



Wholesale Price Index

October 1999



	Price Index	% monthly change	% annual change
Jul 1999	122.5	+0.3%	+0.8%
Aug 1999	122.3	-0.2%	+0.9%
Sep 1999	122.9	+0.5%	+2.4%
Oct 1999	122.7	-0.2%	+2.9%

Manufacturing Output Price Index down 0.2% in October

Factory gate prices decreased by 0.2% in October 1999 to bring the overall Manufacturing Output Price Index to 122.7. Year on year the index rose by 2.9% compared with an annual increase of 2.4% in September 1999. *See Table 1.*

The index for export sales decreased by 0.3% and the index for home sales increased by 0.1% in the month. *See Table 2 and Graph on page 6.*

The main contributors to the monthly change were decreases in Electrical Engineering (-1.1%) and increases in Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat (+0.5%). See Table 2a.

Other notable changes in the monthly index were Leather, leather goods and footwear (-1.4%), Instrument Engineering (-1.1%), Manufacturing of motor vehicles and parts and accessories (+1.2%) and Vegetable and animal oils and fats (+1.1%).

The main contributors to the annual change were: increases in Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat (+8.4%) and Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) (+3.6%). *See Table 2a.*

Other notable annual changes were Vegetable and animal oils and fats (+5.6%) and Production and preliminary processing of metals (+4.8%).

The monthly price index for Mining, quarrying and turf decreased by -2.8%.
See Table 2.

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

- ◆ Building and construction material prices increased by 0.1% in October 1999 and increased by 1.2% in the year since October 1998. The most notable changes were in Bituminous macadam and asphalt -2.3%, Bituminous emulsions +1.6%, Sand and gravel +1.4%, Readymixed mortar and concrete -1.0% and Electrical fittings +1.1%. *See Table 3.*
- ◆ Prices of capital goods remained unchanged in October 1999 and increased by +3.7% in the year since October 1998. *See Table 4.*
- ◆ The price of energy products increased by 1.6% in October 1999 and by 13.6% in the year since October 1998. Petroleum fuels rose by 2.7% in October 1999 bringing the index to 101.0. Year on year the index rose by 24.2%. *See Graph across and Table 5.*

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Table 1 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 1985 as 100

Period	Output price index for manufacturing industries			General wholesale price index ¹ (See note below)		
	Price Index	% Change on preceding period	Annual % change	Price Index	% Change on preceding period	Annual % change
1990 Year	107.8	- 1.6	- 1.6	105.1	- 2.8	- 2.8
1991 Year	108.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	106.4	+ 1.2	+ 1.2
1992 Year	110.5	+ 1.7	+ 1.7	107.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.8
1993 Year	115.6	+ 4.6	+ 4.6	112.4	+ 4.8	+ 4.8
1994 Year	116.9	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	113.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
1995 Year	119.8	+ 2.5	+ 2.5	115.9	+ 2.1	+ 2.1
1996 Year	120.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	116.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.5
1997 Year	119.9	- 0.6	- 0.6	115.9	- 0.4	- 0.4
1998 Year	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	120.0	+ 0.5	- 1.6	116.6	+ 0.6	- 1.6
Quarter 2	121.6	+ 1.3	-	117.9	+ 1.1	- 0.3
Quarter 3	122.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.4			
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
May	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	119.4	+ 0.2	- 1.3	115.8	+ 0.3	- 0.9
December	119.5	+ 0.1	- 1.6	116.3	+ 0.4	- 0.7
1999 January	119.4	- 0.1	- 2.3	116.1	- 0.2	- 2.4
February	120.1	+ 0.6	- 1.3	116.4	+ 0.3	- 1.4
March	120.6	+ 0.4	- 1.1	117.4	+ 0.9	- 0.9
April	121.3	+ 0.6	- 0.3	117.7	+ 0.3	- 0.8
May	121.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	117.5	- 0.2	- 0.3
June	122.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	118.4	+ 0.8	- 0.1
July	122.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.8			
August	122.3	- 0.2	+ 0.9			
September	122.9	+ 0.5	+ 2.4			
October	122.7	- 0.2	+ 2.9			

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 were revised in September 1999. 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.

