



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, January 28, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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- **Employment, earnings and hours, November 1996** 2
 In November, the number of employees on business payrolls rose for the second consecutive month. This increase of 53,000 was concentrated among manufacturers, with businesses in wholesale trade, transportation and construction also registering advances.

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The labour market: year-end review

1996

Today, Statistics Canada announces the advance release of an article titled "The labour market: year-end review," scheduled for publication in the Spring 1997 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*. The article is available immediately by fax. It summarizes changes and trends in the labour market during 1996.

Employment rose by 189,000 between December 1995 to December 1996. This increase is almost double that of 1995 (+99,000) but only half of the strong showing of 1994 (+381,000). The 1996 employment growth was not universal. Higher-than-average growth rates were recorded in Alberta and British Columbia, as well as in the goods sector, among adult women, and in self-employment. However, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, the public sector and youth lost jobs.

Also, the unemployment rate increased from 9.4% in December 1995 to 9.7% in December 1996, mainly because labour force growth outpaced job gains.

The Spring 1997 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, which includes the article "The labour market: year-end review" (75-001-XPE, \$17/\$56), will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Ernest B. Akyeamong (613-951-4624). To order "The labour market: year-end review" by fax (\$40), contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4628), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



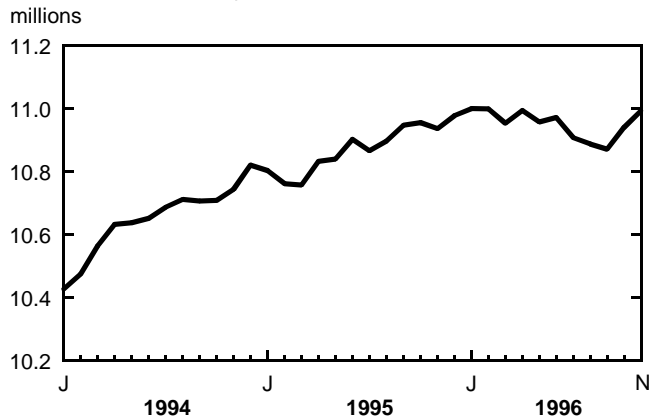
MAJOR RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours

November 1996 (preliminary)

In November, the number of employees on business payrolls rose for the second consecutive month. Paid employment has rebounded since September, following the downward trend that was observed during the first nine months of 1996, and now stands at about the same level as at the beginning of the year. The November increase, which totalled 53,000, was concentrated among manufacturers, with businesses in wholesale trade, transportation and construction also registering advances. Provincially, businesses in Ontario and Quebec, and to a lesser extent Alberta, accounted for most of the gains.

Employees on business payrolls increased substantially in October and November



Employees' average weekly earnings rose slightly in November to \$594.61. The marginal gain in earnings followed a substantial growth in October. Increased earnings were reported for employees in manufacturing, and logging and forestry, while earnings declined in business services, construction and public administration. Employees' earnings were 3.1% higher than in November 1995.

The average number of hours worked by employees paid by the hour continued an upward trend, reaching a peak of 31.2 hours. Hourly paid employees in most industries reported higher hours, particularly in goods-producing industries. The increase in hours was due in part to more overtime.

Note to readers

The target population of the Survey of Employment, Earnings and Hours is all employers, except those in agriculture, fishing and trapping, private households services, religious organizations and defence services. This survey defines an employee as any person drawing pay for services rendered or for paid absences and for whom the employer must complete a Revenue Canada T-4 Supplementary Form.

End of GM strike leads employment gains in manufacturing

Following three months of little change, the number of manufacturing workers increased by 29,000 in November. The gain was concentrated in the automotive, clothing, plastic and plastic products industries. The gains occurred as the effects of the strike at General Motors came to an end and coincided with an increase in manufacturers' shipments, also led by the automotive sector. The higher employment was notable among manufacturers in Quebec and Ontario.

