

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 Practice¹, 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 25th), 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. These rules apply when the indicators are first published. They 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. For almost all the indicators, this means the office of the Minister for the Economy and Finance (see details below); 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.

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

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.

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.

Three 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 (and to the office of the Minister for Labour for the "ILO Unemployment and Labour Market Indicators" indicator) 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.

INSEE Statistical indicators subject to the embargo rules of the Official Statistical System - As at 31 December 2024 -					
Statistical service	Name of indicator	Frequency	Time of lifting of embargo	Beneficiaries of privileged access	Privileged access
Category 1 – Main Economic Indicators (PIE) deemed “sensitive”					
INSEE	Quarterly national accounts - first estimate	Quarterly	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
	National general government accounts - first results	Annual	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
	ILO unemployment rate and labour market indicators: employment survey results	Quarterly	7:30 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	9 pm (the day before)
				Office of the Minister of Labour	9 pm (the day before)
				Ministerial statistical service for labour	9 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	7 am
Category 2 – Other Main Economic Indicators (PIE)					
INSEE/ DARES (Labour MSD)	Salaried employment	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
INSEE	Flash estimate of payroll employment	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of 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 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Quarterly business survey (goods-producing industries)	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Notaries-INSEE price index for second-hand dwellings	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am

	Bi-monthly business survey in wholesaling	Bimonthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Monthly business survey (goods-producing industries)	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of 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 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 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Sales volume in trade	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Services production index	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Business climate	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	New businesses	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of 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 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 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 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Consumer price index (annual			Office of the Minister of	6 pm (the day

	averages)	Annual	8:45 am	Economy and Finance	before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Industrial producer and import price indices	Monthly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Labor cost indexes – Flash estimate	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
	Labor cost indexes – Final estimate	Quarterly	8:45 am	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	8:15 am
Category 3 – Other statistical indicators subject to embargo					
INSEE	Turnover in industry and construction	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Quarterly survey in public works	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Tourism occupancy survey in hotels, campsites and collective tourist accommodation in metropolitan France	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Annual financial lease survey	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Civil service employment ***	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Salaries in the civil service***	Annual	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Price index - large retailers	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Price index for second-hand and new dwellings	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
				Office of the Minister of	6 pm (the day

	Prices of oil and imported raw materials	Monthly	12 pm	Economy and Finance	before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Agricultural price index****	Monthly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Construction cost index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Commercial rent index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Residential rent index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Services producer prices index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Buildings maintenance and improvement price index	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of 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 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 Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am
	Employment and localised unemployment rate (by region and department)	Quarterly	12 pm	Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance	6 pm (the day before)
				News agencies	11:30 am

* 7:30 am in March (simultaneous release of quarterly Maastricht debt and national government accounts)

** 7.30 am in January, April, July and October (simultaneous release of household consumption expenditure on goods and quarterly national accounts)

*** Published concomitantly with the SDESI

**** Published concomitantly with the SSP