



مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE

# **Building Materials Price Statistics September 2013 and Third quarter, 2013**

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Statistics Centre- Abu Dhabi

## **Introduction**

The monthly publication 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; it can also be used in the compilation of indices of the construction activity, for 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 September 2013 compared with August 2013 and September 2012. The key changes were:

▲ During September 2013 the average prices of the “Employment” and “Wood” groups increased by 2.8% and 2.7% respectively, compared with August 2013.

▼ During September 2013 the average prices of the “Waterproofing products” group decreased by 0.5%, “Steel” by 0.4% and “Power cable” by 0.3% compared with August 2013.

▲ During September 2013 the average prices of “Natural stone” increased by 18.0%, “Aggregates and sand” by 13.1%, “Glass” by 11.7% and “Employment” by 8.9% compared with September 2012.

▼ During September 2013, the average prices of “Block”, “Wires for residential towers”, “Wires for small building” and “(PVC) Pipes” decreased by 11.8%, 9.5%, 7.7% and 7.1% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.

— During the third quarter of 2013, the average price of the “Aggregates and sand” group increased by 8.3%, “Natural stone” by 3.2%, while “Wood” increased by 3.1%. The average prices of “Employment”, “Wires for apartments” and “Sanitary ware-bathroom set with accessories” decreased by 4.9%, 4.8%, and 4.5% respectively, compared with the second quarter of 2013.

— During the third quarter of 2013 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of “Natural stone”, “Glass”, “Aggregates and sand” increased by 18.0%, 16.5% and 11.1% respectively. The average prices of “Wires for small building”, “Block” and “(PVC) Pipes” fell by 11.1%, 10.2% and 8.4% respectively.

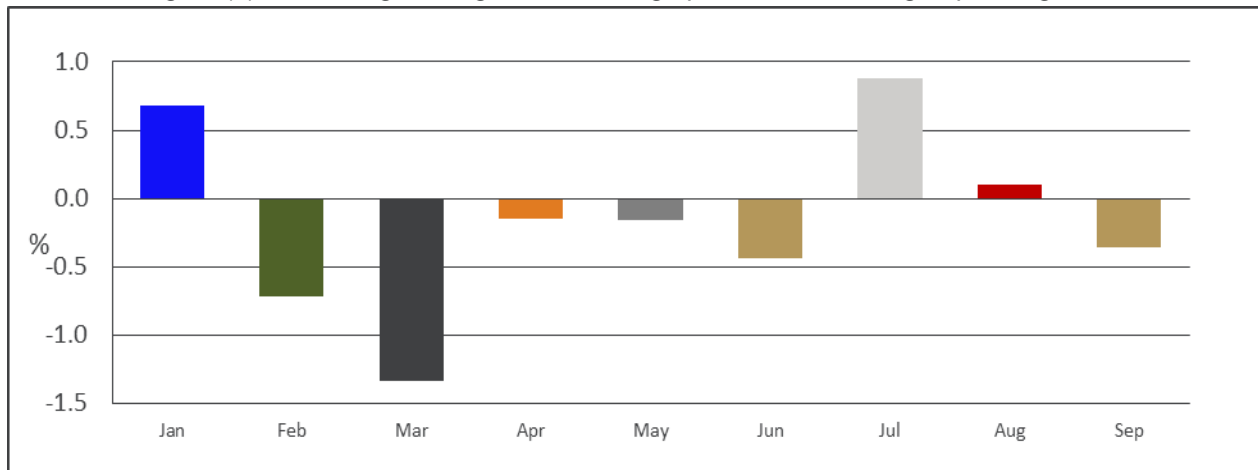
## 1. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2013 compared with August 2013

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in September 2013 compared with August 2013, with increases ranging between 2.7% for the “Wood” group and 2.8% for the “Employment” group. Declines of 0.2% for the “Wires for small building” group, and 0.5% for the “Waterproofing products” group were recorded.

### Steel

The average prices of “Steel” increased by 0.4% in September 2013, as some items in this group increased.

Figure (1): Percentage change in the average prices of the steel group during 2013



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### Power cable

The average prices of “Power cable” decreased by 0.3% in September 2013, as a result of increases in all items in this group.

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

Serial	Power cable	Average prices of August 2013 (AED)	Average prices of September 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	321,520	320,920	-0.2 ▼
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	369,520	368,910	-0.2 ▼
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm <sup>2</sup> \ 1 km	616,500	612,800	-0.6 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 2.8% in September 2013 compared with August 2013. Table (2) shows that both “Blacksmith” and “Carpenter” resulted in an increase of wages, each by 10.0%.

