

## Rules for dissemination of INSEE statistical indicators under embargo and restrictions on privileged access

In accordance with the principle of Impartiality and Objectivity set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice<sup>1</sup>, the French Official Statistical System (*Service statistique public*, or SSP) is committed to pre-announcing the date and time of release of the most important statistics and to **providing access to releases of key statistical indicators to all users at the same time and under the same conditions. Any privileged pre-release access granted to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicised. Such access is a matter of tolerance rather than a norm.**

At the end of each month (on the 25<sup>th</sup>), the four-month release schedule announces the date and time of release when statistical indicators are published online. The dates for the first month are firm, while the dates of the other three months are subject to change. Changes are reported in the programme circulated the following month.

The rules governing dissemination concern key statistical indicators used for the economic, social or environmental analysis of a sector of activity and for decision-making and/or that are of interest to political decision-makers and the media; they must be the subject of an initial release. These rules do not apply to studies or summary reports.

In this context, privileged pre-release access to statistical indicators may be granted in a limited way, provided that such access is conducive to effective democratic outcomes. Therefore, users who may be granted access to statistical information before it is publicised only include:

- political decision-makers to enable them to prepare the wording of their announcements; specifically, this means the office of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance; statistical indicators cannot be transmitted in advance to other government departments;
- news agency journalists to enable them to prepare their press releases and report on information in the most reliable manner possible.

Beneficiaries of preferential status are required to conform to a strict embargo: they must not disseminate the information before it has been made public. If the embargo is breached, it is lifted promptly to restore equal access to information.

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<sup>1</sup>The European Statistics Code of Practice is available at the following link:  
<https://www.insee.fr/fr/information/2499297>

The Main Economic Indicators (PIE) produced by INSEE (see Appendix) are published at 08:45 am. They may be released by INSEE:

- to the office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance at 6 pm at the earliest on the day before their publication;
- to news agencies on the publication date, no earlier than 30 minutes before online publication;
- to broadcast, print and online media outlets and to all other users at the time of release on the publication date.

Four of these indicators, deemed “sensitive” (see Appendix), are published at 7:30 am and released by INSEE:

- to the office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance at 9 pm at the earliest on the day before their publication;
- to news agencies on the publication date, no earlier than 30 minutes before online publication;
- to broadcast, print and online media outlets and to all other users at the time of release on the publication date.

With the exception of the main economic indicators produced by INSEE, the statistical indicators subject to this rule (i.e. the main social and environmental indicators and INSEE’s non-major economic indicators) are published at 12 pm at the latest and may be transmitted:

- to the office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance at 6 pm at the earliest on the day before their publication;
- to news agencies on the publication date, no earlier than 30 minutes before online publication;
- to broadcast, print and online media outlets and to all other users at the time of release on the publication date.

If the embargo is breached, it is lifted promptly to restore equal access to information.

**INSEE Statistical indicators  
subject to the embargo rules of the Official Statistical System  
- As at 31 December 2018 -**

Statistical service	Name of indicator	Frequency	Time of lifting of embargo	Beneficiaries of privileged access	Privileged access
<b>Category 1 – Main Economic Indicators (PIE) deemed “sensitive”</b>					
INSEE	Quarterly national accounts - initial estimate	Quarterly	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
	National accounts of government agencies - first results	Annual	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
	Unemployment as defined by the ILO and labour market indicators: employment survey results	Quarterly	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
INSEE/ DARES (Labour MSD)	Salaried employment	Quarterly	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
<b>Category 2 – Other Main Economic Indicators (PIE)</b>					
INSEE	Annual national accounts - first results	Annual	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Quarterly national accounts - second estimate	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Quarterly national accounts - final results	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	General government gross debt - quarterly data	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Quarterly business survey on industry	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Survey on investment in industry	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Flash estimate of salaried employment	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Rent Reference Index	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am

Notaries-INSEE price index for old dwellings	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Bi-monthly business survey on wholesaling	Bimonthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Industrial production index	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Monthly business survey in industry	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Monthly business survey in the building industry	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Monthly business survey in the retail trade and in the trade and repair of motor vehicles	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Monthly business survey in services	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Business climate and economic turning point indicator	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
New businesses	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Household consumption expenditure on goods	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Monthly consumer confidence survey	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Consumer price index - provisional results	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Consumer price index - final results	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	
Producer and Import Price Index in Industry	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	8:15 am	

**Category 3 – Other statistical indicators subject to embargo**

INSEE	Turnover index for industry and construction	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Quarterly business survey in real-estate development	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Quarterly business outlook survey on public works	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Sales volume in trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Services production index	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Turnover in large-scale food retailing	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Occupancy survey on hotels, campsites and collective tourist accommodation in metropolitan France	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Quarterly business survey in the building craft	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Financial lease survey	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
News agencies				11:30 am	
All employees-revised index of hourly labour cost	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Labour cost index in industry, building industry and services	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Civil service employment (published concomitantly with the DESSI)	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Wages in the civil service (published concomitantly with the DESSI)	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
			Office of the Minister of	6 pm (the day	

	Consumer price index (annual averages)	Annual	12 pm	the Economy and Finance	before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Price index - large retailers	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Price index for old and new dwellings	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Prices of oil and imported raw materials	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Agricultural price index (published concomitantly with the SSP) SSM ?	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Construction cost index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Commercial rent index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Tertiary activities rent index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
Services to businesses producer price indices	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Dwellings maintenance and improvement price index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Building indices, public works indices and various indices for construction	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	
Producer cost indices for construction	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of the Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)	
			News agencies	11:30 am	