

Palau
Table B. Data Categories and Indicators
Real Sector

DATA CATEGORY: Price Indices
National Descriptor:
(if different, please indicate)

CORE INDICATORS: Consumer Price Index

ENCOURAGED EXTENSIONS: Producer Price Index
(as applicable)
Country-Specific Indicator:
(if different, please indicate)

Information applies to: Data Category Only
(select from drop down list)

CONTACT PERSON(S):
*(Enter the contact information of a person in the following order on separate lines:
Name, Title, Agency, Address, Telephone, Fax, E-mail Address
Leave a blank line between two persons' information.)*

Contact Persons:

Name : Dennis Oilouch
Title : Head, Statistics Office, Bureau of Budget & Planning
Name : Visia N. Alonz
Title : Statistics Specialist, Statistics Office
Agency : Ministry of Administration
Address : P. O. Box 6011, Koror, Palau 96940
Telephone : (680) 488-2738/6057
Facsimile : (680) 488-5627
E-mail : ops@palaunet.com
Date : November 2002

DATE METADATA UPDATED: November 2002

I. Data Characteristics

Coverage
<i>Briefly describe the key characteristics of the data; i.e., the features of which a user must be aware to use the data appropriately. These include the unit of measure, scope (e.g., geographic, institutional, product), statistical characteristics (e.g., seasonal adjustment, index number base year), basic data source, and accounting conventions.</i>
The Palau CPI was developed for the Island of Koror, the Capital. It was developed by the Office of Budget and Planning with the Secretariat of the South Pacific Commission (SPC) providing technical expertise. The Palau CPI is a fixed weight Laspeyres index using June 2000 (second quarter) prices as its base. The weights are derived from a 1997 Household Income Expenditure Survey (HIES). Prices were updated to 2000 in order to calculate base weights. A total of 149 items in eight commodity groups are sampled. A total of 89 outlets are sampled and 596 price quotes are taken. Average prices for the items are calculated using geomeans. Prices are collected on the last three weeks of the last month of each quarter.
An underlying inflation index is also calculated quarterly. These data are not published but are available upon request.
Periodicity:
<i>Identify the frequency of compilation and dissemination of the data (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annual)</i>
Quarterly
Timeliness:
<i>Identify the lapse of time between the end of a reference period (or a reference date) and the dissemination of the data.</i>
10 days (the Wednesday of the second week of the month after each quarter).

II. Quality
Documentation of Methodology:
<i>Identify any publicly available statement of methodology that describes how the data are compiled and the sources of data.</i>
A methodological statement is available at the Bureau of Budget & Planning, Statistics Office.
Data to Support Cross-checks and Assurance of Reasonableness:
<i>Describe the kind and extent of detail of published data, the statistical frameworks (including accounting identities and statistical relationships), and the comparisons and reconciliations that are available to assist users in assessing the quality of the data.</i>
The CPI release shows indices and totals for the eight commodity groups covered, but detailed data on each item is available from the Statistics Office upon request. Indexes covering selected items and underlying inflation are also calculated quarterly. These data are not published but are available upon request.

III. Plans for Improvement
<i>Describe short-term (in the next year) and medium-term (2-5 years) plans for making improvements in the data category and note any improvements that have been implemented in the past two years. Technical or other assistance needs that may be required for implementing these plans should also be noted, if applicable. If it has been determined that there are no shortcomings that need to be addressed, this determination should be explicitly stated.</i>
Recent Improvements:
The Statistics Office has trained one new staff member in CPI compilation, and another is currently being trained in an effort to ensure continuity of compilation.
Short-Term Plans:
Conduct a Household and Income Expenditure Survey (HIES) in 2003 with assistance (funding as well as technical expertise) being provided by the US Department of Interior. The new HIES should enable the production of a national index covering the whole of Palau, rather than just Koror. Rebase the CPI, planned for early 2004, in collaboration with the U.S. Census Bureau and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).
Medium-Term Plans:

None
Technical Assistance/Financing Needs/Other Prerequisites:
<i>Short-Term:</i>
<i>Medium-Term:</i>

IV. Dissemination Formats	
<i>For each publication or data release, check the box corresponding to the frequency of release and indicate the title and language(s) on the next line. Identify an appropriate contact person, if different from first page.</i>	
Hard Copy:	
<i>News Release:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quarterly press release by the Statistics Office	
Publication:	
<i>Weekly:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Monthly:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Quarterly:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Annual:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electronic:	
<i>Internet:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other Online:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>CD-ROM:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Diskette:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Other (specify):</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>None:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>