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### **1.28% the average increase in Wholesale Trade Prices for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 compared to the same period of 2022.**

The quarterly report issued by the Department of Statistics regarding Wholesale Trade Prices indicates an increase in the Wholesale Trade Prices Index for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 by 1.28% compared to the same period of 2022, and by 0.32% compared to the previous quarter. On the accumulative level, the General Wholesale Trade Prices Index has increased in the first half of 2023 by 2.03% compared to the same period of 2022.

Thus, the General Wholesale Trade Prices Index for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 has reached 105.84 against 104.50 for the same quarter of 2022. Moreover, the General Wholesale Trade Prices Index for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 recorded an amount of 105.84 against 105.51 for the previous quarter. On the accumulative level for 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2023, the General Wholesale Trade Prices Index reached 105.68 against 103.57 for the same period of 2022.

The commodity groups that contributed to the increase of the Wholesale Trade Price Index in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 were the “Sale of machinery, equipment and supplies” group by 3.24% with a relative importance of 9.33%, “sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles and parts” group by 3.12% with a relative importance of 19.79%, “sale of textiles, clothing and personal housing products” group by 1.29% with a relative importance of 10.91%, and the “sale of agricultural raw materials, grains, food, beverages and tobacco” by 1.07% with a relative importance of 39.22%, while there was a decrease in the prices of “sale of fuel, metals and construction materials and fittings” group by (0.90%) with a relative importance of 20.76%.

On the quarterly change level, the General Wholesale Trade Prices Index has increased in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 compared to the previous quarter. This increase has resulted from the price increase of “sale of agricultural raw materials, grains, food, beverages, and tobacco” group by 0.93% with a relative importance of 39.22%, “sale of machinery, equipment, and supplies” group by 0.34%

with a relative importance of 9.33%, “sale of textiles, clothing, and personal housing products” group by 0.22% with a relative importance of 10.91%, and “sale of Motor Vehicles and their Parts and Motor Cycles” group by 0.14% with a relative importance of 19.79%, while there was a decrease in the prices of “sale of fuel, metals and construction materials and fittings” group by (0.61%) with a relative importance of 20.76%.

Comparing the accumulative price index for the first half of 2023 with the same period of 2022, there was an increase in the prices of “Sale of machinery, equipment and supplies” group by 4.11% with a relative importance of 9.33%, “sale of Motor Vehicles Group and their Parts and Motor Cycles” group by 3.55% with a relative importance of 19.79%, “sale of textiles, clothing, and personal housing products” group by 1.59% with a relative importance of 10.91%, “sale of agricultural raw materials, grains, food, beverages, tobacco” group by 1.31% with a relative importance of 39.22%, and the “sale of fuel, metals and construction materials and fittings” group by 1.27% with a relative importance of 20.76%.



**Table (1): Quarterly Indices of wholesale trade prices for the years 2022 and 2023**

Quarter \ Year	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
<b>2022</b>	<b>102.64</b>	<b>104.50</b>	<b>104.74</b>	<b>105.06</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>105.51</b>	<b>105.84</b>		

**Table (2): The average of quarterly and accumulative change in the Wholesale Trade Prices for 2022 & 2023**

Year \ Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
<b>2022</b>	<b>5.66</b>	<b>6.22</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>4.49</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>1.28</b>		
<b>2023 Accumulative</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>2.03</b>		