

CONSTRUCTION PRICE INDEX

(Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house)

1st Quarter 2011

1. Introduction

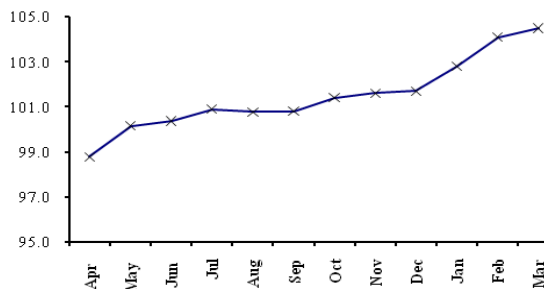
This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents the monthly Construction Price Index (residential) for the first quarter of 2011 with second quarter 2009 as base period. Figures showing the evolution of the index during the past twelve months are also included.

The methodology used for compiling the index and the changes in the weight structure are given in the annexed technical notes. Figures have been rounded to one or two decimal places although they have been calculated to many decimal places.

2. Evolution of the Construction Price Index (April 2010 to March 2011)

Chart 1 shows the movement of the Construction Price Index from April 2010 to March 2011, with the second quarter of 2009 as base. The index which stood at 98.8 in April 2010 registered a rising trend from May 2010 up to July 2010 mainly due to increases in the prices of steel bars, block, sand, aggregate and sanitary installation. A slight decrease in the prices of steel bars in August 2010 resulted in a drop of the index which remained at 100.8 in September 2010. The index which stood at 101.4 as at October 2010 registered an increasing trend to reach 104.5 in March 2011, mainly due to higher prices of paint, steel bars, timber joinery & carpentry and plumbing, hardcore, sand, aggregate, block and electrical installation.

Chart 1: Construction Price Index
April 2010 -March 2011

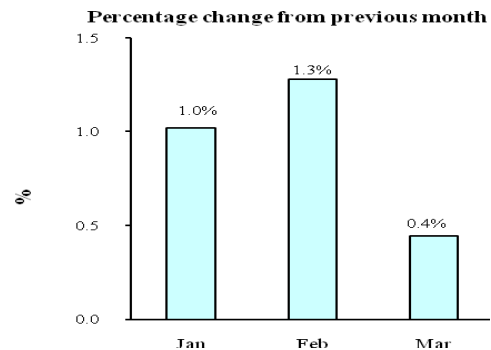


3. Changes in the Construction Price Index (January to March 2011)

The Construction Price Index, which stood at 101.7 at the end of December 2010 increased by 1.0% to reach 102.8 in January 2011, mostly due to higher wages following the 2011 salary compensation and to a rise in the prices of transport and electrical installation.

In February 2011 the index increased by 1.3% as a result of increases in the prices of steel bars, hardcore, sand, aggregate, block and electrical installation.

In March 2011, further increases in the prices of hardcore, aggregate, sand and block resulted in a rise of 0.4% in the index.



4. Changes by Input Categories

Changes by input categories are shown in Tables 1.1 to 1.4.

During the first quarter of 2011, no change was registered in the "Hire of plant" sub index.

The "Labour" sub index increased by 2.0% from 101.2 in December 2010 to 103.3 in January 2011 due to 2011 salary compensation. It remained unchanged during the months of February and March 2011.

The "Materials" sub-index increased slightly by 0.1% from 102.1 in December 2010 to 102.2 in January 2011 due to higher prices of electrical installation (2.1%) partly offset by decreases in the prices of steel bars (-0.3%) and timber carpentry (-1.0%).

In February, the “Materials” sub-index increased by 2.0% to reach 104.3 following increases in the prices of steel bars (3.9%), hardcore (3.7%), sand (3.6%), aggregate (3.7%), block (3.0%), timber carpentry (3.1%) and electrical installation (3.3%) .

In March, the “Materials” sub-index increased by 0.7% mainly due to further increases in the prices of hardcore (2.4%), sand (1.8%), aggregate (2.7%), and block (2.2%).

The “Transport” sub index registered an increase of 9.1% in January 2011. The index remained unchanged during the months of February and March 2011.

The net monthly contributions of the input categories to the index during the period April 2010 to March 2011 are shown in Table 1.3.

Quarterly averages of the monthly indices by input category and the percentage change from quarter to quarter are shown in Table 1.4.

