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U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES – AUGUST 2016

U.S. import prices declined 0.2 percent in August, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today, after ticking up 0.1 percent in July. The August downturn was driven by lower fuel prices. Prices for U.S. exports decreased 0.8 percent in August following a 0.2-percent increase in July.

Chart 1. One-month percent change in the Import Price Index: August 2015 – August 2016

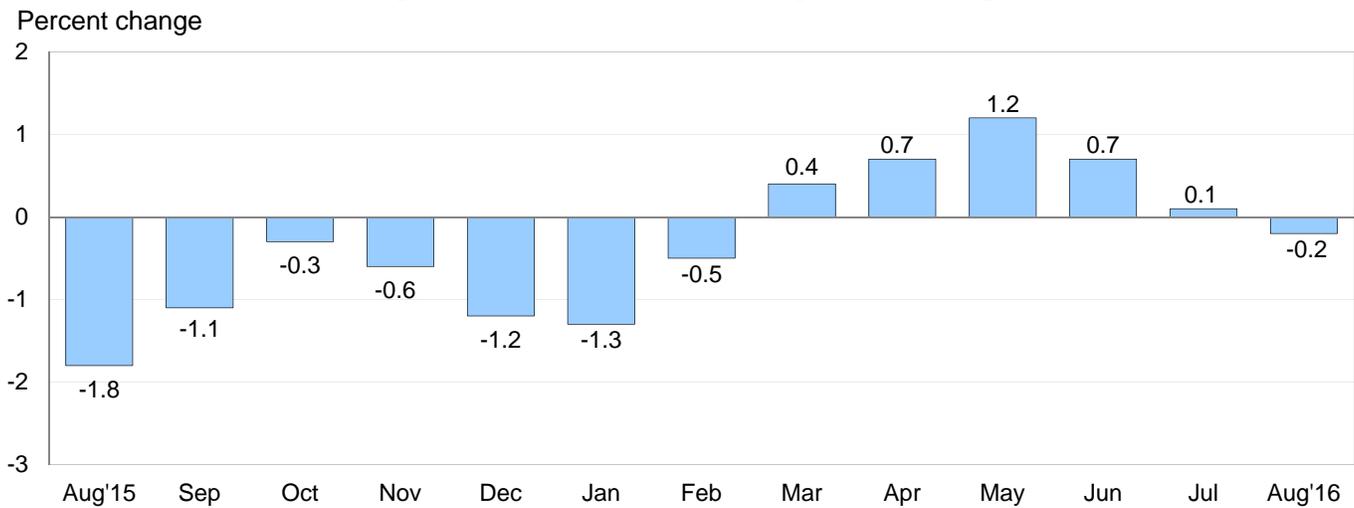
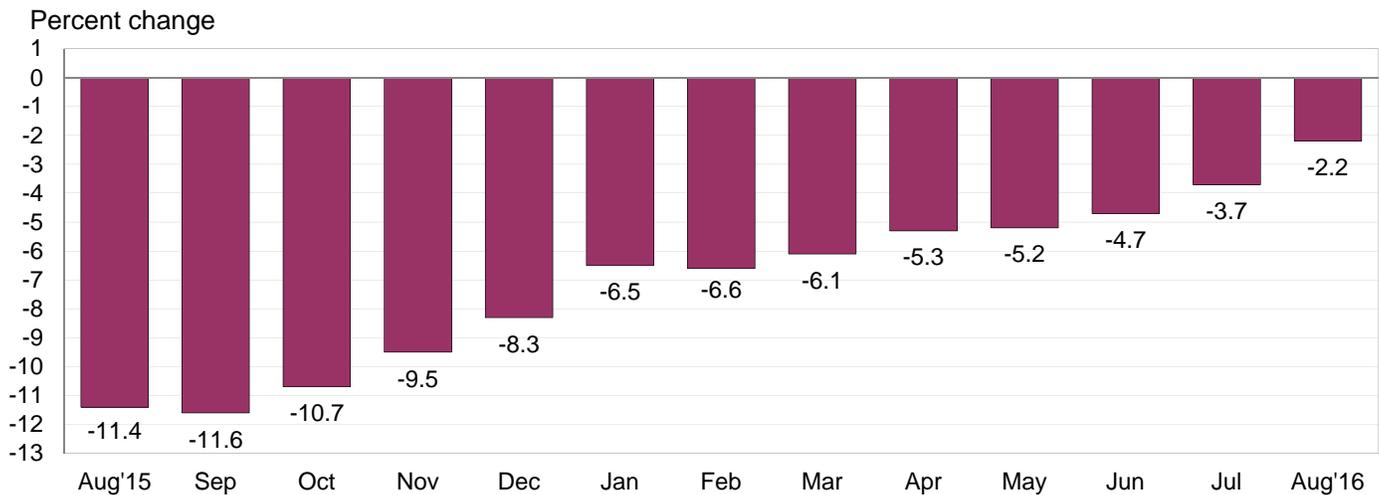


Chart 2. 12-month percent change in the Import Price Index: August 2015 – August 2016



All Imports: Prices for U.S. imports fell 0.2 percent in August, the first monthly decrease since the index fell 0.5 percent in February. Over the 5 months previous to August, import prices advanced 3.1 percent. The August decline was led by falling fuel prices which decreased for the second consecutive month. The price index for U.S. imports decreased 2.2 percent for the year ended in August, after declining 11.4 percent over the previous 12-month period.

