



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills



Quarterly Price and Cost Indices

Commentary

4Q2012

Coverage: UK, Great Britain and England and Wales

Geographical area: Country and region

Date of publication: 11 March 2013

Headline results

- The *BIS Output Price Index for New Construction (2010): All New Construction (COPI)* for 4th Quarter 2012 rose 0.4% on the previous quarter and by 2.6% on the same quarter a year earlier.
- The *BIS Tender Price Index for Public Sector Non-Housing (PUBSEC)* for 4th Quarter 2012 fell 1.7% on the previous quarter and remained unchanged from 4th Quarter 2011.
- The *BIS Tender Price Index of Social Housing (TPISH)* shows a rise of 0.5% compared with the previous quarter and a rise of 3.2% compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- The *BIS Tender Price Index of Road Construction (ROADCON)* shows a fall of 2.2% compared with the previous quarter and a fall of 0.6% compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- The *BIS Resource Cost Indices* for the Building Sectors, both Housing and Non-Housing, in the 4th Quarter 2012 show fairly stable costs.
- The *BIS Resource Cost Indices* for Infrastructure, both Roads and Infrastructure generally, have increased slightly compared to the previous quarter and show increases of 3.0% and 1.4% respectively compared with the same period in 2011.

Introduction

This commentary accompanies the latest [Quarterly Price and Cost Indices](#), published on the BIS Construction website on 11 March 2013.

It aims to provide a brief overview of recent trends in the data presented on the website. These data cover the following price and cost indices (in parentheses the publication frequency and geographical coverage).

Output Price Indices (OPIs)

All Work (2010): All New Construction and Repair and Maintenance Work (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): All New Construction (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Infrastructure (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Private Commercial (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Private Housing (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Private Industrial (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Public Housing (Quarterly, GB)
New Construction (2010): Public Non-Housing (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): All Repair and Maintenance (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): Infrastructure (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): Private Housing (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): Private Non-Housing (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): Public Housing (Quarterly, GB)
Repair and Maintenance (2010): Public Non-Housing (Quarterly, GB)
Direct Labour (2010): Public Housing New Construction (Quarterly, GB)
Direct Labour (2010): Public Housing Repair and Maintenance (Quarterly, GB)
Direct Labour (2010): Public Non-Housing New Construction (Quarterly, GB)
Direct Labour (2010): Public Non-Housing Repair and Maintenance (Quarterly, GB)

Tender Price Indices (TPIs)

All Construction TPI: All Construction (Quarterly, UK)
All Construction TPI: All New Construction (Quarterly, UK)
All Construction TPI: All Repairs and Maintenance, (Quarterly, UK)
BIS Tender Price Index of Public Sector Building Non-Housing PUBSEC¹ (Quarterly, UK)
Tender Price Index of Road Construction, BIS ROADCON² (Quarterly, UK)
Tender Price Index of Social Housebuilding (TPISH)³: New Build (Quarterly, England and Wales)⁴
Tender Price Index of Social Housebuilding: (TPISH) Derived Rehab (Quarterly, England and Wales)

¹ Regional location factors and Function factors are also available.

² Regional Road type and Value factors are also available.

³ Regional location factors are also available.

⁴ Figures for Scotland are prepared by the Scottish Government.

Resource Cost Indices (RCIs)

ALLCOS Index of All Construction (Quarterly, UK)

- All New Work
- All Repair and Maintenance
- All Work
- All Work: Labour and plant
- All Work: Materials

NOCOS Index for Building Non-Housing

- Combined
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Building
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

HOCOS Index for House Building (Quarterly, UK)

- Combined
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Building
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

ROCOS Index for Road Construction (Quarterly, UK)

- Combined
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

FOCOS Index for Infrastructure (Quarterly, UK)

- Combined
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

NOMACOS Index for Maintenance of Building Non-Housing (Quarterly, UK)

- Combined
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Building
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

HOMACOS Index for Maintenance of House Building (Quarterly, UK)

- Combined
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Building
- Labour and Plant
- Materials

Commentary

BIS New Construction Output Price Indices 4Q2012

The BIS *Output Price Index for New Construction (2010): All New Construction* (COPI) for 4th Quarter 2012 rose 0.4% on the previous quarter and by 2.6% on the same quarter a year earlier.

