

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, September 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Labour Force Survey, August 1997** 2
In August, employment rose by an estimated 55,000, the sixth consecutive monthly increase. Since February, when employment growth gained momentum, the number of employed has increased by 277,000 (+2.0%).

OTHER RELEASES

- Steel primary forms, week ending August 30, 1997 6
- National Population Health Survey — Yukon and Northwest Territories, 1994/95 6

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

- RELEASE DATES:** September 8 to 12, 1997 8
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MAJOR RELEASES

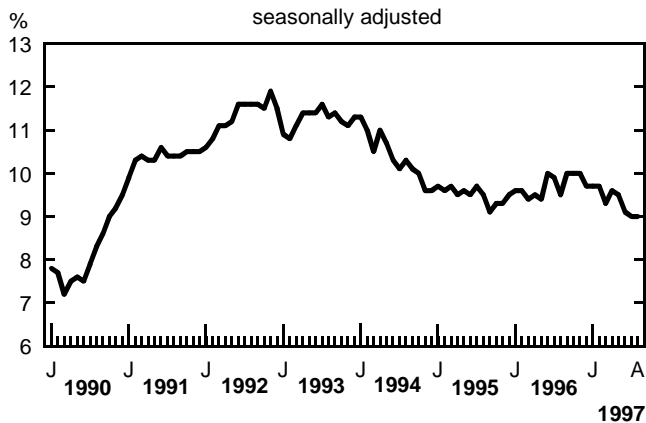
Labour Force Survey

August 1997

In August, employment rose by an estimated 55,000, the sixth consecutive monthly increase. Since February, when employment growth gained momentum, the number of employed has increased by 277,000 (+2.0%).

The growth in employment in August was accompanied by a similar increase in the labour force, leaving the number of persons looking for work little changed and the unemployment rate at 9.0%.

Unemployment rate



Employment gains for adults and youths

There were employment gains among both adults and youths in August. Employment among adults has been strengthening for several months. Gains since February total 127,000 (+2.0%) for adult men and 112,000 (+2.1%) for adult women.

For youths, the gains are more recent. August marked the third consecutive month of growth with gains totalling 52,000 since May — the largest sustained increase since 1994.

Part-time job growth outpaces full-time employment gains

Employment growth of 55,000 in August was equally split between full- and part-time jobs. Since February, full-time employment has grown by 185,000 (+1.7%), while part-time gained 92,000 (+3.5%). With the growth rate of part-time

employment twice that of full-time, the proportion of workers with part-time hours has risen to 19.4% from 19.1% in February.

Continued job growth in the private sector

Employment in the private sector grew by an estimated 87,000 in August, while the public sector declined by 32,000. Both paid employees (+51,000) and the self-employed (+35,000) contributed to the private sector job growth.

All of the employment gains since February have been in the private sector with paid employees up 204,000 and the self-employed up 110,000. Over this period, public sector employment has declined by 37,000.

Summer jobs go to older students

Each May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects information on 15- to 24-year-olds who were full-time students in March and who plan to return to school in the fall. Because the data are not seasonally adjusted, comparisons should only be made on a year-over-year basis.

For students aged 20 to 24, labour market conditions improved over the summer compared with last year. In May, this group had a higher unemployment rate, lower labour market participation and a lower employment rate than the same month last year. By August, their unemployment rate (8.8%) was 0.9 percentage points lower than August 1996, while their employment (69.3%) and participation rates (76.0%) were higher.

In contrast, younger students, especially those aged 15 and 16, faced poorer labour market conditions compared with the summer of 1996. In August, the proportion of students in this age group who were employed (29.1%) was 2.5 percentage points lower than a year ago while their unemployment rate (24.9%) was 2.0 points higher. The employment rate of 17- to 19-year-olds, meanwhile, dipped to 55.7% in August 1997 while their unemployment rate increased from 15.0% to 16.9%.

It is increasingly common for students with summer jobs to be working part time. In the late 1980's, the proportion of students with part-time jobs in August was less than 40%; in August 1997, 51.5% were working part time.

Recent employment growth concentrated in three industries

The increase in employment in August was concentrated in business and personal services (+30,000), transportation, storage and communications (+23,000), and manufacturing (+21,000). These industries had above average growth over the first eight months of 1997, and account for almost all of the recent surge in employment.

Employment in retail trade edged down slightly in August following strong growth in July. Offsetting monthly fluctuations leave employment in the industry little changed since the beginning of the year.

Offsetting movements in July and August leave employment in public administration down 26,000 so far this year.

Employment growth in the West led by Alberta

In Alberta, employment increased (+11,000) in August, the seventh straight month of growth. Since January, employment is up 41,000 (+2.9%), with manufacturing, trade and business and personal services contributing most to the increase.

Employment in British Columbia was little changed in August leaving gains since March at 38,000 (+2.1%).

In Manitoba, employment increased (+4,000), partly offsetting a decline in July. Recent monthly fluctuations leave overall employment in the province at the same level as last April.

