





March 2017 First Quarter 2017

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## **Briefing**

The monthly publication of Building Materials Price Statistics is of great significance as building material prices are deemed to be important economic indicators for planning and research in various fields. They are also used in the compilation of indices of the construction activity and for the calculation of GDP at constant prices.

Statistical centres all over the world collect prices of building materials used by a large segment of people. As a result of the urban development and the constant growth in the construction sector in the Emirate, Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi collects price data for these materials on a regular basis. The movements of prices of 21 groups from the key building materials are included in this publication. This information helps decision and policy makers and researchers in planning and making sound

decisions in support of the building materials sector and other sectors associated with it.

## **Key Points**

- During March 2017 the average prices of 'Employment' increased by 4.0%, 'Steel' by 1.1% and the 'Diesel' group increased by 1.0%, compared with February 2017.
- During March 2017 the average price of 'Roofing materials' decreased by 9.6%, '(PVC) Pipes'
   by 8.6% and 'Wires for apartment' by 5.9% compared with February 2017.
- During March 2017 the average price of the 'Diesel' increased by 44.3%, 'Steel' by 9.4% and 'Power cable' by 9.2% compared with March 2016.
- During March 2017, the average prices of 'Roofing materials', 'Wood' and 'Glass' decreased by 9.6%, 9.5% and 9.1% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.
- During the first quarter of 2017 compared with the fourth quarter of 2016, the average price of the 'Diesel' group increased by 8.8%, 'Power cable' by 5.4% and 'Steel' by 3.2%. The average prices of 'Glass', 'Waterproofing products' and 'Employment' decreased by 9.0%, 8.7%, and 7.7% respectively.
- During the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same period in the previous year, the
  average prices of 'Diesel', 'Steel' and 'Power cable' increased by 36.9%, 14.8% and 12.5%
  respectively. The average prices of 'Wood', 'Paints' and 'Concrete' fell by 9.4%, 7.3% and 6.4%
  respectively.



### **Notes**

#### **Technical notes**

The current methodology for Building Materials Price Statistics including conceptual basis, construction of the basket, data collection, validation, processing procedures, averaging and treatment of missing values, and potential sources of error are described in the methodology of Building Materials Price Statistics, which is available on SCAD's website at http://www.scad.ae.

#### **Data sources**

Data are obtained from the monthly survey of Building Materials Prices; the data are collected, processed and passed to Statistic Centre – Abu Dhabi for further editing and compilation.

#### More information and detailed release

Building Materials Price Statistics, for April 2017 will be released on May 2017. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at http://www.scad.ae.

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