

# News

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## U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES - APRIL 2009 -

The U.S. Import Price Index rose 1.6 percent in April, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. A 15.4 percent increase in import petroleum prices more than offset a 0.4 percent decline in the price index for nonpetroleum imports. Export prices also rose in April, increasing 0.5 percent.

### Percent changes in import and export price indexes by End Use category - not seasonally adjusted -

Month	IMPORTS			EXPORTS		
	All imports	Petroleum imports	Non-petroleum imports	All exports	Agricultural exports	Non-agricultural exports
<b>2008</b>						
April.....	2.8	8.1	1.3	0.5	-2.0	0.7
May.....	2.8	9.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.4
June.....	3.0	9.2	0.9	1.0	2.3	0.9
July.....	1.4	3.3	0.6	1.5	6.7	0.9
August.....	-3.1	-9.8	-0.4	-1.6	-9.6	-0.7
September.....	-3.6	-11.4	-1.0	-0.8	0.1	-0.9
October.....	-6.0	-22.2	-0.9	-2.1	-8.4	-1.4
November.....	-7.4	-30.2	-1.7	-3.2	-6.9	-2.8
December.....	-4.6	-25.2	-1.1	-2.2	-6.1	-1.9
<b>2009</b>						
January.....	-1.3 <sup>r</sup>	-4.6 <sup>r</sup>	-0.8 <sup>r</sup>	0.7 <sup>r</sup>	5.9 <sup>r</sup>	0.3 <sup>r</sup>
February.....	-0.1	5.3 <sup>r</sup>	-0.7	-0.3	-1.8 <sup>r</sup>	-0.2 <sup>r</sup>
March.....	0.2 <sup>r</sup>	7.9 <sup>r</sup>	-0.9 <sup>r</sup>	-0.7 <sup>r</sup>	-3.4 <sup>r</sup>	-0.4 <sup>r</sup>
April.....	1.6	15.4	-0.4	0.5	3.6	0.3
Apr. 2007 to 2008.....	16.9	64.7	6.5	8.0	33.3	5.7
Apr. 2008 to 2009.....	-16.3	-49.8	-5.6	-6.8	-17.6	-5.4

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## Import Goods

Import prices increased 1.6 percent in April after rising 0.2 percent in March. The April advance was led by a 15.4 percent rise in petroleum prices, which increased for the third consecutive month after declining in each of the previous six months. In contrast, nonpetroleum prices decreased for the ninth consecutive month, falling 0.4 percent in April. For the year ended in April, petroleum prices fell 49.8 percent and prices for nonpetroleum imports declined 5.6 percent. Overall import prices declined 16.3 percent over the past year, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in September 1982.

The continued decline in nonpetroleum prices was led by a 2.3 percent drop in nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials prices. That decrease was driven by a sharp fall in natural gas prices, although lower prices for chemicals and some metals also contributed to the decline. The price index for nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials fell 21.0 percent over the past 12 months, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in September 1982.

Prices for the major finished goods categories were mixed in April. Import automotive vehicle prices edged down 0.1 percent in April after decreasing 0.2 percent in March. In contrast, prices for consumer goods and capital goods increased in April, rising 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively.

Prices for foods, feeds, and beverages decreased 0.1 percent in April as lower fruit prices more than offset higher coffee prices. The April drop followed a 0.7 percent decline in March.

## Export Goods

Export prices increased 0.5 percent in April because of higher prices for both agricultural and nonagricultural exports. The price index for all exports decreased 6.8 percent for the year ended in April, matching the annual decrease in March as the largest 12-month decline since the index was first published in September 1983. Agricultural prices rose 3.6 percent in April, led by increases for soybeans, corn, and wheat. The April increase notwithstanding, agricultural export prices decreased 17.6 percent over the past year. Nonagricultural prices edged up 0.3 percent in April but fell 5.4 percent over the past 12 months.

The rise in nonagricultural prices was led by a 0.3 percent increase in the index for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. Higher prices for fuels more than offset lower prices for chemicals. Despite the April increase, nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials decreased 18.4 percent for the April 2008-2009 period, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in September 1989.

Prices for capital goods and consumer goods also contributed to the increase in nonagricultural prices. The price index for capital goods rose 0.4 percent, driven by higher prices for aircraft parts and semiconductors. Consumer goods prices advanced 0.1 percent. For the year ended in April, prices for capital goods and consumer goods increased 1.1 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The price index for automotive vehicles was unchanged in April after rising 0.1 percent in March. Automotive vehicle prices advanced 0.7 percent over the past year.

## Imports by Locality of Origin

Prices for imports from China fell for the eighth consecutive month, decreasing 0.5 percent in April. Import prices from China fell 1.1 percent for the year ended in April.

