



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, April 27, 2001

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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Perspectives on labour and income

April 2001 online edition

The April 2001 edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, available today, contains two articles. The first, titled "Repeat users of Employment Insurance," compares demographic characteristics of repeat users of Employment Insurance with those of employees in general. It also examines attitudes of repeat users toward employment and unemployment. A second article compares trends in short-hour part-time work (1 to 14 hours per week) and long-hour part-time (15 to 29 hours).

For more information on "Repeat users of Employment Insurance," contact Lori Stratychuk (613-951-0380; lori.stratychuk@statcan.ca), Household Survey Methods Division. For "Trends in part-time work," contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

The April 2001 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Volume 2, number 4 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

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OTHER RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours

February 2001 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings for all employees stood at \$660.22 in February, almost unchanged from January. Year-over-year average weekly earnings increased by 1.9%, down slightly from the 2.0% growth in January.

The pace of year-over-year earnings growth has been slowing since December 2000, especially in the goods-producing sector. Average weekly earnings declined in February in the forestry, mining, construction and manufacturing industries, bringing the year-over-year average earnings growth of goods-producing industries to only 0.5%. Average weekly earnings increased slightly from January in service-producing industries, while year-over-year earnings growth was substantially stronger, 2.6%.

Average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees were \$16.39 in February, down 1 cent from January. Average weekly hours for hourly employees were also down slightly to 32.0. Average overtime hours were unchanged.

In February, the number of employees on payrolls increased by 16,000. The strongest employment gains were in construction and retail trade. Employment levels were unchanged in most provinces and territories; the only significant gain took place in Alberta.

Note: Starting with the January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours is now publishing its estimates based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). The NAICS-based estimates are not comparable with the previously published estimates based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of 1980. Therefore, in order to facilitate this transition, NAICS-based historical series from January 1991 to

December 2000 have been produced. Note that the levels of employment and average earnings of the NAICS-based series have been adjusted to reflect the levels derived from the administrative sample and were also affected by slight modifications to the industrial coverage and improvements to the survey's methodology. Seasonal factors have also been revised to improve the historical consistency of seasonally adjusted estimates.

A concordance table between NAICS and 1980 SIC codes is available on request. A description of the conversion process and its impact on the data will be available in the April 2001 issue of *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB) or may be obtained from Jean Leduc (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca). For more information on the NAICS consult the *Statistical methods* page on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

Available on CANSIM: tables 2810023-2810040 and matrices 17000-17221, 17224-17235, 17238, 17252-17264, and 17266-17283.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in May in standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB, \$24/\$240). Annual averages for 2000 are now available on CANSIM and by custom tabulations from Labour Statistics Division. See *How to order products*.

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

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	February 2000	January 2001 ^r	February 2001 ^p	January to February 2001	February 2000 to February 2001
	Seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	647.85	660.28	660.22	0.0	1.9
Forestry, logging and support	805.23	813.18	810.95	-0.3	0.7
Mining and oil and gas	1,117.56	1,151.64	1,146.22	-0.5	2.6
Utilities	995.88	1,001.18	1,003.20	0.2	0.7
Construction	804.76	816.46	809.50	-0.9	0.6
Manufacturing	790.46	792.69	792.33	0.0	0.2
Wholesale trade	755.24	755.15	757.25	0.3	0.3
Retail trade	427.77	431.19	432.54	0.3	1.1
Transportation and warehousing	725.93	735.23	737.44	0.3	1.6
Information and cultural industries	766.33	778.10	778.70	0.1	1.6
Finance and insurance	834.64	840.99	845.62	0.6	1.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	572.35	618.86	621.10	0.4	8.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	852.82	886.73	882.12	-0.5	3.4
Management of companies and enterprises	832.18	838.48	838.78	0.0	0.8
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	503.83	535.81	535.22	-0.1	6.2
Educational services	667.67	686.45	686.28	0.0	2.8
Health care and social assistance	552.69	574.77	576.00	0.2	4.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	460.35	472.69	475.28	0.5	3.2
Accommodation and food services	271.68	280.56	281.46	0.3	3.6
Other services (excluding public administration)	496.96	514.58	515.04	0.1	3.6
Public administration	745.04	751.13	751.89	0.1	0.9
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	588.04	600.45	603.04	0.4	2.6
Prince Edward Island	512.87	520.95	517.20	-0.7	0.8
Nova Scotia	553.49	570.15	572.22	0.4	3.4
New Brunswick	571.32	591.15	591.84	0.1	3.6
Quebec	607.67	621.03	620.44	-0.1	2.1
Ontario	691.40	702.78	703.04	0.0	1.7
Manitoba	579.22	587.81	587.89	0.0	1.5
Saskatchewan	587.98	596.15	598.06	0.3	1.7
Alberta	658.83	675.17	678.23	0.5	2.9
British Columbia	657.06	663.34	665.07	0.3	1.2
Yukon	736.46	744.66	748.89	0.6	1.7
Northwest Territories ¹	..	852.09	864.45	1.5	..
Nunavut ¹	..	781.00	792.35	1.5	..

