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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES - NOVEMBER 2008 -

The U.S. Import Price Index fell for the fourth consecutive month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today, decreasing 6.7 percent in November as falling prices for both petroleum and nonpetroleum imports contributed to the decline. Export prices declined 3.2 percent in November, the fourth consecutive monthly decrease.

Percent changes in import and export price indexes by End Use category - not seasonally adjusted -

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Petroleum imports	Non-petroleum imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2007						
November.....	3.2	12.4	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.9
December.....	-0.2	-1.8	0.4	0.5	2.6	0.3
2008						
January.....	1.5	4.2	0.7	1.2	4.8	0.8
February.....	0.2	-1.3	0.6	0.9	4.6	0.6
March.....	3.1	10.1	1.1	1.6	4.7	1.3
April.....	2.8	8.1	1.3	0.5	-2.0	0.7
May.....	2.8	9.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4
June.....	3.0	9.2	0.9	1.0	2.3	0.9
July.....	1.4	3.3	0.6	1.5	6.7	0.9
August.....	-3.1 ^r	-9.8 ^r	-0.4	-1.6	-9.6	-0.7
September.....	-3.5 ^r	-11.2 ^r	-0.9	-0.8	0.1	-0.9
October.....	-5.4 ^r	-19.8 ^r	-0.9	-2.0 ^r	-8.4 ^r	-1.3 ^r
November.....	-6.7	-25.8	-1.8	-3.2	-7.0	-2.9
Nov. 2006 to 2007.....	12.0	56.7	3.1	6.2	23.0	4.7
Nov. 2007 to 2008.....	-4.4	-29.0	2.4	-0.2	-2.8	0.0

^r Revised

Import Goods

Import prices fell 6.7 percent in November after decreases of 5.4 percent, 3.5 percent, and 3.1 percent in October, September, and August, respectively. The November decline was the largest one-month drop since the index was first published monthly in December 1988 and the 17.4 percent decrease over the past four months was the largest four-month decline since the index was first published in September 1982. Import prices decreased 4.4 percent for the year ended in November; in contrast, prices for imports increased 21.4 percent from July 2007 to July 2008. The four-month decline in import prices was largely driven by falling petroleum prices, which decreased 25.8 percent in November after declining 19.8 percent, 11.2 percent, and 9.8 percent, respectively, in October, September, and August. The November drop in petroleum prices was the largest monthly decline since the index was first published monthly in December 1988 and the 52.3 percent decrease over the past four months was the largest four-month decline since the index was first published in June 1982. For the November 2007-2008 period, petroleum prices fell 29.0 percent.

The price index for nonpetroleum imports fell 1.8 percent in November, the largest decrease since the index was first published monthly in December 1988. Despite the recent declines, the index increased 2.4 percent over the past year. The November decrease was led by a 5.2 percent decline in prices for nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials, the largest one-month drop for that index since a 5.3 percent decrease in April 2003. Lower prices for metals drove the November decline in nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials prices. Falling prices for foods, feeds, and beverages, down 5.0 percent, also contributed to the decrease in nonpetroleum prices.

Finished goods prices decreased as well. The price indexes for capital goods, automotive vehicles, and consumer goods fell 0.4 percent, 0.6 percent, and 0.3 percent, respectively, in November, paralleling the recent appreciation of the dollar.

Export Goods

Export prices fell 3.2 percent in November, the largest one-month decline since the index was first published monthly in December 1988. The decrease followed drops of 2.0 percent, 0.8 percent, and 1.6 percent in October, September, and August, respectively. The 7.4 percent decrease over the past four months was the largest four-month decline since the index was first published in September 1983. As a result of the recent downward trend, export prices fell 0.2 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for agricultural exports fell 7.0 percent in November and 23.0 percent over the past four months, the largest four-month drop since the index was first published in March 1985. The November drop was led by falling prices for meat, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Agricultural prices, which had risen 39.7 percent from July 2007 to July 2008, fell 2.8 percent for the year ended in November.

