



Wholesale Prices rise by 17.5% in May 2021

The Wholesale Price Index for May 2021 was up by 17.5% compared to the same month last year (May 2020), higher than in April 2021 (+13.2%). The increase of the index mainly resulted from higher prices of **Other Transportable Goods** (+22.5%), due to their weight in the index, in addition to the overall impact of the increase of the Value Added Tax (VAT) from 5% to 15% in July 2020.

Other Transportable Goods register the largest annual increase in May 2021

- **Other Transportable Goods** recorded the largest increase in wholesale prices by 22.5% compared to May 2020, due to the increase in Basic chemicals prices (+38.4%) and refined petroleum products prices (+29.9%).
- Prices of **Metal products, machinery and equipment** increased by 18.1%, due to higher prices of Basic Metals (+35.6%) and Transport Equipment (+11.7%).
- Prices of **Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco and Textiles** increased by 10.1% as a result of higher prices of Grain mills, Starch Products and Other Food Products (+9.6%), in addition to Meat ,Fish, Fruits ,Vegetables ,Oils and Fats (+12.5%).
- **Agriculture and fishery products** registered an increase by 7.1%, which mainly resulted from higher prices of agricultural products (+5.6%), and Live animals and animal products (+11.2%).
- Prices of **Ores and Minerals** went up by 13.9% as a result of the increase in prices of Stones and Sand (+13.9%).

Wholesale prices increase by 1.8% compared to April 2021

Wholesale price index increased by 1.8% on a monthly basis in May 2021, mainly influenced by the increase in prices of **Other Transportable Goods** by 3.4% compared to the previous month. This can be attributed to the increase in the prices of Basic chemicals (+11.0%).

In addition, prices of **metal products, machinery and equipment** increased by 1.2% as a result of the rise in prices of Basic Metals by (+4.0%). **Agriculture and fishery products** increased by 1.2%, which mainly resulted from higher prices of Agricultural products (+2.4%). However, **Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco and Textiles** prices decreased by 0.1%, **Ores and Minerals** prices decreased by 0.5%.



Methodology

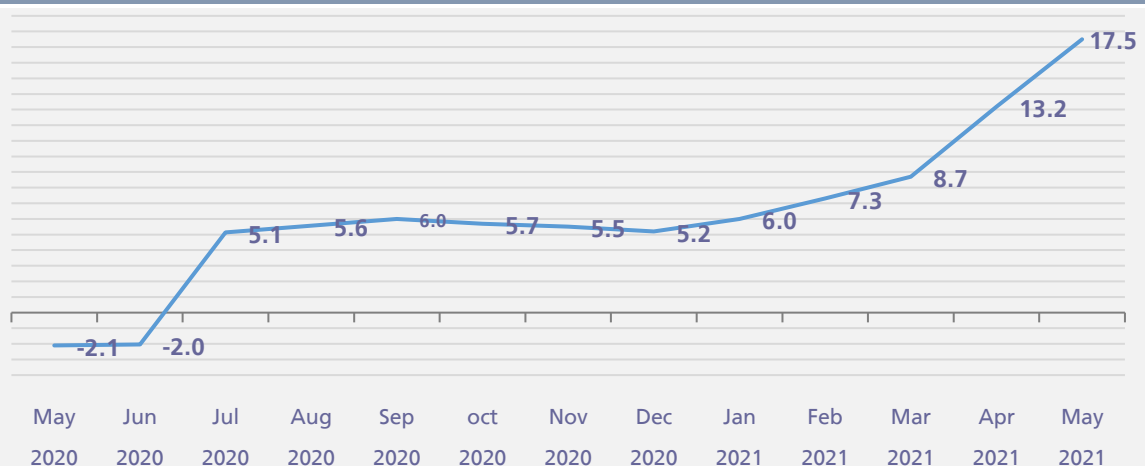
The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) reflects the development of pre-retail prices of goods of a fixed basket including 343 items. The prices are collected monthly from three main cities: (Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam) from points of sale. The year 2014 was determined as the base year. WPI statistics are published on a monthly basis.

Annual and monthly change in wholesale price index by main product category, May 2021

Product Category	*Percentage change (%) in May 2021 compared to:	
	May 2020	April 2021
General Index	17.5	1.8
Agriculture and fishery products	7.1	1.2
Ores and Minerals	13.9	-0.5
Food products, beverages, tobacco and textiles	10.1	-0.1
Other transportable goods, except metal products, machinery and equipment	22.5	3.4
Metal products, machinery and equipment	18.1	1.2

*= round to one decimal place

WPI by month (year-on-year, %)



Links: [Tables](#) , [Methodology](#)