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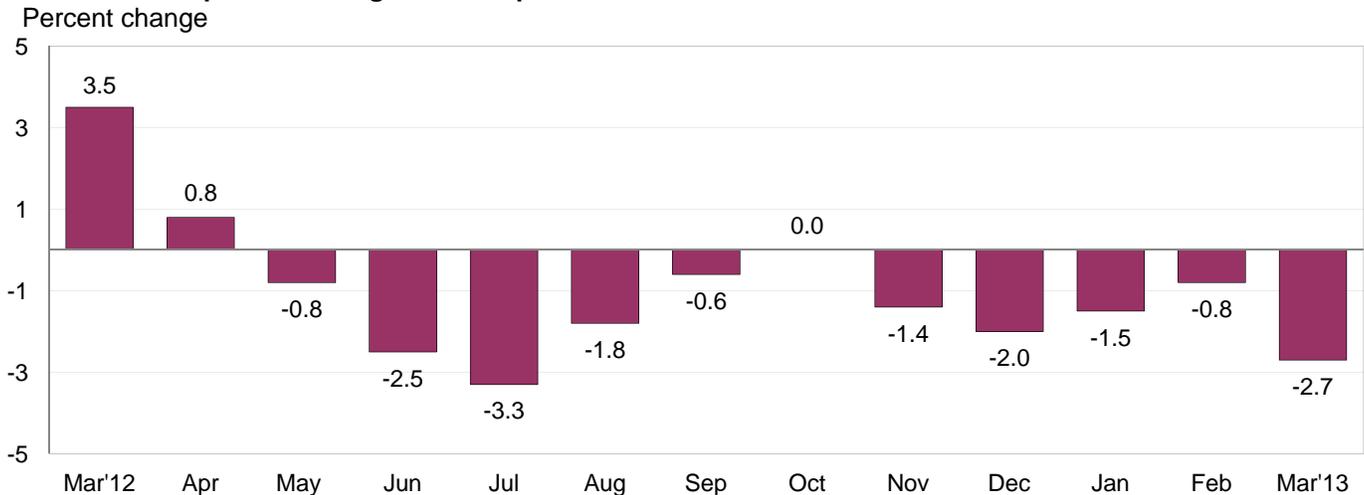
U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – MARCH 2013

The price index for U.S. imports declined 0.5 percent in March, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, following increases of 0.6 percent in February and 0.5 percent in January. The March decrease was primarily led by a downturn in fuel prices. U.S. export prices fell 0.4 percent in March after rising 0.7 percent in February.

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



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



All Imports: Import prices fell 0.5 percent in March, the first monthly decline since a 0.6 percent decrease in December 2012. Falling fuel prices were the main contributor to the March drop. The price index for imports decreased 2.7 percent for the 12 months ended in March, the largest year-over-year decline since a 3.3 percent drop between July 2011 and July 2012. Import prices have not risen on a 12-month basis since April 2012.

Fuel Imports: The price index for import fuel decreased 1.9 percent in March following a 2.8 percent increase in February and a 1.8 percent advance in January. The March downturn was driven mostly by a 1.9 percent drop in petroleum prices. Natural gas prices also fell in March, decreasing 1.5 percent. Overall fuel prices declined 9.1 percent for the March 2012-13 period, led by a 10.4 percent drop in petroleum prices, which more than offset a 47.1 percent rise in natural gas prices.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: Prices for nonfuel imports declined 0.2 percent in March after ticking up 0.1 percent in February and advancing 0.2 percent in January. Lower prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials, consumer goods, automotive vehicles, and capital goods all contributed to the March decrease in nonfuel import prices. Prices for nonfuel imports fell 0.5 percent over the past 12 months.

Table A. Percent changes

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2012						
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	-2.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2
2013						
January.....	0.5 ^r	1.8 ^r	0.2	0.4 ^r	-1.2	0.5
February.....	0.6 ^r	2.8 ^r	0.1 ^r	0.7 ^r	2.1 ^r	0.6
March.....	-0.5	-1.9	-0.2	-0.4	-1.8	-0.2
Mar. 2011 to 2012.....	3.5	7.9	2.0	1.1	-5.4	1.9
Mar. 2012 to 2013.....	-2.7	-9.1	-0.5	0.3	8.8	-0.7

