

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – July 2009**  
**(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 July, 2009 was 157.7 representing no change from the Index for June, 2009.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – July, 2009 over that for the period January – July, 2008 was 10.1%. This reflects a slight reduction when compared with a percentage increase of 10.3% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January – July, 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 declined from 305.6 in June, 2009 to 302.3 in July, 2009, reflecting a decrease of 1.1%. Contributing significantly to this decrease was the general downward movement in the prices of processed cheese, refined (yellow) sugar, ochroes, tomatoes, bodie, sweet potatoes, yams, melongene, avocado, green bananas, oranges, grapefruit, apples, and mangoes. However, the full impact of these price decreases was offset by the general rise in the prices of packaged rice, fish – carite, other fish and king fish, whole chicken, irish potatoes, canned vegetables, pumpkin, sweet pepper, christophene, limes, celery, chive, spices and hot peppers.

Price changes in this section, for the month of July, 2009 accounted for a net overall decrease of 0.6 point in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for July, 2009 compared with June, 2009 reflected increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.5%; Clothing and Footwear 0.6%; Rent 1.5%; Health 0.1%; Recreation and Culture 6.4%; Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants 0.8%; and Miscellaneous Goods and Services 1.5%. However, declines were noted in the sub-indices for Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels 0.6%; and Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House 0.8%.

Price changes in these sections for the month of July, 2009 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.6 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in July, 2009 compared with those of July, 2008 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change July 2009 – July 2008</b>
All Items	5.9
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	10.1
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7.6
Clothing and Footwear	-1.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	2.0
Home Ownership	3.3
Rent	4.2
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	-2.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	3.5
Health	6.3
Transport	6.6
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	1.7
Education	6.8
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurant	8.2
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	7.2