



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

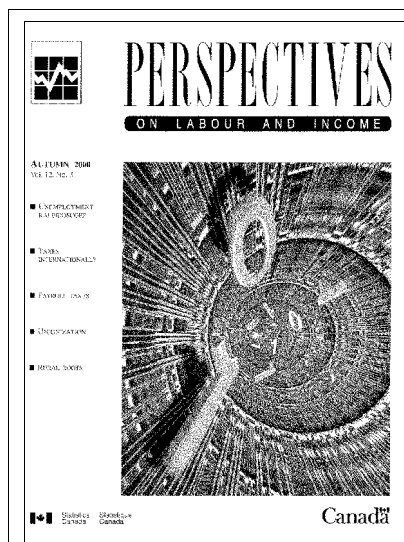
MAJOR RELEASES

● Unemployment kaleidoscope, 1980 to 1997

3

The unemployment rate among families in 1997 was more than one-and-a-half times higher than the official rate for individuals, according to a study examining alternative ways of looking at unemployment. Likewise, an unemployment rate based on a one-year reference period has, in general, tended to be almost double the official rate based on the average of 12 one-week reference periods.

(continued on page 2)



Perspectives on labour and income

Autumn 2000

The feature article in the Autumn issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, "Unemployment kaleidoscope," shows how changing the focus can dramatically alter perceptions of unemployment. Over the last two decades, an unemployment rate based on the family has been consistently higher than the official rate which is based on the individual. Likewise, an unemployment rate based on a one-year reference period has, in general, tended to be almost double the official rate which is based on the average of 12 one-week reference periods.

The second article in this issue compares Canada's taxes with those of other G-7 countries, while another article by the same author provides an in-depth look at Canada's payroll taxes in 1997. A fourth article adapts a Statistics Canada analytical report on the extent to which youths stay, leave or return to rural communities, primarily in their search for work. Finally, this issue looks at workers who, although not union members, are covered by a collective agreement. This article is accompanied by the annual update on union membership in Canada.

The Autumn 2000 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; poldhen@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index, August 2000	5
Domestic sales of refined petroleum products, July 2000	5
Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products, June 2000	6

NEW PRODUCTS

7

MAJOR RELEASES

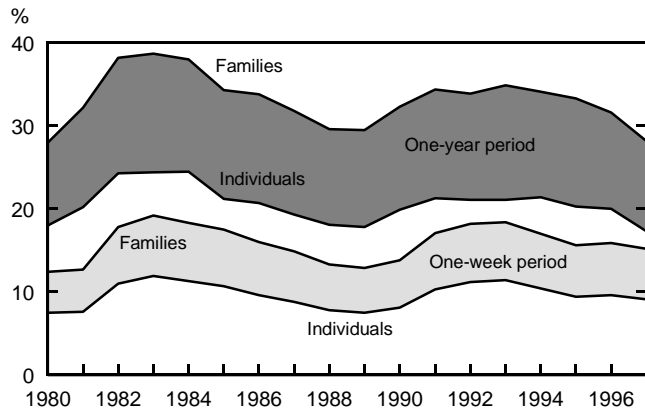
Unemployment kaleidoscope

1980 to 1997

The unemployment rate among families in 1997 was more than one-and-a-half times higher than the official rate for individuals, according to a new study that examines alternative measures for unemployment.

Likewise, an unemployment rate based on a one-year reference period has, in general, tended to be almost double the official rate based on the average of 12 one-week reference periods.

Unemployment rates using a one-year reference are almost double those based on one-week periods



Family exposure to unemployment means higher rates

In 1997, the official unemployment rate for individuals was 9.1%, compared with 15.2% among families. These rates are based on the monthly Labour Force Survey's one-week reference period.

In other words, while almost 1 in every 11 people on average in the labour force was unemployed, almost one in seven families with at least one member in the labour force was affected.

This is not surprising, because a family (consisting of two or more people related by blood, marriage [including common-law] or adoption, and living in the same dwelling) has greater exposure to the labour force and to the possibility of at least one member experiencing unemployment. Indeed, family unemployment rates have been consistently higher than individual unemployment rates during the past 20 years.

Note to readers

This release is based on an article of the same title in the Fall 2000 issue of Perspectives on labour and income. Data came from the Labour Force Survey and the Survey of Consumer Finances.

This article compares individual and family unemployment rates generated by both one-week and one-year reference periods. It shows how these measures produce different results and provide alternative ways of looking at unemployment. The impact of fluctuations in the business cycle is also addressed, as are the provincial rankings of unemployment rates using the different approaches.

An individual can be either unattached or a member of a family. Unattached individuals refer to a subset of individuals who either live alone or are not related to anyone else in the household in which they live. Unattached individuals are more likely to be young (15 to 24), with less work experience and higher unemployment than older workers.

Family refers to an economic family of two or more persons who inhabit the same dwelling and are related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption. It does not include unrelated individuals living with them. The economic family concept is useful for analysing economic interdependencies that may extend beyond parents and their never-married children to other family members sharing the same dwelling.