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

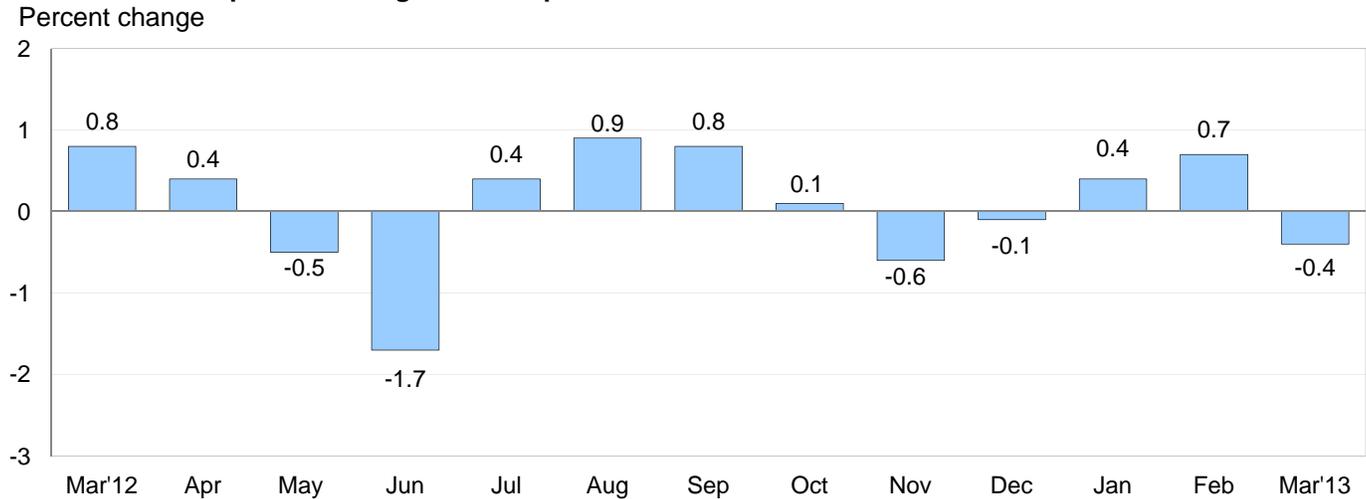
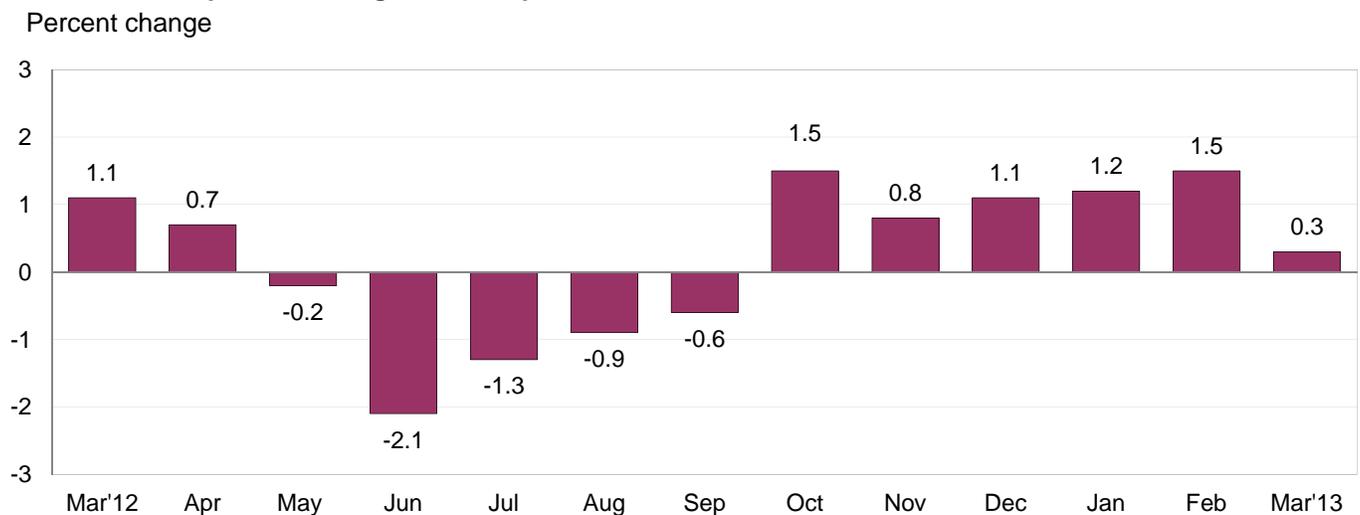


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: March 2012 – March 2013



All Exports: Export prices decreased 0.4 percent in March after rising 0.7 percent in February and 0.4 percent in January. Lower prices for agricultural and nonagricultural exports each contributed to the March downturn in overall export prices. Led by higher agricultural prices, prices for exports increased 0.3 percent for the March 2012-13 period, the smallest year-over-year advance since September 2012.

