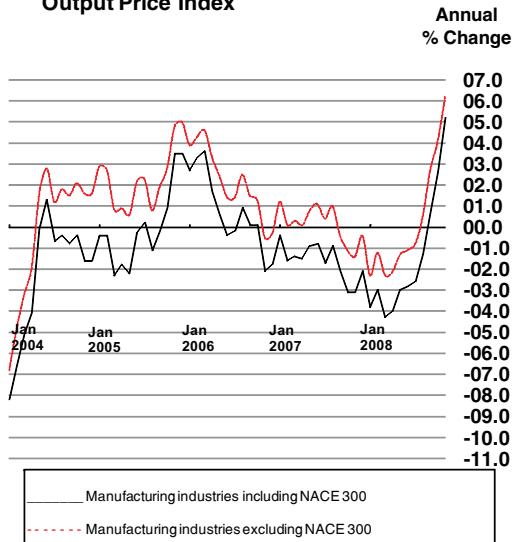


Central Statistics Office

An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

16 December 2008

Manufacturing Industries Output Price Index



Wholesale Price Index November 2008

Manufacturing Output Price Index

Price Index (Year '00=100)	% monthly change	% annual change
Sep 2008	+0.9%	+0.7%
Oct 2008	+1.2%	+2.6%
Nov 2008	+1.3%	+5.2%

Annual Manufacturing Prices up 5.2% in November

Monthly factory gate prices increased by 1.3% in November 2008. This compares to a decrease of 1.1% recorded for November 2007. As a result, the annual percentage change showed an increase of 5.2% in November 2008, compared with an increase of 2.6% in October 2008. See graph across and Table 1.

In the month, the price index for export sales increased by 1.8% while the index for home sales decreased by 0.3%. In the year there was an increase in the price index for export sales of 5.3% and an increase of 4.7% in respect of the price index for home sales. See Table 2 and graph on page 6.

In the month the most significant changes were increases in Office machinery and computers (+4.2%), Basic chemicals (+3.3%), and Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) (+2.8%), while there was a decrease in Meat and meat products (-3.1%). See Table 2 and Table 2B.

Contributing to the annual change were increases in Other food products including bread and confectionery (+12.7%), Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) (+12.0%), and Basic chemicals (+8.2%), while there was a decrease in Dairy products (-10.0%). See Table 2 and Table 2B.

The yearly price index for Mining and quarrying decreased by 10.0% while there was a monthly decrease of 2.9%. See Table 2.

A further analysis of Wholesale price changes by sector of use shows that:

- Building and Construction All material prices increased by 3.5% in the year since November 2007. The most notable yearly changes were increases in Structural steel (+19.2%), and Reinforcing metal (+17.4%). Building and Construction All material prices decreased by 0.3% in November 2008. See Table 3.
- Year on year, the price of Capital Goods increased by 2.9%, while there was a monthly price increase of 0.3% See Table 4.
- The price of Energy products increased by 10.0% in the year since November 2007, while Petroleum fuels decreased by 7.5%. In November 2008, there was a monthly decrease in Energy products of 2.2%, while Petroleum fuels decreased by 8.3%. See Table 5.

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Table 1 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) Rebased Series 2000=100

