

Prices

Producer price index for industrial products (domestic sale)



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Summary

1 General information on the statistics Page 5

- *Statistical population:* All cases of selling raw materials and industrial products which are produced by producers in manufacturing, energy and water management as well as mining in Germany and are sold in the domestic territory.
- *Statistical units:* The prices of unvarying products are observed, as are product specifications and other price-determining variables.
- *Reference area:* Producer price indices for industrial products are compiled for Germany as a whole.
- *Frequency of data collection:* Prices are collected and results are published every month.
- *Legal acts and other agreements:* Council Regulation (EU) No 2019/2152, Federal Statistics Act, Price Statistics Act

2 Content and user needs Page 6

- *Statistical presentation:* Price index series are provided for totals and individual aggregates of the industrial products produced in Germany and sold in the domestic territory.
- *Statistical concepts and definitions:* The prices collected are the selling prices contractually agreed between producers and customers, excluding turnover tax, but including excise duties and other legal duties.
- *User needs:* The producer price index for industrial products is especially used as an indicator of future inflation trends at downstream stages in the economic process, as a compensation benchmark (price-escalator clauses) and for deflating nominal aggregates of economic statistics.

3 Methodology Page 7

- *Source data:* Price data are collected to calculate the producer price index for industrial products. The weighting pattern is largely derived from results of other business statistics.
- *Data collection:* An online reporting procedure is used to collect prices from the enterprises selected.
- *Data compilation:* A Laspeyres index is calculated from the prices collected. The types of products are included in line with their weights.

4 Accuracy and reliability Page 10

- *Overall accuracy:* The producer price index for industrial products is calculated as an index figure with one decimal place. The results are final when they are initially released.

5 Timeliness and punctuality Page 11

- *Timeliness:* Final results of the monthly producer price index for industrial products are usually published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month.
- *Punctuality:* The preannounced release dates have been met to date.

6 Comparability Page 11

- *Comparability - geographical:* Comparability between the German producer price index and the producer price indices of other countries is ensured.
- *Comparability - over time:* Comparability over time is fully ensured between two regular revisions.

7 Coherence Page 12

- *Coherence - cross domain:* To some extent, the results of other statistics concerning similar aspects differ from the results of the producer price index for industrial products. These

differences are mainly due to the fact that price statistics aim to measure price development in the various economic sectors and at the different stages in the economic process.

8 Dissemination and communication

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- *Dissemination format:* The producer price indices for industrial products are provided on the website of the Federal Statistical Office at www.destatis.de in press releases, the publications of Fachserie 17, Reihe 2 and the GENESIS-Online database.

9 Comment

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- None.

1 General information on the statistics

1.1 Statistical population

The statistical population of the producer price index for industrial products comprises all cases of selling raw materials and industrial products which are produced by producers in manufacturing, energy and water management as well as mining in Germany and are sold in the domestic territory.

1.2 Statistical unit

Survey unit: Prices are directly collected from legally independent enterprises that are selected on a representative basis and produce and sell industrial products in the domestic territory. Price collection is based on the Güterverzeichnis für Produktionsstatistiken - GP 2019 (Divisions 05 to 33) and the European Classification of Products by Activity - CPA 2008 (Divisions 35, 36 and 38). The survey covers Sections B to E of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 2).

Observation unit: The prices of unvarying products are observed, as are product specifications and other price-determining variables like purchaser's stage in the economic process, mode of dispatch, terms of delivery, discounts/surcharges, type of packaging, unit of quantity, quantity purchased, and terms of payment. Once selected for price observation, a product is replaced by another product if the proportion of its turnover within the product group has declined and/or its price development is no longer representative. The prices collected are the prices contractually agreed with the customers, excluding turnover tax, but including excise duties (for example mineral oil tax, tobacco tax, electricity tax) and other legal duties (for example oil storage contribution and surcharge defined in the Renewable Energies Act - EEG).

Presentation unit: The results of the producer price index for industrial products are published as totals and in a technical (subject-related) breakdown of roughly 1,366 basket items at the finest level of detail, where the items represent 1,954 types of products. All results are shown in the form of price indices. Average prices in euros are only published for selected mineral oil products.

1.3 Reference area

The producer price index for industrial products is compiled for Germany as a whole, but not for the individual Länder.

