

Producer Price Index (PPI) - Maldives

Base period =2007 | Price reference = October 2012

September 2014

TIME OF RELEASE: MONDAY, 31 December 2014

KEY FIGURES

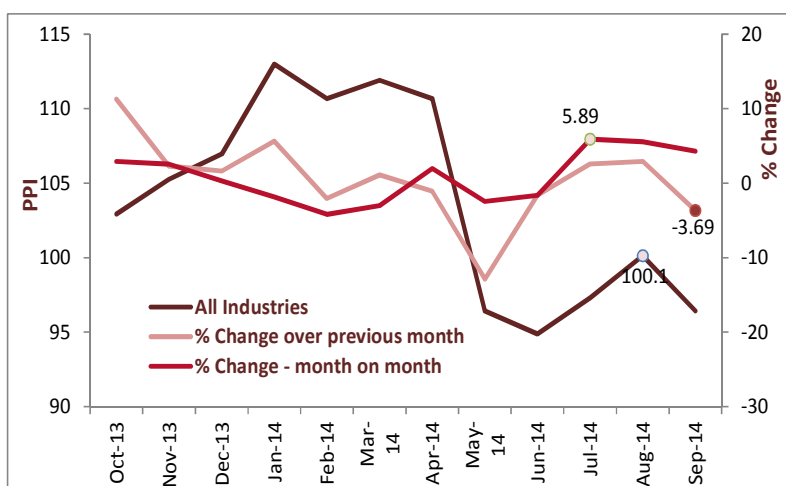
PPI and Month on month Percentage Change

	PPI -All Industries		% Change
	2013	2014	2013/2014
Jul	91.9	97.3	5.9
Aug	94.8	100.1	5.6
Sep	92.5	96.4	4.3

Monthly PPI and Percentage Change

	All Industries	% Change over previous month	% Change - month on month
Oct-13	102.9	11.27	2.92
Nov-13	105.3	2.27	2.54
Dec-13	106.9	1.61	0.30
Jan-14	113.0	5.64	-1.87
Feb-14	110.7	-2.05	-4.21
Mar-14	111.9	1.11	-3.01
Apr-14	110.7	-1.10	1.95
May-14	96.4	-12.87	-2.48
Jun-14	94.9	-1.61	-1.65
Jul-14	97.3	2.56	5.89
Aug-14	100.1	2.89	5.57
Sep-14	96.4	-3.69	4.26

Monthly PPI and Percentage Change



KEY POINTS — All Industries' PPI

Producer Price index has gone down in July (97.3) and September (96.4) when compared to price reference, while August prices had a marginal increase (100.1). When comparisons were made on the same period of previous year, prices of September 2014 have gone up by 4.26% and July and August prices increased by 5.89% and 5.57% respectively.

When Producer Price Index comparisons were made to the previous month, August 2014 prices were higher by 2.89%. While September 2014 prices were lower by 3.69% when comparisons were made to the previous month, August.

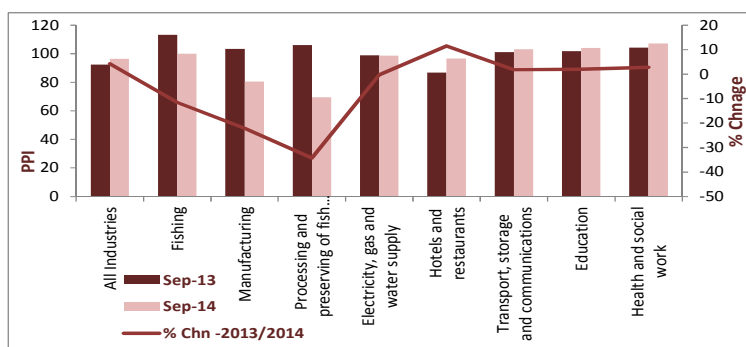
In 2014, PPI showed that prices were higher than the reference month-October 2012 except for May, June, July and September. January 2014 showed the highest price index (113.0) in the series followed by March (111.9). However when January and March prices were compared with the corresponding 2013 months, prices were lower by 1.87% and 3.01% respectively.

OVERVIEW OF MOVEMENTS— September 2014 / September 2013

The most prominent price change was seen in Processed Fish industry where the prices fell by 34.31% which gets reflected in its broader group—Manufacturing Industry (-22.18%). Fishing industry prices also dropped by 11.59%.

