## NEWS RELEASE DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS 2005

The Demographic Statistics 2005 recently released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that the Population of Jamaica at the end of 2005 was estimated at 2,660,700. Births occurring in the year have been estimated at 41,800, Deaths 15,000 and Migration 17,200. The Natural increase (the difference between births and deaths) of 26,300 was offset by the 17,200 loss to migration.

The average annual increase in the population estimated for the period 2000 – 2005 12,700, nearly half of the 24,100 average for the five years of the last decade. Of the total population of 2,660 700 at the end of 2005, the number of Males was estimated at 1,310,900 and females 1,349,900. The male population has in recent years experienced a faster rate of growth than the female. It is estimated that between 2000-2005 the male population grew at an average annual rate of 0.51 percent just higher than the 0.46 percent for women.

The declining fertility rate has impacted on the decreased proportions in the youngest age group among males and females. Occurring simultaneously with this decline in proportion of the younger age groups has been the increasing proportions in the older groups.

The Demographic Statistics 2005 which is the Statistical Institute of Jamaica's main reference on current population trends outlines additional information and may be obtained at our distribution office at 7 Cecelio Avenue Kingston 10.