1.4 Reference period

The reference period is the relevant calendar month. On a monthly basis, the reporting enterprises provide the Federal Statistical Office with the prices of selected products measured on the 15th day of the reference month.

1.5 Frequency of data collection

Prices are collected and results are published every month.

1.6 Legal acts and other agreements

At the European level, producer price collection is laid down in Council Regulation (EU) No 2019/2152.

The EU legal acts in their up-to-date versions and in the German language are available on the website of the Publications Office of the European Union at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>.

At the national level, the following national legal acts apply:

- Act on Statistics for Federal Purposes (Federal Statistics Act - BStatG)
- Price Statistics Act (PreisStatG)

The up-to-date wording of the relevant national legal provisions can be found at <https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de>.

1.7 Confidentiality

1.7.1 Confidentiality - policy

The individual data collected are always kept confidential in accordance with Section 16 of the Federal Statistics Act. Only in exceptional cases explicitly regulated by law may individual data be passed on. Pursuant to Section 16 (6) of the Federal Statistics Act, institutions of higher education or other institutions tasked with independent scientific research may, for the purpose of carrying out scientific projects, be provided

- with individual data if attributing the anonymised individual data to the relevant respondents or persons concerned requires unreasonable effort in terms of time, cost and manpower (de facto anonymised individual data),

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- with access to individual data not including name and address (formally anonymised individual data) within specially protected areas of the Federal Statistical Office and the statistical offices of the Länder, if effective measures are in place to safeguard confidentiality. Persons receiving individual data are also obliged to maintain confidentiality.

1.7.2 Confidentiality - data treatment

At the finest level of detail, too, only highly aggregated results are published. The sampling technique ensures that the results published are based on a sufficient number of price observations.

Confidentiality of the source statistics is also taken into account when the weights of the weighting pattern are published so that no information on data that are subject to confidentiality can be derived.

1.8 Quality management

1.8.1 Quality assurance

The producer price index for industrial products for Germany is compiled centrally by the Federal Statistical Office in accordance with both the comprehensive provisions in the relevant legal bases and the methodological guidelines and requirements documented for instance in methodological manuals. The delivery and publication dates for the producer price index are specified before the start of each year. The dates are publicly announced and are subject to special monitoring.

A processing program is used for computation purposes. It controls the individual process steps from obliging respondents to provide information through to the calculation of results and carries out, and documents comprehensively, all calculations. Plausibility checks are built into each stage of processing to prevent data errors by issuing warnings if implausible data are entered. Implausible data are checked, and, where necessary, corrected by specially trained staff. Sometimes the reporting units are contacted in this process.

1.8.2 Quality assessment

The producer price index for industrial products is especially characterised by its high relevance as an early indicator of inflation trends, its accuracy and very good timeliness. Special importance is attached to the transparency of data collection and computation methods. The producer price index is well suited as a benchmark in contract clauses regarding the level of recurring payments (so-called price-escalator or stable-value clauses). Its sub-indices are an important source used for deflation purposes in the national accounts. Indices of producer prices of industrial products are also used for price adjustment in the calculation of volume indices in industry statistics.

2 Content and user needs

2.1 Statistical presentation

2.1.1 Data description

Price index series are provided for totals and individual aggregates of the industrial products produced in Germany and sold in the domestic territory (compare with presentation units under 1.2). Year-on-year and month-on-month change rates are also available. Furthermore, the weights of the individual sub-indices in the overall index are published, too. On that basis, users can calculate change rates for any periods and product aggregates.

2.1.2 Classification system

The technical (subject-related) breakdown of the presentation units is based on the [Güterverzeichnis für Produktionsstatistiken, Ausgabe 2019 \(GP 2019\)](#), only available in German. The technical (subject-related) breakdown of the survey units for data submission to the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) is based on the [Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community \(NACE Rev. 2\)](#).

2.1.3 Statistical concepts and definitions

Key concepts and definitions of the producer price index for industrial products:

- The statistical population of the producer price index for industrial products comprises all cases of selling raw materials and industrial products which are produced by producers in manufacturing, energy and water management, and mining in Germany and are sold in the domestic territory.
- The prices collected are the selling prices contractually agreed between producers and customers, excluding turnover tax, but including excise duties and other legal duties.

