



مركز الإحصاء - أبوظبي  
STATISTICS CENTRE - ABU DHABI

# **Building Materials Price Statistics October 2012**

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

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 bulletin includes the movement of prices of 21 groups from the key building groups, which 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 and that rely on it.

## Key Points

This bulletin provides an analysis of the movement of the average prices of building materials during the month of October 2012 compared with September 2012 and October 2011. The key changes were:

▲ During October 2012 the average prices of the “Employment”, “Glass”, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories”, “Wires for small building” and “Tiles and marble” groups increased by 8.3%, 3.3%, 3.1%, 2.5% and 0.9% respectively, compared with September 2012.

▼ During October 2012 the average prices of the “Wires for residential towers” group decreased by 4.6%, “Wood” decreased by 4.0%, “Block” by 3.7%, “Aggregates and sand” by 3.6% and “Cement” by 3.5% compared with September 2012.

▲ During October 2012 the average prices of “Glass” increased by 9.6%, “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” by 8.9%, “Waterproofing products” by 6.3%, “Tiles and marble” by 5.9% and “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single” by 5.9% compared with October 2011.

▼ During October 2012, the average prices of “Wires for apartments”, “Wires for residential towers”, “PVC Pipes”, “Wires for small building” and “Steel” decreased by 19.8%, 14.1%, 13.9%, 11.7% and 9.2% respectively, compared with the same period in the last year.

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

The building materials groups have seen a change in the average prices in October 2012 compared with September 2012, with increases ranging between 0.9% for the “Tiles and marble” group and 8.3% for the “Employment” group. Declines of 0.3% for the “Wires for apartment” group, and 4.6% for the “Wires for residential towers” group were recorded.

### Employment

The average wages of “Employment” increased by 8.3% in October 2012 compared with September 2012. Table (1) indicates that increases of the employment group ranged between 6.7% for "Electricians" and 20.0% for both "Carpenters" and "Blacksmiths".

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

Serial	Employment	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of October 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Helper \ Hourly rates	8.0	8.0	0.0 —
2	Semi - skilled \ Hourly rates	8.5	8.5	0.0 —
3	Carpenter \ Hourly rates	10.0	12.0	20.0 ▲
4	Blacksmith \ Hourly rates	10.0	12.0	20.0 ▲
5	Electrician \ Hourly rates	15.0	16.0	6.7 ▲
6	Surveyor \ Hourly rates	22.0	25.0	13.6 ▲
7	Driver \ Hourly rates	25.0	25.0	0.0 —

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

### Glass

The average prices of “Glass” increased by 3.3% in October 2012, as a result of increases in most items in this group.

### Wires

The average prices for “Wires for residential towers” and “Apartments” decreased by 4.6% and 0.3%, while the average prices for “Wires for small building” increased by 2.5%.

## Cement

Table (2) shows a decrease in the average prices of the “Cement” group by 3.5% in October 2012 compared with September 2012, as a result of “Sulphate Resistance\ Al-EtiHAD\ Ton\ U.A.E.” which decreased by 13.3%.

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

Serial	Cement	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of October 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Sulphate Resistance \ Al- EtiHAD \ Ton \ U.A.E.	300.0	260.0	-13.3 ▼
2	Sulphate Resistance \ Emirates \ Ton \ U.A.E.	-	-	- -
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	-	- -
5	Lime \ Oman \ Ton \ Oman	1250.0	1,250.0	0.0 —
6	Gypsum \ Oman \ Ton \ Oman	442.0	442.0	0.0 —

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

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

## Aggregates and Sand

The “Aggregates and sand” group decreased by 3.6% in October 2012. Table (3) shows that the declines ranged between 3.4% and 9.1% compared with September 2012.

