

NEWS RELEASE



Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 a.m. (EDT) Wednesday, March 13, 2013

USDL-13-0423

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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – FEBRUARY 2013

The price index for U.S. imports rose 1.1 percent in February, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, after increasing 0.6 percent the previous month. The February and January rises were both driven by higher fuel prices. U.S. export prices advanced 0.8 percent in February following a 0.3 percent increase in January.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: February 2012 – February 2013

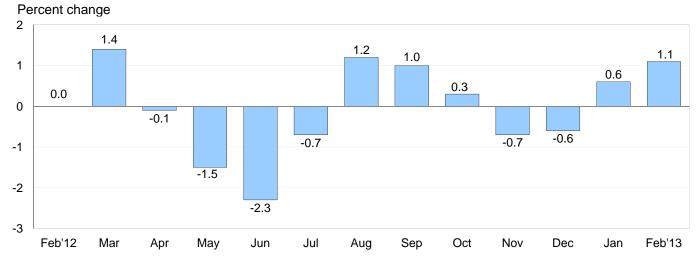
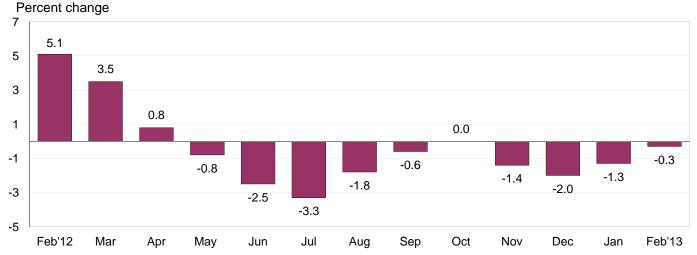


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: February 2012 – February 2013



All Imports: Import prices increased 1.1 percent in February, the largest monthly advance since a 1.2 percent rise in August 2012. The advance followed a 0.6 percent increase in January, after import prices fell the final quarter of 2012. Despite the February advance, import prices fell 0.3 percent over the past year, and have not recorded a year-over-year increase since April 2012.

Fuel Imports: The price index for import fuel rose 4.9 percent in February after advancing 2.6 percent in January. The February increase was the largest 1-month advance since a 6.1 percent rise in August 2012, and was driven by a 5.2 percent increase in petroleum prices. The increase in petroleum prices followed a 3.0 percent advance the previous month. In contrast, natural gas prices fell for the second consecutive month, declining 2.3 percent in February after a 6.0 percent drop the previous month. Despite the February increase, import fuel prices fell 0.6 percent over the past year, as a 1.4 percent decrease in petroleum prices more than offset a 29.7 percent advance in natural gas prices.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: Nonfuel import prices were unchanged in February following a 0.2 percent increase the previous month. In February, higher prices for foods, feeds, and beverages; consumer goods; and nonfuel industrial supplies and materials offset lower prices for import capital goods. The price index for nonfuel imports was also unchanged over the past 12 months, the third consecutive month the index has recorded no change on a 12-month basis.

Table A. Percent changes

		IMPORTS			EXPORTS	
Month	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non- agricultural exports
2012						
February	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.5	-0.4	0.6
March	1.4	4.4	0.4	0.8	2.4	0.5
April	-0.1	-0.9	0.2	0.4	2.0	0.2
May	-1.5	-5.6	-0.1	-0.5	0.5	-0.6
June	-2.3	-8.5	-0.3	-1.7	-3.5	-1.5
July	-0.7	-2.0	-0.4	0.4	6.0	-0.2
August	1.2	6.1	-0.2	0.9	4.8	0.4
September	1.0	3.9	0.2	0.8	1.3	0.7
October	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	-1.7	0.3
November	-0.7	-2.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.5	-0.7
December	-0.6 ^r	-2.2 ^r	-0.1	-0.1	0.1 ^r	-0.2
2013						
January	0.6	2.6 ^r	0.2	0.3	-1.2 ^r	0.5
February	1.1	4.9	0.0	0.8	2.0	0.6
Feb. 2011 to 2012	5.1	13.4	2.4	1.8	-5.7	2.8
Feb. 2012 to 2013	-0.3	-0.6	0.0	1.5	13.4	0.0

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: February 2012 – February 2013

