

News Release



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Business

Industrial Producer Price Indices: March 2008

Provisional estimates show that, when comparing March 2008 to the corresponding month last year, the industrial producer price index of the sampled enterprises dropped by 2.7 per cent.

Monthly changes

In March 2008, compared with the previous month, producer prices in total industry declined marginally. Prices in the domestic market remained practically unchanged, except for capital goods. Non-eurozone export prices were particularly stable during the comparable months, whilst eurozone export prices went down, mostly in the intermediate goods sector.

Annual changes

When comparing March 2008 to the same month last year, producer prices dropped mainly in the Eurozone exports, and in particular under "Consumer Durables". On the other hand, the main increase was in the domestic market, under "Capital Goods".

Tables

This news release contains two tables. Table 1 shows separate producer prices (in index form) of goods for the domestic and the export markets. Export indices are split between eurozone and non-eurozone countries. Table 2 shows the domestic and export indices broken down into the Main Industrial Groupings (MIGs). The aggregation by MIGs is done so as to preserve the confidentiality aspect for enterprises, and this is the minimum reporting requirement by Eurostat, for small EU member states■

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Table 1. Industrial Producer Price Indices (2005=100)

Aggregate Flows for Industry

Index by Flow	2007											
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
	2007											
Domestic	118.2	118.8	113.8	114.4	114.5	114.6	114.2	117.1	118.0	118.2	118.6	119.1
Exports												
Eurozone exports	101.4	100.4	99.7	99.7	99.2	95.3	94.8	92.9	92.6	93.6	93.0	91.8
Non-Eurozone exports	100.8	100.2	98.9	98.4	98.6	98.7	96.5	97.0	96.7	96.5	96.2	96.4
Total exports	101.9	101.0	100.2	100.2	99.7	96.2	95.4	93.7	93.4	94.3	93.7	92.7
Total Industry	110.5	110.4	107.4	107.7	107.5	105.9	105.3	106.1	106.4	106.9	106.8	106.4
	2008											
Domestic	119.5	119.5	119.7									
Exports												
Eurozone exports	93.0	91.2	86.3									
Non-Eurozone exports	94.9	95.0	94.7									
Total exports	93.6	92.0	87.5									
Total Industry	107.3	106.5	104.5									

Table 2. Flows by Main Industrial Groupings (2005=100)

FLOW	Main Industrial Grouping	2007											
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Domestic													
	Capital Goods	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.5	115.5	116.3	116.3	116.3	118.0	118.0	122.4	121.1
	Consumer Durables	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7
	Consumer Non-Durables	106.8	109.7	109.5	111.1	111.6	111.6	110.7	110.2	112.8	114.2	114.4	114.5
	Energy	124.8	124.8	117.5	117.5	117.5	117.5	117.5	121.6	121.6	121.6	121.6	121.6
	Intermediate Goods	104.7	104.9	103.2	105.3	105.2	106.2	104.5	107.3	109.9	109.6	113.5	116.0
Eurozone exports													
	Capital Goods	98.2	98.1	97.9	98.0	97.9	97.9	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.0	97.8	97.8
	Consumer Durables	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	71.2	71.2	71.2	71.2	71.2	63.3	60.8
	Consumer Non-Durables	102.8	102.8	102.8	103.2	103.2	103.2	102.1	102.1	102.4	102.4	102.6	102.6
	Intermediate Goods	101.3	99.8	98.7	98.5	97.7	95.2	94.7	91.7	91.1	92.7	92.6	91.1
Non-Eurozone exports													
	Capital Goods	94.9	94.6	94.4	93.0	92.9	93.2	92.0	92.2	91.9	91.2	90.6	90.6
	Consumer Durables	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Consumer Non-Durables	152.1	152.1	152.3	152.3	152.2	151.1	134.1	134.1	134.1	134.1	134.9	134.7
	Intermediate Goods	98.2	97.4	95.1	95.2	95.6	95.6	94.6	95.5	95.0	95.1	95.0	95.3
Total exports													
	Capital Goods	98.1	97.9	97.7	97.4	97.3	97.5	97.2	97.3	97.1	96.8	96.4	96.4
	Consumer Durables	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	63.9	61.3
	Consumer Non-Durables	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.5	106.5	106.5	104.5	104.5	104.8	104.8	105.0	105.0
	Intermediate Goods	101.2	99.8	98.6	98.4	97.7	95.3	94.7	92.0	91.4	93.0	92.9	91.5
2008													
Domestic													
	Capital Goods	122.1	122.1	137.7									
	Consumer Durables	105.6	105.6	105.6									
	Consumer Non-Durables	115.4	115.5	115.5									
	Energy	121.6	121.6	121.6									
	Intermediate Goods	117.4	117.6	118.5									
Eurozone exports													
	Capital Goods	97.5	97.6	97.4									
	Consumer Durables	60.8	60.8	56.8									
	Consumer Non-Durables	103.1	103.1	102.9									
	Intermediate Goods	92.8	89.9	82.9									
Non-Eurozone exports													
	Capital Goods	88.8	89.0	88.3									
	Consumer Durables	100.1	100.1	100.1									
	Consumer Non-Durables	132.8	132.8	132.8									
	Intermediate Goods	94.0	94.0	94.0									
Total exports													
	Capital Goods	95.7	95.9	95.5									
	Consumer Durables	61.3	61.3	57.5									
	Consumer Non-Durables	105.4	105.4	105.2									
	Intermediate Goods	93.0	90.3	83.8									

Methodological Notes

1. The index of producer prices shows the price movements in Maltese Liri from January 2005 to December 2007, and in euros thereafter. To preserve price relativity, the prices denominated in Maltese Liri were converted at the rate of Lm0.4293 = €1 for 2005 to 2007. The index monitors the changes in ex-works sale prices of all leading products within a sample of 77 large enterprises. Sampled enterprises account for over 80 per cent of total industrial turnover.
2. Figures for the last three months are to be considered provisional and subject to revision. However in exceptional cases, back data may be revised when changes in methodology occur.
3. The pricing point for the monthly price collection is the 15th of the month or the nearest trading day prior to the 15th. Should there be no transactions on this day, the closest transaction prior to the 15th is taken.
4. The NSO has adopted methodologies and guidelines from Eurostat, the EU statistical body, and the IMF.
5. For the purpose of calculating the eurozone export figures, transactions that were made between enterprises in countries within the euro area (EA15) only were considered. The euro area includes Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus (from 2008), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia (from 2007) and Finland. Transactions between Maltese enterprises are considered "domestic".
6. The objective of MIGs (Main Industrial Groupings) is to provide an activity breakdown of industry (NACE sections C to E). There are 5 MIGs. These regroup all of the activities between Sections C to E and cover economic activities from quarrying, all manufacturing sectors and the water and energy sectors. These are:
 - intermediate goods;
 - capital goods;
 - consumer durables;
 - non-durable consumer goods;
 - energy.

The domestic flow has all of the above MIGs, but in view that no water or electricity is exported, the energy MIG is not represented in the indices for exports.