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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES - MARCH 2009 -

The U.S. Import Price Index rose 0.5 percent in March, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. A 10.5 percent increase in import petroleum prices more than offset a 0.7 percent decline in the price index for nonpetroleum imports. In contrast, export prices fell in March, decreasing 0.6 percent.

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
2008						
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	-9.8	-0.4	-1.6	-9.6	-0.7
September.....	-3.6	-11.4	-1.0	-0.8	0.1	-0.9
October.....	-6.0	-22.2	-0.9	-2.1	-8.4	-1.4
November.....	-7.4	-30.2	-1.7	-3.2	-6.9	-2.8
December.....	-4.6	-25.2	-1.1	-2.2	-6.1 ^r	-1.9
2009						
January.....	-1.2	-4.9 ^r	-0.7 ^r	0.6 ^r	6.1 ^r	0.1
February.....	-0.1 ^r	5.2 ^r	-0.7 ^r	-0.3 ^r	-1.6 ^r	-0.1 ^r
March.....	0.5	10.5	-0.7	-0.6	-3.5	-0.3
Mar. 2007 to 2008.....	15.2	62.7	5.4	7.9	34.0	5.5
Mar. 2008 to 2009.....	-14.9	-52.0	-3.7	-6.7	-21.8	-5.0

r Revised

Import Goods

Import prices increased for the first time since July, advancing 0.5 percent in March after edging down 0.1 percent in February. The March advance was led by a 10.5 percent rise in petroleum prices. The price index for petroleum increased for the second consecutive month after falling 69.2 percent from July through January. In contrast, nonpetroleum prices decreased for the eighth consecutive month, falling 0.7 percent in March. For the year ended in March, petroleum prices fell 52.0 percent and prices for nonpetroleum imports declined 3.7 percent.

The continued decline in nonpetroleum prices was led by a 2.3 percent drop in nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials prices. That decrease was driven by a sharp fall in natural gas prices, although lower prices for some metals also contributed to the decline. The price index for nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials has not recorded an increase since July 2008.

Lower prices for finished goods also contributed to the drop in nonpetroleum prices in March. Prices for consumer goods fell 0.5 percent following a 0.1 percent advance in February. The price index for capital goods declined 0.3 percent in March, led by falling prices for industrial and service machinery. Import automotive vehicle prices edged down 0.2 percent in March after increasing 0.2 percent in each of the previous two months.

Prices for foods, feeds, and beverages decreased 1.0 percent this month primarily because of lower fruit prices. The March drop followed a 3.2 percent decline in February.

Export Goods

Export prices decreased 0.6 percent in March because of lower prices for both agricultural and nonagricultural exports. The index decreased 9.8 percent over the past eight months and 6.7 percent for the year ended in March. Agricultural prices fell 3.5 percent in March, led by declines for soybeans, corn, and wheat. Agricultural export prices decreased 21.8 percent over the past year, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in March 1985. Nonagricultural prices edged down 0.3 percent in March and fell 5.0 percent over the past 12 months.

The drop in nonagricultural prices was led by a 0.9 percent decrease in the index for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. Lower prices for fuels and chemicals contributed to the decline. Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials decreased 23.2 percent over the past eight months and 17.3 percent for the March 2008-2009 period, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in September 1989.

Prices for the major finished goods categories were mixed in March. Consumer goods prices contributed to the decline in overall export prices, falling 0.5 percent. Despite the recent decreases, the index increased 0.5 percent for the year ended in March. In contrast, the price index for automotive vehicles increased in March, rising 0.2 percent. Automotive vehicle prices advanced 1.1 percent over the past year. The price index for capital goods was unchanged this month as lower prices for computers offset higher prices for transportation equipment. Prices for capital goods increased 1.0 percent for the March 2008-2009 period.

Imports by Locality of Origin

Prices for imports from China fell for the seventh consecutive month, decreasing 0.6 percent in March. Import prices from China edged down 0.2 percent for the year ended in March.

Import prices from Canada and from Mexico also continued to decline in March, falling 0.7 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. Prices for imports from Canada fell for the eighth consecutive month, and decreased 18.4 percent over the past year, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in December 1990. The price index for imports from Mexico decreased 11.7 percent for the March 2008-2009 period, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in December 2003.

