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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—February, 2010 (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 February, 2010 was 163.4 representing an increase of 1.5 points or 0.9% above the Index for January, 2010.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–February, 2010 over that for the period January–February, 2009 was 4.2%. This reflects a reduction when compared with an increase of 11.7% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January–February, 2009, over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2008.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 313.7 in January, 2010 to 322.6 in February, 2010, reflecting an increase of 2.8%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of fish—carite, cucumber, sweet potatoes, dasheen, ochroes, melongene, green bananas, sweet pepper, carrots, green pigeon peas, plantain, cabbage, pawpaw, mangoes, chive, limes, refined (yellow) sugar and canned vegetables. However, the full impact of these price increases was dampened by a general decline in the prices of fish—cavalli, king fish and other fish, shrimp, whole chickens, pumpkin, melon, yams and celery.

Price changes in this section, for the month of February, 2010, accounted for a net overall increase of 1.6 points in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for February, 2010, compared with January, 2010, reflected an increase in the sub-index for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of 0.4%. However, declines were noted in the sub-indices for Health 0.1% and Clothing and Footwear 0.9%.

Price changes in these sections for the month of February, 2010, accounted for a net overall decrease of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

Changes in consumer prices in February, 2010, compared with those of February, 2009, reflected in various sections of the Index are shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change February 2010–February, 2009
All Items	4.8
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	6.3
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	14.4
Clothing and Footwear	-1.9
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.1
Home Ownership	-0.2
Rent	6.5
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	1.0
Health	6.3
Transport	9.5
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	3.1
Education	3.2
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	3.0
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.9

DAVE CLEMENT
Director of Statistics

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

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES

Figures for February, 2010

Period	All Items Jan 2003 =100	Section Indices											Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services			
		Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels				Furnishings, Household Equipment, Routine Maintenance of the House	Health	Transport	Communication			Recreation and Culture	Education	
					Total	Home-ownership	Rent	Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels									
Weights	1000	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																	
2008	147.9	274.0	151.3	95.8	119.8	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	125.2	124.1	132.9	125.4	112.7	140.6	125.6	78.5	129.1	166.5	171.2	123.5	
January - February 2008	139.8	241.9	148.0	95.2	115.3	117.2	123.3	106.1	106.6	130.0	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
January - February 2009	156.1	304.6	156.4	96.3	124.2	123.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.6	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
January - February 2010	162.7	318.2	178.6	94.9	125.6	123.0	139.8	128.1	113.3	144.3	137.8	78.5	126.4	169.2	173.8	127.4	
2008 January	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	
February	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	
March	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	
April	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	
May	143.1	255.8	148.4	96.0	115.9	117.4	126.7	107.0	121.8	131.0	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
June	145.5	262.3	148.4	95.6	120.6	117.4	126.7	128.2	121.8	132.1	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
July	148.9	274.6	149.2	96.1	122.5	119.9	128.6	128.2	108.6	133.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
August	151.8	290.0	154.1	96.4	122.5	119.9	128.6	128.3	108.6	134.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
September	154.0	302.9	156.6	96.6	121.7	119.9	128.6	124.5	108.6	134.4	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
October	156.3	307.5	156.6	96.3	124.1	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	96.2	124.1	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	124.1	123.1	130.5	124.5	110.5	135.0	120.0	78.5	134.5	164.0	166.7	118.8	
2009 January	156.2	305.6	156.3	96.3	124.2	123.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.5	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
February	155.9	303.6	156.5	96.2	124.2	123.2	131.3	124.5	112.2	135.6	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
March	156.4	305.9	159.4	96.0	124.2	123.2	132.0	124.5	112.2	136.1	125.8	78.5	122.6	164.0	168.8	120.3	
April	158.1	308.1	159.6	95.2	125.7	125.2	132.0	124.5	113.3	141.3	125.6	78.5	129.4	166.4	170.8	123.1	
May	157.8	306.0	159.8	95.7	125.7	125.2	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	125.7	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	123.9	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.4	125.6	78.5	137.7	166.4	172.2	124.9	
August	158.3	305.1	160.4	95.7	125.0	123.9	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.5	125.6	78.5	137.7	166.4	172.2	124.9	
September	161.6	323.5	163.7	95.6	125.0	123.9	134.0	124.5	112.4	141.4	125.6	78.5	137.7	166.4	172.2	124.9	
October	160.5	318.4	163.1	94.8	125.8	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	123.9	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	123.9	134.1	128.1	112.9	144.1	125.2	78.5	126.8	169.2	173.0	125.7	
2010 January	161.9	313.7	178.2	95.3	125.6	123.0	139.8	128.1	113.3	144.4	137.8	78.5	126.4	169.2	173.8	127.4	
February	163.4	322.6	179.0	94.4	125.6	123.0	139.8	128.1	113.3	144.2	137.8	78.5	126.4	169.2	173.8	127.4	

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.