Period	Manufacturing industries			General wholesale price index ¹		
	Output price index		Annual % change	(See note below)		Annual % change
	Price Index	% Change on preceding period		Price Index	% Change on preceding period	
2001 Year	101.7	+1.7	+1.7	102.9	+2.9	+2.9
2002 Year	100.5	-1.2	-1.2	103.1	+0.2	+0.2
2003 Year	92.4	-8.1	-8.1	97.4	-5.5	-5.5
2004 Year	90.2	-2.4	-2.4	99.0	+1.6	+1.6
2005 Year	90.1	-0.1	-0.1	101.2	+2.2	+2.2
2006 Year	90.7	+0.7	+0.7	103.5	+2.3	+2.3
2007 Year	89.2	-1.7	-1.7	104.3	+0.8	+0.8
2005 Quarter 1	88.4	-0.8	-1.1	99.7	+0.8	+2.0
Quarter 2	90.1	+1.9	-1.4	100.8	+1.1	+1.4
Quarter 3	90.5	+0.4	-0.3	101.2	+0.4	+1.2
Quarter 4	91.4	+1.0	+2.6	102.9	+1.7	+4.0
2006 Quarter 1	91.3	-0.1	+3.3	103.5	+0.6	+3.8
Quarter 2	90.6	-0.8	+0.6	103.5	-	+2.7
Quarter 3	90.7	+0.1	+0.2	103.4	-0.1	+2.2
Quarter 4	90.3	-0.4	-1.2	103.5	+0.1	+0.6
2007 Quarter 1	90.2	-0.1	-1.2	104.7	+1.2	+1.2
Quarter 2	89.7	-0.6	-1.0	104.6	-0.1	+1.1
Quarter 3	89.3	-0.4	-1.5	104.6	-	+1.2
Quarter 4	87.8	-1.7	-2.8	103.5	-1.1	-
2008 Quarter 1	86.9	-1.0	-3.7	103.8	+0.3	-0.9
Quarter 2	86.7	-0.2	-3.3			
Quarter 3	88.3	+1.8	-1.1			
2006 January	91.0	-0.2	+2.7	103.2	+0.2	+3.4
February	91.6	+0.7	+3.3	103.9	+0.7	+4.1
March	91.2	-0.4	+3.6	103.5	-0.4	+3.9
April	91.0	-0.2	+1.7	103.8	+0.3	+3.5
May	90.2	-0.9	+0.6	103.2	-0.6	+2.8
June	90.7	+0.6	-0.4	103.5	+0.3	+1.7
July	90.6	-0.1	-0.2	103.4	-0.1	+2.1
August	90.7	+0.1	+0.9	103.6	+0.2	+2.8
September	90.8	+0.1	+0.1	103.3	-0.3	+1.9
October	91.1	+0.3	+0.1	103.8	+0.5	+1.5
November	90.1	-1.1	-2.1	103.5	-0.3	+0.2
December	89.6	-0.6	-1.8	103.3	-0.2	+0.3
2007 January	90.6	+1.1	-0.4	104.7	+1.4	+1.5
February	90.1	-0.6	-1.6	104.6	-0.1	+0.7
March	89.9	-0.2	-1.4	104.7	+0.1	+1.2
April	89.6	-0.3	-1.5	104.3	-0.4	+0.5
May	89.4	-0.2	-0.9	104.4	+0.1	+1.2
June	90.0	+0.7	-0.8	105.2	+0.8	+1.6
July	89.1	-1.0	-1.7	104.3	-0.9	+0.9
August	89.9	+0.9	-0.9	105.3	+1.0	+1.6
September	88.9	-1.1	-2.1	104.2	-1.0	+0.9
October	88.3	-0.7	-3.1	103.7	-0.5	-0.1
November	87.3	-1.1	-3.1	103.0	-0.7	-0.5
December	87.7	+0.5	-2.1	103.7	+0.7	+0.4
2008 January	87.2	-0.6	-3.8	103.3	-0.4	-1.3
February	87.4	+0.2	-3.0	104.1	+0.8	-0.5
March	86.0	-1.6	-4.3	104.1	-	-0.6
April	86.0	-	-4.0			
May	86.7	+0.8	-3.0			
June	87.5	+0.9	-2.8			
July	86.8	-0.8	-2.6			
August	88.7	+2.2	-1.3			
September	89.5	+0.9	+0.7			
October	90.6	+1.2	+2.6			
November	91.8	+1.3	+5.2			

¹ Derived from the price indices for output of manufacturing industry, output of agriculture and the import price (unit value) index. The 2008 figures are provisional due to the provisional nature of the import price (unit value) indices. Final 2008 GWPI indices should be available by mid 2009.

