



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

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

**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## JULY 2019

During the month of July 2019, the consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.2 percent compared to 0.5 percent for the month of June 2019 (*see table 3*).

The “All Items” index was recorded at 111.8 compared to 111.6 for the month of June 2019.

Five (5) groups recorded increase during the month, namely, “Transport” (2.9%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (0.9%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.6%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.3%). Four (4) groups decreased for the month, namely, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.8%), “Health” (0.7%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.6%) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.2%). Three (3) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Communication”, and “Education” (*see table 3*).

The index for “Transport” grew by 2.9 percent due mainly to an increase in passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations as well as the price for pick-up truck tyres. These destinations include Trinidad and Tobago (64.4%), St. Lucia (49.4%), Toronto, Canada (23.2%) and New York, U.S.A (19.2%). The price for pick-up truck tyres increased by 16.8%.

The 0.9 percent increase in the group index for “Hotels and Restaurants” is a result of a 6.8 percent increase in the price of a mutton lunch. Meanwhile, a higher price for ginger wine (4.9%) is responsible for the 0.6 percent growth in the group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Narcotics & Tobacco”.

The upward movement of 0.3 percent in the group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” is due mainly to increase in prices for several food items; garlic powder (21.9%), black pepper (17.6%), tomatoes (15.7%), oranges (14.4%), currants (13.2%), black eye peas (10.7%), turkey wings (7.1%), onions (6.8%) and coconuts (5.8%).

The 0.3 percent increase in “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” is due to an increase of 13.0 percent in the price of a cordless electric iron.

The 0.8 percent decrease in the group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” is due to a reduction of 13.1 percent in the price of nails and 4.2 percent in the cost of electricity. Whereas the decline of 0.7 percent in the “Health” index was due to lower prices for a drug that is use in the treatment of diabetes (18.3%) and pain relievers (4.3%). A decrease of 25.0 percent in the price of a pencil and 6.5 percent in the price of a primary school language arts textbook is responsible for the 0.2 percent decline in the index for “Recreation and Culture”. Similarly, the 0.2 percent decline in the index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” is due to a 10.0 percent reduction in the cost of motor vehicle insurance for third party coverage.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 1.0 percent for the month of July 2019 compared with 2.0 percent for July 2018. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (3.1%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (2.1%), “Transport” (1.2%), Food and Alcoholic Beverages (1.2%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.2%), (*See table 3*).

**The consumer price index increased by 0.2 percent for the month of July 2019. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.1 percent due to relative price changes during the month of July 2019 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
		July 2019	June 2019		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Turkey wings	Lb	3.46	3.23	0.23	7.1
Oranges	Lb	3.98	3.48	0.50	14.4
Currants	Lb	15.10	13.34	1.76	13.2
Coconuts	Each	1.63	1.54	0.09	5.8
Tomatoes	Lb	4.87	4.21	0.66	15.7
Onions	Lb	2.84	2.66	0.18	6.8
Black eye peas	Lb	5.70	5.15	0.55	10.7
Black pepper	1/4Lb	6.63	5.64	0.99	17.6
Garlic powder	3.18oz bottle	9.75	8.00	1.75	21.9
Ginger wine	750ml bottle	22.50	21.45	1.05	4.9
Electric iron (cordless)	Each	84.75	75.00	9.75	13.0
Pick-up truck tyres	Each	422.32	361.47	60.85	16.8
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>St. Lucia</i>	1 way	574.34	384.40	189.94	49.4
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	1 way	608.04	369.90	238.14	64.4
<i>New York, United States of America</i>	1 month	4294.00	3601.00	693.00	19.2
<i>Toronto, Canada</i>	1 month	3516.00	2855.00	661.00	23.2
Galvanize pipes	1 length	70.09	62.00	8.09	13.0
Mutton lunch	Each	19.50	18.25	1.25	6.8
Women's hairdress, treatment	1 visit	55.00	46.90	8.10	17.3
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Nails, galvanize	Lb	5.75	6.62	-0.87	-13.1
Electricity	140Kwh	127.30	132.94	-5.64	-4.2
Drugs for diabetes	1 month's supply	14.87	18.21	-3.34	-18.3
Pain relievers	24 per bottle	14.47	15.12	-0.65	-4.3
Language Arts textbook (Primary school)	Each	35.99	38.51	-2.52	-6.5
Pencil	Each	0.75	1.00	-0.25	-25.0
Vehicle insurance, 3rd party	1 year	432.00	480.00	-48.00	-10.0
Truck tyres	Each	628.96	751.52	-122.56	-16.3
Brake shoes	Set	201.56	286.02	-84.46	-29.5

