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

The U.S. Import Price Index fell for the third consecutive month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today, decreasing 4.7 percent in October and 10.6 percent over the past three months. Export prices declined 1.9 percent in October, the third 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						
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	9.2	0.9	1.0	2.3	0.9
July.....	1.4	3.3 ^r	0.6 ^r	1.5	6.7 ^r	0.9
August.....	-3.0 ^r	-9.7 ^r	-0.4 ^r	-1.6 ^r	-9.6	-0.7
September.....	-3.3 ^r	-10.2 ^r	-0.9	-0.8 ^r	0.1 ^r	-0.9 ^r
October.....	-4.7	-16.7	-0.9	-1.9	-8.7	-1.2
Oct. 2006 to 2007.....	9.1	37.1	3.4	5.6	26.8	3.9
Oct. 2007 to 2008.....	6.7	13.1	5.0	4.2	5.7	4.0

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Import Goods

Import prices fell 4.7 percent in October after decreases of 3.3 percent and 3.0 percent in September and August, three of the four largest monthly declines for the index since being published monthly for the first time in December 1988. Despite falling 10.6 percent over the past three months, import prices increased 6.7 percent for the year ended in October. The three-month decline in import prices was largely driven by falling petroleum prices which plunged 16.7 percent in October after decreasing 10.2 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively, in September and August. The October drop in petroleum prices was the largest monthly decline since an 18.8 percent fall in April 2003 and the 32.4 percent decrease over the past three months is the largest quarterly decline since the three months ended in February 1991. For the October 2007-2008 period, however petroleum prices rose 13.1 percent.

The price index for nonpetroleum imports fell 0.9 percent for the second consecutive month in October, although the index increased 5.0 percent over the past year. The October decrease was led by a 3.2 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 and natural gas were the major factors for the October decline in nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials prices. Lower prices for foods, feeds, and beverages and capital goods, down 1.6 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, also contributed to the decrease in nonpetroleum prices.

In contrast, the price indexes for consumer goods and automotive vehicles each ticked up 0.1 percent in October.

Export Goods

Export prices fell 1.9 percent in October, the largest one-month decline since the index was first published monthly in December 1988. The decrease followed drops of 0.8 percent in September and 1.6 percent in August and the 4.3 percent decrease over the past three months was the largest quarterly decline since the index was first published in September 1983. Despite the recent downward trend, export prices advanced 4.2 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for agricultural exports fell 8.7 percent in October, the second decline in the past three months. The October drop was led by falling prices for soybeans, corn, and wheat. Agricultural prices rose 5.7 percent for the year ended in October.

Nonagricultural prices fell for the third consecutive month, declining 1.2 percent in October following decreases of 0.9 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively, in September and August. The October decline was the largest one-month drop for the index since first being published monthly in December 1988 and was led by a 3.8 percent drop in prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. That decline was driven by lower prices for fuels, metals, and chemicals. The price index for nonagricultural exports increased 4.0 percent over the past year.

Most of the major finished goods price indexes advanced in October. Consumer goods prices rose 0.5 percent for the month and increased 3.2 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for automotive vehicles advanced 0.4 percent, an increase that was partially attributable to year-end model changeovers. Capital goods prices, in contrast, declined in October, edging down 0.1 percent, a decrease that resulted from a 1.8 percent drop in computer prices. Excluding computer prices, capital goods prices increased 0.3 percent.

Imports by Locality of Origin

The sharp decline in fuel prices continued to impact import prices from Canada, the European Union, and Mexico in October. Prices for imports from Canada fell 4.4 percent for the second consecutive month and decreased 11.4 percent over the past three months, which was the largest quarterly drop since the index was first published in December 1990. The price index for imports from the European Union also fell for the third month in a row, decreasing 1.3 percent in October after dropping 1.1 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively, in September and August. Import prices from Mexico decreased 4.9 percent in October, the largest monthly drop since the index was first published in December 2003, and the October decrease followed declines of 2.4 percent and 2.5 percent the two previous months. Despite the declines, the price indexes for imports from Canada, the European Union, and Mexico increased 12.7 percent, 6.3 percent, and 7.6 percent, respectively, over the past 12 months.

