



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Friday, March 12, 2004**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Labour Force Survey, February 2004**

For a second consecutive month, employment was little changed in February (-21,000) and the unemployment rate remained at 7.4%. This recent pause in employment growth, attributable to weakness in part-time work, follows strong increases in full-time employment over the previous five months.

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  - **Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 2003 and fourth quarter 2003**

Despite improved production in the fourth quarter, Canada's business productivity posted an annual growth rate of a mere 0.1% in 2003, the smallest annual increase in nearly a decade.

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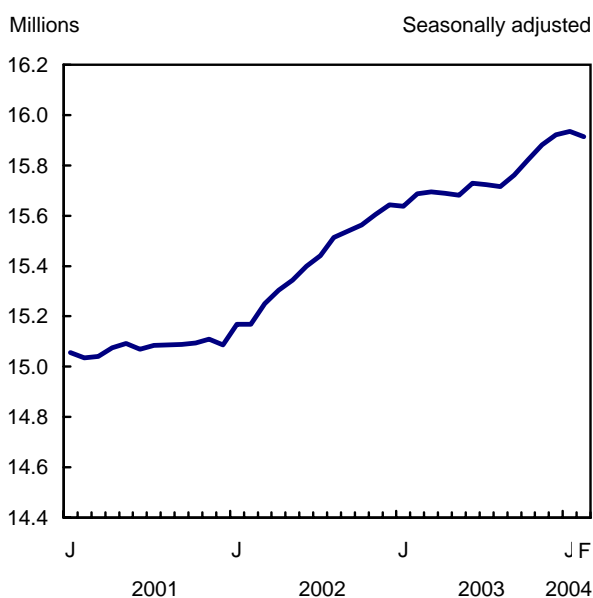
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Labour Force Survey

February 2004

For a second consecutive month, employment was little changed in February (-21,000) and the unemployment rate remained at 7.4%. This recent pause in employment growth, attributable to weakness in part-time work, follows strong increases in full-time employment over the previous five months.

#### Employment



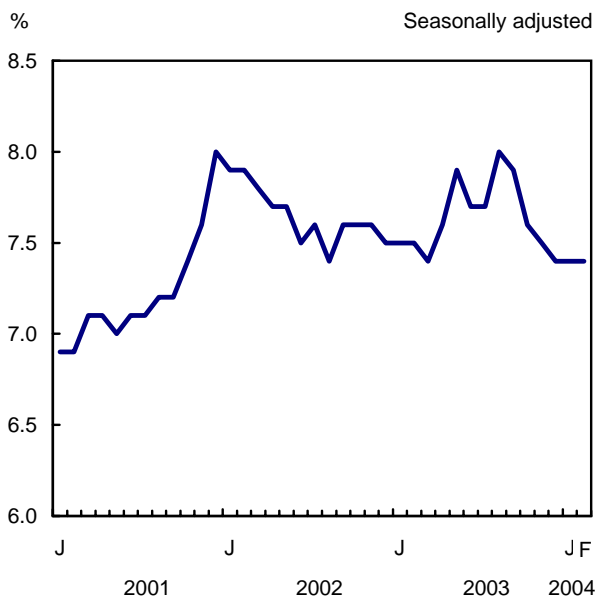
#### Youth employment down

While the labour market situation for youths was lacklustre for much of 2003, there was relatively strong job growth before the holiday season. However, this was offset by a decrease of 28,000 jobs in February, leaving the youth employment level at about the same as in August 2003. Because a large number of youths left the labour force in February, their unemployment rate rose only slightly (+0.2 percentage points) to 14.1%. The drop in youth employment was concentrated in British Columbia.

Growth in full-time employment continued for adult women, pushing up overall employment for this group by 20,000 in February. Their unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 5.8%. Since August 2003, employment among adult women has grown more

rapidly (+2.1%) than among adult men (+1.0%), whose employment level was little changed in February for a second consecutive month. The unemployment rate among adult men edged up 0.1 percentage points to 6.3%.

#### Unemployment rate



#### Decrease in health care and social assistance jobs

In February, employment fell by an estimated 31,000 in health care and social assistance. The decrease was mainly observed among women in Ontario. Despite this drop, the health care and social assistance sector has been following an upward trend since the summer of 2001.

Weakness in manufacturing continued in February, with employment little changed (-12,000) for a third consecutive month. This leaves manufacturing jobs down 83,000 (-3.5%) since November 2002, when the downward trend began.

