

PRICE TRENDS for FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

1987 BASE

FIRST QUARTER 2005



The three-quarter moving composite price index is the weighted average of the indices for three consecutive quarters.

The Composite Bid Price Index is composed of six indicator items: common excavation, to indicate the price trend for all roadway excavation; portland cement concrete pavement and bituminous concrete pavement, to indicate the price trend for all surfacing types; and reinforcing steel, structural steel, and structural concrete, to indicate the price trend for structures. Descriptions of the six indicator items can be found in Federal-aid Policy Guide G-6011-10.

Development of the index is discussed in some detail in PUBLIC ROADS magazines, volume 31, No. 10, October 1961; volume 36, No. 4, October 1970; and volume 45, No. 1, June 1981.

Average contract prices shown herein are based on actual bids and include costs of materials, labor, equipment, overhead and profit.

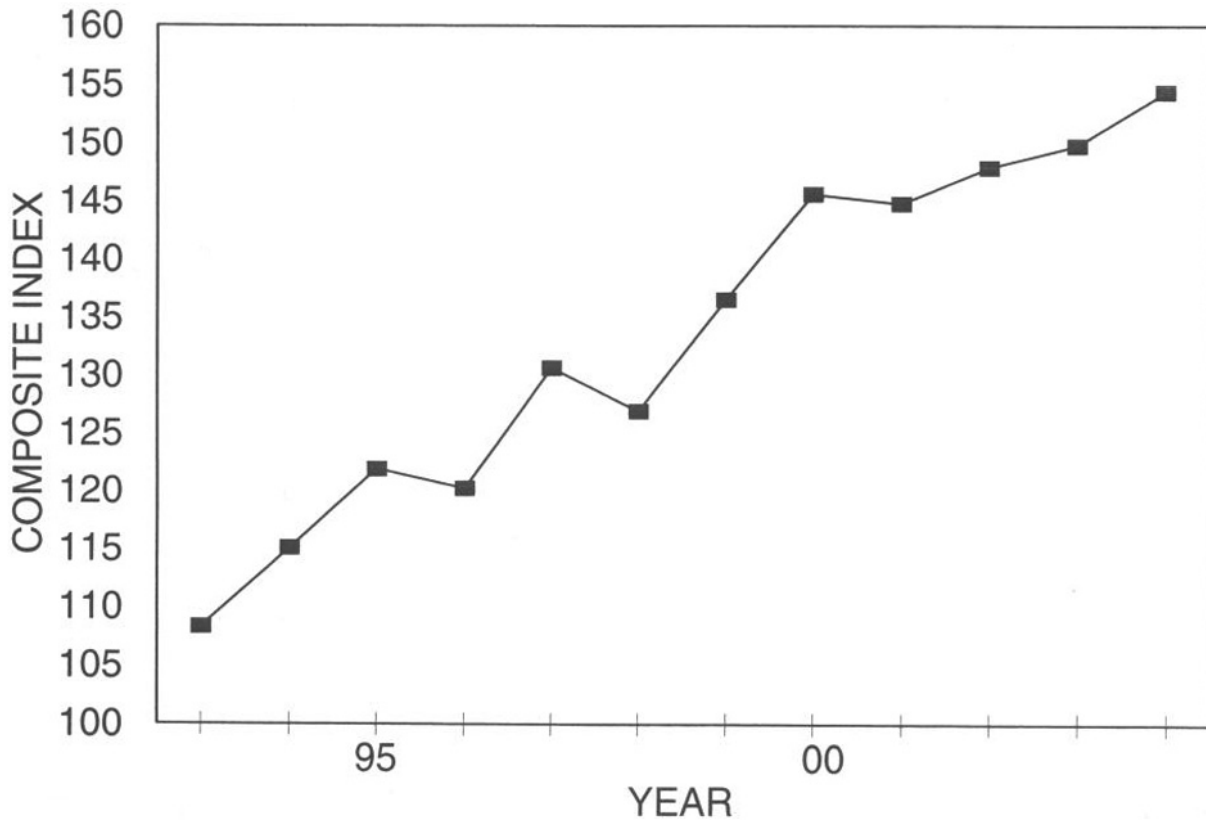
Disclaimer: The base for each State index is its own particular “market basket” of quantities and costs during the base period. The composite index for each State measures the change in that State’s index since base year 1987. (in 1987 each State’s index equaled 100). **These indices are not to be used for State comparisons.**

