

News Release

4:00 pm (GMT +8) June 5 2019 DGBAS, Taipei

The Price Indices for May 2019

Consumer Price Indices (CPI)

The CPI in May 2019 (2016=100) increased 0.15% from the preceding month. Prices of fruits and vegetables rose 9.25% and 2.32% due to heavy rains in May. Moreover, prices of fuels and lubricants also rose 2.45%. However, prices of eggs and communication fees fell 9.57% and 1.64%, respectively, and prices of garments declined 1.11% due to the Mother's Day sales, all of which offset the increase. The general CPI excluding fruits, vegetables and energy (core CPI) decreased 0.17%.

The annual change of CPI in May 2019, compared with the same month of 2018, increased 0.94%. Prices of vegetables and fruits rose 26.24% and 1.93% due to heavy rains in May. Besides, prices of water, electricity and gas supply rose 2.08% owing to the increase of gas price. Prices of entertainment expenses rose 1.71% due to the increase of Package Tours fee. Nonetheless, prices of communication fees and garments declined 2.85% and 1.80%, respectively, both of which offset the increase. The core CPI increased 0.62%.

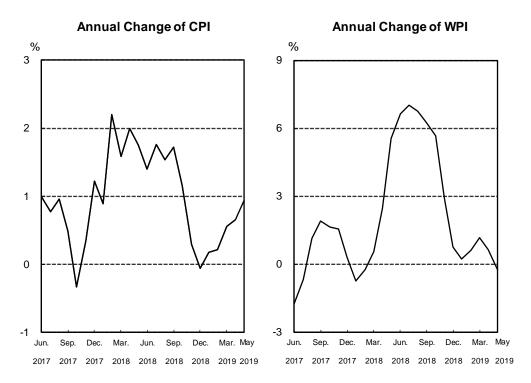
For the first five months of 2019, the CPI increased 0.51% over the same period of the previous year. Prices of commodity and services moved up 0.29% and 0.73%. The core CPI increased 0.49%.

Wholesale Price Indices (WPI)

The WPI in May 2019 increased 0.78% from the preceding month. Prices of farm products, poultry and livestock products, as well as petroleum and coal products rose 4.12%, 3.45%, and 3.30%, respectively.

The annual change of WPI in May 2019, compared with the same month of 2018, decreased 0.23%. Prices of chemical materials, other chemical products and pharmaceuticals, as well as basic metals fell 7.84% and 3.40%, respectively. However, prices of quarrying products and other mining products, as well as farm products rose 11.65% and 7.04%, respectively. The WPI for products domestically produced for domestic purchase decreased 0.61%, export price index fell 0.96%, but import price index rose 0.97%.

For the first five months of 2019, the WPI increased 0.50% over the same period of the previous year.



Statistical Tables

Table1 The Changes of Consumer Price Indices Table2 The Changes of Wholesale Price Indices Table3 The Changes of Import Price Indices Table4 The Changes of Export Price Indices **For Further Information:** *Statistics Database:* <u>https://eng.stat.gov.tw/</u> *DGBAS* news releases on the Internet: <u>https://eng.dgbas.gov.tw/</u>

Tel: +886-2-23803449; Fax: +886-2-23803465