Fuel Imports: Fuel prices declined 2.1 percent in August following a 2.5-percent drop in July. The July decrease was the first monthly decline since the index fell 6.8 percent in February. Both the August and July decreases were driven by lower petroleum prices which fell 2.8 percent in August and 3.6 percent in July. In contrast, prices for natural gas increased 12.1 percent in August and 28.0 percent the previous month. Import fuel prices declined 12.2 percent between August 2015 and August 2016, and the price indexes for petroleum and natural gas each fell over the same period, 12.9 percent and 5.2 percent, respectively.

All Imports Excluding Fuel: Nonfuel prices recorded no change in August, after rising 0.3 percent in July. In August, higher prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials offset lower prices for automotive vehicles; foods, feeds, and beverages; and consumer goods. The price index for nonfuel imports decreased 0.9 percent over the past year, and falling prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials and each of the major finished goods categories all contributed to the decline.

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

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Fuel imports	Nonfuel imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
2015						
August.....	-1.8	-12.7	-0.3	-1.4	-2.5	-1.3
September.....	-1.1	-8.4	-0.3	-0.6	-1.4	-0.5
October.....	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.3
November.....	-0.6	-4.0	-0.3	-0.7	-0.9	-0.7
December.....	-1.2	-10.0	-0.3	-1.1	-0.9	-1.1
2016						
January.....	-1.3	-15.6	-0.1	-0.9	-1.3	-0.9
February.....	-0.5	-6.8	-0.1	-0.4	0.7	-0.6
March.....	0.4	8.5	-0.1	-0.1	-2.1	0.2
April.....	0.7	9.8	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.4
May.....	1.2	12.7	0.3	1.1	3.0	1.0
June.....	0.7 ^r	10.4 ^r	-0.2	0.7 ^r	2.5 ^r	0.5
July.....	0.1	-2.5	0.3	0.2	-0.3 ^r	0.2 ^r
August.....	-0.2	-2.1	0.0	-0.8	-3.4	-0.4
Aug. 2014 to 2015.....	-11.4	-48.2	-2.9	-7.1	-13.9	-6.3
Aug. 2015 to 2016.....	-2.2	-12.2	-0.9	-2.4	-3.5	-2.2

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Chart 3. One-month percent change in the Export Price Index: August 2015 – August 2016

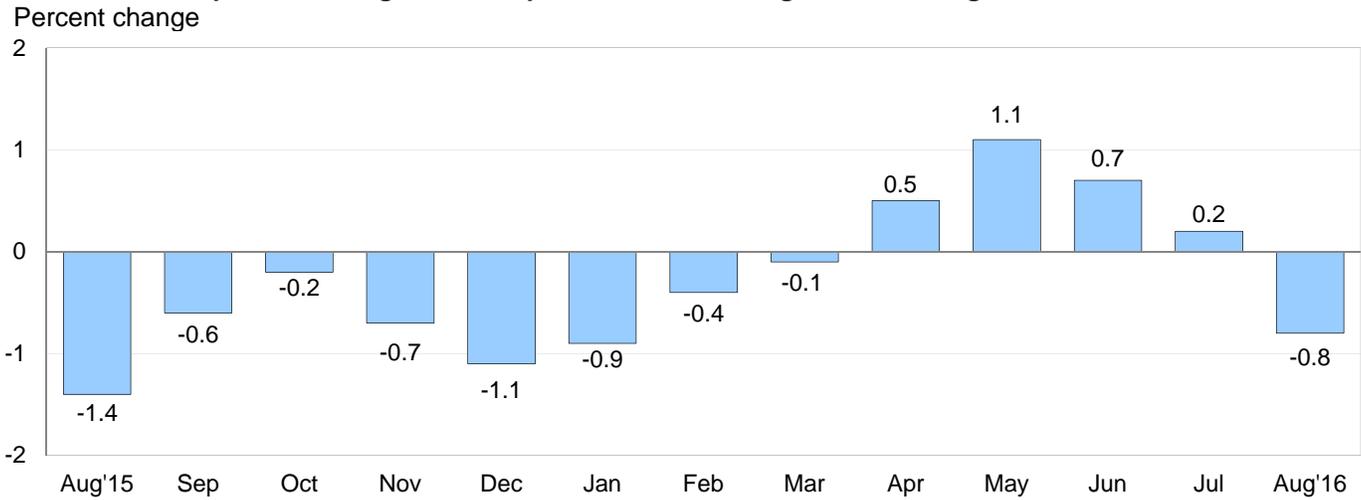
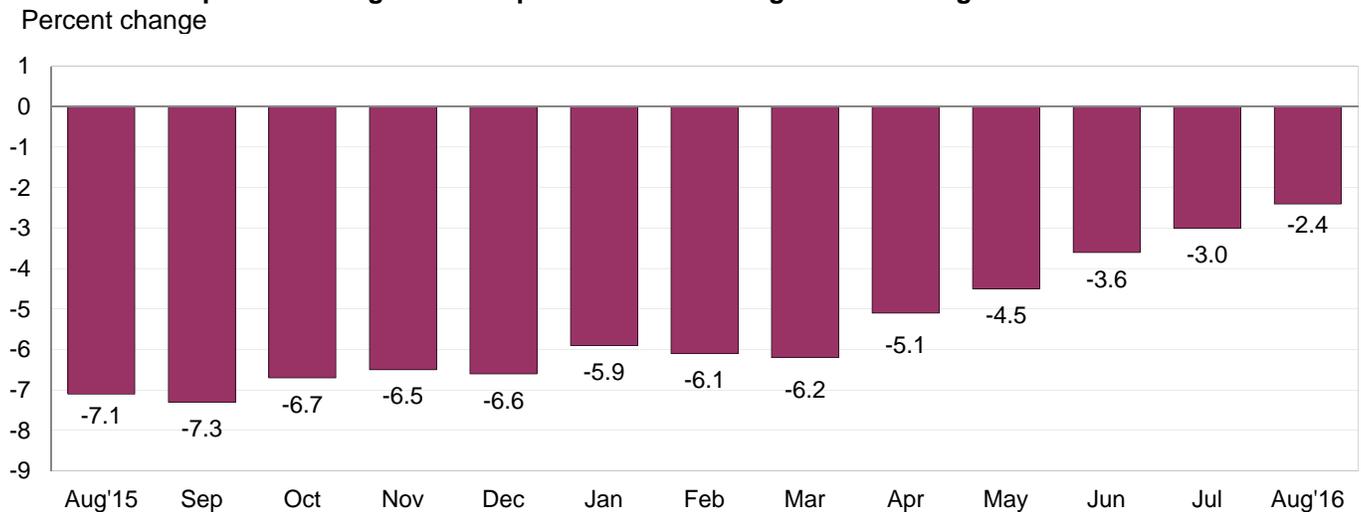