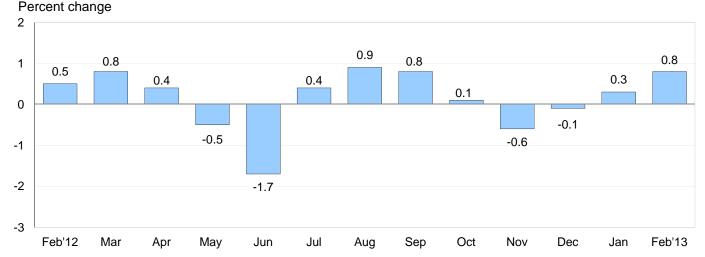
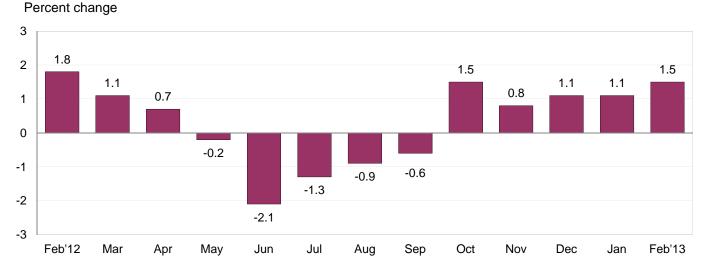


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: February 2012 – February 2013



All Exports: Export prices rose 0.8 percent in February, the largest monthly gain since a similar 0.8 percent advance in September 2012. Higher agricultural and nonagricultural prices each contributed to the February increase. The price index for overall exports rose 1.5 percent for the year ended in February, the largest 12-month increase since the index advanced a similar 1.5 percent between October 2011 and October 2012.

Agricultural Exports: Prices for agricultural exports increased 2.0 percent in February after a 1.2 percent decline the previous month. The February rise was led by a 3.8 percent advance in soybean prices and a 4.9 percent increase in corn prices. Higher soybean and corn prices, along with rising wheat prices, also contributed to a 13.4 percent increase in agricultural prices over the past 12 months. Soybean prices rose 23.5 percent for the year ended in February, while corn and wheat prices increased 15.1 percent and 16.6 percent, respectively.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: Nonagricultural prices advanced 0.6 percent in February following a 0.5 percent increase in January. The February rise was the largest advance since a 0.7 percent increase in September 2012. Rising nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices drove the increase in overall nonagricultural prices, although higher prices for capital goods and automotive vehicles also contributed to the increase. Prices for nonagricultural exports were unchanged over the past year.

SELECTED FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Imports by Locality of Origin: Import prices from China ticked up 0.1 percent in February, following a 0.2 percent decline the previous month. The upturn in February was the first increase since a 0.1 percent advance in February 2012, and was led by a 0.1 percent rise in computer and electronic equipment manufacturing prices. The price indexes for imports from Canada, Mexico, and the European Union rose in February, advancing 1.5 percent, 1.3 percent, and 0.7 percent, respectively. Higher fuel prices contributed to the increases. In contrast, prices for imports from Japan fell 0.4 percent in February, the largest monthly decline since the index fell 0.6 percent in September 2008.

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials rose 0.1 percent in February after a 0.4 percent increase in January. The February increase was led by higher prices for chemicals, selected building materials, unfinished metals, and paper, which more than offset a 0.9 percent decrease in finished metal prices.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices were mostly flat in February. Prices for capital goods edged down 0.1 percent, and have not recorded a monthly increase since a 0.2 percent advance in September 2012. In contrast, consumer goods prices ticked up 0.1 percent for the second consecutive month. The price index for automotive vehicles was unchanged in February.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: Foods, feeds, and beverages prices increased 0.6 percent in February after declining 0.1 percent in January. The advance was the first 1-month rise since a 1.4 percent increase in September 2012, and was led by a 2.6 percent rise in the import price index for fish and shellfish.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares decreased 1.2 percent in February following a 3.7 percent decline in January. The February drop was driven by a 6.4 percent decrease in Asian fares. Despite the recent declines, import air passenger fares advanced 2.3 percent for the year ended in February. The price index for import air freight fell 0.4 percent in February but rose 3.7 percent over the past 12 months.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices increased 1.4 percent in February, the largest monthly rise since a 1.8 percent advance in September 2012. The February rise followed a 0.6 percent advance the previous month, and was driven by a 4.1 percent increase in fuel prices.

Finished Goods: Capital goods prices rose 0.4 percent in February after a 0.7 percent increase the previous month. A 1.4 percent advance in semiconductor prices was the largest contributor to the February rise, and marked the largest 1-month increase since a similar 1.4 percent advance in December 2010. Prices for automotive vehicles also increased in February, advancing 0.2 percent. In contrast, consumer goods prices, down 0.2 percent, fell for the fourth consecutive month.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares fell 8.5 percent in February after rising 7.5 percent in January. A turnaround in Asian fares, down 18.0 percent, was the largest contributor to the February decline. Export air passenger fares decreased 1.7 percent over the past year. Export air freight prices fell 0.3 percent in February. Despite the February decline, the index increased 1.5 percent over the past 12 months.

