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KEY FIGURES AS AT MARCH 2008

Producer Price Index and rates of change according to main components

Base: 2000 = 100

Producer Price Index components	indices			Percentage change between	
	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
Domestic output	152,5	167,2	170,5	+2,0	+11,8
Exported commodities	153,4	163,4	166,1	+1,7	+8,3
Imported commodities	136,8	156,1	158,5	+1,5	+15,9

KEY FINDINGS AS AT MARCH 2008

The annual percentage change in the PPI is higher at +11,8% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007).

The Producer Price Index (PPI) for domestic output shows an annual rate of change of 11,8% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007). This rate is 0,5 of a percentage point higher than the corresponding annual rate of 11,3% at February 2008 (i.e. the PPI at February 2008 compared with that at February 2007) (see Table 1 (A)). This higher annual rate at March 2008 compared with that at February 2008 could be explained by increases in the annual rate of change in the Producer Price Indices for:

- *Mining and quarrying: the annual rate increased from +15,3% at February 2008 to +17,1% at March 2008.*

This increase was partially counteracted by decreases in the annual rate of change for:

- *Agricultural products: the annual rate decreased from +19,5% at February 2008 to +16,6% at March 2008.*
- *Basic metals: the annual rate decreased from -0,2% at February 2008 to -1,3% at March 2008.*

From February 2008 to March 2008 the PPI for domestic output increased by 2,0%.

The monthly increase of 2,0% in the PPI for domestic output is mainly due to relatively large monthly increases in the price indices for mining and quarrying products (+ 1,0 percentage point), agricultural products (+ 0,4 of a percentage point) and products of petroleum and coal (+ 0,4 of a percentage point) (see table 3, p.11).

The annual rate of change in the PPI for exported commodities is lower at +8,3% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007).

The PPI for exported commodities shows an annual rate of increase of 8,3% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007). This rate is 0,2 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding annual rate of 8,5% at February 2008 (i.e. the PPI at February 2008 compared with that at February 2007) (see Table 1(B)).

The annual increase of 8,3% in the PPI for exported commodities is mainly due to relatively large annual increases in the price indices of mining and quarrying products (+5,3 percentage points), products of petroleum and coal (+1,4 percentage points), food at manufacturing (+0,6 of a percentage point), all other groups (+0,5 of a percentage point), paper and paper products (+0,2 of a percentage point) and non-electrical machinery and apparatus (+0,2 of a percentage point). These increases were slightly counteracted by decreases in basic metal (-0,6 of a percentage point and agricultural products (-0,1 of a percentage point) (see Table 4).

From February 2008 to March 2008 the PPI for exported commodities increased by 1,7%.

The monthly increase of 1,7% in the PPI for exported commodities is mainly due to relatively large monthly increases in the price indices for mining and quarrying products (+1,5 percentage point), food at manufacturing (+0,1 of a percentage point) and all other groups (+0,1 of a percentage point) (see Table 5).

The annual rate of change in the PPI for imported commodities is higher at +15,9% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007).

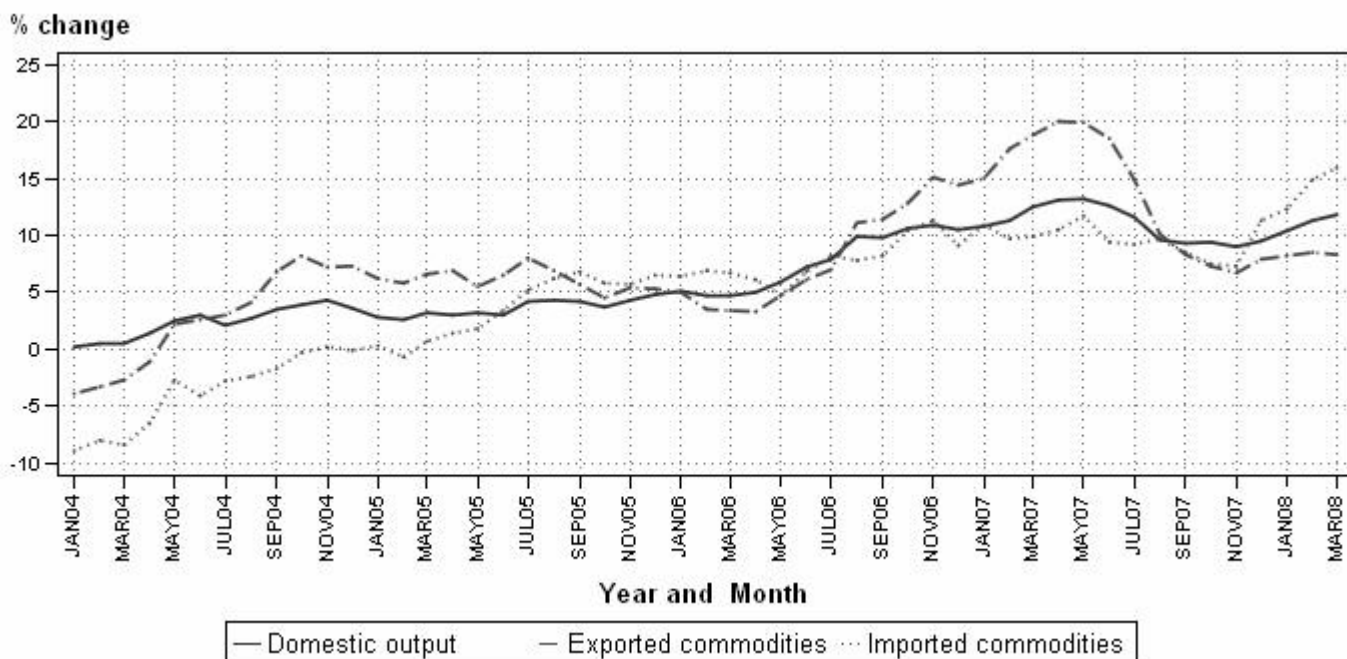
The PPI for imported commodities shows an annual rate of increase of 15,9% at March 2008 (i.e. the PPI at March 2008 compared with that at March 2007). This rate is 1,0 percentage point higher than the corresponding annual rate of 14,9% at February 2008 (i.e. the PPI at February 2008 compared with that at February 2007) (see Table 1 (C)).

The annual increase of 15,9% in the PPI for imported commodities is mainly due to relatively large annual increases in the price indices for mining and quarrying products (+9,3 percentage points), chemicals and chemical products (+1,9 percentage points), food at manufacturing (+1,1 percentage points), agricultural products (+1,0 percentage point), transport equipment (+0,7 of a percentage point), all other groups (+0,7 of a percentage point), non-electrical machinery and equipment (+0,6 of a percentage point), basic metals (+0,2 of a percentage point) and products of petroleum and coal (+0,2 of a percentage point). These increases were slightly counteracted by a decrease in the price index of office accounting and computing machinery (-0,2 of a percentage point) (see Table 6).

From February 2008 to March 2008 the PPI for imported commodities increased by 1,5%.

The monthly increase of 1,5% in the PPI for imported commodities is mainly due to relatively large monthly increase in the price index for mining and quarrying products (+1,5 percentage points) (see Table 7).

Figure 1 – Annual percentage change in the Producer Price Index:



Source: Stats SA

Note to users of the Producer Price Index

Users have been aware of the difficulties Stats SA has been having with the PPI over the past two months. These have resulted in publication delays as well as many questions from analysts about some details, aggregations and contributions.

In the course of the major overhaul of all aspects of the PPI, a new product basket was introduced (including products which had previously been excluded, like gold), together with new weights for products in the basket; index compilation methods and systems are being overhauled to bring to bear important international standards and improve operational efficiencies; and internationally harmonised product codes have been introduced. The changes have been wide ranging and complex, and have thrown up an unexpectedly large range of problems.

