



مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE



## Building Materials Price Statistics



**2015**  
September -Third Quarter

October 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 6). 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 September 2015 compared with August 2015 and September 2014, and during the third quarter of 2015 compared with the second quarter of 2015 and third quarter of 2014. The key changes were:

- During September 2015 the average prices of the 'Employment', 'False ceiling' and 'Pipes (uPVC)' groups increased by 6.7%, 6.6% and 5.6% respectively, compared with August 2015.
- During September 2015 the price of 'Diesel' decreased by 9.3%, 'Waterproofing products' by 2.4% and 'Steel' by 2.0% compared with August 2015.
- During September 2015 the average price of the 'Employment' group increased by 24.3%, 'False ceiling' by 10.8% and 'Tiles and marble' by 9.5% compared with September 2014.
- During September 2015, the average prices of 'Steel', 'Diesel' and 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 21.2%, 20.9% and 18.2% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.
- During the third quarter of 2015 compared with the second quarter of 2015, the average price of the 'Employment' group increased by 22.7%, 'Tiles and marble' by 3.8% and 'Waterproofing products' by 3.5%. The average prices of 'Diesel', 'Power cable' and 'Steel' decreased by 11.2%, 7.2%, and 6.9% respectively.
- During the third quarter of 2015 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of 'Employment', 'False ceiling' and 'Tiles and marble' increased by 19.4%, 8.6% and 8.5% respectively. The average prices of 'Steel', 'Waterproofing products' and 'Power cable' fell by 19.1%, 17.2% and 14.4% respectively.

## 1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2015 compared with August 2015

The increases in the average prices in September 2015 compared with August 2015, ranged between 0.4% for the 'Wires for apartment' group and 6.7% for the 'Employment' group. Decreases ranging from 0.5% for 'Wires for residential towers' and 9.3% for the 'Diesel' group were recorded.

### Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' increased by 6.7% in September 2015 compared with August 2015. Table (1) shows increases between 2.9% and 20.0%.

**Table 1: Percentage change in the average wages of the employment group during September 2015 compared with August 2015**

Serial No.	Employment	Average wages of August 2015 (AED/ h)	Average wages of September 2015 (AED/ h)	Percentage Change %	
1	Helper	8.8	9.0	2.9	▲
2	Semi – skilled worker	10.0	9.5	-5.0	▼
3	Carpenter	11.0	12.0	9.1	▲
4	Blacksmith	11.0	12.0	9.1	▲
5	Electrician	16.0	18.0	12.5	▲
6	Surveyor	25.0	30.0	20.0	▲
7	Driver	28.0	28.0	0.0	—

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

### Pipes (uPVC)

The average prices of 'Pipes (uPVC)' increased by 5.6% in September 2015 compared with August 2015, as a result of an increase in all items in this group.

**Table 2: Percentage change in the average prices of the Pipes (uPVC) group during September 2015 compared with August 2015**

Serial No.	Pipes (uPVC)	Average prices of August 2015 (AED)	Average prices of September 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %	
1	uPVC Pipe \ 110mm \ PN-10 \ 6 m	63.5	66.1	4.1	▲
2	uPVC Pipe \ 160 mm \ PN-10 \ 6m	135.9	144.2	6.1	▲
3	uPVC Pipe \ 200 mm \ PN-10 \ 6m	210.5	226.7	7.7	▲
4	uPVC Pipe \ 1500 mm \ PN-10 \ 6m	1,303.6	1,361.1	4.4	▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### False ceiling

The average prices of 'False ceiling' increased by 6.6% in September 2015 compared with August 2015, as a result of an increase in most items in this group.

### Paints

The average prices of 'Paints' increased by 4.4% in September 2015 compared with August 2015, as a result of an increase in some items in this group.

### Diesel

The price of 'Diesel' decreased by 9.3% in September 2015 compared with August 2015.

**Table 3: Percentage change in the average price of Diesel during September 2015 compared with August 2015**

Serial No.	Diesel	Average price of August 2015 (AED)	Average price of September 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Diesel \ ADNOC \ Litre	2.05	1.86	9.3 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### Waterproofing products

The average prices of 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 2.4% in September 2015 compared with August 2015, as a result of a decrease in some items in this group.

