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### 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 March, 2001

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					
Weight	1 000	217	14	24	104	216	196	20	66	77	62	152	68
Annual Average													
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
2000	134.7	214.3	120.3	129.6	91.7	114.4	114.5	113.8	107.3	108.4	120.6	116.6	125.5
Average													
Jan-March, 1999	129.0	193.2	122.2	125.0	95.5	113.6	114.0	110.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	114.8	118.7
Jan-March, 2000	132.7	207.1	120.5	129.0	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	119.0	114.9	122.8
Jan-March, 2001	140.1	235.8	120.5	130.4	91.0	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.4	107.7	122.9	119.1	130.2
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	111.8	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
February	132.4	205.8	120.5	129.0	92.0	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	119.1	114.9	122.8
March	132.1	204.4	120.5	129.1	92.1	114.2	114.4	112.7	107.4	109.1	119.1	114.9	122.8
April	133.4	210.0	120.5	129.3	92.0	114.3	114.5	112.8	107.4	109.2	120.0	115.1	123.1
May	134.1	213.0	120.5	129.4	92.0	114.3	114.5	112.8	107.4	109.2	120.2	115.1	123.1
June	133.8	211.8	120.5	129.5	91.9	114.3	114.5	112.8	107.4	109.2	120.3	115.1	123.1
July	133.8	209.0	120.2	129.4	91.6	114.5	114.5	114.8	107.3	107.5	121.3	118.0	125.7
August	133.9	209.7	120.2	129.5	91.5	114.5	114.5	114.8	107.2	107.5	121.3	118.0	125.7
September	135.5	217.1	120.2	129.6	91.5	114.5	114.5	114.8	107.2	107.5	121.2	118.0	125.7
October	136.8	221.3	119.8	129.5	91.4	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.2	107.8	121.8	118.3	130.4
November	136.8	221.1	119.8	131.0	91.4	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.2	107.8	121.8	118.3	130.4
December	140.4	237.6	119.8	130.5	91.4	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.2	107.8	121.9	118.3	130.4
2001													
January	139.9	234.7	120.5	130.4	91.2	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.2	107.7	122.8	119.1	130.2
February	140.5	237.6	120.5	130.2	91.0	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.2	107.7	122.9	119.1	130.2
March	140.0	235.0	120.5	130.6	90.8	114.5	114.5	114.7	107.8	107.7	122.9	119.1	130.2

## INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES - MARCH, 2001

### General Index

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of March, 2001 was 140.0 showing a decrease of 0.4% under the Index for February, 2001.

The All Items Index for January-March, 2001 showed an increase of 5.6% over that for January-March, 2000. This compares with an increase of 2.9% observed in the Index for January-March, 2000 over that for January-March, 1999.

### Section Indices

**Food:** The Index for this section decreased by 1.1% from 237.6 in February, 2001 to 235.0 in March, 2001. Within the Food Section there was a decrease of 3.2% in the index for market items. Contributing significantly to this decrease were falling prices of Irish potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes, and carrots. These decreases in prices were partly offset by an increase in the prices of citrus fruits, sweet potatoes and chicken.

Price changes in this section accounted for a decrease of 0.6 point in the All Items Index.

### Other Sections

A further review of the data for March, 2001 compared with February, 2001 indicated that a decrease of 0.2 % was recorded for Clothing and Footwear. Increases of 0.3% and 0.6% were recorded for Drink and Tobacco, and Household Operations respectively.

Price changes in these sections accounted for an increase of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in March, 2001 compared with those of March, 2000 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:-

Sections	Percentage Change March, 2000 – March, 2001
All Items	6.0
Food	15.0
Meals out	0.0
Drink and tobacco	1.2
Clothing and footwear	- 1.4
Housing	0.3
Home ownership	0.1
Rent	1.8
Household operations	0.4
Household supplies and services	- 1.3
Health and personal care	3.2
Transportation	3.7
Reading, recreation and education	6.0