



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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AUGUST 2021

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.2 percent for the month of August 2021 compared to 0.1 percent for July 2021 (*see table 3*).

During the month, the “All Items” index was recorded at 113.1 compared to 112.9 for July 2021. Three (3) groups recorded increases, namely; “Transport” (1.1%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.5%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages: (0.4%). Four (4) groups recorded decreases; “Communication” (1.1%), “Health” (0.4%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.3%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.1%).

The “Transport” index grew by 1.1 percent due mainly to an increase in passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto Canada which increased by 47.6 percent.

The group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” increased by 0.5 percent due mainly to an increase in the cost of electricity by 3.1 percent. This increase is due to a higher fuel surcharge rate of 39.53 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of August 2021 compared to 36.88 cents per kilowatt hour for the month July 2021.

“Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” increase by 0.4 percent due mainly to an increase in the price of several food items which includes: oxtail (53.1%), currant rolls (38.1%), sardines (33.1%), dried pigeon peas (33.0%), corned beef (20.7%), garlic (17.0%), cinnamon (11.9%), spring water (11.0%) and vegetable oil (9.6%).

The decline in the “Communication” index is due to a reduction in the rate for mobile to mobile calls by 7 percent. Meanwhile, the 0.4 percent decrease in the “Health” index is due mainly to a reduction in the price of a drug that used in the treatment of diabetes by 18.4 percent.

The group index for “Clothing and Footwear” decreased by 0.3 percent due mainly to a decrease in the price for men’s textile material (terelyne) by 27.0 percent and women’s half-slip by 23.2 percent. Meanwhile, the decline of 0.1 percent in the index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” is due mainly to lower prices for galvanize pipes (12.7%) and fitted carpets (15.0%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 2.5 percent for August 2021 compared to negative 1.3 for August 2020. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were, “Communication” (6.9%), “Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (4.7%) and “Health) (2.3%), (*see table 3*).

The consumer price index increased by 0.2 percent for August 2021. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 2.5 percent due to relative price changes during the month of August 2021 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
		August 2021	July 2021		
INCREASED					
Currant rolls	Each	2.03	1.47	0.56	38.1
Ox tail	Lb	17.30	11.30	6.00	53.1
Corned beef	340g tin	8.09	6.70	1.39	20.7
Sardines	106g tin	4.50	3.38	1.12	33.1
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre bottle	13.87	12.66	1.21	9.6
Dry pigeon peas	454g	8.23	6.19	2.04	33.0
Garlic	Lb	7.44	6.36	1.08	17.0
Cinnamon	Lb	48.91	43.70	5.21	11.9
Spring water	1.5 Litre bottle	4.85	4.37	0.48	11.0
Women's blouse	Each	44.00	34.95	9.05	25.9
Electricity	140Kwh	125.34	121.63	3.71	3.1
Passenger airfare; St. Vincent to Toronto, Canada	1 month	5205.00	3526.00	1679.00	47.6
DECREASED					
Dasheen	Lb	1.94	2.32	-12.95	-27.0
Cucumbers	Lb	2.73	3.42	-0.69	-20.2
Sweet peppers	Lb	7.46	7.83	-0.37	-4.7
Broccoli	Lb	8.71	9.31	-0.60	-6.4
Men's textile material, terelyne	1 yard	35.00	47.95	-12.95	-27.0
Wome's half slip	Each	9.95	12.95	-3.00	-23.2
Galvanize pipes, 1/2"	1 length	76.30	87.41	-11.11	-12.7
Non-fitted Carpets	Each	150.00	176.40	-26.40	-15.0
Drugs for diabetes	1 month's supply	6.00	7.35	-1.35	-18.4
Mobile to mobile local calls	1 minute	0.93	1.00	-0.07	-7.0

Table 2.1					
Average Retail Price of Selected Items					
August 2021 Compared With August 2020					
Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2021	August 2020		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	7.43	6.89	0.54	7.84
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	3.13	2.81	0.32	11.39
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.90	1.70	0.20	11.76
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	5.05	4.71	0.34	7.22
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.75	3.34	0.41	12.28
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	6.47	6.28	0.18	2.92
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.30	8.37	-0.07	-0.84
Codfish	Lb.	14.15	16.09	-1.94	-12.06
Cornflakes	12 oz	15.06	14.19	0.87	6.13
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.74	4.67	0.06	1.39
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.42	3.29	0.13	3.85
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.92	4.00	-0.08	-2.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.19	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	9.49	7.74	1.75	22.61
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.33	9.28	0.05	0.54
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.67	1.63	0.04	2.45
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.79	1.79	0.00	0.00
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.35	0.01	0.74
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.85	6.84	0.00	0.07
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.85	1.89	-0.04	-2.12
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.90	10.76	0.14	1.33
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.50	1.44	0.06	4.17
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.44	0.14	5.74
Eddoes	Lb.	3.07	2.86	0.21	7.34
Dasheens	Lb.	1.94	1.99	-0.05	-2.51
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.92	2.55	0.37	14.51
Oranges	Each	0.90	0.88	0.02	2.27
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.16	6.27	-1.11	-17.70
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.70	9.58	0.12	1.25
Vegetable Oil	Litre	14.06	12.42	1.64	13.20
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.64	10.58	0.05	0.52
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.91	2.90	0.01	0.34
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.83	5.74	0.09	1.57