- Prices are directly collected from the producers on a monthly basis. The prices are to be measured on the 15th day of the relevant month. To make the prices of a product comparable, information on the sales conditions is also collected.
- It is pure price changes that are measured. Price changes that are due to changes in the product quality are eliminated using internationally recognised methods in the process of constructing the price indices. Changes in the structure of product offers or in the turnover proportions are not to be reflected in the index (Laspeyres concept).

Some special aspects have to be borne in mind when applying the relevant approaches to determine quality changes. Changes in the quantity and quality of the products covered are excluded from measurements of price development, as the focus is on measuring pure price changes. This is done using internationally recognised methods, and the results obtained are satisfactory. In some cases, however, statisticians face almost insurmountable problems in assessing quality differences. Especially in the field of mechanical engineering, complex plants or specific machines are often manufactured as one-off products in accordance with customer needs. In these cases, individual prices are calculated and quality adjustments become particularly difficult.

2.2 User needs

The producer price index for industrial products is used by various user groups especially for the following three purposes:

- Indicator of future inflation trends at downstream stages in the economic process: as indices of producer prices of industrial products measure price changes at an early stage in the economic process, they are regarded as indicators of future inflation trends at downstream stages in the economic process (e.g. at consumers' level). At the international level, this indicator is of special interest to the European Commission and the European Central Bank and, at the national level, to various ministries and especially the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Deutsche Bundesbank. In addition, this indicator is used by business associations and bodies representing the interests of various industries.
- Compensation benchmark: indices of producer prices of industrial products and average prices of selected mineral oil products, which are also determined in the framework of these statistics, are frequently used in economic contracts to adjust recurring payments (price-escalator clauses).
- Deflation: indices of producer prices of industrial products are also used to adjust other nominal aggregates of economic statistics for price effects. Examples are the production values in industry for production index calculations or deflation in the framework of national accounting.

2.3 User satisfaction

The following activities are designed to involve main users and other users concerned in basic decisions on the further development of the statistics of producer prices of industrial products:

- When the statistics of producer prices are rebased to a new base year (typically every five years), the professional associations concerned are informed in due time about the selection of products for regular price monitoring so that they have the chance to define additional selection requirements.
- In the process of designing the publication programme, wishes of users are taken into account, where possible, in order to consider the current needs.

3 Statistical processing

3.1 Source data

Both prices that are collected (price representatives) and information about the basket of goods and the weighting pattern are needed to calculate the producer price index for industrial products. As not all cases of sale can be covered in statistical terms and the exact composition of the statistical population is unknown, price representatives cannot be fully selected by using traditional sampling procedures. Sampling price representatives for the producer price index for industrial products is based on a combination of cut-off methods (to determine the basket) and purposive selection (of reporting units and typical cases of sale).

Determining the weighting pattern and the basket of goods:

The producer price index for industrial products (domestic sales) is constructed first by aggregating elementary indices with the aim to form indices at various levels of aggregation. The relevant calculations take into account changes in the prices of individual products whose weights differ depending on their importance. The weights reflect a product group's importance in terms of its proportion within the domestic sales of all products considered. The importance of the individual products, measured against domestic sales, is relevant not only for

calculation purposes, but also for compiling the basket of goods. The weighting pattern and the basket of goods are updated every five years (before a new base year comes into effect). Various data sources are used for this purpose.

The breakdown and allocation of weights to the individual product groups is a two-stage process. In a first step, rough weights are determined for the individual economic branches.

The basis is provided by information on domestic sales in economic sections B and C which is derived from the monthly report on local units in manufacturing, mining and quarrying. This information is supplemented with data for small local units taken from the annual report on local units in manufacturing. Results of the survey of electricity sales and proceeds in the electricity supply sector and the survey of gas sales and proceeds in the gas supply sector provide information on the economic groups of electricity and gas supply.

In a second step, the rough weights determined during the first step are allocated to the individual types of products (nine-digit headings of the Product Classification for Production Statistics - GP 2019). Data of the quarterly production surveys provide the information required for a more detailed breakdown.

Then the basket of goods is compiled based on these detailed weights. A cut-off procedure is applied to select those types of products whose turnover proportion is high in relative terms. The weights of the weighting pattern which were allocated to the individual product types form the basis for this. The total of products selected on a weighting basis form the basket of goods. For base year 2021, the basket of goods used for the producer price index for industrial products comprises 1,954 types of products. The types of products selected cover 84% of the total production value of 2021.

