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Producer Price Indexes -- August 2004

The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods declined 0.1 percent in August, seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. This decrease followed a 0.1-percent advance in July and a 0.3-percent decline in June. At the earlier stages of processing, prices received by manufacturers of intermediate goods jumped 1.0 percent in August, after a 0.8-percent gain in the preceding month, while the crude goods index fell 0.7 percent, compared with a 0.2-percent decrease in July. (See table A.)

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

Month	Finished goods					Inter- mediate goods	Crude goods
	Total	Foods	Energy	Except foods and energy	Change in finished goods from 12 months ago (unadj.)		
2003							
Aug.	0.5	0.8	1.4	0.1	3.5	0.6	-1.0
Sept.	.2	1.2	-1	0	3.5	-1	2.7
Oct.	.6	2.0	-4	.5	3.4	.3	2.8
Nov.	-1	-3	-7	0	3.4	0	0
Dec.	.2	.2	1.4	-1	4.0	.4	3.4
2004							
Jan.	.6	-1.3	4.7	.3	3.3	.9	4.1
Feb.	.1	.4	.3	-1	2.1	1.0	1.5
Mar.	.6	1.5	.6	.3	1.5	.8	1.6
Apr.	r .7	r 1.3	r 1.8	r .1	3.7	r 1.4	r 1.8
May	r .7	r 1.4	r 1.4	r .4	5.0	r .9	r 1.8
June	-3	-6	-1.6	.2	4.0	.5	1.6
July	.1	-1.6	2.3	.1	4.0	.8	-2
Aug.	-1	-2	.2	-1	3.4	1.0	-7

r=revised. Some of the figures shown above and elsewhere in this release may differ from those previously reported because data for April 2004 have been revised to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents.

Among finished goods, prices for both finished goods other than foods and energy and finished consumer foods edged down in August -- falling 0.1 and 0.2 percent, respectively. By contrast, the finished energy goods index moved up 0.2 percent in August.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods decreased 0.1 percent in August to 148.6 (1982=100). From August 2003 to August 2004, the finished goods index rose 3.4 percent. Over the same period, prices for finished energy goods climbed 9.9 percent, the index for finished consumer foods increased 4.0 percent, and prices for finished goods other than foods and energy advanced 1.5 percent. At the earlier stages of processing, the index for intermediate goods moved up 8.1 percent, and prices for crude goods rose 22.4 percent for the 12-month period ended August 2004.

Finished goods

The index for finished consumer goods other than foods and energy decreased 0.2 percent in August, after inching up 0.1 percent in July. The light motor trucks index fell 2.5 percent, after showing no change in July, while passenger car prices declined 1.2 percent in August, compared with a 0.4-percent decrease a month earlier. The indexes for cosmetics and other toilet preparations, sanitary papers and health products, and household appliances fell, following increases in July. Prices for book publishing, periodical circulation, and men's and boys' apparel were unchanged in August, after rising in the preceding month. By contrast, the alcoholic beverages index jumped 1.3 percent, compared with a 0.1-percent increase in July. Prices for pharmaceutical preparations also rose at a quicker pace in August than they did in July. The indexes for women's, girls', and infants' apparel and for household furniture turned up, after falling in July.

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

Month	Intermediate goods				Crude goods			
	Foods	Energy	Except foods and energy	Change in intermediate goods from 12 months ago (unadj.)	Foods	Energy (unadj.)	Except foods and energy	Change in crude goods from 12 months ago (unadj.)
2003								
Aug.	0.2	2.4	0.1	4.4	3.7	-6.1	2.0	20.8
Sept.	2.7	-2.0	.2	3.7	7.0	-1.1	2.7	21.5
Oct.	2.7	-.2	.3	3.4	8.5	-2.8	3.0	22.6
Nov.	2.6	-1.3	.1	3.4	-.6	-1.3	4.3	18.0
Dec.	-.3	1.4	.2	3.9	.3	7.0	3.0	19.5
2004								
Jan.	-1.3	2.9	.6	3.9	-6.8	15.3	3.7	16.1
Feb.	1.3	.7	.9	2.8	4.3	-2.8	6.1	12.0
Mar.	2.5	.4	.8	1.5	6.9	-3.7	2.8	.5
Apr.	r 4.7	r 1.8	r 1.1	r 5.4	r 3.3	r 3.8	r -4.3	r 21.6
May	r 2.8	r 1.5	r .7	7.1	r 2.9	r 4.1	r -4.9	21.9
June	-2.2	.7	.5	6.9	-3.6	7.7	-.5	18.9
July	-1.4	2.3	.5	7.6	-4.8	.2	8.6	22.2
Aug.	-5.2	2.7	1.0	8.1	-4.6	-.1	4.5	22.4

r=revised. Some of the figures shown above and elsewhere in this release may differ from those previously reported because data for April 2004 have been revised to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents.

The finished consumer foods index fell 0.2 percent in August, after a 1.6-percent drop in July. The rate of decline in prices for beef and veal slowed to 3.2 percent in August from 8.3 percent in the previous month. The dairy products index also fell less in August than it did in July. Prices for fresh and dry vegetables, soft drinks, and shortening and cooking oils moved up in August, after falling a month earlier. The pork index increased at a faster rate than it did in the preceding month. Conversely, processed young chicken prices dropped 7.1 percent in August, compared with a 1.1-percent decrease in July. The index for eggs for fresh use and the index for fresh fruits and melons also went down more than they did in the preceding month, while price increases for finfish and shellfish slowed in August.

Capital equipment prices inched down 0.1 percent in August, compared with a 0.1-percent rise in July. The light motor trucks index fell 2.5 percent in August, after showing no change in the previous month. The indexes for passenger cars, electronic computers, and x-ray and electromedical equipment decreased at a faster rate than they did a month earlier. Prices for semiconductor manufacturing equipment turned down in August. On the other hand, prices for communication and related equipment increased 0.2 percent in August, following a 0.7-percent decline in the preceding month. The indexes for commercial furniture, heavy motor trucks, and integrating and measuring instruments also turned up, after falling in July.

The finished energy goods index advanced 0.2 percent in August, following a 2.3-percent gain in the prior month. In August, rising prices for liquefied petroleum gas, residential natural gas, home heating oil, residential electric power, and diesel fuel slightly outweighed falling prices for gasoline and finished lubricants.

Intermediate goods

The Producer Price Index for Intermediate Materials, Supplies, and Components rose 1.0 percent in August, after posting a 0.8-percent gain in the previous month. Prices for materials and components for construction, materials for nondurable manufacturing, intermediate energy goods, and materials for durable manufacturing also rose at a faster rate than they did in July. On the other hand, the intermediate foods and feeds index fell more in August than it did a month earlier. Prices for intermediate goods other than foods and energy advanced 1.0 percent, following a 0.5-percent increase in the prior month. (See table B.)

Subsequent to a 0.2-percent increase in July, the index for materials and components for construction moved up 1.4 percent in August. Plywood prices turned up 13.7 percent in August, after falling 11.1 percent in the preceding month, and the softwood lumber index increased 8.1 percent, compared with a 1.9-percent decrease in July. The indexes for building paper and board, treated wood, and air conditioning and refrigeration equipment also rose, following declines in July. Prices for fabricated structural metal products, concrete products, and plastic construction products increased more than they did in the previous month. By contrast, the mineral wool for structural insulation index edged down 0.1 percent in August, compared with a 5.6-percent rise a month earlier. Prices for plumbing fixtures and brass fittings also turned down, while the indexes for fabricated ferrous wire products and switchgear rose less than they did in July. Prices for asphalt felts and coatings showed no change in August, after posting an increase in the prior month.

