



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/353

Fax: 784 456 2430.

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SEPTEMBER 2018

The consumer price index registered an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of September 2018. The “All Items” index was recorded at 110.9 compared to 110.8 for the month of August 2018. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 2.3 percent.

Five (5) groups recorded increases for the month, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.5%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.3%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2%) and “Education” (0.2%). Three (3) groups recorded decreases, “Transport” (2.2%), “Health” (0.2%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.1%). Four (4) groups remained unchanged, “Communication”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Hotels and Restaurant” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The 1.0 percent increase in the group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” was due mainly to an increase of 5.2 percent in the cost of electricity, 18.4 percent in the price of oil paint and 75.0 percent in the price of a paint brush.

The “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” index grew by 0.5 percent due mainly to an increase of 8.1 percent in the price of an imported beer.

The increase of 0.3 percent in the “Clothing and Footwear” index is attributed to an increase of 60.3 percent in the price of a brassiere and 43.2 percent in the cost of a men’s vest.

The “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” index increased by 0.2 percent due mainly to a 30.2 percent increase in the price of a box of matches and 8.0 percent in the price of a dressing table. Similarly, the 0.2 percent increase in the index for “Education” is as a result of a 3.0 percent increase in the school fees for private primary education.

Meanwhile, the decline of 2.2 percent in the “Transport” index is due to a decrease in the price of passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations which includes, Trinidad and Tobago (30.4%), Toronto, Canada (23.4%) and New York, U.S.A (16.4%).

The “Health” Index decreased by 0.2 percent due to a reduction of 9.8 percent in the price of a medication that is used for the treatment of diabetes.

The “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index declined by 0.1 percent due mainly to lower prices for several food items; black eye peas (30.6%), garlic (18.0%), breadfruit (7.4%), christophene (6.5%), tomatoes (6.0%) and sweet peppers (5.5%).

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2018	August 2018		
INCREASED					
Cabbage	Lb	3.75	3.57	0.18	5.0
Brocoli	Lb	9.61	9.19	0.42	4.6
Yams	Lb	3.49	3.30	0.19	5.8
Green seasoning	750ml bottle	11.85	10.85	1.00	9.2
Grapefruit juice	10oz tin	4.56	4.17	0.39	9.4
Imported beer	295ml tin	5.34	4.94	0.40	8.1
Men's vest	Each	9.95	6.95	3.00	43.2
Bra	Each	15.95	9.95	6.00	60.3
Electricity	140Kwh	125.64	119.45	6.19	5.2
Oil paint	1 gallon	133.60	112.87	20.73	18.4
Paint brush	Each	15.00	8.57	6.43	75.0
Dressing table	Each	1858.98	1721.29	137.69	8.0
Matches	1 box	1.81	1.39	0.42	30.2
Primary education (private)	Per term	850.00	825.00	25.00	3.0
DECREASED					
Breadfruit	Lb	2.39	2.58	-0.19	-7.4
Christophene	Lb	3.57	3.82	-0.25	-6.5
Tomatoes	Lb	3.95	4.20	-0.25	-6.0
Carrots	Lb	4.00	4.20	-0.20	-4.8
Sweet peppers	Lb	6.19	6.55	-0.36	-5.5
Black eye peas	454g	4.20	6.05	-1.85	-30.6
Garlic	500g	3.70	4.51	-0.81	-18.0
Cigarette	Pk of 20	8.28	8.70	-0.42	-4.8
Girls jeans	pair	39.95	49.95	-10.00	-20.0
Drugs for Diabetes	1 month's supply	11.41	12.65	-1.24	-9.8
Passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
Trinidad and Tobago	1 way	415.80	597.24	-181.44	-30.4
New York	1 month	2798.00	3345.00	-547.00	-16.4
Canada (Toronto)	1 month	2642.00	3447.00	-805.00	-23.4

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2018	September 2017		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.76	6.68	0.08	1.20
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.87	2.97	-0.10	-3.37
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.65	1.61	0.04	2.48
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.59	4.43	0.16	3.61
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.20	2.99	0.21	7.02
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	5.64	0.27	4.85
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.41	8.17	0.24	2.94
Codfish	Lb.	15.08	14.83	0.25	1.69
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.48	14.12	-0.64	-4.53
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.71	-0.04	-0.74
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	3.60	0.40	11.11
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	9.24	9.16	0.08	0.87
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.66	1.69	-0.03	-1.78
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	1.96	-0.05	-2.55
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.56	10.55	0.01	0.09
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.34	0.08	5.97
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.39	2.58	-0.19	-7.36
Eddoes	Lb.	2.68	3.34	-0.66	-19.76
Dasheens	Lb.	2.06	2.02	0.04	1.98
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.08	2.22	-0.14	-6.31
Oranges	Each	0.88	0.85	0.03	3.53
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.95	4.69	-0.74	-15.78
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.17	9.06	0.11	1.21
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.35	12.38	-0.03	-0.24
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
September 2018 Compared With September 2017

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2018	September 2017		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	30.00	29.89	0.11	0.37
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	4.55	0.54	11.87
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.96	4.19	-0.23	-5.49
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	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	125.64	105.21	20.43	19.42
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	6.29	6.16	0.13	2.11

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2018	September 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	11.41	12.57	-1.16	-9.23
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.16	15.09	0.07	0.46
Dental Care	Visit	130.83	123.33	7.50	6.08
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
September 2018 Compared With September 2017