The price index for imports from Japan also fell, decreasing 0.1 percent in March after increasing in each of the previous five months. Despite the downturn this month, the index rose 1.8 percent over the past year.

In contrast, prices for imports from the European Union rose in March, advancing 0.1 percent for the month. The index, however, decreased 4.0 percent over the past 12 months.

Import and Export Services

Import air passenger fares decreased 4.7 percent in March following a 4.6 percent drop the previous month. The March decrease was again led by lower European fares, which fell 7.8 percent after decreasing 5.7 percent in February. Despite the recent downward pattern, the index for import air passenger fares rose 2.7 percent for the year ended in March. Export air passenger fares also decreased in March, falling 5.1 percent as lower fares from Europe, the Latin America/Caribbean region, and Asia all contributed to the overall decrease. Fares for export air passengers decreased 10.5 percent over the past 12 months, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in September 1986.

Import air freight prices fell 2.2 percent in March, as both European and Asian air freight prices declined. The price index for import air freight decreased 8.0 percent over the past year. Prices for export air freight declined 2.8 percent in March and 7.0 percent for the March 2008-2009 period.

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Import and Export Price Index data for April 2009 are scheduled for release on May 13, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
All commodities		100.000	113.0	113.6	-14.9	-4.6	-1.2	-0.1	0.5
All imports excluding petroleum		88.621	108.3	107.5	-3.7	-1.1	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100) ..		86.668	111.4	110.9	-2.6	-1.1	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	4.929	137.8	136.4	-3.8	2.0	0.1	-3.2	-1.0
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.812	153.1	150.6	-4.3	3.2	-0.1	-3.8	-1.6
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.117	103.2	104.5	-2.2	-1.9	0.6	-1.1	1.3
Industrial supplies & materials	1	27.943	144.7	149.0	-36.5	-13.9	-4.5	0.7	3.0
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		16.564	136.8	133.7	-16.1	-4.8	-4.2	-2.2	-2.3
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		14.611	147.4	146.1	-12.4	-5.4	-4.1	-0.9	-0.9
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		9.059	137.2	135.4	-14.8	-6.2	-2.7	-0.6	-1.3
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.552	136.2	131.5	-17.5	-3.0	-5.8	-4.1	-3.5
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	13.333	150.1	160.8	-51.1	-22.2	-4.9	2.5	7.1
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	11.380	150.8	166.7	-52.0	-25.2	-4.9	5.2	10.5
Crude.....	10000	8.098	151.5	166.8	-54.2	-23.7	-5.5	4.1	10.1
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.746	150.6	129.4	-39.7	-0.1	-4.6	-11.6	-14.1
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.549	139.2	117.2	-44.6	-0.1	-5.7	-13.0	-15.8
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.786	108.5	105.9	-7.2	-1.7	-2.6	-1.6	-2.4
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.864	136.9	137.4	-7.0	-4.2	-6.5	-1.4	0.4
Selected building materials.....	13	1.740	116.4	115.9	1.6	-0.6	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.535	175.8	172.6	-28.5	-11.3	-4.9	-0.5	-1.8
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	2.005	137.1	135.2	-7.3	-4.5	-1.8	-0.8	-1.4
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.681	106.0	104.8	-0.4	-1.3	-2.0	-0.7	-1.1
Capital goods	2	25.226	92.3	92.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.4	-0.3
Electric generating equipment.....	20	3.237	110.2	109.8	0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.8	-0.4
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	19.776	87.1	86.8	-0.8	-0.2	0.0	-0.5	-0.3
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	2.213	121.0	121.1	5.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	14.877	108.2	108.0	0.6	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.2
Consumer goods, excluding automotives ..	4	27.025	104.5	104.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.5
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	12.545	109.0	108.5	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.1	-0.5
Durables, manufactured.....	41	13.150	100.0	99.7	-0.7	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.330	104.4	101.3	-2.9	0.4	-0.9	1.7	-3.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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: March 2008 to March 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
All commodities.....		100.000	116.2	115.5	-6.7	-2.2	0.6	-0.3	-0.6
Agricultural commodities.....		8.704	157.4	151.9	-21.8	-6.1	6.1	-1.6	-3.5