Agricultural Exports: Prices for agricultural exports fell 1.8 percent in March after advancing 2.1 percent in February. The decline in March was driven by a 7.1 percent decrease in fruit prices and a 5.1 percent drop in wheat prices. Notwithstanding the March decline, agricultural prices rose 8.8 percent over the past year, led by higher prices for soybeans, nuts, corn, vegetables, and wheat.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: The price index for nonagricultural exports fell 0.2 percent in March after increasing 0.6 percent and 0.5 percent the previous two months. In March, falling nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices and consumer goods prices led the overall decline. Overall nonagricultural prices decreased 0.7 percent for the year ended in March.

SELECTED MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Imports by Locality of Origin: Prices for imports from China fell 0.2 percent in March, after recording no change the previous month. Import prices from China fell 1.1 percent over the past 12 months, and have not increased on a monthly basis since February 2012. The March 12-month drop was the largest year-over-year decline since a 1.3 percent decrease between February 2009 and February 2010. The price index for imports from Japan also fell 0.2 percent in March following a 0.4 percent drop the previous month. Prices for imports from the European Union decreased 0.7 percent in March, while declining fuel prices drove import prices from Mexico and Canada down, 0.4 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonfuel industrial supplies and materials prices fell 0.4 percent, the first monthly decline since a 0.5 percent decrease in November 2012. The price index also fell on a year-over-year basis, declining 2.1 percent.

Finished Goods: Each of the major finished goods categories recorded decreases in March. Consumer goods prices fell 0.2 percent, led by a 0.8 percent drop in the price index for medicinal, dental, and pharmaceutical materials. Prices for import automotive vehicles declined 0.3 percent in March, driven by a 0.5 percent drop in passenger car prices. Capital goods prices also fell in March, edging down 0.1 percent.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: Prices for import foods, feeds, and beverages rose 1.3 percent in March following a 1.2 percent rise the previous month. The March advance was led by a 7.7 percent increase in vegetable prices and a 3.8 percent rise in fish and shellfish prices.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares fell for the third consecutive month, declining 1.6 percent in March. A 4.4 percent drop in European fares led the March decrease, after lower Asian fares had been the primary factor for the decreases in February and January. Despite the recent declines, import air passenger fares rose 1.7 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for import air freight fell 0.6 percent in March, while advancing 0.4 percent over the past year.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices fell 0.5 percent after a 1.3 percent increase in February. The March decline was driven by a downturn in fuel oil prices which fell 5.0 percent after rising 6.0 percent the previous month. A 2.6 percent drop in nonferrous metal prices also contributed to the decline.

Finished Goods: Consumer goods prices fell 0.2 percent in March following a 0.3 percent decline the previous month. Prices for consumer goods fell 0.9 percent over the past year, the largest 12-month decline since the index was first published in September 1983. The price indexes for capital goods and automotive vehicles were each unchanged in March after rising 0.4 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively, the previous month.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares increased 0.5 percent in March following an 8.2 percent decline in February. Higher Latin American/Caribbean fares and European fares more than offset declining Asian fares. Export air passenger fares edged down 0.1 percent for the year ended in March. Export air freight prices rose 0.3 percent in March and over the past 12 months.

