,643	3,049	3,659	4,269
Feb-13	2,044	2,657	3,066	3,679	4,292
Mar-13	2,039	2,650	3,058	3,669	4,281
Apr-13	2,038	2,650	3,057	3,669	4,280
May-13	2,033	2,643	3,049	3,659	4,269
Jun-13	2,037	2,648	3,056	3,667	4,278
Jul-13	2,032	2,642	3,048	3,658	4,267
Aug-13	2,034	2,644	3,051	3,661	4,271
Sep-13	2,034	2,644	3,051	3,661	4,271
Oct-13	2,030	2,639	3,045	3,654	4,263
Nov-13	2,027	2,635	3,041	3,649	4,257
Dec-13	2,033	2,643	3,049	3,659	4,269
Jan-14	2,029	2,637	3,043	3,652	4,260

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

### 7.3 Comparison of the subsistence level and minimum wage

In January 2014 the subsistence level for a single adult household is Afl. 2,029, which represents an income deficit of Afl. 392, an increase of Afl. 4 compared to the deficit observed one year ago (Afl. 396). This deficit is the lowest registered over a period of five years for the month January.

**Table 15: Monthly income surplus/deficit (in Afl.) for a single adult household for January, 2010 - 2014**

Period	1 adult	Minimum wage	Surplus/deficit
2010	1,986	1,543	-443
2011	2,001	1,543	-458
2012	2,123	1,605	-518
2013	2,033	1,637	-396
2014	2,029	1,637	-392

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

**Table 16: Monthly & Yearly Changes (%) in the Consumer Price Index for January 2014, Total Population (Dec 2006 = 100)**

