

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until
8:30 a.m. (EST) Thursday, January 14, 2010

USDL-10-0010

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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – DECEMBER 2009

The U.S. Import Price Index was unchanged in December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, as a decline in fuel prices offset rising nonfuel prices. Import prices increased 8.6 percent in 2009. U.S. export prices advanced 0.6 percent in December and rose 3.4 percent in 2009.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: December 2008 – December 2009

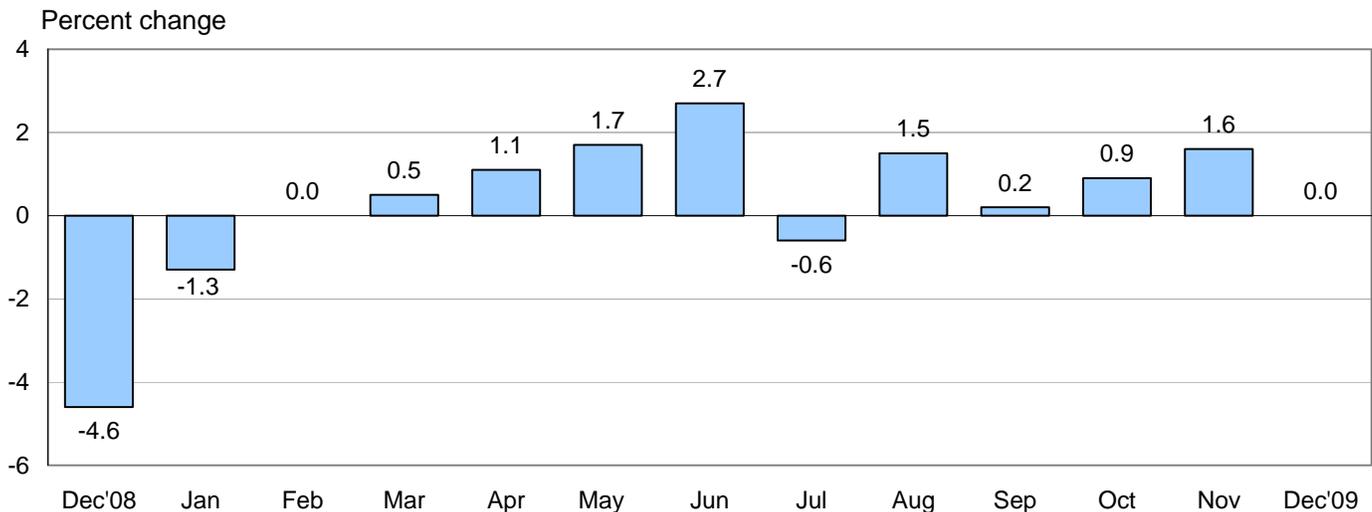
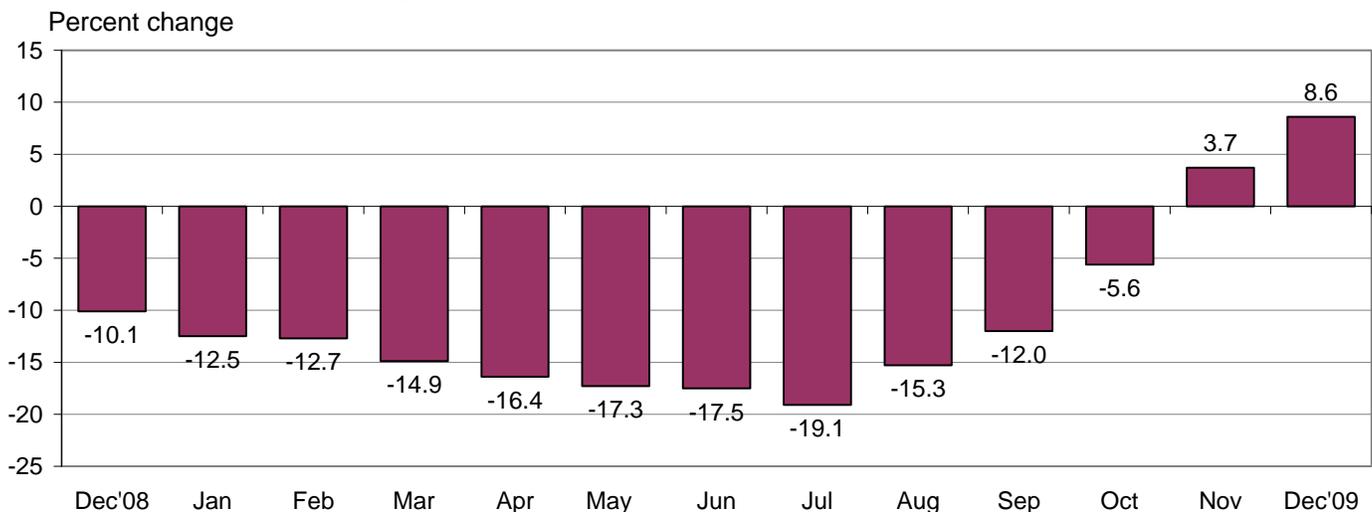