Import prices from the European Union and from Japan also declined in April, falling 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. Prices for imports from the European Union declined for the third consecutive month and decreased 6.4 percent over the past year, the largest annual drop since the index was first published in December 1990. The price index for imports from Japan increased 1.4 percent for the April 2008-2009 period despite declines in March and April.

In contrast, led by rising petroleum prices, prices for imports from Mexico and from Canada increased in April, advancing 1.0 percent and 0.2 percent for the month. Over the past 12 months, however, import prices from Mexico fell 13.6 percent while import prices from Canada fell 22.3 percent, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in December 1990.

## Import and Export Services

Import air passenger fares decreased 1.3 percent in April following a 4.7 percent drop the previous month. The April decrease was again led by lower European fares, which fell 1.3 percent after decreasing 7.8 percent in March. The index for import air passenger fares fell 7.1 percent for the year ended in April, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in March 1988. Export air passenger fares also decreased in April, falling 4.0 percent as lower fares from Asia more than offset higher prices from the Latin America/Caribbean region and Europe. Fares for export air passengers decreased 11.1 percent over the past 12 months, the largest annual decrease since the index was first published in September 1986.

Import air freight prices fell 1.6 percent in April, as both European and Asian air freight prices declined. The price index for import air freight decreased 13.3 percent over the past year, the largest annual decline since the index was first published in September 1990. Prices for export air freight declined 3.5 percent in April and 11.0 percent for the April 2008-2009 period, the largest monthly and annual declines since the index was first published in December 1996.

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Import and Export Price Index data for May 2009 are scheduled for release on June 12, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

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

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>All commodities</b> .....		100.000	113.1	114.9	-16.3	-1.3	-0.1	0.2	1.6
<b>All imports excluding petroleum</b> .....		87.679	107.2	106.8	-5.6	-0.8	-0.7	-0.9	-0.4
<b>All imports excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100)</b> ..		85.989	110.6	110.5	-4.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.6	-0.1
<b>Foods, feeds, &amp; beverages</b> .....	0	4.889	136.8	136.6	-4.9	0.0	-3.2	-0.7	-0.1
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	3.757	151.1	150.5	-5.8	-0.3	-3.8	-1.2	-0.4
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	1.132	104.6	105.1	-2.0	0.7	-1.1	1.2	0.5
<b>Industrial supplies &amp; materials</b> .....	1	28.431	147.3	155.3	-37.6	-4.5	0.7	1.8	5.4
Industrial supplies & materials excluding petroleum.....		16.110	133.1	130.1	-21.0	-4.3	-2.3	-2.5	-2.3
Industrial supplies & materials excluding fuels (Dec. 2001=100).....		14.420	145.6	144.0	-16.3	-4.1	-0.9	-1.2	-1.1
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		8.876	134.5	133.5	-19.6	-2.8	-0.7	-1.8	-0.7
Industrial supplies & materials nondurable excluding petroleum.....		5.544	131.2	126.0	-22.3	-6.0	-4.1	-3.5	-4.0
Fuels & lubricants.....	10	14.011	157.8	177.0	-50.1	-4.7	2.5	5.0	12.2
Petroleum & petroleum products.....	100	12.320	163.4	188.5	-49.8	-4.6	5.3	7.9	15.4
Crude.....	10000	8.781	164.5	188.5	-52.3	-5.3	3.3	9.2	14.6
Fuels, n.e.s.-coals & gas.....	101	1.485	128.2	112.9	-50.4	-5.2	-12.2	-13.8	-11.9
Gas-natural.....	10110	1.270	114.2	98.2	-56.5	-7.4	-13.7	-15.8	-14.0
Paper & paper base stocks.....	11	0.766	105.8	104.1	-10.4	-2.6	-1.7	-2.4	-1.6
Materials associated with nondurable supplies & materials.....	12	4.876	137.4	134.8	-9.3	-6.5	-1.2	0.2	-1.9
Selected building materials.....	13	1.739	116.4	115.5	1.0	-0.8	-0.5	-0.2	-0.8
Unfinished metals related to durable goods.....	14	3.440	171.2	170.2	-34.3	-5.0	-0.4	-2.6	-0.6
Finished metals related to durable goods. ...	15	1.934	132.3	131.4	-13.0	-2.2	-1.4	-2.6	-0.7
Nonmetals related to durable goods.....	16	1.665	105.1	104.7	-1.4	-1.7	-0.8	-1.0	-0.4
<b>Capital goods</b> .....	2	25.016	91.6	91.7	-1.4	0.0	-0.5	-0.7	0.1
Electric generating equipment.....	20	3.220	109.7	109.6	-1.7	-0.3	-0.8	-0.5	-0.1
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	19.589	86.3	86.4	-1.8	0.0	-0.5	-0.9	0.1
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	2.207	120.7	121.0	3.0	0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.2
<b>Automotive vehicles, parts &amp; engines</b> .....	3	14.799	107.7	107.6	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
<b>Consumer goods, excluding automotives</b> ..	4	26.865	103.9	104.1	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.5	0.2
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	12.470	108.4	108.5	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.5	0.1
Durables, manufactured.....	41	13.109	99.7	100.0	-1.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.3
Nonmanufactured consumer goods.....	42	1.287	101.1	102.6	-2.8	-0.9	1.7	-3.2	1.5

