

21 September 1999

Wholesale Price Index

August 1999

	Manu	facturing Output F	Price Index
	Price Index	% monthly change	% annual change
May 1999	121.5	+0.2%	+0.2%
Jun 1999	122.1	+0.5%	+0.3%
Jul 1999	122.5	+0.3%	+0.8%
Aug 1999	122.3	- 0.2%	+0.9%

Manufacturing Output Price Index down 0.2% in August

Factory gate prices decreased by 0.2% in August 1999 to bring the overall Manufacturing Output Price Index to 122.3. This is the first drop in the monthly index since January 1999. Year on year the index rose by 0.9% compared with an annual increase of 0.8% in July 1999. See *Graph across and Table 1*.

The index for export sales decreased by 0.6% and the index for home sales increased by 0.2% in the month. *See Table 2 and Graph on page 6.*

The main contributors to the monthly change were decreases in Basic Industrial Chemicals (including fertilisers) (-2.9%), Electrical Engineering (-0.9%), Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat (-0.5%) and an increase in All Other Food (+1.7%). *See Table 2a.*

Other notable changes in the monthly index were Mechanical Engineering (-1.5%) and the Textile Industry (-1.1%).

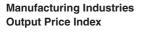
The main contributors to the annual change were: increases in Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat (+2.7%), Tobacco (+3.2%), All Other Food (+3.1%), Drink (+1.9%), Pharmaceuticals (+1.4%), and decreases in Dairy products (-2.4%). *See Table 2a*.

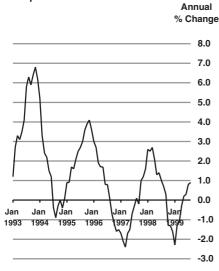
Another notable annual change was Leather, leather goods and footwear (-5.8%).

Breaking down wholesale price changes by sector of use shows that:

- Building and construction material prices increased by 0.2% in August 1999 and increased by 0.5% in the year since August 1998. The most notable changes were in Bituminous emulsions +4.4%, Bituminous macadam and asphalt -2.2% and Stone, Sand and Gravel +1.4%. See Table 3.
- Prices of capital goods remained unchanged in August 1999 and increased by +2.4% in the year since August 1998. *See Table 4*.
- The price of energy products increased by 0.9% in August 1999 and by 8.4% in the year since August 1998. *See Table 5.*

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Table 1 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 1985 as 100