Table 2 Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Industrial sector	NACE code ¹	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
		Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
Production and preliminary processing of metals	22	118.6	119.8	119.4	-0.9	+1.0	-0.3	+0.9	+3.6	+4.8
Non metallic mineral products	24	114.0	114.3	113.8	-0.1	+0.3	-0.4	+1.3	+2.1	+2.5
Chemicals	25-26	96.9	97.8	97.7	-0.8	+0.9	-0.1	+0.8	+2.3	+2.6
Basic industrial chemicals (incl. fertilisers)	251	66.7	67.0	66.9	-2.9	+0.4	-0.1	-1.8	-1.0	-0.6
Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres)	255-260	108.4	109.4	109.5	-0.4	+0.9	+0.1	+1.4	+3.0	+3.6
Metal articles	31	130.4	131.1	130.7	-0.2	+0.5	-0.3	+0.9	+1.9	+1.8
Mechanical engineering	32	126.1	126.9	126.2	-1.5	+0.6	-0.6	+0.6	+2.8	+3.3
Electrical engineering	34	113.2	113.9	112.6	-0.9	+0.6	-1.1	+0.1	+2.9	+3.5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	35	144.6	144.7	146.5	+0.1	+0.1	+1.2	+1.0	+0.7	+1.7
Instrument engineering	37	96.4	96.9	95.8	-0.9	+0.5	-1.1	+0.1	+1.9	+1.5
Food	411-423	126.6	126.9	127.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+1.4	+2.5
of which:										
Vegetable/animal oils and fats	411	112.8	116.2	117.5	+0.7	+3.0	+1.1	+4.2	+7.6	+5.6
Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat	412	113.1	113.5	114.1	-0.5	+0.4	+0.5	+2.7	+4.8	+8.4
Dairy products	413	138.2	138.0	138.3	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	-2.4	-1.7	-1.1
Processing/preserving fruit and vegetables	414	134.1	134.7	134.4	-0.2	+0.4	-0.2	+2.4	+3.6	+3.9
Grain milling, animal and poultry foods	416, 422	102.8	103.1	103.1	-0.2	+0.3	-	-2.9	-0.6	+0.5
Bread and flour confectionery	419	141.8	141.8	141.8	-	-	-	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0
Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	420, 421	140.8	141.0	140.9	-0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+1.9	+2.0	+2.2
All other food	415, 417, 418, 423	137.2	137.8	138.4	+1.7	+0.4	+0.4	+3.1	+3.1	+2.4
Drink	424-428	133.1	133.0	132.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.3	+1.9	+2.3	+2.3
Tobacco	429	199.4	199.6	199.2	-0.1	+0.1	-0.2	+3.2	+3.5	+3.3
Textiles	43	117.9	118.0	118.1	-1.1	+0.1	+0.1	-0.8	+0.5	+0.9
Hosiery and other knitted goods	436	118.6	117.3	117.3	-	-1.1	-	-2.3	-0.7	-0.7
Leather, leather goods and footwear	44, 451	90.0	90.6	89.3	-0.6	+0.7	-1.4	-5.8	-4.7	-1.9
Clothing	453, 455, 456	144.1	144.4	144.0	+0.3	+0.2	-0.3	+2.3	+3.2	+3.3
Timber and wooden furniture	46	149.2	150.1	149.2	-0.2	+0.6	-0.6	+0.9	+1.8	+1.6
Paper and paper products	471-472	124.0	125.2	125.6	-	+1.0	+0.3	-	+0.6	+1.3
Printing and publishing	473-474	162.7	162.7	162.7	+0.1	-	-	+0.7	+0.7	+0.8
Rubber processing	481-482	137.1	137.4	137.3	-0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+3.5	+3.9	+3.9
Plastics	483	140.3	140.9	140.9	-0.1	+0.4	-	+0.4	+1.4	+1.7
Other manufactured products	49	103.0	103.1	103.0	-	+0.1	-0.1	+0.9	+1.2	+1.1
Mining, quarrying and turf	111, 21, 23	121.5	123.4	119.9	-0.9	+1.6	-2.8	+4.6	+8.2	+9.3
Total transportable goods industries		122.3	122.8	122.6	-0.2	+0.4	-0.2	+1.1	+2.4	+3.0
Food, drink and tobacco		132.8	133.0	133.2	-	+0.2	+0.2	+0.8	+1.8	+2.6
Manufacturing industries excluding food		119.7	120.4	120.0	-0.3	+0.6	-0.3	+1.4	+2.9	+3.2
Manufacturing industries excluding food, drink and tobacco		112.8	113.7	113.2	-0.4	+0.8	-0.4	+1.1	+3.0	+3.3
Manufacturing industries (home sales) ²		130.8	131.1	131.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.8	+1.6	+2.0
Manufacturing industries (export sales) ²		114.5	115.2	114.9	-0.6	+0.6	-0.3	+1.1	+3.1	+4.0
Total manufacturing industries²		122.3	122.9	122.7	-0.2	+0.5	-0.2	+0.9	+2.4	+2.9

