



## **News Release Consumer Price Index October 2012**

**November 15, 2012**

The All Jamaica 'All Divisions' Consumer Price Index for October 2012 was 189.4. This represented a 0.9 per cent increase in the inflation rate and was the third consecutive month of increase. The most significant contributor to the inflation rate was a 2.8 per cent upward movement in the index for 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels'. Prices for 'Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Related to the Dwelling' rose by 5.6 per cent, while prices for 'Electricity, 'Gas and other Fuels' rose by 4.0 per cent. The inflation rate was also influenced by a 1.1 per cent upward movement in the index for 'Food and non-alcoholic Beverages as a result of increases in 'Vegetables and Starchy Foods', Fruits' and 'Bread and Cereals'. The index for the division 'Transport' recorded the only decline, moving down by 0.3 per cent.

The movement in the index for October 2012 saw Jamaica's inflation rate moving upwards by 6.3 per cent for the calendar Year-to-date period, by 4.5 per cent for the fiscal year to date, and by 7.2 per cent for the period October 2012 compared to October 2011.

The All Jamaica Divisional movements were: 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' 1.1 per cent, 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco' 0.8 per cent, 'Clothing and Footwear' 0.4 per cent, 'Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' 0.4 per cent, 'Health' 0.2 per cent, 'Transport' -0.3 per cent, 'Recreation and Culture' 0.4 per cent, 'Restaurants and Accommodation Services' 0.3 per cent 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' 0.6 per cent 'Education' and 'Communication' each recorded a 0.0 per cent

The Regional indices reflected increases in all three regions; Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMA) 0.9 per cent, Other Urban Centres (OUC) by 0.9 per cent and Rural Areas 1.0 per cent.

**The Consumer Price Index Bulletin October 2012 further outlines additional information and may be obtained from the Distribution Office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.**