Chart 4. 12-month percent change in the Export Price Index: August 2015 – August 2016



All Exports: U.S. export prices decreased 0.8 percent in August, the first monthly drop since the index edged down 0.1 percent in March and the largest decline since the index fell 0.9 percent in January. In August, lower prices for both agricultural and nonagricultural exports contributed to the overall drop in export prices. The price index for U.S. exports decreased 2.4 percent over the past year, the smallest 12-month decline since the index fell 1.7 percent in November 2014.

Agricultural Exports: The price index for agricultural exports decreased 3.4 percent in August, the largest monthly drop since the index fell 4.2 percent in August 2013. The August 2016 decline was led by a 9.5-percent decrease in soybean prices, although falling prices for fruit, vegetables, corn, and meat also contributed to the overall drop. Agricultural prices fell 3.5 percent over the past 12 months.

All Exports Excluding Agriculture: Prices for nonagricultural exports decreased 0.4 percent in August, after rising 0.2 percent the previous month. The August decline in nonagricultural export prices was the first monthly drop since the index fell 0.6 percent in February. Lower prices for industrial supplies and materials, automotive vehicles, capital goods, and consumer goods all contributed to the August downturn. The price index for nonagricultural exports decreased 2.2 percent over the past 12 months, primarily driven by a 5.3-percent decline in nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials prices.

SELECTED AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

Import Prices

Imports by Locality of Origin: Import prices from China declined 0.2 percent in August, led by a 1.0-percent drop in communications equipment manufacturing. Prices for imports from China have not recorded a monthly advance since the index rose 0.1 percent in December 2014; the index fell 1.9 percent over the past year. In August, import prices from Canada fell 0.9 percent; import prices from the European Union declined 0.3 percent; and import prices from Mexico decreased 0.2 percent. In contrast, the price index for imports from Japan increased 0.3 percent in August following a 0.2-percent advance the previous month. The August rise was the largest monthly increase since the index advanced 0.3 percent in August 2011, and the last time the index recorded a larger 1-month jump was a 0.5-percent increase in February 2011.

Nonfuel Industrial Supplies and Materials: Prices for nonfuel industrial supplies and materials advanced 0.2 percent in August following a 1.6-percent increase the previous month. In August, a 1.4-percent rise in unfinished metals prices more than offset a 0.8-percent drop in chemicals prices.

Finished Goods: Finished goods prices were mostly down in August. Automotive vehicles prices fell 0.2 percent, driven by a 1.0-percent decline in the price index for engines and engine parts. Prices for consumer goods also fell in August, edging down 0.1 percent. Capital goods prices recorded no change in August as a 0.7-percent decrease in computer prices offset increases for non-computer capital goods prices.

Foods, Feeds, and Beverages: The price index for foods, feeds, and beverages decreased 0.5 percent in August, after increasing 3.1 percent in July. The August downturn was led by a 15.4-percent drop in feedstuff and foodgrain prices.

Transportation Services: Import air passenger fares fell 6.0 percent in August, the largest monthly decline since the index decreased 6.8 percent in January 2015. The August drop was led by an 8.5-percent decline in European fares and a 7.2-percent decrease in Asian fares. The index for import air passenger fares fell 9.1 percent over the past 12 months. Import air freight prices rose 1.1 percent in August and declined 5.5 percent over the past year.

Export Prices

Nonagricultural Industrial Supplies and Materials: Prices for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials declined 1.3 percent in August, after rising 0.9 percent in July. The August downturn was led by a 4.3-percent decrease in fuel prices and a 1.1-percent drop in chemicals prices.

Finished Goods: Each of the major finished goods categories recorded monthly decreases in August. Prices for automotive vehicles fell 0.5 percent in August, the largest 1-month drop since the index was first published monthly in December 1988. A 1.2-percent decline in passenger car prices was the largest contributor to the August decrease. The price indexes for capital goods and for consumer goods each edged down 0.1 percent in August.

Transportation Services: Export air passenger prices advanced 3.6 percent in August following a 4.0-percent rise in July and a 3.4-percent increase in June. The August advance was driven by a 27.1-percent increase in Asian fares which more than offset a 10.2-percent drop in European fares. Despite the recent rises, export air passenger fares decreased 8.0 percent over the past year. The price index for export air freight ticked up 0.1 percent in August and decreased 2.6 percent over the past 12 months.

