



PRESS RELEASE

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February 2010's Monthly Index of Economic Activity Imacec

According to preliminary information, last February the Imacec grew 2.7% over the same month a year before. The seasonally-adjusted series dropped 1.6% with respect to the previous month, while the cyclical trend series recorded an annualized expansion of 4.5%.

The result of the month reflected the poor performance of natural resource related sectors and the effects of the earthquake of 27 February on some branches of the manufacturing, retail, transportation and electricity-gas-water industries. Additionally, the catastrophe had a limited impact on the tasks of gathering the information usually used to estimate the Imacec, as explained in the technical note enclosed.