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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – DECEMBER 2010

U.S. import prices rose 1.1 percent in December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, after increasing 1.5 percent in November and 1.1 percent in October. Import prices advanced 4.8 percent in 2010. The price index for U.S. exports increased 0.7 percent in December and 6.5 percent over the past year.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: December 2009 – December 2010

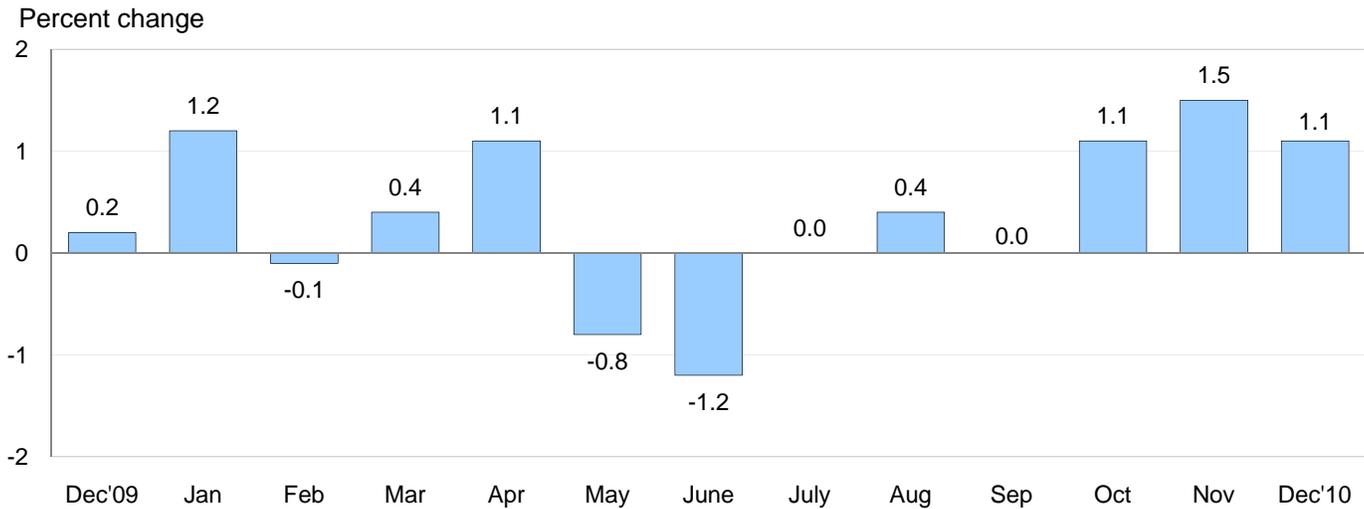
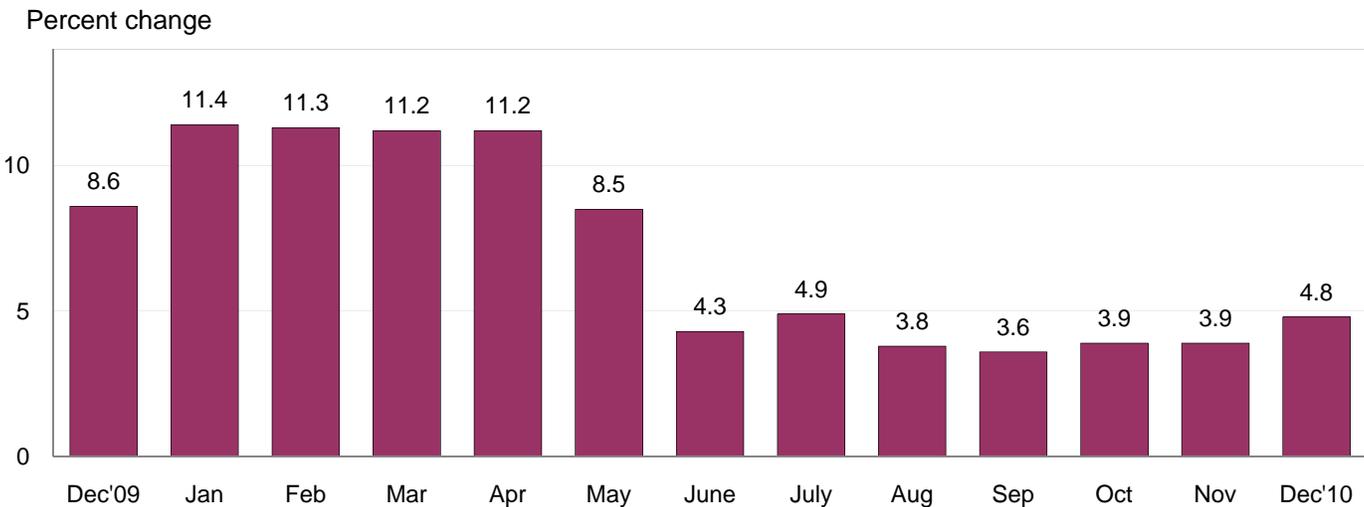


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: December 2009 – December 2010



All Imports: Import prices rose 1.1 percent in December, and higher prices for both fuel and nonfuel prices contributed to the overall advance. The price index for overall imports rose 3.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010, the largest three-month increase since import prices advanced a similar 3.7 percent between May and August 2009. Import prices rose for the second consecutive year in 2010, increasing 4.8 percent after an 8.6 percent advance in 2009.

