



مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE

# Building Materials Price Statistics

January 2015

February 2015

## Introduction

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 (table 5). 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

This publication provides an analysis of the movement of the average prices of building materials during the month of January 2015 compared with December 2014 and January 2014. The key changes were:

- During January 2015 the average prices of the 'Natural stone', 'Pipes (PVC)', 'Pipes (uPVC)' and 'Wood' groups increased by 4.0%, 3.0%, 1.2% and 0.9% respectively, compared with December 2014.
- During January 2015 the average prices of the 'Employment' group decreased by 8.9%, 'Power cable' by 5.2% and 'Concrete' by 2.2%, compared with December 2014.
- During January 2015 the average prices of both 'Concrete' and 'Block' increased by 4.6%, 'Natural stone' by 4.0%, 'Wires for apartment' by 2.9%, and 'Aggregates and sand' by 2.8%, compared with January 2014.
- During January 2015, the average prices of 'Power cable', 'Wires for residential towers' and 'Paints' decreased by 11.8%, 9.6% and 8.5% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.

## 1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for January 2015 compared with December 2014

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in January 2015 compared with December 2014, with increases ranging between 0.2% for the 'Tiles and marble' group and 4.0% for the 'Natural stone' group. Decreases ranging from 0.1% for the 'Cement' group to 8.9% for the 'Employment' group were recorded.

### Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' decreased by 8.9% in January 2015 compared with December 2014. Table (1) shows decreases ranged between 5.6% and 28.0%.

**Table (1): Percentage change in the average wages of the employment group during January 2015 compared with December 2014**

Serial No.	Employment	Average wages of December 2014 (AED/ h)	Average wages of January 2015 (AED/ h)	Percentage Change %	
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	7.5	7.0	-6.7	▼
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	8.0	7.5	-6.3	▼
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	9.0	8.5	-5.6	▼
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	9.0	8.5	-5.6	▼
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	14.0	13.0	-7.1	▼
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	25.0	18.0	-28.0	▼
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	22.0	22.0	0.0	—

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Note: The table presents the average hourly labor rate including food, accommodation, and transport and safety equipment.

### Power cable

The average prices of 'Power cable' decreased by 5.2% in January 2015 compared with December 2014, as a result of decreases in all items in this group.

**Table (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group during January 2015 compared with December 2014**

Serial No.	Power cable	Average prices of December 2014 (AED)	Average prices of January 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %	
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	299,620	282,130	-5.8	▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	346,870	328,780	-5.2	▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	580,590	554,780	-4.4	▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Natural stone

The 'Natural stone' group increased by 4.0% in January 2015, as a result of an increase in some items in this group compared with December 2014.

## Pipes (PVC)

The average prices of 'Pipes (PVC)' decreased by 3.0% in January 2015 compared with December 2014.

## Concrete

The average prices of 'Concrete' decreased by 2.2% in January 2015 compared with December 2014.

**Table (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the concrete group during January 2015 compared with December 2014**

Serial No.	Concrete	Average prices of December 2014 (AED)	Average prices of January 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Concrete Ready Mix \ Normal (Neutin 40) \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	230.0	225.0	-2.2 ▼
2	Concrete Ready Mix \ Sulphate Resistance \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	235.0	230.0	-2.1 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## 2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for January 2015 compared with January 2014

The monthly average prices for 11 groups of building materials have decreased in January 2015 compared with January 2014. The fall ranged between 0.8% for 'Waterproofing products' and 11.8% for 'Power cable'.

### Power cable

The average prices of 'Power cable' decreased by 11.8% in January 2015 compared with January 2014.

**Table (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group during January 2015 compared with January 2014**

Serial No	Power cable	Average prices of January 2014 (AED)	Average prices of January 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	324,760	282,130	-13.1 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	372,870	328,780	-11.8 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	619,740	554,780	-10.5 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

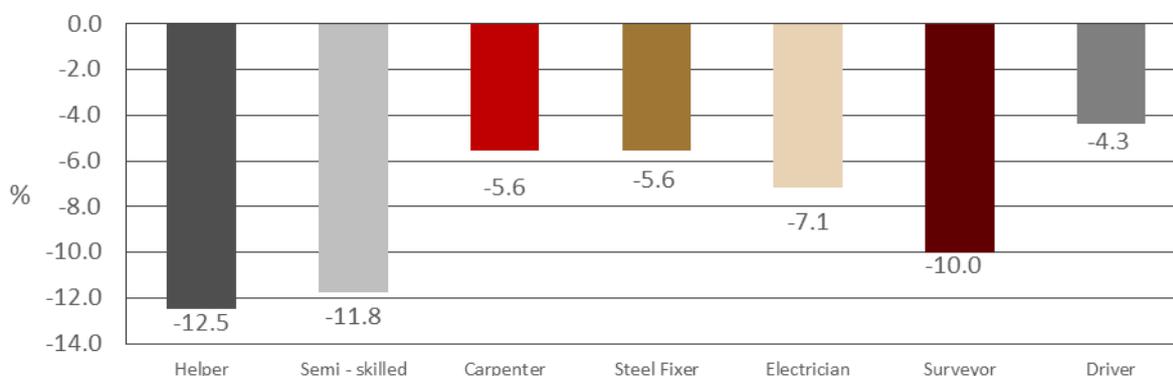
## Wires

The average prices of 'Wires' decreased in January 2015 compared with January 2014. 'Wires for residential towers' accounted for the largest decrease of 9.6%, followed by 'Small buildings' with 5.0%, while 'Wires for apartment' increased by 2.9%.

## Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' decreased by 8.9% in January 2015 compared with January 2014, as a result of decreases in all items in this group between 4.3% and 12.5%.

**Figure (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group items during January 2015 compared with January 2014**



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## **Steel**

The average prices of 'Steel' decreased by 5.0% in January 2015, as a result of decreases in most items in this group compared with January 2014.

## **Paints**

The average prices of 'Paints' decreased by 8.5% in January 2015 compared with January 2014.

Some building materials items have seen an increase in January 2015 compared with January 2014.

## **Block**

The 'Block' group increased by 4.6% in January 2015 compared with January 2014.

## **Concrete**

The average prices of 'Concrete' increased by 4.6% in January 2015 compared with January 2014, as a result of increases in all items in this group.

## **Natural stone**

The average prices of 'Natural stone' increased by 4.0% in January 2015 compared with January 2014, with some items in the group recording an increase.

**Table (5): Percentage change in monthly average prices of building materials for January 2015, compared with December 2014 and January 2014.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change January 2015 / December 2014	Percentage change January 2015 / January 2014
1	<b>Cement</b>	-0.1	2.8
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	0.0	2.8
3	<b>Concrete</b>	-2.2	4.6
4	<b>Steel</b>	-1.5	-5.0
5	<b>Wood</b>	0.9	0.5
6	<b>Block</b>	0.0	4.6
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	0.0	0.0
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	0.6	-0.8
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	n.a.	n.a.
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	4.0	4.0
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	0.2	1.8
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.7
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	0.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	-1.4
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	0.0	0.0
14	<b>Paints</b>	-1.5	-8.5
15	<b>Glass</b>	-4.2	-7.7
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	3.0	0.7
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	1.2	-6.5
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	0.3	-5.0
17.2	Apartments	-1.8	2.9
17.3	Residential towers	0.4	-9.6
18	<b>Power cable</b>	-5.2	-11.8
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	0.0	-1.1
20	<b>Employment</b>	-8.9	-8.2
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Methodology of Building Material Statistics

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 Building Materials Price Statistics 2013 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Building Materials Price Statistics, for February 2015 will be released on 15 March 2015. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

## Disclaimer

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