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Thursday, April 28, 1994 For release at 8:30 a.m.	ଲ ୯ ଖ ଛଠ 1994	
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MAJOR RELEASES

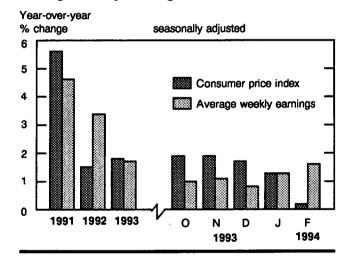
Employment, earnings and hours

February 1994 (preliminary)

Seasonally adjusted payroll employment was virtually unchanged in February at 9,934,000, continuing the trend of the preceding five months. Moderate cutbacks by manufacturers (-9,000), wholesalers and retailers (-11,000), and construction employers (-5,000) were partly offset by employment gains in business services (+8,000), finance, insurance and real estate (+6,000), and mining, quarrying and oil wells (+3,000).

Mirroring the sluggish employment performance, average weekly hours for employees paid by the hour declined slightly (-0.1%). For the five months to February, average weekly hours have alternated between 30.6 and 30.7 hours.

Average weekly earnings



Average weekly earnings rose for the fourth consecutive month (+0.3%) to stand at \$565.33 in February. Despite the recent monthly increases, average weekly earnings were up only 1.5% from February 1993. The longer-term trend in earnings has continued to show smaller increases since the

Note to users

The survey of employment, payrolls and hours covers all industries except agriculture, fishing and trapping, religious organizations, private households and defence services.

growth rate peaked at 6.4% in September 1989. February's most substantial year-over-year earnings growth was reported in finance, insurance and real estate (+7.0%). All of the remaining major industry groups recorded growth of less than 3.0%, with average weekly earnings actually decreasing in the mining, quarrying, oil well, and construction industries.

The public-sector industries of health and social services and educational and related services, as well as public administration, all reported earnings increases of 1.0% or less as effects of budgetary restrictions continued to restrain average weekly earnings growth.

Industry summaries

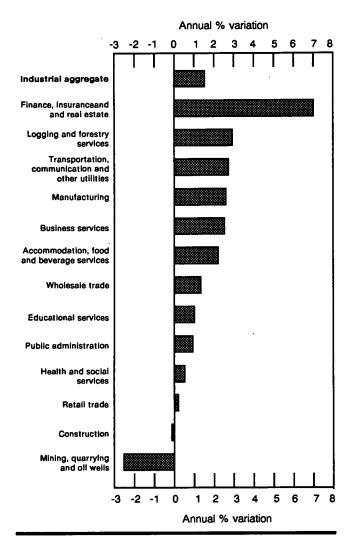
Small employment declines in manufacturing

The number of paid employees in manufacturing fell by 9,000 in February, despite a partial return from layoff of automotive manufacturing employees at General Motors and the return of INCO employees in Ontario. The declines were concentrated in textile products, food, printing, publishing and allied industries. The reduction was most pronounced in Quebec, where manufacturers reduced employment by 6,300. This continued a trend for manufacturers in Quebec, where employment has dropped by 17,600 since September 1993.

Wholesale and retail trade employment sluggish

Both the wholesale and the retail trade industries recorded employment declines in February. For retail trade this continued a trend of declines that has persisted for the six latest months despite some growth in retail sales over this period. Wholesale trade employment has fallen in three of the four latest months. These declines were widespread within the wholesale and retail trade industries.

Average weekly earnings, February 1993 to February 1994, seasonally adjusted



Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia accounted for the majority of employment lost in trade. Trade employment in Ontario decreased in eight of the nine latest months, accounting for a net loss of 58,000 employees.

Construction employment, earnings and paid hours continue to slide

Employment in construction declined for the third consecutive month, resulting in 14,000 fewer employees since November 1993. This contrasts with the first 11 months of 1993 when, despite

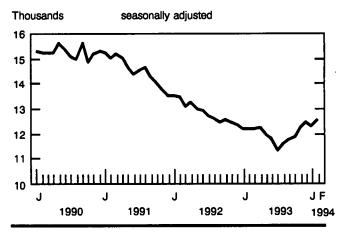
fluctuating monthly movements, employment changed little overall (-1,500). The drop in employment occurred mainly in trade-contracting industries. The bulk of the drop in February was in Ontario and British Columbia.

Average weekly earnings declined in February, due in part to lower average weekly hours for employees paid by the hour, which fell 0.5%. Average weekly hours have dropped by 1.1 hours since November 1993. This pattern of declining hours and earnings has persisted for the three latest months, the same period for which employment has declined.

