

Statistics Canada

Friday, May 5, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- Labour Force Survey, April 2000 An increase in part-time employment offset a decrease in full-time, leaving employment unchanged in April. The unemployment rate remained at 6.8% for the fifth consecutive month.
- Building permits, March and first quarter of 2000 After two straight monthly declines, the value of construction intentions rebounded in March 2000. Municipalities issued permits worth \$3.2 billion, up 11.5% from February. Both residential and non-residential sectors contributed to the increase.

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RELEASE DATES: Week of May 8 to May 12



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MAJOR RELEASES

Labour Force Survey

April 2000

An increase in part-time employment offset a decrease in full-time, leaving employment unchanged in April. The unemployment rate remained at 6.8% for the fifth consecutive month.



More part-time jobs in April

Part-time employment increased by an estimated 34,000 in April, while full-time declined by 29,000. However, since April 1999, full-time employment has risen by 3.1% (+364,000), a much stronger gain than the 1.9% (+50,000) for part-time employment.

Total hours worked edged down 0.4% in April. However, hours worked are up 2.9% since April 1999, reflecting robust gains in the number of full-time jobs over this period.

The decrease of 36,000 full-time jobs in April was all among men aged 25 and over. This decline was partly offset by an increase in part-time jobs (+15,000) for this group.

Despite net job losses of 21,000 in April for adult men, their employment is up 164,000 (+2.4%) from

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) has undergone extensive revisions to reflect two important changes to the way in which labour market data are produced. As a result, all LFS estimates have been revised back to January 1976. For more information on these revisions, please see "Improvements in 2000 to the LFS" at Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

The new revised data, which are now available on CANSIM, must be used to make historical comparisons of LFS estimates. Before obtaining any data from CANSIM, please read the "Revised Historical Labour Force Survey Data" communiqué at www.statcan.ca.

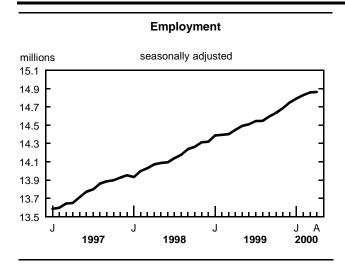
To harmonize with other Statistics Canada data sources, the LFS recently introduced a new definition of the public and private sectors. As a result, the estimates of public employment that are not seasonally adjusted are somewhat underestimated prior to May 1999. To better reflect real changes in public and private sector employment and to avoid a break in the series, the historical seasonally adjusted series have been modified. In addition, the annual averages available on CANSIM have been calculated using the "modified" seasonally adjusted data instead of the unadjusted data.

Harmonization with Census occupation concepts from January to June 1999 has affected the comparability of LFS occupation data through time. The management group was most affected; a portion of those formerly classified as managers are now most likely classified in business, finance and administrative, or sales and service occupations.

April 1999. Most of the increase has been in full-time jobs. In April, a decrease of 22,000 in labour force participation left the adult men's unemployment rate unchanged at 5.6%.

The gain of 19,000 in employment among adult women in April was due to 17,000 more part-time jobs. Their unemployment rate was unchanged (5.6%), as gains in employment roughly kept pace with the increase in the number of adult women entering the labour force. Compared with a year ago, employment among women aged 25 and over is up 166,000 (+3.0%), all in full-time.

In April, youth employment continued its upward trend with an increase of 7,000; since April 1999, the number of jobs for this age group has grown by 84,000 (+3.8%). Most of the increase over the year has been in full-time employment. The youth unemployment rate edged down in April to 12.9% (-0.1 percentage points).



Gains among employees

In April, an increase in the estimated number of employees (+102,000), all in the private sector, was offset by a decrease in the number of self-employed (-97,000). (The movements for these groups have coincided with the inclusion in April of a supplementary survey on self-employment, which may have contributed to the magnitude of these changes, but did not affect overall employment totals.)

For the 11 months prior to April, employment rose by 3.1% among private sector employees and by 1.4% among the self-employed. The number of employees in the public sector was unchanged in April.

Industry focus

Employment increased in health care and social assistance (+11,000), for a gain of 99,000 (+6.9%) from April 1999. Nearly one-third of the employment increase over this period was in hospitals.

Manufacturing employment, although up only slightly in April (+13,000), has advanced by 103,000 (+4.7%) since April 1999. The largest gains have been in computer and electronic products, machinery, and metal products.

