



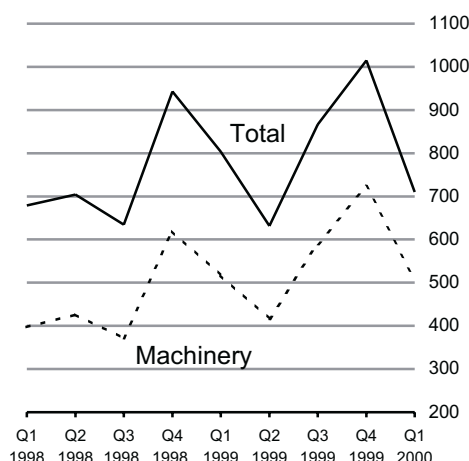
Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

30 August 2000

Capital Assets in Industry

First Quarter 2000

Total Capital Acquisitions £m



Capital Acquisitions

	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2000
	£m	£m	€m ¹
Machinery & Equipment	517.5	507.9	644.9
Land & Buildings	206.2	137.7	174.8
Computer Hardware & Software	28.2	27.4	34.8
Vehicles and Other Equipment	51.6	37.3	47.4
Total Capital Acquisitions	803.4	710.4	902.0

Capital Assets Acquisitions of £710m in First Quarter

Capital acquisitions held by industry in the first quarter of 2000 were £710.4m, compared with £803.4m in the first quarter of 1999.

The major contributor to the total figure was acquisitions of machinery and equipment, which amounted to £507.9m in the first quarter of 2000, following on a first-quarter 1999 level of £517.5m. *See Table 2.*

Land and buildings acquisitions were £137.7m, down from £206.2m in the first quarter of 1999. Total capital sales were £53.2m, compared with £51.9m in the first quarter of 1999. *See tables 3 and 6.*

The breakdown of the components of acquisitions into the different industrial sectors shows:

- ◆ The highest level of acquisitions of machinery and equipment was recorded in the communication equipment sector with a level of £124.4m in the first quarter of 2000, compared with £170.9m for the same quarter in the previous year. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ The highest level of acquisitions of land and buildings was in the chemical products sector, which accounted for £36.0m in the first quarter of 2000, a decrease on the first-quarter 1999 level of £85.5m. *See Table 2.*

¹Converted at the EU official exchange rate conversion factor, fixed at 0.787564, effective from 1 January 1999

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Table 1 Total Capital Acquisitions in Industry (£million)

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ¹	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying ²	27.1	29.5	28.4	28.6	113.6	25.6	35.4	39.4	33.8	134.1	13.0
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages ²	73.8	76.6	76.3	97.0	323.7	103.1	97.8	108.5	104.0	413.4	84.9
16	Tobacco products	1.4	2.3	2.4	1.5	7.5	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.0	6.2	1.1
17	Textiles	4.4	4.0	3.9	6.8	19.1	4.1	3.5	4.3	5.7	17.6	2.4
18	Wearing apparel	1.3	2.3	1.5	2.8	7.9	3.0	2.8	2.7	1.6	10.1	1.6
19	Leather products	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.0	0.3
20	Wood and wood products	9.0	6.3	7.1	9.6	31.9	5.7	8.4	6.7	8.0	28.7	6.2
21	Paper and paper products	3.2	3.7	5.8	11.5	24.2	7.4	7.8	5.4	9.5	30.0	8.3
22	Publishing and printing	23.7	17.9	22.3	25.7	89.5	29.1	16.2	30.8	31.4	107.4	38.5
24	Chemical products ²	128.4	188.7	168.3	178.9	664.3	184.6	162.4	194.4	259.6	801.0	161.7
25	Rubber and plastic products	16.9	12.4	10.3	15.0	54.6	12.9	13.5	12.7	17.4	56.6	12.2
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	18.0	18.3	15.5	15.2	67.0	16.6	19.7	16.1	26.3	78.7	20.5
27	Basic metals	4.4	2.4	3.2	11.9	21.9	1.2	1.6	3.1	12.5	18.3	4.7
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	9.0	8.7	11.9	6.8	36.4	8.0	7.6	8.5	8.0	32.1	8.4
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	11.5	11.9	11.8	16.7	52.0	11.9	14.1	18.4	22.7	67.0	17.9
30	Office machinery and computers ²	72.9	82.1	64.8	54.8	274.6	69.8	53.1	59.6	59.8	242.3	48.4
31	Other electrical equipment	18.3	30.2	19.3	14.1	81.9	20.4	23.4	25.8	19.6	89.3	32.0
32	Communication equipment ²	159.1	79.9	60.8	237.4	537.2	194.3	67.6	161.7	178.6	602.2	134.6
33	Medical and optical instruments ²	27.2	25.7	31.6	37.8	122.3	19.3	17.3	17.1	30.8	84.5	18.9
34	Motor vehicles	10.5	7.2	9.1	12.0	38.8	2.8	3.0	2.4	6.3	14.5	6.8
35	Other transport equipment	3.4	2.3	5.6	6.0	17.3	3.1	2.9	13.3	7.4	26.7	2.4
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	6.4	11.2	12.7	17.1	47.4	10.8	10.5	10.3	13.4	45.0	9.6
40	Electricity and gas supply	48.3	80.9	61.0	135.1	325.3	67.9	61.2	123.5	157.4	410.0	76.1
10-40	All industries²	678.7	704.3	634.2	942.6	2,959.8	803.4	631.6	866.6	1,015.0	3,316.6	710.4
10-37	Transportable goods industries²	630.4	623.5	573.1	807.4	2,634.5	735.5	570.4	743.1	857.6	2,906.6	634.3
15-37	Manufacturing industries²	603.4	594.0	544.7	778.8	2,520.9	709.9	535.0	703.8	823.8	2,772.6	621.3