FHWA guidance calls for data to be provided on all National Highway System projects except those projects with a contract value less than \$500,000, or installation of protective devices at railroad grade crossings, or beautification projects. Despite this requirement, FHWA may not receive all data required to be submitted in any year and, in some cases, no data is received from a state for an entire year. In addition, when data are not received in time to be included in the composite price trend for the quarter or year, FHWA routinely includes these data in the subsequent period’s reporting. Finally, FHWA performs limited review of data for accuracy and does not verify data entry by its staff. FHWA has not assessed the degree to which these conditions affect reported price trends, although it believes that underreporting is the most material limitation in the quality of the reported data.

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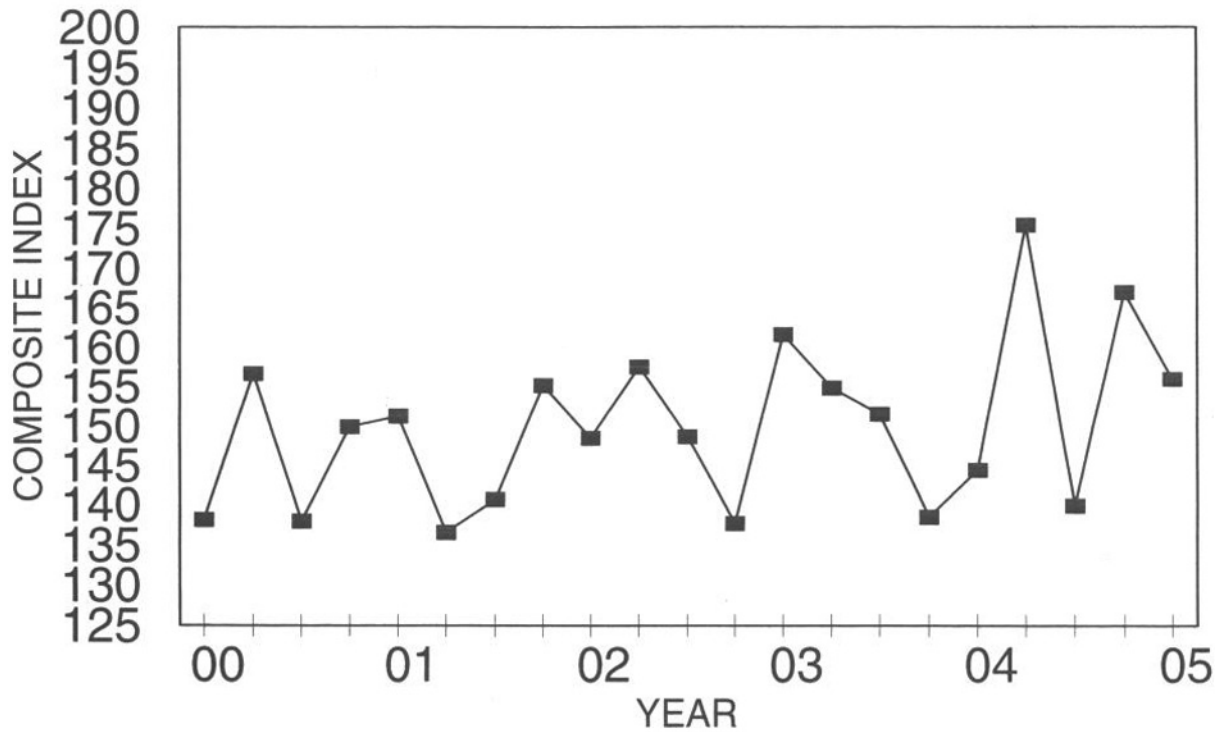
ANNUAL PRICE TRENDS

