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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – MARCH 2017

U.S. import prices declined 0.2 percent in March, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, following increases in each of the 3 previous months. The March downturn was driven by lower fuel import prices which more than offset rising nonfuel prices. In contrast, the price index for U.S. exports increased 0.2 percent in March, after advancing 0.3 percent in February.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: March 2016 – March 2017

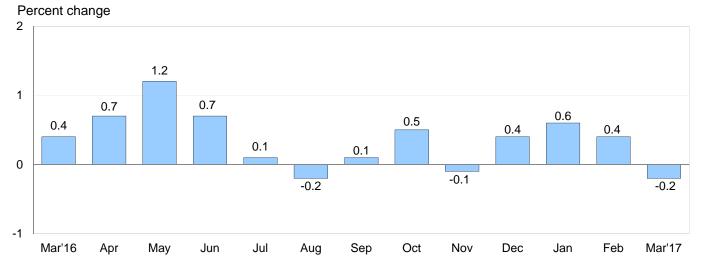


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: March 2016 – March 2017



All Imports: Import prices fell 0.2 percent in March, after increasing 1.4 percent over the previous 3 months. Prior to the March downturn, import prices trended up over most of the past 12 months, advancing 4.2 percent between March 2016 and March 2017. In contrast, import prices fell 6.1 percent for the previous 12-month period.

Fuel Imports: The price index for import fuel declined 3.8 percent in March, the largest 1-month drop since the index fell 6.8 percent in February 2016. In March, a 3.6-percent decrease in petroleum prices and an 11.0-percent decline in natural gas prices contributed to the overall fall in fuel prices. The March decrease in petroleum prices was the largest monthly decline since the index fell 4.1 percent in August, and the drop in natural gas prices was the largest 1-month decrease since the index declined 20.0 percent in March 2016. Despite the March downturn, the price index for import fuel increased 50.2 percent over the past year, after declining 36.7 percent the previous 12 months. The March 2017 over-the-year increase was driven by a 52.1-percent advance in petroleum prices and a 53.8-percent rise in natural gas prices.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: In contrast to fuel prices, prices for nonfuel imports increased in March, rising 0.2 percent. The advance followed a 0.4-percent rise in February and was led by higher prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials and capital goods. Those increases more than offset falling prices for consumer goods and foods, feeds, and beverages. The price index for nonfuel imports advanced 1.0 percent over the past 12 months, the largest over-the-year advance since the index increased 1.3 percent in April 2012. The increase from March 2016 to March 2017 was driven by higher prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials and foods, feeds, and beverages, which more than offset 12-month declines for each of the major finished goods categories.

Table A. Percent change in Import and Export Price Indexes, selected categories

		IMPORTS			EXPORTS	
Month	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non- agricultural exports
2016						
March	0.4	8.5	-0.1	-0.1	-2.1	0.2
April	0.7	9.8	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.4
May	1.2	12.7	0.3	1.1	3.0	1.0
June	0.7	10.5	-0.2	0.8	2.5	0.5
July	0.1	-2.1	0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.3
August	-0.2	- 3.4	0.0	-0.8	- 3.4	-0.6
September	0.1	1.3	0.0	0.3	-1.0	0.5
October	0.5	6.6	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.2
November	-0.1	-1.1	-0.1	0.1	0.7	0.0
December	0.4	5.8	0.0 ^r	0.4	-0.2	0.4
2017						
January	0.6	6.1 ^r	-0.1	0.2	0.5 ^r	0.2
February	0.4 ^r	0.7 ^r	0.4 ^r	0.3	1.5 ^r	0.3
March	-0.2	-3.8	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.2
Mar. 2015 to 2016	-6.1	-36.7	-2.5	-6.2	-10.7	-5.8
Mar. 2016 to 2017	4.2	50.2	1.0	3.6	5.3	3.3

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: March 2016 – March 2017

Percent change 2 1.1 0.8 1 0.5 0.4 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.1 0 -0.1 -0.8 -1 -2 Mar'16 Jun Jul Apr May Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar'17

Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: March 2016 – March 2017
Percent change



All Exports: Prices for U.S. exports rose 0.2 percent in March, continuing an upward trend since the index last fell on a monthly basis in August. Higher prices for agricultural exports and nonagricultural exports each contributed to the advance in March. U.S. export prices also increased over the past year, rising 3.6 percent for the year ended in March. That matched the 12-month advance recorded in December 2011 and was the largest over-the-year increase since the index rose 4.8 percent in November 2011.