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: December 2008 – December 2009



All Imports: Import prices were unchanged in December following increases in each of the four previous months. Prices for U.S. imports trended up over most of 2009, rising 8.6 percent overall for the year. In 2009, prices rebounded from a 10.1 percent decline in 2008, the largest calendar-year drop since the index was first published in 1982. Fuel prices were the primary contributor to both the decline in overall import prices for 2008 and the subsequent increase in 2009.

Fuel Imports: Fuel prices fell 1.4 percent in December after advancing 2.9 percent in October and 7.1 percent in November. The decrease in December, the first since a 1.3 percent drop in September, was led by a 2.0 percent drop in petroleum prices which more than offset a 6.9 percent increase in natural gas prices. Despite the December drop, fuel prices jumped 61.4 percent in 2009 following a 47.0 percent decline the previous year. Petroleum prices rose 78.4 percent for the year ended in December while natural gas prices fell 28.4 percent.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: The price index for nonfuel import prices increased 0.4 percent for the fifth consecutive month in December. Higher prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials, food, capital goods, and automotive vehicles all contributed to the overall advance in December. Nonfuel prices, which fell 1.8 percent in the first quarter of 2009, also rose 0.4 percent over the past 12 months. The index advanced 1.2 percent in 2008.

Table A. Percent changes

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2008						
December.....	-4.6	-22.2	-1.1	-2.2	-6.1	-1.9
2009						
January.....	-1.3	-4.7	-0.7	0.7	5.9	0.3
February.....	0.0	2.7	-0.4	-0.3	-1.7	-0.2
March.....	0.5	7.8	-0.6	-0.7	-3.4	-0.4
April.....	1.1	7.5	0.1	0.5	3.7	0.2
May.....	1.7	9.8	0.2	0.4	3.6	0.3
June.....	2.7	16.0	0.2	1.0	4.2	0.6
July.....	-0.6	-2.6	-0.2	-0.3	-4.9	0.1
August.....	1.5	7.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.7
September.....	0.2	-1.3	0.4 ^r	-0.2	-2.9	0.1
October.....	0.9 ^r	2.9 ^r	0.4	0.0 ^r	-0.7	0.1 ^r
November.....	1.6 ^r	7.1 ^r	0.4	0.9 ^r	4.0 ^r	0.6 ^r
December.....	0.0	-1.4	0.4	0.6	2.0	0.5
Dec. 2007 to 2008.....	-10.1	-47.0	1.2	-2.9	-10.9	-2.2
Dec. 2008 to 2009.....	8.6	61.4	0.4	3.4	9.6	2.9

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: December 2008 – December 2009