Following strong job growth in the past two years, employment has weakened in the construction sector, with cumulative losses of 18,000 jobs in January and February. The loss observed in February was concentrated in Quebec and British Columbia, while Ontario accounted for all of the decline in January.

Employment in educational services increased by 20,000 in February, spread over a number of

provinces. The growth occurred mainly in elementary and secondary education. Despite this increase, employment in educational services has changed little over the past year.

Employment increased by 16,000 in transportation and warehousing in February, almost all in Ontario. This continues the upward trend for this sector that began in the summer of 2003.

### **Number of public sector employees continues to grow**

In February, a drop of 21,000 self-employed workers and a slight decrease in the number of employees in the private sector more than offset the increase of 24,000 employees in the public sector. Since August 2003, the number of public sector employees has grown by 3.1% (+92,000), exceeding the 1.1% (+118,000) growth in the number of private sector employees.

As a result of the weakness in construction and retail trade in February, the number of self-employed workers has now returned to about the same level as in August 2003 (-0.4%).

### **Employment down in British Columbia and little changed in other provinces**

Following strong growth in British Columbia in the fourth quarter of 2003, employment fell by an estimated 36,000 jobs in February, mostly among adult men and youths.

The largest employment loss in British Columbia was in retail trade, and may be the result of weaker consumer spending over this past holiday season. Employment also dropped in construction, following consecutive monthly declines in housing starts. The employment decline in February pushed the unemployment rate up by 0.6 percentage points to 7.9%.

Following two consecutive monthly increases, employment in Ontario was little changed (+5,000) in February, and the unemployment rate remained at 6.6%. A sharp decrease in jobs in the health care and social assistance sector was offset by increases in transportation and warehousing and in retail and wholesale trade.

In Quebec, employment was little changed for the second consecutive month. Gains in retail and wholesale trade were offset by a decrease in construction in February. However, compared with a year ago, employment in construction is up 2.8%.

Manufacturing employment remained weak in February and was down 4.8% from 12 months ago. The unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage points in February to 8.8%, the result of a decline in labour force participation.

### **Winter storm forces Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island residents to miss work**

In February, employment was little changed in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, but the number of hours worked fell sharply because of the snowstorm. In Nova Scotia, hours worked fell 15.3%, while Prince Edward Island's decrease was 13.9%. As a result, hours worked at the national level edged down 0.4%.

From the day of the storm on February 18 through the next three days, about half of Nova Scotia employees (182,000 people) missed some work as a direct result of the snowstorm. This amounted to nearly 2.5 million hours, or 13.6 hours per absent employee. Similarly, just under one-half of all Prince Edward Island employees missed work as a result of the storm (25,000 people), with the decrease in hours worked totalling 346,000, or 14 hours per absent employee. This does not include the time lost during the cleanup period that continued the following week.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042 and 282-0047 to 282-0095.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.**

Available at 7:00 a.m. on our website. From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Labour Force Survey*.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information*, is available today for the week ending February 21 (71-001-XIE, \$9/\$84). See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also available in the *Canadian statistics* module of our website.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Thursday, April 8.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750) or Stéphanie Langlois (613-951-3180), Labour Statistics Division.

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# Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	January 2004	February 2004	January to February 2004	January 2004	February 2004	January to February 2004
	seasonally adjusted					
	labour force			participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>17,202.4</b>	<b>17,180.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	263.6	262.3	-0.5	60.0	59.6	-0.4
Prince Edward Island	77.7	78.0	0.4	68.3	68.4	0.1
Nova Scotia	485.0	486.2	0.2	63.6	63.7	0.1
New Brunswick	390.4	387.7	-0.7	63.9	63.4	-0.5
Quebec	4,047.1	4,037.6	-0.2	66.1	65.9	-0.2
Ontario	6,749.9	6,755.5	0.1	68.4	68.3	-0.1
Manitoba	602.6	601.9	-0.1	69.1	68.9	-0.2
Saskatchewan	516.4	517.8	0.3	68.3	68.4	0.1
Alberta	1,834.0	1,842.9	0.5	73.4	73.7	0.3
British Columbia	2,235.7	2,210.5	-1.1	65.9	65.1	-0.8
	employment			employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,935.6</b>	<b>15,914.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	220.1	219.0	-0.5	50.1	49.8	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	69.3	68.9	-0.6	60.9	60.4	-0.5
Nova Scotia	438.1	440.5	0.5	57.4	57.7	0.3
New Brunswick	349.7	350.9	0.3	57.3	57.4	0.1
Quebec	3,680.4	3,681.6	0.0	60.2	60.1	-0.1
Ontario	6,303.8	6,308.3	0.1	63.9	63.8	-0.1
Manitoba	571.1	573.0	0.3	65.4	65.6	0.2
Saskatchewan	487.4	488.4	0.2	64.4	64.5	0.1
Alberta	1,743.3	1,747.7	0.3	69.8	69.9	0.1
British Columbia	2,072.4	2,036.0	-1.8	61.1	59.9	-1.2
	unemployment			unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,266.9</b>	<b>1,265.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	43.6	43.2	-0.9	16.5	16.5	0.0
Prince Edward Island	8.4	9.1	8.3	10.8	11.7	0.9
Nova Scotia	46.9	45.7	-2.6	9.7	9.4	-0.3
New Brunswick	40.7	36.7	-9.8	10.4	9.5	-0.9
Quebec	366.7	356.0	-2.9	9.1	8.8	-0.3
Ontario	446.2	447.3	0.2	6.6	6.6	0.0
Manitoba	31.4	29.0	-7.6	5.2	4.8	-0.4
Saskatchewan	29.0	29.3	1.0	5.6	5.7	0.1
Alberta	90.8	95.1	4.7	5.0	5.2	0.2
British Columbia	163.3	174.4	6.8	7.3	7.9	0.6

