

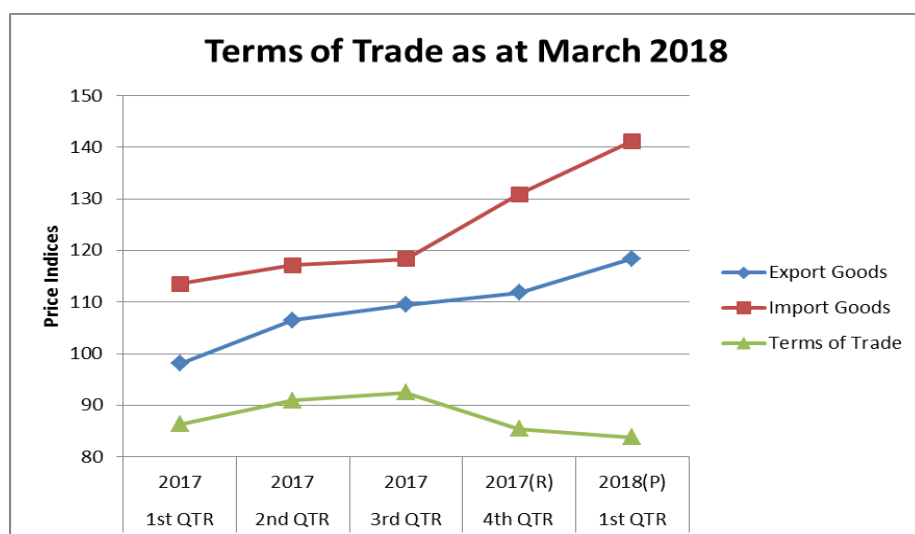
EXPORT-IMPORT PRICE INDEX

JANUARY-MARCH 2018

The Export and Import Price Index (XMPI), along with the Retail Price Index and the Producer Price Index, is designed to capture the change in prices in Barbados. Foreign trade price indices allow policy makers to analyze the impact of international trade on growth and inflation in the domestic economy. The XMPI will be used to deflate the foreign trade component in the expenditure approach for calculating Gross Domestic Product at current prices thus deriving Gross Domestic Product at constant prices. The XMPI will also be a useful tool in tracking trade flows in real terms by breaking down changes in the value of traded goods and services into price changes, volume changes, or both. In addition, export and import price indices provide an early indicator of inflation pressures on the domestic economy as well as an input for a variety of other purposes including negotiations for trade agreements, analyzing the effects of exchange rates, and measuring competitiveness. This document specifically covers the movement of export and import prices within Barbados for the first quarter of 2018.

PERFORMANCE OF INDEX

- ❖ Import commodity prices increased by 7.9 percent for the period January to March 2018 and by 24.4 percent for the 12 month period ending March 2018.
- ❖ Export commodity prices increased by 5.9 percent for the quarter and by 20.7 percent for the 12 month period ending March 2018.
- ❖ The terms of trade, as measured by the ratio of export prices to import prices, decreased by 1.9 percent in the quarter and by 2.9 percent for the 12 months since March 2017.