Import and Export Price Index data for March 2013 are scheduled for release on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]			Inc	dex		Pe	rcent chan	ige	
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	End Use	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
All commodities		100.000 74.008	140.3 103.6	141.8 103.6	-0.3 0.1	-0.7 -0.1	-0.6 0.0		1.1 0.0
All imports excluding petroleum		79.883 78.914	116.6 120.6	116.6 120.6	0.3 0.0	0.0 -0.2	0.1 -0.1		0.0 0.0
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	4.906	169.0	170.0	-0.8	-1.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.6
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages	00	3.818	190.1	190.6	-0.8	-1.7	-0.2	-0.3	0.3
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages)	01	1.088	121.2	123.4	-0.7	0.7	-0.8	0.7	1.8
Industrial supplies & materials	1	34.673	253.6	261.2	-0.7	-1.6	-1.3		3.0
petroleum Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)		14.556 13.587	167.8 189.3	167.7 189.4	1.0 -0.3	0.6 -0.5	1.1 0.2		-0.1 0.1
Industrial supplies & materials, durable		8.081	178.3	178.4	-1.0	-0.5 -0.5	-0.3		0.1
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum		5.506	155.2	154.8	3.3	1.9	3.0	-0.8	-0.3
Fuels & lubricants	10	21.086	336.7	353.2	-0.6	-2.2	-2.2	2.6	4.9
Petroleum & petroleum products	100	20.117	373.9	393.5	-1.4	-2.9	-2.9	3.0	5.2
Crude	10000	15.360	386.4	409.2	-1.7	-2.7	-2.5		5.9
Fuels, n.e.scoals & gas	101	0.757	126.4	123.6	26.5	19.5	14.7		-2.2
Gas-natural	10110	0.627	112.2	109.6	29.7	23.4	16.6		-2.3
Paper & paper base stocks	11	0.553	111.9	113.1	0.6	-0.1	-0.6	0.4	1.1
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials	12	5.032	176.4	176.3	0.3	-0.6	1.2	0.2	-0.1
Selected building materials	13	1.039	147.6	148.9	12.8	-0.1	1.5	2.8	0.9
Unfinished metals related to durable goods	14	3.819	264.2	264.8	-3.9	-0.9	-0.7	0.1	0.2
Finished metals related to durable goods	15	1.611	162.1	160.7	-2.1	-0.5	-0.8	0.2	-0.9
Nonmetals related to durable goods	16	1.533	114.5	114.4	-0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Capital goods	2	24.039	93.2	93.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Electric generating equipment	20	2.992	119.7	119.8	0.9	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Nonelectrical machinery	21	19.202	86.0	85.9	-0.8	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100)	22	1.845	135.1	135.0	2.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	12.222	115.0	115.0	1.4	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives	4	24.160	107.7	107.8	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Nondurables, manufactured	40	11.711	115.5	115.9	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3
Durables, manufactured	41	11.146	99.7	99.5	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Nonmanufactured consumer goods	42	1.303	115.3	115.7	-3.4	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.3