		r	Output price index nanufacturing indust		Gen	eral wholesale price (See note below)	index ¹
	Period	Price index	% Change on preceding period	Annual % change	Price index	% Change on preceding period	Annual % change
	Year	107.8	- 1.6	- 1.6	105.1	- 2.8	- 2.8
1991		108.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	106.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.2
1992 1993	Year Year	110.5 115.6	+ 1.7 + 4.6	+ 1.7 + 4.6	107.3 112.4	+ 0.8 + 4.8	+ 0.8 + 4.8
1993	Year	116.9	+ 4.0 + 1.1	+ 4.6 + 1.1	112.4	+ 4.8 + 1.0	+ 4.8 + 1.0
1994	Year	119.8	+ 2.5	+ 2.5	115.9	+ 2.1	+ 1.0
1996	Year	120.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	116.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.5
1997		119.9	- 0.6	- 0.6	115.9	- 0.4	- 0.4
1998		120.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	117.7*	+ 1.6*	+ 1.6*
1997	Quarter 1	118.8	- 0.7	- 2.1	114.9	- 0.1	- 2.2
	Quarter 2	119.6	+ 0.7	- 1.3	115.7	+ 0.7	- 1.0
	Quarter 3	120.1	+ 0.4	- 0.2	116.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
	Quarter 4	121.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	116.9	+ 0.6	+ 1.7
1998	Quarter 1	121.9	+ 0.7	+ 2.6	118.5*	+ 1.4*	+ 3.1*
	Quarter 2	121.6	- 0.2	+ 1.7	118.3*	- 0.2*	+ 2.2*
	Quarter 3	120.9	- 0.6	+ 0.7	117.9	- 0.3*	+ 1.5
	Quarter 4	119.4	- 1.2	- 1.4	115.9	- 1.7	- 0.9
1999	Quarter 1 Quarter 2	120.0 121.6	+ 0.5 + 1.3	- 1.6	116.6	+ 0.6	- 1.6
1997	January	119.1	- 0.3	- 1.7	114.8	- 0.1	- 2.1
	February	118.7	- 0.3	- 2.1	114.7	- 0.1	- 2.5
	March	118.7	-	- 2.4	115.2	+ 0.4	- 2.1
	April	119.2	+ 0.4	- 1.7	114.9	- 0.3	- 2.0
	Мау	119.7	+ 0.4	- 1.5	116.0	+ 1.0	- 0.9
	June	120.0	+ 0.3	- 0.7	116.1	+ 0.1	- 0.3
	July	120.3	+ 0.3	- 0.3	116.4	+ 0.3	- 0.1
	August	120.3	-	+ 0.1	116.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
	September	119.7	- 0.5	- 0.2	115.6	- 0.9	-
	October	120.8	+ 0.9	+ 1.0	116.9	+ 1.1	+ 1.6
	November	121.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.2	116.8	- 0.1	+ 1.6
	December	121.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.6	117.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
1998	January	122.2	+ 0.7	+ 2.6	119.0*	+ 1.6*	+ 3.7*
	February	121.7	- 0.4	+ 2.5	118.1*	- 0.8*	+ 3.0*
	March	121.9	+ 0.2	+ 2.7	118.5	+ 0.3*	+ 2.9
	April	121.7	- 0.2	+ 2.1	118.6*	+ 0.1*	+ 3.2*
	May	121.3	- 0.3	+ 1.3	117.9*	- 0.6	+ 1.6*
	June	121.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.4	118.5*	+ 0.5*	+ 2.1*
	July	121.5	- 0.2	+ 1.0	118.5	- *	+ 1.8
	August	121.2	- 0.2	+ 0.7	117.9*	- 0.5*	+ 1.1*
	September	120.0	- 1.0	+ 0.3	117.2	- 0.6*	+ 1.4
	October	119.2	- 0.7	- 1.3	115.5	- 1.5	- 1.2
	November December	119.4 119.5	+ 0.2 + 0.1	- 1.3 - 1.6	115.8 116.3	+ 0.3 + 0.4	- 0.9 - 0.7 [*]
1000	January	119.3	- 0.1	- 2.3	116.1	- 0.2	- 0.7
1999	January February	120.1	- 0.1 + 0.6	- 2.3 - 1.3	116.1	- 0.2 + 0.3	- 2.4 - 1.4
	March	120.1	+ 0.8	- 1.3	110.4	+ 0.3	- 1.4
	April	120.8	+ 0.4 + 0.6	- 0.3	117.4	+ 0.9	- 0.9
	May	121.5	+ 0.0	+ 0.2	117.7	÷ 0.0	- 0.0
	June	121.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2			
	July	122.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.8			
	August	122.3	- 0.2	+ 0.9			

¹ Derived from the price indices for output of manufacturing industry, output of agriculture and the import price (unit value) index. The 1998 GWPI figures have now been finalised and revisions have been included. The 1999 GWPI figures are provisional due to the provisional nature of the Import (Unit value) Price Indices. Final 1999 GWPI Indices should be available by mid 2000. * Revised

Table 2 Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT)