5. Changes by Work Category

Changes by work category are shown in Tables 2.1 to 2.4.

During the month of January 2011, all work categories were affected by an increase in wages. Higher transport costs also contributed to increases in the indices different work categories. In addition, a rise in the prices of some electrical items resulted in an increase in the “Electrical installation” work category.

In February 2011 the 3.9% increase in the prices of steel bars resulted in increases of 2.9% in the “Reinforcement” work category and of 0.5% in the “Metal openings” work category. Increases in the prices of hardcore, sand, aggregate, and block resulted in increases in the following work categories “Setting up” (3.6%), “Concrete” (1.1%), “Blockwork” (2.0%), “Rendering to wall/ceiling” (0.3%), “Bed and screed to floor/roof” (0.6%) .The increase of 3.1% in timber carpentry resulted in an increase of 9.7% in the “Setting out” work category and the 3.3% increase in electrical installation input category resulted in an increase of 2.6% in the “Electrical installation” work category.

In March, increases in the prices of hardcore, sand, aggregate, and block resulted in increases in the following work categories “Setting up” (0.1%), “Concrete” (0.7%), “Blockwork” (1.4%), “Rendering to wall/ceiling” (0.2%), “Bed and screed to floor/roof” (0.3%). An increase of 0.5% in the prices of steel bars

resulted in a 0.4% increase in the “Reinforcement” work category.

Table 2.3 shows the net monthly contributions of the work categories to the index since April 2010.

Quarterly averages of the monthly indices by work category and the percentage change from quarter to quarter are shown in Table 2.4.

6. Past Trends

Table 3.1 summarises the monthly indices, the quarterly and yearly averages as well as the percentage changes in the yearly average since 2000. Indices for the years 2000 to 2001 have been worked out using as base the fourth quarter of 1993, while the base period for the calculation of the index from 2002 up to first quarter 2009 is the fourth quarter of 2001. As from April 2009 the base period used is the second quarter of 2009.

The series are not strictly comparable because of different base periods. However, for some particular purposes, comparison between the series may be necessary. A chain linked series with base period second quarter 2009 has been worked out and is given in Table 3.2.

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Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 1.1: Monthly sub-indices by input category, April 2010 to March 2011

Input Categories	Weight	2010										2011		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
LABOUR	28.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	103.3	103.3	103.3
HIRE OF PLANT	3.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MATERIALS :	64.2	97.5	99.7	100.0	100.9	100.7	100.7	101.7	102.0	102.1	102.2	104.3	105.0	
Hardcore (remplissage)	1.8	104.0	105.3	105.3	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	113.5	116.2	
Cement	12.7	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	
Sand	4.2	109.0	110.1	110.1	113.2	113.2	113.2	113.2	113.2	113.2	113.2	117.3	119.4	
Aggregate	3.4	103.9	104.0	104.0	110.2	110.2	110.2	110.2	110.2	110.2	110.2	114.2	117.3	
Block	5.2	100.2	101.2	101.2	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.3	106.4	108.8	
Steel bars (armature)	10.6	88.5	97.5	102.4	102.4	101.2	101.2	104.0	105.1	105.5	105.2	109.4	109.9	
Galvanised corrugated cast iron sheet	0.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.2	102.1	102.1	
Timber: (a) Carpentry	3.9	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	101.4	101.7	102.6	101.6	104.8	104.6	
(b) Joinery	1.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.1	100.1	100.6	100.6	101.5	
Aluminium openings	4.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Metal openings	2.7	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	104.9	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.7	106.4	106.4	
Ceramic tiles	0.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.1	99.1	99.1	
Adhesive	1.7	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	101.0	101.0	101.0	
Paint	2.5	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	110.8	110.8	110.8	111.2	111.3	111.3	
Plumbing	1.5	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.4	100.4	101.2	101.4	101.7	
Sanitary installation	2.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	102.0	102.0	102.0	102.0	102.6	102.8	102.7	103.1	103.1	
Electrical installation	4.7	100.0	106.2	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	101.6	101.6	103.7	107.2	107.8	
TRANSPORT	4.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	109.1	109.1	109.1	
Total	100.0	98.8	100.2	100.4	100.9	100.8	100.8	101.4	101.6	101.7	102.8	104.1	104.5	

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 1.2: Percentage change from previous month by input category, April 2010 to March 2011