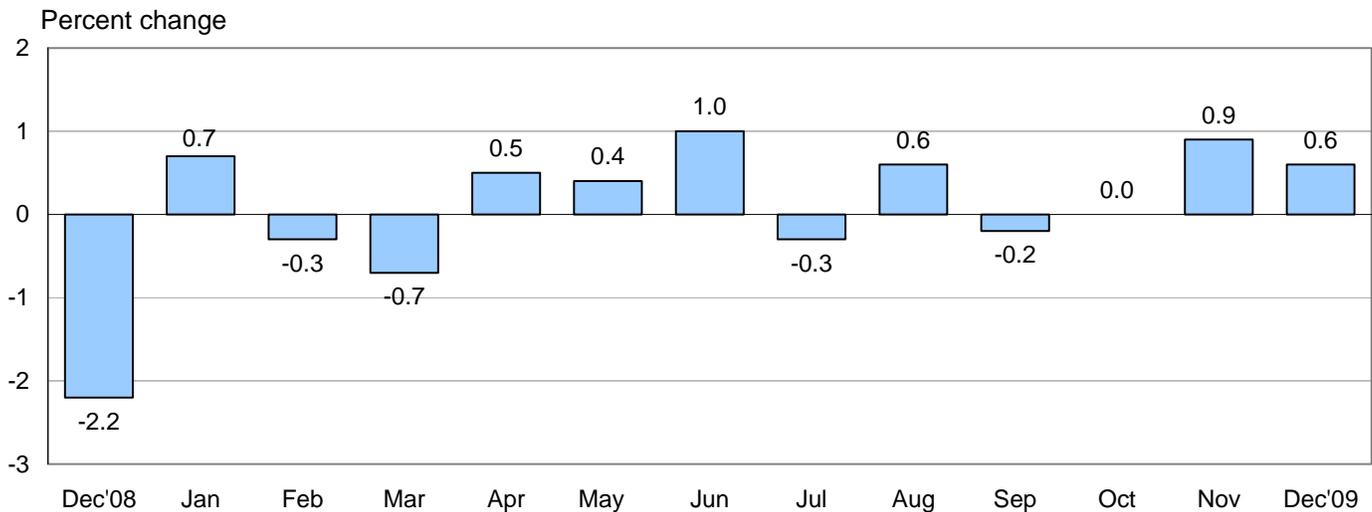
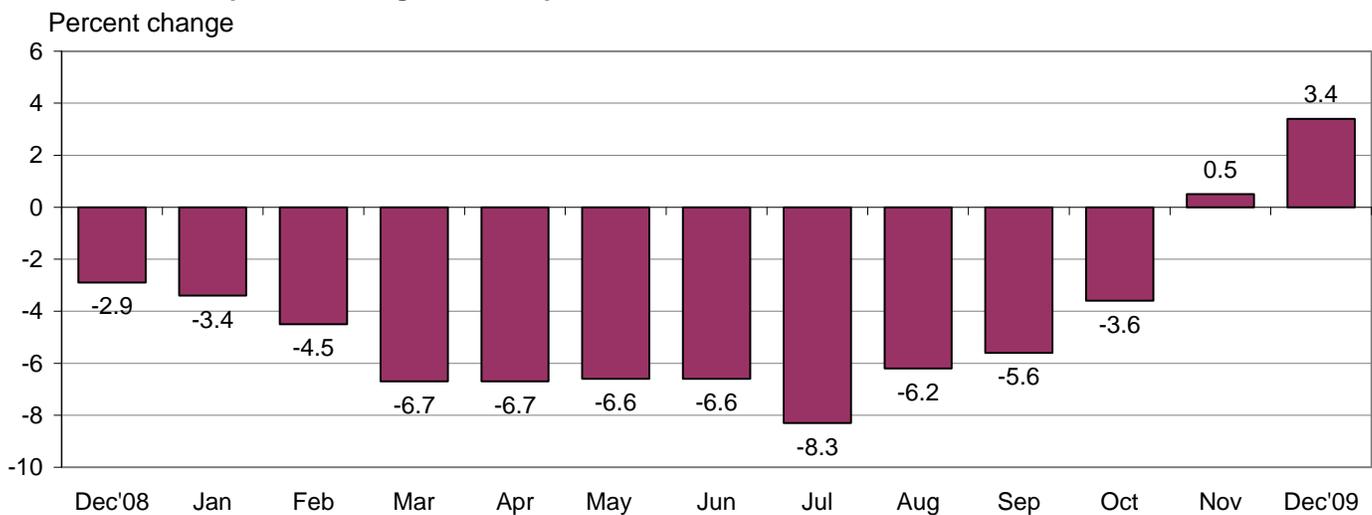


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: December 2008 – December 2009



All Exports: Export prices increased 0.6 percent in December after rising 0.9 percent the previous month. Rising prices for both agricultural exports and nonagricultural exports contributed to the increase. The price index for U.S. exports advanced 3.4 percent in 2009. The 2009 increase in export prices followed a 2.9 percent decline for 2008.

Agricultural Exports: Agricultural prices rose 2.0 percent in December following a 4.0 percent advance in November. Rising wheat prices led the December increase. Although the price trend for agricultural exports was mixed in 2009, the index increased 9.6 percent overall after falling 10.9 percent in 2008. The 2008 drop was the largest calendar-year decline in agricultural prices since the index began in 1985. Higher prices for soybeans and corn drove the increase in overall export prices in 2009.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: The price index for nonagricultural exports advanced 0.5 percent in December after rising 0.6 percent in November. The December increase was driven by higher prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. Prices for nonagricultural exports increased 2.9 percent over the past year following a 2.2 percent decline in 2008.