Import and Export Price Index data for April 2013 are scheduled for release on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
All commodities.....		100.000	141.0	140.3	-2.7	-0.6	0.5	0.6	-0.5
All imports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100).....		73.645	103.6	103.4	-0.4	-0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.2
All imports excluding petroleum.....		79.531	116.6	116.5	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)..		78.581	120.7	120.5	-0.5	-0.1	0.2	0.1	-0.2
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	4.936	170.9	173.1	-0.7	-0.3	-0.2	1.2	1.3
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.835	191.9	193.6	-1.4	-0.1	-0.5	1.2	0.9
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.101	123.3	126.5	1.4	-0.7	0.8	1.6	2.6
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	34.952	256.9	253.6	-6.8	-1.4	1.3	1.7	-1.3
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		14.484	167.8	167.2	-0.2	1.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.4
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		13.534	189.5	188.8	-2.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	-0.4
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		8.040	178.3	178.0	-2.9	-0.3	0.6	-0.1	-0.2
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.494	155.1	154.1	3.1	2.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.6
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	21.417	343.6	337.1	-9.1	-2.2	1.8	2.8	-1.9
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	20.467	382.3	374.9	-10.4	-2.9	2.2	3.0	-1.9
Crude.....	10000	15.583	393.9	383.7	-11.3	-2.5	2.2	3.0	-2.6
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	0.739	123.9	122.8	39.2	14.7	-5.3	-1.9	-0.9
Gas-natural.....	10110	0.611	109.9	108.3	47.1	16.6	-6.1	-2.0	-1.5
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.555	113.0	112.9	-1.0	-0.6	0.4	0.9	-0.1
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	5.017	176.8	175.5	-1.2	0.9	0.5	0.2	-0.7
Selected building materials.....	13	1.040	148.5	149.8	11.5	1.5	2.8	0.6	0.9
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.807	264.6	263.6	-7.2	-0.8	0.2	0.1	-0.4
Finished metals related to durable goods. . .	15	1.590	160.8	160.1	-2.3	-0.8	0.3	-0.9	-0.4
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.525	114.5	114.4	-0.9	0.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Capital goods.....	2	23.912	93.2	93.1	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.974	119.6	119.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	19.104	86.0	86.0	-0.7	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	1.834	134.9	135.3	1.7	0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.3
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	12.143	114.9	114.5	0.7	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	-0.3
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	24.056	107.8	107.6	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.2
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	11.688	115.9	115.5	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.3	-0.3
Durables, manufactured.....	41	11.068	99.5	99.4	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.301	115.7	116.4	-1.4	-0.3	0.0	0.3	0.6

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 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: March 2012 to March 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
All commodities		100.000	135.1	134.5	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.7	-0.4
Agricultural commodities		10.680	229.4	225.2	8.8	0.1	-1.2	2.1	-1.8
All exports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100)		80.590	103.4	103.2	-0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3	-0.2
Nonagricultural commodities		89.320	128.3	128.0	-0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.6	-0.2
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	9.949	230.2	226.0	9.7	-0.2	-1.4	1.9	-1.8
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	9.266	234.6	229.7	10.1	-0.1	-1.6	2.0	-2.1
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.683	190.9	193.5	3.9	-1.7	1.5	0.1	1.4
Industrial supplies & materials	1	34.428	184.1	183.2	-2.7	-0.3	0.6	1.3	-0.5
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		12.274	185.4	183.4	-4.0	0.3	-0.7	0.3	-1.1
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		22.155	184.3	183.9	-1.9	-0.6	1.4	1.9	-0.2
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials..	10	1.414	205.7	205.6	2.1	1.3	2.0	2.7	0.0
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials		33.014	183.5	182.5	-2.9	-0.3	0.6	1.3	-0.5
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	9.461	265.6	264.6	-5.6	-1.2	0.9	3.7	-0.4
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	22.561	173.6	172.4	-2.2	-0.1	0.4	0.3	-0.7
Selected building materials.....	13	0.992	119.8	121.3	3.5	0.0	0.8	0.8	1.3
Capital goods	2	34.989	106.8	106.8	0.8	-0.1	0.7	0.4	0.0
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.450	115.1	114.9	1.6	-0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.2
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	25.464	95.8	95.9	0.6	-0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	6.074	151.3	151.5	2.0	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	8.818	113.5	113.5	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives ..	4	11.816	115.9	115.7	-0.9	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.400	115.2	114.9	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.051	112.7	112.3	-1.7	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