Input Categories	Weight	% change from previous month											
		Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10	Oct 10	Nov 10	Dec 10	Jan 11	Feb 11	Mar 11
LABOUR	28.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
HIRE OF PLANT	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MATERIALS :	64.2	0.0	2.2	0.3	0.9	-0.2	0.0	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	2.0	0.7
Hardcore (remplissage)	1.8	0.0	1.3	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	2.4
Cement	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sand	4.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.8
Aggregate	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	2.7
Block	5.2	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	2.2
Steel bars (armature)	10.6	0.0	10.2	5.0	0.0	-1.2	0.0	2.8	1.1	0.4	-0.3	3.9	0.5
Galvanised corrugated cast iron sheet	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.8	0.0
Timber: (a) Carpentry	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.3	0.9	-1.0	3.1	-0.2
(b) Joinery	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9
Aluminium openings	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal openings	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0
Ceramic tiles	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.9	0.0	0.0
Adhesive	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
Paint	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Plumbing	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.3	0.3
Sanitary installation	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0
Electrical installation	4.7	0.0	6.2	-6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	2.1	3.3	0.6
TRANSPORT	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	0.0	1.4	0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.3	0.4

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 1.3: Net monthly contributions of input categories to the index, April 2010 to March 2011

Input Categories	Weight	2010									2011		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
LABOUR	28.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.00
HIRE OF PLANT	3.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MATERIALS :	64.2	0.00	1.43	0.22	0.51	-0.13	0.02	0.59	0.23	0.09	0.07	1.31	0.46
Hardcore (remplissage)	1.8	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.05
Cement	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sand	4.2	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.09
Aggregate	3.4	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.11
Block	5.2	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.12
Steel bars (armature)	10.6	0.00	0.96	0.51	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.30	0.12	0.04	-0.03	0.44	0.06
Galvanised corrugated cast iron sheeting	0.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Timber: (a) Carpentry	3.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.04	-0.04	0.13	-0.01
(b) Joinery	1.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Aluminium openings	4.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Metal openings	2.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00
Ceramic tiles	0.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00
Adhesive	1.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Paint	2.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Plumbing	1.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Sanitary installation	2.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Electrical installation	4.7	0.00	0.29	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.10	0.16	0.03
TRANSPORT	4.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.00
Total	100.0	0.00	1.43	0.22	0.51	-0.13	0.02	0.59	0.23	0.09	1.04	1.31	0.46

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009= 100)

Table 1.4: Quarterly average of monthly indices and percentage changes by input category, 2nd Quarter 2010 to 1st quarter 2011

Input Categories	Weight	2010			2011	% change from previous quarter		
		2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	3rd Qr 2010	4th Qr 2010	1st Qr 2011
LABOUR	28.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	103.3	0.0	0.0	2.0
HIRE OF PLANT	3.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MATERIALS :	64.2	99.1	100.8	101.9	103.9	1.7	1.1	1.9
Hardcore (remplissage)	1.8	104.9	109.5	109.5	113.0	4.4	0.0	3.3
Cement	12.7	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sand	4.2	109.7	113.2	113.2	116.6	3.2	0.0	3.0
Aggregate	3.4	104.0	110.2	110.2	113.9	6.0	0.0	3.4
Block	5.2	100.9	103.3	103.3	106.2	2.4	0.0	2.8
Steel bars (armature)	10.6	96.1	101.6	104.9	108.2	5.7	3.2	3.2
Galvanised corrugated cast iron sheeting	0.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.8	0.0	0.0	1.8
Timber: (a) Carpentry	3.9	100.2	100.2	101.9	103.7	0.0	1.7	1.7
(b) Joinery	1.6	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.9	0.0	0.1	0.8
Aluminium openings	4.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal openings	2.7	104.9	105.1	105.6	106.2	0.2	0.5	0.6
Ceramic tiles	0.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.1	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Adhesive	1.7	100.3	100.3	100.3	101.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Paint	2.5	101.2	101.2	110.8	111.2	0.0	9.5	0.4
Plumbing	1.5	100.1	100.1	100.3	101.4	0.0	0.2	1.1
Sanitary installation	2.2	100.0	102.0	102.4	103.0	2.0	0.4	0.5
Electrical installation	4.7	102.0	99.9	101.0	106.2	-2.1	1.1	5.1
TRANSPORT	4.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	109.1	0.0	0.0	9.1
Total	100.0	99.8	100.9	101.6	103.8	1.1	0.7	2.2