Although employment was little changed in April in transportation and warehousing and construction, there have been year-over-year gains in these industries of 50,000 (+6.8%) and 51,000 (+6.6%), respectively.

In April, employment increased in natural resource industries (+8,000), building on the upward trend that began last September.

Employment also increased in April in the management of companies and the administrative support service industry (+11,000).

Agriculture employment declined by 12,000 in April, continuing a long-term downward trend. Since April 1999, employment losses have totalled 32,000 (-7.6%).

Employment also fell in April in educational services (-12,000). Despite declines in recent months, employment in the industry was 13,000 above its level of a year ago.

Provincial overview

Employment in Manitoba rose by 5,000 in April, mostly in part-time jobs and in the service-producing sector. Overall employment in the province is 15,000 (+2.8%) above the level of a year ago. In April, the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage points to 5.0%.

In Saskatchewan, employment declined by 3,000, all in full-time jobs. The industry with the largest employment decrease was agriculture. Despite April's decline, employment in the province remains 11,000 (+2.2%) above April 1999 levels. The unemployment rate this April edged up by 0.2 percentage points to 4.8%.

Employment fell in British Columbia (-10,000), mostly in the service-producing sector. Despite this decline, overall employment in the province is up 33,000 (+1.7%) since last October. The unemployment rate in April fell slightly to 6.9% (-0.1 percentage points).

Employment edged up 10,000 in Quebec, for a gain of 101,000 (+3.0%) since April 1999. Most of this increase occurred in the second half of 1999. The unemployment rate rose 0.2 percentage points in April to 8.8%, because of growth in the labour force (+19,000).

Although employment in April was little changed in Ontario, employment has grown by 178,000 jobs (+3.1%) since April 1999. Manufacturing, construction, health care and social assistance, and transportation and warehousing industries all contributed to the growth over this period.

In Nova Scotia, employment rose by 2,000 in April, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.5 percentage points to 8.4%, the lowest since April 1976. Since April 1999, employment has grown by 14,000 (+3.3%), with most of the gains in the service-producing sector.

There was little change in the other provinces in April.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3450-3471, 3483-3492 and 3503, and table 00799999.

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

A summary, *Labour force information* for the week ending April 15 (71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103), is available today.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, June 9.

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

	March	April	March	March	April	March
	2000	2000	to	2000	2000	to
			April			April
			2000	1		2000
		sea	sonally adjusted			
	Labo	our force		Par	ticipation rate	
	'000	% change		%		change
Canada	15,944.1	15,941.9	0.0	65.9	65.8	-0.1
Newfoundland	249.8	247.6	-0.9	56.7	56.3	-0.4
Prince Edward Island	74.1	74.3	0.3	67.9	68.1	0.2
Nova Scotia	461.8	462.0	0.0	61.9	61.9	0.0
New Brunswick	369.8	372.2	0.6	61.4	61.7	0.3
Quebec	3,746.0	3,765.1	0.5	63.2	63.5	0.3
Ontario	6,178.5	6,173.1	-0.1	67.0	66.9	-0.1
Manitoba	583.2	585.2	0.3	68.1	68.3	0.2
Saskatchewan	515.0	512.6	-0.5	67.4	67.1	-0.3
Alberta	1,671.9	1,669.1	-0.2	72.7	72.4	-0.3
British Columbia	2,094.1	2,080.7	-0.6	64.9	64.5	-0.4
	Emp	Employment rate				
	'000 % change			%		change
Canada	14,857.8	14,862.6	0.0	61.4	61.4	0.0
Newfoundland	205.3	206.1	0.4	46.6	46.8	0.2
Prince Edward Island	65.5	65.7	0.3	60.0	60.2	0.2
Nova Scotia	420.9	423.0	0.5	56.5	56.7	0.2
New Brunswick	331.4	333.1	0.5	55.0	55.3	0.3
Quebec	3,425.2	3,435.1	0.3	57.8	58.0	0.2
Ontario	5,832.3	5,834.6	0.0	63.3	63.2	-0.1
Manitoba	550.6	555.9	1.0	64.3	64.9	0.6
Saskatchewan	491.2	488.0	-0.7	64.3	63.9	-0.4
Alberta	1,588.3	1,583.6	-0.3	69.1	68.7	-0.4
British Columbia	1,947.1	1,937.5	-0.5	60.4	60.0	-0.4
	Unem		Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change		%		change
Canada	1,086.3	1,079.3	-0.6	6.8	6.8	0.0
Newfoundland	44.4	41.5	-6.5	17.8	16.8	-1.0
Prince Edward Island	8.6	8.6	0.0	11.6	11.6	0.0
Nova Scotia	40.9	39.0	-4.6	8.9	8.4	-0.5
New Brunswick	38.4	39.1	1.8	10.4	10.5	0.1
Quebec	320.8	330.0	2.9	8.6	8.8	0.1
Ontario	346.1	338.4	-2.2	5.6	5.5	-0.1
Manitoba	32.6	29.3	-10.1	5.6	5.0	-0.6
Saskatchewan	23.8	24.6	3.4	4.6	4.8	0.2
Alberta	83.6	85.5	2.3	5.0	5.1	0.1
British Columbia	147.0	143.2	-2.6	7.0	6.9	-0.1