Nonagricultural prices fell for the fourth consecutive month, declining 2.9 percent in November following decreases of 1.3 percent, 0.9 percent, and 0.7 percent, respectively, in October, September, and August. The November decline was the largest one-month drop for the index since first being published monthly in December 1988 and was led by an 8.2 percent drop in prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. That decline was driven by lower prices for fuels, chemicals, and metals. The price index for nonagricultural exports was unchanged over the past year.

The major finished goods price indexes also decreased in November. Prices for consumer goods, capital goods, and automotive vehicles fell 0.9 percent, 0.2 percent, and 0.1 percent, respectively.

Imports by Locality of Origin

The sharp decline in fuel prices continued to impact import prices from Canada, Mexico, Latin America, the Asia Near East, and the European Union. Prices for imports from Canada fell 8.3 percent for the month and 1.8 percent over the past 12 months. The price indexes for imports from Mexico and Latin America declined 5.0 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively, in November, and 2.6 percent and 7.1 percent, respectively, over the past year. Prices for imports from Asia Near East decreased 19.7 percent this month and 23.7 percent for the year ended in November. The price index for imports from the European Union fell 3.1 percent in November and, despite recent declines, increased 2.1 percent over the past 12 months.

The price index for imports from China declined for the second consecutive month, falling 0.6 percent in November, the largest decline since the index was first published in December 2003. Despite the recent downturn, the index rose 3.5 percent for the year ended in November.

In contrast, import prices from Japan rose 0.3 percent in November following a 0.4 percent increase the previous month. The index advanced 1.9 percent for the November 2007-2008 period.

Import and Export Services

Import air passenger fares fell for the third time in the past four months, decreasing 5.0 percent in November. The November decline was led by a 7.0 percent drop in European fares. Export air passenger fares declined for the third consecutive month, falling 4.5 percent in November after decreasing 3.8 percent and 11.0 percent in October and September, respectively. The 18.2 percent decline over the past three months was the largest three-month drop since the index was first published in September 1986. For the year ended in November, however, import air passenger fares rose 22.9 percent while export air passenger fares advanced 4.0 percent.

Prices for import air freight decreased for the fourth consecutive month, falling 4.6 percent in November. Despite the recent declines, the index increased 5.4 percent over the past 12 months. A 12.3 percent drop in European air freight prices in November led the overall decline. The price index for export air freight fell 1.6 percent in November and 4.7 percent over the past three months; however, the index advanced 12.9 percent over the past year.

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Import and Export Price Index data for December are scheduled for release on January 14 at 8:30 A.M. (EST)

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	Monthly			
						July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
All commodities.....		100.000	130.6	121.9	-4.4	-3.1	-3.5	-5.4	-6.7
All imports excluding petroleum.....		79.731	113.1	111.1	2.4	-0.4	-0.9	-0.9	-1.8
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)..		77.820	116.0	113.9	2.6	0.2	-0.4	-0.8	-1.8
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	4.564	146.0	138.7	4.0	0.5	-1.6	-1.4	-5.0
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.541	162.4	152.9	3.9	0.2	-1.8	-1.5	-5.8
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.023	108.9	106.7	4.1	1.6	-1.2	-0.6	-2.0
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	38.383	217.8	182.8	-14.1	-6.9	-7.9	-12.7	-16.1
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		18.115	162.4	154.0	5.1	-2.4	-3.0	-3.1	-5.2
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		16.204	174.1	164.2	6.3	0.2	-1.3	-3.2	-5.7
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		10.437	162.5	151.5	2.0	-0.3	-2.7	-4.5	-6.8
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.767	161.3	156.4	9.4	-5.1	-3.3	-1.3	-3.0
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	22.180	282.7	215.9	-26.8	-10.4	-11.5	-18.6	-23.6
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	20.270	298.9	221.8	-29.0	-9.8	-11.2	-19.8	-25.8
Crude.....	10000	14.807	306.2	232.2	-26.9	-9.7	-13.0	-20.6	-24.2
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.659	185.1	183.2	1.1	-19.1	-16.4	-3.1	-1.0
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.473	176.6	174.5	-0.8	-20.7	-18.6	-3.8	-1.2
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.755	116.2	115.1	6.6	0.7	0.1	-3.0	-0.9
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	5.083	161.7	155.2	16.1	1.4	1.7	-0.4	-4.0
Selected building materials.....	13	1.814	120.6	119.1	3.0	0.7	0.5	-1.7	-1.2
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	4.900	237.5	209.5	-2.5	-1.1	-5.1	-7.4	-11.8
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	2.026	156.0	147.6	7.4	0.2	-1.4	-2.5	-5.4
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.626	110.8	110.6	7.1	1.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2
Capital goods.....	2	21.135	93.2	92.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.4
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.736	112.1	111.4	3.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.6	-0.6
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	16.764	88.2	87.7	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.6
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	1.635	118.3	118.7	3.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	13.155	108.3	107.7	1.4	0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.6
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	22.762	105.2	104.9	2.4	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.3
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	10.497	108.2	108.1	2.7	0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1
Durables, manufactured.....	41	11.147	102.0	101.7	2.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.3
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.118	105.9	103.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.7	-2.5