<sup>1</sup> 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: April 2008 to April 2009**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	End Use	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>All commodities.....</b>		100.000	115.4	116.0	-6.8	0.7	-0.3	-0.7	0.5
<b>Agricultural commodities.....</b>		8.438	151.5	157.0	-17.6	5.9	-1.8	-3.4	3.6
<b>Nonagricultural commodities.....</b>		91.562	112.8	113.1	-5.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.3
<b>Foods, feeds, &amp; beverages.....</b>	0	7.921	156.5	162.6	-15.7	6.6	-2.0	-3.5	3.9
Agricultural foods, feeds & beverages, excluding distilled beverages.....	00	7.244	158.1	164.8	-16.9	7.0	-2.1	-3.7	4.2
Nonagricultural foods (fish, distilled beverages).....	01	0.677	144.1	145.2	-0.8	3.1	-1.5	-1.1	0.8
<b>Industrial supplies &amp; materials.....</b>	1	26.781	136.4	136.7	-18.6	-0.4	-0.9	-1.0	0.2
Industrial supplies & materials, durable.....		10.632	143.1	141.8	-18.7	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.9
Industrial supplies & materials, nondurable.....		16.150	133.0	134.4	-18.4	-0.9	-1.8	-1.8	1.1
Agricultural industrial supplies & materials.....	10	1.194	123.3	123.6	-21.7	-0.4	0.2	-2.1	0.2
<b>Nonagricultural industrial supplies &amp; materials.....</b>		25.588	137.3	137.7	-18.4	-0.4	-0.9	-0.9	0.3
Fuels & lubricants.....	11	3.311	146.6	158.2	-39.0	-0.6	-5.8	-6.1	7.9
Nonagricultural supplies & materials excluding fuels & building materials.....	12	21.220	137.9	136.7	-14.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.9
Selected building materials.....	13	1.057	114.5	114.0	-0.1	0.3	0.2	-1.0	-0.4
<b>Capital goods.....</b>	2	41.664	102.2	102.6	1.1	0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.4
Electrical generating equipment.....	20	3.786	106.8	106.8	-1.7	-1.6	-0.7	0.2	0.0
Nonelectrical machinery.....	21	28.882	93.7	94.0	0.1	0.4	0.3	-0.3	0.3
Transportation equipment excluding motor vehicles (Dec. 2001=100).....	22	8.996	135.0	136.3	5.7	1.8	0.5	0.3	1.0
<b>Automotive vehicles, parts &amp; engines.....</b>	3	10.569	108.2	108.2	0.7	0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.0
<b>Consumer goods, excluding automotives..</b>	4	13.064	108.2	108.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.9	0.1
Nondurables, manufactured.....	40	5.742	106.9	107.2	-2.4	1.5	0.3	-2.0	0.3
Durables, manufactured.....	41	6.206	109.8	109.7	4.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1

<sup>1</sup> 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: April 2008 to April 2009**

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Nonmanufactured articles.....</b>		12.512	81.8	89.6	-48.6	-5.1	0.3	3.4	9.5
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...</b>	11	1.775	128.5	130.5	-2.5	-0.8	-5.8	-1.7	1.6
Crop production.....	111	1.283	136.4	136.1	-1.2	-0.6	-7.4	-3.7	-0.2
<b>Mining.....</b>	21	10.737	77.0	85.3	-52.2	-5.7	1.4	4.3	10.8
Mining (except oil and gas) (Dec. 2006=100).....	212	0.477	129.2	129.5	5.2	2.0	0.4	-1.4	0.2
<b>Manufactured articles.....</b>		86.972	104.9	105.4	-6.5	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3	0.5
<b>Manufactured goods, part 1.....</b>	31	11.088	106.9	106.5	-1.8	0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4
Food manufacturing.....	311	2.560	115.4	114.7	-8.2	-0.7	-1.5	-0.7	-0.6
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.996	106.9	107.0	1.7	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.1
Textile mills.....	313	0.481	113.1	111.4	-0.3	1.6	0.7	-0.2	-1.5
Textile product mills.....	314	0.866	100.7	98.8	-3.4	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2	-1.9
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	4.507	102.6	102.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Leather and allied product manufacturing. . .	316	1.678	107.7	107.5	2.6	1.0	0.1	0.0	-0.2
<b>Manufactured goods, part 2.....</b>	32	17.800	106.9	109.4	-13.2	-1.9	0.6	0.8	2.3
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	1.031	90.4	89.8	-1.3	-1.5	-0.9	-0.2	-0.7
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.358	104.4	102.7	-7.2	-1.6	-1.4	-2.1	-1.6
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	3.002	79.6	93.1	-42.1	-1.4	7.1	7.3	17.0
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	9.082	119.2	118.4	-3.9	-3.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.7
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	1.987	112.8	112.7	2.8	0.4	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	1.226	118.4	118.1	6.5	0.8	0.1	-0.2	-0.3
<b>Manufactured goods, part 3.....</b>	33	58.084	103.9	103.8	-5.0	-0.6	-0.3	-0.6	-0.1
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.128	120.1	119.1	-32.6	-4.5	-0.9	-2.6	-0.8
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. . .	332	3.008	116.7	115.9	-0.7	-0.3	-0.8	-1.0	-0.7
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	7.309	110.9	110.6	0.3	0.8	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.127	88.7	88.7	-5.2	-1.0	-0.4	-0.8	0.0
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	4.294	112.5	112.4	0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1
Transportation equipment manufacturing. . .	336	15.995	104.7	104.8	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.1
Furniture and related product manufacturing.....	337	1.701	110.5	110.3	1.5	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.522	110.0	110.7	0.3	0.2	-0.6	-0.2	0.6