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	April	April	April	April	April	April
	1999	2000	1999	1999	2000	1999
			to			to
			April 2000			April 2000
		ı	unadjusted			2000
	Labo	ur force		Par	ticipation rate	
	'000	% change		%		change
Canada	15,551.5	15,753.2	1.3	65.1	65.1	0.0
Newfoundland	235.3	236.9	0.7	53.7	53.8	0.1
Prince Edward Island	70.5	72.0	2.1	65.5	66.0	0.5
Nova Scotia	443.7	453.2	2.1	60.0	60.7	0.7
New Brunswick	357.6	362.9	1.5	59.7	60.2	0.5
Quebec	3,653.7	3,712.0	1.6	62.1	62.6	0.5
Ontario	6,024.7	6,115.6	1.5	66.4	66.2	-0.2
Manitoba	569.0	581.5	2.2	66.9	67.8	0.9
Saskatchewan	504.3	505.5	0.2	66.1	66.2	0.1
Alberta	1,621.0	1,648.2	1.7	71.7	71.5	-0.2
British Columbia	2,071.6	2,065.4	-0.3	65.1	64.0	-1.1
	Emp		Employment rate			
	'000	% change		%		change
Canada	14,222.3	14,628.8	2.9	59.5	60.4	0.9
Newfoundland	185.5	192.5	3.8	42.4	43.7	1.3
Prince Edward Island	56.3	60.9	8.2	52.3	55.8	3.5
Nova Scotia	395.4	409.7	3.6	53.5	54.9	1.4
New Brunswick	311.1	316.4	1.7	52.0	52.5	0.5
Quebec	3,276.0	3,373.2	3.0	55.7	56.9	1.2
Ontario	5,592.6	5,768.1	3.1	61.6	62.5	0.9
Manitoba	533.9	550.6	3.1	62.8	64.2	1.4
Saskatchewan	468.1	478.0	2.1	61.4	62.6	1.2
Alberta	1,522.6	1,563.1	2.7	67.4	67.8	0.4
British Columbia	1,880.7	1,916.3	1.9	59.1	59.4	0.3
	Unem		Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change		%		change
Canada	1,329.2	1,124.4	-15.4	8.5	7.1	-1.4
Newfoundland	49.9	44.3	-11.2	21.2	18.7	-2.5
Prince Edward Island	14.2	11.1	-21.8	20.1	15.4	-4.7
Nova Scotia	48.3	43.5	-9.9	10.9	9.6	-1.3
New Brunswick	46.5	46.5	0.0	13.0	12.8	-0.2
Quebec	377.6	338.8	-10.3	10.3	9.1	-1.2
Ontario	432.1	347.5	-19.6	7.2	5.7	-1.5
Manitoba	35.1	30.9	-12.0	6.2	5.3	-0.9
Saskatchewan	36.2	27.5	-24.0	7.2	5.4	-1.8
Alberta	98.4	85.1	-13.5	6.1	5.2	-0.9

