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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—May, 2008 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

DAVE CLEMENT
Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of May, 2008 was 143.1 representing an increase of 1.8 points or 1.3% over the Index for April, 2008.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–May, 2008 over that for the period January–May, 2007 was 9.7%. This compares with an increase of 8.3% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January–May, 2007 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2006.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 246.0 in April, 2008 to 255.8 in May, 2008, reflecting an increase of 4.0%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of packaged flour, packaged rice, dasheen, sweet potatoes, yams, tomatoes, carrots, cucumber, limes, oranges, hot peppers, biscuits, canned vegetables and crack corn. However, the full impact of these price increases was dampened by the general fall in the prices of whole chicken, fish—king fish, carite and cavalli, whole chicken, pawpaw, pumpkin, green bananas, plantain, celery, chive and onions.

Price changes in this section, for the month of May, 2008 accounted for a net overall increase of 1.8 points in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for May, 2008 compared with April, 2008 indicated increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.1%; Clothing and Footwear 0.3%. However, the sub-indices for Health, and Water and Electricity declined by 0.2% and 0.1% respectively

Price changes in these sections, for the month of May, 2008, had a negligible net overall effect on the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in May, 2008 compared with those of May, 2007 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change May, 2008–May, 2007
All Items	10.0
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	13.5
Clothing and Footwear	4.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.9
Home Ownership	1.8
Rent	4.9
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	14.7
Health	5.4
Transport	2.8
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	5.8
Education	16.4
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	19.2
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.8

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DAVE CLEMENT
Director of Statistics

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

GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for May, 2008

The following memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information:

Period	Section Indices																
	All items Jan 2003 = 100	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		
Weights	180	25	53	262	Total	Home- ownership	Rent	Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average	1000																
2006	122.3	185.3	119.4	91.3	108.9	109.6	116.0	103.7	104.0	118.5	110.1	78.5	118.5	122.7	117.3	105.3	
2007	132.0	217.6	134.2	93.3	113.5	115.2	120.8	105.5	105.9	124.8	114.4	78.5	121.7	137.4	127.8	110.8	
January - May 2006	118.6	172.2	111.9	91.7	107.5	107.8	115.0	103.3	103.2	115.3	109.2	78.5	115.1	119.2	115.6	104.2	
January - May 2007	128.4	205.0	130.7	92.6	112.5	114.0	118.8	105.1	105.8	122.7	112.8	78.5	118.9	132.6	123.6	109.2	
January - May 2008	140.9	246.3	148.2	95.4	115.6	117.3	124.7	106.7	112.7	130.5	116.7	78.5	131.7	152.4	145.0	114.3	
2006	117.1	166.3	109.7	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	112.2	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
February	117.7	169.6	109.4	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	113.3	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
March	118.5	172.8	110.1	92.4	107.2	107.4	114.0	103.8	102.8	114.9	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
April	119.3	173.1	111.3	91.5	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	117.9	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
May	120.6	179.1	119.2	91.4	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.0	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
June	121.8	185.8	120.7	91.3	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.5	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.6	
July	123.3	187.0	121.8	91.3	109.6	110.4	116.7	104.0	104.1	120.7	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	116.0	105.5	
August	124.0	190.8	122.5	91.3	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.9	104.1	120.6	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	116.0	105.5	
September	125.1	197.4	122.6	91.1	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.8	104.1	120.8	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	116.0	105.5	
October	126.3	197.8	127.1	91.1	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	122.3	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
November	126.8	200.8	129.4	90.7	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.4	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
December	127.3	203.4	129.7	90.5	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.5	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
2007	127.2	201.0	130.2	92.9	111.5	113.2	117.5	103.8	105.6	121.6	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
January	127.6	203.0	130.5	92.8	111.7	113.2	117.5	104.8	105.6	121.8	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
February	128.0	205.3	130.4	92.2	111.9	113.2	117.5	105.5	105.6	121.6	113.6	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
March	129.3	205.8	131.6	92.9	113.6	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.2	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
April	130.1	210.0	130.7	92.1	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.3	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
May	130.7	213.1	131.6	93.4	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.5	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
June	130.7	213.1	131.6	93.4	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.5	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
July	133.1	219.1	132.0	93.4	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	125.8	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
August	133.8	222.7	132.7	93.6	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
September	134.2	225.0	132.9	93.5	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
October	135.5	230.5	136.4	94.1	114.9	116.8	123.2	105.8	106.1	127.0	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
November	137.1	238.4	145.1	94.2	116.8	116.8	123.2	105.7	105.7	127.4	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
December	137.0	237.5	146.5	94.7	115.0	116.8	123.2	105.9	106.1	127.3	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
2008	139.9	242.7	148.1	95.0	115.2	117.2	123.3	105.8	106.6	129.9	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
January	139.6	241.1	147.9	95.3	115.3	117.2	123.3	106.4	106.6	130.1	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
February	140.5	245.8	148.2	94.8	115.5	117.2	123.3	107.0	106.6	130.2	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
March	141.3	246.0	148.3	95.7	116.0	117.4	126.7	107.1	121.8	131.2	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
April	143.1	255.8	148.4	95.0	115.9	117.4	126.7	107.0	121.8	131.0	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
May	143.1	255.8	148.4	95.0	115.9	117.4	126.7	107.0	121.8	131.0	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	

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.