



STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

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News Release

Consumer Price Index – November 2019

KINGSTON December 16, 2019: The All Jamaica Consumer Price Index recorded an inflation rate of 1.3 per cent in November 2019 according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) Bulletin – November 2019 released today by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN).

This movement was mainly as a result of a 2.8 per cent increase in the index for the heavily weighted division ‘Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages’. Prices continued to trend upwards for agricultural produce, such as cabbage, carrot and potato. This resulted in the index for the class ‘Vegetables and Starchy Foods’ moving up by 9.1 per cent. There was also a 0.5 per cent increase for the ‘Transport’ division. Higher petrol prices contributed to the increase in the index for this division.

However, the overall increase in the rate of inflation was moderated by the ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels’ division which decreased by 1.2 per cent. This was due mainly to lower rates for electricity which resulted in a 2.5 per cent decline in the index for the group ‘Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels’.

For the period under review, the calendar year-to-date movement was 5.7 per cent, the point-to-point inflation 4.6 per cent and the fiscal year-to-date was 5.0 per cent.

A breakdown of the three regions for the month of November 2019, showed increases in all three regions. The index for Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMA) was 2.0 per cent, Other Urban Centres (OUC) 1.2 per cent and Rural Areas (RA) up by 0.8 per cent.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in the general level of prices of consumer goods and services purchased by private households. The November 2019 Consumer Price Index Bulletin outlines additional information and may be obtained from the Statistical Institute of Jamaica website at www.statinja.gov.jm or from the Information Section of the Institute, 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston. Visit the Institute’s Facebook page at facebook.com/STATINJA for the November 2019 CPI infographic.

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