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

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	March	April	March	April	March	April
	2000	2000	to	1999	to	1999
			April	to	April	to
			2000	April	2000	April
				2000		2000
		seaso	onally adjusted	2000		2000
		'000			% chang	e
All industries	14,857.8	14,862.6	4.8	413.8	0.0	2.9
Goods-producing sector	3,887.4	3,892.1	4.7	138.7	0.1	3.7
Agriculture	397.8	385.7	-12.1	-31.9	-3.0	-7.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	277.1	284.6	7.5	17.7	2.7	6.6
Utilities	114.3	115.0	0.7	-0.4	0.6	-0.3
Construction	824.3	820.5	-3.8	50.9	-0.5	6.6
Manufacturing	2,273.8	2,286.3	12.5	102.5	0.5	4.7
Services-producing sector	10,970.4	10,970.4	0.0	275.0	0.0	2.6
Trade	2,307.1	2,294.1	-13.0	51.0	-0.6	2.3
Transportation and warehousing	782.0	784.9	2.9	49.9	0.4	6.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	863.7	860.4	-3.3	2.7	-0.4	0.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	912.9	916.2	3.3	13.1	0.4	1.5
Management, administrative and other support	528.3	538.9	10.6	33.0	2.0	6.5
Educational services	994.6	982.4	-12.2	13.4	-1.2	1.4
Health care and social assistance	1,517.7	1,528.9	11.2	99.3	0.7	6.9
Information, culture and recreation	638.1	637.3	-0.8	14.9	-0.1	2.4
Accommodation and food services	963.9	967.0	3.1	46.8	0.3	5.1
Other services	690.4	682.9	-7.5	-47.2	-1.1	-6.5
Public administration	771.6	777.7	6.1	-1.6	0.8	-0.2
Class of worker						
Public sector employees	2,776.9	2,778.6	1.7	88.6	0.1	3.3
Private sector	12,081.0	12,084.0	3.0	325.3	0.0	2.8
Private employees	9,575.7	9,675.9	100.2	388.2	1.0	4.2
Self-employed	2,505.3	2,408.1	-97.2	-62.9	-3.9	-2.5

Employment by type of work, age and sex

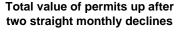
	April	March	April	April	March	April	April	March	April
	2000	to	1999	2000	to	1999	2000	to	1999
		April	to		April	to		April	to
		2000	April		2000	April		2000	April
			2000			2000			2000
				seasona	lly adjusted				
	 Both	sexes			Men		W	/omen	
				,	000				
Employment	 14,862.6	4.8	413.8	8,047.2	-5.2	216.4	6,815.4	10.0	197.4
Full-time	12,160.9	-28.9	364.0	7,207.7	-31.2	180.4	4,953.2	2.3	183.7
Part-time	2,701.7	33.7	49.8	839.5	26.0	36.0	1,862.2	7.7	13.8
15-24 years old	2,272.4	7.0	83.8	1,188.0	15.5	52.5	1,084.4	-8.5	31.2
25 and over	12,590.2	-2.3	330.0	6,859.2	-20.7	163.9	5,731.0	18.5	166.2
25 to 54	11,039.0	-10.0	244.1	5,924.1	-18.7	114.7	5,114.9	8.7	129.5
55 and over	1,551.2	7.7	85.9	935.2	-2.0	49.3	616.0	9.7	36.6

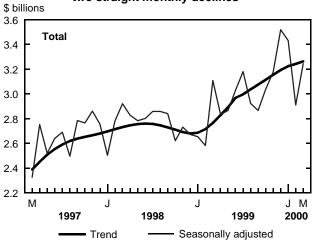
Building permits

March and first quarter of 2000

After two straight monthly declines, the value of construction intentions rebounded in March. Municipalities issued permits worth \$3.2 billion, up 11.5% from February.

In March, the housing sector halted three consecutive monthly declines in building permits by posting its highest monthly figure, \$1.9 billion, in the last 10 years. This marked an increase of 11.1% over February. Non-residential permits also grew 12.0%, reaching \$1.4 billion.





In the first quarter of 2000, the value of all building permits was \$9.6 billion, up 14.9% from the first three months of 1999. In the housing sector, construction intentions reached \$5.4 billion, a year-over-year increase of 16.5%. The non-residential sector rose 12.8% to \$4.2 billion over the first quarter of 1999.

First increase for residential sector in four months

Both the single-family and multi-family dwelling components contributed to the overall 11.1% increase in

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The Building and Demolitions Permits Monthly Survey covers 2,600 municipalities representing 94% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 6% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g., waterworks, sewers, or culverts) and land.

residential permits in March. Gains were concentrated in the multi-family component, where intentions surged 44.8% to \$498 million, partially offsetting the losses of the past two months. Single-family dwelling intentions edged up 2.4% to \$1.4 billion.

