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Producer Price Indexes -- February 2002
The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods increased 0.2 percent in February, seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S Department of Labor reported today. This rise followed a 0.1 -percent advance in January and a 0.6-percent decrease in December. At the earlier stages of processing, prices for intermediate goods edged down 0.1 percent in February, after a similar decline in the prior month, and the crude goods index turned down 0.8 percent, following a 3.7-percent increase in January. (See table A.)

Among finished goods, the rate of increase in prices for finished consumer foods accelerated from 0.8 percent in January to 1.0 percent in February. Prices for finished energy goods also rose faster in February than in the prior month -- 0.4 percent compared with 0.1 percent. The index for finished goods other than foods and energy showed no change, compared with a 0.1 -percent decline in the previous month.

Table A. Monthly and annual percent changes in selected stage-of-processing price indexes, seasonally adjusted


| Oct. | r -1.3 | r -. 1 | r -6.7 | r -. 4 | r -. 3 | r -1.3 | r -8.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Nov. | r -. 6 | r -1.0 | r -3.2 | . 1 | -1.1 | r -.6 | r 7.6 |
| Dec. | -. 6 | 0 | -3.9 | 0 | -1.8 | -. 8 | -9.6 |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan. | . 1 | . 8 | . 1 | -. 1 | -2.6 | -. 1 | 3.7 |
| Feb. | . 2 | 1.0 | . 4 | 0 | -2.6 | -. 1 | -. 8 |

r=revised. Some of the figures shown above and elsewhere in this release may differ from those previously reported because data for October 2001 have been revised to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.1 percent to stand at 137.7 (1982=100). From February 2001 to February 2002, prices for finished goods decreased 2.6 percent. Over the same period, the finished energy goods index dropped 20.4 percent, prices for finished goods other than foods and energy gained 0.5 percent, and the index for finished consumer foods increased 1.9 percent. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods declined 4.4 percent for the 12 months ended in February, and the crude goods index dropped 30.9 percent during the same period.

Finished goods
Finished consumer food prices rose 1.0 percent in February, following a 0.8 -percent gain in the prior month. The beef and veal index increased 7.4 percent, after falling 1.4 percent in January. The index for soft drinks also turned up, compared with a decline in the previous month. Prices for finfish and shellfish, fresh and dry vegetables, and bakery products advanced at a faster rate in February than they did a month ago. Partly offsetting these increases, prices for eggs for fresh use decreased 10.8 percent in February, following a 21.8-percent jump in January. The indexes for dairy products and for shortening and cooking oils also turned down in February, after increasing a month earlier. Prices for processed young chickens showed no change, following a 3.6-percent increase in January.

The index for finished energy goods advanced 0.4 percent, after inching up 0.1 percent in January. February's increase in finished energy goods prices was led by the gasoline index -- which rose 4.5 percent in February. Price increases for home heating oil and liquefied petroleum gas also contributed to the advance. On the other hand, prices for residential natural gas, residential electric power, and diesel fuel fell in February.

Table B. Monthly and annual percent changes in selected price indexes for intermediate goods and crude goods, seasonally adjusted

| 1 \| |  |  |  | \| |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | Intermediate goods |  |  | \| |  | Crude goods |  |  |
| 1 \| |  |  |  | \| |  |  |  |  |
| 1 \| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 \| | , | 1 | l Change in |  |  | \| | 1 \| | Change |
| 1 \| | \| | , | \| interme- |  |  | \| | , | \| in crude |
| 1 \| | \| | \| | \| diate | \| |  | \| | , | \| goods |
| , | \| | \| | lgoods from |  |  | \| | , | \| from 12 |
| 1 \| | \| | \| Except | | 112 months |  |  | \| | \| Except | \| months |
| 1 \| | । | \| foods and| | \| ago | I |  | \| Energy | \|foods and| | I ago |
| \| Month | Foods | \| Energy | \| energy | | (unadj.) | 1 | Foods | \| (unadj | ) \| energy | | \| (unadj.) |
| 2001 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feb. -1.0 | -2.0 | 0.1 | 3.5 |  | -0.9 | -23.0 | -1.4 | 28.0 |
| Mar. . 1 | -2.1 | . 1 | 2.3 |  | 2.8 | -14.0 | -1.0 | 17.1 |
| Apr. -. 1 | -. 6 | -. 1 | 2.1 |  | -. 2 | 2.1 | -2.6 | 19.6 |
| May . 6 | . 4 | 0 | 2.3 |  | -. 8 | -3.2 | -. 5 | 13.3 |
| June 1.0 | -. 6 | -. 1 | 1.2 |  | 0 | -15.8 | -1.0 | -4.0 |
| July . 6 | -5.0 | -. 5 | -. 2 |  | . 6 | -12.4 | 1.0 | -7.3 |
| Aug. 1.8 | -. 3 | -. 3 | -. 2 |  | -. 6 | -. 5 | -1.8 | -4.5 |
| Sept. -. 8 | 1.1 | -. 1 | -. 8 |  | . 8 | -11.0 | . 2 | -14.6 |
| Oct. r -. 4 | r -6.2 | -. 4 | -2.4 | $r$ | -3.5 | r -17.9 | -1.5 | r -25.1 |
| Nov. r -1.5 | r -2.4 | -. 2 | -2.9 | $r$ | -5.0 | r 28.0 | -. 6 | -18.4 |
| Dec. -1.0 | -4.0 | -. 2 | -4.0 |  | -1.9 | -20.5 | -. 3 | -32.4 |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan. -. 1 | -. 6 | 0 | -4.6 |  | 4.0 | 5.6 | -. 5 | -40.4 |
| Feb. 0 | -. 7 | 0 | -4.4 |  | 2.3 | -6.5 | 1.5 | -30.9 |

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The capital equipment index increased 0.1 percent, after edging down 0.1 percent in January. Light motor truck prices rose 0.6 percent in February, following a 0.6 -percent decline a month earlier. Prices for integrating and measuring instruments also turned up in February. The indexes for communication and related equipment, heavy motor trucks, and ships advanced, after showing no change in the previous month. The index for civilian aircraft posted no change, following a decline in January. By contrast, electronic computer prices decreased 4.1 percent, after rising 1.5 percent a month ago. The indexes for passenger cars, commercial furniture, and welding machines and equipment also turned down in February. Prices for x-ray and electromedical equipment and for industrial molds fell
more quickly than they did in the prior month.
For the second consecutive month, the index for finished consumer goods other than foods and energy decreased 0.1 percent. Declining prices for book publishing, sanitary papers and health products, floor coverings, passenger cars, and household appliances slightly outweighed rising prices for light motor trucks, pharmaceutical preparations, periodical circulation, tires, and sporting and athletic goods.