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT coefficient	2013	2013	2014	Monthly Dec - Jan	End of period Jan 13 - Jan 14	Period average Jan 13 - Jan 14
		2013 Jan	2013 Dec	2014 Jan			
<b>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>	<b>1,125.3</b>	<b>141.93</b>	<b>142.00</b>	<b>141.90</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Food	961.4	143.87	143.86	143.73	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Non-alcoholic beverages	163.9	130.56	131.13	131.20	0.1	0.5	1.4
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>138.73</b>	<b>138.55</b>	<b>139.76</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>8.2</b>
Alcoholic beverages for consumption at home	59.3	117.14	117.16	117.94	0.7	0.7	1.0
Tobacco	22.6	195.35	194.62	196.96	1.2	0.8	21.9
<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	<b>625.9</b>	<b>96.25</b>	<b>92.71</b>	<b>93.87</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-7.2</b>
Clothing	550.4	96.63	93.16	94.79	1.8	-1.9	-7.5
Footwear	75.5	93.53	89.44	87.21	-2.5	-6.8	-4.7
<b>Housing</b>	<b>2,553.3</b>	<b>129.95</b>	<b>130.43</b>	<b>130.43</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-6.6</b>
Actual rentals for housing	854.2	142.68	144.78	144.99	0.1	1.6	1.7
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	444.6	101.14	100.54	100.13	-0.4	-1.0	-0.2
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	505.7	119.95	119.95	119.95	0.0	0.0	-15.6
Electricity, gas and other fuels	748.8	139.28	138.89	138.89	0.0	-0.3	-12.0
<b>Household operation</b>	<b>741.3</b>	<b>99.25</b>	<b>97.92</b>	<b>96.84</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-2.0</b>
Furniture, furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	142.1	69.10	61.10	60.30	-1.3	-12.7	-10.0
Household textiles	69.5	129.65	116.12	108.08	-6.9	-16.6	-11.2
Household appliances	111.3	70.83	72.83	71.08	-2.4	0.4	-1.7
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	31.8	78.42	73.14	73.57	0.6	-6.2	-6.7
Tools and equipment for house and garden	40.0	83.22	87.74	87.09	-0.7	4.6	5.0
Goods and services for routine household maintenance and cleaning	346.6	118.41	120.87	121.10	0.2	2.3	1.8
<b>Health</b>	<b>235.8</b>	<b>94.27</b>	<b>93.20</b>	<b>93.00</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Medical products, appliances and equipment	140.3	99.86	98.03	97.66	-0.4	-2.2	0.3
Out-patient services	57.2	81.36	81.36	81.36	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other health products and services	38.3	93.05	93.19	93.29	0.1	0.3	0.8
<b>Transport</b>	<b>1,815.4</b>	<b>117.22</b>	<b>116.84</b>	<b>118.52</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Purchase of vehicles	811.4	106.06	106.79	108.72	1.8	2.5	3.2
Operation of personal transport equipment	840.1	132.00	130.66	132.39	1.3	0.3	-2.1
Transport services	163.8	96.70	95.75	95.90	0.2	-0.8	0.0
<b>Communications</b>	<b>706.3</b>	<b>86.84</b>	<b>87.12</b>	<b>87.55</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Postal services	6.1	113.09	116.00	116.00	0.0	2.6	6.1
Telephone and telefax equipment	29.6	25.72	27.27	28.63	5.0	11.3	-1.4
Telephone and telefax services	670.6	89.30	89.49	89.89	0.4	0.7	0.1
<b>Recreation and culture</b>	<b>891.2</b>	<b>113.71</b>	<b>117.26</b>	<b>108.91</b>	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	123.8	91.84	88.77	87.55	-1.4	-4.7	-7.3
Other major durables for recreation and culture	19.2	64.87	51.20	51.20	0.0	-21.1	-8.4
Other recreational items and equipment; gardens and pets	260.1	137.33	141.46	141.41	0.0	3.0	3.5
Recreational and cultural services	335.0	103.92	100.90	101.41	0.5	-2.4	-3.4
Newspapers, books and stationery	82.1	100.15	92.78	92.74	0.0	-7.4	-2.1
Holidays	71.0	140.37	201.75	96.71	-52.1	-31.1	28.6
<b>Education</b>	<b>83.0</b>	<b>116.61</b>	<b>116.61</b>	<b>116.61</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Pre primary and primary education	30.4	109.07	109.07	109.07	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary education	25.2	116.94	116.94	116.94	0.0	0.0	0.0
Post-secondary non-tertiary education	4.6	129.44	129.44	129.44	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tertiary education	10.4	126.23	126.23	126.23	0.0	0.0	0.4
Education not definable by level	12.4	121.64	121.64	121.64	0.0	0.0	0.1
<b>Restaurants and hotels</b>	<b>373.7</b>	<b>124.75</b>	<b>126.92</b>	<b>127.51</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Catering services	367.5	125.26	127.72	128.10	0.3	2.3	1.4
Accommodation services	6.2	94.56	80.05	92.64	15.7	-2.0	9.2
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services</b>	<b>767.0</b>	<b>100.55</b>	<b>100.92</b>	<b>100.97</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Personal care	262.0	112.56	114.25	114.33	0.1	1.6	1.6
Personal effects n.e.c.	67.3	116.97	111.29	111.11	-0.2	-5.0	-0.6
Social protection	28.7	132.55	132.55	132.55	0.0	0.0	0.0
Insurance	289.1	85.12	85.12	85.12	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial services n.e.c.	26.9	94.64	96.49	96.76	0.3	2.2	1.6
Other services n.e.c.	93.0	94.64	96.49	96.76	0.3	2.2	1.6
<b>CPI</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>116.78</b>	<b>116.94</b>	<b>116.54</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-2.1</b>

