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Percentage Change for Mining & Quarrying Industry

• March 2017	-0.4%
• February 2017	0.0%
• January 2017	10.0%
• December 2016	0.2%
• November 2016	0.7%
• October 2016	-0.7%
• September 2016	0.6%
• August 2016	0.5%
• July 2016	0.9%
• June 2016	1.8%
• May 2016	0.3%
• April 2016	0.7%
• March 2016	0.8%

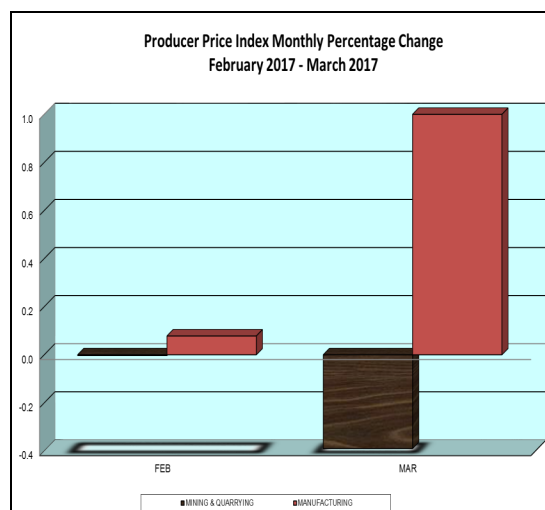
Percentage Change for Manufacturing Industry

• March 2017	1.0%
• February 2017	0.1%
• January 2017	0.2%
• December 2016	0.5%
• November 2016	-0.9%
• October 2016	1.3%
• September 2016	1.1%
• August 2016	-0.1%
• July 2016	0.3%
• June 2016	1.8%
• May 2016	2.4%
• April 2016	0.7%
• March 2016	0.7%

HIGHLIGHTS: MARCH 2017

The PPI for the Mining & Quarrying industry showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent in March 2017. This movement was influenced mainly by the major group 'Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing', which recorded a similar fall of 0.4 per cent. The index for the Manufacturing industry rose by 1.0 per cent. This was 0.9 per cent higher than the 0.1 per cent increase recorded for the previous month. The major groups that contributed to the movement in the industry's index were: 'Food, Beverages & Tobacco' up by 1.1 per

cent, 'Refined Petroleum Products' increasing by 2.1 per cent and 'Chemicals and Chemical Products' rising by 0.2 per cent. (See Table 2).



POINT-TO-POINT

For the point-to-point period, March 2016 to March 2017, the index for the Mining & Quarrying industry registered an increase of 26.2 per cent. This movement was influenced mainly by the major group 'Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing' index, increasing by 26.7 per cent. For the same period under review, the Manufacturing industry advanced by 8.7 per cent. This was due mainly to the major groups 'Food, Beverages & Tobacco', up by 3.7 per cent and 'Refined Petroleum Products' which increased by 36.8 per cent. (See Table 3).

FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE

For the fiscal year 2016/2017 (April 2016 to March 2017), the Mining & Quarrying industry index recorded an upward movement of 22.2 per cent. For the similar period, the Manufacturing industry recorded an increase of 7.9 per cent. (See Table 3).

MAIN FINDINGS

Mining & Quarrying

The movement in the index for the major group 'Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing' declined by 0.4 per cent for March 2017, influencing the overall movement of the industry. This decline was as a result of the appreciation of the Jamaican dollar vis-à-vis the United States dollar. However, the index for the major group 'Other Mining & Quarrying', recorded an increase of 1.4 per cent during for the same period. This upward movement was due mainly to higher costs for labour, energy and packaging.

Manufacturing

The increase in the index of 1.0 per cent registered by the industry was attributable mainly to the increase in the major groups; 'Food, Beverages & Tobacco', 1.1 per cent, 'Refined Petroleum Products', by 2.1 per cent and 'Chemicals and Chemical Products', 0.2 per cent.

Food, Beverages & Tobacco

Two of the five groups within this major group, registered upward movements in its index for the month of March. The highest monthly movement was recorded for the group 'Manufacture of Other Food Products' up by 3.6 per cent. Two sub-groups mainly impacted its movement. The index for the sub-group 'Sugar, Cocoa, Coffee, Chocolate & Sugar Confectionery' moved up by 16.1 per cent. This increase was due to the new contractual agreement signed for the export of

local sugar. The second sub-group 'Macaroni, Noodles, Couscous & Other Food Products n.e.c.', increased by 2.6 per cent, due to the fact that producers were no longer absorbing increases in input prices.

The index for the 'Manufacture of Grain Mill Products, Starches and Starch Products' group, went up by 0.5 per cent, due to higher cost of wheat and other inputs.