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storev house
(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 2.1: Monthly sub-indices by work category, April 2010 to March 2011

Work Categories	Weight	2010									2011		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1. Setting up	1.5	100.2	100.3	100.3	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	101.8	105.5	105.6
2. Setting out	0.5	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	100.8	101.7	111.6	111.5
3. Earthworks	3.3	102.5	103.3	103.3	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	106.7	108.9	110.4
4. Concrete	21.3	98.0	98.1	98.1	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	100.7	101.7	102.4
5. Reinforcement	14.6	91.1	97.7	101.3	101.3	100.4	100.4	102.4	103.2	103.6	104.8	107.8	108.2
6. Formwork (coffrage)	8.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	101.1	101.2	101.7	101.6	102.0	102.1
7. Blockwork	8.7	99.4	100.1	100.1	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.4	102.4	104.5	106.0
8. Softwood joinery	1.5	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	101.1	101.0	101.6	102.9	102.9	103.3
9. Aluminium Doors and Openings	6.0	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	100.5	101.1	101.1	101.1
10. Metal openings	4.1	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	104.3	104.6	104.7	104.7	105.4	106.0	106.0
11. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepis)	10.4	101.0	101.1	101.1	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.4	101.5	102.7	103.1	103.2
12. Bed & screed to floor/roof	3.8	100.6	100.8	100.8	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	102.2	102.9	103.2
13. Tiling	1.6	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.6	100.6	100.6
14. Painting	3.2	101.3	101.3	101.3	101.3	101.3	101.3	107.9	107.9	107.9	108.4	108.4	108.4
15. Plumbing and Drainage	5.0	100.4	100.4	100.4	101.3	101.3	101.3	101.3	101.6	101.7	102.6	102.8	102.9
16. Electrical installation	6.0	100.4	105.2	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.3	101.6	101.6	103.6	106.3	106.8
Total	100.0	98.8	100.2	100.4	100.9	100.8	100.8	101.4	101.6	101.7	102.8	104.1	104.5

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 2.2: Percentage change from previous month by work category, April 2010 to March 2011

Work Categories	Weight	% change from previous month											
		Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10	Oct 10	Nov 10	Dec 10	Jan 11	Feb 11	Mar 11
1. Setting up	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.6	0.1
2. Setting out	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	9.7	-0.1
3. Earthworks	3.3	0.0	0.7	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.1	1.4
4. Concrete	21.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.1	0.7
5. Reinforcement	14.6	0.0	7.2	3.6	0.0	-0.9	0.0	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.2	2.9	0.4
6. Formwork (coffrage)	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0
7. Blockwork	8.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.4
8. Softwood joinery	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	-0.1	0.6	1.3	0.0	0.4
9. Aluminium Doors and Openings	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
10. Metal openings	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	0.0
11. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepis)	10.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.2
12. Bed & screed to floor/roof	3.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.6	0.3
13. Tiling	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
14. Painting	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
15. Plumbing and Drainage	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.1
16. Electrical installation	6.0	0.0	4.9	-4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	2.0	2.6	0.5
Total	100.0	0.0	1.4	0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.3	0.4

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)

Table 2.3: Net monthly contributions of work categories to the index, April 2010 to March 2011

Work Categories	Weight	2010									2011		
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1. Setting up	1.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.06	0.00
2. Setting out	0.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00
3. Earthworks	3.3	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.07	0.05
4. Concrete	21.3	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.23	0.15
5. Reinforcement	14.6	0.00	0.96	0.51	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.30	0.12	0.04	0.18	0.44	0.06
6. Formwork (coffrage)	8.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.03	0.00
7. Blockwork	8.7	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.18	0.13
8. Softwood joinery	1.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01
9. Aluminium Doors and Openings	6.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00
10. Metal openings	4.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.00
11. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepe)	10.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.13	0.04	0.02
12. Bed & screed to floor/roof	3.8	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.01
13. Tiling	1.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14. Painting	3.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
15. Plumbing and Drainage	5.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.00
16. Electrical installation	6.0	0.00	0.29	-0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.12	0.16	0.03
Total	100.0	0.00	1.43	0.22	0.51	-0.13	0.02	0.59	0.23	0.11	1.02	1.31	0.46