<sup>1</sup> 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: April 2008 to April 2009**

[December 2005=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	NAICS	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Nonmanufactured articles.....</b>		5.758	111.1	118.0	-25.1	7.2	-3.1	-6.2	6.2
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting...</b>	11	4.558	129.0	138.4	-22.8	11.1	-3.5	-6.6	7.3
Crop production.....	111	4.194	131.8	142.3	-23.9	11.8	-3.8	-7.0	8.0
<b>Mining.....</b>	21	1.200	71.6	73.3	-32.7	-6.3	-1.6	-4.8	2.4
Mining (except oil and gas).....	212	0.936	83.8	86.2	-13.5	-6.8	-0.4	-0.6	2.9
<b>Manufactured articles.....</b>		92.589	106.9	107.2	-3.9	0.3	-0.3	-0.4	0.3
<b>Manufactured goods, part 1.....</b>	31	6.548	116.9	116.4	-4.4	0.0	0.2	-0.3	-0.4
Food manufacturing.....	311	4.343	129.4	129.2	-5.3	0.4	0.2	-0.3	-0.2
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing.....	312	0.522	105.5	105.4	-1.0	0.1	0.6	1.3	-0.1
Apparel manufacturing.....	315	0.397	102.2	102.5	1.5	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
<b>Manufactured goods, part 2.....</b>	32	21.539	106.5	107.2	-12.3	-0.2	-1.4	-1.5	0.7
Wood product manufacturing.....	321	0.474	107.8	106.9	-4.3	-1.4	-0.1	-0.9	-0.8
Paper manufacturing.....	322	1.956	111.9	111.3	-3.3	-1.4	-0.2	-0.5	-0.5
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing.....	324	1.833	80.9	90.2	-47.0	-1.5	-7.8	-8.5	11.5
Chemical manufacturing.....	325	14.181	110.1	109.6	-7.9	0.0	-0.6	-1.0	-0.5
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing.....	326	2.216	107.9	108.3	0.4	0.5	-1.3	-0.6	0.4
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing.....	327	0.878	112.6	113.1	4.3	0.8	-0.6	0.2	0.4
<b>Manufactured goods, part 3.....</b>	33	64.502	105.8	106.0	-0.7	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.2
Primary metal manufacturing.....	331	4.320	121.7	120.1	-20.9	0.2	-0.5	2.1	-1.3
Fabricated metal product manufacturing. ....	332	2.879	120.4	120.6	4.8	2.3	0.2	-1.1	0.2
Machinery manufacturing.....	333	12.942	111.6	111.7	2.4	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Computer and electronic product manufacturing.....	334	16.747	92.9	93.2	-2.5	-0.1	0.5	-0.4	0.3
Electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing.....	335	3.653	106.1	106.6	-0.1	-0.3	-0.5	0.1	0.5
Transportation equipment manufacturing....	336	18.539	109.3	109.8	3.1	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	339	5.071	110.6	110.7	4.2	-0.4	-0.5	0.0	0.1

