

Wholesale Prices increase by 12.1% in March 2022

In March 2022, the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) increased by 12.1% compared to the same month in 2021, higher than in February (11.5%). The increase resulted mainly from the increase in other transportable goods prices (+16.1%) that have a relatively high weight in the index.

Chemicals show the highest increase in March 2022

Other transportable goods increased by 16.1%, due to the increase of basic chemicals prices by 65.4%, and refined petroleum products prices by 16.6%, due to their weight in the index.

Metal products, machinery and equipment prices increased by 10.2%, due to higher prices of basic metals (21.0%), and General-purpose machinery prices (11.6%).

Agriculture and fishery products prices increased by 15.8%, which resulted mainly from higher prices of agricultural products (18.8%), and live animals and animal products (10.6%).

Food products, beverages, tobacco and textiles prices increased by 5.4%, as a result of the increase in the prices of meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, oils and fats (12.1%).

Ores and minerals prices went up by 5.4%, due to the increase in stones and sand prices (5.4%).

Wholesale prices increase by 1.3% compared to the previous month

Wholesale price index increased by 1.3% in March 2022 compared to February 2022, influenced by the increase in Metal products, machinery and equipment prices by 1.6%, which can be attributed to the increase in basic metals prices by 3.3%. Other transportable goods prices increased by 1.0%, resulting mainly from the increase in basic chemicals prices (5.0%).

Agriculture and fishery products prices increased by 2.4%, influenced by the rise in agricultural products prices (2.6%).

Food products, beverages, tobacco, and textiles prices increased by 0.8%, as a result to the increase in meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, oils and fats prices (3.0%). Ores and minerals prices increased by 0.5%, due to the increase in stones and sand prices (0.5%).

Table 1. Annual and Monthly Change in Wholesale Price Index by Main Product Category (March 2022)(%)

Expenditure Category	Percentage change in March 2022 compared to	
	Feb 2022	Mar 2021
General Index	1.3	12.1
Agriculture & Fishery Products	2.4	15.8
Ores & Minerals	0.5	5.4
Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco, & Textiles	0.8	5.4
Other Transportable Goods, Except Metal Products, Machinery, & Equipment	1.0	16.1
Metal Products, Machinery, & Equipment	1.6	10.2

Source: [Tables](#).

Figure 1 . WPI (Year-on-Year, %)



WPI Methodology

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) reflects the development of pre-retail prices of goods of a fixed basket including 343 items. The prices are collected on a monthly basis from points of sale of three main cities: Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam). The year 2014 was determined as the base year. WPI statistics are published on a monthly basis. For more information, click the link below: [Methodology](#)