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

Serial	Employment	Average prices of August 2013 (AED)	Average prices of September 2013 (AED)	Percentage change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	8.0	8.0	0.0 <span style="color: blue;">—</span>
2	Semi – skilled worker \ Hourly rates	9.0	9.0	0.0 <span style="color: blue;">—</span>
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	10.0	11.0	10.0 <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	10.0	11.0	10.0 <span style="color: red;">▲</span>
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	16.0	16.0	0.0 <span style="color: blue;">—</span>
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	27.0	27.0	0.0 <span style="color: blue;">—</span>
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	27.0	27.0	0.0 <span style="color: blue;">—</span>

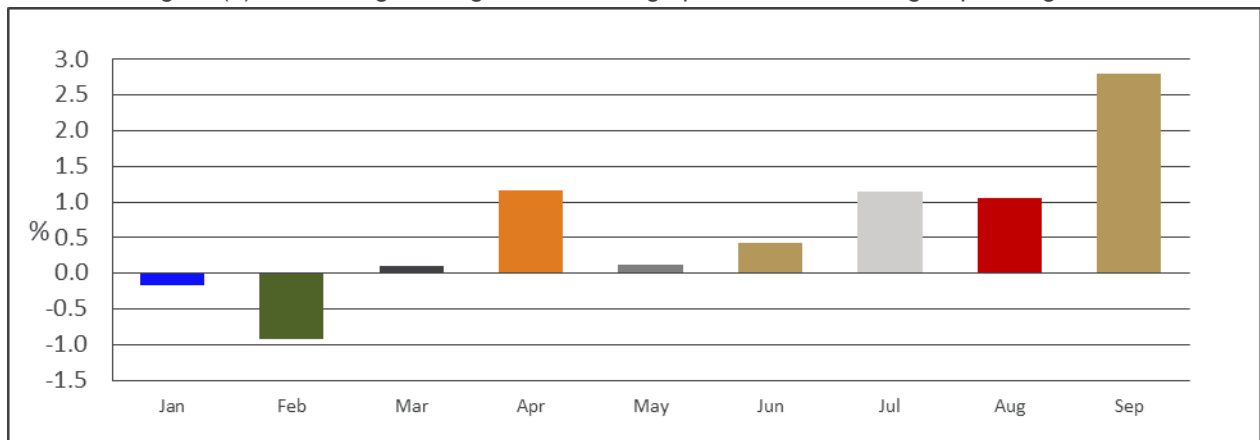
Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

## Wood

The “Wood” group increased by 2.7% in September 2013. Figure (2) shows the changes in the average prices during months of 2013.

Figure (2): Percentage change in the average prices of the wood group during 2013



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## 2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2013 compared with September 2012

The monthly average prices for 13 groups of building materials have decreased in September 2013 compared with September 2012. The drop ranged between 0.5% for “Paints” and 11.8% for “Block”.

### Block

The average prices of “Block” decreased by 11.8% in September 2013 compared with September 2012, mainly due to the decrease in all items between 3.8% and 17.3%.

Table (3): Percentage change in the average prices of the block group (September 2013 compared with September 2012)

Serial	Block	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of September 2013 (AED)	Percentage change %
1	Hollow \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	1,850.0	1,600.0	-13.5 ▼
2	Hollow \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,100.0	1,800.0	-14.3 ▼
3	Hollow \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,300.0	2,000.0	-13.0 ▼
4	Solid \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,600.0	2,500.0	-3.8 ▼
5	Solid \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,000.0	2,750.0	-8.3 ▼
6	Solid \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,750.0	3,100.0	-17.3 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

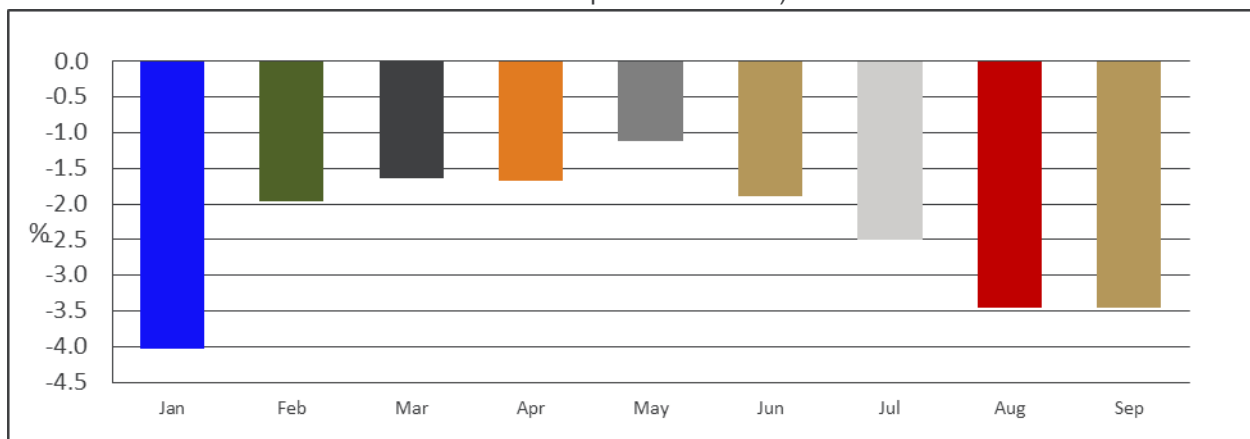
### Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in September 2013 compared with September 2012. “Wires for residential towers” accounted for the largest decrease of 9.5%, while “Wires for small building” and “Apartments” decreased by 7.7% and 3.2% respectively.

