



مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE

Building Materials Price Statistics

September 2014

Third Quarter

22 October 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 4). 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 2014 compared with August 2014 and September 2013, and during the third quarter of 2014 compared with the second quarter of 2014 and third quarter of 2013. The key changes were:

- During September 2014 the average prices of the 'Wires for residential towers', 'Wires for apartment', and 'Wires for small buildings' groups increased by 4.8%, 4.1%, and 3.4% respectively, compared with August 2014.
- During September 2014 the average prices of the '(PVC) pipes' group decreased by 5.9%, 'False ceiling' by 1.8% and 'Power cable' by 1.2% compared with August 2014.
- During September 2014 the average prices of 'Block' increased by 4.6%, 'Wires for apartment' by 4.2%, 'Cement' by 3.0% and 'Aggregates and sand' by 2.8% compared with September 2013.
- During September 2014, the average prices of 'Employment', 'Wires for residential towers' and 'Steel' decreased by 12.3%, 8.5% and 5.9% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.
- During the third quarter of 2014, the average price of the 'Concrete' group increased by 2.3%, 'Wires for apartment' group by 2.1% and 'Aggregates and sand' increased by 1.9%. The average prices of 'Wires for residential towers', 'Employment' and 'Wires for small buildings' decreased by 10.5%, 9.1%, and 6.8% respectively, compared with the second quarter of 2014.
- During the third quarter of 2014 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of 'Aggregates and sand', 'Cement' and 'Block' increased by 3.8% and 3.0% and 2.7% respectively. The average prices of 'Wires for residential towers', 'Employment' and 'Steel' fell by 11.5%, 11.2% and 5.5% respectively.

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

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in September 2014 compared with August 2014, with increases ranging between 3.4% for the 'Wires for small buildings' group and 4.8% for the 'Wires for residential towers' group. Declines ranging from 0.1% for the 'Tiles and marble' and 'Employment' groups to 5.9% for the '(PVC) Pipes' group were recorded.

Wires

The average prices of 'Wires' increased in September 2014 compared with August 2014. 'Wires for residential towers' accounted for the largest increase of 4.8%, followed by 'Wires for apartment' with 4.1% and 'Wires for small buildings' with 3.4%.

(PVC) Pipes

The average prices of '(PVC) Pipes' decreased by 5.9% in September 2014 compared with August 2014.

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

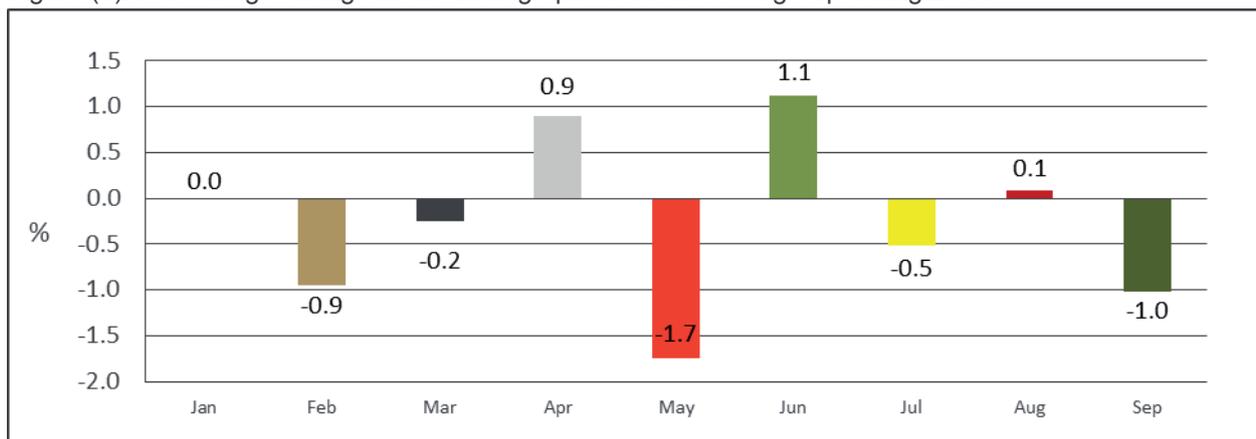
Serial No.	(PVC) Pipes	Average prices of August 2014 (AED)	Average prices of September 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	PVC Pipes \ 1/2 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	9.0	9.0	0.0 
2	PVC Pipes \ 3/4 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	12.1	11.0	-9.1 
3	PVC Pipes \ 1 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	15.9	14.0	-12.3 
4	PVC Pipes \ 1.5 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	32.0	27.5	-14.1 
5	PVC Pipes \ 2 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	40.0	41.5	3.8 
6	PVC Pipes \ 2.5 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	63.5	62.5	-1.6 
7	PVC Pipes \ 3 inch \ 6 m \ U.A.E.	88.5	82.7	-6.6 

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Steel

The 'Steel' group decreased by 1.0% in September 2014, as a result of a decrease in some items in this group compared with August 2014.