Prior to the recent refreshment of the PPI basket and the rebasing of the series, the PPI basket was last updated in the late 1990s. Over the intervening years Stats SA invested enormous effort and resources into several areas of higher priority in its economic statistics. Appropriately, one of the most important of these was the CPI. Over the last three years the organisation completely overhauled that index to bring it up to international standards in all its aspects. The importance of the CPI as a vital input to monetary policy and contract setting is well understood.

The PPI is highly valued as a lead indicator for the CPI. However, its role in this regard needs to be kept in perspective; the PPI is a narrowly based indicator at present, as its scope excludes services, the largest sector of the economy. This of necessity limits its usefulness as an indicator of upstream price pressures for the whole economy. Over the longer term, Stats SA aspires to progressively develop producer price indices for the more important services, to broaden the scope of the index.

To meet our responsibility to give users timely and useful PPI numbers, Stats SA was able to release the February 2008 PPI on time, despite not being able to resolve all aspects of the overhaul of the index. The remaining problems have also greatly complicated the production of the index for March 2008. Stats SA fully appreciates the value of timely data for this series, and has produced this PPI release in line with the announced timetable.

The latest values for the index are accurate, but it is important for users to be aware that the index numbers published today may be subject to revisions. These are expected to be small, if they are necessary.

Users should be aware that in the course of preparatory work for this release some of the PPI weights and sub-group index numbers published for January and February 2008 have been changed. These changes have had little impact on PPI values at the all-groups level.

Stats SA assures users that the problems being encountered stem from our determination to achieve significant improvements in the overall quality and relevance of this index. In so doing, some of the difficulties have been underestimated. The feedback received from many users is welcomed and very much appreciated.

Technical notes will be put progressively onto the Stats SA website to update analysts on changes at more detailed levels, specifically for time series purposes.

P J Lehohla
Statistician General: Statistics South Africa

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NOTES**Forthcoming issues****Issue**

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Purpose of the survey

The surveys of prices of commodities in domestic output (including exports), imported commodities, and exported commodities are monthly surveys covering samples of manufacturers, importers and exporters in the South African economy. The results of the survey are used to compile the Producer Price Index (PPI) which indicates changes in Producer prices of locally produced commodities (including exports), imports and exports. These statistics are used by the private sector for contract price adjustments, and as a deflator in the compilation of national accounts.

Rebasing

The base year of the Producer Price Index (PPI) is still 2000 = 100. For historical rebasing see the statistical release P0142.4.

Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

South Africa's data dissemination practices are assessed against the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS). A detailed description of the SDDS can be found on the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board on the internet at <http://dsbb.imf.org>. The SDDS prescribes two to four monitorable elements or good practice that can be observed, or monitored, by users of statistics. These include coverage, periodicity and timeliness, and access to a scheduled release calendar. The SDDS is in essence sets standards for the disclosure and transparency of statistics.

South Africa subscribed to the SDDS in 2 August 1996 and posted its metadata as of 27 September 1996. South Africa has met the SDDS specifications for the coverage, periodicity and timeliness of the data, and for the dissemination of advanced release calendars since 18 September 2000.

Stats SA is responsible for compiling and disseminating data on the Producer index, national accounts, government accounts, industry-based statistics, social statistics, the producer price index, consumer price index, labour market and population statistics.

Reports on Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSC) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The IMF has worked on producing ROSC as a step to strengthen the international financial system. The objectives of ROSC include the promotion of increased transparency, and the implementation of internationally accepted standards and codes.

The data dissemination module of the ROSC provides a summary of South Africa's practices on the coverage, periodicity and timeliness of the data categories specified in the IMF's SDDS, and on the practices on the provision of advance release calendars for the data. The ROSC is complemented by an assessment of the quality of the Producer Price Index, using the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) as developed by the IMF's Statistics Department.

The DQAF assess data quality in terms of -

- ♦ Prerequisites of quality;
- ♦ Integrity;
- ♦ Methodological soundness;
- ♦ Accuracy and reliability;
- ♦ Serviceability; and
- ♦ Accessibility

For South Africa's compliance and performance on the quality of data see <http://www.imf.org/external/np/rosc/rosc.asp>.

Methodological notes Stats SA released a new re-weighted PPI in January 2008 using a revived basket of indicator products.

The new basket of indicator products for locally produced commodities, import and export commodities was compiled through use of several information sources. The information sources used to select relevant indicator products in the different industries are indicated in table A.

Table A – Information sources used to select products in different producer industries

Main products and industries	Sources
Locally produced items	
Agriculture	Stats SA, Census of Agriculture, 2005
Fishing	Fishing Industry Handbook, 2005
Forestry	Commercial Timber Resources and Roundwood Processing in South Africa, 2005
Mining and quarrying	Department of Minerals and Energy
Manufacturing	Stats SA, Large Sample Survey, 2005
Electricity	Stats SA, Department of Minerals and Energy
Gas	Stats SA, Economic Activity Survey, 2005
Water	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
Imported items	South African Revenue Services
Exported items	South African Revenue Services

The products were classified according to the relevant Central Product Classification (CPC) and at industry level were classified using Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) subgroups. At industry level, value added was used to determine industry weights. At product level, the products in each subgroup were sorted according to their value of sales. The products contributing to the top 80% of the sales in each subgroup were selected as indicator products. These are the products for which prices will be monitored periodically by Stats SA.

The questionnaire(s) for each subgroup, which are used to collect the relevant price information from respondents, were adjusted to include the newly selected indicator products. Although the products on each questionnaire differ from the other questionnaires, their layout is identical.

For each indicator product a sample of manufacturers, importers and exporters was drawn from all the manufacturers, importers and exporters who manufacture, import or export the specific indicator product. The list of manufacturers, importers and exporters (sampling frame), from which the samples were drawn, are indicated in table B.

Table B – Sampling frame

Main products and industries	Sources
Locally produced and sold products	
Agriculture	List of fresh produce markets
Mining and quarrying	List of mines
Forestry	List obtained from Department of Water Affairs and Forestry Old sample of PPI
Fishing	Old sample of PPI List obtained from other sources
Manufacturing	List of manufacturers from Stats SA, Large Sample Survey, 2005 List of manufactures from Stats SA, Business Register List of producers from industry associations
Electricity and gas	List of producers according to Stats SA, Economic Activity Survey
Water	Old sample of PPI List obtained from Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
Imported products	List of importers obtained from South African Revenue Services
Exported products	List of exporters obtained from South African Revenue Services

Table 1 The Producer Price Index (PPI) and the annual percentage change in the PPI on a monthly basis

Base: 2000 = 100

A) Domestic output

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
2006 Index	134,8	134,9	135,6	136,9	138,7	142,6	145,1	148,3	147,2	148,3	149,5	149,1	142,5
%	+5,1	+4,7	+4,7	+5,0	+5,9	+7,2	+7,9	+9,9	+9,8	+10,6	+10,9	+10,5	+7,6
2007 Index	149,3	150,2	152,5	154,9	157,0	160,5	161,9	162,5	160,9	162,3	162,9	163,3	158,1
%	+10,8	+11,3	+12,5	+13,1	+13,2	+12,6	+11,6	+9,6	+9,3	+9,4	+9,0	+9,5	+10,9
2008 Index	164,9	167,2	170,5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
%	+10,4	+11,3	+11,8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

B) Exported commodities

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
2006 Index	129,3	128,1	129,1	130,1	132,3	135,4	138,4	143,7	145,7	147,2	150,0	148,4	138,1
%	+5,0	+3,5	+3,4	+3,3	+4,7	+6,1	+7,0	+11,1	+11,4	+12,8	+15,1	+14,4	+8,1
2007 Index	148,7	150,6	153,4	156,1	158,6	160,5	159,0	158,2	157,8	157,9	160,0	160,1	156,7
%	+15,0	+17,6	+18,8	+20,0	+19,9	+18,5	+14,9	+10,1	+8,3	+7,3	+6,7	+7,9	+13,7
2008 Index	160,9	163,4	166,1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
%	+8,2	+8,5	+8,3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