The quarter on quarter change resulted from rises in output prices in all sectors except Public Housing, where prices fell 0.3% and Private Commercial where prices fell 0.2% (see table 1). The composition of the index was influenced by quarter-on-quarter changes in the proportions of volume of output. The proportion of Public Housing and Public Non-Housing fell, while the proportion of Private Housing rose. The proportion of work in the Infrastructure, Private Industrial and Private Commercial sectors remained unchanged (see table 2).

The 4th Quarter 2012 on 4th Quarter 2011 rise of 2.6% resulted from increases in output prices in all sectors except for Public Housing where prices fell by 1.7%. Price increases remain particularly strong in the Private Housing, Infrastructure and Private Commercial sectors (see table 1). The mix of the sectors in the index over the year was influenced by a rise in the proportion of output from the Private Housing, Infrastructure and Private Industrial sectors and a fall in the proportion of Public Housing, Public Non-Housing and Private Commercial work.

Table 1: BIS New Construction Output Price Indices 4Q 2012 percentage change:

Sector	Percentage change	
	<i>on year</i>	<i>on quarter</i>
Public Housing	-1.7%	-0.3%
Private Housing	2.4%	1.1%
Infrastructure	3.9%	0.4%
Public Non Housing	1.8%	0.2%
Private Industrial	0.3%	0.1%
Private Commercial	2.5%	-0.2%
All New Work	2.6%	0.4%

Table 2: ONS New Construction Output proportion by sector
(based on current price non seasonally adjusted volume figures)

Quarter		Public Housing	Private Housing	Infrastructure	Public Non Housing	Private Industrial	Private Commercial	All New Work
2011	Q1	7%	20%	19%	19%	4%	30%	100%
	Q2	7%	21%	20%	17%	4%	30%	100%
	Q3	6%	21%	19%	17%	4%	32%	100%
	Q4 (R)	6%	21%	20%	16%	4%	33%	100%
2012	Q1 (R)	6%	23%	19%	16%	5%	32%	100%
	Q2 (R)	6%	23%	19%	15%	5%	33%	100%
	Q3 (R)	6%	22%	21%	16%	5%	31%	100%
	Q4 (R)	5%	23%	21%	14%	5%	31%	100%

The movement of the Output Price Indices generally reflects the movement in tender prices in previous periods.

Notes

Details of [Construction output volumes](#) are available from ONS.

Details of the [Sector output price indices](#) are available on the BIS website and on subscription from BCIS <http://www.bcis.co.uk/online>

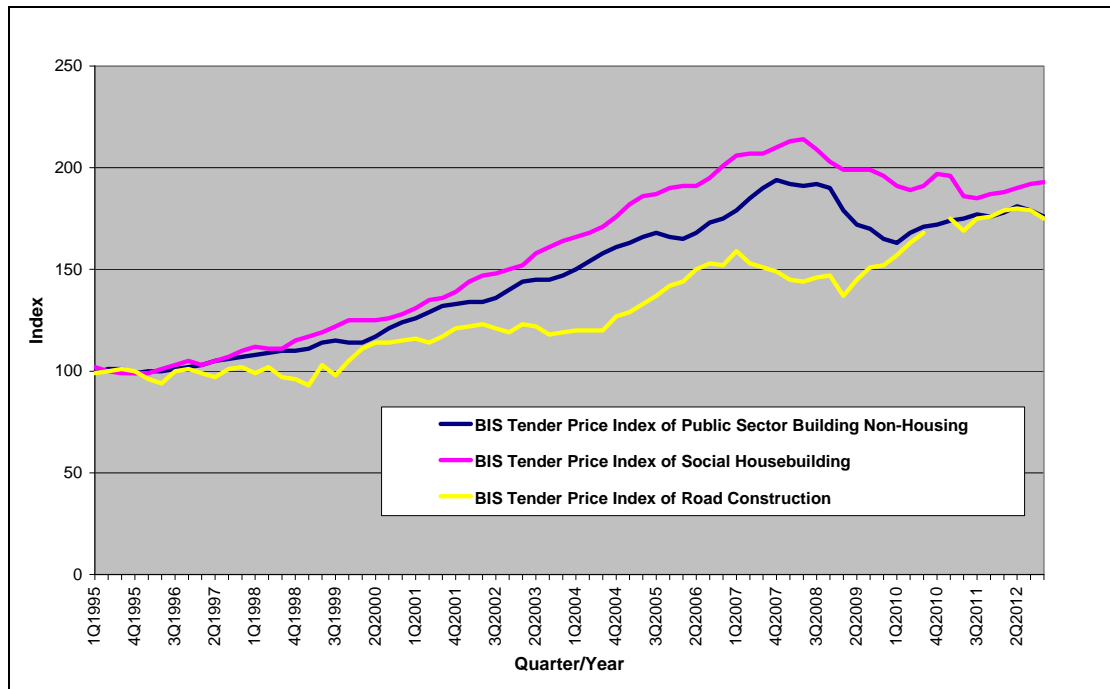
BIS Construction Public Sector Tender Price Indices 4Q2012

