



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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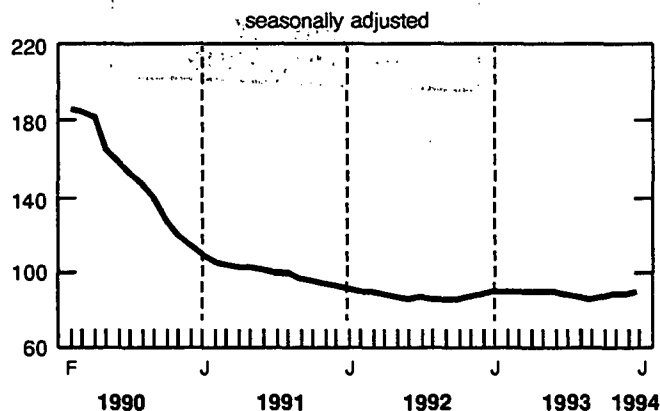
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Help-wanted Index

January 1994

Seasonally adjusted, the Help-wanted Index (1991 = 100) for Canada advanced by a slight 1% to 88 in January. The index increased in all regions except the Prairie provinces, where it remained unchanged.

#### Help-wanted index (1991 = 100)



After cresting at 215 in March 1989, the Help-wanted Index declined until June 1992, when it bottomed out at 85. Throughout the rest of 1992, the index changed only slightly. But by early 1993 it reached 89. Following a drop to 85 in September 1993, the index made modest gains—reaching 88 in January 1994.

#### Regional changes

In the Atlantic provinces, the Help-wanted Index reached a peak in May 1989 at 183—its highest level since 1981. It then generally declined until May 1992, when it fell to 82. Since then, the Atlantic provinces' index has made modest gains. Between December 1993 and January 1994, it advanced 3% to 89.

#### Note to users

The Help-wanted Index serves as an early indicator of changes in the demand for labour by monitoring the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 major metropolitan areas.

All seasonally adjusted indexes have been revised. Revision is a standard procedure when data for a complete calendar year become available. In addition, the seasonally adjusted indexes have been smoothed to make interpretations of month-to-month variations and trends easier.

The revised series (starting with January 1981) and a description of the smoothing technique will be published in May in Help-wanted Index, 1981-1993 (71-540). The revised data for Canada and the five regions are now available on CANSIM or may be ordered for \$35 by fax or on diskette. For more information, contact Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039).

The Quebec index reached its highest level (212) since 1981 in March 1989. By October 1992 it fell to 85. In 1993, the index increased slightly. Between December 1993 and January 1994, it advanced 1% to 94.

In January 1988, Ontario's Help-wanted Index peaked at 279—its highest level since 1981. By September 1993, it fell to 83. Since then, the index has made modest gains, advancing 2% to 87 between December 1993 and January 1994.

The index for the Prairie provinces stood at 174 in September 1989 (it was at 224 in June 1981). It fell to 80 in July 1992; since then, it recovered to 84 in both December 1993 and January 1994.

The Help-wanted Index for British Columbia reached 169 in November 1989, its highest level since 1981. By October 1993, it fell to 82; but in January 1994 it advanced moderately to 84 (+2%).

