

# The Daily

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Friday, April 8, 1988

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### Labour Force Survey, March 1988

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- The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.8.

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- New housing prices continued to move upward, rising 1.1% from January 1988 and 10.3% from a year earlier.

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## Major Releases

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### Labour Force Survey

March 1988

#### Overview

Estimates from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey indicate little overall change in the labour market for March 1988. Employment increased marginally, following the strong gains of the past several months. The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.8.

#### Employment

For the week ended March 19, 1988, the seasonally adjusted level of employment rose by an estimated 15,000 to 12,300,000.

- The rise in employment among men and women aged 25 and over (+24,000) was partly offset by a decline for women in the 15 to 24 age group.
- Part-time employment increased by an estimated 31,000 with gains for both men and women. Full-time employment declined slightly in March (-16,000), the first decrease since September 1986.
- Employment advances were concentrated in finance, insurance and real estate (+20,000) while construction posted a decline of 15,000. There was little change in the other industries.
- The estimated level of employment rose by 17,000 in Ontario and 7,000 in Alberta while it declined by 3,000 in New Brunswick and 4,000 in Saskatchewan. There was little or no change in employment in the other provinces.

#### Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployment declined by 10,000 in March 1988, to 1,036,000. The unemployment rate was 7.8, the same as the previous month.

- The decline in unemployment was concentrated among persons aged 25 and over, falling to 703,000.
- The estimated number of unemployed fell by 7,000 in Ontario and 10,000 in British Columbia while it rose by 5,000 in New Brunswick and 13,000 in Quebec. There was little or no change in the remaining provinces.
- The unemployment rate increased by 0.6 in Prince Edward Island (14.4), by 1.4 in New Brunswick (13.0), by 0.3 in Quebec (9.3) and by 0.5 in Saskatchewan (7.9). It fell by 0.1 in Newfoundland (17.8), by 0.6 in Nova Scotia (10.2), by 0.2 in Ontario (4.9), Manitoba (7.4) and Alberta (8.1), and by 0.6 in British Columbia (10.1).

#### Participation Rate/Employment Ratio

The seasonally adjusted participation rate and employment/population ratio remained unchanged at 66.7 and 61.5, respectively.

- The participation rate and employment/population ratio declined by 0.1 among persons aged 15 to 24 as the result of decreases of 0.2 for women in this age group.

#### Changes Since March 1987 (unadjusted estimates)

- Employment increased by an estimated 494,000 (+4.3%), to 12,002,000.
- Part-time employment rose by 138,000 (+7.3%) to 2,031,000 and full-time employment grew by an estimated 355,000 to 9,971,000 (+3.7%).
- Employment advanced 5.6% in the goods-producing industries, with strong year-over-year gains noted in construction (+10.8%) and primary industries other than agriculture (+6.7%).

(continued on page 3)

- The rise of 3.8% in service-producing industries employment was led by increases in finance, insurance and real estate (+9.8%) and trade (+5.2%).
- The estimated number of unemployed declined by 216,000 (-15.5%), to 1,181,000.
- The unemployment rate decreased by 1.8 to 9.0.
- The participation rate rose by 0.6 to 65.9 and the employment/population ratio advanced 1.7 to 60.0.

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

The March 1988 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$22/\$220) will be available the third week of April. For summary information, available on the day of release, order *Labour Force Information* (71-001P, \$5.50/\$55). See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Ken Bennett (613-951-4720), Household Surveys Division.

(continued on page 4)

## Labour Force Characteristics, Canada

	March 1988	February 1988	March 1987
Seasonally Adjusted Data			
Labour Force (,000)	13,336	13,331	13,045
Employment (,000)	12,300	12,285	11,809
Unemployment (,000)	1,036	1,046	1,236
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.8	7.8	9.5
Participation Rate (%)	66.7	66.7	66.0
Employment/Population Ratio (%)	61.5	61.5	59.8
Unadjusted Data			
Labour Force (,000)	13,183	13,066	12,906
Employment (,000)	12,002	11,941	11,508
Unemployment (,000)	1,181	1,126	1,397
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.0	8.6	10.8
Participation Rate (%)	65.9	65.4	65.3
Employment/Population Ratio (%)	60.0	59.7	58.3

### Survey of Job Opportunities

Each March since 1979, Statistics Canada has conducted a supplement to the Labour Force Survey to identify the number and characteristics of persons who say that they want work but are not actively seeking it. The survey looks at why these persons are not looking for work and also at their recent labour market experiences, their future job expectations, and willingness to move if a suitable job were offered.