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

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Nonmanufactured articles.....		18.595	169.1	166.0	-8.7	-1.8	1.5	2.9	-1.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.778	169.8	175.2	0.9	-0.4	-0.8	3.5	3.2
Crop production.....	111	1.242	174.0	180.5	0.7	-0.2	-2.4	4.4	3.7
Forestry and logging (Dec. 2012=100).....	113	0.205	106.9	104.5	—	—	5.9	0.9	-2.2
Mining.....	21	16.817	168.6	164.6	-9.7	-1.9	1.7	2.8	-2.4
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.322	134.7	134.0	-8.3	0.3	-3.2	-0.1	-0.5
Manufactured articles.....		80.952	117.7	117.5	-1.0	-0.3	0.3	0.1	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	10.419	123.7	123.3	-1.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.843	154.9	153.6	-4.9	1.0	0.2	-0.3	-0.8
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.867	113.5	113.5	1.7	-0.3	1.3	0.1	0.0
Textile mills (Dec. 2011=100).....	313	0.388	102.1	102.0	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	-0.1
Textile product mills.....	314	0.783	115.7	115.2	-1.0	0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.4
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	3.899	110.5	110.4	-1.5	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.1
Leather and allied product manufacturing. . .	316	1.640	121.2	121.3	1.8	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	18.002	139.6	139.4	-1.1	-0.9	0.9	1.0	-0.1
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.631	129.6	131.1	16.9	2.5	4.1	0.9	1.2
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.022	110.3	110.1	-1.2	-0.5	-0.3	0.5	-0.2
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	4.335	168.6	168.4	-7.4	-3.9	2.1	2.8	-0.1
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	9.167	136.4	136.0	1.1	0.0	0.6	0.6	-0.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.937	127.1	127.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.2	0.0
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.826	129.1	129.0	-0.4	-0.2	0.3	-0.3	-0.1
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	52.531	109.8	109.6	-0.8	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.445	173.5	172.6	-7.2	-0.9	0.5	-0.3	-0.5
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.666	129.9	129.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	0.0	-0.5
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.583	122.1	121.8	0.7	0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	15.963	81.5	81.5	-1.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.0
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.988	119.8	119.9	1.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	12.868	112.5	112.2	1.2	0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.3
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.238	113.9	114.5	1.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.780	120.6	120.8	-1.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 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: March 2012 to March 2013

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Nonmanufactured articles.....		8.036	176.8	174.1	5.6	-0.2	-1.7	2.5	-1.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	5.937	219.9	216.1	10.8	-0.2	-1.9	3.2	-1.7
Crop production.....	111	5.490	228.9	224.2	10.7	-0.1	-1.9	3.0	-2.1
Mining.....	21	2.099	93.8	92.8	-9.9	0.1	-1.4	0.6	-1.1
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	1.435	108.1	105.9	-18.2	1.3	-1.6	0.7	-2.0
Manufactured articles.....		89.398	121.9	121.7	-0.1	-0.2	0.5	0.5	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.995	152.9	152.5	4.8	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.3
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.933	175.9	175.3	5.7	-0.3	0.1	0.3	-0.3
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.571	129.2	128.9	8.5	0.2	1.2	1.2	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	26.482	135.3	135.0	-1.2	-0.5	0.9	1.4	-0.2
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.406	115.3	117.3	2.8	-0.4	0.3	1.5	1.7
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.776	120.3	121.0	2.0	-0.1	1.1	0.1	0.6
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	7.170	171.4	170.8	-4.2	-1.4	1.4	4.6	-0.4
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.168	132.1	131.7	-1.1	-0.4	0.9	0.2	-0.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.192	119.8	119.4	2.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	-0.3
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.769	110.5	111.8	0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.1	1.2
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	55.921	113.8	113.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	-0.2
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	5.156	169.7	167.3	-6.8	-0.5	-1.3	-0.4	-1.4
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. ...	332	2.731	132.1	131.8	2.0	-0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	11.479	122.1	122.1	1.6	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.0
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.110	89.5	89.5	-1.1	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.261	113.8	113.6	1.4	0.1	0.6	0.1	-0.2
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	13.948	117.8	117.9	1.2	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing (Dec. 2011=100).....	337	0.310	105.4	105.5	3.7	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.926	122.9	122.3	0.2	-0.2	0.9	0.1	-0.5