Employment in Saskatchewan was little changed for the third consecutive month, following gains earlier in the year. Year-to-date employment in the province is up 15,000 (+3.2%).

The Atlantic provinces

In Newfoundland, employment rose by 5,000 in August, offsetting small monthly declines observed over the previous six months.

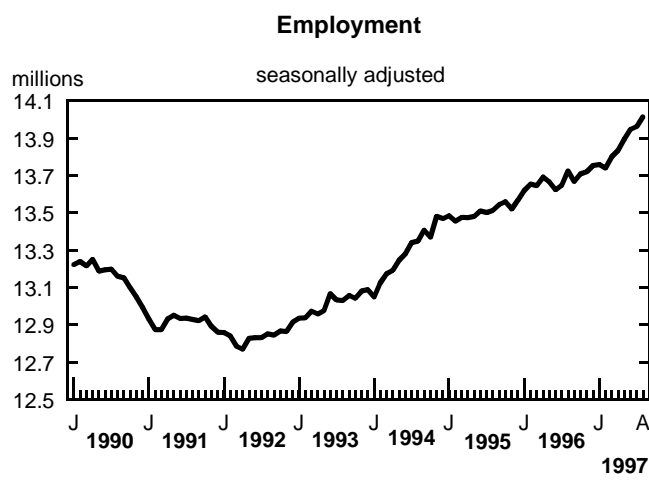
There was little employment change in the other Atlantic provinces. Year-to-date employment gains total 7,000 (+2.3%) in New Brunswick, 5,000 (+1.2%) in Nova Scotia and 1,000 (+1.3%) in Prince Edward Island.

Available on CANSIM: at 7 a.m. in matrices 3450-3471, 3483-3502 and table 00799999.

Available at 7 a.m. on the Internet at <http://www.statcan.ca> on the Latest news from Statistics Canada button.

For a summary, *Labour force information* for the week ending August 16, 1997 (71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103) is available today, as is a facsimile version (71-001-PFB, \$300 annually). The next release of the *Labour Force Survey* will be on October 10, 1997.

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



Employment growth continues in Ontario

The employment increase in Ontario (+33,000) accounted for two-thirds of the overall job growth in August. Since last February, when growth resumed in the province, gains total 156,000 (+2.9%). Growth over this period has been in manufacturing and service-producing industries.

In Quebec, employment was unchanged in August, leaving gains since last November at 66,000 (+2.1%).

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	July 1997	Aug. 1997	July 1997 to Aug. 1997	July 1997	Aug. 1997	July 1997 to Aug. 1997
Seasonally adjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	15,346.2	15,405.4	0.4	64.7	64.9	0.2
Newfoundland	232.5	236.2	1.6	51.7	52.5	0.8
Prince Edward Island	72.0	71.4	-0.8	67.1	66.5	-0.6
Nova Scotia	442.4	442.3	-0.0	59.6	59.5	-0.1
New Brunswick	362.0	359.5	-0.7	60.0	59.6	-0.4
Quebec	3,672.4	3,682.3	0.3	61.9	62.1	0.2
Ontario	5,911.9	5,945.5	0.6	65.8	66.1	0.3
Manitoba	572.0	572.9	0.2	66.3	66.4	0.1
Saskatchewan	505.9	506.4	0.1	66.5	66.5	0.0
Alberta	1,548.0	1,560.3	0.8	71.7	72.1	0.4
British Columbia	2,027.1	2,028.5	0.1	65.3	65.3	0.0
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	13,962.4	14,016.9	0.4	58.9	59.1	0.2
Newfoundland	187.5	192.7	2.8	41.7	42.9	1.2
Prince Edward Island	61.4	61.1	-0.5	57.2	56.9	-0.3
Nova Scotia	391.5	391.0	-0.1	52.8	52.6	-0.2
New Brunswick	317.4	314.7	-0.9	52.6	52.2	-0.4
Quebec	3,258.9	3,259.4	0.0	55.0	54.9	-0.1
Ontario	5,425.6	5,458.5	0.6	60.4	60.7	0.3
Manitoba	533.2	537.4	0.8	61.8	62.3	0.5
Saskatchewan	476.4	477.6	0.3	62.7	62.8	0.1
Alberta	1,457.3	1,468.4	0.8	67.5	67.8	0.3
British Columbia	1,853.2	1,856.2	0.2	59.7	59.7	0.0
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	1,383.8	1,388.5	0.3	9.0	9.0	0.0
Newfoundland	45.0	43.6	-3.1	19.4	18.5	-0.9
Prince Edward Island	10.6	10.3	-2.8	14.7	14.4	-0.3
Nova Scotia	50.9	51.2	0.6	11.5	11.6	0.1
New Brunswick	44.5	44.9	0.9	12.3	12.5	0.2
Quebec	413.5	422.9	2.3	11.3	11.5	0.2
Ontario	486.4	487.1	0.1	8.2	8.2	0.0
Manitoba	38.8	35.5	-8.5	6.8	6.2	-0.6
Saskatchewan	29.5	28.8	-2.4	5.8	5.7	-0.1
Alberta	90.7	91.9	1.3	5.9	5.9	0.0
British Columbia	173.9	172.4	-0.9	8.6	8.5	-0.1