Fuel Imports: Fuel prices increased 4.1 percent following similar advances of 4.2 percent and 4.3 percent the two previous months. The price indexes for petroleum and natural gas contributed to the December increase, rising 3.9 percent and 14.4 percent, respectively. Prices for imported fuel rose 11.9 percent in 2010 after a 62.2 percent jump in 2009. The increase in 2010 was led by a 13.7 percent advance in petroleum prices, which more than offset an 11.3 percent drop in prices for natural gas.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: The price index for nonfuel prices advanced 0.3 percent in December after a 0.8 percent rise the previous month. Rising prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials and foods, feeds, and beverages led the advance in December. Nonfuel prices rose 3.0 percent in 2010, primarily driven by a 12.0 percent increase in the price index for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials. The 2010 increase in nonfuel prices was the largest calendar-year increase for the index since a 3.1 percent advance in 2007.

Table A. Percent changes

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2009						
December.....	0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.7	1.8	0.6
2010						
January.....	1.2	4.4	0.4	0.8	1.3	0.7
February.....	-0.1	-0.7	0.1	-0.3	-4.0	0.1
March.....	0.4	1.4	0.2	0.7	1.9	0.6
April.....	1.1	2.6	0.6	1.1	-0.4	1.3
May.....	-0.8	-5.1	0.4	0.5	1.6	0.3
June.....	-1.2	-3.8	-0.4	-0.7	0.0	-0.8
July.....	0.0	1.0	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
August.....	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.8	4.2	0.5
September.....	0.0	-1.5	0.3	0.6	2.4	0.4
October.....	1.1 ^r	4.3 ^r	0.4 ^r	0.8	2.8 ^r	0.6
November.....	1.5 ^r	4.2 ^r	0.8	1.5	7.6 ^r	0.8
December.....	1.1	4.1	0.3	0.7	1.7	0.6
Dec. 2008 to 2009.....	8.6	62.2	0.3	3.4	9.2	2.9
Dec. 2009 to 2010.....	4.8	11.9	3.0	6.5	20.2	5.1

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: December 2009 – December 2010

