NEWS RELEASE Producer Price Index September 2008

November 27, 2008

The Producer Price Index (PPI) for the **Mining & Quarrying** industry rose by 0.4 per cent in September 2008 following decreases of 0.1 in August and 2.9 per cent in July 2008. The **Manufacturing** industry for the same period recorded a decrease of 0.3 per cent following a 0.2 per cent fall over the previous month. This downward movement was mainly due to decreases in the index for major groups 'Refined Petroleum Products' with 4.6 per cent 'Fabrication Metal Products excluding Machinery & Equipment 'with 0.6 per cent.

For the period **September 2007 to September 2008** the Producer Price Index increased by 6.9 per cent for the Mining & Quarrying industry and 26.5 per cent for the Manufacturing industry.

The **fiscal** year to date 2008/2009 producer prices fell by 3.0 per cent for the Mining and Quarrying industry, while there was an increase of 5.7 per cent in output prices for the Manufacturing industry.

For the **Third quarter 2008** the index for the Mining & Quarrying industry recorded a decline of 2.9 per cent in comparison to the second quarter of this year. For the same period the Manufacturing industry showed an increase of 4.1 per cent. Comparing the index of the third quarter of 2008 with the third quarter of 2007, increases of 7.9 per cent and 28.5 percent were recorded for the Mining & Quarrying and Manufacturing industries respectively.

The Producer Price Index September 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.