



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE  
CENTRAL PLANNING DIVISION  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE & PLANNING  
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

*Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/377,*

*Fax: 784 456 2430,*

*Email: [svg.stats@mail.gov.vc](mailto:svg.stats@mail.gov.vc)*

*Website: <http://www.stats.gov.vc>*

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**MARCH 2011**

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## MARCH 2011

The Consumer Price Index registered a 0.2 percent increase during the month of March, 2011. The “All Items” index stood at 102.0 compared with 101.8 for February 2011. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as 1.8 percent.

Four (3) groups recorded increases during the month: “Transport (2.8 percent), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.2 percent) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.2 percent).

Six (6) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.8 percent), “Health” (0.4 percent), “Recreation and Culture” (0.4 percent), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2 percent), “Restaurants and Hotel” (0.1 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1). Three (3) groups “Communication”, “Education” and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” and remained unchanged.

The “Transport” index increased by 2.8 percent mainly attributed by the higher prices for diesel (10.1 percent) and a one way airline ticket from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to St. Lucia.

The 0.2 percent increase in the group “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuel” is due to a 1.3 percent increase in the cost of electricity. This upward movement is a result of higher fuel surcharge rate of 41.0 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of March 2011 compared with 39.0 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of February 2011.

The “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” registered a 0.8 percent decline in the prices of some food items. There were lower prices for tomatoes (42.3 percent), cucumber (33.6 percent), fish – robin (28.6 percent), cabbage (14.8 percent) and salami – chicken (2.5 percent).

The group index for “Health” recorded a decline of 0.4 percent due to a decrease in the price of drugs for diabetics. Meanwhile the group “Recreation and Culture” decreased by 0.4 percent as a result of lower prices for a television set.

**TABLE 1**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		MARCH 2011	FEBRUARY 2011		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Powdered milk-Full cream	1 Lb	7.48	7.33	0.15	2.05
Ripe Bananas	1 Lb	1.24	1.08	0.16	14.81
Leg Quarters	1 Lb	2.63	2.53	0.10	3.95
Whole Chicken	1 Lb	6.12	5.96	0.16	2.68
Pig feet ,salted	1 Lb	6.37	6.18	0.19	3.07
Pork Ribs	1 Lb	4.74	4.39	0.35	7.97
Codfish	1 Lb	12.66	12.37	0.29	2.34
Yams	1 Lb	2.64	2.55	0.09	3.53
Plantains	1 Lb	1.89	1.65	0.24	14.55
Onion loose	1 Lb	2.57	2.42	0.15	6.20
English Potatoes	1 Lb	2.57	2.40	0.17	7.08
Whiskey -Red	750ml	48.24	47.78	0.46	0.96
Textile Material, Tetrex, 60"	1 Yd	9.95	7.95	2.00	25.16
Womens Sleepwear , 2Pc	Each	29.95	19.95	10.00	50.13
Electricity Consumption	140KWH	126.83	125.26	1.57	1.25
Kerosene Oil	1 Gal	10.40	10.10	0.30	2.97
Diesel Fuel	1 Gal	11.40	10.35	1.05	10.14
Airline ticket - St. Vincent to St. Lucia	One Way	292.33	241.33	51.00	21.13
School meal -Bread & chicken	Each	3.00	2.75	0.25	9.09
Gold chain 10 carat	Each	1222.12	1142.37	79.75	6.98
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	9.56	9.35	0.21	2.25
Tomato Ketchup	24oz	7.19	6.97	0.22	3.16
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Fish-Robin	1 Lb	2.50	3.50	-1.00	-28.57
Tomatoes	1 Lb	3.47	6.34	-2.87	-45.27
Cucumber	1 Lb	2.61	3.93	-1.32	-33.59
Cabbage	1 Lb	3.57	4.19	-0.62	-14.80
Chicken Salami	850g Tin	21.96	22.53	-0.57	-2.53
Peanut Butter	18oz Bottle	12.01	12.41	-0.40	-3.22
Black pepper loose	1lb	5.26	5.77	-0.51	-8.84
Varnish ,Polyurethene	1 Gal	73	84	-11.00	-13.10
Sheets, Full Size	Each	59.95	69.95	-10.00	-14.30
Washing Powder	400g	4.98	5.16	-0.18	-3.49
Bleach	96oz	9.79	10.13	-0.34	-3.36
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth Supply	13.92	14.60	-0.68	-4.66
Television 42" - LCD	Each	4531.00	4824.25	-293.25	-6.08