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TERMS OF TRADE TABLE

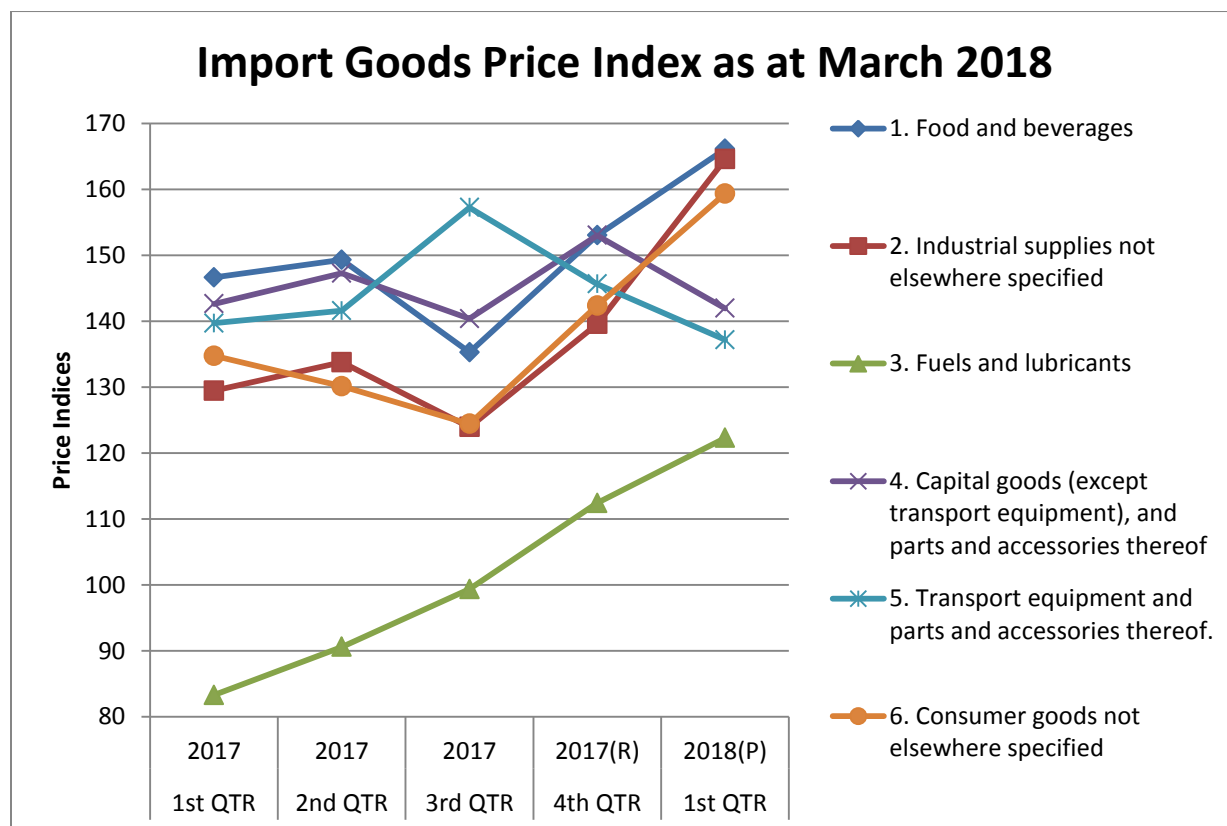
4th QTR 2007=100	1st QTR 2017	2nd QTR 2017	3rd QTR 2017	4th QTR 2017(R)	1st QTR 2018(P)	2017	1st QTR % Change	12 Month % Change
Export Goods	98.09	106.53	109.44	111.83	118.43	103.75	5.9	20.7
Import Goods	113.56	117.16	118.34	130.87	141.26	119.95	7.9	24.4
Terms of Trade	86.37	90.93	92.48	85.45	83.84	86.50	-1.9	-2.9

ANALYSIS OF EXPORT-IMPORT PRICE INDICES

Import Price Index for Goods

During the first quarter of 2018, Fuels and Lubricants increased by 8.8 percent while Capital Goods prices declined by 7.2 percent. Consumer Goods increased by 11.9 percent while Food and Beverages also increased by 8.6 percent. Similarly, Industrial Supplies posted an increase of 17.9 percent while Transport Equipment prices declined by 5.8 percent.

However, for the 12 month period ending March 2018, Fuels and Lubricants increased by 46.8 percent while Capital Goods declined by 0.5 percent. Industrial Supplies increased by 27.1 percent while Food and Beverages prices also increased by 13.3 percent. Similarly, Consumer Goods prices posted an increase of 18.3 percent while Transport Equipment prices declined by 1.8 percent.