**Table 2 (a)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**July 2019 Compared With July 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2019	July 2018		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.0
Chicken - whole	Lb.	6.72	6.61	0.11	1.7
Chicken - leg quarters	Lb.	2.94	2.82	0.12	4.3
Chicken - backs	Lb.	1.66	1.66	0.00	0.0
Chicken - wings	Lb.	4.73	4.62	0.11	2.4
Turkey wings	Lb.	3.46	3.18	0.28	8.8
Fish - fresh (Deep sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.0
Fish - fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.0
Fish - fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Chicken franks	340g Pk.	6.07	5.83	0.24	4.1
Luncheon meat (Pork)	340 grams	8.30	8.25	0.05	0.6
Codfish	Lb.	15.36	14.98	0.38	2.5
Cornflakes	12 oz.	13.73	13.49	0.25	1.8
Pasta - elbows	340 grams	4.67	4.62	0.05	1.1
Milk - evaporated	410g Tin	3.15	3.28	-0.13	-4.0
Milk - condensed	397g Tin	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.0
Bread- small loaf, white	5 Pk.	1.89	1.90	-0.01	-0.5
Bread - large sliced pan loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.21	-0.02	-0.5
Eggs	Doz.	9.54	9.05	0.49	5.4
Orange juice	19 oz Tin	9.07	9.20	-0.13	-1.4
Sugar - brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.62	1.66	-0.04	-2.4
Sugar - white ( loose)	Lb.	1.78	1.81	-0.03	-1.7
Flour - loose	Lb.	1.35	1.36	-0.01	-0.7
Flour - packaged ( white)	2 kg.	6.83	6.75	0.08	1.2
Flour - packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg.	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.0
Rice - loose	Lb.	1.89	1.91	-0.02	-1.0
Rice - packaged	2 Kg.	10.53	10.56	-0.03	-0.3
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.41	1.42	-0.01	-0.7
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.38	2.58	-0.20	-7.8
Eddoes	Lb.	2.74	2.59	0.15	5.8
Dasheens	Lb.	1.89	2.08	-0.19	-9.1
Sweet potatoes	Lb.	2.44	2.21	0.23	10.4
Oranges	Each	0.85	0.90	-0.05	-5.6
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.87	4.03	0.84	20.8
Cooking margarine	445g Tub	9.15	9.18	-0.03	-0.3
Vegetable oil	Litre	12.41	12.39	0.02	0.2
Powdered chocolate	300g Pk.	10.84	10.81	0.03	0.3
Hairoun fruit cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml. Bottle	2.81	2.84	-0.03	-1.1
Vitamalt	310 ml. Bottle	5.78	5.67	0.11	1.9

**Table 2 (b)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**July 2019 Compared With July 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2019	July 2018		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - local (White)	750 ml. Bot.	32.25	29.99	2.26	7.5
Beer - local	280 ml. Bot.	5.09	5.06	0.03	0.6
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.01	3.97	0.04	1.0
Table wine (local)	26 oz. Bot.	21.38	21.24	0.14	0.7
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.0
Textile material - linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.0
Men's shirts - long sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.0
Men's jeans ( long) - size 30	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.0
Men's shoes - formal	Pair	79.79	79.79	0.00	0.0
Women's shoes - formal	Pair	89.77	89.77	0.00	0.0
Women's 2Pc skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	102.48	102.48	0.00	0.0
Women's blouse ( cotton/spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.0
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY</b>					
<b>GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :					
Unfurnished house - 2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	567.86	0.00	0.0
Unfurnished house - 3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.0
Furnished apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.0
Cement - portland ( grey)	94 Lbs.	20.66	20.89	-0.23	-1.1
Galvanise sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.68	96.28	0.40	0.4
Oil paint	Gal.	134.43	112.87	21.56	19.1
Lumber - dressed treated yellow pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.30	69.49	-0.19	-0.3
Water - consumption charge	5000 Gal.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.0
Kerosene	1 Gal.	6.61	6.61	0.00	0.0
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.0
Cooking gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.66	40.15	-2.49	-6.2
Electricity consumption charge	140 K.W.H.	127.30	127.64	-0.34	-0.3
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - cherry 54"x75"	Each	1181.73	1162.88	18.85	1.6
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	105.00	0.00	0.0
Frying pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.98	55.84	0.14	0.3
Laundry soap	Each	1.24	1.24	0.00	0.0
Electrical bulb - 60W	Each	6.40	6.26	0.14	2.2



