



مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE



Building Materials

Price Statistics

March 2016
First Quarter 2016

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Introduction

The monthly publication of Building Materials Price Statistics is of great significance as building material prices are deemed to be important economic indicators for planning and research in various fields. They are also used in the compilation of indices of the construction activity and 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 6). 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 March 2016 compared with February 2016 and March 2015, and during the first quarter of 2016 compared with the fourth quarter of 2015 and first quarter of 2015. The key changes were:

- During March 2016 the average prices of the 'Steel', 'Employment' and 'Power cable' groups increased by 7.1%, 5.4% and 3.5% respectively, compared with February 2016.
- During March 2016 the average price of 'Concrete' decreased by 4.1%, 'Wires for apartment' by 1.3% and 'Wires for residential towers' by 0.4% compared with February 2016.
- During March 2016 the average price of the 'Tiles and marbles' group increased by 9.6%, 'Employment' by 9.2% and 'Block' by 8.5% compared with March 2015.
- During March 2016, the average prices of 'Diesel', 'Waterproofing products' and 'Steel' decreased by 40.4%, 16.9% and 12.0% respectively, compared with the same period in the previous year.
- During the first quarter of 2016 compared with the fourth quarter of 2015, the average price of the 'Block' group increased by 9.2%, 'Concrete' by 2.9% and 'Aggregates and sand' by 2.3%. The average prices of 'Employment', 'Diesel' and 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 22.0%, 21.7%, and 10.1% respectively.
- During the first quarter of 2016 compared with the same period in the previous year, the average prices of 'False ceiling', 'Tiles and marble' and 'Employment' increased by 8.8%, 8.1% and 5.0% respectively. The average prices of 'Diesel', 'Waterproofing products' and 'Steel' fell by 37.9%, 19.7% and 18.6% respectively

1- Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2016 compared with February 2016

The increases in the average prices in March 2016 compared with February 2016, ranged between 0.6% for the 'Wires for small building' group and 7.1% for the 'Steel' group. Decreases ranging from 0.3% for 'Wood' and 4.1% for the 'Concrete' group were recorded.

Steel

The average prices of 'Steel' increased by 7.1% in March 2016 compared with February 2016, as a result of an increase in most items in this group.

Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' increased by 5.4% in March 2016 compared with February 2016. Table (1) shows changes in wages of 'Employment' during March 2016.

Table 1: Percentage change in the average wages of the employment group during March 2016 compared with February 2016

Serial No.	Employment	Average wages of February 2016 (AED/ h)	Average wages of March 2016 (AED/ h)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper	7.0	7.5	7.1 ▲
2	Semi – skilled worker	7.5	8.0	6.7 ▲
3	Carpenter	9.0	9.0	0.0 —
4	Blacksmith	9.0	9.0	0.0 —
5	Electrician	13.0	13.0	0.0 —
6	Surveyor	18.0	20.0	11.1 ▲
7	Driver	22.0	25.0	13.6 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

Diesel

The price of 'Diesel' increased by 2.2% in March 2016 compared with February 2016.

Table 2: Percentage change in the average price of Diesel during March 2016 compared with February 2016

Serial No.	Diesel	Average price of February 2016 (AED)	Average price of March 2016 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Diesel \ ADNOC \ Litre	1.37	1.40	2.2 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Power cable

The average prices of 'Power cable' increased by 3.5% in March 2016 compared with February 2016, as a result of an increase in all items in this group.

Table 3: Percentage change in the average prices of the power cable group during March 2016 compared with February 2016

Serial No.	Power cable	Average prices February 2016 (AED)	Average prices of March 2016 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	CU 11 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	246,990	257,130	4.1 ▲
2	CU 33 KV \ 3*240 mm ² \ 1 km	292,420	302,920	3.6 ▲
3	CU 132 KV \ 1*800 mm ² \ 1 km	508,380	522,450	2.8 ▲

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Concrete

The average prices of 'Concrete' decreased by 4.1% in March 2016 compared with February 2016.

Table 4: Percentage change in the average prices of the concrete group during March 2016 compared with February 2016

Serial No.	Concrete	Average price of February 2016 (AED)	Average price of March 2016 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Concrete Ready Mix \ Normal (Neutin 40) \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	240.0	230.0	-4.2 ▼
2	Concrete Ready Mix \ Sulphate Resistance \ m ³ \ U.A.E.	245.0	235.0	-4.1 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Wood

The average prices of 'Wood' decreased by 0.3% in March 2016 compared with February 2016.

2-Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for March 2016 compared with March 2015

The monthly average prices for 12 groups of building materials have decreased in March 2016 compared with March 2015. The decreases ranged between 0.2% for 'Transport equipment' and 40.4% for 'Diesel'.