Table (3) Percentage change in the average prices of the aggregates and sand group

Serial	Aggregates and Sand	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of October 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Aggregates \ Crush 3/4 \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	75.0	70.0	-6.7 ▼
2	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/4 \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	62.5	60.0	-4.0 ▼
3	Aggregates \ Crush 3/8 \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	72.5	70.0	-3.4 ▼
4	Aggregates \ Ordinary 3/8 \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	50.0	50.0	0.0 —
5	Aggregates \ Material Sand \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	45.0	45.0	0.0 —
6	Sand \ White \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	45.0	42.5	-5.6 ▼
7	Sand \ Black \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	55.0	50.0	-9.1 ▼
8	Sand \ Red \ m <sup>3</sup> \ U.A.E.	37.5	37.5	0.0 —

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Steel

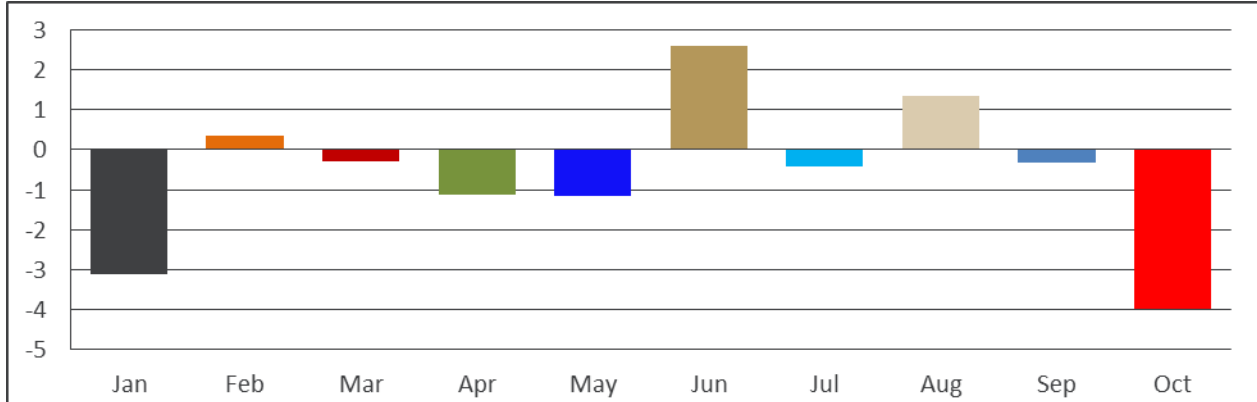
The average prices of “Steel” decreased by 1.8% in October 2012, as most items in this group decreased between 0.7% for “Steel\ Beams Steel\ Big\ Ton\ Korea & Japan” and 8.7% for “B.R.C. Mesh\ 6 mm (142)\ Piece\ U.A.E.”.

## Wood

The average prices of the “Wood” group decreased by 4.0% in October 2012 compared with September 2012, as a result of decreases in most items in this group.

The “Wood” group experienced changes from the beginning of the year, where the decreases ranged between 0.3% in March and 4.0% in October 2012.

Figure (1): The change in the average prices of a wood during 2012



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Block

The average prices of the “Block” group decreased by 3.7% in October 2012 after stabilizing during the previous four months.

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

Serial	Cement	Average prices of September 2012 (AED)	Average prices of October 2012 (AED)	Percentage Change %
1	Hollow \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	1,850.0	1,850.0	0.0
2	Hollow \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,100.0	2,000.0	-4.8
3	Hollow \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand U.A.E.	2,300.0	2,200.0	-4.3
4	Solid \ 4" 10x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	2,600.0	2,450.0	-5.8
5	Solid \ 6" 15x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,000.0	2,900.0	-3.3
6	Solid \ 8" 20x20x40 cm \ Thousand \ U.A.E.	3,750.0	3,600.0	-4.0