Hotels and Restaurant industry prices went up by 11.55% while both Health and Education industries showed an increase of 2.83% and 2.05% respectively.

PPI and Percentage change –September 2014



1. Hotels and Restaurants Industry

OVERVIEW OF HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

Quarter 3, 2014 prices of Hotels and restaurants' industry were higher compared to the same period of 2013. July prices hiked at 13.40% while September prices increased by 11.55%.

However when compared with the price reference (October 2012) both July and September prices were lower at 95.9 and 96.7 respectively while August prices increased by 1.3%.

When PPI of Hotels and Restaurants' was compared with the previous month, both July and August prices increased by 2.31% and 5.63% when compared with the previous month. While September 2014 prices were lower by 4.54% when comparisons were made with August.

Hotels and Restaurant industry's prices are demand driven and hence Q1 and Q4 prices are higher than Q2 and Q3.

1.1: PPI and Percentage change (month on month)

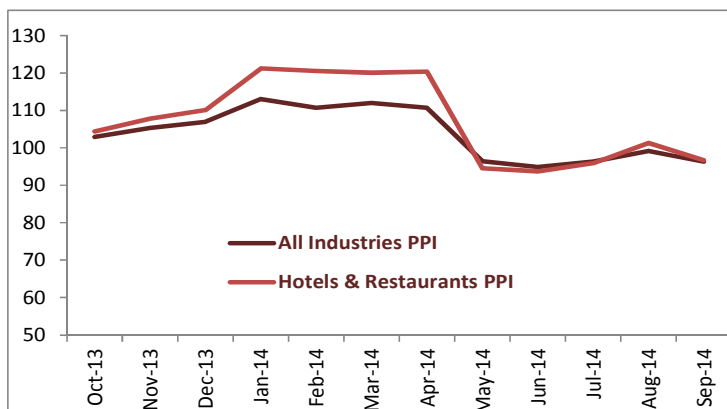
	All Industries		Hotels & Restaurants	
	PPI	% Chn Month on month	PPI	% Chn Month on month
Oct-13	102.9	2.92	104.4	4.36
Nov-13	105.3	2.54	107.7	3.53
Dec-13	106.9	0.30	110.1	0.67
Jan-14	113.0	-1.87	121.2	-2.15
Feb-14	110.7	-4.21	120.5	-3.99
Mar-14	111.9	-3.01	120.0	-2.47
Apr-14	110.7	1.95	120.3	6.57
May-14	96.4	-2.48	94.5	-2.13
Jun-14	94.9	-1.65	93.7	0.70
Jul-14	97.3	5.89	95.9	13.40
Aug-14	100.1	5.57	101.3	12.69
Sep-14	96.4	4.26	96.7	11.55

COMPARISON WITH PPI—ALL INDUSTRIES

Hotels and Restaurants sector accounts for about 56% of PPI weights, which therefore is the most influential sector and plays a major role in the movements of the overall index.

The figure (right) shows the correlation between overall PPI and Hotels and Restaurants sector PPI. Both series shows that prices are highest during January to March and deteriorates from May and starts picking up from October.

PPI - Hotels and Restaurants



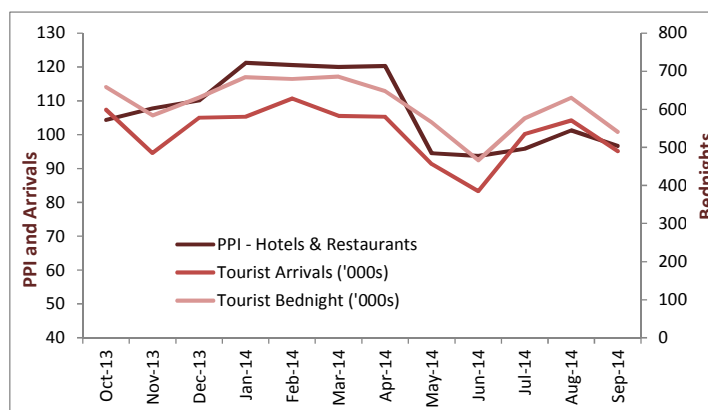
COMPARISON WITH KEY SECTORIAL INDICATORS

PPI of Hotels and Restaurants sector and both indicators, arrivals and bed-nights exhibits a similar trend.