Table 2 Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 2000 as 100

	NACE code ¹	Index			Monthly %		Annual %	
		Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008
Food Products	151-158	121.5	120.9	+0.6	-0.1	-0.5	+5.7	
Meat and meat products	151	136.4	132.2	+0.3	-1.5	-3.1	+7.9	
Fish and fish products	152	138.6	143.3	+0.7	+1.3	+3.4	+6.1	
Fruit and vegetables	153	136.8	136.0	-0.1	+1.3	-0.6	+3.0	
Dairy products	155	105.4	103.9	-0.1	-0.7	-1.4	-10.0	
Grain milling, starches and animal feeds	156,157	133.6	131.9	-	+0.8	-1.3	+9.0	
Other food products	158	118.7	120.7	+1.2	+0.8	+1.7	+12.7	
Bread and flour confectionery	1581-1582	135.4	136.2	+0.4	+1.0	+0.6	+9.0	
Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	1583-1584	112.5	111.9	-	+0.2	-0.5	+6.3	
Beverages	159	119.5	119.8	+0.7	+0.8	+0.3	+3.4	
Tobacco products	16	151.8	154.1	+0.5	+2.3	+1.5	+10.2	
Textiles	17	109.9	109.3	-	+0.7	-0.5	-0.1	
Wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur	18	87.5	82.6	-0.1	+0.5	-5.6	-10.1	
Leather and leather products (incl. footwear)	19	98.2	97.3	-	+0.2	-0.9	-1.7	
Wood and wood products	20	110.9	110.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.7	-2.5	
Pulp, paper and paper products	21	104.9	103.8	-0.1	+0.3	-1.0	-1.8	
Pulp, paper and paper products; publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	21,22	112.9	112.2	+0.1	+0.4	-0.6	+0.4	
Chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres	24	98.7	101.8	+2.0	+2.0	+3.1	+9.2	
Basic chemicals	241	100.0	103.3	+1.9	+2.0	+3.3	+8.2	
Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres)	243-247	109.7	112.8	+2.0	+2.0	+2.8	+12.0	
Rubber and plastic products	25	112.1	111.7	+0.2	+0.2	-0.4	+1.7	
Other non-metallic mineral products	26	123.5	123.8	+0.6	+0.1	+0.2	+3.3	
Basic metals	27	150.5	135.3	+2.7	+1.5	-10.1	-3.1	
Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	28	123.0	121.2	+0.2	+1.2	-1.5	+4.4	
Machinery and equipment, not elsewhere classified	29	108.3	106.9	+0.7	+0.8	-1.3	+4.2	
Office machinery and computers	300	40.6	42.3	+1.5	+1.8	+4.2	-1.4	
Electrical machinery and communication equipment	31,32	81.3	83.2	+1.8	+1.4	+2.3	+4.4	
Electrical machinery and apparatus, not elsewhere classified	31	89.1	89.4	+2.0	+0.8	+0.3	-0.8	
Radio, television and communication equipment	32	74.7	77.0	+1.7	+1.6	+3.1	+6.4	
Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	33	95.2	97.2	+1.1	+1.9	+2.1	+17.8	
Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	34	110.0	109.8	-0.2	+0.1	-0.2	+0.7	
Furniture and manufacturing, not elsewhere classified	36	113.1	112.5	+0.3	+0.3	-0.5	-0.4	
Mining and quarrying	10-14	140.2	136.2	+1.6	-2.4	-2.9	-10.0	
Total transportable goods industries		90.9	92.1	+0.9	+1.1	+1.3	+4.9	
Food, drink and tobacco		123.6	123.4	+0.7	+0.2	-0.2	+6.1	
Manufacturing industries excl. food		85.0	86.5	+1.1	+1.4	+1.8	+4.8	
Manufacturing industries excl. food, drink and tobacco		82.1	83.6	+1.0	+1.5	+1.8	+4.8	
Intermediate goods industries (except energy)		94.2	95.7	+1.3	+1.1	+1.6	+4.0	
Capital goods industries		57.4	58.9	+1.3	+1.4	+2.6	+2.6	
Durable consumer goods industries		117.3	115.8	+0.6	+1.0	-1.3	+0.2	
Non-durable consumer goods industries		122.6	123.5	+1.0	+0.7	+0.7	+8.0	
Manufacturing industries (home sales) ²		118.5	118.2	-0.7	+0.3	-0.3	+4.7	
Manufacturing industries (export sales) ²		84.3	85.8	+1.5	+1.3	+1.8	+5.3	
Total manufacturing industries²		90.6	91.8	+0.9	+1.2	+1.3	+5.2	

¹ Nace Rev1.1 Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.

² Excludes Mining and quarrying.