Agricultural Exports: Export agricultural prices increased 0.9 percent in March, after rising 1.5 percent in February. The March advance was led by a 4.4-percent increase in meat prices and a 4.9-percent rise in nut prices. Prices for agricultural exports advanced 5.3 percent for the year ended in March, the largest 12-month increase since the index rose 9.6 percent in June 2013. Higher soybean prices over the past year were the biggest contributor to the March 12-month rise in agricultural export prices.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: The price index for nonagricultural exports rose 0.2 percent in March following a 0.3-percent advance the previous month. In March, higher prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials, consumer goods, capital goods, and nonagricultural foods all contributed to the overall advance in nonagricultural prices. Prices for nonagricultural exports rose 3.3 percent over the past year, matching the 12-month increase in February; those were the largest over-the-year advances since the index rose 4.0 percent in December 2011.

SELECTED MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Imports by Locality of Origin: Import prices from China increased 0.2 percent in March, after ticking up 0.1 percent the previous month. The February uptick was the first monthly rise since the index increased 0.1 percent in December 2014, and the March advance was the largest rise since the index increased 0.3 percent in May 2014. Despite the recent advances, prices for imports from China fell 1.2 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for imports from Japan increased 0.2 percent in March and rose 1.4 percent over the past year. Import prices from Mexico and the European Union also advanced in March, rising 0.4 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. In contrast, prices for imports from Canada declined 1.3 percent, led by lower fuel prices.

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonfuel industrial supplies and materials prices rose 1.6 percent in March following a 1.5-percent increase in February. Both monthly advances were driven by higher prices for metals and chemicals.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices were mixed in March. The price index for consumer goods declined 0.2 percent, after rising 0.3 percent in February and 0.4 percent in January. In contrast, capital goods prices ticked up 0.1 percent following a 0.2-percent advance the previous month. Prices for import automotive vehicles recorded no change for the second consecutive month in March.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: The price index for import foods, feeds, and beverages declined 0.7 percent in March, after rising 1.0 percent the previous month. In March, the decrease was led by lower prices for food oils, fruits, and vegetables.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares decreased 4.0 percent in March, the largest monthly decline since a 6.0-percent drop in August. The March decrease was driven by an 8.6-percent decline in European fares. The index for import air passenger fares fell 2.7 percent for the year ended in March, led by a 5.9-percent drop in European fares. Prices for import air freight rose 0.6 percent in March and 7.6 percent over the past 12 months.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices advanced 0.3 percent for the second consecutive month in March. The March increase was driven by rising prices for nonferrous metals and chemicals.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices increased overall in March. Consumer goods prices advanced 0.3 percent, the largest rise since a 0.5-percent advance in July 2016. Despite the increase in March, export consumer goods prices fell 2.2 percent over the past year. Prices for capital goods rose 0.1 percent following 0.2-percent increases in each of the past 3 months. The price index for export automotive vehicles recorded no change in March.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares increased 4.3 percent in March following an 11.6-percent decline in February. Higher Latin American/Caribbean, Asian, and European fares all contributed to the March advance in export air passenger fares. The index for export air passenger fares fell 0.3 percent for the year ended in March. Export air freight prices increased 1.9 percent in March and 3.7 percent over the past year.

Import and Export Price Index data for April 2017 are scheduled for release on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March **2017** [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	End Use	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
All commodities		100.000 84.368	122.8 98.5	122.6 98.8	4.2 0.8	0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.2 0.3
2010=100)									
All imports excluding petroleum All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)		91.178 90.487	111.5 115.5	111.7 115.7	1.2	0.0	0.1 -0.1	0.3	0.2
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	6.119	178.7	177.4	4.1	-1.6	-1.3	1.0	-0.7
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages	00	4.764	195.0	193.3	3.9	-2.0	-2.0	1.3	-0.9
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages)	01	1.355	142.3	141.7	5.0	-0.1	1.0	0.1	-0.4
Industrial supplies & materials Industrial supplies & materials excluding	1	22.791	170.2	169.1	20.9	2.6	2.9	1.1	-0.6
petroleum Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)		13.970 13.279	145.8 164.4	147.5 167.1	7.8 6.8	0.8	1.2 0.6	1.0 1.5	1.2 1.6
Industrial supplies & materials, durable Industrial supplies & materials nondurable		8.248	154.7	157.3	8.9	0.6	0.7	2.0	1.7
excluding petroleum		5.031	134.7	135.3	6.3	1.1	1.9	-0.4	0.4
Fuels & lubricants	10	9.512	180.8	173.9	50.2	5.8	6.1	0.7	-3.8
Petroleum & petroleum products	100	8.821	194.4	187.4	52.1	5.9	5.7	1.3	-3.6
Crude	10000	6.258	199.2	190.2	53.4	8.3	4.4	2.7	-4.5
Fuels, n.e.scoals & gas	101	0.537	112.8	103.6	48.6	5.4	13.7	-8.1	-8.2
Gas-natural	10110	0.416	92.5	82.3	53.8	6.1	11.6	-10.2	-11.0
Paper & paper base stocks	11	0.533	104.9	104.7	-2.6	1.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials	12	4.566	152.2	154.7	4.2	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.6
Selected building materials	13	1.398	140.1	141.9	5.7	0.6	1.1	0.9	1.3
Unfinished metals related to durable goods	14	3.416	208.6	214.8	19.3	1.0	1.3	3.6	3.0
Finished metals related to durable goods	15	1.685	145.8	146.9	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.8
Nonmetals related to durable goods	16	1.681	108.7	109.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.6
Capital goods	2	27.407	88.8	88.9	-0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.1
Electric generating equipment	20	3.307	116.2	116.2	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Nonelectrical machinery	21	21.491	81.1	81.3	-0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100)	22	2.609	137.1	137.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	16.234	110.1	110.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives	4	27.448	107.2	107.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.3	-0.2
Nondurables, manufactured	40	13.442	121.5	121.5	1.3	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.0
Durables, manufactured	41	12.653	93.3	93.3	-1.4	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Nonmanufactured consumer goods	42	1.353	118.4	114.9	-3.3	-2.6	0.1	2.6	-3.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values. NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

