



Tokelau's September quarter CPI rises: it's dearer to get the washing clean

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Media Release: Tokelau National Statistics Office

The consumer price index (CPI) of Tokelau increased 4.9 percent *for the year to* the September 2014 quarter. The Tokelau National Statistics Office released these data today.

"The largest *group* contribution to the annual increase of 4.9 percent continues to be from the Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group, up 11.6 percent," National Statistician Kele Lui said.

"This time, the main *individual* upward contribution came from an almost doubling of prices for washing powder", he said. "Tokelauans will have to spend more to get their washing clean."

The largest downward contribution for the year to the September quarter came from rice (down 10.6 percent), bottled water (down 21.6 percent) and fruit drink powder (down 30.5 percent). Petrol also went down a little, by 0.8 percent.

"So although the CPI has increased for the year to September, it's not all bad news," Mr Lui said.

During the September 2014 quarter, the CPI rose by 1.6 percent.

Prices increased for the following items: cigarettes (up 6.4 percent), washing powder (up 37.1 percent), chicken pieces (up 6.1 percent), and milk powder (up 12.5 percent).

Bulk boxes made biscuits and crackers cheaper (down 25.3 percent). Also cheaper were fruit drink powder (down 21.8 percent), mayonnaise (down 9.6 percent) and cheese-flavoured corn snacks (down 8.2 percent).

Overall, the Food and non-alcoholic beverages group was down by 0.1 percent.

For the second quarter in a row, beer prices stayed the same, after a significant cost increase during the March quarter.

The full information release on the Tokelau CPI, including tables and technical notes, is available from <http://TokelauNSO.tk>

Tokelau is one of the world's most geographically isolated countries, and home to 1,383 people. The CPI measures the rate of price change of goods and services purchased by Tokelau households in each one of the three atolls' stores.

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