

Statistics Canada

Friday, January 7, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

Labour Force Survey, December 1999 In December, employment rose by an estimated 42,000. However, this growth was matched by an increase in the number of people participating in the labour market, leaving the unemployment rate unchanged from the previous month at 6.9%.

OTHER RELEASES	
Steel primary forms, week ending December 25, 1999	8
Steel primary forms, week ending January 1, 2000	8
Asphalt roofing, November 1999	8
Egg production, November 1999	8
Electric power generating stations, 1998	8
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	9
RELEASE DATES: January 10 to 14	





2

MAJOR RELEASES

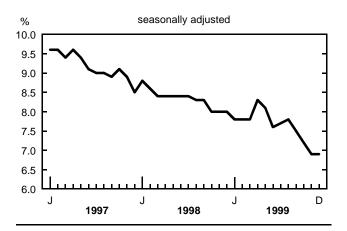
Labour Force Survey

December 1999

The labour market continued its positive performance in December, with employment rising by an estimated 42,000, building on robust growth in the previous three months. December's employment growth was matched by an increase in the number of people participating in the labour market, leaving the unemployment rate unchanged from the previous month at 6.9%.

Between December 1998 and December 1999, employment grew by 355,000 (+2.4%), pushing down the unemployment rate by 1.1 percentage points from 8.0% to 6.9%.

Unemployment rate



Full-time employment continues to grow

All of the employment increase in December was full time. Over the year, full-time jobs increased by 438,000 (+3.7%) while part-time employment fell by 83,000 (-3.0%). By December, the part-time rate, that is the proportion of jobs that were part time, was 17.9%, a full percentage point lower than a year earlier.

Despite slower overall employment gains in 1999 (+2.4%) compared with 1998 (+3.2%), faster full-time job growth has caused the number of hours worked to rise 2.8%, similar to the increase in 1998.

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) will undergo a major revision at the beginning of 2000. This revision will reflect two important changes. First, all LFS estimates will be adjusted to reflect 1996 Census population counts. Second, composite estimation will be adopted. This new method of estimation will reduce the volatility of month-to-month changes for a number of variables.

As a result of these two changes, all LFS estimates will be revised back to January 1976. Users must be aware that beginning with January 2000 data to be released on February 4, historical comparisons of estimates produced by the LFS must be made with revised historical data.

Revised historical data will be available on CANSIM at the end of January as well as on the Labour Force Historical ReviewCD-ROM, which will be released in February. If you have any questions about these changes, contact Nathalie Caron at (613-951-4168; caronat @ statcan.ca).

More jobs for youth and adult men

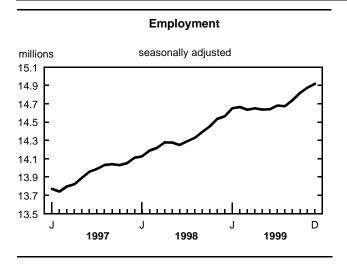
Employment among youth aged 15 to 24 increased by 19,000 in December compared with November. Following strong growth throughout 1998, youth employment plateaued during the spring and summer of 1999.

However, with gains in the last four months of 1999, youth employment in December was 73,000 (+3.4%) higher than at the end of 1998 and the youth unemployment rate was 13.2%, 1.2 percentage points lower than a year earlier.

Although the increase in December was primarily in part-time work, full-time employment among youth rose by 83,000 over 1999, an increase of 7.0%.

Employment among adult men rose by 21,000 in December compared with November and their unemployment rate edged down 0.1 points to 5.7% — the lowest since November 1981. Over the year, employment among adult men increased 158,000 (+2.3%), entirely in full-time jobs.

For the second month in a row, employment among adult women was unchanged. Despite this recent lack of job growth, employment for adult women increased by 124,000 (+2.2%) during 1999. A strong increase of 192,000 full-time jobs and 68,000 fewer part-time jobs during the year pushed the part-time rate down 1.7 percentage points to 22.5%.



Employees source of growth in 1999

Job growth in 1999 was driven by an increase in the number of employees. Despite little change in December, the number of employees was up 361,000 (+3.0%) compared with a year ago, with gains in both the private and public sector.