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
All commodities.....		100.000	122.4	118.5	-0.2	-1.6	-0.8	-2.0	-3.2
Agricultural commodities.....		9.196	172.4	160.4	-2.8	-9.6	0.1	-8.4	-7.0
Nonagricultural commodities.....		90.803	118.8	115.4	0.0	-0.7	-0.9	-1.3	-2.9
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.375	174.4	164.4	-0.9	-10.4	0.3	-8.3	-5.7
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	7.694	178.1	166.8	-1.8	-11.1	0.5	-9.0	-6.3
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.681	143.4	145.6	9.4	-0.9	-1.4	-0.1	1.5
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	30.465	162.0	148.6	-3.4	-2.1	-2.7	-4.3	-8.3
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		11.228	159.9	149.5	-6.2	0.0	-4.7	-4.3	-6.5
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		19.235	164.1	148.9	-1.6	-3.4	-1.6	-4.3	-9.3
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.502	148.5	133.5	-7.9	-1.2	-2.1	-5.7	-10.1
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		28.963	163.0	149.7	-3.2	-2.2	-2.7	-4.2	-8.2
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	4.861	240.1	200.1	-10.9	-11.7	-3.0	-10.3	-16.7
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	23.060	155.7	145.2	-1.8	0.1	-2.8	-3.1	-6.7
Selected building materials.....	13	1.042	116.6	116.1	2.0	0.6	0.2	1.0	-0.4
Capital goods.....	2	39.289	101.8	101.6	1.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.753	109.7	109.2	1.9	-0.1	0.3	0.2	-0.5
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	27.634	93.7	93.5	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	7.902	131.1	131.0	5.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	9.737	108.2	108.1	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	12.133	109.8	108.8	1.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	-0.9
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.567	108.7	106.6	-1.3	-0.2	-0.5	-0.3	-1.9
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.558	110.0	109.9	5.3	1.1	1.4	1.2	-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

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Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Nonmanufactured articles.....		19.001	139.7	110.3	-22.7	-9.5	-12.2	-17.8	-21.0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.676	134.3	124.8	4.5	1.6	-2.4	-4.0	-7.1
Crop production.....	111	1.176	135.7	128.8	4.7	1.4	-1.8	-5.4	-5.1
Mining.....	21	17.325	140.1	108.7	-24.9	-10.3	-12.9	-18.9	-22.4
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.413	129.8	128.0	22.4	1.9	2.0	0.8	-1.4
Manufactured articles.....		80.397	112.2	108.8	0.6	-0.8	-0.7	-1.8	-3.0
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	9.818	109.3	107.5	1.8	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-1.6
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.508	128.2	120.3	3.9	0.2	-1.7	-1.1	-6.2
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.810	106.1	105.7	1.7	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.4
Textile mills.....	313	0.442	113.1	111.8	3.3	0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-1.1
Textile product mills.....	314	0.739	102.2	102.3	1.8	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.891	102.0	102.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.0
Leather and allied product manufacturing. . .	316	1.429	106.3	106.1	2.9	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	18.345	125.4	115.6	-1.4	-3.0	-0.8	-5.0	-7.8
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.113	95.5	93.7	0.9	1.1	0.7	-4.3	-1.9
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.283	112.3	111.4	8.6	1.1	0.1	-1.7	-0.8
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	4.401	137.2	98.7	-30.7	-11.3	-4.9	-17.1	-28.1
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	8.589	129.8	127.4	11.6	0.9	1.2	-0.1	-1.8
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.707	113.6	113.2	7.4	0.5	0.4	-0.5	-0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.155	118.8	119.1	9.1	-0.5	0.1	2.7	0.3
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	52.234	108.6	106.8	1.0	-0.1	-0.7	-0.8	-1.7
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.759	164.0	146.2	-1.9	-1.4	-4.5	-6.8	-10.9
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.674	121.9	120.9	8.8	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.8
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.631	111.1	110.5	3.9	0.0	0.1	-0.3	-0.5
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	13.448	91.9	91.5	-3.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.749	114.6	113.9	5.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.6
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	13.906	105.2	104.7	1.7	0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.5
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.494	111.3	110.4	7.9	0.2	0.1	-0.2	-0.8
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.574	111.0	110.4	2.2	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.5

