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EXPORT AND IMPORT PRICE INDICES

MARCH 2013

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KEY FIGURES FOR MARCH 2013

Producer Price Index and rates of change for exports and imports

Base: 2000 = 100

Producer Price Index components	Indices			Percentage change between	
	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013 and Mar 2013	Mar 2012 and Mar 2013
Exported commodities	182,1	183,6	184,7	+0,6	+1,4
Imported commodities	178,7	185,4	187,1	+0,9	+4,7

KEY FINDINGS FOR MARCH 2013

The PPI for exported commodities shows an annual rate of change of +1,4% in March 2013 (compared with +0,4% in February 2013). From February 2013 to March 2013 the PPI for exported commodities increased by 0,6%.

The main contributor to the annual rate for exported commodities of +1,4% was mining and quarrying (+4,9% year-on-year and contributing +1,7 percentage points) (see Tables 2 and 6). The main contributor to the monthly increase of +0,6% was basic metals (+0,9% month-on-month and contributing +0,3 of a percentage point) (see Tables 3 and 6).

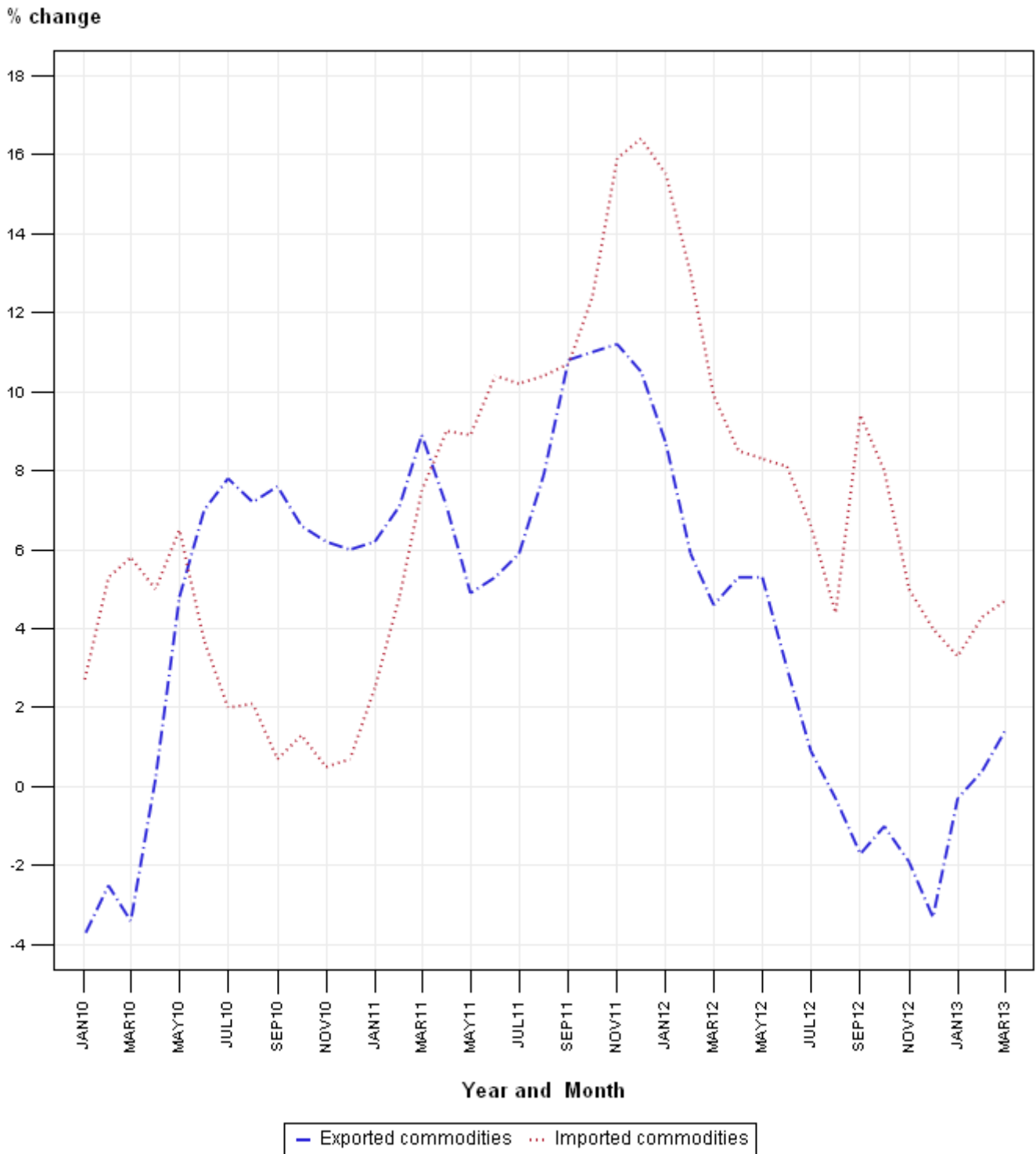
The PPI for imported commodities shows an annual rate of change of +4,7% in March 2013 (compared with +4,3% in February 2013). From February 2013 to March 2013 the PPI for imported commodities increased by 0,9%.

