

News

United States
Department
of Labor



Bureau of Labor Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20212

Technical information:
(202) 691-7101

Media contact:
(202) 691-5902

Internet address: <http://www.bls.gov/mxp>

USDL-08-1424
Transmission of this
material is embargoed
until 8:30 A.M. EDT
Friday, October 10, 2008

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

The U.S. Import Price Index decreased 3.0 percent in September, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today, following a 2.6 percent decline in August. Falling petroleum prices led the overall decrease, although nonpetroleum prices also declined. Prices for overall exports decreased 1.0 percent for the month.

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						
September.....	0.6	3.1	-0.1	0.3	4.2	0.0
October.....	1.5	5.0	0.6	0.8	3.8	0.5
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 ^r	9.2 ^r	0.9 ^r	1.0	2.3	0.9
July.....	1.4 ^r	3.4 ^r	0.7	1.5	6.5	0.9
August.....	-2.6 ^r	-8.2 ^r	-0.5 ^r	-1.7	-9.6	-0.7
September.....	-3.0	-9.0	-0.9	-1.0	-0.3	-1.0
Sept. 2006 to 2007.....	4.8	17.0	2.2	4.5	23.4	2.9
Sept. 2007 to 2008.....	14.5	47.1	6.5	6.8	19.5	5.6

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Import Goods

Import prices fell 3.0 percent in September, the largest one-month decline since April 2003. Despite the 5.5 percent drop over August and September, the largest two-month decline since the index was first published monthly in December 1988; import prices were still up 14.5 percent over the past year. The September decrease in import prices was led by a 9.0 percent decline in petroleum prices, the largest monthly drop since October 2006. The September decline in petroleum prices followed an 8.2 percent decrease in August; however, the index still rose 47.1 percent over the past 12 months. Nonpetroleum import prices also fell in September, declining 0.9 percent after a 0.5 percent drop in August. Prices for nonpetroleum imports rose 6.5 percent for the year ended in September.

The September decrease in nonpetroleum prices was driven by a 2.9 percent drop in the price index for nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials. Falling prices for natural gas and metals drove the decline. A 1.7 percent decrease in the foods, feeds, and beverages index largely resulted from lower prices for food oils, meat, and fish.

Prices for each of the major finished goods categories also fell in September. The price indexes for capital goods, automotive vehicles, and consumer goods each decreased 0.1 percent. The decrease in capital goods prices was led by computer prices, which continued to trend down in September. The fall in computer prices more than offset a 0.2 percent advance in capital goods prices excluding computers. The downturn in prices for automotive vehicles was the first decrease since the index fell 0.2 percent in January 2006. Similarly, consumer goods prices decreased for the first time since April 2006.

Export Goods

Export prices decreased 1.0 percent in September following a 1.7 percent decline in August. The September decline was led by a 1.0 percent drop in nonagricultural prices, although agricultural prices also fell, decreasing 0.3 percent. Despite the 2.7 percent downturn over August and September, the largest two-month decline since the index was first published monthly in December 1988; export prices were still up 6.8 percent for the year ended in September. The decline in nonagricultural prices in September followed a 0.7 percent drop in August, and was the largest one-month drop since the index was first published monthly in December 1988. Nonagricultural prices rose 5.6 percent for the September 2007-2008 period.

The September decline in nonagricultural prices was led by a 2.7 percent drop in the price index for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. Lower prices for gold, precious metals, and fuel oil led the decline.

Prices for capital goods and consumer goods also decreased in September, falling 0.1 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively. Excluding a 0.8 percent decrease in computer prices, capital goods prices advanced 0.1 percent in September. In contrast, the price index for automotive vehicles ticked up 0.1 percent.

The modest decline in agricultural prices was led by lower prices for soybeans, fruit, and vegetables, which more than offset increasing corn and wheat prices. The September decrease in agricultural prices followed a 9.6 percent decline in August. The index advanced 19.5 percent over the past twelve months.

Imports by Locality of Origin

Lower fuel prices in September drove the declines in import prices from Canada, Mexico, and the European Union for the second consecutive month. Import prices from Canada fell 4.9 percent, the largest one-month drop since the index was first published monthly in September 1992. Prices for imports from Mexico declined 1.7 percent, and import prices from the European Union fell 1.3 percent. Despite the decreases over the past two months, prices for imports from Canada, Mexico, and the European Union rose 19.8 percent, 16.3 percent, and 7.8 percent, respectively, over the past year.

