

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES –June 2006**  
**(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 June, 2006 was 121.8 representing an increase of 1.2 points or 1.0 % over the Index for May, 2006.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – June, 2006 over that for the period January - June, 2005 was 7.3%. This compares with an increase of 6.7 % observed in the average All Items Index for January – June 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 increased from 179.1 in May, 2006 to 185.8 in June 2006, an increase of 3.7%. Contributing to this increase was a general rise in the prices of whole chicken, red fish, carite, king fish, shrimp, powered whole cream milk, dasheen, sweet potatoes, yams, christophene, tomatoes, ochroes, celery, chive/thyme, canned vegetables, mangoes, oranges and ripe bananas. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in lime, cucumber, pawpaw and melongene.

Price changes in this section, for the month of June, 2006 accounted for a net overall increase of 1.2 points in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for June, 2006 compared with May, 2006 indicated increases in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, 1.3% and Health 0.4%. However, a general price decrease was noted for Clothing and Footwear, 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of June, 2006 accounted for a negligible overall increase in the All Items Index.

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

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change June 2006 - June 2005</b>
All Items	8.7
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	25.7
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	13.8
Clothing and Footwear	-0.3
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	2.4
Home Ownership	2.5
Rent	4.4
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	1.4
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	3.2
Health	9.9
Transport	1.1
Communication	-10.2
Recreation and Culture	9.5
Education	12.0
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	6.8
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	1.5