Manufacturing employees' average weekly earnings rose sharply in November, due to a jump in the average number of hours worked per week for employees paid by the hour. Average earnings stood at \$732.42, up 4.2% from the same period last year.

Transportation industry gains employment following privatization at Transport Canada

The number of workers in the transportation and storage industry grew by 9,000 in November. Two-thirds of this gain were due to the privatization of air navigation services formerly performed by Transport Canada. The creation of a not-for-profit private corporation — NAV CAN — resulted in a transfer of employees from public administration to the private sector.

Employees' average weekly earnings fell 1.3% in November, due to a drop in average earnings for salaried employees. The average number of hours worked and hourly earnings for employees paid by the hour both increased in November.

Employment rebound in construction industry

Coinciding with the rising trend in residential building permits and a drop in mortgage rates, the number of employees working in the construction industry increased during each of the past two months

(October and November). Employment gains were concentrated among trade contractors, and also in the provinces of Quebec and Alberta. The recent gains in the industry offset some of the declines incurred since the spring.

Employees' average weekly earnings continued to fluctuate around a downward trend in November, falling by 0.5% to \$694.42.

Second consecutive gain in wholesale trade

Wholesalers increased employment levels for the second consecutive month in November, with wholesalers of miscellaneous products and wholesalers of electric and electronic products (which includes trade in computer equipment) registering the most substantial gains. Despite the fact that wholesalers have increased sales by about 8.0% since the beginning of the year, the number of employees in the industry has increased by only 1.3%. The relative stability in wholesale trade employment during the past year contrasts with steady growth in employment registered in 1994 and 1995.

Average weekly earnings for wholesale trade employees were little changed in November.

Budget cuts and privatization result in decline for public administration

The workforce in federal administration was reduced by 5,000 in November, due mostly to the

privatization of air navigation services previously performed by Transport Canada. Compared to last year, employment has declined by 16,000 for federal administration and a further 11,000 for provincial administration. During this period, the number of employees in municipal administration has remained virtually unchanged.

Average weekly earnings for public administration employees fell 0.4% in November. Employees in this industry earned on average \$6.40 less than in November 1995.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9438-9452, 9639-9664 and 9899-9911.

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators are available through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XPB, \$31/\$310), the historical publication *Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours, 1983-1995* (diskette: 72F0002XDE, \$120) and by custom tabulations. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Stephen Johnson (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; Internet: labour@statcan.ca), Labour Division. □

Number of employees

Industry group (1980 S.I.C.)	Sept. 1996	Oct. 1996 ^r	Nov. 1996 ^p	Sept. to Oct. 1996	Oct. to Nov. 1996
	seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	10,872	10,941	10,994	0.6	0.5
Logging and forestry	65	67	68	3.1	1.5
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	134	134	134	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	1,734	1,731	1,760	-0.2	1.7
Construction	442	452	460	2.3	1.8
Transportation, communication and other utilities	824	827	836	0.4	1.1
Wholesale trade	662	669	681	1.1	1.8
Retail trade	1,355	1,370	1,376	1.1	0.4
Finance, insurance and real estate	675	674	672	-0.1	-0.3
Business services	684	688	691	0.6	0.4
Education-related services	929	938	939	1.0	0.1
Health and social services	1,187	1,189	1,192	0.2	0.3
Accommodation, food and beverage services	786	794	796	1.0	0.3
Public administration	690	688	682	-0.3	-0.9
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	143	145	146	1.4	0.7
Prince Edward Island	45	45	46	0.0	2.2
Nova Scotia	303	307	308	1.3	0.3
New Brunswick	246	247	245	0.4	-0.8
Quebec	2,599	2,618	2,641	0.7	0.9
Ontario	4,259	4,282	4,307	0.5	0.6
Manitoba	416	419	421	0.7	0.5
Saskatchewan	319	323	323	1.3	0.0
Alberta	1,083	1,092	1,103	0.8	1.0
British Columbia	1,416	1,420	1,422	0.3	0.1
Yukon	14	14	14	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	25	25	25	0.0	0.0