Figure (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the steel group during 2014



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Power cable

The average prices of 'Power cable' decreased by 1.2% in September 2014 compared with August 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

Serial No.	Power cable	Average prices of August 2014 (AED)	Average prices of September 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	316,310	312,610	-1.2 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	364,130	360,310	-1.0 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm ² \ 1 km	612,160	603,500	-1.4 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

False ceiling

The 'False ceiling' group decreased by 1.8% in September 2014, as a result of a decrease in some items in this group compared with August 2014.

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

The monthly average prices for 13 groups of building materials have decreased in September 2014 compared with September 2013. The drop ranged between 1.3% for 'Glass' and 12.3% for 'Employment'.

Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' decreased by 12.3% in September 2014 compared with September 2013.

Table (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group during 2014 compared with 2013

Serial No.	Employment	Average prices of September 2013 (AED)	Average prices of September 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	8.0	7.5	-6.3 ▼
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	9.0	8.0	-11.1 ▼
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	11.0	8.5	-22.7 ▼
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	11.0	8.5	-22.7 ▼
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	16.0	15.0	-6.3 ▼
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	27.0	25.0	-7.4 ▼
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	27.0	25.0	-7.4 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

Wires

The average prices of 'Wires' decreased in September 2014 compared with September 2013. 'Wires for residential towers' accounted for the largest decrease of 8.5%, followed by 'Small buildings' with 2.5%, while 'Wires for apartment' increased by 4.2%.

Steel

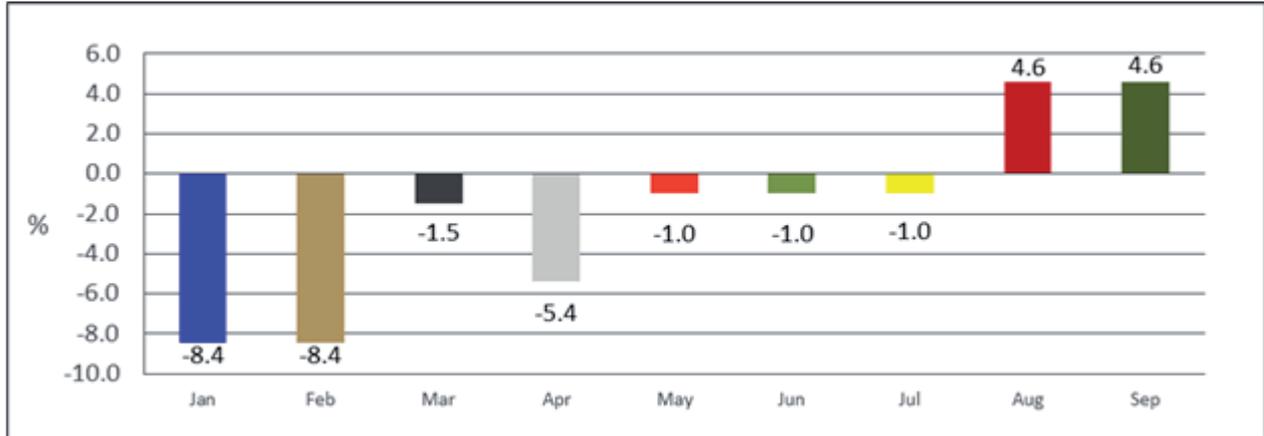
The average prices of 'Steel' decreased by 5.9% in September 2014, as a result of decreases in most items in this group compared with September 2013.

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

Block

The 'Block' group increased by 4.6% in September 2014 compared with September 2013.

Figure (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the block group during 2014 compared with 2013