Input Cost Index for the construction of a single storey house

(Base: 2nd Quarter 2009= 100)

Table 2.4: Quarterly average of monthly indices and percentage changes by work category, 2nd Quarter 2010 to 1st quarter 2011

Work Categories	Weight	2010			2011	% change from previous quarter		
		2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr	3rd Qr 2010	4th Qr 2010	1st Qr 2011
1. Setting up	1.5	100.3	100.7	100.7	104.3	0.4	0.0	3.6
2. Setting out	0.5	100.8	100.8	100.8	108.3	0.0	0.0	7.4
3. Earthworks	3.3	103.0	105.5	105.5	108.7	2.4	0.0	3.0
4. Concrete	21.3	98.1	99.4	99.4	101.6	1.4	0.0	2.2
5. Reinforcement	14.6	96.7	100.7	103.1	106.9	4.1	2.4	3.7
6. Formwork (coffrage)	8.5	100.5	100.5	101.3	101.9	0.0	0.8	0.6
7. Blockwork	8.7	99.8	101.4	101.4	104.3	1.6	0.0	2.8
8. Softwood joinery	1.5	100.2	100.2	101.0	103.0	0.0	1.0	1.8
9. Aluminium Doors and Openings	6.0	100.5	100.5	100.5	101.1	0.0	0.0	0.6
10. Metal openings	4.1	103.8	104.0	104.6	105.8	0.1	0.6	1.1
11. Rendering to wall/ceiling (crepissag	10.4	101.1	101.4	101.4	103.0	0.3	0.0	1.6
12. Bed & screed to floor/roof	3.8	100.7	101.2	101.2	102.7	0.5	0.0	1.5
13. Tiling	1.6	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.6	0.0	0.0	0.1
14. Painting	3.2	101.3	101.3	107.9	108.4	0.0	6.5	0.5
15. Plumbing and Drainage	5.0	100.4	101.3	101.6	102.7	0.9	0.3	1.2
16. Electrical installation	6.0	102.0	100.3	101.2	105.6	-1.7	0.9	4.4
Total	100.0	99.8	100.9	101.6	103.8	1.1	0.7	2.2

Table 3.1: Construction Price Index - January 2000 to March 2011

	<i>(Base:4th Quarter 1993 = 100)</i>		<i>(Base: 4th Quarter 2001 = 100)</i>								<i>(Base:2nd Quarter 2009 = 100)</i>		
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010	2011
January	120.4	124.9	100.3	105.8	109.5	118.7	126.7	140.7	159.0	166.0		100.3	102.8
February	120.4	124.9	100.5	106.8	112.2	122.5	127.3	140.7	159.0	166.0		100.3	104.1
March	120.5	125.0	100.6	107.0	112.3	122.5	127.3	141.2	157.9	163.5		98.8	104.5
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>120.5</i>	<i>124.9</i>	<i>100.5</i>	<i>106.5</i>	<i>111.3</i>	<i>121.3</i>	<i>127.1</i>	<i>140.9</i>	<i>158.7</i>	<i>165.2</i>		<i>99.8</i>	<i>103.8</i>
April	120.4	124.9	100.7	107.1	112.3	122.5	127.9	144.1	157.9		100.2	98.8	
May	120.4	124.9	101.5	107.1	112.3	122.7	127.9	144.3	157.9		100.0	100.2	
June	120.5	124.9	101.5	107.1	115.5	122.7	129.9	147.4	161.2		99.8	100.4	
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>120.5</i>	<i>124.9</i>	<i>101.3</i>	<i>107.1</i>	<i>113.4</i>	<i>122.6</i>	<i>128.6</i>	<i>145.2</i>	<i>159.0</i>		<i>100.0</i>	<i>99.8</i>	
July	121.5	126.9	105.4	108.1	116.4	124.6	134.4	150.5	165.2		100.6	100.9	
August	121.6	127.4	105.4	108.6	116.4	124.6	135.1	151.3	167.5		100.2	100.8	
September	121.4	127.4	105.4	109.4	117.0	124.6	135.1	151.6	169.2		100.2	100.8	
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>121.5</i>	<i>127.2</i>	<i>105.4</i>	<i>108.7</i>	<i>116.6</i>	<i>124.6</i>	<i>134.9</i>	<i>151.1</i>	<i>167.3</i>		<i>100.3</i>	<i>100.9</i>	
October	124.3	127.6	105.2	109.4	117.3	125.3	135.1	152.9	170.0		100.3	101.4	
November	124.4	128.4	105.3	109.5	117.8	126.1	136.9	151.1	168.7		100.3	101.6	
December	124.4	128.5	105.3	109.5	118.4	126.1	137.1	151.4	167.2		100.3	101.7	
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<i>124.3</i>	<i>128.2</i>	<i>105.3</i>	<i>109.5</i>	<i>117.8</i>	<i>125.8</i>	<i>136.4</i>	<i>151.8</i>	<i>168.6</i>		<i>100.3</i>	<i>101.6</i>	
Yearly average	121.7	126.3	103.1	107.9	114.8	123.6	131.8	147.2	163.4			100.5	
% change in the yearly average	1.4	3.8	4.6	4.7	6.3	7.7	6.6	11.8	11.0		0.1	-0.1	

