

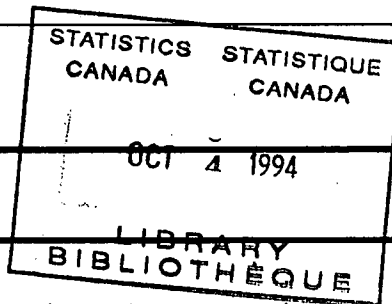


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, October 4, 1994

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MAJOR RELEASES

The gender earnings gap among recent graduates

The gap between the earnings of male and female post-secondary graduates has narrowed in recent years. In fact, among the 1990 class, female university graduates earned slightly more than their male counterparts in terms of average hourly wages.

However, in terms of yearly earnings, female graduates earned 9% less than their male counterparts in 1992. This gap in annual earnings can be attributed to job-related characteristics of men and women.

For example, among full-time workers, university-educated women worked an average of nearly three fewer hours a week than men. In addition, more men graduated with advanced degrees or graduated from high-earnings fields of study. In 1990, women received 56% of all university undergraduate degrees, less than half of master's degrees and just over one-third of doctorates.

In terms of average annual earnings, university-educated women earned less than men in each class, but the gap shrank over time. Women earned 9% less than men in 1992, compared with 13% less in 1984.

The earnings gap shrank in most fields of study, industries and occupations. Within each class, women with doctorates earned as much as similarly qualified men.

The earnings gap has shrunk over time. Nevertheless, it is larger for older women than for older men within each graduating class, even after accounting for differences in prior full-time work experience and the presence of children.

While it is possible that discrimination against women exists, this study suggests that it is not widespread or systemic among recent university graduates.

The gender earnings gap is wider for community college graduates

The gap between the earnings of men and women who graduated from community colleges was slightly wider than that of university graduates. On average, female community college graduates earned

Note to users

This study of the earnings gap between male and female post-secondary graduates is based on surveys of the graduating classes of universities and community colleges in 1982, 1986 and 1990. Graduates are interviewed two years and five years after graduation. The surveys gather information on the graduates' current job, on their labour-market experiences since graduation, and on their post-secondary education. The study was sponsored by Human Resources Development Canada.

10% less than their male counterparts in 1992; this compares with 16% less in 1984. The earnings gap shrank in most fields of study, industries and occupations.

However, the number of hours worked by female community college graduates was also a major contributing factor in the earnings gap. Among graduates working full-time, women worked an average four hours a week fewer than men worked. So the 1990 hourly wage gap was about 3.5%, which compares with a yearly earnings gap of about 10%.

Women comprised the majority of community college graduates, accounting for at least 55% of each graduating class. Men were concentrated in technology-based fields of study. Women were concentrated in applied arts, humanities and nursing.

The different characteristics of men and women, such as field of study, accounted for nearly all of the gender earnings gap among university graduates. But the different characteristics were not a factor in the gender earnings gap for community college graduates. Instead, the community-college gap was due entirely to different earnings for men and women with like characteristics. The greatest such difference related to age—the gap was greater among older graduates than among younger graduates.

Analytical Studies Branch research paper no. 68: the gender earnings gap among recent post-secondary graduates, 1984-1992 is available today. To receive a copy, contact Carmela Giampaolo (613-957-9016, fax: 613-957-2698), Human Resources Development Canada.

For further information on this release, contact Ted Wannell (613-951-3546) or Nathalie Caron (613-951-4629), Statistics Canada. ■

The class of 1990: visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples and persons with activity limitations

In 1992, Aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with activity limitations earned about the same as other 1990 graduates of universities and community colleges. However, all were less likely to find a job after graduation.

Among community college graduates, the unemployment rate was 22% for Aboriginal peoples and 19% for persons with activity limitations. This compares with 13% for the entire class.

Aboriginal peoples are underrepresented among graduates

Aboriginal peoples are underrepresented among post-secondary graduates. Their share of the 1991 population was 3.8%. But in 1990 only 1.2% of university graduates and only 2.8% of community college graduates were Aboriginal peoples. Similarly, Aboriginal peoples represented only 0.5% of advanced degree holders at universities.

Aboriginal peoples earned virtually the same as other graduates in 1992; and among university graduates their employment situation was about the same. However, among community college graduates Aboriginal peoples had a far tougher time getting a job after graduating. The unemployment rate was particularly high for Aboriginal community-college graduates (22%), almost twice that of others in their class.

