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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES (Base: September, 1993=100)

The following memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES Figures for May, 2000

Period	General Index	Section Indices											
	All Items	Food	Meals out	Drink and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing			Household operations	Household supplies and services	Health and personal care	Transportation	Reading recreation and education
						Total	Home ownership	Rent					
Weight:	1 000	217	14	24	104	216	196	20	86	77	62	152	88
Annual Average													
1998	125.8	182.1	119.3	122.3	95.8	111.8	112.1	109.0	103.6	108.2	114.1	113.7	117.4
1999	130.1	197.9	121.4	126.0	93.3	113.6	114.0	110.5	104.5	109.0	116.9	114.8	120.5
Average													
Jan-May, 1999	129.0	193.1	122.3	125.5	94.6	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.7	116.3	114.8	119.2
Jan-May 2000	133.1	208.9	120.5	129.2	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.8	107.4	109.1	119.5	115.0	122.9
1998													
January	121.9	168.3	118.4	120	95.3	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.3	113.1	117.1
February	122.2	169.3	118.4	121.3	95.2	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.4	113.1	117.1
March	122.2	169.5	118.4	122.3	95.0	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.4	113.1	117.1
April	122.6	169.7	118.8	122.5	94.9	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.4	113.4	116.4
May	124.6	179.2	118.8	122.5	94.9	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.8	113.4	116.4
June	126.3	186.0	118.8	122.6	96.3	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.9	113.4	116.4
July	127.5	188.2	118.6	122.7	95.9	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.4	113.8	118.5
August	127.2	186.1	118.6	122.6	96.9	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.4	113.8	118.5
September	127.7	188.6	118.6	122.8	96.7	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.6	113.8	118.5
October	129.4	195.3	121.6	122.7	96.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.7	114.6	117.7
November	129.0	193.7	121.6	122.8	96.1	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.8	114.6	117.7
December	128.5	191.4	121.6	122.6	95.8	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.9	114.6	117.7
1999													
January	129.7	191.8	122.2	122.6	95.6	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7
February	128.0	192.5	122.2	126.4	95.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7
March	129.5	195.3	122.2	126.1	95.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7
April	128.6	191.6	122.4	126.2	93.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0
May	129.2	194.3	122.4	126.2	93.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0
June	129.6	196.0	122.4	126.3	93.1	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0
July	126.8	197.5	120.5	126.4	92.7	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.8	114.8	119.8
August	129.7	197.0	120.5	126.3	92.6	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.8	114.8	119.8
September	130.6	201.2	120.5	126.3	92.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.9	114.8	119.8
October	131.4	202.4	120.5	126.3	92.3	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3
November	132.1	205.7	120.5	126.3	92.1	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3
December	132.8	209.5	120.5	126.8	92.0	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3
2000													
January	133.5	211.1	120.5	129.0	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	118.9	114.9	122.8
February	132.4	205.8	120.5	129.0	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	119.1	114.9	122.8
March	132.1	204.4	120.5	129.1	92.1	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	119.1	114.9	122.8
April	133.4	210.0	120.5	129.3	92.0	114.3	114.5	112.8	107.4	109.2	120.0	115.1	123.1
May	134.1	213.0	120.5	129.4	92.0	114.3	114.5	112.8	107.4	109.2	120.2	115.1	123.1

1326—Continued

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES - MAY, 2000**General Index**

The All items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of May, 2000 was 134.1 showing an increase of 0.5% over the Index for April, 2000.

The All items Index for January-May, 2000 showed an increase of 3.2% over that for January-May, 1999. This compares with an increase of 5.1% observed in the Index for January-May, 1999 over the similar period in 1998.

Section Indices

Food: The index for this section increased from 210.0 in April, 2000 to 213.0 in May, 2000 showing an increase of 1.4%. Within the Food Section there was a marginal increase of 0.03% in the Index for non-market items, while market items increased by 3.4%. Contributing significantly to this increase were rising prices of tomatoes and carrots. These price increases were offset by a decrease in the prices of chicken and fresh fish.

The effect of price changes in this section on the All Items Index was 0.6 point.

Other Sections

A further review of the data for May, 2000 indicated marginal increases of 0.1% and 0.2% respectively were recorded for Drink and Tobacco and Health and Personal care.

The effect of price changes, in these sections on the Index was 0.1 point.

Growth in consumer prices in May, 2000 compared with those of May, 1999 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:-

Sections	Percentage Change May, 1999 – May, 2000
All Items	3.8
Food	9.6
Meals out	- 1.6
Drink and tobacco	2.5
Clothing and footwear	- 1.3
Housing	0.6
Home ownership	0.4
Rent	2.5
Household operations	3.7
Household supplies and services	0.3
Health and personal care	3.3
Transportation	0.3
Reading, recreation and education	2.6