Self employment rose by 32,000, the second consecutive monthly increase. This follows losses earlier this year and leaves the number of self-employed people at about the same level as in December 1998.

December's employment gain was in services

Employment gains in December were concentrated in the services-producing sector (+50,000). Growth was strongest in professional, scientific and technical services (+30,000), followed by accommodation and food services (+21,000), and trade (+15,000).

Although employment in the services-producing sector was up only slightly (+1.8%) compared with December 1998, there were strong increases over the year in transportation and warehousing (+8.9%), management, administrative and other support services (+8.0%) and educational services (+4.6%).

Employment in the goods-producing sector was little changed from its November level. However, job growth was robust over the year at 156,000 (+4.2%) due to strength in manufacturing (+183,000 or +8.5%).

The job growth in manufacturing during 1999 was widespread, with the largest gain in computer and electronic products. This overall employment strength in manufacturing mirrors the upward trend in shipments and exports.

Provincial data

Employment growth in December was concentrated in Ontario. An employment increase of 35,000 in the province was accompanied by a similar increase in the labour force — leaving the unemployment rate unchanged from its November level of 5.6%. Employment gains over the past six months totalled 115,000 and accounted for most of the increase (+162,000 or +2.8%) in 1999.

Although employment was little changed in Quebec, a decline in people searching for work pushed the unemployment rate down by 0.3 percentage points to 8.1% in December. Job gains in 1999 totalled 86,000 (+2.5%).

In Prince Edward Island, employment rose by 2,000 from November, bringing gains over 1999 to 5,000.

Employment in New Brunswick declined by 4,000, offsetting the gain in November. These job losses pushed the unemployment rate up 0.7 percentage points to 10.3%. Compared with a year ago, employment in the province was little changed.

There was little employment change in the other provinces in December. However, compared with December 1998, employment increased in Newfoundland (+6.1%), Nova Scotia (+3.4%) and Alberta (+2.7%) while it grew less in British Columbia (+1.3%), Manitoba (+1.1%) and Saskatchewan (+0.5%).

Annual averages

In the preceding analysis, the annual growth is calculated as a December-to-December change. To supplement this information, it is also useful to look at annual averages, which give a good overall indication of changes in labour market conditions from year to year. Annual averages are calculated by averaging the unadjusted figures for each month in the year.

Nationally, the average level of employment in 1999 was 384,000 higher than the annual average in 1998, an improvement of 2.7%. This pushed the average unemployment rate down 0.7 points to 7.6%.

In Newfoundland, the average level of employment in 1999 was higher by 10,000 or 5.3% than in 1998, the largest increase of any province. As a result, the average unemployment rate fell 1.2 percentage points to 16.7%, still the highest in the country.

Employment levels in New Brunswick held steady in 1999 following strong growth in the second half of 1998. As a result, even though there was little change between December 1998 and December 1999, the average level of employment in 1999 was 3.7% higher than the year before, a gain of 12,000. The average

unemployment rate in New Brunswick was 10.1% in 1999, compared with 12.1% the year before.

In Ontario, average employment in 1999 was higher by 173,000 (+3.1%) than in 1998. This caused the average unemployment rate to fall from 7.2% in 1998 to 6.4% in 1999.

In 1999, Alberta's average employment level was 43,000 higher (+2.8%) in 1999 than the year before. Despite this job growth, an increase in labour market activity caused the average unemployment rate to inch up one-tenth of a point to 5.8%.

For all other provinces, the change in the average level of employment in 1999 was lower than the change for Canada as a whole. There was a sharp contrast in the annual average change (+1.6%) and the December-to-December change (+8.0%) for Prince Edward Island. In Prince Edward Island, a very strong increase in the last quarter of 1999 was dampened by slow growth over the rest of the year, pulling down the 1999 annual average.