The rate of increase in the index for materials for nondurable manufacturing rose from 1.0 percent in July to 1.7 percent in August. Accounting for much of this acceleration, the industrial chemicals index jumped 5.7 percent, following a 1.6-percent gain in July. Prices for fertilizer materials and paint materials also increased more than they did in the preceding month, while paper prices turned up in August. Alternatively, the paperboard index fell 0.4 percent in August, after climbing 5.5 percent in the previous month. Prices for inedible fats and oils, processed yarns and threads, and synthetic fibers also turned down, following increases in the prior month. The medicinal and botanical chemicals index declined at a quicker rate in August than it did a month earlier, while prices for plastic resins and materials rose less than they did in July.

The intermediate energy goods index went up 2.7 percent in August, following a 2.3-percent gain in the prior month. Industrial electric power prices turned up 3.0 percent, after falling 1.2 percent in the preceding month. The indexes for commercial electric power and residual fuel also advanced, following decreases in July. Prices for industrial natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, and commercial natural gas rose more quickly in August than they did in the previous month. On the other hand, the gasoline index dropped 5.0 percent in August, after moving up 5.4 percent in the preceding month. The indexes for natural gas to electric utilities, jet fuels, and diesel fuel increased at a slower rate than they did in July.

A 10.3-percent increase in the index for hot rolled steel bars, plates, and structural shapes was the most important factor behind a 1.1-percent gain in the index for materials for durable manufacturing in August. Price increases were also registered for plywood, cold rolled steel sheet and strip, building paper and board, cold finished steel bars, cement, and aluminum mill shapes. By contrast, the indexes for primary nonferrous metals, unprocessed filament yarns, and copper and brass mill shapes declined in August.

The intermediate foods and feeds index moved down 5.2 percent in August, compared with a 1.4-percent decline in the preceding month. Prices for prepared animal feeds plunged 10.1 percent, after rising 2.3 percent in July. Confectionery material prices also turned down in August, while the indexes for processed young chickens; flour; and dry, condensed, and evaporated milk products fell more than they did in the prior month. On the other hand, the beef and veal index went down 3.2 percent in August, following an 8.3-percent drop in the previous month. Prices for fluid milk products also decreased less than they did in July. The indexes for natural, processed, and imitation cheese and for shortening and cooking oils turned up, following declines a month earlier, and the index for pork rose more than it did in July.

Crude goods

The Producer Price Index for Crude Materials for Further Processing fell 0.7 percent in August, after edging down 0.2 percent in July. In August, declining prices for crude foodstuffs and feedstuffs and for crude energy materials outweighed rising prices for crude goods other than foods and energy. (See table B.)

The crude foodstuffs and feedstuffs index decreased 4.6 percent in August, following a 4.8-percent decline in July. Falling prices for soybeans, fluid milk, corn, slaughter broilers and fryers, wheat, and fresh fruits and melons outweighed price increases for fresh and dry vegetables, slaughter cattle, slaughter hogs, unprocessed finfish, and slaughter turkeys.

The August index for crude energy materials inched down 0.1 percent, following a 0.2-percent gain a month earlier. Natural gas prices dropped 6.7 percent, after slipping 2.0 percent in the preceding month. Conversely, the crude petroleum index advanced 12.5 percent, compared with a 5.3-percent increase in July. Coal prices turned up 0.1 percent, following a 0.9-percent drop in the prior month.

Price increases for basic industrial materials slowed from July to August -- rising 8.6 and 4.5 percent, respectively. The iron and steel scrap index increased 7.7 percent in August, following a 32.2-percent surge in July. The indexes for construction sand, gravel, and crushed stone; aluminum base scrap; copper base scrap; and hides and skins also rose less rapidly in August. Prices for gold ores turned down, after moving up in the previous month. By contrast, falling prices for raw cotton slowed in August, declining 3.0 percent after sliding 15.5 percent a month earlier. The indexes for phosphates, iron ore, and for hardwood logs, bolts, and timber turned up, following declines in the prior month. Wastepaper prices rose more quickly in August than they did in July.

Net output price indexes for mining, manufacturing, and services industries

Mining. The Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Mining Industries advanced 1.3 percent in August, after rising 0.9 percent in July. (Net output price indexes are not seasonally adjusted.) Much of this acceleration can be attributed to prices received by the natural gas liquid extraction industry, which turned up 2.2 percent following a 0.3-percent decrease in July. The industry indexes for bituminous coal and lignite surface mining; potash, soda, and borate mineral mining; and iron ore mining also turned up in August. Prices received by the oil and gas well drilling industry rose more in August than they did in the prior month, while the bituminous coal and lignite underground mining industry index increased, after showing no change in July. By contrast, the crude petroleum and natural gas extraction industry index increased 0.3 percent, after rising 1.5 percent in July. Prices for oil and gas operations support activities also advanced less than they did in the previous month, while the industry indexes for gold ore mining and support activities for coal mining fell, following increases in July. In August 2004, the Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Mining Industries was 157.2 (December 1984=100), 25.3 percent above its year-ago level.

Manufacturing. The Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Manufacturing Industries rose 0.2 percent in August, compared with a 0.3-percent increase in the prior month. In August, price increases received by the industries for petroleum and coal products, furniture and related products, chemicals, plastics and rubber products, and primary metals outweighed falling prices received by manufacturers of food products, transportation equipment, and computer and electronic products. In August, the Producer Price Index for the Net Output of Total Manufacturing Industries was 143.7 (December 1984=100), 4.9 percent above its year-ago level.

Services. Among services industries in August, prices turned down for general medical and surgical hospitals, hotels (excluding casino hotels) and motels, software publishers, and scheduled freight air transportation. The rate of increase in the indexes for direct life insurance carriers, passenger car rental, and nonresidential property managers slowed from July to August. Alternatively, the industry indexes for scheduled passenger air transportation, investment banking and securities dealing, and wired telecommunications carriers turned up in August, after falling in July.

Producer Price Index data for September 2004 are scheduled to be released on Friday, October 15, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

Brief Explanation of Producer Prices Indexes

The Producer Price Index (PPI) of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is a family of indexes that measure the average change over time in the 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 can differ due to government subsidies, sales and excise taxes, and distribution costs.

More than 8,000 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 trade, finance, and services sectors of the economy.

More than 100,000 price quotations per month are organized into three sets of PPIs: (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 organizes products by class of buyer and degree of fabrication. The commodity structure 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.

Stage-of-Processing Indexes

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, as well as 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.

Commodity Indexes

The commodity classification structure of the PPI organizes products by similarity of end use or material composition, disregarding industry of origin. Fifteen major commodity groupings (2-digit commodity codes) make up the All Commodities Index. Each major commodity grouping includes (in descending order of aggregation) subgroups (3-digit), product classes (4-digit), subproduct classes (6-digit), and individual items (8-digit). Nearly all 8-digit commodities under the traditional commodity coding system are now derived from corresponding industry-classified product indexes. In such instances, movements in the traditional commodity price indexes and corresponding percent changes will be virtually identical to their industry-based counterparts, even if their index levels differ.

Industry Net-Output Price Indexes

PPIs for the net output of industries and their products are grouped according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Prior to the release of January 2004, industry-based PPIs were published according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. Industry price indexes are compatible with other economic time series organized by industry, such as data on employment, wages, and productivity. Table 5 of the *PPI Detailed Report* includes data for NAICS industries and industry groups (3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-digit codes); Census product classes (7- and 8-digits), products (9-digits), and more detailed subproducts (11-digits); and, for some industries, indexes for other sources of revenue.

Indexes may represent one of three kinds of product indexes. Every industry has primary product indexes to show changes in prices received by establishments classified in the industry for products made primarily, but not necessarily exclusively, by that industry. The industry classification of an establishment is determined by which products comprise a plurality of its total shipment value. In addition, most industries have secondary product indexes that show changes in prices received by establishments classified in the industry for products chiefly made in some other industry. Finally, some industries have miscellaneous receipts indexes to show price changes in other sources of revenue received by establishments within the industry that are not derived from sales of their products, for example, resales of purchased materials, or revenues from parking lots owned by a manufacturing plant.