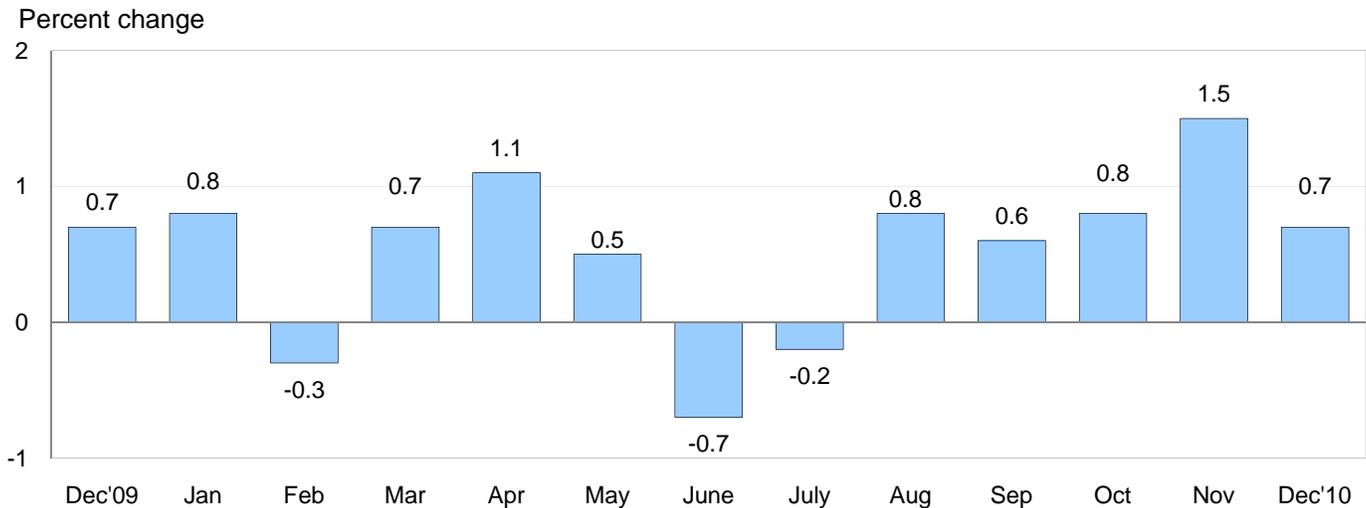
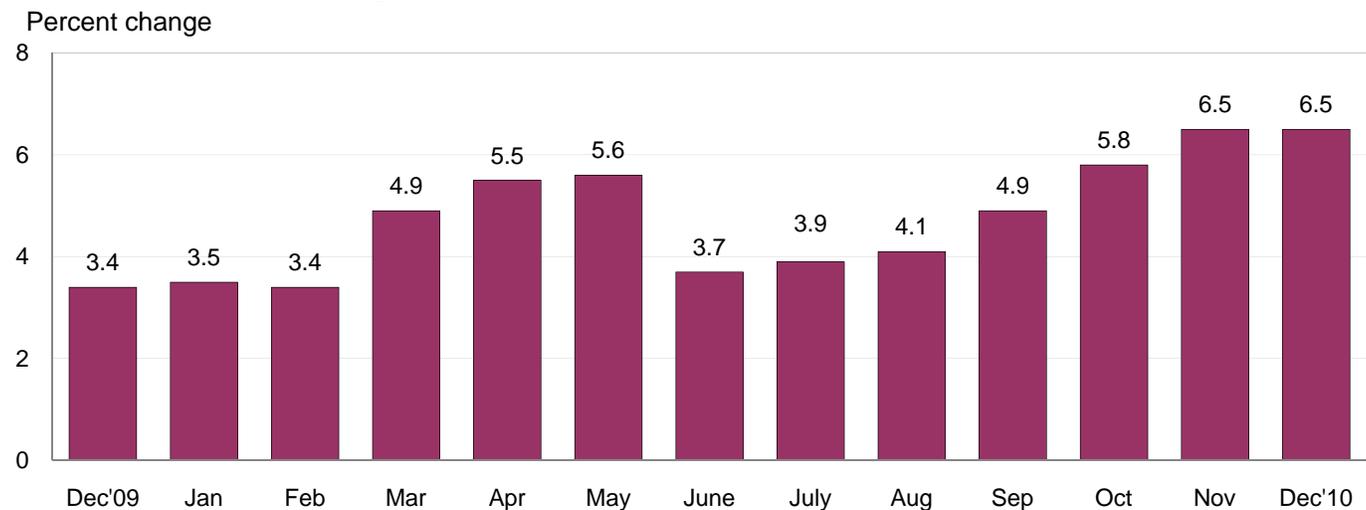


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: December 2009 – December 2010



All Exports: Prices of overall exports rose 0.7 percent in December following a 1.5 percent increase the previous month. Higher prices for both agricultural and nonagricultural exports contributed to the advances in each of the past two months. Export prices increased 6.5 percent in 2010 after a 3.4 percent rise the previous year. The 2010 advance was the largest calendar-year increase since the index was first published in December 1983.

Agricultural Exports: Agricultural prices rose 1.7 percent led by a 10.5 percent increase in cotton prices and a 5.0 percent advance in soybeans prices. The December increase followed a 7.6 percent jump in November. Prices for agricultural exports rose 20.2 percent in 2010, the largest calendar-year increase since a 23.3 percent advance in 2007. While a 107.0 percent increase in cotton prices was the largest single factor for the rise in agricultural prices in 2010, higher prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and meat also contributed to the advance.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: The price index for nonagricultural exports rose 0.6 percent in December after increasing 0.8 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively, in November and October. Nonagricultural prices advanced 5.1 percent in 2010, the largest calendar-year increase for the index since December 1987. The 2010 increase was driven by a 13.5 percent advance in nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices.

SELECTED DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials advanced 0.9 percent in December, led up by a 1.6 percent increase in chemicals prices and a 1.0 percent advance in unfinished metals prices. The price index for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials rose 12.0 percent in 2010. Prices for unfinished metals and chemicals, up 19.7 percent and 12.0 percent, respectively, were also the largest contributors to the increase over the past year.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices were mostly flat in December. Capital goods prices ticked up 0.1 percent, while the price indexes for consumer goods and automotive vehicles were unchanged. Each of the major finished goods categories also recorded little price movement over the past 12 months. Prices for automotive vehicles and capital goods rose 1.1 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, in 2010, while in contrast, consumer goods prices fell 0.3 percent.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: Foods, feeds, and beverages prices rose 1.3 percent in December and 13.1 percent over the past 12 months. Higher prices for vegetables, fish, food oils, and meat led the increase in December.