	NACE	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
Industrial sector	NACE code ¹	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999
Production and preliminary										
processing of metals	22	119.0	119.7	118.6	+2.2	+0.6	-0.9	+0.3	+1.5	+0.9
Non metallic mineral products	24	114.0	114.1	114.0	+0.4	+0.1	-0.1	+1.1	+1.0	+1.3
Chemicals	25-26	97.6	97.7	96.9	+0.3	+0.1	-0.8	+1.1	+2.0	+0.8
Basic industrial chemicals (incl. fertilisers)	251	68.8	68.7	66.7	+0.4	-0.1	-2.9	+0.7	+0.9	-1.8
Pharmaceuticals and other chemical	201	00.0	00.7	00.7	+0.4	-0.1	-2.9	+0.7	+0.9	-1.0
products (incl. man-made fibres)	255-260	108.5	108.8	108.4	+0.3	+0.3	-0.4	+1.2	+2.4	+1.4
Metal articles	31	130.7	130.7	130.4	+0.5	-	-0.2	+0.7	+0.8	+0.9
Mechanical engineering	32	127.7	128.0	126.1	+0.7	+0.2	-1.5	+2.5	+2.2	+0.6
Electrical engineering	34	113.8	114.2	113.2	+0.7	+0.4	-0.9	+0.2	+0.7	+0.1
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	35	144.5	144.5	144.6	+0.1	-	+0.1	+0.9	+0.9	+1.0
Instrument engineering	37	96.8	97.3	96.4	+0.4	+0.5	-0.9	+0.6	+1.1	+0.1
Food	411-423	125.9	126.5	126.6	+0.6	+0.5	+0.1	-0.9	-0.4	+0.2
of which:										
Vegetable/animal oils and fats	411	112.0	112.0	112.8	+0.1	-	+0.7	+3.2	+3.3	+4.2
Slaughtering, preparing										
and preserving of meat	412	112.3	113.7	113.1	+2.1	+1.2	-0.5	-0.7	+1.3	+2.7
Dairy products	413	137.5	137.9	138.2	-0.1	+0.3	+0.2	-2.8	-2.6	-2.4
Processing/preserving										
fruit and vegetables	414	133.6	134.4	134.1	+0.4	+0.6	-0.2	+2.7	+2.5	+2.4
Grain milling, animal and poultry foods	416,422	103.0	103.0	102.8	+0.1	-	-0.2	-3.5	-3.1	-2.9
Bread and flour confectionery	419	141.8	141.8	141.8	-	-	-	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0
Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and,	100.101									
sugar confectionery	420,421	141.0	141.0	140.8	+0.1	-	-0.1	+2.0	+2.0	+1.9
All other food	415,417	134.8	134.9	137.2	+0.1	+0.1	+1.7	+1.9	+1.1	+3.1
Drink	418,423 424-428	100.0	133.6	133.1	+0.2	+0.3	-0.4	+2.1	+2.4	+1.9
Tobacco	429	133.2 199.4	199.5	199.4	+0.2	+0.3	-0.4	+2.1	+2.4	+3.2
Textiles	43	118.1	119.2	117.9	+0.1	+0.1	-1.1	-2.1	-1.0	-0.8
Hosiery and other knitted goods	436	118.6	118.6	118.6	+0.0		-	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3
Leather, leather goods and footwear	44,451	90.1	90.5	90.0	+1.3	+0.4	-0.6	-9.2	-10.0	-5.8
Clothing	453,455,456	143.6	143.6	144.1	-0.4	-	+0.3	+2.1	+2.1	+2.3
Timber and wooden furniture	46	149.4	149.5	149.2	-0.1	+0.1	-0.2	+1.0	+1.2	+0.9
Paper and paper products	471-472	124.0	124.0	124.0	+0.8	-	-	-1.0	-0.2	-
Printing and publishing	473-474	162.6	162.6	162.7	-	-	+0.1	+0.7	+0.7	+0.7
Rubber processing	481-482	137.2	137.2	137.1	+0.1	-	-0.1	+4.5	+3.8	+3.5
Plastics	483	140.6	140.5	140.3	-	-0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4
Other manufactured products	49	102.8	103.0	103.0	-	+0.2	-	+0.8	+1.0	+0.9
Mining, quarrying and turf	111,21,23	118.0	122.6	121.5	-0.8	+3.9	-0.9	+2.9	+5.1	+4.6
Total transportable goods industries		122.0	122.5	122.3	+0.5	+0.4	-0.2	+0.4	+0.9	+1.1
Food, drink and tobacco		132.3	132.8	132.8	+0.5	+0.4	-	-0.1	+0.3	+0.8
Manufacturing industries excluding food		119.8	120.1	119.7	+0.5	+0.3	-0.3	+1.2	+1.6	+1.4
Manufacturing industries excluding food,										
drink and tobacco		112.9	113.3	112.8	+0.6	+0.4	-0.4	+0.8	+1.3	+1.1
Manufacturing industries (home sales) ²		129.9	130.5	130.8	+0.2	+0.5	+0.2	-0.1	+0.5	+0.8
Manufacturing industries (export sales) ²		114.9	115.2	114.5	+1.0	+0.3	-0.6 -0.2	+0.8	+1.2 +0.8	+1.1
Total manufacturing industries ²			122.5	122.3						+0.9

 $^1\mbox{General classification of economic activities within the European Communities <math display="inline">^2\mbox{Excludes mining, quarrying & turf}$

Table 2AContributions to changes in the Manufacturing Output Price
Index (Table 2), April 1999

