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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES - July, 2005 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

Peter Pariag
Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of July, 2005 was 113.5 representing an increase of 1.4 points or 1.2 % over the Index for June, 2005.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January - July, 2005 over that for the period January - July, 2004 was 6.7%. This compares with an increase of 3.2% observed in the average All Items Index for January - July 2004 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2003.

SECTION INDICES

Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 147.8 in June, 2005 to 151.8 in July 2005, an increase of 2.7%. Contributing to this increase was a general rise in the prices of tomatoes, yam, dasheen, sweet peppers, carrots, oranges, melongene, apples, paw paw and whole chicken. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in limes, pumpkin, king fish, celery, flour, cucumber, cabbage, and hot peppers.

Price changes in this section, for the month of July 2005, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.7 point in the All Items Index.

Other Sections

A further review of the data for July, 2005 compared with June, 2005 indicated increases in Food and Non - Alcoholic Beverages, 2.7 %; Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, 0.1%; Rent, 1.1%; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House, 0.5%; Health, 0.8%; Recreation and Culture, 5.5%; Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants 3.2%; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services, 0.1%. However, a general price decrease was noted for Clothing and Footwear, 0.2%; Water, Electricity and Gas 0.1%; and Transport, 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of July, 2005, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.7 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in July, 2005, compared with those of June, 2004 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change July 2005 - July 2004
All Items	7.3
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	25.4
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	3.6
Clothing and Footwear	-2.0
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	1.8
Home Ownership	1.6
Rent	6.1
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	0.5
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	1.4
Health	4.7
Transport	2.1
Communication	-9.1
Recreation and Culture	11.1
Education	4.0
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	7.0
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.3

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

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for July 2005

Peter Parag
Director of Statistics

Period	All Items Jan 2003 =100	Section Indices															
		Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels			Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services			
					Total	Home- ownership	Rent								Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	
Weights	1000	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																	
2003	101.9	108.4	99.8	98.8	100.5	100.5	101.2	100.3	100.6	101.3	100.9	100.0	100.0	100.9	100.2	100.4	
2004	105.7	122.3	102.8	93.4	103.2	103.4	105.9	101.7	100.1	103.8	105.3	93.9	100.5	103.1	104.1	100.9	
Average																	
January - July 2004	104.4	117.7	102.0	94.3	102.2	102.1	105.2	101.5	100.0	103.1	104.0	96.1	100.2	103.0	103.2	100.6	
January - July 2005	111.4	144.6	105.8	91.8	105.6	105.9	111.1	102.3	100.6	106.9	108.0	87.4	106.5	105.5	108.0	102.5	
2004																	
January	103.3	114.5	100.8	94.9	101.0	100.5	104.8	100.8	100.2	102.5	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
February	103.4	114.8	101.5	94.7	101.1	100.5	104.8	101.4	100.2	102.6	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
March	103.6	115.4	102.0	94.4	101.2	100.5	104.8	102.0	100.2	102.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
April	104.3	116.4	102.2	94.4	102.9	103.0	105.2	101.7	99.9	103.0	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	
May	104.9	119.9	102.3	94.3	102.8	103.0	105.2	101.4	99.9	103.2	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	
June	105.2	121.7	102.4	93.8	102.8	103.0	106.2	101.4	99.9	103.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.7	100.9	
July	105.8	121.1	102.5	93.3	103.9	104.2	106.2	102.0	99.6	104.1	105.9	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.9	
August	106.1	122.7	103.0	93.1	103.9	104.2	106.2	102.0	98.6	104.1	105.9	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.9	
September	106.7	125.8	103.7	93.3	103.9	104.2	106.2	101.9	99.6	104.3	105.9	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.9	
October	107.5	127.9	104.3	92.6	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.2	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.3	106.0	101.3	
November	108.1	131.8	104.4	91.4	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.3	106.0	101.3	
December	108.9	136.0	104.0	91.0	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.3	106.0	101.3	
2005																	
January	109.4	135.4	105.1	91.8	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.4	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
February	110.5	141.5	105.8	91.5	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.6	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
March	111.2	144.9	105.8	92.0	105.6	106.0	110.2	102.5	100.6	105.7	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
April	111.6	145.0	105.8	92.1	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.4	100.5	107.6	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
May	111.7	145.9	105.8	91.9	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.5	100.5	107.6	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
June	112.1	147.8	106.1	91.6	105.7	105.9	111.5	102.6	100.5	107.8	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
July	113.5	151.8	106.2	91.4	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.5	101.0	108.7	108.1	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	

NOTE: To link the previous or old base (September 1993 = 100) to the new base (January 2003 = 100), at the All Items level, multiply the All Items Index of the new base by 1.509.