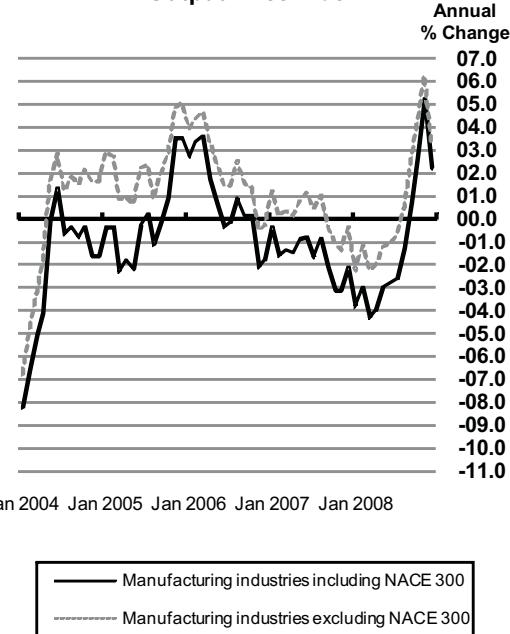




22 January 2009

Manufacturing Industries Output Price Index



Jan 2004 Jan 2005 Jan 2006 Jan 2007 Jan 2008

— Manufacturing industries including NACE 300
- - - - - Manufacturing industries excluding NACE 300

Wholesale Price Index December 2008

Manufacturing Output Price Index

| | Price Index (Year '00=100) | % monthly change | % annual change |
|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Oct 2008 | 90.6 | +1.2% | +2.6% |
| Nov 2008 | 91.8 | +1.3% | +5.2% |
| Dec 2008 | 89.6 | -2.4% | +2.2% |

Annual Manufacturing Prices up 2.2% in December

Monthly factory gate prices decreased by 2.4% in December 2008. This compares to an increase of 0.5% recorded for December 2007. As a result, the annual percentage change showed an increase of 2.2% in December 2008, compared with an increase of 5.2% in November 2008. *See graph across and Table 1.*

In the month, the price index for export sales decreased by 2.7% while the index for home sales decreased by 1.3%. In the year there was an increase in the price index for export sales of 2.2% and an increase of 2.5% in respect of the price index for home sales. *See Table 2 and graph on page 6.*

In the month the most significant changes were decreases in Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) (-3.7%), Basic chemicals (-3.1%), and Office machinery and computers (-2.8%). *See Table 2 and Table 2B.*

Contributing to the annual change were increases in Other food products including bread and confectionery (+10.8%), Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) (+7.5%), and Basic chemicals (+4.2%), while there were decreases in Dairy products (-13.2%), and Office machinery and computers (-4.0%). *See Table 2 and Table 2B.*

The yearly price index for Mining and quarrying decreased by 10.8% while there was a monthly decrease of 2.7%. *See Table 2.*

A further analysis of Wholesale price changes by sector of use shows that:

- Building and Construction All material prices increased by 2.3% in the year since December 2007. The most notable yearly change was a decrease in Bituminous emulsions (-19.6%), while there were increases in Structural steel (+16.4%), and Reinforcing metal (+13.3%). Building and Construction All material prices decreased by 0.7% in December 2008. *See Table 3.*
- Year on year, the price of Capital Goods increased by 2.3%, while there was a monthly price decrease of 0.4%. *See Table 4.*
- The price of Energy products increased by 6.9% in the year since December 2007, while Petroleum fuels decreased by 18.6%. In December 2008, there was a monthly decrease in Energy products of 3.5%, while Petroleum fuels decreased by 14.0%. *See Table 5.*

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Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000 Tel: +353 21 453 5000
Fax: +353 1 498 4229 Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to
Economy: Prices

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

WPI Statistics WPI Section, (021) 453 5449
 wpi@cso.ie
Queries and Sales Information Section, (021) 453 5021
 information@cso.ie
 Databank, (021) 453 5650, 453 5499
 databank@cso.ie

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For more information contact Dympna Corry on 021 453 5128 or Cathal Mannix on 021 453 5448.

Table 1 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) Rebased Series 2000=100

