Producer Price Index for Transportation and Storage Services

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2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	March 7, 2024
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3. Statistical presentation

3.1. Data description

The Producer Price Index for Transportation and Storage Services measures the average price level of the services provided by companies, compared to the reference period.

3.2. Classification system

The structure of the producer price index for transportation and storage services follows the Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (CPA 2008).

3.3. Sector coverage

The index covers freight and passenger transport services, as well as warehouse and storage services, which corresponds to divisions 49, 50, 51 and 52 of the section H of the Classification of Products by Activity (CPA 2008).

3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions

The following information is published:
- Producer price indices for transportation and storage services compared to previous month;
- Producer price indices for transportation and storage services compared to long term base period;
- Producer price indices for transportation and storage services compared to corresponding month of previous year;
- Producer price indices for transportation and storage services, 12-month average compared the previous 12-month average.

3.5. Statistical unit

Observation units are organizations operating across the country that provide transportation and storage services.

3.6. Statistical population

The selection of observable organizations across the country is based on the statistical data of enterprises. The selected sample consists of all large organizations that are relevant to the division 49, 50, 51 and 52 of the Transportation and Storage Services Section (section H) of CPA 2008, while medium and small organizations are chosen selectively.
As of 2024, the sample consisted of 358 organizations, of which 118 enterprises were selected.

3.7. Reference area

The prices are collected at relevant organizations operating in the country (except in occupied territories). The observable price is the value of the transportation and storage services provided by the company in the specified period. For passenger transport services corresponding consumer price indices are used.

3.8. Time coverage

Since 2008.

3.9. Base period

2010.

4. Unit of measure

Index.

5. Reference period
Month.

6. Institutional mandate
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements
The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics; https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf Statistical Work Programme (annual); https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/307/statistical-work-programme Charter of the National Statistics Office of Georgia. https://www.geostat.ge/media/20845/10%2Csaqstatis-konsolidirebuli-debuleba.pdf
6.2. Data sharing
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7. Confidentiality
7.1. Confidentiality – policy

1. The Law of Georgia on Official Statistics:
   - According to the article 5 of the law Statistical confidentiality and exclusive use for statistical purposes – individual data collected or received by the producer of official statistics, relating to natural or legal persons, must be strictly confidential and used only for statistical purposes.
   - According to the article 34 (Observing Confidentiality of Statistical Data) of the law 1. Data collected, processed, and stored to produce official statistics are confidential if they enable the direct or indirect identification of a statistical unit. In addition, aggregated data are subject to statistical confidentiality: a) Aggregates composed of 1 to 3 units, when the unit is a natural or legal person if one of these units could be identified indirectly, thereby disclosing individual data about this unit. Aggregates composed of more than 3 units may be declared confidential by the Executive Director if required to ensure statistical confidentiality; b) Information declares as a state secret on the basis of the „Law of Georgia on State Secrets". 2. Confidential data shall be used exclusively for the purposes of producing statistics in accordance with this law. 3. Statistical data about the administrative body cannot be considered confidential information, except for the information determined by the Law of Georgia „On State Secrets". 4. Individual data obtained from publicly available sources, which are defined as public information in accordance with the legislation of Georgia, shall not be considered confidential information. 5. Confidential (individual) data may be published if there is written consent from the statistical unit regarding the publication of such data. 6. It is not allowed to disseminate and distribute confidential data or use it for non-statistical purposes.
   - According to the article 38 (Confidentiality commitments) of the law the confidential statistical data collected and processed for statistical purposes shall not be used or disseminated either for personal, academic, research or any other activities, by the employees of the producers of Official Statistics.
   https://www.geostat.ge/media/56202/The-Law-of-Georgia-on-Official-Statistics.pdf
2. Data Confidentiality Policy at Geostat
   https://www.geostat.ge/media/20860/Data-Confidentiality-Policy-at-Geostat_En.pdf
3. Procedure for providing access to confidential data for research purposes (in Georgian)
   https://www.geostat.ge/media/58983/დადგენილება--3.pdf
4. The Law of Georgia on Personal Data Protection
   https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/1561437?publication=9

7.2. Confidentiality – data treatment
• Confidentiality guidelines. • Written undertakings by an employee of Geostat on ensuring confidentiality of gained/collected data as a result of official duties.