^r Revised estimates.
^p Preliminary estimates.
¹ Data not seasonally adjusted.
 .. Figures not available.

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	December 2000	January 2001 ^r	February 2001 ^p	December 2000 to January 2001	January to February 2001
	Seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	12,697	12,720	12,736	0.2	0.1
Forestry, logging and support	82	82	82	0.0	0.0
Mining and oil and gas	136	138	140	1.5	1.4
Utilities	111	112	112	0.9	0.0
Construction	552	557	561	0.9	0.7
Manufacturing	2,073	2,070	2,073	-0.1	0.1
Wholesale trade	741	734	736	-0.9	0.3
Retail trade	1,462	1,472	1,479	0.7	0.5
Transportation and warehousing	614	617	614	0.5	-0.5
Information and cultural industries	343	339	339	-1.2	0.0
Finance and insurance	552	549	550	-0.5	0.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	223	221	221	-0.9	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	639	640	637	0.2	-0.5
Management of companies and enterprises	84	84	84	0.0	0.0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	517	520	521	0.6	0.2
Educational services	937	940	939	0.3	-0.1
Health care and social assistance	1,234	1,234	1,232	0.0	-0.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	223	222	222	-0.4	0.0
Accommodation and food services	931	937	937	0.6	0.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	469	473	474	0.9	0.2
Public administration	717	720	719	0.4	-0.1
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	173	174	175	0.6	0.6
Prince Edward Island	55	55	56	0.0	1.8
Nova Scotia	356	359	359	0.8	0.0
New Brunswick	291	293	294	0.7	0.3
Quebec	3,010	3,017	3,016	0.2	0.0
Ontario	4,973	4,980	4,982	0.1	0.0
Manitoba	497	499	498	0.4	-0.2
Saskatchewan	368	370	370	0.5	0.0
Alberta	1,330	1,336	1,344	0.5	0.6
British Columbia	1,608	1,601	1,601	-0.4	0.0
Yukon	15	15	15	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories ¹	18	19	19	5.6	0.0
Nunavut ¹	9	9	9	0.0	0.0

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

¹ Data not seasonally adjusted.

Passenger bus industry

First quarter 2000

Urban transit ridership increased 3.4% during the first quarter of 2000 compared with the first quarter of 1999, the highest year-over-year gain for the first quarter in many years. The growth rates in previous years were 2.3% in 1998 and 1.2% in 1999.

Canadians made 384 million passenger trips on the nation's urban transit systems from January to March 2000, up from 371 million during the first quarter of 1999.

The rise in gasoline fuel prices may have had an impact on ridership, but other factors were also at work. Advertising and promotion activities contributed to the increase, as did recovery from work stoppages, continuing population growth and, in some cities, a

service orientation that supports a central business district rather than satellite working regions. Similar increases in ridership also occurred in the United States during 2000.

The increase in ridership led to a 6.8% jump in revenues for urban transit companies to \$475 million, the highest first-quarter level in several years. At the same time, expenses remained the same.

Companies providing scheduled intercity passenger service also saw higher ridership and revenues. These services recorded ridership of about 3.7 million in the first quarter of 2000, up 19% from the first quarter of 1999. Their revenues increased 21% to \$6.5 million.

Revenues for the entire passenger bus industry reached \$863 million in the first quarter of 2000, up 11% from the first quarter of 1999.