Base: Year 2000 as 100

| Period | Manufacturing industries | | | General wholesale price index ¹ | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------|----------------|
| | Output price index | | Annual % change | (See note below) | | Annual% Change |
| | Price Index | % Change on preceding period | | Price Index | % Change on preceding period | |
| 2001 Year | 101.7 | +1.7 | +1.7 | 102.9 | +2.9 | +2.9 |
| 2002 Year | 100.5 | -1.2 | -1.2 | 103.1 | +0.2 | +0.2 |
| 2003 Year | 92.4 | -8.1 | -8.1 | 97.4 | -5.5 | -5.5 |
| 2004 Year | 90.2 | -2.4 | -2.4 | 99.0 | +1.6 | +1.6 |
| 2005 Year | 90.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 | 101.2 | +2.2 | +2.2 |
| 2006 Year | 90.7 | +0.7 | +0.7 | 103.5 | +2.3 | +2.3 |
| 2007 Year | 89.2 | -1.7 | -1.7 | 104.3 | +0.8 | +0.8 |
| 2008 Year | 88.2 | -1.1 | -1.1 | | | |
| 2005 Quarter 1 | 88.4 | -0.8 | -1.1 | 99.7 | +0.8 | +2.0 |
| Quarter 2 | 90.1 | +1.9 | -1.4 | 100.8 | +1.1 | +1.4 |
| Quarter 3 | 90.5 | +0.4 | -0.3 | 101.2 | +0.4 | +1.2 |
| Quarter 4 | 91.4 | +1.0 | +2.6 | 102.9 | +1.7 | +4.0 |
| 2006 Quarter 1 | 91.3 | -0.1 | +3.3 | 103.5 | +0.6 | +3.8 |
| Quarter 2 | 90.6 | -0.8 | +0.6 | 103.5 | - | +2.7 |
| Quarter 3 | 90.7 | +0.1 | +0.2 | 103.4 | -0.1 | +2.2 |
| Quarter 4 | 90.3 | -0.4 | -1.2 | 103.5 | +0.1 | +0.6 |
| 2007 Quarter 1 | 90.2 | -0.1 | -1.2 | 104.7 | +1.2 | +1.2 |
| Quarter 2 | 89.7 | -0.6 | -1.0 | 104.6 | -0.1 | +1.1 |
| Quarter 3 | 89.3 | -0.4 | -1.5 | 104.6 | - | +1.2 |
| Quarter 4 | 87.8 | -1.7 | -2.8 | 103.5 | -1.1 | - |
| 2008 Quarter 1 | 86.9 | -1.0 | -3.7 | 103.8 | +0.3 | -0.9 |
| Quarter 2 | 86.7 | -0.2 | -3.3 | | | |
| Quarter 3 | 88.3 | +1.8 | -1.1 | | | |
| Quarter 4 | 90.7 | +2.7 | +3.3 | | | |
| 2006 January | 91.0 | -0.2 | +2.7 | 103.2 | +0.2 | +3.4 |
| February | 91.6 | +0.7 | +3.3 | 103.9 | +0.7 | +4.1 |
| March | 91.2 | -0.4 | +3.6 | 103.5 | -0.4 | +3.9 |
| April | 91.0 | -0.2 | +1.7 | 103.8 | +0.3 | +3.5 |
| May | 90.2 | -0.9 | +0.6 | 103.2 | -0.6 | +2.8 |
| June | 90.7 | +0.6 | -0.4 | 103.5 | +0.3 | +1.7 |
| July | 90.6 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 103.4 | -0.1 | +2.1 |
| August | 90.7 | +0.1 | +0.9 | 103.6 | +0.2 | +2.8 |
| September | 90.8 | 0.1 | +0.1 | 103.3 | -0.3 | +1.9 |
| October | 91.1 | +0.3 | +0.1 | 103.8 | +0.5 | +1.5 |
| November | 90.1 | -1.1 | -2.1 | 103.5 | -0.3 | +0.2 |
| December | 89.6 | -0.6 | -1.8 | 103.3 | -0.2 | +0.3 |
| 2007 January | 90.6 | +1.1 | -0.4 | 104.7 | +1.4 | +1.5 |
| February | 90.1 | -0.6 | -1.6 | 104.6 | -0.1 | +0.7 |
| March | 89.9 | -0.2 | -1.4 | 104.7 | +0.1 | +1.2 |
| April | 89.6 | -0.3 | -1.5 | 104.3 | -0.4 | +0.5 |
| May | 89.4 | -0.2 | -0.9 | 104.4 | +0.1 | +1.2 |
| June | 90.0 | +0.7 | -0.8 | 105.2 | +0.8 | +1.6 |
| July | 89.1 | -1.0 | -1.7 | 104.3 | -0.9 | +0.9 |
| August | 89.9 | +0.9 | -0.9 | 105.3 | +1.0 | +1.6 |
| September | 88.9 | -1.1 | -2.1 | 104.2 | -1.0 | +0.9 |
| October | 88.3 | -0.7 | -3.1 | 103.7 | -0.5 | -0.1 |
| November | 87.3 | -1.1 | -3.1 | 103.0 | -0.7 | -0.5 |
| December | 87.7 | +0.5 | -2.1 | 103.7 | +0.7 | +0.4 |
| 2008 January | 87.2 | -0.6 | -3.8 | 103.3 | -0.4 | -1.3 |
| February | 87.4 | +0.2 | -3.0 | 104.1 | +0.8 | -0.5 |
| March | 86.0 | -1.6 | -4.3 | 104.1 | - | -0.6 |
| April | 86.0 | - | -4.0 | | | |
| May | 86.7 | +0.8 | -3.0 | | | |
| June | 87.5 | +0.9 | -2.8 | | | |
| July | 86.8 | -0.8 | -2.6 | | | |
| August | 88.7 | +2.2 | -1.3 | | | |
| September | 89.5 | +0.9 | +0.7 | | | |
| October | 90.6 | +1.2 | +2.6 | | | |
| November | 91.8 | +1.3 | +5.2 | | | |
| December | 89.6 | -2.4 | +2.2 | | | |

