



مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE

Building Materials Price Statistics

March 2014

First Quarter, 2014

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 7). 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 March 2014 compared with February 2014 and March 2013, and during the first quarter of 2014 compared with the fourth quarter of 2013 and first quarter of 2013. The key changes were:

- During March 2014 the average prices of the “Employment”, “(PVC) Pipes”, and “Wood” groups increased by 5.8%, 2.2%, and 1.5% respectively, compared with February 2014.
- During March 2014 the average prices of the “Power cable” group decreased by 3.8%, “(uPVC) Pipes” by 1.0% and “Paints” by 0.5% compared with February 2014.
- During March 2014 the average prices of “Aggregates and sand” increased by 20.0%, “Natural stone” by 18.0%, “Wood” by 9.6% and “Waterproofing products” by 2.5% compared with March 2013.
- During March 2014, the average prices of “Power cable”, “Wires for apartments”, and “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single” decreased by 7.5%, 7.1% and 6.0% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.
- During the first quarter of 2014, the average price of the “(PVC) Pipes” group increased by 1.1%, and both “Wood” and “Wire for apartment” increased also by 1.1%. The average prices of “Employment”, “Concrete” and “Wires for small building” decreased by 6.0%, 2.9%, and 1.2% respectively, compared with the fourth quarter of 2013.
- During the first quarter of 2014 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of “Aggregates and sand”, “Natural stone” and “Wood” increased by 18.3% and 18.0% and 8.2% respectively. The average prices of “Wires for apartment”, “(PVC) Pipes” and “Power cable” fell by 9.0%, 7.5% and 6.8% respectively.

1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2014 compared with February 2014

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in March 2014 compared with February 2014, with increases ranging between 1.5% for the “Wood” group and 5.8% for the “Employment” group. Declines of 0.2% for the “Steel” group, and 3.8% for the “Power cable” group were recorded.

Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 5.8% in March 2014 compared with February 2014. Table (1) indicates that increases of the employment group ranged between 5.9% and 11.1%.

Table (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group

Serial	Employment	Average prices of February 2014 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	8.0	8.5	6.3 ▲
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	8.5	9.0	5.9 ▲
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	9.0	10.0	11.1 ▲
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	9.0	10.0	11.1 ▲
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	15.0	16.0	6.7 ▲
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	25.0	25.0	0.0 —
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	25.0	25.0	0.0 —

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

Power cable

The average prices of “Power cable” decreased by 3.8% in March 2014, as a result of decreases in all items in this group compared with February 2014.

Table (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group

Serial	Power cable	Average prices of February 2014 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	320,670	306,710	-4.4 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	368,650	354,210	-3.9 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm ² \ 1 km	613,280	594,380	-3.1 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wood

The average prices of the “Wood” group increased by 1.5% in March 2014 compared with February 2014, mainly due to the increase in some items in this group.

Pipes

The average prices of the “Pipes (PVC)” group increased by 2.2% in March 2013 compared with February 2014, mainly due to the increase in some items in this group. While the average prices of the “Pipes (uPVC)” group decreased by 1.0%, due to the decrease in all items in this group.

Paints

The “Paints” group decreased by 0.5% in March 2014, as a result of a decrease in the price for “Mamorex Paint\ Bangalac Glos\ Gallon\ U.A.E.” by 20.0% compared with February 2014.

Table (3) Percentage change in the average prices of the paints group

Serial	Paints	Average prices of February 2014 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Paints\ Jolloflex Normal Emulsion\ Dram\ U.A.E.	60.0	60.0	0.0 —
2	Paints\ Durosan Matt Emulsion\ Gallon\ U.A.E.	55.0	60.0	9.1 ▲
3	Mamorex Paint\ Fenomastic Plastic Emulsion\ Gallon\ U.A.E.	85.0	85.0	0.0 —
4	Mamorex Paint\ Bangalac Glos\ Gallon\ U.A.E.	75.0	60.0	-20.0 ▼
5	Mamorex Paint\ Heavy Tex with Arbl\ Dram\ U.A.E.	180.0	200.0	11.1 ▲
6	Mamorex Paint\ Heavy Tex w\o Marble Clips\ Dram \U.A.E.	230.0	230.0	0.0 —

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2014 compared with March 2013

The monthly average prices for 15 groups of building materials have decreased in March 2014 compared with March 2013. The drop ranged between 0.4% for “Tiles and marble” and 7.5% for “Power cable”.

Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in March 2014 compared with March 2013. “Wires for apartments” accounted for the largest decrease of 7.1%, while “Wires for residential towers” and “Small buildings” decreased by 3.8% and 2.6% respectively.

Power cable

The average prices of “Power cable” decreased by 7.5% in March 2014, as a result of decreases in all items in this group compared with March 2013.

Table (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group

Serial	Power cable	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	335,350	306,710	-8.5 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	383,830	354,210	-7.7 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm ² \ 1 km	634,330	594,380	-6.3 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Sanitary ware

The average prices of the “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single” and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” groups decreased during March 2014 by 6.0% and 5.4% respectively, while the average prices of the “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” group increased by 1.6% compared with March 2013.