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Nonmanufactured articles.....		6.243	131.6	124.1	-7.8	-13.3	-0.8	-10.7	-5.7
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	4.975	147.7	138.8	-7.8	-14.8	0.2	-12.3	-6.0
Crop production.....	111	4.632	152.5	142.7	-8.3	-15.5	0.3	-13.0	-6.4
Mining.....	21	1.268	95.9	91.6	-7.7	-6.8	-5.0	-3.5	-4.5
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.847	96.0	92.6	-7.5	1.4	-2.6	-3.0	-3.5
Manufactured articles.....		91.418	111.9	109.1	1.5	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1	-2.5
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.981	124.2	120.6	6.3	-0.2	-0.6	-1.5	-2.9
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.630	140.0	134.2	9.0	-0.2	-1.0	-2.1	-4.1
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.486	104.0	104.0	0.4	-0.8	-1.2	-0.4	0.0
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.470	101.3	101.3	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	23.638	123.5	114.8	0.1	-2.3	-1.0	-2.8	-7.0
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.524	112.6	111.4	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.1	-1.1
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.958	116.5	115.3	3.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	-1.0
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	3.326	156.5	123.8	-16.1	-13.5	-3.2	-13.1	-20.9
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.682	122.3	114.6	2.2	0.2	-1.0	-1.5	-6.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.221	112.3	111.5	5.2	0.5	0.8	0.4	-0.7
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.832	111.4	112.1	5.1	0.3	0.8	1.2	0.6
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	60.799	106.6	105.9	1.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.7
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.536	137.6	126.3	-1.7	0.1	-6.4	-5.2	-8.2
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.777	119.4	119.1	5.6	0.8	-0.3	0.8	-0.3
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	12.135	111.4	111.4	4.8	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.239	93.6	93.2	-3.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.8	-0.4
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.627	107.5	107.1	1.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.4
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	16.569	107.7	107.9	2.8	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.574	112.1	111.9	6.6	1.3	1.3	1.4	-0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.135	138.7	130.0	4.6	3.4	-3.5	-2.9	-6.3
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.271	169.7	157.1	6.1	2.7	-1.8	-2.1	-7.4
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.552	105.1	102.1	3.5	2.3	-2.3	-1.5	-2.9
Vegetable products.....	II	1.360	157.5	150.2	5.0	1.4	-1.1	-3.1	-4.6
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.379	240.2	237.5	21.5	2.7	-1.4	10.8	-1.1
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.407	109.0	102.7	-0.2	6.2	1.5	-6.6	-5.8
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.236	153.7	147.3	-1.5	-0.8	-1.0	-9.9	-4.2
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.181	137.3	134.3	5.3	0.1	-1.4	-2.3	-2.2
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.180	109.0	103.3	-	0.7	-1.8	-2.9	-5.2
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.234	139.1	134.0	1.1	-0.7	-0.3	-0.5	-3.7
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.778	115.1	114.7	2.7	0.1	-2.2	-1.9	-0.3
Mineral products.....	V	22.040	281.4	217.9	-24.9	-10.3	-11.3	-18.2	-22.6
Salt; sulfur; earths and stone; plaster materials, lime & cement (Dec.2007=100)...	25	0.209	103.1	102.4	-	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.7
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	21.411	280.7	215.6	-26.0	-10.5	-11.6	-18.6	-23.2
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	7.818	144.8	139.8	10.0	1.2	1.9	-0.3	-3.5
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.121	293.1	284.5	37.7	5.0	7.2	-0.5	-2.9
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.484	134.1	124.8	-1.3	0.7	0.1	-0.3	-6.9
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.252	113.5	113.1	3.3	0.3	-0.6	-0.1	-0.4
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.162	105.6	105.1	2.7	0.7	2.2	-3.6	-0.5
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.405	125.1	122.5	7.6	0.5	-1.5	0.7	-2.1
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.408	100.2	99.1	-0.1	0.9	-1.7	-0.5	-1.1
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	2.966	138.1	133.6	6.7	0.9	0.1	0.1	-3.3
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.948	134.7	131.5	7.5	1.1	0.1	-0.3	-2.4
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.018	144.8	137.8	5.2	0.6	0.1	0.8	-4.8
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.580	114.0	114.2	3.8	0.1	-0.4	1.0	0.2
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.533	114.6	114.8	3.9	0.0	-0.4	1.1	0.2
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	1.149	116.7	114.5	0.6	1.2	0.7	-4.5	-1.9
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.428	115.7	114.9	7.2	1.1	0.0	-1.6	-0.7
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.010	114.4	114.0	12.8	1.8	-0.2	0.4	-0.3
Printed matter.....	49	0.251	119.3	119.3	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.925	103.9	103.7	0.8	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.773	100.5	100.5	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.939	102.6	102.7	0.0	0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.1
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.501	95.8	95.7	3.1	0.1	0.5	-0.2	-0.1
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc..	XII	1.185	106.4	106.2	3.7	0.1	-0.2	0.2	-0.2
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	0.994	105.4	105.2	2.8	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.996	123.2	123.4	9.0	-0.7	-0.2	3.6	0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.370	119.6	119.5	13.6	-0.2	0.2	3.3	-0.1
Ceramic products.....	69	0.322	132.8	132.9	9.8	-1.8	-0.2	7.9	0.1
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.305	115.8	116.4	3.2	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.5
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.533	139.3	130.5	-6.8	-2.0	-7.6	-2.2	-6.3
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	7.219	194.4	178.2	3.5	0.0	-2.0	-4.8	-8.3
Iron and steel.....	72	2.339	280.7	258.5	24.6	-1.0	-1.0	-9.0	-7.9