**Table 2 ( c )**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**July 2019 Compared With July 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2019	July 2018		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.0
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.0
Hospitalisation (private ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.0
Drugs for hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.0
Drug for diabetes	Month supply	10.04	12.65	-2.61	-20.6
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.28	15.09	0.19	1.3
Dental care	Visit	132.50	130.83	1.67	1.3
Chest x- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.0
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - unleaded	Gal.	12.02	12.55	-0.53	-4.2
Vehicle license (car) - not exceeding 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	590.00	0.00	0.0
Bus fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.0
Boat fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.0
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.66	23.66	0.00	0.0
Telephone - consumption charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.0
Internet charge	Month	104.00	104.00	0.00	0.0
Fixed line domestic rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.0
Mobile to mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	0.98	0.02	1.5
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " flat panel	Each	1991.19	1995.65	-4.46	-0.2
Cable TV basic charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.0
Laptop computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3846.77	3835.91	10.86	0.3
Desktop computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2079.30	2073.43	5.87	0.3
Remote control car	Each	250.22	250.00	0.22	0.1
Dog food (canned)	374 g. Tin	3.84	3.83	0.01	0.3
Dance admission to night club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.0
Carnival costume and band fees (adult)	Each	375.00	375.00	0.00	0.0

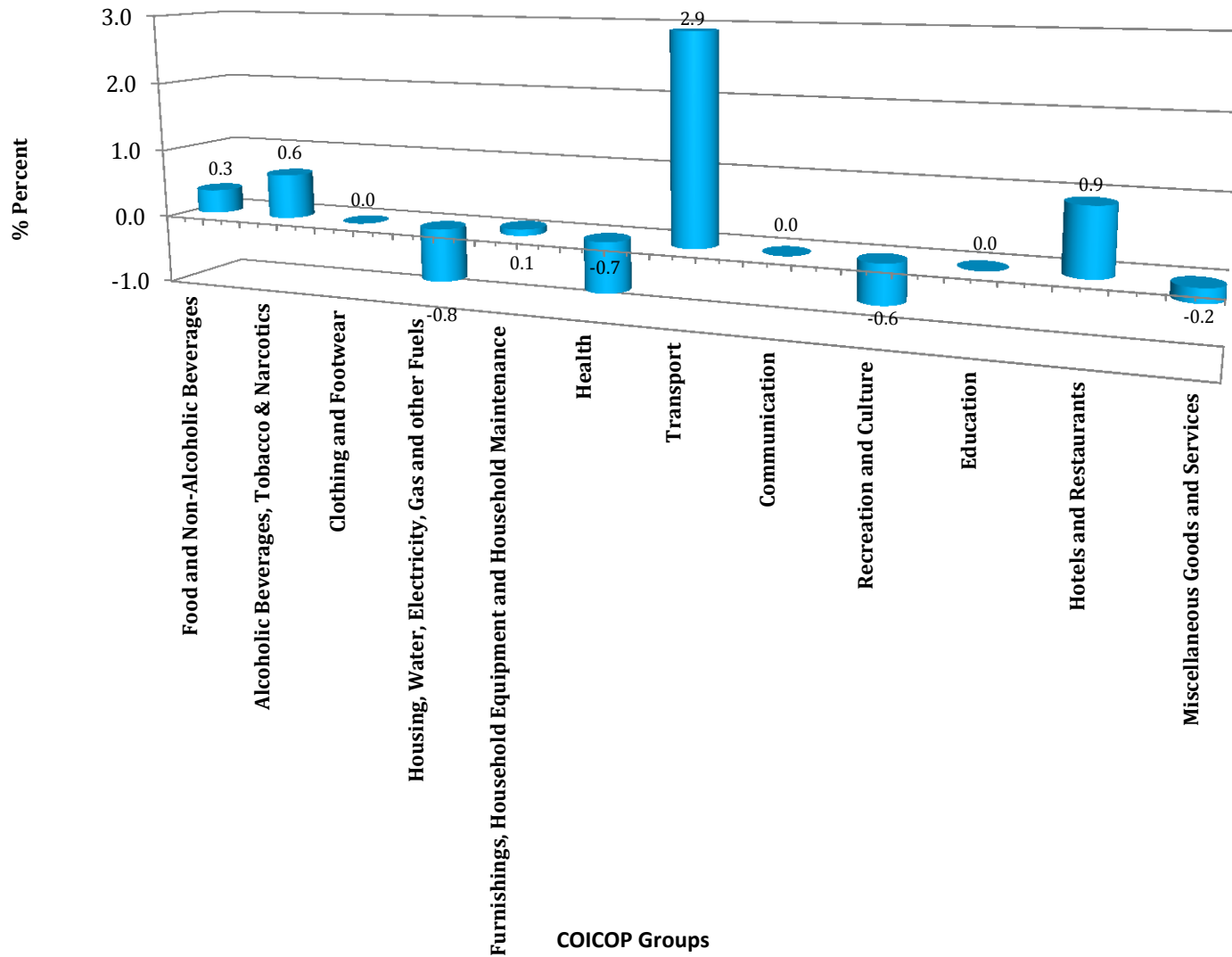
**Table 2 (d)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**July 2019 Compared With July 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2019	July 2018		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-primary - private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.0
Primary school fee - private	Term	850.00	825.00	25.00	3.0
Secondary school fee - private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.0
Newspaper - local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.0
Exercise book - primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.0
Lead pencils	Each	0.75	0.61	0.14	23.0
Mathematics textbook - form 4	Each	75.12	72.44	2.68	3.7
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.0
<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>					
Chicken lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.39	0.10	0.7
Fish lunch - regular	Each	15.49	15.51	-0.02	-0.1
Fast food - 2 Pc chicken and fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.0
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet soap	125 g.	3.52	3.51	0.01	0.4
Toothpaste	130 g. Tube	9.32	9.16	0.16	1.8
Men's haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.0
Women's hairdressing (relaxer )	Visit	69.82	69.82	0.00	0.0
Disposable diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.26	13.05	0.22	1.6
Health insurance - group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.0
Legal expenses (affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.0