Prices for imports from Japan also declined in September, falling 0.6 percent, which was the first monthly downturn for the index since November 2007 and the largest one-month drop since January 2006. The index rose 1.1 percent over the past year.

In contrast, import prices from China continued to rise in September, ticking up 0.1 percent for the second consecutive month after rising 3.2 percent from February to July. Import prices from China increased 4.8 percent for the year ended in September.

Import and Export Services

Import air passenger fares decreased 6.9 percent in September after falling 3.0 percent in August. The September decline was led by a 10.1 percent seasonal decrease in European fares. The index for import air passenger fares increased 15.0 percent for the September 2007-2008 period. Export air passenger fares fell 8.7 percent in September. The decrease was driven by a 10.9 percent seasonal drop in European fares. Over the past 12 months, the index increased 13.1 percent.

The price index for import air freight decreased 3.4 percent in September, led by an 8.1 percent decline in European air freight prices. The September drop in overall import air freight prices followed a 0.2 percent decrease the previous month. Export air freight prices fell 1.4 percent in September after advancing 3.6 percent in August. Import air freight prices rose 16.8 percent over the past 12 months while export air freight prices advanced 22.0 percent over the same period.

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

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
All commodities		100.000	143.8	139.5	14.5	3.0	1.4	-2.6	-3.0
All imports excluding petroleum		73.684	115.1	114.1	6.5	0.9	0.7	-0.5	-0.9
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100) ..		71.539	117.4	116.8	6.1	0.6	0.6	0.2	-0.5
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	4.283	150.8	148.3	12.5	1.9	1.5	0.6	-1.7
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.335	168.5	165.4	14.5	1.8	1.7	0.4	-1.8
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.948	111.0	109.6	5.9	2.4	0.6	1.7	-1.3
Industrial supplies & materials	1	43.880	274.1	256.2	34.3	6.8	2.9	-5.8	-6.5
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		17.563	173.5	168.4	19.4	3.1	2.1	-2.1	-2.9
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		15.418	182.4	179.7	18.8	2.5	1.7	0.3	-1.5
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		10.227	175.3	171.1	17.0	2.7	1.3	-0.3	-2.4
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.192	170.1	163.9	22.7	3.8	3.1	-4.6	-3.6
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	28.462	399.4	362.4	45.0	9.1	3.4	-8.9	-9.3
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	26.317	427.2	388.9	47.1	9.2	3.4	-8.2	-9.0
Crude.....	10000	19.955	454.4	411.6	51.9	9.2	3.7	-7.6	-9.4
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.911	234.7	200.8	39.9	8.8	5.0	-17.3	-14.4
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.757	231.9	195.8	43.5	9.5	5.3	-18.8	-15.6
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.707	119.9	119.8	7.7	0.2	1.4	0.8	-0.1
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.549	159.3	160.0	24.8	2.2	2.8	1.3	0.4
Selected building materials.....	13	1.667	122.1	122.5	4.8	2.6	1.8	0.7	0.3
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	5.089	271.5	260.1	24.4	3.6	0.7	-1.3	-4.2
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	1.915	162.3	159.3	18.2	2.2	1.4	0.8	-1.8
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.491	111.9	111.8	9.1	0.3	3.0	1.0	-0.1
Capital goods	2	19.234	93.4	93.3	1.5	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.505	113.0	112.9	6.0	0.3	0.6	0.3	-0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	15.248	88.3	88.1	0.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	1.480	117.9	118.0	4.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	11.934	108.1	108.0	2.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives ..	4	20.670	105.2	105.1	2.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	9.554	108.4	108.1	3.0	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.3
Durables, manufactured.....	41	10.093	101.7	101.8	3.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.023	106.6	106.6	3.1	0.8	0.1	-0.1	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 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: September 2007 to September 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
All commodities.....		100.000	125.8	124.6	6.8	1.0	1.5	-1.7	-1.0
Agricultural commodities.....		9.750	187.9	187.4	19.5	2.3	6.5	-9.6	-0.3
Nonagricultural commodities.....		90.250	121.4	120.2	5.6	0.9	0.9	-0.7	-1.0
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.833	189.1	189.1	19.8	2.4	6.6	-10.4	0.0
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	8.161	194.2	194.4	20.9	2.6	7.1	-11.1	0.1
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.672	145.6	143.5	7.9	0.4	0.5	-0.9	-1.4
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	31.775	173.7	169.1	13.6	2.1	2.6	-2.3	-2.6
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		11.918	174.5	165.5	6.4	-0.3	1.1	-0.2	-5.2
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		19.857	174.1	172.1	18.3	3.6	3.6	-3.5	-1.1
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials...	10	1.589	161.5	158.0	12.9	0.7	3.0	-0.8	-2.2
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		30.187	174.7	170.0	13.7	2.2	2.6	-2.3	-2.7
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	5.421	275.2	268.8	33.8	7.8	5.3	-12.1	-2.3
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	23.771	165.0	160.3	10.6	0.9	2.0	0.1	-2.8
Selected building materials.....	13	0.995	114.4	113.8	-0.5	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.5
Capital goods.....	2	38.279	102.0	101.9	2.0	0.4	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.635	109.2	109.6	2.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.4
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	26.984	94.1	93.9	0.9	0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	7.659	130.6	130.7	5.9	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	9.435	107.8	107.9	1.5	-0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	11.677	108.6	108.3	2.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	-0.3
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.472	109.9	109.0	1.9	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.8
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.225	106.3	106.4	2.1	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

