

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – January 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 January 2010, was 161.9 representing an increase of 3 points or 1.9% above the Index for December, 2009.

The percentage change in the All Items Index of January, 2010 when compared with January, 2009, was 3.6%. This reflects a reduction when compared with an increase of 11.7% observed between January, 2009 and January, 2008.

**SECTION INDICES**

**FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 309.6 in December, 2009 to 313.7 in January, 2010, reflecting an increase of 1.3%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of fish – king fish, carite and other fish, onions, garlic, hot peppers, limes, cucumber, bodie, melongene, dasheen, pumpkin and grapes. However, the full impact of these price increases was dampened by a general decline in the prices of whole chicken, tomatoes, ochroes, yams, sweet potatoes, christophene, green pigeon peas, watercress, chive, celery, sweet pepper, green bananas and oranges.

Price changes in this section, for the month of January, 2010 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.7 point in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for January, 2010 compared with December, 2009 reflected increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.1%; Clothing and Footwear 0.6%; Rent 4.3%; Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House 0.4%; Health 0.2%; Transport 10.1%; Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants 0.5%; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services 1.4%. However, declines were noted in the sub-indices for Home Ownership 0.7% and Recreation and Culture 0.3%.

Price changes in these sections for the month of January, 2010 accounted for a net overall increase of 2.3 points in the All Items Index.

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

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change January 2010 – January 2009</b>
All Items	3.6
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	14.0
Clothing and Footwear	-1.0
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	1.1
Home Ownership	-0.2
Rent	6.5
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	2.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	1.0
Health	6.6
Transport	9.5
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	3.1
Education	3.2
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurant	3.0
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.9