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2018	September 2017		
EDUCATION					
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	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	15.51	0.00	0.00
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	9.16	-0.02	-0.22
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	August 2018	September 2018	September 2017	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month August	Year September
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.0	115.9	115.1	-0.1	0.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	121.4	122.0	118.3	0.5	3.1
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.6	104.9	105.2	0.3	-0.3
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	101.9	102.9	99.0	1.0	3.9
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.6	111.8	109.3	0.2	2.3
06.	Health	1.79	109.1	108.9	106.6	-0.2	2.2
07.	Transport	11.84	126.9	124.1	120.7	-2.2	2.8
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	111.9	0.0	1.3
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.7	106.7	104.5	0.0	2.1
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.3	110.1	0.2	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
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.8	110.9	108.4	0.1	2.3

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for September 2018

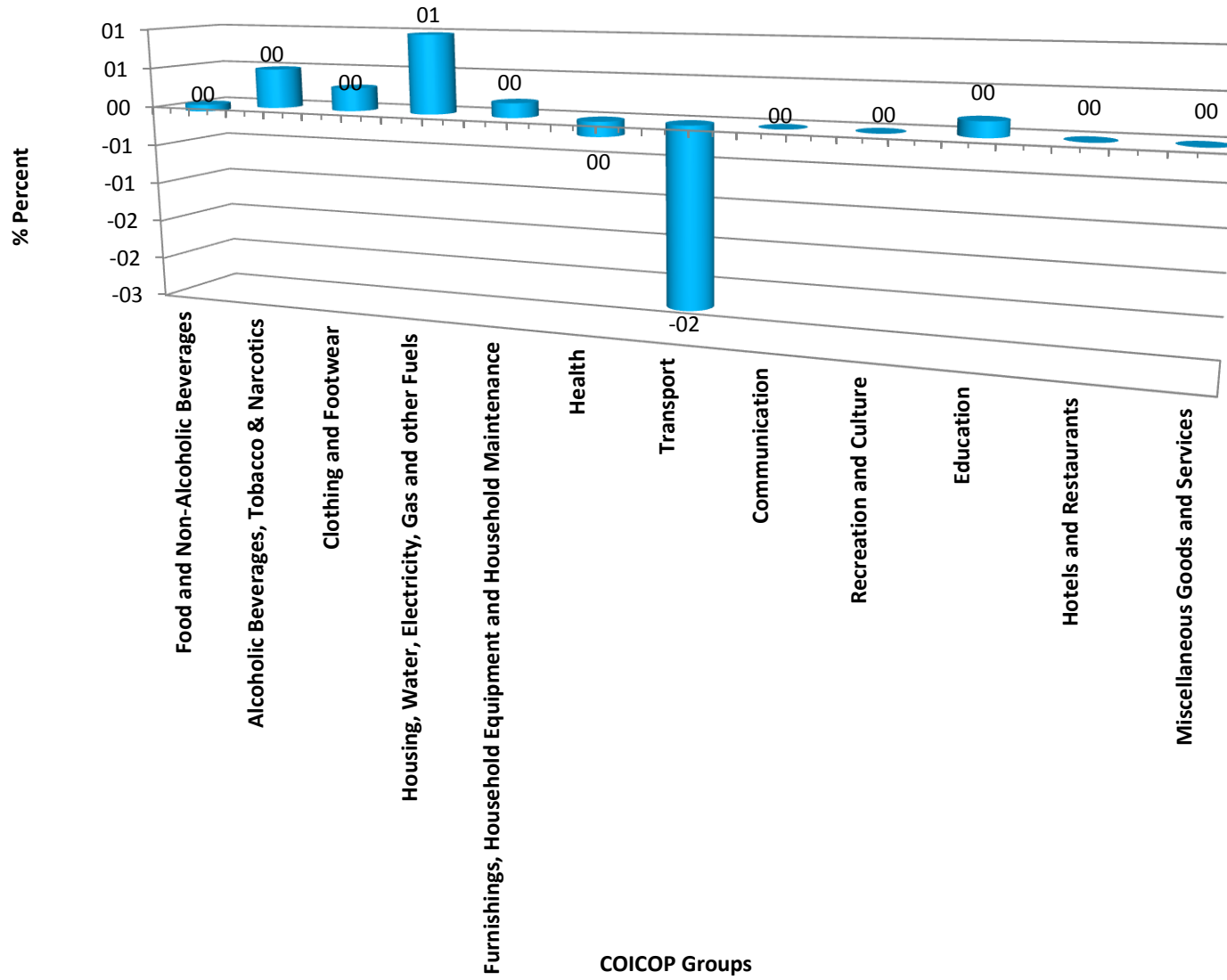


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	August 2018	September 2018	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						August 2018	September 2018		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.0	115.9	-0.1	2,541.56	2,539.37	-2.2	-21.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	121.4	122.0	0.5	469.82	472.14	2.3	23.2
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.6	104.9	0.3	336.81	337.78	1.0	9.7
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	101.9	102.9	1.0	3,063.11	3,093.17	30.1	300.6
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.6	111.8	0.2	735.44	736.76	1.3	13.2
6.	Health	1.79	109.1	108.9	-0.2	195.29	194.93	-0.4	-3.6
7.	Transport	11.84	126.9	124.1	-2.2	1,502.50	1,469.34	-33.2	-331.5
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	106.7	0.0	406.53	406.53	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.3	0.2	145.33	145.60	0.3	2.6
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	110.8	110.9	0.1	11,080.00	11,090.00	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
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