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

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Nonmanufactured articles.....		24.450	197.8	179.7	47.4	8.5	4.0	-7.7	-9.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.625	143.2	139.5	19.2	1.6	2.8	1.4	-2.6
Crop production.....	111	1.150	145.9	143.2	19.7	0.6	3.4	1.3	-1.9
Mining.....	21	22.825	203.1	183.6	50.0	9.0	4.1	-8.3	-9.6
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.365	126.4	125.5	21.3	-0.1	1.0	1.9	-0.7
Manufactured articles.....		74.879	114.9	113.8	7.2	1.2	0.5	-0.9	-1.0
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	9.004	110.3	109.4	4.1	0.6	0.6	0.1	-0.8
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.348	132.0	129.3	13.0	2.4	1.5	0.2	-2.0
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.741	106.7	106.6	3.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	-0.1
Textile mills.....	313	0.406	114.5	113.7	6.1	-0.1	0.8	0.6	-0.7
Textile product mills.....	314	0.669	101.9	102.6	2.5	-0.7	0.1	0.1	0.7
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.545	102.2	101.7	-0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.5
Leather and allied product manufacturing. . .	316	1.295	105.9	105.7	3.0	0.1	0.8	0.0	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	17.678	132.9	129.8	16.9	3.8	1.4	-3.1	-2.3
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.049	99.0	99.5	4.4	3.8	1.1	1.1	0.5
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.191	114.6	114.2	9.8	0.3	1.3	1.5	-0.3
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	5.068	173.8	161.2	35.1	10.0	1.1	-11.5	-7.2
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	7.705	128.1	127.3	13.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	-0.6
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.557	113.9	114.4	9.6	0.5	1.9	0.5	0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.021	115.4	115.4	7.4	0.2	3.7	-0.7	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	48.197	110.2	109.6	4.5	0.5	0.3	-0.3	-0.5
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.910	185.1	177.7	23.1	3.5	0.9	-1.5	-4.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.429	121.8	121.7	11.0	1.6	1.1	0.6	-0.1
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.042	111.4	111.6	5.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	12.270	92.2	91.9	-3.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.387	113.9	114.2	6.3	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	12.634	105.1	105.0	3.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.358	111.4	111.6	9.6	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.167	111.3	111.0	3.5	0.5	0.5	-0.1	-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 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: September 2007 to September 2008