C) Imported commodities

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
2006 Index	124,1	123,9	124,5	126,2	125,8	129,5	132,3	133,0	135,4	138,0	139,2	135,9	130,6
%	+6,4	+6,9	+6,7	+6,1	+4,7	+6,8	+8,2	+7,8	+8,2	+10,4	+11,3	+9,1	+7,7
2007 Index	137,6	135,9	136,8	139,5	140,5	141,7	144,5	145,9	146,9	148,3	149,4	151,3	143,1
%	+10,9	+9,7	+9,9	+10,5	+11,7	+9,4	+9,2	+9,7	+8,5	+7,5	+7,3	+11,3	+9,6
2008 Index	154,5	156,1	158,5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
%	+12,3	+14,9	+15,9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Table 2 Contributions to the annual percentage change in the PPI for domestic output of South African industry groups

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Agriculture	+1,8	+1,6
Forestry	+0,1	+0,1
Mining and quarrying	+1,5	+1,7
Food at manufacturing	+2,2	+2,2
Beverages	+0,3	+0,3
Tobacco products	+0,1	+0,1
Textiles and made-up goods	+0,1	+0,1
Wood and wood products	+0,2	+0,2
Paper and paper products	+0,6	+0,6
Products of petroleum and coal	+1,6	+1,6
Chemicals and chemical products	+0,6	+0,6
Rubber and plastic products	+0,3	+0,3
Non-metallic mineral products	+0,2	+0,2
Basic metals	0	-0,1
Metal products	+0,2	+0,2
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0,4	+0,4
Electrical machinery and apparatus	+0,1	+0,1
Transport	+0,2	+0,2
Electricity	+0,2	+0,2
Gas and water	+0,1	+0,1
Other groups	+0,5	+1,1
All groups	+11,3	+11,8

Table 3 Contributions to the monthly percentage change in the PPI for domestic output of South African industry groups

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Agriculture	-0,1	+0,4
Mining and quarrying	+0,8	+1,0
Food at manufacturing	0	+0,1
Products of petroleum and coal	+0,2	+0,4
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0,2	0
Electricity	0	-0,1
Other groups	+0,3	+0,2
All groups	+1,4	+2,0

Table 4 Contributions to the annual percentage change in the PPI for exported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Agriculture	+0,2	-0,1
Mining and quarrying	+4,5	+5,3
Food at manufacturing	+0,5	+0,6
Beverages	+0,1	+0,1
Textiles and made-up goods	+0,1	+0,1
Wood and wood products	+0,1	+0,1
Paper and paper products	+0,2	+0,2
Products of petroleum and coal	+1,7	+1,4
Chemicals and chemical products	+0,2	+0,2
Rubber and plastic products	+0,1	+0,1
Basic metals	0	-0,6
Metal products	+0,1	+0,1
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0,2	+0,2
Transport	+0,1	+0,1
Other groups	+0,4	+0,5
All groups	+8,5	+8,3

Table 5 Contributions to the monthly percentage change in the PPI for exported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Mining and quarrying	+1,4	+1,5
Food at manufacturing	0	+0,1
Basic metals	-0,2	0
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0,1	0
Other groups	+0,3	+0,1
All groups	+1,6	+1,7

Table 6 Contributions to the annual percentage change in the PPI for imported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Agriculture	+0.9	+1.0
Mining and quarrying	+8.4	+9.3
Food at manufacturing	+1.2	+1.1
Products of petroleum and coal	+0.2	+0.2
Chemicals and chemical products	+2.0	+1.9
Non-metallic mineral products	0,0	+0.1
Basic metals	+0.4	+0.2
Metal products	+0.1	+0.1
Non-electrical machinery and equipment	+0.6	+0.6
Office, accounting and computing machinery	-0.2	-0.2
Electrical machinery and apparatus	+0.1	+0.1
Medical appliances, precision and optical	+0.1	+0.1
Transport	+0.6	+0.7
Other groups	+0.5	+0.7
All groups	+14.9	+15.9

Table 7 Contributions to the monthly percentage change in the PPI for imported commodities according to group

Group	Contribution at Feb 2008	Contribution at Mar 2008
Mining and quarrying	0.8	1.5
Food at manufacturing	0.1	0
Transport	0.1	0
All groups	1	1.5

Table 8 Producer Price Index for domestic output of South African industry groups
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
All groups	100,00	152,5	167,2	170,5	+2,0	+11,8
1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining	29,36	165,0	185,7	193,6	+4,3	+17,3
1.1 Agriculture	8,22	169,9	190,0	198,1	+4,3	+16,6
1.1.1 Food	3,89	165,9	185,3	195,6	+5,6	+17,9
Grain	0,87	228,4	251,1	261,8	+4,3	+14,6
Vegetables	1,13	133,5	158,4	168,8	+6,6	+26,4
Fruits and nuts	1,43	121,2	128,6	138,3	+7,5	+14,1
Oil seeds	0,13	232,5	389,7	395,1	+1,4	+69,9
Sugar cane	0,30	160,7	168,7	168,8	+0,1	+5,0
Other food	0,04	152,1	161,7	161,7	0,0	+6,3
1.1.2 Live animals and animal products	3,68	159,8	186,6	192,7	+3,3	+20,6
Live animals	2,91	166,4	189,7	195,9	+3,3	+17,7
Milk	0,25	103,6	147,7	151,1	+2,3	+45,8
Eggs	0,35	165,9	202,7	214,0	+5,6	+29,0
Other raw animal products	0,17	.	204,9	205,4	+0,2	..
1.1.3 Other agricultural products	0,65	236,3	241,3	248,4	+2,9	+5,1
1.2 Forestry	1,48	111,4	117,4	117,4	0,0	+5,4
1.3 Fishing	0,25	213,8	243,7	243,9	+0,1	+14,1
1.4 Mining and quarrying	19,41	171,2	191,8	200,5	+4,5	+17,1
Coal and lignite	4,97	189,5	226,8	235,6	+3,9	+24,3
Crude petroleum and natural gas	0,62	.	94,4	94,4	0,0	..
Metal ores	11,48	174,6	189,7	199,6	+5,2	+14,3
Other minerals	2,34	136,6	134,2	138,1	+2,9	+1,1
2. Manufacturing	62,30	151,7	164,8	166,2	+0,8	+9,6
2.1 Food at manufacturing	5,87	153,2	181,2	184,4	+1,8	+20,4
Meat and meat products	0,56	178,9	196,6	194,3	-1,2	+8,6
Prepared and preserved fish	0,18	162,6	169,2	170,1	+0,5	+4,6
Fruits and vegetable products	0,56	135,6	140,4	142,4	+1,4	+5,0
Fats and oils	0,43	152,6	239,1	248,6	+4,0	+62,9
Dairy products	0,98	155,9	191,0	196,4	+2,8	+26,0
Grain mill products and bakery products	0,84	131,8	173,4	175,1	+1,0	+32,9
Sugar	0,44	132,0	135,8	135,9	+0,1	+3,0
Coffee and tea	0,16	137,0	147,9	149,6	+1,1	+9,2
Other food products	1,72	157,4	181,3	186,3	+2,8	+18,4
2.2 Beverages	3,04	160,5	171,7	172,4	+0,4	+7,4
Alcoholic beverages	1,73	167,8	180,6	181,3	+0,4	+8,0
Non-alcoholic beverages	1,31	140,8	147,4	148,0	+0,4	+5,1
2.3 Tobacco products	0,59	181,9	193,9	193,9	0,0	+6,6
2.4 Textile and made-up goods	1,06	127,9	131,5	133,1	+1,2	+4,1
Yarn and thread; woven and tufted textile fabrics (prepared for spinning)	0,35	126,0	130,7	134,1	+2,6	+6,4
Textile articles other than apparel	0,71	131,2	133,0	133,8	+0,6	+2,0
2.5 Wearing Apparel	1,48	123,2	125,3	125,4	+0,1	+1,8
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	0,38	130,7	132,5	132,5	0,0	+1,4
Other wearing apparel	1,09	121,3	123,6	123,8	+0,2	+2,1
2.6 Leather and leather products	0,32	111,0	109,5	109,5	0,0	-1,4
2.7 Footwear	0,27	129,1	135,2	135,2	0,0	+4,7
2.8 Wood and wood products	1,40	159,1	178,7	179,3	+0,3	+12,7
2.9 Paper and paper products	4,96	140,8	151,8	151,8	0,0	+7,8
Pulp, paper and paperboard	3,20	130,8	137,7	137,6	-0,1	+5,2
Printing, publishing and allied industries	1,77	148,4	162,2	162,5	+0,2	+9,5
2.10 Products of petroleum and coal	4,98	197,6	261,0	273,3	+4,7	+38,3