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.865	165.5	162.4	22.2	0.7	-0.1	-0.7	-1.9
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.770	280.1	214.0	-32.0	1.4	-6.3	-8.0	-23.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.962	143.7	126.4	-9.1	1.2	-4.1	-5.4	-12.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.364	117.0	116.4	4.9	0.4	0.2	0.4	-0.5
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.454	132.2	132.2	4.7	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	23.583	88.5	88.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	12.111	88.7	88.1	-1.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.7
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	11.472	88.4	88.3	0.5	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	12.115	109.7	109.0	1.3	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.6
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	11.227	108.8	108.1	1.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	0.798	112.5	112.7	2.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	2.816	101.5	101.3	1.7	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.520	99.4	99.3	1.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.223	122.6	120.8	3.1	0.2	-0.4	0.8	-1.5
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	3.714	107.5	107.3	5.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.165	113.2	112.7	6.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.4
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.352	99.7	99.9	3.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.197	112.5	112.2	4.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.711	177.8	157.7	2.3	1.6	-0.4	-1.3	-11.3
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.929	147.6	124.0	-0.6	3.5	-1.6	-2.6	-16.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.431	148.5	145.9	10.8	-0.5	-1.0	0.5	-1.8
Vegetable products.....	II	4.742	198.2	187.5	-3.5	-15.4	1.1	-11.6	-5.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.633	111.9	109.8	-13.1	2.3	-3.9	-6.1	-1.9
Cereals.....	10	2.030	227.5	203.8	-7.4	-23.7	8.6	-15.0	-10.4
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.392	203.0	194.9	-0.1	-16.5	-4.4	-15.7	-4.0
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.353	133.4	132.8	3.9	-1.7	0.4	-2.5	-0.4
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.450	122.1	121.4	3.8	0.2	0.2	1.0	-0.6
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.537	178.6	176.1	1.7	-8.3	1.9	-11.8	-1.4
Mineral products.....	V	4.939	291.3	250.3	-8.0	-11.4	-3.4	-10.2	-14.1
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	4.377	287.1	244.5	-7.4	-12.6	-3.4	-11.1	-14.8
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.994	144.2	135.6	2.0	-0.7	-0.9	-1.4	-6.0
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.317	211.8	209.4	25.1	1.6	2.0	0.9	-1.1
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.697	160.4	133.6	-9.5	-2.1	-2.1	-3.2	-16.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.519	116.9	113.9	-1.9	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	-2.6
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.540	115.1	113.5	-2.8	1.7	-0.3	-0.3	-1.4
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.670	122.2	119.6	1.2	1.6	-0.8	-0.6	-2.1
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.419	122.3	121.5	8.5	1.2	1.2	-0.4	-0.7
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.694	130.5	130.9	8.7	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.3
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.639	148.8	142.8	6.3	1.8	-0.3	0.0	-4.0
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.497	141.8	136.2	4.6	1.7	-0.6	-0.4	-3.9
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.142	180.3	172.6	14.0	1.9	1.3	1.5	-4.3
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.387	113.3	111.0	-5.9	-0.5	-0.9	-1.6	-2.0
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.641	112.0	110.0	-1.0	0.3	-0.4	-0.2	-1.8
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.521	116.3	107.6	-6.0	0.1	-0.3	-1.4	-7.5
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.672	121.9	91.8	-25.1	0.0	-0.6	-6.3	-24.7
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.337	114.8	114.4	4.4	0.3	0.3	0.9	-0.3
Printed material.....	49	0.512	117.3	113.1	-6.8	-0.3	-1.3	-0.1	-3.6
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.222	107.3	104.5	-0.9	-0.1	-0.4	-1.9	-2.6
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.658	102.7	95.0	-8.4	-1.1	-2.0	-7.1	-7.5
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.812	113.5	113.5	2.4	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.431	99.5	99.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.834	174.9	165.7	-2.5	2.0	-6.2	-1.7	-5.3
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.589	165.7	154.1	-5.0	-0.4	-3.5	-6.0	-7.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: November 2007 to November 2008 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Iron and steel.....	72	1.395	205.4	185.2	-4.6	-0.9	-6.9	-11.3	-9.8
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.472	159.3	159.1	7.9	1.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.613	226.2	180.1	-24.9	-1.3	-3.6	-9.3	-20.4
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.855	126.1	108.8	-22.0	-1.5	-7.0	-9.0	-13.7
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.394	121.8	121.8	5.4	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.371	130.6	129.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	-1.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	30.458	94.9	94.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	17.073	104.3	104.3	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.385	84.6	84.5	-0.9	-0.2	0.0	-0.8	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	14.134	117.7	117.8	2.7	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.326	107.7	107.7	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.0
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	6.075	106.9	106.0	1.0	0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.8
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.439	108.8	108.3	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	-0.5
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.770	117.8	117.4	3.0	0.2	0.5	0.3	-0.3
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.521	95.1	95.1	2.7	-0.3	0.2	0.7	0.0

