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281

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES (Base: September, 1993 = 100)

The following memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information.

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES Figures for January, 2000

Period	General Index	Section Indices												
		All Items	Food	Meals out	Drink and tobacco	Clothing and footwear	Housing			Household operations	Household supplies and services	Health and personal care	Transportation	Reading, recreation and education
							Total	Home ownership	Rent					
Weights	1 000	217	14	24	104	216	196	20	66	77	62	152	68	
Annual Average														
1998	125.8	182.1	119.3	122.3	95.8	111.8	112.1	109.0	103.6	108.2	114.1	113.7	117.4	
1999	130.1	197.9	121.4	126.0	93.3	113.6	114.0	110.5	104.5	109.0	116.9	114.8	120.5	
1998 January	121.9	168.3	118.4	120.0	95.3	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.3	113.1	117.1	
February	122.2	169.3	118.4	121.3	95.2	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.4	113.1	117.1	
March	122.2	169.5	118.4	122.3	95.0	109.7	109.9	107.9	103.6	108.2	112.4	113.1	117.1	
April	122.6	169.7	118.8	122.5	94.9	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.4	113.4	116.4	
May	124.6	179.2	118.8	122.5	94.9	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.8	113.4	116.4	
June	126.3	186.0	118.8	122.6	96.3	110.5	110.7	109.0	103.6	108.5	113.9	113.4	116.4	
July	127.5	188.2	118.6	122.7	95.9	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.4	113.8	118.5	
August	127.2	186.1	118.6	122.6	96.9	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.4	113.8	118.5	
September	127.7	188.6	118.6	122.8	96.7	113.5	114.0	109.0	103.6	107.8	114.6	113.8	118.5	
October	129.4	195.3	121.6	122.7	96.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.7	114.6	117.7	
November	129.0	193.7	121.6	122.8	96.1	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.8	114.6	117.7	
December	128.5	191.4	121.6	122.6	95.8	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.4	115.9	114.6	117.7	
1999 January	128.7	191.8	122.2	122.6	95.6	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7	
February	128.9	192.5	122.2	126.4	95.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7	
March	129.5	195.3	122.2	126.1	95.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7	
April	128.6	191.6	122.4	126.2	93.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0	
May	129.2	194.3	122.4	126.2	93.2	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0	
June	129.6	196.0	122.4	126.3	93.1	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.9	116.4	114.8	120.0	
July	129.8	197.5	120.5	126.4	92.7	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.8	114.8	119.8	
August	129.7	197.0	120.5	126.3	92.6	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.8	114.8	119.8	
September	130.6	201.2	120.5	126.3	92.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	109.1	116.9	114.8	119.8	
October	131.4	202.4	120.5	126.3	92.3	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3	
November	132.1	205.7	120.5	126.3	92.1	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3	
December	132.9	209.5	120.5	126.8	92.0	113.7	114.0	111.6	107.1	109.2	118.2	114.7	123.3	
2000 January	133.5	211.1	120.5	129.0	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	118.9	114.9	122.8	

261—Continued

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES – JANUARY, 2000

General Index

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of January, 2000 was 133.5 showing an increase of 0.6 point or 0.4% over the Index for December 1999.

The All Items Index for January, 2000 showed an increase of 3.7% over that for January, 1999. This compares with an increase of 5.6% observed in the Index for January 1999 over that for January 1998.

Section Indices

Food: The Index for this section increased from 209.5 in December, 1999 to 211.1 in January, 2000 showing an increase of 0.8%. Within the Food Section there was a marginal increase in the Index for non-market items, while market items increased by 4.7 points or 1.1%. Contributing to this increase were rising prices of tomatoes, sweet and Irish potatoes and fresh fish. These price increases were offset by a decrease in the prices of citrus fruits, cucumber and cabbage. The effect of price changes in this section on the All Items Index was 0.3 point.

Other Sections

A further review of the data for January 2000 indicated that increases were recorded for the following: Drink and Tobacco, 1.7% Housing, 0.4%; Household operations, 0.3%; Health and personal care, 0.6%; and Transportation 0.2%. A decrease of 0.4% was recorded for Recreation, Reading and Education.

The effect of price changes, for sections other than Food, on the Index was 0.2 point.

Growth in consumer prices in January, 2000 compared with those of January, 1999 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:-

Sections	Percentage Change January, 1999 – January, 2000
All Items	3.7
Food	10.1
Meals out	- 1.4
Drink and tobacco	5.2
Clothing and footwear	- 3.8
Housing	0.5
Home ownership	0.4
Rent	2.4
Household operations	3.7
Household supplies and services	0.5
Health and personal care	2.3
Transportation	0.1
Reading, recreation and education	3.5