Nonagricultural commodities.....		91.297	113.2	112.9	-5.0	-1.9	0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.166	162.5	156.9	-20.3	-5.9	6.8	-1.9	-3.4
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	7.487	164.6	158.6	-21.7	-6.2	7.2	-2.0	-3.6
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.679	145.5	143.7	-3.1	-3.2	3.1	-1.6	-1.2
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	26.869	137.8	136.5	-17.5	-5.8	-0.7	-0.6	-0.9
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		10.531	142.7	143.5	-16.9	-5.2	0.4	0.5	0.6
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		16.338	135.5	132.9	-18.0	-6.3	-1.4	-1.2	-1.9
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials...	10	1.217	126.6	123.5	-22.5	-6.0	-0.4	0.8	-2.4
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		25.652	138.6	137.4	-17.3	-5.8	-0.7	-0.6	-0.9
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	3.568	159.1	150.9	-39.5	-13.8	-0.8	-3.9	-5.2
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	21.023	137.6	137.4	-13.1	-4.7	-0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Selected building materials.....	13	1.061	115.8	114.8	0.5	-0.4	0.3	0.3	-0.9
Capital goods.....	2	41.409	102.2	102.2	1.0	-0.1	0.4	0.3	0.0
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.793	107.7	107.8	-0.7	-0.2	-1.1	-0.1	0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	28.699	93.8	93.5	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.4	-0.3
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	8.917	134.8	135.2	5.5	0.4	2.1	0.4	0.3
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	10.494	108.1	108.3	1.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	0.2
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	13.063	109.0	108.5	0.5	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	-0.5
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.812	109.0	108.1	-1.1	-0.2	1.4	0.3	-0.8
Durables, manufactured.....	41	6.142	109.5	109.4	3.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Nonmanufactured articles.....		12.175	79.5	82.7	-48.8	-16.4	-5.1	0.8	4.0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.811	131.0	127.2	-4.1	11.5	-0.6	-5.8	-2.9
Crop production.....	111	1.339	142.2	134.0	-2.3	19.6	-0.4	-7.3	-5.8
Mining.....	21	10.364	74.2	78.1	-52.5	-20.1	-5.7	1.9	5.3
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.469	127.2	129.4	17.7	-0.8	-1.2	0.6	1.7
Manufactured articles.....		87.280	105.2	105.4	-5.2	-2.5	-0.7	-0.2	0.2
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	11.120	107.2	107.0	-0.8	-0.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.575	115.9	115.1	-7.0	-2.1	-0.8	-1.7	-0.7
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.996	106.7	107.1	2.4	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.4
Textile mills.....	313	0.482	113.3	113.0	2.4	-1.2	1.6	0.7	-0.3
Textile product mills.....	314	0.869	101.0	100.9	-0.7	-0.3	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	4.517	102.7	102.8	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1
Leather and allied product manufacturing. .	316	1.681	107.8	107.8	3.8	0.1	1.2	0.0	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	17.606	105.7	107.6	-13.0	-7.2	-1.9	0.2	1.8
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.028	90.2	89.8	-1.0	-1.0	-1.8	-1.0	-0.4
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.388	106.6	104.4	-3.9	-1.3	-1.6	-1.4	-2.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	2.716	72.0	82.9	-45.1	-30.6	-1.8	4.3	15.1
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	9.144	119.9	119.5	-2.9	-2.4	-2.8	-0.5	-0.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.992	113.1	112.6	3.6	-0.1	0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.222	117.9	117.7	6.1	-0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	58.554	104.6	104.2	-3.4	-1.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.257	123.8	121.9	-27.4	-10.8	-4.2	-0.7	-1.5
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	3.046	118.1	117.0	1.8	-1.2	-0.2	-0.7	-0.9
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	7.344	111.4	111.2	2.3	0.0	0.9	-0.1	-0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.271	89.4	89.1	-4.7	-0.7	-1.0	-0.4	-0.3
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	4.311	112.8	112.5	2.4	-0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	16.082	105.2	105.1	1.0	-0.1	0.3	0.1	-0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.701	110.4	110.6	4.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.542	110.3	110.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	-0.6	-0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Nonmanufactured articles.....		6.097	118.4	111.2	-32.3	-6.9	7.3	-3.3	-6.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	4.845	138.1	129.2	-31.6	-7.2	11.1	-3.5	-6.4
Crop production.....	111	4.477	141.7	132.0	-33.1	-7.6	11.8	-3.8	-6.8
Mining.....	21	1.252	75.2	71.6	-33.8	-5.6	-5.9	-2.0	-4.8
