



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index, August 1999	2
Short-term Expectations Survey, July to October 1999	2

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	4
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OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

August 1999

The Help-wanted Index decreased 1.3% in August to 158 (1996=100), the first monthly decline since March 1996.

Decreases were observed in Quebec (-1.2%), Saskatchewan (-0.8%) and Manitoba (-0.6%). Levels in Ontario and Alberta remained the same while those in other provinces increased.

The index was 9.9% higher compared with a year earlier.

Help-wanted Index

(1996=100)

	Aug. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Aug. 1998 to Aug. 1999	July to Aug. 1999
seasonally adjusted and smoothed					
				% change	
Canada	144	160	158	9.9	-1.3
Newfoundland	137	161	165	20.4	2.5
Prince Edward Island	148	173	183	23.6	5.8
Nova Scotia	146	167	170	16.4	1.8
New Brunswick	154	179	179	16.9	0.6
Quebec	142	163	161	13.6	-1.2
Ontario	152	175	175	15.1	0.0
Manitoba	162	181	180	11.1	-0.6
Saskatchewan	134	127	126	-6.0	-0.8
Alberta	145	126	126	-13.1	0.0
British Columbia	121	127	128	5.8	0.8

Note: The Help-wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intentions to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8 to 10).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4090; fax:

613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Short-term Expectations Survey

July to October 1999

According to the Short-term Expectations Survey of economic forecasters, the economy is expected to show little change in the coming months, with only a slight increase in inflation.

The mean forecast of year-over-year inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index is 1.8% for August and 1.9% for September and October. Actual inflation, meanwhile, has been slightly higher than expected — the average forecast for July was 1.7% compared with the actual rate of 1.8% for the same period.

The mean monthly growth forecast for gross domestic product in June was 0.3%, the same figure as the actual growth. Analysts expect about the same growth in July and August, with a mean monthly growth of 0.3% and 0.2% respectively.

Forecasts for international trade show a small change in the surplus for July to September, with mean surplus forecasts of \$2.6 billion in July, \$2.7 billion in August and \$2.5 billion in September. Average forecasts show a slight increase in exports and imports over these months.

The actual seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.7% in July and the participation rate was 65.4%. Forecasters anticipate stability in the unemployment rate through August, September and October, with an average of 7.7% for each of these three months. Slight increases in the participation rate are expected, with average rates of 65.5%, 65.6% and 65.7% respectively.

The next release will be on October 6.

For more information, for a set of tables, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jenny Grenier (613-951-1020; fax: 613-951-1572; grenjen@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. □

Short-term Expectations Survey

	Average forecasts					Actual figures	
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	June	July
% yearly growth							
Consumer Price Index							
Initial forecast	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.8
First revision	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.9	..		
Second revision	1.5	1.7	1.8	..	..
% monthly growth, seasonally adjusted, constant \$1992							
Gross domestic product							
Initial forecast	0.2	0.3	0.2	..	..	0.3	..
First revision	0.3	0.3	..	..	..
Second revision	0.3	..	..	..	..
\$ billion							
Exports							
Initial forecast	29.0	28.9	29.0	29.6	..	29.4	..
First revision	28.9	29.0	29.4	..	..
Second revision	28.9	29.3	..	..	..
Imports							
Initial forecast	26.6	26.7	26.5	27.1	..	26.6	..
First revision	26.4	26.4	26.7	..	..
Second revision	26.4	26.7	..	..	..
Balance							
Initial forecast	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.5	..	2.8	..
First revision	2.5	2.6	2.7	..	..
Second revision	2.5	2.6	..	..	..
seasonally adjusted %							
Unemployment rate							
Initial forecast	7.7	8.0	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7
First revision	8.0	8.1	7.8	7.7	..		
Second revision	8.1	7.7	7.7	..	..
Labour force participation rate							
Initial forecast	65.8	65.9	66.0	65.6	65.7	65.3	65.4
First revision	65.9	66.0	65.6	65.6	..		
Second revision	65.9	65.5	65.5	..	..

.. Not available.



PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Livestock statistics updates, 99-002

Catalogue number 23-603-UPE

(Canada: \$45/\$149; outside Canada: US\$45/US\$149).

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises, first quarter 1999

Catalogue number 61-008-XPB

(Canada: \$35/\$114; outside Canada: US\$35/US\$114).

Exports by commodity, June 1999

Catalogue number 65-004-XMB

(Canada: \$37/\$361; outside Canada: US\$37/US\$361).

Exports by commodity, June 1999

Catalogue number 65-004-XPB

(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

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Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 3, 1997	
For release at 8:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1995	2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995	4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.	
OTHER RELEASES	
Help-wanted index, May 1997	3
Short-term Expectations Survey	2
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	12
Egg production, April 1997	12
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	11
 	

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