



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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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 November 2019 compared With November 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 November 2019	10

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NOVEMBER 2019

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.4 percent for the month of November 2019. The index remained unchanged for October 2019 (*see table 3*).

During the month of November 2019, the “All Items” index was recorded at 111.9, compared to 111.5 for the month of October 2019. Three (3) groups recorded increases during the month, namely “Transport” (2.4%), “Health” (0.4%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.2%). Two (2) groups recorded decreases during the period, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3%) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1%). Seven (7) groups remained unchanged, “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics”, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Communication”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”, (*See table 3*).

The 2.4 percent growth in the “Transport” index is on account of higher costs for passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations, which includes, New York, U.S.A (51.1%), Toronto, Canada (38.1%), London, United Kingdom (22.3%) and Barbados (21.7%).

Higher prices for drugs that is used for the treatment of diabetes, which grew by 15.4 percent, is responsible for the 0.4 percent increase in the “Health” index.

The group index for “Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels grew by 0.2 percent due mainly to a 1.1 percent increase in the cost of electricity.

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” declined by 0.1 percent due mainly to lower cost of 9.3 percent for an antibacterial soap.

Meanwhile, the decline of 0.3 percent in the group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” is due to lower prices for several foods items, which include, cabbage (15.3%), green bananas (10.9%), apples (9.9%), onions (8.7%), turkey necks (6.7%), evaporated milk (6.2%) and raisins (5.8%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.9 percent for the month of November 2019 compared to 1.9 percent for November 2018. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (3.1%), “Transport”(3.0%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (2.1%), “Education” (1.8%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance (1.8%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.4%). (*See table 3*).

The consumer price index increased by 0.4 percent for November 2019. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.9 percent due to relative price changes during the month of November 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
		November 2019	October 2019		
INCREASED					
Oats	500g pkt	4.95	4.20	0.75	17.9
Pig snout	Lb	10.20	7.95	2.25	28.3
Chicken necks	Lb	2.10	1.55	0.55	35.5
Mozzarella	Lb	14.81	13.66	1.15	8.4
Cucumbers	Lb	2.80	2.68	0.12	4.5
Ice cream	1 litre	17.93	15.77	2.16	13.7
Electricity consumption	140Kwh	122.92	121.55	1.37	1.1
Drugs for Diabetes	1 month's supply	6.00	5.20	0.80	15.4
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>St. Lucia</i>	1 way	480.25	437.72	42.53	9.7
<i>Barbados</i>	1 way	603.05	495.32	107.73	21.7
<i>New York, U.S.A</i>	1 month	4355.00	2882.00	1473.00	51.1
<i>Toronto, Canada</i>	1 month	3011.00	2181.00	830.00	38.1
<i>London, United Kingdom</i>	1 month	4691.00	3836.00	855.00	22.3
DECREASED					
Turkey necks	Lb	3.20	3.43	-0.23	-6.7
Evaporated milk	340g tin	3.02	3.22	-0.20	-6.2
Apples	Lb	5.07	5.63	-0.56	-9.9
Raisins	Lb	9.86	10.47	-0.61	-5.8
Cabbage	Lb	3.87	4.57	-0.70	-15.3
Green bananas	Lb	1.15	1.29	-0.14	-10.9
Onions	Lb	2.51	2.75	-0.24	-8.7
Antibacterial soap	Each	3.21	3.54	-0.33	-9.3
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	1 way	494.10	618.84	-124.74	-20.2

