



# 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*

**Vol. 9 No.8  
August 2019**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Analysis –	1
Table No.	
1 Average Retail Price of Selected Items	4
2 Average Retail Price of Selected Items August 2019 compared With August 2018	5
3 The Consumer Price Index by main groups	9
4 The Consumer Price Index contribution to change by Groups	11
5 Monthly Items by Group	12
Chart No.	
1 COICOP Percentage Change for the Month of August 2019	10

\* \* \*

## AUGUST 2019

The consumer price index remained unchanged during the month of August 2019, compared to a 0.2 percent increase for the month of July 2019. *(See table 3).*

The “All Items” index was recorded at 111.8 for the months of July and August 2019 respectively. Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month namely, “Transport” (1.3%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.8%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.5%) and “Health” (0.1%). One (1) group decreased for the month, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.9%). Seven (7) groups remained unchanged, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages”, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Communication”, “Education”, “Hotels and Restaurants” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”. *(See table 3).*

The index for “Transport” grew by 1.3 percent as a result of increases in the price for passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to a few destinations, namely, Toronto-Canada (33.2%) and London-United Kingdom (24.2%). A rise in the cost of gasoline (7.9%) and diesel (1.3%) also accounted for the growth in this index.

Higher prices for cat food (11.7%) and dog food (7.6%) were responsible for the 0.8 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

Meanwhile, there was a 0.5 percent increase in the index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Narcotics & Tobacco” group. This was mainly on account of increases in ginger wine (7.3%), black wine (3.1%) and imported white rum (3.1%).

The “Health” index grew by 0.1 percent on account of a rise in the cost of dental care services (8.3 percent).

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” index fell by 0.9 percent due to a reduction in the cost of cooking gas; 100lb cylinder (4.3%), 25lb cylinder (4.3%) and 20lb cylinder (4.1%) and a 3.7 percent reduction in the cost of electricity.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.9 percent for the month of August 2019 compared to 2.2 percent for August 2018. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (3.5%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (1.7%), “Transport” (1.3%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.2%) and “Food and Alcoholic Beverages” (1.1%), (*See table 3*).

**The consumer price index remained unchanged for the month of August 2019. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.9 percent due to relative price changes during the month of August 2019 compared with 2.2 percent for 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 2019	July 2019		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Chicken Franks	12oz Pkt	6.25	6.07	0.18	3.0
Vanilla Flavoured milk drink	250ml Box	4.31	4.09	0.22	5.4
Powdered milk	Lb	6.96	6.87	0.09	1.3
English potatoes	Lb	2.56	2.44	0.12	4.9
Chicken - Leg quarters	Lb	3.00	2.94	0.06	2.0
Limes	Lb	3.42	3.31	0.11	3.3
Cabbage	Lb	4.53	4.19	0.34	8.1
Onion - loose	Lb	3.30	2.84	0.46	16.2
Garlic - loose	Lb	3.87	3.48	0.39	11.2
Black wine	750ml Bot	22.04	21.38	0.66	3.1
Ginger wine	750ml Bot	24.15	22.50	1.65	7.3
White rum - imported	750ml Bot	25.14	24.38	0.76	3.1
Dental services -extraction	Service	130.00	120.00	10.00	8.3
Gasoline	1 Gal	12.97	12.02	0.95	7.9
Diesel	1 Gal	11.79	11.64	0.15	1.3
Passenger Airfare St.Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>Toronto</i>	month	4685.00	3516.00	1169.00	33.2
<i>London</i>	month	5550.00	4453.00	1097.00	24.6
Dog food	375g Tin	6.10	5.67	0.43	7.6
Cat food	5.5oz Tin	3.90	3.49	0.41	11.7
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Pig feet frozen	Lb	4.36	4.58	-0.22	-4.8
Pork Ribs	Lb	6.00	6.18	-0.18	-2.9
Eggs	Doz	9.39	9.54	-0.15	-1.6
Yams	Lb	3.91	4.03	-0.12	-3.0
Cough, cold preparation	125ml	15.20	15.28	-0.08	-0.5
Cucumber	Lb	2.54	3.67	-1.13	-30.8
Cooking gas:					
20lb Cylinder		36.13	37.66	-1.53	-4.1
25lb Cylinder		43.16	45.08	-1.92	-4.3
100lb Cylinder		171.13	178.81	-7.68	-4.3
Electricity Consumption Charge	140KWH	122.60	127.30	-4.70	-3.7