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: November 2007 to November 2008
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Industrialized Countries²	42.888	130.9	123.7	-0.3	-1.6	-3.2	-3.1	-5.5
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.201	240.6	201.0	-11.3	-9.8	-13.9	-13.8	-16.5
Manufactured articles.....	38.251	122.5	117.6	1.1	-0.1	-1.1	-1.4	-4.0
Other Countries³	57.112	129.9	120.4	-5.9	-3.4	-3.9	-6.5	-7.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.058	277.6	216.1	-23.6	-9.1	-11.2	-17.7	-22.2
Manufactured articles.....	44.837	108.9	106.4	0.4	-0.6	-0.6	-2.1	-2.3
Canada	16.032	153.8	141.0	-1.8	-2.9	-5.1	-3.9	-8.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.711	237.9	199.2	-11.3	-10.5	-14.4	-13.0	-16.3
Manufactured articles.....	12.028	138.5	131.0	1.8	0.9	-0.6	-0.1	-5.4
European Union⁴	17.355	129.8	125.8	2.1	-0.7	-1.3	-1.4	-3.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.249	262.7	215.9	-23.6	-9.4	-12.4	-22.8	-17.8
Manufactured articles.....	16.987	127.1	123.4	2.5	-0.5	-1.2	-0.9	-2.9
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.844	120.7	118.6	7.4	0.7	-0.4	0.0	-1.7
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.732	110.9	109.1	0.4	-0.2	-1.1	-0.9	-1.6
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.684	128.9	120.8	-3.1	-3.2	-4.2	-3.7	-6.3
Latin America⁵	18.032	164.8	151.1	-7.1	-4.5	-5.3	-8.8	-8.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.151	286.6	230.3	-21.2	-9.7	-10.4	-17.7	-19.6
Manufactured articles.....	12.786	139.2	135.7	0.4	-0.9	-2.0	-3.6	-2.5
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.710	140.2	133.2	-2.6	-2.5	-2.7	-6.6	-5.0
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	33.822	102.3	101.7	1.8	0.1	-1.1	-0.2	-0.6
China (Dec. 2003=100)	15.926	103.6	103.0	3.5	0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.6
Japan	8.032	95.4	95.7	1.9	0.0	-0.5	0.4	0.3
Asian NICs⁷	5.887	92.5	92.0	2.7	1.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.5
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	6.041	100.0	98.6	0.3	-1.0	-1.2	-1.5	-1.4
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	3.928	222.9	178.9	-23.7	-7.6	-9.1	-16.0	-19.7