While PPI started to pick up in July, both recorded arrivals and bed-nights also went up from the dip in June. Also as the arrivals were lower in September compared with August, PPI also showed the same pattern.

In 2014 the highest PPI was in January (121.2) while arrivals peaked in February (110,705 tourists) and bed-nights were highest in March (685,333).

PPI - Hotels and Restaurants, Tourist Arrivals and Bed-nights



2. Fishing and

Processing and Preserving of Fish and Fish Products Industries

OVERVIEW AND INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

Throughout the Quarter 3 of 2014 fishing prices were constant (100.2) and was marginally higher than the price reference- October 2012. In 2014 lowest Fishing prices were recorded in March (90.3) when compared with October 2012.

Fishing prices of quarter 3 showed a decline when compared the corresponding month of 2013. September prices were significantly low by 11.59% while July and August prices decreased by 9.20% and 3.34%.

Processed fish prices stood all time low at 69.6 in September which is a decline of 34.31% when compared to September 2013. Both July and August prices were also significantly low at 87.1 and 75.6 respectively. This is a decline of 20.25% and 28.05% when compared with July and August of 2013 respectively.

Processed fish prices remained lower than price reference (October 2012) since October 2013.

Note:

As for Fishing Industry, prices of both skipjack tuna and yellow-fin tuna (YFT) are included. However skipjack prices variations are minimal in contrast to YFT which is volatile. And due to market structure YFT price movements dominates the fishing industry of PPI.

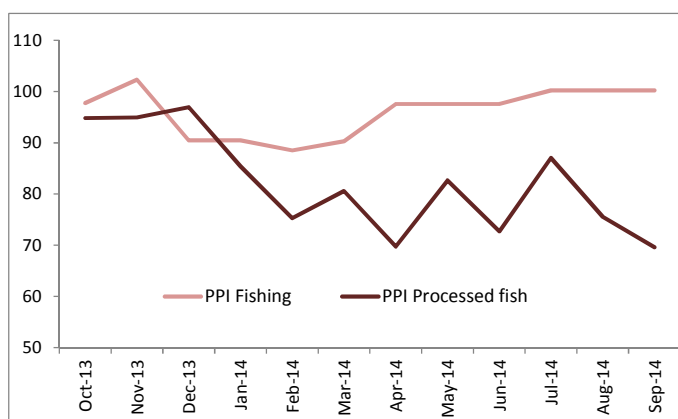
Similar to Fishing industry, YFT products leads the Processing and preservation of fishing industry also due to market structure.

Fish prices depend on landings while fish exports market depends on international fish prices. Hence these two sectors do not adhere a direct correlation.

2.1: PPI—Fishing and Processed Fish

	PPI		% Chn - month on month	
	Fishing	Processed fish	Fishing	Processed fish
Oct-13	97.8	94.8	-2.24	-5.19
Nov-13	102.3	95.0	1.34	-7.48
Dec-13	90.5	96.9	-16.74	-7.83
Jan-14	90.5	85.4	-13.84	-18.91
Feb-14	88.5	75.3	-18.07	-28.75
Mar-14	90.3	80.5	-17.82	-29.76
Apr-14	97.6	69.7	-9.67	-37.28
May-14	97.6	82.7	-15.88	-27.94
Jun-14	97.6	72.7	-13.38	-35.60
Jul-14	100.2	87.1	-9.20	-20.25
Aug-14	100.2	75.6	-3.34	-28.05
Sep-14	100.2	69.6	-11.59	-34.31

PPI—Fishing and Processed Fish



3. Transport and Communications

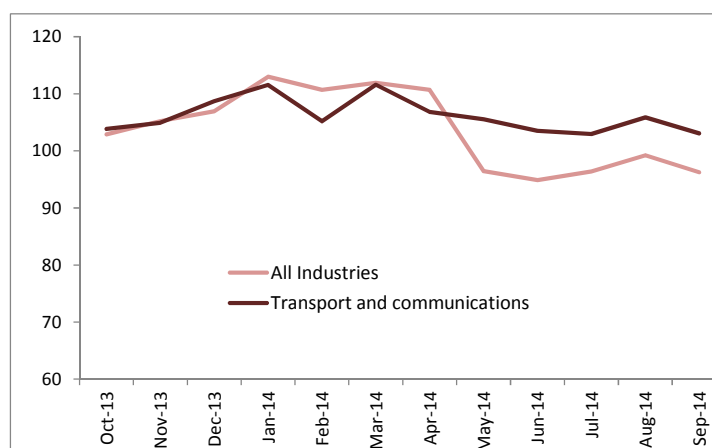
In general quarter 3 prices were higher compared to price reference (October 2012).