<sup>1</sup> 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 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: April 2008 to April 2009**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Live animals; animal products.....</b>	I	1.169	125.4	125.8	-7.2	-0.1	-1.8	1.9	0.3
Meat and edible meat offal.....	02	0.255	143.2	143.6	-6.3	-0.9	-1.0	-1.5	0.3
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.600	100.5	100.9	-4.5	0.7	-1.7	2.1	0.4
<b>Vegetable products.....</b>	II	1.484	153.5	153.7	-1.5	-1.7	-6.8	-4.1	0.1
Edible vegetables, roots, and tubers.....	07	0.423	271.6	258.2	15.0	-2.3	-25.6	5.4	-4.9
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.465	104.0	101.2	-4.3	-1.3	-2.3	-5.0	-2.7
Coffee, tea, mate and spices.....	09	0.248	139.1	146.6	-12.3	3.5	-1.0	-6.3	5.4
<b>Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....</b>	IV	2.417	133.8	133.4	-2.0	0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3
Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; bakers' wares (Dec. 2007=100).....	19	0.253	106.3	105.9	-1.0	0.1	-1.0	0.4	-0.4
Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts, or other parts of plants.....	20	0.304	128.1	123.8	-12.5	-0.8	-0.5	-2.4	-3.4
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar.....	22	0.998	115.6	115.7	-1.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.1
<b>Mineral products.....</b>	V	14.309	161.4	180.1	-48.6	-4.6	2.5	4.8	11.6
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	13.899	157.8	176.7	-49.8	-4.6	2.5	5.0	12.0
<b>Products of the chemical or allied industries.....</b>	VI	8.207	130.0	129.8	-5.3	-3.7	-0.3	-0.8	-0.2
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	0.730	191.1	197.1	-23.4	-25.3	-2.1	1.3	3.1
Organic chemicals.....	29	2.536	121.3	123.2	-6.1	-1.2	0.5	0.3	1.6
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.893	113.1	113.1	-0.2	1.6	0.3	-2.0	0.0
Tanning & dyeing extracts; dye & pigments; varnish & paints; putty.....	32	0.182	104.1	103.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-1.0	-0.3
Essential oils and resinoids (Dec. 2001=100).....	33	0.450	119.2	118.0	-4.8	1.2	-0.9	-1.4	-1.0
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	0.465	92.4	90.6	-8.9	-1.7	-2.2	-0.9	-1.9
<b>Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....</b>	VII	3.119	127.5	127.0	-2.8	-1.2	-1.3	0.3	-0.4
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	2.030	125.0	125.2	-2.5	-1.7	-1.5	0.6	0.2
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.089	132.3	130.6	-3.5	0.1	-1.0	-0.4	-1.3
<b>Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....</b>	VIII	0.669	113.9	113.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.5
Articles of leather; travel goods, bags, etc. of various materials.....	42	0.621	114.8	114.1	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6
<b>Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....</b>	IX	1.062	110.5	109.9	-1.5	-1.6	-0.8	-0.3	-0.5
<b>Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....</b>	X	1.553	109.6	108.3	-5.7	-0.8	-1.2	-1.7	-1.2
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.099	110.6	109.5	-1.0	0.2	-1.1	-1.9	-1.0
Printed matter.....	49	0.304	119.8	119.7	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1
<b>Textile and textile articles.....</b>	XI	5.648	103.2	102.8	-1.0	-0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.4
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.....	61	2.130	99.9	99.7	-0.7	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.....	62	2.174	104.0	104.0	0.8	-0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0
Made-up or worn textile articles.....	63	0.579	90.9	90.8	-5.4	-3.4	-0.1	-1.0	-0.1
<b>Headgear, umbrellas, artificial flowers, etc. ...</b>	XII	1.367	108.0	108.1	2.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Footwear and parts of such articles.....	64	1.155	107.3	107.4	3.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 5. U.S. import price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: April 2008 to April 2009 — Continued**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Monthly			
						Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc.....</b>	XIII	1.092	123.2	123.0	6.7	1.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, or mica (Dec. 2001=100).....	68	0.416	119.1	118.0	10.3	0.4	-0.2	0.0	-0.9
Ceramic products.....	69	0.332	132.3	131.8	5.5	0.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.4
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.345	116.8	117.9	4.0	2.5	0.0	-0.1	0.9
<b>Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....</b>	XIV	2.689	134.5	135.8	-14.3	1.0	0.2	1.7	1.0
<b>Base metals and articles of base metals.....</b>	XV	5.791	150.9	149.5	-23.3	-3.7	-1.5	-2.9	-0.9
Iron and steel.....	72	1.354	191.2	181.0	-32.3	-4.4	-2.9	-6.1	-5.3
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.995	146.9	145.7	-2.3	-2.2	-1.6	-2.7	-0.8
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.460	181.9	198.7	-38.7	-7.5	3.0	1.6	9.2
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.699	100.7	99.3	-37.2	-8.4	-4.8	-2.4	-1.4
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.423	118.3	117.9	3.2	2.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.504	129.3	128.6	0.9	0.3	-1.8	-0.1	-0.5
<b>Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....</b>	XVI	27.549	86.4	86.4	-2.8	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	0.0
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	13.826	87.1	87.1	-2.7	0.1	-0.2	-0.9	0.0
Electrical machinery and equip, sound and TV recorders & reproducers, parts.....	85	13.723	85.7	85.7	-3.1	-1.1	-0.6	-0.3	0.0
<b>Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....</b>	XVII	13.662	109.1	109.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.2
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	12.396	108.0	108.2	-0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.2
Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof (Dec. 2002=100).....	88	1.154	115.6	115.9	3.9	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.3
<b>Optical, photo, measuring, medical &amp; musical instruments; &amp; timepieces.....</b>	XVIII	3.415	101.5	101.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Optical, photographic, measuring and medical instruments.....	90	3.067	99.3	99.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.1
Clocks and watches and parts thereof.....	91	0.266	123.1	123.2	1.8	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.1
<b>Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....</b>	XX	4.550	107.9	107.9	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0
Furniture & stuffed furnishings; lamps & lighting fittings, nesoi; prefab bldgs.....	94	2.498	113.2	112.9	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.3
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	1.833	100.7	100.6	2.3	0.9	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....	96	0.219	111.1	115.2	4.1	0.3	-0.2	-1.2	3.7

