

Economics Group

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Petroleum Prices Lead Boost in January Import Price Inflation

Reflecting higher petroleum prices, import prices jumped 0.6 percent in January. Excluding fuels, import prices increased a more modest 0.2 percent. Near-term inflationary pressures remain benign.

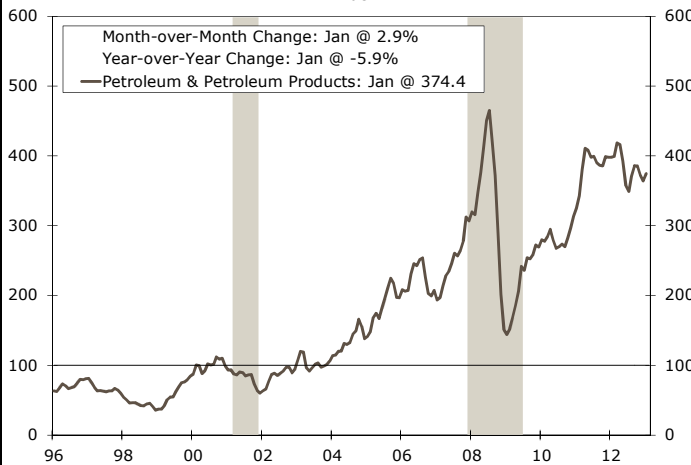
Oil/Petroleum Prices Pick Up At Start of 2013

- As expected, import prices rebounded from December's downwardly revised 0.5 percent decline on the strength of rising oil prices. Petroleum prices more than reversed December's decline, rising 2.9 percent in January.
- Nonfuel import prices also increased, but at a more modest rate. While consumer and capital goods were essentially flat, industrial supplies and foods/beverages registered solid gains.

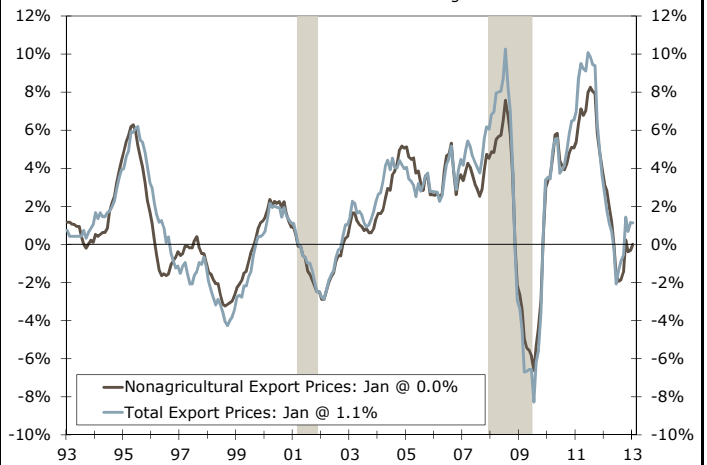
Inflation Outlook Still Favorable

- Export prices also rebounded, rising 0.3 percent on a broad-based 0.5 percent gain in nonagricultural commodities.
- Given soft global demand, import price inflation slowed substantially throughout 2012. Modest global growth prospects this year should reverse the trend in the year-over-year decline in import prices, but should not threaten to send inflation on a spiraling, uncontrollable upward path.

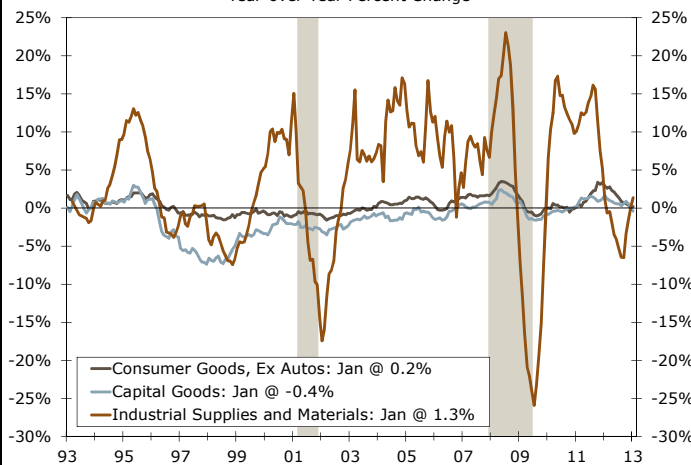
Import Prices for Petroleum Products
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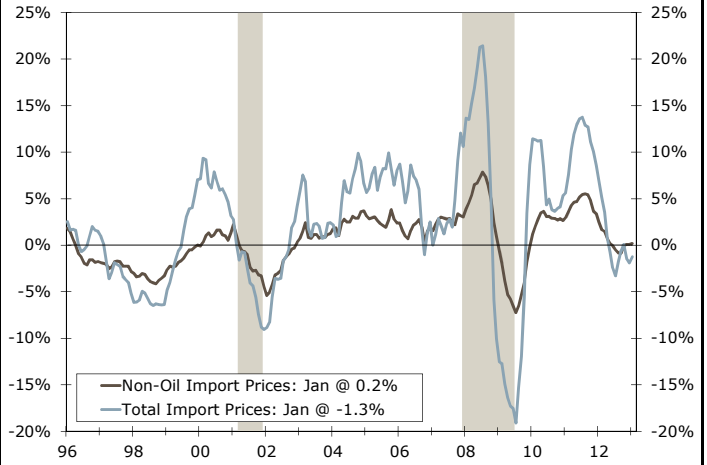
Export Prices
Year-over-Year Percent Change



Import Prices By Sector
Year-over-Year Percent Change



Import Prices
Year-over-Year Percent Change



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