Intermediate goods
For the second straight month, the seasonally adjusted Producer Price Index for Intermediate Materials, Supplies, and Components inched down at a 0.1 -percent rate and the index for intermediate goods less foods and energy showed no change. In February, falling prices for intermediate energy goods, components for manufacturing, and construction materials slightly outweighed rising prices for nondurable manufacturing materials. The indexes for durable manufacturing materials and intermediate foods and foods were unchanged in February. (See table B.)

Prices for intermediate energy goods declined at a slightly quicker pace in February than in the prior month -- down 0.7 percent, after falling 0.6 percent. Among the utility natural gas indexes, industrial natural gas, commercial natural gas, and natural gas to electric utilities fell in February. Prices for commercial electric power, industrial electric power, jet fuels, and diesel fuel also decreased. Partly offsetting these declines, the indexes for gasoline and liquefied petroleum gas advanced in February.

The Producer Price Index for Components for Manufacturing inched down 0.1 percent in February, after registering a 0.3 -percent increase in January. Leading this downturn, prices for printed circuit assemblies fell 3.9 percent, following an 11.0 -percent jump in the previous month. The indexes for plastic parts for transportation equipment; unsupported plastic film, sheet, and shapes; electronic filters, crystals, and transducers; and for pressed and blown glassware also fell, after rising in the prior month. Prices for aircraft parts and auxiliary equipment showed no change, following a January advance. On the other hand, the index for aircraft engines and engine parts rose 0.8 percent in February, after declining 1.2 percent a month earlier. Prices for tires also turned up in February.

Prices for construction materials edged down 0.1 percent, after rising 0.2 percent in January. The index for plastic construction products fell 1.0 percent in February, following a 0.2 -percent gain in the prior month. Prices for hardwood lumber also turned down in February. The indexes for
softwood lumber and for metal valves (except fluid power) increased less than they did in the previous month, while February prices for nonferrous wire and cable declined at a faster pace than they did in January. The index for asphalt felts and coatings showed no change, after advancing in the prior month. Conversely, prices for fabricated structural metal products showed no change, following a 0.3 -percent decrease in January. The plywood index rose at a faster pace in February than it did a month earlier. Prices for gypsum products and for millwork increased, after falling in the previous month.

The index for materials for nondurable manufacturing moved up 0.6 percent in February, following a 1.2-percent drop a month earlier. Prices for plastic resins and materials rose 2.8 percent, after posting a 4.1percent decline in January. The indexes for basic organic chemicals and for inedible fats and oils also turned up in February. Prices for medicinal and botanical chemicals and finished fabrics fell less, while paint materials prices increased more than they did in the prior month. By contrast, the index for gray fabrics decreased at a faster pace in February, 2.0 percent, compared with a 0.2 -percent rate of decline in the previous month. Paper prices also fell more in February than they did a month earlier. The index for fertilizer materials turned down in February.

Subsequent to a 0.1-percent gain in January, prices for materials for durable manufacturing were unchanged in February. The indexes for cold rolled steel sheet and strip, plywood, building paper and board, gold, aluminum mill shapes, semi-finished steel mill products, flat glass, and cement exhibited rising prices in February. On the other hand, prices for hot rolled steel sheet and strip, primary aluminum (except extrusion billet), prepared paint, hardwood lumber, and silver fell in February.

The index for intermediate foods and feeds showed no change in February, after edging down 0.1 percent in the prior month. February's rising prices for beef and veal; natural, processed, and imitation cheese; and sausages and deli meats were offset by falling prices for prepared animal feeds; crude vegetable oils; fluid milk products; confectionery materials; dry, condensed, and evaporated milk products; and butter.

## Crude goods

The Producer Price Index for Crude Materials for Further Processing turned down 0.8 percent in February, following a 3.7 -percent increase in January. Prices for crude energy materials also fell in February, after advancing in the prior month. The crude foodstuffs and feedstuffs index rose at a slower rate than it did in January. By contrast, prices for basic industrial materials turned up, after falling in the previous month.

## (See table B.)

The index for crude energy materials declined 6.5 percent in February, after increasing 5.6 percent in January. Natural gas prices dropped 20.7 percent, following a 4.9-percent rise in the prior month. The coal index turned down 1.6 percent, after advancing 3.2 percent a month earlier. By contrast, prices for crude petroleum jumped 13.3 percent, following an 8.1percent gain in January.

The crude foodstuffs and feedstuffs index increased 2.3 percent in February, after registering a 4.0-percent gain in January. Rising February prices for slaughter cattle, fresh vegetables (except potatoes), unprocessed finfish, fluid milk, and unprocessed shellfish outweighed decreasing prices for slaughter hogs, fresh fruits and melons, wheat, slaughter turkeys, alfalfa hay, and soybeans.

The index for crude nonfood materials less energy turned up 1.5 percent in February, after posting a 0.5 -percent decline in January. Prices for iron and steel scrap rose 5.2 percent, following a 0.7 -percent advance in the previous month. The indexes for raw cotton and gold ores also increased at a faster pace than they did in January. Prices for pulpwood and iron ore showed no change, after falling in January. The indexes for softwood logs, bolts, and timber and for construction sand, gravel, and crushed stone turned up, after declining in the prior month. On the other hand, aluminum base scrap prices decreased 0.7 percent in February, following a 0.7 -percent gain in the previous month. The indexes for wastepaper and hardwood logs, bolts, and timber also turned down in February. Prices for phosphates rose less than they did in January. The leaf tobacco index declined at a faster rate than it did in the prior month.

Net output price indexes for mining, manufacturing, and services industries
Mining. The Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Domestic Mining Industries declined 4.5 percent in February, following a 4.6-percent advance in January. (Net output price indexes are not seasonally adjusted.) Accounting for most of the downturn in mining prices, the crude petroleum, natural gas, and natural gas liquids industry index fell 7.6 percent in February, after posting a 7.0 -percent gain in the previous month. The industry indexes for bituminous coal and lignite surface mining; bituminous coal underground mining; construction sand and gravel; and coal mining services also turned down in February. Industry prices for potash, soda, and borate minerals increased at a slower pace in February than they did in January. By contrast, the industry index for oil and gas well drilling fell 1.1 percent in February, following a 3.0-percent decline
in the prior month. Prices for the iron ores industry also declined at a slower rate in February than they did in January. The gold ores industry index increased more in February than they did in the previous month. In February, the Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Mining Industries stood at 77.9 (December $1984=100$ ), 47.9 percent below its yearago level.