Price collection:

After the weighting pattern and basket of goods have been compiled, enterprises or local units are selected as reporting units. Like the weighting pattern and the basket of goods, the selection of reporting units is updated every five years (before a new base year comes into effect). Generally, only such enterprises or local units are suited for the given purpose which produce types of products previously defined in the basket of goods and sell these in the domestic territory. Once selected, an enterprise determines the representative product variant based on the general description of the product type; thus it defines the typical case of sale used as a price representative for the relevant type of product. The total of the defined cases of sale forms the basis for monthly price observation.

In addition to collecting prices from selected enterprises, secondary sources are used for price collection. Furthermore stock exchange listings are included in addition to the selling prices collected for individual products such as butter, energy or various types of metal in the index calculation.

3.2 Data collection

Determining the weighting pattern and the basket of goods:

The weighting pattern and the basket of goods are determined primarily on the basis of data that are not explicitly collected for price statistics purposes. Information on preparing data collection and collecting data from the main sources used for weighting pattern calculation (monthly report on local units in manufacturing, mining and quarrying; annual report on local units in manufacturing; annual survey of electricity sales and proceeds in the electricity supply sector; survey of gas sales and proceeds in the gas supply sector; quarterly production surveys) is provided in the quality reports on the relevant statistics. These are available at www.destatis.de > Methoden > Qualität > Qualitätsberichte (only in German).

Price collection:

The IDEV online reporting procedure is used to collect prices from the enterprises selected. The online questionnaire is designed in accordance with the standards defined in the "Handbuch für die Erstellung von Erhebungsunterlagen der amtlichen Statistik".

Every month, the roughly 6,200 reporting units submit the prices of the defined price representatives to the Federal Statistical Office for purposes of price measurement. An enterprise replaces a product once selected for price observation by another product if the proportion of its turnover within the product group has declined and/or its price development is no longer representative.

3.3 Data compilation

The data collected for the producer price index for industrial products are processed in a multi-stage procedure before the index is actually calculated. All prices collected are checked for plausibility. Where necessary, quantity and quality adjustments are made. Depending on the situation, imputation or replacement methods are used if a price cannot be collected for a given month (non-response).

Data editing:

The selling prices reported are subjected to automated plausibility checks in the first step of processing. Here it is checked whether price changes and the reasons possibly given are plausible in terms of the development of the individual data sets over time. Cases of obviously implausible price data or item non-response - like incomplete descriptions of goods or a lack of information on the reasons for price changes - are in general clarified directly with the reporting units. After receipt of all price reports, the individual data are, in a second step, checked in terms of coherence. Price series of an item of the weighting pattern are compared and checked for certain criteria. An error message will be displayed if prices reported show marked deviations. This will require individual processing by the responsible staff of the Federal Statistical Office.

Quality adjustment procedures are applied in the case of changes in products or the quality of price representatives, as the focus of price statistics is on measuring pure price changes. Various internationally recognised methods are available for this purpose, which are used by the responsible staff of the Federal Statistical Office to enable comparisons of prices over time.

Non-response:

Non-response can be temporary or permanent. If the price of a price representative is temporarily not submitted because, for instance, a survey unit cannot report due to holidays or internal problems or an agreement could not be concluded for an observation unit in a month, e.g. for seasonal reasons, the price concerned is updated using various individually adjusted imputation methods. This means that the reporting unit (and the relevant price) will remain in the sample. In each case the decision on the method to be applied is taken by specially trained staff of the Federal Statistical Office who, as product specialists, know both the relevant market situation and the products.

If a price representative leaves the sample for good because the product has become far less important in the market or is no longer produced, it will be replaced by another price representative to be determined together with the reporting unit.

If a reporting unit leaves the sample for good, for instance, because it goes bankrupt or the production of the relevant type of product ceases, a new unit will immediately be looked for. Imputation methods are again used to update the prices until the new reporting unit will submit prices for the first time.

Index calculation:

After data processing, the producer price index for industrial products is calculated together with all sub-indices. Forming index aggregates based on the individual price series comprises two steps.

