



مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE

Building Materials Price Statistics

May 2014

June 12 th, 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 May 2014 compared with April 2014 and May 2013. The key changes were:

▲ During May 2014 the average prices of the “Concrete”, “Block”, and “Cement” groups increased by 6.9%, 4.6%, and 2.2% respectively, compared with April 2014.

▼ During May 2014 the average prices of the “Employment” group decreased by 11.3%, “Wood” by 3.5% and “Steel” by 1.7% compared with April 2014.

▲ During May 2014 the average prices of “Aggregates and sand” increased by 5.7%, “Wood” by 4.7%, “Cement” by 3.7% and “Waterproofing Products” by 0.9% compared with May 2013.

▼ During May 2014, the average prices of “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single”, “Bathroom Set with Accessories” and “Wires for apartments” decreased by 7.3%, 6.6% and 5.7% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.

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

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in May 2014 compared with April 2014, with increases ranging between 1.7% for the “Power cable” group and 6.9% for the “Concrete” group. Declines ranging from 0.6% for the “(uPVC) Pipes” group and 11.3% for the “Employment” group were recorded.

Employment

The average wages of “Employment” decreased by 11.3% in May 2014 compared with April 2014. Table (1) indicates that decreases of the employment group ranged between 3.8% and 17.9%.

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

Serial	Employment	Average prices of April 2014 (AED)	Average prices of May 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	9.0	8.0	-11.1 ▼
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	9.5	8.5	-10.5 ▼
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	11.0	10.0	-9.1 ▼
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	11.0	10.0	-9.1 ▼
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	18.0	15.0	-16.7 ▼
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	28.0	23.0	-17.9 ▼
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	26.0	25.0	-3.8 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

Concrete

The average prices of “Concrete” increased by 6.9% in May 2014 compared with April 2014.

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

Serial	Concrete	Average prices of April 2014 (AED)	Average prices of May 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Concrete Ready Mix \ Normal (Neutin 40) \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	215.0	230.0	7.0 ▲
2	Concrete Ready Mix \ Sulphate Resistance \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	220.0	235.0	6.8 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Block

The average prices of the “Block” group increased by 4.6% in May 2014 compared with April 2014, due to the increase in all items in this group.

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

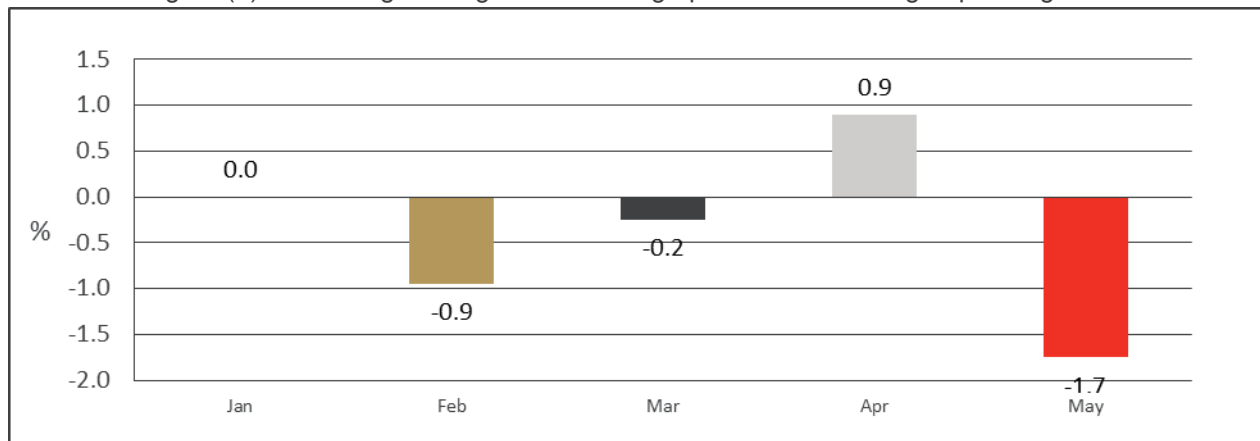
Serial	Block	Average prices of May 2013 (AED)	Average prices of May 2014 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Hollow \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	1,600.0	1,700.0	6.3 ▲
2	Hollow \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	1,800.0	1,900.0	5.6 ▲
3	Hollow \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,000.0	2,100.0	5.0 ▲
4	Solid \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,500.0	2,600.0	4.0 ▲
5	Solid \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,750.0	2,850.0	3.6 ▲
6	Solid \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,100.0	3,200.0	3.2 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Steel

The “Steel” group decreased by 1.7% in May 2014, as a result of a decrease in the most items in this group compared with April 2014.