Manufacturing. A 0.2-percent increase in the Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Manufacturing Industries followed a similar rise in January. Rising prices for the petroleum refining and related products, food and kindred products, chemicals and allied products, and
transportation equipment industry groups outweighed falling prices for the machinery, except electrical; rubber and miscellaneous plastic products; textile mill products; and the paper and allied products industry groups. In February, the Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Manufacturing Industries stood at 132.0 (December $1984=100$ ), 2.1 percent lower than a year ago.

Services. Among service industries in February, engineering design, analysis, and consulting services; passenger car rental; operators and lessors of nonresidential buildings; help supply services; and courier services, except by air, posted rising prices. Alternatively, falling prices were registered by the industries for data processing services; prepackaged software; telephone communications, except radiotelephone; travel agencies; railroads, line-haul operating; advertising agencies; and for truck rental and leasing.

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Producer Price Index data for March 2002 will be

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\text { released on Friday, April 12, } 2002 \text { at 8:30 a.m. (E.D.T.) }
$$

Table 1. Producer price indexes and percent changes by stage of processing (1982=100)



| Finished goods less energy.......................\|5/ 86.239 | 148.1 | 147.6 | 147.9 | . 7 | . 2 | -. 1 | . 1 | . 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finished consumer goods less energy...............\|5/ 59.176 | 151.5 | 151.0 | 151.5 | 1.1 | . 3 | 0 | . 2 | . 3 |
| Finished goods less foods and energy.............\|5/ 65.235 | 150.5 | 150.3 | 150.1 | . 5 | . 1 | 0 | -. 1 | 0 |
| Finished consumer goods less foods and energy....\|5/ 38.173 | 157.5 | 157.5 | 157.2 | . 7 | -. 2 | 0 | . 1 | . 1 |
| Consumer nondurable goods less foods and energy..\|5/ 21.588 | 176.0 | 176.1 | 176.0 | 1.4 | -. 1 | 0 | -. 2 | . 1 |
| Intermediate energy goods.........................\|6/ 14.961 | 97.4 | 90.0 | 89.2 | -18.5 | -. 9 | -4.0 | -. 6 | -. 7 |
| Intermediate materials less energy...............\|6/ 85.039 | 134.2 | 133.4 | 133.5 | -1.8 | . 1 | -. 2 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| Intermediate materials less foods and energy.....\|6/ 81.037 | 135.3 | 134.7 | 134.8 | -1.8 | . 1 | -. 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Crude energy materials 3/........................\|8/ 32.249 | 75.4 | 81.0 | 75.7 | -54.2 | -6.5 | -20.5 | 5.6 | -6.5 |
| Crude materials less energy......................\|8/ 67.751 | 109.3 | 105.9 | 108.6 | -3.5 | 2.5 | -1.5 | 2.7 | 2.0 |
| Crude nonfood materials less energy 4/............\|8/ 21.505 | 125.8 | 125.4 | 127.4 | -6.9 | 1.6 | -. 3 | -. 5 | 1.5 |

(/ Comprehensive relative importance figures are initially computed after the publication of December indexes and are recalculated after final December indexes are available. The first-published and final December relative importances initially appear, respectively, in the release tables containing January and May data.
2/ The indexes for October 2001 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents. All indexes are subject to revision 4 months after original publication.

3/ Includes crude petroleum.
5/ Percent of total finished goods.
6/ Percent of total intermediate materials.
7/ Formerly titled "Crude materials for
further processing, excluding crude
foodstuffs and feedstuffs, plant and animal fibers, oilseeds, and leaf tobacco."
8/ Percent of total crude materials.

Table 2. Producer price indexes and percent changes for selected commodity groupings by stage of processing (1982=100 unless otherwise indicated)


01-11
01-13
01-71-07
02-11
02-13
02-14-02
02-21-01
02-21-04
02-22-03
02-22-06
02-23
02-3
02-4
02-55
02-62
02-63-01
02-78

02-61
03-81-01
03-81-02
03-81-03
03-82
04-3
05-41
05-51
$05-71$
$05-73-02-01$
05-73-02-0
06-38
$06-71$
$06-75$
07-12
09-15-01
09-31-01
09-32-01
09-33
12-1
12-3
12-4
12-5
12-62
12-64

| Fresh fruits and melons 2/. | 101.9 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Fresh and dry vegetables $2 /$ | 110.8 |
| Eggs for fresh use (Dec. 1991=100) | 77.0 |
| Bakery products 2/. | 189.0 |
| Milled rice $2 /$ | 85.6 |
| Pasta products (June 1985=100) $2 /$ | 122.2 |
| Beef and veal 2/. | 117.5 |
| Pork. | 123.4 |
| Processed young chickens | 123.0 |
| Processed turkeys | 101.8 |
| Finfish and shellfish | 181.4 |
| Dairy products. | 150.5 |
| Processed fruits and vegetables $2 /$ | 130.6 |
| Confectionery end products 2/ | 172.9 |
| Soft drinks | 149.3 |
| Roasted coffee 2/ | 123.7 |
| Shortening and cooking oils $2 /$ | 134.8 |
| FINISHED CONSUMER GOODS EXCLUDING FOODS. | 138.9 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 146.2 |
| Women's apparel 2/ | 123.3 |
| Men's and boys' apparel $2 /$ | 131.9 |
| Girls', children's, and infants' apparel $2 /$ | 116.8 |
| Textile housefurnishings 2/ | 122.7 |
| Footwear 2/. | 145.7 |
| Residential electric power (Dec. 1990=100) | 118.6 |
| Residential gas (Dec. 1990=100) | 134.6 |
| Gasoline | 77.7 |
| Fuel oil No. 2 | 78.3 |
| Pharmaceutical preparations (June 2001=100) | 99.7 |
| Soaps and synthetic detergents $2 /$. | 131.0 |
| Cosmetics and other toilet preparations 2/ | 138.6 |
| Tires, tubes, tread, etc 2/. | 94.8 |
| Sanitary papers and health products 2/ | 148.9 |
| Newspaper circulation $2 /$. | 221.5 |
| Periodical circulation. | 200.4 |
| Book publishing | 225.4 |
| Household furniture | 155.4 |
| Floor coverings 2/ | 130.2 |
| Household appliances | 104.8 |
| Home electronic equipment $2 /$ | 70.0 |
| Household glassware. | 169.8 |
| Household flatware 2/. | 143.2 |