The price index for imports from China declined for the first time since January 2007, falling 0.3 percent in October. Previous to the downturn, prices for imports from China were unchanged in September and ticked up 0.2 percent in August. The index rose 4.2 percent for the year ended in October.

Import prices from Japan rose 0.5 percent in October following a 0.6 percent decline the previous month. The index advanced 1.5 percent for the October 2007-2008 period.

Import and Export Services

Import air passenger fares rose 2.9 percent in October after declining 6.9 percent and 3.0 percent, respectively, over the previous two months. The October increase was led by a 4.1 percent advance in European fares. In contrast, export air passenger fares declined for the second consecutive month, falling 3.1 percent in October after a 9.9 percent drop in September. For the year ended in October, import air passenger fares rose 25.3 percent while export air passenger fares advanced 8.8 percent.

Prices for import air freight declined 3.1 percent in October after decreasing 3.4 percent the previous month. Despite the recent declines, the index increased 12.3 percent over the past 12 months. A 5.1 percent drop in European air freight prices in October led the overall decline. The price index for export air freight fell 1.2 percent in October; however the index advanced 18.0 percent over the past year.

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Import and Export Price Index data for November are scheduled for release on December 11 at 8:30 A.M. (EST)

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
All commodities.....		100.000	138.4	131.9	6.7	1.4	-3.0	-3.3	-4.7
All imports excluding petroleum.....		75.865	114.1	113.1	5.0	0.6	-0.4	-0.9	-0.9
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)..		74.015	116.9	116.0	4.9	0.6	0.2	-0.4	-0.8
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	4.369	148.1	145.7	9.4	1.4	0.5	-1.5	-1.6
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.396	165.1	162.1	10.6	1.5	0.2	-1.7	-1.8
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.973	109.6	108.7	5.3	0.6	1.6	-1.2	-0.8
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	41.779	251.1	223.6	13.4	2.7	-6.8	-7.3	-11.0
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		17.644	167.6	162.2	13.3	1.9	-2.4	-3.0	-3.2
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		15.794	179.8	174.2	13.9	1.7	0.2	-1.3	-3.1
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		10.313	170.2	162.3	10.4	1.2	-0.3	-2.7	-4.6
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.481	163.2	161.3	17.4	3.0	-5.2	-3.4	-1.2
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	25.985	350.9	295.6	12.7	3.3	-10.3	-10.6	-15.8
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	24.136	377.1	314.2	13.1	3.3	-9.7	-10.2	-16.7
Crude.....	10000	17.893	392.1	320.1	12.4	3.6	-9.6	-11.7	-18.4
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.607	189.9	182.1	15.1	4.5	-19.1	-16.9	-4.1
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.436	182.3	173.4	14.5	4.7	-20.7	-19.1	-4.9
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.735	119.8	119.9	6.9	1.4	0.7	0.1	0.1
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.813	162.3	161.8	23.1	2.9	1.3	1.8	-0.3
Selected building materials.....	13	1.738	122.5	120.4	4.1	1.8	0.7	0.3	-1.7
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	5.005	257.0	238.2	12.9	0.1	-1.2	-4.9	-7.3
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	1.960	159.9	154.1	13.1	2.1	0.1	-1.4	-3.6
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.543	111.4	110.6	7.4	2.9	1.0	-0.4	-0.7
Capital goods.....	2	19.982	93.4	93.2	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.599	112.8	112.0	4.9	0.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.7
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	15.843	88.3	88.1	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	1.541	118.2	118.3	3.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	12.409	108.2	108.3	2.6	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	21.461	105.1	105.2	2.9	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	9.897	108.1	108.2	2.9	0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.1
Durables, manufactured.....	41	10.502	101.8	102.0	3.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.062	106.5	105.8	2.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.7