1987 BASE



QUARTERLY PRICE TRENDS

1987 BASE



PRICE TRENDS FOR FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY

1987 Base ¹

Year	Common excavation				Portland cement concrete surface ²				Bituminous concrete surface				Surfacing	
	Average contract price (cu. yd.)		Index		Average contract price (sq. yd.)		Index		Average contract price (ton)		Index		Index	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
1972 ²	.65	1.01	26.8	41.7	5.96	7.39	40.5	50.2	8.63	10.84	35.0	44.0	36.8	46.0
1973	.72	1.07	29.7	44.1	6.42	8.01	43.6	54.4	9.25	11.70	37.5	47.5	39.5	49.7
1974	.87	1.35	35.9	55.7	8.08	10.55	54.9	71.6	13.53	17.43	54.9	70.7	54.9	71.0
1975	.91	1.51	37.5	62.3	8.16	10.39	55.4	70.5	14.47	17.03	58.7	69.1	57.6	69.6
1976	.93	1.40	38.4	57.7	8.18	10.31	55.5	70.0	14.04	16.85	57.0	68.4	56.5	68.9
1977	1.09	1.46	45.0	60.2	8.83	11.52	59.9	78.2	14.84	17.71	60.2	71.9	60.1	73.9
1978	1.42	1.83	58.6	75.5	10.06	13.78	68.3	93.5	16.47	18.74	66.8	76.0	67.3	81.8
1979	1.45	2.15	59.8	88.7	12.33	16.59	83.7	112.6	20.15	24.37	81.8	98.9	82.4	103.4
1980	1.67	2.25	68.9	92.8	13.89	16.57	94.3	112.5	24.26	27.97	98.4	113.5	97.1	113.2
1981	1.55	2.27	63.9	93.6	13.02	15.32	88.4	104.0	24.63	26.68	99.9	108.2	96.1	106.9
1982	1.48	1.74	61.0	71.8	11.86	14.27	80.5	96.9	23.46	26.41	95.2	107.2	90.4	103.8
1983	1.59	2.10	65.6	86.6	11.83	14.58	80.3	99.0	23.46	26.72	95.2	108.4	90.3	105.3
1984	1.66	2.50	68.5	103.1	12.55	15.77	85.2	107.1	25.58	28.84	103.8	117.0	97.7	113.7
1985	1.85	3.20	76.3	132.0	13.29	15.67	90.2	106.4	27.51	30.89	111.6	125.3	104.6	119.1
1986	1.88	2.95	77.5	121.7	13.63	17.86	92.5	121.2	24.69	30.21	100.2	122.6	97.7	122.1
1987	1.91	3.37	78.8	139.0	13.37	17.06	90.8	115.8	23.39	27.81	94.9	112.8	93.5	113.8
1988	2.00	3.72	82.5	153.4	13.39	15.62	90.9	106.0	23.58	28.14	95.7	114.2	94.1	111.5
1989	2.01	3.20	82.9	132.0	13.56	16.67	92.0	113.2	22.17	28.66	89.9	116.3	90.6	115.3
1990	1.98	3.27	81.6	134.9	14.50	17.43	98.5	118.3	23.20	27.84	94.1	113.0	95.5	114.7
1991	1.98	2.89	81.6	119.2	16.02	17.08	108.8	115.9	24.51	27.63	99.4	112.1	102.5	113.4
1992	1.88	2.91	77.7	120.2	15.97	19.99	108.4	135.7	23.97	26.38	97.3	107.0	100.9	116.4
1993	2.16	3.57	89.2	147.3	18.41	19.50	124.9	132.3	25.86	27.20	104.9	110.4	111.5	117.6
