



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

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

**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## SEPTEMBER 2019

During the month of September 2019, the consumer price index recorded a decrease of 0.3 percent in contrast to remaining unchanged during the month of August 2019. *(see table 3).*

The “All Items” index was recorded at 111.5 compared to 111.8 for the month of August 2019. Six (6) groups recorded increases during the month, namely, “Education” (1.8%), “Health” (0.5%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.4%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (0.4%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3%) and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.1%). The group “Transport” was the sole group to record a decrease during the month (2.8%). Five (5) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Communication” and “Recreation and Culture”. *(See table 3).*

Higher prices for tuition fees at the following campuses, namely, St. Augustine U.W.I. (8.1%) and Mona U.W.I. (2.4%) led to the 1.8 percent increase in the “Education’ index.

“Health” grew by 0.5 percent on account of a rise in the price of a drug for the treatment of diabetes (15.4%).

The upward movement of 0.4 percent in the group index for “Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages” was due to an increase in the prices of a few commodities, namely, chicken neck (35.5%), pig snout (11.1%), turkey neck (7.5%), evaporated milk (2.9%), codfish (2.1%) and other cereal (0.3%).

Higher prices for disposable diapers (10.1%), comb (10.0%), toothpaste (5.9%), antibacterial soap (3.2%), sanitary napkin (2.5%) and toilet soap (2.2%) were responsible for the 0.3 percent increase in the index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

Meanwhile, there was a 0.1 percent increase in the index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Narcotics & Tobacco” group. This was mainly on account of an increase in the prices for brandy (0.7%) and whiskey (0.5%).

The “Transport” index fell by 2.8 percent as a result of a decrease in the prices for passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to a few destinations, namely, Toronto (55.3%), London (23.5%), Trinidad and Tobago (18.7%), St. Lucia (7.4%) and New York (6.0%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.5 percent for the month of September 2019 compared to 2.3 percent for September 2018. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (3.0%), “Education” (1.8%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.6%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.6%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (1.5%), (*See table 3*).

**The consumer price index decreased by 0.3 percent for the month of September 2019.**

**The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.5 percent due to relative price changes during the month of September 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
		September 2019	August 2019		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Other cereal	18oz Tin	15.07	15.03	0.04	0.3
Pig snout	Lb	8.83	7.95	0.88	11.1
Chicken necks	Lb	2.10	1.55	0.55	35.5
Turkey necks	Lb	3.43	3.19	0.24	7.5
Codfish	Lb	15.69	15.36	0.33	2.1
Evaporated milk	410g Tin	3.24	3.15	0.09	2.9
Brandy	700ml Bot.	64.94	64.48	0.46	0.7
Whiskey	700ml Bot.	102.49	102.02	0.47	0.5
Drug for diabetes	1 month supply	6.00	5.20	0.80	15.4
Disposable diapers	10 Pk	16.09	14.62	1.47	10.1
Comb	Each	1.76	1.60	0.16	10.0
Toothpaste	130g	9.51	8.98	0.53	5.9
Sanitray napkin	10 Pk	5.29	5.16	0.13	2.5
Toilet soap	125g	3.69	3.61	0.08	2.2
Antibacterial soap	115g	3.25	3.15	0.10	3.2
Tuition fee :					
<i>UWI - Mona Campus</i>	Annual	4912.20	4798.22	113.98	2.4
<i>UWI - St. Augustine</i>	Annual	6219.28	5750.69	468.59	8.1
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Oranges	Lb	3.55	4.01	-0.46	-11.5
Cabbages	Lb	4.36	4.53	-0.17	-3.8
Onions	Lb	3.22	3.30	-0.08	-2.4
Electricity Consumption Charge	140KWh	121.31	122.60	-1.29	-1.1
Passenger Airfare St.Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>St. Lucia</i>	One way	395.20	426.92	-31.72	-7.4
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	One way	494.10	608.04	-113.94	-18.7
<i>New York</i>	Month	3190.00	3393.00	-203.00	-6.0
<i>Toronto</i>	Month	2093.00	4685.00	-2592.00	-55.3
<i>London</i>	Month	4247.00	5550.00	-1303.00	-23.5