### Steel

The average prices of 'Steel' decreased by 2.0% in September 2015 compared with August 2015.

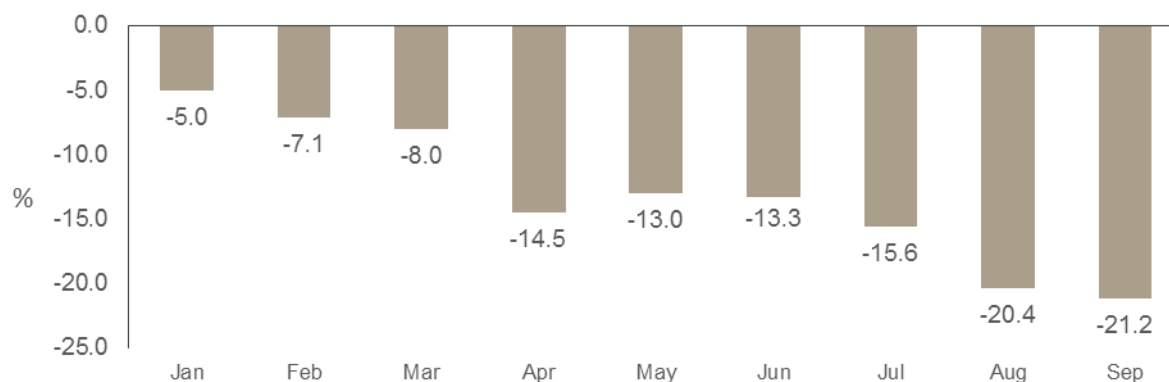
## 2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2015 compared with September 2014

The monthly average prices for 15 groups of building materials have decreased in September 2015 compared with September 2014. The decreases ranged between 0.4% for 'Transport equipment' and 21.2% for 'Steel'.

## Steel

The average prices of the 'Steel' group decreased by 21.2% in September 2015 compared with September 2014.

**Figure 1: Percentage change in the average prices of the steel group during months of 2015 compared with months of 2014**



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Diesel

The price of 'Diesel' decreased by 20.9% in September 2015 compared with September 2014.

## Waterproofing products

The average prices of 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 18.2% in September 2015 compared with September 2014, as a result of decreases in most items in this group.

## Power cable

The average prices of 'Power cable' decreased by 13.9% in September 2015 compared with September 2014, as a result of a decrease in all items in this group.

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

Serial No.	Power cable	Average prices of September 2014 (AED)	Average prices of September 2015 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	312,610	264,620	-15.4 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	360,310	310,670	-13.8 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	603,500	527,530	-12.6 ▼

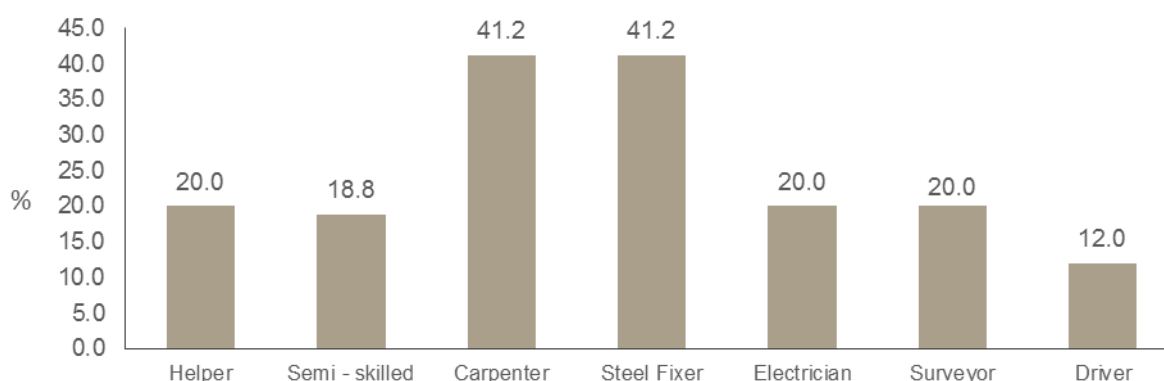
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Some building materials items have seen an increase in September 2015 compared with September 2014:

### Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' increased by 24.3% in September 2015 compared with September 2014, as a result of increases in all items in this group.