| 107.0 | 92.8 | 1.1 | -13.3 | 13.4 | -7.2 | -13.3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 144.8 | 176.9 | 22.9 | 22.2 | 12.4 | 20.2 | 22.2 |
| 89.4 | 74.5 | -16.9 | -16.7 | -8.2 | 21.8 | -10.8 |
| 188.9 | 189.7 | 2.3 | . 4 | -. 3 | . 1 | . 4 |
| 84.7 | 82.3 | -10.9 | -2.8 | -. 4 | . 1 | -2.8 |
| 122.2 | 122.2 | . 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 111.7 | 120.0 | -4.5 | 7.4 | 2.1 | -1.4 | 7.4 |
| 111.9 | 115.0 | 5.2 | 2.8 | -2.0 | -. 6 | 0 |
| 116.4 | 115.8 | 4.1 | -. 5 | -2.2 | 3.6 | 0 |
| 96.8 | 94.6 | 2.5 | -2.3 | -1.0 | . 8 | . 1 |
| 183.1 | 202.1 | -4.0 | 10.4 | -3.6 | 3.2 | 10.1 |
| 140.9 | 139.8 | 2.9 | -. 8 | -1.5 | 1.6 | -. 3 |
| 131.7 | 132.4 | 3.1 | . 5 | . 5 | . 2 | . 5 |
| 174.5 | 175.3 | 2.7 | . 5 | . 5 | . 6 | . 5 |
| 149.3 | 151.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 | . 1 | -. 4 | 1.0 |
| 123.3 | 123.3 | -2.2 | 0 | . 1 | -. 1 | 0 |
| 133.3 | 131.8 | 1.9 | -1.1 | . 8 | . 1 | -1.1 |
| 135.5 | 135.4 | -5.5 | -. 1 | -1.1 | . 1 | 0 |
| 146.1 | 146.5 | 1.8 | . 3 | . 1 | -. 4 | . 1 |
| 122.6 | 122.4 | -1.6 | -. 2 | -. 2 | . 2 | -. 2 |
| 130.7 | 130.8 | -1.8 | . 1 | -. 5 | -. 5 | 1 |
| 117.0 | 117.0 | . 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 122.1 | 122.0 | -. 2 | -. 1 | -. 5 | -. 5 | -. 1 |
| 146.0 | 146.0 | . 1 | 0 | 0 | . 2 | 0 |
| 113.2 | 112.8 | -. 1 | -. 4 | . 1 | -1.4 | -. 3 |
| 131.4 | 127.9 | -32.6 | -2.7 | -3.2 | 1.7 | -1.6 |
| 62.0 | 65.2 | -30.7 | 5.2 | -8.3 | 3.4 | 4.5 |
| 59.0 | 60.3 | -34.2 | 2.2 | -13.7 | 4.9 | 2.8 |
| 100.6 | 101.0 | (3) | . 4 | . 3 | . 8 | . 4 |
| 131.2 | 131.2 | . 7 | 0 | 0 | . 2 | 0 |
| 138.5 | 138.5 | -. 1 | 0 | -. 2 | . 2 | 0 |
| 93.4 | 94.7 | 1.1 | 1.4 | . 1 | -2.2 | 1.4 |
| 148.7 | 147.4 | 1.2 | -. 9 | 1.4 | -1.1 | -. 9 |
| 222.9 | 223.6 | 3.1 | . 3 | . 1 | . 3 | . 3 |
| 205.2 | 208.1 | 3.8 | 1.4 | -. 6 | 1.8 | 1.2 |
| 230.9 | 227.4 | 2.5 | -1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | -1.3 |
| 156.0 | 156.4 | 1.6 | . 3 | . 1 | . 3 | . 2 |
| 130.9 | 128.4 | -2.9 | -1.9 | -. 3 | 1.7 | -1.9 |
| 105.3 | 104.6 | -1.6 | -. 7 | 0 | . 1 | -. 6 |
| 69.5 | 69.7 | -2.1 | . 3 | -. 1 | -. 3 | . 3 |
| 170.1 | 169.8 | . 8 | -. 2 | . 1 | 0 | -. 1 |
| 143.2 | 143.7 | 1.2 | . 3 | 0 | 0 | . 3 |



| 131.9 | 131.3 | -1.1 | -. 5 | -. 8 | -. 1 | -. 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 131.9 | 131.0 | -1.4 | -. 7 | -. 4 | . 7 | -. 2 |
| 124.6 | 124.5 | 1.3 | -. 1 | . 2 | . 4 | -. 1 |
| 125.1 | 126.1 | . 2 | . 8 | 0 | 1.0 | . 8 |
| 447.9 | 448.1 | 5.0 | 0 | 0 | -1.7 | 0 |
| 165.9 | 165.8 | 2.2 | -. 1 | . 1 | -. 3 | -. 1 |
| 130.0 | 130.1 | 2.4 | . 1 | -. 1 | . 3 | . 1 |
| 144.0 | 144.0 | -. 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 139.6 | 139.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| 156.5 | 156.6 | 1.2 | . 1 | -. 1 | . 1 | . 1 |
| 149.0 | 149.2 | . 2 | . 1 | -. 4 | 0 | . 1 |
| 153.8 | 153.9 | -5.4 | . 1 | -. 5 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| 165.6 | 167.0 | 2.2 | . 8 | . 2 | 0 | . 8 |
| 141.0 | 140.6 | -1.1 | -. 3 | 0 | -. 1 | -. 3 |
| 159.8 | 160.1 | 2.7 | . 2 | . 1 | . 3 | . 3 |
| 137.4 | 137.4 | 1.0 | 0 | . 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 48.3 | 46.3 | -28.4 | -4.1 | -3.1 | 1.5 | -4.1 |
| 159.8 | 157.1 | . 1 | -1.7 | 1.1 | 0 | -1.7 |
| 167.8 | 167.7 | 1.2 | -. 1 | . 1 | . 1 | -. 1 |
| 143.0 | 142.7 | -. 6 | -. 2 | 0 | -. 2 | -. 2 |
| 133.3 | 133.3 | -1.3 | 0 | -. 2 | . 2 | 0 |
| 109.0 | 109.5 | -. 7 | . 5 | . 2 | 0 | . 5 |
| 100.7 | 99.6 | -. 2 | -1.1 | . 7 | -. 1 | -1.1 |
| 135.5 | 135.5 | 1.6 | 0 | . 1 | -. 9 | -. 1 |
| 150.2 | 151.1 | 2.4 | . 6 | . 5 | . 2 | . 6 |
| 112.9 | 112.8 | . 4 | -. 1 | . 5 | -. 2 | -. 1 |
| 160.5 | 160.3 | . 4 | -. 1 | -. 2 | . 1 | -. 1 |
| 153.3 | 153.5 | -. 7 | . 1 | -. 6 | -. 6 | . 6 |
| 149.6 | 150.3 | 2.7 | . 5 | . 4 | 0 | . 5 |
| 138.1 | 138.1 | -. 6 | 0 | -. 7 | . 1 | 0 |
| 169.8 | 169.6 | 2.1 | -. 1 | . 2 | -. 4 | 0 |
| 148.8 | 150.1 | 1.0 | . 9 | . 2 | 0 | . 9 |
| 134.1 | 134.4 | -1.1 | . 2 | -. 1 | -. 3 | . 2 |
| 125.6 | 125.5 | -4.4 | -. 1 | -. 8 | -. 1 | -. 1 |
| 113.9 | 114.0 | . 1 | . 1 | -1.0 | -. 1 | 0 |
| 113.5 | 113.5 | 5.5 | 0 | -1.4 | 3.5 | 0 |
| 115.9 | 115.9 | 5.5 | 0 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 0 |
| 113.8 | 112.7 | 6.7 | -1.0 | . 6 | 1.8 | -1.0 |
| 75.2 | 70.1 | 18.6 | -6. 8 | 0 | 1.9 | -6.8 |
| 102.6 | 101.4 | -4.8 | -1.2 | -. 9 | -1.0 | -1.2 |

