



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, May 10, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

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 Continuing the strong upward trend that began at the start of the year, employment increased by 37,000 in April, bringing gains over the last four months to 207,000. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 7.6% in April.
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MAJOR RELEASES

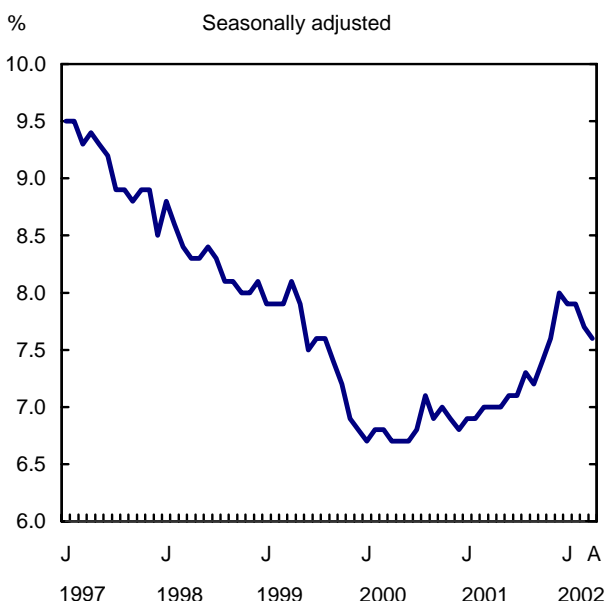
Labour Force Survey

April 2002

Continuing the strong upward trend that began at the start of the year, employment increased by 37,000 in April, bringing gains over the last four months to 207,000. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 7.6% in April.

Employment strength in Canada over the first four months of 2002 (+1.4%) is in sharp contrast to the weakness observed in the United States, where employment over the same period declined 0.1 percentage points.

Unemployment rate



Adult men gain in April but excellent start of the year for all demographic groups

April's increase was concentrated in full-time employment and among adult men (25-years of age and older). Pushed by gains in transportation and warehousing, employment among adult men increased by 34,000, all in full time.

The increase among adult men in April brings their gains so far this year to 91,000, and a large proportion of these jobs were full time. While employment among adult women and youths showed

little change in April, their gains since December stand at 60,000 and 56,000 respectively. Two-thirds of the gains for adult women were in full-time employment.

Due entirely to gains among adult men, self-employment increased by 30,000 in April. This was the first major increase in self-employment in nearly two years.

Among the provinces, Quebec posted the strongest employment increase in April (+29,000). As in Canada as a whole, April's increase was concentrated in full-time employment and among adult men. British Columbia also posted job gains (+13,000), while the job market in Ontario was relatively unchanged.

Consumer demand boosts trade employment

The strength in the housing market continues to fuel consumer demand for household-related items. As a result, employment rose in furniture and home furnishings stores, general merchandise stores, and building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers in April. Overall, trade employment increased by 24,000, bringing gains in the last two months to 42,000.

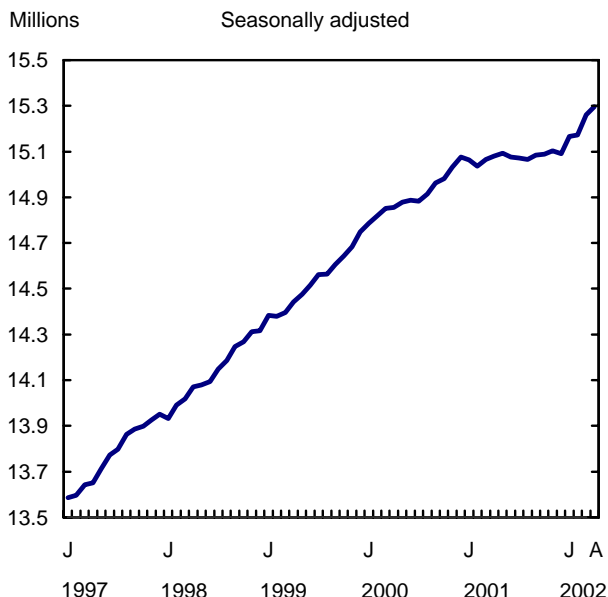
The manufacturing sector registered a loss of 19,000 jobs in April. Despite this drop, manufacturing employment is up since the start of the year (+81,000). In response to rising consumer demand for their products, motor vehicle and wood producers have added workers in recent months. Employment in chemical manufacturing was also up in the first four months of the year.