**Note:** Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

# Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	February 2003	February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004	February 2003	February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004
unadjusted						
labour force			participation rate			
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>16,710.0</b>	<b>16,927.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	249.0	247.2	-0.7	56.7	56.2	-0.5
Prince Edward Island	72.7	74.3	2.2	64.5	65.1	0.6
Nova Scotia	462.1	471.2	2.0	60.9	61.7	0.8
New Brunswick	378.1	372.7	-1.4	62.1	61.0	-1.1
Quebec	3,936.9	3,977.7	1.0	64.9	65.0	0.1
Ontario	6,585.2	6,677.9	1.4	67.7	67.5	-0.2
Manitoba	589.6	594.4	0.8	68.2	68.0	-0.2
Saskatchewan	508.1	508.4	0.1	67.1	67.2	0.1
Alberta	1,770.2	1,819.8	2.8	72.2	72.8	0.6
British Columbia	2,158.1	2,184.3	1.2	64.5	64.3	-0.2
employment			employment rate			
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,375.7</b>	<b>15,598.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	201.1	202.3	0.6	45.8	46.0	0.2
Prince Edward Island	62.1	63.1	1.6	55.1	55.3	0.2
Nova Scotia	417.4	423.2	1.4	55.1	55.5	0.4
New Brunswick	329.6	331.6	0.6	54.2	54.3	0.1
Quebec	3,564.4	3,597.1	0.9	58.8	58.7	-0.1
Ontario	6,120.1	6,218.2	1.6	63.0	62.9	-0.1
Manitoba	556.6	562.9	1.1	64.4	64.4	0.0
Saskatchewan	475.5	477.0	0.3	62.8	63.0	0.2
Alberta	1,677.4	1,722.4	2.7	68.4	68.9	0.5
British Columbia	1,971.3	2,000.8	1.5	58.9	58.9	0.0
unemployment			unemployment rate			
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,334.4</b>	<b>1,329.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	47.9	44.9	-6.3	19.2	18.2	-1.0
Prince Edward Island	10.6	11.2	5.7	14.6	15.1	0.5
Nova Scotia	44.7	48.0	7.4	9.7	10.2	0.5
New Brunswick	48.5	41.1	-15.3	12.8	11.0	-1.8
Quebec	372.5	380.6	2.2	9.5	9.6	0.1
Ontario	465.1	459.7	-1.2	7.1	6.9	-0.2
Manitoba	33.0	31.5	-4.5	5.6	5.3	-0.3
Saskatchewan	32.6	31.4	-3.7	6.4	6.2	-0.2
Alberta	92.8	97.4	5.0	5.2	5.4	0.2
British Columbia	186.8	183.4	-1.8	8.7	8.4	-0.3