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

**Table 17: Effect on the Consumer Price Index per sector and category for January 2014 (Dec 2006 = 100)**

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT coefficient	Monthly Dec - Jan	End of period Jan 13 - Jan 14	Period average Jan 13 - Jan 14
<b>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>	<b>1,125.3</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.02</b>
Food	961.4	-0.01	-0.01	0.00
Non-alcoholic beverages	163.9	0.00	0.01	0.03
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.07</b>
Alcoholic beverages for consumption at home	59.3	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tobacco	22.6	0.00	0.00	0.07
<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	<b>625.9</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>-0.38</b>
Clothing	550.4	0.08	-0.09	-0.35
Footwear	75.5	-0.01	-0.04	-0.03
<b>Housing</b>	<b>2,553.3</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>-1.95</b>
Actual rentals for housing	854.2	0.02	0.17	0.17
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	444.6	-0.02	-0.04	-0.01
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	505.7	0.00	0.00	-0.94
Electricity, gas and other fuels	748.8	0.00	-0.02	-1.18
<b>Household operation</b>	<b>741.3</b>	<b>-0.07</b>	<b>-0.15</b>	<b>-0.12</b>
Furniture, furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	142.1	-0.01	-0.11	-0.09
Household textiles	69.5	-0.05	-0.13	-0.09
Household appliances	111.3	-0.02	0.00	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	31.8	0.00	-0.01	-0.01
Tools and equipment for house and garden	40.0	0.00	0.01	0.01
Goods and services for routine household maintenance and cleaning	346.6	0.01	0.08	0.06
<b>Health</b>	<b>235.8</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	<b>0.01</b>
Medical products, appliances and equipment	140.3	0.00	-0.03	0.00
Out-patient services	57.2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other health products and services	38.3	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Transport</b>	<b>1,815.4</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.01</b>
Purchase of vehicles	811.4	0.13	0.19	0.23
Operation of personal transport equipment	840.1	0.12	0.03	-0.21
Transport services	163.8	0.00	-0.01	0.00
<b>Communications</b>	<b>706.3</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.01</b>
Postal services	6.1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Telephone and telefax equipment	29.6	0.00	0.01	0.00
Telephone and telefax services	670.6	0.02	0.03	0.00
<b>Recreation and culture</b>	<b>891.2</b>	<b>-0.64</b>	<b>-0.37</b>	<b>0.12</b>
Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	123.8	-0.01	-0.05	-0.07
Other major durables for recreation and culture	19.2	0.00	-0.02	-0.01
Other recreational items and equipment; gardens and pets	260.1	0.00	0.09	0.10
Recreational and cultural services	335.0	0.01	-0.07	-0.10
Newspapers, books and stationery	82.1	0.00	-0.05	-0.01
Holidays	71.0	-0.64	-0.27	0.21
<b>Education</b>	<b>83.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Pre primary and primary education	30.4	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary education	25.2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Post-secondary non-tertiary education	4.6	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary education	10.4	0.00	0.00	0.00
Education not definable by level	12.4	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Restaurants and hotels</b>	<b>373.7</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.06</b>
Catering services	367.5	0.01	0.09	0.05
Accommodation services	6.2	0.01	0.00	0.00
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services</b>	<b>767.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Personal care	262.0	0.00	0.04	0.04
Personal effects n.e.c.	67.3	0.00	-0.03	0.00
Social protection	28.7	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance	289.1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Financial services n.e.c.	26.9	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other services n.e.c.	93.0	0.00	0.02	0.01
<b>CPI</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-0.34</b>	<b>-0.20</b>	<b>-2.11</b>