Imports by Locality of Origin: Prices of imports from China and from Japan each rose 0.3 percent in December. Driven by a 0.9 percent increase in the fourth quarter, import prices from China advanced 0.8 percent over the past year after declining 1.8 percent in 2009. Import prices from Japan rose 2.0 percent in 2010, similar to the 1.9 percent advances recorded in each of the previous two years.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares rose 2.1 percent in December and 11.6 percent in 2010. The 2010 increase followed a 3.2 percent decline in 2009. The December increase was led by a 9.8 percent increase in Asian fares and a 9.2 percent advance in Latin American and Caribbean fares, which more than offset a 5.8 percent decline in European fares. Higher prices for all three regions contributed to the 2010 advance in overall air passenger fares. The price index for import air freight declined 0.3 percent in December. Despite the December decrease, the index rose 3.2 percent in 2010.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials advanced 1.4 percent in December led by rising fuel and metals prices. Higher prices for fuels, metals, and chemicals drove overall nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices up 13.5 percent in 2010.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices were mostly up in December. Consumer goods prices rose 0.2 percent, capital goods prices ticked up 0.1 percent, while prices for automotive vehicles were unchanged. Prices for each of the major finished goods categories increased in 2010. Consumer goods prices increased 3.4 percent, prices for capital goods rose 0.6 percent, and automotive vehicles prices advanced 0.8 percent.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares advanced 2.3 percent in December and 6.8 percent in 2010. The increase over the past 12 months was driven by a 22.9 percent increase in Asian fares and followed a 5.2 percent drop in 2009. Export air freight prices rose 0.6 percent in December and 4.1 percent over the past year.

Import and Export Price Index data for January 2011 are scheduled for release on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2009 to December 2010