$-.5$ -.2
-.1

0
.1
.1
.1

$$
\begin{array}{r}
.8 \\
-.3 \\
.3
\end{array}
$$

0
$-1.7$
.1
-.2
0
$-1.1$
.6
-.1
-.1
.5
0
.9
.2

0
$-1.0$
-6.8
-1.2


See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Producer price indexes and percent changes for selected commodity groupings by stage of processing - Continued (1982=100 unless otherwise indicated)


06-6 07-11-02
07-21
07-22
07-26
08-11
08-12
08-2
08-3
09-11
09-13
09-14
09-15-03
09-2
09-37
10-15
10-17
10-17 $10-22$
$10-25-01$ 10-25-02 10-26 10-3 10-4 10-5 10-6 10-7 10-88 10-89
11-45
11-48
11-49-02
11-49-05
11-71
11-73
11-75
11-78
11-78
11-94
$11-95$
$13-11$
13-22
13-3
13-6
13-7
13-8
14-12

| ic resins and materials $2 /$ | 3 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Synthetic rubber 2/ | 120.0 |
| Plastic construction products | 130.5 |
| Unsupported plastic film, sheet, \& other shapes | 135.7 |
| Plastic parts and components for manufacturing 2 | 116.7 |
| Softwood lumber 2/ | 165.0 |
| Hardwood lumber | 178.8 |
| Millwork 2/ | 180.2 |
| Plywood 2/ | 151.6 |
| Woodpulp $2 /$ | 112.8 |
| Paper 2/ | 148.4 |
| Paperboard $2 /$ | 167.1 |
| Paper boxes and containers $2 /$ | 174.6 |
| Building paper and board $2 /$ | 126.7 |
| Commercial printing (June 1982=100) 2/ | 157.4 |
| Foundry and forge shop products | 136.8 |
| Steel mill products 2/. | 100.0 |
| Primary nonferrous metals 2/ | 98.1 |
| Aluminum mill shapes 2/ | 145.9 |
| Copper and brass mill shapes $2 /$ | 149.1 |
| Nonferrous wire and cable $2 /$ | 137.9 |
| Metal containers 2/ | 106.1 |
| Hardware 2/. | 155.5 |
| Plumbing fixtures and brass fitting | 180.7 |
| Heating equipment 2/ | 157.1 |
| Fabricated structural metal product | 144.3 |
| Fabricated ferrous wire products (June 1982=100) | 129.4 |
| Other misc. metal products $2 /$ | 127.0 |
| Mechanical power transmission equipmen | 167.2 |
| Air conditioning and refrigeration equipment 2/ | 136.0 |
| Metal valves, ex.fluid power (Dec. 1982=100) $2 /$ | 165.3 |
| Ball and roller bearings | 169.3 |
| Wiring devices $2 /$ | 153.3 |
| Motors, generators, motor generator sets | 146.4 |
| Switchgear, switchboard, etc., equipment | 157.8 |
| Electronic components and accessories 2/ | 92.4 |
| Internal combustion engines | 144.0 |
| Machine shop products 2/ | 140.4 |
| Flat glass 2/ | 112.1 |
| Cement | 150.9 |
| Concrete products | 152.8 |
| Asphalt felts and coatings | 110.3 |
| Gypsum products 2/. | 161.5 |
| Glass containers 2/. | 133.1 |
| Motor vehicle parts 2/ | 113. |


