



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING  
ETC.**

**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## OCTOBER 2018

During the month October 2018, the consumer price index registered an increase of 0.1 percent.

The point-to-point inflation rate which measures the change in the current month compared with the same month in the previous period that is, October 2018 compared with October 2017, stood at 2.3 percent. “Transport” (5.5%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (3.2%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (3.1%) group indexes recorded the largest increase during the month. The “Clothing and Footwear” group index was the sole group to record a decrease (0.5%) during the month (*see table 3*).

The “All Items” index was recorded at 111.0 compared to 110.9 for the month of September 2018. Four (4) groups recorded increases for the month, “Health” (1.1%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.7%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.1%) and Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.1%). Eight (8) groups remained unchanged, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages”, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Transport”, “Communication”, “Education”, “Hotels and Restaurants” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (*see table 3*).

The “Health” index grew by 1.1 percent as a result of an increase of 22.7 percent in the price of pain relievers, whereas, the 0.7 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture” is due to a higher price for a pencil and a mathematics textbook which grew by 40.8 percent and 7.6 percent respectively.

The “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” increased by 0.1 percent due mainly to an increase of 0.4 percent in the price of electricity. This increase in price resulted from a higher fuel surcharge rate of 40.13 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of October 2018 compared to 39.74 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of September 2018.

The 0.1 percent growth in the index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” is due mainly to an increase of 5.8 percent in the price of a bottle of white wine.

**The consumer price index registered a negligible increase of 0.1 percent for the month of October 2018. Meanwhile, the point-to-point inflation rate stood at 2.3 percent.**

**Table 1**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2018	September 2018		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Dried coconuts	Each	1.58	1.44	0.14	9.7
Cabbage	Lb	4.00	3.75	0.25	6.7
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	5.95	5.56	0.39	7.0
White wine	750ml	34.84	32.94	1.90	5.8
Electricity consumption	140Kwh	126.18	125.64	0.54	0.4
Pillow cases	1 pair	14.95	14.19	0.76	5.4
Pain relievers	100 tables per pk.	8.00	6.52	1.48	22.7
Mathematics textbook	Each	76.43	71.04	5.39	7.6
Pencil	Each	1.00	0.71	0.29	40.8
Passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>New York</i>	1 month	3403.10	2798.00	605.10	21.6
<i>Canada</i>	1 month	2920.00	2642.00	278.00	10.5
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1 month	3947.00	3579.14	367.86	10.3
Wedding band for women	Each	974.19	929.39	44.80	4.8
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to St. Lucia	1-way	373.60	563.54	-189.94	-33.7
Christophene	Lb	3.24	3.57	-0.33	-9.2
Broccoli	Lb	9.04	9.61	-0.57	-5.9
Orange juice	19oz tin	8.84	9.24	-0.40	-4.3
Pineapple juice	19oz tin	7.95	8.93	-0.98	-11.0

**Table 2.1**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2018 Compared With October 2017**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2018	October 2017		
<b>BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.76	6.92	-0.16	-2.31
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.87	2.99	-0.12	-4.01
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.65	1.59	0.06	3.77
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.59	4.51	0.08	1.77
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.19	3.04	0.15	4.93
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.91	5.70	0.21	3.68
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.34	8.19	0.15	1.83
Codfish	Lb.	15.23	15.22	0.01	0.07
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.48	14.14	-0.66	-4.67
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.70	-0.03	-0.64
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.29	3.49	-0.20	-5.73
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	3.64	0.36	9.89
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.89	2.02	-0.13	-6.44
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.25	-0.06	-1.41
Eggs	Doz	9.18	8.52	0.66	7.75
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	8.84	9.13	-0.29	-3.18
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.66	1.68	-0.02	-1.19
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.81	1.79	0.02	1.12
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.36	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.77	6.75	0.02	0.30
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.29	-0.11	-1.51
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.91	1.95	-0.04	-2.05
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.56	10.55	0.01	0.09
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.35	0.07	5.19
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.38	2.58	-0.20	-7.75
Eddoes	Lb.	2.68	2.89	-0.21	-7.27
Dasheens	Lb.	2.06	2.00	0.06	3.00
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.08	2.11	-0.03	-1.42
Oranges	Each	0.88	0.85	0.03	3.53
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.95	5.19	-1.24	-23.89
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.17	9.06	0.11	1.21
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.38	12.38	0.01	0.04
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.81	10.79	0.02	0.14
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.85	2.56	0.29	11.33
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.71	5.68	0.03	0.53