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.936	84.4	83.9	-17.8	-0.9	-6.8	-0.2	-0.6
Manufactured articles.....		92.257	107.2	106.9	-3.3	-1.6	0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.547	117.7	117.3	-2.2	-2.8	0.3	0.3	-0.3
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.356	130.6	129.9	-2.8	-3.7	0.9	0.4	-0.5
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.510	103.8	104.8	-0.8	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.0
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.392	101.6	101.6	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	21.692	107.9	106.5	-11.5	-4.4	-0.5	-1.2	-1.3
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.475	108.8	108.2	-3.9	-0.5	-1.4	-0.1	-0.6
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.953	112.5	111.9	-1.7	-1.2	-1.4	-0.2	-0.5
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	1.990	88.4	81.8	-49.7	-18.6	-1.8	-7.5	-7.5
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.191	110.9	110.1	-6.4	-3.2	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.218	108.7	107.9	0.5	-1.2	0.5	-1.1	-0.7
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.866	111.8	112.2	3.3	0.3	0.8	-1.1	0.4
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	64.018	105.7	105.8	-0.3	-0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.209	119.3	121.7	-17.4	-5.3	0.1	-0.3	2.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.895	121.9	120.6	5.1	0.2	2.4	0.1	-1.1
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	12.901	112.0	112.0	3.5	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.574	92.5	92.2	-3.7	-0.2	-0.8	0.3	-0.3
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.661	107.0	107.1	0.1	-0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	18.394	109.2	109.5	3.2	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.041	110.7	110.7	4.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.146	122.7	125.0	-4.8	-3.5	-0.1	-2.2	1.9
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.259	144.9	141.4	-7.2	-5.2	-1.0	-1.2	-2.4
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.586	97.9	100.4	-3.1	-2.8	0.6	-2.1	2.6
Vegetable products.....	II	1.555	160.5	152.2	0.7	16.3	-1.5	-6.8	-5.2
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.402	257.8	271.6	27.6	49.3	-2.3	-25.6	5.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.492	110.1	101.1	6.5	10.5	-0.8	-2.3	-8.2
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.266	149.2	139.5	-20.0	-1.7	4.0	-1.0	-6.5
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.432	134.5	133.8	-1.0	0.2	0.3	-0.4	-0.5
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.253	106.1	106.8	1.6	-1.7	0.1	-0.8	0.7
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.312	131.3	128.0	-9.0	-1.7	-0.8	-0.5	-2.5
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.996	115.2	115.8	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5
Mineral products.....	V	13.632	153.5	164.2	-49.4	-21.2	-4.8	2.4	7.0
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	13.218	149.8	160.5	-50.8	-22.0	-4.8	2.5	7.1
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	8.291	131.1	129.9	-5.5	-3.3	-3.5	-0.4	-0.9
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.717	187.5	185.7	-29.2	-9.7	-25.3	-2.7	-1.0
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.531	121.0	121.2	-9.8	-4.4	-1.3	0.7	0.2
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.958	115.5	113.1	0.7	0.1	1.7	0.3	-2.1
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.184	105.1	104.1	0.7	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-1.0
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.457	120.9	119.3	-2.5	-1.3	1.2	-0.9	-1.3
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.471	93.3	92.6	-6.7	-1.6	-1.7	-2.1	-0.8
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	3.114	127.1	127.5	-1.4	-1.8	-1.2	-1.3	0.3
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	2.019	124.2	124.9	-1.3	-0.9	-1.8	-1.4	0.6
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.095	132.7	132.7	-1.3	-3.6	0.1	-1.1	0.0
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.670	114.0	113.9	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.622	114.8	114.7	2.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	1.063	110.4	109.9	-1.3	-0.9	-1.8	-1.0	-0.5
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.583	111.5	109.6	-3.2	-1.0	-0.8	-1.2	-1.7
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.122	112.8	110.7	2.4	-0.4	0.3	-1.1	-1.9
Printed matter.....	49	0.304	119.8	119.8	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	5.671	103.4	103.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	2.138	100.1	100.1	-0.7	-0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	2.179	104.0	104.2	1.3	1.1	-0.2	0.6	0.2
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.585	91.8	90.9	-4.6	-0.3	-3.4	-0.1	-1.0
