

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

7 Cecelio Avenue Kingston 10 Jamaica Tel.: (876) 630-1600 Fax (876) 926-1138 Email: info@statinja.gov.jm

News Release Consumer Price Index November 2014

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The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (Statin) reveals that as at November 2014 the All Jamaica 'All Divisions' Consumer Price Index was **224.9** indicating a fall of **0.5** per cent over the October 2014 index of 226.1. This movement represents the lowest inflation rate since the start of the 2014 calendar year. Downward movement in the index for the three highest weighted divisions contributed to this. The index for the division 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' declined by 0.1 per cent, and was mainly due to lower prices for vegetables. A reduction in the cost of electricity and lower rates for water and sewage were the key factors influencing the division 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels', which moved down by 3.6 per cent. Additionally, a decrease of 0.6 per cent was recorded for the division 'Transport' due to lower oil prices on the international market.

The calendar year-to-date inflation rate was **6.7** per cent and the fiscal year-to-date **5.0** per cent. The point-to-point period, November 2013 to November 2014 recorded a movement of 7.3 per cent.

The other divisions that recorded increases in the All Jamaica 'All Divisions' index were: 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco' 0.7 per cent, 'Clothing and Footwear' 0.2 per cent, 'Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' 0.3 per cent, 'Health' 0.4 per cent, 'Recreation and Culture' 0.2 per cent, 'Education' 0.2 per cent, 'Restaurants and Accommodation Services' 0.1 per cent, and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' 0.3 per cent, and 'Communication' remains unchanged.

The regional index showed decline in movements for each of the three regions: **Greater Kingston**Metropolitan Area - 0.4 percent, Other Urban Centres - 0.5 per cent and Rural Areas - 0.6 per cent.

The Consumer Price Index Bulletin November 2014 further outlines additional information and may be obtained from the Information Section of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica, 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.