



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 7, 1997

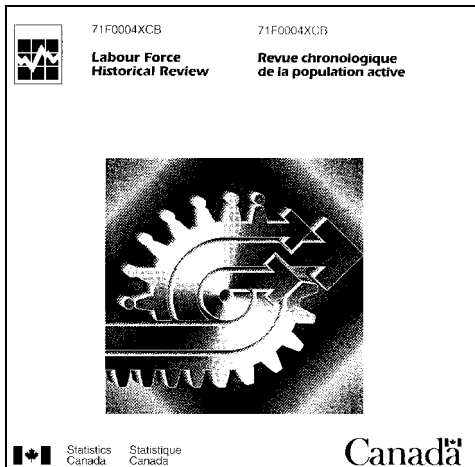
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Labour Force Survey, January 1997** 3
 Labour market conditions were little changed in January. Employment held steady following three months of growth. The unemployment rate remained at 9.7%.

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1996 Labour force historical review on CD-ROM

Does the labour market have an impact on your business? Thousands of cross-classified data series, spanning 1976 to 1996, are available at the click of a mouse from the *1996 Labour force historical review* on CD-ROM. Monthly and annual average series are available on a wide range of subjects, including labour force status by industry, occupation, education, and family characteristics; unemployment by duration and reason for leaving last job; trends in the labour markets of census metropolitan areas; and much more. The easy-to-use software puts you in the driver's seat, giving you control over the view of the data most appropriate for your needs. Quick graphical and mapping features allow you to discover patterns in the data in seconds, rather than hours.

The *1996 Labour force historical review* on CD-ROM (71F0004XCB, Canada: \$195, United States and other countries: US\$195) is now available. LAN and bulk prices are available upon request. To order this new edition, contact the Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre nearest you or our Internet order desk (order@statcan.ca).

For further information on this product, contact Nathalie Caron (613-951-4168) or refer to our Internet site (www.statcan.ca) and select Electronic Marketplace, Products and Services, CD-ROMs.

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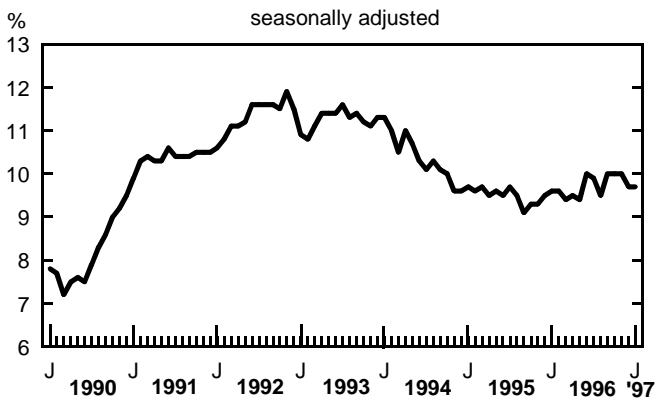
MAJOR RELEASES

Labour Force Survey

January 1997

The estimated level of employment in Canada was virtually unchanged in January. Total employment had been rising since September 1996, with gains totalling 91,000 (+0.7%). The number of unemployed was steady in January and the unemployment rate held at 9.7%.

Unemployment rate



More full-time jobs for adult women

While total employment was little changed in January, the picture was different for full- and part-time employment. The number of full-time jobs increased by 32,000, while part-time employment fell 27,000. These changes were primarily among adult women, who gained 42,000 full-time and lost 22,000 part-time jobs.