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. ...	XII	1.371	108.1	108.1	3.3	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.158	107.5	107.5	4.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	1.086	122.4	122.3	6.3	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.416	119.1	119.1	11.7	-0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.0
Ceramic products.....	69	0.332	132.3	131.9	6.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	-0.3
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.338	114.2	114.2	0.5	-1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.649	132.3	134.9	-13.8	-1.2	1.1	0.1	2.0
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.977	155.5	152.1	-16.9	-7.7	-3.6	-1.5	-2.2
Iron and steel.....	72	1.440	203.1	193.3	-19.8	-14.1	-4.2	-3.2	-4.8
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	2.061	151.6	148.9	3.0	-2.7	-2.2	-1.2	-1.8
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.454	179.1	181.9	-40.8	-12.7	-7.5	3.0	1.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.717	103.2	100.7	-32.7	-6.3	-8.4	-4.8	-2.4
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.427	119.2	119.0	4.8	-0.3	2.5	-0.1	-0.2
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.505	129.3	129.2	1.7	-0.4	0.3	-1.9	-0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	27.808	87.1	86.7	-1.9	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	13.966	87.9	87.6	-1.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	13.842	86.3	85.9	-2.4	-0.5	-1.0	-0.3	-0.5
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	13.722	109.5	109.3	0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.0	-0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	12.442	108.3	108.1	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.2
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	1.161	116.1	116.2	5.0	-0.1	0.8	-0.3	0.1
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	3.421	101.6	101.6	1.7	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	3.073	99.4	99.3	1.3	-0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.266	123.1	123.6	3.2	-0.4	0.9	0.7	0.4
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	4.557	107.9	107.7	3.4	0.0	0.6	0.1	-0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.499	113.1	113.0	4.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.835	100.7	100.4	2.2	0.0	0.9	0.1	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.223	112.9	111.7	2.7	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-1.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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: March 2008 to March 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.523	155.6	154.7	-4.9	-3.8	1.2	-0.9	-0.6
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.765	121.0	122.0	-7.1	-4.8	1.7	-0.2	0.8
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.411	148.3	144.8	-5.4	-2.3	1.1	-2.3	-2.4
Vegetable products.....	II	4.611	184.1	174.6	-28.8	-8.6	11.4	-3.7	-5.2
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.594	103.8	100.4	-17.2	-2.2	-1.8	-1.5	-3.3
Cereals.....	10	1.980	197.0	186.7	-40.4	-12.8	18.7	-6.6	-5.2
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.393	198.5	183.7	-29.9	-8.4	13.1	-1.6	-7.5
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.485	136.8	135.1	0.4	-0.8	2.4	1.0	-1.2
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.393	124.8	124.9	4.3	0.1	2.1	0.3	0.1
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec.2008=100).....	22	0.283	100.1	99.6	-	-	0.7	-0.6	-0.5
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.517	189.6	174.9	-11.6	-4.2	7.6	4.2	-7.8
Mineral products.....	V	3.481	184.7	173.0	-43.2	-13.7	-4.5	-4.4	-6.3
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	3.011	179.5	166.6	-44.3	-15.4	-2.1	-4.7	-7.2
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.742	134.3	134.0	-4.4	-2.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.2
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.382	205.5	205.5	11.6	-2.3	1.8	-0.1	0.0
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.046	126.3	127.0	-18.8	-5.4	-3.5	-0.9	0.6
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.776	118.1	116.7	-1.7	-0.5	2.2	1.5	-1.2
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.545	113.0	113.0	-3.0	0.2	-1.1	0.1	0.0
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.721	120.3	119.5	-0.5	1.1	1.9	-5.4	-0.7
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.424	116.7	116.4	0.7	-0.1	-3.1	-1.1	-0.3
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.808	129.8	129.2	5.1	-1.1	2.2	-1.9	-0.5
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.382	132.3	130.2	-5.3	-4.0	-1.3	-1.2	-1.6
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.337	126.3	123.7	-7.2	-4.1	-1.2	-0.7	-2.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.045	159.3	159.6	2.9	-3.9	-1.7	-2.9	0.2
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.284	83.6	81.2	-30.6	-14.4	-11.2	-0.4	-2.9
