

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – November 2008**  
**(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 November, 2008 was 156.7 representing an increase of 0.4 point or 0.3% over the Index for October, 2008.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – November 2008 over that for the period January - November 2007 was 11.9%. This compares with an increase of 7.9% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January – November 2007 over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2006.

**SECTION INDICES**

**FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 307.5 in October, 2008 to 309.4 in November, 2008, reflecting an increase of 0.6%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of packaged rice, fish – king fish, carite, cavalli and other fish, cucumber, celery, chive, tomatoes, melongene, christophene, sweet potatoes, bodie and apples. However, the full impact of these price increases was dampened by the general fall in the prices of oranges, grapefruit, limes, ochroes, yams, dasheen, irish potatoes, eddoes, plantain, lettuce, hot peppers, onions, spices and canned vegetables.

Price changes in this section, for the month of November, 2008 accounted for a net overall increase of 0.3 point in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for November, 2008 compared with October, 2008 indicated increases in the sub-indices for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.1% and Health 0.1%. However, the sub-index for Clothing and Footwear declined by 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of November 2008, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in November, 2008 compared with those of November, 2007 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change November 2008 – November 2007</b>
All Items	14.3
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	29.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	8.0
Clothing and Footwear	2.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	8.0
Home Ownership	5.4
Rent	5.9
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	17.8
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	4.1
Health	5.8
Transport	3.6
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	12.9
Education	9.2
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurant	21.8
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.3