



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

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

**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## OCTOBER 2019

The consumer price index remained unchanged during the month of October 2019, when compared to the month of September 2019, *(see table 3)*.

During the month of October 2019, the “All Items” index was recorded at 111.5, which was the same rate for September 2019. Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month, namely, “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.8%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (0.5%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Narcotics and Tobacco” (0.2%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels”, (0.1%). Two (2) groups recorded decreases during the period, “Health” (0.5%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.2%). Six (6) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Transport”, “Communication”, “Recreation and Culture” and “Education” *(See table 3)*.

The group index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” grew by 0.8 percent on account of the following; an 11.1 percent increase in the cost of third party vehicle insurance, 8.9 percent increase in the price of an antibacterial soap and 7.5 percent in the price of a hair comb.

Higher prices for school meals, namely, pizza (25.0%) and bread and chicken (20.0%) led to the 0.5 percent in the “Hotels and Restaurants” index.

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” group index rose by 0.2 percent on account of a 2.8 percent increase in the price of table wine.

Meanwhile, there was a 0.1 percent increase in the index for “Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels”. This was mainly on account of a 14.3 percent rise in the price of galvanize pipes.

“Health” index fell by 0.5 percent as a result of reduced prices for medication that is used for the treatment of asthma (20.0%) and diabetes (8.0%).

The downward movement of 0.2 percent in the “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index, was due mainly to lower prices for a few food items which included chicken necks (26.2%), condensed milk (20.9%), onions (14.6%), pig snout (10.0%) and eggs (6.9%)

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.5 percent for the month of October 2019 compared to 2.3 percent for October 2018. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (3.1%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (2.1%), “Education” (1.8%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.5%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (1.5%) and Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (1.3%). (*See table 3*).

**The consumer price index remained the same for both October and September 2019. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.5 percent due to relative price changes during the month of October 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
		October 2019	September 2019		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Packaged rice	2kg	10.99	10.48	0.51	4.9
Garlic	500g	4.49	3.87	0.62	16.0
Yeast	500g tin	27.50	15.74	11.76	74.7
Orange Juice	10oz tin	5.77	5.32	0.45	8.5
Table wine	750ml	22.66	22.04	0.62	2.8
Galvanize pipes, 1/2"	1 length	83.70	73.24	10.46	14.3
Vehicle battery, 40 Amp	each	302.83	229.90	72.93	31.7
Passenger airfare from St Vincent & the Grenadines to: <i>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</i>	1 way	618.84	494.10	124.74	25.2
School meals:					
<i>Pizza</i>	each	3.00	2.50	0.50	20.0
<i>Bread &amp; chicken</i>	each	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Hair comb	each	2.59	2.41	0.18	7.5
Antibacterial soap	each	3.54	3.25	0.29	8.9
Vehicle insurance, 3rd party	1 year	4.80	4.32	0.48	11.1
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Pig snout	lb	7.95	8.83	-0.88	-10.0
Chicken necks	lb	1.55	2.10	-0.55	-26.2
Condensed milk	395g	5.50	6.95	-1.45	-20.9
Eggs	1 doz.	8.58	9.22	-0.64	-6.9
Onion	lb	2.75	3.22	-0.47	-14.6
Drugs for diabetes	1 month's supply	4.60	5.00	-0.40	-8.0
Drugs for asthma	1 month's supply	6.00	7.50	-1.50	-20.0
Passenger airfare from St Vincent & the Grenadines to:					
<i>Barbados</i>	1 way	495.32	603.05	-107.73	-17.9
<i>New York, U.S.A</i>	1 month	2882.00	3190.00	-308.00	-9.7
<i>London, United Kingdom</i>	1 month	3836.00	4247.00	-411.00	-9.7

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2019	October 2018		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.0
Chicken - whole	Lb.	6.79	6.76	0.03	0.4
Chicken - leg quarters	Lb.	3.04	2.87	0.17	5.9
Chicken - backs	Lb.	1.78	1.65	0.13	7.9
Chicken - wings	Lb.	4.82	4.59	0.23	5.0
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.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.0
Fish - fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Chicken franks	340g Pk.	6.20	5.91	0.29	4.9
Luncheon meat (Pork)	340 grams	8.12	8.34	-0.22	-2.6
Codfish	Lb.	15.39	15.23	0.16	1.1
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	3.26	3.29	-0.03	-0.9
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.	8.58	9.18	-0.60	-6.5
Orange juice	19 oz Tin	9.02	8.84	0.18	2.0
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	6.77	0.06	0.9
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.	10.99	10.56	0.43	4.1
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.42	0.00	0.0
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.32	2.38	-0.06	-2.5
Eddoes	Lb.	2.72	2.68	0.04	1.5
Dasheens	Lb.	1.87	2.06	-0.19	-9.2
Sweet potatoes	Lb.	2.42	2.08	0.34	16.3
Oranges	Each	0.84	0.88	-0.04	-4.5
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	12.38	0.03	0.2
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	5.76	5.71	0.05	0.9

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2019	October 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.	22.63	21.24	1.39	6.5
<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	79.85	79.79	0.06	0.1
Women's shoes - formal	Pair	89.83	89.77	0.06	0.1
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	70.33	67.19	3.14	4.7
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.	121.55	126.18	-4.63	-3.7
<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	105.05	105.00	0.05	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**  
**October 2019 Compared With October 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2019	October 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	10.09	11.51	-1.42	-12.3
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.17	0.01	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