**Note:** Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

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

	January 2004	February 2004	January to February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004	January to February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004
seasonally adjusted						
	'000			%		
<b>All industries</b>	<b>15,935.6</b>	<b>15,914.4</b>	<b>-21.2</b>	<b>228.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	<b>3,997.9</b>	<b>3,977.1</b>	<b>-20.8</b>	<b>-24.5</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
Agriculture	340.0	341.3	1.3	-4.2	0.4	-1.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	292.8	295.6	2.8	14.9	1.0	5.3
Utilities	129.2	123.7	-5.5	-3.4	-4.3	-2.7
Construction	946.1	938.7	-7.4	34.3	-0.8	3.8
Manufacturing	2,289.8	2,277.7	-12.1	-66.2	-0.5	-2.8
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	<b>11,937.6</b>	<b>11,937.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>252.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Trade	2,483.8	2,493.3	9.5	47.5	0.4	1.9
Transportation and warehousing	789.8	805.5	15.7	43.0	2.0	5.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	959.6	948.9	-10.7	16.9	-1.1	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,003.5	1,014.8	11.3	8.1	1.1	0.8
Business, building and other support services	633.5	629.2	-4.3	17.7	-0.7	2.9
Educational services	1,057.5	1,077.4	19.9	27.6	1.9	2.6
Health care and social assistance	1,757.5	1,726.6	-30.9	57.9	-1.8	3.5
Information, culture and recreation	727.9	731.1	3.2	44.5	0.4	6.5
Accommodation and food services	1,012.2	1,013.7	1.5	1.0	0.1	0.1
Other services	692.9	680.6	-12.3	-30.6	-1.8	-4.3
Public administration	819.5	816.3	-3.2	19.0	-0.4	2.4
<b>Class of worker</b>						
Public sector employees	3,057.0	3,081.4	24.4	98.0	0.8	3.3
Private sector	12,878.6	12,833.0	-45.6	130.1	-0.4	1.0
Private employees	10,429.7	10,404.8	-24.9	84.2	-0.2	0.8
Self-employed	2,448.9	2,428.2	-20.7	45.9	-0.8	1.9

**Note:** Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

## Employment by type of work, age and sex, seasonally adjusted

	February 2004	January to February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004	February 2004	January to February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004	February 2004	January to February 2004	February 2003 to February 2004
	seasonally adjusted								
	both sexes			men			women		
	'000								
Employment	15,914.4	-21.2	228.1	8,457.2	-24.8	62.9	7,457.2	3.7	165.2
Full-time	12,975.4	11.4	248.3	7,540.8	-9.7	55.2	5,434.6	21.1	193.2
Part-time	2,939.0	-32.5	-20.2	916.3	-15.2	7.6	2,022.6	-17.4	-27.9
15 to 24 years	2,389.3	-28.2	-29.7	1,215.1	-12.2	-15.8	1,174.2	-16.1	-14.0
25 years and over	13,525.1	7.1	257.9	7,242.1	-12.7	78.7	6,283.0	19.8	179.2
25 to 54 years	11,476.9	-11.4	124.5	6,046.5	-28.5	2.0	5,430.3	17.0	122.4
55 years and over	2,048.3	18.6	133.5	1,195.6	15.8	76.7	852.6	2.7	56.8

**Note:** Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

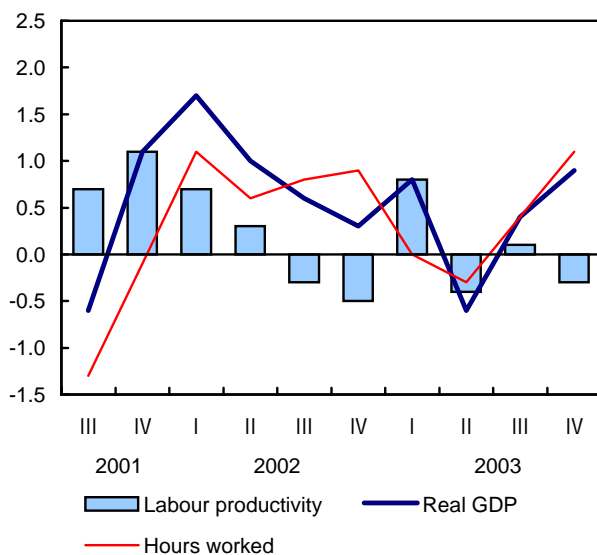
## Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost

### 2003 and fourth quarter 2003

After posting strong growth of 0.8% in the first quarter of 2003, business productivity deteriorated with a decline in the second, almost no increase in the third and then a further 0.3% decline in the fourth quarter. As a result, annual labour productivity growth for 2003 was only 0.1%, the smallest annual increase since the 0.2% drop in 1996.

#### Quarterly productivity continues at lethargic pace

Quarterly % change



In the United States, quarterly productivity growth slowed in the fourth quarter to 0.5%, down significantly from the 2.1% observed in the third quarter.