The labour force consists of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 and over who, during the survey reference period, were either employed (did any work for pay or profit or had a job but were absent from work) or unemployed.

Unemployment rates consistently higher using one-year reference period

A one-year reference period also yields consistently higher rates than the official method, whether for the individual or the family.

Using the one-year reference period, the unemployment rate for individuals was 17.3% in 1997, compared with 28.2% for families. This translates into almost one in six people in the labour force who were unemployed at one point during the year, and more than one in four families with at least one member in the labour force that was affected.

So, when labour force experience is observed over an entire year, as opposed to 12 independently measured weekly reference periods, a larger number of persons experience unemployment.

There are several reasons for this. First, an annual average of 12 observations (the official method) produces a smaller number of unemployed whenever the duration of unemployment is less than one year. Indeed, for most people (about 70% in 1997), unemployment lasts less than six months.

For example, if the same 1,000 people are unemployed during the reference week of every month

of a given year, a one-week reference period would count each person 12 times. This method would yield an annual average of 1,000 unemployed persons. If, on the other hand, 1,000 people are unemployed during a reference week, but each person is unemployed for only six months and a different group of 1,000 people is unemployed for the remaining six months, each person would be counted six times.

Number of persons affected by unemployment

	One-week ¹ '000	One-year ²
1980		
Unemployed individuals ³	890	2,345
Persons affected by unemployment	1,696	4,903
Unattached individuals	112	392
In families	1,584	4,511
Unemployed persons	778	1,953
Other members	806	2,558
1983		
Unemployed individuals ³	1,496	3,356
Persons affected by unemployment	2,680	6,861
Unattached individuals	206	512
In families	2,474	6,350
Unemployed persons	1,290	2,845
Other members	1,185	3,505
1989		
Unemployed individuals ³	1,060	2,769
Persons affected by unemployment	1,931	5,375
Unattached individuals	163	459
In families	1,768	4,915
Unemployed persons	897	2,310
Other members	871	2,605
1993		
Unemployed individuals ³	1,647	3,375
Persons affected by unemployment	2,845	6,660
Unattached individuals	274	583
In families	2,571	6,077
Unemployed persons	1,373	2,792
Other members	1,198	3,285
1997		
Unemployed individuals ³	1,379	2,884
Persons affected by unemployment	2,461	5,654
Unattached individuals	221	515
In families	2,241	5,139
Unemployed persons	1,158	2,369
Other members	1,083	2,770

1 Average of 12 reference weeks.

2 Annual reference period.

3 Unemployed persons living alone or in families.

Thus, an annual average would limit the annual contribution of each person to one-half, or six months out of 12. So, although 2,000 people actually experienced unemployment at some point during the year, the annual average of the 12 weekly snapshots would yield only 1,000.

Second, someone employed for 51 weeks, but looking for work for one week in the year, would be counted under the one-year reference period as having experienced unemployment. The monthly survey would capture that person only if the one-week period of unemployment happened to fall in the reference period (usually the week including the 15th of the month). The combined outcome of these effects is to produce higher estimates of unemployment with a one-year reference period than with the official one-week reference period.

Family members also affected by unemployment

Over the course of 1997, some 5.7 million people were affected by unemployment, either by being unemployed themselves or by belonging to a family where another member experienced unemployment.

This was composed of 515,000 unemployed unattached individuals, 2.4 million unemployed family members, and 2.8 other members of their families, including children.

Newfoundland had highest rate

By far, Newfoundland had the highest unemployment rate of all provinces, whether measured by one-week or one-year reference periods, both for individuals and families. In 1997, using a one-week reference period, the annual average unemployment rate for individuals was 18.6%, compared with 28.6% for families. Using a one-year reference period, the unemployment rate for individuals was 40.3 %, compared with 58.2% for families.

In contrast, Saskatchewan had the lowest rate except in the case of the one-week reference period for individuals where Alberta had the lowest rate.

The Autumn 2000 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ernest B. Akyeampong (613-951-4624; akyeern@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

August 2000

In August, the Help-wanted Index (1996=100) edged down 0.6% to 170. Offsetting movements over the last six months leave the index unchanged since February, following steady growth over the preceding four years.

The August index decreased in Nova Scotia (-2.4%), Ontario (-1.6%) and British Columbia (-0.7%), while it increased in Quebec (+2.5%) and was little changed in other provinces.