¹ Revised

² Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Table 2 Capital Acquisitions of Machinery & Equipment in Industry (£million)

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ¹	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying ²	11.3	13.8	11.5	12.8	49.4	7.6	6.9	8.6	9.5	32.5	9.7
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages	44.8	46.6	43.9	59.2	194.4	64.0	62.5	74.4	68.6	269.5	57.3
16	Tobacco products	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.4	3.1	0.3	0.7	1.2	0.4	2.5	0.9
17	Textiles	3.7	3.0	2.9	5.4	15.0	2.9	1.6	1.9	3.9	10.3	0.8
18	Wearing apparel	0.6	1.5	0.7	1.8	4.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.1	5.5	1.2
19	Leather products	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.3
20	Wood and wood products	7.1	4.9	5.7	8.2	26.0	4.4	6.3	3.4	5.3	19.4	3.9
21	Paper and paper products	2.4	2.9	4.6	9.9	19.7	5.7	6.5	3.5	7.1	22.9	6.3
22	Publishing and printing	10.8	9.4	8.6	12.8	41.7	19.0	9.7	21.5	17.1	67.4	18.2
24	Chemical products ²	66.6	108.6	91.6	96.4	363.1	91.1	106.9	122.9	179.6	500.5	115.6
25	Rubber and plastic products	12.6	9.3	7.8	10.5	40.1	8.7	8.5	9.2	13.6	40.1	8.4
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	11.8	13.7	8.6	10.0	44.0	10.3	14.0	11.0	18.0	53.2	14.5
27	Basic metals	3.5	1.8	3.1	10.8	19.2	0.9	1.2	2.2	11.3	15.6	4.2
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	6.8	4.7	7.1	4.3	22.9	5.2	4.9	5.8	4.5	20.4	5.1
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	7.4	7.7	7.9	10.8	33.8	6.3	7.5	9.9	15.6	39.3	10.9
30	Office machinery and computers ²	30.7	40.3	32.6	24.5	128.1	23.5	20.7	23.7	30.6	98.5	17.3
31	Other electrical equipment	14.7	25.4	13.9	10.4	64.5	12.6	15.4	14.2	13.2	55.4	19.6
32	Communication equipment ²	105.4	36.5	36.4	197.0	375.3	170.9	63.8	139.4	160.3	534.5	124.4
33	Medical and optical instruments	9.5	14.3	15.2	18.7	57.8	8.9	11.8	10.3	18.1	49.0	11.7
34	Motor vehicles	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	5.3	1.9	2.7	1.8	5.1	11.6	5.1
35	Other transport equipment	1.7	0.8	3.1	3.8	9.4	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.3	5.3	1.0
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	4.6	5.3	6.0	9.1	25.1	4.7	4.3	5.3	6.7	21.1	4.8
40	Electricity and gas supply	38.8	73.3	57.6	101.0	270.6	65.2	58.1	116.7	131.8	371.9	66.4
10-40	All industries²	396.9	425.9	371.4	619.5	1,813.7	517.5	416.5	589.9	723.0	2,246.9	507.9
10-37	Transportable goods industries²	358.1	352.6	313.9	518.5	1,543.0	452.2	358.4	473.1	591.2	1,875.0	441.5
15-37	Manufacturing industries²	346.8	338.8	302.4	505.7	1,493.6	444.7	351.6	464.6	581.7	1,842.5	431.8

