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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—August 2006 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

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Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of August, 2006 was 124.0 representing an increase of 0.7 point or 0.6 % over the Index for July, 2006.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January—August, 2006 over that for the period January—August, 2005 was 7.7%. This compares with an increase of 6.8% observed in the average All Items Index for January—August 2005 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2004.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages rose from 187.0 in July, 2006 to 190.8 in August 2006, reflecting an increase of 2.0%. Contributing to this increase was a general rise in the prices of oranges, mangoes, pawpaw, grapes, tomatoes, melongene, cucumber, ochros, cabbage, lettuce, carrots, yams, dasheen, irish potatoes, cassava, canned vegetables, sweet peppers, hot peppers and soft drinks. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in whole chickens, fish (carite), sweet potatoes, plantain and celery.

Price changes in this section, for the month of August, 2006 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.7 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for August, 2006 compared with July, 2006 indicated an increase in the general price level for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.6%. However, general price decreases were noted for Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels 0.1%; and Health 0.1%

Price changes in these sections, for the month of August, 2006 had a negligible overall effect on the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in August, 2006, compared with those of August, 2005 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change August 2006—August 2005
All Items	9.0
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	24.7
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	15.0
Clothing and Footwear	-0.8
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3.5
Home Ownership	4.2
Rent	3.5
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.5
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	3.1
Health	10.4
Transport	1.5
Communication	-10.2
Recreation and Culture	9.8
Education	12.0
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurant	5.4
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.2

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

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for August, 2006

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																
2004	105.7	122.3	102.8	93.4	103.2	103.4	101.7	100.1	103.8	105.3	93.9	100.5	103.1	104.1	100.9	
2005	112.9	150.4	106.3	91.8	105.8	106.2	111.9	102.3	108.1	108.3	87.4	103.3	109.1	110.4	103.0	
Average																
January - August 2004	104.6	118.3	102.1	94.1	102.5	102.4	101.6	99.9	103.2	104.3	96.1	100.3	103.0	103.4	100.7	
January - August 2005	111.7	145.7	105.9	91.8	105.6	105.9	111.3	102.3	107.2	108.0	87.4	107.2	105.7	108.3	102.6	
January - August 2006	120.3	178.1	115.6	91.6	108.1	108.6	115.6	103.6	117.0	109.4	78.5	117.2	119.5	116.2	104.6	
2004	103.3	114.5	100.8	94.9	101.0	100.5	104.8	100.8	102.5	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
January	103.4	114.8	101.5	94.7	101.1	100.5	104.8	101.4	102.6	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
February	103.6	115.4	102.0	94.4	101.2	100.5	104.8	102.0	102.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.9	
March	104.3	116.4	102.2	94.4	102.9	103.0	105.2	101.7	99.9	103.0	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	
April	104.9	119.9	102.3	94.3	102.8	103.0	105.2	101.4	99.9	103.2	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	
May	105.2	121.7	102.4	93.8	102.8	103.0	102.4	101.4	103.7	103.7	96.1	100.1	103.0	104.3	100.3	
June	105.8	121.1	102.5	93.3	103.9	104.2	106.2	102.0	99.6	103.9	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.3	100.9	
July	106.1	122.7	103.0	93.1	103.9	104.2	106.2	102.0	104.1	103.8	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.9	
August	106.7	125.8	103.7	93.3	103.9	104.2	106.2	102.0	98.6	104.3	96.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.9	
September	107.5	127.9	104.3	92.6	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.2	87.4	101.1	103.3	108.0	101.3	
October	108.1	131.8	104.4	91.4	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	87.4	101.1	103.3	108.0	101.3	
November	108.9	136.0	104.0	91.0	105.1	105.9	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	87.4	101.1	103.3	108.0	101.3	
December	108.4	135.4	105.1	91.8	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.4	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
2005	110.5	141.5	105.8	91.5	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.6	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
January	110.5	141.5	105.8	91.5	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.6	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
February	111.2	144.9	105.8	92.0	105.6	106.0	110.2	102.5	100.6	105.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
March	111.6	145.0	105.8	92.1	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.4	100.5	107.6	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
April	111.7	145.9	105.8	91.9	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.5	100.5	107.6	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
May	112.1	147.8	106.1	91.6	105.7	105.9	111.5	102.6	100.5	107.8	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
June	113.5	151.8	106.2	91.4	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.6	101.0	107.8	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
July	113.8	153.0	106.5	92.0	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.2	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
August	114.1	154.9	106.5	92.1	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.1	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
September	114.8	156.4	106.6	92.2	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.9	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
October	115.7	161.6	107.2	91.8	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
November	116.7	166.7	107.9	91.3	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.4	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
December	117.1	168.3	108.7	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	109.1	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
2006	117.1	168.3	108.7	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	109.1	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
January	117.7	169.6	109.4	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	109.1	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
February	118.5	172.8	110.1	92.4	107.2	107.4	114.0	103.8	102.8	109.1	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
March	119.3	173.1	111.3	91.5	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	109.4	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
April	120.6	179.1	111.9	91.4	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	109.4	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
May	121.8	185.8	120.7	91.3	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	109.4	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
June	123.3	187.0	121.8	91.3	109.6	110.4	116.7	104.0	104.1	109.4	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
July	124.0	190.8	122.5	91.3	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.9	104.1	120.6	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
August	124.0	190.8	122.5	91.3	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.9	104.1	120.6	78.5	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	

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.