Employment in health care and social assistance rose by 25,000 in April, continuing the upward trend that began last July and bringing gains since then to 53,000.

In transportation and warehousing, employment increased by 11,000 in April. Despite this increase, transportation and warehousing employment is down 42,000 since August. Air transportation and sightseeing transportation have shown a downward trend since August.

Employment in public administration fell by 22,000 in April. The losses were mainly concentrated in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

The downward trend in natural resources employment continued in April with a decrease of 8,000, all in Alberta. Losses in this industry since September are estimated at 26,000, with Alberta and British Columbia leading the decline.

Employment**Provincial labour markets**

Propelled by a strong increase in Montréal, employment in Quebec continued to surge, increasing by 29,000 in April and bringing gains so far this year to 98,000. April's increase was concentrated in retail and wholesale trade and in management of companies, administration and other support services. The unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage points to 8.6%.

Employment was up in British Columbia (+13,000), bringing gains so far this year to 40,000. An increase of 17,000 jobs in trade in April offset losses in the first three months of the year. The unemployment rate in April was 8.7%, down 0.3 percentage points.

While labour market conditions were little changed in Ontario in April, employment is up 43,000 since the start of the year. The information, culture and recreation sector posted gains in April, while declines were observed in public administration and in management of companies, administrative and other support services. The unemployment rate remained at 7.0%.

For the second consecutive month, employment in Newfoundland and Labrador increased by 3,000, pushing the unemployment rate down 1.3 percentage points in April to 15.3%. Gains in natural resources and manufacturing offset a decrease in trade.

Employment in Prince Edward Island grew by 1,600 in April, with gains divided equally between manufacturing and trade. The unemployment rate fell 1.2 percentage points to 11.2%.

Employment declined by 4,000 in Manitoba, causing the unemployment rate to rise half a percentage point to 5.5%.

Available on CANSIM: tables 279-0001 to 279-0023 and 282-0001 to 282-0093.

Available at 7:00 am on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from the Daily*, then *Latest LFS*.

A more detailed summary, *Labour force information* is available today for the week ending April 20 (71-001-PIB, \$8/\$78; 71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103). See *How to order products*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, June 7.

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). 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 2002	April 2002	March to April 2002	March 2002	April 2002	March to April 2002
Seasonally adjusted						
Labour force			Participation rate			
	'000	% change	%		Change	
Canada	16,533.1	16,559.1	0.2	66.6	66.6	0.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	257.6	257.4	-0.1	58.6	58.6	0.0
Prince Edward Island	75.7	76.5	1.1	68.0	68.6	0.6
Nova Scotia	470.2	473.5	0.7	62.4	62.8	0.4
New Brunswick	387.5	386.4	-0.3	63.9	63.7	-0.2
Quebec	3,901.1	3,920.6	0.5	64.8	65.1	0.3
Ontario	6,466.6	6,463.9	0.0	67.6	67.4	-0.2
Manitoba	597.4	595.7	-0.3	69.2	68.9	-0.3
Saskatchewan	504.2	502.8	-0.3	66.3	66.2	-0.1
Alberta	1,742.1	1,743.2	0.1	72.5	72.3	-0.2
British Columbia	2,130.8	2,139.2	0.4	64.4	64.5	0.1
Employment			Employment rate			
	'000	% change	%		Change	
Canada	15,260.1	15,296.7	0.2	61.4	61.5	0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	214.8	217.9	1.4	48.9	49.6	0.7
Prince Edward Island	66.3	67.9	2.4	59.5	60.9	1.4
Nova Scotia	424.7	427.4	0.6	56.3	56.7	0.4
New Brunswick	347.1	347.2	0.0	57.2	57.2	0.0
Quebec	3,555.2	3,584.3	0.8	59.1	59.5	0.4
Ontario	6,014.2	6,012.6	0.0	62.8	62.7	-0.1
Manitoba	567.3	563.0	-0.8	65.7	65.2	-0.5
Saskatchewan	475.2	473.0	-0.5	62.5	62.2	-0.3
Alberta	1,655.7	1,650.7	-0.3	68.9	68.5	-0.4
British Columbia	1,939.7	1,952.7	0.7	58.6	58.9	0.3
Unemployment			Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change	%		Change	
Canada	1,273.0	1,262.5	-0.8	7.7	7.6	-0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	42.8	39.4	-7.9	16.6	15.3	-1.3
Prince Edward Island	9.4	8.6	-8.5	12.4	11.2	-1.2
Nova Scotia	45.5	46.2	1.5	9.7	9.8	0.1
New Brunswick	40.3	39.2	-2.7	10.4	10.1	-0.3
Quebec	345.9	336.3	-2.8	8.9	8.6	-0.3
Ontario	452.4	451.3	-0.2	7.0	7.0	0.0
Manitoba	30.1	32.7	8.6	5.0	5.5	0.5
Saskatchewan	29.0	29.8	2.8	5.8	5.9	0.1
Alberta	86.4	92.5	7.1	5.0	5.3	0.3
British Columbia	191.2	186.5	-2.5	9.0	8.7	-0.3