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
		Relative importance			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	End Use	Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013 0.3 -1.2 0.4 0.5 -1.5 -1.7 2.0 0.7 -0.6 1.4 2.1 0.6 1.0 0.4 0.8 0.7 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.3 -0.2 0.1	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
All commodities		100.000	134.0	135.1	1.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.3	0.8
Agricultural commodities		10.534	224.6	229.0	13.4	0.5	0.1	-1.2	2.0
All exports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100)		80.967	103.1	103.4	0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3
Nonagricultural commodities		89.467	127.5	128.3	0.0	-0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.6
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	9.838	225.9	229.7	14.6	0.7	-0.2	-1.5	1.7
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages	00	9.146	229.8	234.1	15.5	0.8	-0.1	-1.7	1.9
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages)	01	0.692	191.9	190.2	1.8	-1.9	-1.6	2.0	-0.9
	1	34.239	181.8	184.4	-0.9	-1.9	-0.3		1.4
Industrial supplies & materials, durable		12.334	184.9	185.6	-1.8	-0.8	0.3	-0.6	0.4
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable		21.905	180.8	184.6	-0.4	-2.5	-0.7	1.4	2.1
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials	10	1.388	200.3	205.9	1.9	-1.8	1.3	2.1	2.8
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials		32.851	181.3	183.8	-1.0	-1.9	-0.3	0.6	1.4
Fuels & lubricants	11	9.196	256.2	266.8	-2.5	-5.5	-1.2	1.0	4.1
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials	12	22.664	173.1	173.6	-0.8	-0.6	-0.1	0.4	0.3
Selected building materials	13	0.991	118.8	120.5	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.4
Capital goods	2	35.118	106.4	106.8	1.0	0.2	-0.1	0.7	0.4
Electrical generating equipment	20	3.472	114.9	115.4	2.4	0.0	-0.1	0.5	0.4
Nonelectrical machinery	21	25.574	95.5	95.8	0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.6	0.3
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100)	22	6.072	150.1	151.3	2.1	-0.1	0.0	0.7	0.8
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	8.864	113.2	113.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2
Consumer goods, excluding automotives	4	11.942	116.2	116.0	-0.6	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2
Nondurables, manufactured	40	5.465	115.7	115.6	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Durables, manufactured	41	5.111	113.2	112.6	-1.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise no			Index Percent change						
			Inc	lex		Pe	rcent chan		
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	NAICS	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013 2.3 -0.8 -2.4 5.9 2.7 -3.2 -0.1 0.1 1.3 -0.3 -0.5 0.2 0.8 4.1 -0.9 2.1 0.6 -0.5 0.3 0.1 0.3 -0.2 0.2 -0.1 0.1 0.3 -0.2 0.2 -0.1 0.3 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.2 0.0	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Nonmanufactured articles		18.323	165.8	174.3	-0.6	-1.8	-1.8	2.3	5.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	11	1.727	164.1	167.6	-0.1	-4.9	-0.4	-0.8	2.1
Crop production	111	1.197	166.7	170.7	-0.8	-6.5	-0.2	-2.4	2.4
Forestry and logging (Dec. 2012=100)	113	0.205	105.9	106.9	_	-	_	5.9	0.9
Mining	21	16.596	165.6	174.7	-0.6	-1.5	-1.9	2.7	5.5
2006=100)	212	0.324	134.8	134.7	-6.7	-0.9	0.3	-3.2	-0.1
Manufactured articles		81.222	117.5	117.7	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.2	0.2
Manufactured goods, part 1	31	10.462	123.6	123.5	-1.3	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Food manufacturing	311	2.860	155.0	153.6	-3.8	0.0	8.0	0.1	-0.9
Beverage and tobacco product	312	0.871	113.4	113.5	1.4	0.4	-0.3	1.2	0.1
manufacturing Textile mills (Dec. 2011=100)	313	0.871	102.0	102.1	0.8	-0.1	-0.3 -0.1		0.1
Textile product mills	314	0.389	115.6	116.1	-1.4	0.1	0.1		0.1
Apparel manufacturing	315	3.910	110.3	110.1	-1.4	0.1	-0.1		0.4
Leather and allied product manufacturing	316	1.647	121.2	121.2	1.6	0.0	0.1		0.2
Manufactured goods, part 2	32	17.916	138.2	139.6	1.5	-1.3	-0.9		1.0
Wood product manufacturing	321	0.629	128.5	129.8	19.2	0.4	2.5		1.0
Paper manufacturing	322	1.016	109.1	110.3	0.0	0.2	-0.5	-0.9	1.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324	4.240	164.0	168.5	-0.7	-4.9	-3.9	2.1	2.7
Chemical manufacturing	325	9.171	135.8	136.4	2.2	-0.1	0.1	0.6	0.4
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	1.944	126.9	126.9	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.0
Nonmetallic mineral product	327	0.833	129.5	129.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.4
manufacturing									
Manufactured goods, part 3	33	52.844	109.9	109.8	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1		-0.1
Primary metal manufacturing	331	4.468	173.6	173.2	-4.3	-1.1	-1.0		-0.2
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	2.679	129.9	129.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.3		0.0
Machinery manufacturing	333	6.625	122.3	122.0	1.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	16.063	81.7	81.5	-1.8	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing	335	4.008	119.8	120.0	1.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Transportation equipment manufacturing	336	12.950	112.6	112.6	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Furniture and related product manufacturing	337	1.244	114.0	113.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	4.806	120.6	120.5	-1.5	0.0	-0.5		-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
		Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	NAICS	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Nonmanufactured articles		7.897	172.5	176.3	7.7	0.1	-0.2	-1.7	2.2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	11	5.789	212.8	218.4	15.1	-0.1	-0.2	-2.0	2.6
Crop production	111	5.554	222.0	227.5	15.7	0.2	-0.1	-2.0	2.5
Mining	21	2.108	93.5	94.6	-12.8	1.2	0.2	-1.2	1.2
Mining (except oil and gas)	212	1.442	107.9	109.4	-20.1	-3.6	1.4	-1.1	1.4
Manufactured articles		89.538	121.2	122.0	0.9	-0.7	-0.2	0.4	0.7
Manufactured goods, part 1	31	7.030	152.6	152.7	6.3	0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.1
Food manufacturing	311	4.950	175.3	175.5	7.3	0.6	-0.3	0.1	0.1
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	312	0.568	127.6	129.7	12.0	-1.4	0.2	1.1	1.6
Manufactured goods, part 2	32	26.307	133.4	135.6	0.6	-2.1	-0.6	1.0	1.6
Wood product manufacturing	321	0.403	113.6	116.1	1.2	0.4	-0.4	0.3	2.2
Paper manufacturing	322	1.788	120.2	120.3	1.3	-0.5	-0.1	1.1	0.1
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	324	6.904	163.8	172.1	0.6	-7.7	-1.4	1.4	5.1
Chemical manufacturing	325	14.227	131.6	132.2	-0.1	-0.5	-0.5	0.8	0.5
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	326	2.212	120.0	120.7	3.3	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.6
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	327	0.773	110.2	110.3	-0.8	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	0.1
Manufactured goods, part 3	33	56.201	113.5	113.7	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.2
Primary metal manufacturing	331	5.215	170.3	169.6	-3.3	-1.1	-0.5	-1.3	-0.4
