



REPÚBLICA DEMOCRÁTICA DE TIMOR-LESTE
MINISTÉRIO DAS FINANÇAS
DIRECÇÃO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

TIMOR-LESTE

MARCH QUARTER 2009

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (DILI TIME) THUR 16 APRIL 2009

MARCH QUARTER KEY FIGURES

<i>TIMOR - LESTE</i>	<i>% Change 3 months to March. 2009</i>	<i>% change 12 months to March. 2009</i>
Food	-0.9	2.8
Alcohol and tobacco	0.1	3.3
Clothing and footwear	-0.1	1.7
Housing	1.1	5.4
Household furnishings, supplies and services	-0.5	-0.4
Health	-0.4	0.8
Recreation and education	-0.2	0.2
Transport and communication	-5.8	4.4
All groups	-0.7	2.7
All groups excluding Housing	-0.9	2.4

MARCH QUARTER KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- Quarterly movement decrease (-0.7%) in March Quarter 2009, compared to previous Desember Quarter decrease (-1.3%) in September Quarter 2008, decrease (-0.9%).
- Annual movements rose (2.7%) in March Quarter 2009 compared to previous Quarter (6.1%) in December Quarter 2008 and (9.1%) in September Quarter 2008.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- The contribution that was big to decreased from the transport was (-6.9%) fat and oil (-2.5%), the roots and the products, (-2.1%). were alcohol and tobacco, housing group increase on the basis of quarterly.
- Contributing the most to the increase annual meat and meat products (10.8%), house building costs (8.4%), and transport (5.4%), compared to previous quarter, where household furnishings, supplies and services compared to previous decrease.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

For the *nineteen times*, this data release includes index level and percentage movement tables for both the Timor - Leste CPI and the Dili Region CPI.

The Timor - Leste CPI will continue to be produced each quarter, and the Dili Region CPI will continue to be produced a monthly basis.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
	June 2009	July 16 2009

ROUNDING
any discrepancies between index numbers and percentage changes in this data release are due to rounding off.
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QUERIES
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Director Interino DNE

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CPI

1 The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures monthly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by resident households. This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eight groups:

- Food
- Alcohol and tobacco
- Clothing and footwear
- Housing
- Household furnishings, supplies and services
- Health
- Recreation and education
- Transports and communication.

2 The first official release of the Dili region index series is reference period June quarter 2003; the Dili region index series commences December 2001. The first official release of the Timor-Leste index series is reference period September quarter 2004; the Timor-Leste index series commences June 2003. These indexes measure price movements over time in the Dili region and Timor-Leste. They do not measure differences in retail price levels between different regions.

PRICE COLLECTION

3 The frequency of price collection by region varies as necessary to obtain reliable measures of price movements. Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for all items in the Dili region. Prices are also collected at regular quarterly intervals for all items from a representative selection of other regions throughout Timor-Leste. The measure of the interim monthly price movements for each item outside the Dili region is then estimated using the corresponding Dili region item price movement as an indicator series.

WEIGHTING PATTERN

4 There are 30 sub-groups (that is, categories of like items) in the first series CPI and each sub-group has its own weight, or measure of relative importance. In calculating the index, price changes for the various sub-groups are combined using these weights.

EXPLANATORY NOTES



ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

5 Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in index points or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating changes in index points and percentage changes between any two periods:

All groups CPI: Dili region,

	Index numbers:
March 2003	111.0
<i>Less</i> December 2002	109.5
<i>Equals</i> Change in index points	1.5
Percentage change	$= \frac{1.5}{109.5} \times 100 = 1.4\%$

6 Tables 2 and 4 provide a detailed analysis, for the Dili region and Timor-Leste, of movements in the CPI over 13 months, including information on movements for groups and sub-groups.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

7 In analysing price movements in Timor-Leste, an important consideration are Timor-Leste's performance relative to other countries. However, due to the many differences in the structure of the housing sector in different countries and in the way that housing is treated in their CPIs, a simple comparison of all groups (or headline) CPIs is often inappropriate. To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Fourteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution, which called for countries to 'provide dissemination at the international level of an index which excludes shelter, in addition to the all-items index'.