Despite this slowdown, American businesses recorded strong productivity growth of 4.5% for 2003 overall, similar to the 4.9% posted in 2002. An increase of this magnitude has not been seen since 1950.

This is now the third year that the growth in American business productivity has surpassed that of Canadian businesses. The gap in annual productivity growth in favour of the United States has gradually grown since 2001, when it was 1.1 percentage points. By 2002, the gap had risen to 3.0 percentage points. In 2003, it was 4.4 percentage points. However, it is important to note that these annual productivity differences are based on preliminary data, which are subject to revision. Since 1998, these gaps have

#### Note to readers

*This release contains a brief analysis of detailed data on productivity growth and other related variables. A comprehensive analysis, including additional charts and tables, is now available in HTML or PDF format in the publication Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review (13-010-XIE, free). Definitions of some concepts can be found in the note to readers of that publication.*

*This electronic publication presents an analysis on labour productivity not only to the business sector as a whole but also in detail, reflecting 15 industries of the business sector (including the goods sector and the services sector). Quarterly measures of labour productivity by industry appeared for the first time last December. The statistical series for these industries start as of the first quarter of 1997.*

*In this release, the use of the term "productivity" refers to labour productivity. Calculations of the productivity growth rate and its related variables are based on index numbers rounded to one decimal place.*

*With this release, revisions have been made back to the first quarter of 2003 to incorporate a methodological change to the measure of hours worked in the business sector and the new seasonal factors for 2003. However, the hourly compensation series have been revised back to the first quarter of 1998. A technical note on quarterly estimates of labour productivity is available on request. To order a copy, send an e-mail message to [productivity.measures@statcan.ca](mailto:productivity.measures@statcan.ca).*

generally shrunk following revisions to the preliminary data.

#### Comparable increase in production, but a very different performance by labour markets in Canada and the United States

In the fourth quarter, production in Canadian and American businesses grew at the same rate of 0.9%; however, Canada posted a faster rate of growth in hours worked than the United States, as has consistently been the case since the first quarter of 2001.

Canadian businesses more than doubled their production in the fourth quarter compared with the rate of 0.4% observed in the third quarter. The recovery of exports, which had declined over the four previous quarters, was largely behind the strong production growth in Canada.

American business production returned to a more normal growth rate in the fourth quarter of 2003 after a 2.5% leap in the third quarter. The latter was marked by the strongest quarterly increase since the first quarter of 1984. The deceleration in the US economy resulted from a slower increase in consumer expenditures and an acceleration in imports.

Hours worked in Canadian businesses increased 1.1% in the fourth quarter, more than

double the rate measured in the previous quarter. In comparison, hours worked in US businesses in the fourth quarter had the same rate of increase as in the third quarter, reaching only 0.4%.

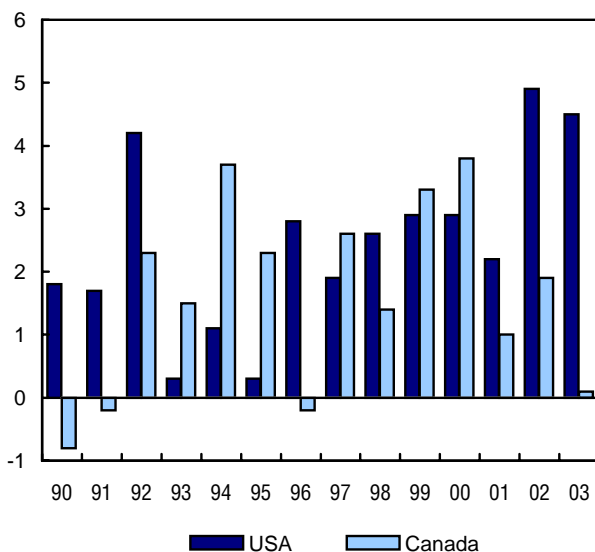
The gap in productivity growth between Canada and the United States for the fourth quarter was essentially attributable to different labour market performances in light of identical production growth in the two countries.

### Annual productivity growth in Canada significantly down in 2003

In 2003, annual productivity growth rose barely 0.1% in Canada. Taking into account this weak increase, the average increase for the past three years came to 0.7%. This is only one quarter of the 2.8% average annual rate recorded from 1997 to 2000. Canada's economic growth was strong during this period, partly the result of the intensification of the use of information and communications technologies.

