

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, March 13, 1987

Major Releases

Labour Force Survey, February 1987

- The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 to 9.6 in February.

Help-wanted Index, February 1987

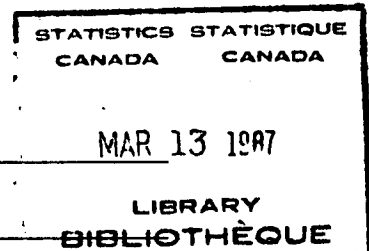
- The Help-wanted index increased to 108 from 104 in January.

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Major Releases

Labour Force Survey

February 1987

Overview

Estimates from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey for February 1987 indicate a continuation of the modest improvements in labour market conditions noted since the third quarter of 1986. Employment increased by 30,000, with gains recorded for both younger and older age groups. An increase in the number of persons entering the labour force (+27,000) continued to restrict the decline in the overall number of unemployed. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 to 9.6 in February.

Employment

For the week ended February 21, 1987, the seasonally adjusted level of employment was estimated at 11,777,000 - up 30,000 from January. This represents the seventh consecutive month of employment growth, totalling 221,000 since July 1986. Gains were distributed between younger people and those aged 25 and over, with slightly larger increases attributed to females in both age categories.

- Full-time employment rose by an estimated 55,000 while part-time levels declined by 20,000. The increase in full-time employment was concentrated mainly among females.
- Employment rose in agriculture (+12,000) and in community, business and personal services (+22,000). There were declines in the primary industries other than agriculture (-8,000) and in public administration (-8,000).
- Estimated levels of employment increased in Quebec (+22,000) and British Columbia (+16,000). There was little or no change in employment levels in the remaining provinces.

Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted level of unemployment for February 1987 was an estimated 1,252,000 - virtually unchanged from January, while the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 to 9.6. The overall level of unemployment has changed very little since the beginning of 1986.

- Unemployment rose by 10,000 for males aged 15 to 24, to 243,000. It declined by 13,000 among females aged 25 and over. There was little change in unemployment levels in the other age and sex categories.
- Unemployment declined by an estimated 2,000 in Newfoundland, by 3,000 in New Brunswick, and by 7,000 in Manitoba. The level rose marginally in both Quebec and Ontario and was little changed in the remaining provinces.
- The unemployment rate rose by 0.2 to 14.6 for persons aged 15 to 24, primarily as the result of an increase of 0.5 in the rate for young men.
- The rate declined by 0.1 among females in the 15 to 24 age group and was down 0.3 in the 25 and over age group.
- The unemployment rate decreased by 0.8 to 18.4 in Newfoundland, by 0.1 to 14.5 in Prince Edward Island, by 0.8 to 13.1 in New Brunswick, by 1.2 to 6.7 in Manitoba, by 0.1 to 7.2 in Saskatchewan, and by 0.3 to 13.3 in British Columbia. The rate rose by 0.3 to 14.6 in Nova Scotia, by 0.1 to 10.9 in Quebec, by 0.2 to 6.8 in Ontario, and by 0.1 to 10.9 in Alberta.

(continued on page 3)

Participation Rate/Employment Ratio

The seasonally adjusted participation rate rose 0.1 to 66.0 in February 1987. This is the third consecutive increase in the rate, bringing it to just below the historical peak of 66.1 recorded in January 1986. The employment/population ratio also rose by 0.1 to 59.7 in February. While increases in the employment ratio have been similar to those of the participation rate during the past half year, the ratio remains below the peak of 60.4 recorded prior to the recession in 1981.

- The participation rate rose 0.7 to 69.4 among persons in the 15 to 24 age category. This is the second month of strong growth in the rate for persons in this age group, with gains being posted for both males and females.
- The participation rate declined 0.1 to 65.1 for those in the 25 and over age category, the first decrease in over six months for this group.
- The employment/population ratio rose by 0.4 to 59.3 for persons aged 15 to 24. The ratio remained unchanged at 59.8 for those aged 25 and over.

Changes Since Last February (Unadjusted Estimates)

In February 1987, the unadjusted estimate of employment was 11,426,000 – an increase of 179,000 (+ 1.6%) over the level of a year ago.

