

**PRESS RELEASE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
November 2004**

The November 2004 Consumer Price Index Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that the All Jamaica "All Group" Consumer Price Index for November 2004 was 2020.0. This is the equivalent of a 2.4 percent increase over the index for October 2004. The rate of inflation was 3.3 percent for the month of October and 0.6 percent for the month of September. For the calendar year to date the rate of inflation was 13.1 percent, 0.1 percentage point below the 13.2 percent recorded for the corresponding period in 2003. Additionally, the rate of inflation for the fiscal year to date was 10.9 percent.

A look at the regional indices shows increases for all three regions 'Kingston Metropolitan Area' 1.9 percent, 'Other Towns' 2.8 percent and 'Rural Areas' 2.9 percent.

For the month of November all the groups 'recorded higher indices than in October. The 2.4 percent increase that was recorded in the 'All Group' index was largely the result of the movement in the index for the groups, 'Food and Drink' which recorded a 3.5 percent increase, 'Fuels and Other Household Supplies' (2.5 percent) and 'Housing and Other Housing Expenses' (2.7 percent).

The November 2004 Consumer Price Index Bulletin further outlines additional information and may be obtained from our Distribution Office at the Statistical Institute of Jamaica located at 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.