

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 11, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index, fourth quarter 1999	2
Oils and fats, December 1999	2
Dairy statistics, December 1999 and January 2000	3
Industrial monitor on CD-ROM, February 2000	3
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	4
REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES	6
RELEASE DATES: February 14 to 18	7





OTHER RELEASES

Machinery and Equipment Price Index

Fourth quarter 1999

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) stood at 132.1 for the fourth quarter of 1999 (1986=100), up 0.4% from the previous quarter. Both the domestic (+0.1%) and imported (+0.5%) components increased. Compared with the fourth quarter of 1998, the overall index decreased 1.1% due to a 2.3% drop in the imported component, while the domestic component increased 0.4%.

The quarterly increase in the MEPI was due to advances in manufacturing (+0.4%), agriculture (+0.7%) and community, business and personal services (+1.0%). For the advance in manufacturing, the largest contributors were chemicals (+0.4%), primary metals (+0.5%), paper and allied products (+0.3%) and food and beverages (+0.5%).

Year-over-year, the largest contributors to the quarterly price decrease in the MEPI were manufacturing (-1.4%), transport (-1.4%), and community, business and personal services (-1.3%). Meanwhile, agriculture increased 0.8%. The decreases in paper and allied products (-2.1%), printing and publishing (-0.5%), and chemicals (-1.4%) were the largest contributors to the manufacturing decrease. The transportation decrease was due to telephones (-2.8%), electric power (-1.8%) and air transport (-3.4%).

Compared with the third quarter of 1999, only three products contributed substantially to the increase of the MEPI: commercial trucks and tractors (+1.6%), passenger automobiles (+2.0%) and specialized industrial equipment (+0.4%). Decreases for the parts in aircraft modifications (-2.3%) and telephone equipment (-1.0%) eased the price advance.

The quarterly exchange rate of the Canadian dollar versus the U.S. dollar was up to 67.7 cents U.S., a slight increase (+0.05%) from the preceding quarter and up 4.5% on a year-over-year basis.

Machinery and Equipment Price Index (1986=100)

	Relative	Fourth	Third	Fourth
	importance	quarter	to	quarter
		1999 ^p	fourth	1998
			quarter	to
			1999	fourth
				quarter
				1999
			% cha	nge
Machinery and Equipment Price		_		
Index	100.0	132.1	0.4	-1.1
mucx	100.0	102.1	0.4	
Agriculture	11.0	159.5	0.7	0.8
Forestry	1.5	144.8	0.3	0.7
Fishing	0.6	127.0	-0.7	-2.8
Mines, quarries and oil				
wells	6.0	134.7	0.3	-1.6
Manufacturing	29.9	139.8	0.4	-1.4
Construction	3.5	138.7	0.4	-1.5
Transportation,				
communication,				
_ storage and utilities	25.9	123.0	-0.1	-1.4
Trade	4.0	119.4	0.6	-1.2
Finance, insurance and				
real estate	1.8	108.9	0.2	-1.2
Community, business				
and personal				
services	11.1	110.2	1.0	-1.3
Public administration	4.7	128.7	0.2	-2.1

P Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: 2023-2025.

The fourth quarter issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Louise Chaîné (613-951-3350; fax 613-951-1539; *infounit@statcan.ca*), Client Services Unit, Prices Division.

Oils and fats

December 1999

Production of all types of deodorized oils in December totalled 93 200 tonnes, down 9.5% from 103 040 tonnes in November. Year-to date production for December 1999 was 1 124 007 tonnes, down 9.8% compared with 1 246 237 tonnes for 1998.

Domestic sales of deodorized margarine oil totalled 8 791 tonnes. Sales of deodorized shortening oil were 25 492 tonnes and those of deodorized salad oil amounted to 31 254 tonnes in December 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 185.

The December 1999 issue of *Oils and fats* (32-006-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, enquire or to about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613 951-3511; zylspet@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Dairy statistics

December 1999 and January 2000 (preliminary)

Dairy statistics for December 1999 and January 2000 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3428, 5632-5638, 5650-5661, 5664-5667 and 5673.

These data will be included in the October-December 1999 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001-XPB, \$36/\$119; 23-001-XIB, \$27/\$89), which will be released in February. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality for this release, contact Anna Michalowska (613-951-2442; 1 800 465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division.

Industrial monitor on CD-ROM

February 2000

The *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* offers up-to-date data on more than 150 manufacturing industries and 33 other industries covering construction, wholesale trade and retail trade. This information is offered for 25 sectors, and can be purchased by individual sector or as a complete package.

For each industry, up to 50 variables are organized in the table viewer according to five table types: supply, demand, price, labour/employment, and investment/capital stock. The underlying database is also available via the series browser for more extensive time-series analysis and inter-industry comparisons.

The Industrial monitor on CD-ROM is linked to the Standard Industrial Classification manual, provides pop-up textual descriptions for every series and embodies consistent data conventions — all features designed to make analysis easy and accurate. State-of-the-art functions offer searching, graphing, viewing, exporting and transforming capabilities, providing you the information quickly and easily.

The February 2000 issue of the *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* is now available. An annual subscription (one CD-ROM per month) to the full package (15F0015XCB) costs \$995, a savings of more than 80% off the annual subscription price of \$258 per individual sector.

For more information, or to request a free demonstration CD-ROM, contact Yolande Chantigny (1 800 887-IMAD (4623); 613-951-IMAD (4623); fax: 613-951-3688; *imad@statcan.ca*), Industry Measures and Analysis Division, or contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat - A weekly review, February 11, 2000

Catalogue number 11-002-XIE

(Canada: \$3/\$109).

Infomat - A weekly review, February 11, 2000

Catalogue number 11-002-XPE

(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Oils and fats, December 1999 Catalogue number 32-006-XIB

(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins,

December 1999

Catalogue number 46-002-XIB

(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Cable television, 1998

Catalogue number 56-001-XIB

(Canada: \$10/\$32).

Retail trade, November 1999 Catalogue number 63-005-XIB

(Canada: \$16/\$155).

Retail trade, November 1999
Catalogue number 63-005-XPB

(Canada: \$21/\$206; outside Canada: US\$21/US\$206).

All prices exclude sales tax.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote a paper version.

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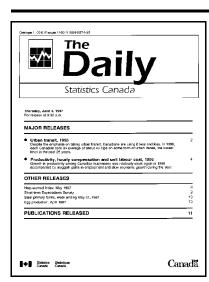
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Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's data retrieval systems. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services—from seminars to consultations—are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

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RELEASE DATES: FEBRUARY 14 TO 18

February 14 to 18 (Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	December 1999
16	New motor vehicle sales	December 1999
16	Failure rates for new firms: New perspectives on entry and exit	1984-1994
17	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 1999
17	Livestock statistics	1999
18	Canadian international merchandise trade	December 1999
18	Labour force historical review on CD-ROM	