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## 2.3% the average increase in the prices of wholesale trade for the second quarter of 2018 compared with the same period of 2017

Data issued by the Department of Statistics on the wholesale trade prices indicate an increase in the wholesale trade prices Index for the second quarter of 2018 by 2.3% to reach 98.0 in 2018 compared with 95.7 during the same period in 2017. This was a result of an increase in the prices of the group "sale of motor vehicles and their parts and motorcycles" by 8.5%, this group has increased the index number by 1.59 percentage points, The group of "trade of raw agricultural materials ,cereals and food products, beverages & tobacco" by 2.6%which represented 0.96 percentage points " sale of garments, clothes and housing and personal commodities" by 2.1% which represented 0.21 percentage points, which their relative importance constitute 19.8%, 39.2% and 10.9% respectively.

While the prices of some commodity groups have been decreased which are the group of "Sale of machinery, equipment and supplies" by 5.3% representing 0.39 percentage points, "Sale of fuel, metals and construction materials and fitting" by 0.4% represented 0.06 percentage points which their relative importance constitute 9.3% and 20.8% respectively.

The report also indicates an increase in the general wholesale trade price index for the second quarter of 2018 by 0.2% compared with first quarter of 2018. This was a result of an increase in the prices of the group "trade of raw agricultural materials ,cereals and food products, beverages & tobacco" by 1.7%, this group contributed of the increase in the index number by 0.61 percentage points," sale of garments, clothes and housing and personal commodities" by 0.6% which represented 0.06 percentage points, "motor vehicles

and their parts and motorcycles" by 0.2% with an increase in the index number by 0.04% percentage points. which have the relative importance of 39.2%, 10.9% and 19.8% respectively.

While there was a decrease in prices of the group of "Sale of fuel, metals and construction materials and fitting" by 1.8% representing 0.35 percentage points, "Sale of machinery, equipment and supplies" by 1.5% representing 0.13 percentage points which their relative importance constitutes 20.8%,9.3% respectively.

Its worthy to mention that the base year has been modified to 2010 instead of 1998, Where the prices data are collected by the Department of Statistics through a sample that includes (330) commercial Establishments, covering the prices of (1590) commodities traded in wholesale market, in addition to fruits and vegetables whose prices are Obtained from the central market bulletin.

The following figure shows the general trend of index number of wholesale trade prices for 2017 & 2018.