Table 8 - Producer Price Index for Domestic output of South African industry groups (concluded)
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
2.11 Chemicals and chemical products	6,74	141,0	153,2	153,3	+0,1	+8,7
2.11.1 Basic Chemicals	3,81	145,9	162,8	162,8	0,0	+11,6
Basic organic chemicals	0,73	.	244,2	244,2	0,0	..
Basic inorganic chemicals	1,92	.	132,2	132,2	0,0	..
Fertilisers and pesticides	0,41	159,9	213,6	213,7	0,0	+33,6
Other basic chemicals	0,75	142,3	150,3	150,3	0,0	+5,6
2.11.2 Compound chemical products	2,93	136,5	144,3	144,5	+0,1	+5,9
Paints, vanishers and related products; artists' colours; ink	1,49	.	180,7	181,1	+0,2	..
Pharmaceutical products	0,36	127,1	129,9	129,9	0,0	+2,2
Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations	0,63	.	140,8	140,9	+0,1	..
Other compound chemical products	0,45	139,2	148,8	148,3	-0,3	+6,5
2.12 Rubber and plastic products	2,59	146,3	162,5	163,1	+0,4	+11,5
Rubber products	1,13	170,7	192,4	192,1	-0,2	+12,5
Plastic products	1,46	135,6	149,4	150,7	+0,9	+11,1
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	1,97	163,0	174,8	175,6	+0,5	+7,7
Glass and glass products	0,04	139,7	143,8	143,8	0,0	+2,9
Other non-metallic minerals products n.e.c.	1,93	171,0	185,5	186,3	+0,4	+8,9
2.14 Basic Metals	6,66	185,7	182,4	183,3	+0,5	-1,3
Basic iron and steel	4,12	183,7	200,8	201,5	+0,3	+9,7
Rolled, drawn and folded products	2,54	163,0	163,4	164,6	+0,7	+1,0
2.15 Metal products	3,34	154,7	164,4	165,6	+0,7	+7,0
Structural metal products and parts thereof	1,27	164,0	174,5	176,9	+1,4	+7,9
Other fabricated metal products	2,07	148,8	158,1	158,6	+0,3	+6,6
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	2,35	134,6	152,3	152,3	0,0	+13,2
General purpose machinery	1,99	126,1	145,2	145,2	0,0	+15,1
Special purpose machinery	0,24	138,0	145,5	145,5	0,0	+5,4
Domestic appliances and parts thereof	0,12	131,1	132,9	132,9	0,0	+1,4
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	0,20	100,2	100,4	100,4	0,0	+0,2
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	1,93	196,0	207,0	207,3	+0,1	+5,8
Electric motors, generators and transformers, and parts thereof	0,07	220,9	241,3	241,3	0,0	+9,2
Electricity distribution and control apparatus, and parts thereof	0,87	145,5	148,1	148,2	+0,1	+1,9
Insulated wire and cable; optical fibre cables	0,72	272,9	288,7	289,5	+0,3	+6,1
Other electrical machinery and apparatus	0,26	134,4	143,4	143,4	0,0	+6,7
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipments and parts thereof	0,48	128,0	130,4	131,3	+0,7	+2,6
2.20 Medical appliances, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	0,29	135,3	139,9	139,9	0,0	+3,4
Medical and surgical equipment and orthopaedic appliances	0,29	137,5	142,4	142,4	0,0	+3,6
2.21 Transport	5,83	132,1	134,9	134,9	0,0	+2,1
2.21.1 Motor vehicles, parts and accessories thereof	2,12	133,0	135,9	135,9	0,0	+2,2
Motor vehicles	2,11	130,1	133,0	133,0	0,0	+2,2
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0,01	141,3	151,2	158,6	+4,9	+12,2
2.21.2 Bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; parts	0,09	116,4	120,1	120,5	+0,3	+3,5
Bodies for motor vehicles	0,03	.	155,4	157,0	+1,0	..
Trailers, semi-trailer and containers	0,04	.	113,8	113,8	0,0	..
Parts for motor vehicles bodies, trailers, semi-trailers and containers	0,01	.	144,5	144,5	0,0	..
2.21.3 Other transport equipment	3,62	106,2	107,4	107,4	0,0	+1,1
2.22 Furniture	1,01	130,6	132,8	132,9	+0,1	+1,8
2.23 Other manufactures	4,95	124,3	128,3	128,3	0,0	+3,2
3. Electricity, gas, steam and water	8,33	112,1	121,2	119,0	-1,8	+6,2
Electricity	6,86	106,4	114,4	111,7	-2,4	+5,0
Water and gas	1,47	182,7	208,7	208,7	0,0	+14,2

Table 9 Producer Price Index for exported commodities according to group
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
All groups	100,00	153,4	163,4	166,1	+1,7	+8,3
1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining	30,34	160,5	181,1	188,9	+4,3	+17,7
1.1 Agriculture	1,62	152,4	150,3	149,8	-0,3	-1,7
1.1.1 Food	1,50	150,7	148,1	147,5	-0,4	-2,1
Grain	0,19	248,9	253,8	246,8	-2,8	-0,8
Vegetables	0,31	100,0	168,6	168,6	0,0	+68,6
Fruits and nuts	0,95	63,4	60,2	60,5	+0,5	-4,6
Oil seeds	0,03	0,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	..
Sugar cane	0,02	0,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	..
1.1.2 Live animals and animal products	0,04	180,1	185,8	185,8	0,0	+3,2
Live animals	0,01	78,6	100,0	100,0	0,0	+27,2
Other raw animal products	0,03	.	195,2	195,2	0,0	..
1.1.3 Other agricultural products	0,08	172,8	152,0	152,0	0,0	-12,0
1.2 Forestry	0,09	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
1.3 Fishing	0,06	209,1	233,0	227,0	-2,6	+8,6
1.4 Mining and quarrying	28,57	161,4	185,4	193,8	+4,5	+20,1
Coal and lignite	6,22	213,3	268,7	281,3	+4,7	+31,9
Metal ores	19,82	145,8	167,9	175,5	+4,5	+20,4
Other minerals	2,53	135,3	128,6	133,0	+3,4	-1,7
2. Manufacturing	69,66	150,4	155,4	155,5	+0,1	+3,4
2.1 Food at manufacturing	2,20	128,7	140,7	145,2	+3,2	+12,8
Meat and meat products	0,09	116,7	121,3	121,3	0,0	+3,9
Prepared and preserved fish	0,24	132,0	138,0	136,8	-0,9	+3,6
Fruits and vegetable products	0,63	122,1	126,1	127,7	+1,3	+4,6
Fats and oils	0,09	143,3	199,4	199,4	0,0	+39,1
Dairy products	0,03	137,0	143,1	143,1	0,0	+4,5
Grain mill products and bakery products	0,07	137,4	179,4	179,4	0,0	+30,6
Sugar	0,78	127,7	130,7	140,5	+7,5	+10,0
Other food products	0,27	142,1	161,4	163,0	+1,0	+14,7
2.2 Beverages	1,55	118,6	128,0	128,0	0,0	+7,9
Alcoholic beverages	1,39	119,9	128,9	128,9	0,0	+7,5
Non-alcoholic beverages	0,16	103,4	117,6	117,6	0,0	+13,7
2.3 Tobacco products	0,19	112,7	118,4	118,4	0,0	+5,1
2.4 Textile and made-up goods	0,56	167,1	172,5	175,2	+1,6	+4,8
Yarn and thread; woven and tufted textile fabrics (prepared for spinning)	0,03	189,5	196,7	207,3	+5,4	+9,4
Textile articles other than apparel	0,53	115,1	116,2	117,8	+1,4	+2,3
2.5 Wearing Apparel	0,19	108,5	108,5	108,5	0,0	0,0
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	0,14	118,3	118,3	118,3	0,0	0,0
Other wearing apparel	0,06	106,0	106,0	106,0	0,0	0,0
2.6 Leather and leather products	0,29	102,6	98,3	98,3	0,0	-4,2
2.7 Footwear	0,04	155,7	166,7	166,7	0,0	+7,1
2.8 Wood and wood products	0,83	162,4	181,5	181,5	0,0	+11,8
2.9 Paper and paper products	1,80	122,0	129,8	129,8	0,0	+6,4
Pulp, paper and paperboard	1,52	123,8	132,3	132,3	0,0	+6,9
Printing, publishing and allied industries	0,28	110,9	113,4	113,4	0,0	+2,3
2.10 Products of petroleum and coal	2,37	191,7	257,1	257,3	+0,1	+34,2