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	April 2001	April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002	April 2001	April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002
Unadjusted						
Labour force			Participation rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	16,059.3	16,413.6	2.2	65.4	66.0	0.6
Newfoundland and Labrador	248.0	248.5	0.2	56.4	56.6	0.2
Prince Edward Island	73.9	75.0	1.5	67.0	67.3	0.3
Nova Scotia	460.7	467.0	1.4	61.4	61.9	0.5
New Brunswick	368.7	378.1	2.5	60.9	62.3	1.4
Quebec	3,760.3	3,892.3	3.5	62.9	64.6	1.7
Ontario	6,289.3	6,404.7	1.8	66.8	66.8	0.0
Manitoba	581.0	592.1	1.9	67.4	68.5	1.1
Saskatchewan	498.2	497.2	-0.2	65.3	65.4	0.1
Alberta	1,691.5	1,729.4	2.2	71.8	71.8	0.0
British Columbia	2,087.8	2,129.1	2.0	63.8	64.2	0.4
Employment			Employment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	14,865.5	15,095.1	1.5	60.6	60.7	0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	198.3	204.7	3.2	45.1	46.6	1.5
Prince Edward Island	60.7	64.0	5.4	55.0	57.4	2.4
Nova Scotia	408.0	415.5	1.8	54.3	55.1	0.8
New Brunswick	318.0	331.3	4.2	52.6	54.6	2.0
Quebec	3,409.4	3,534.7	3.7	57.1	58.7	1.6
Ontario	5,913.6	5,953.9	0.7	62.8	62.1	-0.7
Manitoba	549.1	557.0	1.4	63.7	64.5	0.8
Saskatchewan	465.4	464.3	-0.2	61.0	61.1	0.1
Alberta	1,606.8	1,631.6	1.5	68.2	67.7	-0.5
British Columbia	1,936.1	1,938.1	0.1	59.2	58.4	-0.8
Unemployment			Unemployment rate			
	'000	% change	%		change	
Canada	1,193.7	1,318.5	10.5	7.4	8.0	0.6
Newfoundland and Labrador	49.7	43.9	-11.7	20.0	17.7	-2.3
Prince Edward Island	13.2	11.0	-16.7	17.9	14.7	-3.2
Nova Scotia	52.7	51.5	-2.3	11.4	11.0	-0.4
New Brunswick	50.7	46.8	-7.7	13.8	12.4	-1.4
Quebec	350.9	357.6	1.9	9.3	9.2	-0.1
Ontario	375.7	450.8	20.0	6.0	7.0	1.0
Manitoba	31.8	35.2	10.7	5.5	5.9	0.4
Saskatchewan	32.8	32.9	0.3	6.6	6.6	0.0
Alberta	84.7	97.8	15.5	5.0	5.7	0.7
British Columbia	151.7	191.0	25.9	7.3	9.0	1.7