**TABLE 2**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MARCH 2011 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2010**

TABLE 2

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MARCH 2011	MARCH 2010		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.12	6.06	0.06	0.99
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.63	2.52	0.11	4.37
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.57	1.55	0.02	1.29
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.60	4.32	0.28	6.48
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.69	3.35	0.34	10.15
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	2.68	3.50	-0.82	-23.43
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	2.50	4.00	-1.50	-37.50
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.03	4.91	0.12	2.44
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.36	7.35	0.01	0.14
Codfish	Lb.	12.66	11.92	0.74	6.21
Cornflakes	12 oz	11.81	11.70	0.11	0.94
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	3.64	3.52	0.12	3.41
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	2.76	2.83	-0.07	-2.47
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.25	3.25	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.84	1.84	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.10	4.10	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.51	8.07	0.44	5.45
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	6.65	6.85	-0.20	-2.92
Brown Sugar	Lb.	1.29	1.21	0.08	6.61
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.91	1.76	0.15	8.52
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.18	1.18	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.13	7.17	-0.04	-0.56
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.79	1.78	0.01	0.56
Rice - Package	2 kg	9.23	9.25	-0.02	-0.22
Bananas	Lb.	1.24	1.04	0.20	19.23
Breadfruit	Lb.	1.97	1.43	0.54	37.76
Eddoes	Lb.	2.28	1.93	0.35	18.13
Dasheens	Lb.	2.15	1.84	0.31	16.85
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.22	1.93	0.29	15.03
Oranges	Each	0.83	0.65	0.18	27.69
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.47	4.28	-0.81	-18.93
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.50	6.89	0.61	8.85
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	9.56	9.34	0.22	2.36
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	8.98	8.86	0.12	1.35
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.11	2.05	0.06	2.93
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.08	5.07	0.01	0.20

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MARCH 2011 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MARCH 2011	MARCH 2010		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (white)	750 ml Bot.	26.87	27.20	-0.33	-1.21
Beer - Local	280ml Bottle	4.10	4.11	-0.01	-0.24
Cigarettes - Local	Pkt. (10)	2.73	2.34	0.39	16.67
Gonsalves Black Wine	26 oz Bottle	16.56	16.56	0.00	0.00
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	51.69	-3.74	-7.24
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	16.95	12.95	4.00	30.89
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	64.95	64.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long) - size 30	Each	35.00	45.00	-10.00	-22.22
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	89.95	79.95	10.00	12.51
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.95	79.95	10.00	12.51
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	89.95	89.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Pair	20.00	26.95	-6.95	-25.79
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :	1Month				
Unfurnished house -2 Bedroom	1Month	546.43	546.43	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished house -3 Bedroom	1Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment- 2 Bedroom	1Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland ( grey)	94 Lbs	21.74	22.47	-0.73	-3.25
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	80.56	78.37	2.19	2.79
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	90.43	94.50	-4.07	-4.31
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	68.75	69.41	-0.66	-0.95
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	32.50	32.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	10.40	9.22	1.18	12.80
Charcoal	1 Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Electricity consumption charge	140 KWH	126.83	122.31	4.52	3.70
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1150.00	1150.00	0.00	0.00
Sheets -double - coloured/cotton	Each	88.80	89.95	-1.15	-1.28
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Laundry soap	Each	1.31	1.19	0.12	10.08
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	4.47	4.42	0.05	1.13