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Nonmanufactured articles.....		6.839	148.3	146.6	17.5	2.3	6.8	-13.3	-1.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	5.494	167.8	168.1	20.8	2.4	9.1	-14.8	0.2
Crop production.....	111	5.149	174.3	174.9	22.7	2.5	9.6	-15.6	0.3
Mining.....	21	1.345	104.6	97.7	5.3	1.8	-2.5	-6.8	-6.6
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.871	101.5	98.7	1.2	-0.9	1.1	1.3	-2.8
Manufactured articles.....		90.295	113.7	112.9	6.3	1.1	1.0	-0.6	-0.7
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.934	126.9	126.2	12.8	1.5	1.5	-0.2	-0.6
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.637	144.2	143.0	18.8	1.9	1.9	-0.3	-0.8
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.485	106.9	106.2	3.2	0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.7
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.457	101.3	101.3	0.8	0.1	-0.2	0.4	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	23.866	128.3	127.2	13.9	2.7	3.0	-2.4	-0.9
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.508	112.1	111.9	0.6	-0.1	-0.5	0.6	-0.2
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.896	116.0	116.2	4.6	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.2
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	3.840	185.8	180.9	42.6	10.3	7.6	-13.9	-2.6
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.617	125.3	124.3	12.1	1.7	2.5	0.2	-0.8
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.129	110.7	111.5	5.7	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.7
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.791	109.0	110.2	3.7	0.1	0.3	0.1	1.1
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	59.495	107.3	106.6	2.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.7
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.964	154.8	143.9	16.6	0.9	1.2	0.3	-7.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.688	118.9	118.6	5.4	0.7	1.5	0.8	-0.3
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	11.729	110.7	110.7	4.6	0.1	0.7	0.5	0.0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	15.983	94.7	94.3	-1.9	0.4	-0.8	-0.3	-0.4
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.510	107.1	107.2	2.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	16.018	107.1	107.2	2.6	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.274	107.7	107.6	3.1	0.2	0.8	0.0	-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2006 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.110	149.1	145.0	13.0	1.6	1.2	4.0	-2.7
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.263	181.0	173.7	17.0	3.6	4.4	4.8	-4.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.522	109.3	106.7	5.2	2.0	0.5	2.3	-2.4
Vegetable products.....	II	1.293	164.6	163.0	16.3	1.6	1.7	1.5	-1.0
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.316	219.8	216.7	9.1	-2.7	5.6	2.7	-1.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.390	115.0	116.6	15.4	5.5	-4.0	6.2	1.4
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.242	173.3	173.0	17.9	0.2	4.1	-0.2	-0.2
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.062	142.7	140.7	11.7	1.9	1.9	0.1	-1.4
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.173	114.8	111.8	-	1.5	4.8	0.8	-2.6
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.215	140.5	140.1	9.4	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.741	120.4	117.8	5.8	0.8	1.2	0.1	-2.2
Mineral products.....	V	28.165	395.3	359.2	46.1	9.0	3.5	-8.7	-9.1
Salt; sulfur; earths and stone; plaster materials, lime & cement (Dec.2007=100)...	25	0.191	103.4	103.1	-	0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.3
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	27.591	397.6	360.6	46.8	9.3	3.5	-8.9	-9.3
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	6.990	142.3	143.7	14.7	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.0
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.947	272.2	295.4	33.8	0.9	0.9	5.8	8.5
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.270	134.7	134.4	11.1	1.1	0.5	0.9	-0.2
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.061	114.2	113.8	4.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.4
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.149	107.1	109.2	6.6	0.6	1.1	0.7	2.0
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.372	126.0	124.4	9.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	-1.3
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.378	102.1	99.8	1.1	-0.1	0.4	0.6	-2.3
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	2.694	137.9	137.4	11.6	0.9	2.6	0.9	-0.4
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.776	135.0	135.2	12.2	0.5	2.6	1.2	0.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	0.918	143.5	141.8	10.7	1.7	2.6	0.1	-1.2
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.524	113.3	112.9	3.4	0.3	0.7	0.1	-0.4
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.482	113.8	113.4	3.5	0.3	0.8	0.0	-0.4
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	1.088	121.4	122.1	4.4	3.8	1.3	1.2	0.6
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.327	118.2	117.8	8.5	0.0	0.9	1.6	-0.3
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.923	114.9	114.0	9.7	-0.2	1.3	2.3	-0.8
Printed matter.....	49	0.226	118.2	120.5	2.9	0.1	-0.3	0.0	1.9
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.488	104.1	103.9	1.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	-0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.617	100.7	100.7	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.1	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.763	102.5	101.8	-1.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.7
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.454	95.5	96.6	4.3	-1.2	0.6	0.0	1.2
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. ..	XII	1.078	106.4	106.0	3.9	0.0	0.5	0.1	-0.4
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	0.904	105.4	105.0	3.1	0.0	0.6	0.1	-0.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.876	119.1	119.1	6.5	0.1	3.9	-0.7	0.0
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.325	115.6	115.6	11.7	-0.1	8.4	-0.3	0.0
Ceramic products.....	69	0.272	123.3	123.0	2.8	0.6	-0.1	-1.9	-0.2
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.279	116.6	116.7	4.3	-0.2	2.9	0.1	0.1
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.527	152.8	141.6	5.8	1.0	0.1	-2.8	-7.3
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	7.086	209.7	206.2	21.1	3.0	1.2	0.2	-1.7
Iron and steel.....	72	2.408	317.7	317.8	54.3	8.1	3.3	-0.4	0.0
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.711	166.8	167.0	28.0	3.4	3.1	1.3	0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.806	322.3	302.0	-0.3	-2.3	-1.7	0.6	-6.3
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.968	158.9	151.1	6.5	-1.5	0.4	1.5	-4.9
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.330	116.4	116.6	7.0	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.2
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.408	130.5	130.3	3.5	0.9	0.7	0.2	-0.2
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	21.479	88.6	88.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	11.056	89.0	88.8	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	-0.2
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	10.423	88.3	88.4	0.8	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	11.038	109.8	109.7	3.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	10.232	109.0	108.9	3.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	-0.1
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	0.724	112.2	112.3	2.7	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	2.571	101.8	101.9	2.5	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.302	99.7	99.8	2.3	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.202	121.9	121.9	4.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	3.372	107.3	107.5	5.8	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	1.965	113.0	113.2	7.8	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.226	99.4	99.6	2.9	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.181	113.3	113.1	5.6	0.1	1.5	0.3	-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 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: September 2007 to September 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.704	181.9	184.0	14.6	2.5	2.0	2.2	1.2
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.953	155.4	156.8	19.1	2.4	2.3	4.4	0.9
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.421	149.1	148.8	14.1	0.1	0.5	-0.5	-0.2
Vegetable products.....	II	5.146	221.1	223.7	25.4	2.6	9.2	-15.4	1.2
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.683	124.0	119.2	-2.9	0.7	-1.5	2.3	-3.9
Cereals.....	10	2.139	246.3	267.5	33.0	0.4	9.9	-23.7	8.6
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.664	249.3	238.7	36.7	8.8	15.3	-16.6	-4.3
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.334	135.9	136.6	11.0	1.0	1.5	-1.8	0.5
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.433	120.5	120.7	4.8	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.2
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.582	198.9	204.3	33.1	3.2	6.4	-8.3	2.7
Mineral products.....	V	5.572	337.7	327.1	35.6	7.8	5.5	-11.2	-3.1
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	4.997	336.8	327.0	42.7	8.8	6.2	-12.4	-2.9
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.959	147.8	147.0	11.8	1.9	2.4	-0.7	-0.5
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.302	200.7	206.2	23.9	1.5	2.3	1.9	2.7
Organic chemicals.....	29	4.024	167.4	164.5	13.8	3.3	3.9	-3.2	-1.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.666	118.6	117.4	2.4	0.0	-0.3	-0.7	-1.0
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.562	114.8	115.6	1.1	0.3	-0.8	0.9	0.7
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.713	124.7	123.5	6.0	0.0	0.7	1.5	-1.0
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.434	121.6	122.2	5.4	0.8	1.2	1.3	0.5
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.753	129.5	129.7	8.1	0.5	2.6	0.3	0.2
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.491	148.9	148.0	10.9	1.9	3.1	1.6	-0.6
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.411	142.9	141.4	9.2	1.6	2.5	1.5	-1.0
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.080	175.2	177.5	18.5	2.9	5.3	1.6	1.3
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.386	116.2	115.0	-3.5	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-1.0
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.627	112.6	111.7	-1.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.4	-0.8
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.495	118.3	117.9	4.6	0.4	0.6	0.1	-0.3
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.703	130.9	130.1	10.6	1.0	2.0	0.0	-0.6
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.286	113.5	113.8	3.8	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3
Printed material.....	49	0.506	119.0	117.4	-0.8	0.3	-1.6	-0.3	-1.3
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.212	109.8	109.4	4.6	0.4	1.8	-0.1	-0.4
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.704	112.8	110.5	9.5	0.9	3.9	-1.1	-2.0
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.775	111.3	111.7	1.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.4
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.417	98.9	98.9	0.6	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.975	186.4	170.0	7.5	-1.7	1.5	0.3	-8.8
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	6.001	182.8	176.7	9.3	0.7	1.2	-0.3	-3.3