Table 2.2					
Average Retail Price of Selected Items					
August 2021 Compared With August 2020					
Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2021	August 2020		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	32.88	32.85	0.03	0.09
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	5.09	0.00	0.00
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.49	3.49	0.00	0.00
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	24.11	23.44	0.67	2.86
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	35.00	47.95	-12.95	-27.01
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.92	69.95	-0.03	-0.04
Men's Jeans (long) - size 30	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	78.31	78.83	-0.52	-0.66
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	88.10	88.69	-0.59	-0.67
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit (polyester) large	Each	102.48	102.48	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse (cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY					
GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House - 2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	567.86	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House - 3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland (grey)	94 Lbs	20.66	20.66	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	113.16	96.68	16.48	17.05
Oil Paint	Gallon	134.83	134.43	0.40	0.30
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	81.99	74.68	7.31	9.79
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gallon	6.61	6.61	0.00	0.00
Charcoal	Sack	60.00	40.00	20.00	50.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	40.10	33.85	6.25	18.46
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	125.34	99.57	25.77	25.88
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD					
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD					
MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1167.61	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.11	105.11	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.98	55.98	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.19	1.23	-0.04	-3.25
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	7.77	6.37	1.40	21.98

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2021 Compared With August 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2021	August 2020		
HEALTH					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drugs for Hypertension	Month supply	4.17	3.50	0.67	19.14
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	13.99	10.49	3.51	33.43
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.18	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	145.83	145.83	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	13.20	9.62	3.58	37.21
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	590.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNICATION					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.66	23.66	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	104.00	104.00	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.93	1.00	-0.07	-7.04
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2005.31	2011.54	-6.23	-0.31
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3874.06	3886.08	-12.02	-0.31
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2094.05	2100.55	-6.50	-0.31
Remote Control Car	Each	267.97	262.64	5.33	2.03
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	4.00	3.90	0.10	2.56
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	375.00	375.00	0.00	0.00

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2021 Compared With August 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2021	August 2020		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	850.00	850.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.85	0.78	0.07	8.97
Lead Pencils	Each	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	76.73	75.12	1.61	2.14
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.49	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	17.32	17.32	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.72	3.64	0.08	2.27
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.91	9.83	0.09	0.87
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	69.82	69.82	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.98	13.91	0.07	0.50
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

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

	Groups	Weight	July 2021	August 2021	August 2020	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	121.5	122.0	119.7	0.4	1.9
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.1	126.1	126.6	0.0	-0.4
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.6	104.5	-0.3	0.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.3	103.8	99.1	0.5	4.7
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.2	113.1	113.3	-0.1	-0.2
06.	Health	1.79	116.1	115.6	113.0	-0.4	2.3
07.	Transport	11.84	124.6	126.0	117.9	1.1	6.9
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	112.0	113.3	-1.1	-1.1
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	108.6	108.6	108.2	0.0	0.4
10.	Education	1.32	109.6	109.6	112.3	0.0	-2.4
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	114.0	114.0	113.8	0.0	0.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.2	106.2	106.1	0.0	0.1
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	112.9	113.1	110.3	0.2	2.5