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		November 2019	November 2018		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.0
Chicken - whole	Lb.	6.74	6.76	-0.02	-0.3
Chicken - leg quarters	Lb.	2.93	2.84	0.09	3.2
Chicken - backs	Lb.	1.73	1.65	0.08	4.8
Chicken - wings	Lb.	4.81	4.59	0.22	4.8
Turkey wings	Lb.	3.45	3.21	0.24	7.5
Fish - fresh (Deep sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.0
Fish - fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.0
Fish - fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Chicken franks	340g Pk.	6.20	5.91	0.29	4.8
Luncheon meat (Pork)	340 grams	8.14	8.34	-0.20	-2.4
Codfish	Lb.	15.46	15.14	0.32	2.1
Cornflakes	12 oz.	13.84	13.53	0.32	2.3
Pasta - elbows	340 grams	4.67	4.67	0.00	0.0
Milk - evaporated	410g Tin	3.17	3.29	-0.12	-3.6
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	9.02	-0.44	-4.9
Orange juice	19 oz Tin	9.90	8.90	1.00	11.2
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.	6.84	6.77	0.07	1.0
Flour - packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg.	7.21	7.18	0.03	0.4
Rice - loose	Lb.	1.89	1.93	-0.04	-2.1
Rice - packaged	2 Kg.	10.83	10.56	0.27	2.6
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.42	0.00	0.0
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.32	2.37	-0.05	-2.1
Eddoes	Lb.	2.71	2.56	0.15	5.9
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.	5.81	4.24	1.57	37.0
Cooking margarine	445g Tub	9.15	9.17	-0.02	-0.2
Vegetable oil	Litre	12.40	12.38	0.02	0.2
Powdered chocolate	300g Pk.	10.83	10.81	0.03	0.2
Hairoun fruit cocktail (not cold)	280 ml. Bottle	2.86	2.85	0.01	0.4
Vitamalt	310 ml. Bottle	5.78	5.72	0.06	1.0

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		November 2019	November 2018		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - local (White)	750 ml. Bot.	32.17	30.00	2.17	7.2
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.	22.80	21.24	1.56	7.3
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
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
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY					
GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
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	96.98	96.68	0.30	0.3
Oil paint	Gal.	134.43	133.60	0.83	0.6
Lumber - dressed treated yellow pine (1x12x12)	Length	70.33	69.07	1.26	1.8
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.	39.65	40.46	-0.81	-2.0
Electricity consumption charge	140 K.W.H.	122.92	126.55	-3.63	-2.9
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
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
November 2019 Compared With November 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		November 2019	November 2018		
HEALTH					
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	10.49	11.53	-1.04	-9.0
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.17	0.01	0.0
Dental care	Visit	134.17	123.33	10.84	8.8
Chest x- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.0
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - unleaded	Gal.	12.97	12.83	0.14	1.1
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
COMMUNICATION					
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
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
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
November 2019 Compared With November 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		November 2019	November 2018		
EDUCATION					
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
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
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
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet soap	125 g.	3.46	3.48	-0.02	-0.6
Toothpaste	130 g. Tube	9.55	9.14	0.41	4.5
Men's haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.0
Women's hairdressing (relaxer)	Visit	68.82	69.82	-1.00	-1.4
Disposable diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.51	13.02	0.49	3.8
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	October 2019	November 2019	November 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month October	Year November
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.6	117.3	115.7	-0.3	1.4
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.9	125.9	122.1	0.0	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	102.4	102.6	103.1	0.2	-0.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.5	113.5	111.5	0.0	1.8
06.	Health	1.79	109.0	109.4	110.1	0.4	-0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	124.9	127.9	124.2	2.4	3.0
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	110.6	110.6	108.3	0.0	2.1
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.9	104.8	103.6	-0.1	1.2
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	111.5	111.9	110.9	0.4	0.9

