



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE  
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## May 2018

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of May 2018. The “All Items” index was recorded at 110.5 for the month of May 2018 compared to 110.4 for the month of April 2018. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 2.3 percent.

Three (3) groups recorded increases for the month, “Transport” (1.3 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.3 percent) and “Communication” (0.1 percent).

Four (4) groups recorded decreases for the month, “Clothing and Footwear” (0.5 percent), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels” (0.3 percent), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1 percent).

Five (5) groups remained unchanged, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Health”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”.

The 1.3 percent increase in the “Transport” group index was due to higher prices for passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to London (31.7 percent) and New York (11.3 percent) and an increase in the cost of petrol (2.4 percent).

The “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” group index increased by 0.3 percent as a result of an upward movement in the price of vodka (3.0 percent) and local beer (2.0 percent).

The group index “Clothing and Footwear” fell by 0.5 percent mainly as a result of a decrease in the prices for a women’s brassiere (37.6 percent) and men’s vest (30.2 percent). The 0.3 percent decline in the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels” was attributed to a decrease in the

price of electricity of 1.6 percent. This was as a consequence of a decline in the fuel surcharge rate which fell from 38.22 cents per kilowatt hour in April to 36.79 cents per kilowatt hour in May.

Similarly, the “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” group index fell by 0.3 percent due to lower prices for a few items namely; canned vegetables (17.8 percent), tomatoes (8.7 percent), split peas (8.0 percent), sweet potatoes (6.4 percent), carrots (5.6 percent) and frozen pig trotters (4.9 percent).

Meanwhile, the index for the group “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” fell by 0.1 percent as a result of a 13.0 percent decrease in the price of sanitary napkins.

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price	
		May 2018	April 2018			
<b>INCREASED</b>						
Pig -Salted	Lb	7.44	7.16	0.28	3.9	
Yams	Lb	3.90	3.50	0.40	11.4	
Christophene	Lb	4.17	3.95	0.22	5.6	
Cornmeal	Lb	2.69	2.62	0.07	2.7	
Cream cheese	8oz tub	9.30	8.96	0.34	3.8	
Vodka	750ml Bot	42.55	41.33	1.22	3.0	
Beer - local	280ml Bot	5.06	4.96	0.10	2.0	
Orange juice	10oz tin	5.24	4.78	0.46	9.6	
Cheese Sticks	210g pk	6.10	5.55	0.55	9.9	
Bleach	950ml Bot	4.91	4.78	0.13	2.7	
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal	12.08	11.80	0.28	2.4	
Diesel	1 Gal	10.11	10.07	0.04	0.4	
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:						
	Toronto	One month	3397.00	3172.00	225.00	7.1
	New York	One month	3141.00	2823.00	318.00	11.3
	London	One month	4292.00	3259.38	1032.62	31.7
<b>DECREASED</b>						
Canned Vegetables	14.5oz tin	3.50	4.26	-0.76	-17.8	
Turkey Necks	Lb	3.12	3.28	-0.16	-4.9	
Chicken -Leg Quarters	Lb	2.81	2.84	-0.03	-1.1	
Codfish	Lb	14.83	15.16	-0.33	-2.2	
Split Peas	Lb	3.45	3.75	-0.30	-8.0	
Garlic	500g	4.30	4.45	-0.15	-3.4	
Pawpaw	Lb	2.09	2.16	-0.07	-3.2	
Pig trotters - frozen	Lb	4.65	4.89	-0.24	-4.9	
Sweet Potatoes	Lb	2.47	2.64	-0.17	-6.4	
Tomatoes	Lb	2.51	2.75	-0.24	-8.7	
Carrots	Lb	4.24	4.49	-0.25	-5.6	
Cucumber	Lb	2.49	2.56	-0.07	-2.7	
Men's Vest	Each	6.95	9.95	-3.00	-30.2	
Women's Brassiere	Each	9.95	15.95	-6.00	-37.6	
Electricity Domestic Consumption	140KWH	121.51	123.51	-2.00	-1.6	
Pickup Tyres	Each	263.32	343.32	-80.00	-23.3	
Sanitary Napkins	24 Pk	8.95	10.29	-1.34	-13.0	