### Transport Equipment

The “Transport equipment” group decreased by 3.5% in September 2013. Figure (3) shows that the declines ranged between 1.1% in May 2013 and 4.0% in January 2013 compared with the same months of 2012.

Figure (3): Annual percentage change in the average prices of the transport equipment group (months of 2013 compared with 2012)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Some building materials items have seen an increase in September 2013 compared with September 2012

### Glass

The average prices of the “Glass” group increased by 11.7% in September 2013 compared with September 2012.

Table (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the glass group (September 2013 compared with September 2012)

Serial	Glass	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of September 2013 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Glass \ 4 mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	35.0	47.5	35.7 ▲
2	Glass \ 6mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	60.0	62.5	4.2 ▲
3	Tinted Glass \ 4mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	n.a.	n.a.	
4	Tinted Glass \ 6 mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	82.5	70.0	-15.2 ▼
5	Mirror Glass \ 4 mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	70.0	90.0	28.6 ▲
6	Mirror Glass \ 6 mm \ m <sup>2</sup> \ Saudi Arabia	100.0	112.5	12.5 ▲

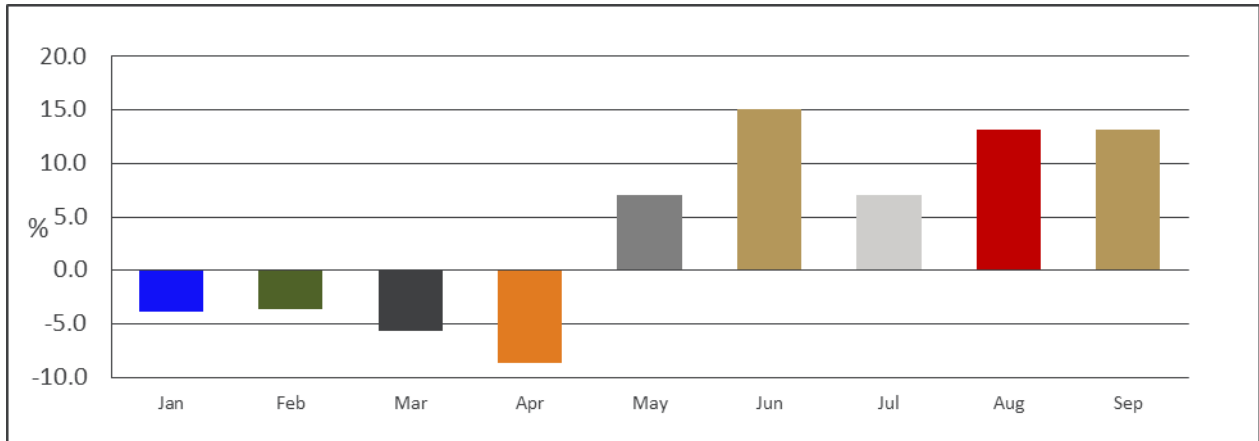
(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Aggregates and sand

The average prices of “Aggregates and sand” increased by 13.1% in September 2013 compared with September 2012, while all items in the group recorded an increase between 6.7% and 40.0%.

Figure (4): Annual percentage change in the average prices of the aggregates and sand group (months of 2013 compared with 2012)