8. Release policy
8.1. Release calendar
Data dissemination dates are defined by the calendar developed on the basis of the Statistical Work Programme, which is published on the website of Geostat and is publicly available.
8.2. Release calendar access

https://www.geostat.ge/en/calendar

8.3. User access
All users have the equal access to the statistical data simultaneously.

9. Frequency of dissemination
Monthly.

10. Accessibility and clarity
10.1. News release
Press release for the Services Producer Price Indices is published through Geostat's website on a monthly basis. It contains information about monthly and annual index rates, as well as the contributions of sections and divisions to the index formation. The press release also includes indicators of indeces in a graph. It is available on the following link: https://www.geostat.ge/en/news?year=&month=&category=7
10.2. Publications
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10.3. On-line database
Data are available to all users on the Geostat's website: https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/27/producer-and-import-price-index Also, PC-Axis database: https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXweb/pxweb/en/Database/?rxid=9e2e4e1a-9eb4-4241-aaf7-4e4d4b3cefc6
10.4. Micro-data access
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10.5. Other
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10.6. Documentation on methodology
The methodology for service producer price indices is available on Geostat's website: https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/122/methodologia-price-statistics
10.7. Quality documentation
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11. Quality management
11.1. Quality assurance
To ensure the quality of the statistical processes and products Geostat follows Chapter 10 – Quality of official statistics – of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, as well as the European Statistics Code of Practice, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (ESS QAF).
11.2. Quality assessment
Methodology and Quality Management Division of Geostat, along with the sectoral departments, is responsible for the quality of the produced statistical products and processes. The Division carries out quality audit, self-assessment of statistical processes and assesses the risks for the quality of statistical processes and products. Geostat has developed policy documents, guidelines and standard routine descriptions. These documents ensure the standardization of statistical processes and products and the establishment of a unified quality assurance system. Quality policy is available on the following link: https://www.geostat.ge/media/44380/QP_Geostat_EN.pdf

12. Relevance
12.1. User needs
The PPI for transportation and storage services is used for the following purposes: • The index has an important role in deflating different economic indicators; • The index is used for indexation of contracts in both public and private sectors; • The index is an analytical instrument for researchers and representatives of business sector. The main users of the index are: public agencies, international organizations, researchers and students, media representatives and other stakeholders.

12.2. User satisfaction
In 2021 user satisfaction survey was conducted, the target of the survey was to analyze the assessment of quality of statistical data by users and explore ways to improve user services. The survey report is available on the website of Geostat (in Georgian): https://www.geostat.ge/ka/page/customer-service

12.3. Completeness
Data are consistent to the international standards.

13. Accuracy and reliability
13.1. Overall accuracy
Accuracy of data is ensured by compliance with international methodology of research and calculation methods.
13.2. Sampling error
There is no assessment of the sampling error of the index. The sample size made from the given population is optimal, given the research objectives and limited resources.
13.3. Non-sampling error
No non-sample error evaluation for PPI for transportation and storage services. In order to keep this type of error minimal index calculation includes multiple levels of validation.

14. Timeliness and punctuality
14.1. Timeliness
Data are published on the 19-22nd of the following month of the reporting month.
14.2. Punctuality
The data is published according to the date specified in the statistical work program. There has not been any violation of publication dates.

15. Coherence and comparability
15.1. Comparability – geographical
The prices are collected on freight transportation and storage services in relevant organizations operating in the country. The observable price is the value of transportation and storage services provided by the company in the specific period. The principles of price collection and index calculation are based on international methodology and are fully consistent with it. In addition, prices are collected using the general methodology, which insures data comparability within the country
15.2. Comparability – over time

The index is comparable for the periods:
    1. 2008-2019;
    2. From 2020.
Some detailed indices are comparable over the whole period.
Break in series is due to classification update and increase of index coverage.

15.3. Coherence – cross domain
Data are coherent.
15.4. Coherence – internal
Indices are coherent with the initial data – indices on the aggregate level are compiled using the lowest level indices through a clearly defined procedure.