Changes in the publication Labour Force Information

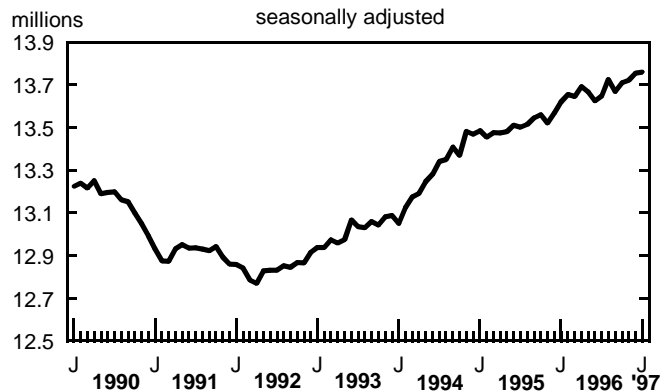
Starting this month, the publication Labour force information (71-001-PPB, \$10/\$100), has been extensively redesigned to offer our users a more comprehensive set of current labour market indicators, which will facilitate more trend analysis. At a national level, the range of employment estimates has been expanded to include more industrial detail, a breakdown by public versus private sector, and details on net change. Additionally, core-aged workers have been identified as a separate demographic group for which estimates are provided. The amount of seasonally adjusted provincial data has been greatly expanded to include, on a three-month moving average basis, estimates by demographic groups and industry. Finally, the publication contains new information on hours and wages of employees by occupation and demographic groups.

One other noticeable change in this publication is the presentation of data rounded to hundreds and expressed in thousands to a decimal place. Starting with this release, calculation of rates and percentage changes, etc. will be based on estimates rounded to hundreds, whereas previously, they were calculated from unrounded numbers.

All LFS seasonally adjusted series have been revised back to 1976 to reflect changes in methodology, and are now available on CANSIM and in the 1996 Labour force historical review on CD-ROM (71F0004XCB, \$195). They also appear in the publication Historical labour force statistics (71-201-XPB, \$110).

Estimates for January 1997 are based totally on a new questionnaire that has been phased in since September 1996. Details of the changes to the questionnaire are available in a document entitled "The Labour Force Survey: Development of a new questionnaire for 1997", which can be found on the Internet (www.statcan.ca) under Research Papers in the virtual library of Statistics Canada. The new LFS questionnaire, as well as the new Guide to the Labour Force Survey are also available at the same location. Details of these changes are available on request from Nathalie Caron (613-951-4168).

Employment



Of the 91,000 jobs added since September 1996, 80,000 were full-time. These gains were concentrated among adults, as full-time employment was up 51,000 for adult men and up 30,000 for adult women. The number of part-time jobs has climbed by 19,000 for adult women and declined by 14,000 for adult men since last September.

Employment levels for youths have shown little movement since September 1996. Their labour force participation rate, which has continued to fluctuate monthly, rose 0.4 of a percentage point in January, pushing the youth unemployment rate up to 17.0% (+0.6 of a percentage point).

Higher employment in construction

As in the previous four months, employment in the goods-producing sector showed little change in January, maintaining gains of 110,000 made from May to August 1996.

The estimated level of employment in construction climbed 19,000 in January, as the upswing that began in May 1996 continued. This is the first upward trend since mid-1994. Since last May, employment gains in construction have totalled 56,000 (+8.1%), a recovery of more than two-thirds of the losses incurred in the preceding two years.

Employment in utilities (power, water, etc.) was down 11,000 in January, continuing the slow downward trend seen in this industry since May 1992.

The estimated level of employment in manufacturing was little changed in January, after declining by 42,000 in the previous three months. Despite these recent decreases, the number of jobs in manufacturing has grown by 66,000 (+3.2%) since December 1995. This growth is entirely due to durable goods manufacturing, which has shown an upward trend since March 1996. Non-durable goods manufacturing employment is at about the same level as December 1995.

There was virtually no change in service sector employment in January, leaving gains over the past year at only 38,000.

Only two components of the service sector showed any significant change in employment. Transportation, storage and communications posted a gain of 19,000 in January, however employment remained down 45,000 (-4.9%) from August 1995. Employment in public administration fell 18,000 in January, to approximately the same level as a year ago.

Upswing in self-employment

Strong gains in self-employment in January were offset by a drop in the number of private employees. Public employment was virtually unchanged. Growth in self-employment has been driving the increase in employment in recent months and accounts for all of the gains since last September.