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2019	August 2018		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.0
Chicken - whole	Lb.	6.75	6.95	-0.20	-2.9
Chicken - leg quarters	Lb.	3.00	2.84	0.16	5.6
Chicken - backs	Lb.	1.68	1.66	0.02	1.2
Chicken - wings	Lb.	4.75	4.61	0.14	3.0
Turkey wings	Lb.	3.51	3.19	0.32	10.0
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.	6.25	5.96	0.29	4.8
Luncheon meat (Pork)	340 grams	8.35	8.41	-0.06	-0.8
Codfish	Lb.	15.36	14.95	0.41	2.7
Cornflakes	12 oz.	14.00	13.58	0.42	3.1
Pasta - elbows	340 grams	4.67	4.67	0.00	0.0
Milk - evaporated	410g Tin	3.15	3.29	-0.14	-4.2
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.	9.39	9.21	0.18	2.0
Orange juice	19 oz Tin	9.09	9.21	-0.12	-1.3
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	0.07	1.1
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.	10.48	10.56	-0.08	-0.8
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.42	0.00	0.0
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.32	2.58	-0.26	-10.1
Eddoes	Lb.	2.70	2.59	0.11	4.2
Dasheens	Lb.	1.85	2.08	-0.23	-11.1
Sweet potatoes	Lb.	2.41	2.15	0.26	12.1
Oranges	Each	0.88	0.90	-0.02	-2.2
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.87	4.20	0.67	16.0
Cooking margarine	445g Tub	9.15	9.19	-0.03	-0.4
Vegetable oil	Litre	12.41	12.35	0.06	0.5
Powdered chocolate	300g Pk.	10.84	10.81	0.04	0.3
Hairoun fruit cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml. Bottle	2.82	2.84	-0.02	-0.7
Vitamalt	310 ml. Bottle	5.82	5.71	0.11	1.9

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2019	August 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	5.09	0.00	0.0
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.01	3.99	0.02	0.5
Table wine (local)	26 oz. Bot.	22.04	21.24	0.80	3.8
<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.	36.13	40.46	-4.33	-10.7
Electricity consumption charge	140 K.W.H.	122.60	119.45	3.15	2.6
<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**  
**August 2019 Compared With August 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2019	August 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.	15.20	15.09	0.11	0.7
Dental care	Visit	134.17	130.83	3.33	2.5
Chest x- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.0
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - unleaded	Gal.	12.97	12.99	-0.02	-0.2
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	1.00	0.00	0.0
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " flat panel	Each	2004.58	2001.25	3.33	0.2
Cable TV basic charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.0
Laptop computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3872.65	3846.68	25.97	0.7
Desktop computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2093.29	2079.25	14.04	0.7
Remote control car	Each	258.45	250.00	8.45	3.4
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