Table 9 - Producer Price Index for exported commodities according to group (concluded)
Base: 2000 = 100

	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
2.11 Chemicals and chemical products	5,14	127,8	130,9	130,9	0,0	+2,4
2.11.1 Basic Chemicals	3,94	133,7	136,6	136,6	0,0	+2,2
Basic organic chemicals	0,81	.	257,4	257,4	0,0	..
Basic inorganic chemicals	2,10	.	130,7	130,7	0,0	..
Other basic chemicals	1,03	133,1	136,1	136,1	0,0	+2,3
2.11.2 Compound chemical products	1,21	112,8	116,5	116,5	0,0	+3,3
Paints, vanishers and related products; artists' colours; ink	0,03	.	173,9	173,9	0,0	..
Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations	0,76	.	137,2	137,2	0,0	..
Other compound chemical products	0,41	111,4	114,6	114,6	0,0	+2,9
2.12 Rubber and plastic products	0,90	128,2	140,6	140,6	0,0	+9,7
Rubber products	0,50	152,9	176,0	176,0	0,0	+15,1
Plastic products	0,40	102,6	104,2	104,2	0,0	+1,6
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	0,67	128,3	134,8	134,8	0,0	+5,1
Other non-metallic minerals products n.e.c.	0,67	130,3	134,8	134,8	0,0	+3,5
2.14 Basic Metals	33,23	190,9	186,6	186,8	+0,1	-2,1
Basic iron and steel	7,33	182,9	219,4	214,0	-2,5	+17,0
Rolled, drawn and folded products	4,32	162,3	106,6	106,6	0,0	-34,3
Other non-ferrous basic metals and articles	21,58	197,8	169,3	171,7	+1,4	-13,2
2.15 Metal products	1,31	155,5	166,3	161,0	-3,2	+3,5
Structural metal products and parts thereof	0,54	164,7	175,3	175,3	0,0	+6,4
Other fabricated metal products	0,77	145,8	156,8	147,5	-5,9	+1,2
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	5,73	128,6	134,2	134,2	0,0	+4,4
General purpose machinery	2,35	121,4	124,9	124,9	0,0	+2,9
Special purpose machinery	1,61	134,4	140,1	140,1	0,0	+4,2
Domestic appliances and parts thereof	1,76	125,9	132,7	132,7	0,0	+5,4
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	0,23	99,7	99,7	99,7	0,0	0,0
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	0,83	133,0	137,9	137,9	0,0	+3,7
Electric motors, generators and transformers, and parts thereof	0,10	167,7	169,0	169,0	0,0	+0,8
Electricity distribution and control apparatus, and parts thereof	0,15	137,1	141,4	141,4	0,0	+3,1
Insulated wire and cable; optical fibre cables	0,25	154,7	173,9	173,9	0,0	+12,4
Other electrical machinery and apparatus	0,34	116,0	118,5	118,5	0,0	+2,2
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipments and parts thereof	1,14	102,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	-2,0
2.20 Medical appliances, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	0,54	137,8	143,9	143,9	0,0	+4,4
Medical and surgical equipment and orthopaedic appliances	0,54	143,0	149,7	149,7	0,0	+4,7
2.21 Transport	7,33	116,6	118,7	118,7	0,0	+1,8
2.21.1 Motor vehicles, parts and accessories thereof	1,63	119,8	122,9	122,9	0,0	+2,6
Motor vehicles	1,28	102,0	104,3	104,3	0,0	+2,3
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0,35	147,1	153,0	153,0	0,0	+4,0
2.21.2 Bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; parts	1,68	101,1	120,9	120,9	0,0	+19,6
Trailers, semi-trailer and containers	0,71	.	101,0	101,0	0,0	..
Parts for motor vehicles bodies, trailers, semi-trailers and containers	0,97	.	150,7	150,7	0,0	..
2.21.3 Other transport equipment	4,03	104,4	105,3	105,3	0,0	+0,9
2.22 Furniture	1,04	100,6	100,5	100,5	0,0	-0,1
2.23 Other manufactures	1,53	102,3	103,0	103,0	0,0	+0,7

Table 10 - Producer Price Index for imported commodities according to group
Base: 2000 = 100

	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
All groups	100,00	136,8	156,1	158,5	+1,5	+15,9
1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining	16,75	190,7	293,0	306,2	+4,5	+60,6
1.1 Agriculture	0,93	125,2	181,6	185,4	+2,1	+48,1
1.1.1 Food	0,53	131,6	203,8	209,5	+2,8	+59,2
Grain	0,40	129,7	215,0	222,7	+3,6	+71,7
Vegetables	0,01	0,0	100,0	103,1	+3,1	..
Fruits and nuts	0,03	148,0	155,4	156,3	+0,6	+5,6
Oil seeds	0,03	0,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	..
Other food	0,06	141,9	178,6	169,7	-5,0	+19,6
1.1.2 Live animals and animal products	0,06	123,0	122,9	122,9	0,0	-0,1
Live animals	0,02	104,2	105,8	105,8	0,0	+1,5
Other raw animal products	0,04	..	175,0	175,0	0,0	..
1.1.3 Other agricultural products	0,33	108,7	125,4	126,5	+0,9	+16,4
1.2 Forestry	0,01	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
1.3 Fishing	0,08	101,3	101,3	101,3	0,0	0,0
1.4 Mining and quarrying	15,73	205,7	318,6	333,3	+4,6	+62,0
Coal and lignite	0,02	100,8	103,3	103,2	-0,1	+2,4
Crude petroleum and natural gas	12,84	..	357,2	375,1	+5,0	..
Metal ores	0,76	96,2	96,2	96,2	0,0	0,0
Other minerals	2,11	209,3	317,6	321,4	+1,2	+53,6
2. Manufacturing	83,25	128,5	136,0	136,4	+0,3	+6,1
2.1 Food at manufacturing	3,24	136,6	175,2	175,5	+0,2	+28,5
Meat and meat products	0,70	167,5	177,2	178,4	+0,7	+6,5
Prepared and preserved fish	0,07	117,4	121,1	121,1	0,0	+3,2
Fruits and vegetable products	0,06	133,4	137,5	137,5	0,0	+3,1
Fats and oils	0,96	131,5	236,3	233,8	-1,1	+77,8
Dairy products	0,13	132,9	169,6	169,6	0,0	+27,6
Grain mill products and bakery products	0,72	141,5	150,3	153,6	+2,2	+8,6
Sugar	0,05	148,5	148,5	148,5	0,0	0,0
Coffee and tea	0,02	128,3	139,7	139,7	0,0	+8,9
Other food products	0,52	118,7	131,0	130,4	-0,5	+9,9
2.2 Beverages	0,58	146,7	150,0	150,6	+0,4	+2,7
Alcoholic beverages	0,36	148,2	151,8	152,8	+0,7	+3,1
Non-alcoholic beverages	0,23	108,1	109,6	109,6	0,0	+1,4
2.3 Tobacco products	0,05	121,6	122,5	122,5	0,0	+0,7
2.4 Textile and made-up goods	1,35	114,8	117,1	117,3	+0,2	+2,2
Yarn and thread; woven and tufted textile fabrics (prepared for spinning)	0,95	108,7	110,3	110,5	+0,2	+1,7
Textile articles other than apparel	0,40	125,2	128,4	128,7	+0,2	+2,8
2.5 Wearing Apparel	0,76	119,1	120,0	120,3	+0,3	+1,0
Knitted or crocheted fabrics	0,46	118,8	119,5	120,0	+0,4	+1,0
Other wearing apparel	0,30	119,5	120,3	120,4	+0,1	+0,8
2.6 Leather and leather products	0,41	122,2	131,4	131,5	+0,1	+7,6
2.7 Footwear	0,67	116,6	116,5	116,5	0,0	-0,1
2.8 Wood and wood products	0,63	134,1	140,8	141,5	+0,5	+5,5
2.9 Paper and paper products	1,87	126,7	127,1	127,6	+0,4	+0,7
Pulp, paper and paperboard	1,32	127,1	128,1	128,7	+0,5	+1,3
Printing, publishing and allied industries	0,55	126,6	126,5	126,6	+0,1	0,0
2.10 Products of petroleum and coal	2,20	113,1	134,6	136,4	+1,3	+20,6