16. Cost and burden
In 2024 annual budget of statistical surveys of prices (consumer, producer and import prices) amounted to 282 510 GEL.

17. Data revision
17.1. Data revision – policy
Statistical data revision policy is available on the website of Geostat: https://www.geostat.ge/media/59824/Data-Revision-Policy-and-Error_Correction-at-Geostat_Eng.pdf

17.2. Data revision – practice
Planned revision of data is not carried out. An unplanned revision (to clarify data) was not carried out in 2023.

18. Statistical processing

18.1. Source data
The primary data for calculating PPI for transportation and storage services is the prices for transportation operations via land, sea and air vehicles and storage services. The prices are collected on transportation and storage services in relevant organizations operating in the country. The observable price is the value of transportation and storage services provided by the company in the specific period. The selection of observable organizations across the country is based on the statistical data of enterprises. The selected sample consists of all large and medium size organizations that are relevant to the division 49, 50, 51 and 52 of transportation and storage services sections in CPA 2008, while small organizations are chosen selectively. After selecting organizations, the survey is conducted in order to determine the characteristics of their services. For this purpose, the selected organizations are provided with additional electronic questionnaires, where they are required to indicate four main types of services (less than four in case of absence) during the previous year and the share of each of these operations in the whole services provided by the company. During the selection process detailed specifications are determined. Following the specifications is the most important part of price registration since the monthly recorded difference between prices should be caused by pure price change of the services, rather than by changes in characteristics. Relying on the obtained survey data the prices for sampled services are recorded each month across the year. The sample of organizations is updated annually based on the statistical data of enterprises. In case the organization stops operating it is not replaced before updating the sample. In 2024 291 price data points will be collected monthly from 118 organizations.

18.2. Frequency of data collection
Price collection fieldworks are conducted monthly, on the same date of the following month of the reporting period, from the 1st to the 8th day.

18.3. Data collection
During the price collection fieldworks, the representative of the organization fills in the questionnaire published on Geostat website. The fieldworks are conducted from the 1st to the 8th of the month following the reporting period. In case of transportation services, the questionnaire consists of the following information: the selected four types of transportation, transport vehicle, type of cargo, measurement unit, prices in the reporting and previous months and in case of a price change, the reasons of this change. As for storage services: the selected 4 types of storage options, types of stored goods, measurement unit, prices in the reporting and previous months and in case of a price change, the reasons of this change. The base price is registered at the start of the reporting year and remains constant through the whole year. The questionnaires are filled in the online form. The organizations fill the questionnaire independently or with the help of price enumerator. Online questionnaires are on the following address: http://database.geostat.ge/portal/ent/index.php It is possible to see the questionnaires on the website of Georgia, on the following link: https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/557/questionnaires-price-statistics

18.4. Data validation
The validation procedure is conducted in two stages: **On the first** stage validation takes place simultaneously with the price registration fieldworks. In case of price change, the person responsible for filling the questionnaire is required to define by the comment the reason of the change. After the data are sent to the central office, a responsible employee conducts analysis and logical control of the data. **On the second stage** accuracy of the price, which are extremely deviated from the price of the previous month, is checked after calculating the overall index.

18.5. Data compilation
During the calculation of the index, if in the reporting period no price is recorded for one of the services, imputation method is used. The price is repeated until the real price is recorded again. Information from business statistics is used for determining the weights for transportation and storage services. The weight of an individual operation, which is included in the index, represents the share of the value of this operation in the total value of the services. For period t, weights from period t-2 are used. The weights are updated annually, based on the total revenue received from the services provided by the selected companies in t-2 period. During the annual update the list of services in the index might also change.

During the calculation of the producer price index for telecommunication services, an elementary price index is the index calculated for each individual service produced by an organization.

If a price for a service is not indicated by an organization in the reporting period, one of the following two methods of price imputation is applied: using the upper level group index and using carry-forward method.

In the process of time, an organization may not produce a service of the same quality anymore, for which prices have been observed. In order to ensure the comparability of prices for old and new services, a quality adjustment method should be used, for which an imputed base price is calculated using several methods

18.6. Adjustment

Not applied.

19. Comment

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