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (1980 S.I.C.)	Nov. 1995	Oct. 1996 ^r	Nov. 1996 ^p	Oct. to Nov. 1996	Nov. 1995 to Nov. 1996
	seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	576.81	593.94	594.61	0.1	3.1
Logging and forestry	737.83	760.33	768.42	1.1	4.1
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	990.72	1,049.20	1,046.71	-0.2	5.7
Manufacturing	702.68	727.37	732.42	0.7	4.2
Construction	670.51	697.83	694.42	-0.5	3.6
Transportation, communication and other utilities	726.54	749.09	747.43	-0.2	2.9
Wholesale trade	626.19	635.03	635.78	0.1	1.5
Retail trade	346.27	354.25	355.15	0.3	2.6
Finance, insurance and real estate	670.31	712.62	714.80	0.3	6.6
Business services	629.02	670.59	666.39	-0.6	5.9
Education-related services	671.71	678.71	678.39	0.0	1.0
Health and social services	503.67	519.33	520.76	0.3	3.4
Accommodation, food and beverage services	237.17	236.67	238.72	0.9	0.7
Public administration	748.95	745.39	742.55	-0.4	-0.9
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	533.04	527.30	540.41	2.5	1.4
Prince Edward Island	478.89	500.49	495.03	-1.1	3.4
Nova Scotia	488.21	503.74	505.09	0.3	3.5
New Brunswick	510.51	515.59	521.69	1.2	2.2
Quebec	557.14	565.39	558.79	-1.2	0.3
Ontario	613.46	632.74	635.44	0.4	3.6
Manitoba	508.71	523.78	524.66	0.2	3.1
Saskatchewan	491.39	518.92	519.56	0.1	5.7
Alberta	552.30	595.03	593.25	-0.3	7.4
British Columbia	598.34	613.43	616.95	0.6	3.1
Yukon	707.04	726.69	730.90	0.6	3.4
Northwest Territories	710.67	724.34	736.47	1.7	3.6

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.



OTHER RELEASES

Stocks of frozen meat products

January 1, 1997 (preliminary)

Estimates of frozen meat in cold storage as of January 1, 1997, amounted to 34,050 tonnes, compared with 33,275 tonnes a month earlier and 36,933 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9517-9525.

Available free on the Internet (<http://www.statcan.ca>). Menu path is Electronic Marketplace/Products and Services/Downloadable Documents.

For further information on this release, contact Maxine Sudol (613-951-3847), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Cereals and oilseeds review

December 1996

The December situation report will appear in the November 1996 issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XPB, \$15/\$144), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Jeannine L. Fleury (613-951-3859) or Karen Gray (204-983-2856; Internet: graykar@statcan.ca), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation,
December 1996
Catalogue number 44-004-XPB
(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other
countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Industry price indexes, November 1996
Catalogue number 62-011-XPB
(Canada: \$21/\$210; United States: US\$26/US\$252;
other countries: US\$30/US\$294).

How to order publications

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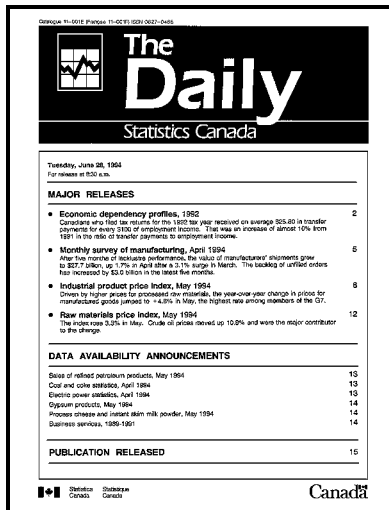
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Editor: Nicola Paterson (613-951-1099)
Head of Official Release: Andrée Hébert (613-951-1088)

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