Table 3.2: Construction Price Index - January 1999 to March 2011 (base period 2nd Qtr 2009=100)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	56.9	57.8	59.9	61.7	65.0	67.3	73.0	77.9	86.5	97.8	102.1	100.3	102.8
February	57.1	57.8	59.9	61.8	65.7	69.0	75.3	78.3	86.5	97.8	102.1	100.3	104.1
March	57.1	57.8	59.9	61.9	65.8	69.1	75.3	78.3	86.8	97.1	100.6	98.8	104.5
<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>57.1</i>	<i>57.8</i>	<i>59.9</i>	<i>61.8</i>	<i>65.5</i>	<i>68.5</i>	<i>74.6</i>	<i>78.2</i>	<i>86.6</i>	<i>97.6</i>	<i>101.6</i>	<i>99.8</i>	<i>103.8</i>
April	57.2	57.8	59.9	61.9	65.9	69.1	75.3	78.7	88.6	97.1	100.2	98.8	
May	57.2	57.8	59.9	62.4	65.9	69.1	75.5	78.7	88.7	97.1	100.0	100.2	
June	57.2	57.8	59.9	62.4	65.9	71.0	75.5	79.9	90.6	99.2	99.8	100.4	
<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>57.2</i>	<i>57.8</i>	<i>59.9</i>	<i>62.3</i>	<i>65.9</i>	<i>69.7</i>	<i>75.4</i>	<i>79.1</i>	<i>89.3</i>	<i>97.8</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>99.8</i>	
July	58.0	58.3	60.9	64.8	66.5	71.6	76.6	82.7	92.5	101.6	100.6	100.9	
August	58.0	58.3	61.1	64.8	66.8	71.6	76.6	83.1	93.0	103.0	100.2	100.8	
September	58.0	58.2	61.1	64.8	67.3	72.0	76.6	83.1	93.2	104.1	100.2	100.8	
<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>58.0</i>	<i>58.3</i>	<i>61.0</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>66.9</i>	<i>71.7</i>	<i>76.6</i>	<i>82.9</i>	<i>92.9</i>	<i>102.9</i>	<i>100.3</i>	<i>100.9</i>	
October	58.2	59.6	61.2	64.7	67.3	72.2	77.1	83.1	94.0	104.6	100.3	101.4	
November	57.8	59.7	61.6	64.8	67.3	72.4	77.6	84.2	92.9	103.7	100.3	101.6	
December	57.9	59.7	61.6	64.8	67.3	72.8	77.6	84.3	93.1	102.8	100.3	101.7	
<i>4th Quarter</i>	<i>57.9</i>	<i>59.7</i>	<i>61.5</i>	<i>64.7</i>	<i>67.3</i>	<i>72.5</i>	<i>77.4</i>	<i>83.9</i>	<i>93.3</i>	<i>103.7</i>	<i>100.3</i>	<i>101.6</i>	
Yearly average	57.6	58.4	60.6	63.4	66.4	70.6	76.0	81.0	90.6	100.5	100.6	100.5	
% change in the yearly average	2.9	1.4	3.8	4.6	4.7	6.3	7.7	6.6	11.8	11.0	0.1	-0.1	

Technical Note

Methodology for the compilation of the Construction Price Index

(i) Introduction

A Construction Price Index measures the change in the level of construction prices. The construction industry is very broad and highly diversified with considerable variations from one type of construction to another. This makes it difficult to derive generalized indices that would be applicable to the industry as a whole. Hence, separate indices for the different types of construction need to be compiled. At present, the Central Statistics Office publishes an index that covers residential buildings only.