Some building materials items have seen an increase in March 2014 compared with March 2013

Natural Stone

The average prices of the “Natural Stone” group increased by 18.0% in March 2014 compared with March 2013.

Table (5): Percentage change in the average prices of the natural stone group (March 2014 compared with March 2013)

Serial	Natural stone	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Natural Stone\Width 25 cm, Height 3 cm \ White - Al Qtarana\ m ² \ Jordan	75.0	75.0	0.0 —
2	Natural Stone\ Width 25 cm, Height 3 cm \ Ajloun \ m ² \ Jordan	130.0	160.0	23.1 ▲
3	Natural Stone \ Width 25 cm, Height 3 cm \ Ma'an \ m ² \ Jordan	135.0	180.0	33.3 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Aggregates and sand

The “Aggregates and sand” group increased by 20.0% in March 2014. Table (6) shows that the increases ranged between 9.1% and 40.0% compared with March 2013.

Table (6): Percentage change in the average prices of the block group (March 2014 compared with March 2013)

Serial	Aggregates and sand	Average prices of March 2013 (AED)	Average prices of March 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Aggregates \ Crush 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	70.0	80.0	14.3 ▲
2	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/4 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	60.0	75.0	25.0 ▲
3	Aggregates \ Crush 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	70.0	70.0	0.0 —
4	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/8 \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	50.0	70.0	40.0 ▲
5	Aggregates \ Material Sand \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	n.a	60.0	
6	Sand \ White \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	41.3	45.0	9.1 ▲
7	Sand \ Black \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	47.5	60.0	26.3 ▲
8	Sand \ Red \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	35.0	40.0	14.3 ▲

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wood

The average wages of “Wood” increased by 9.6% in March 2014 compared with March 2013, while most items in the group recorded an increase.

Building materials prices for Q1 2014 compared with Q4 2013

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q1 2014 compared with Q4 2013.

Increases ranged between 0.3% for “Waterproofing products” and 1.1% for the “(PVC) Pipes” group.

The average price for “Aggregates and sand”, “Block”, “Roofing materials”, “Diesel”, “Natural stone”, “Sanitary ware” and “False ceiling” showed no change in Q1 2014 compared with Q4 2013.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q1 2014 compared with Q4 2013. The average prices of “Employment” decreased by 6.0%, while “Concrete”, “Wires for small building” and “(uPVC) Pipes” decreased by 2.9%, 1.2% and 1.1% respectively.

3. Building materials prices for Q1 2014 compared with Q1 2013

The average prices of building materials showed variations with most increasing during Q1 2014 compared with Q1 2013.

The price increases ranged between 0.3% for “Cement” and 18.3% for “Aggregates and sand”. In addition, “Natural stone” increased by 18.0%, “Wood” by 8.2%, “Glass” by 3.4% and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” by 3.2%.

Decreases ranged between 0.7% for “False ceiling” and 9.0% for “Wires for apartments”, while “(PVC) Pipes” decreased by 7.5% and “Power cable” by 6.8%.

The average price for the “Diesel”, and “roofing materials groups stabilized during Q1 2014, compared with Q1 2013.

Table (7): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2014, compared with February 2014 and March 2013.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change March 2014 / February 2014	Percentage change March 2014 / March 2013
1	Cement	0.0	0.0
2	Aggregates and sand	0.0	20.0
3	Concrete	0.0	-4.4
4	Steel	-0.2	-4.9
5	Wood	1.5	9.6
6	Block	0.0	-1.5
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	-0.3	2.5
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	18.0
11	Tiles and marble	0.0	-0.4
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	1.6
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-5.4
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	-6.0
13	False ceiling	0.0	-1.5
14	Paints	-0.5	-1.1
15	Glass	0.0	0.9
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	2.2	-4.4
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-1.0	-1.9
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	0.0	-2.6
17.2	Apartments	0.0	-7.1
17.3	Residential towers	0.0	-3.8
18	Power cable	-3.8	-7.5
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-2.2
20	Employment	5.8	1.0
21	Diesel	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Table (8): Percentage change in the quarterly average prices of building materials for Q1 2014, compared with Q4 2013 and Q1 2013.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q1 2014 / Q4 2013	Percentage change Q1 2014 / Q1 2013
1	Cement	0.6	0.3
2	Aggregates and sand	0.0	18.3
3	Concrete	-2.9	-4.4
4	Steel	-0.3	-5.6
5	Wood	1.1	8.2
6	Block	0.0	-6.1
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	0.3	1.2
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a
10	Natural stone	0.0	18.0
11	Tiles and marble	-0.6	0.4
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	3.2
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-5.4
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	-1.8
13	False ceiling	0.0	-0.7
14	Paints	-0.2	-2.1
15	Glass	0.7	3.4
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	1.1	-7.5
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-1.1	-0.9
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	-1.2	-4.9
17.2	Apartments	1.1	-9.0
17.3	Residential towers	-0.4	-3.6
18	Power cable	-0.9	-6.8
19	Transport equipment	-1.0	-1.9
20	Employment	-6.0	1.9
21	Diesel	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 April 2014 will be released on 12 May 2014. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

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