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
All commodities.....		100.000	129.0	130.4	4.8	0.0	1.1	1.5	1.1
All imports excluding petroleum.....		79.974	112.2	112.7	2.7	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.4
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)..		78.613	116.1	116.4	3.0	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.3
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	5.044	160.4	162.5	13.1	0.6	2.1	2.5	1.3
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.926	180.0	182.3	13.4	0.5	2.2	3.0	1.3
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.118	116.1	117.9	12.4	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.6
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	36.130	213.7	219.7	12.0	-0.4	3.2	3.5	2.8
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		16.104	156.8	159.2	9.6	0.6	1.5	2.3	1.5
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		14.743	176.1	177.6	12.0	1.1	1.7	2.5	0.9
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		9.274	169.8	170.8	12.0	1.2	1.8	2.6	0.6
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.469	141.6	145.6	6.8	-0.1	0.9	2.0	2.8
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	21.387	268.4	279.5	11.9	-1.5	4.3	4.2	4.1
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	20.026	294.7	306.1	13.7	-1.3	4.7	4.4	3.9
Crude.....	10000	14.751	300.3	311.8	13.4	-1.1	4.8	3.7	3.8
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.105	117.3	129.5	-10.1	-4.4	-2.5	1.4	10.4
Gas-natural.....	10110	0.800	101.3	115.9	-11.3	-5.9	-3.5	1.9	14.4
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.739	118.4	118.5	14.9	1.1	-0.3	1.1	0.1
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.805	154.1	156.3	11.2	0.8	1.8	2.5	1.4
Selected building materials.....	13	1.324	126.6	127.5	5.5	-0.3	0.6	1.0	0.7
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	4.471	262.7	265.2	19.7	2.1	2.9	4.5	1.0
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	1.866	151.6	152.1	8.3	1.2	1.6	1.1	0.3
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.538	108.6	108.4	2.8	0.1	0.2	0.6	-0.2
Capital goods.....	2	22.811	92.0	92.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.931	113.5	113.5	2.0	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.0
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	17.918	86.2	86.4	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.2
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	1.962	121.8	121.8	-0.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	11.981	110.0	110.0	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	24.034	104.0	104.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	0.3	0.0
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	11.324	109.8	110.1	2.0	0.1	-0.5	0.3	0.3
Durables, manufactured.....	41	11.508	98.4	98.1	-2.7	0.1	-0.6	0.3	-0.3
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.202	103.6	103.7	1.6	-0.1	0.6	0.0	0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
All commodities.....		100.000	126.6	127.5	6.5	0.6	0.8	1.5	0.7
Agricultural commodities.....		10.056	194.7	198.0	20.2	2.4	2.8	7.6	1.7
Nonagricultural commodities.....		89.945	121.7	122.4	5.1	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.6
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.858	189.4	190.7	15.5	2.0	2.4	5.9	0.7
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	8.274	193.4	194.2	15.7	2.1	2.4	6.3	0.4
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.584	153.3	160.5	13.9	1.5	2.3	0.3	4.7
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	32.358	169.6	172.5	14.9	0.9	1.7	2.5	1.7
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		12.456	172.4	175.1	11.0	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.6
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		19.903	168.7	171.9	17.6	0.6	1.9	3.0	1.9
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.782	206.4	222.4	45.8	4.0	4.8	13.7	7.8
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		30.577	168.1	170.5	13.5	0.7	1.5	1.9	1.4
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	6.239	227.3	232.6	22.7	-0.7	3.1	3.5	2.3
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	23.356	162.6	164.6	11.7	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.2
Selected building materials.....	13	0.982	116.9	116.3	2.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.3	-0.5
Capital goods.....	2	37.137	103.8	103.9	0.6	0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.1
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.475	109.9	109.8	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.5	-0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	27.058	94.4	94.5	0.0	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	6.604	140.6	141.0	3.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	8.906	109.1	109.1	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	12.741	112.9	113.1	3.4	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.2
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.837	114.2	114.0	3.6	0.6	0.4	0.7	-0.2
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.627	111.0	111.0	1.6	1.6	0.9	0.1	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Nonmanufactured articles.....		18.618	134.1	139.6	12.7	-1.3	4.1	3.4	4.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.924	161.2	165.4	20.2	-0.3	2.5	2.5	2.6
Crop production.....	111	1.363	167.3	170.7	17.3	-0.9	2.6	2.3	2.0
Mining.....	21	16.694	131.2	136.8	11.9	-1.3	4.2	3.6	4.3
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.540	140.3	140.5	9.0	0.1	-0.1	0.8	0.1
Manufactured articles.....		80.833	111.8	112.3	3.1	0.3	0.5	1.0	0.4
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	10.315	113.2	113.9	5.9	0.3	0.9	1.2	0.6
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.797	139.4	141.3	16.5	0.8	2.3	2.8	1.4
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.909	110.2	110.2	1.3	-0.1	0.5	1.0	0.0
Textile product mills.....	314	0.787	104.9	106.4	6.1	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.4
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.915	102.6	103.0	2.1	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.4
Leather and allied product manufacturing. . .	316	1.504	108.5	108.6	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.1
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	18.113	125.2	126.6	7.0	-0.2	0.8	2.3	1.1
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.804	104.3	105.1	9.4	-0.3	0.6	1.8	0.8
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.254	111.2	111.2	10.1	0.7	0.0	0.8	0.0
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	4.232	134.1	139.5	13.0	-2.1	4.1	6.7	4.0
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	8.942	127.7	128.1	5.0	0.5	-0.2	1.2	0.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.783	116.1	116.2	2.6	0.2	-0.3	0.3	0.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.992	123.3	123.6	3.6	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.2
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	52.405	107.4	107.5	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.1
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.160	171.5	173.2	18.5	2.0	2.7	3.9	1.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.709	120.3	121.0	4.0	0.1	0.8	0.3	0.6
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.729	114.8	114.9	1.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.1
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.436	85.5	85.3	-3.7	0.1	-0.7	-0.2	-0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.761	113.3	113.5	0.5	0.2	-0.2	0.5	0.2
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	13.196	106.9	106.8	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.305	106.7	107.3	-0.6	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.6
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.109	114.0	114.2	1.5	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Nonmanufactured articles.....		8.073	163.5	165.1	30.2	3.5	2.7	10.1	1.0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	5.766	184.5	189.5	32.0	3.8	3.6	13.5	2.7
Crop production.....	111	5.414	192.6	197.9	33.6	4.1	4.0	14.5	2.8
Mining.....	21	2.307	116.3	112.4	25.7	2.7	0.4	2.6	-3.4
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	1.858	137.2	130.3	39.4	2.4	1.3	1.8	-5.0
Manufactured articles.....		89.099	114.5	115.1	4.6	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.5
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.819	133.4	135.2	10.5	0.9	1.6	1.8	1.3
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.631	149.8	152.1	10.9	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.5
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.548	115.4	115.3	7.1	1.2	2.0	0.4	-0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.370	105.6	105.6	3.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	23.868	123.5	124.5	10.0	0.2	1.2	1.6	0.8
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.456	119.1	118.8	9.0	-0.5	-0.3	4.9	-0.3
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.997	123.4	122.1	8.6	1.0	-0.4	0.0	-1.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	3.856	133.8	139.8	23.5	-2.9	4.7	5.1	4.5
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.746	124.8	125.1	8.8	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.2
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.995	107.5	107.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.6	0.0
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.818	114.4	113.9	1.8	0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.4
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	58.411	109.3	109.7	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.4
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.186	157.2	160.3	16.2	1.5	2.5	3.4	2.0
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.678	121.8	122.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	12.274	115.4	115.3	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.895	91.5	91.7	-1.4	0.1	-0.4	0.4	0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.340	109.5	109.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	14.750	111.7	111.8	1.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.947	112.5	113.2	2.4	1.3	0.9	-0.1	0.6