The main contributor to the annual rate for imported commodities of +4,7% was mining and quarrying (+10,1% year-on-year and contributing +3,9 percentage points) (see Tables 4 and 7). The main contributor to the monthly increase of +0,9% was mining and quarrying (+1,9% month-on-month and contributing +0,8 of a percentage point) (see Tables 5 and 7).

Note

This release does not form part of the changes to the suite of Producer Price Indices taking effect in 2013. The data contained in this statistical release are based on price information provided to Statistics South Africa by exporters and importers. Stats SA intends to replace this series with Unit Value Indices (UVI) for exports and imports which are based on customs records. An announcement will be made prior to the publication of the new UVI-based export and import series.

Figure 1 – Annual percentage change in the Producer Price Index:



P J Lehohla
 Statistician General

Table 1 – Indices and annual percentage changes in the PPI for exports and imports

Base: 2000 = 100

A) Exported commodities

Year		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011	Index	168,7	172,6	174,1	172,7	174,5	174,7	176,7	179,0	183,2	183,3	185,1	184,5
	%	+6,2	+7,1	+8,9	+7,1	+4,9	+5,3	+5,9	+7,9	+10,8	+11,0	+11,2	+10,5
2012	Index	183,4	182,8	182,1	181,8	183,8	180,0	178,3	178,4	180,1	181,5	181,6	178,4
	%	+8,7	+5,9	+4,6	+5,3	+5,3	+3,0	+0,9	-0,3	-1,7	-1,0	-1,9	-3,3
2013	Index	182,8	183,6	184,7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	%	-0,3	+0,4	+1,4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

B) Imported commodities

Year		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011	Index	154,3	157,3	162,6	165,2	167,0	166,1	164,6	166,3	164,6	167,3	174,5	177,0
	%	+2,5	+4,8	+7,5	+9,0	+8,9	+10,4	+10,2	+10,4	+10,7	+12,4	+15,9	+16,4
2012	Index	178,2	177,7	178,7	179,3	180,9	179,6	175,4	173,7	180,1	180,7	183,3	184,0
	%	+15,5	+13,0	+9,9	+8,5	+8,3	+8,1	+6,6	+4,4	+9,4	+8,0	+5,0	+4,0
2013	Index	184,0	185,4	187,1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	%	+3,3	+4,3	+4,7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Table 2 – Contributions to the annual percentage change in the PPI for exported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2013	Contribution at Mar 2013
Agriculture	+0,1	+0,1
Mining and quarrying	+1,4	+1,7
Food at manufacturing	-0,1	0,0
Beverages	+0,1	0,0
Chemicals and chemical products	+0,3	+0,3
Basic metals	-1,6	-1,1
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	-0,1	0,0
Transport	0,0	+0,1
All other groups	+0,3	+0,3
All groups	+0,4	+1,4