<sup>1</sup> 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: April 2008 to April 2009**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmoni- zied system	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Live animals; animal products.....</b>	I	1.531	155.3	156.4	-6.0	1.2	-0.9	-0.2	0.7
Meat & edible meat offal (Dec. 2006=100). . .	02	0.782	122.8	122.8	-10.6	1.7	-0.2	1.5	0.0
Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates.....	03	0.404	144.8	149.6	-0.7	1.1	-2.3	-2.4	3.3
<b>Vegetable products.....</b>	II	4.404	174.5	186.2	-20.6	11.4	-3.6	-5.3	6.7
Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons.....	08	0.576	100.0	101.2	-17.3	-1.8	-1.5	-3.7	1.2
Cereals.....	10	1.891	186.7	202.2	-33.6	18.7	-6.6	-5.2	8.3
Oilseeds and misc. grains, seeds, fruits, plants, straw and fodder.....	12	1.299	183.7	200.7	-14.1	13.1	-1.6	-7.5	9.3
<b>Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, and tobacco.....</b>	IV	2.465	134.6	135.6	0.4	1.7	1.0	-1.0	0.7
Miscellaneous edible preparations.....	21	0.379	119.6	118.6	-1.2	-1.9	0.1	0.0	-0.8
Beverages, spirits, and vinegar (Dec.2008=100).....	22	0.286	100.4	99.8	-	0.7	-0.1	-0.2	-0.6
Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal feed.....	23	0.485	176.4	184.6	-6.4	7.6	4.1	-6.9	4.6
<b>Mineral products.....</b>	V	3.164	166.6	178.3	-43.5	-4.3	-6.8	-7.6	7.0
Mineral fuels, oils and residuals, bituminous substances and mineral waxes.....	27	2.694	159.4	171.6	-44.9	-1.9	-7.6	-8.7	7.7
<b>Products of the chemical or allied industries.....</b>	VI	11.873	134.8	134.7	-4.9	0.4	-0.2	-0.5	-0.1
Inorganic chemicals.....	28	1.371	202.8	197.5	6.2	1.7	-0.8	-0.6	-2.6
Organic chemicals.....	29	3.195	131.9	132.8	-16.6	-1.7	0.1	1.5	0.7
Pharmaceutical products.....	30	2.693	114.1	114.5	-4.3	2.1	1.5	-3.3	0.4
Tanning or dyeing extracts, dyes, paints, varnish, putty, & inks.....	32	0.549	113.3	110.8	-4.8	-1.0	0.2	0.1	-2.2
Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery cosmetic or toilet preparations.....	33	0.732	121.6	121.8	0.0	3.0	-5.1	-0.3	0.2
Soap; lubricants; waxes, polishing or scouring products; candles, pastes.....	34	0.421	115.4	113.4	-2.3	-3.0	-1.4	-0.9	-1.7
Miscellaneous chemical products.....	38	1.814	129.6	129.8	4.3	2.2	-1.7	-0.4	0.2
<b>Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof.....</b>	VII	5.333	130.1	128.5	-7.2	-1.3	-1.0	-2.0	-1.2
Plastics and articles thereof.....	39	4.279	123.7	123.3	-8.2	-1.1	-0.8	-2.1	-0.3
Rubber and articles thereof.....	40	1.054	159.5	150.9	-3.7	-1.7	-1.8	-0.9	-5.4
<b>Raw hides, skins, leather, furskins, travel goods, etc.....</b>	VIII	0.278	81.2	77.6	-33.8	-11.2	-0.4	-2.9	-4.4
<b>Wood, wood charcoal, cork, straw, basketware and wickerwork.....</b>	IX	0.592	105.0	104.4	-6.1	-2.2	0.4	-1.8	-0.6
<b>Woodpulp, recovered paper, and paper products.....</b>	X	2.401	106.3	106.2	-9.9	-1.3	0.8	-0.4	-0.1
Woodpulp and recovered paper.....	47	0.496	88.6	89.5	-31.1	-5.1	1.7	0.9	1.0
Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, paper or paperboard.....	48	1.370	113.0	112.3	-0.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.5	-0.6
Printed material.....	49	0.535	114.3	114.6	-5.5	0.1	0.1	-1.1	0.3
<b>Textile and textile articles.....</b>	XI	1.988	101.3	101.0	-6.7	0.0	-1.4	-1.1	-0.3
Cotton, including yarns and woven fabrics thereof.....	52	0.517	86.1	89.1	-19.9	0.2	-1.5	-5.5	3.5
<b>Stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, ceramics, glass etc. (Dec.2008=100).....</b>	XIII	0.861	116.2	115.6	4.1	1.3	0.3	0.0	-0.5
Glass and glassware.....	70	0.457	100.5	100.3	0.7	0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
<b>Pearls, stones, precious metals, imitation jewelry, and coins.....</b>	XIV	3.940	173.5	172.3	-9.5	1.9	2.1	3.6	-0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 6. U.S. export price indexes and percent changes for selected categories of goods: April 2008 to April 2009 — Continued**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Harmonized system	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
			Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
					Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Base metals and articles of base metals.....</b>	XV	5.067	142.0	141.0	-21.3	-0.3	-0.5	-1.5	-0.7
Iron and steel.....	72	1.339	165.0	156.0	-32.9	1.1	-0.5	-3.2	-5.5
Articles of iron or steel.....	73	1.542	164.2	164.0	8.7	3.3	-0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Copper and articles thereof.....	74	0.335	120.4	140.4	-48.3	-8.3	2.3	0.5	16.6
Aluminum and articles thereof.....	76	0.672	95.7	93.9	-39.6	-4.8	-0.8	-0.4	-1.9
Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof.....	82	0.410	121.8	121.8	2.4	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metal.....	83	0.332	116.8	116.8	-9.0	0.3	-0.6	-8.5	0.0
<b>Machinery, electrical equipment, TV image and sound recorders, parts, etc.....</b>	XVI	31.766	94.8	95.1	-0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.2	0.3
Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.....	84	18.322	104.8	105.0	1.1	0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.2
Electrical machinery and equipment and parts and accessories thereof.....	85	13.444	84.0	84.4	-1.7	-0.1	0.4	-0.4	0.5
<b>Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment.....</b>	XVII	16.016	119.2	119.9	3.4	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.6
Motor vehicles and their parts.....	87	9.267	107.5	107.4	0.8	0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1
<b>Optical, photo, measuring, medical &amp; musical instruments; &amp; timepieces.....</b>	XVIII	6.351	106.8	106.7	0.0	0.8	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
<b>Miscellaneous manufactured articles.....</b>	XX	1.599	106.8	106.9	-1.4	-0.2	0.0	0.5	0.1
Furniture; stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings nesoi;.....	94	0.782	116.5	116.7	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.9	0.2
Toys, games and sports equipment; parts and accessories thereof.....	95	0.694	93.1	92.7	-2.1	-0.3	0.0	0.1	-0.4

