

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX August 2005

The August 2005 Consumer Price Index Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that the 'All Jamaica' 'All Group' Consumer Price Index for August 2005 was 2214.7, this represents a 0.1 per cent increase over the index for the month of July 2005. The rate of inflation for the calendar year was 9.0 per cent while the rate of inflation for the fiscal year to date stood at 7.4 per cent. For the period August 2004 to August 2005 the rate of inflation was 16.7 per cent.

A look at the regional indices shows decline in two regions 'Other Towns' down by 0.3 per cent, 'Rural Areas' down by a similar 0.3 per cent while 'Kingston Metropolitan Area' increased by 0.5 per cent.

For the month of August 2005, increases were reflected in six of the group indices. The index for the group 'Food and Drink' reflected a reduction of 0.1 per cent; increases were noted in all but one of the index for the sub-groups that make up this group. 'Starchy Foods' recorded a 6.4 per cent decline in the index, while 'Meals Away From Home' showed a 1.2 per cent increase, 'Meat, Poultry and Fish' (1.1 per cent), 'Dairy Products, Oils & Fats' (1.1 per cent) 'Baked Products, Cereals and Breakfast Drinks' (0.8 per cent), 'Vegetables and Fruit' (4.1 per cent) and ' Other Food and Beverages' (0.2 per cent).

There was a 2.6 per cent rise in the index for the sub-group 'Fuels', while the sub-group 'Household Supplies' reflected an increase of 0.7 per cent, The index for the group 'Household Furnishings and Furniture' recorded an increase of 1.2 per cent.

The **August 2005 Consumer Price Index Bulletin** further outlines additional information and may be obtained from our Distribution Office at the Statistical Institute of Jamaica 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.