

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, November 23, 1988

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## Major Release

### Machinery and Equipment Price Index, Third Quarter 1988

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- Price indexes for new machinery and equipment purchased by Canadian industries went up by 0.4% from the previous quarter, but year-over-year showed a drop of 0.4%.

## Data Availability Announcements

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## Publications Released

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## Major Release

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### Machinery and Equipment Price Indexes

Third Quarter 1988

- The Machinery and Equipment Price Index by industry of purchase (1971 = 100, MEPI) reached a preliminary level of 307.3 in the third quarter of 1988, up 0.4% from its revised second quarter level. The domestic price component rose 0.8% in the latest quarter, while the more heavily-weighted imported goods component showed no change.

- For the fifth consecutive quarter, the total index showed a year-over-year decline. Prices for domestically produced machinery and equipment rose 2.9%, but imported goods declined 3.4% under the influence of a strong Canadian dollar which, for the seventh consecutive quarter, gained against the U.S. dollar.

- At the industry division level, the most significant third quarter increase was 0.7% in the manufacturing sector index, influenced mainly by domestic prices which rose 1.5%. On a year-over-year basis, the agriculture industry had the largest rise at 4.5%, the result of increases of 7.3% in domestic prices and 3.4% in imported prices. The largest offsetting decreases on a year-over-year basis occurred in construction (-1.9%) and mines, quarries and oil wells (-1.4%), with lower import prices of 4.2% and 5.0% respectively.

(See table on page 3)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4000, 4002 and 4027.

The third quarter 1988 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division.

**Machinery and Equipment Price Indexes**  
(1971 = 100)

|                                                               | Relative<br>Importance <sup>1</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q.<br>1988 * | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Q.<br>1988 * | Percent Change                                      |                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                                                               |                                     |                              |                              | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 1988/<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Q. 1988 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 1988/<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 1987 |
| <b>Machinery and Equipment Price Index:</b>                   | <b>100.0</b>                        | <b>307.3</b>                 | <b>306.1</b>                 | <b>0.4</b>                                          | <b>-0.4</b>                                         |
| SIC Divisions:                                                |                                     |                              |                              |                                                     |                                                     |
| 1. Agriculture                                                | 10.3                                | 305.2                        | 304.5                        | 0.2                                                 | 4.5                                                 |
| 2. Forestry                                                   | 0.7                                 | 304.3                        | 322.9                        | 0.4                                                 | -0.6                                                |
| 3. Fishing                                                    | 0.6                                 | 335.9                        | 333.0                        | 0.9                                                 | 1.8                                                 |
| 4. Mines, Quarries and<br>Oil Wells                           | 6.5                                 | 352.2                        | 352.2                        | 0.1                                                 | -1.4                                                |
| 5. Manufacturing                                              | 30.4                                | 339.6                        | 337.3                        | 0.7                                                 | -0.9                                                |
| 6. Construction                                               | 4.1                                 | 289.4                        | 288.3                        | 0.4                                                 | -1.9                                                |
| 7. Transportation,<br>Communication,<br>Storage and Utilities | 25.5                                | 296.8                        | 295.6                        | 0.4                                                 | -0.8                                                |
| 8. Trade                                                      | 4.8                                 | 280.0                        | 280.2                        | 0.1                                                 | -1.0                                                |
| 9. Finance, Insurance and<br>Real Estate                      | 1.5                                 | 247.9                        | 247.3                        | 0.2                                                 | 0.2                                                 |
| 10. Community, Business and<br>Personal Services              | 9.4                                 | 239.1                        | 238.8                        | 0.1                                                 | -1.1                                                |
| 11. Public Administration                                     | 6.2                                 | 294.3                        | 294.6                        | -0.1                                                | -1.3                                                |

\* These indexes are preliminary.

<sup>1</sup> Division weights are based on 1971 value of capitalized expenditures on new machinery and equipment by industry (Survey of Private and Public Investment in Canada, 1971).

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## Data Availability Announcements

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### Chain Store Stocks

September 1988

#### Highlights

- Retail chain store stocks totalled \$4,740 million at the end of September 1988, an increase of 3.9% over the level reached in September 1987.
- The inventories to sales ratio stood at 0.97:1 in September 1988, down significantly compared to the ratio of 1.15:1 observed a year earlier but up compared to the average ratio of 0.91:1 observed in the three previous months.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 194.

The September 1988 issue of *Merchandising Inventories* (63-014, \$13/\$130) will be available the third week of January 1989. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information concerning this release contact Maurice Massaad (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division.

### Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia

September 1988

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 3 085 500 cubic metres (1,307.6 million board feet) of lumber and ties in September 1988, a decrease of 2.2% from the 3 155 000 cubic metres (1,337.0 million board feet) produced in September 1987.

January to September 1988 production was 27 903 700 cubic metres (11,824.9 million board feet), a decrease of 0.4% from the 28 012 400 cubic metres (11,871.0 million board feet) produced over the same period in 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 53 (series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2).

The September 1988 issue of *Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$6.50/\$65.00) will be available at a later date. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Jock Dobie (604) 666-2671, Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3C9.

### Processed Fruits And Vegetables

September 1988

Data on processed fruits and vegetables for September 1988 are now available. The publication *Canned and Frozen Fruits and Vegetables-Monthly* (32-011, \$4.50/\$45.00) will be released at a later date.

For further information, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

### Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)

September 1988

Commodity-country export trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S.) for September 1988 are now available on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3686-3713 and 3719.

The September 1988 issue of *Exports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-004, \$50/\$500) will be available the first week of December. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

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## Publications Released

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**Steel Wire and Specified Wire Product,**  
September 1988. Catalogue number 41-006  
(Canada: \$4.50/\$45; Other Countries: \$5.50/\$55).

**Railway Operating Statistics, August 1988.**  
Catalogue number 52-003  
(Canada: \$9.50/\$95; Other Countries: \$10.50/\$105).

### How to Order Publications

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*Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Sturgeon Falls, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.*

*A national toll-free telephone order service is now in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.*

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### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

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