<sup>1</sup> 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: April 2008 to April 2009**  
 [2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Percent of U.S. imports <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
		Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Industrialized Countries<sup>2</sup></b> .....	42.434	117.4	117.7	-12.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3	0.3
Nonmanufactured articles.....	4.390	141.2	147.8	-50.6	-5.3	-3.7	0.2	4.7
Manufactured articles.....	37.621	114.9	114.8	-6.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1
<b>Other Countries<sup>3</sup></b> .....	57.566	109.3	111.6	-18.7	-1.9	-0.2	0.4	2.1
Nonmanufactured articles.....	12.442	159.8	177.2	-47.7	-4.2	0.5	3.6	10.9
Manufactured articles.....	44.910	101.3	101.7	-6.7	-1.5	-0.3	-0.3	0.4
<b>Canada</b> .....	15.963	124.0	124.3	-22.3	-1.8	-2.2	-0.6	0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	3.979	136.3	140.6	-52.7	-4.9	-4.7	-0.3	3.2
Manufactured articles.....	11.678	122.9	122.4	-8.4	-0.8	-1.6	-0.7	-0.4
<b>European Union<sup>4</sup></b> .....	17.447	123.6	123.4	-6.4	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2
Nonmanufactured articles.....	0.222	187.4	204.3	-40.9	-3.8	-15.5	-0.1	9.0
Manufactured articles.....	17.133	121.6	121.3	-5.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2
<b>France (Dec. 2003=100)</b> .....	1.954	119.3	119.5	0.9	1.6	-0.8	0.3	0.2
<b>Germany (Dec. 2003=100)</b> .....	4.735	108.4	108.0	-4.3	1.0	0.0	-0.8	-0.4
<b>United Kingdom (Dec. 2003=100)</b> .....	2.660	118.1	118.5	-13.9	-0.1	-0.5	0.3	0.3
<b>Latin America<sup>5</sup></b> .....	17.808	131.4	134.9	-24.6	-1.0	-1.4	-0.5	2.7
Nonmanufactured articles.....	5.160	184.4	200.9	-41.7	2.0	-2.9	2.6	8.9
Manufactured articles.....	12.547	121.8	122.4	-14.1	-2.2	-0.9	-1.6	0.5
<b>Mexico (Dec. 2003=100)</b> .....	10.785	124.5	125.8	-13.6	-1.5	-1.8	-0.7	1.0
Nonmanufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100).....	1.947	97.5	103.3	-	-1.6	-6.9	6.4	5.9
Manufactured articles (Dec. 2008=100)....	8.788	95.5	95.8	-	-1.7	-0.7	-2.2	0.3
<b>Pacific Rim (Dec. 2003=100)<sup>6</sup></b> .....	33.590	99.3	99.1	-2.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2
<b>China (Dec. 2003=100)</b> .....	16.852	100.9	100.4	-1.1	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5
<b>Japan</b> .....	7.488	96.3	96.2	1.4	0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
<b>Asian NICs<sup>7</sup></b> .....	5.647	85.5	84.8	-6.3	-2.7	-0.3	-1.2	-0.8
<b>ASEAN (Dec. 2003=100)<sup>8</sup></b> .....	5.729	95.2	95.6	-5.3	-1.3	-0.6	-0.2	0.4
<b>Asia Near East (Dec. 2003=100)<sup>9</sup></b> .....	3.992	140.0	152.2	-44.6	-7.6	1.0	6.1	8.7