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2009 to December 2010

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.165	152.1	156.0	18.1	1.5	1.8	1.1	2.6
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.254	183.0	186.2	16.7	0.3	0.3	-0.4	1.7
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.620	117.5	120.0	19.6	2.0	2.9	1.0	2.1
Vegetable products.....	II	1.603	186.5	190.3	17.5	0.1	2.5	2.1	2.0
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.389	307.8	325.1	13.2	-4.6	-1.2	-0.8	5.6
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.422	113.7	114.1	14.8	3.2	3.8	-2.2	0.4
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.362	218.1	218.6	30.7	4.5	-1.0	9.3	0.2
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.247	123.6	130.7	30.7	2.0	5.0	5.1	5.7
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.365	148.8	149.1	7.1	-0.2	1.5	2.4	0.2
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100).....	18	0.195	95.5	96.3	-3.7	-2.0	-1.0	2.2	0.8
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.285	138.0	132.2	17.6	-0.1	2.9	7.7	-4.2
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.315	145.5	147.8	16.7	0.1	6.5	5.5	1.6
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.899	120.4	120.5	1.5	-0.1	0.6	1.4	0.1
Mineral products.....	V	21.341	270.0	281.0	11.8	-1.5	4.0	4.0	4.1
Salt; sulfur; earths and stone; plaster materials, lime & cement (Dec. 2009=100).....	25	0.190	104.9	105.0	5.0	0.0	0.7	1.7	0.1
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	20.904	266.4	277.5	11.7	-1.5	4.1	4.1	4.2
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	8.264	141.9	142.7	5.5	0.6	0.2	1.4	0.6
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.097	322.5	323.7	29.6	4.1	7.7	4.8	0.4
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.725	134.9	136.1	4.9	-0.1	0.4	0.6	0.9
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.691	114.6	114.5	-1.5	0.0	-3.2	0.2	-0.1
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100).....	31	0.320	106.0	109.5	9.5	1.2	1.6	4.3	3.3
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.162	108.0	107.9	-1.0	0.0	0.2	0.9	-0.1
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.417	124.6	124.9	3.9	0.7	1.1	3.9	0.2
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.511	98.3	99.6	10.1	0.8	2.0	2.6	1.3
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	3.016	140.2	141.0	8.3	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.6
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.865	133.2	133.6	5.5	0.3	-0.2	0.8	0.3
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.151	153.5	155.2	13.0	0.7	1.5	1.3	1.1
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.582	115.1	115.1	1.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.527	115.2	115.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.822	125.8	126.7	8.7	-0.4	0.6	1.6	0.7
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.393	114.7	114.8	8.0	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.1
Pulp wood, waste paper, and paperboard (Dec. 2009=100).....	47	0.225	129.8	129.3	29.3	2.4	-1.8	1.3	-0.4
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.902	107.2	107.5	5.5	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.3
Printed matter.....	49	0.266	122.7	122.7	1.7	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2009 to December 2010 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.954	105.1	105.8	3.3	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.7
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.900	100.2	100.7	3.2	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.5
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.842	103.8	104.2	1.5	-0.1	0.5	0.4	0.4
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.544	97.9	100.2	9.0	0.5	0.5	1.5	2.3
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. . .	XII	1.206	108.7	108.8	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.027	107.9	108.0	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.878	126.1	126.6	1.7	0.2	1.3	0.2	0.4
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.310	118.6	119.9	2.0	0.3	0.7	-0.3	1.1
Ceramic products.....	69	0.269	138.3	138.3	-1.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.299	120.6	120.6	4.1	0.1	3.1	1.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.938	172.3	176.2	13.1	0.9	3.0	3.7	2.3
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	6.198	187.0	187.0	12.0	1.6	1.2	2.0	0.0
Iron and steel.....	72	1.365	228.9	228.9	16.3	0.0	-1.4	1.5	0.0
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.845	151.9	151.8	8.5	0.8	0.4	-0.5	-0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.755	372.5	380.1	20.0	5.6	5.7	5.8	2.0
Nickel and articles thereof (Dec. 2009=100)...	75	0.201	133.8	128.0	28.0	3.3	3.4	5.9	-4.3
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.862	144.3	144.1	14.5	1.8	2.4	3.9	-0.1
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.360	119.3	120.4	2.4	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.9
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.404	127.7	127.8	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	24.770	86.1	86.0	-1.4	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	12.620	88.6	88.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	12.150	83.6	83.4	-3.0	0.1	-0.8	0.0	-0.2
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	11.193	111.2	111.1	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	10.118	110.3	110.2	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.4	-0.1
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	0.980	113.8	113.8	-1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	3.197	101.2	101.3	-1.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.893	98.8	99.0	-1.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.226	123.7	123.4	-1.3	-0.2	0.5	0.5	-0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	3.800	107.2	107.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	1.932	110.0	110.5	-0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.662	101.3	101.4	0.5	0.0	0.5	-0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.206	124.5	125.0	6.9	0.9	1.3	0.4	0.4