#### Weak productivity gains in Canada for 2003

% change from the previous year



The period of rapid productivity growth in the late 1990s was followed by a slowdown in 2001, a slight recovery in 2002 and stagnation in 2003. In 2001 and 2002, Canadian businesses felt the impact of the burst of the high-tech bubble and the

September 11 attacks in the United States. In 2003, economic activity was disrupted by an extraordinary conjunction of one-time events, including the SARS and mad cow scares, the electrical outage in Ontario, forest fires in British Columbia and Hurricane Juan in the Maritimes. Moreover, the Canadian dollar appreciated rapidly against the American dollar, forcing exporting companies to adjust their operations.

In 2003, the Canadian situation contrasted sharply to that of the United States in terms of the performance of the economy and of the labour market. US productivity in 2003 came from a simultaneous increase in production and a decrease in hours worked.

Canadian production increased by just 1.5% in 2003, significantly lower than the 3.7% growth rate recorded in the United States. This was the strongest growth measured in the United States since 2000, before the so-called dot-com decline. It was also the best production performance observed in the United States, compared with Canada, since 1999.

The improved productivity performance in the United States in 2003 was partly attributable to the reduction in hours worked. In 2003, hours worked in Canada increased at a rate of 1.5%, compared with the 0.8% decline in the United States.

### Stronger Canadian dollar in 2003 serves to widen gap in labour costs in favour of the United States

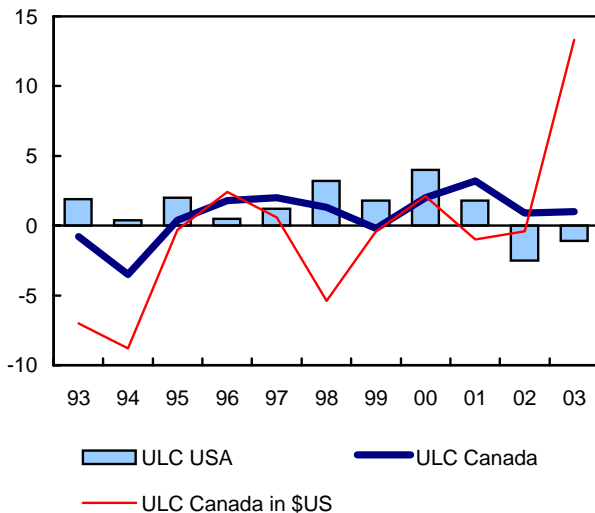
On an annual basis, the rise in hourly compensation in Canadian businesses was only 1.2% in 2003, continuing the downward trend started in 2001. US business saw hourly compensation rise by 3.3% in 2003, after a 2.2% increase in 2002.

The annual growth in unit labour costs in Canada has slowed over the last two years. The rate was 1.0% in 2003 and 0.9% in 2002, much slower than the 3.2% growth recorded in 2001. In the United States, unit labour costs declined by 1.1% in 2003.

Measured in American dollars, unit labour costs in Canada grew considerably in 2003, while those in the United States declined. Between 2002 and 2003, with the value of the Canadian dollar increasing by close to 10.8% compared with that of the American dollar, the gap in unit costs between the two countries continued to widen significantly in favour of the United States. Unit labour costs in Canada, measured in American dollars, leapt by 13.3% in 2003, while the United States posted a 1.1% decline.

### Canadian dollar appreciation increased unit labour costs (ULC) significantly

% change from the previous year



### Recent revisions in productivity figures in the United States had no impact on the Canada-US gap

In February 2004, the United States released its annual revisions of labour productivity estimates, incorporating recent revisions of the US National Accounts by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The US data has also been revised back to 1999 to incorporate the adjustments in annual benchmarks on hours worked.

From 1987 to 2002, average annual productivity growth was not affected by these revisions; therefore, the average gap in annual productivity growth in favour of the United States remained identical to that released before the revision.

### Comparison of annual labour productivity growth in the business sector before and after revision

	Canada	United States	
		before revision	after revision
	annual % change		
1987 to 2002	1.5	2.1	2.1
1995 to 2000	2.2	2.6	2.6
1996 to 2002	2.3	2.9	2.9
1999	3.3	2.5	2.9
2000	3.8	3.1	2.9
2001	1.0	2.0	2.2
2002	1.9	5.3	4.9

Source: US data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Productivity and Costs, Fourth quarter 2003, published in NEWS, March 4.

However, in recent years, revisions increased labour productivity in the United States for 1999 and 2001, and reduced it for 2000 and 2002. The magnitude of the revisions varied between 0.2% and 0.6%. Nonetheless, the revisions to US data did not result in any changes to the mid-term average, since average annual productivity growth from 1996 to 2002 remained at 2.9%, a higher rate than the 2.3% registered in Canada over the same period.