**Table 2.2**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2018 Compared With October 2017**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2018	October 2017		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	30.00	29.94	0.06	0.20
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	4.55	0.54	11.87
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.96	4.18	-0.22	-5.26
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	21.24	21.27	-0.03	-0.14
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long) - size 30	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.79	79.79	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.77	89.77	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	102.48	100.00	2.48	2.48
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY</b>					
<b>GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House - 2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	567.86	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House - 3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland ( grey)	94 Lbs	20.89	20.89	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.28	94.24	2.04	2.16
Oil Paint	Gallon	133.60	112.87	20.73	18.37
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	67.19	69.18	-1.99	-2.88
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gallon	6.61	6.61	0.00	0.00
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	40.46	37.52	2.94	7.84
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	126.18	111.08	15.10	13.59
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1162.88	1,162.88	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	105.00	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.84	55.84	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.24	1.23	0.01	0.81
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.29	6.25	0.04	0.64

**Table 2.3**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2018 Compared With October 2017**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2018	October 2017		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drugs for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	11.51	12.57	-1.06	-8.43
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.17	15.09	0.08	0.53
Dental Care	Visit	130.83	130.83	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	12.99	11.30	1.69	14.96
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	590.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.66	23.66	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	104.00	102.14	1.86	1.82
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	0.98	0.02	1.53
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2001.25	1993.82	7.43	0.37
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	74.75	4.58	6.13
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3846.68	3832.40	14.28	0.37
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2079.25	2071.53	7.72	0.37
Remote Control Car	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.83	3.84	-0.01	-0.26
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	375.00	350.00	25.00	7.14



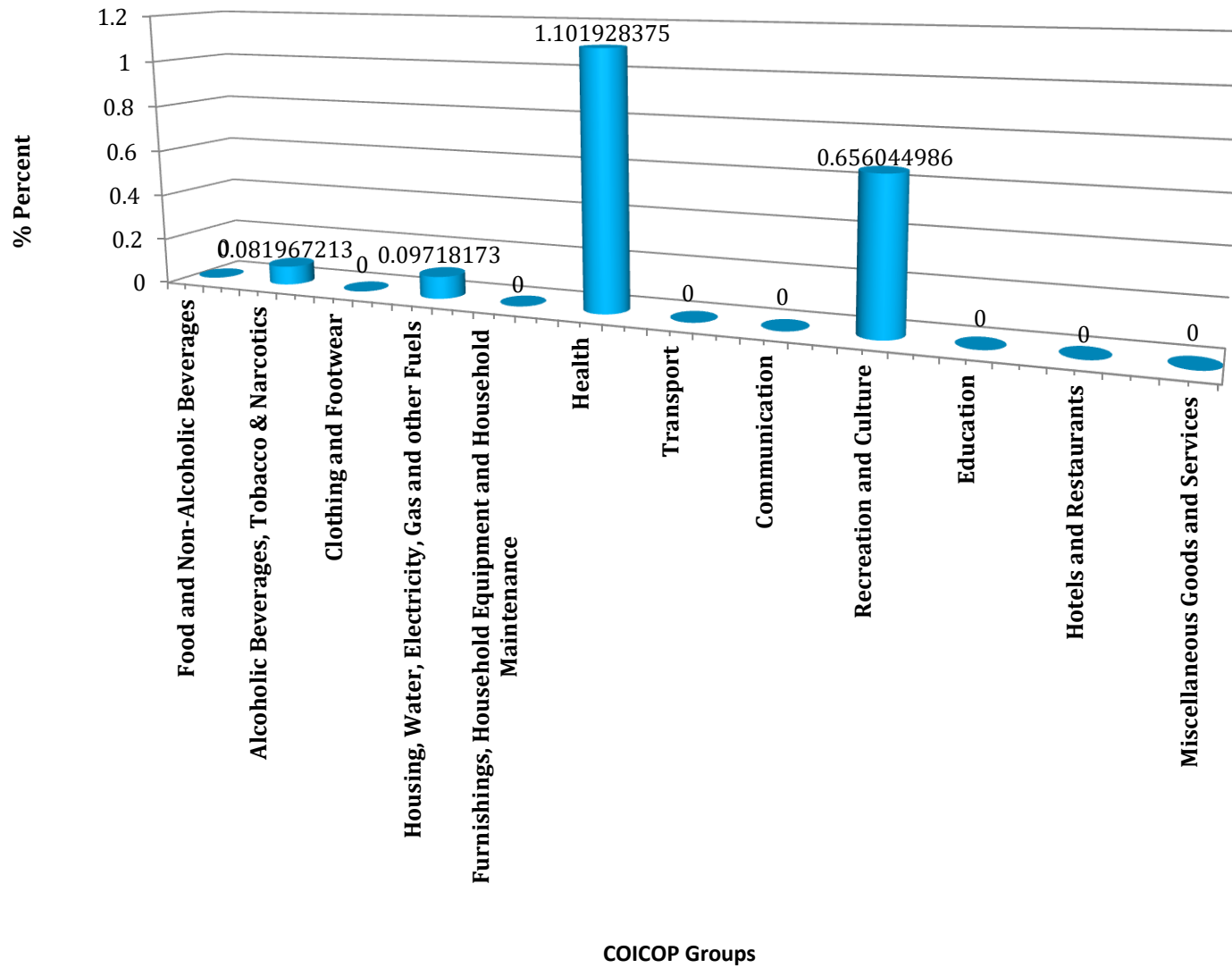
**Table 2.4**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2018 Compared With October 2017**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2018	October 2017		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	850.00	825.00	25.00	3.03
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	1.00	0.87	0.13	14.94
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	76.43	74.87	1.56	2.08
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.39	13.96	0.43	3.08
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.51	15.51	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.48	4.75	-1.27	-26.74
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.13	9.16	-0.03	-0.33
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	69.82	69.82	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.03	13.01	0.02	0.15
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