Table 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March 2017

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Percent change				
		Relative			Annual					
Description	End Use	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	nthly Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017 0.3 1.5 0.4 0.3 1.4 1.6 -0.8 0.4 1.4 -0.1 1.0 0.3 -2.2 1.5 0.2 0.2 -0.3 0.1 0.5 0.0 0.0 0.1	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017	
All commodities		100.000 9.494 83.259	122.0 178.5 98.6	122.3 180.1 98.9	3.6 5.3 0.9	0.4 -0.2 -0.1	0.2 0.5 0.0	1.5	0.2 0.9	
Nonagricultural commodities		90.507	117.7	117.9	3.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	8.803	180.0	181.7	5.3	-0.5	0.6	1.4	0.9	
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages	00	8.212	179.9	181.4	5.2	-0.3	0.5	1.6	0.8	
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages)	01	0.591	189.5	193.7	5.9	-2.4	1.7	-0.8	2.2	
Industrial supplies & materials	1	29.878	147.3	147.7	11.5	1.8	0.6	0.4	0.3	
Industrial supplies & materials, durable Industrial supplies & materials,		10.610	157.4	159.5	6.3	-0.5	0.5	1.4	1.3	
nondurable		19.270	142.7	142.2	14.7	3.1	0.7	-0.1	-0.4	
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials	10	1.282	175.6	177.6	6.0	0.6	0.1	1.0	1.1	
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials		28.597	146.3	146.7	11.7	1.9	0.6	0.3	0.3	
Fuels & lubricants	11	7.939	165.6	163.4	39.7	7.4	2.9	-2.2	-1.3	
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials	12	19.644	151.4	152.6	4.2	-0.1	-0.2	1.5	0.8	
Selected building materials	13	1.014	117.2	119.3	5.0	0.4	-0.4	0.2	1.8	
Capital goods	2	38.238	107.3	107.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	
Electrical generating equipment	20	3.941	111.9	112.5	0.1	0.0	0.4	-0.3	0.5	
Nonelectrical machinery	21	25.056	93.6	93.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100)	22	9.242	169.4	169.6	3.7	1.1	1.1	0.5	0.1	
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	10.344	113.1	113.1	0.0	-0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	
Consumer goods, excluding automotives	4	12.737	107.7	108.0	-2.2	-1.0	-1.0	0.0	0.3	
Nondurables, manufactured	40	6.146	103.3	103.4	-1.9	-0.7	-2.0	0.1	0.1	
Durables, manufactured	41	5.196	106.7	107.1	-1.6	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.4	

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected industries: March 2016 to March 2017 [December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

