



PRESS RELEASE

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March 2008's Monthly Index of Economic Activity, IMACEC

According to preliminary information, in March the IMACEC rose by 0.7% over the same month a year before. The seasonally adjusted series increased 0.1% with respect to the previous month, while the cyclical trend series recorded an annualized expansion of 4.2%.

The result showed the negative incidence of two less working days than March 2007 on the manufacturing and the retail sectors, and the drop in mining activity and in the value added of electric generation.

In accordance with the pre-established, public timetable for the disclosure of National Accounts, GDP figures for the first quarter of 2008 will be published next 23 May.