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	332	2.747	131.9	132.2	3.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.2
Machinery manufacturing	333	11.542	121.9	122.1	1.8	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	334	14.166	89.2	89.4	-1.2	0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing	335	3.284	113.7	114.0	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing	336	13.979	117.2	117.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.5
Furniture and related product manufacturing (Dec. 2011=100)	337	0.311	105.1	105.4	3.8	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	4.956	122.8	122.8	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	0.9	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]			Ind	dex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013 1.2 1.4 1.9 -1.3 -10.3 -10.3 -2.5 1.6 2.6 2.7 0.4 -1.5 1.0 0.9 -1.5 0.8 0.0 0.5 1.0 -0.1 0.2 0.2 4.3 -0.8 0.9 -1.4 -0.6	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Live animals; animal products	ı	1.056	165.0	168.2	0.0	1.5	-0.7	1.2	1.9
Meat and edible meat offal	02	0.252	220.2	222.3	2.0	0.4	-0.6	1.4	1.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	03	0.553	115.2	119.1	-2.6	1.6	-1.3	1.9	3.4
Vegetable products	II	1.576	203.3	207.1	0.7	-4.3	1.9	-1.3	1.9
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers	07	0.321	313.9	337.2	35.5	-2.6	-0.2	-10.3	7.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	08	0.410	111.2	116.4	-2.3	-3.0	-0.6	22	4.7
Coffee, tea, mate and spices	09	0.368	239.2	233.6	-19.9	-11.4	-0.3		-2.3
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100)	 III	0.254	119.3	121.2	-8.1	-2.0	-2.5	0.8	1.6
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and	'''	0.204	110.0	121.2	0.1	2.0	2.0	0.0	1.0
tobacco	IV	2.392	157.6	155.8	-1.5	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.1
Sugars and sugar confectionary (Dec. 2012=100)	17	0.212	100.9	100.7	_	_	_	0.9	-0.2
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100)	18	0.203	90.8	80.8	-7.0	1.6	3.9	-1.0	-11.0
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100)	19	0.235	129.6	130.2	3.5	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.5
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants	20	0.309	162.1	159.2	-9.7	0.2	-1.4	-2.5	-1.8
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar	22	0.860	124.4	124.4	1.5	0.3	-0.2		0.0
Mineral products	V	21.007	338.9	355.5	-0.4	-2.4	-2.1	2.6	4.9
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes	27	20.722	335.6	352.3	-0.3	-2.5	-2.1		5.0
Products of the chemical or allied									
industries	VI	8.661	151.8	152.0	2.9	0.3	-0.3	0.4	0.1
Inorganic chemicals	28	0.853	380.6	376.9	5.9	-0.1	-1.5	-1.5	-1.0
Organic chemicals	29	2.707	141.2	141.2	2.5	1.0	-0.2	1.0	0.0
Pharmaceutical products	30	3.272	120.9	121.6	5.6	0.1	0.1		0.6
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100)	31	0.405	128.7	127.6	-8.9	-2.0	-0.5	-1.5	-0.9
Tanning extracts; dye, pigments, varnish, paints & putty (Dec. 2011=100)	32	0.163	93.8	94.0	-8.4	0.0	-0.1	0.8	0.2
Miscellaneous chemical products	38	0.484	102.6	102.6	-0.8	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and									
articles thereof	VII	3.215	153.3	153.4	0.7	-0.5	8.0		0.1
Plastics and articles thereof	39	1.951	147.7	148.0	3.4	-0.3	1.6		0.2
Rubber and articles thereof	40	1.264	164.4	164.3	-3.4	-1.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc	VIII	0.597	126.4	126.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.0
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials	42	0.551	127.2	127.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork	IX	0.665	155.9	158.1	20.0	0.1	2.3	4.3	1.4
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products	X	1.112	112.2	113.4	0.2	0.0	-0.3	-0.8	1.1
Pulp wood, waste paper, and paperboard (Dec. 2011=100)	47	0.170	98.4	101.1	5.2	-0.8	-0.3		2.7
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard	48	0.743	106.6	107.6	-1.3	0.2	-0.5	-1.4	0.9
Textile and textile articles	ΧI	4.924	113.8	114.2	-1.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.6	0.4
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	61	1.942	104.0	104.0	-2.6	0.2	0.0	-0.8	0.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013 — Continued [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	dex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories,	00	4 700	4400	1100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.5
not knitted or crocheted	62 63	1.799	116.3 108.1	116.9 108.8	-0.9	0.0 0.2	-0.3 -0.1	-0.7	0.5 0.6
Made-up or worn textile articles		0.546			-2.9			-0.5	
Headgear, umbrellas, artifical flowers, etc	XII	1.353	120.8	120.9	2.2	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1
Footwear and parts of such articles	64	1.139	120.0	120.1	2.4	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc	XIII	0.764	132.3	131.9	0.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	-0.3
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100)	68	0.245	124.8	124.9	0.4	0.3	-0.6	0.2	0.1
Ceramic products	69	0.239	140.6	140.6	-0.4	-1.0	0.1	-0.3	0.0
Glass and glassware	70	0.280	129.3	128.2	1.6	0.1	-0.2	1.8	-0.9
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins	XIV	3.356	204.2	203.0	-1.5	-0.7	-0.6	-0.8	-0.6
Base metals and articles of base metals	XV	5.038	184.9	185.1	-3.4	-0.5	-0.5	0.8	0.1
Iron and steel	72	1.127	216.8	217.9	-11.2	0.2	-1.1	-0.8	0.5
Articles of iron or steel	73	1.486	157.1	156.1	-3.2	-0.4	-0.6	0.0	-0.6
Copper and articles thereof	74	0.497	364.6	367.8	-0.7	-3.2	0.3	2.7	0.9
Nickel and articles thereof (Dec. 2009=100)	75	0.149	102.4	102.6	-7.7	2.5	-6.5	5.2	0.2
Aluminum and articles thereof	76	0.679	140.2	140.3	-0.5	-1.0	0.5	2.0	0.1
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof	82	0.382	129.7	129.7	2.0	0.2	-0.1	1.3	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	83	0.428	136.4	136.5	2.7	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc	XVI	26.508	85.8	85.6	-0.7	-0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	84	13.674	90.1	90.0	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts	85	12.834	81.6	81.5	-1.5	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	XVII	10.701	116.7	116.7	1.8	0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.0
Motor vehicles and their parts	87	9.773	115.6	115.6	1.6	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.0
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100)	88	0.860	119.4	119.4	2.8	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.0
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces	XVIII	3.313	103.5	103.4	-0.7	-0.1	-0.9	-0.3	-0.1
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical		0.004	100.0	100.0	1	0.1	4.0	0.4	0.0
instruments Clocks and watches and parts thereof	90	3.001	100.2	100.2	-1.5	-0.1	-1.0	-0.4 0.7	0.0
		0.253	142.1	142.2	11.1	0.1	0.1		0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	XX	3.449	113.2	113.1	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.1
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs	94	1.925	117.0	116.9	1.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof	95	1.329	105.3	105.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	96	0.196	140.1	139.2	4.5	-0.1	-0.2	3.4	-0.6