	lotouj		Inc	dex		Pe	ercent chan	ge	
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	NAICS	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Nonmanufacturing		9.020	99.4	94.9	38.7	5.2	3.6	2.2	-4.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting Crop production	11 111 112	2.070 1.639 0.208	185.9 196.9 80.0	180.2 190.2 79.2	8.1 7.3 -5.1	-2.9 -4.9 4.6	-1.4 -3.1 5.9	3.0 3.0 1.1	-3.1 -3.4 -1.0
Mining Oil and gas extraction	21 211	6.950 6.683	89.4 89.1	85.0 84.5	51.5 53.4	7.8 8.2	5.3 5.0	1.9 1.9	-4.9 -5.2
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100)	212	0.267	105.3	108.2	16.2	1.0	9.2	-0.3	2.8
Manufacturing		90.695	109.6	109.9	1.7	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
Manufacturing, part 1 Food manufacturing	31 311	11.899 3.454	123.7 154.1	123.6 153.5	0.7 3.6	-0.1 -0.1	-0.3 -0.9	0.2 0.9	-0.1 -0.4
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing Textile mills (Dec. 2011=100)	312 313	1.057 0.398	117.9 98.0	118.0 98.3	-0.6 -0.4	-0.1 0.0	0.0 0.1	0.0	0.1 0.3
Textile product mills	314	0.929	108.1	108.5	-0.9	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	0.4
Apparel manufacturing Leather and allied product	315	4.212	111.1	111.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
manufacturing	316	1.849	123.1	123.0	-0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Manufacturing, part 2 Wood product manufacturing	32 321	17.450 0.850	119.6 120.2	120.4 122.5	7.2 9.8	0.2 1.1	2.0 1.6	0.2 2.0	0.7 1.9
Paper manufacturing Printing and related support activities	322	1.018	104.1	104.1	-1.5	0.7	-0.3	-0.1	0.0
(Dec. 2016=100)	323	0.222	100.1	100.1	_	_	-0.1	0.2	0.0
manufacturing	324 325	2.282 9.855	83.7 134.6	83.6 135.6	47.4 4.0	-0.4 0.3	8.1 1.6	-3.2 1.0	-0.1 0.7
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	2.212	116.7	118.0	0.8	-0.5	0.0	0.0	1.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	327	1.011	128.6	128.3	-1.3	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Manufacturing, part 3	33 331	61.346 4.104	103.3	103.5	0.3	0.0	-0.2	0.3	0.2 2.7
Primary metal manufacturing Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	3.060	138.9 121.2	142.7 121.3	17.5 -1.1	0.9 -0.2	1.7 -0.2	3.7 0.2	0.1
Machinery manufacturing	333	7.067	116.0	116.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	17.616	75.9	75.9	-1.3	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.0
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing	335	4.899	114.2	113.9	-1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing Furniture and related product	336	17.531	109.4	109.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.0
manufacturing	337 339	1.731 5.338	115.2 117.8	115.3 117.9	0.2 -1.6	0.0 -1.1	0.4 -0.4	0.1 0.4	0.1 0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected industries: March 2016 to March 2017 [December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise	iotedj	1			1				
			Inc	dex		Pe	ercent chan	ige	
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	NAICS	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017		Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Nonmanufacturing		7.497	133.6	131.8	17.5	6.5	2.2	0.5	-1.3
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting		4.673 4.328	156.7 163.5	158.1 164.7	7.3 7.7	-0.5 -0.3	0.7 0.4		0.9 0.7
Mining Mining (except oil and gas)		2.824 1.290	81.3 106.5	77.3 103.1	41.1 36.6	20.3 6.2	4.6 8.4		-4.9 -3.2
Manufacturing		91.006	111.9	112.1	2.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
Manufacturing, part 1 Food manufacturing Beverage and tobacco product	31 311	7.010 4.698	135.8 153.4	137.0 154.5	3.4 4.5	0.1 0.3	0.3 0.5		0.9 0.7
manufacturing Textile mills (Dec. 2016=100)	312 313	0.690 0.677	109.0 101.5	111.2 101.9	4.1 -	0.4	-1.4 1.1		2.0 0.4
Leather and allied product manufacturing (Dec. 2016=100)	316	0.290	100.3	100.3	_	-	0.1	0.2	0.0
Manufacturing, part 2	32	23.981	107.3	107.2	7.1	0.9	-0.5	0.1	-0.1
Paper manufacturing	322	1.641	117.5	114.6	-5.9	0.3	-0.1	-0.6	-2.5
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324 325	5.260 13.187	94.6 113.2	93.8 113.7	42.6 1.4	4.6 0.0	1.9 -1.8		-0.8 0.4
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing Nonmetallic mineral product	326	2.310	114.5	114.9	-0.3	-0.2	0.9	0.0	0.3
manufacturing	327	0.841	112.5	113.3	1.3	-0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.7
Manufacturing, part 3	33	60.015	111.4	111.6	0.5	-0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
Primary metal manufacturing	331	3.971	135.2	137.2	4.2	-2.8	0.5	1.4	1.5