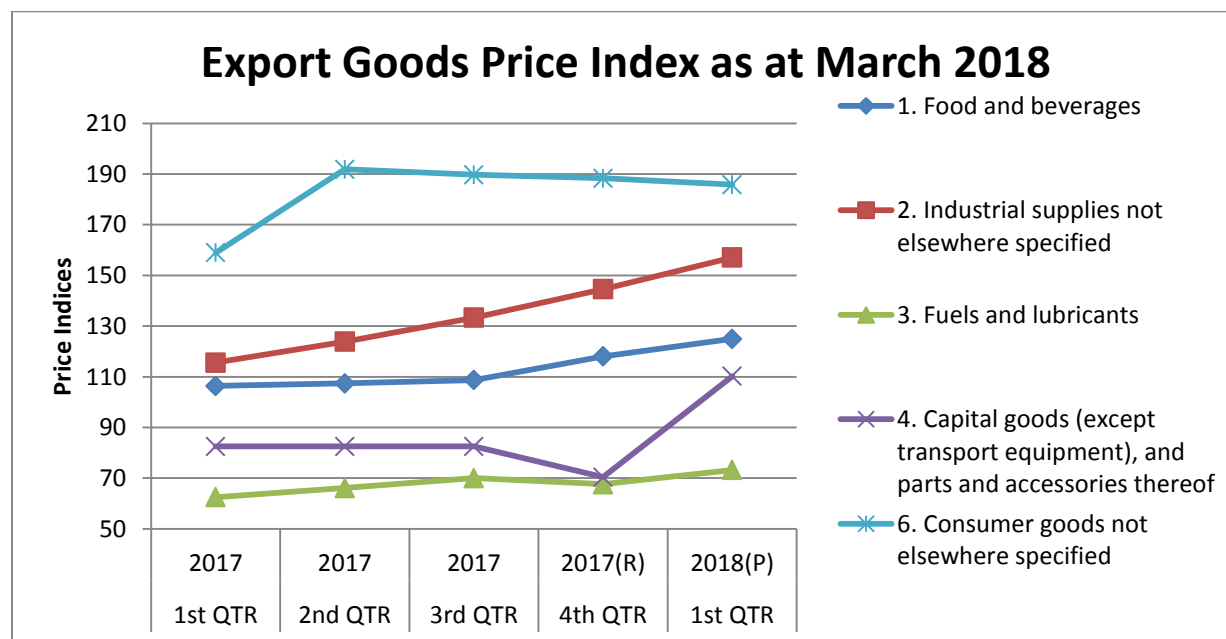


Export Price Index for Goods

During the first quarter of 2018, Fuels and Lubricants prices increased by 8.3 percent while Consumer Goods declined by 1.4 percent. Industrial Supplies increased by 8.6 percent while Food and Beverages also increased by 5.8 percent. Capital Goods increased by 56.6 percent.

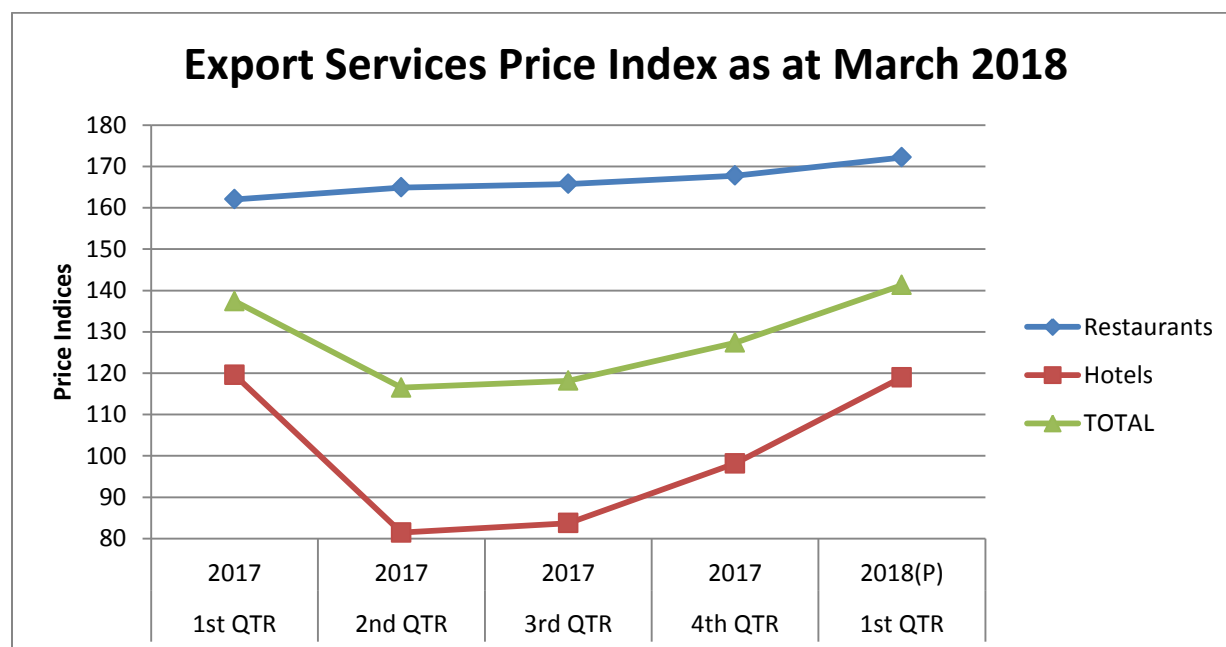
However, for the 12 month period ending March 2018, Fuels and Lubricants prices increased by 17.1 percent while Consumer Goods also increased by 16.8 percent. Industrial Supplies