Continued employment growth in Manitoba

In January, employment rose in Newfoundland (+4,000), Nova Scotia (+3,000) and New Brunswick (+4,000), while it fell in Prince Edward Island (-1,000).

In Manitoba, the estimated level of employment was up 4,000 in January, a continuation of the upward trend that began in November 1995. Since then, the province has posted a gain of 27,000 (+5.2%), with most of the increase in personal and business services and trade. In Alberta, employment fell by 7,000 in January, following a 22,000 increase in the previous three months. Employment in the province has risen by 48,000 (+3.4%) since December 1995, with growth concentrated in manufacturing and other primary industries.

Since October, employment has shown little change in Quebec, Ontario and Saskatchewan. In British Columbia, employment was little changed in January, following gains in the three preceding months.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3450-3471 and 3483-3502 and table 00799999.

Available at 7 a.m. on the Internet (www.statcan.ca; select *Latest News from Statistics Canada*).

For a summary, *Labour force information*, for the week ending January 18, 1997 (paper version: 71-001-PPB, \$10/\$100; fax version: 71-001-PFB, \$300 annually) is available today. The January 1997 issue of *The labour force* (71-001-XPB, \$23/\$230) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on March 7.

For further information on this release, contact Deborah Sunter (613-951-4740) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Household Surveys Division. □

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Dec. 1996 to Jan. 1997	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Dec. 1996 to Jan. 1997
seasonally adjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	15,239.1	15,239.8	0.0	64.8	64.7	-0.1
Newfoundland	236.3	241.1	2.0	52.4	53.4	1.0
Prince Edward Island	71.7	70.8	-1.3	66.9	66.2	-0.7
Nova Scotia	443.8	447.7	0.9	60.1	60.6	0.5
New Brunswick	354.9	358.7	1.1	59.0	59.6	0.6
Quebec	3,647.7	3,661.4	0.4	61.9	62.0	0.1
Ontario	5,863.1	5,851.2	-0.2	65.8	65.6	-0.2
Manitoba	579.9	582.2	0.4	67.6	67.8	0.2
Saskatchewan	491.8	492.6	0.2	65.0	65.1	0.1
Alberta	1,530.7	1,532.5	0.1	71.9	71.8	-0.1
British Columbia	2,019.3	2,001.5	-0.9	65.9	65.2	-0.7
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	13,753.7	13,758.8	0.0	58.5	58.5	0.0
Newfoundland	188.2	192.0	2.0	41.7	42.5	0.8
Prince Edward Island	60.3	59.3	-1.7	56.3	55.4	-0.9
Nova Scotia	386.5	389.6	0.8	52.3	52.7	0.4
New Brunswick	307.6	312.0	1.4	51.1	51.8	0.7
Quebec	3,204.9	3,213.2	0.3	54.4	54.4	0.0
Ontario	5,329.4	5,322.1	-0.1	59.8	59.7	-0.1
Manitoba	536.4	540.6	0.8	62.5	63.0	0.5
Saskatchewan	462.8	461.8	-0.2	61.2	61.0	-0.2
Alberta	1,434.6	1,427.5	-0.5	67.4	66.9	-0.5
British Columbia	1,843.0	1,840.7	-0.1	60.2	60.0	-0.2
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	1,485.4	1,480.9	-0.3	9.7	9.7	0.0
Newfoundland	48.1	49.1	2.1	20.4	20.4	0.0
Prince Edward Island	11.4	11.5	0.9	15.9	16.2	0.3
Nova Scotia	57.3	58.1	1.4	12.9	13.0	0.1
New Brunswick	47.3	46.7	-1.3	13.3	13.0	-0.3
Quebec	442.8	448.1	1.2	12.1	12.2	0.1
Ontario	533.7	529.1	-0.9	9.1	9.0	-0.1
Manitoba	43.4	41.6	-4.1	7.5	7.1	-0.4
Saskatchewan	28.9	30.8	6.6	5.9	6.3	0.4
Alberta	96.1	105.0	9.3	6.3	6.9	0.6
British Columbia	176.3	160.9	-8.7	8.7	8.0	-0.7