| 120.1 | 123.5 | -11.3 | 2.8 | -2.8 | -4.1 | 2.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 119.2 | 118.2 | -4.4 | -. 8 | -. 3 | -. 4 | -. 8 |
| 131.2 | 130.4 | -2.2 | -. 6 | . 4 | . 2 | -1.0 |
| 135.4 | 133.8 | -3.9 | -1.2 | 0 | . 4 | -1.2 |
| 117.0 | 116.6 | -. 6 | -. 3 | . 3 | . 2 | -. 3 |
| 171.4 | 173.4 | 6.0 | 1.2 | -2.2 | 6.9 | 1.2 |
| 177.4 | 176.0 | -4.9 | -. 8 | -. 8 | . 6 | -. 8 |
| 178.9 | 179.2 | 1.2 | . 2 | -. 1 | -. 2 | . 2 |
| 148.4 | 153.5 | 5.4 | 3.4 | -1.5 | . 2 | 3.4 |
| 114.4 | 116.6 | -18.5 | 1.9 | . 2 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| 146.0 | 144.6 | -4.9 | -1.0 | 0 | -. 6 | -1.0 |
| 165.1 | 163.9 | -7.2 | -. 7 | . 4 | -1.0 | -. 7 |
| 173.9 | 173.1 | -1.4 | -. 5 | 0 | -. 1 | -. 5 |
| 124.5 | 126.6 | . 2 | 1.7 | 2.6 | -. 8 | 1.7 |
| 157.0 | 156.9 | -. 2 | -. 1 | -. 3 | 0 | . 1 |
| 136.8 | 136.9 | -. 1 | . 1 | -. 1 | -. 3 | -. 1 |
| 98.2 | 97.9 | -4.7 | -. 3 | -. 9 | -. 6 | -. 3 |
| 102.0 | 101.6 | -9.9 | -. 4 | 1.9 | 2.4 | -. 4 |
| 145.2 | 145.3 | -3.6 | . 1 | -. 1 | . 1 | . 1 |
| 150.6 | 150.7 | -7.6 | . 1 | -. 3 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| 138.0 | 135.9 | -4.8 | -1.5 | . 4 | -. 6 | -1.5 |
| 106.9 | 108.9 | 3.1 | 1.9 | . 3 | . 6 | 1.9 |
| 156.5 | 156.2 | 2.2 | -. 2 | . 3 | . 5 | -. 2 |
| 179.9 | 181.9 | -. 4 | 1.1 | -. 1 | -. 3 | . 3 |
| 157.2 | 157.4 | -. 3 | . 1 | . 2 | -. 3 | . 1 |
| 144.0 | 144.0 | -. 7 | 0 | . 1 | -. 3 | 0 |
| 128.8 | 128.9 | -1.0 | . 1 | . 3 | -. 7 | . 1 |
| 126.8 | 126.9 | . 1 | . 1 | 0 | -. 2 | . 1 |
| 169.1 | 169.3 | 1.6 | . 1 | . 2 | 0 | . 1 |
| 136.2 | 136.7 | . 9 | . 4 | . 1 | . 1 | . 4 |
| 165.9 | 166.3 | 1.7 | . 2 | -. 2 | . 7 | . 2 |
| 169.3 | 170.0 | -. 4 | . 4 | 0 | -. 3 | . 4 |
| 152.0 | 152.9 | -. 7 | . 6 | -. 8 | . 1 | . 6 |
| 146.5 | 146.7 | . 1 | . 1 | 0 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| 157.7 | 158.5 | 1.9 | . 5 | -. 1 | . 3 | . 2 |
| 94.2 | 93.8 | -1.6 | -. 4 | . 5 | 1.1 | -. 4 |
| 144.2 | 144.2 | . 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | . 1 |
| 140.6 | 139.6 | -. 2 | -. 7 | 0 | . 1 | -. 7 |
| 111.0 | 111.2 | -. 4 | . 2 | -. 6 | -. 4 | . 2 |
| 150.4 | 150.1 | . 5 | -. 2 | . 3 | -. 3 | . 1 |
| 153.4 | 153.5 | 1.9 | . 1 | . 3 | . 1 | -. 1 |
| 110.5 | 110.1 | 5.4 | -. 4 | . 2 | . 5 | 0 |
| 164.0 | 167.0 | . 4 | 1.8 | -3.3 | -1.4 | 1.8 |
| 135.3 | 134.8 | 3.0 | -. 4 | . 2 | 1.7 | -. 4 |
| 112.9 | 113.2 | -. 3 | . 3 | -. 1 | . 4 | . 3 |


| 14-23 | Aircraft engines \& engine parts (Dec. 1985=100) | 145.4 | 145.4 | 146.6 | 1.7 | . 8 | . 2 | -1.2 | . 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14-25 | Aircraft parts \& aux.equip., nec (June 1985=100) | 151.5 | 150.4 | 150.4 | 1.6 | 0 | . 2 | 1.3 | 0 |
| 15-42 | Photographic supplies 2/. | 129.3 | 130.1 | 130.0 | 3.2 | -. 1 | 0 | . 6 | -. 1 |
| 15-6 \| | Medical/surgical/personal aid devices 2/.. | 149.1 | 150.1 | 150.2 | 1.6 | . 1 | . 3 | . 3 | . 1 |
| \| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | CRUDE MATERIALS FOR FURTHER PROCESSING. | 97.6 | 98.1 | 97.6 | -30.9 | -. 5 | -9.6 | 3.7 | -. 8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| । | CRUDE FOODSTUFFS AND FEEDSTUFFS. | 104.1 | 99.5 | 102.3 | -1.9 | 2.8 | -1.9 | 4.0 | 2.3 |
| 01-21 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01-22-02-05\| | Wheat $2 /$. | 82.8 75.8 | 86.7 80.2 | 84.9 79.2 | -.2 2.6 | -2.1 -1.2 | -.3 1.9 | 1.2 -4.5 | -2.1 -.4 |
| 01-31 \| | Slaughter cattle $2 /$ | 101.8 | 98.9 | 108.4 | -6.3 | 9.6 | . 2 | 4.3 | 9.6 |
| 01-32 \| | Slaughter hogs | 69.4 | 63.1 | 62.3 | -2.5 | -1.3 | -11.1 | 26.4 | -6.8 |
| 01-41-02 \| | Slaughter broilers/fryers | 143.8 | 132.9 | 127.9 | -2.9 | -3.8 | -4.4 | 5.6 | -. 1 |
| 01-42 | Slaughter turkeys....... | 121.8 | 100.4 | 96.0 | -4.8 | -4.4 | -1.3 | 10.4 | -3.2 |
| 01-6 \| | Fluid milk 2/ | 117.5 | 99.5 | 100.1 | 2.7 | . 6 | -4.7 | -2.1 | . 6 |
| 01-83-01-31\| | Soybeans 2/. | 75.3 | 74.5 | 73.8 | -1.6 | -. 9 | -1.5 | 1.2 | -. 9 |
| 02-52-01-01\| | Cane sugar, raw $2 /$. | 110.6 | 111.7 | 109.4 | -2.2 | -2.1 | 1.6 | -1.0 | -2.1 |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \| | CRUDE NONFOOD MATERIALS. | 89.6 | 93.6 | 90.4 | -44.0 | -3.4 | $-14.4$ | 3.2 | -3.4 |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01-51-01-01\| | Raw cotton $2 /$. | 47.5 | 54.4 | 55.9 | -40.1 | 2.8 | . 7 | . 2 | 2.8 |
| 01-92-01-01\| | Leaf tobacco 2/. | 112.0 | 113.8 | 111.1 | -8.5 | -2.4 | -1.0 | -1.2 | -2.4 |
| 04-19 \| | Hides and skins (June 2001=100) $2 /$ | 72.6 | 71.4 | 71.3 | (3) | -. 1 | -5.0 | -. 6 | -. 1 |
| 05-1 \| | Coal 2/............................ | 97.2 | 99.2 | 97.6 | 2.1 | -1.6 | -5.5 | 3.2 | -1.6 |
| 05-31 \| | Natural gas 2/. | 72.9 | 98.0 | 77.7 | -70.4 | -20.7 | -24.7 | 4.9 | -20.7 |
| 05-61 | Crude petroleum 2/. | 56.9 | 46.6 | 52.8 | -34.6 | 13.3 | -21.6 | 8.1 | 13.3 |
| 08-5 \| | Logs, timber, etc. | 179.7 | 174.6 | 175.0 | -3.8 | . 2 | . 1 | -3.5 | -. 5 |
| 09-12 \| | Wastepaper 2/. | 141.9 | 142.0 | 140.0 | -18.4 | -1.4 | 0 | . 1 | -1.4 |
| 10-11 \| | Iron ore $2 /$. | 96.3 | 95.0 | 95.0 | -. 6 | 0 | 0 | -1.3 | 0 |
| 10-12 | Iron and steel scrap. | 118.5 | 115.2 | 119.9 | . 8 | 4.1 | -4.6 | . 7 | 5.2 |
| 10-21 | Nonferrous metal ores (Dec. 1983=100) $2 /$. | 62.3 | 62.5 | 67.1 | 2.3 | 7.4 | -. 5 | 4.9 | 7.4 |
| 10-23-01 \| | Copper base scrap 2/... | 106.5 | 106.1 | 107.5 | -12.6 | 1.3 | -. 1 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| 10-23-02 | Aluminum base scrap....................... | 145.3 | 148.5 | 151.7 | -9.6 | 2.2 | 1.4 | . 7 | -. 7 |
| 13-21 \| | Construction sand, gravel, and crushed stone. | 169.7 | 170.6 | 171.4 | 2.5 | . 5 | . 2 | -. 2 | . 4 |