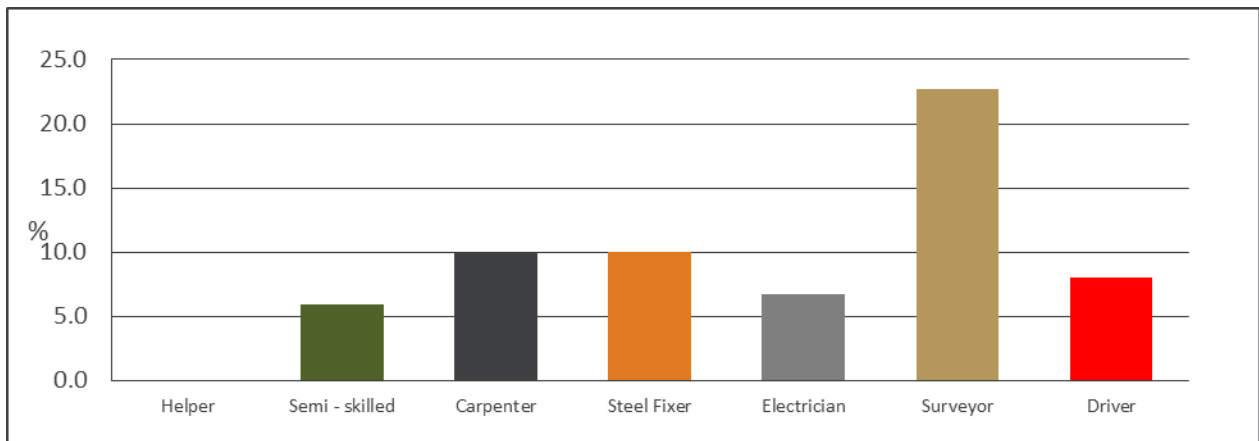


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 8.9% in September 2013 compared with September 2012, while most items in the group recorded an increase between 5.9% and 22.7%.

Figure (5): Annual percentage change in the average prices of the employment group (months of 2013 compared with 2012)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi



### **3. Building materials prices for Q3 2013 compared with Q2 2013**

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q3 2013 compared with Q2 2013.

Increases ranged between 0.1 per cent for “Glass” and 8.3 per cent for the “Aggregates and sand” group.

The average price for “Tiles and marble”, “Roofing materials” and “Diesel” showed no change in Q3 2013 compared with Q2 2013.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q3 2013 compared with Q2 2013. The average prices of “Employment” decreased by 4.9 per cent, while “Wires for apartments”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” and “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single” decreased by 4.8, 4.5 and 4.1 per cent respectively.

### **4. Building materials prices for Q3 2013 compared with Q3 2012**

The average prices of building materials showed variations with most decreasing during Q3 2013 compared with Q3 2012.

The price decreases ranged between 0.4 per cent for “Paints” and 11.1 per cent for “Wires for small building”. In addition, “Block” decreased by 10.2 per cent, “(PVC) Pipes” by 8.4 per cent and “Wires for apartments” by 7.5 per cent.

Increases ranged between 0.8 per cent for “Concrete” and 18.0 per cent for “Natural stone”, while “Glass” decreased by 16.5 per cent and “Aggregates and sand” by 11.1 per cent.

The average price for the “Diesel” group stabilized during Q3 2013, compared with Q3 2012.

**Table (5): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for September 2013, compared with August 2013 and September 2012.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change August 2013 to September 2013	Percentage change September 2012 to September 2013
1	<b>Cement</b>	0.0	-0.8
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	0.0	13.1
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	2.2
4	<b>Steel</b>	-0.4	-3.8
5	<b>Wood</b>	2.7	2.9
6	<b>Block</b>	0.0	-11.8
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	0.0	1.8
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	-0.5	-1.7
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	n.a.	n.a.
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	0.0	18.0
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	0.0	-0.6
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	7.3
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	3.1
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.9
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	0.0	-2.3
14	<b>Paints</b>	0.0	-0.5
15	<b>Glass</b>	0.0	11.7
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	0.0	-7.1
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	0.0	0.0
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	-0.2	-7.7
17.2	Apartments	0.0	-3.2
17.3	Residential towers	0.0	-9.5
18	<b>Power cable</b>	-0.3	-6.6
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	0.0	-3.5
20	<b>Employment</b>	2.8	8.9
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

**Table (6): Percentage change in the monthly average prices of building materials for Q3 2013, compared with Q2 2013 and Q3 2012.**

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q2 2013 to Q3 2013	Percentage change Q3 2012 to Q3 2013
1	<b>Cement</b>	0.5	1.2
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	8.3	11.1
3	<b>Concrete</b>	-1.4	0.8
4	<b>Steel</b>	0.5	-4.3
5	<b>Wood</b>	3.1	1.0
6	<b>Block</b>	-3.6	-10.2
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	0.0	2.1
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	0.7	-3.3
9	<b>Waterproofing bituminous membrane</b>	n.a.	n.a.
10	<b>Natural stone</b>	3.2	18.0
11	<b>Tiles and marble</b>	0.0	2.5
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	-3.1	10.5
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	-4.5	3.1
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	-4.1	-1.5
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	-0.5	-1.8
14	<b>Paints</b>	-1.1	-0.4
15	<b>Glass</b>	0.1	16.5
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	-2.3	-8.4
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	-1.3	-2.0
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17.1	Small building	-3.6	-11.1
17.2	Apartments	-4.8	-7.5
17.3	Residential towers	-1.7	-7.3
18	<b>Power cable</b>	-0.4	-4.5
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	-0.6	-3.1
20	<b>Employment</b>	-4.9	8.1
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## **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 2012 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

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

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