Table 3 – Contributions to the monthly percentage change in the PPI for exported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2013	Contribution at Mar 2013
Mining and quarrying	+0,7	+0,1
Chemicals and chemical products	-0,3	0,0
Basic metals	0,0	+0,3
Transport	0,0	+0,2
All groups	+0,4	+0,6

Table 4 – Contributions to the annual percentage change in the PPI for imported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2013	Contribution at Mar 2013
Agriculture	+0,1	+0,1
Mining and quarrying	+3,8	+3,9
Food at manufacturing	0,0	+0,1
Chemicals and chemical products	+0,1	+0,1
Non-metallic mineral products	0,0	+0,1
Basic metals	+0,1	+0,1
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0,3	+0,3
Electrical machinery and apparatus	+0,1	+0,1
Transport	+0,1	+0,1
All other groups	-0,3	-0,2
All groups	+4,3	+4,7

Table 5 – Contributions to the monthly percentage change in the PPI for imported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2013	Contribution at Mar 2013
Mining and quarrying	+0,7	+0,8
Non-metallic mineral products	0,0	+0,1
All other groups	+0,1	0,0
All groups	+0,8	+0,9

Table 6 – Producer Price Index for exported commodities according to group
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	Weight	Indices			% change between	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013 and Mar 2013	Mar 2012 and Mar 2013
All groups	100,00	182,1	183,6	184,7	+0,6	+1,4
1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining	30,34	220,4	230,6	231,3	+0,3	+4,9
1.1 Agriculture	1,62	139,2	148,8	149,8	+0,7	+7,6
1.1.1 Food	1,50	130,4	138,0	138,5	+0,4	+6,2
Grain	0,19	191,1	191,1	193,2	+1,1	+1,1
Vegetables	0,31	95,3	95,3	95,3	0,0	0,0
Fruits and nuts	0,95	55,3	63,1	63,1	0,0	+14,1
Oil seeds	0,03	100,1	100,1	100,1	0,0	0,0
Sugar cane	0,02	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.2 Live animals and animal products	0,04	321,5	442,9	466,2	+5,3	+45,0
Live animals	0,01	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Other raw animal products	0,03	216,4	312,4	330,8	+5,9	+52,9
1.1.3 Other agricultural products	0,08	168,1	168,1	168,1	0,0	0,0
1.2 Forestry	0,09	100,6	100,6	100,6	0,0	0,0
1.3 Fishing	0,06	228,6	240,9	240,9	0,0	+5,4
1.4 Mining and quarrying	28,57	227,3	237,7	238,4	+0,3	+4,9
Coal and lignite	6,22	320,5	313,8	313,8	0,0	-2,1
Metal ores	19,82	200,9	215,0	215,1	0,0	+7,1
Other minerals	2,53	217,7	234,5	242,2	+3,3	+11,3
2. Manufacturing	69,66	164,6	161,9	163,1	+0,7	-0,9
2.1 Food at manufacturing	2,20	154,9	151,5	151,7	+0,1	-2,1
Meat and meat products	0,09	117,6	120,4	120,4	0,0	+2,4
Prepared and preserved fish	0,24	156,6	157,8	157,8	0,0	+0,8
Fruits and vegetable products	0,63	134,3	153,5	154,3	+0,5	+14,9
Fats and oils	0,09	199,4	199,4	199,4	0,0	0,0
Dairy products	0,03	143,1	143,1	143,1	0,0	0,0
Grain mill products and bakery products	0,07	240,1	229,9	229,9	0,0	-4,2
Sugar	0,78	144,2	132,6	132,6	0,0	-8,0
Other food products	0,27	175,3	177,9	177,9	0,0	+1,5
2.2 Beverages	1,55	123,8	126,8	126,8	0,0	+2,4
Alcoholic beverages	1,39	123,6	127,1	127,1	0,0	+2,8
Non-alcoholic beverages	0,16	121,0	121,0	121,0	0,0	0,0
2.3 Tobacco products	0,19	180,8	183,3	183,3	0,0	+1,4
2.4 Textile and made-up goods	0,56	191,5	195,1	201,6	+3,3	+5,3
Yarn and thread; woven and tufted textile fabrics (prepared for spinning)	0,03	306,4	336,7	336,7	0,0	+9,9
Textile articles other than apparel	0,53	125,3	126,6	131,3	+3,7	+4,8
2.5 Wearing Apparel	0,19	115,7	115,7	116,6	+0,8	+0,8
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	0,14	118,3	118,3	118,3	0,0	0,0
Other wearing apparel	0,06	130,7	130,7	133,8	+2,4	+2,4
2.6 Leather and leather products	0,29	98,3	98,3	98,3	0,0	0,0
2.7 Footwear	0,04	166,7	166,7	166,7	0,0	0,0
2.8 Wood and wood products	0,83	178,9	182,5	182,5	0,0	+2,0
2.9 Paper and paper products	1,80	147,2	150,8	151,1	+0,2	+2,6
Pulp, paper and paperboard	1,52	153,1	157,6	157,9	+0,2	+3,1
Printing, publishing and allied industries	0,28	115,4	115,4	115,4	0,0	0,0
2.10 Products of petroleum and coal	2,37	260,1	260,4	260,4	0,0	+0,1