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

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1997	Aug. 1996 to Aug. 1997	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1997	Aug. 1996 to Aug. 1997
Unadjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	15,597.5	15,852.4	1.6	66.7	66.8	0.1
Newfoundland	256.7	258.0	0.5	56.8	57.4	0.6
Prince Edward Island	75.8	76.9	1.5	71.1	71.6	0.5
Nova Scotia	464.6	465.0	0.1	63.1	62.6	-0.5
New Brunswick	381.6	385.0	0.9	63.5	63.8	0.3
Quebec	3,729.2	3,771.2	1.1	63.5	63.6	0.1
Ontario	6,021.8	6,109.9	1.5	67.9	67.9	0.0
Manitoba	577.0	584.8	1.4	67.4	67.8	0.4
Saskatchewan	506.9	523.1	3.2	67.3	68.7	1.4
Alberta	1,546.1	1,597.4	3.3	73.2	73.8	0.6
British Columbia	2,037.8	2,081.0	2.1	67.1	67.0	-0.1
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	14,144.7	14,458.2	2.2	60.5	60.9	0.4
Newfoundland	213.4	213.7	0.1	47.2	47.5	0.3
Prince Edward Island	67.9	68.9	1.5	63.7	64.2	0.5
Nova Scotia	407.2	413.2	1.5	55.3	55.6	0.3
New Brunswick	342.6	342.8	0.1	57.0	56.8	-0.2
Quebec	3,311.4	3,360.1	1.5	56.3	56.6	0.3
Ontario	5,495.7	5,608.1	2.0	62.0	62.4	0.4
Manitoba	535.1	547.7	2.4	62.5	63.5	1.0
Saskatchewan	476.3	494.4	3.8	63.2	65.0	1.8
Alberta	1,439.5	1,501.6	4.3	68.2	69.4	1.2
British Columbia	1,855.5	1,907.8	2.8	61.1	61.4	0.3
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	1,452.7	1,394.2	-4.0	9.3	8.8	-0.5
Newfoundland	43.2	44.3	2.5	16.8	17.2	0.4
Prince Edward Island	8.0	8.1	1.3	10.6	10.5	-0.1
Nova Scotia	57.4	51.8	-9.8	12.4	11.1	-1.3
New Brunswick	39.0	42.2	8.2	10.2	11.0	0.8
Quebec	417.8	411.1	-1.6	11.2	10.9	-0.3
Ontario	526.1	501.8	-4.6	8.7	8.2	-0.5
Manitoba	42.0	37.1	-11.7	7.3	6.3	-1.0
Saskatchewan	30.5	28.8	-5.6	6.0	5.5	-0.5
Alberta	106.6	95.8	-10.1	6.9	6.0	-0.9
British Columbia	182.2	173.2	-4.9	8.9	8.3	-0.6

■

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending August 30, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending August 30, 1997, totalled 304 151 tonnes, up 2.2% from the week-earlier 297 636 tonnes and up 23.7% from the year-earlier 245 865 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 10 174 315 tonnes, a 7.5% increase compared with 9 461 843 tonnes for the same period in 1996.

For further information on this release, contact Huguette Montcalm (613-951-9827; Internet: monthug@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

National Population Health Survey — Yukon and Northwest Territories 1994/95

The 1994/95 National Population Health Survey data for the Yukon and Northwest Territories are now available. A public use microdata file and overview report will be available shortly.

For further information on this release, contact Daniel Dekoker (613-951-1653; Internet: nphs@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat — a weekly review, September 5, 1997
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE
(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Cereals and oilseeds review, June 1997
Catalogue number 22-007-XPB
(Canada: \$15/\$149; outside Canada: US\$15/US\$149).

Asphalt roofing, July 1997
Catalogue number 45-001-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Canada's international transactions in securities,
June 1997
Catalogue number 67-002-XPB
(Canada: \$18/\$176; outside Canada: US\$18/US\$176).

Labour force information, for the week ending
August 16, 1997
Catalogue number 71-001-PPB
(Canada: \$11/\$103; outside Canada: US\$11/US\$103).

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The Daily
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 211 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 9
- **Steel primary forms, season ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **52¢ producer, April 1997** 13

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

11-204E (F) 11-001E (F) 11-001E (F) 11-001E (F) 11-001E (F)

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RELEASE DATES

September 8 to 12, 1997
(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
8	Literacy skills of Canadian youth	1994
9	New Housing Price Index	July 1997
9	Industrial capacity utilization rates	Q2 1997
10	Facing the future: adults who go back to school	1976 to 1996
10	Perspectives on labour and income	Autumn 1997
10	New motor vehicle sales	July 1997
11	Field crop reporting series: July 31 grain stocks	July 1997