1994	2.20	3.58	90.6	147.8	19.45	22.00	132.0	149.3	26.26	30.89	106.5	125.3	114.9	133.2
1995	2.36	3.94	97.3	162.5	20.63	23.52	140.0	159.6	26.96	32.04	109.4	130.0	119.4	139.7
1996	2.67	3.68	110.3	151.9	19.49	19.76	132.3	134.1	27.31	27.84	110.8	112.9	117.8	119.9
1997	2.47	3.96	102.1	163.4	21.50	27.14	145.9	184.2	27.71	33.48	112.4	135.8	123.4	151.7
1998	2.63	4.51	108.4	186.1	23.14	24.34	157.1	165.2	23.86	28.09	96.8	113.9	116.6	130.8
1999	2.51	4.35	103.7	179.3	23.79	23.05	161.5	156.5	31.44	34.71	127.6	140.8	138.7	145.9
2000	2.67	4.52	110.2	186.2	24.54	27.55	166.6	187.0	34.33	37.82	139.3	153.4	148.2	164.5
2001	2.62	4.93	107.9	203.5	25.59	32.60	173.7	221.3	33.51	39.42	135.9	159.9	148.3	180.1
2002:														
First quarter	2.71	4.84	111.8	199.6	21.77	33.50	147.8	227.4	28.54	39.10	115.8	158.6	126.3	181.2
Second quarter	2.47	5.17	101.8	213.1	41.43	30.23	281.2	205.2	34.05	38.92	138.1	157.9	185.1	173.4
Third quarter	2.65	4.02	109.1	165.8	19.67	29.31	133.5	198.9	33.73	36.75	136.9	149.1	135.8	165.5
Fourth quarter	2.08	5.72	85.6	235.8	24.60	40.54	167.0	275.2	31.12	35.64	126.3	144.6	139.7	187.5
Annual	2.49	4.80	102.7	197.9	22.48	31.73	152.6	215.4	31.78	37.43	128.9	151.9	136.7	172.7
2003:														
First quarter	4.62	6.59	190.7	271.6	18.13	31.41	123.1	213.2	33.62	31.86	136.4	129.3	132.0	156.8
Second quarter	2.63	6.93	108.3	285.7	20.57	29.86	139.6	202.7	33.41	41.62	135.6	168.8	136.9	179.9
Third quarter	3.17	5.19	130.9	213.9	29.13	27.58	197.8	187.2	32.45	43.61	131.7	176.9	153.4	180.3
Fourth quarter	2.38	2.74	98.1	113.2	21.19	20.82	143.9	141.3	34.05	41.78	138.1	169.5	140.0	160.2
Annual	2.82	4.92	116.3	203.0	20.97	27.18	142.4	184.5	33.44	39.19	135.7	158.9	137.9	167.4
2004:														
First quarter	2.46	5.02	101.4	206.8	23.73	28.05	161.1	190.4	33.08	34.66	134.2	140.6	143.1	156.9
Second quarter	3.10	4.15	127.8	170.9	28.79	32.40	195.4	219.9	32.81	43.61	133.1	176.9	153.6	191.1
Third quarter	2.67	6.26	110.8	258.2	17.54	43.68	119.1	296.5	35.27	43.51	143.1	176.5	135.2	215.9
Fourth quarter	3.13	4.88	129.0	201.4	26.78	32.57	181.8	221.1	38.24	47.27	155.1	191.8	163.9	201.4
Annual	2.82	5.06	116.5	208.7	22.46	33.85	152.5	229.8	34.74	41.91	140.9	170.0	144.7	189.6
2005:														
First quarter	3.34	4.79	137.7	197.4	29.32	41.03	199.0	278.5	38.29	43.09	155.3	174.8	169.7	208.9

