



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 2018

The consumer price index registered an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of August 2018. The “All Items” index was recorded at 110.8 compared to 110.7 for the month of July 2018. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 2.2 percent.

Six (6) groups recorded increases for the month, “Transport” (1.3%), “Communication”, (1.1%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.3%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2%), “Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages” (0.2%) ,“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics (0.1%).

Two (2) groups recorded decreases, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.8%) and “Clothing and Footwear” (0.1%).

Four (4) groups remained unchanged, “Health”, “Education”, “Hotels and Restaurants” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The 1.3 percent increase in the “Transport” index was attributed to a rise in the cost of some items such as; passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto (31.4%), diesel (4.1%) and gasoline (3.5%). Similarly, the “Communications” group index grew by 1.1 percent as a result of increases in the price for a number of different categories of mobile phone calls such as; mobile to mobile regional calls (3.0%), mobile to mobile domestic calls (2.0%) and mobile to mobile international calls (1.2%).

The “Recreation and Culture” group recorded a 0.3 percent increase due to a higher price for lead pencils (16.4%). Meanwhile, the index for the group “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” rose by 0.2 percent as a consequence of higher prices for clothes pegs (8.9%) and washing powder (5.1%).

The “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded an upward movement of 0.2 percent due to increases in the price for several food items namely, salad cream (12.1%), cinnamon (6.8%), vienna sausage (5.3%), whole chicken (5.1%), tomatoes (4.2%), chicken franks (2.2%) and eggs (1.8%).

Similarly, the 0.1 percent increase in the “The Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” group index was attributed to a 1.7 percent increase in the cost of cigarettes.

The 0.8 percent decline in the group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” was due largely to a decrease in the cost of electricity by 6.4 percent. This was as a result of a decrease in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 41.2 cents per kilowatt hour in July 2018 to 35.3 cents per kilowatt hour in August 2018.

The index for the group “Clothing and Footwear” fell by 0.1 percent due to a 11.1 percent decrease in the cost of khaki textile material.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2018	July 2018		
INCREASED					
Whole chicken	Lb	6.95	6.61	0.34	5.1
Chicken -whole legs	Lb	3.36	3.28	0.08	2.4
Chicken vienna sausage	5oz Tin	2.60	2.47	0.13	5.3
Chicken franks	340g Pk	5.96	5.83	0.13	2.2
Eggs	Doz	9.21	9.05	0.16	1.8
Tomatoes	Lb	4.20	4.03	0.17	4.2
Salad cream	285g Bot	16.65	14.85	1.80	12.1
Tomato ketchup	20oz Bot	12.75	12.12	0.63	5.2
Cinnamon	Lb	37.66	35.26	2.40	6.8
Cigarettes	Pkt 20	7.19	7.07	0.12	1.7
LPG Gas: 20Lb cylinder	Each	40.46	40.15	0.31	0.8
100Lb cylinder	Each	192.80	191.27	1.53	0.8
Galvanized nail	Lb	7.29	6.68	0.61	9.1
Masonry nail	Lb	7.62	7.26	0.36	5.0
Washing powder	500g Pk	5.35	5.09	0.26	5.1
Clothes pegs	24pk	6.25	5.74	0.51	8.9
Passenger airfare:					
St.Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto	One Month	3447.00	2624.00	823.00	31.4
Gasoline	Gal	12.99	12.55	0.44	3.5
Diesel	Gal	10.98	10.55	0.43	4.1
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	0.98	0.02	2.0
Mobile to Mobile - caribbean	Minute	1.03	1.00	0.03	3.0
Mobile to Mobile - USA and UK	Minute	1.63	1.61	0.02	1.2
Lead pencils	Each	0.71	0.61	0.10	16.4
DECREASED					
Textile material - khaki	Yd.	15.95	17.95	-2.00	-11.1
Electricity consumption charge	140KWH	119.45	127.64	-8.19	-6.4
Pig -tail fresh	Lb	5.49	5.56	-0.07	-1.3
Yams	Lb	3.30	3.50	-0.20	-5.7
Sweet potatoes	Lb	2.15	2.21	-0.06	-2.7
Peanut butter	18oz Bot	12.51	14.19	-1.68	-11.8
Lentils - dried loose	Lb	3.63	3.74	-0.11	-2.9
Mixed vegetables - frozen	16oz Pk	7.95	8.45	-0.50	-5.9
Stout	275ml Bot	5.57	5.65	-0.08	-1.4