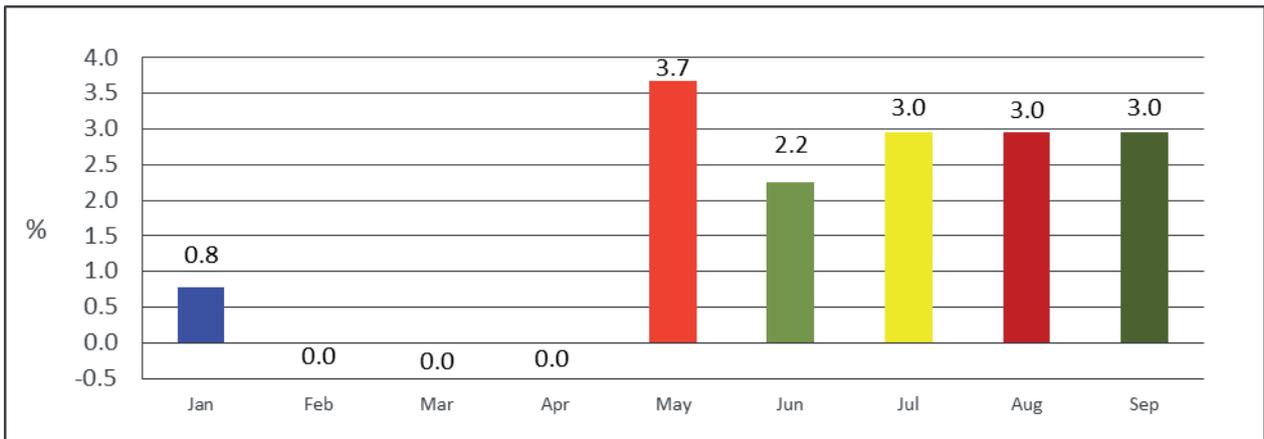


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Cement

The average prices of ‘Cement’ increased by 3.0% in September 2014 compared with September 2013, with most items in the group recording an increase.

Figure (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the cement group during 2014 compared with 2013



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

3. Building materials prices for Q3 2014 compared with Q2 2014

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q3 2014 compared with Q2 2014.

Increases ranged between 0.4% for '(uPVC) Pipes' and 2.3% for the 'Concrete' group.

The average price for 'Wood', 'Roofing materials', 'Diesel', 'Natural stone', 'Waterproofing products', 'Tiles and marble' and 'Transport equipment' showed no change in Q3 2014 compared with Q2 2014.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q3 2014 compared with Q2 2014. The average prices of 'Wires for residential towers' decreased by 10.5%, while 'Employment', 'Wires for small buildings' and 'Glass' decreased by 9.1%, 6.8% and 2.0% respectively.

4. Building materials prices for Q3 2014 compared with Q3 2013

The average prices of building materials showed variations with most increasing during Q3 2014 compared with Q3 2013.

The price increases ranged between 0.1% for 'Waterproofing products' and 3.8% for 'Aggregates and sand'. In addition, 'Cement' increased by 3.0%, 'Block' by 2.7% and also 'Wood' by 2.7%.

Decreases ranged between 0.5% for 'Power cable' and 11.5% for 'Wires for residential towers', while 'Employment' decreased by 11.2% and 'Steel' by 5.5%.

The average price for the 'Diesel', 'Natural stone' and 'roofing materials' groups stabilized during Q3 2014, compared with Q3 2013.

Table (4): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2014, compared with August 2014 and September 2013.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change September 2014 / August 2014	Percentage change September 2014 / September 2013
1	Cement	0.0	3.0
2	Aggregates and sand	0.0	2.8
3	Concrete	0.0	2.2
4	Steel	-1.0	-5.9
5	Wood	-0.9	0.7
6	Block	0.0	4.6
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	0.0	0.4
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	-0.1	-2.1
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.0
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	0.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	-1.4
13	False ceiling	-1.8	-1.8
14	Paints	0.0	-4.9
15	Glass	0.0	-1.3
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-5.9	-2.1
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-1.1	-2.0
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	3.4	-2.5
17.2	Apartments	4.1	4.2
17.3	Residential towers	4.8	-8.5
18	Power cable	-1.2	-2.1
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-1.4
20	Employment	-0.1	-12.3
21	Diesel	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Table (5): Percentage change in the quarterly average prices of building materials for Q3 2014, compared with Q2 2014 and Q3 2013.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q3 2014/ Q2 2014	Percentage change Q3 2014/ Q3 2013
1	Cement	1.4	3.0
2	Aggregates and sand	1.9	3.8
3	Concrete	2.3	2.2
4	Steel	-0.6	-5.5
5	Wood	0.0	2.7
6	Block	1.5	2.7
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	0.0	0.1
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	0.0	-2.0
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.0
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	0.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	-0.5	-1.4
13	False ceiling	-0.6	-0.6
14	Paints	-1.0	-4.9
15	Glass	-2.0	-1.3
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-0.4	2.0
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	0.4	-1.9
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	-6.8	-4.1
17.2	Apartments	2.1	0.8
17.3	Residential towers	-10.5	-11.5
18	Power cable	1.8	-0.5
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-1.4
20	Employment	-9.1	-11.2
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 October 2014 will be released on 25 November 2014. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Disclaimer

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هاتف: +971 2 8100000 فاكس: +971 2 8100800

صندوق بريد: 6036، أبوظبي، إ.ع.م