Graduates with activity limitations are less likely to look for and find a job

The unemployment rate for graduates with activity limitations was about 50% higher than for other 1990 grads. Among community college graduates, 19% of those with activity limitations were unemployed, compared with 13% of their classmates. Activity-limited university graduates had an unemployment rate of 14%, compared with a rate of 10% for others in their class.

Note to users

A study released today examines the early labour market experiences of visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and persons with activity limitations who graduated from universities and community colleges in 1990. The study used data from the 1992 national graduates survey and was sponsored by Human Resources Development Canada. Population figures are from the 1991 Census.

The activity-limited were less likely to seek a job. Their rate of participation in the labour force was 87% among community college graduates and 89% among university graduates. The comparable rates were 96% for other community college grads and 93% for other university grads.

Overall, activity-limited community college and university graduates earned 7% less and 1.5% less, respectively, than others in their graduating classes. However, these differences were not significant after accounting for other factors such as degree level and field of study.

Higher unemployment but similar salaries for visible minority graduates

Visible minorities had more difficulty finding jobs than other graduates. The unemployment rate among visible-minority community college graduates was 17%, compared with 13% for others. Similarly, 14% of visible-minority university graduates were unemployed, compared with 10% of their classmates.

The earnings of visible minorities were similar to the earnings of others in the class of 1990. Visible-minority university graduates earned 2% more and visible-minority community college graduates earned 2% less than other grads.

Analytical Studies Branch research paper no. 69: a look at employment equity groups among recent post-secondary graduates—visible minorities, aboriginal peoples and the activity-limited is available today. To obtain a copy, contact Carmela Giampaolo (613-957-9016, fax: 613-957-2698), Human Resources Development Canada.

For further information on this release, contact Ted Wannell (613-951-3546) or Nathalie Caron (613-951-4629), Statistics Canada. ■

Building permits

August 1994

A sharp drop in applications for multi-family construction led to an overall 5.1% decline in the value of building permits issued by municipalities in August. Despite this decline, the total value of building permits to date has outpaced last year's by almost 8%, thus continuing the pattern of growth that started in the later part of 1993.

Sales of new homes reached a four-year low in July, prompting an increase in the inventory of unsold homes for the first time in four months. This apparently took its toll on planned residential projects for August, when the total value of projected residential construction decreased 8.0% from July. The value of non-residential permits was virtually unchanged.

Overall, the municipalities issued \$2,325 million in building permits in August, a drop of \$126 million.

Despite the month's setback, the value for residential construction permits for the first eight months of 1994 was up almost 10% over the same period last year. Similarly, municipalities have issued 3.8% more non-residential building permits so far this year.

Multi-family housing construction intentions are slowing down

For the second consecutive month, the value for planned residential projects declined (-8.0%). August's hefty decline came principally from multi-family housing permits, which plummeted 19.3% from July. The decline in multi-family housing construction intentions was wholly attributable to a 38% drop in the value of apartment permits. The slowdown for this type of dwelling, which had peaked in the first quarter of 1994, was observed in all regions in August.

From January to August 1994, the value of planned residential projects was 9.9% higher than for the same period last year. The rise was reflected in all regions, notably British Columbia (+14.3%) and Ontario (+14.2%). Both the single-family (+10.9%) and multi-family (+7.6%) dwelling construction intentions contributed to the significant improvement in the 1994 residential intentions.

In terms of authorized dwelling units, the annualized number issued in August reached 145,300 units, down 11.3% from July. Despite two back-to-back decreases, the January to July 1994 total number of authorized dwellings was 5.1% higher than for the same period in 1993. The recent slowdown in

Note to users

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The building and demolitions permits monthly survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 93% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 7% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

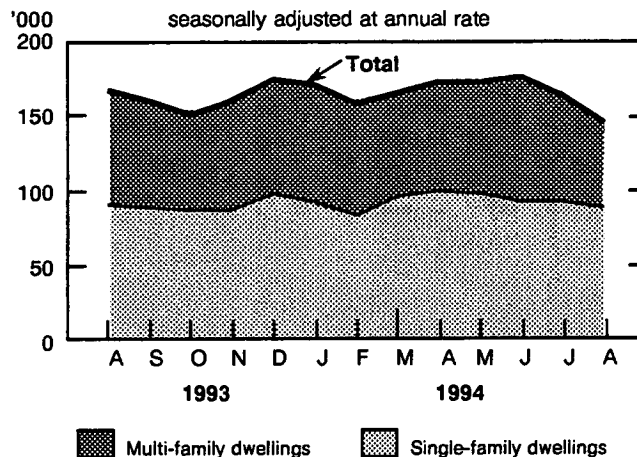
The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g. waterworks, sewers, culverts, etc.) and land.