¹ Derived from the price indices for output of manufacturing industry, output of agriculture and the import price (unit value) index. The 2008 figures are provisional due to the provisional nature of the import price (unit value) indices. Final 2008 GWPI indices should be available by mid 2009.

Table 2 Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT)

Base: Year 2000 as 100

| | NACE code ¹ | Index | | | Monthly % Change | | Annual % Change | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year 2008 | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year ³ 2008 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Food Products | 151-158 | 120.9 | 118.9 | 118.8 | -0.5 | -1.7 | +3.8 | +5.0 |
| Meat and meat products | 151 | 132.2 | 130.9 | 135.0 | -3.1 | -1.0 | +6.3 | +8.3 |
| Fish and fish products | 152 | 143.3 | 141.7 | 137.7 | +3.4 | -1.1 | +4.9 | +3.6 |
| Fruit and vegetables | 153 | 136.0 | 138.0 | 135.7 | -0.6 | +1.5 | +4.5 | +2.6 |
| Dairy products | 155 | 103.9 | 99.7 | 107.0 | -1.4 | -4.0 | -13.2 | -0.5 |
| Grain milling, starches and animal feeds | 156,157 | 131.9 | 131.1 | 131.6 | -1.3 | -0.6 | +8.0 | +12.8 |
| Other food products | 158 | 120.7 | 119.0 | 112.8 | +1.7 | -1.4 | +10.8 | +4.9 |
| Bread and flour confectionery | 1581-1582 | 136.2 | 135.5 | 131.3 | +0.6 | -0.5 | +8.4 | +10.8 |
| Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery | 1583-1584 | 111.9 | 111.7 | 110.4 | -0.5 | -0.2 | +6.1 | +6.7 |
| Beverages | 159 | 119.8 | 119.0 | 117.5 | +0.3 | -0.7 | +2.9 | +1.5 |
| Tobacco products | 16 | 154.1 | 154.9 | 147.9 | +1.5 | +0.5 | +8.2 | +8.0 |
| Textiles | 17 | 109.3 | 108.9 | 109.3 | -0.5 | -0.4 | -0.8 | -0.2 |
| Wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur | 18 | 82.6 | 80.5 | 86.5 | -5.6 | -2.5 | -12.3 | -8.2 |
| Leather and leather products (incl. footwear) | 19 | 97.3 | 96.9 | 97.9 | -0.9 | -0.4 | -2.1 | +0.1 |
| Wood and wood products | 20 | 110.1 | 109.7 | 112.9 | -0.7 | -0.4 | -2.4 | +3.9 |
| Pulp, paper and paper products | 21 | 103.8 | 103.4 | 105.1 | -1.0 | -0.4 | -2.2 | -0.9 |
| Pulp, paper and paper products; publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media | 21,22 | 112.2 | 111.9 | 112.3 | -0.6 | -0.3 | +0.1 | +0.4 |
| Chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres | 24 | 101.8 | 98.5 | 94.7 | +3.1 | -3.2 | +5.1 | -1.7 |
| Basic chemicals | 241 | 103.3 | 100.1 | 96.4 | +3.3 | -3.1 | +4.2 | -2.3 |
| Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) | 243-247 | 112.8 | 108.6 | 104.1 | +2.8 | -3.7 | +7.5 | -0.1 |
| Rubber and plastic products | 25 | 111.7 | 111.2 | 110.6 | -0.4 | -0.4 | +1.3 | +0.7 |
| Other non-metallic mineral products | 26 | 123.8 | 122.2 | 122.1 | +0.2 | -1.3 | +1.2 | +1.8 |
| Basic metals | 27 | 135.3 | 129.2 | 134.8 | -10.1 | -4.5 | -1.4 | +4.5 |
| Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment | 28 | 121.2 | 120.7 | 120.7 | -1.5 | -0.4 | +3.9 | +3.5 |
| Machinery and equipment, not elsewhere classified | 29 | 106.9 | 105.6 | 105.7 | -1.3 | -1.2 | +2.8 | +2.5 |
| Office machinery and computers | 300 | 42.3 | 41.1 | 40.1 | +4.2 | -2.8 | -4.0 | -11.7 |
| Electrical machinery and communication equipment | 31,32 | 83.2 | 81.1 | 78.8 | +2.3 | -2.5 | +1.9 | -3.4 |
| Electrical machinery and apparatus, not elsewhere classified | 31 | 89.4 | 87.7 | 86.6 | +0.3 | -1.9 | -1.1 | -4.4 |
| Radio, television and communication equipment | 32 | 77.0 | 74.9 | 72.4 | +3.1 | -2.7 | +3.0 | -2.9 |
| Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | 33 | 97.2 | 95.6 | 91.0 | +2.1 | -1.6 | +10.5 | -2.7 |
| Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers | 34 | 109.8 | 109.8 | 109.6 | -0.2 | - | +0.7 | +0.3 |
| Furniture and manufacturing, not elsewhere classified | 36 | 112.5 | 111.9 | 112.5 | -0.5 | -0.5 | -0.9 | -0.8 |
| Mining and quarrying | 10-14 | 136.2 | 132.5 | 144.2 | -2.9 | -2.7 | -10.8 | -11.5 |
| Total transportable goods industries | | 92.1 | 89.9 | 88.6 | +1.3 | -2.4 | +1.9 | -1.4 |
| Food, drink and tobacco | | 123.4 | 121.6 | 120.7 | -0.2 | -1.5 | +4.3 | +4.7 |
| Manufacturing industries excl. food | | 86.5 | 84.4 | 82.7 | +1.8 | -2.4 | +1.8 | -2.6 |
| Manufacturing industries excl. food, drink and tobacco | | 83.6 | 81.4 | 79.8 | +1.8 | -2.6 | +1.6 | -3.0 |
| Intermediate goods industries (except energy) | | 95.7 | 93.6 | 92.0 | +1.6 | -2.2 | +1.7 | -2.1 |
| Capital goods industries | | 58.9 | 57.6 | 56.3 | +2.6 | -2.2 | -0.2 | -7.1 |
| Durable consumer goods industries | | 115.8 | 114.0 | 114.8 | -1.3 | -1.6 | -1.5 | -2.2 |
| Non-durable consumer goods industries | | 123.5 | 120.9 | 118.6 | +0.7 | -2.1 | +5.4 | +3.5 |
| Manufacturing industries (home sales) ² | | 118.2 | 116.7 | 117.1 | -0.3 | -1.3 | +2.5 | +5.0 |
| Manufacturing industries (export sales) ² | | 85.8 | 83.5 | 81.7 | +1.8 | -2.7 | +2.2 | -2.7 |
| Total manufacturing industries² | | 91.8 | 89.6 | 88.2 | +1.3 | -2.4 | +2.2 | -1.1 |