1 Percentage of trade figures are based on 2006 trade values.

2 Includes Western Europe, Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

3 Includes Eastern Europe, Latin America, OPEC countries, and other countries in Asia, Africa and the Western Hemisphere.

4 Includes European Union countries.

5 Includes Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

6 Includes China, Japan, Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Macao, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Asian Newly Industrialized Countries.

7 Asian Newly Industrialized Countries. Includes Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.

8 Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

9 Includes Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Regions are not mutually exclusive.

Dash = Not available

Table 8. U.S. international price indexes and percent changes for selected transportation services: November 2007 to November 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Oct. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008	Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2008
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	152.6	145.6	5.4	-0.2	-3.2	-2.9	-4.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	28.795	160.0	140.4	-1.7	1.6	-7.7	-5.2	-12.3
Asia.....	59.663	126.9	125.8	6.3	-1.7	-0.6	-1.4	-0.9
Export Air Freight	100.000	141.6	139.4	12.9	2.2	-1.4	-1.9	-1.6
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	42.870	134.4	130.0	18.6	2.3	-1.6	-3.9	-3.3
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	148.3	143.2	6.8	0.2	-2.5	-2.2	-3.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	30.920	155.3	141.3	1.8	1.5	-6.0	-4.0	-9.0
Asia.....	56.269	122.5	122.0	8.2	-1.0	-0.2	-1.1	-0.4
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	142.8	139.1	15.0	0.3	-1.7	-2.9	-2.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	41.657	162.6	158.9	15.5	1.5	-2.3	-3.4	-2.3
Asia.....	40.777	127.7	123.9	14.7	-1.0	-1.1	-3.0	-3.0
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	165.9	157.6	22.9	-3.0	-6.9	2.9	-5.0
Europe.....	46.223	176.1	163.7	33.9	-1.7	-10.1	4.1	-7.0
Asia.....	23.661	136.3	138.3	20.2	-5.7	-7.8	0.9	1.5
Latin America/Caribbean.....	10.723	129.7	129.4	1.9	-1.0	-13.0	-3.3	-0.2
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	165.3	157.9	4.0	6.0	-11.0	-3.8	-4.5
Europe.....	30.427	202.5	191.7	8.7	-0.4	-10.9	-4.4	-5.3
Asia.....	35.059	140.4	139.4	17.2	19.7	-14.9	-3.9	-0.7
Latin America/Caribbean.....	20.081	166.9	159.7	-6.8	4.4	-8.3	-1.2	-4.3