When comparisons were made with the same month of 2013 Transport and Telecommunication prices showed a decline in July (-3.27%) while August and September prices increased by 0.51% and 1.87% respectively.

Note:

For telecommunications sector average revenue is used as an indicator of price movements.

PPI — Transport and Communication



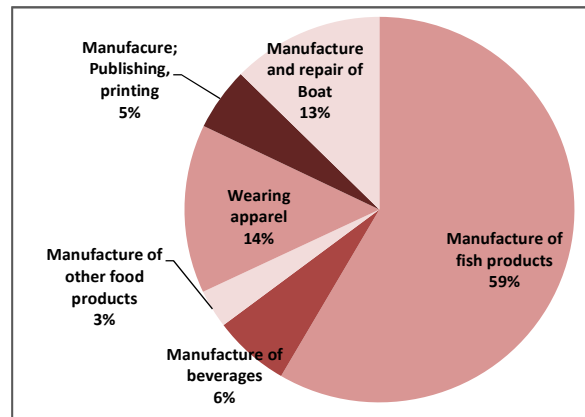
4. Manufacturing

Manufacturing industry shares 12% in the overall PPI.

Within the manufacturing sector Manufacture of processed or preserved fish products shares 59%

Hence Manufacturing sector is dominated by the movements of Manufacture of processed or preserved fish products .

Manufacturing Sector's weight structure



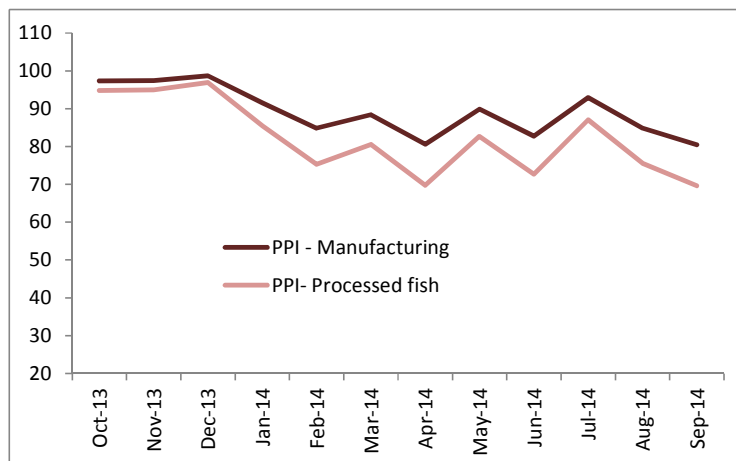
OVERVIEW OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

PPIs of manufacturing continued to remain lower than price reference in quarter 3 of 2014. Similar to Processed Fish PPI, lowest PPI of Manufacturing industry for 2014 was in September. (80.45)

When comparisons were made with the same month of previous year, prices remained lower since October 2013. September 2014 prices declined by 22.18% while July and August prices decreased by 11.71% and 17.51%.

However the highest PPI for Manufacturing industry in 2014 was recorded in July (92.94).

PPI - Manufacturing

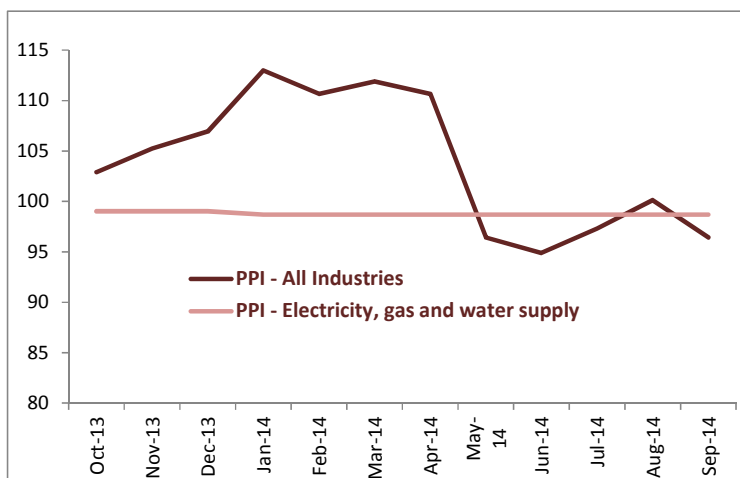


5. Electricity, Gas and Water Supply

Quarter 3 prices of 'electricity, gas and water supply' industry remained constant identical to Quarter 1 and 2.

