



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

March 2018



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Manitoba, including the regions of Winnipeg, Northern Manitoba and Southern Manitoba.

OVERVIEW

During the first quarter of 2019, employment in Manitoba remained relatively unchanged at 655,600 (+3,500), as gains in part-time employment (+7,200) were partially offset by the decline in full-time employment (-3,800).¹ In the first quarter, employment in the public sector decreased to around 162,700 (-1,700), while the private sector increased to about 401,300 (+5,400). Self-employment remained relatively stable at 91,500 (-200).²

Earlier this year, the second round of tariff cuts of the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) went into effect between Canada and five other CPTPP member trading partners, including the newest member, Vietnam. Japan's second tariff cuts went into effect on April 1.³ Manitoba's leading export industries (manufacturing and agriculture) stand to gain substantially from preferential access to these foreign markets.

Unfortunately, the future of the new Canada United States Mexico (CUSMA) trade agreement remains unclear, as U.S. tariffs on steel (25%) and aluminum (10%) persist. At this time, the three member countries continue to negotiate an agreement to lift the tariffs. However, on April 2, the United States International Trade Commission rendered an affirmative determination on an anti dumping probe into large diameter welded carbon and alloy steel structural pipe from Canada. Countervailing duties are expected in the near future.^{4,5,6,7} Faced with this uncertainty, Manitoba's economy will continue to face strong headwinds due to the ongoing trade dispute with its largest trading partner.

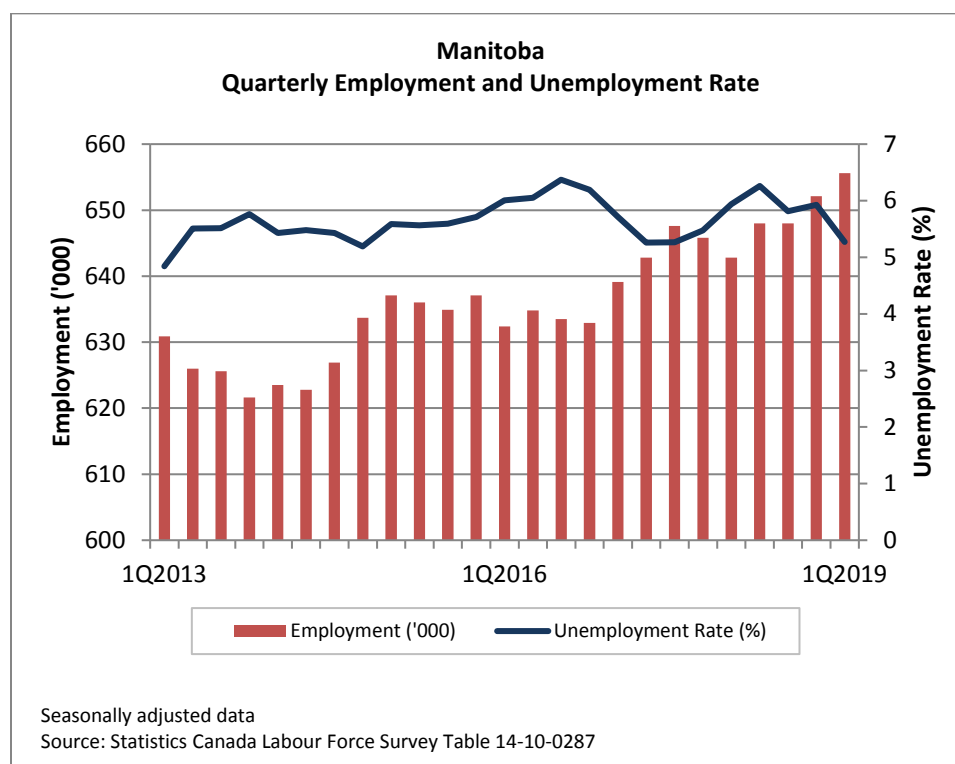
Quarter-over-quarter, Manitoba's unemployment rate fell to 5.3%. Compared to other the provinces in western Canada, Manitoba held the second lowest unemployment rate, behind British Columbia (4.6%).⁸