SELECTED DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Nonfuel industrial supplies and materials prices rose 1.9 percent in December, primarily driven up by a 3.9 percent advance in the price index for unfinished metals. A 19.4 percent increase in unfinished metals prices in 2009 was also the main contributor to a 2.4 percent increase for the price index of nonfuel industrial supplies and materials for the year.

Finished Goods: Prices for import finished goods ticked up in December, as the price indexes for capital goods and automotive vehicles advanced 0.1 percent and consumer goods prices were unchanged. For the year ended in December, prices for capital goods and consumer goods fell 0.5 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, while prices for automotive vehicles advanced 1.2 percent.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: Foods, feeds, and beverages prices rose 0.9 percent in December and 1.0 percent in 2009. Rising coffee prices led both the December and 2009 advances while a drop in fruit and vegetable prices over the past year tempered the overall increase in foods, feeds, and beverages in 2009.

Imports by Locality of Origin: Import prices from Japan and China both increased in December, rising 0.3 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. In 2009, prices for imports from Japan advanced 1.9 percent, while the price index for imports from China declined 1.9 percent. Led in part by higher petroleum prices over the past year, imports from Canada, Mexico, and the European Union all rose in 2009, increasing 6.0 percent, 4.5 percent, and 2.2 percent, respectively.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares advanced 3.3 percent for the month. Despite the increase, the index fell 3.2 percent over the past 12 months. The price index for import air freight rose 7.5 percent in December and 18.3 percent in 2009. Both advances were driven by higher Asian air freight prices, up 10.1 percent in December and 24.2 percent over the past year.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: The price index for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials increased 1.9 percent in December and 6.9 percent over the past 12 months. The December advance was led by higher prices for metals, fuels and chemicals.

Finished Goods: Prices for each of the major finished goods categories were unchanged in December. In 2009, capital goods prices rose 1.9 percent. Contributing to the increase was a 0.8 percent rise in computers, peripherals, and semi-conductors prices, the first calendar year advance for the index since a 0.1 percent rise in 1988 and the largest calendar year increase since the index advanced 6.1 percent in 1981. The price indexes for consumer goods and automotive vehicles also rose in 2009, increasing 0.4 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger fares rose 7.3 percent in December, but remained down 7.7 percent in 2009. The price index for export air freight advanced 0.9 percent in December after rising 0.6 percent the previous month. Despite the recent increases, the index fell 8.8 percent over the past 12 months.

Import and Export Price Index data for January 2010 are scheduled for release on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2008 to December 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
All commodities.....		100.000	124.4	124.4	8.6	0.2	0.9	1.6	0.0
All imports excluding petroleum.....		81.182	109.1	109.7	-0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)..		79.662	112.7	113.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	4.629	142.4	143.7	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.9
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.608	159.5	161.2	1.1	0.7	0.3	1.4	1.1
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.021	103.7	104.2	0.4	-0.4	0.2	-0.6	0.5
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	34.387	195.9	195.8	30.2	0.3	2.3	4.6	-0.1
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		15.568	141.3	144.4	-1.1	1.4	2.2	2.8	2.2
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		14.048	155.9	158.8	2.4	2.5	1.5	1.3	1.9
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		8.945	149.1	152.4	7.5	3.3	1.0	1.3	2.2
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.104	132.1	134.8	-10.6	-1.4	3.9	5.1	2.0
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	20.339	252.0	248.4	61.4	-1.3	2.9	7.1	-1.4
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	18.819	274.5	269.1	78.4	-0.6	2.4	6.3	-2.0
Crude.....	10000	13.703	282.2	274.4	78.2	-0.4	3.7	5.5	-2.8
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.346	127.8	135.3	-24.3	-11.9	13.9	21.8	5.9
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.149	113.7	121.5	-28.4	-14.2	17.4	26.6	6.9
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.674	102.4	102.8	-9.2	0.7	1.4	1.9	0.4
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.507	139.6	141.3	-4.8	1.1	2.3	1.2	1.2
Selected building materials.....	13	1.609	118.4	120.8	2.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	2.0
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.898	213.4	221.8	19.4	7.0	2.1	2.5	3.9
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	1.843	138.7	139.5	-0.9	1.6	0.5	0.7	0.6
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.517	105.3	105.6	-3.1	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3
Capital goods.....	2	22.875	92.1	92.2	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Electric generating equipment.....	20	2.968	111.3	111.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	17.865	86.6	86.7	-0.9	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	2.041	122.8	122.5	1.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	13.625	109.0	109.1	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	24.485	104.2	104.2	-0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.0
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	11.259	107.7	107.7	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Durables, manufactured.....	41	12.056	100.9	100.8	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.1
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.170	101.1	102.1	-1.4	0.4	0.4	-0.5	1.0