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: October 2007 to October 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
All commodities.....		100.000	124.9	122.5	4.2	1.5	-1.6	-0.8	-1.9
Agricultural commodities.....		9.839	188.3	172.0	5.7	6.7	-9.6	0.1	-8.7
Nonagricultural commodities.....		90.163	120.4	119.0	4.0	0.9	-0.7	-0.9	-1.2
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.946	190.2	173.9	6.0	6.8	-10.4	0.3	-8.6
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	8.279	195.7	177.5	5.9	7.3	-11.1	0.5	-9.3
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.667	143.6	143.4	6.9	0.6	-0.9	-1.4	-0.1
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	31.191	169.4	162.8	8.2	2.7	-2.1	-2.7	-3.9
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		11.468	166.8	160.0	1.4	1.4	0.1	-4.9	-4.1
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		19.724	171.8	165.3	12.5	3.4	-3.4	-1.3	-3.8
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.560	157.4	148.8	4.3	3.0	-1.2	-2.2	-5.5
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		29.632	170.3	163.8	8.4	2.6	-2.1	-2.7	-3.8
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	5.303	267.4	240.7	17.5	5.1	-11.7	-3.0	-10.0
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	23.319	160.8	156.6	6.9	2.2	0.2	-2.8	-2.6
Selected building materials.....	13	1.010	115.4	116.8	2.3	0.6	0.6	0.2	1.2
Capital goods.....	2	38.522	101.9	101.8	1.7	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.672	109.6	109.8	2.5	0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.2
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	27.134	94.0	93.7	0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	7.716	130.7	131.1	5.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	9.508	107.9	108.3	1.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	11.834	109.3	109.8	3.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.5
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.466	109.0	108.8	1.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5	-0.2
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.382	108.7	109.9	5.5	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.1

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

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Nonmanufactured articles.....		22.097	172.1	144.7	12.8	3.8	-9.4	-11.2	-15.9
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.645	139.6	135.5	14.2	2.8	1.7	-2.7	-2.9
Crop production.....	111	1.174	143.4	136.3	11.9	3.4	1.5	-1.8	-5.0
Mining.....	21	20.452	175.2	145.5	12.5	3.9	-10.1	-11.8	-17.0
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.386	128.8	129.8	24.6	1.0	1.9	2.0	0.8
Manufactured articles.....		77.272	114.2	112.7	5.5	0.5	-0.8	-0.7	-1.3
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	9.285	109.5	109.1	3.5	0.5	0.1	-0.6	-0.4
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.396	129.7	127.0	10.2	1.3	0.1	-1.5	-2.1
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.765	106.2	106.1	2.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Textile mills.....	313	0.419	113.6	112.8	4.3	0.8	0.5	-0.7	-0.7
Textile product mills.....	314	0.698	102.2	102.3	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.665	101.7	102.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.3
Leather and allied product manufacturing. .	316	1.343	105.8	106.3	3.3	0.8	0.1	-0.2	0.5
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	18.227	131.9	127.9	13.8	1.4	-3.0	-0.8	-3.0
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.096	99.6	94.8	1.6	1.2	1.1	0.5	-4.8
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.233	114.2	114.3	9.1	1.3	1.1	0.1	0.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	5.015	165.6	147.9	18.6	1.0	-11.3	-4.9	-10.7
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	8.113	129.9	129.9	15.2	1.4	0.9	1.2	0.0
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.620	114.1	113.5	8.0	1.8	0.5	0.3	-0.5
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.060	115.4	119.0	9.6	3.7	-0.7	0.0	3.1
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	49.760	109.6	108.6	3.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	-0.9
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.838	176.1	164.1	12.5	0.3	-1.4	-4.4	-6.8
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.520	121.7	121.5	10.1	1.7	0.2	-0.2	-0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.280	111.5	111.1	4.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	-0.4
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	12.731	92.1	91.8	-3.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.525	114.1	114.6	6.2	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.4
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	13.133	105.2	105.2	2.7	0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.0
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.414	111.6	111.3	9.0	1.3	0.3	0.1	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.318	111.0	111.1	3.4	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	0.1

