

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)

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

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GENERAL INDEX
The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from the prices collected for the month of March, 2019 was 108.6, representing an increase of 0.2 point or $0.2 \%$ above the All Items Index for February, 2019.

The Rate of Inflation, as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January to March, 2019 over the period January to March, 2018, was $1.4 \%$. This rate is more than that observed for the period January to March, 2018 over the period January to March, 2017, which was $0.8 \%$.

## SECTION INDICES

## FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 115.4 in February, 2019 to 116.0 in March, 2019, reflecting an increase of $0.5 \%$. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of whole chicken-fresh, carite-fresh, king fish-fresh, grapes, salmon-fresh, chive, shrimp-fresh, carbonated soft drink, shark-fresh and oranges. However, the full impact of these price increases was offset by the general decrease in the prices of tomatoes, melongene, cabbage, cucumber, pumpkin, green (sweet) pepper, cheddar cheese, low fat milk, pimento and full cream milk.

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

## OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for March, 2019, compared with February, 2019, reflected an increase in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of $0.4 \%$ and Health of $0.5 \%$.

Price changes in the Other Sections for the month of March, 2019 had a 0.1 point increase in the All Items Index.
Changes in consumer prices in March, 2019 compared with those of March, 2018 reflected in various sections of the Index are shown hereunder:

Sections
All Items
Percentage Change
March, 2018-March, 2019

| All Items | 1.5 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 0.9 |
| Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco | 0.5 |
| Clothing and Footwear | -2.2 |
| 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 | 6.1 |
| 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 |

Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.5
Clothing and Footwear -2.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels 2.4
Home Ownership $\quad 2.7$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Rent } & 0.9\end{array}$
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels 0.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House -1.4
Health
6.1

Transport
2.6
0.4

Education 0.0
Hotels, Cafés and Restaurants 1.9
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Miscellaneous Goods and Services } & 1.8\end{array}$

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
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