Data Collection

PPIs 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. The BLS strongly encourages cooperating companies to supply actual transaction prices at the time of shipment to minimize the use of list prices. Prices submitted by survey respondents are effective on the Tuesday of the week containing the 13th day of the month. This survey is conducted primarily through the mail.

Price data are provided on a voluntary and confidential basis; only sworn BLS employees are allowed access to individual company price reports. BLS publishes price indexes instead of unit dollar prices. All PPIs are subject to revision 4 months after original publication to reflect the availability of late reports and corrections by respondents.

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 with the release of data for 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 industries includes the month and year in which an article describing the industry's content appeared in the *PPI Detailed Report*.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>PPI Detailed Report Issue</i>
	<i>SIC</i>	
Wireless telecommunications	4812	July 1999
Telephone communications, except radio telephone	4813	July 1995
Television broadcasting	4833	July 2002
Grocery stores	5411	July 2000
Meat and fish (seafood) markets	5421	July 2000
Fruit and vegetable markets	5431	July 2000
Candy, nut, and confectionery stores	5441	July 2000
Retail bakeries	5461	July 2000
Miscellaneous food stores	5499	July 2000
New car dealers	5511	July 2000
Gasoline service stations	5541	January 2002
Boat dealers	5551	January 2002
Recreational vehicle dealers	5561	January 2002
Miscellaneous retail	59	January 2001
Security brokers, dealers, and investment bankers	6211	January 2001
Investment advice	6282	January 2003
Life insurance carriers	6311	January 1999
Property and casualty insurance	6331	July 1998
Insurance agencies and brokerages	6412	January 2003
Operators and lessors of nonresidential buildings	6512	January 1996
Real estate agents and managers	6531	January 1996
Prepackaged software	7372	January 1998
Data processing services	7374	January 2002
Home health care services	8082	January 1997
Legal services	8111	January 1997
Engineering design, analysis, and consulting services	8711	January 1997
Architectural design, analysis, and consulting services	8712	January 1997
Premiums for property and casualty insurance	9331	July 1998
	<i>NAICS</i>	
Furniture and home furnishings stores	442	January 2004
Electronics and appliance stores	443	January 2004
Building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers	444	January 2004
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	448	January 2004
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	451	January 2004
General merchandise stores	452	January 2004
Miscellaneous store retailers	453	January 2004
Direct Health and Medical Insurance Carriers	524114	July 2004

Weights

Weights for most traditional commodity groupings of the PPI, as well as weights for commodity-based aggregate indexes calculated using traditional commodity groupings, such as stage-of-processing indexes, currently reflect 1997 values of shipments as reported in the *Census of Manufactures* and other sources. From January 1996 through December 2001, PPI weights were derived from 1992 shipment values. Industry indexes also are now calculated with 1997 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 within the industry to buyers outside the 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 PPI for All Commodities, 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.

Price Index Reference Base

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 previously published percent changes for affected PPI series. (See “Calculating Index Changes,” below.) The 1982 reference base is not used for commodity indexes with a base later than December 1981 or for industry net output indexes 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. This document can be downloaded from the BLS Web site at (http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch14_itc.htm), and reprints are available on request.

Calculating Index Changes

Each PPI measures price changes from a reference period which equals 100.0. 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 also can be expressed in dollars, as follows: Prices received by domestic producers of a sample of finished goods have risen from \$100 in 1982 to \$105.50. Likewise, a current index of 90.0 would indicate that prices received by producers of finished goods 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. Index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, whereas percent changes are not. The following example shows the computation of index point and percent changes.

Index point change

Finished Goods Price Index	107.5
Less previous index	104.0
Equals index point change	3.5

Index percent change

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

Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, BLS publishes seasonally adjusted and unadjusted changes each month. Seasonally adjusted data are preferred for analyzing general price trends in the economy, because these data 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 when 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 the BLS.)

In 1998, the PPI implemented the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method; prior to that year the PPI employed the X-11 method. Each year, the seasonal status of most commodity indexes is re-evaluated to reflect more recent price behavior. Industry net output indexes are not seasonally adjusted. For time series that exhibit seasonal pricing patterns, new seasonal factors are estimated and applied to the unadjusted data for the previous 5 years. These updated seasonally adjusted indexes replace the most recent 5 years of seasonal data.

Seasonal factors may be applied to series using either a direct or aggregative method. Generally, commodity indexes are seasonally adjusted using direct seasonal adjustment, which produces a more complete elimination of seasonal movements than the aggregative method. However, the direct seasonal adjustment process may not yield figures that possess additive consistency. Thus, a seasonally adjusted index for a broad category that is directly adjusted may not be logically consistent with all seasonally adjusted indexes for its components. Seasonal movements for stage-of-processing indexes are derived indirectly through an aggregative method that combines movements of a wide variety of subproduct class (6-digit) series.

Seasonally adjusted indexes can become problematic when previously stable and predictable price patterns abruptly change. If the new pattern persists, the seasonal adjustment method will eventually reflect it adequately; if these patterns keep shifting, however, seasonally adjusted data will become chronically troublesome. This problem occurs relatively infrequently for farm and food-related products but has more often affected manufactured products such as automobiles and steel.

Since January 1988, the PPI has used Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment methods to enhance the calculation of seasonal factors. With this technique, outlier values that may distort the seasonal pattern are removed from the data prior to applying the standard seasonal factor estimation procedure. For example, a possible economic cause for large price movements for petroleum-based products might have been the Persian Gulf War. In this case, intervention techniques allowed for better estimates of seasonally adjusted data. On the whole, very few series have required intervention. Out of nearly 900 seasonally adjusted series, only 16 interventions were performed in 1997.

For more information relating to seasonal adjustment methods, 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*.

Producer Price Index Data Via the Internet

In 1995, the BLS began posting PPI series, news releases, and technical information to both a World Wide Web (WWW) site and a file transfer protocol (FTP) site. During the years following the introduction of PPI Internet services, usage of these sites eclipsed more traditional methods of data dissemination, such as subscriptions to the *PPI Detailed Report*. There were more than 1.6 million accesses of PPI series over the Internet during the 12 months ended December 31, 2003.

Retrieving PPI data from the PPI Website

PPI data can be obtained from the WWW address (<http://www.bls.gov/ppi>). Scrolling down the page to the "Get Detailed Statistics" header reveals the following 5 methods of data retrieval:

- **Most Requested Series** is a form-based application that allows the user to quickly obtain PPI time series data by selecting from two separate lists (commodity and industry) of the most commonly requested time series, including the All Commodities Index and the stage-of-processing indexes (for example, Finished Goods). Within each list, any one—or all—of the time series shown can be selected. A user can modify the date range and output options after executing the query, using the reformat button above the data output table.
- **Create Customized Tables** is a form-based query application designed for users unfamiliar with the PPI coding structure. It guides a user through the PPI classification system by listing index titles and does not require knowledge of commodity or industry codes. Data retrieved are based on a query formulated by selecting data characteristics from lists provided. Two options are available to create customized tables, depending on a user's browser capability. The one-screen option is a JavaScript application that uses a single screen to guide a user through the available time series data. The second option is a multiple screen, nonJava-based application. Both methods allow a user to browse the PPI coding structure and select multiple series codes. Using the one-screen option, users can modify the date range and output options after executing the query using the reformat button above the data output table.
- **Series Report** is a form-based application that uses formatted PPI time series identifiers (commodity or industry codes) as input in extracting data according to a specified set of date ranges and output options. This application provides the most efficient path for those users who are familiar with the format of PPI time series identifiers. Up to 300 indexes can be extracted at one time.

There are three basic formats for creating a unique PPI time series identifier. For commodity and stage-of-processing indexes, enter a "wpu" prefix (not seasonally adjusted) or a "wps" prefix (seasonally adjusted) in combination with a commodity-based code to create a series identifier.

