



Wholesale prices rise by 5.7% in October 2020

The wholesale price index rose by 5.7% in October 2020 on an annual basis, lower than in September (+6.0%). The increase of the index mainly resulted from higher prices of **Agriculture and Fishery Products** by 16.8%, 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. A dampening factor on wholesale price inflation was lower prices of *refined petroleum products*, which fell by 19.1% compared to October 2019.

The largest annual increase in prices registered by agricultural products

- **Agriculture Fishery Products** recorded the largest increase in wholesale prices by 16.8% over the last 12 months until October, due to the increase in the agricultural products prices by 12.7% as well as the higher prices of *Live Animals and Animal Products* by 30.2%.
- **Metal Products, Machinery and Equipment** registered an increase by 13.3%, which mainly resulted from higher prices of *Transport Equipment* (+13.6%) and *Basic Metals* (+13.2%).
- **Food Products, Beverages, Tobacco and Textiles** increased by 12.4% as a result of higher prices of *Meat, Fish, Fruits, Vegetables, Oils and Fats* (+19.4%), in addition to *Grain mills, Starch Products* and *Other Food Products* (+12.7%).
- **Ores and Minerals** went up by 12.9% as a result of the increase in the prices of *Stones and Sand* by 12.9%.
- **Other Transportable Goods** decreased by 5.5% on an annual basis in September 2020, due to lower prices of *Refined Petroleum Products* (-19.1%).

Wholesale prices increase by 0.1% compared to September

The monthly wholesale price index increased by 0.1% in October 2020, mainly influenced by the increase in the prices of raw **Ores and Minerals** (+5.5%) compared to the previous month. This can be attributed to the increase in the prices of **Stones and Sand** (+5.5%).

In addition, two main categories recorded increases: **agriculture and fishery products** by 0.8%, along with **Metal Products, Machinery and Equipment** by 0.1%.

On the other hand, **other transportable goods** recorded a decrease by 0.1%, and **Food products, beverages, tobacco and textiles** declined by 0.1%.



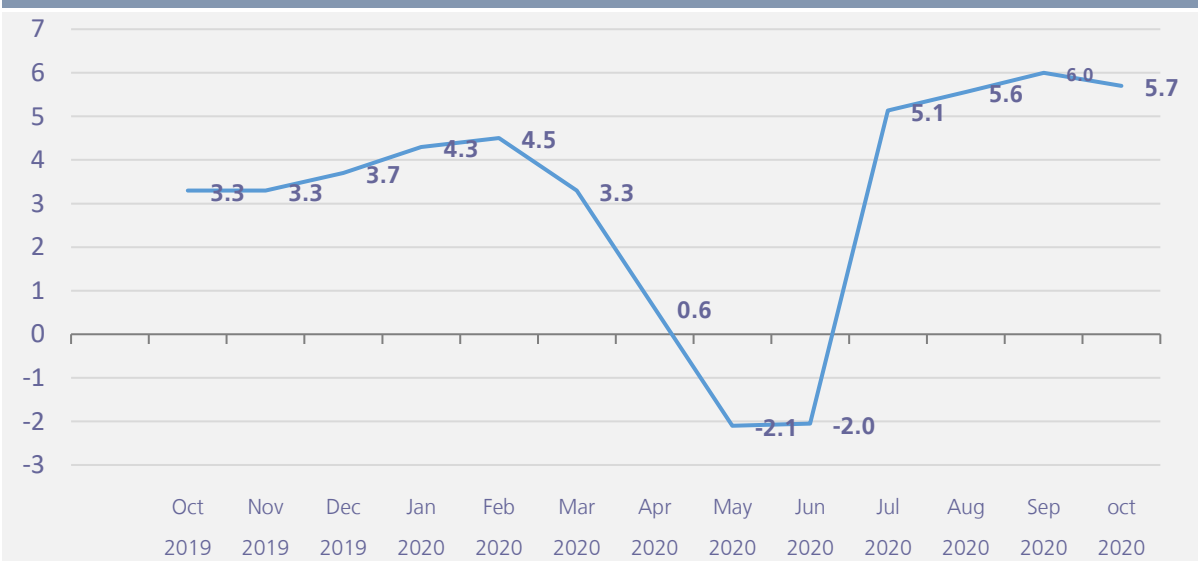
Methodology

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) reflects the movements 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) through field visits to 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, October 2020

Product Category	Percentage change (%) in October 2020 compared to:	
	October 2019	September 2020
General Index	5.7	0.1
Agriculture and fishery products	16.8	0.8
Ores and Minerals	12.9	5.5
Food products, beverages, tobacco and textiles	12.4	-0.1
Other goods	-5.5	-0.1
Metal products, machinery and equipment	13.3	0.1

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



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