1/ The indexes for October 2001 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents. All indexes are subject to revision 4 months after original publication.

2/ Not seasonally adjusted.
3/ Not available



1/ Data for October 2001 have been revised to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents. All data are subject to revision 4 months after original
publication.
2/ Prices of some items in this grouping are lagged 1 month.

Table 4. Producer price indexes for the net output of major industry groups, not seasonally adjusted


| Measuring and controlling instruments; |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \| photographic, medical, optical goods; |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \| watches, clocks. | \| 12/84| | 127.6 | 128.2 | 128.4 | 1.3 | . 2 |
| \| Miscellaneous manufacturing industries | \| 12/85| | 132.7 | 132.5 | 132.9 | . 7 | . 3 |
| , |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \|Services industries |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \| Railroad transportation | \| 12/96| | 105.8 | 107.4 | 106.6 | 2.7 | -0.7 |
| \| Motor freight transportation and warehousing | \|06/93| | 123.6 | 123.4 | 123.3 | . 7 | -. 1 |
| \| United States Postal Service | \| $06 / 89$ \| | 145.4 | 145.4 | 145.4 | 2.9 | 0 |
| \| Water transportation. | \| 12/92| | 133.5 | 129.6 | 129.5 | 2.0 | -. 1 |
| \| Transportation by air | \| 12/92| | 158.9 | 158.0 | 159.0 | 2.5 | . 6 |
| \| Pipe lines, except natural gas | \|12/86| | 111.8 | 111.2 | 111.3 | 2.0 | . 1 |
| \| Food stores. | \|12/99| | 115.3 | 114.6 | 112.2 | 5.0 | -2.1 |
| \| Miscellaneous retail | \| $06 / 00 \mid$ | 100.1 | 99.8 | 101.7 | . 7 | 1.9 |
| \| Health services | \| 12/94| | 117.3 | 118.0 | 117.8 | 1.9 | -. 2 |
| \| Legal services. | \| 12/96| | 118.6 | 119.7 | 120.4 | 2.7 | . 6 |

$\overline{1 /}$ Indexes in this table are derived from the net-output-weighted industry price indexes. Because of differences in coverage and aggregation methodology, they will generally not match the movements of similarly-titled indexes which are derived from traditional commodity groupings.
2/ The indexes for October 2001 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents All indexes are subject to revision 4 months after original publication.

Table 5. Producer price indexes by stage of processing, seasonally adjusted (1982=100)



| Intermediate energy goods | 103.4 | 97.0 | 94.7 | 90.9 | 90.4 | 89.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intermediate materials less energy | 134.8 | 134.2 | 133.8 | 133.5 | 133.4 | 133.5 |
| Intermediate materials less foods and energy | 135.9 | 135.3 | 135.0 | 134.7 | 134.7 | 134.7 |
| Crude energy materials 2/. | 91.8 | 75.4 | 96.5 | 76.7 | 81.0 | 75.7 |
| Crude materials less energy | 113.6 | 110.3 | 106.3 | 104.7 | 107.5 | 109.6 |
| Crude nonfood materials less energy 3/ | 128.7 | 126.8 | 126.1 | 125.7 | 125.1 | 127.0 |

1/ All seasonally adjusted indexes are subject to change up to 5 years after original publication due to the recalculation of seasonal factors each January. The indexes for October 2001 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents.
2/ Includes crude petroleum.
3/ Excludes crude petroleum.
Technical Note

## Brief Explanation of Producer Price Indexes

The term Producer Price Index (PPI) refers to a family of indexes that measure the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers of goods and services. PPIs measure price change from the perspective of the seller. This contrasts with other measures, such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI); CPIs measure price change from the purchaser's perspective. Sellers' and purchasers' prices may differ due to government subsidies, sales and excise taxes, and distribution costs.

More than 10,000 PPIs for individual products and groups of products are released each month. PPIs are available for the products of virtually every industry in the mining and manufacturing sectors of the U.S. economy. New PPIs are gradually being introduced for the products of industries in the transportation, utilities, trade, finance, and services sectors of the economy.

More than 100,000 price quotations per month are organized into three sets of producer price indexes: (1) stage-of-processing indexes; (2) commodity indexes; and (3) indexes for the net output of industries and their products. The stage-of-processing structure (tables 1, 2, and 5) organizes products by class of buyer and degree of fabrication. The commodity structure (tables 2 and 3) organizes products by similarity of end-use or material composition. The entire output of various industries is sampled to derive price indexes for the net output of industries and their products (table 4).

Within the stage-of-processing system, finished goods are commodities that will not undergo further processing and are ready for sale to the final demand user, either an individual consumer or business firm. Consumer foods include unprocessed foods such as eggs and fresh vegetables, as well as processed foods such as bakery products and meats. Other finished consumer goods include durable goods such as automobiles, household furniture, and appliances; and nondurable goods such as apparel and home heating oil. Capital equipment includes producer durable goods such as heavy motor trucks, tractors, and machine tools.

