



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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## OCTOBER 2017

The consumer price index increased by 0.1 percent for the month of October 2017. The “All Items” index was registered as 108.5 percent for the month of October compared to 108.4 for the month of September. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 2.3 percent.

Six (6) groups recorded increases during the month, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.9%), “Health” (0.9%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.7%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.2%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.1%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.1%). One (1) group recorded a decrease for the period, “Transport” (2.6%), while five (5) groups remained unchanged, “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics”, “Communication”, “Education”, “Restaurants and Hotels” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services.

The 0.9 percent increase in the group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” is due mainly to a 5.6 percent increase in the cost of electricity. This increase resulted from a change in the fuel surcharge rate which grew from 25.15 cents per kilowatt hour in September to 29.34 cents per kilowatt hour in October 2017.

The “Health” index increased by 0.9 percent due to higher price for dental services, which grew by 6.1 percent. Whereas, the “Recreation and Culture” index grew by 0.7 percent due to a 25.0 percent increase in the price of vaccination for pets.

The “Clothing and Footwear” index grew by 0.2 percent due mainly to an increase of 50.0 percent in the price of a pair of sneakers for boys. Similarly, the “Furnishing, Household Equipment and

Household Maintenance” group index increased by 0.1 percent due mainly to an increase of 3.2 percent in the price of carbon batteries.

The 0.1 percent increase in the “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index is due to an increase in the prices of several food items, cucumbers (26.9%), evaporated milk (13.5%), cabbage (12.7%), lentils (11.6%), condensed milk (11.1%), tomatoes (10.7%), pepper sauce (8.6%), green seasoning (7.2%), ice cream (6.6%), whole chicken (3.6%).

Lower prices for passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations, which includes, Barbados (44.3%), St. Lucia (40.2%), Trinidad and Tobago (10.0%) and London (5.1%) contributed to the 2.6 percent decline in the “Transport” index.

**Table 1**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**

Items	Unit Of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change In Price	Percentage Change In Price
		October 2017	September 2017		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Whole chicken	Lb	6.92	6.68	0.24	3.59
Tuna (flaked) in soya oil	170g tin	3.87	3.74	0.13	3.48
Evaporated milk	410g tin	4.63	4.08	0.55	13.48
Condensed milk	397g tin	4.00	3.60	0.40	11.11
Cabbage	Lb	3.91	3.47	0.44	12.68
Tomatoes	Lb	5.19	4.69	0.50	10.66
Cucumbers	Lb	3.02	2.38	0.64	26.89
Lentils	400g pk	5.77	5.17	0.60	11.61
Ice cream	1 litre tub	16.25	15.25	1.00	6.56
Pepper sauce	300ml bottle	7.20	6.63	0.57	8.60
Green seasoning	750ml bottle	12.88	12.02	0.86	7.15
Electricity	140Kwh	111.08	105.21	5.87	5.58
Carbon batteries (Size D)	2 pk	5.24	5.08	0.16	3.15
Dental services	per service	130.83	123.33	7.50	6.08
Vaccines for pets	Each	50.00	40.00	10.00	25.00
Language Arts textbook	Each	26.00	23.37	2.63	11.25
Boys sneakers	Pair	59.95	40.00	19.95	49.88
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Limes	Lb	2.85	3.16	-0.31	-9.81
Eddoes	Lb	2.89	3.34	-0.45	-13.47
Sweet peppers	Lb	5.66	6.19	-0.53	-8.56
White sugar	Lb	1.79	2.03	-0.24	-11.82
Textile material - Jacquard cotton	Yard	12.95	14.95	-2.00	-13.38
Mathematics textbook	Each	74.87	79.72	-4.85	-6.08
Varnish	Gallon	91.79	95.83	-4.04	-4.22
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>St. Lucia</i>	1-way	274.37	458.65	-184.28	-40.18
<i>Barbados</i>	1-way	263.93	473.72	-209.79	-44.29
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	1-way	425.80	472.50	-46.70	-9.88
<i>London</i>	1 month	3721.00	3919.00	-198.00	-5.05

**Table 2.1**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2017 Compared With October 2016**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2017	October 2016		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.92	6.63	0.29	4.37
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.99	2.67	0.32	11.99
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.59	1.59	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.51	4.56	-0.05	-1.10
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.04	2.35	0.69	29.36
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.70	5.28	0.42	7.95
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.19	7.89	0.30	3.80
Codfish	Lb.	15.22	14.36	0.86	5.99
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.14	13.08	1.06	8.10
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.70	4.61	0.09	1.95
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.49	3.06	0.43	14.05
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.64	3.29	0.35	10.64
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	2.02	2.02	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.52	8.90	-0.38	-4.27
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.13	8.83	0.30	3.40
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.68	1.54	0.14	9.09
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.79	1.80	-0.01	-0.56
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.39	-0.03	-2.16
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.29	7.29	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.95	1.92	0.03	1.56
Rice - Package	2 kg	10.55	10.51	0.04	0.41
Bananas	Lb.	1.35	1.34	0.01	0.75
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.54	0.04	1.57
Eddoes	Lb.	2.89	2.22	0.67	30.18
Dasheens	Lb.	2.00	2.03	-0.03	-1.48
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.11	2.19	-0.08	-3.65
Oranges	Each	0.85	0.75	0.10	13.33
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.19	4.77	0.42	8.81
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.06	8.81	0.25	2.84
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.38	12.42	-0.04	-0.36
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.79	10.72	0.07	0.65
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.56	2.31	0.25	10.82
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.68	5.65	0.03	0.53

