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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – MARCH 2018

U.S. import prices recorded no change in March, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, following a 0.3-percent rise in February. Higher nonfuel prices offset declining prices for imported fuel in March. Prices for U.S. exports advanced 0.3 percent in March, after rising 0.2 percent the previous month.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: March 2017 – March 2018

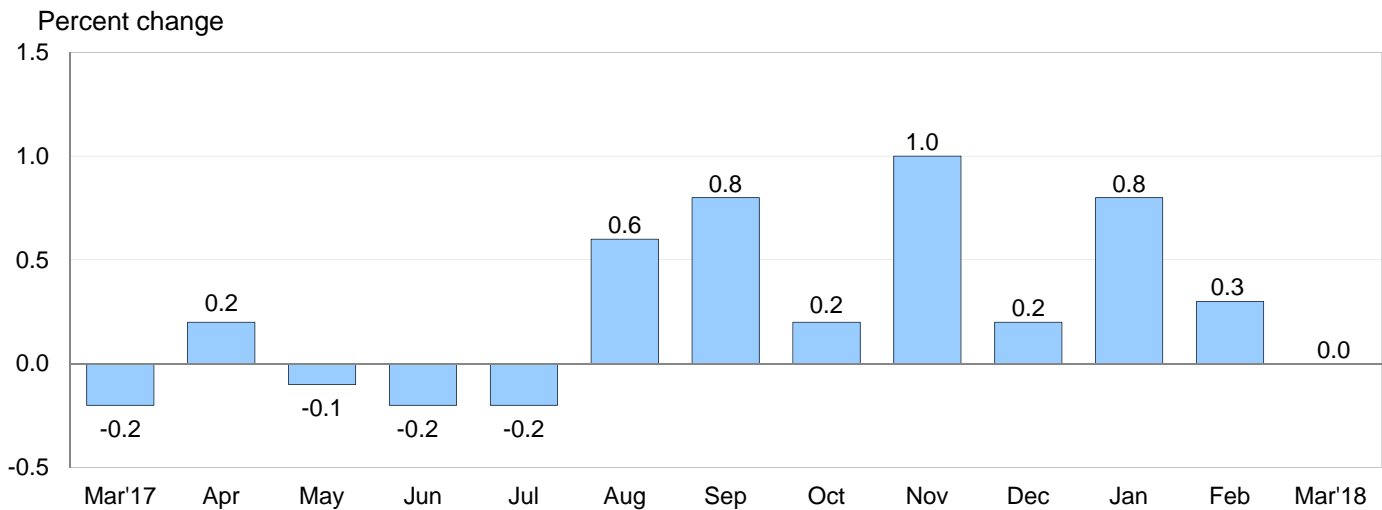
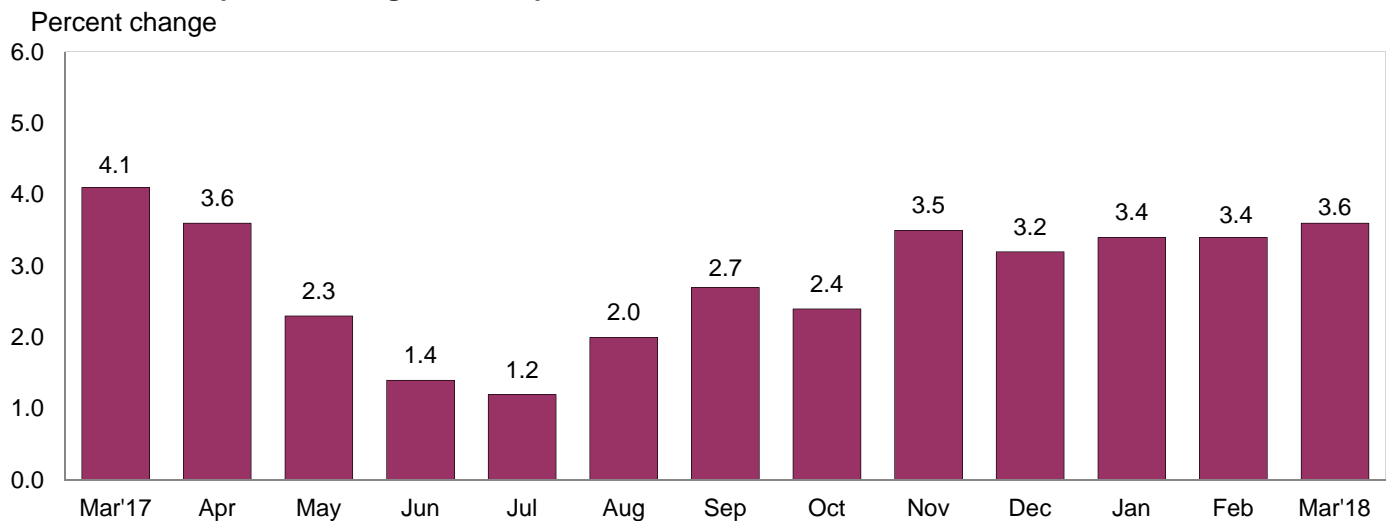


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: March 2017 – March 2018



All Imports: Import prices recorded no change in March following rises of 0.3 percent in February and 0.8 percent in January. The index has not declined on a monthly basis since decreasing 0.2 percent in July 2017. Prices for U.S. imports rose 3.6 percent between March 2017 and March 2018. The last 12-month decline in import prices was a 0.2-percent drop for the period ended October 2016.