Mining, quarrying and oil wells employment recovering since August 1993

Employment in mining, quarrying and oil wells expanded 2.2% in February, offsetting January's decline and continuing the trend of employment growth that began in August 1993. During this period, employment expanded by 12,000 in the industry. February's increase was concentrated in Ontario and Alberta (Ontario and Alberta represent about twothirds of total payroll employment in mining, quarrying and oil wells). In Alberta, employment in services incidental to crude petroleum and natural gas continued to grow strongly. Increased demand for contract drilling services in recent months has resulted in employment gains in the industry. Ontario's increased employment in metal mines resulted from employees at INCO returning from lavoff.

SEPH employment in mining, quarrying and oil wells



The improvement in mining, quarrying and oil wells in recent months follows years of employment losses in the industry. During the past four years total employment has declined by nearly one-third.

Average weekly earnings fell 2.5% from February 1993, to stand at \$933.97. The year-over-year earnings decrease in this industry was concentrated in Alberta and Ontario, and was due in part to decreases in both average weekly hours (-3.1%) and average hourly earnings (-3.5%) for employees paid by the hour.

Business services employment continues to expand

Business services employment rebounded in February (+1.5%) and more than offset January's decline (-0.7%). The trend in employment in recent months continued to grow steadily. After contributing to the decline in January, accounting and bookkeeping services and computer and related services led the increase in February. Much of the employment growth in business services has been in Ontario.

Average weekly earnings declined 0.1% from the previous month, led by declines in both average weekly hours and average hourly earnings for employees paid by the hour. The earnings decline

was the result of significantly lower average weekly earnings in: employment agencies and personnel suppliers; accounting and bookkeeping services; and advertising services.

Finance, insurance and real estate earnings remain strong

Increased activity in securities markets and RRSPs contributed to higher commissions in the finance industries in February. This led to strong year-over-year growth in average weekly earnings for finance, insurance and real estate (+7.0%). Strong year-over-year earnings growth, led by the finance industries, was a persistent trend in 1993—it has continued into 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9438-9452 and 9639-9911.

Further industry data and other labour market indicators are available from *Employment*, earnings and hours (72-002, \$28.50/\$285) and by special tabulation. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Stephen Johnson (613-951-4090, fax: 613-951-4087), Labour Division.

Industry group - Canada (1980 S.I.C.)	January 1994	February 1994P	January 1994 to February 1994	February 1993	February 1994P	February 1993 to February 1994		
	dollars		dollars % change		% change	dollars		% change
	se	easonally adjuste	d		unadjusted			
Industrial aggregate	563.85	565.33	0.3	554.20	562.93	1.6		
Logging and forestry	758.20	724.21	-4.5	745.30	759.62	1.9		
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	954.21	933.97	-2.1	971.27	942.24	-3.0		
Manufacturing	680.91	685.30	0.6	672.86	691.62	2.8		
Construction	641.49	639.23	-0.4	637.36	638.72	0.2		
Transportation, communications								
and other utilities	719.92	726.33	0.9	698.25	717.32	2.7		
Trade	412.88	411.94	-0.2	406.01	408.20	0.5		
Wholesale trade	598.29	602.05	0.6	599.47	608.51	1.5		
Retail trade	331.64	329.19	-0.7	320.85	321.16	0.1		
Finance, insurance and real estate	641.29	657.26	2.5	605.24	651.33	7.6		
Business services	588.15	587.82	-0.1	573.31	587.82	2.5		
Education-related services	679.95	677.37	-0.4	644.93	649.24	0.7		
Health and social services	498.54	500.20	0.3	496.78	498.31	0.3		
Accommodation, food and								
beverage services	218.21	220.41	1.0	210.29	215.59	2.5		
Public administration	744.39	744.10	0.0	741.49	749.48	1.1		
Provinces and territories								
Newfoundland	534.50	532.94	-0.3	517.86	531.76	2.7		
Prince Edward Island	461.57	464.68	0.7	455.43	468.93	3.0		
Nova Scotia	497.60	499.73	0.4	490.43	499.73	1.9		
New Brunswick	506.84	510.59	0.7	501.11	510.59	1.9		
Quebec	541.51	542.21	0.1	540.48	542.21	0.3		
Ontario	598.56	601.32	0.5	583.18	598.12	2.6		
Manitoba	494.73	495.07	0.1	488.98	492.70	0.8		
Saskatchewan	473.92	474.73	0.2	468.08	471.72	9.0		
Alberta	552.10	552.51	0.1	556.85	550.80	-1.1		
British Columbia	572.16	572.94	0.1	552.83	569.45	3.0		
Yukon	690.58	685.18	-0.8	689.74	685.18	-0.7		
Northwest Territories	694.02	695.02	0.1	716.06	697.89	-2.9		

Preliminary estimates. Revised estimates. For all employees.