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]			Inc	dex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Live animals; animal products	l _i	2.061	218.8	222.0	8.3	1.9	1.8	-2.4	1.5
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100)	02	1.170	167.4	167.6	-1.0	-0.4	-0.1	-0.7	0.1
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	03	0.408	206.0	205.5	1.2	-2.3	-2.4	1.3	-0.2
Vegetable products	II	5.424	274.4	278.2	18.9	0.6	-0.1	-1.4	1.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	08	1.014	159.5	162.2	25.8	4.0	3.9	2.5	1.7
Cereals	10	2.095	309.8	322.6	15.5	0.6	0.5	-7.9	4.1
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder	12	1.679	287.6	296.3	21.1	-0.5	-2.4	-2.7	3.0
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100)	Ш	0.299	132.0	136.6	-6.1	-6.7	-1.6	0.2	3.5
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages,and tobacco	IV	2.981	166.8	168.4	12.0	0.4	-1.2	0.4	1.0
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100)	20	0.342	112.0	112.0	1.8	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.0
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100)	22	0.627	112.8	113.8	6.8	-0.1	-0.4	2.4	0.9
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed	23	0.783	271.2	274.2	32.2	1.0	-3.3	-2.6	1.1
Mineral products	V	9.127	299.7	311.5	-3.4	-5.8	-1.1	0.9	3.9
Ores, slag and ash (Dec. 2012=100)	26	0.475	98.2	100.5	_	_	_	-1.8	2.3
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes	27	8.470	296.0	308.3	-3.1	-6.0	-1.4	1.1	4.2
Products of the chemical or allied	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	44.400	455.4	155.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
industries Inorganic chemicals	VI 28	11.488 1.015	155.1 184.4	155.0 183.4	-0.1 -1.2	-0.3 0.7	-0.3 -0.6	0.5 0.1	-0.1 -0.5
Organic chemicals	29	3.261	167.5	168.6	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	0.8	0.7
Pharmaceutical products	30	2.718	125.5	125.2	0.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	-0.2
Fertilizers (Dec. 2012=100)	31	0.384	97.8	94.4	_	_	_	-2.2	-3.5
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations	33	0.711	137.2	137.1	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.5	-0.1
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes	34	0.451	121.3	121.3	-1.4	-0.1	-0.1	-1.2	0.0
Miscellaneous chemical products	38	1.739	153.5	153.8	0.9	-1.1	-0.4	1.2	0.2
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and									
articles thereof	VII	5.215	148.8	151.2	1.0	-0.4	-0.5	0.9	1.6
Plastics and articles thereof	39 40	4.163 1.052	140.5 187.9	143.0 189.1	1.6 -1.3	-0.4 -0.2	-0.5 -0.4	1.2 0.1	1.8 0.6
	40	1.052	107.9	103.1	-1.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.0
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc	VIII	0.388	141.3	143.1	13.6	1.5	1.2	3.4	1.3
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork	IX	0.563	110.1	111.6	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.4
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products	x	2.224	120.4	119.9	1.9	0.9	0.1	2.6	-0.4
Woodpulp and recovered paper	47	0.615	128.5	123.4	-1.5	2.9	1.0	8.0	-4.0
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard	48	1.179	118.2	118.8	1.5	0.0	-0.3	1.0	0.5
Printed material	49	0.430	126.2	128.8	7.8	0.1	0.2	0.3	2.1
Textile and textile articles Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics	ΧI	1.776	127.7	129.8	-2.5	-0.1	0.6	1.4	1.6
thereof	52	0.506	135.9	145.4	-12.9	-0.5	1.9	2.9	7.0
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc	XIII	0.752	117.8	117.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.1
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See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: February 2012 to February 2013 — Continued [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