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
All commodities.....		100.000	119.0	119.7	3.4	-0.2	0.0	0.9	0.6
Agricultural commodities.....		8.757	162.1	165.3	9.6	-2.9	-0.7	4.0	2.0
Nonagricultural commodities.....		91.243	115.9	116.5	2.9	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.5
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	7.967	162.3	165.6	6.8	-3.8	-1.1	3.7	2.0
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	7.329	165.0	168.6	7.7	-3.9	-1.1	3.8	2.2
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.638	140.0	140.4	-2.2	-2.5	-1.7	3.7	0.3
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	28.069	147.4	150.0	7.4	0.2	0.7	1.7	1.8
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		11.105	154.1	158.0	11.7	1.8	1.1	1.1	2.5
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		16.965	144.0	146.0	5.0	-0.8	0.4	2.1	1.4
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.428	152.1	153.0	21.3	3.0	1.3	5.6	0.6
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		26.642	147.4	150.2	6.9	0.1	0.6	1.5	1.9
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	4.047	184.7	189.6	13.7	-5.3	2.1	5.2	2.7
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	21.581	144.6	147.2	6.1	1.1	0.5	0.8	1.8
Selected building materials.....	13	1.014	113.2	113.9	-1.0	0.3	-1.1	0.4	0.6
Capital goods.....	2	40.903	103.4	103.4	1.9	0.1	-0.3	0.2	0.0
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.717	108.1	107.9	-1.0	0.1	0.5	0.2	-0.2
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	28.364	94.9	94.9	1.7	0.2	-0.4	0.4	0.0
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	8.822	136.5	136.2	3.6	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	10.249	108.2	108.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Consumer goods, excluding automotives..	4	12.811	109.4	109.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.722	109.8	110.0	2.6	0.4	-0.1	0.5	0.2
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.993	109.4	109.2	-0.5	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Nonmanufactured articles.....		17.407	124.9	123.0	48.0	-0.6	3.8	6.5	-1.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	1.702	135.2	137.5	-1.7	1.1	-0.2	2.1	1.7
Crop production.....	111	1.228	143.3	146.3	-5.0	1.4	-0.1	2.6	2.1
Mining.....	21	15.705	123.6	121.3	57.1	-0.8	4.3	6.9	-1.9
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.437	130.2	129.0	0.8	0.8	1.4	-1.0	-0.9
Manufactured articles.....		82.050	108.7	109.1	2.8	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.4
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	10.159	107.6	108.1	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.5
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.423	119.9	121.4	2.2	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.3
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.919	108.2	108.9	2.4	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6
Textile mills.....	313	0.443	114.3	117.6	6.2	-0.2	1.2	0.4	2.9
Textile product mills.....	314	0.786	100.3	100.3	-1.5	0.0	1.0	-0.1	0.0
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	4.068	101.7	101.6	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.1
Leather and allied product manufacturing. .	316	1.521	107.2	107.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	17.839	117.6	118.0	9.8	-0.4	0.1	2.1	0.3
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.974	93.8	96.1	3.6	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	2.5
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.190	100.5	100.7	-8.4	0.7	0.4	1.1	0.2
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	4.253	123.8	123.8	76.1	-2.8	-1.5	7.8	0.0
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	8.383	120.8	121.2	-2.3	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.3
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.810	112.9	113.4	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.7	0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.124	119.2	119.2	1.4	0.0	-0.3	-0.1	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	54.052	106.1	106.5	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.400	140.6	145.7	11.9	5.9	1.4	2.3	3.6
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	2.724	116.1	116.2	-2.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	6.777	112.9	113.2	2.4	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.3
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.760	89.1	89.2	-1.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.929	113.0	113.1	-0.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	14.802	106.4	106.4	1.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.515	108.0	108.4	-1.7	0.3	-0.7	-0.3	0.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.146	112.6	112.5	1.6	0.1	0.4	0.3	-0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Nonmanufactured articles.....		6.145	122.5	126.8	11.1	-5.2	3.1	3.5	3.5
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...	11	4.788	140.0	143.5	11.4	-6.5	0.5	6.1	2.5
Crop production.....	111	4.442	144.2	148.1	12.4	-6.9	0.7	6.3	2.7
Mining.....	21	1.357	83.6	89.4	9.7	-0.3	12.3	-4.7	6.9
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.998	92.3	93.6	3.1	1.0	3.7	-0.5	1.4
Manufactured articles.....		91.882	109.6	110.0	2.5	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.4
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.609	121.9	122.9	5.0	0.9	-0.7	1.0	0.8
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.446	136.8	138.0	7.0	1.1	-1.2	1.3	0.9
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.518	108.1	108.2	4.6	0.0	0.9	0.1	0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.387	102.8	102.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.4
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	21.974	112.2	112.9	2.8	-0.5	-0.6	1.6	0.6
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.461	108.5	109.3	-1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.879	111.0	112.4	-1.7	0.5	0.9	0.2	1.3
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	2.477	113.0	113.4	16.4	-7.0	0.7	9.9	0.4
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.179	113.7	114.5	2.3	0.2	-1.1	0.8	0.7
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.132	107.2	107.3	-1.8	0.0	-0.6	0.1	0.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.845	112.0	112.0	-0.2	0.5	-0.2	0.3	0.0
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	63.299	107.3	107.6	2.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.553	132.5	138.5	15.8	2.8	3.0	2.7	4.5
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.	332	2.808	121.4	121.7	2.4	0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	12.689	113.0	113.2	1.7	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.354	93.7	93.5	0.6	0.3	-0.9	0.5	-0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.572	107.2	107.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.0
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	18.075	110.1	110.0	1.9	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	4.895	110.3	110.4	-1.0	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	0.1