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2011 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.068	167.7	172.4	1.2	-0.7	1.2	1.6	2.8
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.252	221.4	216.9	-2.4	-0.6	1.4	0.5	-2.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.567	118.7	125.4	2.1	-1.3	1.9	3.0	5.6
Vegetable products.....	II	1.615	209.3	211.9	-1.4	1.9	-1.3	3.0	1.2
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.340	333.5	357.9	20.9	-0.2	-10.3	6.3	7.3
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.426	116.1	118.4	-7.3	-0.6	2.3	4.3	2.0
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.379	247.7	250.6	-8.4	-0.3	3.0	3.6	1.2
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.258	121.5	119.7	-11.1	-2.4	0.8	1.7	-1.5
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.375	157.2	157.3	-0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.4	0.1
Sugars and sugar confectionary (Dec. 2012=100).....	17	0.210	100.6	101.1	-	-	0.9	-0.3	0.5
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100).....	18	0.194	87.3	86.4	-1.8	4.4	-0.7	-4.7	-1.0
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.237	131.0	131.6	4.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.306	161.5	160.6	-8.3	-1.4	-2.2	-0.7	-0.6
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.856	124.4	124.4	2.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0
Mineral products.....	V	21.326	345.7	339.0	-9.0	-2.1	1.8	2.8	-1.9
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	21.042	342.4	335.7	-9.0	-2.1	1.9	2.8	-2.0
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	8.619	151.8	151.0	2.0	-0.3	0.3	0.2	-0.5
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.840	376.6	366.3	7.7	-1.8	-1.3	-1.0	-2.7
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.688	140.8	138.4	-1.3	-0.2	0.6	0.1	-1.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	3.275	121.6	122.1	5.7	0.1	0.9	0.6	0.4
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100).....	31	0.400	127.7	129.7	-8.5	-0.5	-1.5	-0.8	1.6
Tanning extracts; dye, pigments, varnish, paints & putty (Dec. 2011=100).....	32	0.162	94.0	93.8	-9.1	-0.1	0.8	0.2	-0.2
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.482	102.8	103.0	-0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	3.215	154.0	153.8	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.4	-0.1
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.958	148.9	149.0	3.6	1.0	1.6	0.7	0.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.257	164.3	163.6	-3.9	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	-0.4
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.594	126.4	126.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.2
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.548	127.1	127.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.669	157.7	159.5	17.5	2.3	4.3	1.2	1.1
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.119	113.4	113.3	-0.5	-0.3	-0.2	0.4	-0.1
Pulp wood, waste paper, and paperboard (Dec. 2011=100).....	47	0.173	101.1	101.6	0.7	-0.3	0.9	2.7	0.5
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.747	107.6	107.4	-1.4	-0.5	-0.6	0.1	-0.2
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	4.913	114.1	114.0	-1.5	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.1
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.934	104.1	103.6	-2.8	0.0	-0.7	0.0	-0.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.800	116.9	117.1	-0.8	-0.3	-0.7	0.5	0.2
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.545	108.3	107.8	-2.0	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.5
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. . .	XII	1.347	120.8	120.9	2.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.134	120.1	120.1	2.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.759	132.0	132.1	0.5	-0.2	0.7	-0.2	0.1
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.244	124.9	125.6	0.8	-0.6	0.2	0.1	0.6
Ceramic products.....	69	0.238	140.6	140.3	-1.3	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.2
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.277	128.3	128.3	1.6	-0.2	1.8	-0.8	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.320	203.0	201.1	-4.8	-0.6	-0.8	-0.6	-0.9
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.027	185.4	185.5	-3.9	-0.4	0.9	0.1	0.1
Iron and steel.....	72	1.132	218.8	220.2	-10.4	-1.3	-0.5	0.7	0.6
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.481	157.3	156.7	-3.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.4
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.491	361.5	356.4	-5.2	0.3	2.7	-0.9	-1.4
Nickel and articles thereof (Dec. 2009=100)...	75	0.148	102.6	104.5	-11.4	-6.5	5.2	0.2	1.9
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.677	140.3	140.9	-1.2	0.5	2.0	0.1	0.4
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.380	129.6	129.8	2.4	-0.1	1.3	-0.1	0.2
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.426	136.5	136.5	2.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	26.354	85.7	85.5	-0.7	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	13.602	90.1	90.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	12.752	81.4	81.2	-1.7	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	10.632	116.5	116.3	1.0	-0.1	0.3	-0.3	-0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	9.708	115.4	115.1	0.7	-0.1	0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	0.856	119.4	119.9	1.7	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.4
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	3.300	103.6	103.7	-0.6	-0.9	-0.2	0.0	0.1
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.990	100.4	100.4	-1.5	-0.9	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.252	142.2	142.3	11.0	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	3.430	113.1	113.6	1.2	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.4
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	1.916	117.0	117.9	1.6	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.8
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.322	105.3	105.3	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.191	137.8	138.3	3.8	-0.2	2.3	-0.6	0.4