¹ Nace Rev1.1 Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.

² Excludes Mining and quarrying.

³ Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007.

Table 2A Industrial Producer Price Indices (excluding VAT) (excluding Nace 300)

Base: Year 2000 as 100

| Industrial Sector (Excluding Nace 300 i.e. Office machinery & computers) | Index | | | Monthly% Change | | Annual % Change | |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year 2008 | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year ² 2008 |
| | 104.7 | 102.4 | 100.9 | +0.9 | -2.2 | +3.0 | +0.2 |
| Total transportable goods industries | 100.8 | 98.4 | 96.5 | +1.4 | -2.4 | +3.0 | -0.6 |
| Manufacturing industries excl. food | 98.0 | 95.6 | 93.7 | +1.3 | -2.4 | +2.9 | -1.1 |
| Manufacturing industries excl. food, drink and tobacco | 99.0 | 97.9 | 95.6 | +0.6 | -1.1 | +5.8 | -0.1 |
| Capital goods industries | 128.6 | 127.0 | 128.0 | -0.7 | -1.2 | +2.6 | +6.0 |
| Manufacturing industries (home sales) ¹ | 98.3 | 95.9 | 93.7 | +1.4 | -2.4 | +3.5 | -1.0 |
| Manufacturing industries (export sales) ¹ | 104.5 | 102.1 | 100.5 | +1.1 | -2.3 | +3.2 | +0.5 |

¹ Excludes Mining and quarrying² Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007**Table 2B Contribution to changes in the Manufacturing Output Price Index (Table 2)**

