

Producer price indexes for bids and inputs remain tame in March; Dodge Momentum Index tumbles

Bid prices and input prices for construction showed mixed monthly and year-over-year (y/y) patterns in March, according to data the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) [posted](#) on Thursday. The **producer price index (PPI) for material and service inputs** to new nonresidential construction rose 0.3%, not seasonally adjusted, for the month and 1.8% y/y. The **PPI for new nonresidential building construction** a measure of prices that contractors say they would bid to erect a fixed set of buildings inched up 0.1% in March but slipped 1.3% y/y. AGC [posted](#) tables of construction PPIs. The Baltimore bridge collapse occurred after prices were collected for the March PPI but, fortunately, there have been few, if any, reported impacts on prices or supply chains for construction materials or equipment from the collapse. Readers are invited to **report supply-chain issues and price announcements** to ken.simonson@agc.org.

The Dodge Momentum Index (DMI) slumped 8.6% in March from February and 12% y/y, Dodge Construction Network [reported](#) on April 5

in planning

declined 3.2% for the month and 14% y/y; the institutional component

planning demand as the market absorbs

slower growth in office and hotel planning pulled down [the commercial sub-index]

Economic activity in the services sector expanded in March for the 15

Supply Management (ISM) [reported](#) on April 3. Construction was listed first among 13 sectors (out of 18) that reported paying higher prices and was among sectors reporting growth (12), an increase in business activity (12 sectors), new orders (11), prices paid (13), employment (6), and order backlogs (6). Construction was one of four sectors that reported slower supplier deliveries. **Items** significant for construction reported **up in price** include construction contractors (3 months in a row) and labor; copper wire; diesel fuel; electrical components and equipment; heating, ventilation and air conditioning products (2 months); lumber; and oriented strand board panels. **Price declines** were reported for steel and steel products. **Items listed in short supply** include construction contractors (3), electrical components (3) and equipment, and switchgear.