Commodity code

wps063
wpu063803
wpusop3000

Will provide data for:

Drugs and pharmaceuticals, seasonally adjusted
Pharmaceutical preparations, cardiovascular system
Finished goods, not seasonally adjusted

For a current industry-based price index organized according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), enter the prefix “pcu” followed by the industry-product code. The series identifier for products primary to an industry include 12 numeric digits, the six-digit industry code is repeated, and up to seven additional digits of product detail. Dashes are used as place holders for higher-level industry group codes.

**Industry-product code,
Current NAICS series**

pcu325---325---
pcu336110336110
pcu621111621111411

Will provide data for:

Chemical manufacturing, not seasonally adjusted
Automobile and light duty motor vehicle manufacturing
Offices of physicians, one and two physician practices and single specialty group practices, general/family practice

To identify a discontinued industry-product code based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC), enter a “pdu” prefix and “#” between the fourth and fifth characters of the product code. A series identifier for the discontinued dataset uses underscores as placeholders to complete a reference to an SIC industry group code of less than four digits. (All PPI industry-based indexes organized by SIC were discontinued with the introduction of the NAICS.) *In all cases, no spaces are permitted.*

**Industry-product code,
Discontinued SIC series**

pdu28_#
pdu331_#
pdu3711#111

Will provide data for:

Chemicals and allied products, not seasonally adjusted
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling and finishing mills, not seasonally adjusted
Passenger cars

• **Flat Files** and the FTP server are best suited for those users requiring access to either a large volume of time series data or other PPI-related documentation (such as, seasonal factor and relative importance tables). The FTP site can be accessed at (<ftp://ftp.bls.gov>) or directly from the links on the “Get Detailed Statistics” page or the PPI homepage. Data and documentation available for download include:

Directory:

- NAICS Current Series /[pub/time.series/pc](#)
- SIC Discontinued Series /[pub/time.series/pd](#)
- Commodity Series /[pub/time.series/wp](#)
- Special Requests /[pub/special.requests/ppi](#)
- Latest News Release /[pub/news.release/ppi.txt](#)

The FTP site maintains files to help with searches and downloads. These files are centrally located in the [/pub/doc](#) directory. Within this directory, go to the **overview.txt** file for an overview relating to all BLS data available through the FTP site. For commodity-based PPI data (which appear in tables 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 of the PPI monthly detailed report and tables 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the monthly news release), the program help file is **wp.txt**. For *current* industry-based PPI data based on the NAICS (which appear in tables 4, 5, and 9 of the monthly PPI report and table 4 of the monthly news release), the file is **pc.txt**. For industry-based SIC time series that have been *discontinued*, go to **pd.txt**. (These and other help files are also maintained within each of the five directories listed above.)

Other Sources of PPI Data

PPI data can also be accessed via the BLS homepage (<http://www.bls.gov>). After clicking the “Get Detailed Statistics” link at the top of the homepage a chart appears listing all of the available BLS programs. The following four methods are available for PPI data: Most requested statistics, create customized tables (one screen or multiple screens), and flat files. Additional sources of BLS data also are accessible from this page including: Economic news releases, series report, and economy at a glance.

Additional information

The PPI homepage (<http://www.bls.gov/ppi>) contains additional information regarding PPI data and methodology. The top section of the homepage provides PPI news releases, both current and archived, as well as general PPI information. The “Tables Created by BLS” section found beneath the statistics section provides relative importance and seasonal factor tables. The remaining sections offer special notices and publications pertaining to PPI methodology and applications.

For questions or comments regarding PPI data classification, methodology, or data availability on the Internet, call or e-mail the Section of Index Analysis and Public Information directly at (202) 691-7705 or ppi-info@bls.gov. Data also can be obtained by calling the national fax-on-demand service at (202) 691-6325. This service enables customers to request faxes of BLS data 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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

Grouping	Relative importance	Unadjusted index			Unadjusted percent change to Aug. 2004 from:		Seasonally adjusted percent change from:			
		Dec.	Apr.	July	Aug.	Aug.	July	May to	June to	July to
		2003 1/	2004 2/	2004 2/	2004 2/	2003	2004	June	July	Aug.
Finished goods.....	100.000	147.3	148.7	148.6	3.4	-0.1	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	
Finished consumer goods.....	74.422	150.4	152.0	151.9	4.1	-.1	-.5	.1	-.1	
Finished consumer foods.....	21.487	152.7	152.1	152.2	4.0	.1	-.6	-1.6	-.2	
Crude.....	1.731	130.8	114.4	125.7	-2.0	9.9	-10.9	.8	7.2	
Processed.....	19.756	154.5	155.3	154.4	4.5	-.6	.1	-1.8	-.6	
Finished consumer goods, excluding foods....	52.934	149.1	151.7	151.4	4.1	-.2	-.4	.7	-.1	
Nondurable goods less foods.....	36.883	154.3	157.9	158.0	5.3	.1	-.8	1.1	.2	
Durable goods.....	16.051	134.4	134.6	133.7	1.4	-.7	.5	0	-.7	
Capital equipment.....	25.578	140.6	141.2	141.1	1.4	-.1	.2	.1	-.1	
Manufacturing industries.....	7.016	141.9	142.6	142.7	2.0	.1	.4	.1	0	
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	18.562	140.1	140.6	140.4	1.2	-.1	.2	0	-.1	
Intermediate materials, supplies, and components.	100.000	140.2	143.8	144.9	8.1	.8	.5	.8	1.0	
Materials and components for manufacturing.....	46.892	136.2	138.6	139.6	7.6	.7	.5	.4	.7	
Materials for food manufacturing.....	2.948	146.6	147.9	145.4	7.3	-1.7	-.1	-3.0	-1.9	
Materials for nondurable manufacturing.....	14.491	143.5	147.1	149.5	8.7	1.6	.7	1.0	1.7	
Materials for durable manufacturing.....	9.515	144.3	149.4	151.0	18.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	
Components for manufacturing.....	19.939	127.1	127.8	128.1	1.8	.2	.2	.2	.2	
Materials and components for construction.....	12.827	164.7	167.8	170.0	10.6	1.3	.7	.2	1.4	
Processed fuels and lubricants.....	16.978	118.4	126.5	128.5	12.2	1.6	.7	2.4	3.0	
Manufacturing industries.....	6.840	120.0	127.1	128.2	8.6	.9	2.6	1.1	3.2	
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	10.138	117.4	126.2	128.7	14.6	2.0	-.3	3.2	2.7	
Containers.....	3.164	154.9	159.5	161.4	5.1	1.2	.8	.9	1.2	
Supplies.....	20.138	146.4	148.1	147.5	4.5	-.4	.1	.5	-.3	
Manufacturing industries.....	4.389	147.9	149.4	149.6	1.9	.1	.5	.3	.2	
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	15.750	144.8	146.5	145.7	5.1	-.5	-.1	.5	-.5	
Feeds.....	1.238	134.3	131.5	115.1	13.4	-12.5	-6.8	2.7	-12.6	
Other supplies.....	14.512	146.7	148.9	149.7	4.5	.5	.5	.4	.5	
Crude materials for further processing.....	100.000	155.7	162.0	160.7	22.4	-.8	1.6	-.2	-.7	
Foodstuffs and feedstuffs.....	39.856	135.4	131.0	124.7	11.8	-4.8	-3.6	-4.8	-4.6	
Nonfood materials.....	60.144	166.6	181.3	183.9	28.9	1.4	5.1	2.7	1.3	
Nonfood materials except fuel 3/.....	33.348	141.4	146.7	158.1	35.0	7.8	-2.5	7.1	7.6	
Manufacturing 3/.....	32.735	130.3	135.3	146.0	35.6	7.9	-2.6	7.2	7.8	
Construction.....	0.613	190.1	194.2	194.2	7.9	0	1.4	.9	.1	
Crude fuel 4/.....	26.796	191.8	221.5	208.4	21.7	-5.9	14.6	-1.9	-5.9	
Manufacturing industries.....	2.406	182.6	209.8	197.7	21.3	-5.8	14.1	-1.9	-5.8	
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	24.390	196.1	226.6	213.1	21.7	-6.0	14.6	-1.9	-6.0	
Special groupings										
Finished goods, excluding foods.....	5/ 78.513	145.7	147.6	147.4	3.3	-.1	-.2	.5	-.1	
Intermediate materials less foods and feeds.....	6/ 95.814	140.2	144.0	145.4	8.0	1.0	.6	.9	1.3	
Intermediate foods and feeds.....	6/ 4.186	143.2	143.2	136.0	8.8	-5.0	-2.2	-1.4	-5.2	
Crude materials less agricultural products 3/ 7/.....	8/ 58.184	170.4	186.2	188.2	30.0	1.1	5.4	2.9	1.0	
Finished energy goods.....	5/ 15.868	109.5	115.1	115.1	9.9	0	-1.6	2.3	.2	
Finished goods less energy.....	5/ 84.132	151.9	152.1	151.9	2.2	-.1	0	-.4	-.1	
Finished consumer goods less energy.....	5/ 58.554	156.9	156.8	156.6	2.5	-.1	-.2	-.5	-.2	
Finished goods less foods and energy.....	5/ 62.645	152.1	152.4	152.2	1.5	-.1	.2	.1	-.1	
Finished consumer goods less foods and energy....	5/ 37.066	159.8	160.0	159.7	1.6	-.2	.1	.1	-.2	
Consumer nondurable goods less foods and energy..	5/ 21.015	180.5	180.5	180.8	1.7	.2	-.2	.2	.2	
Intermediate energy goods.....	6/ 17.379	117.3	125.4	127.1	11.2	1.4	.7	2.3	2.7	
Intermediate materials less energy.....	6/ 82.621	144.4	146.8	147.7	7.4	.6	.5	.4	.6	
Intermediate materials less foods and energy.....	6/ 78.435	144.6	147.1	148.5	7.3	1.0	.5	.5	1.0	
Crude energy materials 3/.....	8/ 39.753	158.8	178.3	178.1	27.5	-.1	7.7	.2	-.1	
Crude materials less energy.....	8/ 60.248	148.7	146.5	144.5	18.7	-1.4	-2.6	-.5	-1.2	
Crude nonfood materials less energy 4/.....	8/ 20.391	187.6	191.6	200.9	32.3	4.9	-.5	8.6	4.5	