The only group to record a decline in its index for the month was 'Manufacture of Beverages and Tobacco', down by 0.2 per cent. This decline in the index was as a result of reduced costs of inputs and the appreciation of the Jamaican dollar with respect to the United States dollar.

Other Major Groups in Manufacturing

Higher prices for oil on the world market resulted in the increase in the index for the major group 'Refined Petroleum Products', going up by 2.1 per cent.

The index for the major group 'Chemicals & Chemical Products' also recorded an increase of 0.2 per cent for the month of March 2017. This mainly resulted from an increase in the cost of raw materials.

The 'Rubber & Plastic Products' major group increased by 0.3 per cent for the review period. This increase was due to the higher cost for resin the major imported raw material.

FIGURE 1

**Monthly Percentage Change in the PPI for Mining & Quarrying
March 2016 – March 2017**

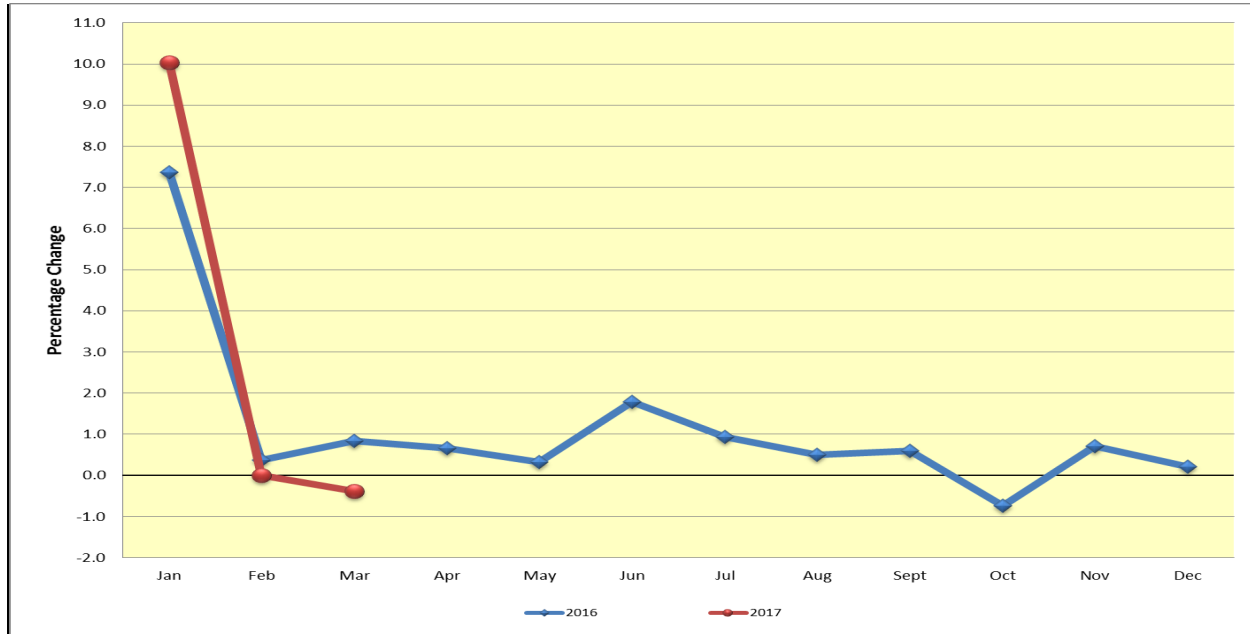
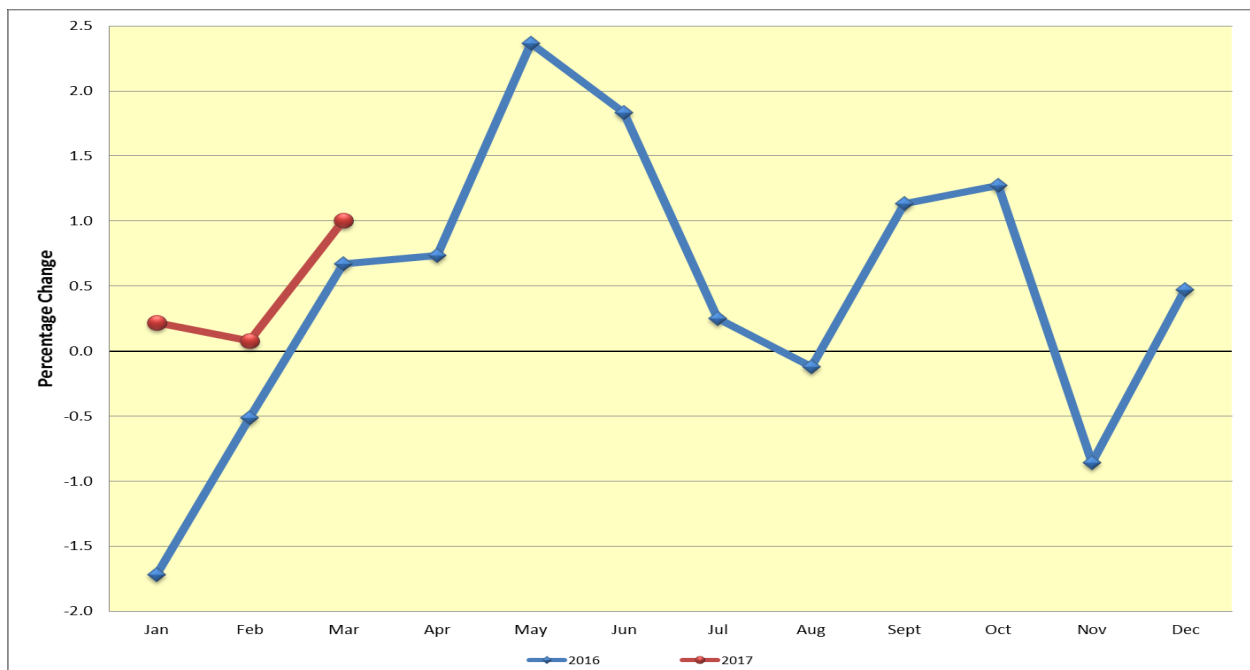