Table 10 - Producer Price Index for imported commodities according to group (concluded)
Base: 2000 = 100

Origin/Group	weight	indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
2.11 Chemicals and chemical products	10,65	141,8	161,7	161,9	+0,1	+14,2
2.11.1 Basic Chemicals	6,29	155,6	181,7	182,1	+0,2	+17,0
Basic organic chemicals	3,26	.	180,4	180,6	+0,1	..
Basic inorganic chemicals	0,88	.	121,2	121,3	+0,1	..
Fertilisers and pesticides	0,82	.	209,9	209,9	0,0	..
Other basic chemicals	1,33	155,1	180,0	181,3	+0,7	+16,9
2.11.2 Compound chemical products	4,36	128,3	142,1	142,2	+0,1	+10,8
Paints, vanishers and related products; artists' colours; ink	0,34	.	137,0	137,0	0,0	..
Pharmaceutical products	0,89	136,2	136,3	136,3	0,0	+0,1
Soap, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet preparations	0,53	.	132,0	132,0	0,0	..
Other compound chemical products	2,60	123,2	145,6	145,7	+0,1	+18,3
2.12 Rubber and plastic products	2,44	118,2	120,4	120,5	+0,1	+1,9
Rubber products	0,96	116,2	120,7	120,8	+0,1	+4,0
Plastic products	1,48	119,6	120,1	120,1	0,0	+0,4
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	1,57	128,4	133,1	133,6	+0,4	+4,0
Glass and glass products	0,03	112,3	115,6	115,6	0,0	+2,9
Other non-metallic minerals products n.e.c.	1,54	135,3	141,7	142,2	+0,4	+5,1
2.14 Basic Metals	3,70	180,4	186,9	187,9	+0,5	+4,2
Basic iron and steel	0,77	157,7	160,2	160,2	0,0	+1,6
Rolled, drawn and folded products	1,24	150,5	163,8	163,6	-0,1	+8,7
Other non-ferrous basic metals and articles	1,69	200,7	210,5	212,9	+1,1	+6,1
2.15 Metal products	2,06	130,7	135,2	135,3	+0,1	+3,5
Structural metal products and parts thereof	0,09	109,4	109,4	109,4	0,0	0,0
Other fabricated metal products	1,97	132,6	137,5	137,6	+0,1	+3,8
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	14,01	127,4	131,7	132,2	+0,4	+3,8
General purpose machinery	7,98	135,1	141,1	142,0	+0,6	+5,1
Special purpose machinery	4,64	121,9	124,4	124,7	+0,2	+2,3
Domestic appliances and parts thereof	1,40	127,9	137,0	137,3	+0,2	+7,3
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	5,42	77,0	72,7	72,8	+0,1	-5,5
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	2,95	123,3	127,5	127,7	+0,2	+3,6
Electric motors, generators and transformers, and parts thereof	0,58	103,0	102,9	103,0	+0,1	0,0
Electricity distribution and control apparatus, and parts thereof	0,75	126,3	128,6	128,8	+0,2	+2,0
Insulated wire and cable; optical fibre cables	0,28	186,9	197,4	198,0	+0,3	+5,9
Other electrical machinery and apparatus	1,34	121,1	128,7	128,8	+0,1	+6,4
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipments and parts thereof	9,81	98,5	97,6	98,0	+0,4	-0,5
2.20 Medical appliances, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	3,34	120,2	122,2	122,3	+0,1	+1,7
Medical and surgical equipment and orthopaedic appliances	3,16	119,9	122,2	122,3	+0,1	+2,0
Watches and clocks, and parts thereof	0,18	122,1	122,3	123,4	+0,9	+1,1
2.21 Transport	13,45	140,1	146,0	146,1	+0,1	+4,3
2.21.1 Motor vehicles, parts and accessories thereof	2,83	143,8	149,3	149,3	0,0	+3,8
Motor vehicles	2,73	103,1	103,4	103,4	0,0	+0,3
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0,11	151,9	158,6	158,6	0,0	+4,4
2.21.2 Bodies (coachwork) for motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; parts	1,63	150,5	157,7	157,7	0,0	+4,8
Trailers, semi-trailer and containers	0,70	.	116,7	116,7	0,0	..
Parts for motor vehicles bodies, trailers, semi-trailers and containers	0,93	.	157,2	157,3	+0,1	..
2.21.3 Other transport equipment	8,99	111,7	111,3	111,4	+0,1	-0,3
2.22 Furniture	0,64	106,8	107,4	107,4	0,0	+0,6
2.23 Other manufactures	1,44	113,2	115,6	116,0	+0,3	+2,5

Table 11 - Producer Price Index for materials used in certain industries
Base: 2000 = 100

Industry	indices			% change between	
	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
Building and construction	173,3	190,4	192,7	+1,2	+11,1
Building industries	177,5	191,8	192,3	+0,2	+8,3
Civil engineering	172,5	186,8	187,8	+0,5	+8,8
Electrical engineering	167,3	175,1	177,0	+1,0	+5,7
Mechanical engineering	162,4	171,2	171,6	+0,2	+5,6