Quarter 3 prices were 0.30% lower than quarter 3 of 2013.

PPI – Electricity, gas and water supply



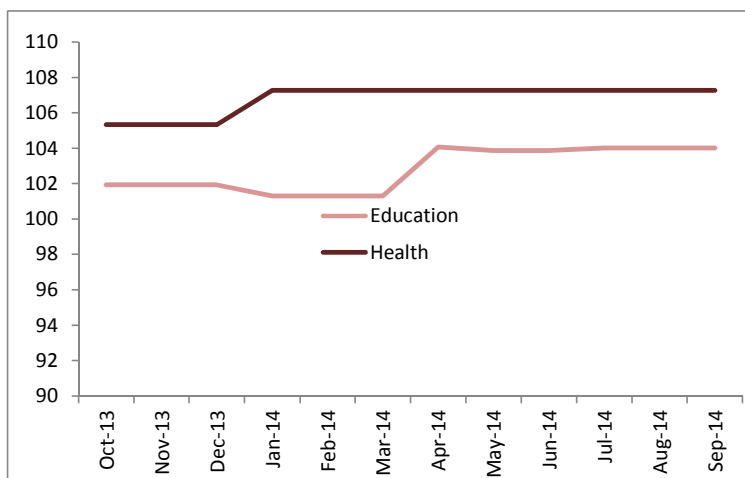
6. Education and Health

PPI - Education and Health

Both Education and Health sector index were constant during quarter 3, 2014 as both sectors do not revise the prices very often.

Education sector prices increased by 2.05% in quarter 3 when compared with the same period of 2013. When comparisons were made with the previous month of 2014, education prices of July 2014 increased by 0.15%.

Health industry prices remained constant in 2014 at 107.27. When comparisons were made with the same period of 2013, quarter 3 prices increased by 2.83% while both quarter 1 and 2 prices increased by 3.22%.



PPI Rebased to 2007

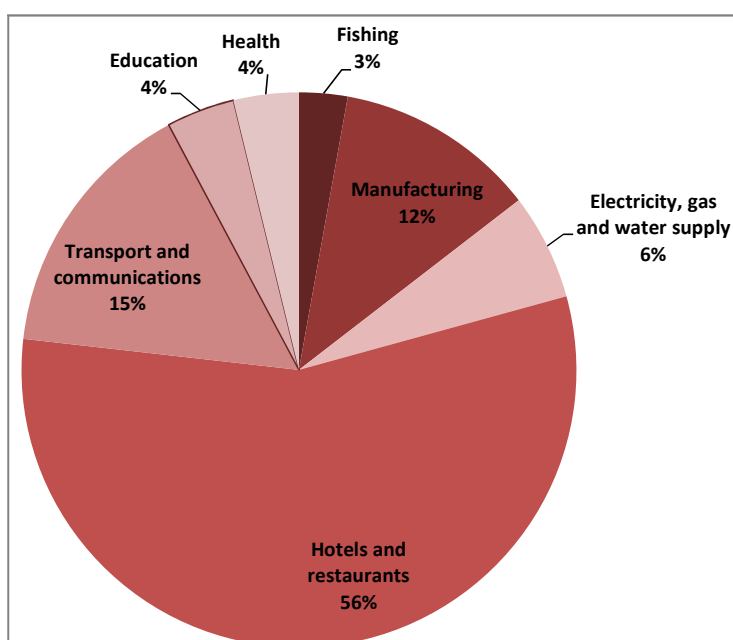
Producer price index (PPI) has been rebased to 2007 with price referenced to October 2012. The industry weights were drawn from the Maldives Supply and Use table (SUT) 2007 which was compiled under the ADB project 'RETA 6482 Supply and Use table for selected DMCs'. In SUT 2007, the data for the domestic production in the supply table as well as intermediate consumption in the use table were predominantly taken from the Economic Survey 2007 (ES).

This is the initial publication from the new series. The index is compiled from 661 transactions among 280 products from a sample of 93 establishments.