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: October 2007 to October 2008

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	Monthly			Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
						June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	
Nonmanufactured articles.....		6.831	147.0	131.3	-1.7	6.9	-13.3	-1.0	-10.7
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	5.556	168.4	147.7	-1.1	9.3	-14.8	0.2	-12.3
Crop production.....	111	5.216	175.2	152.5	-0.9	9.8	-15.5	0.3	-13.0
Mining.....	21	1.275	98.4	94.7	-4.1	-2.5	-6.7	-6.0	-3.8
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.859	99.3	97.6	-2.8	1.1	1.5	-2.4	-1.7
Manufactured articles.....		90.547	113.2	112.1	5.2	1.0	-0.5	-0.5	-1.0
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.943	126.1	123.8	10.1	1.5	-0.2	-0.6	-1.8
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.635	143.0	139.3	15.1	2.0	-0.2	-1.0	-2.6
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.478	104.4	104.0	0.3	-0.2	-0.8	-1.2	-0.4
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.460	101.2	101.3	0.8	-0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	23.888	127.4	124.4	11.0	2.9	-2.3	-0.8	-2.4
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.514	112.5	113.2	2.1	-0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.918	116.5	116.2	4.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	-0.3
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	3.749	180.0	156.9	22.2	7.2	-13.5	-3.2	-12.8
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.648	124.6	123.6	11.2	2.5	0.2	-0.6	-0.8
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.167	111.9	112.4	6.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.805	110.1	111.8	4.9	0.3	0.2	0.9	1.5
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	59.716	106.9	106.6	2.5	0.3	0.2	-0.6	-0.3
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.667	144.4	137.2	9.1	1.6	0.3	-7.1	-5.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.701	118.5	119.4	5.9	1.5	0.8	-0.3	0.8
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	11.834	110.9	111.3	4.9	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.4
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.055	94.4	93.5	-2.7	-0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-1.0
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.552	107.5	107.5	2.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	16.158	107.2	107.8	2.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.417	110.5	112.1	6.9	0.8	1.3	1.3	1.4

