18 February 2019

Import and Export Prices Decreased in 2018

Export and Import Price Indices – December 2018

In December 2018 export prices and import prices decreased month-on-month by 0.5% and 1.3%, respectively. The terms of trade reached the value of 100.8%. Export prices and import prices increased year-on-year by 3.1% and 2.4%, respectively. The terms of trade reached the value of 100.7%.

For the whole year 2018 annual export prices and import prices decreased by 0.3%, and 0.7%, respectively, compared to those for 2017, and the terms of trade attained the value of 100.4%.

# Month-on-Month Comparison

**Export prices** decreased by 0.5%, month-on-month (m-o-m) in December 2018. The trend in the monthly export price index was essentially affected by a decline in prices of ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ by 8.2%. Prices also fell in ‘chemicals and related products’ and ‘machinery and transport equipment’ by 1.6% and 0.2%, respectively. Prices in ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’ increased by 0.6%. Prices of ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ did not change.

**Import prices** fell by 1.3%, m-o-m, in December 2018. The greatest effect on an overall decline in the monthly import price index was brought mainly by a decrease in ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ by 10.5%. Prices in ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ decreased by 0.8%; prices of both ‘chemicals and related products’ and ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’ decreased identically by 0.7%. The only prices that grew were those of ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’ by 1.1%.

The **terms of trade** increased to reach the value of 100.8%. Positive values of the terms of trade were reached in ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ (102.6%), ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’ (100.8%), and in ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ (100.8%). Conversely, negative values of the terms of trade were reached in ‘chemicals and related products’ (99.1%) and in ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’ (99.5%).

# Year-on-Year Comparison

**Export prices** grew by 3.1%, year-on-year (y-o-y) (in November 2018 they increased by 4.0%). An increase in the prices of ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ by 5.5% exerted a significant effect on the development in the annual export price index. Highest price increases were recorded in the group of ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ by 8.4%, especially in electricity prices. Prices grew in ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’, ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’, and ‘machinery and transport equipment’ by 3.8%, 3.2%, and 1.9%, respectively. No price drop was recorded in any of the monitored groups.

**Import prices** increased by 2.4%, y-o-y (they rose by 4.2% in November 2018). A growth in prices for ‘machinery and transport equipment’ by 1.8% had the strongest effect on the growth of the annual import price index. The biggest price growth was recorded in ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ by 8.9%, especially in electricity prices. Prices in ‘chemicals and related products’ and in ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ grew by 5.2% and 1.5%, respectively. The only prices that fell were those for ‘food and live animals’ by 1.9%.

The **terms of trade** increased to reach the value of 100.7% (they stayed at 99.8% in November 2018) and moved into positive values after a six-month period. Positive values of the terms of trade were recorded for ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ (103.9%), ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’ (103.6%), and for ‘machinery and transport equipment’ (100.1%). Out of the important groups of goods negative values of the terms of trade were reached especially for ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’ (95.6%), ‘chemicals and related products’ (96.5%), and for ‘mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products’ (99.5%).

**Trends in 2018**

For the whole year 2018, annual **export prices** fell by 0.3%, y-o-y (they fell by 0.1% in 2017) and **import prices** decreased by 0.7%, y-o-y (they increased by 0.9% in 2017).

**Export prices** fell in ‘machinery and transport equipment‘ and in ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’ by 1.7% and 1.5%, respectively. Price growths were registered in ‘mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials’ and in ‘manufactured goods classified chiefly by material’ by 7.6% and 2.6%, respectively.

**Import prices** especially dropped in ‘crude materials, inedible, except fuels’ by 5.6%. Then, import prices in ‘miscellaneous manufactured articles’ and in ‘machinery and transport equipment‘ declined by 3.3% and 3.1%, respectively. The highest price growth was registered in ‘mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials’ by 16.8%.

In 2018 the **terms of trade** reached the total value of 100.4% (they stayed at 99.0% in 2017).

Notes:

Responsible head at the CZSO: Jiří Mrázek, Director of the Prices Statistics Department,
phone: (+420) 274 052 533, e-mail: jiri.mrazek@czso.cz

Contact person: Vladimír Klimeš, Head of the Industrial and External Trade Prices Statistics Unit, phone: (+420) 274 054 102,
e-mail: vladimir.klimes@czso.cz

Data source: Sample survey of the CZSO

End of data collection: 15th calendar day after the reference month end

Related Internet-published document: 013014-18 Import and Export Price Indices in the Czech Republic
<https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/export-and-import-price-indices>

Specific methodical notes: The data published in the News Release are final data.

Next News Release shall be published on: 11 March 2019

Annexes:

Table 1 Export and Import Price Indices

Table 2 Export and Import Price Indices (breakdown of increments of published and exchange rate adjusted indices – month-on-month, year-on-year)

Chart Export and Import Price Indices (year-on-year changes)