



مركز الإحصاء - أبوظبي  
STATISTICS CENTRE - ABU DHABI

# **Building Materials Price Statistics December, 2012 and Fourth quarter, 2012**

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Statistics Centre- Abu Dhabi

## **Introduction**

The monthly bulletin of Building Materials Price Statistics is of great significance; building material prices are deemed to be important economic indicators for planning and research in various fields; they can also be used in the compilation of indices of the construction activity, and are thus used in the calculation of GDP at constant prices.

Statistical centres all over the world collect prices of building materials used by a large segment of people. As a result of the urban development and the constant growth in the construction sector in the Emirate, Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi collects price data for these materials on a regular basis.

The movements of prices of 21 groups from the key building materials are included in this publication (table 5). This information helps decision and policy makers and researchers in planning and making sound decisions in support of the building materials sector and other sectors associated with it.

## Key Points

This publication provides an analysis of the movement of the average prices of building materials during the month of December 2012 compared with November 2012 and December 2011, and during the fourth quarter of 2012 compared with the third quarter of 2012 and fourth quarter of 2011. The key changes were:

— During December 2012 the average prices of the “Employment”, “(PVC) Pipes”, “Waterproofing products”, “(uPVC) Pipes” and “Cement” groups increased by 12.0%, 5.3%, 4.6%, 1.9% and 1.9% respectively, compared with November 2012.

— During December 2012 the average prices of the “Steel” group decreased by 2.3%, “Transport equipment” decreased by 1.7%, “Wires for residential towers” by 1.5% and “Wires for apartments” by 0.9% compared with November 2012.

— During December 2012 the average prices of “Employment” increased by 17.1%, “Glass” by 11.0%, “Cement” by 9.2%, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” by 8.9% and “Waterproofing products” by 6.7% compared with December 2011.

— During December 2012, the average prices of “Wires for apartments”, “Wires for residential towers”, “Wires for small building”, “Transport equipment”, and “Steel” decreased by 18.0%, 15.8%, 12.6%, 7.7% and 7.6% respectively, compared with the same period in the last year.

— During the fourth quarter of 2012, the average price of the “Glass” group increased by 11.8%, “Employment” by 8.4%, while “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories”, and “Tiles and marble” increased by 3.1%, 3.0% and 2.8% respectively. The average prices of “Wires for Residential towers”, “Waterproofing products” and “Wires for apartments” decreased by 5.2%, 4.8%, and 4.6% respectively, compared with the third quarter of 2012.

— During the fourth quarter of 2012 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of “Glass”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” and “Tiles and marble” increased by 12.9% and 9.5% and 6.3% respectively. The average prices of “Wires for apartments”, “Residential towers” and “Small building” fell by 19.3%, 15.2% and 12.8% respectively.

## 1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for December 2012 compared with November 2012

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in December 2012 compared with November 2012, with increases ranging between 0.2% for the “Wires for small building” group and 12.0% for the “Employment” group. Declines of 0.1% for the “Tiles and marble” group, and 2.3% for the “Steel” group were recorded.

### Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 12.0% in December 2012 compared with November 2012. Table (1) indicates that increases of the employment group ranged between 7.1% and 18.8%.

Table (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group

Serial	Employment	Average prices of November 2012 (AED)	Average prices of December 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	8.0	9.0	12.5 ▲
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	8.0	9.5	18.8 ▲
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	10.0	11.0	10.0 ▲
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	10.0	11.0	10.0 ▲
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	14.0	15.0	7.1 ▲
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	22.0	25.0	13.6 ▲
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	25.0	28.0	12.0 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Note: The table presents the average hourly labor rate including food, accommodation, transport and safety equipment.

### Power cable

The average prices of “Power cable” increased by 1.1% in December 2012, as a result of increases in most items in this group.

Table (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group

Serial	Power cable	Average prices of November 2012 (AED)	Average prices of December 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	336,280	334,000	-0.7 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	384,790	392,770	2.1 ▲
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	635,360	648,430	2.1 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Waterproofing Products

The “Waterproofing Products” group increased by 4.6% in December 2012, as a result of an increase in most items between 6.3% for “Bitumen\ Oxidized Hot (115\15) primer 180 kg\ S. Arabian” and 11.6% for “Bitumen\ 60\70\ Ton” compared with November 2012.

