

# Statistics Canada

Monday, February 16, 2004

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

### **MAJOR RELEASES**

There are no major releases today.

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NEW PRODUCTS

### Infomat: A new electronic publication from Statistics Canada

Too busy to track all the facts and figures from Statistics Canada each day? Need a one-stop overview of emerging trends? Then the new-look *Infomat* is just the solution.

*Infomat*, the weekly digest of Statistics Canada's latest news releases, is now available in an electronic version. It will be published every Tuesday.

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The new *Infomat* (11-002-XIE, \$100 for a one-year subscription) is now available. See *How to order products*. The first issue is available for free.

For more information, contact John Flanders (613-951-8292), Communications Division.





### OTHER RELEASES

# Machinery and equipment price indexes Fourth quarter 2003

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (1986=100) was 127.6 in the fourth quarter, down 2.7% from the third. The domestic and import components decreased 0.9% and 4.4%, respectively. Compared with the fourth quarter of 2002, the index fell 9.6%, with decreases in the domestic (-3.0%) and import (-15.3%) components.

On a quarterly basis, all sectors decreased substantially, but the overall index decline was caused mainly by manufacturing (-2.8%), transportation, communication, storage and utilities (-2.4%) and agriculture (-3.1%). Paper and allied products (-3.5%), primary metals (-3.3%) and chemicals (-2.4%) contributed the most to the manufacturing decrease. In transportation, communication, storage and utilities, the drop was mainly due to electricity (-2.1%), telephone (-3.8%) and air transport (-4.2%).

On a year-over-year basis, all industries decreased, but manufacturing (-9.6%), agriculture (-14.2%) and transportation, communication, storage and utilities (-7.7%) were the most important.

In the fourth quarter, almost all commodities declined, with notable decreases in specialized industrial equipment (-3.3%), trucks (-2.8%), farm and garden tractors (-4.9%), passenger automobile (-2.5%), other agricultural machinery (-2.7%), aircraft (-4.6%) and telephone and telegraph line (-4.6%).

On a quarterly basis, the Canadian dollar continued to recover against the American dollar, up 5.2% from the third quarter. On a year-over-year basis, the Canadian dollar increased 19.9% over the fourth quarter of 2002.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0013, 327-0014 and 327-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.

The fourth quarter 2003 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$26/\$85) will be available in April. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Rebecca McDougall (613-951-3357, fax 613-951-1539, *infounit@statcan.ca*), Prices Division.

## **Machinery and equipment price indexes** (1986=100)

	Relative importance	Fourth quarter 2003 <sup>p</sup>	Third quarter to	Fourth quarter 2002	
				fourth	to
			quarter 2003	fourth quarter	
			2000	2003	
			% change		
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	100.0	127.6	-2.7	-9.6	
Agriculture	11.0	148.6	-3.1	-14.2	
Forestry	1.5	138.8	-2.2	-7.7	
Fishing	0.6	124.2	-2.2	-7.5	
Mines, quarries and oil wells	6.0	131.3	-3.0	-9.3	
Manufacturing	29.9	135.0	-2.8	-9.6	
Construction	3.5	132.7	-3.6	-12.1	
Transportation, communication, storage and					
utilities	25.9	122.2	-2.4	-7.7	
Trade	4.0	115.1	-2.0	-8.0	
Finance, insurance and real estate	1.8	106.7	-1.5	-5.4	
Community, business and personal services	11.1	103.7	-2.4	-9.2	
Public administration	4.7	124.3	-2.9	-9.4	

Preliminary figures.

### Sawmills and planing mills

November 2003

Data on sawmills and planing mills are now available for November 2003.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2134 and 2135.

The November 2003 issue of *Sawmills and Planing Mills*, Vol. 57, no. 11 (35-003-XIB, \$10/\$93) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873 8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

### **NEW PRODUCTS**

**Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**, December 2003, Vol. 57, no. 12

Catalogue number 31-001-XIE (\$17/\$158).

Sawmills and Planing Mills, November 2003, Vol. 57, no. 11

Catalogue number 35-003-XIB (\$10/\$93).

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

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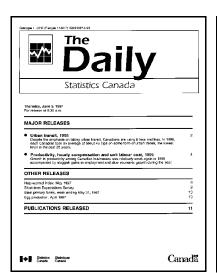
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