FIGURE 2

**Monthly Percentage Change in the PPI for Manufacturing
March 2016 – March 2017**



Monthly Producer Price Index by Industry

January 2017 - March 2017

Table 1

INDUSTRY	Months		
	Mar-17	Feb-17	Jan-17
MINING & QUARRYING	205.2	206.1	206.1
Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing	204.8	205.7	205.7
Other Mining & Quarrying	206.0	203.3	203.3
MANUFACTURING	171.7	170.0	169.9
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	183.0	181.0	180.9
Production, Processing & Preserving of Meats, Fish, Vegetables, Oils and Fats	170.3	170.3	170.3
<i>Meat & Meat products and Fish & Fish Products</i>	171.3	171.3	171.3
<i>Fruits & Vegetables and Animal & Vegetable Oils & Fats</i>	174.4	174.5	174.5
Manufacture of Dairy Products	219.7	219.7	219.7
Manufacture of Grain Mill Products, Starches and Starch Products	175.0	174.2	175.9
Manufacture of Other Food Products	191.6	184.9	183.9
<i>Bakery Products</i>	170.6	170.0	169.7
<i>Sugar, Cocoa, Coffee, Chocolate & Sugar Confectionery</i>	242.1	208.6	208.6
<i>Seasoning, Spices, Sauces and Condiments</i>	212.9	213.1	201.7
<i>Macaroni, Noodles, Couscous & Other Food Products n.e.c</i>	200.0	194.9	194.9
Manufacture of Beverages and Tobacco	173.7	174.0	174.0
Textile, Wearing Apparel and Leather Products	167.3	167.6	167.6
Wood, Wood Products and Furniture	158.7	158.7	158.7
Paper and Paper Products	146.6	146.6	146.6
Chemicals and Chemical Products	189.0	188.5	187.7
Refined Petroleum Products	116.4	114.0	113.8
Rubber & Plastic Products	130.6	130.2	130.2
*Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products	180.3	180.3	180.3
Fabricated Metal Products excl. Machinery & Equipment	175.9	175.9	175.9
Other Manufacturing n.e.c.	137.4	137.4	137.4

* Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products include cement and concrete.