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 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: March 2012 to March 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Live animals; animal products.....	I	2.084	222.8	218.8	7.7	1.8	-2.5	2.0	-1.8
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	1.177	169.5	169.5	0.4	-0.1	-0.7	1.3	0.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.401	203.8	207.5	3.8	-2.7	0.9	-0.4	1.8
Vegetable products.....	II	5.470	278.7	273.9	12.7	-0.1	-1.3	1.5	-1.7
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	1.031	163.4	156.2	16.3	3.9	3.2	1.7	-4.4
Cereals.....	10	2.166	322.6	313.7	10.1	0.5	-7.9	4.2	-2.8
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.719	296.5	296.3	13.1	-2.4	-2.7	3.1	-0.1
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.307	136.2	135.1	-10.9	-1.3	0.6	2.6	-0.8
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.984	168.1	167.0	8.3	-1.2	0.4	0.8	-0.7
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100).....	20	0.339	112.0	112.4	1.9	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.4
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100).....	22	0.629	114.0	113.4	3.6	-0.4	2.3	1.2	-0.5
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.783	273.2	267.3	22.9	-3.2	-2.5	0.6	-2.2
Mineral products.....	V	9.373	309.9	308.9	-6.5	-1.0	0.8	3.5	-0.3
Ores, slag and ash (Dec. 2012=100).....	26	0.482	100.3	96.4	-	-	-1.8	2.1	-3.9
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	8.709	306.6	306.2	-6.3	-1.3	0.9	3.7	-0.1
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.391	154.8	154.1	-0.8	-0.3	0.6	-0.3	-0.5
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.004	183.8	183.5	-0.6	-0.5	0.2	-0.5	-0.2
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.263	168.8	167.7	-1.5	0.1	1.0	0.6	-0.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.673	124.3	123.2	-1.3	-0.2	0.7	-1.0	-0.9
Fertilizers (Dec. 2012=100).....	31	0.371	95.2	96.8	-	-	-2.2	-2.7	1.7
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.705	137.0	139.3	2.7	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.7
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.448	121.3	120.7	-1.8	-0.1	-1.2	0.0	-0.5
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.731	153.9	151.4	-1.3	-0.4	1.3	0.2	-1.6
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.236	150.5	150.6	-0.2	-0.5	0.9	1.1	0.1
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.188	142.3	142.3	0.7	-0.5	1.1	1.4	0.0
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.048	188.4	189.4	-3.8	-0.4	0.1	0.3	0.5
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.391	143.0	144.3	11.1	1.2	3.4	1.3	0.9
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.563	110.9	115.7	7.7	0.0	0.1	0.7	4.3
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.198	119.9	120.5	2.0	0.1	2.2	0.0	0.5
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.587	123.5	126.3	-0.6	1.0	6.4	-2.4	2.3
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.177	118.8	118.5	1.3	-0.3	1.0	0.5	-0.3
Printed material.....	49	0.434	128.3	128.9	7.9	0.2	0.3	1.7	0.5
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	1.794	129.9	129.8	-1.1	0.6	1.3	1.7	-0.1
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.538	145.7	145.0	-8.7	2.0	2.8	7.1	-0.5
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.747	117.9	118.0	0.2	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
					Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.383	97.2	97.4	-1.4	-0.1	-1.5	0.0	0.2
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	5.255	282.3	276.6	-5.3	-0.1	-1.2	-0.1	-2.0
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.399	171.6	170.2	-5.2	0.5	-0.8	0.5	-0.8
Iron and steel.....	72	1.548	199.5	198.7	-12.0	1.1	-1.5	0.4	-0.4
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.304	169.2	169.2	-2.3	-0.6	-1.5	0.4	0.0
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.650	260.2	250.9	-6.0	2.6	0.4	2.1	-3.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.857	126.8	124.5	-3.4	0.2	0.6	0.0	-1.8
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.396	131.7	131.7	1.9	0.0	-1.1	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.321	146.7	146.3	6.0	-0.3	0.0	0.8	-0.3
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	27.682	97.7	97.7	0.4	-0.1	0.5	0.4	0.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	16.519	111.6	111.6	1.0	-0.2	0.6	0.4	0.0
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	11.163	82.6	82.7	-0.5	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	11.817	127.8	127.9	1.3	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	8.015	113.7	113.7	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	5.835	107.5	107.2	1.7	-0.1	0.9	0.1	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.323	110.8	110.8	1.7	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.0
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.712	121.0	121.0	1.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.505	90.9	90.9	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 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: March 2012 to March 2013
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Industrialized Countries²	100.000	132.4	132.1	-0.6	-0.7	0.4	0.6	-0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	11.160	220.0	216.3	-5.8	-6.3	-0.7	2.9	-1.7
Manufactured articles.....	88.249	125.3	125.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3	-0.1
Other Countries³	100.000	140.7	139.8	-3.6	-0.2	0.4	1.0	-0.6
Nonmanufactured articles.....	23.080	361.5	353.8	-9.3	-0.3	2.2	3.1	-2.1
Manufactured articles.....	76.574	110.9	110.6	-1.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	-0.3
Canada	100.000	151.1	150.8	-1.8	-1.9	0.3	0.9	-0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	28.128	209.6	205.9	-5.1	-6.3	-0.6	3.1	-1.8
Manufactured articles.....	70.799	139.6	140.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.6	0.1	0.4
European Union⁴	100.000	136.7	135.8	-0.4	-1.0	1.6	0.6	-0.7
Nonmanufactured articles.....	1.100	384.9	379.2	-6.0	-0.1	4.0	0.0	-1.5
Manufactured articles.....	98.427	132.9	132.0	-0.3	-1.1	1.5	0.6	-0.7
France (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	121.0	122.1	0.6	-0.1	0.5	0.0	0.9
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	116.2	115.9	0.7	-0.3	0.7	0.8	-0.3
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	133.4	129.1	-5.5	-1.3	0.6	0.1	-3.2
Latin America⁵	100.000	178.6	177.1	-4.5	0.3	1.0	1.6	-0.8
Nonmanufactured articles.....	32.546	386.6	378.9	-9.5	0.4	3.1	4.0	-2.0
Manufactured articles.....	67.028	133.8	133.4	-1.3	0.3	0.0	0.5	-0.3
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	146.3	145.7	-2.5	-0.1	0.7	1.8	-0.4
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100).....	19.893	213.9	211.0	-6.6	-0.5	3.6	8.3	-1.4
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100) ...	79.770	94.5	94.4	-1.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	100.000	104.0	103.9	-0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
China (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	104.4	104.2	-1.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Japan	100.000	102.4	102.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.2
Asian NICs⁷	100.000	89.9	90.0	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	100.000	104.3	103.8	-2.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.5
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	100.000	277.5	272.1	-6.8	-0.5	0.3	2.2	-1.9