Table (3) Percentage change in the average prices of the waterproofing products group

Serial	Waterproofing Products	Average prices of November 2012 (AED)	Average prices of December 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Bitumen \ Waterproofing (D540) \ S. Arabian	130.0	125.0	-3.8 ▼
2	Bitumen \ Waterproofing (D540M) Aggregates \ S. Arabian	145.0	145.0	0.0 —
3	Bitumen \ 60 \ 70 \ Ton	2,150.0	2,400.0	11.6 ▲
4	Bitumen \ Oxidized Hot ( 115\15 ) primer 180 kg \ S. Arabian	800.0	850.0	6.3 ▲
5	Bitumen \ Oxidized Cold ( Primer D 41 ) 20 liter \ S. Arabian	140.0	-	- -
6	Bitumen \ 40 \ 50 \ Ton	2,300.0	2,525.0	9.8 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

(-): means that the price is not available.

## Cement

The average prices of the “Cement” group increased by 1.9% in December 2012 compared with November 2012, mainly due to the increase in “Sulphate Resistance\ Al-Etihad\ Ton\ U.A.E.” by 6.7%.

Table (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the cement group

Serial	Cement	Average prices of November 2012 (AED)	Average prices of December 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Sulphate Resistance \ Al- Etihad \ Ton \ U.A.E.	300.0	320.0	6.7 ▲
2	Sulphate Resistance \ Emirates \ Ton \ U.A.E.	300.0	-	- -
3	Portland Cement \ Al- Etihad \ Ton \ U.A.E.	260.0	260.0	0.0 —
4	White Cement \ Ras Al khaima \ Ton \ U.A.E.	700.0	700.0	0.0 —
5	Lime \ Oman \ Ton \ Oman	1,250.0	1,250.0	0.0 —
6	Gypsum \ Oman \ Ton \ Oman	430.0	442.0	2.8 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

(-): means that the price is not available.

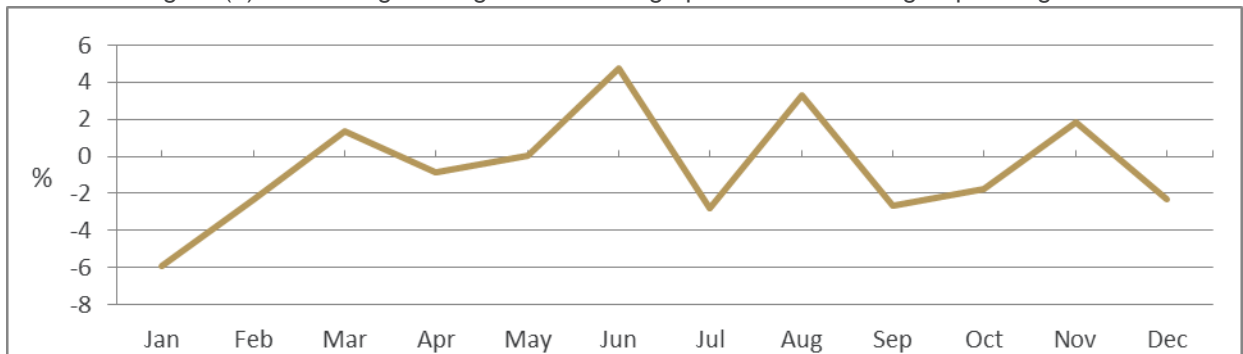
## Wires

The average prices for Wires for “Residential towers” and “Apartments” decreased by 1.5% and 0.9%, while the average prices for “Wires for small building” increased by 0.2%.

## Steel

The average prices of “Steel” decreased by 2.3% in December 2012, as most items in this group decreased between 0.5% for “Steel\ Hightensile Steel\ Ton\ Qatar” and 8.2% for “Steel\ Bars, 6 - 8 mm\ Ton\ Turkey”.

Figure (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the steel group during 2012



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Pipes

The average prices of (PVC) Pipes increased by 5.3% in December 2012, as most items in this group decreased between 5.3% for “PVC Pipes\ 3 inch\ 6m\ U.A.E.” and 17.2% for “PVC Pipes\ 1/2 inch\ 6m\ U.A.E.”. During December average prices of (uPVC) Pipes increased by 1.9%.