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	3.311	137.3	137.1	5.6	-0.2	2.8		-0.1
Machinery manufacturing Computer and electronic product	333	10.270	125.1	125.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2		0.1
manufacturing Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing	334	14.192 3.963	82.5 112.2	82.5 112.7	-1.7	0.0	-0.4 0.1		0.0
Transportation equipment manufacturing Furniture and related product	336	18.506	124.0	124.1	1.9	0.4	0.7		0.1
manufacturing (Dec. 2011=100) Miscellaneous manufacturing	337 339	0.457 5.346	117.6 118.4	117.4 118.8	3.9 -2.3	-0.6 -1.5	0.4 0.1	-0.2 0.3	-0.2 0.3
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¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March 2017
[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	ercent chan	Monthly Dec. Jan. Feb. 116 to 2017 to Jan. Feb. 1017 2017 2017 0.6 1.2 -0.2 -1.7 3.5 1.0 1.5 -0.8 -1.4 -3.2 3.1 -3.1 16.5 2.8 -4.1 -1.1 2.4 -1.4 2.2 -0.2 -0.8 -1.3 2.9 -7.4 -0.8 0.1 0.2 -2.7 0.1 -0.5				
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly				
Description	nized system	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	2017 to Feb.	2017 to Mar.			
Live animals; animal products	I	1.484	191.9	191.5	4.9	-0.2	0.6	1.2	-0.2			
Meat and edible meat offal	02	0.432	238.3	240.7	10.1	-1.3	-1.7	3.5	1.0			
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	03	0.762	145.5	143.5	6.7	-0.6	1.5	-0.8	-1.4			
Vegetable products	II	2.080	218.4	211.7	10.1	-4.5	-3.2	3.1	-3.1			
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or	07	0.368	419.6	402.4	-5.2	-1.4	-16.5					
melons	08	0.854	126.6	124.8	32.6	-9.0 4.4						
Coffee, tea, mate and spices	09	0.371	238.7	236.8	5.3	-4.4	2.2	-0.2	-0.8			
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100)	III	0.313	119.7	110.8	8.0	3.5	-1.3	2.9	-7.4			
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco	IV	2.669	159.2	159.5	0.2	0.1	-0.8	0.1	0.2			
Sugars and sugar confectionary (Dec. 2012=100)	17	0.185	86.1	85.7	-0.5	0.5	-2.7	0.1	-0.5			
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100)	18	0.199	98.0	98.8	-10.7	-1.6	-3.8	-2.8	0.8			
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants	20	0.340	158.1	157.9	1.8	-0.1	-1.0	-0.5	-0.1			
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar	22	0.998	127.5	127.8	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.2			
Mineral products	V	9.356	179.7	173.1	49.4	5.8	6.3	0.3	-3.7			
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes	27	9.114	177.6	170.9	51.6	5.9	6.4	0.3	-3.8			
Products of the chemical or allied												
industries	VI	9.327	151.7	152.6	4.0	0.3	2.0	1.2	0.6			
Inorganic chemicals	28	0.533	267.8	285.4	7.4	1.6	3.8	2.1	6.6			
Organic chemicals	29	2.370	122.6	123.5	3.2	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.7			
Pharmaceutical products	30	4.372	149.7	149.9	5.5	0.6	3.1	1.3	0.1			
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100)	31	0.285	80.7 101.8	80.6	4.7	0.9	2.4	5.2	-0.1			
paints & putty (Dec. 2011=100) Essential oils and resinoids (Dec.	32	0.182	101.8	101.9	4.8	-0.8	0.4	-0.1	0.1			
2016=100)	33	0.547	100.2	100.0	_	-	0.2	0.0	-0.2			
Miscellaneous chemical products	38	0.682	103.5	104.2	1.6	0.1	8.0	0.4	0.7			
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	VII	3.426	138.7	139.7	2.9	-0.1	0.4	0.7	0.7			
Plastics and articles thereof	39	2.156	139.3	140.4	0.5	-0.6	0.1	0.2	0.8			
Rubber and articles thereof	40	1.270	139.1	139.9	7.4	1.0	1.0	1.5	0.6			
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc	VIII	0.685	123.4	123.3	-1.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1			
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials	42	0.644	128.6	128.5	-0.7	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1			
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork	IX	0.881	146.0	148.8	9.4	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.9			
Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal (Dec. 2014=100)	44	0.856	100.4	102.5	9.9	1.0	1.6	1.7	2.1			
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products	x	1.082	109.6	109.5	-0.6	1.0	-0.4	0.1	-0.1			
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard	48	0.724	103.5	103.5	-1.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0			
Printed matter (Dec. 2015=100)	49	0.724	106.0	106.0	5.6	1.8	-0.1 -0.1	0.0	0.0			
Textile and textile articles	XI		113.1	113.2			-0.1		0.1			
Teatile and teatile articles	^1	5.350	113.1	113.2	-0.2	-0.1	-U. I	0.1	U. I			