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: October 2007 to October 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.099	142.0	139.5	10.5	1.1	3.4	-4.1	-1.8
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.262	173.3	170.8	13.8	3.9	2.7	-1.9	-1.4
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.529	106.7	104.8	5.0	0.4	2.3	-2.3	-1.8
Vegetable products.....	II	1.330	163.0	158.5	9.7	1.7	1.5	-1.0	-2.8
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.323	216.7	240.2	25.4	5.6	2.7	-1.4	10.8
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.412	116.8	109.0	0.4	-4.0	6.2	1.6	-6.7
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.251	172.8	159.2	5.2	4.1	-0.2	-0.3	-7.9
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.109	140.5	137.5	8.5	1.7	0.1	-1.4	-2.1
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.176	112.2	108.6	-	4.5	0.8	-2.0	-3.2
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.222	139.8	139.0	7.1	-0.6	-0.7	-0.3	-0.6
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.750	117.3	115.1	3.3	0.8	0.1	-2.2	-1.9
Mineral products.....	V	25.735	347.7	294.1	13.6	3.3	-10.2	-10.4	-15.4
Salt; sulfur; earths and stone; plaster materials, lime & cement (Dec.2007=100)...	25	0.198	103.1	103.1	-	0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.0
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	25.141	348.8	293.7	13.4	3.4	-10.4	-10.7	-15.8
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	7.402	145.1	145.0	15.4	1.1	1.2	1.8	-0.1
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.065	294.7	295.1	44.5	2.6	5.0	7.2	0.1
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.354	134.4	134.1	7.8	0.5	0.7	0.0	-0.2
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.130	113.6	113.4	3.8	-0.1	0.3	-0.6	-0.2
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.158	109.3	105.0	2.5	1.1	0.7	2.1	-3.9
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.380	124.2	125.1	9.9	0.2	0.5	-1.5	0.7
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.386	100.4	100.8	1.8	0.4	0.8	-1.9	0.4
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	2.799	137.9	138.0	11.4	2.6	0.9	0.1	0.1
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.846	135.1	134.6	11.1	2.6	1.1	0.1	-0.4
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	0.953	143.5	144.6	11.6	2.2	0.6	-0.1	0.8
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.542	112.9	114.0	3.7	0.7	0.1	-0.4	1.0
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.498	113.4	114.6	3.9	0.8	0.0	-0.4	1.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	1.135	121.9	115.8	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.4	-5.0
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.371	117.6	117.6	7.7	0.9	1.1	0.0	0.0
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.951	114.0	114.5	10.0	1.2	1.8	-0.2	0.4
Printed matter.....	49	0.237	119.3	119.3	1.7	-0.3	0.0	0.9	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.650	103.8	103.9	1.0	0.3	0.3	-0.3	0.1
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.679	100.7	100.8	0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.1
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.822	102.0	102.1	-0.7	0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.1
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.474	96.0	95.8	3.6	0.5	0.1	0.5	-0.2
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc..	XII	1.117	106.1	106.4	4.1	0.5	0.1	-0.3	0.3
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	0.936	105.1	105.5	3.4	0.6	0.1	-0.3	0.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.908	118.9	124.1	10.1	3.9	-0.7	-0.2	4.4
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.338	115.9	121.3	15.7	8.3	-0.2	0.3	4.7
Ceramic products.....	69	0.282	123.1	133.7	11.0	-0.1	-1.8	-0.2	8.6
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.288	115.8	115.8	3.2	2.9	0.1	-0.7	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.447	142.5	139.3	1.8	0.1	-2.0	-7.5	-2.2
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	7.165	204.2	193.1	13.3	0.8	-0.1	-2.0	-5.4
Iron and steel.....	72	2.435	309.3	281.3	36.2	1.9	-1.0	-0.7	-9.1
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.771	166.2	161.7	22.4	3.7	0.5	-0.2	-2.7
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.784	302.0	277.4	-9.5	-1.7	0.6	-6.3	-8.1
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.961	151.9	143.7	3.5	0.4	1.2	-4.1	-5.4
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.343	116.6	117.5	7.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.8
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.423	130.3	131.1	4.0	0.7	0.2	-0.2	0.6
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	22.328	88.7	88.5	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	11.479	88.9	88.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	10.849	88.5	88.4	0.8	-0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	11.457	109.8	109.7	2.6	0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	10.620	108.9	108.9	2.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	0.752	112.3	112.5	2.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	2.664	101.5	101.5	2.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.384	99.5	99.3	1.6	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.210	122.3	123.8	5.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	3.511	107.6	107.6	5.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.046	113.2	113.2	7.4	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.0
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.279	99.8	99.8	3.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.187	112.9	113.1	5.6	1.3	0.3	-0.2	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: October 2007 to October 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	Monthly			
						June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.700	180.2	177.9	14.1	2.0	1.6	-0.4	-1.3
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.935	151.5	147.6	15.7	2.3	3.5	-1.6	-2.6
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.420	147.8	148.5	12.2	0.6	-0.5	-1.0	0.5
Vegetable products.....	II	5.259	224.3	198.2	3.3	9.5	-15.4	1.1	-11.6
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.661	119.2	111.9	-11.4	-1.5	2.3	-3.9	-6.1
Cereals.....	10	2.341	267.5	227.5	2.8	9.9	-23.7	8.6	-15.0
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.618	240.7	203.0	9.3	16.3	-16.5	-4.4	-15.7
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.366	136.8	132.1	5.3	1.7	-1.7	0.4	-3.4
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.437	120.9	122.1	5.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.598	202.6	170.6	5.0	6.4	-8.3	1.9	-15.8
Mineral products.....	V	5.390	324.4	294.7	18.9	5.1	-11.4	-3.4	-9.2
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	4.823	322.8	289.7	22.7	5.8	-12.6	-3.5	-10.3
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.956	146.7	145.8	10.5	2.2	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.280	210.2	212.7	28.3	5.3	1.7	2.0	1.2
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.786	167.6	166.0	13.6	3.9	-2.1	-1.0	-1.0
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.481	117.5	116.9	1.3	-0.4	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.531	115.4	115.1	-0.2	-0.8	1.7	-0.3	-0.3
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.661	122.9	122.2	4.5	0.1	1.6	-0.8	-0.6
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.413	123.1	123.2	11.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	0.1
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.643	129.2	129.9	8.7	2.7	0.2	-0.2	0.5
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.529	148.8	148.7	11.2	3.1	1.8	-0.3	-0.1
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.427	142.4	141.7	9.2	2.5	1.7	-0.6	-0.5
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.102	177.6	180.5	19.9	5.2	1.9	1.3	1.6
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.385	115.1	114.1	-3.7	-0.4	-0.5	-0.9	-0.9
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.629	112.2	112.7	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.4
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.505	117.9	116.1	2.3	0.6	0.1	-0.3	-1.5
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.703	130.1	121.9	0.9	2.0	0.0	-0.6	-6.3
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.299	113.8	114.5	4.9	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.6
Printed material.....	49	0.503	117.4	117.3	-1.9	-1.6	-0.3	-1.3	-0.1
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.220	109.4	107.3	1.9	1.8	-0.1	-0.4	-1.9
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.694	110.5	102.7	-1.0	3.9	-1.1	-2.0	-7.1
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.788	112.4	113.6	2.7	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.1
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.420	98.9	99.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.793	176.6	173.8	5.6	1.5	2.0	-6.9	-1.6
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.835	176.5	166.0	2.5	1.2	-0.3	-3.4	-5.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
					Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Iron and steel.....	72	1.550	232.9	207.4	7.9	3.1	-0.4	-6.7	-10.9
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.454	160.6	159.3	7.8	1.4	1.6	-0.5	-0.8
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.663	249.5	226.2	-9.4	0.4	-1.3	-3.6	-9.3
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.920	138.5	126.1	-8.6	0.4	-1.5	-7.0	-9.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.381	120.3	121.8	5.4	1.0	0.1	0.1	1.2
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.363	130.6	130.6	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	29.945	95.2	94.9	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	16.716	104.2	104.2	1.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.229	85.4	84.7	-0.4	-0.8	-0.2	0.1	-0.8
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	13.776	117.1	117.8	2.8	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.120	107.1	107.7	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	5.960	107.0	106.9	2.2	0.0	0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.408	108.6	108.8	3.0	-0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.753	117.5	117.7	4.1	-0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.507	94.4	95.1	3.3	-0.1	-0.3	0.2	0.7