Import and Export Price Index data for September 2016 are scheduled for release on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Table 1. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual	Monthly			
					Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
All commodities		100.000	120.8	120.5	-2.2	1.2	0.7	0.1	-0.2
All imports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100)		85.349	98.3	98.3	-1.0	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.0
All imports excluding petroleum		92.205	111.1	111.1	-0.9	0.4	-0.2	0.5	0.0
All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)		91.611	115.2	115.2	-0.9	0.3	-0.2	0.3	0.0
Foods, feeds, & beverages	0	6.262	177.7	176.9	0.6	0.3	-0.6	3.1	-0.5
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	4.857	195.0	193.9	-0.5	-0.1	-0.6	4.0	-0.6
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.405	138.5	138.7	4.4	1.6	-0.4	0.1	0.1
Industrial supplies & materials	1	21.975	158.2	157.2	-6.0	5.4	3.7	-0.1	-0.6
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		14.180	142.0	142.8	-1.0	1.5	-0.4	2.2	0.6
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		13.586	161.8	162.2	-0.9	1.6	-0.3	1.6	0.2
Industrial supplies & materials, durable....		8.307	151.6	152.7	2.2	2.3	-0.6	2.5	0.7
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.279	129.9	130.3	-5.3	0.5	-0.2	1.6	0.3
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	8.389	154.3	151.0	-12.2	12.7	10.4	-2.5	-2.1
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	7.795	166.9	162.2	-12.9	13.9	11.4	-3.6	-2.8
Crude.....	10000	5.704	171.1	168.4	-9.4	14.8	11.3	-3.6	-1.6
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	0.416	82.7	90.5	-5.4	-1.0	-3.9	20.7	9.4
Gas-natural.....	10110	0.326	66.8	74.9	-5.2	-1.3	-5.3	28.0	12.1
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.573	106.9	107.1	-2.5	-0.2	0.4	-0.5	0.2
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.773	150.3	149.5	-5.8	0.7	0.1	0.3	-0.5
Selected building materials.....	13	1.303	137.5	137.8	1.7	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.2
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.539	200.7	203.6	6.3	5.1	-1.5	6.0	1.4
Finished metals related to durable goods.....	15	1.692	146.0	146.7	-2.3	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.5
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.706	108.0	108.0	-1.0	0.1	0.0	-0.6	0.0
Capital goods	2	28.409	88.9	88.9	-1.8	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Electric generating equipment.....	20	3.448	115.8	116.0	-1.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	22.267	81.4	81.4	-1.9	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	2.694	136.3	136.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	0.4
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines	3	16.079	110.4	110.2	-0.8	0.3	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Consumer goods, excluding automobiles	4	27.275	106.8	106.7	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	13.029	119.7	119.6	0.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Durables, manufactured.....	41	12.764	94.2	94.0	-1.4	0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.2
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.483	118.3	118.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

Table 2. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Monthly			
						Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
All commodities.....		100.000	121.1	120.1	-2.4	1.1	0.7	0.2	-0.8
Agricultural commodities.....		9.307	181.4	175.2	-3.5	3.0	2.5	-0.3	-3.4
All exports excluding food and fuels (Dec. 2010=100).....		84.381	98.5	98.4	-1.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.1
Nonagricultural commodities.....		90.692	116.5	116.0	-2.2	1.0	0.5	0.2	-0.4
Foods, feeds, & beverages.....	0	8.726	183.3	176.8	-2.9	3.0	2.6	-0.4	-3.5
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	8.046	183.7	176.4	-3.7	3.3	2.7	-0.5	-4.0
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.680	186.7	189.0	6.3	-1.1	1.6	1.0	1.2
Industrial supplies & materials.....	1	28.980	142.0	140.3	-5.1	3.0	1.8	0.9	-1.2
Industrial supplies & materials, durable....		10.689	154.6	154.9	1.2	1.8	-1.2	1.9	0.2
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		18.290	136.1	133.4	-8.6	3.7	3.6	0.2	-2.0
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.261	172.7	172.6	-2.2	0.4	1.2	1.6	-0.1
Nonagricultural industrial supplies & materials.....		27.718	141.0	139.2	-5.3	3.2	1.7	0.9	-1.3
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	6.892	147.3	140.9	-15.3	11.1	9.7	-0.5	-4.3
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials....	12	19.793	150.0	149.7	-2.0	0.9	-0.6	1.3	-0.2
Selected building materials.....	13	1.033	115.7	115.9	1.8	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.2
Capital goods.....	2	38.755	106.8	106.7	-0.7	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.959	112.6	112.3	-1.5	-0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.3
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	26.125	93.9	93.8	-1.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	8.671	164.1	164.0	1.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Automotive vehicles, parts & engines.....	3	10.682	113.2	112.6	-1.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.5
Consumer goods, excluding automotives.....	4	12.857	110.6	110.5	-1.5	0.2	-0.4	0.5	-0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.869	107.0	106.6	-1.2	0.4	-0.1	0.9	-0.4
Durables, manufactured.....	41	5.368	107.8	107.9	-2.3	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	0.1