Employment level and unemployment rate by province, annual averages

	1998 1999 1		1998 to	1999	1998 1999	
			Change	e in	Unem	ploy-
	Employ	ment	employr	nent	ment rate	
	'000		'000	%	%	<u> </u>
Canada	14,326.4	14,710.8	384.4	2.7	8.3	7.6
Newfoundland	197.9	208.3	10.4	5.3	17.9	16.7
Prince Edward Island	60.9	61.9	1.0	1.6	13.9	14.1
Nova Scotia	403.7	414.2	10.5	2.6	10.7	9.7
New Brunswick	324.2	336.1	11.9	3.7	12.1	10.1
Quebec	3,327.5	3,407.4	79.9	2.4	10.4	9.4
Ontario	5,612.9	5,786.2	173.3	3.1	7.2	6.4
Manitoba	546.1	556.8	10.7	2.0	5.7	5.5
Saskatchewan	478.6	480.8	2.2	0.5	5.9	6.1
Alberta	1,514.0	1,556.8	42.8	2.8	5.7	5.8
British Columbia	1,860.4	1,902.2	41.8	2.2	8.9	8.3

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

Available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) under *Daily news*.

For a summary, Labour force information, for the week ending December 11, 1999 (71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See How to order publications.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, February 4.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Geoff Bowlby (613-951-3325) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Labour Statistics Division.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Nov. to Dec.	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Nov. to Dec.	
		202	1999 onally adjusted			1999	
			orially adjusted				
	Labo	our force		Pa	Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	15,984.5	16,026.9	0.3	65.5	65.6	0.1	
Newfoundland	251.1	248.0	-1.2	56.6	55.8	-0.8	
Prince Edward Island	73.0	73.8	1.1	67.2	67.8	0.6	
Nova Scotia	461.2	461.4	0.0	61.2	61.2	0.0	
New Brunswick	377.5	376.0	-0.4	61.9	61.6	-0.3	
Quebec	3,807.1	3,791.1	-0.4	63.1	62.8	-0.3	
Ontario	6,182.2	6,216.2	0.5	66.3	66.6	0.3	
Manitoba	593.6	591.4	-0.4	68.2	67.9	-0.3	
Saskatchewan	510.2	511.5	0.3	66.4	66.6	0.2	
Alberta	1,654.0	1,667.1	0.8	71.8	72.3	0.5	
British Columbia	2,074.8	2,090.5	0.8	64.9	65.3	0.4	
	Emp	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	14,876.0	14,918.3	0.3	60.9	61.0	0.1	
Newfoundland	210.7	211.7	0.5	47.5	47.6	0.1	
Prince Edward Island	63.3	64.8	2.4	58.3	59.6	1.3	
Nova Scotia	416.8	415.4	-0.3	55.3	55.1	-0.2	
New Brunswick	341.3	337.3	-1.2	56.0	55.3	-0.7	
Quebec	3,487.2	3,483.9	-0.1	57.8	57.7	-0.1	
Ontario	5,834.5	5,869.0	0.6	62.6	62.9	0.3	
Manitoba	561.9	559.5	-0.4	64.6	64.3	-0.3	
Saskatchewan	483.0	483.6	0.1	62.9	63.0	0.1	
Alberta	1,567.7	1,574.9	0.5	68.1	68.3	0.2	
British Columbia	1,909.6	1,918.3	0.5	59.7	59.9	0.2	
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate			
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	1,108.5	1,108.7	0.0	6.9	6.9	0.0	
Newfoundland	40.4	36.4	-9.9	16.1	14.7	-1.4	
Prince Edward Island	9.6	9.0	-6.3	13.2	12.2	-1.0	
Nova Scotia	44.3	46.1	4.1	9.6	10.0	0.4	
New Brunswick	36.2	38.6	6.6	9.6	10.3	0.7	
Quebec	319.9	307.2	-4.0	8.4	8.1	-0.3	
Ontario	347.7	347.2	-0.1	5.6	5.6	0.0	
Manitoba	31.7	32.0	0.9	5.3	5.4	0.1	
Saskatchewan	27.2	27.9	2.6	5.3	5.5	0.2	
Alberta	86.3	92.2	6.8	5.2	5.5	0.3	
British Columbia	165.2	172.1	4.2	8.0	8.2	0.2	