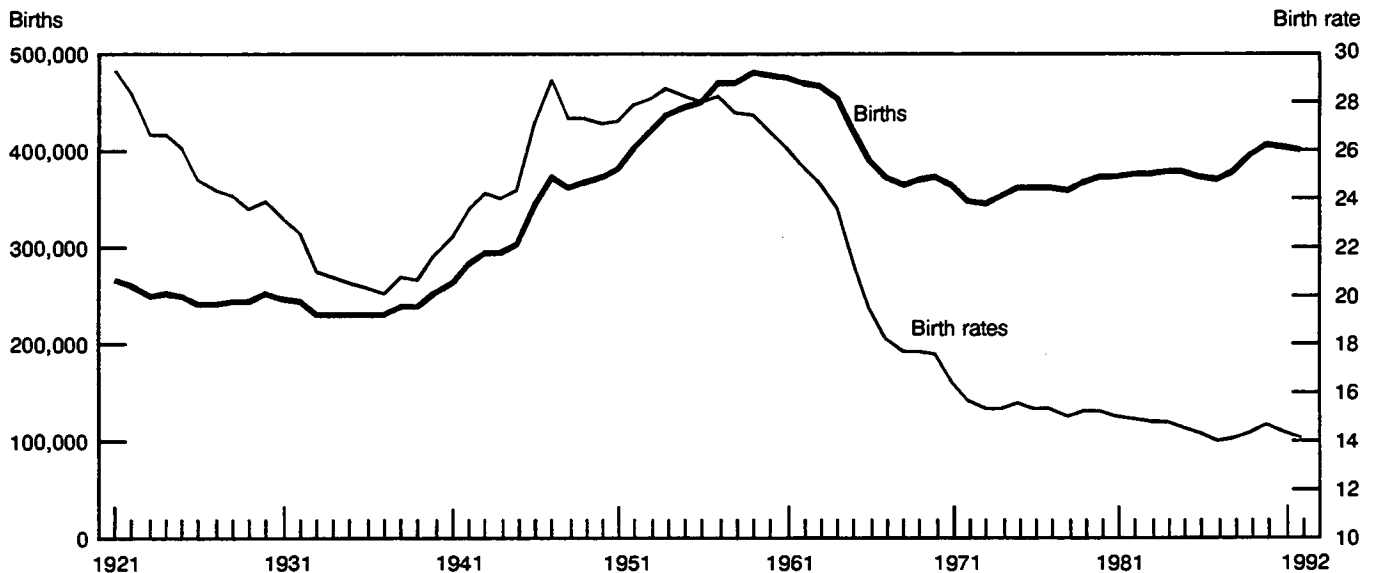
**Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8-10).**

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

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

**Help-wanted index**  
(1991 = 100)

	January 1993	November 1993	December 1993	January 1994	January 1993 to January 1994	December 1993 to January 1994
	seasonally adjusted				% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Atlantic provinces	94	87	86	89	-5	3
Quebec	88	93	93	94	7	1
Ontario	87	86	85	87	0	2
Prairie provinces	83	83	84	84	1	0
British Columbia	87	82	82	84	-3	2

Number of births and crude birth rates<sup>1</sup>, Canada, 1921-1992

<sup>1</sup> Number of live births per 1,000 population.

## Births in Canada

1992

The number of births in Canada declined slightly in 1992, to just under 400,000. The total fertility rate (the number of children a woman can expect to have in her lifetime based on the age-specific fertility rates of a given year) remained at 1.71, as in 1990 and 1991.

Birth rates for women aged 30 and over continued to increase in 1992, as rates for women aged 30-34 and 35-39 rose by 2%, while the rate for the 40-44 age group rose by 9%. By contrast, there was no change in the birth rate for women aged 25-29, and the rates for the 15-19 and 20-24 age groups declined by 1% and 3% respectively.

### Provincial and territorial birth rates

The distribution in the number of births by province and territory in 1992 was virtually unchanged from 1991, as the slight declines observed nationally occurred across all regions of the country. The 1992

provincial crude birth rates (number of births per 1,000 population) were lowest in Newfoundland (11.9 per 1,000), New Brunswick (12.5) and Nova Scotia (12.9). Crude birth rates were highest in the Prairie provinces: Alberta (16.0), Manitoba (14.9) and Saskatchewan (14.9). All of these rates were much lower than the birth rates in the Northwest Territories (24.9) and the Yukon (17.5).

### International comparisons

Canada's total fertility rate (1.71 children per woman in 1992) is higher than for most countries of the European Economic Community, except for France (1.77), the United Kingdom (1.82) and Ireland (2.18). The lowest rates in Europe are in Italy (1.26) and Spain (1.28). Canada's fertility rate is also lower than the rates for Australia (1.91), the United States (2.01) and New Zealand (2.18). The total fertility rate for most of these countries is below 2.10, the level at which a generation is able to replace itself. The rates for countries other than Canada are for 1991 (see *Canada Year Book*, 1994).

### A 10-year perspective

In the early 1980s, births in Canada numbered just over 370,000. The number of births remained below 380,000 until 1989 and 1990, when a peak of 405,000 births was reached. Since then the level has declined slightly, to just under 400,000 for 1992. Over the last 10 years, the increase in births has translated into an increase in the total fertility rate—from 1.64 in 1982 to 1.71 in 1992. However, because the total population has been increasing at a faster

rate than the number of women in their childbearing years, the crude birth rate has actually decreased—from 14.8 in 1982 to 14.0 in 1992.

The 1992 issue of *Births* (84-210, \$20) will be released in the coming months.

For further information on statistics, contact the Information Requests Unit (613-951-1746). For analytical information, contact Rosemary Bender (613-951-1764), Canadian Centre for Health Information.