Table 6 – Producer Price Index for exported commodities according to group (concluded)
Base: 2000 = 100

	Weight	Indices			% change between	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013 and Mar 2013	Mar 2012 and Mar 2013
2.11 Chemicals and chemical products	5,14	137,5	146,5	146,5	0,0	+6,5
2.11.1 Basic Chemicals	3,94	140,7	151,6	151,6	0,0	+7,7
Basic organic chemicals	0,81	257,4	257,4	257,4	0,0	0,0
Basic inorganic chemicals	2,10	140,0	165,5	165,5	0,0	+18,2
Other basic chemicals	1,03	136,8	136,8	136,8	0,0	0,0
2.11.2 Compound chemical products	1,21	131,5	134,8	134,8	0,0	+2,5
Paints, varnishes and related products; artists' colours; ink	0,03	173,9	173,9	173,9	0,0	0,0
Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations	0,76	142,3	143,6	143,6	0,0	+0,9
Other compound chemical products	0,41	164,7	175,6	175,6	0,0	+6,6
2.12 Rubber and plastic products	0,90	150,4	149,8	149,8	0,0	-0,4
Rubber products	0,50	186,6	184,8	184,8	0,0	-1,0
Plastic products	0,40	113,0	113,6	113,6	0,0	+0,5
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	0,67	145,8	148,0	148,0	0,0	+1,5
Other non-metallic minerals products n.e.c.	0,67	145,8	148,0	148,0	0,0	+1,5
2.14 Basic Metals	33,23	199,7	191,6	193,4	+0,9	-3,2
Basic iron and steel	7,33	237,6	222,5	226,3	+1,7	-4,8
Rolled, drawn and folded products	4,32	98,6	88,3	88,6	+0,3	-10,1
Other non-ferrous basic metals and articles	21,58	203,4	204,9	206,6	+0,8	+1,6
2.15 Metal products	1,31	183,9	180,8	180,8	0,0	-1,7
Structural metal products and parts thereof	0,54	198,1	197,7	197,7	0,0	-0,2
Other fabricated metal products	0,77	169,2	163,5	163,5	0,0	-3,4
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	5,73	138,7	139,3	139,3	0,0	+0,4
General purpose machinery	2,35	134,5	134,9	134,9	0,0	+0,3
Special purpose machinery	1,61	146,2	147,5	147,5	0,0	+0,9
Domestic appliances and parts thereof	1,76	128,0	128,3	128,3	0,0	+0,2
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	0,23	108,6	100,2	100,2	0,0	-7,7
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	0,83	139,0	140,0	140,9	+0,6	+1,4
Electric motors, generators and transformers, and parts thereof	0,10	169,0	169,0	169,0	0,0	0,0
Electricity distribution and control apparatus, and parts thereof	0,15	141,4	141,4	141,4	0,0	0,0
Insulated wire and cable; optical fibre cables	0,25	175,3	179,4	182,6	+1,8	+4,2
Other electrical machinery and apparatus	0,34	120,1	120,1	120,1	0,0	0,0
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipment and parts thereof	1,14	100,8	101,2	101,2	0,0	+0,4
2.20 Medical appliances, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	0,54	145,1	147,6	147,6	0,0	+1,7
2.21 Transport	7,33	123,8	122,7	127,5	+3,9	+3,0
2.21.1 Motor vehicles, parts and accessories thereof	1,63	121,1	119,5	119,5	0,0	-1,3
Motor vehicles	1,28	104,3	104,3	104,3	0,0	0,0
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0,35	142,7	133,1	133,1	0,0	-6,7
2.21.2 Bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; parts	1,68	149,0	145,7	145,7	0,0	-2,2
Trailers, semi-trailer and containers	0,71	101,0	101,0	101,0	0,0	0,0
Parts for motor vehicles bodies, trailers, semi-trailers and containers	0,97	183,6	177,6	177,6	0,0	-3,3
2.21.3 Other transport equipment	4,03	108,0	108,1	115,9	+7,2	+7,3
2.22 Furniture	1,04	100,1	100,1	100,1	0,0	0,0
2.23 Other manufactures	1,53	100,6	101,4	101,4	0,0	+0,8