Fuel Imports: Fuel prices fell for the second consecutive month, declining 1.6 percent in March following a 1.0-percent drop in February. The March decrease was the largest monthly decline since the index dropped 3.6 percent in June 2017. Lower prices for both petroleum and natural gas drove the decline in fuel prices. Prices for imported petroleum declined 1.3 percent and natural gas fell 9.5 percent. Despite the decrease in March, fuel import prices advanced 18.7 percent between March 2017 and March 2018. The price index for petroleum imports rose 19.4 percent over the past 12 months. Prices for imported natural gas increased 20.0 percent over the same period.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: Prices for nonfuel imports rose 0.2 percent in March, following increases of 0.5 percent in February and January. Contributing to the March advance were higher import prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials; capital goods; and foods, feeds, and beverages, which more than offset declining prices for automotive vehicles and consumer goods. Nonfuel import prices advanced 2.1 percent on a 12-month basis for the second consecutive month, the largest over-the-year increases since a 2.4-percent advance in February 2012. An 8.0-percent rise in nonfuel industrial supplies and materials prices drove the 12-month advance in March.

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

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2017						
March.....	-0.2	-3.0	0.2	0.1	1.1	0.0
April.....	0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
May.....	-0.1	-0.9	0.1	-0.6	-1.6	-0.4
June.....	-0.2	-3.6	0.1	-0.1	-1.4	0.0
July.....	-0.2	-1.0	-0.1	0.5	1.8	0.3
August.....	0.6	4.0	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.7
September.....	0.8	5.7	0.3	0.8	-0.7	0.9
October.....	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	2.0	-0.1
November.....	1.0	9.8	0.0	0.5	-0.7	0.7
December.....	0.2	3.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.3	0.0 ^r
2018						
January.....	0.8	3.4 ^r	0.5	0.7 ^r	0.0 ^r	0.9 ^r
February.....	0.3 ^r	-1.0 ^r	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.2
March.....	0.0	-1.6	0.2	0.3	3.4	-0.1
Mar. 2016 to 2017.....	4.1	50.9	0.9	3.4	5.4	3.2
Mar. 2017 to 2018.....	3.6	18.7	2.1	3.4	3.0	3.4