The number of units authorized refers to the number of dwellings on which municipalities have permitted construction to start.

The annual rate is a monthly figure that has been seasonally adjusted and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels.

residential construction intentions has started to be reflected in the latest Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation annualized housing starts, which were down 3.1% in August to 148,600 dwelling units.

Dwelling units authorized dropped to 145,300 in August

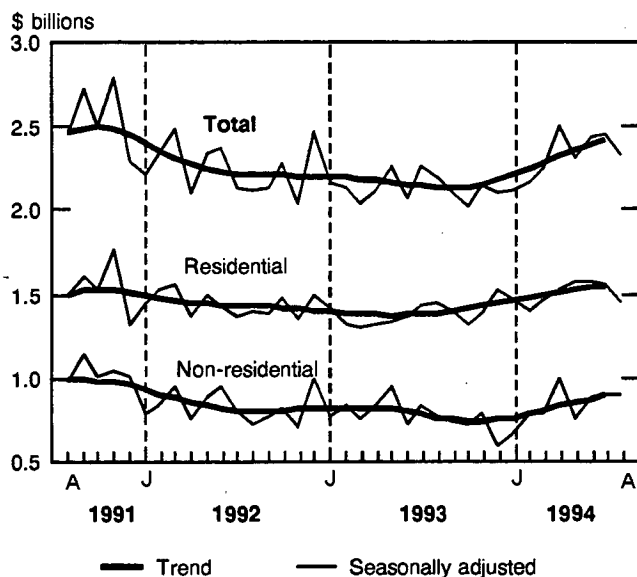


Non-residential construction intentions are firming up

The value of non-residential permits remained virtually unchanged (-0.1%) from July, as declines in industrial construction intentions (-26.5%) offset gains in planned institutional (+16.7%) and commercial (+2.2%) construction.

Despite August's drop, the year-over-year growth in value for the first eight months of 1994 jumped to 3.8%, doubling the 1.9% advance recorded for the first seven months of 1994. A marked increase in planned commercial (+12.7%) and industrial (+11.3%) projects outstripped a significant drop in institutional (-12.0%) intentions.

The value of non-residential construction intentions is strengthening



For January to August 1994, planned renovation activities (+10.1%)—accounting for half the non-residential construction intentions—contributed most to the 3.8% year-over-year advance of the total sector. By contrast, projected non-residential new building construction was down 1.9%. For January to August 1994, planned industrial renovation projects, notably in factories and plants, jumped 46.2% compared to the same period in 1993. Refurbishing of warehouses accounted for most of a 16.7% increase in the commercial sector's renovation intentions. This coincides with the 2.6% rise in

capacity utilization reported by goods-producing firms for the second quarter of 1994.

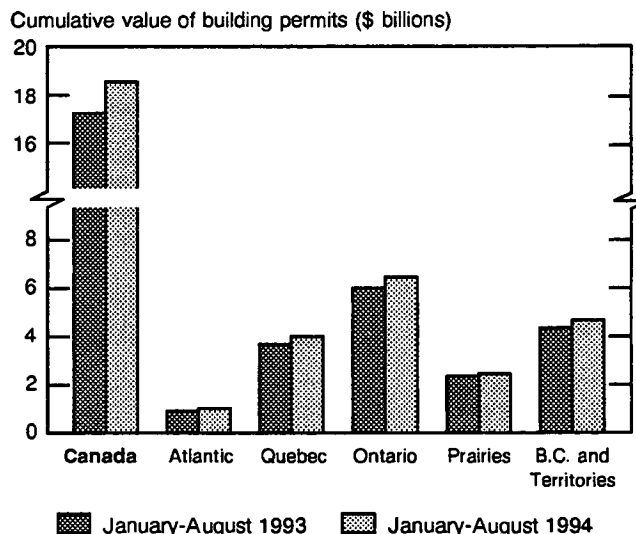
Ontario and British Columbia are above the 1994 national average

The month-to-month decrease in the total value of building permits came from all regions, particularly from the Prairies (-13.3%) and British Columbia (-6.9%).