¹Base for composite index, 1987, involves 210,078,000 cubic yards of roadway excavation, 30,893,690 square yards of portland cement concrete surfacing with an average thickness of 9 inches, 37,760,443 tons of bituminous concrete surfacing, 577,753,544 pounds of reinforcing steel for structures, 444,924,141 pounds of structural steel and 3,498,333 cubic yards of structural concrete.

²Starting with 1972, prices for portland cement concrete surfacing reflect adjustments to a standard 9" thickness in each State. Prices do not include costs for reinforcing steel and joints.

PRICE TRENDS FOR FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

1987 Base ¹

THREE-QUARTER MOVING INDEX

Year	Common excavation		Surfacing					Structures							Composite index
	Average contract price (cu. yd.)	Index	Portland cement concrete ²		Bituminous concrete		Surfacing index	Reinforcing steel		Structural steel		Structural concrete		Structures index	
			Average contract price (sq. yd.)	Index	Average contract price (ton)	Index		Average contract price (lb.)	Index	Average contract price (lb.)	Index	Average contract price (cu. yd.)	Index		
1986	2.31	95.3	15.84	107.5	25.70	104.3	105.3	.440	99.8	.855	96.6	232.34	96.5	97.1	100.2
1987	2.59	106.8	15.20	103.2	25.44	103.2	103.2	.451	102.3	.877	99.1	258.33	107.3	104.3	104.2
1988	2.56	105.6	14.81	100.5	24.83	100.7	100.7	.534	121.2	.989	111.7	283.00	117.5	116.6	108.4
1989	2.68	110.6	16.20	110.0	24.73	100.3	103.5	.557	126.4	1.004	113.4	280.61	116.5	117.4	110.7
1990	2.24	92.3	16.24	110.2	25.88	105.0	106.7	.532	120.7	1.076	121.6	292.29	121.4	123.4	111.0
1991	2.32	95.7	17.18	116.7	24.54	99.6	105.2	.475	107.7	.919	103.9	244.71	101.6	103.2	102.9
1992	2.30	94.8	18.07	122.6	24.71	100.2	107.6	.538	122.0	.908	102.6	249.85	103.8	106.5	105.2
1993	2.55	105.1	19.43	131.9	27.28	110.7	117.6	.483	109.5	.812	91.7	257.48	106.9	103.4	109.5
1994	2.80	115.6	28.77	195.3	28.15	114.2	140.8	.534	121.2	.913	103.2	297.77	123.6	117.8	126.9
1995	2.83	116.7	22.01	149.4	28.88	117.2	127.8	.522	118.5	.969	109.5	303.10	126.1	120.4	122.9
1996	2.85	117.5	21.28	144.5	29.21	118.5	127.0	.558	126.5	1.118	126.3	306.70	127.4	126.9	125.6
1997	2.82	116.2	24.51	166.4	23.56	95.6	118.8	.586	132.9	1.207	136.3	316.75	131.5	133.0	124.7
1998:															
First quarter	2.85	116.6	23.83	161.7	23.84	96.71	118.1	.573	130.0	1.177	132.9	323.75	134.4	133.3	124.6
Second quarter	3.10	127.7	23.19	157.4	24.76	100.4	119.2	.533	120.9	1.110	125.4	330.77	137.3	131.4	125.8
Third quarter	3.02	124.6	23.75	161.2	28.85	117.0	131.5	.512	116.1	1.093	123.5	337.68	140.2	131.7	130.6
Fourth quarter	2.95	121.7	23.55	159.9	29.43	119.4	132.7	.521	118.1	1.180	133.3	346.25	143.8	136.6	132.8