Index numbers are used which represent the development of prices of the individual price representatives in the reference period in relation to the base period. In a first step, these index numbers are aggregated to form elementary indices. All index numbers of a basket item are incorporated in unweighted form in the elementary index. Using price ratios, the quantity component is eliminated from the price reports so that the development of prices of the individual representatives can be consolidated irrespective of the number of units reported. The elementary indices are calculated using the Carli formula. Typically, this lowest level of aggregation concerns the type of product (nine-digit headings of the Product Classification for Production Statistics).

In a second step, higher aggregate indices are calculated from the elementary indices. The aggregation of elementary indices - weighted in accordance with turnover proportions - is based on the Laspeyres formula. This formula is largely used in German price statistics. This type of index measures price development over time while taking into account neither quantity nor quality changes.

At the end of the processing procedure, month-on-month and year-on-year rates of price change are derived from the price index series.

3.4 Adjustment

In addition to the original series, calendar and seasonally adjusted series are provided for the overall producer price index for industrial products. The Federal Statistical Office uses the Berlin method - BV4.1 to adjust the producer price indices for seasonal variations.

3.5 Cost and burden

Every month the reporting units report the prices of the same products to the Federal Statistical Office, using the IDEV data collection portal. The monthly response burden can be regarded as low because only the current prices are to be stated if the product specification and the sales conditions have not changed. In 2019 a response burden survey was conducted which showed that on average 15 minutes per month were needed for reporting the prices.

The sample of reporting units is reviewed and adjusted every five years as part of the regular revision of the producer price index for industrial products (see also 3.1) so that above all smaller enterprises are not permanently included in the sample.

4 Accuracy and reliability

4.1 Overall accuracy

The key function of the producer price index for industrial products is to identify the development of the prices of products produced in Germany and sold in the domestic territory. Price development cannot be directly measured or surveyed for the aggregate. For this reason, a sample of product prices is collected to serve as the data basis for calculating the price index. As sampling is based on purposive selection, a sampling error can neither be calculated nor estimated in formal terms. To keep the unknown sampling error as low as possible, however, not less than roughly 10,000 prices are collected every month and close collaboration with the reporting units is ensured in editing the price data (see 3.3). Non-sampling errors are not quantified in the producer price index. Activities such as continuously improving the methodology and taking a wide range of quality assurance measures at different levels (see 1.8.1 and 4.3) are intended to reduce these errors to a minimum.

The producer price index for industrial products is calculated as an index figure with one decimal place. The figures for the relevant reference month are final. Minor revision differences are caused by changing over to a new base year, as this is connected to using a new calculation basis (weighting pattern, basket of goods and sample of reporting units).

4.2 Sampling error

Purposive selection, mostly in combination with the cut-off principle, is used at various levels (types of products, enterprises, typical cases of sale) to determine the sample for producer price statistics because there is no sampling frame from which a random sample could be drawn either directly or with reasonable effort. For this reason, a sampling error can neither be calculated nor estimated in formal terms although there are sampling-related errors. The better the survey population is reflected in the sample, the better the quality of purposive sampling combined with the cut-off principle. Therefore special importance is attached to the quality of the computation basis. To keep the unknown sampling error as low as possible, not less than roughly 10,000 individual prices are collected every month and comprehensive market coverage is sought. It can be assumed that the monthly development of prices is reflected accurately in both the overall index and aggregated sub-indices using this non-random procedure.

4.3 Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors are not quantified in the producer price index for industrial products. Continuously improving the methodology is however intended to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum. This refers to the following types of errors, in particular:

- Systematic errors due to deficiencies in the sampling frame: a uniform sampling frame is not available. The sampling frame for the statistics on producer prices of industrial products is compiled from different sources.
- Errors because of non-response (units and variables/items): the methods described under 3.3 are used in cases of temporary and permanent non-response. Even though inaccuracies may occur in price measurement due to non-response, the danger of significant biases caused by this source of error is to be regarded as extremely small in the producer price index for industrial products. Non-response as a proportion of the total of price representatives has been 2% on average in the past few years.
- Compilation and processing errors: to avoid reporting errors by the reporting units, the focus is on exact explanations regarding the questionnaire for the very first survey and a clear structure of the input masks for the online survey. If, nonetheless, compilation and data entry errors occur, these are largely detected in the consistency and plausibility checks carried out during the initial processing of the data sets (see 3.3). Compilation and processing errors are also largely avoided because automated procedures are used and product specialists who are familiar with the specific characteristics of the individual commodity groups are responsible for processing.
- Effects depending on the model used: the informative value of price development measurements using Laspeyres indices is limited. Typically, the weights are kept constant over a longer period of time when applying the Laspeyres formula (fixed-base index). Although the structure of business turnover changes slowly, however, it does so from year to year. To reflect pure price movements (irrespective of changes in turnover weights) and, at the same time, account for changes in the structure of business turnover, the weighting pattern is adjusted every five years during a regular revision. Where appropriate, methodological improvements are introduced in the context of such revisions, too. However, the effects of incorporating a new

weighting pattern and methodological improvements on the overall index, which also provide an indication of the error range, were rather small in the past (see 4.4.3).