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba



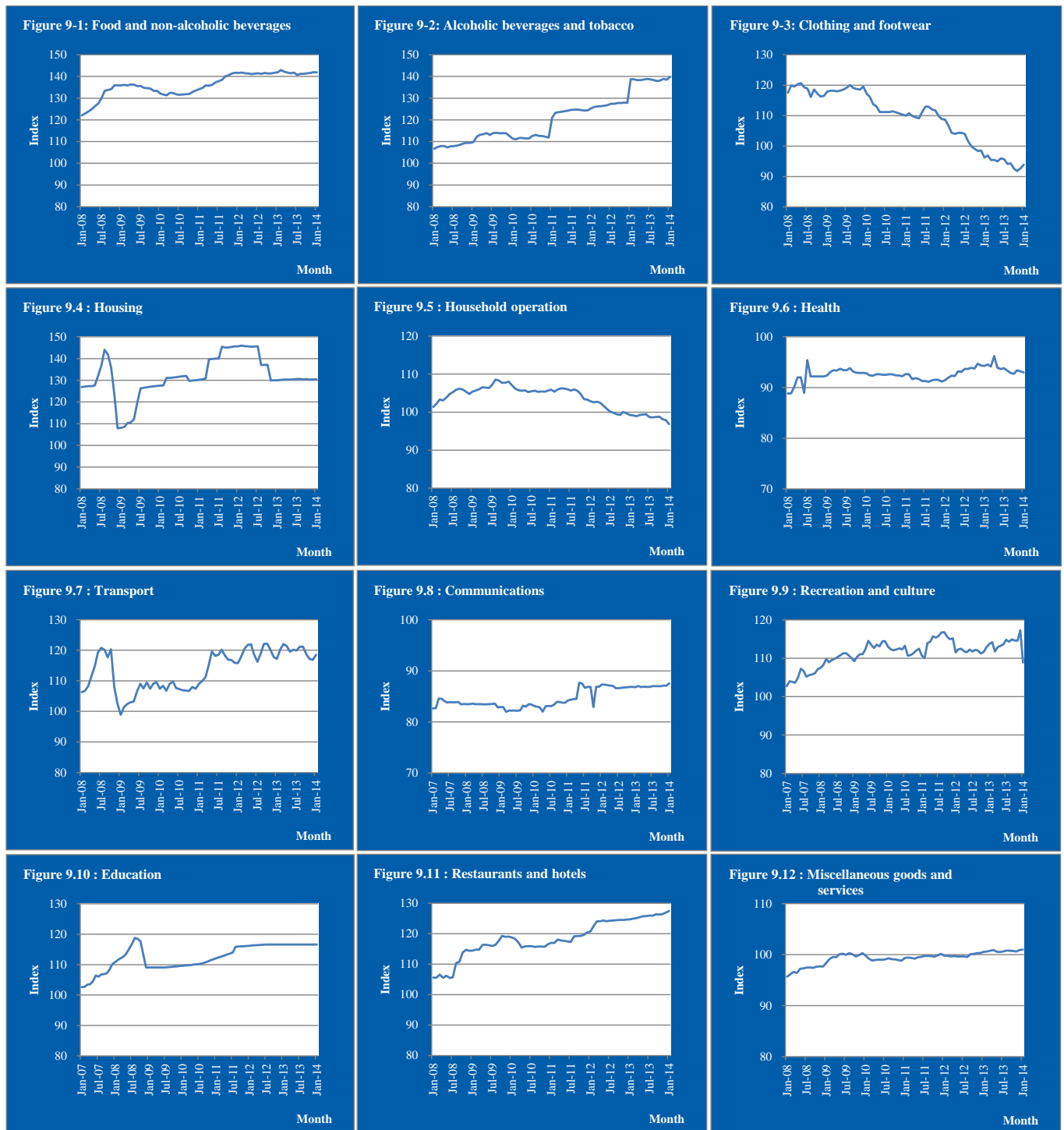
Table 18: Monthly &amp; Yearly Changes (%) and effect in the Food &amp; catering services for January 2014, Total Population (Dec 2006 = 1)