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: March 2017 – March 2018

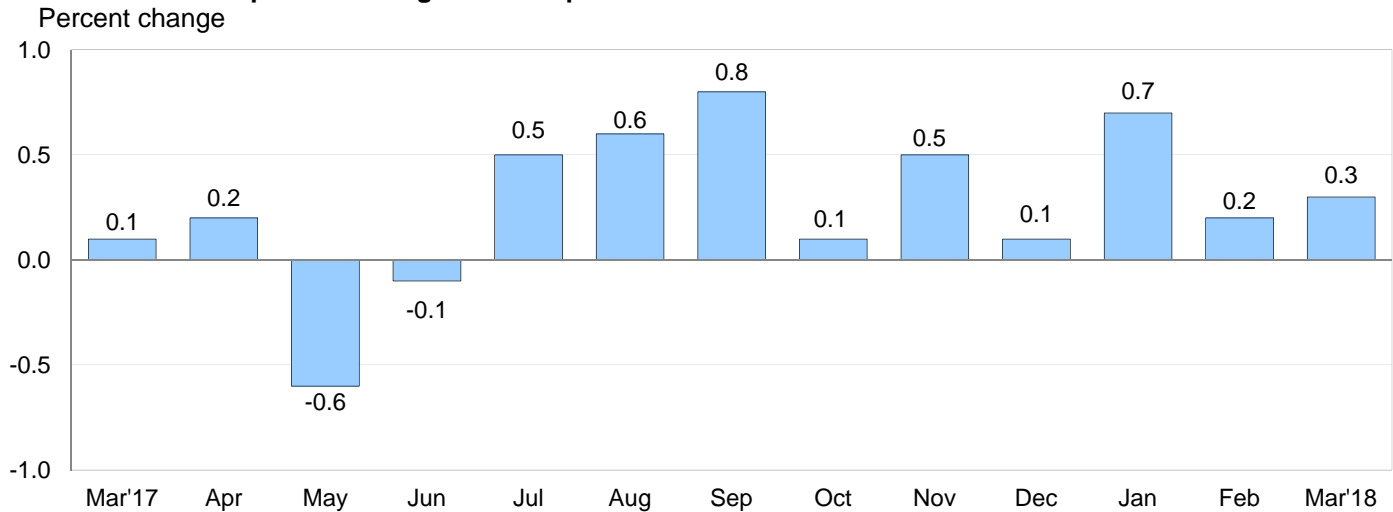
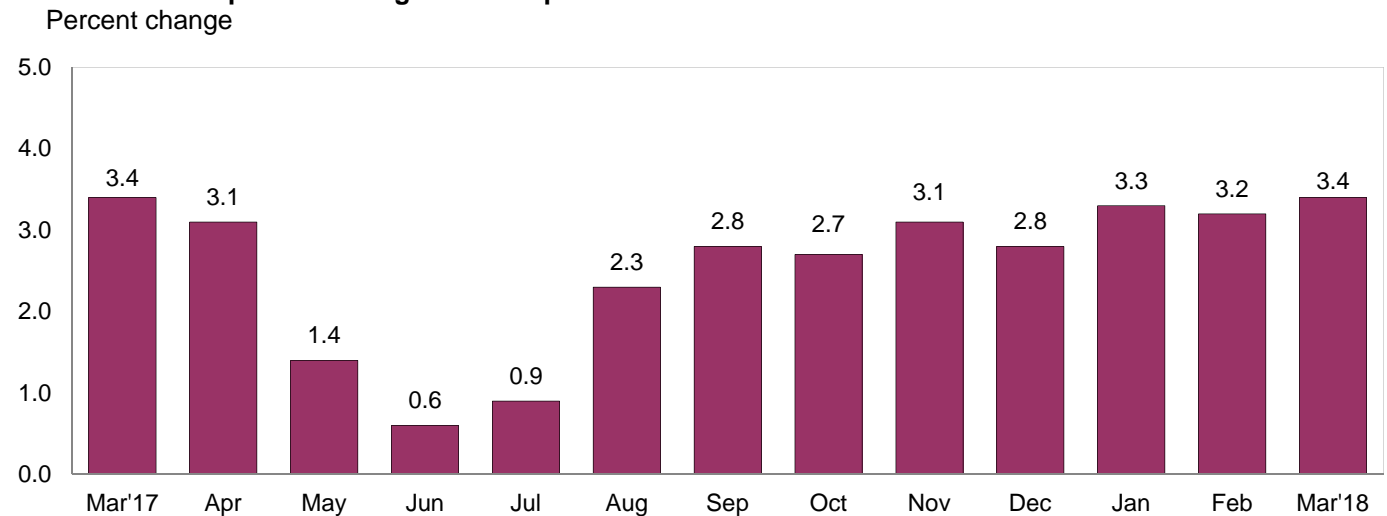


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: March 2017 – March 2018



All Exports: Prices for U.S. exports rose for the ninth consecutive month in March, advancing 0.3 percent. Increasing prices for agricultural exports drove the monthly advance, more than offsetting lower nonagricultural export prices. U.S. export prices increased 3.4 percent over the 12-month period ended in March and have not recorded an over-the-year drop since a 0.2-percent decline in November 2016.

Agricultural Exports: The price index for agricultural exports advanced 3.4 percent in March following a 0.6-percent rise in February. The March increase is the largest monthly advance since agricultural export prices rose 4.8 percent in August 2012. Higher prices for soybeans and wheat contributed to the monthly advance, increasing 7.8 percent and 8.0 percent, respectively. The price index for agricultural exports rose 3.0 percent over the past 12 months, driven by a 6.5-percent increase in meat prices.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: Nonagricultural export prices ticked down 0.1 percent in March, after rising 0.2 percent in February and 0.9 percent in January. Declining prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials more than offset increases in capital goods and automotive vehicles export prices. Prices for nonagricultural exports advanced 3.4 percent between March 2017 and March 2018, as the price indexes for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials, capital goods, consumer goods, and automotive vehicles all increased.

SELECTED MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Imports by Locality of Origin: Import prices from China rose for the second consecutive month in March, edging up 0.1 percent. The price index for imports from China increased 0.2 percent over the past 12 months and has not recorded a 12-month decrease since December 2017. Prices for imports from Japan rose 0.2 percent in March following increases of 0.2 percent in February and 0.5 percent in January. Despite the advance in March, the price index for imports from Japan edged down 0.1 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for imports from the European Union rose 0.1 percent in March and import prices from Mexico advanced 0.2 percent, after decreasing 0.5 percent the previous month. In contrast, prices for imports from Canada fell 0.2 percent in March.

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Import prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials increased 1.0 percent in March, after a 0.8-percent rise in February. Higher prices for iron and steel mill products and lumber each contributed to the March advance, rising 4.0 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively.

Finished Goods: Major finished goods prices were mixed in March. Import capital goods prices increased 0.2 percent, driven by a 0.4-percent increase in prices for computers, peripherals, and semiconductors. In contrast, the price index for automotive vehicles decreased 0.2 percent and import prices for consumer goods declined 0.1 percent in March.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: The import price index for foods, feeds, and beverages rose 0.6 percent in March following increases of 1.0 percent in February and 0.7 percent in January. Higher prices for vegetables drove the monthly advance, more than offsetting lower fruit prices.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares decreased 6.5 percent in March, after a 0.9-percent rise in February. In March, a 14.6-percent drop in European fares more than offset increases of 2.3 percent in Latin American/Caribbean fares and 0.1 percent in Asian fares. Despite the monthly decrease, import air passenger fares advanced 1.5 percent over the past year. Prices for import air freight recorded no change in March and rose 11.4 percent over the past 12 months.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices fell 0.5 percent in March, after rising 0.2 percent the previous month. Lower fuel prices drove the decrease, more than offsetting increasing prices for chemicals and iron and steel products.