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: October 2007 to October 2008
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Industrialized Countries²	42.888	135.5	131.0	8.1	1.5	-1.6	-2.8	-3.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.201	285.7	244.5	21.9	3.6	-9.8	-11.8	-14.4
Manufactured articles.....	38.251	124.2	122.3	6.3	1.1	-0.1	-1.1	-1.5
Other Countries³	57.112	139.6	131.7	6.6	1.7	-3.4	-3.5	-5.7
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.058	342.3	283.9	10.9	3.8	-8.9	-10.0	-17.1
Manufactured articles.....	44.837	111.2	110.1	5.1	0.7	-0.7	-0.5	-1.0
Canada	16.032	161.1	154.0	12.7	1.5	-3.0	-4.4	-4.4
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.711	279.6	239.7	21.0	3.4	-10.5	-12.4	-14.3
Manufactured articles.....	12.028	138.7	138.4	10.5	0.7	0.8	-0.6	-0.2
European Union⁴	17.355	131.9	130.2	6.3	0.4	-0.7	-1.1	-1.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.249	390.7	332.9	25.9	7.1	-9.4	0.6	-14.8
Manufactured articles.....	16.987	128.2	126.9	5.7	0.2	-0.5	-1.1	-1.0
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.844	120.6	120.6	9.5	0.9	0.7	-0.5	0.0
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.732	111.9	110.7	2.3	0.1	-0.2	-1.1	-1.1
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.684	136.2	132.2	7.6	1.3	-3.2	-2.6	-2.9
Latin America⁵	18.032	182.3	170.5	9.5	3.2	-4.5	-4.6	-6.5
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.151	356.4	304.9	15.1	5.2	-9.4	-8.6	-14.5
Manufactured articles.....	12.786	144.3	141.8	6.5	1.8	-1.0	-2.0	-1.7
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.710	150.6	143.2	7.6	2.5	-2.5	-2.4	-4.9
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	33.822	102.5	102.3	2.8	0.8	0.1	-1.1	-0.2
China (Dec. 2003=100)	15.926	103.8	103.5	4.2	0.8	0.2	0.0	-0.3
Japan	8.032	94.9	95.4	1.5	0.4	0.0	-0.6	0.5
Asian NICs⁷	5.887	93.2	92.4	4.3	1.3	1.7	-0.7	-0.9
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	6.041	101.6	100.2	3.0	0.5	-1.0	-1.1	-1.4
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	3.928	270.9	232.3	5.8	1.4	-7.5	-7.4	-14.2

