

APRIL 2002

The April Consumer Price Index Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that the All Jamaica "All Group" Consumer Price Index for April 2002 was 1475.9, showing an increase of 0.5 per cent over the index for March 2002, 1468.5. This compares with 0.0 per cent for March and -0.1 per cent for February.

The rate of inflation for the fiscal year to date is 0.5 per cent. This represents a 0.1 percentage point above the 0.4 per cent recorded for the corresponding period in 2001.

A look at the regional indices shows increases for all three regions 'Kingston Metropolitan Area' 0.4 per cent and 'Other Towns' 0.5 per cent and 'Rural Areas' increased by 0.6 per cent.

For the month of April all the groups recorded higher indices than in March. There was a 1.5 per cent increase in the index for the group 'Housing and Other Housing Expenses'. The main contributor to the increase was a 1.9 per cent increase in the index for the sub-group 'Other Housing Expenses'.

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.