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MARCH 2011 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MARCH 2011	MARCH 2010		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	1 Visit	49.78	50.00	-0.22	-0.44
Eye Care	1 Test	99.56	100.00	-0.44	-0.44
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	1 Day	74.67	75.00	-0.33	-0.44
Drug for Hypertension	1 Mth supply	3.71	3.85	-0.14	-3.64
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth supply	13.92	14.86	-0.94	-6.33
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.69	16.41	-0.72	-4.39
Dental Care	1 Vvisit	98.73	98.33	0.40	0.41
Chest X- ray	1 Test	99.56	90.00	9.56	10.62
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	11.15	12.10	-0.95	-7.85
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	1 Year	470.00	410.00	60.00	14.63
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone service - rental of line- domestic	1 Month	23.46	23.46	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet charge	1 Month	101.70	101.70	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line domestic rate- peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to mobile- domestic	1 Minute	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1937.29	1999.00	-61.71	-3.09
Cable TV Basic Charge	1 Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Labtop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	4178.94	4399.00	-220.06	-5.00
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	1899.00	1999.00	-100.00	-5.00
Car Remote Control	Each	322.52	395.00	-72.48	-18.35
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	2.92	3.00	-0.08	-2.67
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	300.00	275.00	25.00	9.09



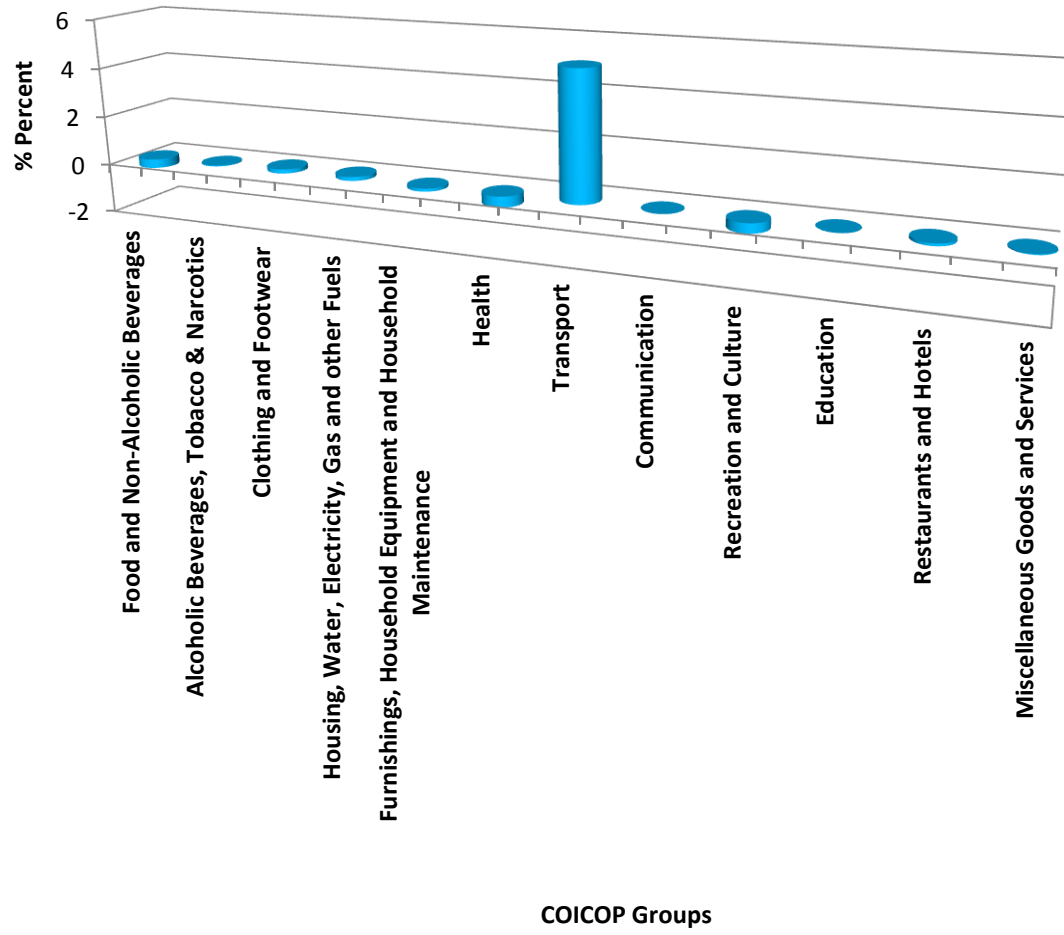
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MARCH 2011 COMPARED WITH MARCH 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MARCH 2011	MARCH 2010		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	1 Month	205.00	205.00	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	1 Term	650.00	650.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	1 Term	125.00	125.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.33	1.00	0.33	33.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.50	1.00	-0.50	-50.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.42	0.50	-0.08	-16.00
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	73.53	73.53	0.00	0.00
Tuition for local evening classes	1 Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.39	12.23	1.16	9.48
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.32	15.32	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	15.45	15.45	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	Each	3.12	3.30	-0.18	-5.45
Toothpaste	130g tube	8.91	9.19	-0.28	-3.05
Men's Haircut	1 Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer)	1 Visit	64.81	64.81	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers medium	10 per Pk.	12.59	12.74	-0.15	-1.19
Health Insurance - group (family)	≥3 Ppersons	278.74	278.74	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**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011	MARCH 2010	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH FEBRUARY	YEAR MARCH
						01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.2	100.2	99.6	0.0	0.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.0	100.2	100.1	0.2	0.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	100.6	100.8	100.1	0.2	0.7
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.7	99.5	100.0	-0.2	-0.5
06.	Health	1.79	99.1	98.7	100.0	-0.4	-1.3
07.	Transport	11.84	104.6	107.5	100.0	2.8	7.5
08.	Communication	9.41	102.1	102.1	100.1	0.0	2.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	101.0	100.6	100.0	-0.4	0.6
10.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	100.0	0.0	3.9
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	101.5	101.4	100.0	-0.1	1.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	100.1	100.0	99.9	-0.1	0.1
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>