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

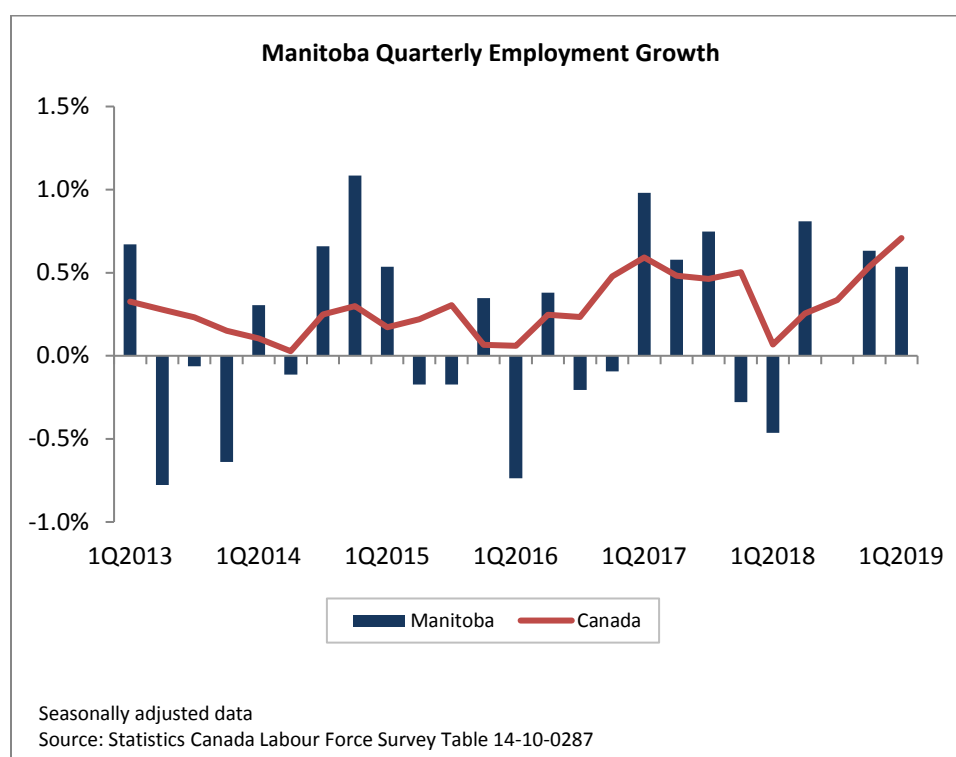
Seasonally adjusted data	1st Quarter 2019	4th Quarter 2018	1st Quarter 2018	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,032.2	1,028.8	1,020.5	3.4	0.3	11.7	1.1
Labour Force ('000)	692.1	693.2	683.4	-1.1	-0.2	8.7	1.3
Employment ('000)	655.6	652.1	642.8	3.5	0.5	12.8	2.0
Full-Time ('000)	524.8	528.6	512.5	-3.8	-0.7	12.3	2.4
Part-Time ('000)	130.8	123.6	130.3	7.2	5.8	0.5	0.4
Unemployment ('000)	36.5	41.1	40.6	-4.6	-11.2	-4.1	-10.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	5.9	5.9	-0.6	-	-0.6	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.1	67.4	67.0	-0.3	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.5	63.4	63.0	0.1	-	0.5	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087



On a quarter-over-quarter basis, the unemployment rate for Manitoba's youth (ages 15-24 years) fell to 10.8%, while that of those aged 25 years and older also declined by 0.5 percentage points to 4.2%. Year over year, Manitoba's youth unemployment rate is down 1.1 percentage points, whereas the unemployment rate for the 25+ age group fell by 0.6 percentage points.



Manitoba Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally adjusted data	1st Quarter 2019 (%)	4th Quarter 2018 (%)	1st Quarter 2018 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	5.3	5.9	5.9	-0.6	-0.6
25 years and over	4.2	4.7	4.8	-0.5	-0.6
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	5.0	5.2	-0.6	-0.8
Women - 25 years and over	4.0	4.3	4.4	-0.3	-0.4
15 to 24 years	10.8	12.5	11.9	-1.7	-1.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.3	13.4	14.3	-0.1	-1.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.3	11.6	9.3	-3.3	-1.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

In the first quarter of 2019, the total population aged 15+ in Manitoba was 1.03 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 11.8% of that, or 122,100 people. Employment among Indigenous people in Manitoba increased to 67,200, representing a gain of 1,200 positions (+1.8%) from a year earlier. The greater proportion of employment gains were in full-time positions (+2.0%), while part-time employment remained relatively flat (+1.3%).

The unemployment rate among the Indigenous population was 12.3% in the first quarter of 2019, representing an increase of 1.2 percentage points from the previous year. Among the non-Indigenous population, the unemployment rate was 4.7% (-0.9 percentage points). Between the first quarter of 2018 and the first quarter of 2019, the participation rate among Indigenous people remained stable 62.7% (-0.3 percentage points) while that of the non-Indigenous population was unchanged at 66.6%. Over the same period, the employment rate among the Indigenous population decreased to 55% (-0.5 percentage points), while the rate for the non-Indigenous population increased to 63.5% (+0.6 percentage points).

