

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – April 2007**  
**(Base: January, 2003 = 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 prices collected for the month of April, 2007 was 129.3 representing an increase of 1.3 points or 1.0% over the Index for March, 2007.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – April, 2007 over that for the period January – April, 2006 was 8.4%. This compares with an increase of 6.7% observed in the average All Items Index for January – April, 2006 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2005.

**SECTION INDICES**

**FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 205.3 in March, 2007 to 205.8 in April, 2007, reflecting an increase of 0.2%. Contributing significantly to this increase was a general rise in the prices of bread, powdered milk, instant baby food, fish (carite), shrimp, sweet potatoes, yam, carrots, dasheen, melongene, oranges and pumpkin. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in ochroes, cucumber, limes, tomatoes, Irish potatoes, sweet pepper, chive, celery and corn flakes.

Price changes in this section, for the month of April, 2007 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for April, 2007 compared with March, 2007 indicated increases in the general price level for Rent 2.8%, Health 2.1%, Recreation and Culture 1.9%, Home Ownership 1.9%, Miscellaneous Goods and Services 1.8%, Education 1.5%, Transport 1.2%, Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.9%, Clothing and Footwear 0.8%, Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House 0.6% and Hotels, Cafes, and Restaurants 0.2%.

Contributing significantly to the increase in these sections was a general rise in the prices of the following items: Doctors' Fees (Health); Tuition Fees (Education); prices of Building Materials (Home Ownership) and Hair Dressing Services (Miscellaneous Goods and Services).

Price changes in these sections, for the month of April, 2007 accounted for a net overall increase of 1.2 points in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in April, 2007, compared with those of April, 2006 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change April 2007 – April 2006</b>
All Items	8.4
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	18.9
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	18.2
Clothing and Footwear	1.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	5.0
Home Ownership	6.3
Rent	3.8
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	1.4
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	2.4
Health	5.3
Transport	3.8
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	3.5
Education	11.5
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurant	6.7
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.5