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2018	August 2017		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.95	6.61	0.34	5.14
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.84	2.81	0.03	1.07
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.66	1.58	0.08	5.06
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.61	4.46	0.15	3.36
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.19	2.90	0.29	10.00
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.96	5.64	0.32	5.74
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.41	8.16	0.25	3.06
Codfish	Lb.	14.95	14.46	0.49	3.39
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.58	14.10	-0.53	-3.72
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.71	-0.04	-0.74
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.29	3.26	0.03	1.02
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	3.48	0.52	14.94
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.90	2.02	-0.12	-5.94
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.21	4.25	-0.04	-0.94
Eggs	Doz	9.21	8.52	0.69	8.10
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.21	9.13	0.08	0.88
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.66	1.56	0.10	6.41
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.81	1.95	-0.14	-7.18
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.36	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.29	-0.11	-1.51
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.91	1.96	-0.05	-2.55
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.56	10.55	0.00	0.03
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.36	0.06	4.41
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.58	0.00	0.00
Eddoes	Lb.	2.59	3.01	-0.42	-13.95
Dasheens	Lb.	2.08	2.02	0.06	2.97
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.15	2.22	-0.07	-3.15
Oranges	Each	0.90	0.80	0.10	12.50
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.20	5.30	-1.10	-20.75
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.19	9.03	0.15	1.72
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.35	12.38	-0.03	-0.24
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.81	10.78	0.02	0.23
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.84	2.55	0.29	11.37
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.71	5.68	0.03	0.53

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2018	August 2017		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.99	29.89	0.10	0.33
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	4.55	0.54	11.87
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.99	4.14	-0.15	-3.62
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	21.24	21.24	0.00	0.00
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	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
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	20.89	20.89	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.28	94.24	2.04	2.16
Oil Paint	Gallon	112.87	112.87	0.00	0.00
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.49	69.18	0.31	0.45
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	119.45	105.13	14.32	13.62
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
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	1.24	0.00	0.00
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.26	6.16	0.10	1.62

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2018	August 2017		
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	12.65	12.57	0.07	0.60
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.09	15.09	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	123.33	123.33	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	12.99	11.08	1.91	17.24
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	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
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
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	3.82	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
August 2018 Compared With August 2017

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2018	August 2017		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	215.00	2.50	1.16
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	825.00	825.00	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	0.71	0.87	-0.16	-18.39
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	70.74	79.72	-8.98	-11.26
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.39	13.96	0.43	3.08
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.51	15.49	0.02	0.13
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.49	3.56	-0.07	-1.97
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.14	9.01	0.13	1.44
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	12.96	0.07	0.54
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 2018	August 2018	August 2017	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.8	116.0	114.3	0.2	1.5
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	121.3	121.4	117.8	0.1	3.1
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.7	104.6	105.2	-0.1	-0.6
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.7	101.9	99.0	-0.8	2.9
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.4	111.6	108.7	0.2	2.7
06.	Health	1.79	109.1	109.1	106.8	0.0	2.2
07.	Transport	11.84	125.3	126.9	122.3	1.3	3.8
08.	Communication	9.41	112.1	113.3	111.9	1.1	1.3
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.4	106.7	104.5	0.3	2.1
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.1	109.3	0.0	0.7
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.3	105.8	0.0	2.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.6	103.6	102.8	0.0	0.8
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.7	110.8	108.4	0.1	2.2