4.4 Data revision

4.4.1 Data revision - policy

No provisional results are calculated for the producer price index for industrial products.

Revisions made during a regular review of the results are only due to methodological changes. At regular intervals (typically every five years), a new producer price index is introduced with a new base year. Besides adapting the weighting pattern to current turnover structures, the sample of reporting units and the selection of price representatives are basically reviewed and methodological changes are carried out on that occasion.

4.4.2 Data revision - practice

Regular revision work begins when the required base period data are available. Coordination with the main users and comprehensive preparation are necessary before each revision. These requirements cause the time of changeover to be well beyond the new base year. The indices, which are recalculated back to the beginning of the new base year, will replace the results previously published for that period.

Before the beginning of a new base year, the sample of survey and of observation units is systematically reviewed and updated, where necessary. Usually, the methodological changes required are also specified before the beginning of the new base year. As soon as information is available on the turnover of producers of industrial products in the new base year, the basket of goods will be fixed and the weighting pattern be recalculated. A good two and a half years after the end of the new base year, the results are recalculated from the beginning of the new base year, using the new structural information and, where applicable, the new methods.

Results before that period are not recalculated. Instead they are chain-linked, which means that they are converted, in formal terms, to the new base year. Chain-linking is made as at January of the new base year. That rebasing does not yield new results in terms of content although differences may occur due to rounding.

4.4.3 Data revision - analysis

During each regular revision, the recalculated results (from the beginning of the new base year) are compared with the previous results. The given revision differences are thoroughly analysed, and the results are published. The analysis shows, for instance, what proportion of the revision differences is due to changes in the market structures (weighting pattern). Furthermore the effects of larger methodological changes are shown in a separate and detailed manner.

Regarding the change rates of the overall producer price index for industrial products, all revision differences resulting from the introduction of the index on base 2021 ranged between -2.5 and +1.6 percentage points in the individual months for the index on base 2021 compared with that on base 2015. A clear identification and classification of the reasons for the differences is hardly possible. In most cases, there are various reasons which together lead to the differences in the development recorded on the new and on the previous basis. The differences may be due to changes in the items of the basket of goods, the new weighting pattern and the replacement of reporting units, and it is hardly possible to determine the individual contribution of the various reasons.

5 Timeliness and punctuality

5.1 Timeliness

Final results of the monthly producer price index for industrial products are usually published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month.

5.2 Punctuality

The preannounced release dates have been met to date.

6 Comparability

6.1 Comparability - geographical

Comparability between the German producer price index and the producer price indices of other countries is ensured as, for instance, comparable procedures based on internationally recognized methods are used in all European countries. Based on the results submitted by the EU Member States, the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) compiles monthly producer price indices in a breakdown by economic branch. In

addition to the national producer price indices, Eurostat publishes in its data base producer price indices for the European Union and the euro area.

6.2 Comparability over time

Comparability over time is fully ensured between two regular revisions (see 4.4.1) as methodological changes or changes in the turnover structures are only incorporated at the time of those revisions. Indices of producer prices of industrial products of different base years are chain-linked in arithmetical terms. As a result of including a new weighting pattern and methodological changes when introducing a new base year, comparability of the indices of producer prices of industrial products which are linked in long time series is limited.

7 Coherence

7.1 Coherence - cross domain

To some extent, the results of other statistics concerning similar aspects differ from the results of the producer price index for industrial products. These differences are mainly due to the fact that price statistics aim to measure price development in the various economic sectors and at the different stages in the economic process.

Other producer price indices: in addition to the producer price index for industrial products, there are other indices which measure price development at the stage of production. These include producer price indices for agriculture and forestry, construction and services. All these indices are also Laspeyres-type price indices. However, they do not measure the development of the prices of industrial products, but of other products produced in Germany. Unlike the producer price index for industrial products, these indices also include products that are sold to other countries.

