



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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AUGUST 2020

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.3 percent for the month of August 2020 compared to a decline of 0.6 percent for the month of July 2020, *(See table 3)*.

During the month of August 2020, the “All Items” index was recorded at 110.3, compared to 110.0 for the month of July 2020. Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.6%), “Transport” (0.6%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.4%) and “Recreation and Culture” (0.3%). Three (3) groups recorded decreases during the period, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.3%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.1%) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1%). Five (5) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Health”, “Communication”, “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”.*(See table 3)*.

The group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” recorded an increase of 0.6 percent. This was on account of a rise in the prices of locally produced food items, which include cabbage (24.8%), string beans (20.2%), sweet potatoes (16.1%), eddoes (15.4%), dasheens (13.1%), tannias (12.7%) and eggs (10.3%).

The “Transport” group index grew by 0.6 percent as a result of a 5.1 percent rise in the price for gasoline. Similarly, the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” index grew by 0.4 percent on account of a 2.1 percent increase in the cost for electricity

“Recreation and Culture” group index rose by 0.3 percent as a result of an increase of 19.8 percent in the price of plant food.

The group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Appliances” fell by 0.3 percent on account of an 8.0 percent decrease in the price of matches.

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” group index decreased by 0.1 percent due to a 0.5 percent reduction in the price of a toilet soap. Similarly, the 0.1 percent decline in the “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” index is due to lower prices for stout (0.5%) and beer (0.8%).

Meanwhile, the point-to-point inflation rate stood at negative 1.3 percent for the month of August 2020 compared to 0.9 percent for August 2019. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Hotels and Restaurants” (3.8%), “Health” (3.5%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (2.2%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (2.0%), (See table 3).

The consumer price index increased by 0.3 percent for August 2020. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at negative 1.3 percent due to relative price changes during the month of August 2020 compared with the same period in the previous year.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2020	July 2020		
INCREASED					
Cornmeal	1Lb	2.48	2.33	0.15	6.4
Eggs	1 dozen	8.54	7.74	0.80	10.3
Margarine	445g tub	13.45	12.05	1.40	11.6
Cabbage	1Lb	5.24	4.20	1.04	24.8
String bean	1Lb	4.71	3.92	0.79	20.2
Sweet potatoes	1Lb	2.96	2.55	0.41	16.1
Dasheens	1Lb	2.25	1.99	0.26	13.1
Tannias	1Lb	3.65	3.24	0.41	12.7
Eddoes	1Lb	3.30	2.86	0.44	15.4
Potato chips	74g tin	5.21	4.76	0.45	9.5
Ground cinnamon	3.37 oz	8.99	5.99	3.00	50.1
Electricity	140Kwh	101.71	99.57	2.14	2.1
Gasoline	1 gallon	10.11	9.62	0.49	5.1
Plant food	5Lbs	78.60	65.62	12.98	19.8
DECREASED					
Pig tail (fresh)	1Lb	5.37	5.75	-0.38	-6.6
Powdered milk (skimmed)	1Lb	7.84	8.35	-0.51	-6.1
Watermelon	1Lb	3.61	3.84	-0.23	-6.0
Cucumbers	1Lb	3.19	3.83	-0.64	-16.7
Stout	275ml bottle	5.89	5.92	-0.03	-0.5
Beer	280ml bottle	5.05	5.09	-0.04	-0.8
Paint brush	Each	14.76	15.56	-0.80	-5.1
Matches	1 box	2.08	2.26	-0.18	-8.0
Diesel	1 gallon	8.16	8.55	-0.39	-4.6
Toilet soap	125g	3.69	3.71	-0.02	-0.5

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2020 Compared With August 2019

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		Augusst 2020	Augusst 2019		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	8.00	1.00	12.50
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.94	6.75	0.19	2.81
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.83	3.00	-0.17	-5.67
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.71	1.68	0.03	1.79
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.73	4.75	-0.02	-0.42
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.30	3.51	-0.21	-5.98
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.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	6.26	6.25	0.01	0.21
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.37	8.35	0.02	0.24
Codfish	Lb.	15.71	15.36	0.35	2.28
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.59	14.00	0.60	4.25
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.67	0.00	0.00
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.28	3.15	0.13	4.02
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.19	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.54	9.39	-0.85	-9.05
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.30	9.09	0.21	2.31
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	168.00	1.62	166.38	10270.37
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.79	1.78	0.01	0.56
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.35	1.35	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.85	6.83	0.03	0.37
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.00
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	1.89	10.48	-8.59	-81.96
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.42	0.00	0.00
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.53	2.32	0.21	9.05
Eddoes	Lb.	3.23	2.70	0.53	19.63
Dasheens	Lb.	2.25	1.85	0.40	21.62
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.96	2.41	0.55	22.82
Oranges	Each	0.87	0.88	-0.01	-1.14
Tomatoes	Lb.	6.18	4.87	1.31	26.90
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.68	9.15	0.53	5.79
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.46	12.41	0.06	0.44
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.58	10.84	-0.26	-2.40
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.90	2.82	0.08	2.84
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.80	5.82	-0.02	-0.34