**Figure 2: Percentage change in the average wages of the employment group during September 2015 compared with September 2014**



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### Tiles and marble

The 'Tiles and marble' group increased by 9.5% in September 2015 compared with September 2014.

### False ceiling

The average prices of 'False ceiling' increased by 10.8% in September 2015 compared with September 2014, with most items in the group recording an increase.

## 3. Building materials prices for Q3 2015 compared with Q2 2015

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q3 2015 compared with Q2 2015.

Increases ranged between 1.0% for '(uPVC) Pipes' and 22.7% for the 'Employment' group. While the average price for some groups showed no change in Q3 2015 compared with Q2 2015.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q3 2015 compared with Q2 2015, the average prices of 'Diesel' decreased by 11.2%, while 'Power cable', 'Steel' and '(PVC) Pipes' groups decreased by 7.2%, 6.9% and 5.0% respectively.

#### **4. Building materials prices for Q3 2015 compared with Q3 2014**

The average prices of building materials showed variations with some increasing during Q3 2015 compared with Q3 2014.

The price increases ranged between 0.1% for 'Glass' and 19.4% for 'Employment'. In addition, 'False ceiling' increased by 8.6%, 'Tiles and marble' by 8.5% and also 'Wood' by 1.9%.

Decreases ranged between 0.4% for 'Transport equipment' and 19.1% for 'Steel', while 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 17.2% and 'Power cable' by 14.4%.



**Table 5: Percentage change in monthly average prices of building materials for September 2015, compared with August 2015 and September 2014**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change September 2015 / August 2015	Percentage change September 2015 / September 2014
1	<b>Cement</b>	0.0	-1.4
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	0.0	-6.3
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	-2.2
4	<b>Steel</b>	-2.0	-21.2
5	<b>Wood</b>	-1.1	2.6
6	<b>Block</b>	0.0	-4.7
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	-1.7	0.0
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	-2.4	-18.2
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	n.a.	n.a.
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	0.0	-2.1
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	-1.2	9.5
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.7
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-1.5
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.0
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	6.6	10.8
14	<b>Paints</b>	4.4	4.3
15	<b>Glass</b>	0.0	1.3
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	0.5	-9.6
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	5.6	0.6
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	0.4	-1.6
17.2	Apartments	4.3	-2.7
17.3	Residential towers	-0.5	-7.0
18	<b>Power cable</b>	1.1	-13.9
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	0.0	-0.4
20	<b>Employment</b>	6.7	24.3
21	<b>Diesel</b>	-9.3	-20.9

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

**Table 6: Percentage change in the quarterly average prices of building materials for Q3 2015, compared with Q2 2015 and Q3 2014.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q3 2015 / Q2 2015	Percentage change Q3 2015 / Q3 2014
1	<b>Cement</b>	-0.9	-1.0
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	-4.2	-3.2
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	-2.2
4	<b>Steel</b>	-6.9	-19.1
5	<b>Wood</b>	3.0	1.9
6	<b>Block</b>	-3.1	-3.1
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	-0.6	1.1
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	3.5	-17.2
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	n.a.	n.a.
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	0.0	-2.1
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	3.8	8.5
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.7
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-1.5
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.0
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	1.7	8.6
14	<b>Paints</b>	2.7	0.8
15	<b>Glass</b>	2.4	0.1
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-5.0	-12.0
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	1.0	-3.0
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	1.6	-0.6
17.2	Apartments	2.1	-2.1
17.3	Residential towers	-2.0	-4.9
18	<b>Power cable</b>	-7.2	-14.4
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	0.0	-0.4
20	<b>Employment</b>	22.7	19.4
21	<b>Diesel</b>	-11.2	-11.2

(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 2014 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

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

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