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.120	132.2	132.0	5.2	0.2	0.8	0.3	-0.2
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.256	157.9	159.1	7.4	0.8	-1.3	1.7	0.8
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.545	100.2	100.3	0.9	-0.5	1.5	-0.5	0.1
Vegetable products.....	II	1.404	159.7	162.8	-6.9	1.3	-0.2	0.9	1.9
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.423	298.7	300.8	-15.1	5.0	0.4	1.4	0.7
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.399	98.3	96.4	-15.1	0.3	2.9	-3.4	-1.9
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.261	160.9	167.4	15.5	-4.5	1.4	2.4	4.0
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.262	137.7	138.8	3.1	0.4	0.0	1.0	0.8
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.243	112.0	112.8	5.5	0.9	-1.9	1.2	0.7
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.274	126.6	126.8	-4.7	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.927	118.1	118.8	3.6	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.6
Mineral products.....	V	20.458	253.8	250.2	58.9	-1.2	3.0	6.9	-1.4
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	20.088	250.8	247.2	60.9	-1.2	3.1	7.0	-1.4
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	7.687	133.9	134.8	-1.2	0.5	1.4	0.8	0.7
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.864	248.7	253.7	-1.7	10.0	12.1	3.1	2.0
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.439	128.3	129.1	6.0	-0.6	0.3	0.9	0.6
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.656	114.2	114.2	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.168	105.7	107.3	1.8	1.9	-0.5	-0.3	1.5
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.410	119.4	119.7	-0.7	0.4	0.6	-1.9	0.3
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.414	90.3	90.7	-6.4	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.4
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	2.866	128.9	130.4	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.2
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	1.849	125.2	126.6	-1.3	0.1	0.5	0.6	1.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.017	135.9	137.6	2.7	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.3
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.607	113.7	113.7	-0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.564	114.7	114.7	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.996	113.9	116.5	2.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.3	2.3
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.364	105.8	106.1	-6.7	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.3
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.915	101.3	101.6	-10.6	-0.2	-0.3	0.2	0.3
Printed matter.....	49	0.277	120.0	120.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.5
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	5.133	103.1	103.3	-0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.1	0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	1.926	99.4	99.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.951	102.6	102.7	-0.9	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.1
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.531	91.7	91.9	-3.4	0.0	1.2	-0.1	0.2
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. ..	XII	1.238	107.5	107.6	0.7	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.043	106.6	106.6	0.7	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2008 to December 2009 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	1.003	124.5	124.6	2.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.374	118.0	118.0	-0.7	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Ceramic products.....	69	0.318	139.6	139.6	5.8	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.311	115.9	115.9	1.6	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	2.719	149.6	155.8	19.1	1.4	3.0	2.1	4.1
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.754	164.9	166.4	1.6	4.0	0.6	1.1	0.9
Iron and steel.....	72	1.277	198.3	197.8	-9.8	3.8	1.2	2.2	-0.3
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.705	138.1	138.2	-11.9	0.4	1.1	0.2	0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.696	302.5	316.9	68.5	11.1	1.1	2.5	4.8
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.776	123.0	125.8	6.3	7.2	-1.8	1.6	2.3
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.380	116.6	116.6	0.2	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.452	127.5	127.5	-3.0	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	0.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	25.345	87.4	87.5	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	12.753	88.4	88.7	0.8	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.3
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	12.592	86.5	86.5	-1.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	12.583	110.6	110.6	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	11.421	109.5	109.5	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	1.050	115.6	115.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.3
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	3.134	102.5	102.5	1.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	2.811	100.1	100.1	1.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.245	124.9	125.1	3.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	4.114	107.3	107.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.232	111.2	111.0	-1.5	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.672	101.1	100.8	1.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.210	116.7	116.9	4.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.2