1999:															
First quarter	2.88	118.7	24.82	168.5	29.65	120.3	136.1	.556	126.2	1.190	134.5	345.75	143.6	138.2	134.4
Second quarter	3.03	125.1	22.43	152.2	31.97	129.7	137.1	.552	125.2	1.195	135.1	332.71	138.2	135.1	134.4
Third quarter	3.01	124.2	24.16	163.9	33.04	134.1	143.9	.559	126.8	1.222	138.0	344.14	142.9	138.9	138.7
Fourth quarter	2.78	114.7	23.60	160.2	33.04	134.0	142.6	.573	130.1	1.175	132.7	351.75	146.1	139.8	137.2
2000:															
First quarter	2.88	118.6	25.49	173.0	34.13	138.5	149.8	.597	135.5	1.280	144.6	372.31	154.6	148.7	144.6
Second quarter	3.01	124.1	24.85	168.7	34.78	141.1	150.2	.533	120.9	1.291	145.9	364.08	151.2	144.6	143.8
Third quarter	3.15	128.9	25.50	173.1	36.01	146.1	154.9	.532	120.8	1.411	159.4	364.46	151.3	148.3	148.2
Fourth quarter	3.22	132.9	27.33	185.5	35.44	143.8	157.5	.516	117.1	1.418	160.2	330.04	137.0	139.8	145.9
2001:															
First quarter	3.35	138.3	26.18	177.7	35.21	142.9	154.3	.574	130.3	1.329	150.2	331.12	137.5	139.6	145.4
Second quarter	2.96	122.2	26.26	178.2	34.63	140.5	152.9	.557	126.3	1.211	136.9	322.72	134.0	133.5	139.7
Third quarter	2.90	119.5	27.51	186.8	34.82	141.3	156.2	.610	138.5	1.123	126.9	356.92	148.2	140.9	143.9
Fourth quarter	2.99	123.1	26.59	180.5	34.01	137.9	151.9	.631	143.2	1.417	160.1	379.60	157.6	155.8	149.3
2002:															
First quarter	3.09	127.5	27.38	185.9	34.12	138.4	154.0	.654	148.4	1.482	167.4	394.11	163.6	162.0	153.5
Second quarter	3.01	124.1	25.37	172.2	34.37	139.4	150.2	.607	137.8	1.539	173.4	387.86	161.1	160.5	150.8
Third quarter	2.90	119.5	26.79	181.8	36.15	142.6	155.5	.606	137.6	1.280	144.6	367.86	152.7	148.0	146.8
Fourth quarter	3.27	135.0	24.78	168.2	34.22	138.9	148.5	.610	138.5	1.210	136.7	376.77	156.4	148.2	146.3
2003:															
First quarter	3.33	137.3	24.16	163.9	33.22	134.8	144.4	.727	164.9	1.195	135.0	396.54	164.6	156.9	148.8
Second quarter	3.81	157.2	25.27	171.5	32.85	133.3	145.8	.735	166.7	1.216	137.4	413.24	171.6	161.7	154.5
Third quarter	3.18	130.9	24.09	163.5	32.60	132.3	142.5	.733	166.3	1.230	138.9	398.13	165.5	158.7	147.9
Fourth quarter	3.07	126.7	24.42	165.8	32.31	131.1	142.5	.657	149.2	1.159	130.9	377.42	156.7	148.6	142.8
2004:															
First quarter	2.97	122.7	25.60	173.8	33.67	136.6	148.8	.715	162.1	1.618	182.8	387.54	160.9	166.9	152.8
Second quarter	3.21	132.5	26.35	178.9	36.06	146.3	157.0	.774	175.6	1.539	173.9	322.40	133.9	151.6	150.9
Third quarter	3.40	140.1	27.22	184.8	37.82	153.4	163.7	.847	192.1	1.635	184.7	324.00	134.5	157.6	157.5
Fourth quarter	3.49	143.7	26.97	183.1	39.31	159.5	167.2	.919	208.5	1.312	148.2	270.26	112.2	138.2	150.9