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2018	May 2017		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.65	6.52	0.13	1.99
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.81	2.73	0.08	2.93
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.66	1.56	0.10	6.41
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.65	4.41	0.24	5.44
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.32	2.78	0.54	19.42
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.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.79	5.55	0.24	4.32
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.25	8.15	0.10	1.23
Codfish	Lb.	14.83	14.56	0.27	1.85
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.65	13.38	0.27	2.02
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.70	4.75	-0.05	-1.16
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.43	3.10	0.33	10.54
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	3.48	0.52	14.94
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	2.00	2.02	-0.02	-0.99
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.23	4.25	-0.02	-0.47
Eggs	Doz	9.05	8.35	0.70	8.38
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.16	9.06	0.10	1.10
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.66	1.56	0.10	6.41
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.81	2.03	-0.22	-10.84
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	1.98	-0.07	-3.54
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.56	10.54	0.02	0.16
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.36	0.06	4.41
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.58	0.00	0.00
Eddoes	Lb.	2.62	2.62	0.00	0.00
Dasheens	Lb.	2.06	1.79	0.27	15.08
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.47	2.15	0.32	14.88
Oranges	Each	0.87	0.76	0.11	14.47
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.51	3.14	1.37	43.63
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.18	8.96	0.22	2.46
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.38	12.37	0.01	0.08
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.80	10.78	0.02	0.14
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.79	2.55	0.24	9.41
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.66	5.67	-0.01	-0.18

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2018	May 2017		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.99	29.91	0.08	0.27
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.06	4.55	0.51	11.21
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.04	4.07	-0.03	-0.74
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	21.28	21.22	0.06	0.28
<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	20.73	0.16	0.77
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	69.27	0.22	0.32
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.	40.15	39.60	0.55	1.39
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	121.51	105.46	16.05	15.22
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.88	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	1.23	1.20	0.03	2.50
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.29	6.37	-0.08	-1.26

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2018	May 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	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
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	12.08	11.08	1.00	9.03
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	23.46	0.20	0.85
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	104.00	101.70	2.30	2.26
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.98	0.97	0.01	1.03
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1995.65	1,993.82	1.83	0.09
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3835.91	3,832.40	3.51	0.09
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2073.43	2,071.53	1.90	0.09
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	350.00	350.00	0.00	0.00