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



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wood

The “Wood” group decreased by 3.5% in May 2014, as a result of a decrease in the most items in this group compared with April 2014.

Cement

The “Cement” group increased by 2.2% in May 2014, as a result of an increase in prices for “Portland Cement\ Al- Etihad\ Ton\ U.A.E.” by 7.7% and for “Sulphate Resistance\ Al- Etihad\ Ton\ U.A.E.” by 6.7% compared with April 2014.

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

The monthly average prices for 15 groups of building materials have decreased in May 2014 compared with May 2013. The drop ranged between 0.2% for “Employment” and 7.3% for “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single”.

Sanitary ware

The average prices of the “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” and “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” groups decreased during May 2014 by 7.3%, 6.6% and 4.7% respectively.

Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in May 2014 compared with May 2013. “Wires for apartments” accounted for the largest decrease of 5.7%, while “Small buildings” and “Wires for residential towers” decreased by 2.6% and 1.2% respectively.

Steel

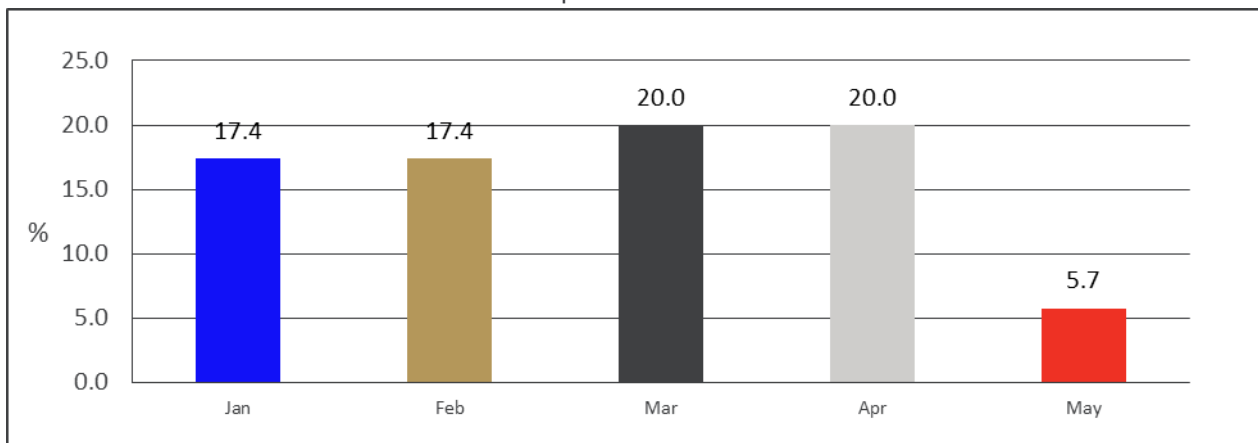
The average prices of “Steel” decreased by 5.5% in May 2014, as a result of decreases in most items in this group compared with May 2013.

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

Aggregates and sand

The “Aggregates and sand” group increased by 5.7% in May 2014 compared with May 2013.

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



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wood

The average wages of “Wood” increased by 4.7% in May 2014 compared with May 2013, with most items in the group recording an increase.

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

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change May 2014 / April 2014	Percentage change May 2014 / May 2013
1	Cement	2.2	3.7
2	Aggregates and sand	0.0	5.7
3	Concrete	6.9	0.0
4	Steel	-1.7	-5.5
5	Wood	-3.5	4.7
6	Block	4.6	-1.0
7	Roofing materials	0.0	0.0
8	Waterproofing products	0.0	0.9
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	0.0	-0.9
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	-4.7
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-6.6
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	-1.4	-7.3
13	False ceiling	0.0	0.0
14	Paints	0.0	-4.8
15	Glass	0.0	0.7
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	0.0	-2.1
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-0.6	-4.8
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	0.0	-2.6
17.2	Apartments	0.0	-5.7
17.3	Residential towers	0.0	-1.2
18	Power cable	1.7	-2.5
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-2.1
20	Employment	-11.3	-0.2
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 June 2014 will be released on 12 July 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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