¹ General classification of economic activities within the European Communities² Excludes mining, quarrying and turf

Table 2A Contributions to changes in the Manufacturing Output Price Index (Table 2), October 1999

Industrial sector	NACE code ¹	Contributions to overall % change	
		One month	12 months
Production and preliminary processing of metals	22	0.0%	0.05%
Non metallic mineral products	24	-0.03%	0.12%
Chemicals	25-26	-0.01%	0.31%
<i>Basic industrial chemicals (incl. fertilisers)</i>	251	-0.01%	-0.01%
<i>Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres)</i>	255-260	0.0%	0.33%
Metal articles	31	-0.01%	0.07%
Mechanical engineering	32	-0.02%	0.11%
Electrical engineering	34	-0.09%	0.25%
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	35	0.01%	0.02%
Instrument engineering	37	-0.03%	0.04%
Food	411-423	0.11%	1.01%
of which:			
<i>Vegetable/animal oils and fats</i>	411	0.00%	0.02%
<i>Slaughtering, preparing and preserving of meat</i>	412	0.05%	0.90%
<i>Dairy products</i>	413	0.03%	-0.16%
<i>Processing/preserving fruit and vegetables</i>	414	0.00%	0.02%
<i>Grain milling, animal and poultry foods</i>	416, 422	0.00%	0.02%
<i>Bread and flour confectionery</i>	419	0.00%	0.04%
<i>Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery</i>	420, 421	0.00%	0.07%
<i>All other food</i>	415, 417	0.02%	0.11%
	418, 423		
Drink	424-428	-0.03%	0.18%
Tobacco	429	-0.01%	0.18%
Textiles	43	0.00%	0.03%
<i>Hosiery and other knitted goods</i>	436	0.00%	-0.01%
Leather, leather goods and footwear	44, 451	-0.01%	-0.01%
Clothing	453, 455, 456	-0.01%	0.08%
Timber and wooden furniture	46	-0.01%	0.03%
Paper and paper products	471-472	0.00%	0.02%
Printing and publishing	473-474	0.00%	0.02%
Rubber processing	481-482	0.00%	0.03%
Plastics	483	0.00%	0.04%
Other manufactured products	49	0.00%	0.01%

¹ General classification of economic activities within the European Communities

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

Base: Year 1985 as 100

Materials	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
Sand and gravel	168.0	165.2	167.5	+1.4	-1.7	+1.4	+5.3	+3.8	+4.6
Cement	113.9	113.9	113.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ready mixed mortar and concrete	126.8	127.3	126.0	+0.2	+0.4	-1.0	+0.9	+1.3	-0.2
Concrete blocks and bricks	135.5	135.9	135.8	+0.1	+0.3	-0.1	+1.6	+2.0	+1.2
Other concrete products	157.7	156.9	157.5	-	-0.5	+0.4	+2.3	+1.9	+2.3
Structural steel and reinforcing metal	97.1	98.2	98.7	+0.5	+1.1	+0.5	-4.2	-3.2	-2.5
of which									
Structural steel	102.8	103.1	103.8	+0.3	+0.3	+0.7	-2.7	-2.5	-1.4
Reinforcing metal	91.9	93.6	94.0	+0.9	+1.8	+0.4	-5.6	-3.9	-3.5
Rough timber (including plain sawn)	164.1	168.3	168.3	-	+2.6	-	-3.6	-1.2	+0.7
Other timber (including joinery)	157.5	157.5	157.5	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Bituminous macadam, asphalt									
and bituminous emulsions	106.0	109.0	107.8	-0.5	+2.8	-1.1	+3.2	+5.7	+4.4
of which:									
Bituminous macadam and asphalt	141.1	143.7	140.4	-2.2	+1.8	-2.3	+0.5	+1.7	-0.6
Bituminous emulsions	64.4	67.9	69.0	+4.4	+5.4	+1.6	+11.0	+17.5	+18.6
Electrical fittings	121.9	122.4	123.7	+0.4	+0.4	+1.1	-1.5	+0.4	+2.1
All other materials	142.5	142.8	142.8	-	+0.2	-	+1.6	+1.7	+1.8
All materials	137.2	137.7	137.8	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	+0.5	+1.0	+1.2