Tourism is the main industry in the economy, contributing a third to its GDP. This sector accounts for about 56% of PPI weights, which therefore is the most influential sector and plays a major role in the movements of the overall index. Hence, it is crucial to comprehend the pricing strategies of the sector and how it feeds into the overall inflation.

Other prime sectors include transport and telecommunications sector and manufacturing sector with 15% and 12% respectively.

Weight structure



What is Producer Price Index

The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures the average change over time in the prices received by domestic producers of goods and services.

The PPI provides a weighted average of price change in a group of products between one time period and another. The average price change over time cannot be directly observed and must be estimated by measuring actual prices at different points in time. Price index numbers are compiled from the collected price observations through time. PPI is an index designed to measure the average change in the price of goods and services either as they leave the place of production or as they enter the production process.

PPI with detailed industry data will serve as a leading indicator of price change in the economy. The PPI enables business owners to make a comparison of trends in their own business with those of the industry group. The PPI can be used as an escalator to index long-term contracts for goods and services. In this case, the PPI can be used to adjust the value of the monetary amounts stipulated in the goods and services based on the increase or decrease in the level of a specific index. Additionally PPI could be used as an important tool during the design and formulation of policies and analysis of inflation by the Maldives Monetary Authority and other governmental ministries

Price instability inherently introduces ambiguity into economic analysis and decision making, so the main use of PPI relate to efforts to reduce the uncertainty. PPI is used as a short-term indicator of inflationary trends in a wide spectrum of countries. It is also used in current cost accounting, indexation in legal contracts and as a national accounts deflator. Furthermore, it is used by researchers as well as the business community as an analytical tool to understand the situation of business.

The PPI does not represent prices at the consumer level - this is left to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). CPI is compiled on a monthly basis by National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and released every month. Like the CPI, the PPI uses a benchmark year in which a basket of goods was measured, and every year after it is compared to the base year, which has a value of 100. For the PPI, that year is 2007.

Non-responding sample establishments are estimated by imputing the price changes at the establishment level or industry level.. Revisions to the estimates are done upon receipts of actual reports from late respondents.

The current PPI produced by NBS is not without limitations. Those inbuilt in the system mainly arising from lack of adequate and clear information of the economic structure and players in the country, which determines the weight of the Index system and the sample frame. The limitations are stated in more detail in the methodology paper available on the website. To overcome these limitations, there is a need enhance the list of establishments in sample.

Producer' price indices are constructed from data collected through quarterly surveys of selected establishments. The establishment and product selection procedures and index calculation methods are available in the website www.planning.gov.mv.

Measurement of changes in the price index

Change over previous quarter (monthly) compares the index of the month with that of the preceding month. Such comparisons measure the change in the average prices between two consecutive months. They serve as useful short-term indicators of the price movements in the non seasonal industries.

Change over previous quarter (Quarterly) compares the index of the quarter with that of the preceding quarter. Such comparisons measure the change in the average prices between two consecutive quarters. They serve as useful short-term indicators of the price movements.

Change over same month of previous year (month on month) compares the index of the month with same month of previous year. The measure gives how an industry is growing over 12 months. It reduces the seasonality effects in the indices, especially that in the tourism industry.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Issue (monthly)	Release date
September 2014	31 December 2014
December 2014	31 March 2015

ROUNDING

Any discrepancies between totals and sum of components in this publication are due to rounding.

ABBREVIATIONS

NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
PPI	Producer Price Index
IMF	International Monetary Fund
SUT	Supply and Use Table
ADB	Asian Development Bank
RETA	Regional Technical Assistance
CPI	Consumer Price Index

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The release of the new PPI was made possible through the generous support of the government of Japan which financed the technical assistance provided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Consultant from IMF, Mr Brian E. Graf guided in the formulation and compilation of the index.

Industry Weights were developed by late Ms Zumloth Mohamed and Mr Ali Abdul Raheem. The entire process of data validation, compilation and updating has been done in close collaboration with all the data providing establishments. The initiation process was carried out by Ms Sajida Ahmed and Ms Hana Mansoor with the assistance of Ms. Aishath Laila, Ms. Maimoona Moosa and Ms Mariyam Mirfath. Establishment, product and transaction level weights were developed by Ms Sajida Ahmed. Data collection, verification and compilation has been carried out by Ms Sajida Ahmed and Ms Hana Mansoor with assistance from Ms. Hawwa Wifsha. The support provided by Mr. Paul Armknecht, IMF consultant and the developer of PIPS software, for the processing related issues is also duly recognized. Analysis and report writing together with methodology paper was formulated by Ms. Hana Mansoor. Additionally the indirect support rendered by all staff of 'Prices and Economics statistics unit' and National accounts unit are appreciable. Entire process from design to output was carried out with invaluable assistance from Ms Mariyam Niyaf.