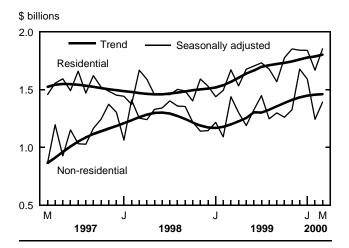
Numerous factors point to an active housing market in the months to come. Since the beginning of the year, housing affordability has remained stable, and basic indicators of economic strength such as employment have continued to rise. Furthermore, consumer confidence remains strong, and house resales increased in March.

Among the provinces, Ontario had the lion's share of the overall monthly increase (in dollar terms); the value of residential permits there advanced 19.4% to \$994 million in March. British Columbia followed with a 19.0% monthly increase to \$188 million. Both single- and multi-family dwellings contributed to these figures. Both components decreased in Quebec, where the value of residential construction intentions dropped 5.7% to \$266 million, the third straight monthly setback.

Best first quarter for residential sector since 1990

The residential sector recorded its best first-quarter result since 1990. The \$5.4 billion worth of building permits was a 16.5% rise compared with first three months of 1999. This gain was solely attributable to the single-family dwelling component, which increased 23.2% to \$4.1 billion. Multi-family dwelling intentions decreased a slightly 0.6% to \$1.3 billion.

Both sectors grew in March



All provinces except New Brunswick and British Columbia recorded increases during the first quarter of 2000 compared with the same period last year. The bulk of the overall increase (in dollar terms) occurred in Ontario (+23.5% to \$2.7 billion), where both components rose. Quebec also contributed to the increase (+12.7% to \$854 million). In Quebec, only the single-family dwelling component rose.

Rebound in non-residential projects

March's 12.0% rebound in non-residential building permits followed two straight monthly declines and was led by institutional and commercial intentions.

After a significant decrease in February, the institutional component jumped 83.2% to \$314 million in March, the largest monthly increase since 1989. The education category contributed the most to this increase.

Commercial permits rose 7.9% to \$779 million, following two consecutive monthly declines. This gain came mostly from intentions in the trade and services category and from office building projects.

Industrial projects fell 14.5% to \$298 million in March, after a 17.1% advance in February. All categories except small projects pushed down the industrial figures.

The most significant provincial increase (in dollar terms) was in Saskatchewan (+238.1% to \$85 million), largely because of important projects in the commercial and industrial components. British Columbia (+48.3% to \$159 million) and Alberta (+21.0% to \$264 million) followed.

The most important decreases came from Quebec (-13.3% to \$250 million) and Manitoba (-22.0% to \$38 million). In both cases, a decline in industrial projects was responsible.

Non-residential's best first quarter since 1989

In the first quarter of 2000, commercial and institutional building permits led the way to a 12.8% increase over the same period of last year, bringing the level to \$4.2 billion. This was the best first-quarter performance since 1989. A rise in the value of commercial permits was the main factor.

The largest year-over-year increases (in dollar terms) occurred in Alberta (+52.7% to \$733 million) and in British Columbia (+48.3% to \$516 million), reflecting higher values in all three components. Quebec showed the largest loss (-5.3% to \$807 million), because of fewer industrial projects.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7 and 33-48), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The March 2000 issue of *Building permits* (64-001-XIB, \$19/\$186) will be available soon. See *How to order publications*.

The April 2000 building permits release will be available June 7.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689; burejoa@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Sébastien LaRochelle-Côté (613-951-2025; sebastien.larochelle-cote@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Value of building permits

February	March	February	Fourth	First	Fourth
2000 ^r	2000 ^p	to	quarter	quarter	quarter
		March	1999	2000	1999
		2000			to
					first
					quarter
					2000
		seasonally adjus	sted		

		seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions	i	% change	\$ million	s	% change			
Canada Residential Non-residential	2,910.2 1,668.1 1,242.1	3,244.5 1,853.4 1,391.1	11.5 11.1 12.0	9,729.3 5,466.1 4,263.2	9,584.4 5,360.8 4,223.6	-1.5 -1.9 -0.9			
Newfoundland	29.1	29.3	0.9	72.2	88.6	22.7			
Residential	25.2	27.3	8.2	33.7	75.7	124.8			
Non-residential	3.9	2.1	-47.0	38.6	12.9	-66.5			
Prince Edward Island	11.8	8.0	-31.8	44.2	30.2	-31.7			
Residential	8.0	5.1	-36.0	19.8	19.7	-0.5			
Non-residential	3.9	3.0	-23.2	24.4	10.5	-57.0			
Nova Scotia	66.0	81.2	23.1	250.9	209.9	-16.3			
Residential	41.2	46.7	13.2	125.5	137.2	9.3			
Non-residential	24.8	34.6	39.4	125.4	72.8	-42.0			
New Brunswick	28.3	41.3	46.2	137.6	103.3	-24.9			
Residential	18.1	24.3	34.1	71.6	65.0	-9.3			
Non-residential	10.2	17.1	67.6	66.0	38.4	-41.8			
Quebec	570.7	516.2	-9.6	1,620.2	1,661.0	2.5			
Residential	282.2	266.0	-5.7	885.2	853.7	-3.6			
Non-residential	288.5	250.2	-13.3	735.0	807.3	9.8			
Ontario	1,343.6	1,531.8	14.0	4,676.0	4,411.0	-5.7			
Residential	832.3	993.9	19.4	2,716.2	2,682.0	-1.3			
Non-residential	511.2	538.0	5.2	1,959.8	1,729.0	-11.8			
Manitoba	78.2	65.7	-16.0	230.0	268.2	16.6			
Residential	29.8	27.9	-6.2	99.4	118.3	19.1			
Non-residential	48.4	37.8	-22.0	130.6	149.9	14.7			
Saskatchewan	48.6	109.9	126.3	191.9	222.3	15.9			
Residential	23.4	24.9	6.3	78.7	72.5	-7.9			
Non-residential	25.1	85.0	238.1	113.2	149.9	32.4			
Alberta	457.3	511.5	11.9	1,265.5	1,508.0	19.2			
Residential	239.4	248.0	3.6	704.2	775.2	10.1			
Non-residential	217.8	263.6	21.0	561.3	732.8	30.6			
British Columbia	265.6	347.6	30.9	1,217.6	1,061.9	-12.8			
Residential	158.3	188.4	19.0	724.1	546.4	-24.5			
Non-residential	107.3	159.2	48.3	493.5	515.5	4.5			
Yukon	1.8	1.6	-8.5	11.4	5.4	-52.7			
Residential	1.3	1.0	-22.7	5.0	3.8	-24.2			
Non-residential	0.5	0.6	29.5	6.4	1.6	-74.8			
Northwest Territories	0.7	0.2	-79.3	5.8	2.0	-66.1			
Residential	0.6	0.0	-96.9	1.4	0.8	-43.0			
Non-residential	0.1	0.1	2.3	4.5	1.2	-73.1			
Nunavut	8.5	0.0	-100.0	6.0	12.5	109.3			
Residential	8.2	0.0	-100.0	1.4	10.7	680.9			
Non-residential	0.3	0.0	-100.0	4.6	1.8	-60.4			

r Revised data.
P Preliminary data.
Note: Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

9

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

April 2000

In April, the Help-wanted Index (1996=100) decreased by 2.3% to 167, the first monthly decrease since March 1996. The decline in April was led by Quebec (-1.9%), and British Columbia (-1.4%). Only Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Alberta recorded month-to-month increases.

Help-wanted Index (1996=100)

	April	March	April	April	March
	1999	2000	2000	1999	to
	1000	2000	2000	to	April
				April	2000
				2000	2000
-	200	asonally ad	inetad and		
	36	asonally au	justeu anu	SITIOOTTICU	
				% cha	nge
Canada	156	171	167	7.1	-2.3
Newfoundland	154	179	183	18.8	2.2
Prince Edward Island	173	207	218	26.0	5.3
Nova Scotia	164	169	172	4.9	1.8
New Brunswick	176	194	192	9.1	-1.0
Quebec	156	159	156	0.0	-1.9
Ontario	170	188	186	9.4	-1.1
Manitoba	175	166	164	-6.3	-1.2
Saskatchewan	130	137	136	4.6	-0.7
Alberta	128	157	158	23.4	0.6
British Columbia	124	147	145	16.9	-1.4

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8, 9 and 10)

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.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Keay (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

Real estate rental and leasing and property management service industry 1997

For the first time, results from the 1997 Survey of Real Estate Rental and Leasing and Property Management

Service Industry are available. These results were produced as part of the pilot Unified Enterprise Survey, which incorporates several annual business surveys into an integrated survey.