	NACE	Contributions to overall % change				
Industrial sector	code ¹	One month	12 months			
Production and preliminary						
processing of metals	22	-0.01	+0.02			
Non metallic mineral products	24	-0.01	+0.05			
Chemicals	25-26	-0.10	+0.09			
Basic industrial chemicals (incl.	20 20	0.10	10.00			
fertilisers)	251	-0.07	-0.04			
Pharmaceuticals and other chemical	201	0.07	0.01			
products (incl. man-made fibres)	255-260	-0.04	+0.13			
Metal articles	31	-0.01	+0.03			
Mechanical engineering	32	-0.04	+0.03			
Electrical engineering	34	-0.07	-			
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	35	0.00	+0.01			
Instrument engineering	37	-0.02	-			
Food	411-423	+0.04	+0.11			
of which:						
Vegetable/animal oils and fats	411	0.00	+0.01			
Slaughtering, preparing						
and preserving of meat	412	-0.06	+0.31			
Dairy products	413	+0.03	-0.37			
Processing/preserving						
fruit and vegetables	414	0.00	+0.01			
Grain milling, animal and poultry foods	416,422	0.00	-0.08			
Bread and flour confectionery	419	0.00	+0.03			
Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and,						
sugar confectionery	420,421	0.00	+0.05			
All other food	415,417	+0.08	+0.15			
	418,423					
Drink	424-428	-0.03	+0.14			
Tobacco	429	0.00	+0.17			
Textiles	43	-0.04	-0.03			
Hosiery and other knitted goods	436	0.00	-0.02			
Leather, leather goods and footwear	44,451	0.00	-0.03			
Clothing	453,455,456	+0.01	+0.05			
Timber and wooden furniture	46	0.00	+0.02			
Paper and paper products	471-472	0.00	+0.01			
Printing and publishing	473-474	0.00	+0.01			
Rubber processing	481-482	0.00	+0.03			
Plastics	483	0.00	+0.01			
Other manufactured products	49	0.00	+0.01			

¹General classification of economic activities within the European Communities

Table 3 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Building and Construction Materials

	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
Materials	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999		Aug 1999
Sand and gravel	165.7	165.7	168.0	+0.5	-	+1.4	+4.3	+4.1	+5.3
Cement	113.9	113.9	113.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ready mixed mortar and concrete	127.4	126.5	126.8	+0.4	-0.7	+0.2	+1.0	+0.4	+0.9
Concrete blocks and bricks	135.3	135.4	135.5	-	+0.1	+0.1	+1.4	+1.8	+1.6
Other concrete products	157.7	157.7	157.7	-	-	-	+2.5	+2.3	+2.3
Structural steel and reinforcing metal of which	96.9	96.6	97.1	+0.2	-0.3	+0.5	-4.4	-4.7	-4.2
Structural steel	103.1	102.5	102.8	-	-0.6	+0.3	-2.5	-3.0	-2.7
Reinforcing metal	91.1	91.1	91.9	+0.4	-	+0.9	-6.5	-6.5	-5.6
Rough timber (including plain sawn)	164.9	164.1	164.1	+0.1	-0.5	-	-3.0	-3.5	-3.6
Other timber (including joinery) Bituminous macadam, asphalt	157.5	157.5	157.5	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
and bituminous emulsions of which:	106.1	106.5	106.0	-	+0.4	-0.5	+3.6	+2.7	+3.2
Bituminous macadam and asphalt	144.3	144.3	141.1	-0.1	-	-2.2	+2.4	+1.6	+0.5
Bituminous emulsions	60.6	61.7	64.4	+0.2	+1.8	+4.4	+7.1	+6.0	+11.0
Electrical fittings	119.1	121.4	121.9	-0.1	+1.9	+0.4	-4.4	-2.2	-1.5
All other materials	142.5	142.5	142.5	+0.1	-	-	+1.6	+1.6	+1.6
All materials	136.9	136.9	137.2	+0.1	-	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.5

Table 4 Capital Goods Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 1985 as 100

Base: Year 1985 as 100

		Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
apital goods	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	
Transportable capital for use in										
Agriculture	147.1	147.2	146.9	+0.1	+0.1	-0.2	+0.5	+0.5	+0.3	
Industry	142.6	142.8	142.6	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.2	+0.4	+0.2	
of which:										
Private vehicles ¹	144.4	144.6	144.7	-	+0.1	+0.1	+2.2	+2.3	+2.4	
Commercial vehicles	146.0	146.0	146.2	-	-	+0.1	+0.7	+0.7	+0.8	
Agriculture and industry	143.8	144.0	143.8	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	
Other sectors	139.0	139.2	139.0	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.9	+1.0	+0.9	
Total transportable capital	141.2	141.4	141.2	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.6	+0.7	+0.6	
Building and construction										
(i.e. materials and wages)	155.5	156.6	156.8	+0.1	+0.7	+0.1	+4.4	+4.1	+4.2	
All capital goods	148.1	148.7	148.7	+0.1	+0.4	-	+2.5	+2.4	+2.4	

¹Private vehicles are inclusive of VAT which is non-deductible for industry and agriculture.