- Full-time employment rose 1.7% while part-time employment gained 1.2%.
- The estimated number of unemployed persons declined marginally (-6,000) to 1,335,000 (-0.4%).
- The unemployment rate decreased 0.2 to 10.5.
- The participation rate rose by 0.2 to 64.7 while the employment/population ratio gained 0.3, to 57.9 in February.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2074, 2075, 2078-2099, 2101-2107 and table 00799999.

Order the February 1987 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$20/\$200), available the third week of March. Contact: Ken Bennett (613-991-4720), Household Surveys Division.

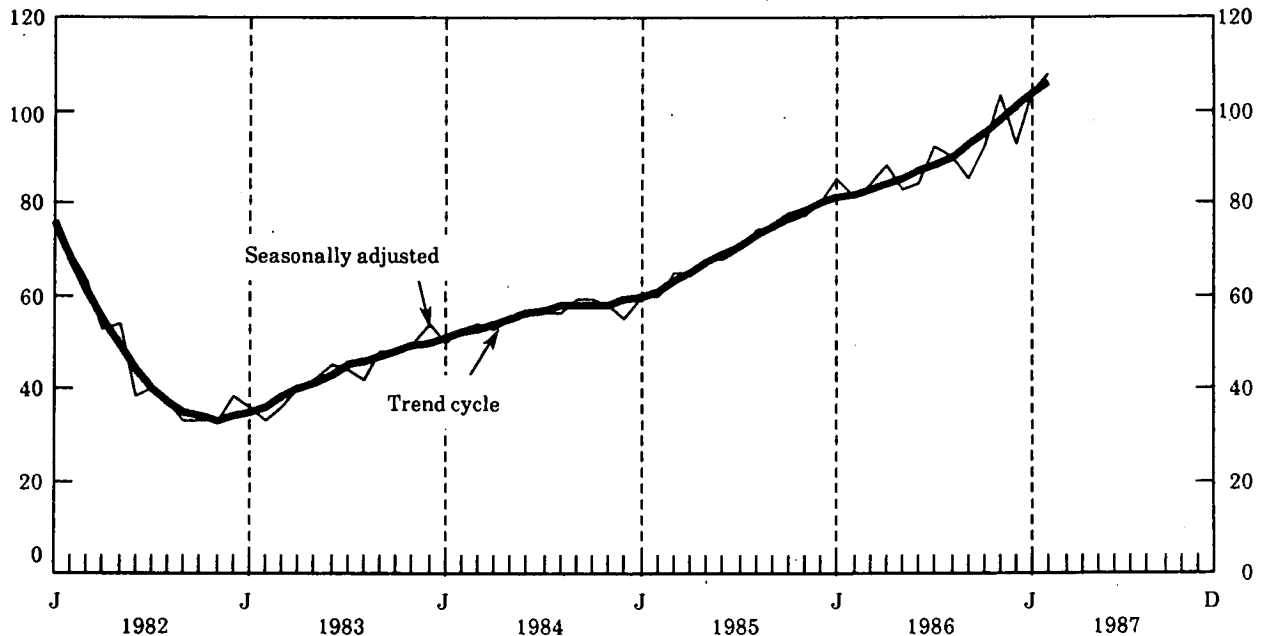
For summary information, available on the day of release, order *Labour Force Information* (71-001P, \$5/\$50).

Labour Force Characteristics, Canada

	February 1987	January 1987	February 1986
Seasonally adjusted data			
Labour force ('000)	13,029	13,002	12,870
Employment ('000)	11,777	11,747	11,608
Unemployment ('000)	1,252	1,255	1,262
Unemployment rate (%)	9.6	9.7	9.8
Participation rate (%)	66.0	65.9	66.0
Employment/population ratio (%)	59.7	59.6	59.5
Unadjusted data			
Labour force ('000)	12,761	12,675	12,589
Employment ('000)	11,426	11,333	11,247
Unemployment ('000)	1,335	1,342	1,341
Unemployment rate (%)	10.5	10.6	10.7
Participation rate (%)	64.7	64.3	64.5
Employment/population ratio (%)	57.9	57.5	57.6

Help-wanted Index, Canada (1981 = 100)

Jan. 1982 to February 1987



Help-wanted Index

February 1987

The Help-wanted Index monitors the space devoted to help-wanted ads published in 18 major metropolitan area newspapers and serves as an indicator of the demand for labour.

