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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—OCTOBER, 2008 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

DAVE CLEMENT
Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of October, 2008 was 156.3 representing an increase of 2.3 points or 1.5% over the Index for September, 2008.

The annual rate of inflation as measured by the percentage change in the average All Items Index for the period January–October, 2008 over that for the period January–October, 2007 was 11.5%. This compares with an increase of 7.9% observed in the average All Items Index for the period January–October, 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 302.9 in September, 2008 to 307.5 in October, 2008, reflecting an increase of 1.5%. Contributing significantly to this increase was the general upward movement in the prices of packaged rice, whole chicken, pork chops, fish—carite and other fish, dasheen, green bananas, cucumber, celery, chive, hot peppers, oranges, grapefruit, pawpaw, ripe bananas and spices. However, the full impact of these price increases was dampened by the general fall in the prices of tomatoes, ochros, bodie, watercress, christophene, yams, irish potatoes, cassava, avocado, limes, grapes, onions, canned vegetables and coconut water.

Price changes in this section for the month of October, 2008, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.8 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for October, 2008 compared with September, 2008 indicated increases in the sub-index for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco 1.7%; Home Ownership 2.7%; Rent 1.5%; Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House 1.7%; Health 0.2%; Transport 1.9%; Education 5.3%; Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants 4.8%; Miscellaneous Goods and Services 2.0%. However, the sub-indices of Clothing and Footwear declined by 0.3% and Recreation and Culture by 0.7%.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of October, 2008, accounted for a net overall increase of 1.5 points in the All Items Index.

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

Sections	Percentage Change October, 2008–October, 2007
All Items	15.4
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	33.4
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	14.8
Clothing and Footwear	2.3
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	8.0
Home Ownership	5.4
Rent	5.9
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	17.7
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	6.1
Health	3.6
Transport	6.1
Communication	0.0
Recreation and Culture	12.9
Education	9.2
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	21.82
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.3

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DAVE CLEMENT
Director of StatisticsINDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
(Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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

GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for October, 2008

Period	Section Indices											Miscellaneous Goods and Services					
	All items Jan 2003 = 100	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	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	
Weights	180	25	53	262	Total	Home-ownership	Rent	Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	54	51	167	41	85	16	30	36	
Annual Average																	
2006	122.3	185.3	119.4	91.3	108.9	109.6	116.0	103.7	104.0	118.5	110.1	78.5	118.5	122.7	117.3	105.3	
2007	132.0	217.6	134.2	93.3	113.5	115.2	120.8	105.5	105.9	124.8	114.4	78.5	121.7	137.4	127.8	110.8	
January - October 2006	121.4	182.0	117.4	91.5	108.5	109.1	115.8	103.6	103.7	117.9	109.7	78.5	118.1	120.8	116.8	104.9	
January - October 2007	131.0	213.6	131.9	93.1	113.2	114.9	120.3	105.4	105.8	124.3	114.1	78.5	122.2	134.8	125.9	110.3	
January - October 2008	146.1	266.9	150.3	95.8	118.9	118.7	126.6	116.7	112.2	132.1	117.4	78.5	132.6	154.9	150.7	115.4	
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	104.6	
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	104.6	
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	104.6	
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	126.8	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	92.1	113.6	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.2	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	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	123.7	110.4	
June	130.7	213.1	131.6	93.4	113.7	115.3	120.8	105.9	106.2	124.5	113.6	78.5	120.3	133.8	123.7	110.4	
July	133.1	219.1	132.0	93.4	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	125.8	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
August	133.8	222.7	132.7	93.6	113.8	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
September	134.2	225.0	132.9	93.5	114.2	115.4	121.5	105.7	105.5	126.1	115.8	78.5	129.4	133.8	126.9	111.4	
October	135.5	230.5	136.4	94.1	114.9	116.8	123.2	105.8	106.1	127.0	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
November	137.1	238.4	145.1	94.2	114.9	116.8	123.2	105.8	106.1	127.4	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
December	137.0	237.5	146.5	94.7	115.0	116.8	123.2	105.9	106.1	127.3	115.8	78.5	119.1	150.2	136.9	112.8	
2008 January	139.9	242.7	148.1	95.0	115.2	117.2	123.3	105.8	106.6	129.9	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
February	139.6	241.1	147.9	95.3	115.3	117.2	123.3	106.4	106.6	130.1	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
March	140.5	245.8	148.2	94.8	115.5	117.2	123.3	107.0	106.6	130.2	116.7	78.5	134.6	150.2	140.1	114.1	
April	141.3	246.0	148.3	95.7	116.0	117.4	126.7	107.1	121.8	131.2	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
May	143.1	255.8	148.4	96.0	115.9	117.4	126.7	107.0	121.8	131.0	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
June	145.5	262.3	148.4	95.6	120.6	117.4	126.7	128.2	121.8	132.1	116.8	78.5	127.3	155.8	147.4	114.6	
July	148.9	274.6	149.2	96.1	122.5	119.9	128.6	128.2	108.6	134.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
August	151.8	290.0	154.1	96.4	122.5	119.9	128.6	128.3	108.6	134.0	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
September	154.0	302.9	154.0	96.6	124.1	119.9	128.6	124.5	108.6	134.7	117.8	78.5	135.4	155.8	159.1	116.5	
October	156.3	307.5	156.6	96.3	124.1	123.1	130.5	124.5	110.5	134.7	120.0	78.5	134.5	164.0	166.7	118.8	

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.