# **Economics Group**



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## **Import Prices Fall in June**

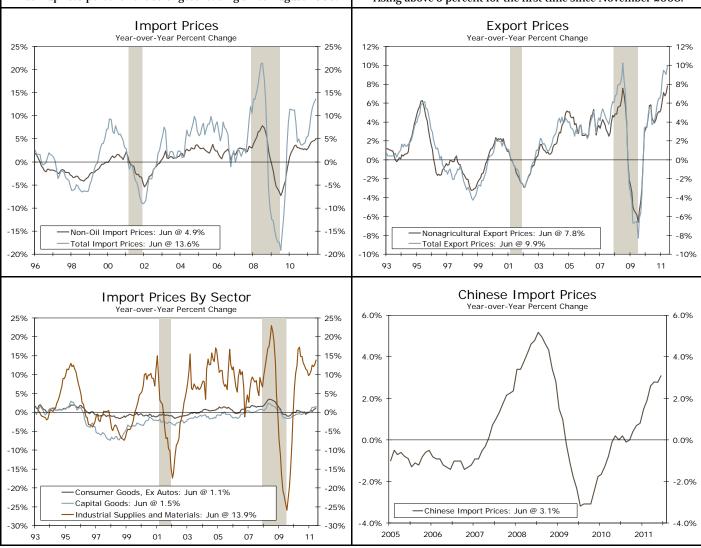
Largely on the back of receding oil prices, total import prices fell 0.5 percent in June—the first monthly decline in a year. Export prices increased again, but monthly gains have moderated over the past few months.

#### **Lower Commodity Prices Weigh on Import Costs**

#### Total import prices fell roughly as expected as fuel prices declined for the second straight month, down 1.6 percent in June. Excluding fuel, import prices edged down 0.1 percent as lower nonfuel industrial supplies and food, feeds & beverages prices more than offset higher costs for automotive vehicles and consumer goods. Over the past year, total import prices are still up 13.6 percent—the strongest reading since August 2008.

#### **Export Price Gains Moderating**

- For the 11th consecutive month export prices increased, up 0.1
  percent. Higher agriculture prices, notably corn, soybeans and
  wheat, accounted for the entire month's gain as prices excluding
  agriculture remained flat.
- Prices of goods imported from China edged up 0.1 percent. The year-over-year increase, however, continues its upward climb, rising above 3 percent for the first time since November 2008.



Source: U.S. Department of Labor and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

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