



## Wholesale prices rise by 5.2% in December 2020

The wholesale price index rose by (+5.2%) in December 2020 on an annual basis, lower than in November (+5.5%). The increase of the index mainly resulted from higher prices of **Agriculture and Fishery Products** by (+14.8%), due to their weight in the index, in addition to the overall impact of the increase of the Value Added Tax (VAT) from 5% to 15% in July 2020. A dampening factor on wholesale price inflation was lower prices of Refined petroleum products, which fell by (-20.1%) compared to December 2019.

### The largest annual increase in prices registered by agricultural products

- **Agriculture and Fishery Products** recorded the largest increase in wholesale prices by 14.8% over the last 12 months until December 2020, due to the increase in the agricultural products prices by 9.8 % as well as the higher prices of Live Animals and Animal Products by 29.4%.
- **Metal Products, Machinery and Equipment** registered an increase by 13.5 , which mainly resulted from higher prices of Basic Metals (+20.5%) and Transport Equipment (+13.6%).
- **Ores and Minerals** went up by 13.3% as a result of the increase in the prices of Stones and Sand by (+13.3%).
- **Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco and Textiles** increased by 11.5% as a result of higher prices of Grain mills, Starch Products and Other Food Products (+12.0%) , in addition to Meat , Fish, Fruits ,Vegetables ,Oils and Fats (+14.6%).
- **Other Transportable Goods** decreased by 6.2% on an annual basis in December 2020, due to lower price of Refined Petroleum Products (-20.1%).

### Wholesale prices rise by (0.1%) in December 2020 compared to last November

The wholesale price index rose by(+0.1%) on a monthly basis in December 2020, mainly influenced by the rise in the prices of **Metal Products , Machinery and Equipment** by(+0.8%) compared to the previous month ,as a result of the price of Basic Metals by(+4.1%),

On the other hand, the prices of **Agriculture and Fishery Products** decreased by (-2.2%), the Section of **Ores and Minerals** decreased by (-0.9%), and **Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco and Textiles** recorded (-0.2%).



The Section of **Other Transportable Goods** recorded no significant relative change in December 2020.

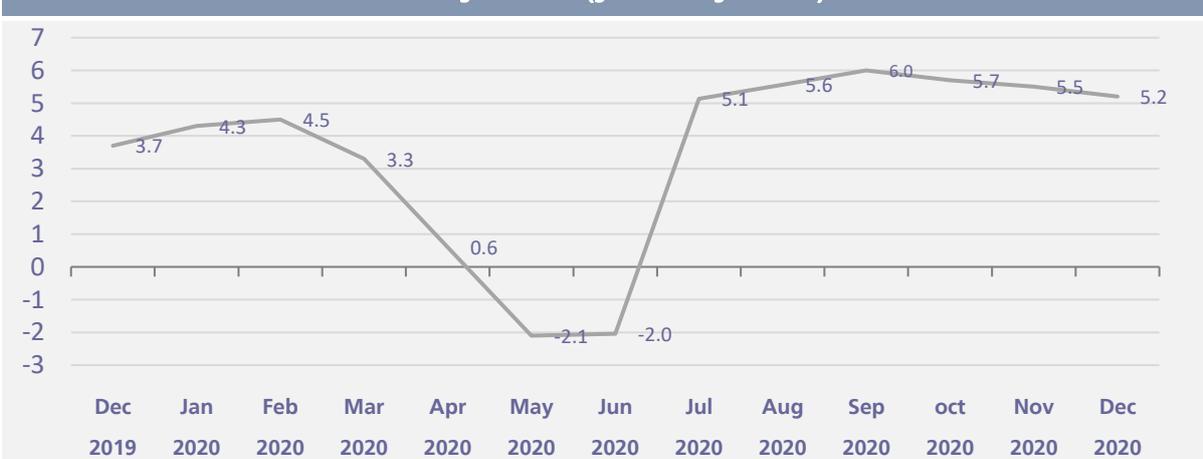
## Methodology

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) reflects the movements of pre-retail prices of goods of a fixed basket including 343 items. The prices are collected monthly from three main cities: (Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam) through field visits of points of sale. The year 2014 was determined as the base year. WPI statistics are published on a monthly basis.

### Annual and monthly change in wholesale price index by main product category, December 2020

Product Category	Percentage change (%) in December 2020 compared to:	
	December 2019	November 2020
<b>General Index</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Agriculture and fishery products	14.8	-2.2
Ores and Minerals	13.3	-0.9
Food products, beverages, tobacco and textiles	11.5	-0.2
Other transportable goods, except metal products, machinery and equipment	-6.2	0.0
Metal products, machinery and equipment	13.5	0.8

### WPI by month (year-on-year, %)



Links: [Tables](#) , [Methodology](#)