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: October 2007 to October 2008

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Sept. 2008 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Annual	Monthly			
				Oct. 2007 to Oct. 2008	June 2008 to July 2008	July 2008 to Aug. 2008	Aug. 2008 to Sept. 2008	Sept. 2008 to Oct. 2008
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	156.8	152.0	12.3	2.5	-0.2	-3.4	-3.1
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	29.922	168.3	159.7	16.2	3.0	1.6	-8.0	-5.1
Asia.....	59.240	127.6	126.6	8.6	1.9	-1.7	-1.5	-0.8
Export Air Freight	100.000	146.0	144.3	18.0	1.7	3.5	-1.5	-1.2
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	43.288	139.8	135.7	25.9	2.4	2.3	-1.6	-2.9
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	151.7	148.9	13.6	2.0	0.3	-2.5	-1.8
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	31.451	161.6	155.1	16.6	2.7	1.6	-6.2	-4.0
Asia.....	55.462	123.5	122.5	10.0	1.5	-0.8	-0.6	-0.8
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	147.8	144.3	21.4	3.8	0.6	-1.5	-2.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	41.641	168.3	163.6	22.1	3.2	1.5	-2.3	-2.8
Asia.....	40.837	132.4	129.2	21.1	4.3	-0.9	-0.6	-2.4
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	161.3	165.9	25.3	4.1	-3.0	-6.9	2.9
Europe.....	45.658	169.1	176.1	32.7	2.6	-1.7	-10.1	4.1
Asia.....	24.148	135.1	136.3	17.3	4.0	-5.7	-7.8	0.9
Latin America/Caribbean.....	11.407	134.1	129.7	4.6	5.7	-1.0	-13.0	-3.3
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	172.6	167.2	8.8	6.2	5.2	-9.9	-3.1
Europe.....	30.486	211.8	203.6	9.1	6.2	-0.4	-10.9	-3.9
Asia.....	34.930	146.1	139.5	14.4	5.1	19.7	-14.9	-4.5
Latin America/Caribbean.....	19.873	172.5	181.3	7.5	6.3	-0.3	-1.9	5.1

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.

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.