¹ Revised

² Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Table 3 Capital Acquisitions of Land & Buildings in Industry (£million)

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ¹	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.6	3.4	0.4	0.9	0.8	2.3	4.3	1.0
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages ²	17.2	16.0	20.1	25.2	78.6	23.1	19.4	21.3	20.1	83.8	14.1
16	Tobacco products	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
17	Textiles	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.9	2.3	0.8	1.6	1.1	1.4	5.0	0.9
18	Wearing apparel	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.5	2.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.2	3.1	0.1
19	Leather products	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
20	Wood and wood products	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.8	3.6	0.5	1.1	2.7	1.1	5.4	1.1
21	Paper and paper products	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.1	2.4	1.0	0.5	1.4	1.4	4.3	1.2
22	Publishing and printing	4.7	2.0	6.8	5.2	18.7	2.3	1.7	3.3	3.8	11.0	12.9
24	Chemical products ²	56.5	62.9	68.2	66.8	254.3	85.5	42.5	60.8	63.7	252.6	36.0
25	Rubber and plastic products	3.0	2.1	1.9	2.8	9.9	2.6	3.2	2.5	2.5	10.8	1.6
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	3.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	8.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	4.0	9.5	1.6
27	Basic metals	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.0
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	0.4	2.6	3.6	1.0	7.6	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.8	4.8	1.5
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	2.1	2.4	1.8	3.8	10.1	3.1	4.1	6.5	3.2	16.9	5.3
30	Office machinery and computers ²	38.3	35.1	27.2	24.9	125.5	41.3	26.6	31.3	25.6	124.8	26.8
31	Other electrical equipment	1.5	2.2	3.1	2.0	8.8	5.7	5.9	8.2	4.8	24.5	9.4
32	Communication equipment ²	51.8	42.3	21.5	38.9	154.4	21.4	1.9	20.5	16.3	60.1	8.6
33	Medical and optical instruments ²	15.5	9.6	14.5	17.0	56.7	8.8	3.5	3.1	9.9	25.4	4.0
34	Motor vehicles	8.6	5.3	7.2	10.4	31.5	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.9	1.8	1.3
35	Other transport equipment	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2	4.9	0.3	0.5	1.7	2.1	4.7	0.8
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	1.0	4.4	5.6	4.0	15.1	4.4	3.1	3.7	3.8	15.1	2.9
40	Electricity and gas supply	1.5	2.7	1.2	3.9	9.4	0.7	1.8	5.1	12.7	20.2	6.7
10-40	All industries²	210.1	197.1	190.2	213.5	811.0	206.2	122.6	178.4	181.9	689.1	137.7
10-37	Transportable goods industries²	208.6	194.4	188.9	209.7	801.6	205.4	120.8	173.4	169.3	668.9	131.0
15-37	Manufacturing industries²	208.0	193.2	187.9	209.0	798.2	205.0	119.9	172.6	167.0	664.5	130.0

¹ Revised² Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Table 4 Capital Acquisitions of Computer Hardware & Software in Industry (£million)

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ¹	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.0
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages	4.4	3.8	5.2	6.1	19.6	5.7	4.8	4.3	6.9	21.7	3.9
16	Tobacco products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0
17	Textiles	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.3
18	Wearing apparel	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.1
19	Leather products	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
20	Wood and wood products	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.5	1.2	0.3
21	Paper and paper products	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.2
22	Publishing and printing	5.8	4.2	4.9	5.9	20.8	6.4	3.2	4.5	5.3	19.3	3.5
24	Chemical products	1.7	6.4	2.4	2.9	13.5	1.7	2.5	4.1	4.8	13.1	5.4
25	Rubber and plastic products	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.6	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.5	2.7	0.8
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.5	4.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.8	4.9	0.6
27	Basic metals	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.2
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	3.0	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7	2.9	0.6
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2	3.6	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.1	4.9	0.7
30	Office machinery and computers	3.2	5.4	3.5	4.0	16.2	4.1	5.3	4.4	3.3	17.1	3.5
31	Other electrical equipment	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.2	5.8	1.0	0.8	2.4	1.1	5.4	1.4
32	Communication equipment ²	1.6	0.9	2.5	1.2	6.2	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.9	6.4	1.3
33	Medical and optical instruments	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.5	5.1	0.6	1.5	3.2	2.5	7.9	2.6
34	Motor vehicles	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2
35	Other transport equipment	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.0	2.5	1.2	1.3	0.7	1.2	4.4	0.4
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	0.2	0.3	0.4	2.5	3.4	0.4	1.7	0.6	1.1	3.8	0.4
40	Electricity and gas supply	0.2	0.6	0.5	27.7	29.0	0.8	0.5	0.7	2.8	4.8	1.0
10-40	All industries²	23.2	28.0	27.6	60.6	139.4	28.2	28.9	31.5	37.4	126.0	27.4
10-37	Transportable goods industries²	23.0	27.5	27.1	32.9	110.4	27.3	28.4	30.8	34.6	121.2	26.4
15-37	Manufacturing industries²	23.0	27.5	27.0	32.9	110.3	27.3	28.3	30.7	34.2	120.6	26.4