The seasonally adjusted Help-wanted Index for Canada (1981=100) increased to 108 in February 1987 from 104 in January 1987. The index is now at its highest level since October 1979 when it also stood at 108. The Canada index has generally been increasing since February 1983 when it was 33.

Between January and February 1987, the Help-wanted Index increased in Quebec (to 118 from 105) and the Atlantic region (to 142 from 138). The remaining regions showed little or no change. Over the past 12 months the indexes in the Prairie provinces and in British Columbia have remained relatively stable.

The Canada trend-cycle¹, which has generally been increasing since December 1982, continued its advance in February 1987 (see chart).

(see table on page 5)

¹ The trend cycle provides an indication of the direction in the demand for labour as estimated by the Help-wanted Index. It is calculated by the X-11 ARIMA seasonal adjustment program. Essentially, the calculation involves a 13-term Henderson moving average which smooths irregular fluctuations in the seasonally adjusted data.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105.

Contact: Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-991-4045) or Horst Stiebert (613-991-4044), Labour Division.

Help-wanted Index, Canada and Regions

(1981 = 100)

Seasonally Adjusted

Year and month	Canada	Atlantic Region	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Region	British Columbia
1986						
February	81	115	89	98	46	41
March	84	109	90	105	46	43
April	88	98	93	120	45	40
May	83	101	95	107	44	37
June	84	109	87	113	44	41
July	92	117	93	132	43	40
August	90	129	97	118	44	39
September	85	95	98	107	43	41
October	92	144	102	118	42	43
November	103	119	121	128	46	40
December	93	108	97	130	44	37
1987						
January	104	138	105	145	48	39
February	108	142	118	144	47	40

Data Availability Announcements

Fur Production

1985-86

The value of pelts during the 1985-86 season was \$99,577,409 – down 9.3% from the previous season. Wildlife pelts brought in \$50,207,304 or 50.4% of the total. Fur farm production accounted for \$49,370,105 – down from \$56,315,449 (revised figure) for the 1984-85 season.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5692-5699 and 9511-9515.

Order the 1985-86 issue of *Fur Production* (23-207, \$30), available mid-April. Contact: R. Koroluk (613-991-2549), Agriculture/Natural Resources Division.

Provincial Government Finance, Revenue and Expenditure

1984-87

Actual data for 1984-85 and revised data for 1985-86 and for 1986-87 are available at 10:00 a.m. today from CANSIM: matrices 2751-2763.

Contact: G. Huneault (613-991-1812), Public Institutions Division.

Air Charter Statistics

Third Quarter 1986

Statistics for the third quarter of 1986 indicate that the number of passengers travelling on both domestic and international charter services declined from the same period of the previous year. There were 59,661 fewer passengers (-33.8%) travelling within Canada, and 97,840 fewer passengers (-11.2%) flying internationally.

The decrease in charter traffic both domestically and internationally largely reflected changes in services offered by Wardair. Wardair went from being a primary charter carrier to one which offers both charter and scheduled services.

A noticeable drop in traffic to the United Kingdom was, to a large degree, responsible for the 13.0% overall decrease in traffic to Europe in the latest quarter.

Order the Vol. 19, No. 2 issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$8.50/\$85), available the second week of March, or the quarterly in-house tabulation (\$40) (previously catalogue 51-003). Contact: C. Walsh (819-997-6173), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

Railway Carloadings

Seven Days Ending February 28, 1987

Freight tonnages loaded by railways in Canada for the week ending February 28, 1987 totalled 5.0 million tonnes, an increase of 7.5% from the 1986 figure. Loadings increased in the East by 10.6% and increased in the West by 4.8%.

Container-trailer or piggyback tonnages (included above) increased in the East by 15.2% and increased in the West by 3.4%; there was an over-all national increase of 11.6%.

The year-to-date rail freight loadings totalled 38.3 million tonnes, an increase of 2.1% from the previous year. During the same period, piggyback cars loaded increased 4.3%.

Order the Vol. 3, No. 8 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-005, \$75 a year), scheduled for release the week of March 16. Contact: Mamady Kaba (613-990-6154), Surface Transport Section, Transportation Division.