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Table 3. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Monthly			
						Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Nonmanufactured articles.....		8.344	86.4	85.8	-7.0	9.5	7.2	-0.2	-0.7
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.....	11	2.018	175.0	175.2	0.0	-0.8	-1.9	6.8	0.1
Crop production.....	111	1.641	188.9	189.3	2.3	-0.4	-2.2	8.8	0.2
Animal production (Dec. 2014=100).....	112	0.203	78.2	79.2	-11.3	-4.9	-0.1	-2.6	1.3
Mining.....	21	6.326	75.8	75.0	-8.9	13.3	9.9	-2.2	-1.1
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.237	94.6	94.7	-3.6	-0.6	-0.1	-0.4	0.1
Manufactured articles.....		91.335	109.1	108.9	-1.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	12.186	123.9	123.7	-0.5	0.4	0.1	0.0	-0.2
Food manufacturing.....	311	3.522	154.4	153.4	0.5	1.5	0.5	0.7	-0.6
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	1.086	117.8	117.7	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.8	-0.1
Textile mills (Dec. 2011=100).....	313	0.405	98.8	97.6	-3.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-1.2
Textile product mills.....	314	0.893	108.7	109.5	-2.1	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.7
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	4.361	111.2	111.2	-0.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Leather and allied product manufacturing.....	316	1.918	123.2	123.0	-1.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	16.812	116.1	114.9	-4.7	1.6	1.4	-0.3	-1.0
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.790	115.8	116.3	3.0	1.0	0.7	0.2	0.4
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.073	105.3	105.3	-1.8	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.0
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	1.955	73.6	69.2	-23.2	11.6	11.9	-3.7	-6.0
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	9.480	131.3	130.5	-2.2	0.5	0.1	0.2	-0.6
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.283	117.8	117.9	-0.8	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.030	129.4	129.3	-1.1	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	62.337	103.5	103.5	-1.1	0.3	-0.2	0.2	0.0
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.290	132.6	134.7	3.9	4.1	-1.0	5.1	1.6
Fabricated metal product manufacturing.....	332	3.101	122.2	122.1	-2.8	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	7.699	116.5	116.3	-1.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	17.966	76.3	76.2	-2.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	4.813	114.3	114.4	-2.1	0.3	-0.5	-0.2	0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing.....	336	17.266	109.5	109.5	-0.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	0.0
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.662	115.1	114.8	-0.9	0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.540	120.1	120.1	0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.3	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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Dash = Not available