Available on CANSIM: tables 383-0008 and 383-0012.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5042.

A more comprehensive analysis, including additional charts and tables, is now available in the *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review* (13-010-XIE, free). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *National accounts*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-951-3654; fax: 613-951-3292; [maynard@statcan.ca](mailto:maynard@statcan.ca)), Micro-Economic Analysis Division.

□

## Business sector: Labour productivity and related variables for Canada and the United States

	Fourth quarter 2001	First quarter 2002	Second quarter 2002	Third quarter 2002	Fourth quarter 2002	First quarter 2003	Second quarter 2003	Third quarter 2003	Fourth quarter 2003
	% change from previous quarter, seasonally adjusted								
<b>Canada</b>									
Labour productivity	1.1	0.7	0.3	-0.3	-0.5	0.8	-0.4	0.1	-0.3
Real GDP	1.1	1.7	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.8	-0.6	0.4	0.9
Hours worked	-0.1	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.0	-0.3	0.4	1.1
Hourly compensation	0.8	1.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.2	-0.2	-0.3
Unit labour cost	-0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.6	1.2	-0.3	0.5	-0.2	-0.1
Exchange rate <sup>1</sup>	2.2	0.9	-2.5	0.6	0.4	-3.8	-7.4	-1.3	-4.7
Unit labour cost in US\$	-2.5	-0.6	2.4	0.0	0.8	3.7	8.5	1.1	4.8
<b>United States</b>									
Labour productivity	1.9	2.0	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.8	1.7	2.1	0.5
Real GDP	0.5	1.4	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	2.5	0.9
Hours worked	-1.3	-0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.8	0.4	0.4
Hourly compensation	1.0	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.4
Unit labour cost	-0.8	-1.8	0.2	-0.9	0.0	0.3	-0.4	-1.4	-0.1
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	First quarter 2003	Second quarter 2003	Third quarter 2003	Fourth quarter 2003
	% change from the previous year					% change from same quarter of previous year, seasonally adjusted			
<b>Canada</b>									
Labour productivity	3.3	3.8	1.0	1.9	0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.3
Real GDP	6.9	6.3	1.3	3.4	1.5	2.7	1.1	1.0	1.5
Hours worked	3.6	2.2	0.4	1.4	1.5	2.4	1.4	1.0	1.2
Hourly compensation	2.9	6.0	4.2	2.9	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.2	0.2
Unit labour cost	-0.2	2.0	3.2	0.9	1.0	1.3	2.0	1.2	-0.1
Exchange rate	0.1	0.0	4.3	1.4	-10.8	-5.3	-10.0	-11.7	-16.2
Unit labour cost in US\$	-0.4	2.1	-1.0	-0.4	13.3	7.0	13.3	14.6	19.2
<b>United States</b>									
Labour productivity	2.9	2.9	2.2	4.9	4.5	3.0	4.4	5.3	5.3
Real GDP	5.1	3.9	0.1	2.3	3.7	2.3	3.0	4.4	5.0
Hours worked	2.1	1.0	-2.1	-2.5	-0.8	-0.6	-1.3	-0.8	-0.3
Hourly compensation	4.8	7.0	4.1	2.2	3.3	2.6	3.4	3.7	3.6
Unit labour cost	1.8	4.0	1.8	-2.5	-1.1	-0.3	-1.0	-1.5	-1.6

<sup>1</sup> The exchange rate corresponds to the US dollar value expressed in Canadian dollars.

Source: US data are from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Productivity and costs, Fourth quarter 2003 published in NEWS, March 4.

## OTHER RELEASES

### Youth court statistics

2002/03

The youth court caseload in Canada has been declining over the past decade, consistent with a decrease in charges laid by police, according to data from the Youth Court Survey.

Youth courts heard 84,592 cases during the 2002/03 fiscal year, 1% fewer than in 2001/02, and 20% fewer than in 1991/92 (the first year for which complete national data coverage was available for the Youth Court Survey).

Steady declines in cases involving property crimes were primarily responsible for the overall drop in caseload. Judges heard 32,465 property crime cases in youth courts in 2002/03. This is a drop of 47% from the 61,124 property cases heard in 1991/92.

The number of drug-related cases has tripled since 1991/92, going from 1,920 to 5,907. In 2002/03, 4,137 of these cases were for possession of drugs.

Accused youth were found guilty in 6 out of 10 cases heard in youth courts in 2002/03. *Criminal Code* traffic offences had the highest conviction rate (68%); drug-related crimes had the lowest (43%).