Finished Goods: Prices for the major finished goods categories were mostly up in March. Capital goods prices and automotive vehicles prices each ticked up 0.1 percent, and consumer goods prices recorded no change following a 0.4-percent rise in February.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares rose 4.2 percent in March following a 7.9-percent decrease the previous month. The March increase was primarily driven by higher European and Asian fares. The price index for export air passenger fares advanced 2.4 percent between March 2017 and March 2018. Export air freight prices increased 4.3 percent in March and 4.4 percent over the past year. Prices for export air freight have not recorded a 12-month decline since falling 1.1 percent for the year ended February 2017.

Import and Export Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 11, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
All commodities		100.000	126.9	126.9	3.6	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.0
All imports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100)		82.985	100.4	100.5	1.8	-0.1	0.4	0.5	0.1
All imports excluding petroleum		89.948	113.8	113.9	2.1	-0.1	0.6	0.4	0.1
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)		89.149	117.8	118.0	2.1	-0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	6.163	184.1	185.2	4.1	-0.9	0.7	1.0	0.6
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	4.857	202.7	203.6	4.9	-1.2	0.8	1.0	0.4
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.307	142.1	143.6	1.2	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.1
Industrial supplies & materials	1	25.132	190.4	190.2	12.4	1.3	2.5	0.0	-0.1
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		15.160	158.0	159.0	8.1	0.3	2.3	0.5	0.6
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		14.269	178.3	180.1	8.0	-0.3	1.8	0.8	1.0
Industrial supplies & materials, durable....		9.073	169.5	171.7	9.4	-0.8	2.3	0.8	1.3
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		6.007	143.6	143.0	6.2	2.0	2.4	0.0	-0.4
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	10.851	210.9	207.5	18.7	3.3	3.4	-1.0	-1.6
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	10.052	228.2	225.2	19.4	2.8	2.9	-0.8	-1.3
Crude.....	10000	7.117	236.5	236.1	23.2	3.2	4.2	-1.9	-0.2
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	0.616	121.5	113.0	11.5	16.0	13.1	-5.8	-7.0
Gas-natural.....	10110	0.460	106.0	95.9	20.0	20.0	13.4	-5.8	-9.5
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.551	112.7	113.2	7.8	0.5	1.5	1.3	0.4
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.722	161.9	162.6	5.4	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.4
Selected building materials.....	13	1.628	152.6	157.4	10.8	-1.0	-0.7	1.6	3.1
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.926	236.6	238.9	11.5	-1.8	4.9	0.9	1.0
Finished metals related to durable goods.....	15	1.812	161.6	163.1	11.4	0.3	1.6	0.9	0.9
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.641	110.3	111.1	1.7	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.7
Capital goods	2	26.759	89.7	89.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.2
Electric generating equipment.....	20	3.236	117.7	117.8	1.1	-0.2	0.0	0.6	0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	21.246	82.1	82.2	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	2.277	137.4	137.3	0.6	0.1	0.4	1.4	-0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	15.855	110.9	110.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.2	-0.2
Consumer goods, excluding automobiles	4	26.091	107.3	107.2	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.6	-0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	12.741	122.0	121.9	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.6	-0.1
Durables, manufactured.....	41	12.014	93.1	93.3	0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.336	118.9	115.8	0.8	0.2	0.8	2.8	-2.6

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
All commodities.....		100.000	125.9	126.3	3.4	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.3
Agricultural commodities.....		9.926	179.5	185.6	3.0	-0.3	0.0	0.6	3.4
All exports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100).....		81.173	101.0	101.3	2.4	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3
Nonagricultural commodities.....		90.074	121.8	121.7	3.4	0.0	0.9	0.2	-0.1
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	9.285	181.2	187.2	2.9	-0.5	-0.2	0.6	3.3
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	8.651	179.6	185.5	2.2	-0.6	-0.3	0.5	3.3
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.634	212.7	221.2	11.9	0.4	1.6	2.2	4.0
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	31.360	158.1	157.5	7.1	0.0	2.0	0.3	-0.4
Industrial supplies & materials, durable....		10.524	166.5	167.2	5.0	-0.1	1.5	1.2	0.4
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		20.836	154.4	153.3	8.4	-0.1	2.3	-0.3	-0.7
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.275	185.4	192.4	8.3	1.1	2.5	1.1	3.8
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		30.084	157.2	156.4	7.1	-0.1	2.0	0.2	-0.5
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	9.543	188.6	183.0	13.9	-0.4	4.2	-2.0	-3.0
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	19.524	158.9	159.9	4.8	0.0	1.1	1.3	0.6
Selected building materials.....	13	1.017	122.7	123.1	3.4	-0.2	-1.8	1.0	0.3
Capital goods.....	2	36.569	109.0	109.1	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.854	114.9	115.3	2.3	0.3	-0.5	-0.4	0.3
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	23.638	94.6	94.7	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	9.076	173.6	173.8	2.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	10.136	113.8	113.9	0.7	-0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives.....	4	12.651	110.4	110.4	2.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.0
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	6.184	107.5	107.7	4.2	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.2
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.022	107.7	107.6	0.7	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.1

