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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—February, 2019 (Base: January, 2015 = 100)

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

SEAN O'BRIEN
Acting Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from the prices collected for the month of February, 2019 was 108.4, representing a decrease of 0.1 point or 0.1% below the All Items Index for January, 2019.

The Rate of Inflation, as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January to February 2019, over the period January to February 2018, was 1.3%. This rate is more than that observed for the period January to February 2018, over the period January to February 2017, which was 0.9%.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased from 116.0 in January, 2019 to 115.4 in February, 2019, reflecting a decrease of 0.5%. Contributing significantly to this decrease was the general downward movement in the prices of, tomatoes, whole chicken—fresh pumpkin, oranges, celery, pimento, melon, mixed fresh seasoning, whole—chickens frozen and duck fresh. However, the full impact of these price decreases was offset by the general increases in the prices of cucumber, melongene, carite—fresh, eggs, grapes, king fish—fresh, ochroes, onions, other breakfast cereals and white flour.

Price changes in this section for the month of February, 2019, accounted for 0.1 point decrease in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for February, 2019 compared with January, 2019 reflected an increase in the sub-index for Health of 0.6%. However, decreases were noted in sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of 0.2% and Clothing and Footwear of 0.5%.

Price changes in the Other Sections for the month of February, 2019 had a negligible effect on the All Items Index.

Changes in consumer prices in February, 2019 compared with those of February, 2018 reflected in various sections of the Index are shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change February, 2019–February, 2018
All Items	1.2
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	–0.3
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	0.8
Clothing and Footwear	–2.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2.4
Home Ownership	2.7
Rent	0.9
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	–1.4
Health	5.9
Transport	2.6
Communication	0.4
Recreation and Culture	0.8
Education	0.0
Hotels, Cafés and Restaurants	1.9
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	1.8

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
(Base: January, 2015 =100)

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for February, 2019

Period	Section Indices														
	All Items Jan 2015 =100	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels			Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services
Weights	173	9	57	275	193	22	60	67	41	147	45	66	10	25	85
Average	106.1	107.2	107.6	99.9	99.6	102.0	100.7	103.6	119.8	104.3	108.4	108.5	102.5	109.2	106.9
January - February 2017	107.1	107.1	100.5	101.0	100.9	103.6	100.7	104.1	123.2	105.8	106.5	109.3	102.5	111.8	108.1
January - February 2018	108.5	107.8	98.4	103.4	103.6	104.5	100.7	102.6	130.1	108.5	106.9	110.2	102.5	113.9	110.0
2017 January	106.1	107.2	107.8	99.9	99.6	102.0	100.7	103.6	119.8	104.3	108.4	108.5	102.5	109.2	106.9
February	106.1	107.1	107.4	99.9	99.6	102.0	100.7	103.6	119.8	104.3	108.4	108.5	102.5	109.2	106.9
March	106.1	106.5	107.4	99.9	99.6	102.0	100.7	103.6	120.8	104.3	108.4	108.5	102.5	109.2	106.9
April	106.0	107.2	106.1	100.0	99.6	102.8	100.7	103.7	122.2	104.5	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.4	107.7
May	106.0	107.5	105.7	100.0	99.6	102.8	100.7	103.7	122.4	104.5	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.4	107.7
June	106.0	108.4	105.1	100.0	99.6	102.8	100.7	103.7	122.7	104.5	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.4	107.7
July	106.1	108.1	103.7	100.0	99.6	103.1	100.7	104.8	122.8	103.7	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.5	107.4
August	106.3	108.0	103.6	100.0	99.6	103.1	100.7	104.8	122.9	103.7	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.5	107.4
September	106.3	107.9	103.4	100.0	99.6	103.1	100.7	104.8	123.2	103.7	108.4	108.9	102.5	110.5	107.4
October	106.9	108.0	102.4	100.6	100.3	103.5	100.7	105.0	123.8	105.5	106.6	108.7	102.5	110.6	108.1
November	107.2	108.3	102.8	100.6	100.3	103.5	100.7	105.0	123.7	105.5	106.6	108.7	102.5	110.6	108.1
December	107.1	107.0	101.5	100.6	100.3	103.5	100.7	105.0	123.7	105.5	106.6	108.7	102.5	110.6	108.1
2018 January	107.0	107.4	100.3	101.0	100.9	103.6	100.7	104.1	123.2	105.8	106.5	109.3	102.5	111.8	108.1
February	107.1	106.8	100.6	101.0	100.9	103.6	100.7	104.1	123.2	105.8	106.5	109.3	102.5	111.8	108.1
March	107.0	107.6	100.3	101.0	100.9	103.6	100.7	104.1	123.7	105.8	106.5	109.3	102.5	111.8	108.1
April	107.3	107.7	100.2	102.6	102.7	103.8	100.7	103.7	124.1	105.8	106.5	109.5	102.5	112.8	107.7
May	107.1	107.1	99.8	102.6	102.7	103.8	100.7	103.7	124.6	105.8	106.5	109.5	102.5	112.8	107.7
June	107.0	107.4	100.1	102.6	102.7	103.8	100.7	103.7	124.4	105.8	106.5	109.5	102.5	112.8	107.7
July	107.4	107.2	100.1	103.3	103.6	104.1	100.7	104.1	124.5	105.8	106.5	109.8	102.5	113.9	108.2
August	107.4	107.5	100.3	103.3	103.6	104.1	100.7	104.1	124.8	105.8	106.5	109.8	102.5	113.9	108.2
September	107.5	107.9	101.0	103.3	103.6	104.1	100.7	104.1	124.9	105.8	106.5	109.8	102.5	113.9	108.2
October	108.0	107.8	99.7	103.3	103.6	104.4	100.7	103.3	124.7	108.5	106.5	110.0	102.5	113.7	108.5
November	108.3	108.0	99.2	103.3	103.6	104.4	100.7	103.3	124.8	108.5	106.5	110.0	102.5	113.7	108.5
December	108.2	107.4	98.8	103.3	103.6	104.4	100.7	103.3	124.8	108.5	106.5	110.0	102.5	113.7	108.5
2019 January	108.5	107.9	98.6	103.4	103.6	104.5	100.7	102.6	129.7	108.5	106.9	110.2	102.5	113.9	110.0
February	108.4	107.7	98.1	103.4	103.6	104.5	100.7	102.6	129.7	108.5	106.9	110.2	102.5	113.9	110.0

NOTE: To link the previous or old base (January 2003 = 100) to the new base (January 2015 = 100), at the All Items level, multiply the All Items Index of the new base by 2.307.