

**INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – September 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 September, 2009 was 161.6 representing an increase of 3.3 points or 2.1% above the Index for August, 2009.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January – September, 2009 over that for the period January – September, 2008 was 8.8%. This reflects a reduction when compared with an increase of 11.2% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January – September, 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 increased from 305.1 in August, 2009 to 323.5 in September, 2009, reflecting an increase of 6.0%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of whole chicken, fish, celery, chive, hot peppers, oranges, melongene, cucumber, sweet pepper, watercress, tomatoes, avocado, plantain and ochroes. However, the full impact of these price increases was offset by the general decline in the prices of packaged rice, powered whole cream milk, sweet potatoes, christophene, carrots, paw paw and limes.

Price changes in this section, for the month of September, 2009 accounted for a net overall increase of 3.3 points in the All Items Index.

**OTHER SECTIONS**

A further review of the data for September, 2009 compared with August, 2009 reflected an increase in the sub-index for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco by 2.1%. However, declines were noted in the sub-indices for Clothing and Footwear 0.1% and Health 0.1%.

Price changes in these sections for the month of September, 2009 had a negligible net overall effect on the All Items Index.

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

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Percentage Change September 2009 – September 2008</b>
All Items	4.9
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	6.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	6.3
Clothing and Footwear	-1.0
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	2.7
Home Ownership	3.3
Rent	4.2
Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	0.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	3.5
Health	5.2
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