



STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

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News Release Consumer Price Index December 2017

KINGSTON, January 15, 2018: The All Jamaica ‘All Divisions’ Consumer Price Index for December 2017 recorded an increase of 0.6 percent in its index, bringing the 2017 calendar year inflation rate to 5.2 per cent according to the December 2017 Consumer Price Index Bulletin released today by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN).

The movement was attributed largely to the upward movement recorded in the index for the divisions ‘Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages’, 0.8 per cent and ‘Housing Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels’, 1.2 per cent.

The upward movement for the heaviest weighted division ‘Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages’ was primarily influenced by the class ‘Vegetables and Starchy Foods’ which went up by 2.2 per cent. Higher prices for vegetables and starchy foods were the main contributors. Meanwhile, the increase for the division ‘Housing Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels’ was due mainly to a rise in the cost of electricity.

At the end of the calendar year 2017, the fiscal year- to–date movement was 4.2 per cent. A breakdown of the three regions for the month showed that Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMA) recorded an increase of 0.7 per cent, while Other Urban Areas and Rural Areas both recorded similar increases of 0.5 per cent.

The December 2017 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 STATIN, 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston.

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