Table 4. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Monthly			
						Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Nonmanufactured articles.....		7.204	127.7	123.7	-4.7	4.5	5.2	0.8	-3.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.....	11	4.781	159.5	150.3	-6.0	4.0	4.6	-1.6	-5.8
Crop production.....	111	4.509	167.3	157.2	-5.4	5.0	4.8	-1.6	-6.0
Mining.....	21	2.423	69.4	70.8	-2.5	5.5	6.7	5.8	2.0
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	1.129	78.1	79.9	-4.8	1.8	-0.6	1.4	2.3
Manufactured articles.....		91.452	111.5	110.9	-2.1	0.7	0.5	0.2	-0.5
Manufactured goods, part 1.....	31	6.802	136.4	136.1	-0.7	1.1	0.9	0.7	-0.2
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.585	153.8	153.1	-0.6	1.5	1.2	0.9	-0.5
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.638	111.9	113.4	2.7	1.0	1.1	2.0	1.3
Manufactured goods, part 2.....	32	23.107	105.9	104.2	-6.5	2.4	2.2	-0.3	-1.6
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.716	120.4	120.7	-1.0	0.2	-0.7	-0.4	0.2
Printing and related support activities (Dec. 2015=100).....	323	0.267	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	4.400	84.3	79.4	-18.5	13.1	12.1	-3.2	-5.8
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	12.983	114.9	113.8	-4.4	0.3	0.2	0.8	-1.0
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.355	114.4	114.2	-2.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.8	-0.2
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.859	112.3	112.8	0.4	0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.4
Manufactured goods, part 3.....	33	61.543	111.3	111.2	-0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.3	-0.1
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.355	138.1	138.6	4.9	2.4	-2.3	5.0	0.4
Fabricated metal product manufacturing...	332	3.280	130.3	130.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	11.549	126.0	125.9	0.5	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	14.348	83.5	83.3	-2.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.818	112.5	112.2	-1.5	0.0	0.3	-0.2	-0.3
Transportation equipment manufacturing..	336	18.231	122.1	121.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.3
Furniture and related product manufacturing (Dec. 2011=100).....	337	0.411	116.6	117.7	7.5	0.2	1.1	1.4	0.9
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.552	119.4	119.4	-2.8	-0.2	-0.8	-0.3	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual	Monthly			
					Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.479	189.8	192.0	2.8	1.8	-0.8	0.3	1.2
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.386	237.7	244.3	2.0	5.5	-2.9	0.7	2.8
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.780	141.2	142.3	9.0	1.7	-0.7	1.2	0.8
Vegetable products.....	II	2.054	204.0	205.6	3.2	-0.5	-3.7	9.7	0.8
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.453	411.9	433.5	-9.0	-7.7	-0.9	1.1	5.2
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.679	111.8	113.2	20.2	-0.4	-10.9	36.2	1.3
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.371	234.9	233.4	-0.1	0.8	0.5	2.4	-0.6
Oilseeds & misc grains, seeds, plants, straw & fodder (Dec. 2015=100).....	12	0.173	106.4	103.3	-	3.5	0.3	-0.8	-2.9
Animal or vegetable fats and oils (Dec. 2009=100).....	III	0.280	106.9	107.0	0.7	-1.9	-0.3	0.2	0.1
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.831	163.6	160.9	-0.1	0.6	1.9	0.0	-1.7
Sugars and sugar confectionary (Dec. 2012=100).....	17	0.192	86.6	87.0	1.6	-0.1	0.6	0.2	0.5
Cocoa and cocoa preparations (Dec. 2009=100).....	18	0.248	115.2	112.9	-0.2	2.9	0.4	0.1	-2.0
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.286	133.1	133.0	0.5	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.330	158.3	157.9	1.0	-0.6	0.5	1.9	-0.3
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	1.024	127.6	127.6	-0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.9	0.0
Mineral products.....	V	8.425	153.7	150.4	-13.0	12.6	10.2	-2.7	-2.1
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	8.264	151.3	148.0	-12.9	13.1	10.7	-2.7	-2.2
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	8.874	147.1	146.6	-1.1	0.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.3
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.552	257.5	257.8	-12.4	0.7	-1.2	-1.6	0.1
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.386	120.9	121.2	-3.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	3.851	142.1	141.8	3.3	0.8	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2
Fertilizers (Dec. 2009=100).....	31	0.291	79.1	71.9	-29.6	-0.8	1.2	1.3	-9.1
Tanning extracts; dye, pigments, varnish, paints & putty (Dec. 2011=100).....	32	0.195	101.6	101.6	3.0	0.5	0.5	3.1	0.0
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.666	101.5	101.8	12.9	-0.1	-0.4	0.7	0.3
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	3.508	137.1	137.1	-2.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.0
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	2.244	140.2	140.3	-2.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.264	133.1	132.8	-1.8	0.5	0.1	1.1	-0.2
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.705	123.5	123.3	-3.6	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	-0.2
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.672	128.8	128.7	-1.5	0.0	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....	IX	0.827	141.0	141.6	3.1	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.4
Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal (Dec. 2014=100).....	44	0.788	96.9	97.3	3.3	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.4
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	1.150	109.6	109.6	-1.4	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.0
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	0.782	104.6	104.7	-0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016 — Continued
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Monthly			
						Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Printed matter (Dec. 2015=100).....	49	0.211	100.5	100.4	-	-0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.1
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	5.480	113.2	113.3	-0.8	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.1
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	2.268	103.5	103.3	-0.8	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	1.900	119.6	119.8	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.2
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.633	102.8	104.0	-1.5	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	1.2
Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc....	XII	1.529	122.7	122.5	-0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.305	121.8	121.6	-0.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.958	131.1	130.8	-1.2	0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100).....	68	0.329	98.2	97.9	-	0.7	-1.0	-1.3	-0.3
Ceramic products.....	69	0.281	137.1	136.9	-1.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.347	129.9	129.6	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	3.195	177.3	179.2	10.1	2.9	-2.7	5.8	1.1
Base metals and articles of base metals. ...	XV	5.484	156.7	157.4	-3.4	1.5	0.2	1.0	0.4
Iron and steel.....	72	1.362	173.5	174.4	-0.9	5.7	3.1	2.4	0.5
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.716	138.1	138.4	-5.7	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.2
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.360	241.7	242.6	-9.8	-0.8	-2.2	0.2	0.4
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.724	120.9	120.7	-4.7	1.3	-1.1	0.0	-0.2
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.445	122.3	122.3	-4.5	-1.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.528	137.0	136.7	-0.9	0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.2
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	30.568	80.7	80.6	-1.9	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	15.537	85.8	85.5	-1.9	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.3
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	15.031	75.9	75.9	-1.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	14.352	113.9	113.9	-0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.0
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	12.860	112.5	112.4	-0.7	0.2	0.0	-0.4	-0.1
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	1.417	118.9	119.8	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-0.1	0.8
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	4.016	103.2	103.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.3
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	3.685	100.0	100.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.3	0.3
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.266	141.5	141.3	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	4.198	112.0	111.9	-0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.568	116.6	116.4	-0.8	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.349	103.4	103.4	-1.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.281	135.8	136.1	1.5	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual	Monthly			
					Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Live animals; animal products.....	I	1.747	188.9	189.1	1.4	0.8	0.9	1.3	0.1
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100)...	02	1.039	149.8	147.8	2.5	2.3	0.3	0.2	-1.3
Vegetable products.....	II	4.529	204.8	191.7	-5.5	4.7	4.2	-1.5	-6.4
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.921	155.5	147.9	-14.4	1.7	1.2	-1.7	-4.9
Cereals.....	10	1.217	175.8	170.7	-7.2	3.9	4.2	-8.6	-2.9
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.813	227.9	209.0	0.2	9.2	7.6	3.4	-8.3
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....	IV	2.994	151.0	150.3	-1.8	1.4	1.1	0.7	-0.5
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants (Dec. 2009=100)....	20	0.374	118.2	117.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec. 2008=100).....	22	0.553	112.3	110.2	0.0	2.9	1.8	0.9	-1.9
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.708	215.1	214.6	-1.8	3.7	4.6	2.9	-0.2
Mineral products.....	V	6.838	168.9	164.6	-13.4	9.3	9.1	0.8	-2.5
Ores, slag and ash (Dec. 2012=100).....	26	0.492	78.1	79.4	1.4	1.1	1.7	2.9	1.7
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	6.143	161.1	156.3	-14.8	10.4	10.1	0.6	-3.0
Products of the chemical or allied industries.....	VI	10.762	136.8	136.0	-4.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	-0.6
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.914	175.0	173.8	-5.9	0.3	0.2	0.8	-0.7
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.445	132.5	131.6	-8.0	0.5	0.2	-0.3	-0.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.965	109.3	108.7	-1.9	0.8	0.0	1.9	-0.5
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints varnish, putty, & inks (Dec. 2015=100)....	32	0.540	98.2	98.0	-	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.829	134.6	134.6	-1.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.511	115.7	115.6	2.6	-0.1	0.0	-0.6	-0.1
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.862	148.4	147.3	-1.0	0.3	0.5	0.2	-0.7
Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....	VII	5.097	137.0	135.8	-3.8	0.1	-0.2	0.5	-0.9
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.122	132.7	131.3	-4.0	-0.1	0.0	0.8	-1.1
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	0.975	155.4	154.9	-2.6	0.8	-1.1	-0.3	-0.3
Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....	VIII	0.327	119.5	119.2	-6.7	0.1	0.6	0.2	-0.3
Raw hides and skins other than furskins and leather (Dec.2014=100).....	41	0.181	69.7	68.8	-8.8	0.3	0.3	0.1	-1.3
Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, baskets and wickerwork (Dec. 2014=100).....	IX	0.650	95.8	96.1	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....	X	2.132	122.4	124.1	1.4	0.3	-0.3	1.0	1.4
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.630	127.5	134.0	9.0	0.9	-0.9	4.1	5.1
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.123	119.2	119.1	-2.8	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-0.1
Printed material (Dec. 2014=100).....	49	0.379	100.4	100.4	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Textile and textile articles.....	XI	1.718	120.6	120.1	-2.0	0.1	0.1	0.9	-0.4
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.418	124.9	121.3	0.5	2.3	2.3	5.9	-2.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: August 2015 to August 2016 — Continued