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Iron and steel.....	72	1.651	249.9	234.2	22.2	2.9	3.1	-0.4	-6.3
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.452	161.5	160.6	8.9	2.9	1.5	1.6	-0.6
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.683	258.8	249.0	3.7	-2.2	0.4	-1.3	-3.8
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.982	148.8	138.4	-1.8	-2.7	0.4	-1.6	-7.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.378	120.0	120.0	3.9	-0.1	0.9	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.361	130.5	130.6	1.6	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	29.733	95.2	95.0	0.7	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	16.605	104.3	104.0	1.3	-0.1	0.4	0.2	-0.3
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.128	85.3	85.3	0.1	0.8	-0.8	-0.2	0.0
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	13.659	116.9	117.1	2.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.053	107.0	107.1	1.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	5.943	107.4	107.1	3.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.396	108.4	108.7	3.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.3
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.743	116.8	117.7	4.1	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.8
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.503	94.2	94.4	3.4	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3	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 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: September 2007 to September 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Industrialized Countries²	42.888	140.0	135.7	12.7	1.9	1.5	-1.2	-3.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.201	334.5	298.2	52.6	6.9	3.7	-7.0	-10.9
Manufactured articles.....	38.251	125.5	123.6	7.9	1.1	1.0	-0.1	-1.5
Other Countries³	57.112	146.1	141.8	17.1	3.7	1.8	-2.6	-2.9
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.058	393.8	361.2	49.5	9.0	4.0	-5.9	-8.3
Manufactured articles.....	44.837	111.5	111.0	6.6	1.3	0.8	-1.1	-0.4
Canada	16.032	170.1	161.7	19.8	3.6	1.5	-2.1	-4.9
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.711	329.4	291.1	55.1	7.2	3.4	-7.7	-11.6
Manufactured articles.....	12.028	139.3	137.1	9.4	1.9	0.5	0.8	-1.6
European Union⁴	17.355	133.7	131.9	7.8	0.8	0.4	-0.5	-1.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.249	428.9	398.1	44.8	2.7	7.2	0.0	-7.2
Manufactured articles.....	16.987	129.7	128.1	7.0	0.8	0.2	-0.5	-1.2
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.844	121.2	120.5	9.8	0.4	0.9	0.7	-0.6
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.732	113.2	112.0	3.2	0.2	0.1	-0.2	-1.1
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.684	141.8	136.5	10.7	1.1	1.3	-1.8	-3.7
Latin America⁵	18.032	192.2	185.3	21.7	4.2	3.2	-3.9	-3.6
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.151	397.1	365.4	45.8	8.8	5.3	-7.8	-8.0
Manufactured articles.....	12.786	146.8	145.8	10.0	1.2	1.8	-1.2	-0.7
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.710	154.8	152.2	16.3	3.1	2.5	-2.1	-1.7
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	33.822	103.6	102.6	3.3	0.4	0.8	0.1	-1.0
China (Dec. 2003=100)	15.926	103.8	103.9	4.8	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.1
Japan	8.032	95.5	94.9	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	-0.6
Asian NICs⁷	5.887	93.8	93.1	4.8	0.1	1.3	1.6	-0.7
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	6.041	102.7	101.7	4.2	0.8	0.5	-1.0	-1.0
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	3.928	310.6	287.8	38.0	6.0	1.9	-2.1	-7.3