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.598	106.9	105.3	-6.1	-0.7	-2.2	0.4	-1.5
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.396	106.8	106.5	-8.7	-2.5	-1.3	0.8	-0.3
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.491	88.5	89.6	-30.6	-8.4	-4.8	2.3	1.2
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.368	113.6	113.0	2.0	-0.8	-0.5	0.6	-0.5
Printed material.....	49	0.537	115.6	114.3	-5.6	-0.3	0.1	0.1	-1.1
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.019	103.6	102.4	-6.1	-0.5	0.0	-0.3	-1.2
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.543	91.1	86.1	-24.9	-2.8	0.2	-1.5	-5.5
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc. (Dec.2008=100).....	XIII	0.862	117.2	117.2	5.2	0.4	1.7	0.8	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.455	100.7	100.7	1.5	0.2	1.0	0.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.776	167.5	174.9	-7.6	-2.8	1.9	2.1	4.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2008 to March 2009 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.119	144.5	142.1	-19.2	-5.6	-0.3	-0.3	-1.7
Iron and steel.....	72	1.381	171.5	165.7	-28.5	-8.1	0.9	0.2	-3.4
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.536	164.8	164.5	9.2	0.5	3.6	-0.7	-0.2
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.331	119.8	119.4	-54.8	-29.1	-8.3	2.3	-0.3
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.670	96.1	95.6	-36.4	-6.4	-4.8	-0.8	-0.5
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.407	121.8	121.8	3.0	0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.360	127.7	116.8	-8.8	-0.8	0.3	-0.6	-8.5
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	31.579	95.0	94.8	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	18.236	105.1	104.9	1.3	-0.2	0.7	0.1	-0.2
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.343	84.0	83.8	-2.6	-0.2	-0.7	0.6	-0.2
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	15.862	118.9	119.3	3.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.3
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	9.197	107.5	107.7	1.4	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	6.319	107.1	107.0	0.8	0.1	0.9	0.0	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.572	105.8	105.8	-1.6	-1.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.0
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.762	114.4	114.4	-1.9	-1.5	-0.3	-0.6	0.0
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.688	93.0	93.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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: March 2008 to March 2009
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Industrialized Countries²	42.434	117.9	117.7	-10.1	-2.9	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.390	141.2	137.5	-50.1	-15.7	-5.3	-3.5	-2.6
Manufactured articles.....	37.621	115.3	115.5	-3.8	-1.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.2
Other Countries³	57.566	109.2	110.3	-17.3	-5.2	-1.9	0.1	1.0
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.442	156.3	166.3	-47.1	-15.4	-3.9	1.5	6.4
Manufactured articles.....	44.910	101.7	101.7	-5.7	-2.8	-1.5	-0.2	0.0
Canada	15.963	124.9	124.0	-18.4	-4.4	-1.8	-2.0	-0.7
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.979	137.4	133.0	-51.4	-15.8	-4.9	-4.2	-3.2
Manufactured articles.....	11.678	123.8	123.6	-4.0	-1.5	-0.8	-1.6	-0.2
European Union⁴	17.447	124.4	124.5	-4.0	-1.5	0.1	0.0	0.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.222	223.4	237.5	-26.6	3.4	-3.8	0.6	6.3
Manufactured articles.....	17.133	121.9	122.1	-3.5	-1.6	0.1	0.0	0.2
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.954	118.6	119.0	3.0	-0.8	1.6	-1.1	0.3
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.735	109.3	108.5	-2.8	-0.8	1.1	-0.1	-0.7
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.660	119.3	121.1	-11.1	-2.5	-0.1	0.8	1.5
Latin America⁵	17.808	133.0	133.8	-22.0	-6.2	-1.0	-0.8	0.6
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.160	183.7	193.4	-39.7	-7.2	2.5	-1.2	5.3
Manufactured articles.....	12.547	124.0	122.7	-11.9	-5.9	-2.2	-0.7	-1.0
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.785	125.8	125.7	-11.7	0.5	-1.5	-1.4	-0.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	1.947	92.4	99.0	-	-	-1.6	-6.1	7.1
Manufactured articles.....	8.788	97.8	96.3	-	-	-1.8	-0.4	-1.5
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	33.590	99.8	99.3	-1.7	-0.9	-0.6	-0.4	-0.5
China (Dec. 2003=100)	16.852	101.5	100.9	-0.2	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6
Japan	7.488	96.4	96.3	1.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Asian NICs⁷	5.647	86.5	85.5	-4.1	-3.0	-2.7	-0.3	-1.2
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	5.729	95.3	95.1	-5.6	-1.3	-1.4	-0.6	-0.2
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	3.992	131.7	139.2	-46.2	-16.1	-7.7	0.8	5.7