Table 12 - Producer Price Index for selected materials

Base : 2000 = 100

Type of materials	indices			% change between		
	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008	
Aggregated crushed stone	214,9	231,6	231,6	0,0	+7,7	
Bitumen	228,2	302,5	316,4	+4,5	+38,6	
Bitumen and Acrylic Emulsion	144,0	161,5	169,4	+4,8	+17,6	
Boxes, corrugated cardboard	130,7	143,8	143,8	0,0	+10,0	
Bricks - Face	198,9	221,8	221,8	0,0	+11,5	
Bricks - Stock	223,9	237,7	237,7	0,0	+6,1	
Cement building blocks	226,4	231,2	234,8	+1,5	+3,7	
Coal, bituminous	165,8	200,3	229,5	+14,5	+38,4	
Coal, bituminous - for local sales	236,5	288,2	292,2	+1,3	+23,5	
	Cobbles, grade A	188,1	209,2	227,1	+8,5	+20,7
	Cobbles, grade B	151,3	168,3	168,3	0,0	+11,2
	Large nuts, grade A	152,4	152,3	152,3	0,0	-0,0
	Large nuts, grade B	216,7	248,6	249,5	+0,3	+15,1
	Small nuts, grade A	226,2	387,6	390,4	+0,7	+72,5
	Small nuts, grade B	302,2	397,2	397,9	+0,1	+31,6
	Peas, grade A	235,7	321,1	336,5	+4,7	+42,7
	Peas, grade B	237,4	332,2	336,9	+1,4	+41,9
	Anthracite - for local sales Grade A	100,7	100,7	100,7	0,0	0,0
	Anthracite - for local sales Grade SP	100,9	100,9	100,9	0,0	0,0
Diesel oil	Coast and Witwatersrand	209,3	321,6	367,6	+14,3	+75,6
	Retail Metropolitan and other urban areas	289,9	383,0	414,4	+8,1	+42,9
	Retail Metropolitan areas	229,6	303,0	326,3	+7,6	+42,1
Drop in ceiling tiles-gypsum		139,2	149,7	149,7	0,0	+7,5
Drop-in ceiling tiles - masonite		168,0	173,9	173,9	0,0	+3,5
Extruded aluminium section		218,8	206,0	222,8	+8,1	+1,8
Foam insulation materials		205,3	205,6	205,6	0,0	+0,1
	Polyurethane	205,3	205,6	205,6	0,0	+0,1
Glass, for building industry		100,3	103,9	103,9	0,0	+3,5
Gypsum board		158,4	170,3	170,3	0,0	+7,5
Craft paper		136,9	135,3	135,3	0,0	-1,1
Leather, bovine hide		124,8	130,2	135,8	+4,3	+8,8
Modified Bitumen sheeting		146,1	160,2	172,3	+7,5	+17,9
Natural stone, cut and sawn		116,8	126,9	127,7	+0,6	+9,3
Ordinary and extended cement		217,6	234,4	239,0	+1,9	+9,8
Paints		162,1	176,4	176,4	0,0	+8,8
Paper, newsprint		165,4	165,4	165,4	0,0	0,0
Petro-chemical building materials		160,7	175,5	180,1	+2,6	+12,0
Coast	Petrol, 93 octane	202,7	300,9	334,1	+11,0	+64,8
Witwatersrand	Petrol, 93 octane	202,7	300,9	334,1	+11,0	+64,8
Plastic bottles		161,5	169,2	169,2	0,0	+4,7
Plastic, bulk forms		164,3	180,3	180,3	0,0	+9,7
Profiled aluminium roofing		190,3	181,9	196,3	+7,9	+3,1
Resilient floor coverings		169,3	179,3	183,2	+2,1	+8,2
Rubber crude		137,0	136,1	136,1	0,0	-0,6
	Rubber crude Synthetic	173,7	171,9	171,9	0,0	-1,0
	Rubber crude Synthetic Local	173,7	171,9	171,9	0,0	-1,0
SA Pine, kiln dried		214,0	237,8	237,8	0,0	+11,1
Sand		140,6	146,5	146,5	0,0	+4,1
Sulphuric acid		111,2	190,6	190,6	0,0	+71,4
Tar		177,7	209,6	216,2	+3,1	+21,6
Transformer oil		232,7	233,9	244,3	+4,4	+4,9
Tyres and tubes		169,5	192,1	192,1	0,0	+13,3
Waterproofing		158,4	171,1	171,1	0,0	+8,0
Wood products, excluding mine wood		155,8	172,2	172,2	0,0	+10,5
Wool, auction prices, 18 types		201,9	258,4	259,5	+0,4	+28,5
Coumarone indene resin (imported)		145,7	145,7	145,7	0,0	0,0
Polybutadiene		240,4	210,7	210,7	0,0	-12,3
Aluminium	Anodising	129,7	139,1	150,4	+8,1	+15,9
	Basic forms	178,1	169,9	179,0	+5,3	+0,5
	Extruded products	218,8	206,0	222,4	+7,9	+1,6

Type of materials		indices			% change between	
		Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
	Sheeting	215,6	267,5	267,5	0,0	+24,0
Aluminium lever furniture		153,3	174,2	174,2	0,0	+13,6
Angles, mild steel		180,6	194,2	194,2	0,0	+7,5
Bead wire		117,7	130,6	130,6	0,0	+10,9
Bearings, ball and roller		164,8	197,0	197,0	0,0	+19,5
Billets, mild steel		196,0	227,1	227,1	0,0	+15,8
Building boards		133,8	148,4	148,4	0,0	+10,9
Ceiling materials		181,7	203,4	203,4	0,0	+11,9
Cement Retail price		191,3	203,6	202,3	-0,6	+5,7
Ceramic and encaustic wall and floor tiles and mosaics		111,4	109,6	109,6	0,0	-1,6
Civil engineering plant		148,0	161,4	161,4	0,0	+9,0
Coated profiled GMS sheeting (roofing)		214,9	223,1	223,1	0,0	+3,8
Concrete roof tiles		174,9	204,1	204,1	0,0	+16,6
Construction machinery (excluding trucks)		122,3	123,0	123,0	0,0	+0,5
Containers, glass		149,4	154,9	156,7	+1,1	+4,8
Copper, basic forms		288,0	340,6	379,8	+11,5	+31,8
Cylinder lock set		169,5	192,2	192,2	0,0	+13,3
Diesel at wholesale level	Coast	215,5	287,1	318,3	+10,8	+47,7
	Witwatersrand	219,1	290,5	321,4	+10,6	+46,6
Drainage		124,1	125,1	125,1	0,0	+0,8
Electrical contracting materials		183,3	190,2	190,2	0,0	+3,7
Fibre cement roof sheet		170,8	197,8	197,8	0,0	+15,8
Fibrous insulation	Preformed pipe sections	149,3	162,8	162,8	0,0	+9,0
	Batten board	164,5	176,0	176,0	0,0	+6,9
	Mattresses	166,2	182,0	182,0	0,0	+9,5
	Ceiling insulation	134,7	141,7	141,7	0,0	+5,1
Flush doors		162,1	260,6	260,6	0,0	+60,7
Hinges		150,4	155,4	155,4	0,0	+3,3
Imported Meranti		100,2	116,5	116,5	0,0	+16,2
Insulator, porcelain		158,6	159,3	159,3	0,0	+0,4
Ironmongery		133,8	144,4	145,0	+0,4	+8,3
Joint Sealants		132,9	152,1	152,1	0,0	+14,4
Lever locks		162,7	176,9	176,9	0,0	+8,7
Mining machinery		136,0	140,0	140,0	0,0	+2,9
Partitioning materials		181,7	203,4	203,4	0,0	+11,9
Plate, mild steel		214,9	223,1	223,1	0,0	+3,8
Plumbing		140,6	150,1	151,1	+0,6	+7,4
Processing oil		118,8	169,2	169,2	0,0	+42,4
Reinforcing steel		215,3	237,5	291,0	+22,5	+35,1
Rubber industry's indices	Natural rubber imported	219,8	246,5	263,1	+6,7	+19,6
	Carbon black - N774	160,2	197,5	197,5	0,0	+23,2
	Carbon black - N660	175,5	217,9	217,9	0,0	+24,1
Self-Adhesive sheeting		138,6	146,9	146,9	0,0	+5,9
Sheet, galvanized		214,9	223,1	223,1	0,0	+3,8
Sheet, uncoated		222,3	231,2	231,2	0,0	+4,0
Steel tubes, pipes and fittings		130,5	120,3	120,3	0,0	-7,8
Structural steel products		199,2	224,3	224,3	0,0	+12,6
Structural steel, unworked		218,4	226,7	235,8	+4,0	+7,9
Synthetic rubber	1502	233,8	210,0	210,0	0,0	-10,1
	1712	213,9	200,2	200,2	0,0	-6,4
Tinplate		147,2	162,0	162,0	0,0	+10,0
Trucks		136,5	141,4	141,4	0,0	+3,5
Trucks and buses		133,3	137,4	137,4	0,0	+3,0
Vinyl sheeting flooring		141,1	164,8	164,8	0,0	+16,7
Vinyl tiles flooring		154,6	170,4	170,4	0,0	+10,2
Woven needle punch carpeting		169,3	165,3	168,6	+1,9	-0,4
Concrete pipes		145,5	151,3	151,3	0,0	+3,9
Copper Piping		289,0	324,0	360,2	+11,1	+24,6
Enamel paints		169,4	177,7	177,7	0,0	+4,8
Extruded aluminium distributor level		185,9	177,8	177,8	0,0	-4,3
Glass for the building industry cut to size		194,6	214,5	214,5	0,0	+10,2
PVC Pipes		147,7	147,7	147,7	0,0	0,0
Profiled aluminium roofing - distributor level		174,5	150,1	150,1	0,0	-13,9
Sementitious paints		179,6	186,8	186,8	0,0	+4,0
Small steel sections		116,0	113,4	113,4	0,0	-2,2