(ii) Types of Construction Price Indices

Different approaches to index number compilation are used depending on the purpose for which the index is required. There are two main types of construction price indices:

The Output Price Index

In this approach, specific projects representative of the various categories of construction works are selected as models and construction firms are surveyed and asked to provide estimates of the prevailing market prices for each of the projects. As such, the output price indices respond to the changes in prices of materials used and cost of labour, as well as changes in overhead costs and profits.

The Input Price Index

The index is based on prices of a representative selection of basic inputs (labour, plant, materials and transport) that go into the construction work. Hence, the input price index measures the change in the cost of resources to the contractor, and not the change in the price that the client pays.

The office opted for the input price index which, though more limiting than the output price index, is simpler and less expensive to construct and maintain.

(iii) Selection of representative dwelling

Since it would have been too time-consuming and costly to include all major types of residential dwellings, it was decided to restrict the index to a model dwelling, representing the most common type of dwelling in 2007. This model dwelling was determined on the basis of the 2000 Housing Census data and developments assumed to have taken place during the period 2000 to 2007. The drawings of the prototype model dwelling were provided by the Mauritius Housing Company Ltd. A description of the model is given at paragraph (viii) below.

(iv) Weighting scheme

The quantity survey work to determine the weighting pattern for the index was entrusted to a private Quantity Surveyor following established procedures.

Any given construction consists of an assembly of a certain number of stages or work categories. Sixteen stages or broad work categories were identified and detailed costs of inputs in terms of labour, plant, materials and transport that go into the construction of the selected model were calculated under each of the 16 work categories. The weights have been worked out in such a way that they can be presented in terms of inputs as well as work categories. For publication purposes, weights and sub-indices are shown not only for the 16 work categories, but also for the 4 broad input categories of labour, plant, materials and transport, the “materials” category being further sub-divided into 17 sub-categories.

Changes in the weight structure from 2001 to 2009 are given at the end of this technical note. It is noted that there has been some reclassification within work categories while new ones have been identified. Also within work categories there has been some changes in the product mix as well as the introduction of some new products.

(v) Data collection

The data needed for the computation of the index are collected every month from a sample of 50 outlets in 8 regions of the island. Prices are collected in respect of some 109 items, representative of all items that go into the computation of the index.

(vi) Calculation of the Construction Price Index

The Construction Price Index is a weighted average of price relatives of individual items, based on the modified Laspeyres formula:

$$I_t = \frac{\sum W_i (P_{it} / P_{io})}{\sum W_i} \times 100$$

where I_t = index for current period t
 P_{io} = price of item i at base period 0
 P_{it} = price of item i at current period t
 W_i = weight of item i

The base period is the 2nd quarter of 2009.

(vii) Uses

- a) Construction price indices give an indication of the change in the level of prices of construction works. As such, they are used as deflators for the measurement of real growth in the construction sector.
- b) They are also useful for evaluating cost fluctuations in contracts regarding construction works and for renegotiating owner-tenant agreements.

(viii) Description of model dwelling

The model used is a single storey (ground floor) detached house of 138 square metres (1,485 square feet) in floor area measured at plinth level to the external face of the external walls. The overall area is inclusive of 18.55 square metres (200 square feet) in respect of a garage.

It comprises three bedrooms, a living-dining room, a kitchen, two toilets, a utility room, a bathroom, a verandah and an attached garage. The building has concrete block walls, reinforced concrete flat roof, internal flush plywood doors, aluminium openings for windows and entrance door, screeded floor and roof, tiling to floor and walls of w.c. and bathroom and kitchen worktop; the ceilings and walls are rendered and painted both internally and externally. Plumbing, sanitary installation and electrical installation are included as well as drainage which is to be connected to the sewerage system.

Provision has been made, in the form of more substantial foundations and of stub columns on the roof, for converting the single into a two-storey house eventually. Site works are restricted to spreading and leveling surplus excavated material around the site.

The index excludes the cost of the building permit and the draughtman's fee.

It is assumed that although the house is not constructed by a contractor, the client has recourse to the services of a foreman.