Diesel

The price of 'Diesel' decreased by 40.4% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Table 5: Percentage change in the average price of Diesel during March 2016 compared with March 2015

Serial No.	Diesel	Average price of March 2015 (AED)	Average price of March 2016 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Diesel \ ADNOC \ Litre	2.35	1.40	-40.4 ▼

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Waterproofing products

The average prices of 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 16.9% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Steel

The average prices of the 'Steel' group decreased by 12.0% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Glass

The average prices of the 'Glass' group decreased by 10.7% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Some building materials items have seen an increase in March 2016 compared with March 2015:

Tiles and marble

The 'Tiles and marble' group increased by 9.6% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Employment

The average wages of 'Employment' increased by 9.2% in March 2016 compared with March 2015, as a result of increases in most items in this group.

Block

The 'Block' group increased by 8.5% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

False ceiling

The average prices of 'False ceiling' increased by 7.3% in March 2016 compared with March 2015.

Building materials prices for Q1 2016 compared with Q4 2015

Most of the commodity groups of building materials recorded higher average prices during Q1 2016 compared with Q4 2015.

Increases ranged between 0.2% for 'Wood' and 9.2% for the 'Block' group. While the average price for some groups showed no change in Q1 2016 compared with Q4 2015.

A number of commodity group prices decreased in Q1 2016 compared with Q4 2015, the average prices of 'Employment' decreased by 22.0%, while 'Diesel', 'Waterproofing products' and 'Paints' groups decreased by 21.7%, 10.1% and 7.9% respectively.

Building materials prices for Q1 2016 compared with Q1 2015

The average prices of building materials showed variations with some increasing during Q1 2016 compared with Q1 2015.

The price increases ranged between 1.2% for 'Wood' and 8.8% for 'False ceiling'. In addition, 'Tiles and marble' increased by 8.1% and 'Employment' by 5.0%.

Decreases ranged between 0.3% for 'Transport equipment' and 37.9% for 'Diesel', while 'Waterproofing products' decreased by 19.7% and 'Power cable' by 18.6%.

Table 6: Percentage change in monthly average prices of building materials for March 2016, compared with February 2016 and March 2015

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change March 2016 / February 2016	Percentage change March 2016 / March 2015
1	Cement	0.0	-1.3
2	Aggregates and sand	0.0	-3.0
3	Concrete	-4.1	2.2
4	Steel	7.1	-12.0
5	Wood	-0.3	1.7
6	Block	0.0	8.5
7	Roofing materials	0.0	-1.7
8	Waterproofing products	0.9	-16.9
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	0.0
11	Tiles and marble	1.3	9.6
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	6.8
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	0.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.0
13	False ceiling	1.4	7.3
14	Paints	0.0	-4.6
15	Glass	0.0	-10.7
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	3.0	-7.7
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	n.a.	n.a.
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	0.6	5.3
17.2	Apartments	-1.3	2.9
17.3	Residential towers	-0.4	1.5
18	Power cable	3.5	-8.3
19	Transport equipment	0.0	-0.2
20	Employment	5.4	9.2
21	Diesel	2.2	-40.4

(n.a.): means not available

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

Table 7: Percentage change in the quarterly average prices of building materials for Q1 2016, compared with Q4 2015 and Q1 2015.

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change Q1 2016 / Q4 2015	Percentage change Q1 2016 / Q1 2015
1	Cement	0.0	-0.7
2	Aggregates and sand	2.3	-4.1
3	Concrete	2.9	2.9
4	Steel	1.7	-18.6
5	Wood	0.2	1.2
6	Block	9.2	4.1
7	Roofing materials	0.0	-1.1
8	Waterproofing products	-10.1	-19.7
9	Waterproofing bituminous membrane	n.a.	n.a.
10	Natural stone	0.0	-3.9
11	Tiles and marble	1.4	8.1
12	Sanitary ware		
12.1	Bathroom set without accessories	1.3	4.8
12.2	Bathroom set with accessories	0.0	-1.0
12.3	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	0.0	0.0
13	False ceiling	-0.3	8.8
14	Paints	-7.9	-0.6
15	Glass	0.0	0.0
16	Pipes		
16.1	(PVC) pipes	1.6	-7.7
16.2	(uPVC) pipes	n.a.	n.a.
17	Wires		
17.1	Small building	-0.1	4.6
17.2	Apartments	0.4	2.6
17.3	Residential towers	-0.4	-0.7
18	Power cable	-1.8	-10.0
19	Transport equipment	-0.2	-0.3
20	Employment	-22.0	5.0
21	Diesel	-21.7	-37.9

(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 2014 publication, which is available on SCAD's website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

Building Materials Price Statistics, for April 2016 will be released on May 2016. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

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