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March 2017 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	ercent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	61	2.201	103.7	103.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	62	1.837	119.2	119.1	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	-0.1
Made-up or worn textile articles	63	0.650	103.3	103.7	0.3	0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.4
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers,									
etc Footwear and parts of such articles	XII 64	1.524 1.290	122.4 121.5	122.3 121.4	-0.6 -0.7	0.1 0.0	0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0	-0.1 -0.1
	04	1.290	121.5	121.4	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc	XIII	0.943	130.1	129.8	-1.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100)	68	0.326	96.3	95.8	-3.6	-0.6	0.0	-0.8	-0.5
Ceramic products	69	0.273	137.1	136.6	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Glass and glassware	70	0.344	129.6	129.7	0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.1
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins	XIV	2.780	167.8	169.8	1.1	-4.6	0.0	1.8	1.2
Base metals and articles of base metals	XV	5.439	163.7	166.2	9.7	2.3	1.0	1.4	1.5
Iron and steel	72	1.314	190.3	197.0	31.4	4.8	5.1	3.0	3.5
Articles of iron or steel	73	1.631	138.5	139.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4
Copper and articles thereof	74	0.388	273.5	277.1	11.4	8.6	-2.0	3.4	1.3
Aluminum and articles thereof	76	0.784	125.1	128.8	6.8	0.5	0.3	2.2	3.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof	82	0.434	122.7	122.8	-1.5	-0.2	0.8	-0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	83	0.517	135.3	135.4	-0.9	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc	XVI	29.810	80.4	80.4	-1.0	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	84	14.788	85.6	85.7	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts	85	15.022	75.5	75.4	-1.3	0.3	-0.7	0.0	-0.1
, .,		15.022	75.5	73.4	1.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	XVII	14.602	113.9	113.9	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.0
Motor vehicles and their parts	87	13.104	112.6	112.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.0
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100)	88	1.365	118.8	118.5	-1.5	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.3
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces	XVIII	3.872	101.8	101.0	-1.6	0.0	-0.9	0.2	0.0
Optical, photographic, measuring and				101.8					
medical instruments	90	3.545	98.5	98.5	-1.8	-0.1	-0.8	0.1	0.0
Clocks and watches and parts thereof		0.268	142.2	141.9	0.3	-0.1	-0.8	1.3	-0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps &	XX	4.300	111.3	111.3	-0.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.0
lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs Toys, games and sports equipment; parts	94	2.647	116.3	116.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
and accessories thereof	95	1.377	102.7	102.7	-0.9	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	96	0.276	129.7	129.7	-4.1	-0.1	-1.5	0.0	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March 2017