An estimated 40,275 real estate rental and leasing establishments, (incorporated and unincorporated businesses) operated at least one day in 1997. These establishments represented businesses with gross incomes over \$30,000. Of these establishments, about 63% had annual revenues below \$150,000. Seventy-seven percent of all establishments were located in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

The industry as a whole generated \$29.3 billion in operating revenues. Businesses in Quebec and Ontario accounted for just over two-thirds of this revenue.

Total operating expenses stood at \$20.8 billion. The major expenses for the real estate leasing industry were purchased services from other businesses, followed by salaries and wages and depreciation. One-third of all operating expenses went toward purchased services; property taxes accounted for over one-third of the total. Salaries, wages and benefits at \$2.5 billion comprised 12.0% of total operating costs, while depreciation charges at \$2.4 billion accounted for 11.8%.

The gross profit margin for all of Canada was 29.2%.

Note: This industry consists of firms that primarily provide renting and leasing real estate services, and/or manage real estate properties on behalf of property owners. This includes the leasing of both residential and commercial real estate, social housing projects and self-storage mini-warehouses. This industry includes lessors of real estate who operate their own properties or subcontract their operations, and property managers who are engaged in administrative activities such as the approval of lease agreements and collection of rent payments.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 70.

For more information on the Unified Enterprise Survey program, contact Les Graham (613-951-6566; grahles@statcan.ca), Enterprise Statistics Division. For data and for more information on the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Irene Ross (613-951-6305; puccire@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division.

Operating revenues and selected expenses for the real estate rental and leasing and property management industry, 1997

	Operating Operating revenue expenses		Distrib	enses	
			Salaries and wages and benefits	Purchased services	Depreciation
	\$ 000	-		%	
Canada	29,351,873	20,787,498	12.0	33.6	11.8
Newfoundland	297,152	223,295	14.1	20.6	10.1
Prince Edward Island	94,363	70,443	14.7	28.4	11.8
Nova Scotia	535,857	394,283	14.0	27.3	20.3
New Brunswick	358,987	287,635	8.6	39.4	15.8
Quebec	6,934,451	5,163,962	9.6	21.4	8.9
Ontario	12,810,741	9,105,657	11.5	43.2	13.0
Manitoba	715,356	539,828	10.3	43.9	14.8
Saskatchewan	700,535	484,199	12.8	30.4	14.2
Alberta	2,143,914	1,449,493	13.0	28.7	14.9
British Columbia	4,520,661	2,876,086	17.4	28.4	8.9
Yukon	29,555	22,220	21.4	27.4	13.9
Northwest Territories	210,301	170,395	11.0	24.8	11.4

Cement

March 2000

Manufacturers shipped 800 360 tonnes of cement in March, 29.5% more than the 618 198 tonnes (revised data) shipped in March 1999, and up 42.3% from 562 610 tonnes in February 2000.

From January to March 2000, shipments were 1 833 044 tonnes, up 20.3% from 1 523 834 tonnes (revised) during the same period in 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 and 122 (series 35).

The March 2000 issue of *Cement* (44-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yasmin Sheikh (613-951-2518 sheiyas@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Farm product prices

January to March 2000

Monthly farm product prices for January to March are now available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernie Rosien (613-951-2441; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat — A weekly review, May 5, 2000 Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — A weekly review, May 5, 2000 Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

National income and expenditure accounts, fourth quarter 1999

Catalogue number 13-001-XPB (\$44/\$145).

Cement, March 2000 Catalogue number 44-001-XIB (\$5/\$47).

New motor vehicle sales, February 2000 Catalogue number 63-007-XIB (\$13/\$124).

Canada's international transactions in securities, February 2000

Catalogue number 67-002-XPB (\$18/\$176).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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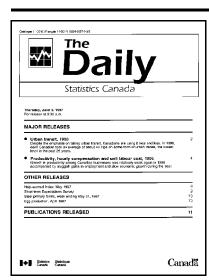
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RELEASE DATES: WEEK OF MAY 8 TO MAY 12

Week of May 8 to May 12 (Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
8	Field crop reporting series: March 31 grain stocks	2000
12	New Housing Price Index	March 2000