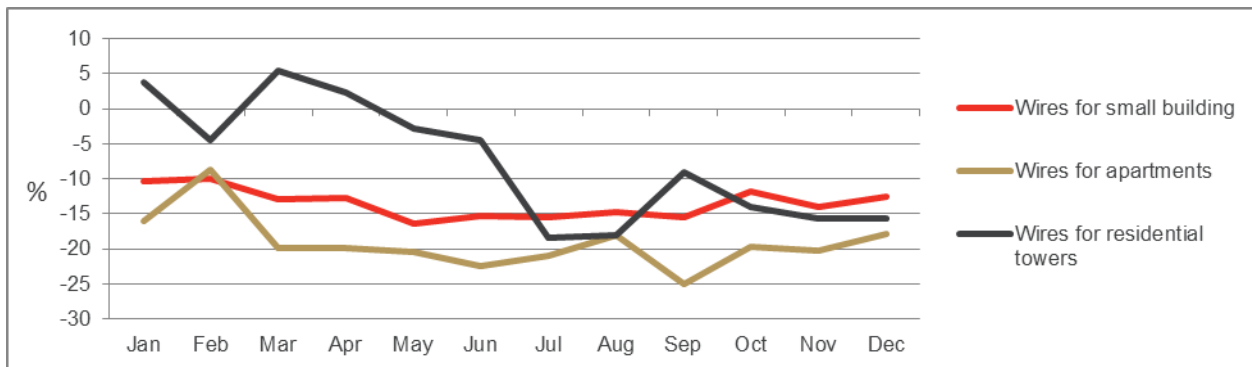
## 2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for December 2012 compared with December 2011

The monthly average prices for 13 groups of building materials have decreased in December 2012 compared with December 2011. The drop ranged between 0.7% for “Paints” and 18.0% for “Wires for apartments”.

## Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in December 2012 compared with December 2011. “Wires for apartments” accounted for the largest decrease of 18.0%, while “Wires for residential towers” and “Small buildings” decreased by 15.8% and 12.6% respectively.

Figure (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the wires group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)

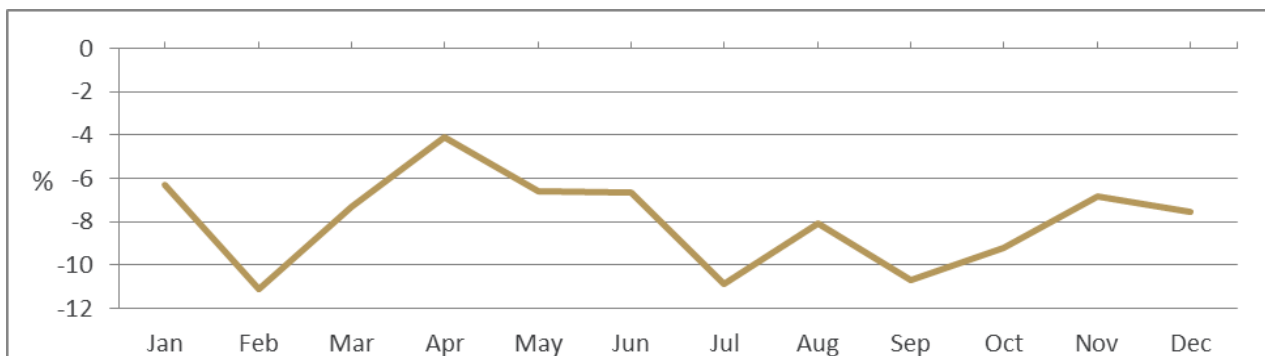


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Steel

The average price of “Steel” decreased by 7.6%, with declines in most sub-items between the range of 4.5% and 19.7%. The group has maintained a level of decline since the beginning of the year.

Figure (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the steel group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)

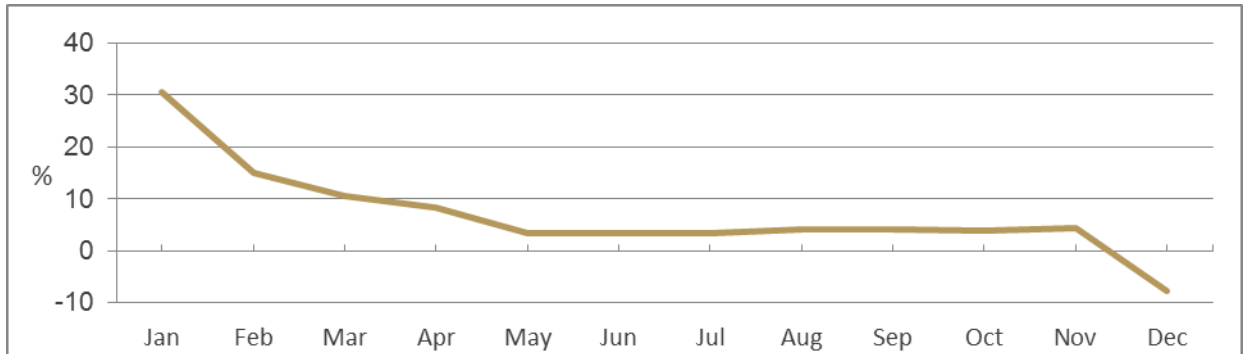


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Transport equipment

The average prices of transport equipment decreased by 7.7% in December 2012 compared with December 2011. Compared with 2011, the transport equipment group experienced price increases from the beginning of the year until November 2012, ranging between 3.3% in July and 30.7% in January.