Manitoba - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q1 2019	Q1 2018	number	%	Q1 2019	Q1 2018	number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	122.1	118.8	3.3	2.8	910.0	901.9	8.1	0.9
Labour Force ('000)	76.6	74.2	2.4	3.2	606.3	601.1	5.2	0.9
Employment ('000)	67.2	66.0	1.2	1.8	578.1	567.3	10.8	1.9
Full-Time ('000)	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.0	456.8	447.5	9.3	2.1
Part-Time ('000)	15.2	15.0	0.2	1.3	121.2	119.8	1.4	1.2
Unemployment ('000)	9.4	8.2	1.2	14.6	28.3	33.8	-5.5	-16.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	12.3	11.1	1.2	-	4.7	5.6	-0.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	62.7	62.4	0.3	-	66.6	66.6	0.0	-
Employment Rate (%)	55.0	55.5	-0.5	-	63.5	62.9	0.6	-

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – ESDC custom table

Looking forward, new employment opportunities may become available, as the provincial government signed a forestry option licence with four First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The licence is for two years, and supports the First Nations to pursue Indigenous-led forestry development over 5,000 square kilometers along the east side of Lake Winnipeg.⁹

In addition, the Manitoba Métis Federation announced the Métis First Time Home Purchase Program. The program will provide nearly 400 Métis families a year with the opportunity of owning their first home. Successful applicants are eligible to a maximum of \$15,000 in financial assistance towards their purchase.¹⁰

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

When compared to the same time last year, Manitoba's goods producing sector increased to 153,800 (+5,600). Employment increased in construction (+3,600) and manufacturing (+4,400), whereas employment in utilities and agriculture fell by 1,000 and 1,100, respectively. Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas remained relatively unchanged at 6,200.¹¹ With the implementation of the CPTPP, there is potential for further growth in the goods sector as some tariffs have already been reduced on a variety of exports.¹²

With the warmer weather, construction projects across the province are beginning to ramp up, including construction of the Maryland Park School in Brandon.¹³ As larger projects near completion, the sector will gain from the anticipated residential development in Selkirk, replacement of the Grassemere Drain in West. St. Paul, and repairs to the Manitoba Legislative Building.^{14,15,16}

Manitoba's agriculture sector is facing a number of challenges early this year; first off, the Red River Valley in the coming weeks is expected to see water levels rise to similar levels to those of 2009, threatening low-lying areas and agricultural lands.¹⁷ In addition, Manitoba's canola farmers are facing increasing uncertainty, as China banned oilseed imports from Viterra and Richardson International after revoking their licences to sell canola.¹⁸ With trade relations strained between Canada and a few of its global trading partners, Manitoba farmers are likely to see lower commodity prices in the coming months.

The provincial government announced it plans to create a sustainable protein strategy that will support animal and plant protein development. The strategy will also focus on attracting new investment, and support research and innovation.¹⁹ The planning is fortuitous, as African Swine Fever outbreaks in Asia, Central Africa, and Eastern Europe are likely to increase foreign demand for Manitoba pork. In addition to growing threats to global food security, new free trade agreements are likely to help Manitoba's agriculture and food-processing sectors to grow over time.

Year-over-year, Manitoba's services sector increased to 501,700 (+7,100), due in part to growth in transportation and warehousing (+5,800), public administration (+3,500), and business, building and other support services (+3,400). While several industries saw gains, others experienced job losses, including trade (-3,500) and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (-2,600).²⁰

Compared to 2018, employment within transportation and warehousing is likely to increase moderately, as CN Rail announced that it would invest around \$120 million into its provincial rail network later this year. The funding will include expansion and maintenance projects, particularly in rural Manitoba.²¹ Looking forward, the transportation sector will see some changes, as the provincial government announced it would implement mandatory entry-level training for commercial truck drivers on September 1, 2019. New drivers will require 121.5 hours of training, which is similar to that of Alberta and Saskatchewan.²²

As the health care sector continues to move forward under the Province's Health System Transformation, the delivery of health care services continues to change. For instance, the provincial government announced nearly \$5.2 million towards providing additional dialysis services, including new spaces at six renal health centres across the province. Overall, the funding is expected to provide up to 72 additional patients with care, while hiring an

additional 57 people, including nearly 30 nurses.²³ Manitobans will also benefit with the addition of two new personal care homes, one in Carman and another in Steinbach.^{24,25} Even though construction of the two new personal care homes have yet to begin, construction of the much delayed Health Sciences Centre Women's Hospital in Winnipeg is nearing completion and is scheduled to open this winter.²⁶