Industry group (1980 S.I.C.)	January 1994 ^r	February 1994P	January 1994 to February 1994	February 1993	February 1994P	February 1993 to February 1994		
	thousands		thousands % change		% change	thousands		% change
	seasonally adjusted			unadjusted				
Industrial aggregate	9,936	9,934	-0.0	9,715	9,696	-0.2		
Logging and forestry	59	59	0.0	52	52	0.0		
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	123	125	1.6	118	122	3.4		
Manufacturing	1,588	1,579	-0.6	1,540	1,531	-0.6		
Construction	382	378	-1.0	321	306	-4.7		
Transportation, communications								
and other utilities	794	793	-0.1	796	775	-2.6		
Trade	1,872	1,860	-0.6	1,819	1,805	-0.8		
Wholesale trade	569	564	-0.9	556	547	-1.6		
Retail trade	1,299	1,293	-0.5	1,263	1,259	-0.3		
Finance, insurance and real estate	630	636	1.0	645	625	-3.1		
Business services	515	523	1.6	486	516	6.2		
Education-related services	916	919	0.3	996	988	-0.8		
Health and social services	1,119	1,121	0.2	1,109	1,106	-0.3		
Accommodation, food and beverage services	696	699	0.4	655	660	0.8		
Public administration	712	711	-0.1	701	697	-0.6		
Provinces and territories								
Newfoundland	140	141	0.7	127	133	4.7		
Prince Edward Island	39	39	0.0	36	36	0.0		
Nova Scotia	277	274	-1.1	275	265	-3.6		
New Brunswick	227	225	-0.9	213	212	-0.5		
Quebec	2,404	2,390	-0.6	2,329	2,315	-0.6		
Ontario	3,892	3,910	0.5	3,891	3,848	-1.1		
Manitoba	373	374	. 0.3	373	368	-1.3		
Saskatchewan	299	300	0.3	289	293	1.4		
Alberta	976	979	0.3	944	961	1.8		
British Columbia	1,272	1,267	-0.4	1,206	1,236	2.5		
Yukon	12	11	-8.3	10	10	0.0		
Northwest Territories	21	21	0.0	20	20	0.0		

Preliminary estimates. . Revised estimates.

March intentions of principal field crop area

1994

As of March 1994, Canadian farmers are planning to seed record areas of canola, dry field peas, and soybeans. Significantly larger areas of durum wheat and flaxseed may be seeded this year, also. In contrast, producers intend to seed 5.3 million fewer acres of spring wheat. Producers are also planning little or no change in grain-corn area.

Canola

Producers' intend, as of March 1994, to seed 13.1 million acres of canola, which would be a 27.6% increase from last year's record area. The potential for high financial returns currently associated with canola is one of the main motivating factors behind the intended increase in canola area. The majority of this intended increase was reported in traditional canola growing regions, where conditions are best suited to canola. However, about one-third of the intended area increase was reported in non-traditional regions in the Prairies, where subsequent weather conditions (especially precipitation) could have an impact on the area seeded.

Wheat

Following a pattern begun last year, this year producers are planning to seed fewer acres of spring wheat in favour of diversifying to a variety of other crops. The intended area of spring wheat in 1994 is 22.5 million acres, a 19.2% drop from last year's area.

One of the crops that producers intend to seed more of this year is durum wheat, which could increase by 52.7% to 5.5 million acres if March intentions are realized at the time of actual seeding.

Soybeans and corn for grain

Producers plan to seed a record 1.9 million acres of soybeans in 1994, which would be a 4.7% increase over last year's area.

Note to users

The seeding intentions data in this release are based on a survey conducted at the end of March. The data represent the acreage that agricultural producers are planning to seed later in the year. Due to a number of factors, these March intentions may differ from what is eventually seeded. Changes in market outlook, expected prices, and spring weather conditions—as well as these published seeding intentions themselves—may alter prospective seeding patterns. Estimates of 1994 actual seeded area will be released on June 30.

The intended area of corn for grain this year is 2.5 million acres, nearly identical to last year's corn area.

