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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—December, 2009 (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 December, 2009 was 158.9 representing a decrease of 0.1 point or 0.1% below the Index for November, 2009.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–December, 2009 over that for the period January–December, 2008 was 7.0%. This reflects a reduction when compared with an increase of 12.0% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January–December, 2008 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2007.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased from 310.5 in November, 2009 to 309.6 in December, 2009, reflecting a decrease of 0.3%. Contributing significantly to this decrease was the general downward movement in the prices of packaged rice, whole chicken, sweet potatoes, dasheen, christophene, cucumber, chive, celery, onions, hot peppers, pawpaw and canned vegetables. However, the full impact of these price decreases was offset by the general increase in the prices of fish—cavalli, carite and king fish, mangoes, tomatoes, avocado, yams, ochroes, garlic, green pigeon peas, watercress and spices.

Price changes in this section, for the month of December, 2009 accounted for a net overall decrease of 0.2 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for December, 2009, compared with November, 2009, reflected increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.6%; Health 0.1%; Clothing and Footwear 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections for the month of December, 2009, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

Changes in consumer prices in December, 2009, compared with those of December, 2008, reflected in various sections of the Index are shown hereunder—

Sections	Percentage Change December, 2009–December, 2008
All Items	1.3
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-0.2
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	14.0
Clothing and Footwear	-1.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.4
Home Ownership	0.6
Rent	2.8
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	2.2
Health	6.7
Transport	4.3
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	-5.7
Education	3.2
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	3.8
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.8

DAVE CLEMENT
Director of Statistics

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

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for December, 2009

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				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	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																
2007	132.0	217.6	134.2	93.3	115.2	120.8	105.5	105.9	124.8	114.4	78.5	121.7	137.4	127.8	110.8	
2008	147.9	274.0	151.3	95.8	119.4	127.3	118.0	111.9	132.5	117.8	78.5	133.0	156.5	153.3	116.0	
2009	158.2	308.7	163.9	95.3	124.1	132.9	125.4	112.7	140.6	125.6	78.5	129.1	166.5	171.2	123.5	
2007	127.2	201.0	130.2	92.9	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	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	113.2	117.5	105.5	105.6	121.8	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
March	129.3	205.8	131.6	92.9	115.3	120.8	105.5	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	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	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.3	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
June	130.7	213.1	131.6	93.4	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.3	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
July	133.1	219.1	132.0	93.4	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	93.5	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	93.6	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	136.1	94.1	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	118.8	123.2	105.7	106.1	127.4	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
December	137.0	237.5	146.5	94.7	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	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	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	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	107.1	106.6	131.2	116.8	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
April	143.1	255.8	148.4	96.0	115.9	117.4	107.0	106.6	131.0	116.8	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
May	143.1	255.8	148.4	96.0	115.9	117.4	107.0	106.6	131.0	116.8	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
June	145.5	262.3	148.4	95.6	120.6	126.7	107.0	106.6	132.1	116.8	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
July	148.9	274.6	149.2	96.1	119.9	128.2	108.6	106.6	133.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	147.4	114.6	
August	151.8	290.0	154.1	96.4	122.5	128.6	108.6	106.6	134.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	147.4	114.6	
September	154.0	302.9	154.0	96.4	121.7	128.6	124.5	108.6	134.4	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	147.4	114.6	
October	156.7	307.5	156.6	96.3	123.1	130.5	124.5	110.5	134.7	120.0	78.5	134.5	164.0	166.7	118.8	
November	156.7	309.4	156.7	96.3	123.1	130.5	124.5	110.5	134.8	120.0	78.5	134.5	164.0	166.7	118.8	
December	156.8	310.2	156.2	96.1	123.1	130.5	124.5	110.5	135.0	120.0	78.5	134.5	164.0	166.7	118.8	
2009	155.9	305.6	156.3	96.3	124.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.5	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
January	155.9	305.6	156.3	96.3	124.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.5	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
February	156.2	306.6	156.4	96.2	124.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.5	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
March	156.4	306.9	156.4	96.0	124.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	136.1	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
April	156.1	308.1	156.6	95.2	125.2	133.0	124.5	113.3	141.3	125.6	78.5	129.4	166.4	170.8	123.1	
May	157.8	308.0	158.6	95.7	125.7	132.0	124.5	113.3	141.3	125.6	78.5	129.4	166.4	170.8	123.1	
June	157.7	305.6	159.7	94.3	125.2	132.0	124.5	113.3	141.3	125.6	78.5	129.4	166.4	170.8	123.1	
July	157.7	302.3	160.5	94.9	125.0	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.4	125.6	78.5	137.1	166.4	172.2	124.9	
August	158.3	305.1	160.4	95.7	125.0	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.4	125.6	78.5	137.1	166.4	172.2	124.9	
September	161.6	323.5	163.7	96.6	123.9	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.4	125.6	78.5	137.1	166.4	172.2	124.9	
October	160.5	318.4	176.3	94.8	123.9	134.1	128.1	112.9	143.9	125.2	78.5	126.8	169.2	173.0	125.7	
November	159.0	310.5	177.0	94.6	125.8	134.1	128.1	112.9	143.9	125.2	78.5	126.8	169.2	173.0	125.7	
December	158.9	309.6	178.0	94.7	125.8	134.1	128.1	112.9	144.1	125.2	78.5	126.8	169.2	173.0	125.7	

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.