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.764	178.1	179.2	16.7	1.7	2.2	-0.7	0.6
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.998	145.5	144.7	17.5	-0.6	2.1	-0.8	-0.5
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.330	162.0	173.2	25.7	2.6	3.4	0.0	6.9
Vegetable products.....	II	5.028	223.0	225.6	20.8	2.7	2.8	10.9	1.2
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.742	127.0	129.4	15.1	-1.3	4.2	3.5	1.9
Cereals.....	10	2.282	259.2	256.1	32.4	9.9	2.8	16.4	-1.2
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.544	241.2	251.0	19.8	-3.4	3.7	11.9	4.1
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.344	124.6	140.5	40.5	1.9	4.6	7.8	12.8
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.490	146.2	147.0	3.7	0.4	1.0	1.2	0.5
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100).....	20	0.330	103.3	104.6	4.6	-1.7	0.3	-0.8	1.3
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.398	119.0	119.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100).....	22	0.329	106.1	105.8	1.9	0.6	2.1	0.8	-0.3
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.647	216.3	218.7	10.2	1.2	2.4	6.3	1.1
Mineral products.....	V	6.227	272.6	278.0	23.8	-0.6	2.9	3.9	2.0
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	5.489	263.7	270.3	23.6	-1.0	3.1	4.1	2.5
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.921	147.7	148.1	7.6	0.6	0.3	1.0	0.3
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.078	191.6	192.2	13.2	0.1	2.0	0.9	0.3
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.979	153.1	153.7	6.1	0.1	-1.2	0.7	0.4
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.956	126.5	126.0	7.3	0.9	0.7	1.2	-0.4
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.553	122.4	118.2	3.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	-3.4
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.708	126.5	126.4	-0.4	0.5	0.5	1.0	-0.1
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.431	121.2	121.2	3.1	3.1	-2.4	1.0	0.0
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	2.034	143.3	143.1	6.9	-0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	4.987	139.5	140.2	4.5	0.4	0.1	0.8	0.5
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.045	133.1	133.8	4.4	0.5	0.2	0.9	0.5
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	0.942	168.4	168.7	4.8	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.370	122.1	123.0	15.5	-0.2	0.4	0.7	0.7
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.545	110.6	110.4	5.3	-0.4	-0.2	1.3	-0.2
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.559	123.8	123.6	11.9	1.2	0.7	0.7	-0.2
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.759	146.2	146.9	32.7	3.6	1.9	3.2	0.5
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.311	117.8	116.9	6.5	0.4	0.0	-0.4	-0.8
Printed material.....	49	0.490	117.2	117.2	0.8	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.329	137.4	143.5	31.4	3.0	3.8	9.7	4.4
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	1.019	204.3	224.5	96.4	7.8	10.6	24.9	9.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2009 to December 2010 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmo- nized system	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc. (Dec. 2008=100).....	XIII	0.767	116.1	115.7	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	-0.3
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.409	98.6	98.0	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.4	-0.6
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	5.339	232.0	238.2	20.9	2.8	4.0	3.5	2.7
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.818	165.3	167.9	9.2	1.5	0.5	0.5	1.6
Iron and steel.....	72	1.668	190.1	197.6	14.4	2.0	-1.8	-1.0	3.9
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.475	159.4	159.5	1.3	0.5	-0.3	0.4	0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.627	252.5	263.9	23.5	2.8	4.2	2.1	4.5
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.906	129.7	128.9	11.0	2.7	2.9	2.2	-0.6
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.403	125.5	125.5	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.303	124.2	124.9	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.4	0.6
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	29.212	95.6	95.7	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	17.193	107.1	106.9	0.8	-0.2	-0.1	0.7	-0.2
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	12.019	83.2	83.6	-0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.5
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	12.908	122.0	122.2	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.295	108.9	108.9	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Ships, boats and floating structures (Dec. 2009=100).....	89	0.287	101.7	101.7	1.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	5.782	107.0	106.8	-1.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.464	107.5	107.2	-0.5	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.732	118.5	118.3	0.6	0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.622	92.2	91.6	-1.8	0.1	-0.4	0.1	-0.7

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
				Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Industrialized Countries²	41.082	126.6	127.7	3.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.8	0.9
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.687	199.8	210.0	5.6	-2.7	0.9	5.2	5.1
Manufactured articles.....	34.943	120.6	121.0	2.6	-0.1	-0.2	1.3	0.3
Other Countries³	58.918	126.7	128.3	5.1	0.1	1.3	1.1	1.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	15.714	272.3	282.8	14.1	-0.7	4.7	2.4	3.9
Manufactured articles.....	43.010	106.3	106.8	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5
Canada	15.923	143.9	146.5	6.4	-0.3	0.6	2.3	1.8
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.257	192.7	202.7	5.3	-2.7	0.5	5.3	5.2
Manufactured articles.....	10.335	134.9	135.7	6.6	0.5	0.5	1.3	0.6
European Union⁴	16.799	129.0	128.9	1.2	0.2	-0.2	0.6	-0.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.211	251.9	259.0	3.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0	2.8
Manufactured articles.....	16.491	126.5	126.3	1.1	0.2	-0.2	0.6	-0.2
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.948	121.6	121.3	-2.3	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.2
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.572	112.7	112.4	-0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.3
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.566	126.9	127.8	2.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7
Latin America⁵	17.999	160.4	162.6	5.6	-0.1	1.7	1.4	1.4
Nonmanufactured articles.....	6.186	295.9	307.3	12.2	-0.7	4.1	2.0	3.9
Manufactured articles.....	11.730	131.7	131.8	1.9	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.1
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.275	138.8	139.6	3.0	0.2	1.3	0.8	0.6
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100).....	2.141	159.0	166.7	15.2	0.1	5.3	2.4	4.8
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)....	8.085	96.2	95.6	-0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.6
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	31.500	101.4	102.0	1.7	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.6
China (Dec. 2003=100)	16.449	101.1	101.4	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
Japan	6.678	99.5	99.8	2.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Asian NICs⁷	5.003	87.6	88.5	2.3	0.1	-1.0	-0.1	1.0
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	5.274	98.5	100.4	3.2	0.5	0.3	0.9	1.9
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	5.380	213.3	219.5	10.2	0.5	2.3	2.4	2.9