| Industrial sector | NACE code ¹ | Contribution to overall % change ² | |
|---|---------------------------|---|---------------|
| | | One month | Twelve months |
| Food Products | 151-158 | -0.34 | +0.77 |
| Meat and meat products | 151 | -0.06 | +0.29 |
| Fish and fish products | 152 | -0.01 | +0.03 |
| Fruit and vegetables | 153 | 0.00 | +0.01 |
| Dairy products | 155 | -0.14 | -0.55 |
| Grain milling, starches and animal feeds | 156,157 | -0.01 | +0.08 |
| Other food products | 158 | -0.13 | +0.91 |
| Bread and flour confectionery | 1581-1582 | 0.00 | +0.06 |
| Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery | 1583-1584 | 0.00 | +0.04 |
| Beverages | 159 | -0.02 | +0.10 |
| Tobacco products | 16 | +0.01 | +0.15 |
| Textiles | 17 | 0.00 | -0.01 |
| Wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur | 18 | -0.01 | -0.04 |
| Leather and leather products (incl. footwear) | 19 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Wood and wood products | 20 | 0.00 | -0.03 |
| Pulp, paper and paper products | 21 | 0.00 | -0.03 |
| Pulp, paper and paper products; publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media | 21,22 | -0.01 | -0.02 |
| Chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres | 24 | -0.97 | +1.48 |
| Basic chemicals | 241 | -0.64 | +0.83 |
| Pharmaceuticals and other chemical products (incl. man-made fibres) | 243-247 | -0.33 | +0.65 |
| Rubber and plastic products | 25 | -0.01 | +0.01 |
| Other non-metallic mineral products | 26 | -0.02 | +0.02 |
| Basic metals | 27 | -0.04 | +0.01 |
| Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment | 28 | -0.01 | +0.05 |
| Machinery and equipment, not elsewhere classified | 29 | -0.03 | +0.05 |
| Office machinery and computers | 300 | -0.37 | -0.56 |
| Electrical machinery and communication equipment | 31,32 | -0.25 | +0.18 |
| Electrical machinery and apparatus, not elsewhere classified | 31 | -0.06 | -0.03 |
| Radio, television and communication equipment | 32 | -0.19 | +0.21 |
| Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks | 33 | -0.07 | +0.38 |
| Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers | 34 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Furniture and manufacturing, not elsewhere classified | 36 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Mining and quarrying | 10-14 | -0.04 | -0.19 |

¹ Nace Rev1.1 statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.² See Background Notes.

Table 3 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Building and Construction Materials

| Materials | Index | | | Monthly % Change | | Annual % Change | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Nov | Dec | Year | Nov | Dec | Dec | Year ¹ |
| | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 |
| Stone, sand and gravel | 183.2 | 185.0 | 178.1 | +1.4 | +1.0 | +8.4 | +10.3 |
| Cement | 134.2 | 134.2 | 134.2 | - | - | +5.9 | +5.9 |
| Ready mixed mortar and concrete | 127.1 | 127.6 | 126.4 | +0.1 | +0.4 | +2.9 | +3.3 |
| Concrete blocks and bricks | 129.3 | 130.6 | 130.4 | -0.8 | +1.0 | +0.3 | -0.6 |
| Other concrete products | 126.0 | 126.0 | 124.6 | +1.8 | - | -2.2 | -3.4 |
| Structural steel and reinforcing metal | 194.4 | 188.4 | 187.7 | -1.6 | -3.1 | +15.2 | +15.9 |
| Structural steel | 201.2 | 196.3 | 192.5 | -0.6 | -2.4 | +16.4 | +14.9 |
| Reinforcing metal | 182.9 | 175.2 | 179.2 | -3.2 | -4.2 | +13.3 | +17.5 |
| Rough timber (including plain sawn) | 107.1 | 105.4 | 109.1 | - | -1.6 | -5.0 | -2.8 |
| Other timber (including joinery) | 121.1 | 121.1 | 120.9 | - | - | +2.2 | +4.3 |
| Bituminous macadam, asphalt and bituminous emulsions | 174.6 | 171.8 | 174.6 | -1.4 | -1.6 | +0.7 | +6.3 |
| Bituminous macadam and asphalt | 179.2 | 177.5 | 178.8 | -0.8 | -0.9 | +1.7 | +5.9 |
| Bituminous emulsions | 178.6 | 148.1 | 188.8 | -12.6 | -17.1 | -19.6 | +18.3 |
| Electrical fittings | 131.7 | 131.0 | 133.6 | -0.5 | -0.5 | -2.2 | +0.5 |
| All other materials | 154.2 | 152.7 | 154.2 | +0.1 | -1.0 | -0.9 | +1.4 |
| All materials | 147.8 | 146.7 | 147.1 | -0.3 | -0.7 | +2.3 | +3.9 |