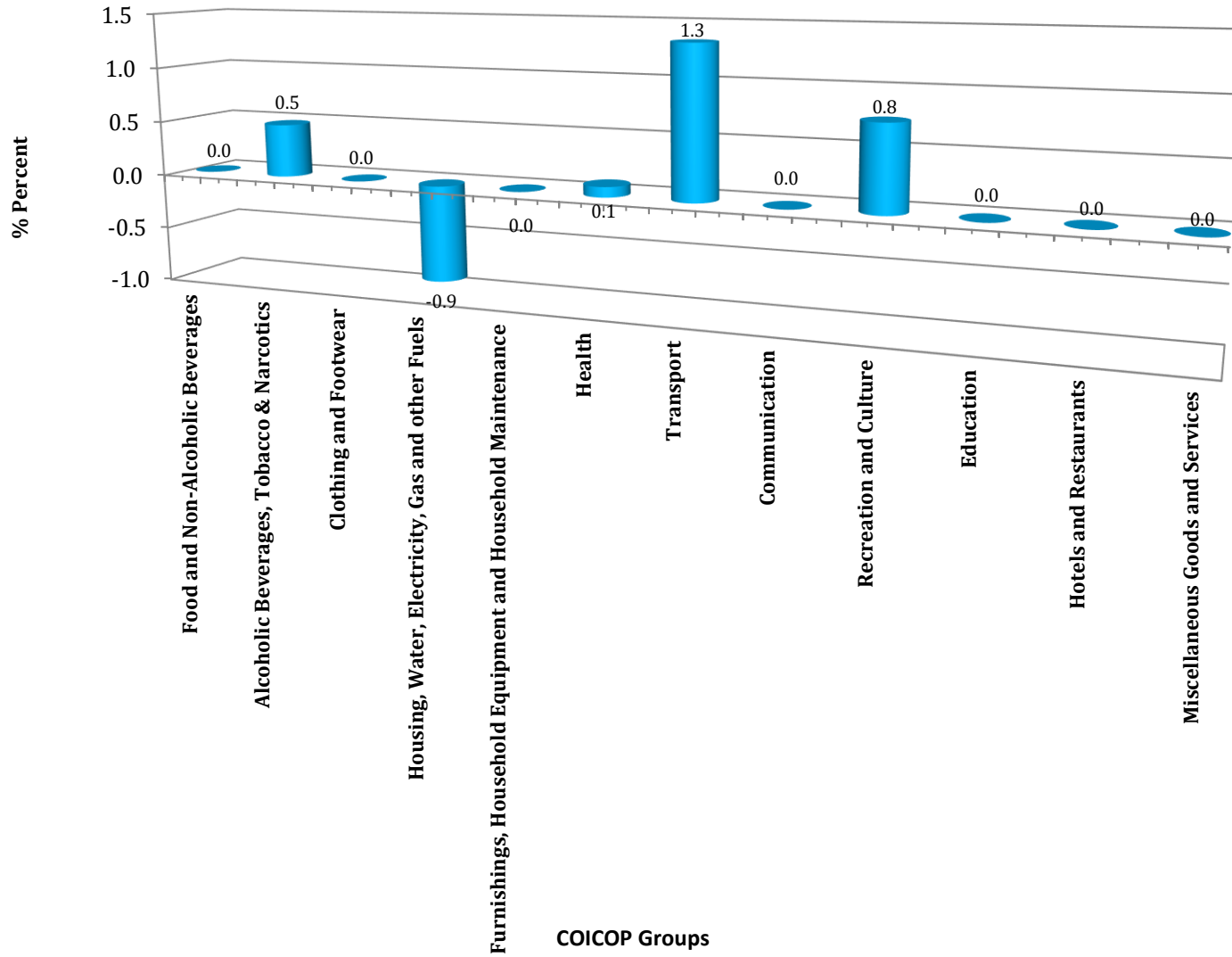
**Table 2 (d)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**August 2019 Compared With August 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2019	August 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	0.71	0.04	5.6
Mathematics textbook - form 4	Each	75.12	70.74	4.38	6.2
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	3.49	0.03	1.0
Toothpaste	130 g. Tube	9.33	9.14	0.18	2.0
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.	13.27	13.03	0.23	1.8
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	July 2019	August 2019	August 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.3	117.3	116.0	0.0	1.1
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.0	125.6	121.4	0.5	3.5
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	105.0	104.6	0.0	0.4
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.2	102.3	101.9	-0.9	0.4
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.5	113.5	111.6	0.0	1.7
06.	Health	1.79	109.1	109.2	109.1	0.1	0.1
07.	Transport	11.84	126.8	128.5	126.9	1.3	1.3
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.6	107.4	106.7	0.8	0.7
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	110.1	0.0	0.2
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	109.6	109.6	108.3	0.0	1.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.8	103.8	103.6	0.0	0.2
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August 2019



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

	Groups	Weight	July 2019	August 2019	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						July 2019	August 2019		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.3	117.3	0.0	2,570.0	2,570.0	0.0	-
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.0	125.6	0.5	483.8	486.1	2.3	-
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	105.0	0.0	338.1	338.1	0.0	-
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.2	102.3	-0.9	3,102.2	3,075.1	-27.1	-
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.5	113.5	0.0	748.0	748.0	0.0	-
6.	Health	1.79	109.1	109.2	0.1	195.3	195.5	0.2	-
7.	Transport	11.84	126.8	128.5	1.3	1,501.3	1,521.4	20.1	-
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	0.0	1,066.2	1,066.2	0.0	-
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	106.6	107.4	0.8	406.1	409.2	3.0	-
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	0.0	145.6	145.6	0.0	-
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	109.6	109.6	0.0	205.0	205.0	0.0	-
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.8	103.8	0.0	447.4	447.4	0.0	-
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>11,180.0</b>	<b>11,180.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-</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
August	111.8	117.3	125.6	105.0	102.3	113.5	109.2	128.5	113.3	107.4	110.3	109.6	103.8