¹ Base for composite index, 1987, involves 210,078,000 cubic yards of roadway excavation, 30,893,690 square yards of portland cement concrete surfacing with an average thickness of 9 inches, 37,760,443 tons of bituminous concrete surfacing, 577,753,544 pounds of reinforcing steel for structures, 444,924,141 pounds of structural steel and 3,498,333 cubic yards of structural concrete.

ANNUAL PRICE TRENDS FOR FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION-1987 Base ¹

Composite Index

Region	State	1987	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
1	Connecticut	100.0	99.52	98.73	115.49	103.84	107.77	95.35	115.32	105.61	135.59	
	Maine	100.0	103.13	118.03	107.56	128.21	189.20	0.00	132.82	154.70	169.67	
	Massachusetts	100.0	75.17	49.48	76.96	54.15	174.12	48.93	112.47	96.38	120.17	
	New Hampshire	100.0	119.98	93.06	60.92	132.68	0.00	192.85	197.49	146.80	200.13	
	New Jersey	100.0	106.16	107.43	97.51	108.30	113.41	109.17	125.96	148.97	108.60	
	New York	100.0	99.03	133.84	124.76	90.83	134.90	124.13	148.27	122.29	138.52	
	Rhode Island	100.0	0.00	118.87	158.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	98.02	328.67	151.74	
	Vermont	100.0	192.90	258.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	135.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Puerto Rico	100.0	119.18	0.00	178.89	116.35	0.00	178.35	0.00	151.20	190.59	
	3	Delaware	100.0	130.92	130.60	196.06	348.82	144.77	155.90	510.18	258.97	232.54
District of Columbia		100.0	69.69	91.30	54.22	105.44	83.72	0.00	67.50	0.00	87.10	
Maryland		100.0	107.78	139.66	180.06	103.30	124.85	197.42	119.69	174.66	128.88	
Pennsylvania		100.0	107.28	119.19	112.33	115.07	131.19	118.29	117.82	114.49	147.01	
Virginia		100.0	114.75	130.84	122.79	120.90	132.05	162.58	133.41	99.78	0.00	
West Virginia		100.0	147.87	125.27	119.12	147.14	136.40	107.27	121.96	101.15	107.82	
4		Alabama	100.0	137.39	121.07	132.51	130.75	122.98	114.68	118.10	144.32	187.07
	Florida	100.0	95.81	104.52	125.36	106.34	112.51	136.91	166.64	126.99	183.99	
	Georgia	100.0	132.32	143.57	131.66	158.47	159.25	153.41	177.49	218.03	177.99	
	Kentucky	100.0	149.78	156.89	197.01	199.66	195.65	194.89	0.00	144.72	214.14	
	Mississippi	100.0	148.33	171.75	140.47	207.18	137.42	164.33	144.19	256.39	233.43	
	North Carolina	100.0	128.28	143.40	124.58	132.05	133.76	154.65	151.34	146.22	149.42	
	South Carolina	100.0	124.50	137.79	172.75	178.90	172.41	213.70	162.08	154.92	203.32	
	Tennessee	100.0	129.01	136.03	159.47	132.95	130.98	134.69	116.02	169.63	0.00	
	5	Illinois	100.0	112.16	123.38	135.24	131.62	131.98	143.57	150.43	159.29	138.84
		Indiana	100.0	153.09	145.40	149.68	150.92	158.42	176.07	162.20	170.76	197.42
Michigan		100.0	159.39	163.09	167.83	191.19	214.90	220.29	237.41	208.71	191.33	
Minnesota		100.0	89.95	147.02	275.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Ohio		100.0	115.10	112.45	110.48	116.97	139.56	110.90	113.95	114.65	131.70	
Wisconsin		100.0	178.99	138.26	137.11	145.33	258.71	160.66	153.96	156.52	0.00	
6	Arkansas	100.0	109.74	123.27	116.57	135.57	148.04	152.68	163.62	144.61	146.78	
	Louisiana	100.0	164.96	168.87	206.69	148.98	139.69	160.74	184.59	186.80	203.16	
	New Mexico	100.0	98.41	106.56	111.72	111.85	112.39	60.70	119.67	174.28	105.78	
	Oklahoma	100.0	140.23	137.56	147.02	158.69	133.29	158.53	151.49	152.81	147.02	
	Texas	100.0	130.32	89.44	106.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	196.10	153.68	183.05	
7	Iowa	100.0	99.87	126.39	121.17	126.12	132.15	128.98	136.47	142.92	145.79	
	Kansas	100.0	88.37	98.95	101.84	113.57	105.56	120.50	104.35	106.91	90.54	
	Missouri	100.0	108.04	143.26	96.14	163.85	165.86	353.67	120.80	131.45	125.22	
	Nebraska	100.0	144.37	144.40	152.25	152.30	141.68	147.01	138.96	140.93	177.09	
8	Colorado	100.0	152.25	169.74	189.41	173.71	175.76	198.52	242.19	0.00	194.61	
	Montana	100.0	162.27	150.30	166.66	217.51	184.99	176.48	184.37	210.89	183.58	
	North Dakota	100.0	253.86	174.23	145.48	201.82	172.90	177.10	199.01	224.95	218.78	
	South Dakota	100.0	102.38	127.68	143.41	188.35	169.72	158.79	176.05	164.36	183.62	
	Utah	100.0	173.31	163.23	182.06	164.75	169.87	213.04	225.04	164.95	205.71	
	Wyoming	100.0	140.40	141.28	154.43	202.74	165.09	167.31	200.03	222.06	191.04	
9	Arizona	100.0	123.52	107.28	126.56	111.69	118.46	127.83	119.76	116.04	146.13	
	California	100.0	111.58	125.48	138.28	141.01	150.26	145.80	153.26	178.17	241.35	
	Hawaii	100.0	97.90	72.24	94.82	108.63	105.03	118.43	152.53	111.33	117.00	
	Nevada	100.0	210.08	122.49	183.11	159.33	166.28	164.03	168.97	158.48	230.61	
10	Alaska	100.0	148.18	99.76	0.00	166.55	133.79	152.87	188.09	207.43	200.38	
	Idaho	100.0	116.69	127.99	168.67	133.29	173.43	164.24	187.83	142.05	173.15	
	Oregon	100.0	152.37	160.30	288.09	175.08	173.29	170.07	175.63	249.80	192.32	
	Washington	100.0	316.60	187.34	0.00	155.79	153.39	155.81	158.53	160.65	213.94	
	UNITED STATES	100.0	120.24	130.55	126.87	136.5	145.63	144.75	147.90	149.75	154.38	

¹ Indices are based on information submitted for Federal-aid construction contracts over \$500,000. In some instances, individual State indices may not be truly representative of long-term price trends because of comparatively low volumes of work for the period reported, or because of unusual projects awarded during the period. Also, differences in bid item specifications among the States might account for some of the differences in unit prices in the various States.

The base for each State index is its own particular "market basket" of quantities and costs during the base period. The composite index for each State measures the change in that State's index since base year 1987. (In 1987 each State's index equalled 100.)

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

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