¹ Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007

Table 3A Detailed Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Building and Construction Materials¹

| Materials | Index | | | Monthly % Change | | Annual % Change | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Nov | Dec | Year | Nov | Dec | Dec | Year ³ |
| | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 | 2008 |
| Stone, sand and gravel | 183.2 | 185.0 | 178.1 | +1.4 | +1.0 | +8.4 | +10.3 |
| Stone | 143.3 | 144.5 | 139.3 | +1.1 | +0.8 | +7.0 | +10.3 |
| Sand and gravel | 199.1 | 202.5 | 193.4 | +3.4 | +1.7 | +17.4 | +10.7 |
| Cement | 134.2 | 134.2 | 134.2 | - | - | +5.9 | +5.9 |
| Ready mixed mortar and concrete | 127.1 | 127.6 | 126.4 | +0.1 | +0.4 | +2.9 | +3.3 |
| Concrete blocks and bricks | 129.3 | 130.6 | 130.4 | -0.8 | +1.0 | +0.4 | -0.6 |
| Other concrete products ² | 125.7 | 125.7 | 123.0 | +3.3 | - | -3.1 | -5.3 |
| Precast concrete | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.0 | - | - | +0.4 | +0.6 |
| Other | 114.2 | 114.2 | 109.8 | +6.0 | - | -6.0 | -9.9 |
| Structural steel and reinforcing metal | 196.0 | 189.9 | 188.9 | -1.6 | -3.1 | +15.9 | +16.3 |
| Structural steel | 201.9 | 196.9 | 192.9 | -0.6 | -2.5 | +16.9 | +15.2 |
| Fabricated metal | 195.5 | 190.7 | 185.4 | -0.1 | -2.5 | +18.8 | +16.0 |
| Other | 191.3 | 186.1 | 191.8 | -4.2 | -2.7 | +5.3 | +10.4 |
| Reinforcing metal | 185.7 | 177.9 | 181.7 | -3.1 | -4.2 | +14.2 | +18.3 |
| Other steel products | 149.9 | 149.9 | 152.6 | -2.1 | - | -2.1 | +0.1 |
| Rough timber (including plain sawn) ² | 107.3 | 105.7 | 109.5 | -0.1 | -1.5 | -5.1 | -3.0 |
| Hardwood | 108.2 | 108.2 | 102.8 | -0.2 | - | +10.6 | -4.2 |
| Other | 106.8 | 105.0 | 109.7 | - | -1.7 | -6.5 | -2.8 |
| Other timber ² | 120.0 | 120.0 | 119.8 | - | - | +2.0 | +4.2 |
| Windows and doors | 114.0 | 114.0 | 112.9 | - | - | +6.2 | +5.3 |
| Other | 111.1 | 111.1 | 112.0 | - | - | -2.5 | +2.9 |
| Bituminous macadam, asphalt and bituminous emulsions | 174.6 | 171.8 | 174.6 | -1.4 | -1.6 | +0.7 | +6.3 |
| Bituminous macadam and asphalt | 179.2 | 177.5 | 178.8 | -0.8 | -0.9 | +1.7 | +5.9 |
| Bituminous emulsions | 178.5 | 148.0 | 188.8 | -12.6 | -17.1 | -19.6 | +18.3 |
| Electrical fittings ² | 131.9 | 131.1 | 133.5 | -0.1 | -0.6 | -1.9 | +0.6 |
| Lighting equipment | 144.8 | 144.8 | 137.2 | +6.7 | - | +6.7 | +1.3 |
| Protection & communication equipment | 144.8 | 144.8 | 144.9 | -0.3 | - | - | +2.4 |
| All other materials | 154.1 | 152.6 | 154.2 | - | -1.0 | -0.9 | +1.4 |
| Plumbing materials incl. sanitary ware | 127.8 | 127.8 | 127.2 | - | - | +5.1 | +5.8 |
| HVAC (heating & ventilation equipment) | 124.4 | 124.4 | 120.1 | +1.4 | - | +7.1 | +3.4 |
| Insulating materials | 137.3 | 137.3 | 132.7 | - | - | +7.7 | +5.4 |
| Pipes and fittings | 251.7 | 242.8 | 252.4 | - | -3.5 | -4.5 | +1.0 |
| PVC | 138.5 | 138.5 | 138.5 | - | - | -0.2 | +2.1 |
| Copper | 418.2 | 398.6 | 420.3 | - | -4.7 | -6.1 | +0.9 |
| Plaster | 163.8 | 163.8 | 162.0 | - | - | +9.6 | +9.1 |
| Paints, oils and varnishes | 126.1 | 126.1 | 125.0 | - | - | +2.1 | +2.9 |
| Glass | 232.2 | 227.3 | 233.7 | - | -2.1 | -4.5 | -1.2 |
| All other metal fittings | 141.7 | 141.7 | 139.6 | - | - | +3.9 | +2.5 |
| All other products | 135.1 | 134.8 | 137.4 | -0.3 | -0.2 | -3.5 | -0.3 |
| All materials² | 148.0 | 146.8 | 147.1 | -0.1 | -0.8 | +2.4 | +3.9 |

¹ Table 3A is under development. Differences between Table 3 and Table 3A are primarily due to sample sizes and weights.

² The index in respect of Other concrete products, Rough timber, Other timber, and Electrical fittings, and their corresponding sub-indices have been revised and as a consequence the All materials index has been revised accordingly. Revised indices are available on request if required.

³ Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007.