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2019	September 2018		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.0
Chicken - whole	Lb.	6.83	6.76	0.07	1.0
Chicken - leg quarters	Lb.	3.09	2.87	0.22	7.7
Chicken - backs	Lb.	1.71	1.65	0.06	3.6
Chicken - wings	Lb.	4.87	4.59	0.28	6.1
Turkey wings	Lb.	3.57	3.20	0.37	11.6
Fish - fresh (Deep sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.0
Fish - fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.0
Fish - fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Chicken franks	340g Pk.	6.25	5.91	0.34	5.8
Luncheon meat (Pork)	340 grams	8.14	8.41	-0.27	-3.2
Codfish	Lb.	15.69	15.08	0.61	4.0
Cornflakes	12 oz.	14.00	13.48	0.52	3.9
Pasta - elbows	340 grams	4.67	4.67	0.00	0.0
Milk - evaporated	410g Tin	3.21	3.30	-0.09	-2.7
Milk - condensed	397g Tin	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.0
Bread- small loaf, white	5 Pk.	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.0
Bread - large sliced pan loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.19	0.00	0.0
Eggs	Doz.	9.22	9.18	0.04	0.4
Orange juice	19 oz Tin	9.09	9.24	-0.15	-1.6
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.	10.48	10.56	-0.08	-0.8
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.42	0.00	0.0
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.32	2.39	-0.07	-2.9
Eddoes	Lb.	2.71	2.68	0.03	1.1
Dasheens	Lb.	1.87	2.06	-0.19	-9.2
Sweet potatoes	Lb.	2.42	2.08	0.34	16.3
Oranges	Each	0.88	0.88	0.00	0.0
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.80	3.95	1.85	46.8
Cooking margarine	445g Tub	9.15	9.17	-0.02	-0.2
Vegetable oil	Litre	12.41	12.35	0.07	0.5
Powdered chocolate	300g Pk.	10.84	10.81	0.04	0.3
Hairoun fruit cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml. Bottle	2.81	2.85	-0.04	-1.4
Vitamalt	310 ml. Bottle	5.81	5.71	0.10	1.8

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2019	September 2018		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - local (White)	750 ml. Bot.	32.26	30.00	2.26	7.5
Beer - local	280 ml. Bot.	5.09	5.09	0.00	0.0
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.01	3.96	0.05	1.3
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	133.60	0.83	0.6
Lumber - dressed treated yellow pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.30	67.19	2.11	3.1
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.	121.31	125.64	-4.33	-3.4
<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	1.25	1.24	0.01	0.8
Electrical bulb - 60W	Each	6.40	6.29	0.11	1.7

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2019	September 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	10.44	11.41	-0.97	-8.5
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.16	0.02	0.1
Dental care	Visit	134.17	130.83	3.34	2.6
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



