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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—May, 2007 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

THE following Memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information.

SHIRLEY CHRISTIAN-MAHARAJ
Acting Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of May, 2007, was 130.1 representing an increase of 0.8 point or 0.6% over the Index for April, 2007.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–May, 2007, over that for the period January–May, 2006, was 8.3%. This compares with an increase of 6.9% observed in the average All Items Index for January–May, 2006, over the average All Items Index for the same period in 2005.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 205.8 in April, 2007 to 210.0 in May, 2007, reflecting an increase of 2.0%. Contributing significantly to this increase was a general rise in the prices of limes, sweet potatoes, christophene, oranges, mangoes, lettuce, watercress, sweet pepper, chive, celery, green bananas, onion, tomatoes, hot peppers, plantain, bodie, cucumber, carrots and powdered milk. Partly offsetting these increases were general price decreases in dasheen, yam, whole chicken, Irish potatoes, pawpaw and soft drinks.

Price changes in this section, for the month of May, 2007, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.8 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for May, 2007, compared with April, 2007, indicated an increase in the general price level for Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels 0.4% and Health 0.1%. However, general price decreases were noted for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 0.7% and Clothing and Footwear 0.9%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of May, 2007, had a negligible net overall effect on the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in May, 2007, compared with those of May, 2006, reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change May, 2007–May, 2006
All Items	7.9
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	17.3
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	9.6
Clothing and Footwear	0.8
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	5.1
Home Ownership	6.3
Rent	3.8
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.8
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	2.4
Health	5.3
Transport	3.8
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	3.5
Education	11.5
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	6.7
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.5

1251—Continued

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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—MAY, 2007
(Base: January, 2003 =100)

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for May, 2007

Period	All Items Jan 2003 =100	Section Indices										Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services				
		Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels			Furnishings Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	Health	Transport	Communication			Recreation and Culture	Education		
Weights	1000	180	25	53	262	180	24	58	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	58	
Annual Average																	
2005	112.9	150.4	106.3	91.8	105.8	106.2	111.9	102.3	100.9	108.1	108.3	87.4	108.3	109.1	110.4	103.0	
2006	122.3	185.3	119.5	91.3	108.9	109.6	116.0	103.7	104.0	118.5	118.5	78.5	118.5	122.6	117.3	105.8	
January - May 2005	110.9	142.5	105.7	91.9	105.5	105.0	110.7	102.2	100.6	106.4	107.9	87.4	105.5	104.8	108.4	102.1	
January - May 2006	118.6	172.2	111.9	91.7	107.5	107.8	115.0	103.3	103.2	115.3	109.2	78.5	115.1	119.2	115.6	104.1	
January - May 2007	128.4	205.0	130.7	92.6	112.5	114.0	118.8	105.1	105.8	122.7	112.8	78.5	118.9	132.6	123.6	108.9	
2005 January	109.4	135.4	105.1	91.8	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.4	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
February	110.5	141.5	105.8	91.5	105.4	106.0	110.2	101.8	100.6	105.6	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
March	111.2	144.9	105.8	92.0	105.6	106.0	110.2	102.5	100.6	105.7	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.3	108.4	101.7	
April	111.6	145.0	105.8	92.1	105.6	105.9	111.5	102.4	100.5	107.6	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
May	111.7	145.9	105.8	91.9	105.6	105.8	111.5	102.5	100.5	107.6	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
June	112.1	147.8	106.1	91.6	105.7	105.9	111.5	102.3	100.5	107.9	108.2	87.4	106.1	107.1	108.5	103.1	
July	113.5	151.8	106.2	91.4	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.5	101.0	108.7	108.1	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
August	113.8	153.0	106.5	92.0	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.2	108.1	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
September	114.1	154.9	106.5	92.1	105.8	105.9	112.7	102.4	101.0	109.1	108.1	87.4	111.9	107.1	112.0	103.2	
October	114.8	156.4	106.6	92.2	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.9	109.0	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.9	
November	115.7	161.6	107.2	91.8	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	109.7	109.0	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.9	
December	116.7	166.7	107.9	91.3	106.4	106.8	113.2	102.4	101.6	110.4	109.0	87.4	110.0	118.7	112.7	103.9	
2006 January	117.1	166.3	109.7	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	112.2	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
February	117.7	169.6	109.4	91.6	106.9	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	113.3	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
March	118.5	172.8	110.1	92.4	107.2	107.4	114.0	103.8	102.8	114.9	109.1	78.5	114.4	118.7	115.4	103.9	
April	119.3	173.1	111.3	91.5	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	117.9	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.8	
May	120.6	179.1	119.2	91.4	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.0	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.8	
June	121.8	185.8	120.7	91.3	108.2	108.5	116.4	104.0	103.7	118.5	109.4	78.5	116.2	120.0	115.9	104.8	
July	123.3	187.0	121.8	91.3	109.6	110.4	116.7	104.0	104.1	120.7	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
August	124.0	190.8	122.5	91.3	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.9	104.1	120.6	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
September	125.1	197.4	122.6	91.1	109.5	110.4	116.7	103.8	104.1	120.8	109.7	78.5	122.9	120.0	118.0	105.5	
October	126.3	197.8	127.1	91.1	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	122.3	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
November	126.8	200.8	129.4	90.7	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.4	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
December	127.3	203.4	129.7	90.5	110.8	112.2	116.9	104.0	105.4	121.5	112.2	78.5	120.3	131.8	119.7	107.3	
2007 January	127.2	201.0	130.2	92.9	111.5	113.2	117.5	103.8	105.6	121.6	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
February	127.6	203.0	130.5	92.8	111.7	113.2	117.5	104.8	105.6	121.8	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
March	128.0	205.3	130.4	92.2	111.9	113.2	117.5	105.5	105.6	121.6	112.2	78.5	118.0	131.8	123.5	108.4	
April	129.3	205.8	131.6	92.9	113.6	115.3	120.8	105.5	106.2	124.2	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.5	110.4	
May	130.1	210.0	130.7	92.1	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.3	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.5	110.4	

NOTE: To link the previous or old base (September 1993 = 100) to the new base (January 2003 = 100), at the All Items level, multiply the All Items Index of the new base by 1.509.