



SPECIAL RELEASE

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (2012=100)

MARCH 2019

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Year-on-Year and Month-on-Month Changes in Percent

	Mar 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2018	Year-to-date
Year-on-Year	3.3 ^p	3.8	4.0	3.8
Month-on-Month	0.0 ^p	-0.1	0.5	

p-preliminary

Year-on-Year

Annual increment of Construction Materials Wholesale Price Index (CMWPI) in the National Capital Region (NCR) continues to decelerate

The annual increase of the CMWPI in NCR slowed down further to 3.3 percent in March 2019. Higher annual growths were registered in February 2019 at 3.8 percent and in March 2018, 4.0 percent. Compared with their annual rates in February 2019, slower annual mark-ups were noted in the indices of the following commodity groups:

- Concrete products and cement, 4.6%;
- Hardware, 1.8%;
- Lumber, 6.9%;
- Reinforcing and structural steel, and tileworks, each at 0.4%;
- Doors, jambs, and steel casement, 1.6%; and
- Electrical works, 8.5%.

Meanwhile, higher annual add-ons were posted the indices of the following commodity groups during the month:

- Sand and gravel, 11.1%;
- Plywood, 2.3%;
- G.I. sheet, 1.2%;
- Plumbing fixtures and accessories/waterworks, 3.8%;



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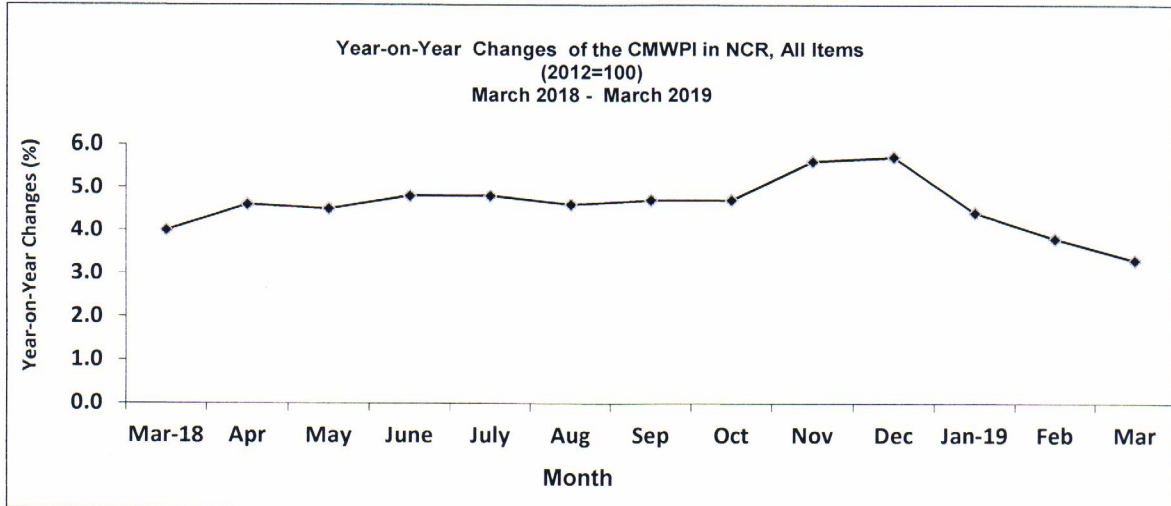


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- Painting works, 0.2%; and
- Fuels and lubricants, 8.7%.

The index of PVC pipes maintained its annual rate of 0.7 percent, while the rest of the commodity groups had zero growth (see Table 2).



Month-on-Month

CMWPI in NCR slightly picks up during the period

The month-on-month change of CMWPI in NCR inched up by 0.02 percent in March 2019. In the previous month, it dropped by 0.1 percent. The indices of hardware and lumber both climbed by 0.5 percent in March 2019; plywood, 0.3 percent; and painting works, 0.2 percent. From a zero growth in the previous month, the indices of G.I. sheet rose by 1.2 percent, and plumbing fixtures and accessories/waterworks, 0.5 percent. Slower increases were, however, registered in the indices of electrical works at 0.5 percent, and fuels and lubricants at 4.1 percent. Moreover, declines were posted in the indices of concrete products and cement at 0.7 percent; reinforcing and structural steel, 0.1 percent; and doors jambs, and steel casement, 1.4 percent. The group's index for sand and gravel remained at its previous month's rate of 1.2 percent, while the rest of the commodity groups had zero growth during the month (see Table 3).

Prices of petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel, and bunker fuel oil went up in March 2019. Sand, gravel, selected hardware products, plywood, coco lumber, and G.I. sheets were also priced higher during the period.

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