

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index, first quarter 2001	2
Steel wire and specified wire products, March 2001	2
Farm Input Price Index, 2000	3
Production of poultry and eggs, 2000	3
NEW PRODUCTS	4





OTHER RELEASES

Machinery and Equipment Price Index

First quarter 2001

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (1986=100) was 136.5 in the first quarter, up 0.4% from the fourth quarter of 2000. This change was well balanced between the domestic (+0.3%) and imported (+0.4%) components. Compared with the first quarter of 2000, the overall index advanced 3.6%; the domestic component was up 1.5% and the imported component, 5.6%.

Only three industry groups contributed to the rise in the index compared with the fourth quarter of 2000; manufacturing (+0.6%), transport (+0.3%) and agriculture (+0.5%). The largest portion of the increase in manufacturing was due to rises in chemicals (+1.6%) and paper and allied products (+0.8%). In the transport sector, electricity and air transport increased by 0.3% and 0.8%, respectively.

The year-over-year, increase was spread among almost all sectors. The largest contributors were manufacturing (+4.1%), transport (+2.8%) and agriculture (+5.0%). Within the manufacturing sector, chemicals (+4.7%), paper and allied products (+4.6%), primary metals (+3.6%), transportation equipment (+3.9%) and food and beverages (+3.0%) led the way. The rise in transport was due to increases in air transport (+7.0%) and electricity (+2.8%).

The quarterly increase was concentrated in a few commodities. The top four commodities accounted for the largest portion of the growth: specialized industrial equipment (+0.6%), agricultural machinery excluding tractors (+1.1%), aircraft (+1.0%) and trucks (+0.2%). In the case of specialized industrial equipment, the chemical (+3.0%) and petroleum and coal (+3.0%) industries showed the strongest growth for the domestic component; this growth occurred after seven quarters of almost no price movement. However a decrease in office machinery (-3.4%) dampened the increase.

The Canadian dollar was worth an average 65.4 cents U.S. in the first quarter, a slight decrease of 0.1% from the fourth quarter of 2000 and down 4.7% from the first quarter of 2000.

Machinery and equipment price indexes (1986=100)

	Relative	First	Fourth	First		
	importance	quarter	quarter	quarter		
	2001 ^p 200		2000	2000		
			to	to		
			first	first		
			quarter	quarter		
			2001	2001		
			% change			
Machinery and		=				
Equipment Price						
Index	100.0	136.5	0.4	3.6		
Agriculture	11.0	165.1	0.5	5.0		
Forestry	1.5	147.0	0.1	1.9		
Fishing	0.6	126.8	0.0	0.6		
Mines, quarries and oil						
wells	6.0	139.9	0.4	4.2		
Manufacturing	29.9	145.2	0.6	4.1		
Construction	3.5	144.4	0.3	4.5		
Transportation,						
communication,						
storage and utilities	25.9	127.0	0.3	2.8		
Trade	4.0	122.4	0.1	2.9		
Finance, insurance and						
real estate	1.8	110.9	0.2	2.3		
Community, business						
and personal						
services	11.1	112.7	0.1	2.7		
Public administration	4.7	132.8	0.4	3.6		

^p Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: tables 3270013, 3270014 and 3270016 and matrices 2023-2025.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The first quarter 2001 issue of *Construction price* statistics (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in June. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Susie Boyd (613-951-9606; fax 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Philippe Rhul (613-951-3818), Prices Division.

Steel wire and specified wire products March 2001

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 62 627 metric tonnes in March, down 20.6% from 78 921 tonnes in March 2000. Production and export market data for selected commodities are also available.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030010 and matrix 122 (series 19).

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The March 2001 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Don Grant (613-951-5998; grantdo@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Farm Input Price Index

2000 (preliminary)

Farm Input Price Index preliminary data (1992=100) are now available for 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Danielle Gouin (613-951-4192) or the Client Services Unit (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

Farm Input Price Index (1992=100)

	East		1999-2000	West		1999–2000	Canada		1999-2000
	1999	2000	% change	1999	2000	% change	1999	2000	% change
Total farm input	115.0	121.3	5.5	119.0	127.0	6.8	117.0	124.0	6.0
Building and fencing	122.9	121.4	-1.2	123.2	118.8	-3.6	123.1	120.0	-2.6
Machinery and motor vehicles	126.4	139.4	10.2	125.0	136.0	8.8	125.6	137.7	9.6
Crop production	120.4	118.8	-1.4	122.4	125.7	2.7	121.6	122.9	1.1
Animal production	114.7	122.2	6.5	120.3	133.7	11.1	117.5	127.9	8.9
Supplies and services	111.8	120.4	7.8	112.3	116.2	3.5	112.0	118.4	5.7
Hired farm labour	115.6	120.9	4.6	111.0	115.0	3.6	113.3	118.0	4.2
Property taxes	76.4	74.6	-2.4	124.6	126.1	1.2	113.8	114.2	0.4
Interest	88.6	95.8	8.1	86.9	93.3	7.3	87.6	94.3	7.7
Farm rent	85.9	82.2	-4.3	138.4	139.1	0.5	120.5	118.7	-1.5

Production of poultry and eggs 2000

Production data for turkey meat, chicken meat, stewing hens and eggs for 2000 are now available. Chicken and stewing hen production was 901.5 thousand metric tonnes, up 4.1% from 1999; turkey production was 152.5 thousand tonnes, up 9.3% from 1999. Egg production reached 549.7 million dozen in 2000, up 5.1% from 1999. Egg consumption was 15.7 dozen per person in 2000, up from 1999.

Available on CANSIM: tables 30017-30020 and matrices 1136, 1137, 1139-1141 and 1144.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The 2000 issue of *Production of poultry and eggs* (23-202-XIB, \$29) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Beaudry (613-951-6480; beaudgi@statcan.ca) or Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; gielsan@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division.

3

NEW PRODUCTS

Steel wire and specified wire products, March 2001 Catalogue number 41-006-XIB (\$5/\$47).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCD are electronic versions on compact disc.

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