n.e.c. = Not elsewhere classified. r= These figures have been revised

Percentage Change in the Producer Price Index by Industry

January 2017 - March 2017

Table 2

INDUSTRY	Percentage Change					
	Month-to-Month			Point-to-Point		
	Mar-17	Feb-17	Jan-17	Mar-16 to Mar-17	Feb-16 to Feb-17	Jan-16 to Jan-17
MINING & QUARRYING	-0.4	0.0	10.0	26.2	27.8	28.3
Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing	-0.4	0.0	10.4	26.7	28.3	28.8
Other Mining & Quarrying	1.4	0.0	0.0	12.7	13.1	13.2
MANUFACTURING	1.0	0.1	0.2	8.7	8.3	7.7
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	1.1	0.0	0.3	3.7	2.6	2.6
Production, Processing & Preserving of Meats, Fish, Vegetables, Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.6	4.4	4.2	4.2
<i>Meat & Meat products and Fish & Fish Products</i>	0.0	0.0	0.8	4.5	4.3	4.3
<i>Fruits & Vegetables and Animal & Vegetable Oils & Fats</i>	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.7	1.9	1.9
Manufacture of Dairy Products	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.2	3.3	3.3
Manufacture of Grain Mill Products, Starches and Starch Products	0.5	-1.0	0.7	2.5	2.0	3.1
Manufacture of Other Food Products	3.6	0.6	-0.1	6.0	2.5	2.1
<i>Bakery Products</i>	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.3	0.2
<i>Sugar, Cocoa, Coffee, Chocolate & Sugar Confectionery</i>	16.1	0.0	-0.2	22.3	5.9	6.4
<i>Seasoning, Spices, Sauces and Condiments</i>	-0.1	5.7	0.0	7.2	7.5	1.9
<i>Macaroni, Noodles, Couscous & Other Food Products n.e.c</i>	2.6	0.0	0.0	6.9	5.4	5.4
Manufacture of Beverages and Tobacco	-0.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.3
Textile, Wearing Apparel and Leather Products	-0.2	0.0	0.8	2.7	3.2	5.3
Wood, Wood Products and Furniture	0.0	0.0	2.3	4.1	5.8	5.8
Paper and Paper Products	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	3.2	3.8
Chemicals and Chemical Products	0.2	0.5	-0.2	4.4	4.5	4.2
Refined Petroleum Products	2.1	0.2	-0.4	36.8	38.7	33.2
Rubber & Plastic Products	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.9	-1.1	-1.1
Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products*	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.7	1.7
Fabricated Metal Products excl. Machinery & Equipment	0.0	0.0	1.8	3.7	3.8	3.9
Other Manufacturing n.e.c.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.8

* Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products include cement and concrete.

n.e.c. = Not elsewhere classified. r= These figures have been revised

Percentage Change in the Producer Price Index by Industry for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year

Table 3

INDUSTRY	Year-to-Date (Fiscal)	
	Apr-16 to Mar-17	Apr-16 to Feb-17
MINING & QUARRYING	22.2	22.7
Bauxite Mining & Alumina Processing	22.6	23.1
Other Mining & Quarrying	12.6	11.1
MANUFACTURING	7.9	6.8
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	3.6	2.5
Production, Processing & Preserving of Meats, Fish, Vegetables, Oils and Fats	4.4	4.4
<i>Meat & Meat products and Fish & Fish Products</i>	4.5	4.5
<i>Fruits & Vegetables and Animal & Vegetable Oils & Fats</i>	1.6	1.7
Manufacture of Dairy Products	3.2	3.2
Manufacture of Grain Mill Products, Starches and Starch Products	2.5	2.0
Manufacture of Other Food Products	5.8	2.1
<i>Bakery Products</i>	0.7	0.3
<i>Sugar, Cocoa, Coffee, Chocolate & Sugar Confectionery</i>	22.1	5.2
<i>Seasoning, Spices, Sauces and Condiments</i>	7.2	7.3
<i>Macaroni, Noodles, Couscous & Other Food Products n.e.c</i>	4.7	2.1
Manufacture of Beverages and Tobacco	1.0	1.2
Textile, Wearing Apparel and Leather Products	2.6	2.8
Wood, Wood Products and Furniture	4.1	4.1
Paper and Paper Products	3.2	3.2
Chemicals and Chemical Products	4.4	4.2
Refined Petroleum Products	31.0	28.3
Rubber & Plastic Products	-0.5	-0.8
Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products*	1.3	1.3
Fabricated Metal Products excl. Machinery & Equipment	3.6	3.6
Other Manufacturing n.e.c.	0.8	0.8

* Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products include cement and concrete.
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Glossary of Important PPI Terms

Base Period: This is the point in time used as a reference period for comparison with other time periods. The base period used for this PPI is 2008. The values of the base period provide the weights for a price index.

Industry: An industry consists of a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity, e.g. mining and quarrying, and manufacturing, etc.

Inflation: Inflation is the overall general upward movement of the prices of goods and services in an economy.

Producer's Price: This is the amount received by the producer from the purchaser for a unit of good or service produced as output. It excludes all deductible tax, supplier's retail and wholesale margins and separately invoiced transport and insurance charges.

Producer Price Index (PPI): This is an index designed to measure the average change in the price of goods and services either as they leave the place of production or as they enter the production process. This index can be based on either output or input prices.

Output PPI: An output PPI, (as is computed for Jamaica) is a measure of the change in the prices of finished goods and services that are sold on the domestic market or exported. The prices of finished goods are monitored because they are the best measure of what purchasers will actually have to pay.

'Pure' Price Change: This represents the change in the price of a good or service whose characteristics do not change over time.

Weights: Weights are a set of numbers between zero and one that sum to unity and are used when calculating averages. It is the value assigned to each item that is indicative of its relative importance when combined with all other items. It is used to represent the impact of a particular price change on the overall index.

Further Information

Further information on the PPI can be obtained from the STATIN brochure "Producer Price Index, A Tool for Economic Analysis". Monthly PPI data are available in the Producer Price Index Monthly Bulletin and on the STATIN website at www.statinja.gov.jm. Information on the entire PPI series including revisions are available from STATIN's Library.

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