Overall guidance and support throughout the process was provided by Ms. Aishath Laila and senior management of statistics division Ms Aishath Shahauda and Ms Mariyam Niyaf. All their valuable services are gratefully acknowledged.

Producer Price Index Base period =2007 | Price reference = October 2012

	Oct-12	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14
All Industries	100	102.92	105.25	106.95	112.98	110.67	111.91	110.67	96.43	94.88	97.31	100.12	96.43
Fishing	100	97.76	102.35	90.49	90.49	88.54	90.30	97.59	97.59	97.59	100.23	100.23	100.23
Manufacturing	100	97.33	97.42	98.63	91.56	84.84	88.37	80.56	89.89	82.74	92.94	84.82	80.45
Processing and preserving of fish and fish products	100	94.814	94.965	96.938	85.4272	75.284	80.55	69.73	82.66	72.69	87.07	75.55	69.61
Electricity, gas and water supply	100	99.03	99.03	99.03	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68	98.68
Hotels and restaurants	100	104.36	107.75	110.07	121.233	120.505	120.02	120.30	94.51	93.72	95.88	101.27	96.67
Transport and communications	100	103.86	104.96	108.72	111.55	105.21	111.62	106.81	105.54	103.52	102.93	105.89	103.06
Education	100	101.92	101.92	101.92	101.31	101.31	101.31	104.06	103.86	103.86	104.01	104.01	104.01
Health	100	105.33	105.33	105.33	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27	107.27

PPI - Percentage Change over previous month.

	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14
All Industries	11.27	2.27	1.61	5.64	-2.05	1.11	-1.10	-12.87	-1.61	2.56	2.89	-3.69
Fishing	-13.77	4.69	-11.59	0.00	-2.16	1.99	8.08	0.00	0.00	2.70	0.00	0.00
Manufacturing	-5.86	0.10	1.25	-7.17	-7.34	4.16	-8.84	11.59	-7.95	12.32	-8.74	-5.15
Processing and preserving of fish & fish products	-10.52	0.16	2.08	-11.87	-11.87	6.99	-13.43	18.54	-12.07	19.78	-13.22	-7.87
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.05	0.00	0.00	-0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hotels and restaurants	20.42	3.25	2.15	10.14	-0.60	-0.40	0.23	-21.43	-0.84	2.31	5.63	-4.54
Transport and communications	2.65	1.06	3.58	2.61	-5.68	6.09	-4.30	-1.19	-1.91	-0.57	2.87	-2.67
Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.60	0.00	0.00	2.72	-0.19	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00
Health	0.97	0.00	0.00	1.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PPI - Percentage Change-month on month

	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14
All Industries	2.92	2.54	0.30	-1.87	-4.21	-3.01	1.95	-2.48	-1.65	5.89	5.57	4.26
Fishing	-2.24	1.34	-16.74	-13.84	-18.07	-17.82	-9.67	-15.88	-13.38	-9.20	-3.34	-11.59
Manufacturing	-2.67	-4.10	-4.32	-11.29	-17.96	-18.66	-24.51	-17.33	-23.16	-11.71	-17.51	-22.18
Processing and preserving of fish and fish products	-5.19	-7.48	-7.83	-18.91	-28.75	-29.76	-37.28	-27.94	-35.60	-20.25	-28.05	-34.31
Electricity, gas and water supply	-0.97	-0.24	-0.24	-0.59	-3.76	-1.44	-1.44	0.02	0.02	-0.30	-0.30	-0.30
Hotels and restaurants	4.36	3.53	0.67	-2.15	-3.99	-2.47	6.57	-2.13	0.70	13.40	12.69	11.55
Transport and communications	3.86	4.61	5.17	7.39	6.53	7.98	7.70	7.31	5.64	-3.27	0.51	1.87
Education	1.92	1.92	1.92	-0.31	-0.31	-0.31	2.40	2.20	1.90	2.05	2.05	2.05
Health	5.33	5.33	5.33	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.22	2.83	2.83	2.83