Table 7 – Producer Price Index for imported commodities according to group
Base: 2000 = 100

	Weight	Indices			% change between	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013 and Mar 2013	Mar 2012 and Mar 2013
All groups	100,00	178,7	185,4	187,1	+0,9	+4,7
1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining	16,75	403,0	434,9	443,3	+1,9	+10,0
1.1 Agriculture	0,93	153,5	165,2	167,5	+1,4	+9,1
1.1.1 Food	0,53	147,7	163,4	166,1	+1,7	+12,5
Grain	0,40	121,7	129,9	129,9	0,0	+6,7
Vegetables	0,01	183,5	219,8	210,2	-4,4	+14,6
Fruits and nuts	0,03	196,6	214,6	211,0	-1,7	+7,3
Oil seeds	0,03	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Other food	0,06	372,1	472,4	513,9	+8,8	+38,1
1.1.2 Live animals and animal products	0,06	122,9	122,9	122,9	0,0	0,0
Live animals	0,02	105,8	105,8	105,8	0,0	0,0
Other raw animal products	0,04	175,0	175,0	175,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.3 Other agricultural products	0,33	148,8	153,1	154,9	+1,2	+4,1
1.2 Forestry	0,01	101,3	101,3	101,3	0,0	0,0
1.3 Fishing	0,08	101,3	101,3	101,3	0,0	0,0
1.4 Mining and quarrying	15,73	443,7	479,0	488,3	+1,9	+10,1
Coal and lignite	0,02	171,9	171,9	171,9	0,0	0,0
Crude petroleum and natural gas	12,84	498,2	538,2	548,1	+1,8	+10,0
Metal ores	0,76	96,3	97,2	96,9	-0,3	+0,6
Other minerals	2,11	459,5	497,0	516,0	+3,8	+12,3
2. Manufacturing	83,25	140,4	141,9	142,2	+0,2	+1,3
2.1 Food at manufacturing	3,24	181,5	181,8	184,4	+1,4	+1,6
Meat and meat products	0,70	215,5	203,8	217,4	+6,7	+0,9
Prepared and preserved fish	0,07	121,1	121,1	121,1	0,0	0,0
Fruits and vegetable products	0,06	156,0	156,0	156,0	0,0	0,0
Fats and oils	0,96	222,4	222,7	221,6	-0,5	-0,4
Dairy products	0,13	182,2	183,7	183,6	-0,1	+0,8
Grain mill products and bakery products	0,72	159,3	170,8	172,8	+1,2	+8,5
Sugar	0,05	174,5	174,5	174,5	0,0	0,0
Coffee and tea	0,02	139,7	139,7	139,7	0,0	0,0
Other food products	0,52	134,9	134,0	134,2	+0,1	-0,5
2.2 Beverages	0,58	157,8	157,8	157,8	0,0	0,0
Alcoholic beverages	0,36	163,2	163,2	163,2	0,0	0,0
Non-alcoholic beverages	0,23	109,6	109,6	109,6	0,0	0,0
2.3 Tobacco products	0,05	122,5	122,5	122,5	0,0	0,0
2.4 Textile and made-up goods	1,35	121,6	122,1	122,3	+0,2	+0,6
Yarn and thread; woven and tufted textile fabrics (prepared for spinning)	0,95	112,4	112,4	112,4	0,0	0,0
Textile articles other than apparel	0,40	139,1	141,0	141,7	+0,5	+1,9
2.5 Wearing Apparel	0,76	124,7	125,8	126,4	+0,5	+1,4
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	0,46	124,4	125,8	125,8	0,0	+1,1
Other wearing apparel	0,30	124,7	125,1	126,8	+1,4	+1,7
2.6 Leather and leather products	0,41	146,5	146,5	149,5	+2,0	+2,0
2.7 Footwear	0,67	129,2	131,3	130,3	-0,8	+0,9
2.8 Wood and wood products	0,63	145,8	146,8	146,8	0,0	+0,7
2.9 Paper and paper products	1,87	129,5	129,5	129,6	+0,1	+0,1
Pulp, paper and paperboard	1,32	128,9	129,0	129,3	+0,2	+0,3
Printing, publishing and allied industries	0,55	133,1	133,0	132,8	-0,2	-0,2
2.10 Products of petroleum and coal	2,20	122,6	125,9	125,9	0,0	+2,7