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.462	153.0	156.7	1.0	-1.6	-2.0	1.8	2.4
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.762	123.5	128.6	7.9	-2.1	-2.7	2.4	4.1
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.367	135.5	136.6	-9.1	-3.2	-2.2	3.2	0.8
Vegetable products.....	II	4.507	184.3	186.6	8.8	-5.8	-0.7	4.9	1.2
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.603	107.9	112.1	4.5	1.3	3.5	-3.0	3.9
Cereals.....	10	1.837	187.2	193.1	8.7	-8.4	2.3	8.8	3.2
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.436	209.5	209.6	17.5	-7.5	-6.0	5.4	0.0
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.496	140.7	142.0	7.3	0.2	-0.7	1.1	0.9
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.368	119.8	119.9	-1.6	0.2	1.4	0.1	0.1
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec.2008=100).....	22	0.286	103.7	103.8	3.8	0.0	1.6	0.2	0.1
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.526	197.3	200.6	18.6	0.1	-7.4	3.3	1.7
Mineral products.....	V	4.040	219.5	225.8	11.7	-4.2	5.3	4.1	2.9
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	3.493	213.3	219.5	14.1	-5.2	5.2	5.1	2.9
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	11.611	136.0	137.0	1.3	-0.4	-1.0	1.0	0.7
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.094	166.9	167.1	-17.4	-6.3	-5.4	-0.4	0.1
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.349	142.6	143.9	9.0	0.1	-1.4	3.0	0.9
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.680	117.1	117.5	3.3	0.3	-0.1	0.6	0.3
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.540	115.1	114.8	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	-0.3
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.741	127.0	127.1	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.1
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.415	117.3	117.5	-3.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.2
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.808	133.3	134.3	3.8	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.8
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.306	133.6	134.0	-1.3	0.9	-1.0	0.1	0.3
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.281	127.7	128.1	-0.5	0.5	-1.3	0.0	0.3
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.025	159.9	160.1	-4.0	2.6	0.1	0.4	0.1
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.336	101.2	106.1	12.3	4.9	0.4	2.6	4.8
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.567	103.8	105.0	-3.6	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.2
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.387	109.0	110.2	2.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.1
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.569	104.9	109.8	20.8	2.8	3.3	2.0	4.7
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.290	109.7	109.8	-3.3	-0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Printed material.....	49	0.528	116.3	116.3	0.8	0.4	-1.8	0.6	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	2.076	109.1	109.2	5.1	0.5	2.0	3.4	0.1
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.662	113.8	114.3	23.8	1.3	6.6	11.1	0.4
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc. (Dec.2008=100).....	XIII	0.823	114.6	114.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.430	97.7	97.7	-2.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	4.113	186.8	196.9	22.2	1.7	2.8	2.7	5.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: December 2008 to December 2009 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Base metals and articles of base metals.....	XV	5.294	153.0	154.5	6.3	1.4	0.1	0.6	1.0
Iron and steel.....	72	1.371	174.3	175.1	3.3	3.3	0.2	-0.3	0.5
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.434	157.5	157.4	-1.8	-1.4	-0.4	0.3	-0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.549	203.8	215.3	68.6	4.0	0.5	4.4	5.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.773	113.5	115.8	13.8	4.2	-0.4	1.0	2.0
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.404	123.8	123.8	1.5	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.336	122.2	122.3	-4.5	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	31.095	95.7	95.7	1.2	0.2	-0.3	0.3	0.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	18.051	106.5	106.6	2.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.044	84.0	83.9	-0.2	0.1	-1.1	0.1	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	15.648	120.1	120.0	1.7	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	9.008	107.8	107.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	6.254	108.5	108.6	2.4	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.571	108.3	107.5	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.1	-0.7
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.776	119.3	117.6	1.8	1.2	0.3	0.2	-1.4
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.672	93.0	93.0	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0