¹ Revised

² Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Table 5 Capital Acquisitions of Vehicles and Other Equipment in Industry (£million)

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ¹	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying ²	15.1	14.5	15.9	15.2	60.7	17.6	27.6	29.9	21.6	96.7	2.3
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages	7.3	10.2	7.1	6.5	31.1	10.3	11.2	8.5	8.3	38.3	9.7
16	Tobacco products	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4	2.5	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.5	2.9	0.2
17	Textiles	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.2	1.4	0.4
18	Wearing apparel	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1
19	Leather products	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
20	Wood and wood products	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.1	2.8	1.0
21	Paper and paper products	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.8	0.6
22	Publishing and printing	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.8	8.4	1.4	1.6	1.6	5.1	9.7	3.9
24	Chemical products	3.7	10.8	6.2	12.8	33.4	6.3	10.5	6.5	11.4	34.8	4.7
25	Rubber and plastic products	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.9	3.0	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.9	3.0	1.4
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	2.1	2.2	4.0	2.1	10.3	3.5	2.9	2.3	2.5	11.2	3.8
27	Basic metals	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	1.2	0.3
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5	2.8	1.5	0.7	0.7	1.0	4.0	1.1
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	1.4	1.0	1.2	0.9	4.4	1.2	0.9	1.1	2.7	5.9	0.9
30	Office machinery and computers	0.7	1.2	1.4	1.5	4.7	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.3	1.9	0.8
31	Other electrical equipment	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.4	2.8	1.1	1.4	1.1	0.5	4.0	1.7
32	Communication equipment	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.3
33	Medical and optical instruments	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.5	2.8	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.2	2.2	0.5
34	Motor vehicles	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.1
35	Other transport equipment	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	9.4	2.8	12.4	0.1
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.4	3.8	1.4	1.3	0.6	1.7	5.0	1.4
40	Electricity and gas supply	7.8	4.3	1.7	2.5	16.3	1.1	0.8	1.0	10.1	13.0	1.9
10-40	All industries²	48.5	53.3	44.9	49.0	195.7	51.6	63.5	66.9	72.6	254.6	37.3
10-37	Transportable goods industries²	40.7	49.0	43.2	46.4	179.4	50.5	62.7	65.9	62.5	241.6	35.4
15-37	Manufacturing industries	25.6	34.5	27.3	31.3	118.7	32.9	35.2	35.9	40.9	144.9	33.1

¹ Revised

² Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Table 6 Total Capital Sales in Industry (£million)¹