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for November 2019

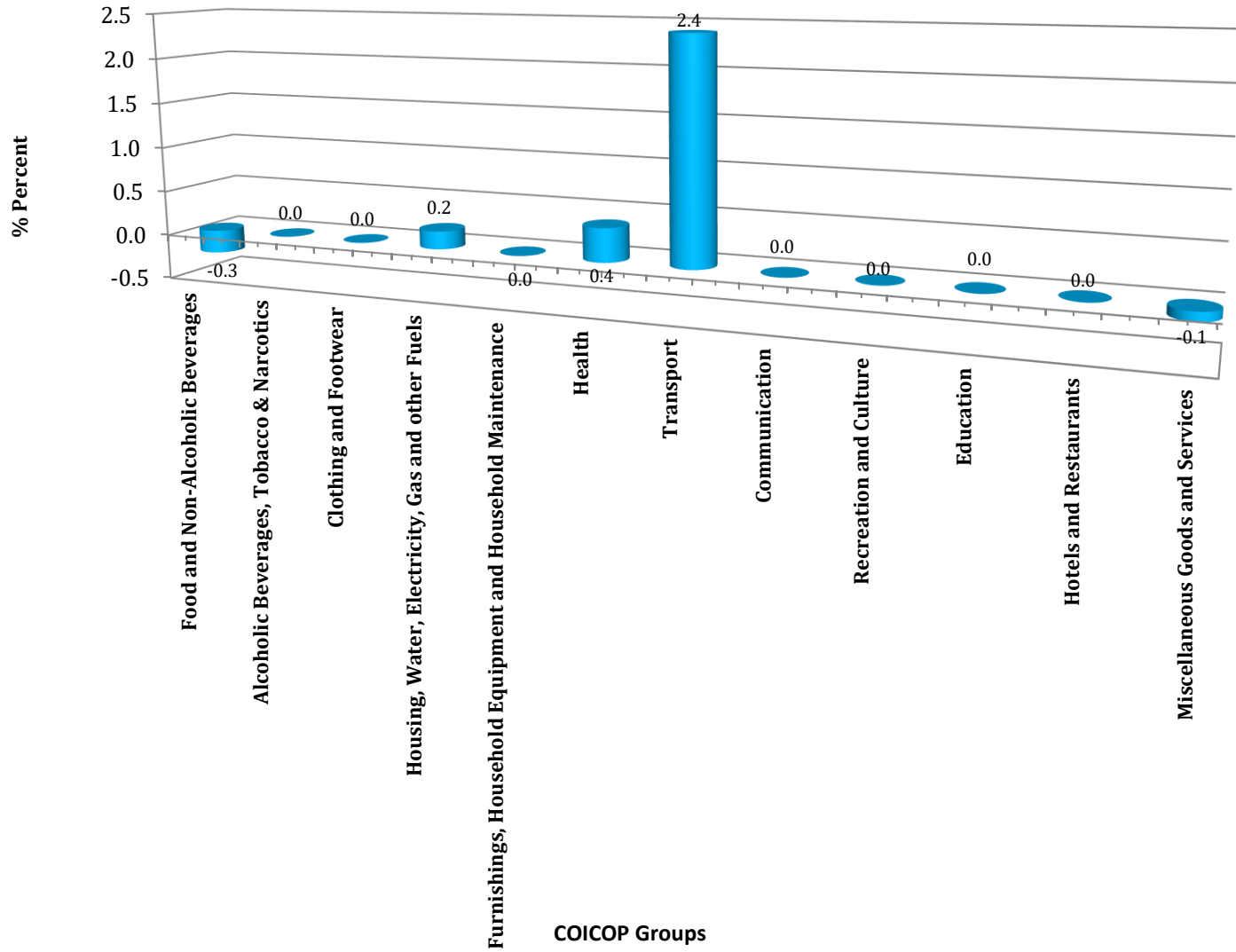


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	October 2019	November 2019	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						October 2019	November 2019		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	117.6	117.3	-0.3	2,576.6	2,570.0	-6.6	-16.4
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	125.9	125.9	0.0	487.2	487.2	0.0	0.0
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	102.4	102.6	0.2	3,078.1	3,084.2	6.0	15.0
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	109.0	109.4	0.4	195.1	195.8	0.7	1.8
7.	Transport	11.84	124.9	127.9	2.4	1,478.8	1,514.3	35.5	88.8
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	112.3	112.3	0.0	148.2	148.2	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	110.6	110.6	0.0	206.8	206.8	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	104.9	104.8	-0.1	452.1	451.7	-0.4	-1.1
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	111.5	111.9	0.4	11,150.0	11,190.0	40.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2019
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	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
November	111.9	117.3	125.9	105.0	102.6	113.5	109.4	127.9	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.6	104.9