

The Consumer Price Index December 2002

The December Consumer Price Index Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that the All Jamaica "All Group" Consumer Price Index for December 2002 was 1566.1 showing an increase of 0.5 per cent over the index for November. This compares with 1.2 per cent for November and 0.7 per cent for October. Additionally, the rate of inflation for the fiscal year to date is 6.6 per cent, while the calendar year to date rate of inflation is 7.3 percent.

A look at the regional indices shows increases for two regions 'Kingston Metropolitan Area' 0.3 per cent 'Rural Areas' 1.0 percent while 'Other Towns' declined by 0.0 per cent.

For the month of December, all groups recorded higher indices than in November except 'Housing and Other Housing Expenses' and 'Transportation'. The index for the group 'Housing and Other Housing Expenses' declined by 1.2 per cent and 'Transportation' by 0.4 per cent. The main contributors to this reduction were a 1.6 per cent fall in the index for the sub-group 'Other Housing Expenses' and reduction in the price for petroleum.

The Consumer Price Index Bulletin further outlines additional information and may be obtained from our Distribution Office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica located at 9 Swallowfield Road, Kingston 5.