The results of this annual survey complement data from the monthly LFS on persons who have looked for work in the previous six months but who, for various reasons, did not look for work during the past four weeks. The March survey covers a much broader group, however, since it refers to all persons who report wanting a job, whether or not they have ever actively looked for one.

Persons who report wanting a job may not be actively seeking one for a variety of reasons. These reasons fall into two general categories - those which are labour market-related (awaiting recall to a former job, awaiting replies to earlier job search efforts, or a belief that no suitable jobs are available) and personal and other reasons (illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, going to school, etc.).

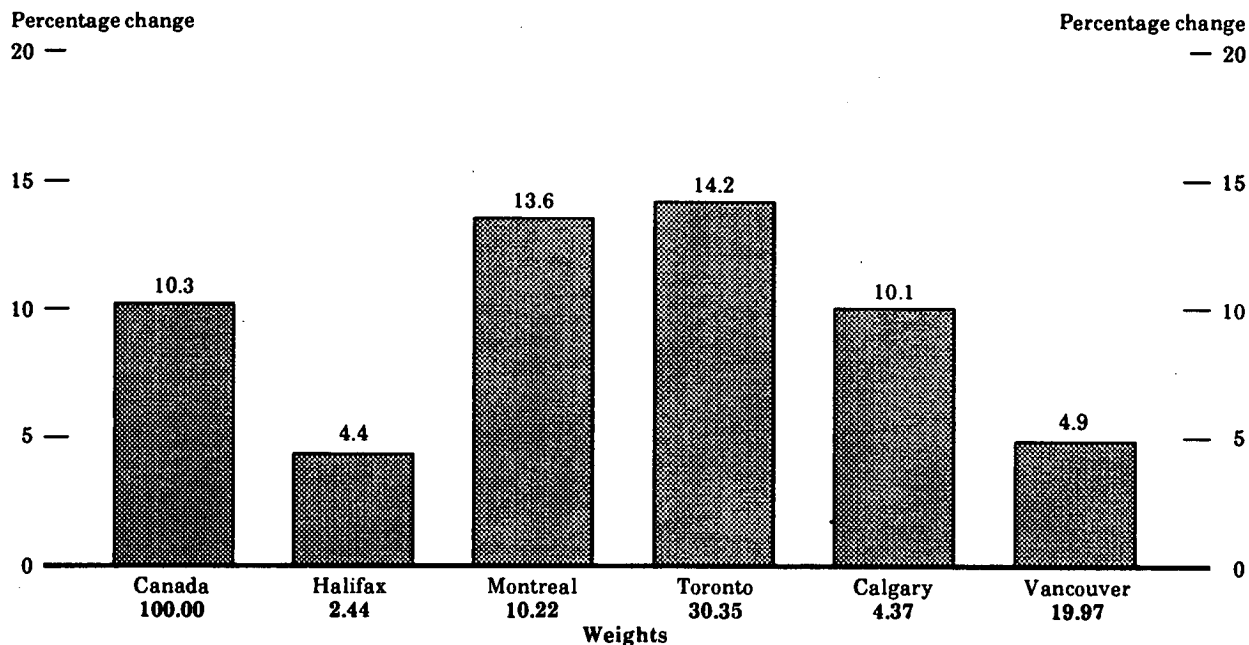
The March 1988 results showed that an estimated 186,000 persons reported that they wanted work but were not seeking it for labour market-related reasons. This compares to 216,000 in March 1987 and a peak of 335,000 in March 1983.

An additional 122,000 persons reported that they wanted a job but remained outside of the labour force last month because of personal and other reasons unrelated to labour market conditions. The corresponding March 1987 estimate was 143,000.

A short note on the March 1988 survey results will appear in the April 1988 issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001), to be released during the week of May 23, 1988. Entitled "Women Wanting Work, But Not Looking Due to Child Care Demands", this note examines the characteristics of this group of persons on the margins of the labour force, including differences with persons in the labour force, and the kinds of jobs they would like to have.