1/ Comprehensive relative importance figures are initially computed after the publication of December indexes and are recalculated after final December indexes are available.
2/ The indexes for April 2004 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.

4/ Excludes 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 - Continued
(1982=100 unless otherwise indicated)

Commodity code	Grouping	Unadjusted index			Unadjusted percent change to Aug. 2004 from:		Seasonally adjusted percent change from:		
		Apr. 2004 1/	July 2004 1/	Aug. 2004 1/	Aug. 2003	July 2004	May to June	June to July	July to Aug.
		INTERMEDIATE MATERIALS LESS FOODS AND FEEDS							
	-Continued.....								
05-42	Commercial electric power.....	138.3	146.8	149.4	-0.6	1.8	-1.1	-0.8	1.2
05-43	Industrial electric power.....	143.1	149.6	153.9	1.7	2.9	.1	-1.2	3.0
05-52	Commercial natural gas (Dec. 1990=100).....	186.0	197.7	197.1	14.3	-3	4.9	1.7	2.4
05-53	Industrial natural gas (Dec. 1990=100).....	192.4	206.7	203.0	14.0	-1.8	6.7	2.7	3.7
05-54	Natural gas to electric utilities (Dec. 1990=100).....	166.0	180.9	169.4	17.1	-6.4	14.1	3.0	1.4
05-72-03	Jet fuels.....	93.4	111.7	128.6	59.2	15.1	-9.8	16.0	15.1
05-73-03	No. 2 Diesel fuel.....	119.9	123.2	135.0	39.8	9.6	-3.7	8.1	7.6
05-74	Residual fuels 2/.....	93.1	89.2	99.7	-17.9	11.8	5.7	-7.9	11.8
06-1	Industrial chemicals 2/.....	154.1	158.9	167.9	19.5	5.7	1.4	1.6	5.7
06-21	Prepared paint.....	174.0	175.8	175.8	2.3	0	.1	.7	.1
06-22	Paint materials 2/.....	178.0	179.4	181.1	4.9	.9	-3	.8	.9
06-31	Medicinal and botanical chemicals 2/.....	135.0	136.2	134.6	-4	-1.2	.3	-2	-1.2
06-4	Fats and oils, inedible.....	170.0	156.7	144.1	30.3	-8.0	-17.9	4.4	-5.8
06-51	Mixed fertilizers.....	127.2	126.4	127.5	6.5	.9	-6	.5	1.3
06-52-01	Nitrogenates.....	165.4	166.0	170.8	17.4	2.9	4.5	4.2	5.3
06-52-02	Phosphates 2/.....	123.5	116.7	118.4	7.1	1.5	-2.5	-2.2	1.5
06-53	Other agricultural chemicals 2/.....	149.1	149.7	149.3	.5	-3	.3	-1	-3
06-6	Plastic resins and materials 2/.....	154.8	160.8	161.6	12.5	.5	1.7	.8	.5
07-11-02	Synthetic rubber 2/.....	127.9	131.3	133.8	6.6	1.9	.7	.2	1.9
07-21	Plastic construction products.....	142.4	145.4	146.7	6.6	.9	0	.4	1.0
07-22	Unsupported plastic film, sheet, & other shapes 2/.....	145.1	148.0	149.2	4.2	.8	1.8	.3	.8
07-26	Plastic parts and components for manufacturing 2/.....	116.5	116.2	116.3	-3	.1	-3	-3	.1
08-11	Softwood lumber 2/.....	214.6	216.1	233.5	35.8	8.1	-2.9	-1.9	8.1
08-12	Hardwood lumber 2/.....	198.4	199.9	201.6	5.3	.9	.3	-1	.9
08-2	Millwork.....	190.0	194.4	195.0	7.0	.3	.8	.2	.3
08-3	Plywood 2/.....	222.6	178.6	203.1	22.1	13.7	-10.5	-11.1	13.7
09-11	Woodpulp 2/.....	128.2	135.8	137.3	12.0	1.1	3.2	2.5	1.1
09-13	Paper 2/.....	147.0	148.1	149.8	2.3	1.1	.5	-1	1.1
09-14	Paperboard 2/.....	162.2	180.7	180.0	10.8	-4	3.0	5.5	-4
09-15-03	Paper boxes and containers 2/.....	171.2	176.8	180.3	4.5	2.0	.7	1.0	2.0
09-2	Building paper and board 2/.....	219.2	179.0	194.0	14.5	8.4	-8.6	-11.6	8.4
09-37	Commercial printing (June 1982=100) 2/.....	159.2	159.6	159.7	.8	.1	-1	.3	.1
10-15	Foundry and forge shop products.....	141.8	143.5	144.8	5.2	.9	.6	.2	.9
10-17	Steel mill products.....	139.1	155.9	158.8	46.5	1.9	6.2	1.9	1.8
10-22	Primary nonferrous metals 2/.....	133.4	135.7	133.8	29.0	-1.4	-9	5.5	-1.4
10-25-01	Aluminum mill shapes 2/.....	146.7	154.4	154.7	7.9	.2	1.3	.4	.2
10-25-02	Copper and brass mill shapes 2/.....	204.4	202.6	202.4	33.6	-1	-1.0	1.8	-1
10-26	Nonferrous wire and cable 2/.....	153.8	151.8	151.9	12.5	.1	.3	-1	.1
10-3	Metal containers 2/.....	114.6	116.5	116.6	6.8	.1	1.0	-4	.1
10-4	Hardware 2/.....	160.2	161.9	161.9	3.3	0	.1	.7	0
10-5	Plumbing fixtures and brass fittings.....	185.4	189.0	188.8	2.7	-1	.7	.8	-3
10-6	Heating equipment 2/.....	167.0	169.9	170.6	4.5	.4	.1	.4	.4
10-7	Fabricated structural metal products 2/.....	159.5	166.7	169.5	16.7	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.7