Table 4 Capital Goods Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 1985 as 100

Capital goods	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
Transportable capital for use in									
Agriculture	146.9	147.0	146.8	-0.2	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.5	+0.3
Industry	142.6	142.9	142.8	-0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	+0.6	+0.8
of which:									
Private vehicles ¹	144.7	144.8	144.9	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+2.4	+2.5	+2.3
Commercial vehicles	146.2	146.2	146.2	+0.1	-	-	+0.8	+0.8	+0.7
Agriculture and industry	143.8	144.0	143.8	-0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.6	+0.7
Other sectors	139.0	139.2	139.0	-0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.9	+1.2	+1.4
Total transportable capital	141.2	141.4	141.3	-0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.6	+0.9	+1.1
Building and construction									
(i.e. materials and wages)	156.8	159.6	159.7	+0.1	+1.8	+0.1	+4.2	+6.2	+6.3
All capital goods	148.7	150.1	150.1	-	+0.9	-	+2.4	+3.5	+3.7

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

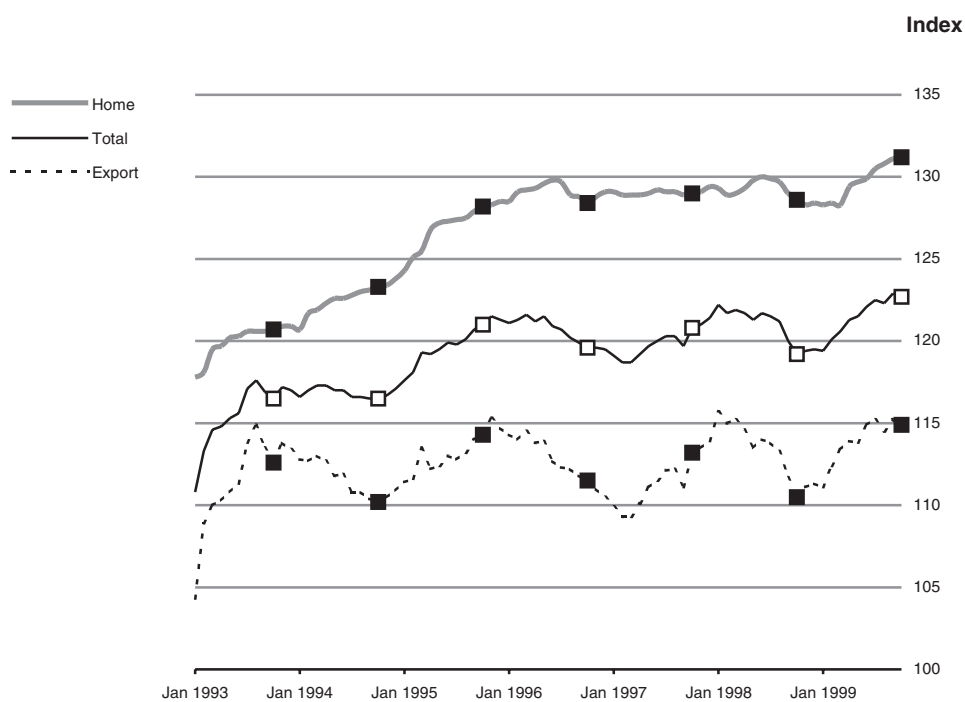
**Table 5 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Energy Products
(i.e. Fuels purchased by Manufacturing Industry)**

Base: Year 1985 as 100

Energy fuels	Index			Monthly % Change			Annual % Change		
	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1999	Oct 1999
Petrol	111.6	113.1	113.1	+2.2	+1.3	-	+8.5	+11.1	+12.3
Autodiesel	101.3	102.7	104.4	+0.1	+1.4	+1.7	+8.7	+11.5	+11.1
Gas oil (other than autodiesel)	89.5	94.0	96.7	+0.6	+5.0	+2.9	+16.2	+25.2	+24.9
Fuel oil	91.6	97.3	100.4	+1.9	+6.2	+3.2	+16.5	+25.2	+28.1
Electricity	84.2	84.2	84.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Petroleum fuels¹	93.5	98.3	101.0	+1.4	+5.1	+2.7	+14.9	+22.4	+24.2
Energy products	89.5	92.2	93.7	+0.9	+3.0	+1.6	+8.4	+12.4	+13.6

¹ Energy products excluding electricity.

**Manufacturing Industries: Output Price Indices
for Home and Export Sales
(Base: Year 1985 as 100)**



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 and 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*).