1 Percentage of trade figures are based on 2007 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: March 2008 to March 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Feb. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2008 to Mar. 2009	Nov. 2008 to Dec. 2008	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	135.8	132.8	-8.0	-4.9	-0.9	-1.1	-2.2
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	22.410	129.0	124.4	-17.2	-6.8	0.2	-2.3	-3.6
Asia.....	68.863	120.4	118.4	-4.4	-3.4	-0.8	-0.1	-1.7
Export Air Freight	100.000	126.3	122.8	-7.0	-3.1	-3.3	-3.3	-2.8
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	38.626	120.8	117.5	-4.9	-4.1	0.2	-3.4	-2.7
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	130.5	125.6	-10.7	-4.2	-2.8	-1.9	-3.8
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	24.961	127.0	121.3	-17.1	-6.6	-1.4	-2.3	-4.5
Asia.....	63.529	114.0	111.1	-6.2	-2.5	-1.9	-2.2	-2.5
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	121.8	118.8	-7.8	-6.0	-3.8	-2.9	-2.5
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	41.077	144.2	141.3	-3.2	-3.7	-2.8	-2.4	-2.0
Asia.....	40.031	108.0	105.4	-8.9	-8.1	-4.8	-0.4	-2.4
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	141.6	134.9	2.7	-0.2	-5.6	-4.6	-4.7
Europe.....	43.120	146.0	134.6	8.1	-10.2	5.3	-5.7	-7.8
Asia.....	28.239	128.3	123.1	5.2	10.1	-11.7	-4.6	-4.1
Latin America/Caribbean.....	11.719	121.9	118.2	-9.1	22.1	-19.7	-3.9	-3.0
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	147.5	140.0	-10.5	3.1	0.2	-10.6	-5.1
Europe.....	29.511	165.4	152.2	-14.5	-3.5	-1.7	-9.9	-8.0
Asia.....	34.572	128.0	126.3	-5.2	6.5	2.4	-13.9	-1.3
Latin America/Caribbean.....	22.023	161.9	154.1	-0.7	9.2	0.9	-10.3	-4.8

¹ Relative importance figures for Air Passenger Fares Indexes are based on 2007 trade values, while the relative importance figures for the Air Freight Indexes are based on 2006 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 "MXP Publications".

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.

E-Mail Subscription -- The IPP news release is available through an e-mail subscription service at (<http://www.bls.gov/mxp>) or (<http://www.bls.gov/bls/newsrels.htm>).

Additional Information -- More detailed IPP data are available on the IPP home page at (<http://www.bls.gov/mxp>). Flat Files and the FTP server are available for users requiring access to either a large volume of time series data or other IPP-related documentation. The FTP site can be accessed at <ftp://ftp.bls.gov>. For technical assistance in using the BLS Internet site, send e-mail to (labstat.helpdesk@bls.gov). For IPP data requests, send e-mail to (mxpinfo@bls.gov).

Information from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339.