### Births and birth rates<sup>1</sup> by province and territory

	Births			Crude birth rate		
	1992	1991	1982	1992	1991	1982
Canada	398,642	402,528	373,082	14.0	14.3	14.8
Newfoundland	6,918	7,166	9,173	11.9	12.4	15.9
Prince Edward Island	1,850	1,885	1,924	14.2	14.4	15.5
Nova Scotia	11,874	12,016	12,325	12.9	13.1	14.3
New Brunswick	9,389	9,497	10,489	12.5	12.7	14.8
Quebec	96,146	97,310	90,800	13.4	13.7	13.8
Ontario	150,593	151,478	124,856	14.2	14.5	13.9
Manitoba	16,590	17,282	16,123	14.9	15.5	15.4
Saskatchewan	15,004	15,304	17,722	14.9	15.2	17.9
Alberta	42,039	42,776	45,036	16.0	16.5	18.9
British Columbia	46,156	45,612	42,747	13.4	13.5	14.8
Yukon	529	568	525	17.5	19.6	21.3
Northwest Territories	1,554	1,634	1,362	24.9	26.7	27.2

<sup>1</sup> Number of live births per 1,000 population.

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Steel Primary Forms

Week Ending January 29, 1994 (Preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending January 29, 1994 totalled 235 616 tonnes, up 1.3% from the week-earlier 232 501 tonnes but down 15.6% from the year-earlier 279 074 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 1 003 138 tonnes, a 8.3% decrease from 1 093 707 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

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

### Average Prices of Selected Farm Inputs

January 1994

Average prices of selected farm inputs for January 1994 are now available by geographic region.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 550-582.

For further information, contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9606), Prices Division. ■

### Apartment Construction Price Index

Fourth Quarter 1993

The Apartment Construction Price Index (1986 = 100) is now available for the fourth quarter of 1993. The seven-city composite index rose 0.3% in the fourth quarter of 1993 and rose 1.6% from a year earlier, to 117.9.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2046.

The fourth quarter 1993 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$18/\$72) will be available in March. See "How to Order Publications".

For information on this release, please contact the Information and Current Analysis Unit (613-951-9607), Prices Division. ■

### Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products

Fourth Quarter 1993

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products totalled \$16.0 million for the fourth quarter 1993, a 4.0% increase from \$15.3 million for the fourth quarter of 1992. Data on the number of units shipped are also now available.

The fourth quarter 1993 issue of *Shipments of Solid Fuel-burning Heating Products* (25-002, \$4.75/\$19) will be available at a later date.

For detailed information on this release, contact Keith Martin (613-951-3518), Industry Division. ■

### Cement

December 1993

Manufacturers shipped 543 506 tonnes of cement in December 1993, up 19.0% from 456 768<sup>r</sup> (revised) tonnes in December 1992 but down 35.8% from 846 137<sup>r</sup> tonnes in November 1993.

For January to December 1993, shipments totalled 9 393 581<sup>r</sup> tonnes, up 9.3% from 8 593 399<sup>r</sup> tonnes during the same period in 1992.

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

The December 1993 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

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

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Cereals and Oilseeds Review**, November 1993.

**Catalogue number 22-007**

(Canada: \$13.80/\$138; United States: US\$16.60/  
US\$166; Other Countries: US\$19.30/US\$193).

**The Sugar Situation**, December 1993.

**Catalogue number 32-013**

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;  
Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

**Rigid Insulating Board (Wood Fibre Products)**,  
December 1993.

**Catalogue number 36-002**

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60; Other  
Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

**Gypsum Products**, December 1993.

**Catalogue number 44-003**

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;  
Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

**Asphalt Roofing**, December 1993.

**Catalogue number 45-001**

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;  
Other Countries: US\$7/US\$70).

**Summary of Canadian International Trade**,  
November 1993.

**Catalogue number 65-001**

(Canada: \$18.20/\$182; United States: US\$21.80/  
US\$218; Other Countries: US\$25.50/US\$255).

**Labour Force Information**, January 1994.

**Catalogue number 71-001P**

(Canada: \$6.30/\$63; United States: US\$7.60/US\$76;  
Other Countries: US\$8.80/US\$88).

**Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 4.**

**Pension Plans in Canada**, January 1, 1992.

**Catalogue number 74-401**

(Canada: \$39; United States: US\$47;  
Other Countries: US\$55).

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Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.



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