About one-quarter of youth cases were withdrawn or dismissed. Proceedings were stayed in 12% of cases, and 1% resulted in findings of not guilty. Transfers to adult court were rare, accounting for only 30 cases; 17 of these involved violent crimes.

Youth court judges ordered a sentence of probation (alone or in combination with other sentences) more frequently than any other type of sentence in 2002/03. Seven out of ten convicted youth cases received a probation order, averaging 375 days. The average

length of these sentences has been getting longer; in 1991/92, it was 316 days.

The proportion of convicted youth cases receiving a sentence to secure custody increased gradually from 11% of convicted cases in 1991/92 to 14% in 2002/03. However, the average length of these sentences got shorter over this period, declining from 95 days to 68 days.

Judges were more likely to use sentences to custody for violent crimes than for other types of crime. In 2002/03, 74% of convicted homicide cases resulted in a sentence of secure custody, while 16% resulted in open custody. Secure custody was ordered in 64% of attempted murder cases, while 14% of these cases resulted in a sentence of open custody.

Robbery also frequently resulted in a custody sentence, with 25% of convicted cases receiving secure custody and 25% getting open.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 252-0027 to 252-0039.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3309.**

The publication *Juristat: Youth Court Statistics, 2002/03*, Vol. 24, no. 2 (85-002-XIE, \$9/\$75, 85-002-XPE, \$11/\$100) is now available. See *How to order products*.

A data table is also available in the *Canadian statistics* module of our website. Choose *Justice and crime*, then *Police and courts*.

For standard tables or more information on the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

### Cases heard in youth court by major crime category

	1991/92	2001/02	2002/03	2001/02 to 2002/03	1991/92 to 2002/03
	number of cases			% change	
<b>Total cases</b>	<b>105,538</b>	<b>85,640</b>	<b>84,592</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-20</b>
Violent crimes	17,917	22,510	22,462	0	25
Property crimes	61,124	33,086	32,465	-2	-47
Administration of Justice offences	8,087	7,698	7,790	1	-4
Other Criminal Code offences	6,598	4,525	4,267	-6	-35
Criminal Code traffic offences	1,909	1,211	1,225	1	-36
Drug-related offences	1,920	6,058	5,907	-2	208
Young Offenders Act offences	7,669	10,414	10,325	-1	35
Residual federal statute offences	314	138	151	9	-52

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## Dairy statistics

January 2004 (preliminary)

Consumers purchased 264 000 kilolitres of milk and cream in January 2004, up 5% from January 2003.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3430, 3431 and 3432.**

The first quarter 2004 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001-XIB, \$29/\$96) will be available in May 2004. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Anna Michalowska (1-800-465-1991; 613-951-2442; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

## Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending March 6, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending March 6 totalled 300 806 metric tonnes, down 8.1% from 327 289 tonnes a week earlier and 1.6% from 305 662 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of March 6 was 2 857 856 tonnes, up 0.3% from 2 849 638 tonnes in the same period of 2003.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; [manufact@statcan.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins

January 2004

Data on industrial chemicals and synthetic resins for January are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0014.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2183.**

The January 2004 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins*, Vol. 47, no. 1 (46-002-XIE, \$6/\$51) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; [manufact@statcan.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins,**  
January 2004, Vol. 47, no. 1  
Catalogue number 46-002-XIE (\$6/\$51).

**Labour Force Information,** Week ending  
February 21, 2004  
Catalogue number 71-001-XIE (\$9/\$84).

**Juristat: Youth Court Statistics,** 2002/03, Vol. 24,  
no. 2  
Catalogue number 85-002-XIE2004002 (\$9/\$75).

**Juristat: Youth Court Statistics,** 2002/03, Vol. 24,  
no. 2  
Catalogue number 85-002-XPE2004002 (\$11/\$100).

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

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (PDF available 11-001-XIE2004002)



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 9, 1997  
For release at 8:30 a.m.

#### MAJOR RELEASES



- **Urban transit, 1996** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 4.5 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

#### OTHER RELEASES

- **High-wired Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

#### PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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*The Daily*, March 12, 2004

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**RELEASE DATES: MARCH 15 TO 19**

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
15	<b>New motor vehicle sales</b>	January 2004
16	<b>Monthly Survey of Manufacturing</b>	January 2004
18	<b>Consumer Price Index</b>	February 2004
18	<b>Canada's international transactions in securities</b>	January 2004
18	<b>Travel between Canada and other countries</b>	January 2004