**Table 3**  
**The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups**  
**January 2010 = 100**

	Groups	Weight	September 2018	October 2018	October 2017	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month September	Year October
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.9	115.9	115.2	0.0	0.6
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	122.0	122.1	118.3	0.1	3.2
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.9	105.4	0.0	-0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.9	103.0	99.9	0.1	3.1
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.8	111.8	109.4	0.0	2.2
06.	Health	1.79	108.9	110.1	107.6	1.1	2.3
07.	Transport	11.84	124.1	124.1	117.6	0.0	5.5
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	111.9	0.0	1.3
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.7	107.4	105.2	0.7	2.1
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	110.1	0.0	0.2
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.3	106.0	0.0	2.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.6	103.6	102.8	0.0	0.8
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>110.9</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>108.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>

**Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for October 2018**



**Table 4**  
**The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups**  
**January 2010 = 100**  
**Contribution to Change**

	Groups	Weight	September 2018	October 2018	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						September 2018	October 2018		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.9	115.9	0.0	2,539.37	2,539.37	0.0	0.0
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	122.0	122.1	0.1	472.14	472.53	0.4	3.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.9	0.0	337.78	337.78	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.9	103.0	0.1	3,093.17	3,096.18	3.0	30.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.8	111.8	0.0	736.76	736.76	0.0	0.0
6.	Health	1.79	108.9	110.1	1.1	194.93	197.08	2.1	21.5
7.	Transport	11.84	124.1	124.1	0.0	1,469.34	1,469.34	0.0	0.0
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	0.0	1,066.15	1,066.15	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.7	107.4	0.7	406.53	409.19	2.7	26.7
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	0.0	145.60	145.60	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.3	0.0	202.52	202.52	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.6	103.6	0.0	446.52	446.52	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.9	111.0	0.1	11,090.00	11,100.00	10.0	100.0

**TABLE 5**  
**Monthly Index - 2018**  
**January 2010 = 100**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>All Items</b>	<b>Food &amp; Non-Alcoholic Beverages</b>	<b>Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco &amp; Narcotics</b>	<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear</b>	<b>Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels</b>	<b>Furnishings Household Equipment &amp; Household Maintenance</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Communi-cation</b>	<b>Recreation &amp; Culture</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Hotels &amp; Restaurants</b>	<b>Miscell-aneous Goods and Services</b>
<b>WEIGHT</b>	100.00	21.91	3.87	3.22	30.06	6.59	1.79	11.84	9.41	3.81	1.32	1.87	4.31
<b>MONTH</b>													
January	109.6	116.0	119.2	104.5	100.9	111.2	109.5	120.9	112.2	104.4	110.1	108.3	103.5
February	109.4	116.3	120.0	104.9	100.5	111.2	109.5	120.2	112.0	104.9	110.1	108.3	103.6
March	109.6	116.3	120.7	104.9	100.2	111.2	109.5	122.0	112.0	104.9	110.1	108.3	103.6
April	110.4	117.0	120.9	104.9	102.1	111.3	109.5	123.1	112.0	104.3	110.1	108.3	103.6
May	110.5	116.7	121.3	104.4	101.8	111.3	109.5	124.7	112.1	104.3	110.1	108.3	103.6
June	110.6	116.5	121.1	104.7	102.9	111.3	109.1	121.8	112.1	106.4	110.1	108.3	103.6
July	110.7	115.8	121.3	104.7	102.7	111.4	109.1	125.3	112.1	106.4	110.1	108.3	103.6
August	110.8	116.0	121.4	104.6	101.9	111.6	109.1	126.9	113.3	106.7	110.1	108.3	103.6
September	110.9	115.9	122.0	104.9	102.9	111.8	108.9	124.1	113.3	106.7	110.3	108.3	103.6
October	111.0	115.9	122.1	104.9	103.0	111.8	110.1	124.1	113.3	107.4	110.3	108.3	103.6