Table 7 – Producer Price Index for imported commodities according to group (concluded)
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	Weight	Indices			% change between	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Feb 2013 and Mar 2013	Mar 2012 and Mar 2013
2.11 Chemicals and chemical products	10,65	168,8	170,0	170,0	0,0	+0,7
2.11.1 Basic Chemicals	6,29	192,8	194,6	194,7	+0,1	+1,0
Basic organic chemicals	3,26	186,7	189,3	189,3	0,0	+1,4
Basic inorganic chemicals	0,88	120,3	120,3	120,3	0,0	0,0
Fertilisers and pesticides	0,82	209,9	209,9	209,9	0,0	0,0
Other basic chemicals	1,33	210,0	211,9	212,3	+0,2	+1,1
2.11.2 Compound chemical products	4,36	143,8	144,2	144,2	0,0	+0,3
Paints, varnishes and related products; artists' colours; ink	0,34	147,1	147,5	147,5	0,0	+0,3
Pharmaceutical products	0,89	136,4	137,3	137,3	0,0	+0,7
Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations	0,53	140,2	141,5	141,5	0,0	+0,9
Other compound chemical products	2,60	145,0	144,9	144,9	0,0	-0,1
2.12 Rubber and plastic products	2,44	122,1	122,5	122,5	0,0	+0,3
Rubber products	0,96	125,4	126,1	126,1	0,0	+0,6
Plastic products	1,48	120,2	120,4	120,4	0,0	+0,2
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	1,57	138,5	139,4	147,6	+5,9	+6,6
Glass and glass products	0,03	146,3	141,2	141,2	0,0	-3,5
Other non-metallic minerals products n.e.c.	1,54	146,7	147,8	156,7	+6,0	+6,8
2.14 Basic Metals	3,70	183,2	186,7	187,0	+0,2	+2,1
Basic iron and steel	0,77	154,4	154,4	154,4	0,0	0,0
Rolled, drawn and folded products	1,24	165,4	162,0	163,3	+0,8	-1,3
Other non-ferrous basic metals and articles	1,69	203,6	213,1	212,9	-0,1	+4,6
2.15 Metal products	2,06	127,9	129,9	130,1	+0,2	+1,7
Structural metal products and parts thereof	0,09	109,4	109,4	109,4	0,0	0,0
Other fabricated metal products	1,97	129,9	132,0	132,1	+0,1	+1,7
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	14,01	141,8	145,0	145,1	+0,1	+2,3
General purpose machinery	7,98	156,0	160,6	160,8	+0,1	+3,1
Special purpose machinery	4,64	128,2	129,0	129,0	0,0	+0,6
Domestic appliances and parts thereof	1,40	145,1	149,9	150,5	+0,4	+3,7
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	5,42	82,2	81,3	81,3	0,0	-1,1
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	2,95	136,3	139,9	139,9	0,0	+2,6
Electric motors, generators and transformers, and parts thereof	0,58	103,7	105,1	105,1	0,0	+1,4
Electricity distribution and control apparatus, and parts thereof	0,75	143,7	141,7	141,7	0,0	-1,4
Insulated wire and cable; optical fibre cables	0,28	220,2	246,9	246,9	0,0	+12,1
Other electrical machinery and apparatus	1,34	135,5	138,9	138,9	0,0	+2,5
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipment and parts thereof	9,81	95,7	95,5	95,5	0,0	-0,2
2.20 Medical appliances, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	3,34	128,5	128,6	128,6	0,0	+0,1
Medical and surgical equipment and orthopaedic appliances	3,16	128,0	127,8	127,8	0,0	-0,2
Watches and clocks, and parts thereof	0,18	135,6	141,6	141,6	0,0	+4,4
2.21 Transport	13,45	149,6	151,2	151,3	+0,1	+1,1
2.21.1 Motor vehicles, parts and accessories thereof	2,83	155,8	155,9	155,9	0,0	+0,1
Motor vehicles	2,73	108,1	108,2	108,2	0,0	+0,1
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0,11	158,6	158,6	158,6	0,0	0,0
2.21.2 Bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; parts	1,63	169,2	177,1	177,5	+0,2	+4,9
Trailers, semi-trailer and containers	0,70	130,9	130,9	130,9	0,0	0,0
Parts for motor vehicles bodies, trailers, semi-trailers and containers	0,93	164,4	177,7	178,3	+0,3	+8,5
2.21.3 Other transport equipment	8,99	111,8	112,2	112,2	0,0	+0,4
2.22 Furniture	0,64	92,9	93,2	93,9	+0,8	+1,1
2.23 Other manufactures	1,44	123,6	124,1	125,1	+0,8	+1,2