¹ Relative importance figures for Air Passenger Fares Indexes are based on 2006 trade values, while the relative importance figures for the Air Freight Indexes are based on 2005 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

TECHNICAL NOTE

Import and Export Merchandise and Services Price Indexes -- All indexes use a modified Laspeyres formula and are not seasonally adjusted. Price indexes for merchandise goods are reweighted annually, with a two-year lag in the weights. Published series use a base year of 2000=100 where possible. More detailed index series and additional information may be obtained at <http://www.bls.gov/mxp>, or by calling (202) 691-7101.

Merchandise Goods Classification Systems -- The merchandise price indexes are published using three classification systems. Items are classified by end use according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis Classification System, by industry according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), and by product category according to the Harmonized System (HS). While classification by end use and product category are self-explanatory, some notes are in order for classifying items by industry. In the NAICS imports and exports tables, items are classified by output industry, not input industry. As an example, NAICS import index 326 (plastics and rubber products manufacturing) include outputs such as manufactured plastic rather than inputs such as petroleum. The NAICS classification structure also matches the classification system used by the PPI (Producer Price Index) to produce the NAICS primary products indexes.

Import Price Indexes -- Products have been classified by the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (TSUSA). Import prices are based on U.S. dollar prices paid by the U.S. importer. The prices are generally either "free on board" (f.o.b.) foreign port or "cost, insurance, and freight" (c.i.f.) U.S. port transaction prices, depending on the practices of the individual industry. The index for crude petroleum is calculated from data collected by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Export Price Indexes -- Products have been classified by the Harmonized Schedule B classification system of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The prices used are generally either "free alongside ship" (f.a.s.) factory or "free on board" (f.o.b.) transaction prices, depending on the practices of the individual industry. Prices used in the grain index, excluding rice, are obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Services Price Indexes -- Starting in September 2008 the Import Air Passenger Fares Indexes represent changes in the average revenue per passenger received by foreign carriers from U.S. residents and are calculated from data obtained from an airline consulting service. These data include tickets sold by travel agencies and travel websites. Tickets sold directly by the airlines are excluded, as are frequent flyer tickets generally. Starting in January 2008 the Export Air Passenger Fares Indexes represent changes in the average revenue per passenger received by U.S. carriers from foreign residents and are calculated from data collected directly from airlines. These data include frequent flyer tickets and those sold by consolidators. Taxes and fees are excluded from both indexes. The Air Freight Indexes are calculated from data collected directly from airlines. These data exclude mail and passenger baggage. The scope of the service being priced is the movement of freight from airport to airport only, and does not include any ground transportation or port service. The Air Freight Indexes are presented using two definitions: Balance of Payments (which represent transactions between U.S. and foreign residents) and International (which represent transactions inbound to and outbound from the U.S.). Fact sheets specifying detailed information for each services industry are available at <http://www.bls.gov/mxp> under "Publications and Other Documentation."

Import Indexes by Locality of Origin -- Prices used in these indexes are a subset of the data collected for the Import Price Indexes. Beginning with January 2002, the indexes are defined by locality of origin using a nomenclature based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Nonmanufactured goods are defined as NAICS 11 and 21 and manufactured goods are defined as NAICS 31-33.

Revision Policy -- To reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents, monthly data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication. After three months, no further data revisions take place. So, for example, data released in the January release will be subject to revision in the releases for February, March, and April.

Uses of the Data -- The primary use of the indexes is to deflate trade statistics, notably the foreign trade sector of the National Income and Product Accounts constructed by the Department of Commerce. Other published indexes are useful for general market analysis. For trade in international services, Balance of Payments indexes are used for deflating National Income and Product Accounts, while International indexes are more appropriate for market analysis. Merchandise and services indexes also can be used to study U.S. competitiveness and to compute price elasticities, and the merchandise import indexes by country or region of origin are useful in terms of trade analysis.

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