10-88	Fabricated ferrous wire products (June 1982=100) 2/.....	145.7	157.1	157.3	19.4	.1	2.2	3.5	.1
10-89	Other misc. metal products 2/.....	130.5	132.7	133.1	4.4	.3	1.3	.1	.3
11-45	Mechanical power transmission equipment.....	176.8	181.1	181.2	6.2	1	1.0	1.1	.2
11-48	Air conditioning and refrigeration equipment 2/.....	138.8	138.6	139.9	2.3	.9	-1	-1	.9
11-49-02	Metal valves, ex.fluid power (Dec. 1982=100).....	174.4	177.7	178.7	5.3	.6	.4	.6	.6
11-49-05	Ball and roller bearings 2/.....	176.2	178.9	178.7	4.3	-1	1.2	-1	-1
11-71	Wiring devices 2/.....	168.5	173.1	173.4	13.2	.2	0	-1	.2
11-73	Motors, generators, motor generator sets.....	148.5	151.2	151.0	2.5	-1	1.2	.2	-2
11-75	Switchgear, switchboard, etc., equipment.....	162.9	164.5	164.6	3.0	.1	.4	1.0	.2
11-78	Electronic components and accessories 2/.....	89.6	89.7	89.6	-1.1	-1	-3	.1	-1
11-94	Internal combustion engines 2/.....	145.7	145.9	145.7	.1	-1	0	-1	-1
11-95	Machine shop products 2/.....	143.8	144.9	145.6	3.6	.5	.3	.8	.5
13-11	Flat glass 2/.....	108.5	108.4	108.6	-2.1	.2	-3	.4	.2
13-22	Cement.....	154.0	155.8	159.4	4.8	2.3	-1	.2	2.3
13-3	Concrete products.....	158.4	160.2	161.6	5.2	.9	.8	.4	.9
13-6	Asphalt felts and coatings.....	116.5	118.1	117.9	-1	-2	-1.9	1.4	0
13-7	Gypsum products 2/.....	188.0	205.0	209.3	23.6	2.1	4.3	2.9	2.1
13-8	Glass containers 2/.....	143.8	144.3	144.3	2.3	0	-1	.2	0
14-12	Motor vehicle parts 2/.....	111.5	112.0	112.4	.6	.4	-1	0	.4
14-23	Aircraft engines & engine parts (Dec. 1985=100).....	162.8	161.7	163.6	6.6	1.2	.1	.3	1.6
14-25	Aircraft parts & aux.equip., nec (June 1985=100) 2/.....	152.0	150.4	150.4	-1	0	-3	0	0
15-42	Photographic supplies 2/.....	115.3	115.3	115.3	-9	0	-1.4	0	0
15-6	Medical/surgical/personal aid devices 2/.....	157.7	158.1	157.2	1.6	-6	-1	.2	-6
	CRUDE MATERIALS FOR FURTHER PROCESSING.....	155.7	162.0	160.7	22.4	-8	1.6	-2	-7
	CRUDE FOODSTUFFS AND FEEDSTUFFS.....	135.4	131.0	124.7	11.8	-4.8	-3.6	-4.8	-4.6
01-21	Wheat 2/.....	110.8	103.8	95.3	-3.1	-8.2	-4.1	-2.4	-8.2
01-22-02	Corn 2/.....	121.9	97.6	91.2	2.7	-6.6	-5.4	-11.6	-6.6
01-31	Slaughter cattle 2/.....	130.2	126.8	128.2	9.5	1.1	.2	-3.4	1.1
01-32	Slaughter hogs.....	79.9	97.9	97.9	34.1	0	-4.7	4.6	3.2
01-41-02	Slaughter broilers/fryers.....	196.7	211.1	195.2	26.9	-7.5	4.1	-5.3	-4.0
01-42	Slaughter turkeys.....	110.7	126.1	131.1	43.1	4.0	2.6	3.3	1.5
01-6	Fluid milk.....	136.8	121.1	112.9	14.0	-6.8	-10.1	-13.5	-10.8
01-83-01-31	Soybeans 2/.....	165.9	153.7	99.1	2.6	-35.5	-13.5	-5	-35.5
02-52-01-03	Cane sugar, raw (Dec. 2003=100) 2/.....	100.4	99.5	97.9	(3)	-1.6	-3.7	2.8	-1.6
	CRUDE NONFOOD MATERIALS.....	166.6	181.3	183.9	28.9	1.4	5.1	2.7	1.3
01-51	Raw cotton 2/.....	88.4	74.3	72.1	-15.2	-3.0	-13.6	-15.5	-3.0
01-92	Leaf tobacco 2/.....	38.8	(3)	100.8	-5.5	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
04-1	Hides and skins (June 2001=100) 2/.....	180.0	189.7	192.7	4.3	1.6	.2	5.4	1.6
05-1	Coal 2/.....	111.1	108.7	108.8	9.9	.1	.1	-9	.1
05-31	Natural gas 2/.....	218.7	259.6	242.1	23.9	-6.7	17.0	-2.0	-6.7
05-61	Crude petroleum 2/.....	98.4	104.8	117.9	40.7	12.5	-5.5	5.3	12.5
08-5	Logs, timber, etc.....	191.1	196.0	194.5	7.3	-8	2.5	1.1	-1.0
09-12	Wastepaper 2/.....	231.3	234.2	237.0	21.1	1.2	.5	.8	1.2
10-11	Iron ore 2/.....	96.9	98.3	98.4	2.0	.1	0	-1.7	.1
10-12	Iron and steel scrap.....	302.6	334.5	366.4	100.0	9.5	.6	32.2	7.7
10-21	Nonferrous metal ores (Dec. 1983=100) 2/.....	112.4	111.8	118.9	50.7	6.4	.8	4.9	6.4
10-23-01	Copper base scrap 2/.....	196.7	183.3	186.0	46.9	1.5	-5.5	3.3	1.5
10-23-02	Aluminum base scrap.....	204.8	190.5	191.7	14.9	.6	-6	3.7	2.5
13-21	Construction sand, gravel, and crushed stone.....	182.4	184.1	184.1	3.8	0	.2	.8	.2

1/ The indexes for April 2004 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.

Table 3. Producer price indexes for selected commodity groupings
(1982=100 unless otherwise indicated)