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August 2018

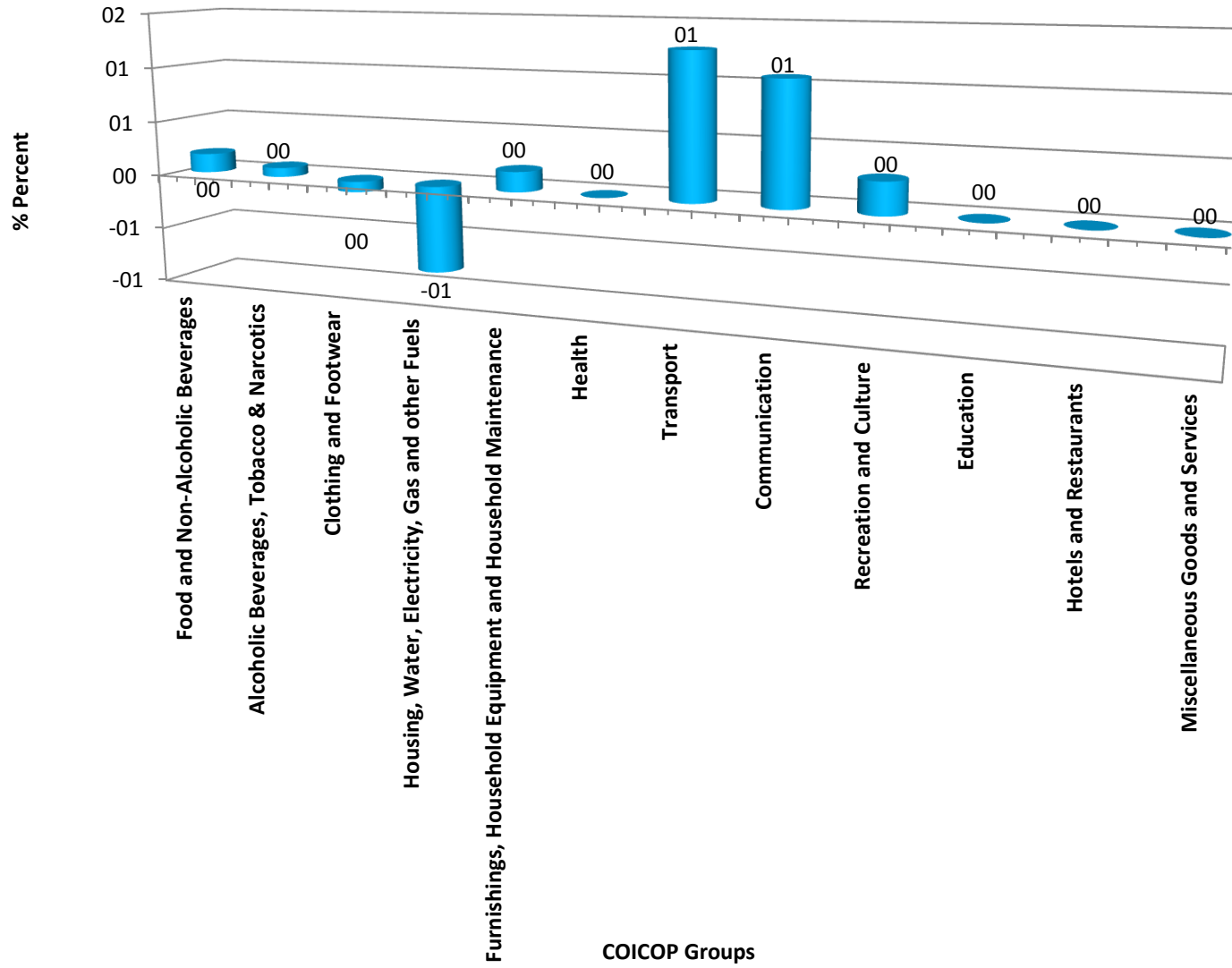


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	July 2018	August 2018	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						July 2018	August 2018		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.8	116.0	0.2	2,537.18	2,541.56	4.4	43.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	121.3	121.4	0.1	469.43	469.82	0.4	3.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.7	104.6	-0.1	337.13	336.81	-0.3	-3.2
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.7	101.9	-0.8	3,087.16	3,063.11	-24.0	-240.5
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.4	111.6	0.2	734.13	735.44	1.3	13.2
6.	Health	1.79	109.1	109.1	0.0	195.29	195.29	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	125.3	126.9	1.3	1,483.55	1,502.50	18.9	189.4
8.	Communication	9.41	112.1	113.3	1.1	1,054.86	1,066.15	11.3	112.9
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.4	106.7	0.3	405.38	406.53	1.1	11.4
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.1	0.0	145.33	145.33	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	110.7	110.8	0.1	11,070.00	11,080.00	10.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2018
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	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