A set of standard tabulations from the March supplementary survey (1979-1988) will be available next week. To obtain a copy, contact Ernest Akyeampong (613-951-4624), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

**Percentage Change in New Housing Price Index from Same Month of the Previous Year, Canada and Selected Cities, February 1988**



**New Housing Price Index  
February 1988**

The New Housing Price Index (1981 = 100) for Canada stood at 124.9 in February, up 1.1% from January. This index of Canadian housing contractors' selling prices now stands 10.3% higher than the year-earlier level. Between January and February, the estimated house only index increased 1.0%, while the estimated land only index increased 1.2%.

Among the cities surveyed, Windsor showed the largest monthly increase (4.0%) in new housing prices, followed by Toronto with an increase of 1.6%. Generally speaking, rising prices were attributed to higher construction costs, which were passed on to buyers, as builders began setting their prices for spring.

Southwestern Ontario cities, together with Montreal and Quebec City maintained yearly

gains that are significantly higher than those experienced by other Canadian cities, with the exception of Calgary and Victoria. In Alberta and British Columbia cities surveyed, despite recent price increases, index levels remained below their 1981 price reference level of 100, with the exception of Calgary, which, at 100.3, is at its highest level since August 1982.

(see table on page 6)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 198.

The first quarter 1988 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Prices Division (613-951-9607).

**New Housing Price Indexes**  
(1981 = 100)

	Weights <sup>1</sup> 1987	Feb. 1988	Jan. 1988	Feb. 1987	% Change	
					Feb. 1988/ Jan. 1988	Feb. 1988/ Feb. 1987
<b>Canada Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>124.9</b>	<b>123.6</b>	<b>113.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>Canada (House only)</b>		<b>131.2</b>	<b>129.9</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Canada (Land only)</b>		<b>114.3</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>13.6</b>
St. John's	0.87	114.2	114.2	112.1	-	1.9
Halifax	2.44	132.0	130.8	126.4	0.9	4.4
Saint John-Moncton	0.98	133.3	133.3	133.3	-	-
Quebec City	2.26	152.7	151.6	141.4	0.7	8.0
Montreal	10.22	163.0	162.0	143.5	0.6	13.6
Ottawa-Hull	5.74	143.2	141.7	133.5	1.1	7.3
Toronto	30.35	155.7	153.3	136.3	1.6	14.2
Hamilton	2.98	171.5	169.8	147.6	1.0	16.2
St. Catharines-Niagara	1.30	164.0	163.2	148.7	0.5	10.3
Kitchener-Waterloo	2.08	169.6	168.1	152.1	0.9	11.5
London	1.58	152.6	152.3	141.4	0.2	7.9
Windsor	0.90	127.9	123.0	119.4	4.0	7.1
Winnipeg	3.11	136.0	135.5	131.9	0.4	3.1
Regina	0.90	118.2	118.2	115.3	-	2.5
Saskatoon	1.30	111.2	111.6	108.8	-0.4	2.2
Calgary	4.37	100.3	99.8	91.1	0.5	10.1
Edmonton	4.86	91.7	91.7	88.0	-	4.2
Vancouver	19.97	79.2	78.4	75.5	1.0	4.9
Victoria	2.79	72.1	72.3	67.4	-0.3	7.0

- Nil or zero.

<sup>1</sup> Surveys in Sudbury and Thunder Bay account for the remaining weight and are secured due to insufficient sample size. The survey has been discontinued in Prince George.

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## Data Availability Announcements

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### Canadian Public Hospitals

First Six Months 1987-88 Fiscal Year

Total expenditures by Canadian public hospitals were estimated at \$8.2 billion for the first six months of the 1987-88 fiscal year, a 7.9% rise over the \$7.6 billion recorded for the same period in 1986-87.

Provincially, the highest increases were in Prince Edward Island (11%), the Northwest Territories (10%), Ontario (10%) and British Columbia (10%), while Alberta (0.3%) and Saskatchewan (1.1%) recorded the lowest increases.

Nationally, total patient-days were down 0.6% in the first half of 1987-88 to 25.2 million from 25.3 million in the first half of 1986-87. Expenses per patient-day rose 8.5% to \$325.58 from \$299.97.

These estimates are based on data reported through the Quarterly Hospital Information System (QHIS) and will be revised as more complete information becomes available.

The April-September 1987 edition of *Quarterly Hospital Information System - Hospital Indicators* (83-002, \$17.25/\$69) will be available by April 30. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact W. Neil Palmer (613-951-8570), Health Care Section, Health Division.

