

NEWS RELEASE
Producer Price Index
November 2008

January 29, 2009

The Producer Price Index (PPI) for the **Mining & Quarrying** industry recorded an index of 156.3, representing a 3.9 per cent increase in output prices for November, compared to the previous month. For the **Manufacturing** industry, producers' prices decreased by 1.4 per cent for the same period. This movement represented a 0.1 percentage point increase from the decline of 1.5 per cent recorded for the month of October.

The point to point movement in the index for the period **November 2007 to November 2008** decreased by 0.4 per cent for the Mining & Quarrying industry. For the review period the index for the Manufacturing industry experienced a 14.6 per cent increase. This upward movement was attributable to increases of 19.5 per cent in the index for the major groups 'Food, Beverages & Tobacco' and a 22.9 per cent upward movement in the index for 'Chemicals and Chemical Products. These increases were however tempered by the 15.0 per cent decline in the index for 'Refined Petroleum Products.'

The **fiscal year to date** April 2008 to November 2008 index for the Mining and Quarrying industry declined by 10.6 per cent compared to a fall of 13.9 per cent for the period April 2008 to October 2008. The Producer Price Index recorded an increase of 2.7 per cent for the fiscal year to date for the Manufacturing Industry.

The Producer Price Index November 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.