



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE

(EXTRAORDINARY)

VOL. 43

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Wednesday 7th July, 2004—Price \$1.00

No. 121

1340

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – APRIL, 2004 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

The following Memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information.

Peter Pariag
Ag. Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of April 2004 was 104.3 representing an increase of 0.7% over the Index for March, 2004.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–April, 2004 over that for the period January–April, 2003 was 3.1%. This compares with an increase of 3.6% observed in the average All Items Index for January–April, 2003 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2002.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 115.4 in March, 2004 to 116.4 in April, 2004, an increase of 0.9%. Contributing significantly to this increase was a general rise in the prices of tomatoes, cucumbers, limes, mangoes, yams and sweet potatoes. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in whole chicken, fish (King Fish and Cavalli), paw paw, plantain and celery.

Price changes in this section accounted for a net overall increase of 0.2 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for April, 2004 compared with March, 2004 indicated increases in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, 0.2%; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, 1.7%; Health, 0.3% and Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants, 2.8%. General price decrease was however noted for Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House, 0.3%; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services, 0.6%.

Prices changes in these sections, for the month of April, 2004 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.5 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in April, 2004, compared with those of April, 2003, reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change April, 2003 – April, 2004
All Items	2.9
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	8.9
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	2.2
Clothing and Footwear	-5.4
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2.4
Home Ownership	2.4
Rent	5.0
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.6
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	-0.9
Health	2.2
Transport	3.7
Communication	3.9
Recreation and Culture	0.2
Education	2.8
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	4.4
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	-0.3

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
(Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for April 2004

Peter Pariag
Ag. Director of Statistics

Period	General Index		Section Indices																			
	All Items Sept 1993 = 100	All Items Jan 2003 = 100	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels				Clothing and Footwear		Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House		Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services			
	1000	1000	Total	Home- ownership	Rent	Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	53	25	180	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																						
2003	153.6	101.9	108.4	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.5	101.2	100.3	100.6	101.3	100.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.9	100.2	100.4	100.4
Average																						
January - April 2003	151.6	100.6	103.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.1	100.3	100.5	102.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.2
January - April 2004	156.4	103.7	115.3	94.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.6	104.9	101.5	100.1	102.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	100.1	103.0	102.2	100.8	100.8
2003	150.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
January	150.9	100.3	101.4	99.9	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0	100.6	100.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
February	151.6	100.8	104.1	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.5	100.5	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
March	153.0	101.4	106.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.4	100.2	100.1	100.8	100.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6	100.6
April	153.5	101.7	108.3	99.7	99.5	100.4	100.6	100.2	99.9	100.4	100.2	99.9	100.8	101.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6	100.6
May	153.8	101.9	109.9	99.5	99.4	100.3	100.6	100.2	99.3	100.6	100.2	99.3	100.8	101.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.6	100.6
June	154.5	102.4	111.5	99.6	99.4	100.9	100.9	101.4	100.5	100.9	101.4	100.5	100.7	102.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5	100.5
July	154.4	102.3	111.1	99.6	98.9	100.8	100.9	101.4	100.3	100.7	101.4	100.3	100.7	102.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5	100.5
August	154.4	102.3	111.0	99.8	98.7	100.8	100.9	101.4	100.4	100.7	101.4	100.4	100.7	101.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.5	100.5
September	155.3	102.9	111.2	99.7	97.2	100.7	100.4	103.1	100.6	100.7	100.4	100.6	100.7	101.9	103.7	100.0	100.0	100.1	103.0	100.5	100.5	100.5
October	155.7	103.2	112.9	99.7	96.8	100.7	100.4	103.1	100.8	100.7	100.4	100.8	100.7	102.1	103.7	100.0	100.0	100.1	103.0	100.5	100.6	100.6
November	155.6	103.1	112.8	99.6	95.2	100.7	100.4	103.1	100.8	100.7	100.4	100.8	100.7	102.0	103.7	100.0	100.0	100.1	103.0	100.5	100.6	100.6
December	155.9	103.3	114.5	100.8	94.9	101.0	100.5	104.8	100.8	101.0	104.8	100.8	100.2	102.5	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	100.9	100.9
2004	156.0	103.4	114.8	101.5	94.7	101.1	100.5	104.8	101.4	101.2	104.8	101.4	100.2	102.6	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	100.9	100.9
January	156.3	103.6	115.4	102.0	94.4	101.2	100.5	104.8	102.0	101.2	104.8	102.0	100.2	102.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	100.9	100.9
February	157.4	104.3	116.4	102.2	94.4	102.9	103.0	105.2	101.7	102.9	105.2	101.7	99.9	103.0	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	100.3	100.3
March																						
April																						

NOTE: From the month of April 2003, the figures for the All Items Index (September 1993 = 100) were not derived independently but were linked to the All Items Index (January 2003 = 100).