Table 4 Capital Goods Price Indices (excluding VAT)

| Capital goods | Base: Year 2000 as 100 | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Index | | | Monthly % Change | | Annual % Change | | |
| | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year 2008 | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year ² 2008 | |
| Transportable capital for use in | | | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | 112.9 | 112.9 | 111.7 | +0.8 | - | +2.6 | +3.0 | |
| Industry | 108.1 | 107.8 | 106.9 | +0.9 | -0.3 | +2.3 | +1.5 | |
| of which: | | | | | | | | |
| Private vehicles ¹ | 110.1 | 110.2 | 108.6 | +2.1 | +0.1 | +1.5 | +0.3 | |
| Commercial vehicles | 107.6 | 107.6 | 105.0 | +3.0 | - | +3.1 | +0.6 | |
| Agriculture and industry | 108.8 | 108.5 | 107.5 | +0.9 | -0.3 | +2.4 | +1.7 | |
| Other sectors | 109.9 | 109.8 | 108.4 | +1.5 | -0.1 | +2.4 | +1.2 | |
| Total transportable capital | 109.3 | 109.2 | 108.0 | +1.2 | -0.1 | +2.4 | +1.5 | |
| Building and construction (i.e. materials and wages) | 160.3 | 159.6 | 159.9 | -0.1 | -0.4 | +2.3 | +3.8 | |
| All capital goods | 142.1 | 141.6 | 141.3 | +0.3 | -0.4 | +2.3 | +3.1 | |

¹ Private vehicles are inclusive of VAT which is non-deductible for industry and agriculture.

² Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007.

**Table 5 Wholesale Price Indices (excluding VAT) for Energy Products
(i.e. Fuels purchased by Manufacturing Industry)**

| Energy fuels | Base: Year 2000 as 100 | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Index | | | Monthly % Change | | Annual % Change | | |
| | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year 2008 | Nov 2008 | Dec 2008 | Dec 2008 | Year ² 2008 | |
| Petrol | | | | | | | | |
| Petrol | 141.8 | 129.7 | 153.1 | -6.7 | -8.5 | -10.9 | +8.7 | |
| Autodiesel | 145.3 | 129.0 | 162.6 | -6.3 | -11.2 | -14.6 | +15.7 | |
| Gas oil (other than autodiesel) | 165.9 | 136.0 | 192.0 | -7.4 | -18.0 | -21.1 | +24.9 | |
| Fuel oil | 167.0 | 141.3 | 192.6 | -9.9 | -15.4 | -21.5 | +23.9 | |
| Electricity | 194.1 | 194.1 | 177.2 | - | - | +17.5 | +2.4 | |
| Petroleum fuels¹ | 155.4 | 133.7 | 176.6 | -8.3 | -14.0 | -18.6 | +20.1 | |
| Energy products | 180.0 | 173.7 | 174.4 | -2.2 | -3.5 | +6.9 | +7.0 | |

¹ Energy products excluding electricity.

² Annual average for 2008 relative to the annual average for 2007.

**Manufacturing Industries: Output Price Indices
for Home and Export Sales
(Base: Year 2000 as 100)**



Annual Average Price Changes in Wholesale Prices for 2008

Overall prices received by Irish producers decreased by 1.1% in 2008 following on from a decrease of 1.7% in 2007. The price index for goods sold on the home market rose by 5.0% in 2008, having increased by 1.5% in 2007. The price index for exported goods fell by 2.7% in 2008 following a decrease of 2.3% in the previous year (see Table 6).

Producer prices were affected by a number of factors during 2008 including fluctuations in the Euro exchange rate and market demand. Exchange rates made a significant contribution to price changes during 2008. The average exchange rate for the US dollar and Sterling are shown in Table 7 below. Other global factors also had a major effect on market demand during the year.

Table 6 Annual average % change in Producer Price Indices for home, export and total sales, 2004-2008

| Index | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Manufacturing Industries (home sales) | 0.5 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 5.0 |
| Manufacturing Industries (export sales) | -3.0 | -0.5 | 0.4 | -2.3 | -2.7 |
| Total Manufacturing Industries | -2.4 | -0.1 | 0.7 | -1.7 | -1.1 |

Table 7 Annual average exchange rates 2004-2008

| Exchange rate | € 2004 | € 2005 | € 2006 | € 2007 | € 2008 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pound Sterling | 0.6798 | 0.6835 | 0.6808 | 0.6854 | 0.7981 |
| US Dollar | 1.2427 | 1.2450 | 1.2517 | 1.3683 | 1.4713 |

Source: Central Bank

Food, Drink and Tobacco

The overall index for the Food, Drink and Tobacco Sector increased by 4.7% in 2008 compared with an increase of 3.3% in 2007. This increase was due mainly to increased prices for food and tobacco products. The index for Food rose by 5.0% in 2008 while Tobacco increased by 8.0% and Beverages by 1.5%.