### Residential Care Facilities

1985-86

Preliminary statistics from *Residential Care Facilities* are now available for the 1985/86 reporting year in advance of the publication. This data base is comprised of key data elements relating to the types of facilities and the characteristics of the predominant group of their residents. The variables include: type,

size and ownership of the facility; the level of care given to the residents; revenues and expenditures; staff; as well as age and sex of the residents. The data are compiled by province and facility type and size.

For more detailed information on this release, contact P.J. Paddon (613-951-8782), Health Division.

### Private Trucking

1986

Preliminary data from the 1986 truck use survey are now available.

#### Highlights

- There were 2,676 firms having a fleet size of 15 or more vehicles involved in private trucking. These firms had operating expenses of \$4.1 billion.
- The private trucking industry employed 65,604 full- and part-time personnel in 1986, as well as the services of 4,968 brokers (owner operators).
- The total distance travelled by private truckers was 3.9 billion kilometres, of which only 2.0% was in the United States.
- Almost 91% of the power units were straight trucks, of which 8.5% were leased.

The 1986 issue of *Trucking in Canada* (53-222, \$32) will be available in July. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Ray Forcier (613-951-8700), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division.

## **Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics**

February 1988

Pulpwood receipts amounted to 4 347 842 cubic metres in February 1988, a decrease of 3.2% from 4 491 501 cubic metres a year earlier. Receipts of wood residue totalled 4 466 140 cubic metres, down 0.5% from 4 488 056 cubic metres in February 1987. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue was reported at 8 373 524 cubic metres, an increase of 4.6% from the 8 003 923 cubic metres reported the previous year. The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 19 689 272 cubic metres, an increase of 0.7% from 19 559 941 cubic metres a year earlier.

Year-to-date receipts of pulpwood totalled 8 173 969 cubic metres, a decrease of 8.8% from 8 964 237 cubic metres a year earlier. Receipts of wood residue decreased 4.4% to 8 577 120 cubic metres from the year-earlier level of 8 970 262 cubic metres. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue, at 16 839 878 cubic metres, was up 2.1% from 16 491 601 cubic metres a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The February 1988 issue of *Pulpwood and Wood Residue Statistics* (25-001, \$5/\$50) is scheduled to be released the week of April 18. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division.

## **Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based)** January 1988

Commodity-country import trade statistics based on the Harmonized System (H.S.) are now available for January 1988 on microfiche, computer printouts or magnetic tapes in advance of the monthly publication.

Available on CANSIM (for selected information): matrices 3887-3913.

The January 1988 issue of *Imports by Commodity (H.S. Based)* (65-007, \$50/\$500) will be available the fourth week of April. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information, contact Gordon Blaney (613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

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## Publications Released

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**Labour Force Information, March 1988.**  
**Catalogue number 71-001P**  
(Canada: \$5.50/\$55; Other Countries:  
\$6.50/\$65).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Guelph: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-109**  
(Canada: \$19; Other Countries: \$20).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Hamilton: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-113**  
(Canada: \$26; Other Countries: \$27).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Kamloops: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-115**  
(Canada: \$19; Other Countries: \$20).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Peterborough: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-137**  
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**St. Catharines - Niagara:**  
**Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-147**  
(Canada: \$23; Other Countries: \$24).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Sarnia: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-151**  
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Thunder Bay: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-161**  
(Canada: \$20; Other Countries: \$21).

**Profiles - Census Tracts -**  
**Windsor: Part 1, 1986 Census.**  
**Catalogue number 95-171**  
(Canada: \$21; Other Countries: \$22).

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*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).*

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*A national toll-free telephone order service is now in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.*



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## Major Release Dates: April 11 - 15

(Release dates are subject to change)

Anticipated  
date of  
release

Title

Reference period

### April

11	Estimates of Labour Income	January 1988
11	Farm Product Price Index	February 1988
12	Housing Starts	February 1988
12	Building Permits	January 1988
13	Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area	February 1988
14	New Motor Vehicle Sales	February 1988
14	Help-wanted Index	March 1988
15	The Consumer Price Index	March 1988

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### Statistics Canada's Official Release Bulletin for Statistical Information

Catalogue 11-001E. Price: Canada \$100/year; other countries \$125/year

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Statistics Canada, 3-O, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa K1A 0T6.

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Editor: Deanna Jamieson (613-951-1198)

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