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Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected industries: March 2017 to March 2018
 [December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Nonmanufacturing		9.984	114.3	113.5	19.2	2.5	4.2	-0.9	-0.7
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	11	2.142	195.4	195.3	8.7	-2.1	2.2	3.6	-0.1
Crop production.....	111	1.743	210.7	209.0	10.1	-3.0	2.0	3.9	-0.8
Animal production (Dec. 2014=100).....	112	0.199	80.2	81.5	2.6	1.5	2.6	2.0	1.6
Mining	21	7.842	105.3	104.4	22.2	3.7	4.7	-2.0	-0.9
Oil and gas extraction.....	211	7.607	105.4	104.5	23.1	4.0	4.8	-2.2	-0.9
Manufacturing		89.726	112.0	112.1	2.1	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.1
Manufacturing, part 1	31	11.321	124.9	125.0	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
Food manufacturing.....	311	3.417	157.1	157.5	1.9	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	1.089	120.3	120.2	1.6	0.0	0.6	0.2	-0.1
Textile mills (Dec. 2011=100).....	313	0.384	100.4	101.1	3.0	0.6	-0.2	0.4	0.7
Textile product mills.....	314	0.919	109.3	109.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.845	111.3	111.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	-0.2
Leather and allied product manufacturing.....	316	1.666	122.8	122.7	-0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Manufacturing, part 2	32	18.146	125.7	125.4	4.2	0.4	0.1	1.1	-0.2
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.010	135.6	141.5	15.5	-1.5	-1.2	2.5	4.4
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.009	107.3	107.6	3.3	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.3
Printing and related support activities (Dec. 2016=100).....	323	0.208	100.2	100.3	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.1	0.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	2.655	96.8	93.2	11.2	1.5	-0.6	2.9	-3.7
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	10.096	139.2	139.3	2.7	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.1
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.187	118.9	118.8	0.9	0.1	-0.1	0.6	-0.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.982	129.5	130.2	1.3	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.5
Manufacturing, part 3	33	60.259	105.0	105.2	1.7	-0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.466	156.5	158.3	11.6	-1.6	4.0	1.4	1.2
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.....	332	3.096	127.3	128.1	5.6	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.6
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.771	118.5	118.7	2.2	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	17.073	75.7	75.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.1
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	4.895	115.6	115.7	1.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing.....	336	16.878	110.2	110.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	-0.2
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.763	116.2	116.8	1.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.318	118.4	118.6	0.9	-0.1	0.7	0.1	0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected industries: March 2017 to March 2018
 [December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Nonmanufacturing.....		8.392	137.4	141.4	7.9	0.5	1.2	-1.8	2.9
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.....	11	5.160	155.7	164.8	3.7	-0.8	1.0	0.5	5.8
Crop production.....	111	4.750	161.4	171.0	3.4	-0.8	1.1	0.4	5.9
Mining.....	21	3.231	88.1	86.7	15.1	2.2	1.4	-5.3	-1.6
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	1.147	112.5	111.4	7.7	0.3	1.8	1.9	-1.0
Manufacturing.....		90.011	115.7	115.7	3.2	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0
Manufacturing, part 1.....	31	6.975	139.9	141.2	2.9	0.3	-0.4	0.8	0.9
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.773	158.2	159.4	3.0	0.2	-0.8	0.8	0.8
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.691	119.3	123.1	9.7	-0.2	1.3	2.2	3.2
Textile mills (Dec. 2016=100).....	313	0.633	102.4	102.9	1.1	0.5	-0.2	0.9	0.5
Leather and allied product manufacturing (Dec. 2016=100).....	316	0.275	98.8	98.2	-1.9	1.0	1.0	0.5	-0.6
Manufacturing, part 2.....	32	25.236	115.5	115.0	7.4	-0.3	1.9	0.9	-0.4
Wood product manufacturing (Dec. 2017=100).....	321	0.540	102.6	103.5	–	–	0.4	2.2	0.9
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.647	125.4	126.3	10.2	-0.3	0.7	0.2	0.7
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	6.412	112.4	108.0	16.3	-1.7	6.0	0.4	-3.9
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	13.345	118.7	119.7	5.3	0.3	0.7	1.3	0.8
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.231	114.5	114.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.4	0.3
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.825	115.2	116.5	2.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	1.1
Manufacturing, part 3.....	33	57.800	113.3	113.4	1.6	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	3.955	145.1	145.8	6.5	-0.2	2.3	1.5	0.5
Fabricated metal product manufacturing...	332	3.023	138.6	138.7	0.9	-0.1	0.5	0.2	0.1
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	8.947	126.1	126.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.1
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.160	83.6	83.7	1.5	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.789	114.7	115.0	1.9	0.0	-0.6	-0.3	0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing..	336	18.128	125.8	125.9	1.5	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing (Dec. 2011=100).....	337	0.402	118.7	118.7	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.397	120.2	120.0	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	-0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.394	197.2	200.2	4.4	0.1	1.2	1.9	1.5