Employment within Manitoba's information, culture and recreation industry is likely to grow following the provincial government making the Manitoba Film and Video Production Tax Credit permanent and increasing the tax credit to \$31.5 million.^{27,28} Benefitting from the tax credit, are Amazon Studios and Fox 21 Television Studios, who are reported to be co-producing a multi-million dollar TV series across the province.²⁹

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally adjusted data ('000)	1st Quarter 2019	4th Quarter 2018	1st Quarter 2018	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	655.6	652.1	642.8	3.5	0.5	12.8	2.0
Goods-producing sector	153.8	149.3	148.2	4.5	3.0	5.6	3.8
Agriculture	25.1	25.1	26.2	0.0	0.0	-1.1	-4.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	6.2	6.2	6.5	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-4.6
Utilities	6.6	6.9	7.6	-0.3	-4.3	-1.0	-13.2
Construction	51.0	48.3	47.4	2.7	5.6	3.6	7.6
Manufacturing	64.9	62.7	60.5	2.2	3.5	4.4	7.3
Services-producing sector	501.7	502.8	494.6	-1.1	-0.2	7.1	1.4
Trade	86.6	87.1	90.1	-0.5	-0.6	-3.5	-3.9
Transportation and warehousing	42.8	40.9	37.0	1.9	4.6	5.8	15.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	34.2	34.4	36.8	-0.2	-0.6	-2.6	-7.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	29.7	30.0	28.6	-0.3	-1.0	1.1	3.8
Business, building and other support services	22.8	22.3	19.4	0.5	2.2	3.4	17.5
Educational services	51.0	51.5	51.3	-0.5	-1.0	-0.3	-0.6
Health care and social assistance	105.2	105.9	103.2	-0.7	-0.7	2.0	1.9
Information, culture and recreation	22.9	23.2	22.7	-0.3	-1.3	0.2	0.9
Accommodation and food services	42.4	42.1	44.0	0.3	0.7	-1.6	-3.6
Other services	28.9	30.7	30.0	-1.8	-5.9	-1.1	-3.7
Public administration	35.3	34.6	31.8	0.7	2.0	3.5	11.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table T14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

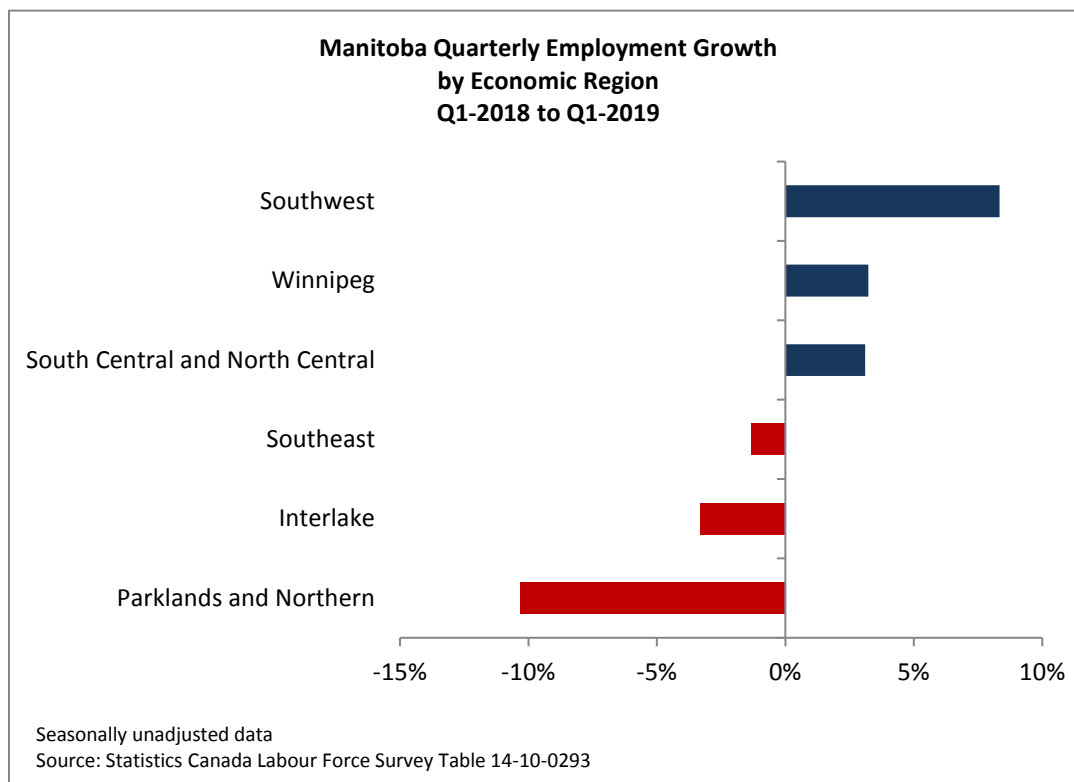
Since the first quarter of 2018, employment grew across half of Manitoba's regions. Winnipeg led employment growth with 12,400 new jobs created, followed by Southwest (+4,500), and South Central and North Central (+1,700). Over the same period, Winnipeg and Southeast each saw their unemployment rates improve as they declined by 1.2 and 1.0 percentage points, respectively. Whereas, the unemployment rate in Southwest fell by 0.6 percentage points.³⁰