Fiaxseed

The intended area of flaxseed for 1994 is 1.8 million acres, a potential increase of 37.5% over last year's area of 1.3 million acres. The majority of this intended area increase was reported in Saskatchewan.

Oats and barley

Producers are planning to seed 4.6 million acres of oats in 1994, a 7.3% increase from 4.3 million acres seeded in 1993.

Barley area could decline slightly as producers are planning to seed 10.9 million acres, 3.5% smaller than last year's area of 11.3 million acres.

Dry field peas and lentils

If producers follow through with their March plans, the area of dry field peas in 1994 could reach a record level for the second year in a row. Producers plan to seed 1.6 million acres, up 24.4% from last year's area of 1.3 million acres.

The intended lentils area is 890 thousand acres, a 3.3% decrease from the record 920 thousand acres seeded last year.

Field crop reporting series no. 2: March intentions of principal field crop areas, Canada, 1994 (22-002, \$12/\$80) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Crops Section (613-951-8717), Agriculture Division.

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DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steel primary forms

Week ending April 23, 1994 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 23, 1994, totalled 284 501 tonnes, up 2.4% from the week-earlier 277 831 tonnes but down 4.4% from the year-earlier 297 504 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 4213 930 tonnes, a 5.6% decrease from 4 463 401 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

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

Civil aviation statistics

February 1994

Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. continued to report growth on their scheduled international routes in February 1994. Since January 1992, these two air carriers have reported monthly increases (compared with the same month of the previous year) in 23 out of 25 months. Passenger-kilometres reported on scheduled international routes in January and February 1994 was close to its peak, which occurred in 1990.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

Preliminary civil aviation data for February 1994 will appear in the May 1994 issue of *Aviation statistics* centre service bulletin (51-004, \$10/\$99). See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Robert Lund (819-997-6188), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

Electric power statistics

February 1994

Net generation of electricity for February 1994 increased to 49 261 gigawatt hours (GW.h), up 4.3% from February 1993. Exports increased 64.9% to 4 096 GW.h but imports decreased to 258 GW.h, from 463 GW.h.

Generation by type was as follows: hydro, 30 838 GW.h (+3.6%); nuclear, 8 376 GW.h (+21.7%); and thermal-conventional, 10 047 GW.h (-4.9%).

Year-to-date net generation at the end of February 1994 totalled 104 258 GW.h, up 6.0% from the previous year. Year-to-date exports (7 625 GW.h) rose 49.7% from the previous year, but year-to-date imports (792 GW.h) declined 23.4%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The February 1994 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001, \$11/\$110) will be available the first week of May. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Coal and coke statistics

February 1994

Coal production totalled 5 358 kilotonnes in February 1994, down 5.8% from February 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of February 1994 stood at 11 567 kilotonnes, up 2.5% from the previous year.

Exports in February rose to 2 307 kilotonnes, up 19.8% from February 1993; imports increased 100.0% to 39 kilotonnes. For January and February 1994, exports totalled 4 058 kilotonnes, 15.6% above the year before.

Coke production in February decreased to 259 kilotonnes, down 12.8% from February 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The February 1994 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002, \$11/\$110) will be available the last week of April. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Dave Madsen (613-951-9823), Energy Section, Industry Division.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Field crop reporting series no. 2: March Intentions of principal field crop area, Canada. Catalogue number 22-002

(Canada: \$12/\$80; United States: US\$14/US\$96;

other countries: US\$16/US\$112).

The dairy review, February 1994. Catalogue number 23-001 (Canada: \$12.20/\$122; United States: US\$14.60/US\$146; other countries: US\$17.10/US\$171).

Production and disposition of tobacco products, March 1994.

Catalogue number 32-022

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

other countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Construction type plywood, February 1994. Catalogue number 35-001

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

other countries: US\$7/US\$70).

Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmilis in British Columbia, February 1994. Catalogue number 35-003

(Canada: \$7.10/\$71; United States: US\$8.50/US\$85;

other countries: US\$9.90/US\$99).

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation, March 1994.

Catalogue number 44-004

(Canada: \$5/\$50; United States: US\$6/US\$60;

other countries: US\$7/US\$70).

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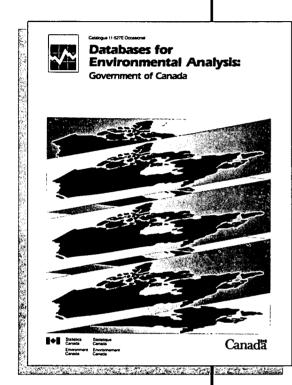
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