increased by 35.9 percent while Food and Beverages also increased by 17.5 percent. Capital Goods increased by 33.6 percent.



Export Price Index for Services

Export travel services increased by 10.9 percent for the quarter as restaurant and hotel prices increased by 2.6 percent and 21.2 percent respectively. However, during the 12 month period ending March 2018, hotel prices declined by 0.5 percent reflecting the usual seasonal pattern for this time of year.



APPENDIX

EXPORT GOODS PRICE INDEX

B.E.C. Exports 4th QTR 2007=100	1st QTR 2017	2nd QTR 2017	3rd QTR 2017	4th QTR 2017(R)	1st QTR 2018(P)	2017	1st QTR % Change	12 Month % Change
1. Food and beverages	106.37	107.40	108.73	118.06	124.94	109.57	5.8	17.5
2. Industrial supplies not elsewhere specified	115.61	123.90	133.33	144.61	157.11	129.36	8.6	35.9
3. Fuels and lubricants	62.53	66.09	70.02	67.64	73.24	60.26	8.3	17.1
4. Capital goods (except transport equipment), and parts and accessories thereof	82.50	82.50	82.50	70.40	110.24	79.48	56.6	33.6
5. Transport equipment and parts and accessories thereof.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
6. Consumer goods not elsewhere specified	159.01	191.87	189.70	188.35	185.79	182.13	-1.4	16.8
7. Goods not elsewhere specified	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL	98.09	106.53	109.44	111.83	118.43	103.75	5.9	20.7

EXPORT SERVICES PRICE INDEX

Travel 4th QTR 2007=100	1st QTR 2017	2nd QTR 2017	3rd QTR 2017	4th QTR 2017	1st QTR 2018(P)	2017	1st QTR % Change	12 Month % Change
Restaurants	162.04	164.91	165.75	167.75	172.18	165.11	2.6	6.3
Hotels	119.55	81.42	83.71	98.14	118.95	96.42	21.2	-0.5
TOTAL	137.39	116.49	118.17	127.38	141.31	125.27	10.9	2.9

IMPORT GOODS PRICE INDEX

B.E.C. Imports 4th QTR 2007=100	1st QTR 2017	2nd QTR 2017	3rd QTR 2017	4th QTR 2017(R)	1st QTR 2018(P)	2017	1st QTR % Change	12 Month % Change
1. Food and beverages	146.62	149.30	135.29	153.01	166.11	146.07	8.6	13.3
2. Industrial supplies not elsewhere specified	129.46	133.76	123.93	139.56	164.56	131.68	17.9	27.1
3. Fuels and lubricants	83.30	90.61	99.38	112.42	122.29	96.38	8.8	46.8
4. Capital goods (except transport equipment), and parts and accessories thereof	142.62	147.27	140.36	153.02	141.94	145.82	-7.2	-0.5
5. Transport equipment and parts and accessories thereof.	139.70	141.58	157.23	145.63	137.18	146.03	-5.8	-1.8
6. Consumer goods not elsewhere specified	134.74	130.14	124.44	142.35	159.33	132.86	11.9	18.3
7. Goods not elsewhere specified	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL	113.56	117.16	118.34	130.87	141.26	119.95	7.9	24.4

The Barbados Statistical Service would also like to express its sincere thanks to all those officers at the many business establishments who give their continued cooperation with their timely responses to our quarterly surveys. This Export Import Price Index could not have been done without your support.