Steel Ingots and Pig Iron

February 1987

Preliminary steel ingot production for February 1987 totalled 1 135 000 tonnes, an increase of 0.4% from 1 130 617 tonnes the previous year. Year-to-date steel ingot production totalled 2 375 000 tonnes, an increase of 3.8% from 2 288 825 tonnes for the same period the previous year.

Preliminary pig iron production totalled 750 000 tonnes in February, up 1.0% from 742 288 tonnes a year earlier. Year-to-date pig iron production totalled 1 620 000 tonnes, an increase of 8.4% compared to 1 494 214 tonnes for the same period the previous year.

Order the February 1987 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4/\$40). Contact: G.W. Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

Steel Ingots

January 1987

Steel ingot production for January 1987 totalled 1 229 138 tonnes, an increase of 6.1% from 1 158 208 tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

Order the January 1987 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001, \$4/\$40), to be released the last week of March. Contact: Gerry W. Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

Footwear Statistics

January 1987

Canadian manufacturers produced 2,974,830 pairs of footwear in January 1987, a decrease of 13.6% from the 3,443,409 (revised figure) pairs produced a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 8.

Order the January issue of *Footwear Statistics* (33-002, \$4/\$40), to be released the week of March 20. Contact: Richard Gervais (613-993-5998), Industry Division.

Power Boiler and Heat Exchanger Industry

1985 Census of Manufactures

In 1985, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the power boiler and heat exchanger industry (SIC 3011) totalled \$514.2 million, up 11.7% from \$455.0 million in 1984.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5516 and to be released shortly in catalogue 41-251B 3011. Commodity data for this industry will become available in June.

Contact: Michel J. Cormier (613-991-3522), Industry Division.

Mobile Home Industry

1985 Census of Manufactures

In 1985, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the mobile home industry (SIC 3244) totalled \$114.6 million, up 26.6% from \$90.5 million in 1984.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5554 and to be released shortly in catalogue 42-251B 3244. Commodity data for this industry will become available in July.

Contact: G. W. Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

Non-commercial Trailer Industry

1985 Census of Manufactures

In 1985, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the non-commercial trailer industry (SIC 3243) totalled \$264.9 million, up 4.5% from \$253.5 million in 1984.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5553 and to be released shortly in catalogue 42-251B 3243. Commodity data for this industry will become available in July.

Contact: G. W. Barrett (613-991-3515), Industry Division.

Chemical Fertilizer Industry

1985 Census of Manufactures

In 1985, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the chemical fertilizer industry (SIC 3721) totalled \$966.0 million, down 5.6% from \$1,023.8 million in 1984.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 6872 and to be released shortly in catalogue 46-250B 3721. Commodity data for this industry will become available in June.

Contact: T. Raj Sehdev (613-991-3513), Industry Division.

Adhesives Industry

1985 Census of Manufactures

In 1985, the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for the adhesives industry (SIC 3792) totalled \$130.3 million, up 6.1% from \$122.8 million in 1984.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 6881 and to be released shortly in catalogue 46-250B 3792. Commodity data for this industry will become available in June.

Contact: T. Raj Sehdev (613-991-3513), Industry Division.

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Publications Released

Clothing Industries – Men's and Boys' Coat Industry, 1985 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 34-252B 2431
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Clothing Industries – Women's Blouse and Shirt Industry, 1985 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 34-252B 2444
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Furniture and Fixture Industries – Other Office Furniture Industries, 1985 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 35-251B 2649
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Paper and Allied Products Industries – Coated and Treated Paper Industry, 1985 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 36-250B 2791
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Chemical and Chemical Products Industries – Mixed Fertilizer Industry, 1985 Census of Manufactures.
Catalogue number 46-250B 3722
(Canada: \$4; Other Countries: \$5).

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-993-7276.

Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications and provide full information on publications required (catalogue number, title, issue).

Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Sturgeon Falls, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.



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The Daily, March 13, 1987

Major Release Dates: Week of March 16 - 20

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated
date of
release

Title

Reference period

March

16	Sales of Refined Petroleum Products	January 1987
16	Capacity Utilization Rates in Canadian Manufacturing Industries	Fourth Quarter 1986
17	Retail Trade	January 1987
20	The Consumer Price Index	February 1987
20	Department Store Sales and Stocks	January 1987