			Inc	lex		Pe	rcent chan	ge	
	Harmo-	Relative			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	nized system	importance Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Glass and glassware	70	0.385	97.2	97.2	-1.4	0.0	-0.1	-1.5	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins	XIV	5.299	282.6	282.3	-1.7	-1.5	-0.1	-1.2	-0.1
Base metals and articles of base metals	XV	5.408	170.7	171.6	-4.1	-0.2	0.5	-0.8	0.5
Iron and steel	72	1.549	198.7	199.3	-12.4	2.1	1.1	-1.5	0.3
Articles of iron or steel	73	1.305	168.5	169.1	-1.3	-0.6	-0.6	-1.5	0.4
Copper and articles thereof	74	0.639	254.8	260.2	-0.5	-4.3	2.6	0.4	2.1
Aluminum and articles thereof	76	0.861	126.8	126.8	-1.4	-1.0	0.2	0.6	0.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof	82	0.398	131.7	131.7	1.9	0.0	0.0	-1.1	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal	83	0.320	145.6	146.7	7.3	0.0	-0.3	0.0	8.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc	XVI	27.770	97.3	97.6	0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.5	0.3
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	84	16.565	111.1	111.5	1.1	0.2	-0.2	0.5	0.4
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof	85	11.205	82.3	82.7	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.5
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	XVII	11.868	127.5	127.8	1.4	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts	87	8.052	113.4	113.6	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.2
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces	XVIII	5.870	107.4	107.4	2.0	0.3	-0.1	0.9	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	XX	1.335	111.0	110.8	1.7	0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;	94	0.719	121.4	121.0	1.3	0.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.3
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof	95	0.509	90.9	90.9	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