By contrast, for January to August 1994, the value of all permits climbed in all regions compared to the same period in 1993. Ontario (+8.9%) and British Columbia (+8.7%) contributed most to the total increase, bettering the national average change (+7.7%).

Ontario residential builders planned more single-family dwelling (+15.5%) construction than did those in British Columbia, where multi-family dwelling (+20.6%) construction intentions predominated.

Ontario and British Columbia are leading in 1994



Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The August 1994 issue of *Building permits* (64-001, \$24/\$240) will be released on October 12th. The September building permits estimate will be released on November 3rd.

For further statistics, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-2583). For further analytical information, contact Nathalie Léveillé (613-951-2025), Current Investment Indicators Section, Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Value of building permits

Regions and types of construction	August 1993	May 1994	June 1994	July 1994	August 1994	August 1993 to August 1994	July 1994 to August 1994
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions				% change		
Canada	2,188	2,310	2,442	2,451	2,325	6.3	-5.1
Residential	1,432	1,561	1,565	1,556	1,431	0.0	-8.0
Non-residential	756	749	878	895	894	18.2	-0.1
Atlantic	114	128	123	119	115	0.6	-3.9
Residential	80	81	81	80	76	-5.2	-5.4
Non-residential	34	46	42	39	39	14.1	-0.7
Quebec	444	477	526	497	492	10.7	-1.1
Residential	273	289	290	289	267	-2.1	-7.7
Non-residential	171	188	237	208	225	31.3	8.1
Ontario	747	782	801	896	868	16.2	-3.1
Residential	480	544	539	563	551	14.8	-2.1
Non-residential	267	237	262	333	317	18.8	-4.8
Prairies	314	364	364	351	304	-3.2	-13.3
Residential	207	205	206	187	169	-18.7	-9.6
Non-residential	107	159	158	164	135	26.9	-17.6
British Columbia¹	570	560	628	588	547	-4.0	-6.9
Residential	392	441	450	437	369	-5.9	-15.6
Non-residential	177	118	179	150	178	0.2	18.3

¹ Building permits issued for the Yukon and the Northwest Territories are included in the British Columbia region.

Note: data may not add to totals due to rounding.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending September 14, 1994

The number of railway cars loaded in Canada during the seven-day period increased 10.7% from the year-earlier period; revenue-freight loaded increased 14.6% to 5.1 million tonnes.

Piggyback traffic tonnage, which is included in total carload traffic, increased 13.8% during the same period.

Tonnage of revenue-freight loaded as of September 14, 1994 increased 7.7% from the previous year.

Cumulative data for 1993 and 1994 have been revised.

For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

Railway operating statistics

June 1994

The seven selected railways reported a net \$55.0 million gain in June 1994. Operating revenues totalled \$669.1 million, a 10.2% increase from June 1993.

Revenue-freight tonne-kilometres increased 15.6% for the same period.

Year-to-date operating revenues increased 6.7% from the same period of 1993.

Data for 1993 and previous years have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 142.

The June 1994 issue of *Railway operating statistics* (52-003, \$12/\$120) will be released later.

For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Transportation Division. ■

Cement

August 1994

Manufacturers shipped 1 264 189 tonnes of cement in August 1994, up 17.2% from 1 078 911 tonnes in August 1993 and up 12.2% from 1 127 146 tonnes in July 1994.

For January to August 1994, shipments totalled 6 552 703^r (revised) tonnes, up 14.0% from 5 747 602^r tonnes during the same period in 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 (series 1.1 and 1.2) and 122 (series 35).

The August 1994 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■



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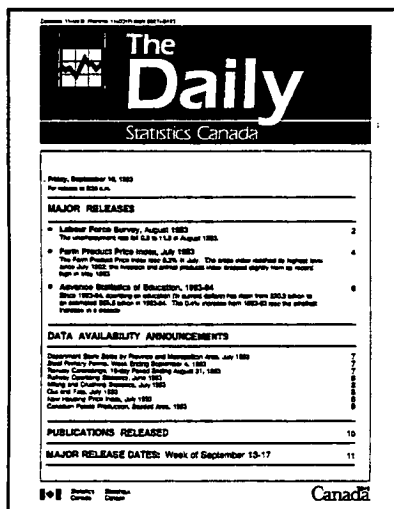
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