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.379	251.4	254.5	6.3	0.4	0.4	1.8	1.2
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.715	142.7	145.5	1.0	0.1	1.5	1.6	2.0
Vegetable products.....	II	2.135	232.6	230.9	9.4	-2.8	1.6	3.7	-0.7
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.506	539.7	592.4	44.6	-4.9	0.3	6.6	9.8
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.836	132.7	127.8	3.4	-3.7	1.8	1.5	-3.7
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.327	216.5	217.0	-7.8	-2.2	0.5	-0.8	0.2
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.297	112.9	110.4	-3.1	-0.9	-1.6	-1.3	-2.2
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.739	162.4	162.9	1.5	0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.3
Sugars and sugar confectionary (Dec. 2012=100).....	17	0.201	90.6	90.8	5.7	-0.1	4.6	0.1	0.2
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100).....	18	0.198	95.2	99.7	0.9	-1.3	0.0	0.8	4.7
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.360	167.0	168.5	2.1	-0.8	-1.4	-0.5	0.9
Miscellaneous edible preparations (Dec. 2017=100).....	21	0.204	101.1	101.9	—	—	0.0	1.1	0.8
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	1.031	130.3	130.3	1.8	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.0
Mineral products.....	V	10.632	210.1	207.1	19.1	3.1	3.4	-0.9	-1.4
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	10.381	207.9	204.7	19.2	3.3	3.4	-1.0	-1.5
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	9.450	156.8	156.8	3.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.0
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.622	315.1	311.8	10.4	6.8	3.0	1.5	-1.0
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.383	130.3	130.4	5.0	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.1
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	4.439	150.9	150.7	1.1	0.0	0.5	1.3	-0.1
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100).....	31	0.258	80.2	80.1	2.2	-1.0	1.5	-1.5	-0.1
Tanning extracts; dye, pigments, varnish, paints & putty (Dec. 2011=100).....	32	0.183	107.3	107.6	5.7	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.3
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2016=100).....	33	0.580	103.4	103.7	3.7	-0.3	0.4	0.7	0.3
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.633	106.2	107.7	3.5	0.1	1.1	-0.7	1.4
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	3.404	140.8	140.8	0.9	-0.1	-0.3	0.6	0.0
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	2.234	143.4	143.3	2.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.170	137.6	137.9	-1.3	0.4	-0.6	0.8	0.2
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.631	124.4	124.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.1
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.596	129.7	129.8	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	1.041	165.0	172.6	16.0	-1.5	-1.2	2.7	4.6
Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal (Dec. 2014=100).....	44	1.017	113.9	119.2	16.3	-1.5	-1.2	2.7	4.7
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.064	113.4	113.7	3.6	0.2	0.9	0.9	0.3
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.703	105.2	105.4	1.6	0.0	0.7	1.3	0.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Monthly			
						Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Printed matter (Dec. 2015=100).....	49	0.205	105.9	105.9	-0.1	0.0	0.9	0.1	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.994	114.0	114.2	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	2.000	103.9	103.7	-0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	-0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.690	119.2	119.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.637	104.1	104.2	0.5	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc.....	XII	1.375	121.7	121.9	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.2
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.152	120.8	120.7	-0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.921	131.1	132.0	1.5	0.1	0.5	-0.4	0.7
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100).....	68	0.328	98.0	99.4	3.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.4
Ceramic products.....	69	0.256	134.6	134.6	-1.5	0.1	0.0	-1.5	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.337	132.0	132.6	2.2	-0.2	0.9	0.0	0.5
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.094	175.0	174.6	2.8	-0.6	2.4	-0.1	-0.2
Base metals and articles of base metals. ...	XV	5.575	179.3	181.3	9.3	-0.9	2.0	1.2	1.1
Iron and steel.....	72	1.270	214.3	220.4	12.5	-0.6	3.2	2.2	2.8
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.610	152.5	154.6	11.4	0.1	1.0	1.3	1.4
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.421	303.2	301.3	9.2	-2.3	4.4	-1.0	-0.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.940	138.0	139.4	8.2	-1.4	1.3	0.4	1.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.417	122.5	123.0	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.516	137.2	137.4	1.5	0.1	-0.8	0.3	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	28.957	80.8	80.9	0.6	0.0	-0.2	0.5	0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	14.167	87.1	87.3	2.0	0.0	-0.1	0.7	0.2
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	14.790	75.0	75.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	0.0
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	14.044	114.8	114.5	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.1	-0.3
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	12.836	113.8	113.5	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.2	-0.3
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	1.117	116.4	116.1	-2.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.3