COICOP Groups Percentage Change for March 2011



**TABLE 4**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**  
**CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	103.5	102.7	-0.8	2267.7	2250.2	-17.5	-87.6
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.2	100.2	0.0	387.7	387.9	0.2	0.8
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.0	100.2	0.2	322.0	322.7	0.7	3.5
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other	30.06	100.6	100.8	0.2	3024.3	3029.1	4.8	24.0
5.	Fuels								
6.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.7	99.5	-0.2	657.0	655.7	-1.3	-6.6
7.	Health	1.79	99.1	98.7	-0.4	177.5	176.7	-0.8	-3.8
8.	Transport	11.84	104.6	107.5	2.8	1238.5	1272.8	34.3	171.7
	Communication	9.41	102.1	102.1	0.0	960.8	960.8	0.0	0.0
	Recreation and Culture	3.81	101.0	100.6	-0.4	384.8	383.4	-1.5	-7.4
9.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	0.0	137.2	137.1	0.0	-0.1
10.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	101.5	101.4	-0.1	189.8	189.6	-0.2	-0.9
11.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	100.1	100.0	-0.1	431.4	431.1	-0.3	-1.7
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	101.8	102.0	0.2	10180.0	10200.0	20.0	100.0

**TABLE 5**  
**MONTHLY INDEX - 2011**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>Food and 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 and Household Maintenance</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Restaurants and Hotels</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>
<b>WEIGHT</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>21.91</b>	<b>3.87</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>11.84</b>	<b>9.41</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>4.31</b>
<b>MONTH</b>													
<b>January</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.6</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>105.5</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>104.6</b>	<b>102.1</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>100.1</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>102.7</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>107.5</b>	<b>102.1</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>101.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>