Note: Provincial estimates may differ from national totals due to independent seasonal adjustment.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996 to Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996 to Jan. 1997
unadjusted						
	Labour Force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	14,742.2	14,919.8	1.2	63.6	63.4	-0.2
Newfoundland	220.6	225.2	2.1	48.7	49.9	1.2
Prince Edward Island	67.6	68.0	0.6	64.0	63.6	-0.4
Nova Scotia	424.6	432.7	1.9	57.9	58.5	0.6
New Brunswick	331.7	338.6	2.1	55.4	56.3	0.9
Quebec	3,574.2	3,591.8	0.5	61.2	60.9	-0.3
Ontario	5,677.0	5,743.6	1.2	64.6	64.4	-0.2
Manitoba	552.6	573.1	3.7	64.9	66.7	1.8
Saskatchewan	484.6	482.4	-0.5	64.6	63.7	-0.9
Alberta	1,482.3	1,504.6	1.5	71.0	70.5	-0.5
British Columbia	1,927.1	1,959.8	1.7	64.5	63.9	-0.6
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	13,199.8	13,341.6	1.1	56.9	56.7	-0.2
Newfoundland	175.2	177.1	1.1	38.6	39.2	0.6
Prince Edward Island	55.8	54.3	-2.7	52.8	50.7	-2.1
Nova Scotia	370.6	371.9	0.4	50.5	50.3	-0.2
New Brunswick	290.0	289.4	-0.2	48.4	48.1	-0.3
Quebec	3,134.7	3,106.7	-0.9	53.7	52.6	-1.1
Ontario	5,135.8	5,191.5	1.1	58.5	58.2	-0.3
Manitoba	502.1	526.2	4.8	59.0	61.3	2.3
Saskatchewan	445.4	447.6	0.5	59.3	59.1	-0.2
Alberta	1,361.4	1,392.6	2.3	65.2	65.3	0.1
British Columbia	1,728.8	1,784.2	3.2	57.8	58.1	0.3
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	1,542.4	1,578.2	2.3	10.5	10.6	0.1
Newfoundland	45.4	48.1	5.9	20.6	21.4	0.8
Prince Edward Island	11.7	13.6	16.2	17.3	20.0	2.7
Nova Scotia	53.9	60.7	12.6	12.7	14.0	1.3
New Brunswick	41.7	49.2	18.0	12.6	14.5	1.9
Quebec	439.4	485.1	10.4	12.3	13.5	1.2
Ontario	541.2	552.1	2.0	9.5	9.6	0.1
Manitoba	50.5	46.9	-7.1	9.1	8.2	-0.9
Saskatchewan	39.2	34.8	-11.2	8.1	7.2	-0.9
Alberta	120.9	112.0	-7.4	8.2	7.4	-0.8
British Columbia	198.3	175.6	-11.4	10.3	9.0	-1.3

■

OTHER RELEASES

Apartment building construction price indexes

Fourth quarter 1996

The composite price index for apartment building construction rose to 125.3 (1986=100) in the fourth quarter of 1996, 0.3% over the previous quarter and 1.5% above the fourth quarter of 1995.

Toronto registered the highest quarterly change (+0.5%), followed by Montreal, Ottawa and Edmonton (+0.3%). Vancouver increased 0.2%, while Halifax and Calgary went up 0.1%.

On an annual basis, the Toronto and Vancouver indexes increased 1.6%, followed by Ottawa at 1.3%. Indexes in Montreal and Edmonton showed annual movement of 1.0%. Halifax increased 0.9% over the same period, while Calgary registered a 0.7% advance.