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	3.884	103.4	103.6	2.5	-0.2	1.7	0.2	0.2
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	3.598	100.1	99.9	2.1	-0.1	1.8	0.2	-0.2
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.228	142.4	149.0	5.2	0.3	-1.3	-0.1	4.6
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	4.279	111.6	111.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.699	117.5	117.8	1.2	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.298	101.7	101.8	-0.9	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.282	128.6	128.6	-0.9	-0.1	-0.8	0.0	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.952	208.5	211.3	4.7	0.5	-0.3	0.7	1.3
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100)...	02	1.198	167.9	169.5	7.1	1.2	0.1	0.7	1.0
Fish and crustaceans, mollusks and aquatic invertebrates (Dec. 2016=100).....	03	0.419	117.4	122.1	13.1	0.5	1.7	2.4	4.0
Dairy products, eggs and honey (Dec. 2017=100).....	04	0.260	94.1	94.1	-	-	-5.6	-0.3	0.0
Vegetable products.....	II	4.758	195.2	206.2	1.3	-1.4	1.1	0.1	5.6
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.918	146.6	148.5	3.4	-1.5	0.8	-0.5	1.3
Cereals.....	10	1.431	192.0	201.5	10.5	0.4	1.5	4.6	4.9
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.939	203.8	217.3	3.2	2.2	-2.4	2.2	6.6
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	3.101	151.5	153.8	4.4	-0.1	0.5	1.1	1.5
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100)....	20	0.349	117.6	117.6	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous edible preparations (Dec. 2017=100).....	21	0.606	102.9	100.3	-	-	1.8	1.1	-2.5
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100).....	22	0.521	106.1	107.3	-3.3	-2.7	-1.0	0.9	1.1
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.719	211.9	228.2	15.7	1.7	1.3	3.1	7.7
Mineral products.....	V	9.958	227.7	220.8	16.1	-0.1	4.3	-1.8	-3.0
Ores, slag and ash (Dec. 2012=100).....	26	0.577	113.3	111.2	19.8	0.4	3.3	3.9	-1.9
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	9.204	217.7	210.8	16.3	-0.1	4.4	-2.1	-3.2
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	10.884	139.1	139.8	3.8	0.6	0.8	1.2	0.5
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.757	168.8	169.5	-4.6	2.5	3.1	0.7	0.4
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.534	142.7	144.9	7.0	0.3	1.2	3.3	1.5
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	3.307	109.3	109.5	6.1	0.5	2.7	0.9	0.2
Fertilizers (Dec. 2016=100).....	31	0.252	117.0	118.7	14.6	0.7	3.5	4.8	1.5
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints varnish, putty, & inks (Dec. 2015=100)....	32	0.528	100.7	101.0	3.2	-0.5	-1.6	0.9	0.3
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.814	130.4	130.7	-1.0	0.1	-2.0	0.2	0.2
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.492	118.4	119.2	2.7	-3.7	-3.3	0.2	0.7
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.806	150.8	151.1	3.8	2.0	0.5	0.0	0.2
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.128	141.6	143.6	3.2	-0.7	0.4	1.2	1.4
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.262	138.4	140.1	5.6	-0.8	0.6	1.2	1.2
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	0.866	153.7	157.4	-6.0	-0.4	-0.5	0.9	2.4
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, baskets and wickerwork (Dec. 2014=100).....	IX	0.681	104.8	105.5	9.2	-0.1	-1.1	1.6	0.7
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.009	127.0	126.4	-2.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-0.5
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.607	131.0	128.1	-14.1	0.5	0.0	-3.7	-2.2
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.073	124.5	124.8	4.5	-0.6	0.2	0.4	0.2
Printed material (Dec. 2014=100).....	49	0.329	104.5	104.5	3.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	1.663	122.1	124.8	3.1	0.5	1.2	0.0	2.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: March 2017 to March 2018 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.449	132.1	141.1	8.6	2.2	3.2	-0.2	6.8
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.807	123.5	123.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100).....	68	0.270	101.3	101.2	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.413	99.1	99.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.3	0.2
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	4.154	240.9	240.2	3.7	-0.2	2.0	0.5	-0.3
Base metals and articles of base metals. . .	XV	4.946	160.4	161.9	6.3	0.2	1.3	0.9	0.9
Iron and steel.....	72	1.053	168.0	175.6	10.6	1.2	3.6	0.2	4.5
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.585	205.0	202.0	19.7	0.8	3.0	0.9	-1.5
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.985	121.7	122.4	8.6	-0.8	0.1	3.0	0.6
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal (Dec. 2015=100). . . .	82	0.316	99.6	99.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.2	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.339	149.4	149.1	0.6	-0.1	0.8	0.1	-0.2
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	27.576	96.8	96.9	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	15.789	113.9	113.9	0.5	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	11.787	78.4	78.6	2.1	0.6	-0.1	0.0	0.3
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	14.333	134.5	134.7	1.8	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.328	115.9	116.0	0.8	-0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	5.980	108.9	108.9	2.4	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.405	112.2	112.2	-0.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.0
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.821	128.9	128.9	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.423	88.0	87.9	-1.6	-0.8	1.1	-1.2	-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication.