1 Percentage of trade figures are based on 2008 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: December 2009 to December 2010

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Nov. 2010 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Annual	Monthly			
				Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010	Aug. 2010 to Sept. 2010	Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010	Oct. 2010 to Nov. 2010	Nov. 2010 to Dec. 2010
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	169.7	169.2	3.2	0.2	1.0	3.0	-0.3
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	22.389	142.3	142.9	1.6	1.0	3.2	4.7	0.4
Asia.....	74.640	156.0	155.2	2.8	0.1	0.3	2.5	-0.5
Export Air Freight	100.000	127.2	127.9	4.1	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	37.759	115.2	117.2	3.4	-0.5	0.6	0.2	1.7
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	152.8	153.0	3.9	0.3	1.6	2.2	0.1
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	22.892	132.1	132.7	2.5	1.4	2.2	3.9	0.5
Asia.....	66.784	140.8	140.5	3.3	0.0	0.7	2.1	-0.2
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	124.7	125.9	9.9	0.9	1.3	0.2	1.0
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	41.187	144.3	147.3	11.8	-0.2	1.8	0.3	2.1
Asia.....	41.935	113.3	113.0	7.5	1.3	1.3	0.2	-0.3
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	166.4	169.9	11.6	-3.1	4.8	-1.3	2.1
Europe.....	42.540	181.3	170.7	9.4	-3.0	5.8	-3.2	-5.8
Asia.....	27.746	142.8	156.8	11.7	-6.4	3.9	-1.9	9.8
Latin America/Caribbean.....	13.527	156.7	171.1	16.7	-2.8	5.0	4.5	9.2
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	162.9	166.7	6.8	-8.6	-2.3	-3.2	2.3
Europe.....	30.500	185.2	187.3	-0.1	-6.8	-0.9	-13.6	1.1
Asia.....	32.861	159.3	156.5	22.9	-16.6	-6.1	3.9	-1.8
Latin America/Caribbean.....	22.346	172.0	187.0	8.9	-0.5	-1.5	3.8	8.7

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2008 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 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 included in the Import Air Passenger Fares Index and excluded from the Export Air Passenger Fares Index. The Air Freight Indexes are calculated from data collected directly from airlines. These data exclude mail and passenger baggage. The scope of the service being priced is the movement of freight from airport to airport only, and does not include any ground transportation or port service. The Air Freight Indexes are presented using two definitions: Balance of Payments (which represent transactions between U.S. and foreign residents) and International (which represent transactions inbound to and outbound from the U.S.). Fact sheets specifying detailed information for each services industry are available at <http://www.bls.gov/mxp> under "MXP Publications."

Import Indexes by Locality of Origin -- Prices used in these indexes are a subset of the data collected for the Import Price Indexes. Beginning with January 2002, the indexes are defined by locality of origin using a nomenclature based upon the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Nonmanufactured goods are defined as NAICS 11 and 21 and manufactured goods are defined as NAICS 31-33.

Revision Policy -- To reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents, monthly data may be revised in each of the three months after original publication. After three months, no further data revisions take place. So, for example, data released in the January release will be subject to revision in the releases for February, March, and April.

Uses of the Data -- The primary use of the indexes is to deflate trade statistics, notably the foreign trade sector of the National Income and Product Accounts constructed by the Department of Commerce. Other published indexes are useful for general market analysis. For trade in international services, Balance of Payments indexes are used for deflating National Income and Product Accounts, while International indexes are more appropriate for market analysis. Merchandise and services indexes also can be used to study U.S. competitiveness and to compute price elasticities, and the merchandise import indexes by country or region of origin are useful in terms of trade analysis.

E-Mail Subscription -- The U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes news release is available through an e-mail subscription service at (<http://www.bls.gov/bls/list.htm>).

Additional Information -- More detailed data are available on the Import/Export Price Indexes 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 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 Import/Export Price Index 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.