NOTES**Forthcoming issues****Issue**

April 2013
 May 2013
 June 2013
 July 2013
 August 2013
 September 2013

Expected date of publication

30 May 2013
 27 June 2013
 25 July 2013
 29 August 2013
 26 September 2013
 31 October 2013

Purpose of the survey

The surveys of prices of commodities in imported and exported commodities are monthly surveys covering samples of importers and exporters in the South African economy. The results of the survey are used to compile the Producer Price Index (PPI) for imported and exported commodities which indicates changes in prices of imports and exports. These statistics are used by the private sector for contract price adjustments, and as a deflator in the compilation of national accounts.

Rebasing

The base year of the Producer Price Index (PPI) for imported and exported commodities is still 2000 = 100. For historical rebasing see the statistical release P0142.4.

Methodological notes

The basket of indicator products for import and export commodities was compiled through use of information from South African Revenue Services.

The products were classified according to the relevant Central Product Classification (CPC) and at industry level were classified using Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) subgroups. At industry level, value added was used to determine industry weights. At product level, the products in each subgroup were sorted according to their value of sales. The products contributing to the top 80% of the sales in each subgroup were selected as indicator products. These are the products for which prices will be monitored periodically by Stats SA.

The questionnaire(s) for each subgroup, which are used to collect the relevant price information from respondents, were adjusted to include the newly selected indicator products. Although the products on each questionnaire differ from the other questionnaires, their layout is identical.