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	ercent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Live animals; animal products	l ₁	1.831	196.7	201.2	9.8	0.2	1.6	0.4	2.3
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100)	02	1.030	150.3	158.2	8.3	0.6	0.9	0.3	5.3
Fish and crustaceans, mollusks and aquatic									
invertebrates (Dec. 2016=100)	03	0.385	102.9	105.6	_	-	4.3	-1.3	2.6
Vegetable products	II	4.439	200.8	202.7	7.6	-1.0	0.5	4.0	0.9
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or									
melons	08	0.841	140.7	142.6	-9.3	-3.8	1.0	-4.5	1.4
Cereals	10	1.223	178.2	182.3	3.2	-1.8	3.9	2.2	2.3
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder	12	1.719	207.1	207.2	14.2	3.7	-1.7	1.8	0.0
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages,and tobacco	IV	3.051	146.3	146.6	1.0	0.1	-0.9	-0.3	0.2
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100)	20	0.382	116.4	116.6	-1.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.2
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100)	22	0.541	109.3	109.2	3.8	0.6	-1.7	-1.4	-0.1
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed	23	0.733	199.2	197.1	3.0	0.6	-2.0	0.4	-1.1
Mineral products	V	8.233	195.9	193.3	42.4	7.7	2.8	-1.4	-1.3
Ores, slag and ash (Dec. 2012=100)	26	0.559	93.8	92.5	29.4	4.4	-1.8	6.6	-1.4
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous									
substances and mineral waxes	27	7.482	187.2	184.6	45.2	8.2	3.1	-1.9	-1.4
Products of the chemical or allied									
industries	VI	10.870	134.3	134.9	0.4	0.0	-2.1	0.9	0.4
Inorganic chemicals	28	0.856	178.5	178.2	3.4	1.6	0.7	-0.7	-0.2
Organic chemicals	29	2.583	133.9	135.8	4.5	0.3	-4.5	4.1	1.4
Pharmaceutical products	30	3.131	103.2	103.4	-2.5	-1.0	-3.5	-0.1	0.2
Fertilizers (Dec. 2016=100)	31	0.230	99.5	103.4	_	_	0.0	-0.5	3.9
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints varnish, putty, & inks (Dec. 2015=100)	32	0.523	97.9	98.3	-0.6	0.5	-0.7	0.7	0.4
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations	33	0.810	131.2	131.2	-2.4	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes	34	0.519	116.8	116.0	-0.2	0.2	0.5	-0.2	-0.7
Miscellaneous chemical products	38	1.775	145.9	145.5	1.3	0.2	-0.7	0.0	-0.7
		1.770	1 10.0	1 10.0	1.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	VII	5.122	137.6	138.7	2.1	-0.4	0.0	0.8	0.8
Plastics and articles thereof	39	4.120	131.7	132.2	0.8	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.4
Rubber and articles thereof	40	1.002	163.3	167.7	7.7	-0.4	1.1	3.7	2.7
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel	VIII	0.351	123.2	123.8	5.2	0.1	0.7	0.9	0.5
goods, etc	VIII	0.331	123.2	123.0	5.2	0.1	0.7	0.9	0.5
and wickerwork (Dec. 2014=100)	IX	0.597	92.1	93.1	-1.1	-0.7	0.6	-1.9	1.1
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper		0.400	100.0	100.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.4
products	X	2.133	126.0	129.0	6.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	2.4
Woodpulp and recovered paper Paper and paperboard; articles of paper	47	0.696	139.6	149.3	24.2	3.0	3.2	0.4	6.9
pulp, paper or paperboard	48	1.086	119.3	119.4	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3	1.1	0.1
Printed material (Dec. 2014=100)	49	0.351	100.6	101.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Textile and textile articles	XI	1.771	121.6	121.6	2.4	0.2	1.2	0.5	0.0
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof	52	0.464	128.5	129.9	18.2	-0.3	3.4	1.7	1.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2016 to March 2017 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Ind	ex		Pe	ercent chan	rcent change			
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly			
Description	nized system	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017		
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc	XIII	0.834	122.3	122.6	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.2		
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100)	68	0.275	99.5	100.2	-0.3	0.0	-1.8	0.0	0.7		
Glass and glassware	70	0.432	99.8	99.9	0.5	-0.2	0.6	-0.4	0.1		
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins	XIV	4.137	227.7	231.7	0.3	-5.2	-0.1	1.9	1.8		
Base metals and articles of base metals	XV	4.919	150.8	152.6	8.2	1.9	1.6	0.8	1.2		
Iron and steel	72	1.028	154.9	158.7	17.9	5.2	4.2	-2.3	2.5		
Copper and articles thereof	74	0.479	169.0	171.2	12.7	9.0	-2.8	1.7	1.3		
Aluminum and articles thereof	76	0.828	109.5	112.7	10.0	0.5	0.1	2.4	2.9		
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal (Dec. 2015=100) Miscellaneous articles of base metal	82 83	0.349 0.347	99.5 147.7	99.5 148.2	-0.3 0.0	0.0 -0.1	-0.2 0.0	-0.3 0.0	0.0 0.3		
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc	XVI	28.743	95.8	95.8	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0		
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	84	16.896	113.3	113.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0		
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof	85	11.847	76.8	77.0	-0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.3		
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	XVII	14.992	132.3	132.3	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0		
Motor vehicles and their parts	87	8.718	115.1	115.1	0.5	-0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0		
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces	XVIII	6.063	106.3	106.4	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.1		
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	XX	1.497	112.8	112.7	1.1	-0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1		
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;	94	0.902	128.4	128.2	2.6	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.2		
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof	95	0.440	89.5	89.3	-0.6	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.2		