Figure (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the transport equipment group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)



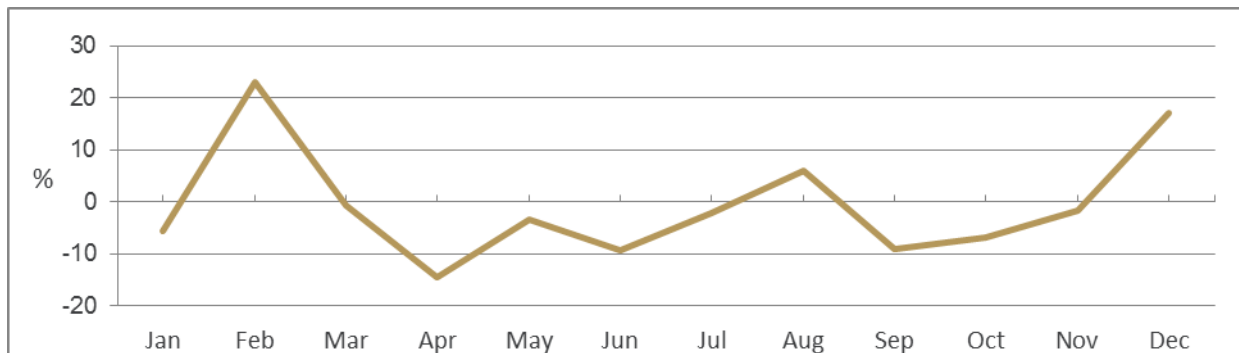
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Some building materials items have seen an increase in December 2012 compared with December 2011

## Employment

The average prices of “Employment” increased by 17.1% in December 2012 compared with December 2011.

Figure (5): Percentage change in the average prices of the employment group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)



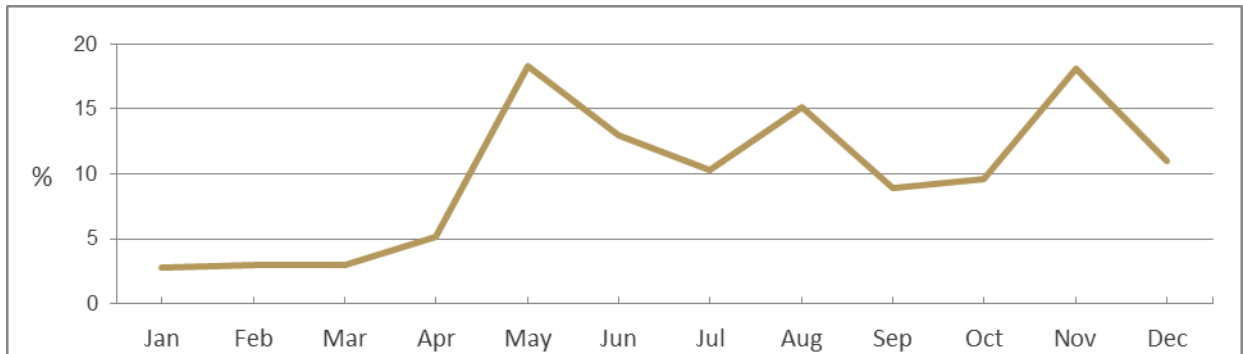
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi



## Glass

The average prices of the “Glass” group increased by 11.0% in December 2012 compared with December 2011. During the months of 2012, the increases ranged between 2.8% in January and 18.3% in May compared with the same period in the previous year.

Figure (6): Percentage change in the average prices of the glass group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)

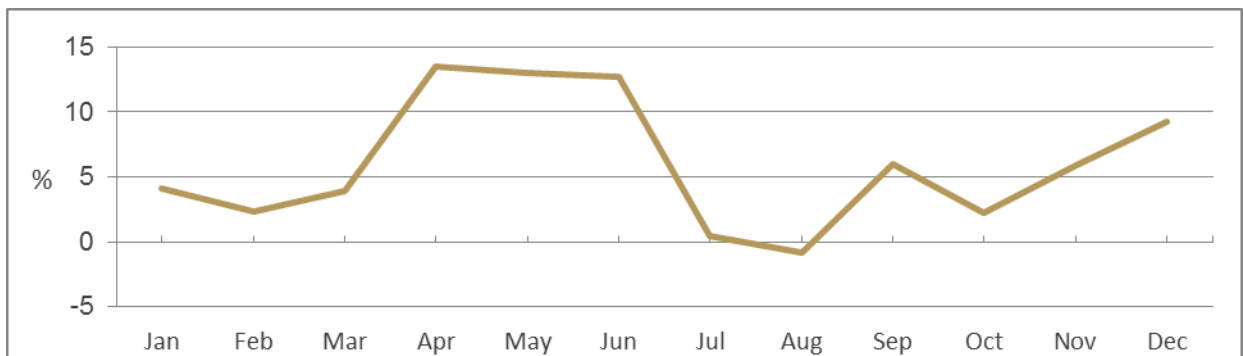


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Cement

The average prices of “Cement” increased by 9.2%, while most items in the group recorded an increase.