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August 2021

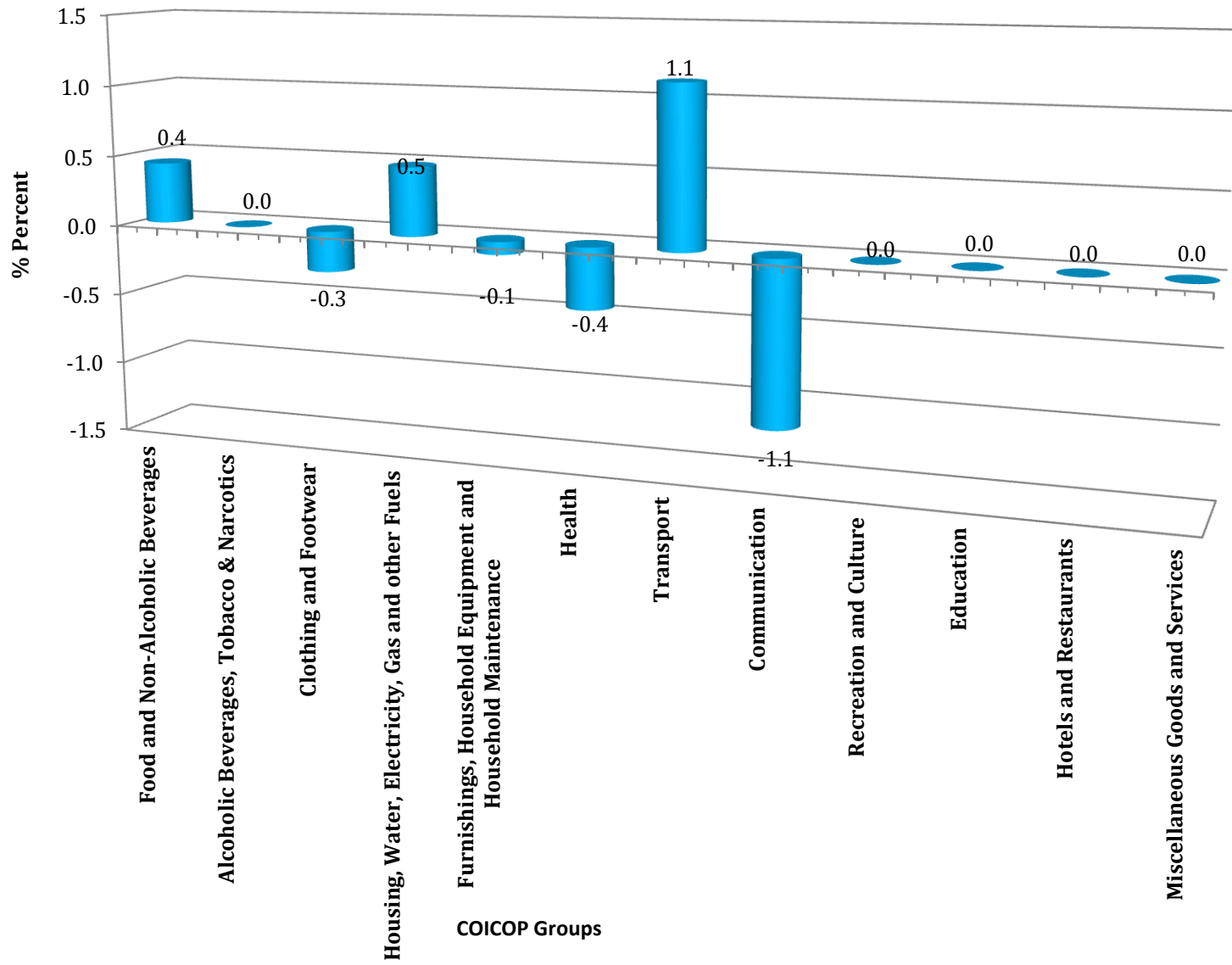


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	July 2021	August 2021	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						July 2021	August 2021		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	121.5	122.0	0.4	2,662.07	2,673.02	11.0	54.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.1	126.1	0.0	488.01	488.01	0.0	0.0
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	104.6	-0.3	337.78	336.81	-1.0	-4.8
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.3	103.8	0.5	3,105.20	3,120.23	15.0	75.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.2	113.1	-0.1	745.99	745.33	-0.7	-3.3
6.	Health	1.79	116.1	115.6	-0.4	207.82	206.92	-0.9	-4.5
7.	Transport	11.84	124.6	126.0	1.1	1,475.26	1,491.84	16.6	82.9
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	112.0	-1.1	1,066.15	1,053.92	-12.2	-61.2
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	108.6	108.6	0.0	413.77	413.77	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	109.6	109.6	0.0	144.67	144.67	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	114.0	114.0	0.0	213.18	213.18	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.2	106.2	0.0	457.72	457.72	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	112.9	113.1	0.2	11,290.00	11,310.00	20.0	100.0

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	Communication	Recreation & Culture	Education	Hotels & Restaurants	Miscellaneous 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	110.5	119.7	126.7	104.5	99.6	112.6	114.2	118.3	113.3	108.7	109.6	114.0	106.4
February	110.8	120.0	126.9	104.5	99.9	113.3	114.6	118.8	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4
March	111.4	120.2	126.8	104.5	100.8	113.4	114.6	121.0	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4
April	112.0	120.5	126.8	104.7	102.4	113.9	114.6	121.0	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4
May	111.9	120.5	126.9	104.7	101.9	113.8	115.2	121.3	113.3	108.4	109.6	114.0	106.3
June	112.8	121.3	126.9	104.7	103.8	113.6	115.4	122.7	113.3	108.6	109.6	114.0	106.1
July	112.9	121.5	126.1	104.9	103.3	113.2	116.1	124.6	113.3	108.6	109.6	114.0	106.2
August	113.1	122.0	126.1	104.6	103.8	113.1	115.6	126.0	112.0	108.6	109.6	114.0	106.2