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Table 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: March 2016 to March 2017 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

	Dolotivo	Inc	dex		P	ercent chang	je	
	Relative importance			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Industrialized Countries ²	100.000	119.5	118.9	4.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	-0.5
Nonmanufacturing	8.884	141.8	134.9	36.7	6.2	5.2	3.1	-4.9
Manufacturing	90.677	117.3	117.2	1.9	0.0	0.1	0.5	-0.1
Other Countries ³	100.000	119.5	119.3	3.5	0.8	-0.1	0.4	-0.2
Nonmanufacturing	9.182	203.4	194.5	39.5	7.2	2.4	2.5	-4.4
Manufacturing	90.621	102.7	102.9	0.7	0.3	-0.3	0.2	0.2
Canada	100.000	126.2	124.5	12.9	1.8	2.0	1.4	-1.3
Nonmanufacturing	24.534	136.3	129.4	39.1	6.5	5.5	3.1	-5.1
Manufacturing	74.728	127.3	127.0	6.6	0.5	0.9	1.0	-0.2
European Union ⁴	100.000	132.1	132.2	1.0	-0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	99.419	128.7	128.8	0.9	-0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.1
France (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	120.9	121.3	-1.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3	0.3
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	113.3	113.3	-0.1	-0.4	1.3	0.2	0.0
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	117.6	117.6	-0.6	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Latin America ⁵	100.000	143.4	142.8	6.1	2.4	0.0	0.7	-0.4
Nonmanufacturing	18.848	232.8	222.2	37.5	9.7	1.1	2.0	-4.6
Manufacturing	80.830	119.2	119.8	0.9	0.9	-0.3	0.5	0.5
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	123.5	124.0	0.0	0.0	-1.2	0.4	0.4
Nonmanufacturing (Dec. 2008=100)	8.536	116.0	118.0	36.6	-1.2	-2.4	1.4	1.7
Manufacturing (Dec. 2008=100)	91.147	86.1	86.3	-2.8	0.2	-1.2	0.3	0.2
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100) ⁶	100.000	98.3	98.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.1
China (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	100.0	100.2	-1.2	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.2
Japan	100.000	96.3	96.5	1.4	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.2
Asian NICs ⁷	100.000	84.8	85.2	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.5
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100) ⁸	100.000	97.7	97.8	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100) ⁹	100.000	162.1	157.1	28.1	2.2	3.4	2.7	-3.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values.

Regions are not mutually exclusive.

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

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

⁴ European Union countries.

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ Mexico, Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

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

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

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

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

Table 8. U.S. international price indexes and percent changes for selected transportation services: March 2016 to March 2017
[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

		Inc	dex		Р	ercent chanç	ge	
	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	importance Feb. 2017 ¹	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016 to Mar. 2017	Nov. 2016 to Dec. 2016	Dec. 2016 to Jan. 2017	Jan. 2017 to Feb. 2017	Feb. 2017 to Mar. 2017
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	161.7	162.6	7.6	-0.5	-1.9	-0.2	0.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	24.862	136.5	136.7	-2.7	-1.4	-0.7	0.4	0.1
Asia	61.925	148.4	150.0	13.5	-0.3	-2.6	-0.8	1.1
Export Air Freight	100.000	156.5	159.4	3.7	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.9
Europe (Dec. 2006=100)	33.379	147.3	147.0	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.5	-0.2
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	153.0	153.4	6.0	-0.2	-0.9	-0.4	0.3
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	27.265	132.8	132.2	-1.8	-1.6	0.8	0.4	-0.5
Asia	58.831	139.6	140.6	10.7	0.4	-2.8	-1.0	0.7
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	138.9	139.4	-1.1	0.1	2.4	-0.6	0.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	30.528	143.6	144.4	-4.7	-0.1	1.9	-1.6	0.6
Asia	46.705	134.0	134.4	2.1	0.1	4.0	0.1	0.3
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	181.6	174.3	-2.7	1.3	-1.7	-0.8	-4.0
Europe	43.901	216.2	197.5	-5.9	-9.9	9.7	0.3	-8.6
Asia	20.554	128.5	128.0	-1.9	17.4	-8.5	-4.0	-0.4
Latin America/Caribbean	9.545	158.3	162.1	9.3	8.3	-11.7	2.3	2.4
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	149.6	156.1	-0.3	7.9	0.5	-11.6	4.3
Europe	35.580	215.1	221.1	-1.0	6.9	-6.3	5.4	2.8
Asia	26.412	123.6	127.5	-0.8	4.8	10.1	-20.5	3.2
Latin America/Caribbean	25.354	158.3	171.7	9.8	4.8	2.6	-9.6	8.5

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2015 trade values. NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

TECHNICAL NOTE

<u>Import and Export Merchandise and Services Price Indexes</u> - All indexes use a modified Laspeyres formula and are not seasonally adjusted. Price indexes are reweighted annually, with a 2-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 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 Producer Price Index (PPI) to produce the NAICS primary products indexes.

<u>Import Price Indexes</u> - 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 included in the import air passenger fares indexes and excluded from the export air passenger fares 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 www.bls.gov/mxp under "MXP Publications."

<u>Import Indexes by Locality of Origin</u> - 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 3 months after original publication. After 3 months, no further data revisions take place. For example, data first published in the January release will be subject to revision in the releases for February, March, and April.

<u>Uses of the Data</u> - The primary use of the indexes is to deflate trade statistics, notably the foreign trade sector of the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) 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 NIPA, 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.

<u>Email Subscription</u> - The U.S. import and export price indexes news release is available through an email subscription service at www.bls.gov/bls/list.htm.

<u>Additional Information</u> - More detailed data are available on the Import/Export Price Indexes home page at www.bls.gov/mxp. For import and export price indexes data requests, send an email 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.