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

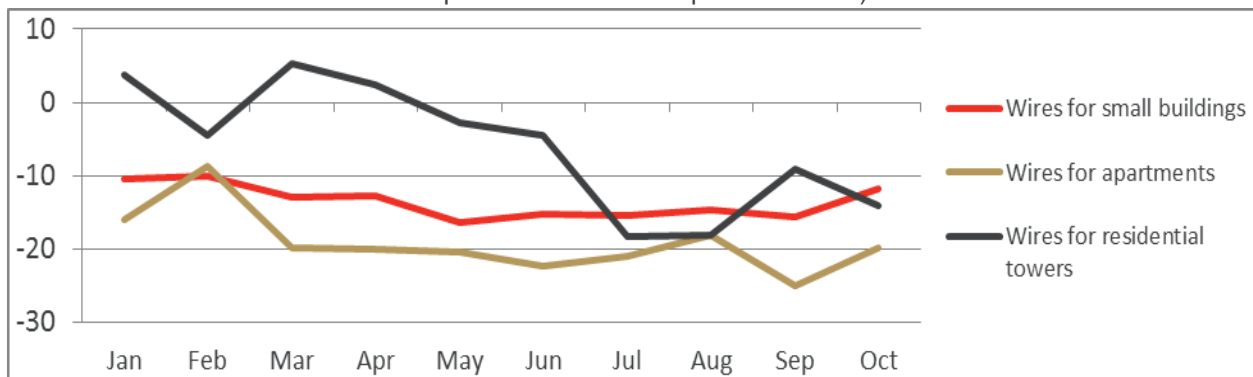
## 2. Key changes in the monthly average prices of building materials for October 2012 compared with October 2011

The monthly average price for 11 groups of building materials have decreased in October 2012 compared with October 2011. The declines ranged between 1.7% for “Roofing materials” and 19.8% for “Wires for apartments”.

### Wires

The average prices of “Wires” decreased in October 2012 compared with October 2011. “Wires for apartments” accounted for the largest decrease of 19.8%, while “Wires for residential towers” and “Small buildings” decreased by 14.1% and 11.7% respectively.

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

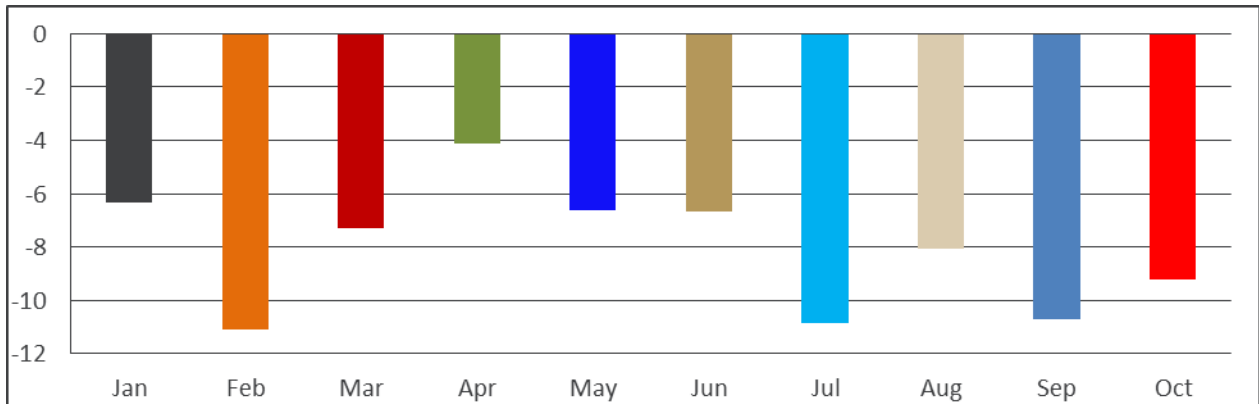


Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### Steel

The average price of “Steel” decreased by 9.2%, with declines in the items between the range of 4.9% and 18.2%. 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 (first ten months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

## Pipes

The average prices of (PVC) Pipes decreased by 13.9% in October 2012, as most items in this group decreased between 3.1% for “PVC Pipes\ 1/2 inch\ 6m\ U.A.E.” and 26.4% for “PVC Pipes\ 3 inch\ 6m\ U.A.E.”. During October average prices of (uPVC) Pipes decreased by 2.8%.

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

### Glass

The average prices of the “Glass” group increased by 9.6% in October 2012 compared with October 2011. During the first ten 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.

