

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)

(Base: January, $2015=100$ )
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 May, 2020 was 109.0, representing a decrease of 0.1 point or $0.1 \%$ below the Index (All Items) for April, 2020.

The Rate of Inflation, as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January to May, 2020 over the period January to May, 2019, was $0.6 \%$. This rate is less than that observed for the period January to May, 2019 over the period January to May, 2018 which was $1.2 \%$.

## SECTION INDICES

## FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased from 117.8 in April, 2020, to 117.6 in May, 2020, reflecting a decrease of $0.2 \%$. Contributing significantly to this decrease was the general downward movement in the prices of garlic, evaporated milk, plantains, onions, dutch potatoes, tomatoes, fresh, chilled, frozen or seasoned beef, parboiled rice, white flour and stew, chilled or frozen beef. However, the full impact of these price decreases was offset by the general increases in the prices of callalloo bush, table margarine, split peas, brown sugar, canned sardines, pimento, coffee-instant, eddoes, canned tuna and pumpkin.

Price changes in this section for the month of May, 2020 had a negligible effect in the All Items Index.

## OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for May, 2020, compared with April, 2020, reflected an increase in the sub-index for health of $0.1 \%$. However, a decrease was noted in the sub-index for alcoholic beverages and tobacco $0.7 \%$.

Price changes in the Other Sections for the month of May, 2020 represented a 0.1 point decrease in the All Items Index.
Changes in consumer prices in May, 2020 compared with those of May, 2019 reflected in various sections of the Index are shown hereunder:

| Sections | Percentage Change <br> May, 2019-May, 2020 |
| :--- | ---: |
| All Items | 0.6 |
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 2.9 |
| Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco | 2.2 |
| Clothing and Footwear | -3.2 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels | 0.7 |
| Home Ownership | 0.7 |
| Rent | 1.6 |
| Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels | 0.0 |
| Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House | 0.4 |
| Health | 2.5 |
| Transport | -1.2 |
| Communication | -0.2 |
| Recreation and Culture | -0.7 |
| Education | 0.0 |
| Hotels, Cafés and Restaurants | 1.6 |
| Miscellaneous Goods and Services | 1.4 |

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