



News Release Consumer Price Index April 2011

May 16, 2011

The All Jamaica 'All Divisions' Consumer Price Index was **169.7** for the month of April 2011 representing an inflation rate of 0.5 per cent. For the 2011 calendar year-to-date, this is the second month for which there has been an increase. In March, there was a 1.1 per cent movement. The months of January and February recorded declines of 0.2 and 0.4 per cent respectively. The largest divisional increase was 1.3 per cent and was recorded in the index for 'Transport'. This movement was followed by the 0.7 per cent rise in the prices of items in the division 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages'. For this division, the most significant movement was 3.2 per cent increase in the index for 'Bread and Cereals'. However, there was a 0.2 per cent decline in the index for the division 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' after having recorded the highest increase in March. This was a result of a decline in the cost of 200 kWh of electricity.

The calendar year-to-date inflation rate was 1.0 per cent, 4.5 percentage points lower than the 5.5 per cent that obtain in the corresponding period in 2010. However, the Point to Point movement was 6.9 per cent, 7.5 percentage points lower than the 14.4 per cent rise that occurred for the period April 2009 to April 2010.

The other divisions recording increase in the All Jamaica index were; 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco' 0.3 per cent, 'Clothing and Footwear' 0.5 per cent, 'Furnishings Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' 0.1 per cent, 'Health' 0.1 per cent, 'Recreation and Culture' 0.3 per cent, 'Restaurants and Accommodation Services' rose by 0.1 per cent 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' 0.5 per cent. The 'Communication', and 'Education', divisions recorded no movement.

The regional indices showed increases for the three regions, the '**Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area**' up by 0.5 per cent. The '**Other Urban Centres**' by 0.7 per cent and '**Rural Areas**' by 0.4 per cent.

The **Consumer Price Index Bulletin April 2011** further outlines additional information and may be obtained from the Distribution office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10. Data are also available on the STATIN website at www.statinja.gov.jm.