Table 2A Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT) (excluding Nace 300)

Base: Year 2000 as 100

Industrial Sector (Excluding Nace 300 i.e. Office machinery & computers)	Index		Monthly% Change			Annual% Change	
	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008
Total transportable goods industries	103.8	104.7	+0.9	+1.0	+0.9	+5.8	
Manufacturing industries excl. food	99.4	100.8	+1.0	+1.3	+1.4	+6.1	
Manufacturing industries excl. food, drink and tobacco	96.7	98.0	+1.1	+1.4	+1.3	+6.1	
Capital goods industries	98.4	99.0	+0.9	+1.1	+0.6	+8.7	
Manufacturing industries (home sales) ¹	129.5	128.6	-0.8	+0.2	-0.7	+4.8	
Manufacturing industries (export sales) ¹	96.9	98.3	+1.4	+1.3	+1.4	+6.5	
Total manufacturing industries¹	103.4	104.5	+0.9	+1.0	+1.1	+6.2	

¹ Excludes Mining and quarrying**Table 2B Contribution to changes in the Manufacturing Output Price Index (Table 2)**

Industrial sector	NACE code ¹	Contribution to overall % change ²	
		One month	Twelve months
Food Products	151-158	-0.08	+1.15
Meat and meat products	151	-0.18	+0.38
Fish and fish products	152	+0.02	+0.03
Fruit and vegetables	153	0.00	+0.01
Dairy products	155	-0.06	-0.42
Grain milling, starches and animal feeds	156,157	-0.01	+0.09
Other food products	158	+0.16	+1.07
Bread and flour confectionery	1581-1582	+0.01	+0.07
Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	1583-1584	0.00	+0.04
Beverages	159	+0.01	+0.12
Tobacco products	16	+0.03	+0.18
Textiles	17	0.00	0.00
Wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur	18	-0.02	-0.04
Leather and leather products (incl. footwear)	19	0.00	0.00
Wood and wood products	20	-0.01	-0.03
Pulp, paper and paper products	21	-0.01	-0.02
Pulp, paper and paper products; publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	21,22	-0.01	-0.01
Chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres	24	+0.93	+2.65
Basic chemicals	241	+0.68	+1.63
Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres)	243-247	+0.25	+1.03
Rubber and plastic products	25	-0.01	+0.01
Other non-metallic mineral products	26	+0.01	+0.06
Basic metals	27	-0.09	+0.01
Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	28	-0.03	+0.06
Machinery and equipment, not elsewhere classified	29	-0.03	+0.08
Office machinery and computers	300	+0.48	-0.19
Electrical machinery and communication equipment	31,32	+0.22	+0.43
Electrical machinery and apparatus, not elsewhere classified	31	+0.01	-0.02
Radio, television and communication equipment	32	+0.21	+0.44
Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	33	+0.08	+0.62
Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	34	0.00	0.00
Furniture and manufacturing, not elsewhere classified	36	-0.01	-0.01
Mining and quarrying	10-14	-0.03	-0.19

¹ Nace Rev1.1 statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.² See Background Notes.

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

Base: Year 2000 as 100

Materials	Index		Monthly % Change			Annual % Change	
	Oct	Nov	Sep	Oct	Nov	Nov	
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
Stone, sand and gravel	180.7	183.2	+0.6	-	+1.4	+10.8	
Cement	134.2	134.2	-	-	-	+5.9	
Ready mixed mortar and concrete	127.0	127.1	+0.4	-0.3	+0.1	+3.9	
Concrete blocks and bricks	130.3	129.3	-	-0.1	-0.8	-0.8	
Other concrete products	123.8	126.0	-	-	+1.8	-2.1	
Structural steel and reinforcing metal	197.6	194.4	-0.1	-1.7	-1.6	+18.5	
Structural steel	202.5	201.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.6	+19.2	
Reinforcing metal	188.9	182.9	-0.2	-4.2	-3.2	+17.4	
Rough timber (including plain sawn)	107.1	107.1	-2.0	+0.4	-	-4.1	
Other timber (including joinery)	121.1	121.1	-	-	-	+2.2	
Bituminous macadam, asphalt and bituminous emulsions	177.0	174.6	+1.1	-1.8	-1.4	+3.3	
Bituminous macadam and asphalt	180.7	179.2	+1.2	-1.7	-0.8	+3.4	
Bituminous emulsions	204.4	178.6	-0.5	-4.8	-12.6	+1.4	
Electrical fittings	132.4	131.7	-0.4	-1.0	-0.5	-1.1	
All other materials	154.1	154.2	+0.5	-0.2	+0.1	+0.2	
All materials	148.2	147.8	+0.1	-0.5	-0.3	+3.5	

Table 3A Detailed Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Building and Construction Materials¹