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally unadjusted data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	1st Quarter 2019 ('000)	1st Quarter 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	1st Quarter 2019 (%)	1st Quarter 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	646.4	633.8	2.0	5.4	6.2	-0.8
Economic Regions						
Southeast	59.2	60.0	-1.3	4.4	5.4	-1.0
South Central and North Central	56.4	54.7	3.1	4.1	3.2	0.9
Southwest	58.5	54.0	8.3	4.3	4.9	-0.6
Winnipeg	396.3	383.9	3.2	5.8	7.0	-1.2
Interlake	43.8	45.3	-3.3	6.0	5.6	0.4
Parklands and Northern	32.2	35.9	-10.3	6.9	5.3	1.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293, formerly CANSIM 282-0122



The provincial government released its 2019 budget and its ongoing plan towards reducing the provincial deficit. The 2019 budget will affect all Manitobans, as it includes cutting the provincial sales tax from 8 percent to 7 percent on July 1, and increases funding for education and healthcare.³¹

Year-over-year, employment in Southeast remained relatively unchanged at 59,200 (-800). New employment opportunities are likely to become available in the region, as the government of Manitoba announced the sale of the Pineland Forest Nursery to Botanist Organic Growers Corp. The company intends to invest millions of dollars into hemp production facilities, and research and development in order to become the largest indoor hemp cannabidiol producer. Over the next three years, the company expects to employ up to 200 people for various positions.^{32,33}

Within the past 12 months, employment in Winnipeg increased to 396,300 (+12,400), and should continue to grow due to its diversified economy. Despite an anticipated decline in housing starts later this year, ongoing non-residential projects, including the Southwest Transitway project and development at CentrePort Canada are expected to lead overall employment growth in construction.^{34,35} Earlier this year, international video game developer Ubisoft opened a new studio in Winnipeg. The company's Winnipeg studio employs more than 25 workers, and plans to invest \$35 million and create up to 100 new jobs over the next five years.^{36,37}

Compared to the same time last year, employment within Southwest grew to 58,500 (+4,500). Over the same period, the unemployment rate declined to 4.3%. Employment may grow at a slower rate; however, the region should benefit from the planned expansion of the Daly Overpass, construction of a new Holiday Inn Express near Brandon, and investment towards Brandon's public transit infrastructure.^{38, 39, 40}

Since the first quarter of 2018, employment within Interlake declined to 43,800 (-1,500), and its unemployment rate increased to 6.0%. As the provincial government awaits final approval to construct the Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba Outlet channels, the government of Canada announced \$814,000 in funding to the Interlake Reserves Tribal Council to help mitigate climate related risks, such as flooding.^{41,42} The council will be working towards developing an emergency management framework to reduce the risk of extreme flooding within its six First Nation communities.⁴³

In the past year, employment in Parklands and North declined to 32,200 (-3,700), and the unemployment rate grew to 6.9%.⁴⁴ However, after last year's announcement that Hudbay Minerals would close its 777 mine in Flin Flon by 2021, the company has since announced their intent to invest an estimated \$124 million into their operations around the Lalor Mine near Snow Lake. The investment would include reopening the New Britannia mill, which the company anticipates will double gold production by 2022.⁴⁵

With the regional labour market likely to remain challenging for the next few years, the University College of the North opened the Swan Valley Workforce Development Centre earlier this year. The centre provides job seekers in the Parklands region with new industry specific training opportunities.⁴⁶

Note: In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

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For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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