**Table 2.2**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2017 Compared With October 2016**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2017	October 2016		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.94	29.43	0.51	1.73
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.55	4.61	-0.06	-1.30
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.18	4.12	0.06	1.46
Table wine ( local )	26 oz Bot.	21.27	19.03	2.24	11.77
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long) - size 30	Each	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.79	79.79	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.77	89.77	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY</b>					
<b>GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
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	20.89	24.90	-4.01	-16.10
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	94.24	86.62	7.62	8.80
Oil Paint	Gallon	112.87	95.00	17.87	18.81
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.18	70.49	-1.31	-1.86
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	Gallon	6.61	8.33	-1.72	-20.65
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.52	34.00	3.52	10.35
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	111.08	106.88	4.20	3.93
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.88	1,162.50	0.38	0.03
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	105.00	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.84	52.76	3.08	5.84
Laundry Soap	Each	1.23	1.15	0.08	6.96
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.25	6.35	-0.10	-1.57

**Table 2.3**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2017 Compared With October 2016**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2017	October 2016		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
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
Drug for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	12.57	11.24	1.33	11.83
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.09	15.09	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	130.83	123.33	7.50	6.08
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	120.00	30.00	25.00
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	11.30	10.30	1.00	9.71
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
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.66	23.46	0.20	0.85
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	102.14	101.70	0.44	0.43
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.98	0.91	0.07	7.69
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1993.82	1,995.17	-1.35	-0.07
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3832.40	3,835.00	-2.60	-0.07
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2071.53	2,072.94	-1.41	-0.07
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.84	3.56	0.28	7.87
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	350.00	325.00	25.00	7.69



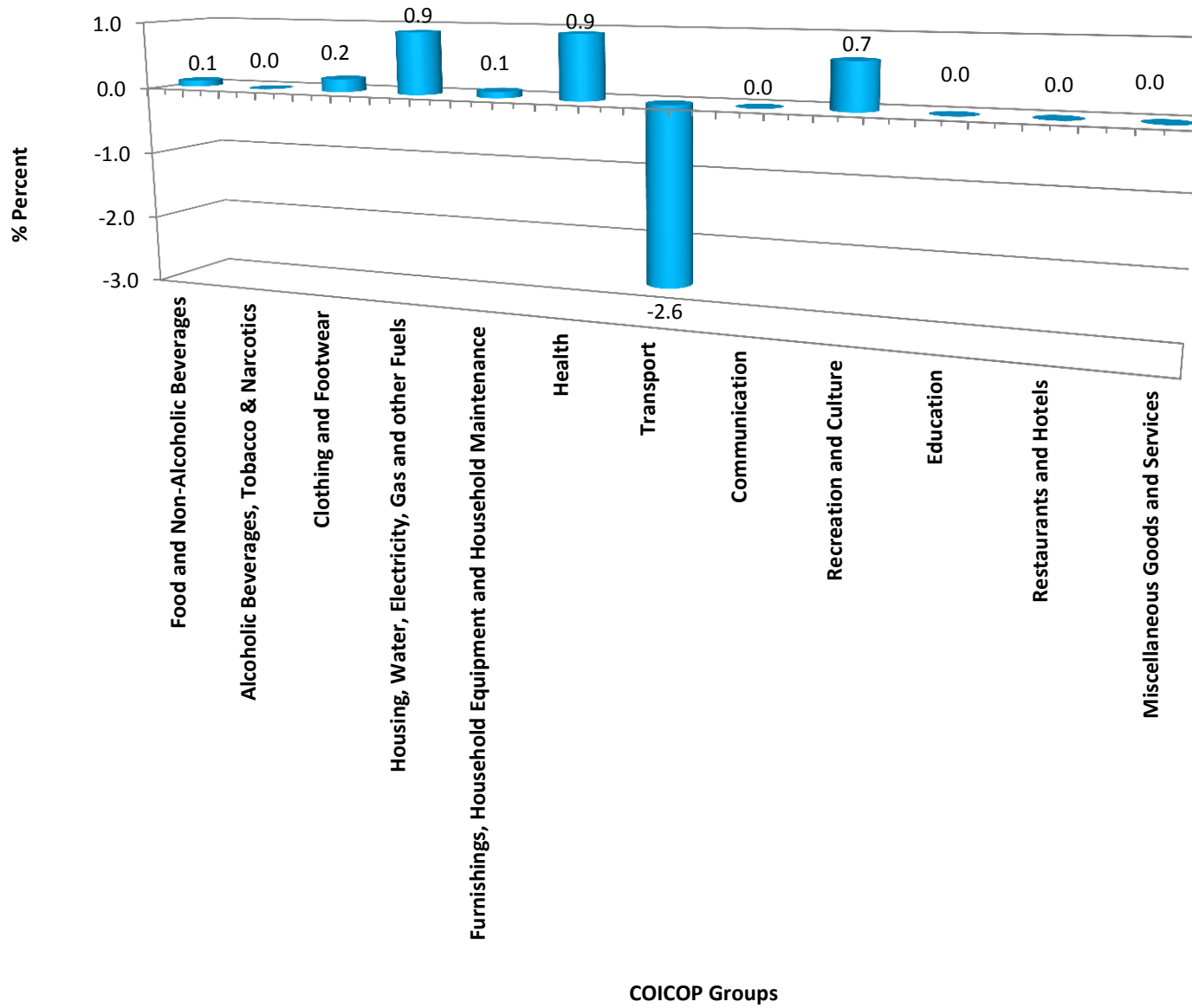
**Table 2.4**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**October 2017 Compared With October 2016**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		October 2017	October 2016		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	215.00	2.50	1.16
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	825.00	825.00	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	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.87	0.83	0.04	4.82
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	74.87	79.72	-4.85	-6.08
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.96	13.86	0.10	0.72
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.51	13.86	1.65	11.90
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	16.85	0.20	1.19
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	4.75	3.51	1.24	35.33
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.16	9.04	0.12	1.33
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	69.82	64.81	5.01	7.73
Disposable Diapers ( medium )	10 per Pk.	13.01	12.88	0.13	1.01
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	September 2017	October 2017	October 2016	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month September	Year October
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.1	115.2	111.2	0.1	3.6
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	118.3	118.3	115.3	0.0	2.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.2	105.4	104.8	0.2	0.6
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.0	99.9	98.8	0.9	1.1
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	109.3	109.4	103.0	0.1	6.2
06.	Health	1.79	106.6	107.6	107.3	0.9	0.3
07.	Transport	11.84	120.7	117.6	118.0	-2.6	-0.3
08.	Communication	9.41	111.9	111.9	106.8	0.0	4.8
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.5	105.2	104.1	0.7	1.1
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.1	109.3	0.0	0.7
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	106.0	106.0	102.9	0.0	3.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	102.8	102.8	101.4	0.0	1.4
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	108.4	108.5	106.1	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for October 2017