Type of materials	indices			% change between	
	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Feb 2008 and Mar 2008	Mar 2007 and Mar 2008
Stainless steel products, flat rolled	235,3	200,4	200,4	0,0	-14,8
Tile adhesives	165,9	189,7	189,7	0,0	+14,3
Wash and basin	145,2	137,0	137,0	0,0	-5,6
Water-closet system (WC's)	130,5	137,2	137,2	0,0	+5,1
White glazed ceramic tiles	146,6	192,2	192,2	0,0	+31,1

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Introduction** 1 This publication contains results of monthly surveys of prices of locally produced commodities (including exports), imported and exported commodities. The price indices are calculated at base 2000=100.
- Scope of the PPI survey** 2 The indices are compiled on a gross industry basis, i.e. each index relates to those articles, which are produced, imported and exported by the designated industries of the South African economy. Selling prices are collected from manufacturers, importers and exporters.
- Classification** 3 The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, Report No. 09-90-02 was used to classify the industries in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. The Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.1, Series M No 77 was used to classify the products in the survey.
- 4 This publication presents information, which measures changes in prices of products, which are produced, imported or exported by establishments.
- Statistical unit** 5 The statistical unit is the establishment (branch), which is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry according to the classification of the products that the unit manufactures, imports or exports.
- Survey methodology and design** 6 Different phases of sampling take place. Firstly, a sample of products, based on the information collected through the Large Sample Survey of 2005 and 2005 information on imports and exports received from SARS is designed and drawn. An indicator product is selected purposively within each product group. To be selected, a product should be part of the top 80% of products manufactured, imported or exported in that product group. Furthermore, it must be possible to obtain price quotations for the relevant product during the whole year. The sample of indicator products is revised every five years at which stage the weights of the indicator products/groups are also revised.
- This survey is collected by mail from an original sample of approximately 2 325 manufacturers, 2 325 exporters and 2 325 importers. The indices are based on producer prices at the point of Producer in the case of commodities produced in South Africa, and "ex-warehouse", in the case of imported commodities. Prices "delivered" or "free on rail" are accepted if this is the normal basis of quotation.
- Currently, an average of 13 000 price quotations are collected each month from approximately 2 700 outlets by means of 1 500 distinct questionnaires.
- Pricing basis** 7 Price information refers to the first seven days of the relevant month, except in the case of mining and most of the agricultural products, where it refers to the average price for the month. The average price of imported crude petroleum, used in the compilation of the import component of the PPI, is calculated as the value (in Rands) divided by the quantity of imported crude petroleum for the relevant month. **The prices of all items exclude Value Added Tax (VAT).**

Weighting basis

- 8 The index is a fixed weight index as the weights are determined in the base period and they do not change until the next base period. The commodities directly represented in the index, were selected on the basis of the values of sales of products –
- produced during 2005 for locally produced commodities;
 - exported during 2005; and
 - imported during 2005.

These commodities constitute approximately 80 per cent of the total value of Producer/imports/exports during the relevant year as indicated above. Weights were allocated to each product in accordance with the value of sales for each item during the 2004/05 financial year. The basis on which the weighting structure of each main PPI component, indicated in the tables published in this statistical release, was calculated, is indicated in table C.

Table C– Basis on which the weighting structure of each PPI table is based

Number of table in this statistical release	PPI component	Basis for weighting structure
Table 8	Domestic output of South African industry groups	Sales value of South African Producer (Weighted using the National Accounts value added weights)
Table 9	Imported commodities	Sales value of imported commodities
Table 10	Exported commodities	Sales value of exported commodities
Table 11	Materials used in certain industries	Value of materials used

Processing of price information

- 9 The prices that are quoted for the different products are checked. If the price difference between two successive periods is outside the specified range of increase (+5%) or decreases (-5%), the current price levels are confirmed with relevant respondents.

Calculating product price indices

- 10 Price relatives are calculated for each product per respondent by dividing the current prices by the previously quoted price. The price relative for each product is calculated by means of the geometric mean of the price relatives for each respondent. This price relative for each product is then applied to the product index for the previous month in order to obtain a product index for the relevant month.

Calculating group price indices

- 11 Group price indices are calculated by weighting product indices with the relevant product weight, according to each group's (local, import, export) weighting structure, using the Laspeyres index formula.

Contributions of specific products to the total PPI

- 12 The monthly (annual) contribution of a specific product or group of products to the total PPI is calculated by multiplying the weight of this product or group of products with the monthly (annual) change in the index for this product or group of products, divided by the index for 'All groups'.

- Price indices for diesel** 13 The price index for diesel (Coast and Witwatersrand) is based on the refinery prices of diesel.
- The retail price index for diesel (metropolitan and other urban areas) is based on retail prices obtained from a sample of 84 retail outlets throughout the country. The diesel indices for the different areas are weighted according to the diesel volume distribution as obtained from the South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA).
- The retail price index for diesel (metropolitan areas) is based on retail prices obtained from a sample of only 48 outlets in the historical metropolitan areas of the CPI. The diesel indices for the different areas are weighted according to the diesel volume distribution in the relevant areas as obtained from the South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA).
- The price index for diesel at wholesale level (coast and Witwatersrand) is based on the regulated wholesale prices of diesel.
- Reliability of estimates** 14 Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by establishment (branch) and errors made in collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum by careful designing the questionnaires, editing data and efficient operating procedures.
- Related publications** 15 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications, which are available from Stats SA -
- Bulletin of Statistics; and
 - SA Statistics.
- Unpublished statistics** 16 In some cases, Stats SA can also make available information, which is not published. This information can be made available in one or more of the following ways: computer printout, diskette or CD. Generally a fee is levied for providing unpublished information.
- Symbols and abbreviations** 17
- | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| Stats SA | Statistics South Africa |
| .. | not available |
| - | nil or not applicable |
| * | revised since previous publication |
| avg | average |

GLOSSARY

Annual percentage change

The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage and is generally accepted as the yardstick of PPI inflation.

Overall average annual percentage change

The overall average annual percentage change is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Contribution of specific products to the total PPI

The monthly (annual) contribution of a specific product or group of products to the total PPI is calculated by multiplying the weight of the index with the monthly annual change of the index divided by the index for "All Items".

Establishment

An establishment (branch) is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity.

Indicator products

Indicator products are those products whose sale values represent 80% of the total value of sales (turnover) in an industrial subgroup.

Monthly percentage change

The monthly percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month compared to the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage.

Weights

The weights are the relevant importance of the indicator products in that subgroup. The weight of a product is calculated by dividing the actual value of sales of the relevant indicator product by the total value of sales in that subgroup.

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