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
			July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual	Monthly			
					Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....	XIII	0.866	122.8	123.1	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2015=100).....	68	0.292	100.5	101.3	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.438	99.7	99.7	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....	XIV	4.546	240.4	241.1	8.1	1.6	-2.1	4.7	0.3
Base metals and articles of base metals. ...	XV	4.949	143.3	143.7	-2.8	2.1	-1.0	0.0	0.3
Iron and steel.....	72	0.992	140.6	143.6	-5.8	7.0	-2.9	-2.8	2.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.428	154.3	154.5	-8.5	-0.7	-0.2	2.8	0.1
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.776	104.8	103.2	-6.4	2.8	-0.9	0.1	-1.5
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal (Dec. 2015=100).	82	0.392	100.1	100.1	—	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.354	147.7	147.7	-0.5	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....	XVI	29.643	95.7	95.5	-1.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	17.731	112.7	112.4	-0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.3
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	11.912	77.4	77.3	-2.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....	XVII	15.105	131.5	131.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.4
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	9.194	114.8	114.3	-0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.4
Optical, photo, measuring, medical & musical instruments; & timepieces.....	XVIII	6.166	106.0	105.8	-1.5	-0.1	-0.7	-0.1	-0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	XX	1.551	112.2	112.3	1.4	-0.7	0.7	0.5	0.1
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.930	127.6	128.3	3.8	-0.4	1.0	1.1	0.5
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.470	89.2	89.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

Table 7. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes by locality of origin: August 2015 to August 2016
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual	Monthly			
				Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Industrialized Countries²	100.000	117.5	117.1	-1.3	1.4	0.7	0.1	-0.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	7.602	123.6	122.9	-1.4	8.4	8.0	-2.2	-0.6
Manufactured articles.....	91.963	116.5	116.2	-1.4	0.9	0.2	0.2	-0.3
Other Countries³	100.000	118.1	117.8	-2.9	1.3	0.8	-0.3	-0.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	8.884	177.8	175.4	-8.6	10.1	7.2	1.6	-1.3
Manufactured articles.....	90.862	102.7	102.6	-2.1	0.6	0.2	-0.5	-0.1
Canada	100.000	120.1	119.0	-2.1	3.1	2.4	-0.1	-0.9
Nonmanufactured articles.....	21.612	117.8	117.3	-1.3	8.7	8.6	-2.4	-0.4
Manufactured articles.....	77.631	124.7	123.4	-2.5	1.7	0.6	0.6	-1.0
European Union⁴	100.000	131.6	131.2	-2.2	0.6	0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Manufactured articles.....	99.522	128.3	127.8	-2.2	0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.4
France (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	122.6	122.6	0.7	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0
Germany (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	113.1	112.7	-3.4	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.4
United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	118.7	118.8	-1.9	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.1
Latin America⁵	100.000	140.3	140.3	-2.8	1.7	1.0	0.6	0.0
Nonmanufactured articles.....	16.973	203.0	200.2	-3.0	9.1	6.4	3.0	-1.4
Manufactured articles.....	82.523	119.5	119.8	-2.8	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.3
Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	126.5	126.3	-2.2	0.9	0.6	0.2	-0.2
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100).....	9.594	121.7	120.3	4.0	10.0	7.2	13.7	-1.2
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)...	89.946	87.9	87.9	-2.8	0.2	-0.1	-1.0	0.0
Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)⁶	100.000	98.5	98.4	-1.5	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.1
China (Dec. 2003=100)	100.000	100.9	100.7	-1.9	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Japan	100.000	95.4	95.7	0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.3
Asian NICs⁷	100.000	84.1	84.2	-2.1	0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.1
ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)⁸	100.000	96.8	96.8	-2.0	0.1	0.4	-0.4	0.0
Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)⁹	100.000	144.4	143.2	-12.4	6.3	4.9	-1.0	-0.8

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 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 3 months after original publication.

Regions are not mutually exclusive.