The apartment building construction price indexes provide an indication of new construction cost changes in seven major urban areas across Canada — Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

Besides the city indexes and national composites, there are further breakdowns of cost changes by trade groups within the building category — structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical. These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade group contractors, who report on the categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profits) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Apartment building construction price indexes (1986=100)

	Fourth quarter 1996	Fourth quarter 1995 to fourth quarter 1996	Third to fourth quarter 1996
	% change		
Composite	125.3	1.5	0.3
Halifax	116.1	0.9	0.1
Montreal	117.9	1.0	0.3
Ottawa	133.3	1.3	0.3
Toronto	129.6	1.6	0.5
Calgary	127.9	0.7	0.1
Edmonton	125.8	1.0	0.3
Vancouver	130.9	1.6	0.2

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2046.

The fourth quarter 1996 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$23/\$76) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Shadlock (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: shadsan@statcan.ca), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins December 1996

Chemical firms produced 184 365 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in December, a 3.3% increase from 178 480 tonnes in December 1995.

For January to December 1996, production totalled 2 194 064 tonnes, up 5.8% from 2 072 972 tonnes a year earlier.

Data are also available on production of 3 other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The December 1996 issue of *Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins* (46-002-XPB, \$6/60) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Suzette DesRosiers (613-951-9836; Internet: desrosi@statcan.ca), Industry Division. ■

Steel pipe and tubing December 1996

Steel pipe and tubing production for December totalled 154 424 tonnes, a 33.3% increase from 115 816 tonnes a year earlier.

Year-to-date production to the end of December 1996 totalled 2 140 739 tonnes, up 10.3% from 1 940 989 tonnes during the same period in 1995.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 35.

The December 1996 issue of *Steel pipe and tubing* (41-011-XPB, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827; Internet: milsomg@statcan.ca), Industry Division. ■

Annual Survey of Manufactures
1995

The Annual Survey of Manufactures provides information on over 200 different industries. Principal statistics for each industry will be released as they become available. Data for the industries listed in the table below are now available.

As of today, principal statistics at the national level are available for a total of 55 industries.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5411, 5454, 5563, 5569, and 6856.

Data for the industries listed in the table will appear in *Rubber and plastic products industries* (33-250-XPB, \$38), *Clothing industries* (34-252-XPB, \$38), *Transportation equipment industries* (42-251-XPB, \$38), *Electrical and electronic products industries* (43-250-XPB, \$38) and *Non-metallic mineral products industries* (44-250-XPB, \$38). The publications will be available shortly. These publications will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, see the contacts listed below (fax: 613-951-9499; Internet: desrosi@statcan.ca).

Value of shipments

	1994	1995	1994 to 1995 %	Catalogue number	Contact	Telephone (613)
	\$ millions		change			
Industry (SIC)						
Rubber hose and belting (1521)	330.0	380.0	15.1	33-250-XPB	B. Meyer	951-3528
Hosiery (2494)	339.6	364.1	7.2	34-252-XPB	N. Charron	951-3510
Railroad rolling stock (3261)	1,990.7	2,414.5	21.3	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	951-3515
Major appliances (electric and non-electric) (3321)	946.3	941.4	-0.5	43-250-XPB	L. Vincent	951-3523
Primary glass and glass containers (3561)	669.8	744.1	11.1	44-250-XPB	S. O'Brien	951-3514

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat, a weekly review, February 7, 1997
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE
(Canada: \$4/\$140; United States: US\$5/US\$168; other countries: US\$5/US\$196).

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products, quarter ended December 1996
Catalogue number 25-002-XPB
(Canada: \$8/\$24; United States: US\$9/US\$29; other countries: US\$11/US\$34).

The sugar situation, quarter ended December 1996
Catalogue number 32-013QXPB
(Canada: \$12/\$39; United States: US\$15/US\$47; other countries: US\$17/US\$55).

Cement, December 1996
Catalogue number 44-001-XPB
(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Historical labour force statistics, 1996
Catalogue number 71-201-XPB
(Canada: \$110; United States: US\$132; other countries: US\$154).

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Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's data retrieval systems. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services—from seminars to consultations—are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

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RELEASE DATES

February 10 to 14
(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
10	New Housing Price Index	December 1996
12	New motor vehicle sales	December 1996
14	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 1996