For each indicator product a sample of importers and exporters was drawn from the list obtained from South African Revenue Services.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction	1	This publication contains results of monthly surveys of prices of imported and exported commodities. The price indices are calculated at base 2000=100.
Scope of this survey	2	The indices are compiled on a gross industry basis, i.e. each index relates to those articles which are imported and exported by the designated industries of the South African economy. Import and export prices are collected from importers and exporters.
Classification	3	The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, Report No. 09-90-02 was used to classify the industries in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. The Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.1, Series M No 77 was used to classify the products in the survey.
	4	This publication presents information, which measures changes in prices of products, which are imported or exported by establishments.
Statistical unit	5	The statistical unit is the establishment (branch), which is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry according to the classification of the products that the unit imports or exports.
Survey methodology and design	6	Different phases of sampling take place. Firstly, a sample of products, based on the information collected through 2005 information on imports and exports received from SARS is designed and drawn. An indicator product is selected purposively within each product group. To be selected, a product should be part of the top 80% of products imported or exported in that product group. Furthermore, it must be possible to obtain price quotations for the relevant product during the whole year. The sample of indicator products is revised every five years at which stage the weights of the indicator products/groups are also revised.
Pricing basis	7	Price information refers to the first seven days of the relevant month, except in the case of mining and most of the agricultural products, where it refers to the average price for the month. The average price of imported crude petroleum, used in the compilation of the import component of the PPI, is calculated as the value (in Rands) divided by the quantity of imported crude petroleum for the relevant month. The prices of all items exclude Value Added Tax (VAT).
Weighting basis	8	<p>The index is a fixed weight index as the weights are determined in the base period and they do not change until the next base period. The commodities directly represented in the index, were selected on the basis of the values of sales of products –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exported during 2005; and • imported during 2005. <p>These commodities constitute approximately 80 per cent of the total value of imports/exports during the relevant year as indicated above. Weights were allocated to each product in accordance with the value of sales for each item during the 2004/05 financial year.</p>
Processing of price information	9	The prices that are quoted for the different products are checked. If the price difference between two successive periods is outside the specified range of increase (+10%) or decreases (-5%), the current price levels are confirmed with relevant respondents.
Calculating product price indices	10	Price relatives are calculated for each product per respondent by dividing the current prices by the previously quoted price. The price relative for each product is calculated by means of the geometric mean of the price relatives for each respondent. This price relative for each product is then applied to the product index for the previous month in order to obtain a product index for the relevant month.
Calculating group price indices	11	Group price indices are calculated by weighting product indices with the relevant product weight, according to each group's (import, export) weighting structure, using the Laspeyres index formula.

Contributions of specific products to the total PPI	12	The monthly (annual) contribution of a specific product or group of products to the total imported and exported PPI is calculated by multiplying the weight of this product or group of products with the monthly (annual) change in the index for this product or group of products, divided by the index for 'All groups', for the previous month (year).										
Reliability of estimates	13	Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by establishment (branch) and errors made in collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum by careful designing the questionnaires, editing data and efficient operating procedures.										
Related publications	14	Users may also wish to refer to the following publications, which are available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulletin of Statistics; and • SA Statistics. 										
Unpublished statistics	15	In some cases, Stats SA can also make available information, which is not published. This information can be made available in one or more of the following ways: computer printout, diskette or CD. Generally a fee is levied for providing unpublished information.										
Symbols and abbreviations	16	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Stats SA</td> <td>Statistics South Africa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>..</td> <td>not available</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>nil or not applicable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*</td> <td>revised since previous publication</td> </tr> <tr> <td>avg</td> <td>average</td> </tr> </table>	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa	..	not available	-	nil or not applicable	*	revised since previous publication	avg	average
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa											
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GLOSSARY

Annual percentage change

The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage and is generally accepted as the yardstick of PPI inflation for imports and exports.

Overall average annual percentage change

The overall average annual percentage change is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Establishment

An establishment (branch) is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity.

Indicator products

Indicator products are those products whose sale values represent 80% of the total value of sales in an industrial subgroup.

Monthly percentage change

The monthly percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month compared to the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage.

Weights

The weights show the relative importance of the indicator products in the subgroup. The weight of a product is calculated by dividing the actual value of sales of the relevant indicator product by the total value of sales in that subgroup.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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