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT coefficient	% Change		Effect	
		Monthly Dec - Jan	End of period Jan 13 - Jan 14	Monthly Dec - Jan	End of period Jan 13 - Jan 14
<b>Food &amp; catering services</b>	<b>1,492.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.09</b>
<b>Food at home</b>	<b>1,125.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Bread and cereals</b>	<b>205.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.07</b>
Rice	18.8	0.1	8.6	0.00	0.02
Bread	98.1	-0.1	1.2	0.00	0.01
Pasta products	7.6	0.1	-1.6	0.00	0.00
Other cereals and cereal products	80.7	1.0	5.1	0.01	0.04
<b>Meat</b>	<b>229.8</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.04</b>
Bovine	44.7	-0.2	-0.9	0.00	0.00
Swine	28.1	-0.8	1.1	0.00	0.00
Poultry	59.5	-0.3	1.3	0.00	0.01
Other meat and meat preparations	97.5	0.2	2.3	0.00	0.03
<b>Fish and other seafood</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.02</b>
Fish and seafood preparations	56.4	-0.6	2.8	0.00	0.02
<b>Milk, cheese and eggs</b>	<b>140.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.04</b>
Milk	58.8	1.1	2.4	0.01	0.02
Cheese	46.9	1.3	2.6	0.01	0.01
Eggs	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00
Other milk products	19.9	1.4	2.9	0.00	0.00
<b>Oils and fats</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-0.01</b>
Butter and margarine	9.9	0.0	0.8	0.00	0.00
Corn oil	9.4	-0.8	-8.0	0.00	-0.01
Other oils and fats	12.3	0.5	1.5	0.00	0.00
<b>Fruit</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>-0.07</b>
Oranges, lemons and mandarins	11.1	3.4	4.0	0.00	0.01
Bananas and plantains	13.8	-7.8	-8.7	-0.02	-0.02
Apples and pears	11.2	3.9	-2.8	0.01	-0.01
Grapes	6.0	4.7	12.1	0.00	0.01
Melons and watermelons	6.7	-4.0	-14.7	-0.01	-0.03
Nuts	6.9	0.4	-7.7	0.00	0.00
Other fruits and fruit products	16.4	-1.3	-6.3	-0.01	-0.03
<b>Potatoes and other tubers</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Potatoes	11.2	-2.0	-0.7	0.00	0.00
Sweet potatoes and yucca	2.5	5.1	-4.9	0.00	0.00
Other tubers	4.8	0.1	2.4	0.00	0.00
<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>75.7</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>-0.10</b>
Lettuce	6.7	-11.2	-18.0	0.00	-0.01
Celery and broccoli	6.3	-6.7	-1.9	-0.01	0.00
Tomatoes & peppers	15.5	-1.2	-9.0	0.00	-0.01
Onions	7.8	1.1	-21.3	0.00	-0.08
Frozen vegetable mixtures	6.7	0.1	1.3	0.00	0.00
Other vegetables	12.7	-2.2	1.0	0.00	0.00
Other preserved or processed vegetables	20.0	0.9	1.4	0.00	0.00
<b>Sugar, jam, honey and other confectionery</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-0.01</b>
Sugar	14.4	-0.3	-2.0	0.00	0.00
Jams and jellies	2.8	0.3	0.5	0.00	0.00
Other confectionery products	32.4	-0.1	-3.7	0.00	-0.01
<b>Food products n.e.c.</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.02</b>
Other food products	82.7	0.1	2.4	0.00	0.02
<b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	<b>163.9</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.01</b>
Coffee and tea	30.1	0.0	0.5	0.00	0.00
Soft and sports drinks	49.7	0.3	-0.4	0.00	0.00
Fruit juices	61.0	0.1	1.0	0.00	0.01
Other non-alcoholic beverages	23.1	-0.3	0.6	0.00	0.00
<b>Food away from home</b>	<b>367.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.09</b>
Food and beverage consumption away from home	367.5	0.3	2.3	0.01	0.09
<b>Other goods and services</b>	<b>8,507.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.34</b>	<b>-0.29</b>
Other goods	5,147.2	0.5	-0.4	0.23	-0.22
Other services	3,360.0	-1.8	-0.2	-0.57	-0.07
<b>CPI</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.34</b>	<b>-0.20</b>

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba



## Course of Indices for 2007 up to January 2014



## Glossary

### **The Consumer Price Index and Inflation**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of consumer goods and services by households. Consumer price indices can be intended to measure either the rate of price inflation or deflation as perceived by households or changes in their cost of living. In case of inflation, the percentage change is positive and it indicates a decrease in the purchasing power of the consumers.

### **Monthly percentage change**

Percentage change in price indices of any aggregates of the CPI in relation to the respective price indices of the previous month.

### **Year-to-date (ytd)**

Percentage change in price indices of any aggregates of the CPI in relation to the respective price indices of December prior to the year under review.

### **End of period inflation (last 12 months)**

Percentage change in price indices of any aggregates of the CPI in relation to the respective price indices of the same month of the previous year.

### **Period average inflation (last 24 months)**

The period average inflation is calculated by comparing the annual average CPI of the concerning period with the annual average CPI of the concerning period of the previous year.

### **Effect**

Contribution of all percentage changes (of all respective aggregates) to the CPI.

### **Core inflation**

Core inflation is a measure of inflation that excludes certain items which face volatile price movements. Core inflation eliminates the inflation of certain products that can have temporary price shocks because these shocks can diverge from the overall trend of inflation and give a false measure of inflation. The core rate of inflation is calculated by: total inflation excluding food and energy prices. In part, that is because the core is less volatile and reflects better the relationship of supply and demand in domestic product markets. The core usually is a better measure of the basic rate of inflation that will tend to emerge in the absence of supply shocks.

### **Food & catering services**

The "Food & catering services" index is composed of the indices for the "Food & Non-alcoholic beverages" sector ("Food at home") and the "Catering services" ("Food away from home") category.

### **Subsistence level**

The subsistence level is the minimum level of income which is perceived necessary to achieve an adequate standard of living in a given country. The subsistence level is usually determined by estimating the cost of all the essential resources that an average adult consumes in one month or year. This is commonly called a basic needs index, and varies according to the price of food, clothing, housing, transport and other items in the "basket". The subsistence level is monthly updated for inflation using the monthly CPI.