

# Statistics Canada

Thursday, October 6, 1994 For release at 8:30 a.m.

STATISTICS CANADA

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**MAJOR RELEASES** 

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Help-wanted Index, September 1994

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Estimates of production of principal field crops, September 1994 Producers anticipate a record harvest of canola and soybeans this year and increased production of flaxseed, durum wheat and oats. Decreases are expected in spring wheat and barley.

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### Construction price statistics

Second quarter 1994

Construction price statistics presents a quarterly roundup of price indexes relating to the construction industry's inputs and outputs and to capital expenditures made by all industries in Canada. It contains tabular data for four recent years, technical notes on important concepts and practices, contact names and phone numbers. It also serves as a reference on historical, electronic and related series.

This compendia of price measures will prove valuable to analysts engaged in economic and financial analyses-including cost assessments for fixed asset Investments, appraisals or asset revaluations, contract escalations, monitoring or restating construction budgets, and productivity studies.

The second quarter 1994 issue of Construction price statistics 007, \$19/\$76) was released yesterday. See "How to order (62-007, \$19/\$76) was released yesterday. publications".

For further information on this release, contact Les Graham (613-951-9615, fax: 613-951-2848), Capital Expenditures Prices Section, Prices Division.

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### **MAJOR RELEASES**

## Help-wanted index

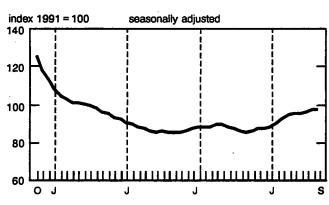
September 1994

The help-wanted index, compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 metropolitan areas, remained unchanged at 97 in September. This follows an upward trend that started a year earlier.

In September 1993, the seasonally adjusted index for Canada (1991 = 100) fell to 85. Since then it has gained 14%. Commonly, increases in the helpwanted index are followed by decreases in the unemployment rate. Between September 1993 and August 1994, the unemployment rate dropped from 11.2% to 10.3%.

### Remaining unchanged in September, the helpwanted index has made gains over the past year

**Help-wanted index** 





Before the last recession, the help-wanted index reached a peak of 215 in March 1989. It then fell to 85 in August 1992. Throughout 1993 it changed only little.

### The index made gains in three regions

Between August and September 1994, the help-wanted index increased 2% in the Prairie provinces. Since the start of the year the index advanced 14%. In Ontario it increased 1% in September, but the 16% gain since January is the strongest of all regions. In the Atlantic provinces the index also gained 1% in September; and it has gained 8% there since the start of the year.

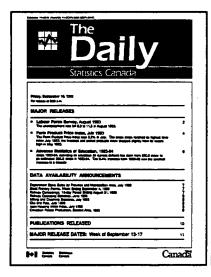
In Quebec the help-wanted index remained unchanged at 99 in September. This is still down from the peak of 101 recorded in April. In British Columbia the index declined for the fourth consecutive month. The drop to 84 in September left the index at the same level as in January 1994.

### Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8-10).

Help-wanted indexes for metropolitan areas surveyed and trend-cycle estimates are available on request.

For further information on this release, contact André Picard (613-951-4045) or Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087).

(1991 = 100)	September 1993	July 1994	August 1994	September 1994	September 1993 to September 1994	August 1994 to September 1994	
,	seasonally adjusted						
					9	6 change	
Canada	85	96	<b>97</b> `	97	14	0	
Atlantic provinces	83	. 93	95	96	16	1	
Quebec	90	98	99	99	10	0	
Ontario	83	98	100	101	22	1	
Prairies provinces	83	94	94	96	16	2	
British Columbia	83	87	85	84	1	-1	



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# Estimates of production of principal field crops

September 1994

Producers anticipate a record harvest of canola and soybeans this year and increased production of flaxseed, durum wheat and oats. Decreases are expected in spring wheat and barley. The recent shifting of crop areas away from wheat and into oilseeds and other alternative crops is primarily responsible for these production changes.

The results presented in this report are based on a producer survey conducted between September 10 and September 16, 1994, and do not take into account weather conditions that occurred after that seven-day period.

### Canola and flaxseed

Due to a record seeded area, producers expect to harvest a record canola crop of 7.4 million tonnes, a 34.8% increase over last year's record production of 5.5 million tonnes.