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: April 2008 to April 2009**

[2000=100, unless otherwise noted]

Description	Relative importance Mar. 2009 <sup>1</sup>	Index		Percent change				
		Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Annual	Monthly			
				Apr. 2008 to Apr. 2009	Dec. 2008 to Jan. 2009	Jan. 2009 to Feb. 2009	Feb. 2009 to Mar. 2009	Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009
<b>Air Freight</b>								
<b>Import Air Freight</b> .....	100.000	132.8	130.7	-13.3	-0.9	-1.1	-2.2	-1.6
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	22.089	124.4	121.1	-27.0	0.2	-2.3	-3.6	-2.7
Asia.....	69.275	118.4	116.8	-7.7	-0.8	-0.1	-1.7	-1.4
<b>Export Air Freight</b> .....	100.000	124.1	119.8	-11.0	-3.0	-3.0	-2.3	-3.5
Europe (Dec. 2006=100).....	37.497	115.2	107.8	-14.9	-0.5	-4.5	-2.9	-6.4
<b>Inbound Air Freight</b> .....	100.000	127.6	125.3	-14.1	-2.0	-2.0	-2.8	-1.8
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	24.375	121.3	117.7	-25.4	-1.5	-2.3	-4.4	-3.0
Asia.....	64.027	112.4	110.6	-8.4	-1.6	-2.1	-1.9	-1.6
<b>Outbound Air Freight</b> .....	100.000	119.0	115.1	-12.9	-4.0	-2.6	-2.5	-3.3
Europe (Dec. 2003=100).....	40.778	139.8	133.2	-12.0	-3.3	-3.0	-2.0	-4.7
Asia.....	39.904	105.1	103.7	-11.6	-5.0	-0.4	-2.5	-1.3
<b>Air Passenger Fares</b>								
<b>Import Air Passenger Fares</b> .....	100.000	134.9	133.1	-7.1	-5.6	-4.6	-4.7	-1.3
Europe.....	41.741	134.6	132.9	-9.0	5.3	-5.7	-7.8	-1.3
Asia.....	28.444	123.1	122.8	1.9	-11.7	-4.6	-4.1	-0.2
Latin America/Caribbean.....	11.926	118.2	120.6	-11.1	-19.7	-3.9	-3.0	2.0
<b>Export Air Passenger Fares</b> .....	100.000	141.7	136.0	-11.1	0.2	-10.6	-3.9	-4.0
Europe.....	28.514	153.7	154.3	-17.4	-1.7	-9.9	-7.1	0.4
Asia.....	36.027	128.3	122.7	-5.3	2.4	-13.9	0.2	-4.4
Latin America/Caribbean.....	21.172	149.7	151.1	-1.8	0.9	-10.2	-7.6	0.9

<sup>1</sup> Relative importance figures for Air Passenger Fares Indexes are based on 2007 trade values, while the relative importance figures for the Air Freight Indexes are based on 2006 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 for merchandise goods 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 excluded from both 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 <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.

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