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	, 3						
	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	Dec.	
	1998	1999	1998	1998	1999	1998	
			to			to	
			Dec.			Dec.	
			1999			1999	
			unadjusted				
	Lab	our force		Pa	articipation rate	ı	
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	15,632.6	15,841.1	1.3	64.8	64.8	0.0	
	•	ŕ					
Newfoundland	235.1	237.6	1.1	52.9	53.5	0.6	
Prince Edward Island	68.8	71.7	4.2	64.1	65.9	1.8	
Nova Scotia	442.7	455.0	2.8	59.2	60.3	1.1	
New Brunswick	367.4	365.7	-0.5	60.6	59.9	-0.7	
Quebec	3,719.3	3,751.8	0.9	62.1	62.1	0.0	
Ontario	6,074.7	6,168.3	1.5	66.2	66.1	-0.1	
Manitoba	584.0	586.8	0.5	67.5	67.4	-0.1	
Saskatchewan	504.7	503.0	-0.3	65.9	65.5	-0.4	
Alberta	1,608.3	1,645.5	2.3	71.3	71.3	0.0	
British Columbia	2,027.5	2,055.6	1.4	64.1	64.2	0.1	
	Em	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	14,430.3	14,807.9	2.6	59.8	60.6	0.8	
Newfoundland	193.9	205.4	5.9	43.7	46.2	2.5	
Prince Edward Island	56.7	61.6	8.6	52.8	56.6	3.8	
Nova Scotia	400.0	412.0	3.0	53.5	54.6	1.1	
New Brunswick	326.2	328.3	0.6	53.8	53.8	0.0	
Quebec	3,345.5	3,448.4	3.1	55.9	57.1	1.2	
Ontario	5,689.9	5,856.2	2.9	62.0	62.7	0.7	
Manitoba	550.0	555.6	1.0	63.6	63.8	0.2	
Saskatchewan	474.2	477.1	0.6	61.9	62.1	0.2	
Alberta	1,524.9	1,564.2	2.6	67.6	67.8	0.2	
British Columbia	1,869.0	1,899.1	1.6	59.1	59.3	0.2	
	Unemployment Unemployment			employment ra	te		
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	1,202.4	1,033.2	-14.1	7.7	6.5	-1.2	
Newfoundland	41.2	32.2	-21.8	17.5	13.6	-3.9	
Prince Edward Island	12.1	10.1	-16.5	17.6	14.1	-3.5	
	42.7	43.0	0.7	9.6	9.5	-0.1	
Nova Scotia		37.4	-9.4	11.2	10.2	-1.0	
	41 3	J1.4			8.1	-1.9	
New Brunswick	41.3 272.7		100			-1.9	
New Brunswick Quebec	373.7	303.4	-18.8	10.0		4 0	
New Brunswick Quebec Ontario	373.7 384.8	303.4 312.1	-18.9	6.3	5.1		
New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba	373.7 384.8 34.0	303.4 312.1 31.2	-18.9 -8.2	6.3 5.8	5.1 5.3	-0.5	
New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba	373.7 384.8 34.0 30.5	303.4 312.1 31.2 25.9	-18.9 -8.2 -15.1	6.3 5.8 6.0	5.1 5.3 5.1	-0.5 -0.9	
Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta	373.7 384.8 34.0	303.4 312.1 31.2	-18.9 -8.2	6.3 5.8	5.1 5.3	-1.2 -0.5 -0.9 -0.3	