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

	March 2002	April 2002	March to April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002	March to April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002
Seasonally adjusted						
	'000			% change		
All industries	15,260.1	15,296.7	36.6	215.5	0.2	1.4
Goods-producing sector	3,896.4	3,877.2	-19.2	-15.4	-0.5	-0.4
Agriculture	312.4	311.7	-0.7	-28.9	-0.2	-8.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	285.0	276.6	-8.4	-11.4	-2.9	-4.0
Utilities	128.5	130.1	1.6	9.3	1.2	7.7
Construction	853.4	860.6	7.2	14.1	0.8	1.7
Manufacturing	2,317.0	2,298.3	-18.7	1.5	-0.8	0.1
Services-producing sector	11,363.8	11,419.5	55.7	231.0	0.5	2.1
Trade	2,433.8	2,457.6	23.8	110.7	1.0	4.7
Transportation and warehousing	729.8	741.1	11.3	-40.9	1.5	-5.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	881.4	885.6	4.2	6.0	0.5	0.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	976.8	974.9	-1.9	-39.1	-0.2	-3.9
Management, administrative and other support	595.1	592.0	-3.1	48.6	-0.5	8.9
Educational services	981.8	993.0	11.2	28.7	1.1	3.0
Health care and social assistance	1,557.2	1,581.9	24.7	51.0	1.6	3.3
Information, culture and recreation	709.8	717.9	8.1	11.1	1.1	1.6
Accommodation and food services	1,008.6	1,010.2	1.6	35.9	0.2	3.7
Other services	698.1	696.4	-1.7	16.0	-0.2	2.4
Public administration	791.5	769.1	-22.4	3.3	-2.8	0.4
Class of worker						
Public sector employees	2,844.0	2,846.4	2.4	30.1	0.1	1.1
Private sector	12,416.1	12,450.3	34.2	185.5	0.3	1.5
Private employees	10,127.3	10,131.9	4.6	192.6	0.0	1.9
Self-employed	2,288.8	2,318.4	29.6	-7.1	1.3	-0.3

Employment by type of work, age and sex

	April 2002	March to April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002	April 2002	March to April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002	April 2002	March to April 2002	April 2001 to April 2002
	Seasonally adjusted								
	Both sexes		Men			Women			
	'000								
Employment	15,296.7	36.6	215.6	8,222.1	30.6	105.1	7,074.6	6.0	110.4
Ful time	12,463.8	41.3	110.9	7,352.5	44.1	74.0	5,111.3	-2.8	36.9
Part time	2,832.8	-4.8	104.5	869.6	-13.5	31.1	1,963.2	8.7	73.4
15-24	2,356.2	2.1	30.0	1,207.2	-2.9	11.3	1,149.0	5.1	18.7
25+	12,940.5	34.5	185.6	7,014.9	33.5	93.9	5,925.6	0.9	91.7
25-54	11,209.9	14.4	38.0	5,967.7	11.8	-1.5	5,242.2	2.6	39.5
55+	1,730.6	20.1	147.6	1,047.2	21.8	95.4	683.4	-1.7	52.1

OTHER RELEASES

New Housing Price Index

March 2002

The New Housing Price Index rose 0.4% in March (1992=100). This index of contractors' selling prices now stands 3.3% higher compared with the same period a year earlier. March's increase edged out last month as the highest year-over-year increase since May 1990.

Monthly advances occurred in 10 of the 21 urban centres surveyed. The largest monthly advance was in Edmonton (+1.1%), due to high demand and increased costs for material and labour. Calgary and Montréal followed closely with increases of 1.0% and 0.9% respectively. Builders in both cities reported higher labour and material costs and some Montréal builders added that the market was good.

New Housing Price Index

(1992=100)

	March 2002	March 2001 to March 2002	Feb. to March 2002
	% change		
Canada	108.7	3.3	0.4
House only	112.4	4.4	0.4
Land only	104.4	1.1	0.2
St. John's	103.3	3.8	0.4
Halifax	121.2	3.0	-
Charlottetown	107.7	0.5	-
Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton	94.7	1.9	-
Québec	107.3	2.8	0.5
Montréal	117.5	4.4	0.9
Ottawa-Gatineau	125.7	6.1	0.6
Toronto	111.4	2.6	-
Hamilton	109.5	2.7	-0.4
St. Catharines-Niagara	109.8	1.3	-0.4
Kitchener-Waterloo	111.0	2.9	0.1
London	106.0	2.9	-0.3
Windsor	107.0	0.7	-
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	97.1	-	-0.6
Winnipeg	121.3	1.8	0.5
Regina	137.5	3.2	-
Saskatoon	121.4	1.4	0.8
Calgary	140.4	4.8	1.0
Edmonton	119.2	6.0	1.1
Vancouver	85.7	3.0	0.4
Victoria	72.8	0.7	-

- Nil or zero.

Increased building costs in Saskatoon pushed prices up 0.8%, while the Ottawa-Gatineau (+0.6%) market continued to be very active. Both Québec and Winnipeg (+0.5% each) reported labour shortages and increased operating costs.

Vancouver and St. John's both advanced 0.4%, citing good demand. St. John's also reported higher construction costs. Kitchener-Waterloo posted a modest gain of 0.1% and reported good market conditions.