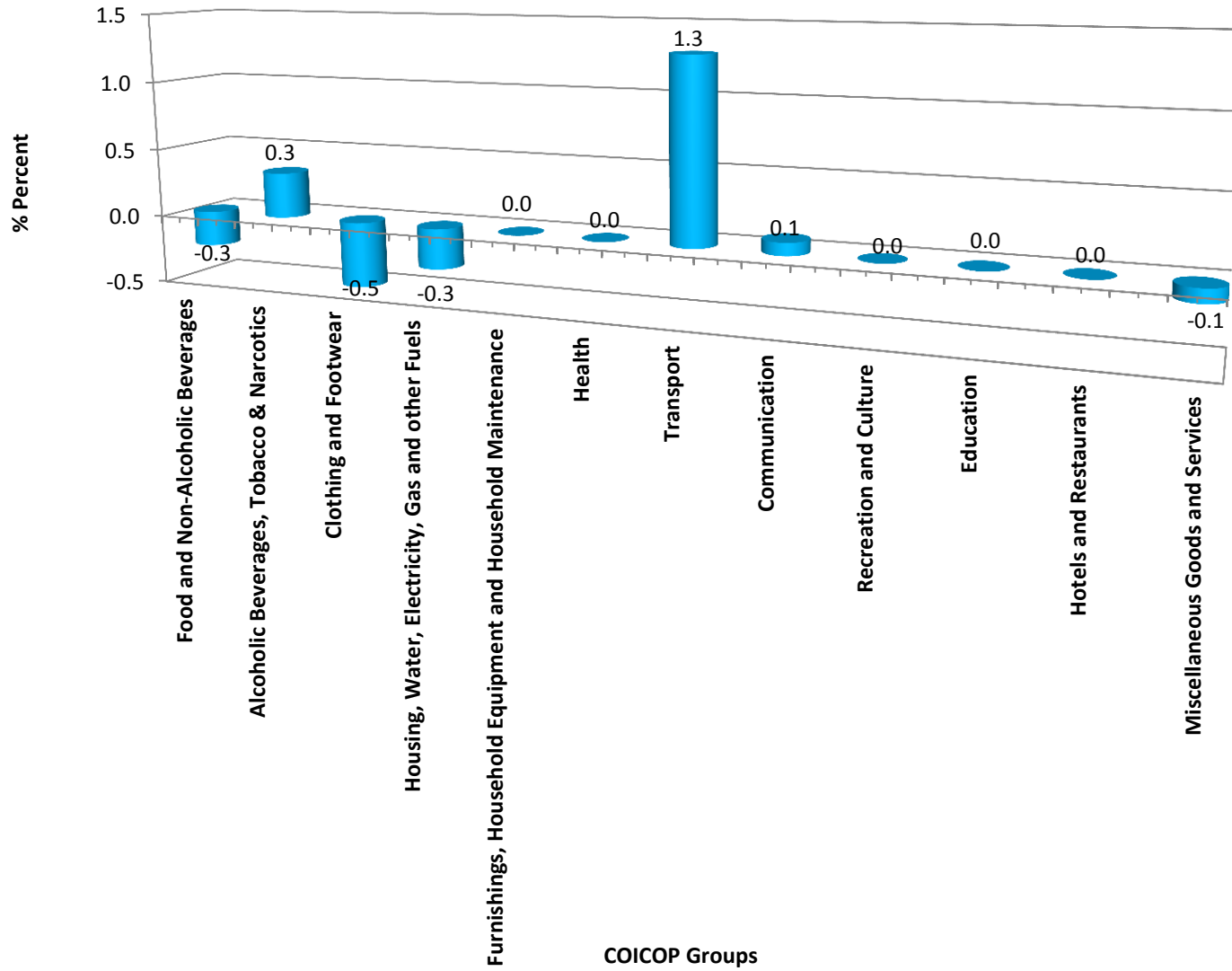
**Table 2.4**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**May 2018 Compared With May 2017**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2018	May 2017		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
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	0.61	0.87	-0.26	-29.89
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	72.44	79.72	-7.28	-9.13
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	13.86	0.53	3.82
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.51	13.86	1.65	11.90
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	3.62	3.58	0.04	1.05
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.12	9.05	0.07	0.77
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	69.82	64.81	5.01	7.73
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.00	12.92	0.08	0.62
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	April 2018	May 2018	May 2017	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month April	Year May
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.0	116.7	112.6	-0.3	3.6
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	120.9	121.3	117.4	0.3	3.3
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.4	104.9	-0.5	-0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.1	101.8	99.3	-0.3	2.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.3	111.3	108.1	0.0	3.0
06.	Health	1.79	109.5	109.5	107.6	0.0	1.8
07.	Transport	11.84	123.1	124.7	122.7	1.3	1.6
08.	Communication	9.41	112.0	112.1	111.1	0.1	0.9
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.3	104.3	104.1	0.0	0.2
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.1	109.3	0.0	0.7
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.3	103.2	0.0	4.9
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.7	103.6	103.1	-0.1	0.5
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>110.4</b>	<b>110.5</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for May 2018



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

	Groups	Weight	April 2018	May 2018	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						April 2018	May 2018		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.0	116.7	-0.3	2,563.47	2,556.90	-6.6	-65.7
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	120.9	121.3	0.3	467.88	469.43	1.5	15.5
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.4	-0.5	337.78	336.17	-1.6	-16.1
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.1	101.8	-0.3	3,069.13	3,060.11	-9.0	-90.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.3	111.3	0.0	733.47	733.47	0.0	0.0
6.	Health	1.79	109.5	109.5	0.0	196.01	196.01	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	123.1	124.7	1.3	1,457.50	1,476.45	18.9	189.4
8.	Communication	9.41	112.0	112.1	0.1	1,053.92	1,054.86	0.9	9.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.3	104.3	0.0	397.38	397.38	0.0	0.0
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	103.7	103.6	-0.1	446.95	446.52	-0.4	-4.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>110.4</b>	<b>110.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11,040.00</b>	<b>11,050.00</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**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