Employment by industry (based on NAICS) and class of worker for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	•		•	•		
	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.
	1999	1999	to	1998	to	1998
			Dec.	to	Dec.	to
			1999	Dec.	1999	Dec.
				1999		1999
		seasona	lly adjusted			
		'000			% chan	ge
All industries	14,876.0	14,918.3	42.3	354.9	0.3	2.4
Goods-producing sector	3,926.2	3,918.4	-7.8	156.2	-0.2	4.2
Agriculture	387.9	377.6	-10.3	-34.6	-2.7	-8.4
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	283.0	279.3	-3.7	-0.7	-1.3	-0.3
Utilities	115.0	115.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2
Construction	823.8	821.4	-2.4	8.3	-0.3	1.0
Manufacturing	2,316.4	2,324.7	8.3	183.0	0.4	8.5
Services-producing sector	10,949.8	10,999.8	50.0	198.6	0.5	1.8
Trade	2,286.8	2,301.5	14.7	60.4	0.6	2.7
Transportation and warehousing	796.1	795.4	-0.7	64.7	-0.1	8.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	906.0	913.8	7.8	15.7	0.9	1.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	920.4	950.4	30.0	13.8	3.3	1.5
Management, administrative and other support	522.0	526.3	4.3	39.2	0.8	8.0
Educational services	993.3	982.5	-10.8	43.2	-1.1	4.6
Health care and social assistance	1,503.3	1,498.1	-5.2	7.4	-0.3	0.5
Information, culture and recreation	669.9	656.7	-13.2	13.4	-2.0	2.1
Accommodation and food services	945.8	967.2	21.4	34.7	2.3	3.7
Other services	691.4	687.9	-3.5	-44.0	-0.5	-6.0
Public administration	715.0	720.0	5.0	-49.9	0.7	-6.5
Class of worker						
Public sector employees	2,768.0	2,751.6	-16.4	191.4	-0.6	7.5
Private sector	12,108.1	12,166.7	58.6	163.6	0.5	1.4
Private employees	9,556.0	9,583.1	27.1	169.6	0.3	1.8
Self-employed	2,552.1	2,583.6	31.5	-6.0	1.2	-0.2

Note: The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) is not comparable with the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC80) previously used. Class-of-worker estimates have also been revised to conform to the standard set by the System of National Accounts. For more information, visit the Statistics Canada Web site (www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/) under Changes to the LFS data for industry, occupation and class of worker.

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending December 25, 1999 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending December 25, 1999 totalled 287 081 tonnes, down 12.6% from the week-earlier 328 521 tonnes and up 14.1% from the year-earlier 251 526 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 15 795 995 tonnes, a 1.3% increase compared with 15 589 666 tonnes for the same period in 1998.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; *milsomg@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Steel primary forms

Week ending January 1, 2000 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending January 1, 2000 totalled 280 606 tonnes, down 2.3% from the week-earlier 287 081 tonnes and up 12.1% from the year-earlier 250 278 tonnes.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; *milsomg@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Asphalt roofing

November 1999

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 3 941 719 metric bundles in November, a 20.3% increase from 3 275 963 metric bundles produced in November 1998.

From January to November, production amounted to 41 648 701 metric bundles, a 5.0% increase from 39 649 510 metric bundles produced during the same period in 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 32 and 122 (series 27).

The November 1999 issue of Asphalt roofing (45-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See How to order publications.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Egg production

November 1999 (preliminary)

Egg production estimates for November 1999 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production of eggs* (23-003-XPB, \$110) contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039), Agriculture Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality for this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505), Livestock and Animal Product Section, Agriculture Division

Electric power generating stations 1998

Data on electric power generating stations in operation in 1998 are now available. The stations are classified by type, owner, fuel or water source and province or territory.

The 1998 issue of *Electric power generating stations* (57-206-XPB, \$30) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts and data quality for this release, contact Lucie Cloutier (613-951-5706; clouluc@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Oil and gas extraction, 1998 Catalogue number 26-213-XPB

(Canada: \$29; outside Canada: US\$29).

Asphalt roofing, November 1999 Catalogue number 45-001-XIB

(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products, 1998 Catalogue number 55-201-XPB

(Canada: \$25; outside Canada: US\$25).

Natural gas transportation and distribution, 1998 Catalogue number 57-205-XPB

(Canada: \$30; outside Canada: US\$30).

Electric power generating stations, 1998 Catalogue number 57-206-XPB

(Canada: \$30; outside Canada: US\$30).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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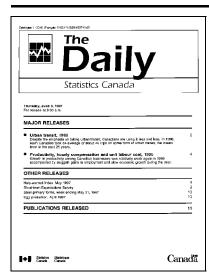
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RELEASE DATES: JANUARY 10 TO 14

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

Release date	Title	Reference period
12	Building permits	November 1999
12	New Housing Price Index	November 1999