### Waterproofing products

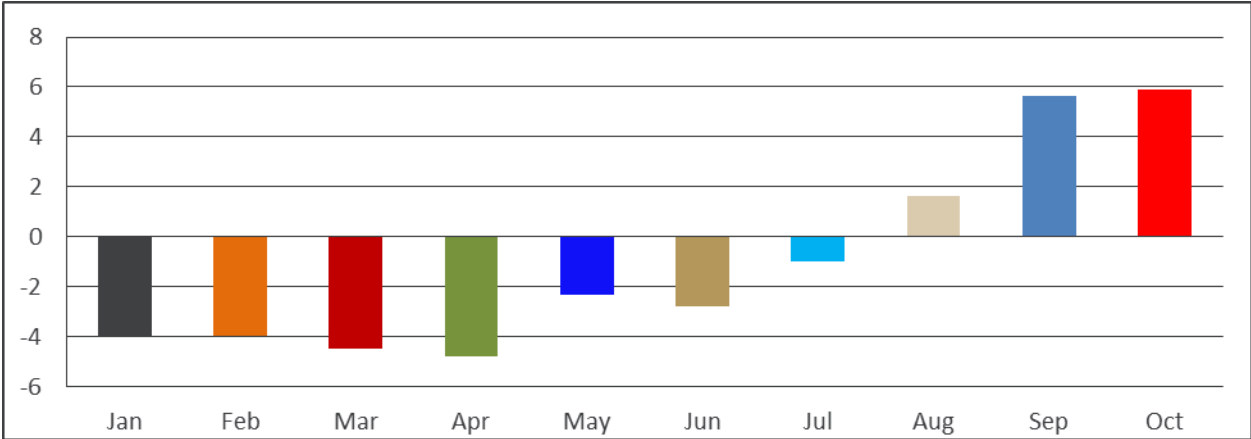
The average prices of “Waterproofing products” increased by 6.3%, with most items within the group experiencing an increase.



### Tiles and marble

The average prices of “Tiles and marble” increased by 5.9% in October 2012 compared with October 2011.

Figure (4): Percentage change in the average prices of the tiles and marble group (first ten months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011)



Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi

### Sanitary ware

The average prices of the “Sanitary ware- bathroom set without accessories” and “Sanitary ware- sink stainless steel with mixer-single” groups increased by 8.9% and 5.9% respectively while average prices of the “Sanitary ware- bathroom set with accessories” group increased by 3.1% compared with October 2011.

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

Serial No.	Commodity groups	Percentage change September 2012 / October 2012	Percentage change October 2011 / October 2012
1	<b>Cement</b>	-3.5	2.2
2	<b>Aggregates and sand</b>	-3.6	-4.2
3	<b>Concrete</b>	0.0	0.0
4	<b>Steel</b>	-1.8	-9.2
5	<b>Wood</b>	-4.0	-3.7
6	<b>Block</b>	-3.7	-2.9
7	<b>Roofing materials</b>	0.0	-1.7
8	<b>Waterproofing products</b>	-3.4	6.3
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>	0.9	5.9
12	<b>Sanitary ware</b>		
12	Bathroom set without accessories	0.0	8.9
12	Bathroom set with accessories	3.1	3.1
12	Sink stainless steel with mixer-single	-1.7	5.9
13	<b>False ceiling</b>	0.0	3.0
14	<b>Paints</b>	0.0	0.0
15	<b>Glass</b>	3.3	9.6
16	<b>Pipes</b>		
16	(PVC) pipes	-1.8	-13.9
16	(uPVC) pipes	-1.0	-2.8
17	<b>Wires</b>		
17	Small building	2.5	-11.7
17	Apartments	-0.3	-19.8
17	Residential towers	-4.6	-14.1
18	<b>Power cable</b>	0.0	1.5
19	<b>Transport equipment</b>	0.0	4.0
20	<b>Employment</b>	8.3	-6.8
21	<b>Diesel</b>	0.0	0.0

Source: Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi  
(N/A): mean 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 November 2012 will be released on 12 December 2012. For more information about prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>.

## **Disclaimer**

While all care and diligence has been taken with the compilation of official statistics, The Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi gives no warranty that the information, data or statistics, supplied are free of errors. SCAD shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the user following the direct or indirect use of the statistics supplied in good faith by SCAD. Users of Official Statistics are responsible for determining when and how to use the statistics for specific purposes.