Within the Food sector prices rose for Grain milling, starches and animal feeds (+12.8%), Bread and flour confectionery (+10.8%), Meat & meat products (+8.3%), and Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery (+6.7%). The increase in the price of both Grain milling, starches and animal feeds and Bread and flour confectionery were due to increases in World wheat prices. The increase in Tobacco was mainly due to an increase in excise duty announced in the Budget in October.

Table 8 Annual average % change in Producer Price Indices for Food, Drink and Tobacco, 2008

| Index | 2008 |
|---|------|
| Food, Drink and Tobacco | 4.7 |
| Food products | 5.0 |
| Meat and meat products | 8.3 |
| Fish and fish products | 3.6 |
| Fruit and vegetables | 2.6 |
| Dairy products | -0.5 |
| Grain milling, starches and animal feeds | 12.8 |
| Other food products | 4.9 |
| Bread and flour confectionery | 10.8 |
| Sugar, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery | 6.7 |
| Beverages | 1.5 |
| Tobacco products | 8.0 |

Background Notes

Wholesale Price Index The term Industrial Producer Price Index refers to a family of indices that measure the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers of goods. The other four wholesale price index series incorporate imported and home produced goods sold by manufacturers and wholesale outlets.

Coverage The output price indices for sectors of Manufacturing Industries cover both home sales and export sales. The Indices for Total transportable goods industries; Food, drink and tobacco; Manufacturing industries excluding food; Manufacturing industries excluding food, drink and tobacco; Intermediate goods industries (except energy); Capital goods industries; Durable consumer goods industries; Non-durable consumer goods industries; Manufacturing industries (home sales); Manufacturing industries (export sales) and Total manufacturing industries are all calculated on a net sector basis i.e. the weights used to combine the sectoral indices (including those for sectors not distinguished in Table 2) exclude sales to other sectors of Manufacturing Industry.

Table 2B gives the percentage contribution of each published sector to the overall percentage change on Table 2. The percentage contributions on Table 2B will not add up to the Total Manufacturing industries percentage change on Table 2, as not all sectors which are added into the Total Manufacturing industries figure can be published separately, due to issues of confidentiality.

The Building Materials, Capital Goods and Energy Products indices (Tables 3, 4 and 5) cover home production and imports of these commodities. Table 3, the Wholesale Price Index for Building and Construction Materials, provides only a general indication of price trends in that sector. Actual transaction prices are collected for materials purchased by construction and civil engineering firms. The price indices reflect an ‘average’ over a mixture of products from many companies throughout the country. They also reflect prices for both long-term and short-term contracts and for high and low volume civil engineering works. It should be noted that long-term, high volume fixed contracts for major works might dilute in the short-term the impact of emerging price changes on the index. Furthermore, industry sources have confirmed that price increases notified by companies may not always be achieved in practice following negotiations. Much depends on the prevailing market conditions. Therefore changes over the short-term in the indices derived from these transaction prices will not always coincide with price changes notified by companies.

The General Wholesale Price Index (Table 1) is calculated by combining special price indices for:

Output of Manufacturing Industry - excluding sales to Agriculture Sector
 Output of Agriculture - excluding sales to Manufacturing Industry
 Imports plus duty (Unit Value) Index - excluding imports by Agriculture Sector and
 Manufacturing Industry

which eliminates duplication as far as possible. The usefulness of this general index is limited; the sectoral indices are more relevant and meaningful. As the index is dependent on the Import Price (Unit Value) Index, it normally becomes available in final form a few months or so later than the other series.

Prices All indices in the series are based on prices at the 15th of the month (except for the Import Price (Unit Value) Index and the Agricultural Output Price Index). Quarterly and annual indices are simple averages of the corresponding monthly indices.

Prices used in the compilation of the indices are:

excluding delivery charges itemised on the invoice separately
 after discounts or surcharges are applied
 before addition of direct subsidies
 exclusive of VAT (except for private vehicles used in Table 4)
 inclusive of excise duty

Every effort is made by the Wholesale Prices Section to collect all prices for the relevant month. Where this is not possible late prices are included in the following month's calculations.

Methodology This Wholesale Price Index series is compiled to base 2000 as 100. A methodological description of this updated series is given in the April 2003 Wholesale Price Index Introduction of Updated Series.

Calculating percentage changes in the index The movement of the output price indices is expressed as percentage change, rather than a change in index points, because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, whereas percentage changes are not.

The example below illustrates the computation of a percentage change:

| Percentage change calculation | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Current index | 105.6 |
| Less previous index | 102.1 |
| Equals in index points | 3.5 |
| Divided by the previous index | 102.1 |
| Equals | 0.0343 |
| Results multiplied by 100 | 0.0343 x 100 |
| Equals percentage change | 3.4 |