If early yield estimates are realized at harvest, flaxseed production could increase by 46.6% to 920 thousand tonnes, which would be the highest production level since 1986, when production hit 991 thousand tonnes. An increase in seeded area and the potential for good yields are the main reasons for the expected production increase.

### Wheat

Since seeded area and expected yield are both down, producers will harvest a spring wheat crop of only 17.2 million tonnes this year, a 25.6% drop from

last year's production of 23.1 million tonnes and the lowest level since 1988, when production fell to 12.6 million tonnes.

Despite an expected decrease in yield, durum wheat production could increase 38.7% to 4.7 million tonnes because of the increase in seeded area.

Because both seeded area and expected yield are up, winter wheat production could almost double this year, reaching 1.3 million tonnes.

### Oats and barley

Producers expect oats production to increase by only 5.7% this year, reaching a potential production of 3.8 million tonnes.

Barley production is expected to fall this year due both to a decrease in area and to potentially lower yields. Production may only reach 11.7 million tonnes, a 9.7% decrease from last year's 13.0 million tonnes.

### Soybeans

Producers in Eastern Canada are about to harvest a record soybean crop. Production is estimated at 2.2 million tonnes, a 19.6% increase over last year's record output of 1.9 million tonnes. The increased production results mainly from an increase in harvested area.

Field crop reporting series no. 7: September estimates of production of principal field crops, Canada, 1994 (22-002, \$15/\$85) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Tony Dupuis (613-951-0572) or Oliver Code (613-951-8719), Crops Section, Agriculture Division.

### DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Steel primary forms

Week ending October 1, 1994 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 1, 1994 totalled 250 618 tonnes, down 5.5% from the week-earlier 265 156 tonnes and down 4.4% from the year-earlier 262 168 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 10 305 672 tonnes, a 4.2% decrease from 10 761 575 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division.

### Steel primary forms

August 1994

Steel primary forms production for August 1994 totalled 1 145 111 tonnes, a 7.0% decrease from 1 230 867 tonnes the previous year.

Year-to-date production to the end of August 1994 reached 9 105 130 tonnes, down 4.8% from 9 565 929 tonnes a year earlier.

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

The August 1994 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division.

# **Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins August 1994**

Chemical firms produced 170215 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in August 1994, a 15.4% increase from 147 499r (revised) tonnes in August 1993.

For January to August 1994, production totalled 1 224 233<sup>r</sup> tonnes, up 7.9% from 1 134 612<sup>r</sup> tonnes a year earlier.

Data are also available on production of three other types of synthetic resins and of 24 industrial chemicals for August 1993 and August 1994.

### Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The August 1994 issue of *Industrial chemicals* and synthetic resins (46-002, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division.

### **PUBLICATIONS RELEASED**

Field crop reporting series no. 7: September estimates of production of principal field crops, Canada. 1994.

Catalogue number 22-002

(Canada: \$15/\$85; United States: US\$18/US\$102; other countries: US\$21/US\$119).

The dairy review, July 1994. Catalogue number 23-001

(Canada: \$14/\$138; United States: US\$17/US\$166; other countries: US\$20/US\$194).

Crude petroleum and natural gas production, June 1994.

Catalogue number 26-006

(Canada: \$11/\$110; United States: US\$14/US\$132; other countries: US\$16/US\$154).

Aviation service bulletin, September 1994, vol. 26, no. 9.

Catalogue number 51-004

(Canada: \$10/\$99; United States: US\$12/US\$119;

other countries: US\$14/US\$139).

**Labour force Information**, for the week ended September 17, 1994.

Catalogue number 71-001P

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120;

other countries: US\$14/US\$140).

Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, October 7th.

Employment, earnings and hours, June 1994. Catalogue number 72-002

(Canada: \$29/\$285; United States: US\$35/US\$342;

other countries: US\$40/US\$399).

Tuberculosis statistics, 1992. Catalogue number 82-220

(Canada: \$20; United States: US\$24; other countries: US\$28).

Hospital statistics: preliminary annual report, 1992-93.

Catalogue number 83-241

(Canada: \$15; United States: US\$18; other countries: US\$21).

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