

Jamaica's consumer prices up 0.8%

■ KINGSTON/CMC

THE Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) yesterday said the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for September this year increased by 0.8%.

It said the main contributor to this increase was the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages division, which rose by 0.9%. 'The upward movement in this division was influenced mainly by higher prices for some agricultural produce such as sweet potato, tomato, carrot, and cabbage in the class Vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas, and pulses,' STATIN added.

It said the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels division recorded a 1% increase, reflecting higher electricity rates and rental costs.

Additionally, there was a 5.6% upward movement in the index for the Education division due to higher tuition fees for private schools at the primary level for the new school term.

STATIN said the point-to-point inflation rate for the period September 2024 to September 2025 increased by 2.1%.

It said this was influenced mainly by the point-to-point inflation rate for the divisions Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels (4.8%), Restaurant and Accommodation Services (4.1%), and Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (0.7%).

STATIN said the CPI measures changes in the general level of prices for consumer goods and services purchased by private households and that the September 2025 bulletin outlines additional information.