Table 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: February 2012 to February 2013 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

	Relative	Ind	dex		Р	ercent chang	ge	
5	importance			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	Jan. 2013¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Industrialized Countries ²	100.000	132.2	133.4	0.9	0.1	-0.7	0.8	0.9
Nonmanufactured articles	11.271	221.7	233.0	-2.3	0.3	-6.4	3.0	5.1
Manufactured articles	88.140	124.9	125.4	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.4
Other Countries ³	100.000	139.3	141.3	-0.9	-0.9	-0.2	0.4	1.4
Nonmanufactured articles	22.612	350.6	368.6	-0.4	-2.9	-0.3	2.2	5.1
Manufactured articles	77.043	110.4	110.9	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	0.5
Canada	100.000	151.5	153.7	-0.6	0.3	-1.8	1.3	1.5
Nonmanufactured articles	28.281	211.2	222.4	-1.9	0.7	-6.4	3.3	5.3
Manufactured articles	70.659	139.6	139.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.5	-0.1
European Union ⁴	100.000	136.0	137.0	1.5	0.0	-1.0	1.6	0.7
Nonmanufactured articles	1.105	384.8	397.7	1.4	-2.9	-0.1	4.0	3.4
Manufactured articles	98.417	132.2	133.1	1.4	0.0	-1.1	1.6	0.7
France (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	121.1	121.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.6	0.0
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	115.3	116.2	1.8	0.2	-0.3	0.7	0.8
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	133.2	133.8	-0.7	-0.6	-1.3	0.5	0.5
Latin America ⁵	100.000	175.4	179.1	-1.8	-2.4	0.3	0.8	2.1
Nonmanufactured articles	31.687	369.7	388.4	-3.2	-4.9	0.3	2.6	5.1
Manufactured articles	67.888	133.1	134.1	-0.5	-0.9	0.3	0.0	8.0
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	143.4	145.3	-1.7	-1.7	-0.1	0.6	1.3
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)	18.633	195.7	207.0	-3.4	-5.8	-0.7	2.8	5.8
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)	81.367	94.2	94.5	-1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.3
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100) ⁶	100.000	104.1	104.1	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0
China (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	104.3	104.4	-1.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.1
Japan	100.000	102.8	102.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.4
Asian NICs ⁷	100.000	89.9	89.8	-0.9	-1.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100) ⁸	100.000	104.3	104.4	-1.2	-0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100) ⁹	100.000	272.2	283.6	1.6	-0.9	-0.5	0.6	4.2

¹ Relative figures are based on 2011 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.

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: February 2012 to February 2013
[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

	Dalatina	Ind	dex		P	ercent chan	ge	
	Relative importance			Annual		Mor	nthly	
Description	Jan. 2013 ¹	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	Feb. 2012 to Feb. 2013	Oct. 2012 to Nov. 2012	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	176.2	175.5	3.7	0.6	-0.7	0.2	-0.4
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	21.602	165.3	167.6	3.6	1.8	-2.7	1.9	1.4
Asia	74.112	156.3	154.8	4.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-1.0
Export Air Freight	100.000	149.3	148.9	1.5	-0.3	-0.7	1.6	-0.3
Europe (Dec. 2006=100)	35.551	133.0	133.0	0.6	-0.4	-0.3	2.6	0.0
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	165.7	164.5	5.8	1.8	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	21.923	151.4	152.1	4.5	1.3	-1.7	1.5	0.5
Asia	67.663	151.0	149.2	7.6	2.3	-0.1	-2.1	-1.2
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	147.7	147.8	2.2	1.3	-0.8	-0.2	0.1
Europe (Dec. 2003=100)	27.844	161.6	161.6	-1.1	0.3	-0.6	-0.1	0.0
Asia	52.396	141.1	141.3	4.4	2.3	-1.0	-0.4	0.1
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	187.0	184.7	2.3	-0.9	6.8	-3.7	-1.2
Europe	43.326	210.8	215.9	16.6	2.4	2.1	1.7	2.4
Asia	26.415	158.1	148.0	-6.3	-3.0	16.1	-7.7	-6.4
Latin America/Caribbean	9.059	163.5	163.7	-7.8	6.3	9.4	-11.7	0.1
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	200.4	183.4	-1.7	-2.2	1.9	7.5	-8.5
Europe	25.743	216.8	218.5	-0.3	0.6	-0.1	0.2	0.8
Asia	32.698	198.2	162.6	0.4	-4.1	8.7	10.0	-18.0
Latin America/Caribbean	22.280	212.4	191.6	-19.7	0.4	-7.5	6.6	-9.8

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

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 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.

<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 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."

<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.

<u>Revision Policy</u> -- 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.

<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 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).

<u>Additional Information</u> -- 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.