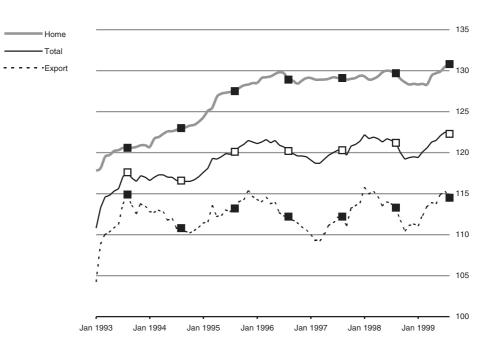
Table 5Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Energy Products
(i.e. Fuels purchased by Manufacturing Industry)

							Base	e: Year 19	85 as 100	
Energy fuels		Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	Jun 1999	Jul 1999	Aug 1999	
Petrol	104.9	109.2	111.6	+0.1	+4.1	+2.2	+2.5	+6.7	+8.5	
Autodiesel Gas oil (other than autodiesel)	96.5 80.9	101.2 89.0	101.3 89.5	-0.8 -1.3	+4.9 +10.0	+0.1 +0.6	+2.0 +3.2	+8.6 +15.6	+8.7 +16.2	
Fuel oil Electricity	83.6 84.2	89.9 84.2	91.6 84.2	-0.4	+7.5	+1.9 -	+6.1	+14.2	+16.5	
Petroleum fuels ¹ Energy products	85.9 85.2	92.2 88.7	93.5 89.5	-0.5 -0.2	+7.3 +4.1	+1.4 +0.9	+4.9 +2.8	+13.1 +7.3	+14.9 +8.4	

¹Energy products excluding electricity.

Manufacturing Industries: Output Price Indices for Home and Export Sales

(Base: Year 1985 as 100)



Index

Background Notes

Coverage The output price indices for sectors of Manufacturing Industries cover both home sales and export sales. The indices for Total transportable goods industries; Food, drink and tobacco; Manufacturing industries excluding food; Manufacturing industries excluding food, drink and tobacco; Manufacturing industries (home sales); Manufacturing industries (export sales) and Total manufacturing industries are all calculated on a net sector basis i.e. the weights used to combine the sectoral indices (including those for sectors not distinguished in Table 2) exclude sales to other sectors of Manufacturing Industry.

A new table - 2A, Contributions to changes in the Manufacturing Output Price Index (Table 2), was introduced in November 1998. This table gives the percentage contribution of each published sector to the overall Monthly and Annual percentage change on Table 2. Neither the monthly or annual percentage contributions on this table 2A will add up to the Total Manufacturing industries monthly or annual percentage change on Table 2, as not all sectors which are added into the Total Manufacturing industries figure can be published separately, due to issues of confidentiality.

The General Wholesale Price Index (Table 1) is calculated by combining special price indices for:

- Output of Manufacturing Industry excluding sales to Agriculture Sector
- Output of Agriculture excluding sales to Manufacturing Industry
- Imports plus duty (Unit Value) Index excluding imports by Agriculture Sector and
 Manufacturing Industry

which eliminates duplication as far as possible. The usefulness of this general index is limited; the sectoral indices are more relevant and meaningful. As the index is dependent on the Import Price (Unit Value) Index it normally becomes available in final form a few months or so later than the other series.

The Building Materials, Capital Goods and Energy Products indices (Tables 3,4 and 5) cover home production and imports of these commodities. Table 3, the Wholesale Price Index for Building & Construction Materials provides only a general indication of price trends in that sector.

Prices All indices in the series are based on prices at the 15th of the month (except for the Import Price (Unit Value) Index and the Agricultural Output Price Index). Quarterly and annual indices are simple averages of the corresponding monthly indices.

Prices used in the compilation of the indices are:

- Inclusive of excise duties
- after deduction of direct subsidies
- exclusive of VAT (except for Private Vehicles in Table 4).
- Methodology The present Wholesale Price Index series compiled to base 1985 as 100 was introduced for May 1989. A methodological description of this updated series was given in the September 1989 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*. In 1992 weights were updated and since then the 3–digit NACE weights relate to the 1985 Census of Industrial Production (CIP) while the commodity group weights are derived from the 1986 CIP. *(See December 1992 Release).*