Figure (7): Percentage change in the average prices of the cement group (during the months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### **3. Building materials prices for Q4 2012 compared with Q3 2012**

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q4 2012 compared with Q3 2012.

Increases ranged between 0.3 per cent for “Paints” and 11.8 per cent for the “Glass” group.

The average price for “Concrete”, “Diesel” and “Natural stone” showed no change in Q4 2012 compared with Q3 2012.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q4 2012 compared with Q3 2012. The average prices of “Wires for residential towers” decreased by 5.2 per cent, “Waterproofing products”, “Wires for apartments” and “Sanitary ware- Sink stainless steel with mixer-single” decreased by 4.8, 4.6 and 4.3 per cent respectively.

### **4. Building materials prices for Q3 2012 compared with Q3 2011**

The average prices of building materials showed variations with most increasing during Q4 2012 compared with Q4 2011.

The price increases ranged between 0.1 per cent for “Transport equipment” and 12.9 per cent for “Glass”. In addition, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” increased by 9.5 per cent, “Tiles and marble” by 6.3 per cent, “Cement” by 5.7 per cent and “Waterproofing products” by 5.4 per cent.

Decreases ranged between 0.6 per cent for “Roofing materials” and 19.3 per cent for “Wires for apartments”. While “Wires for Residential towers” decreased by 15.2 per cent and “Wires for small building” by 12.8 per cent.

The average price for the “Diesel” and “Natural stone” groups stabilized during Q4 2012, compared with Q4 2011.

**Table (5): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for December 2012, compared with November 2012 and December 2011.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change November 2012 / December 2012	Percentage change December 2011 / December 2012
1	<b>Cement</b>	1.9	9.2
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	0.0	-1.1
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	-1.3
4	<b>Steel</b>	-2.3	-7.6
5	<b>Wood</b>	1.0	-4.9
6	<b>Block</b>	0.0	-1.2
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	0.0	0.0
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	4.6	6.7
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	N/A	N/A
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	0.0	0.0
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	-0.1	6.2
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	8.9
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	3.1
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.7
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	0.0	-1.0
14	<b>Paints</b>	1.3	-0.8
15	<b>Glass</b>	0.0	11.0
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	5.3	-7.3
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	1.9	1.4
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	0.2	-12.6
17.2	Apartments	-0.9	-18.0
17.3	Residential towers	-1.5	-15.8
18	<b>Power cable</b>	1.1	2.4
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	-1.7	-7.7
20	<b>Employment</b>	12.0	17.1
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

(N/A): means not available

**Table (6): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for Q4 2012, compared with Q3 2012 and Q4 2011.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q3 2012 / Q4 2012	Percentage change Q4 2011 / Q4 2012
1	<b>Cement</b>	0.6	5.7
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	-3.6	-2.6
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	1.1
4	<b>Steel</b>	-2.1	-7.9
5	<b>Wood</b>	-3.2	-4.1
6	<b>Block</b>	-3.7	-1.2
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	1.5	-0.6
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	-4.8	5.4
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	N/A	N/A
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	0.0	0.0
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	2.8	6.3
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	3.0	9.5
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	3.1	3.1
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	-4.3	1.6
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	-0.9	0.3
14	<b>Paints</b>	0.3	-0.5
15	<b>Glass</b>	11.8	12.9
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-1.3	-10.5
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-3.3	-0.8
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	-2.8	-12.8
17.2	Apartments	-4.6	-19.3
17.3	Residential towers	-5.2	-15.2
18	<b>Power cable</b>	1.5	1.8
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	-0.9	0.1
20	<b>Employment</b>	8.4	2.4
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

(N/A): means not available

## **Methodology of Building Material Statistics**

The current methodology for Building Materials Price Statistics including conceptual basis, construction of the basket, data collection, validation, processing procedures, averaging and treatment of missing values, and potential sources of error are described in the Building Materials Price Statistics 2011 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Building Materials Price Statistics, for January 2013 will be released on 12 February 2013. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

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