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2020 Compared With August 2019

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2020	August 2019		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	32.85	32.25	0.60	1.86
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.05	5.09	-0.04	-0.79
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.49	4.01	-0.52	-12.97
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	23.90	22.04	1.86	8.44
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
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	78.83	79.79	-0.96	-1.20
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	88.69	89.77	-1.08	-1.20
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit (polyester) large	Each	102.48	102.48	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse (cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY					
GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
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	20.66	20.66	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.68	96.68	0.00	0.00
Oil Paint	Gallon	134.43	134.43	0.00	0.00
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	74.68	69.30	5.38	7.76
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.	33.85	36.13	-2.28	-6.31
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	101.71	122.60	-20.89	-17.04
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1181.73	-14.12	-1.19
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.11	105.00	0.11	0.10
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.98	55.98	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.22	1.24	-0.02	-1.61
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.37	6.40	-0.03	-0.47

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2020 Compared With August 2019

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2020	August 2019		
HEALTH					
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	10.49	10.04	0.45	4.48
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.20	-0.02	-0.11
Dental Care	Visit	145.83	134.17	11.67	8.70
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	10.11	12.97	-2.86	-22.05
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
COMMUNICATION					
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	104.00	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2017.42	2004.58	12.84	0.64
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3897.44	3872.65	24.79	0.64
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2106.69	2093.29	13.40	0.64
Remote Control Car	Each	266.46	258.45	8.01	3.10
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.90	3.84	0.06	1.56
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	375.00	375.00	0.00	0.00

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2020 Compared With August 2019

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2020	August 2019		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	850.00	850.00	0.00	0.00
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	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	75.45	75.12	0.33	0.44
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.49	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	17.32	15.49	1.83	11.81
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.63	3.52	0.11	3.13
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.83	9.33	0.50	5.36
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.	13.91	13.27	0.64	4.82
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	July 2020	August 2020	August 2019	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	119.0	119.7	117.3	0.6	2.0
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.7	126.6	125.6	-0.1	0.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.5	105.0	0.0	-0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	98.7	99.1	102.3	0.4	-3.1
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.6	113.3	113.5	-0.3	-0.2
06.	Health	1.79	113.0	113.0	109.2	0.0	3.5
07.	Transport	11.84	117.2	117.9	128.5	0.6	-8.2
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.9	108.2	107.4	0.3	0.7
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	110.3	0.0	1.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	113.8	113.8	109.6	0.0	3.8
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.2	106.1	103.8	-0.1	2.2
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.0	110.3	111.8	0.3	-1.3

