

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**Producer Price Index**  
**December 2008**

February 26, 2009

The Producer Price Index (PPI) rose by 3.3 per cent for the **Mining & Quarrying** industry in December. This was 0.6 percentage points less than the previous month, when the index rose by 3.9 per cent. For the **Manufacturing** industry, output prices for producers decrease by 0.4 per cent in December following a decline of 1.3 per cent in November.

The point to point movement in the index for the period **December 2007 to December 2008**, for the Mining & Quarrying industry fell by 8.1 per cent. For the same period the index for the Manufacturing industry experienced a 14.1 per cent increase. This increase was mainly as a result of increases in the index for the major groups; 'Food, Beverages & Tobacco' 19.8 per cent and 'Chemicals and Chemical Products' 23.1 per cent. These increases were however tempered by the 24.8 per cent decline in the index for 'Refined Petroleum Products' over the period. The **fiscal year to date** April 2008 to December 2008, the index for the Mining and Quarrying industry declined by 17.7 per cent for the period, following a decline of 20.3 per cent for the period April 2008 to November 2008. The Manufacturing Industry reflected an upward movement of 2.4 per cent over the same period.

**The Producer Price Index December 2008 Bulletin** provides detailed information on the movement of producer prices and is available at the Statistical Institute of Jamaica's Distribution Centre located at 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10. PPI data are also published on the STATIN website at [www.statinja.com](http://www.statinja.com).