NACE Code	Description	1998					1999					2000
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 ²	Year	Q1
10-14	Mining and quarrying	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.6	2.0	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.6	4.2	3.6
	Manufacturing:											
15	Food products and beverages	5.8	9.0	11.5	8.1	34.3	8.3	6.3	7.0	7.4	29.0	5.8
16	Tobacco products	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1
17	Textiles	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.3	0.1	2.8	1.5	4.7	1.0
18	Wearing apparel	0.6	1.4	0.6	1.1	3.7	1.4	0.9	0.9	1.6	4.9	0.8
19	Leather products	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3
20	Wood and wood products	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.2	4.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.1
21	Paper and paper products	0.6	0.4	0.6	1.0	2.6	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.2	2.4	1.2
22	Publishing and printing	3.9	4.1	8.8	4.4	21.2	4.6	3.1	1.6	9.8	19.1	4.3
24	Chemical products	2.7	7.3	5.6	17.8	33.4	4.9	4.6	7.6	6.0	23.1	3.9
25	Rubber and plastic products	0.5	3.7	1.5	2.2	8.0	1.4	0.4	0.4	1.7	3.8	1.5
26	Other non-metallic mineral products	1.8	1.5	0.3	7.3	10.9	1.3	0.8	1.3	3.7	7.0	1.1
27	Basic metals	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0
28	Fabricated metals (excl. machinery)	1.5	0.7	2.8	2.3	7.2	1.4	0.9	0.4	2.2	4.8	1.0
29	Machinery not elsewhere classified	1.4	1.2	0.9	0.9	4.4	5.8	3.8	0.6	4.7	14.9	0.6
30	Office machinery and computers ³	2.4	14.9	3.1	0.5	21.0	0.4	2.2	0.4	0.2	3.3	3.5
31	Other electrical equipment	0.6	2.1	2.7	1.6	7.0	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.8	5.4	2.3
32	Communication equipment ³	6.5	32.8	3.4	9.5	52.2	8.6	6.2	17.2	20.1	52.1	19.2
33	Medical and optical instruments	0.4	1.1	1.8	4.8	8.1	2.3	1.0	0.5	2.2	6.0	1.4
34	Motor vehicles	0.1	0.8	1.0	1.5	3.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.3
35	Other transport equipment	0.2	0.2	0.2	11.0	11.7	0.3	1.2	1.3	0.7	3.5	0.1
36-37,23	Other manufacturing	0.3	0.5	0.4	1.5	2.8	1.1	1.2	0.8	0.9	4.0	0.7
40	Electricity and gas supply	1.7	10.4	2.5	11.7	26.3	7.1	6.2	1.8	0.7	15.8	0.4
10-40	All industries	33.6	94.5	49.6	89.9	267.6	51.9	41.2	48.3	68.8	210.2	53.2
10-37	Transportable goods industries	32.0	84.0	47.1	78.2	241.3	44.7	35.1	46.5	68.1	194.4	52.8
15-37	Manufacturing industries	31.4	83.2	47.0	77.6	239.3	44.2	34.0	45.4	66.5	190.2	49.2

¹ Figures for 1998 relate to capital disposals² Revised³ Figures revised in line with 1998 Census of Industrial Production

Background Notes

Introduction This Release details quarterly acquisitions and sales of capital assets in the Mining, Manufacturing, and Energy sectors. The series are derived from a quarterly accounts inquiry to industrial enterprises with 20 or more persons engaged. This inquiry was initiated to meet national and EU requirements for quarterly economic variables, and is conducted under the Statistics (Business Accounts) Order, 1996, made under the Statistics Act 1993.

The survey results are grossed to represent acquisitions and sales of capital assets by all industrial enterprises with 3 or more persons engaged, and are shown at current values (seasonally unadjusted).

The capital acquisitions series are short-term indicators of trends, and are subject to revision when the annual Census of Industrial Production (CIP) results become available. Note, however, that the CIP variable “additions to capital assets” includes capitalised Research & Development (R&D), whereas the capital acquisitions series in this Release do not.

Scope The inquiry covers all enterprises with 20 or more persons engaged in the Mining, Manufacturing, and Energy sectors. The sample, approximately 1,900 enterprises, accounts for over 95% of capital acquisitions by enterprises with 3 or more persons engaged (as measured by the 1997 CIP).

The activity classification used in this Statistical Release is the NACE Rev. 1 classification.

Methodology Estimates are made for non-response. For each non-responding enterprise, capital acquisitions data are imputed from returns for that enterprise in previous quarters or in the 1997 CIP. Where no historical data are available, estimates are made as follows: the sample is classified into relatively homogeneous cells defined by NACE division and employment size, and the cell ratio acquisitions per person (calculated from the aggregated respondent values in the non-respondent’s cell) is applied to the employment for the non-respondent. The estimation procedure for capital sales is similar.

To derive estimates inclusive of those enterprises having 3 to 19 persons engaged, the sample results are grossed, by NACE division, using grossing ratios from the 1997 CIP.

Definitions Capital assets refers to physical assets, or computer software, with a useful life of more than one year intended to be used by the enterprise itself. The figures in this Release are therefore exclusive of capitalised R&D.

An enterprise is defined as the smallest combination of legal units that is an organisational unit producing goods or services, which benefits from a certain degree of autonomy in decision making, especially for the allocation of its current resources (e.g. company, partnership, individual proprietorship, etc.) An enterprise may be a sole legal unit.

Other The figures provided in this Release are short-term indicators only. They are based on quarterly information supplied by enterprises, many of whom do not maintain sub-annual accounting systems. The annual Census of Industrial Production, which utilises financial accounts data, should be considered as the definitive reference for annual capital assets information.

Related series, on quarterly estimates of Industrial Stocks, are published in a separate Statistical Release.