Dash = Not available

Table 8. U.S. international price indexes and percent changes for selected transportation services: August 2015 to August 2016

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance July 2016 ¹	Index		Percent change				
		July 2016	Aug. 2016	Annual Aug. 2015 to Aug. 2016	Monthly			
					Apr. 2016 to May 2016	May 2016 to June 2016	June 2016 to July 2016	July 2016 to Aug. 2016
Air Freight								
Import Air Freight	100.000	151.0	152.7	-5.5	-1.3	-2.0	2.4	1.1
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	23.900	137.6	135.8	-8.4	1.4	0.2	-0.3	-1.3
Asia.....	62.104	133.4	136.5	-5.3	-2.9	-3.1	4.1	2.3
Export Air Freight	100.000	153.2	153.4	-2.6	0.2	-0.5	-0.2	0.1
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	37.891	145.5	145.5	-3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inbound Air Freight	100.000	143.9	144.9	-4.9	-1.8	-1.4	1.5	0.7
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	28.704	134.9	134.2	-3.5	0.7	0.0	-0.4	-0.5
Asia.....	56.670	126.0	127.8	-7.0	-3.6	-2.4	2.9	1.4
Outbound Air Freight	100.000	137.2	135.2	-9.4	0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-1.5
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	32.729	141.6	142.1	-11.0	0.0	-1.0	0.4	0.4
Asia.....	43.366	129.8	124.9	-12.9	0.0	0.0	-1.4	-3.8
Air Passenger Fares								
Import Air Passenger Fares	100.000	181.4	170.6	-9.1	1.5	0.3	-3.9	-6.0
Europe.....	43.275	205.2	187.8	-8.4	0.5	1.1	-8.4	-8.5
Asia.....	24.886	143.1	132.8	-9.4	3.0	5.9	-3.1	-7.2
Latin America/Caribbean.....	9.624	156.9	157.2	-4.1	-0.7	5.7	3.0	0.2
Export Air Passenger Fares	100.000	157.5	163.1	-8.0	-0.5	3.4	4.0	3.6
Europe.....	31.235	200.4	179.9	-16.1	-3.4	9.0	-3.8	-10.2
Asia.....	30.860	142.5	181.1	4.4	7.8	0.8	5.9	27.1
Latin America/Caribbean.....	25.231	169.4	163.7	-4.9	0.1	2.0	10.9	-3.4

¹ Relative importance figures are based on 2014 trade values.

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

Dash = Not available

TECHNICAL NOTE

Import and Export Merchandise and Services Price Indexes - All indexes use a modified Laspeyres formula and are not seasonally adjusted. Price indexes are reweighted annually, with a 2-year lag in the weights. Published series use a base year of 2000=100 where possible. More detailed index series and additional information may be obtained at www.bls.gov/mxp or by calling (202) 691-7101.

Merchandise Goods Classification Systems - The merchandise price indexes are published using three classification systems. Items are classified by end use according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis Classification System, by industry according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), and by product category according to the Harmonized System (HS). While classification by end use and product category are self-explanatory, some notes are in order for classifying items by industry. In the NAICS imports and exports tables, items are classified by output industry, not input industry. As an example, NAICS import index 326 (plastics and rubber products manufacturing) include outputs such as manufactured plastic rather than inputs such as petroleum. The NAICS classification structure also matches the classification system used by the Producer Price Index (PPI) to produce the NAICS primary products indexes.

Import Price Indexes - Products have been classified by the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (TSUSA). Import prices are based on U.S. dollar prices paid by the U.S. importer. The prices are generally either "free on board" (f.o.b.) foreign port or "cost, insurance, and freight" (c.i.f.) U.S. port transaction prices, depending on the practices of the individual industry. The index for crude petroleum is calculated from data collected by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Export Price Indexes - Products have been classified by the Harmonized Schedule B classification system of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The prices used are generally either "free alongside ship" (f.a.s.) factory or "free on board" (f.o.b.) transaction prices, depending on the practices of the individual industry. Prices used in the grain index, excluding rice, are obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Services Price Indexes - Starting in September 2008, the import air passenger fares indexes represent changes in the average revenue per passenger received by foreign carriers from U.S. residents and are calculated from data obtained from an airline consulting service. These data include tickets sold by travel agencies and travel websites. Tickets sold directly by the airlines are excluded, as are frequent flyer tickets generally. Starting in January 2008, the export air passenger fares indexes represent changes in the average revenue per passenger received by U.S. carriers from foreign residents and are calculated from data collected directly from airlines. These data include frequent flyer tickets and those sold by consolidators. Taxes and fees are included in the import air passenger fares indexes and excluded from the export air passenger fares indexes. The air freight indexes are calculated from data collected directly from airlines. These data exclude mail and passenger baggage. The scope of the service being priced is the movement of freight from airport to airport only, and does not include any ground transportation or port service. The air freight indexes are presented using two definitions: balance of payments (which represent transactions between U.S. and foreign residents) and international (which represent transactions inbound to and outbound from the U.S.). Fact sheets specifying detailed information for each services industry are available at www.bls.gov/mxp under "MXP Publications."

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

Revision Policy - To reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents, monthly data may be revised in each of the 3 months after original publication. After 3 months, no further data revisions take place. For example, data first published in the January release will be subject to revision in the releases for February, March, and April.

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

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

Additional Information - More detailed data are available on the Import/Export Price Indexes home page at www.bls.gov/mxp. For import and export price indexes data requests, send an email to mxpinfo@bls.gov.

Information from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request.
Voice phone: (202)-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-(800)-877-8339.