Available on CANSIM: table 4080001 and matrices 346 and 347.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

To obtain data, contact Jean-Robert Larocque, (613-951-2486; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Harold Kohn, (613-951-0162; kohnhar@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Repeat users of Employment Insurance
1997

"Repeat users of Employment Insurance," which appears in the April 2001 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income* compares demographic characteristics of repeat users of Employment Insurance (EI) with those of employees in general. It also examines repeat users' attitudes about employment and unemployment.

The data come from the 1997 Survey on the Repeat Use of Employment Insurance, a joint project run by the Social Research and Development and Demonstration Corporation and Statistics Canada and funded by Human Resources Development Canada.

The survey collected detailed information on respondents' 1997 labour market activities. It also asked about job search activities, household composition and income, residence, demographics, education and training, and attitude toward employment and unemployment in general.

Human Resources Development Canada defines a repeat EI user as a person filing three or more claims over a five-year period. This study altered the definition to people filing three or four claims, and added the concept of "persistent users" — individuals claiming EI every year over a five-year period, in this case 1992 to 1996.

The survey found that, compared with employees in general, repeat users tended to be men, to be 35 and over, and to have a lower educational attainment — that is, they were less likely to have completed high school. Only 49% of persistent EI users had finished high school.

Atlantic Canada accounted for 16% of all regular benefit claims initiated in 1997, which was more than twice their share of paid employees (7%).

Certain occupations, specifically the trades and occupations in primary industries, used regular EI benefits more than their share of paid employment would suggest.

The April 2001 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information on this article, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lori Stratyckuk (613-951-0380; lori.stratyckuk@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Construction type plywood
February 2001

Canadian firms produced 162 427 cubic metres of construction-type plywood in February, down 6.0% from the 164 080 cubic metres produced in February 2000.

Year-to-date production totalled 332 982 cubic metres, an increase of 2.0% from the 326 390 cubic metres produced during the same period of 2000.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030005 and matrix 122 (level 1).

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The February 2001 issue of *Construction type plywood* (35-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Greenhouse, sod and nursery industries
2000

The greenhouse industry showed continued growth as 255 more acres were added to production in 2000. Total greenhouse area has now reached 3,886 acres. Most of greenhouse production is under plastic rather than glass due to the relative lower cost of production. Area under plastic was 2,653 acres, and area under glass was 1,232 acres.

Sales from greenhouse products, (flowers, plants and vegetables) were \$1.7 billion in 2000, up 18% over 1999.

Available on CANSIM: table 10006 and matrix 1058.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The 2000 issue of *Greenhouse, sod and nursery industries* (22-202-XIB, \$26) is now available. A print-on-demand version is also available for \$47. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bill Parsons, (613-951-8727), Agriculture Division. ■

Networked Canada

1993 to 1999

The print version of *Networked Canada*, released as an electronic document in *The Daily* on April 9, 2001, is available today. This 71-page publication provides the first-ever comprehensive statistical profile of Canada's rapidly evolving information and communications technology (ICT) sector.

Produced under Statistics Canada's Connectedness program, it examines the growth and performance of the ICT sector on the basis of such variables as economic output, employment, exports, imports, revenues and research and development. It also examines individual ICTs as commodities, notably the Internet, analysing their penetration and use across all economic sectors — households, businesses and governments, including education.

Networked Canada (56-504-XIE, \$38; 56-504-XPE, \$50) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Heidi Ertl (613-951-1891) or George Sciadas (613-951-6389), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — A weekly review, April 27, 2001
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — A weekly review, April 27, 2001
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Greenhouse, sod and nursery industries, 2000
Catalogue number 22-202-XIB (\$26).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, February 2001
Catalogue number 31-001-XIB (\$15/\$147).

Construction type plywood, February 2001
Catalogue number 35-001-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Networked Canada, 1993–1999
Catalogue number 56-504-XPE (\$50).

Perspectives on labour and income, Vol. 2, no. 4
Catalogue number 75-001-XIE (\$5/\$48).

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

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Catalogue 11-001E (Parque 11-001E) ISSN 0827-0443



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
 For release at 9:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Change in expenditures on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, 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 noticeably 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** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

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, tom.vradenburg@statcan.ca)
 Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088), madeleine.simard@statcan.ca

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The Daily, April 27, 2001

RELEASE DATES: APRIL 30 TO MAY 4

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
30	Industrial Product and Raw Materials Price Indexes	March 2001
30	Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry	February 2001
4	Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries	April 2001