1 Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Industrialized Countries²	42.434	123.1	123.9	4.0	0.4	0.9	1.3	0.6
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.390	196.0	196.5	27.2	-0.5	5.9	9.4	0.3
Manufactured articles.....	37.621	117.2	118.0	2.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7
Other Countries³	57.566	122.3	122.2	9.9	-0.2	0.7	1.2	-0.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.442	251.9	246.6	53.9	-0.6	3.2	5.5	-2.1
Manufactured articles.....	44.910	104.1	104.7	1.3	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.6
Canada	15.963	136.5	137.6	6.0	1.1	1.1	2.9	0.8
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.979	190.0	190.3	26.2	-0.7	6.4	10.5	0.2
Manufactured articles.....	11.678	126.5	127.7	0.7	1.5	-0.2	0.7	0.9
European Union⁴	17.447	126.8	127.0	2.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.222	244.3	239.7	3.9	-2.0	3.8	0.0	-1.9
Manufactured articles.....	17.133	124.3	124.6	2.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2
France (Dec. 2003=100)	1.954	124.0	124.1	5.2	0.8	0.1	0.7	0.1
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	4.735	111.5	111.9	3.4	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	2.660	123.5	124.2	4.8	0.2	1.0	0.4	0.6
Latin America⁵	17.808	154.6	154.5	14.1	0.1	1.8	2.2	-0.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.160	280.3	274.3	51.1	-0.8	3.2	5.6	-2.1
Manufactured articles.....	12.547	128.6	129.9	1.7	0.5	1.0	0.6	1.0
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	10.785	136.6	135.4	4.5	0.5	1.1	1.0	-0.9
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100).....	1.947	149.2	144.0	44.0	0.1	4.6	5.0	-3.5
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)....	8.788	96.2	96.2	-3.8	0.7	0.1	-0.3	0.0
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	33.590	99.9	100.3	-0.5	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.4
China (Dec. 2003=100)	16.852	100.4	100.5	-1.9	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1
Japan	7.488	97.5	97.8	1.9	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3
Asian NICs⁷	5.647	85.8	86.6	-2.9	0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.9
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	5.729	96.9	97.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	0.4	0.6
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	3.992	202.0	198.2	40.1	0.2	3.3	1.3	-1.9

1 Percentage of trade figures are based on 2007 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 2008 to December 2009

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Nov. 2009 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Dec. 2008 to Dec. 2009	Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2009	Sept. 2009 to Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 to Nov. 2009	Nov. 2009 to Dec. 2009
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	152.5	163.9	18.3	1.0	8.4	4.4	7.5
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	21.324	137.8	140.7	6.8	1.1	2.1	1.4	2.1
Asia.....	69.854	137.1	150.9	24.2	1.1	11.7	5.5	10.1
Export Air Freight	100.000	122.0	123.1	-8.8	1.3	-0.2	0.6	0.9
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	41.332	111.0	112.9	-9.5	2.5	0.0	0.0	1.7
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	140.3	147.3	7.7	1.2	5.8	4.1	5.0
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	23.329	127.7	129.5	-1.8	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.4
Asia.....	65.784	127.0	136.0	14.4	1.7	8.7	5.7	7.1
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	113.3	114.7	-12.0	0.8	0.4	0.8	1.2
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	39.714	129.7	131.6	-13.5	1.1	0.0	0.2	1.5
Asia.....	41.455	104.1	105.1	-7.7	0.6	0.2	1.1	1.0
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	147.5	152.3	-3.2	-1.1	6.4	0.5	3.3
Europe.....	45.257	159.6	156.0	6.1	2.8	8.6	0.0	-2.3
Asia.....	26.714	126.5	140.4	-7.8	-4.3	4.1	-2.3	11.0
Latin America/Caribbean.....	12.017	130.2	146.6	-7.2	-8.3	2.3	8.2	12.6
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	141.6	152.0	-7.7	-9.1	1.2	-1.0	7.3
Europe.....	33.072	175.8	183.8	-1.6	-10.1	2.3	3.0	4.6
Asia.....	32.441	113.9	128.6	-11.4	-11.4	1.1	-7.8	12.9
Latin America/Caribbean.....	21.199	147.9	163.8	-8.4	-7.3	-1.0	3.6	10.8

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2007 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.