**Table 4**  
**The Consumer Price Index By Main Groups**  
**January 2010 = 100**  
**Contribution To Change**

	Groups	Weight	September 2017	October 2017	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						September 2017	October 2017		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	115.1	115.2	0.1	2,521.84	2,524.03	2.2	21.91
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	118.3	118.3	0.0	457.82	457.82	0.0	0.00
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.2	105.4	0.2	338.74	339.39	0.6	6.44
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.0	99.9	0.9	2,975.94	3,002.99	27.1	270.54
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	109.3	109.4	0.1	720.29	720.95	0.7	6.59
6.	Health	1.79	106.6	107.6	0.9	190.81	192.60	1.8	17.90
7.	Transport	11.84	120.7	117.6	-2.6	1,429.09	1,392.38	-36.7	-367.04
8.	Communication	9.41	111.9	111.9	0.0	1,052.98	1,052.98	0.0	0.00
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.5	105.2	0.7	398.15	400.81	2.7	26.67
10.	Education	1.32	110.1	110.1	0.0	145.33	145.33	0.0	0.00
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	106.0	106.0	0.0	198.22	198.22	0.0	0.00
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	102.8	102.8	0.0	443.07	443.07	0.0	0.00
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>108.4</b>	<b>108.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>10,840.00</b>	<b>10,850.00</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 5**  
**Monthly Index - 2017**  
**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>Restaurants &amp; Hotels</b>	<b>Miscell-aneous Goods and Services</b>
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	106.7	112.1	116.8	104.8	99.5	103.1	107.6	118.7	106.8	103.9	109.3	102.7	101.5
February	106.4	111.5	116.5	104.9	98.8	102.9	107.3	119.5	106.8	104.0	109.3	102.7	101.5
March	106.3	111.0	116.6	104.9	99.1	102.5	107.3	118.6	106.9	104.5	109.3	102.3	101.5
April	107.5	111.5	116.8	104.9	100.0	102.6	108.8	123.1	111.1	104.4	109.3	102.3	100.2
May	108.0	112.6	117.4	104.9	99.3	108.1	107.6	122.7	111.1	104.1	109.3	103.2	103.1
June	108.3	113.1	117.6	104.9	100.4	108.3	107.8	120.8	111.2	104.1	109.3	103.2	103.3
July	108.5	114.2	117.6	104.9	99.8	108.7	107.4	121.6	111.2	104.1	109.3	105.8	102.6
August	108.4	114.3	117.8	105.2	99.0	108.7	106.8	122.3	111.9	104.5	109.3	105.8	102.8
September	108.4	115.1	118.3	105.2	99.0	109.3	106.6	120.7	111.9	104.5	110.1	106.0	102.8
October	108.5	115.2	118.3	105.4	99.9	109.4	107.6	117.6	111.9	105.2	110.1	106.0	102.8