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

	Groups	Weight	June 2019	July 2019	July 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month June	Year July
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.9	117.3	115.8	0.3	1.3
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	124.2	125.0	121.3	0.6	3.1
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	105.0	104.7	0.0	0.3
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	104.0	103.2	102.7	-0.8	0.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.4	113.5	111.4	0.1	1.9
06.	Health	1.79	109.9	109.1	109.1	-0.7	0.0
07.	Transport	11.84	123.2	126.8	125.3	2.9	1.2
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	112.1	0.0	1.1
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.2	106.6	106.4	-0.6	0.2
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	110.1	0.0	0.2
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.6	109.6	108.3	0.9	1.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.0	103.8	103.6	-0.2	0.2
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for July 2019



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

	Groups	Weight	June 2019	July 2019	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						June 2019	July 2019		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.9	117.3	0.3	2,561.3	2,570.0	8.8	43.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	124.2	125.0	0.6	480.7	483.8	3.1	15.5
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	105.0	0.0	338.1	338.1	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	104.0	103.2	-0.8	3,126.2	3,102.2	-24.0	-120.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.4	113.5	0.1	747.3	748.0	0.7	3.3
6.	Health	1.79	109.9	109.1	-0.7	196.7	195.3	-1.4	-7.2
7.	Transport	11.84	123.2	126.8	2.9	1,458.7	1,501.3	42.6	213.1
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	0.0	1,066.2	1,066.2	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.2	106.6	-0.6	408.4	406.1	-2.3	-11.4
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	0.0	145.6	145.6	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.6	109.6	0.9	203.1	205.0	1.9	9.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.0	103.8	-0.2	448.2	447.4	-0.9	-4.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>11,160.0</b>	<b>11,180.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 5**  
**Monthly Index - 2019**  
**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	111.4	116.1	122.5	105.0	103.0	113.6	110.9	126.3	113.3	107.4	110.3	108.6	103.9
February	110.9	115.9	122.5	105.0	103.1	113.5	110.5	122.3	113.3	107.5	110.3	108.6	103.9
March	111.0	116.1	122.7	105.0	102.8	113.3	110.5	123.7	113.3	107.5	110.3	108.6	103.9
April	111.5	116.3	122.8	105.0	103.7	113.3	109.9	125.0	113.3	107.5	110.3	108.6	103.9
May	111.0	116.2	123.7	105.0	103.0	113.3	109.9	122.2	113.3	107.5	110.3	108.6	104.1
June	111.6	116.9	124.2	105.0	104.0	113.4	109.9	123.2	113.3	107.2	110.3	108.6	104.0
July	111.8	117.3	125.0	105.0	103.2	113.5	109.1	126.8	113.3	106.6	110.3	109.6	103.8