Halifax, Charlottetown, Saint John-Moncton-Fredericton, Toronto, Windsor, Regina and Victoria showed no change in March.

Sudbury-Thunder Bay (-0.6%), Hamilton (-0.4%) and St. Catharines-Niagara (-0.4%) posted declines due to competitive new housing markets, while Spring promotions in London (-0.3%) worked to buyers' advantage.

On an annual basis, Ottawa-Gatineau still posted the largest 12-month increase (+6.1%) for new homes followed closely by Edmonton (+6.0%). Calgary (+4.8%) and Montréal (+4.4%) followed. There were no annual decreases in March.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.

The first quarter 2002 issue of *Capital expenditure price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in June. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Louise Chainé (613-951-0785; fax: 613-951-1539; chailou@statcan.ca), Client Services Unit, or Anne Williamson (613-951-2035, willann@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending May 4, 2002 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending May 4, 2002 totalled 274 719 metric tonnes, down 12.7% from 314 749 tonnes a week earlier and down 0.2 % from 275 336 tonnes in the same week of 2001. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 5 516 417 tonnes, up 11.7% from 4 939 859 during the same period in 2001.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Misbah Subhani (613-951-4924; misbah.subhani@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

March 2002

Oriented strandboard production totalled 699 275 cubic metres in March, up 11.7% from 626 196 cubic metres during the same period in 2001. Particleboard production edged up 0.3% to 258 469 cubic metres, compared with 257 814 cubic metres (revised) in March 2001. Fibreboard production totalled 81 105 cubic metres, up 1.0% from 80 312 cubic metres in March 2001.

Year-to-date production of oriented strandboard totalled 2 119 982 cubic metres, a 9.8% increase from 1 931 282 cubic metres for the same period in 2001. Particleboard production reached 705 711 cubic metres, up 1.7% from 693 961 cubic metres (revised) compared with the same period in 2001. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 262 143 cubic metres, up 11.7% from 234 598 cubic metres during the same period in 2001.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0002.

The March 2002 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard*, Vol. 38, no. 3 (36-003-XIB, \$5/\$47), is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). 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. ■

Employer pension plans (trusteed pension funds)

2000 biennial census

The results of the biennial census of trusteed pension funds are now available for free as a set of printed tables. These tables provide data on revenues, expenditures, and assets cross tabulated by the following classification variables: contributory status, type of plan, asset size group, membership size group, type of industry, type of organization, sector, and investment decision. As well, there are some secondary cross tabulations of the classification variables themselves. No analysis of the results is provided with these tables.

For analysis of trusteed pension fund data, consult the *Quarterly estimates of trusteed pension funds* (74-001-XIB, \$14/\$47; 74-001-XPB, \$19/\$62). See *How to order products*.

For a copy of the free tables, or for more information about the current survey results and related products and services, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1 888 297-7355 or 613 951-7355; fax: 613 951-3012; income@statcan.ca), Income Statistics Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — A weekly review, May 10, 2002
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — A weekly review, May 10, 2002
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,
March 2002, Vol. 38, no. 3
Catalogue number 36-003-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Natural gas transportation and distribution,
December 2001, Vol. 43, no. 12
Catalogue number 55-002-XIB (\$13/\$125).

Building permits, March 2002, Vol. 46, no. 3
Catalogue number 64-001-XIE (\$14/\$145).

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 -XCB are electronic versions on compact disc.

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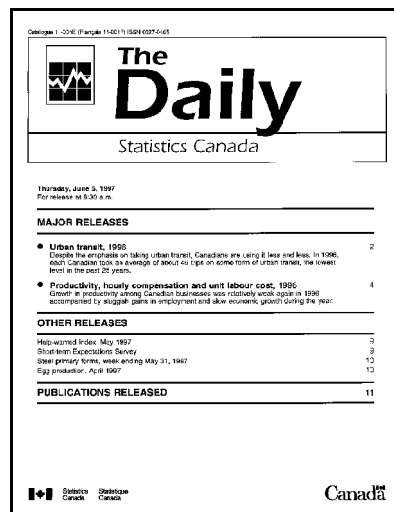
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The Daily, May 10, 2002

RELEASE DATES: MAY 13 TO 17

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
14	New motor vehicle sales	March 2002
15	Census of Agriculture	2001
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	March 2002
17	Canadian international merchandise trade	March 2002
17	Travel between Canada and other countries	March 2002