Base: Year 2000 as 100

Materials	Index		Monthly % Change			Annual % Change	
	Oct	Nov	Sep	Oct	Nov	Nov	
	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
Stone, sand and gravel	180.7	183.2	+0.6	-	+1.4	+10.8	
Stone	141.8	143.3	+0.4	+0.4	+1.1	+11.0	
Sand and gravel	192.6	199.1	+1.5	-2.3	+3.4	+9.9	
Cement	134.2	134.2	-	-	-	+5.9	
Ready mixed mortar and concrete	127.0	127.1	+0.4	-0.3	+0.1	+3.9	
Concrete blocks and bricks	130.3	129.3	-	-0.1	-0.8	-0.8	
Other concrete products	123.1	126.2	-	-	+2.5	-2.1	
Precast concrete	118.0	118.0	-	-	-	+0.4	
Other	107.7	114.2	-	-	+6.0	-5.6	
Structural steel and reinforcing metal ²	199.1	196.0	-0.1	-1.8	-1.6	+19.2	
Structural steel ²	203.2	201.9	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	+19.8	
Fabricated metal	195.6	195.5	-	-0.1	-0.1	+21.8	
Other	199.6	191.3	-1.1	-0.6	-4.2	+7.7	
Reinforcing metal	191.7	185.7	-0.1	-4.4	-3.1	+18.4	
Other steel products	153.1	149.9	-	-	-2.1	-2.1	
Rough timber (including plain sawn)	112.4	112.3	+0.6	+0.1	-0.1	+1.4	
Hardwood	116.3	116.1	+3.6	-	-0.2	+8.0	
Other	107.8	107.8	-2.5	+0.4	-	-4.7	
Other timber	117.4	117.4	-	-	-	+0.2	
Windows and doors	110.8	110.8	-	-	-	+2.2	
Other	109.6	109.6	-	-	-	-1.9	
Bituminous macadam, asphalt and bituminous emulsions	177.0	174.6	+1.1	-1.8	-1.4	+3.3	
Bituminous macadam and asphalt	180.6	179.2	+1.2	-1.7	-0.8	+3.4	
Bituminous emulsions	204.3	178.5	-0.5	-4.8	-12.6	+1.3	
Electrical fittings	132.9	135.1	-0.2	-0.7	+1.7	+1.7	
Lighting equipment	135.7	144.8	-	-	+6.7	+6.7	
Protection & communication equipment	145.2	144.8	-	-	-0.3	+2.0	
All other materials	154.1	154.1	+0.5	-0.2	-	+0.1	
Plumbing materials incl. sanitary ware	127.8	127.8	-	-	-	+5.1	
HVAC (heating & ventilation equipment)	122.7	124.4	+0.1	-	+1.4	+7.1	
Insulating materials	137.3	137.3	+3.7	-	-	+7.7	
Pipes and fittings	251.7	251.7	-	-0.7	-	-0.7	
PVC	138.5	138.5	-	-	-	+1.3	
Copper	418.2	418.2	-	-1.1	-	-1.5	
Plaster	163.8	163.8	-	-	-	+9.6	
Paints, oils and varnishes	126.1	126.1	-	-	-	+2.1	
Glass	232.2	232.2	-	-	-	-2.4	
All other metal fittings	141.7	141.7	-	-	-	+3.9	
All other products	135.5	135.1	+0.2	-	-0.3	-3.3	
All materials²	148.4	148.7	+0.2	-0.5	+0.2	+4.3	

¹ Table 3A is under development. Differences between Table 3 and Table 3A are primarily due to sample sizes and weights.² The index in respect of Structural steel has been revised and as a consequence Structural steel and reinforcing metal and All materials have been revised accordingly.

Table 4 Capital Goods Price Indices (excluding VAT)