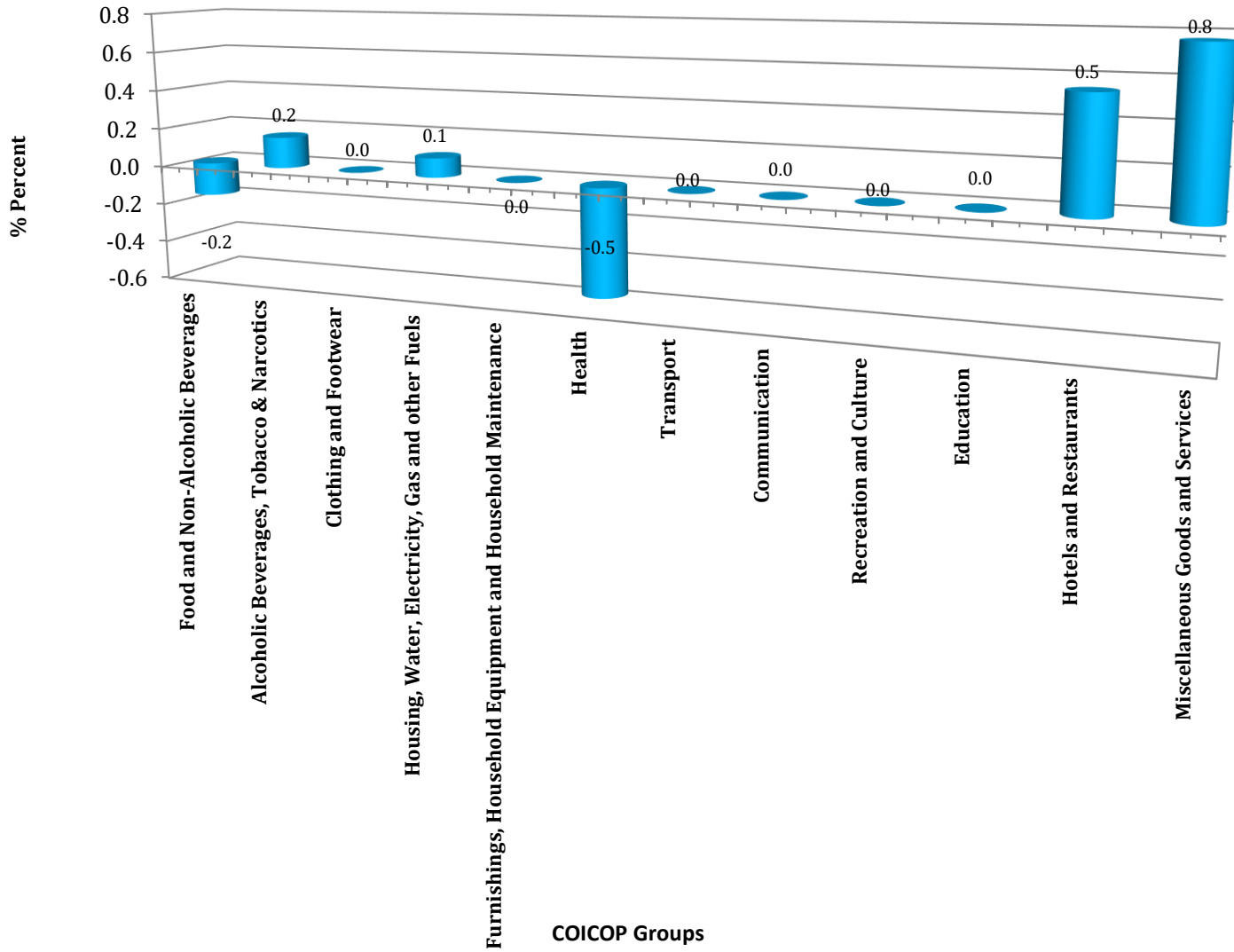
**Table 2 (d)**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2019 Compared With October 2018**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2019	October 2018		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-primary - private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.0
Primary school fee - private	Term	850.00	850.00	0.00	0.0
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	1.00	-0.25	-25.0
Mathematics textbook - form 4	Each	75.12	76.43	-1.31	-1.7
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.	3.47	3.48	-0.01	-0.3
Toothpaste	130 g. Tube	9.59	9.13	0.46	5.0
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.	13.55	13.03	0.52	4.0
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	September 2019	October 2019	October 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month September	Year October
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.8	117.6	115.9	-0.2	1.5
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.7	125.9	122.1	0.2	3.1
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	102.4	103.0	0.1	-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	109.6	109.0	110.1	-0.5	-1.0
07.	Transport	11.84	124.9	124.9	124.1	0.0	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	107.4	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	110.3	0.0	1.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	110.0	110.6	108.3	0.5	2.1
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.1	104.9	103.6	0.8	1.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for October 2019



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

	Groups	Weight	September 2019	October 2019	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						September 2019	October 2019		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.8	117.6	-0.2	2,581.0	2,576.6	-4.4	-
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.7	125.9	0.2	486.5	487.2	0.8	-
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	102.3	102.4	0.1	3,075.1	3,078.1	3.0	-
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	109.6	109.0	-0.5	196.2	195.1	-1.1	-
7.	Transport	11.84	124.9	124.9	0.0	1,478.8	1,478.8	0.0	-
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	0.0	1,066.2	1,066.2	0.0	-
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.4	107.4	0.0	409.2	409.2	0.0	-
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	0.0	148.2	148.2	0.0	-
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	110.0	110.6	0.5	205.7	206.8	1.1	-
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.1	104.9	0.8	448.7	452.1	3.4	-
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>11,150.0</b>	<b>11,150.0</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
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
October	111.5	117.6	125.9	105.0	102.4	113.5	109.0	124.9	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.6	104.9