The *BIS Tender Price Index for Public Sector Non-Housing (PUBSEC)* shows a fall of 1.7% in the 4th Quarter 2012 compared to the previous quarter and remains unchanged from 4th Quarter 2011

The *BIS Tender Price Index of Social Housing (TPISH)* shows a rise of 0.5% compared with the previous quarter and a rise of 3.2% compared with the same quarter a year earlier. The index shows that prices in this sector have remained steady since 2nd Quarter 2010, but are some 10% below their peak in 2nd Quarter 2008.

The *BIS Tender Price Index of Road Construction (ROADCON)* shows a fall of 2.2% compared with the previous quarter and a fall of 0.6% compared with the same quarter a year earlier.

Chart 1 - PUBSEC, ROADCON and TPISH



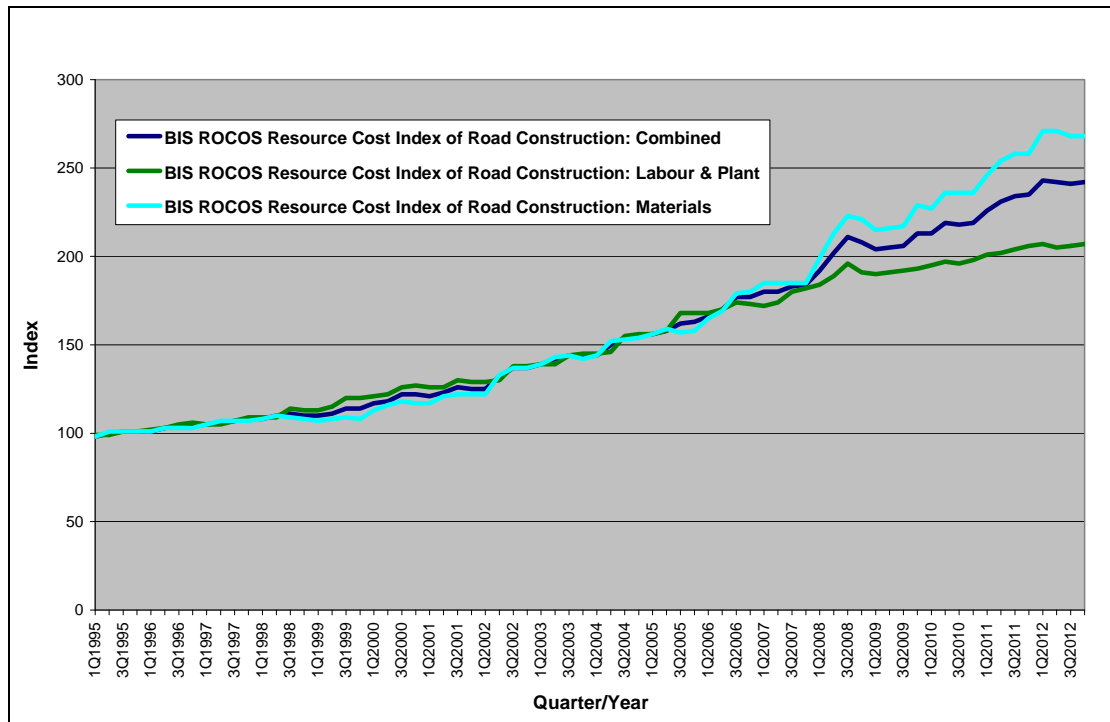
BIS Construction Resource Cost Indices 4Q2012

The resource costs indices in 4th Quarter 2012 show fairly stable costs in the building sectors, housing and non-housing, with modest rises of 1.0% and 0.5% respectively in the year since 4th Quarter 2011.