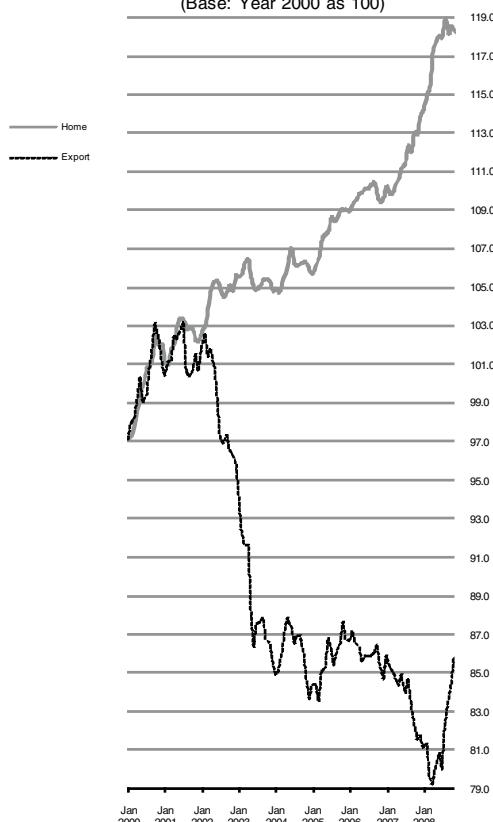
Base: Year 2000 as 100

Capital goods	Index		Monthly % Change			Annual % Change	
	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008
Transportable capital for use in							
Agriculture	112.0	112.9	+0.2	+0.2	+0.8	+2.6	
Industry	107.1	108.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.9	+2.7	
of which:							
Private vehicles ¹	107.8	110.1	-	-	+2.1	+1.4	
Commercial vehicles	104.5	107.6	-	-	+3.0	+3.1	
Agriculture and industry	107.8	108.8	+0.1	+0.2	+0.9	+2.6	
Other sectors	108.3	109.9	-	+0.1	+1.5	+2.6	
Total transportable capital	108.0	109.3	+0.1	+0.1	+1.2	+2.5	
Building and construction (i.e. materials and wages)	160.5	160.3	+0.1	-0.4	-0.1	+3.0	
All capital goods	141.7	142.1	+0.1	-0.2	+0.3	+2.9	

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 2000 as 100

Energy fuels	Index		Monthly % Change			Annual % Change	
	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2008
Petrol	152.0	141.8	+1.1	-5.3	-6.7	-5.6	
Autodiesel	155.1	145.3	-0.1	-8.4	-6.3	-5.7	
Gas oil (other than autodiesel)	179.2	165.9	-0.4	-12.8	-7.4	-5.7	
Fuel oil	185.3	167.0	-2.0	-12.1	-9.9	-9.2	
Electricity	194.1	194.1	-	-	-	+17.5	
Petroleum fuels ¹	169.5	155.4	-1.0	-10.6	-8.3	-7.5	
Energy products	184.1	180.0	-0.3	-3.1	-2.2	+10.0	

¹ Energy products excluding electricity.**Manufacturing Industries: Output Price Indices
for Home and Export Sales
(Base: Year 2000 as 100)**

Background Notes

Wholesale Price Index

The term Industrial Producer Price Index refers to a family of indices that measure the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers of goods. The other four wholesale price index series incorporate imported and home produced goods sold by manufacturers and wholesale outlets.

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; Intermediate goods industries (except energy); Capital goods industries; Durable consumer goods industries; Non-durable consumer goods industries; 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.

Table 2B gives the percentage contribution of each published sector to the overall percentage change on Table 2. The percentage contributions on Table 2B will not add up to the Total Manufacturing industries 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 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. Actual transaction prices are collected for materials purchased by construction and civil engineering firms. The price indices reflect an ‘average’ over a mixture of products from many companies throughout the country. They also reflect prices for both long-term and short-term contracts and for high and low volume civil engineering works. It should be noted that long-term, high volume fixed contracts for major works might dilute in the short-term the impact of emerging price changes on the index. Furthermore, industry sources have confirmed that price increases notified by companies may not always be achieved in practice following negotiations. Much depends on the prevailing market conditions. Therefore changes over the short-term in the indices derived from these transaction prices will not always coincide with price changes notified by companies.

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.

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:

excluding delivery charges itemised on the invoice separately
 after discounts or surcharges are applied
 before addition of direct subsidies
 exclusive of VAT (except for private vehicles used in Table 4)
 inclusive of excise duty

Every effort is made by the Wholesale Prices Section to collect all prices for the relevant month. Where this is not possible late prices are included in the following month's calculations.

Methodology This Wholesale Price Index series is compiled to base 2000 as 100. A methodological description of this updated series is given in the April 2003 Wholesale Price Index Introduction of Updated Series.

Calculating percentage changes in the index The movement of the output price indices is expressed as percentage change, rather than a change in index points, because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, whereas percentage changes are not.

The example below illustrates the computation of a percentage change:

Percentage change calculation	
Current index	105.6
Less previous index	102.1
Equals in index points	3.5
Divided by the previous index	102.1
Equals	0.0343
Results multiplied by 100	0.0343 x 100
Equals percentage change	3.4