Price indices at other stages in the economic process: price development is also measured by indices at other stages in the economic process. These include indices of foreign trade prices, the wholesale price index, construction and real property price indices, and consumer price indices. Like the producer price index for industrial products, all these indices are Laspeyres-type price indices. The prices of the same products may develop differently at various stages in the economic process as specific services (such as trade-related services) are added at these stages.

National accounts: the purpose of national accounts is to provide an overall quantitative picture of a national economy's activity over a given period of time. The picture should be as comprehensive as possible, clearly structured and sufficiently detailed. This includes calculations of the gross domestic product and its components at constant prices. Various sub-indices of the producer price index for industrial products are used for deflation purposes. As in the national accounts, for example, excise duties and quality adjustments are not to play a role in deflation, the sub-indices of the producer price index for industrial products are adjusted accordingly. Individual results of the producer price index for industrial products are often used for deflation purposes in the context of the production and expenditure approaches of national accounting.

7.2 Coherence - internal

The producer price index for industrial products is internally coherent. Clear rules based on international standards are in place for sampling, collecting prices and compiling price series.

7.3 Input for other statistics

The producer price index for industrial products (and its individual components) is used, for instance, to adjust nominal aggregates of economic statistics (like the production index) for inflation effects.

Furthermore the results of the producer price index for industrial products (domestic sales) and of the index of export prices are used to construct the producer price index for industrial products (domestic and external sales), which is submitted to the [Statistical Office of the European Union \(Eurostat\)](#) in a breakdown by economic branch.

8 Dissemination and communication

8.1 Dissemination format

News release

A press release is issued each time results are published. The press release is intended to communicate the most important results in a summarised form. The dates of publication are listed in an annual release calendar that is available publicly (see 8.3).

Publications

The current overall index and a breakdown by main industrial grouping are available on the theme page of the producer price index for industrial products at www.destatis.de > Themes > Economy > Prices > Producer price index for industrial products > Tables.

At www.destatis.de> Themen > Wirtschaft > Preise > Erzeugerpreise gewerblicher Produkte > Publikationen you can download the following products (only available in German):

Statistische Berichte:

- Indizes der Erzeugerpreise gewerblicher Produkte: This publication contains the almost 654 main sub-indices in the breakdown of the Product Classification for Production Statistics (GP2019) and the relevant year-on-year and month-on-month rates of change. In addition, the report contains all monthly indices available since January 2010 in this structure.
- Preise für ausgewählte Mineralölzeugnisse: This publication contains average prices of selected mineral oil products at the producer stage from 2005 onwards. The data will be released approximately one week before the producer price index for industrial products will be published. The prices exclude turnover tax, but include mineral oil tax and other duties similar to taxes (e.g. oil storage contribution).
- Daten zur Energiepreisentwicklung: This cross-section publication includes, in the form of long time series, price indices for the different types of energy. In addition to producer prices and indices of producer prices of industrial products, the publication provides import, export and consumer price indices.

Online database

In the [GENESIS-Online database](#) (Statistic Code: 61241) the results of the total of 1,366 basket items of the producer price index for industrial products based on the "Güterverzeichnis für Produktionsstatistiken", their aggregates and specific items can be retrieved in various file formats. Monthly values are available from January 1976 onwards, while individual averages go even back to 1949.

Micro-data access

Microdata are not accessible.

Other

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8.2 Documentation on methodology

The Methodical Guide "Index of Producer Prices" and other explanations are available on our homepage at www.destatis.de > Themes > Economy > Prices > Producer price index for industrial products > Methodical Guide.

Articles on the producer price index for industrial products are contained in our *Wirtschaft und Statistik* scientific journal (www.destatis.de> Methoden > WISTA - Wirtschaft und Statistik). They are available in German only.

8.3 Release policy

Release calendar

At the end of a calendar year, the release dates are announced for the following year.

Release calendar access

The current release calendar can be accessed at www.destatis.de> Press > Annual release calendar.

User access

Results of the producer price index for industrial products are provided at the same time in a press release, the relevant subject-matter series (Fachserie) and the GENESIS-Online Database, all of which can be accessed via the Federal Statistical Office's website.

9 Comment

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