Costs in the infrastructure, both roads and infrastructure generally, have risen slightly compared with the previous quarter and also show increases in the year since 4th Quarter 2011. The *BIS Resource Cost Index of Road Construction (ROCOS)* rose 3% in the year to 4th Quarter 2012 and 0.4% on the quarter, while the *BIS Resource Cost Index of Infrastructure (FOCOS)* rose 1.4% on the year and rose 0.5% on the quarter.

Over recent years, materials costs have been the main driver for the increase in the infrastructure cost indices. Chart 2 shows that while the materials inputs remained unchanged from the previous quarter, they have risen three times as much as labour and plant cost since 1st Quarter 2008.

Chart 2 – Roads costs – Labour and Plant and Materials



Economic Background

BIS produce a monthly note on the economic background for construction, published with its [Monthly Statistics of Buildings Materials and Components](#)

Notes

Uses of Data

There are three types of indices which have different purposes and uses:

Tender Price Indices: Measure project construction prices to clients agreed at 'commit to construct'. The TPIs are produced primarily for use in estimating, cost-checking and fee negotiation on public sector construction works. They are used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to deflate construction new orders from current to constant prices and in the calculation of the OPIs.

Output Price Indices: Measure project construction prices paid by clients at the point that the work is carried out. The OPIs are produced primarily to deflate construction output from current to constant prices and are generally derived from TPIs modelled to sector output in previous quarters.

Resource Cost Indices: Measure the notional trend of input costs to a contractor in terms of increases in the cost of labour, materials and plant by application of the BCIS Price Adjustment Formulae Indices (PAFI) for Building (Series 3), Specialist Engineering (Series 3) and Civil Engineering (1990 Series) to cost models. The PAFI are based on ONS Producer Price Indices (PPIs). The RCIs are used for budgeting, estimating, tendering or paying for construction work.

Quality Information

For the Tender Price and Output Price Indices that are based on project indices, sample sizes are stated for each index.

For OPIs that are based on modelled TPIs, the inputs come from the RCIs and TPIs.

The RCIs are based on PPIs and published wage awards. Details of the PPIs are available on the [ONS website](#)

Related Statistics

ONS publish [Producer Price Index \(PPI\)](#), a monthly survey that measures the price changes of goods bought and sold by UK manufacturers and provides a key measure of inflation. This Statistical Bulletin contains a comprehensive selection of data on input and output index series. It contains PPIs for materials and fuels purchased, and output of manufacturing industry by broad sector and includes many construction materials.

ONS publish [Construction Output statistics](#), a monthly series of the output of the construction industry in both the private and public sectors, and for both new work and repair and maintenance.

ONS publish [Construction New Orders](#). This information relates to contracts for new construction work awarded to main contractors by clients in both the public and private sectors. Also included is speculative work, undertaken on the initiative of the firm, where no contract or order is awarded. The value of this work is recorded in the period when foundation works are started.

Revisions Policy

The [revision policy](#) for these indices can be found on the BIS Building Price and Cost Indices webpage.

Further Information

As part of this programme of work BIS and BCIS have published methodology notes for each set of BIS Construction and Price Indices:

- [Tender Price Indices \(PDF, 276 Kb\)](#) including the Tender Price Index of Public Sector Building Non-Housing (PUBSEC), Road Construction (ROADCON), Social Housebuilding (TPISH), and the All Construction Tender Price Index (ALLCON)

- [Output Price Indices, \(PDF, 188 Kb\)](#) including the Output Price Indices for: New Construction, Repair and Maintenance, Direct Labour.
- [Resource Cost Indices \(PDF, 150 Kb\)](#) including the Resource Cost Index of: Building Non-Housing (NOCOS), House Building (HOCOS), Road Construction (ROCOS), Infrastructure (FOCOS), Maintenance of Building Non-Housing (NOMACOS), Maintenance of House Building (HOMACOS), and All Construction (ALLCOS).

Next publication: 17 June 2013

Enquiries: Enquiries about the indices should be addressed to BCIS.
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7695 1500
Email: support@bcis.co.uk

Responsible Statistician: Keith Folwell from the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) is the statistician responsible for the Price and Cost Indices
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7215 1248
Email: keith.folwell@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Website: [BIS Price and Cost Indices](#)

Department of Business, Innovation & Skills. www.bis.gov.uk

First published March 2013.

© Crown copyright 2013

You may re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. **To view this licence**, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or e-mail: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk. URN BIS/13/P150a