Dash = Not available

Table 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: March 2017 to March 2018
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Industrialized Countries²	100.000	124.4	124.3	4.5	0.5	1.1	0.5	-0.1
Nonmanufacturing.....	8.939	156.5	154.8	15.6	3.4	3.0	-2.6	-1.1
Manufacturing.....	90.502	121.2	121.3	3.4	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.1
Canada	100.000	133.2	133.0	6.9	0.8	1.5	-0.1	-0.2
Nonmanufacturing.....	23.995	149.2	147.6	14.9	3.7	2.8	-2.9	-1.1
Manufacturing.....	75.055	132.4	132.5	4.2	-0.2	1.0	0.8	0.1
European Union³	100.000	136.5	136.6	3.3	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.1
Manufacturing.....	98.966	133.0	133.1	3.3	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.1
France (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	128.4	128.5	5.8	0.1	1.3	0.6	0.1
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	112.5	112.1	-1.1	-0.2	-3.0	0.8	-0.4
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	120.7	121.0	2.8	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.2
Latin America⁴	100.000	151.2	151.2	6.0	0.3	1.5	0.1	0.0
Nonmanufacturing.....	19.018	267.9	267.3	20.8	1.5	5.5	-0.9	-0.2
Manufacturing.....	80.710	123.0	123.1	2.8	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.1
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	129.1	129.4	4.4	0.2	0.6	-0.5	0.2
Nonmanufacturing (Dec. 2008=100).....	8.789	134.7	135.9	14.5	2.6	3.5	-4.7	0.9
Manufacturing (Dec. 2008=100).....	90.962	89.1	89.2	3.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁵	100.000	98.7	98.9	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2
China (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	100.3	100.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Japan	100.000	96.2	96.4	-0.1	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.2
Asian NICs⁶	100.000	88.2	88.7	4.1	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.6
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁷	100.000	98.4	98.5	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	100.000	180.4	180.4	12.7	2.6	3.3	0.1	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

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

³ European Union countries.

⁴ Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

⁵ China, Japan, Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Macao, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and the Asian Newly Industrialized Countries.

⁶ Asian Newly Industrialized Countries - Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan.

⁷ Association of Southeast Asian Nations - Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

⁸ 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 3 months after original publication.

Regions are not mutually exclusive.

Dash = Not available

Table 8. U.S. international price indexes and percent changes for selected transportation services: March 2017 to March 2018

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Feb. 2018 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2017 to Mar. 2018	Nov. 2017 to Dec. 2017	Dec. 2017 to Jan. 2018	Jan. 2018 to Feb. 2018	Feb. 2018 to Mar. 2018
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	181.2	181.2	11.4	-2.7	-2.3	1.9	0.0
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	24.935	148.9	150.1	9.8	0.1	0.4	3.0	0.8
Asia.....	62.502	171.3	171.0	14.0	-4.3	-3.5	1.2	-0.2
Export Air Freight	100.000	159.3	166.1	4.4	-6.2	-0.2	0.2	4.3
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	33.553	147.2	146.3	-0.5	-1.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.6
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	168.3	166.7	8.7	-1.8	0.1	0.2	-1.0
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	26.455	137.4	139.3	5.4	3.4	1.1	3.3	1.4
Asia.....	58.180	156.8	153.4	9.1	-4.2	-2.7	-1.4	-2.2
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	137.6	142.2	2.0	-1.1	-0.2	-2.1	3.3
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	33.633	144.3	147.7	2.3	-1.9	0.0	-0.3	2.4
Asia.....	42.204	130.2	137.7	2.5	-0.2	0.1	-4.8	5.8
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	189.3	177.0	1.5	6.5	-3.2	0.9	-6.5
Europe.....	46.770	238.5	203.7	3.1	-1.0	7.9	1.9	-14.6
Asia.....	20.667	127.6	127.7	-0.2	17.6	-11.1	-5.6	0.1
Latin America/Caribbean.....	9.211	163.8	167.6	3.4	10.8	-13.0	4.6	2.3
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	153.0	159.5	2.4	3.3	4.7	-7.9	4.2
Europe.....	31.241	206.4	210.9	2.7	-5.2	-5.1	6.9	2.2
Asia.....	25.893	129.2	131.9	4.4	12.5	12.5	-14.4	2.1
Latin America/Caribbean.....	25.104	167.3	168.6	0.7	3.4	7.3	-8.0	0.8

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2016 trade values.

NOTES: Data may be revised in each of the 3 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 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.

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 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."

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.

Relative Importance - A relative importance is a specific index's price-updated value share (expressed as a percentage) of overall imports or exports at a specific point in time. Relative importance values are affected by the trade weights at the point indexes are reweighted and index changes relative to other indexes since the reweight point. If an index is rising in value relative to other indexes over time, the relative importance will increase as well.

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.

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 (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.

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

Additional Information - 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.