Commodity code	Grouping	Unadjusted index 1/		
		April 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004
	Finished Goods (1967=100).....	413.5	417.3	416.9
	All commodities.....	144.8	147.6	147.9
MAJOR COMMODITY GROUPS				
	Farm products and processed foods and feeds....	145.6	143.5	140.5
01	Farm products.....	129.6	123.2	118.7
02	Processed foods and feeds.....	153.3	153.5	151.4
	Industrial commodities.....	144.8	148.4	149.3
03	Textile products and apparel.....	120.5	120.9	120.8
04	Hides, skins, leather, and related products..	163.1	164.6	165.1
05	Fuels and related products and power.....	120.4	129.4	130.1
06	Chemicals and allied products 2/.....	170.1	172.8	175.9
07	Rubber and plastic products.....	132.0	133.6	134.0
08	Lumber and wood products.....	197.7	196.5	202.5
09	Pulp, paper, and allied products.....	193.9	196.2	197.1
10	Metals and metal products.....	146.5	152.5	154.6
11	Machinery and equipment.....	122.0	122.4	122.5
12	Furniture and household durables.....	134.0	135.0	135.5
13	Nonmetallic mineral products.....	151.1	153.4	154.2
14	Transportation equipment.....	147.7	148.1	147.6
15	Miscellaneous products.....	182.1	183.0	183.3
	Industrial commodities less fuels and related products and power.....	150.0	151.8	152.7
OTHER COMMODITY GROUPINGS				
01-1	Fruits and melons, fresh and dry vegetables, and tree nuts.....	112.4	100.4	111.7
01-2	Grains.....	117.6	99.0	92.1
01-3	Slaughter livestock.....	117.4	119.9	120.9
01-4	Slaughter poultry.....	176.8	191.2	179.6
01-5	Plant and animal fibers.....	89.5	75.4	73.2
01-7	Chicken eggs.....	141.6	100.9	97.1
01-8	Hay, hayseeds, and oilseeds.....	181.8	172.7	123.6
01-83	Oilseeds.....	176.3	164.4	109.7
01-9	Other farm products.....	57.9	'N.A.'	150.4
02-1	Cereal and bakery products.....	173.7	174.4	174.3
02-2	Meats, poultry, and fish.....	140.3	142.8	140.7
02-22	Processed poultry.....	133.6	136.2	131.5
02-5	Sugar and confectionery.....	149.7	150.5	150.4
02-6	Beverages and beverage materials.....	154.5	153.2	154.6
02-63	Packaged beverage materials.....	130.6	130.8	130.9
02-7	Fats and oils.....	191.2	191.3	193.1
03-81	Apparel.....	125.5	124.8	124.7
04-4	Other leather and related products.....	149.0	149.4	149.5
05-3	Gas fuels.....	203.2	240.5	230.9
05-4	Electric power.....	139.9	146.1	148.2
05-7	Refined petroleum products.....	114.2	122.0	122.9
06-3	Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	284.1	285.3	285.7
06-5	Agricultural chemicals and products.....	144.0	142.0	143.4
06-7	Other chemicals and allied products.....	142.5	143.6	143.4
07-1	Rubber and rubber products.....	121.5	123.4	123.8
07-11	Rubber, except natural rubber.....	127.2	130.7	133.1
07-13	Miscellaneous rubber products.....	141.3	142.8	143.0
07-2	Plastic products.....	140.2	141.7	142.2
08-1	Lumber.....	206.6	208.1	220.2
09-1	Pulp, paper, and products, excluding building paper and board.....	158.2	163.4	164.7
09-15	Converted paper and paperboard products.....	164.2	168.0	169.9
10-1	Iron and steel.....	154.4	169.4	174.6
10-2	Nonferrous metals.....	145.1	146.3	147.2
10-25	Nonferrous mill shapes.....	148.2	154.1	154.8
11-3	Metalworking machinery and equipment.....	151.7	152.6	152.8
11-4	General purpose machinery and equipment.....	158.7	160.5	161.1
11-6	Special industry machinery.....	170.0	170.8	170.6
11-7	Electrical machinery and equipment.....	113.7	113.8	113.8
11-9	Miscellaneous machinery and equipment.....	140.1	140.8	140.9
12-6	Other household durable goods.....	159.2	160.0	160.0
13-2	Concrete ingredients.....	168.8	170.5	171.9
14-1	Motor vehicles and equipment.....	130.3	130.4	129.3
15-1	Toys, sporting goods, small arms, etc.....	131.9	132.2	132.8
15-4	Photographic equipment and supplies.....	102.9	102.7	102.6
15-9	Other miscellaneous products.....	142.5	142.8	143.0

1/ Data for April 2004 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 selected industries and industry groups, not seasonally adjusted

Industry code	Industry 1/	Index base	Index			Percent change to Aug. 2004 from:	
			Apr.	July	Aug.	Aug.	July
			2004 2/	2004 2/	2004 2/	2003	2004
	Total mining industries.....	12/84	140.9	155.2	157.2	25.3	1.3
211	Oil and gas extraction.....	12/85	171.7	196.9	198.7	31.5	.9
212	Mining (except oil & gas).....	12/03	108.5	108.5	110.2	(3)	1.6
213	Mining support activities.....	12/03	101.0	103.5	105.5	(3)	1.9
	Total manufacturing industries.....	12/84	141.8	143.4	143.7	4.9	.2
311	Food mfg.....	12/84	146.1	146.7	144.4	4.8	-1.6
312	Beverage & tobacco mfg.....	12/03	101.5	100.9	101.4	(3)	.5
313	Textile mills.....	12/03	100.7	101.6	101.6	(3)	0
314	Textile product mills.....	12/03	100.2	101.9	102.4	(3)	.5
315	Apparel Manufacturing.....	12/03	99.9	99.6	99.6	(3)	0
316	Leather & allied product mfg.....	12/84	143.5	143.6	143.7	.6	.1
321	Wood products manufacturing.....	12/03	108.1	106.7	109.9	(3)	3.0
322	Paper manufacturing.....	12/03	100.1	103.4	104.2	(3)	.8
323	Printing and related support activities.....	12/03	100.8	101.3	101.5	(3)	.2
324	Petroleum and coal products mfg.....	12/84	141.9	152.0	155.6	25.5	2.4
325	Chemical mfg.....	12/84	169.7	172.0	173.2	5.5	.7
326	Plastics and rubber products mfg.....	12/84	130.0	131.4	131.8	2.4	.3
327	Nonmetallic mineral product mfg.....	12/84	140.9	143.1	143.7	4.1	.4
331	Primary metal mfg.....	12/84	138.4	147.6	149.1	26.6	1.0
332	Fabricated metal product mfg.....	12/84	139.4	142.6	143.7	8.1	.8
333	Machinery mfg.....	12/03	101.3	102.1	102.2	(3)	.1
334	Computer & electronic product mfg.....	12/03	99.5	99.0	98.9	(3)	-1.1
335	Electrical equip, appliance & component mfg.	12/03	102.7	103.7	103.8	(3)	.1
336	Transportation equipment mfg.....	12/03	100.2	100.4	99.9	(3)	-5
337	Furniture & related product mfg.....	12/84	149.7	152.1	152.7	3.5	.4
339	Miscellaneous mfg.....	12/03	101.0	101.3	101.0	(3)	-3
	Retail trade industries						
441	Motor vehicle and parts dealers.....	12/03	103.8	104.0	103.4	(3)	-.6
442	Furniture and home furnishings stores.....	12/03	102.0	102.5	103.0	(3)	.5
443	Electronics and appliance stores.....	12/03	101.2	99.9	98.8	(3)	-1.1
444	Bldg material and garden equip and supp dealers.....	12/03	107.7	111.9	111.7	(3)	-.2
445	Food and beverage stores.....	12/99	122.6	125.1	122.4	2.3	-2.2
446	Health and personal care stores.....	12/03	97.4	99.5	101.5	(3)	2.0
447	Gasoline stations.....	06/01	56.6	46.0	47.0	-19.9	2.2
448	Clothing and clothing accessories stores....	12/03	99.2	99.0	100.6	(3)	1.6
451	Sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores	12/03	98.7	97.8	96.3	(3)	-1.5
452	General merchandise stores.....	12/03	103.3	104.1	101.8	(3)	-2.2
454	Nonstore retailers.....	12/03	108.6	106.1	103.6	(3)	-2.4
	Transportation and warehousing						
481	Air transportation.....	12/92	162.3	163.4	165.1	1.2	1.0
482	Rail transportation.....	12/96	111.8	113.3	113.3	3.8	0
483	Water transportation.....	12/03	100.1	100.4	100.5	(3)	.1
484	Truck transportation.....	12/03	101.6	103.2	103.6	(3)	.4
486110	Pipeline transportation of crude oil.....	06/86	113.1	115.1	116.6	4.6	1.3
486910	Pipeline transportation of refined petroleum products.....	06/86	114.3	116.8	117.3	3.9	.4
488	Transportation support activities.....	12/03	100.5	101.2	101.5	(3)	.3
491	Postal service.....	06/89	155.0	155.0	155.0	0.0	0.0
492	Couriers and messengers.....	12/03	105.2	106.2	106.0	(3)	-.2
	Utilities						
221	Utilities.....	12/03	101.8	107.1	107.5	(3)	.4
	Health care and social assistance						
6211	Offices of physicians.....	12/96	114.4	114.5	114.5	1.6	0
6215	Medical and diagnostic laboratories.....	12/03	99.8	100.0	100.0	(3)	0
6216	Home health care services.....	12/96	119.7	119.9	119.8	3.1	-.1
622	Hospitals.....	12/92	140.7	142.3	142.1	4.9	-.1
6231	Nursing care facilities.....	12/03	101.9	102.1	102.9	(3)	.8
62321	Residential mental retardation facilities...	12/03	99.9	99.9	100.6	(3)	.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Producer price indexes for the net output of selected industries and industry groups, not seasonally adjusted -- Continued