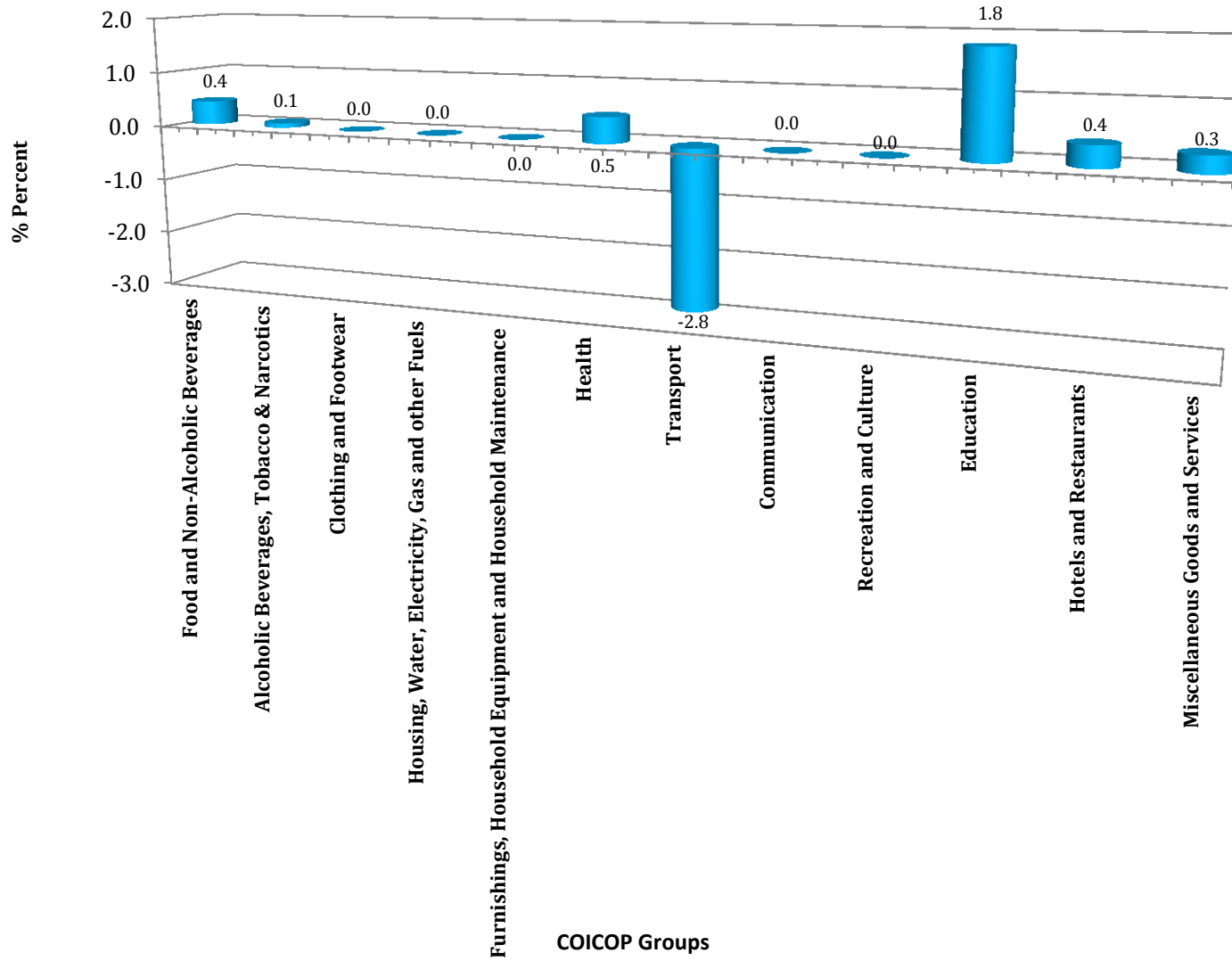
**Table 2 (d)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**September 2019 Compared With September 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		September 2019	September 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.	3.54	3.49	0.05	1.6
Toothpaste	130 g. Tube	9.59	9.14	0.45	4.9
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.	13.45	13.03	0.42	3.2
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	August 2019	September 2019	September 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month August	Year September
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.3	117.8	115.9	0.4	1.6
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.6	125.7	122.0	0.1	3.0
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	105.0	104.9	0.0	0.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.3	102.3	102.9	0.0	-0.6
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.5	113.5	111.8	0.0	1.5
06.	Health	1.79	109.1	109.6	108.9	0.5	0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	128.5	124.9	124.1	-2.8	0.6
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.4	107.4	106.7	0.0	0.7
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	112.3	110.3	1.8	1.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	109.6	110.0	108.3	0.4	1.6
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.8	104.1	103.6	0.3	0.5
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>110.9</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>

**Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for September 2019**



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

	Groups	Weight	August 2019	September 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	117.8	0.4	2,570.0	2,581.0	11.0	-36.5
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.6	125.7	0.1	486.1	486.5	0.4	-1.3
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	102.3	102.3	0.0	3,075.1	3,075.1	0.0	0.0
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.5	113.5	0.0	748.0	748.0	0.0	0.0
6.	Health	1.79	109.2	109.6	0.4	195.5	196.2	0.7	-2.4
7.	Transport	11.84	128.5	124.9	-2.8	1,521.4	1,478.8	-42.6	142.1
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	107.4	107.4	0.0	409.2	409.2	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	112.3	1.8	145.6	148.2	2.6	-8.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	109.6	110.0	0.4	205.0	205.7	0.7	-2.5
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.8	104.1	0.3	447.4	448.7	1.3	-4.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.8</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>11,180.0</b>	<b>11,150.0</b>	<b>-30.0</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
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
September	111.5	117.8	125.7	105.0	102.3	113.5	109.6	124.9	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.0	104.1