



مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE

Economy Statistics | 2021

Building Materials Prices

August 2021

Release date: September 2021

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Introduction

Building materials prices are key economic indicators that constitute an important input in planning and research in various urban and economic fields. They serve decision-makers and policy makers as analytical tools for recognizing price trends and predicting any changes in the prices of building materials they also represent useful indicators for the construction industry and the related establishments in the corporate sector in general.

In the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, collecting and categorizing the price chain of building materials began in 1988, and specialized personnel determined both the basket and the price sources at that time. In 1997, the building materials basket was updated to incorporate the detailed market needs at that time. When the Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi assumed this responsibility in 2009, the basket was updated once again. Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi continues to collect monthly prices and update the basket whenever needed, enabling release of monthly, quarterly and annual statistics for each item included in a series of groups of items. The construction component series is designed to reflect the prices of building materials in the retail market in Abu Dhabi. In general, field researchers collect price data on a weekly and monthly basis, and then the data are subjected to review procedures from price auditing and statistically processed to prepare monthly price averages for each commodity.

Table 1: Percentage change in the average prices of building materials for August 2021 compared with July 2021 and August 2020

%

Serial No.	Commodity groups	August 2021/ July2021	August 2021/ August 2020
1	Cement	5.4	-0.5
2	Aggregates and sand	6.9	1.3
3	Concrete	-0.7	-0.6
4	Steel	1.2	10.3
5	Wood	4.5	2.5
6	Block	1.5	-2.0
7	Roofing materials	1.4	10.9
8	Waterproofing products	0.3	13.6
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane		
10	Natural stone	0.0	16.6
11	Tiles and marble	0.0	0.2
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	0.0
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	-6.0	0.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.0
13	False ceiling	1.8	4.5
14	Paints	1.8	-11.1
15	Glass	0.0	19.1
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	1.1	23.8
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	0.0	11.7
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	0.0	2.0
17.2	Apartments	0.0	1.5
17.3	Residential towers	0.0	-0.3
18	Power cable	-0.5	20.7
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-7.0
20	Employment	0.0	7.4
21	Diesel	1.2	18.9

Source: Statistics Centre Abu Dhabi

Explanatory Notes

Importance

Building material prices are among the economic indicators that constitute an important input in planning and research in various urban and economic fields.

Objectives

1. An analytical tool to identify price trends and forecast any price changes in building materials prices for decision-makers and policy makers.
2. Internal use in the Statistics Centre- Abu Dhabi in calculating other statistical indicators, short-term economic indicators and gross domestic product at constant prices.
3. It is used by companies and specialized commercial establishments in the construction and building materials sector.

Glossary

Average price: It is the sum of the commodity prices, which are collected from more than one source divided by the number of sources for that commodity.

The monthly or quarterly relative price change: It is the percentage increase or decrease in the average price of the current month or quarter compared to the average price of the previous month or quarter.

Data sources and Classifications

Depend on the experts in the income and prices department and their field experience, a number of sales sources representing the building materials trade in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi were identified, which amount to 30.

A local classification has been developed by technicians in the income and price department according to the nature of the construction sector in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, where building materials have been classified into 21 main groups containing 343 goods and services. In addition to the availability of sufficient details according to the good/ service in the price data that are collected, and the use of detailed specifications for the good/ service that are sufficient to ensure the pricing of the same item in each period.

Data audit mechanism and calculation method

The prices that have been entered in the account file are reviewed, and in the event of any inquiry regarding the price of a commodity or service, the price is communicated and verified from the source, and after confirming the prices, the current average prices are compared with the previous prices according to the available time series.

Simple price levels are calculated by dividing the average price of the commodity or service for the current month by the average price of the commodity or service in the previous month, as well as for the quarterly and annual average price. Then the geometric mean of the price group is calculated and the monthly, quarterly and annual variables are extracted.

Coverage and Dissemination

The Building Materials Price statistics included in this publication is considered representative of the average prices of Building Materials in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

The Building Material Statistics report is issued monthly within 30 working days after the end of the reference month on the Statistics Centre Abu Dhabi website.

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