Industry code	Industry 1/	Index base	Index			Percent change to Aug. 2004 from:	
			Apr.	July	Aug.	Aug.	July
			2004 2/	2004 2/	2004 2/	2003	2004
	Other services industries						
511	Publishing industries, except Internet.....	12/03	101.4	101.8	101.2	(3)	-.6
515	Broadcasting, except Internet.....	12/03	101.6	100.3	100.1	(3)	-.2
517	Telecommunications.....	12/03	100.1	99.7	100.0	(3)	.3
5182	Data processing and related services.....	12/03	98.5	99.0	99.0	(3)	0
523	Security, commodity contracts and like activity.....	12/03	102.3	102.5	102.3	(3)	-.2
524	Insurance carriers and related activities...	12/03	101.6	102.1	102.2	(3)	.1
53112	Lessors of nonres bldg (exc miniwarehouse)..	12/03	101.0	103.2	105.2	(3)	1.9
5312	Offices of real estate agents and brokers...	12/03	100.8	101.1	101.1	(3)	0
5321	Automotive equipment rental and leasing.....	06/01	106.0	109.7	111.0	3.2	1.2
5411	Legal services.....	12/96	131.8	132.0	131.9	5.2	-.1
541211	Offices of certified public accountants.....	12/03	101.1	101.3	101.6	(3)	.3
5413	Architectural, engineering and related services.....	12/96	126.6	126.9	126.9	2.2	0
54181	Advertising agencies.....	12/03	99.9	100.3	100.7	(3)	.4
5613	Employment services.....	12/96	113.1	114.8	114.8	2.8	0
56151	Travel agencies.....	12/03	98.7	96.1	95.4	(3)	-.7
56172	Janitorial services.....	12/03	100.5	100.8	101.6	(3)	.8
5621	Waste collection.....	12/03	101.3	101.3	101.3	(3)	0
721	Accommodation	12/96	124.8	128.6	128.6	4.8	0

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 April 2004 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents. All indexes are subject to revision 4 months after original publication.

3/ Not available.

Note: NAICS 2002 replaced the SIC system beginning with the release of PPI data for January 2004.

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

Grouping	Index 1/					
	Mar. 2004	Apr. 2004	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004
Finished goods.....	146.7	147.7	148.8	148.4	148.5	148.4
Finished consumer goods.....	149.6	150.9	152.2	151.4	151.6	151.4
Finished consumer foods.....	151.2	153.1	155.2	154.3	151.8	151.5
Crude.....	146.6	132.9	131.6	117.3	118.2	126.7
Processed.....	151.5	154.8	157.2	157.4	154.6	153.6
Finished consumer goods, excluding foods....	148.6	149.6	150.6	150.0	151.1	151.0
Nondurable goods less foods.....	153.5	155.1	156.1	154.8	156.5	156.8
Durable goods.....	134.5	134.2	135.1	135.8	135.8	134.9
Capital equipment.....	140.4	140.5	141.3	141.6	141.7	141.6
Manufacturing industries.....	141.3	141.8	142.1	142.6	142.8	142.8
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	140.0	140.0	140.9	141.2	141.2	141.1
Intermediate materials, supplies, and components.	138.5	140.4	141.7	142.4	143.5	144.9
Materials and components for manufacturing....	134.3	136.2	137.3	138.0	138.6	139.6
Materials for food manufacturing.....	142.4	147.2	152.0	151.8	147.2	144.4
Materials for nondurable manufacturing.....	141.3	143.5	144.6	145.6	147.1	149.6
Materials for durable manufacturing.....	140.8	144.3	146.2	147.8	149.3	150.9
Components for manufacturing.....	126.5	127.0	127.4	127.6	127.8	128.1
Materials and components for construction....	162.0	164.6	165.9	167.1	167.5	169.8
Processed fuels and lubricants.....	117.6	119.7	121.4	122.3	125.2	128.9
Manufacturing industries	119.2	120.9	121.6	124.8	126.2	130.2
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	116.5	119.0	121.2	120.8	124.7	128.1
Containers.....	154.1	154.9	156.8	158.0	159.5	161.4
Supplies.....	144.8	146.4	147.2	147.3	148.0	147.5
Manufacturing industries.....	147.5	147.8	148.0	148.8	149.3	149.6
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	142.9	144.8	145.8	145.7	146.5	145.7
Feeds.....	125.3	134.9	137.7	128.3	131.7	115.1
Other supplies.....	145.5	146.7	147.5	148.3	148.9	149.7
Crude materials for further processing.....	153.1	155.9	158.7	161.3	161.0	159.8
Foodstuffs and feedstuffs.....	132.3	136.6	140.5	135.4	128.9	123.0
Nonfood materials.....	164.6	166.2	167.9	176.5	181.3	183.7
Nonfood materials except fuel 2/.....	143.5	140.8	140.4	136.9	146.6	157.8
Manufacturing 2/.....	132.4	129.8	129.5	126.1	135.2	145.7
Construction.....	189.3	189.4	190.1	192.7	194.5	194.6
Crude fuel 3/.....	182.9	191.8	197.1	225.8	221.5	208.4
Manufacturing industries.....	174.2	182.6	187.4	213.9	209.8	197.7
Nonmanufacturing industries.....	187.0	196.1	201.5	231.0	226.6	213.1
Special groupings						
Finished goods, excluding foods.....	145.3	146.0	146.9	146.6	147.4	147.3
Intermediate materials less foods and feeds.....	138.6	140.4	141.5	142.4	143.7	145.5
Intermediate foods and feeds.....	137.5	143.9	148.0	144.8	142.8	135.4
Crude materials less agricultural products 2/....	167.1	170.0	171.6	180.9	186.2	188.0
Finished energy goods.....	108.8	110.8	112.3	110.5	113.0	113.2
Finished goods less energy.....	151.4	152.0	153.0	153.0	152.4	152.2
Finished consumer goods less energy.....	156.2	157.0	158.2	157.9	157.1	156.8
Finished goods less foods and energy.....	151.8	152.0	152.6	152.9	153.0	152.8
Finished consumer goods less foods and energy....	159.6	159.8	160.3	160.5	160.6	160.3
Consumer nondurable goods less foods and energy..	179.8	180.4	180.6	180.3	180.6	180.9
Intermediate energy goods.....	116.5	118.6	120.4	121.3	124.1	127.5
Intermediate materials less energy.....	142.4	144.3	145.4	146.1	146.7	147.6
Intermediate materials less foods and energy....	142.9	144.5	145.5	146.3	147.1	148.5
Crude energy materials 2/.....	153.0	158.8	165.3	178.0	178.3	178.1
Crude materials less energy.....	148.3	149.1	149.5	145.6	144.9	143.1
Crude nonfood materials less energy 3/.....	194.6	186.3	177.1	176.2	191.4	200.1

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 April 2004 have been recalculated to incorporate late reports and corrections by respondents.

2/ Includes crude petroleum.

3/ Excludes crude petroleum.