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August2020

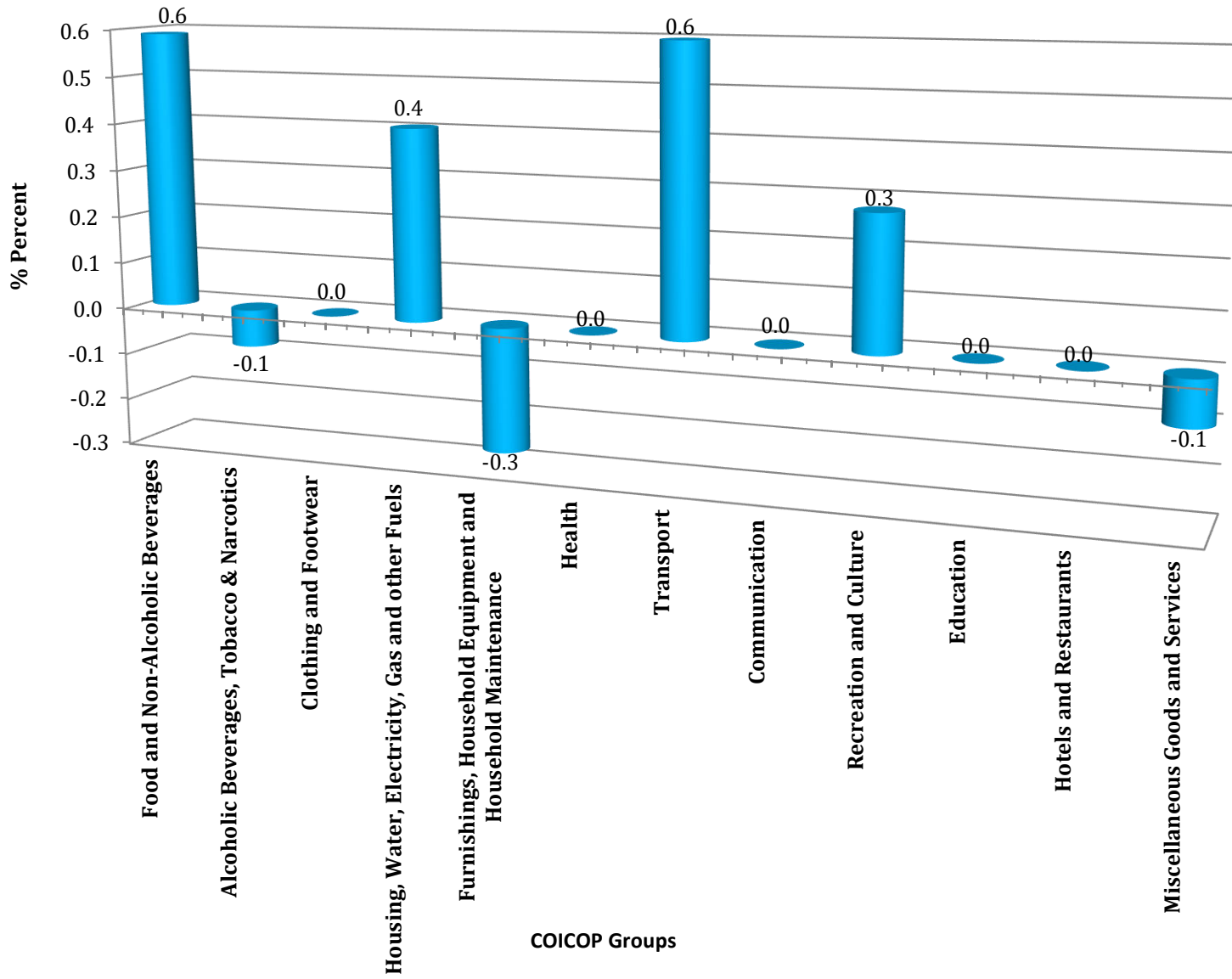


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	July 2020	August 2020	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						July 2020	August 2020		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	119.0	119.7	0.6	2,607.29	2,622.63	15.3	51.1
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.7	126.6	-0.1	490.33	489.94	-0.4	-1.3
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.5	0.0	336.49	336.49	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	98.7	99.1	0.4	2,966.92	2,978.95	12.0	40.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.6	113.3	-0.3	748.62	746.65	-2.0	-6.6
6.	Health	1.79	113.0	113.0	0.0	202.27	202.27	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	117.2	117.9	0.6	1,387.65	1,395.94	8.3	27.6
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	107.9	108.2	0.3	411.10	412.24	1.1	3.8
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	0.0	148.24	148.24	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	113.8	113.8	0.0	212.81	212.81	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.2	106.1	-0.1	457.72	457.29	-0.4	-1.4
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.0	110.3	0.3	11,000.00	11,030.00	30.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2020
January 2010 = 100

Groups	All Items	Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics	Clothing & Footwear	Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels	Furnishings Household Equipment & Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communi-cation	Recreation & Culture	Education	Hotels & Restaurants	Miscell-aneous Goods and Services
WEIGHT	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
MONTH													
January	111.7	117.7	126.2	105.0	102.9	113.6	109.4	123.7	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.2	105.6
February	111.8	118.0	126.3	105.0	102.5	113.6	109.6	125.4	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.2	106.1
March	111.5	118.5	126.3	105.0	102.1	113.3	109.6	122.9	113.3	107.5	112.3	111.6	106.1
April	111.6	118.1	126.3	104.5	102.4	113.7	110.6	123.3	113.3	107.9	112.3	111.6	106.0
May	110.5	118.4	126.2	104.5	100.2	113.6	110.6	119.1	113.3	107.9	112.3	111.6	106.0
June	110.7	118.8	126.5	104.5	100.2	113.6	112.7	119.1	113.3	107.9	112.3	113.8	106.0
July	110.0	119.0	126.7	104.5	98.7	113.6	113.0	117.2	113.3	107.9	112.3	113.8	106.2
August	110.3	119.7	126.6	104.5	99.1	113.3	113.0	117.9	113.3	108.2	112.3	113.8	106.1