1 Relative figures are based on 2011 trade values.

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.

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: March 2012 to March 2013

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Feb. 2013 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Feb. 2013	Mar. 2013	Annual	Monthly			
				Mar. 2012 to Mar. 2013	Nov. 2012 to Dec. 2012	Dec. 2012 to Jan. 2013	Jan. 2013 to Feb. 2013	Feb. 2013 to Mar. 2013
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	175.5	174.4	0.4	-0.7	0.2	-0.4	-0.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	21.993	167.6	168.1	0.9	-2.7	1.9	1.4	0.3
Asia.....	73.702	154.8	153.3	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	-1.0	-1.0
Export Air Freight	100.000	148.9	149.3	0.3	-0.7	1.6	-0.3	0.3
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	35.646	133.0	133.6	-0.4	-0.3	2.6	0.0	0.5
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	164.5	163.7	3.1	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7	-0.5
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	22.179	152.1	151.4	1.2	-1.7	1.5	0.5	-0.5
Asia.....	67.332	149.2	148.3	4.7	-0.1	-2.1	-1.2	-0.6
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	147.9	148.8	1.7	-0.8	-0.1	0.1	0.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	27.822	161.6	161.6	-2.2	-0.6	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Asia.....	52.419	141.3	142.8	4.1	-1.0	-0.4	0.1	1.1
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	184.7	181.7	1.7	6.8	-3.7	-1.2	-1.6
Europe.....	44.926	215.9	206.3	14.2	2.1	1.7	2.4	-4.4
Asia.....	25.023	148.0	147.6	0.1	16.1	-7.7	-6.4	-0.3
Latin America/Caribbean.....	9.182	163.7	167.9	-5.8	9.4	-11.7	0.1	2.6
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	184.0	185.0	-0.1	1.9	7.5	-8.2	0.5
Europe.....	28.267	218.5	221.8	6.1	-0.1	0.2	0.8	1.5
Asia.....	29.225	162.6	160.4	-3.9	8.7	10.0	-18.0	-1.4
Latin America/Caribbean.....	22.191	194.2	201.5	-14.7	-7.5	6.6	-8.6	3.8

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2011 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.