The stage-of-processing category for intermediate materials, supplies and components consists partly of commodities that have been processed but require further processing. Examples of such semifinished goods include flour, cotton yarn, steel mill products, and lumber. The intermediate goods category also encompasses nondurable physically complete items purchased by business firms as inputs for their operations. Examples include diesel fuel, belts and belting, paper boxes, and fertilizers.

Crude materials for further processing are products entering the market for the first time that have not been manufactured or fabricated and that are not sold directly to consumers. Crude foodstuffs and feedstuffs include items such as grains and livestock. Examples of crude nonfood materials include raw cotton, crude petroleum, coal, hides and skins, and iron and steel scrap.

Producer price indexes for the net output of industries and their products are grouped according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). Industry price indexes are compatible with other economic time series organized by SIC codes, such as data on employment, wages, and productivity. Table 4 lists indexes for the net output of major mining and manufacturing industry groups at the 2 -digit level.

Producer price indexes are based on selling prices reported by establishments of all sizes selected by probability sampling, with the probability of selection proportionate to size. Individual items and transaction terms from these firms are also chosen by probability proportionate to size. BLS strongly encourages cooperating companies to supply actual transaction prices at the time of shipment to minimize the use of list prices. Prices are normally reported by mail questionnaire for the Tuesday of the week containing the 13th.

Price data are provided on a voluntary and confidential basis; no one but sworn BLS employees are allowed access to individual company price reports. The Bureau publishes price indexes instead of unit dollar prices. All producer price indexes are routinely subject to revision once, 4 months
after original publication, to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents.

The BLS periodically updates the PPI sample of survey respondents to better reflect current conditions when the structure, membership, technology, or product mix of an industry shifts significantly and to spread reporting burden among smaller firms. Results of these resampling efforts are incorporated into the PPI every January and July.

As part of an ongoing effort to expand coverage to sectors of the economy other than mining and manufacturing, an increasing number of service sector industries have been introduced into the PPI. The following list of recently introduced service industries includes the month in which an article describing the industry's content appeared in the PPI Detailed Report:

## Industry

Wireless Telecommunications Telephone Communications, Except Radio Telephone
Grocery Stores
Meat and Fish (Seafood) Markets, Fruit and Vegetable Markets

5411 July 2000
5421 July 2000
$5421 \quad$ July 2000
5441 July 2000
5461 July 2000
5499 July 2000
5511 July 2000
5541 January 2002
$5551 \quad$ January 2002
5561 January 2002
59 January 2001

6211 January 2001
6311 January 1999
6331 July 1998
Property and Casualty Insurance
512
January 1996
January 1996
January 1998
$7374 \quad$ January 2002
8082 January 1997
8111 January 1997
and Consulting Services Architectural, Design, Analysis, and Consulting Services Premiums for Property and Casualty Insurance

Weights for most traditional commodity groupings of the PPI, as well as all indexes (such as stage-of-processing indexes) calculated from traditional commodity groupings, currently reflect 1992 values of shipments as reported in the Census of Manufactures and other sources. From January 1992 through December 1995, PPI weights were derived from 1987 shipment values. Industry indexes shown in table 4 are also now calculated with 1992 net output weights. This periodic update of the value weights used to calculate the PPI is done to more accurately reflect changes in production and marketing patterns in the economy.

Net output values of shipments are used as weights for industry indexes. Net output values refer to the value of shipments from establishments in one industry to establishments classified in another industry. However, weights for commodity price indexes are based on gross shipment values, including shipment values between establishments within the same industry. As a result, broad commodity grouping indexes such as the all commodities index are affected by the multiple counting of price change at successive stages of processing, which can lead to exaggerated or misleading signals about inflation. Stage-of-processing indexes partially correct this defect, but industry indexes consistently correct for this at all levels of aggregation. Therefore, industry and stage-of-processing indexes are more appropriate than broad commodity groupings for economic analysis of general price trends.

Effective with publication of January 1988 data, many important PPI series (including stage-of-processing groupings and most commodity groups and individual items) were placed on a new reference base, 1982=100. From 1971 through 1987, the standard reference base for most PPI series was 1967=100. Except for rounding differences, the shift to the new reference base did not alter any changes to previously published percent changes for affected PPI series. (See "Calculating Index Changes," below.) The new reference base is not used for indexes with a base later than December 1981, nor for indexes for the net output of industries and their products.

For further information on the underlying concepts and methodology of the Producer Price Index, see chapter 14, "Producer Prices," in BLS Handbook of Methods (April 1997), Bulletin 2490. Reprints are available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics on request.

## Calculating Index Changes

Each index measures price changes from a reference period which equals 100.0 ( 1982 or some later month). An increase of 5.5 percent from the reference period in the Finished Goods Price Index, for example, is shown as 105.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows:
"Prices received by domestic producers of a systematic sample of finished goods have risen from $\$ 100$ in 1982 to $\$ 105.50$ today." Likewise, a current index of 90.0 would indicate that prices received by producers of finished goods today are 10 percent lower than they were in 1982.

Movements of price indexes from one month to another are usually expressed as percent changes rather than as changes in index points because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, whereas percent changes are not. The example below shows the computation of index point and percent changes.

Index point change
Finished Goods Price Index
Less previous index

$$
107.5
$$

Equals index point change
Index percent change

Index point change
Divided by the previous index
Equals
Result multiplied by 100
Equals percent change
3.5
104.0
0.034
$0.034 \times 100$
3.4

Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data
Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes seasonally adjusted and unadjusted changes each month. Seasonally adjusted data are preferred for analyzing general price trends in the economy because they eliminate the effect of changes that normally occur at about the same time and in about the same magnitude every year--such as price movements resulting from normal weather patterns, regular production and marketing cycles, model changeovers, seasonal discounts, and holidays. For these reasons, seasonally adjusted data more clearly reveal underlying cyclical trends.

Unadjusted data are of primary interest to users who need information that can be related to actual dollar values of transactions. Individuals requiring this information include marketing specialists, purchasing agents, budget and cost analysts, contract specialists, and commodity traders. It is the unadjusted data that are generally cited in escalating long-term contracts such as purchasing agreements or real estate leases. (See Escalation and Producer Price Indexes: A Guide for Contracting Parties, BLS Report 807, September 1991, available on request from BLS.)

For more information, see (1) "Appendix A: Seasonal Adjustment
Methodology at BLS," in the BLS Handbook of Methods (April 1997), Bulletin 2490 and (2) "Summary of Changes to the PPI's Seasonal Adjustment Methodology" in the January 1995 issue of Producer Price Indexes.