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: September 2007 to September 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Aug. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Sept. 2007 to Sept. 2008	May 2008 to June 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	162.3	156.8	16.8	0.9	2.5	-0.2	-3.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	30.936	182.9	168.1	25.0	0.6	3.0	1.6	-8.1
Asia.....	57.201	129.5	127.7	9.8	0.2	1.9	-1.7	-1.4
Export Air Freight	100.000	148.3	146.2	22.0	2.5	1.7	3.6	-1.4
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	43.278	142.1	139.8	36.7	3.7	2.4	2.3	-1.6
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	155.6	151.8	17.1	1.3	2.0	0.3	-2.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	32.718	172.4	161.7	24.6	1.7	2.7	1.7	-6.2
Asia.....	54.394	124.2	123.5	11.4	0.6	1.5	-0.9	-0.6
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	150.1	147.9	26.4	4.8	3.8	0.7	-1.5
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	41.980	172.2	168.3	27.9	5.1	3.2	1.5	-2.3
Asia.....	40.449	133.2	132.4	25.3	5.1	4.3	-0.9	-0.6
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	173.3	161.3	15.0	18.3	4.1	-3.0	-6.9
Europe.....	47.222	188.0	169.1	11.3	27.0	2.6	-1.7	-10.1
Asia.....	24.361	146.6	135.1	13.8	20.9	4.0	-5.7	-7.8
Latin America/Caribbean.....	12.202	154.2	134.1	10.9	4.2	5.7	-1.0	-13.0
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	191.5	174.9	13.1	8.2	6.2	5.2	-8.7
Europe.....	31.078	237.8	211.9	13.0	16.2	6.2	-0.4	-10.9
Asia.....	37.261	171.7	156.2	23.3	2.2	5.1	19.7	-9.0
Latin America/Caribbean.....	18.402	175.9	161.4	-4.3	3.2	6.3	-0.3	-8.2

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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