Help-wanted Index
(1996=100)

	August 1999	July 2000	August 2000	August 1999 to August 2000	July to August 2000
seasonally adjusted and smoothed					
	% change				
Canada	161	171	170	5.6	-0.6
Newfoundland	166	197	198	19.3	0.5
Prince Edward Island	188	232	235	25.0	1.3
Nova Scotia	168	167	163	-3.0	-2.4
New Brunswick	183	191	192	4.9	0.5
Quebec	158	160	164	3.8	2.5
Ontario	179	189	186	3.9	-1.6
Manitoba	170	163	166	-2.4	1.8
Saskatchewan	132	137	138	4.5	0.7
Alberta	136	163	163	19.9	0.0
British Columbia	133	144	143	7.5	-0.7

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 indices have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

For more information, or to inquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Justin Lacroix or Jean Leduc (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum
products

July 2000 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 7 947 500 cubic metres in July, a decrease of 1.3% from July 1999. Total motor gasoline sales were down 1.9% from the

same period in 1999. Sales of regular non-leaded gasoline increased 3.2% while sales of mid- and premium grades dropped 29.7% and 21.1% respectively. Diesel fuel rose 1.3% while light fuel oil sales were up 5.2%. Heavy fuel oil increased 0.5%, the third consecutive monthly increase following 13 months of decreases.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	July 1999 ^r	July 2000 ^p	July 1999 to July 2000 % change
thousands of cubic metres			
Total, all products	8,052.1	7,947.5	-1.3
Motor gasoline	3,513.3	3,447.9	-1.9
Diesel fuel oil	1,841.0	1,865.5	1.3
Light fuel oil	137.2	144.4	5.2
Heavy fuel oil	565.1	568.2	0.5
Aviation turbo fuels	626.9	616.5	-1.7
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	407.8	419.8	2.9
All other refined products	960.8	885.2	-7.9
January to July 1999 ^r January to July 2000 ^p Jan.-July 1999 to Jan.-July 2000			
Total, all products	53,018.4	53,348.9	0.6
Motor gasoline	21,953.2	21,979.4	0.1
Diesel fuel oil	12,281.9	13,206.0	7.5
Light fuel oil	3,060.5	2,935.9	-4.1
Heavy fuel oil	4,397.2	3,881.3	-11.7
Aviation turbo fuels	3,493.8	3,591.9	2.8
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	2,824.0	2,622.9	-7.1
All other refined products	5,007.8	5,131.6	2.5

^r Revised.^p Preliminary.¹ Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum increased 330 500 cubic metres; 0.6% greater than the same period in 1999. Increased drilling activity in the oil and natural gas industry contributed to the 7.5% rise in diesel fuel sales. The other refined products category, which includes asphalt, lube oils, stove oil and petroleum coke, rose 2.5%. Sales of heavy fuel oil fell 11.7%, while petrochemical feedstocks dropped 7.1%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Eleonore Harding (613-951-5708; hardele@statcan.ca) or Michael Westland (613-951-3060; westmic@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

June 2000

Net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons totalled 13 341 045 cubic metres in June, up 9.2% from June 1999. Year-to-date receipts to the end of June (78 023 980 cubic metres) were up 7.4% over the same period in 1999. Net receipts of liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products in June (6 570 267 cubic metres) increased 6.7% from June 1999. Year-to-date receipts increased 5.4% to 40 626 509 cubic metres.

Pipeline exports of crude oil totalled 6 303 394 cubic metres, an increase of 9.9% from June 1999, and pipeline imports were 2 279 271 cubic metres, an increase of 25.2%. Year-to-date exports totalled 36 308 363 cubic metres, up 13.6% from 1999. Year-to-date imports stood at 12 448 139 cubic metres, a rise of 25.6 %.

June deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries totalled 5 845 255 cubic metres, an increase

of 5.0% from 1999. June deliveries of liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products decreased 12.7% to 503 618 cubic metres. Year-to-date deliveries of crude oil to refineries at the end of June 2000 totalled 34 427 565 cubic metres, up 3.8% from the same period in 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 181, and 591-595.

The June 2000 issue of *Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products* (55-001-XIB, \$9/\$86) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eleonore Harding (613-951-5708; hardele@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Cereals and oilseeds review, June 2000
Catalogue number **22-007-XIB** (\$11/\$112).

Cereals and oilseeds review, June 2000
Catalogue number **22-007-XPB** (\$15/\$149).

Coal and coke statistics, June 2000
Catalogue number **45-002-XIB** (\$9/\$85).

Energy statistics handbook, August 2000
Catalogue number **57-601-XDE** (\$284).

Energy statistics handbook, August 2000
Catalogue number **57-601-UPB** (\$387).

Exports by commodity, June 2000
Catalogue number **65-004-XMB** (\$37/\$361).

Exports by commodity, June 2000
Catalogue number **65-004-XPB** (\$78/\$773).

Perspectives on labour and income, Autumn 2000
Catalogue number **75-001-XPE** (\$18/\$58).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCD are electronic versions on compact disc.

How to order products

Order products by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

To fax your order:

1-877-287-4369

Address changes or account inquiries:




1-800-700-1033

To order a product by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca), under the headings *Products and services*, *Downloadable publications*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Catalogue 11-001E (if single) 11-001E/11-001E-001E-001E	
	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 5, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are getting it less and less. In 1995, about 10 million took an average of about 10 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years. 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year. 	4
OTHER RELEASES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-wind index May 1997 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-term Expectations Survey 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steel primary forms, steel and May 31, 1997 	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egg production, April 1997 	13
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	11
 	

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Tom Vradenburg (613-951-1103, vradtom@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088), simamad@statcan.ca

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2000. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.