



Monday, May 30, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASE

Employment, earnings and hours, March 1994
 Seasonally adjusted, average weekly earnings growth increased in March, up 1.6% from March 1993. After a trend of small declines in the previous nine months, seasonally adjusted payroll employment rose 0.6% to 10,234,000 in March.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sales of refined petroleum products, April 1994

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PUBLICATION RELEASED

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Statistics

Canada

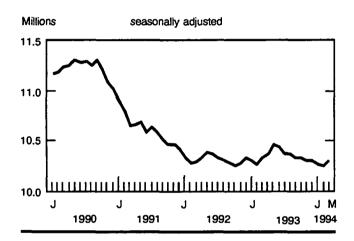
MAJOR RELEASE

Employment, earnings and hours

March 1994 (preliminary)

After a trend of small declines in the previous nine months, seasonally adjusted payroll employment rose 0.6% to 10,234,000 in March. Increased employment in transportation, communications and other utilities, wholesale trade, manufacturing, and construction were partly offset by employment declines in accommodation, food and beverage services and in finance, insurance and real estate.

SEPH employment industrial aggregate



Change in employment levels from February 1994 to March 1994

•	
Transportation, communications and other utilities	+23,000
Wholesale trade	+ 8,000
Manufacturing	+ 7,000
Construction	+4,000
Finance, insurance and real estate	-6,000
Accommodation, food and beverage services	-19,000

Seasonally adjusted, average weekly earnings growth increased in March, up 1.6% from March 1993. Some strength in earnings growth was recorded in the first three months of 1994, after steady declines throughout 1993. The 1.6% growth in March was almost the same as the average growth during 1993. Earnings growth remained well below the peak of 6.4% reached in September 1989.

Note to users

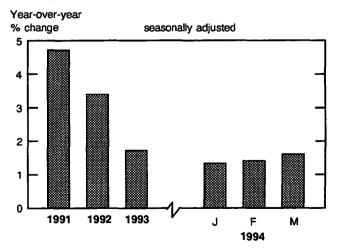
This month's release of employment, earnings and hours is based on a sample survey of establishments and, for the first time, a sample of administrative records. The administrative records representing small firms are obtained from Revenue Canada's monthly payroll deduction remittance forms. Use of this new administrative data has resulted in higher estimated levels of payroll employment and in slightly lower levels of average earnings. To minimize inconvenience to users, historical estimates have been revised to be consistent with the new levels.

The new administrative data also yield estimates of employment for new businesses that have not yet been classified by industry and introduced to the survey frame. For March, the estimate of employment for unclassified businesses was 63,800, it is included in the industrial aggregate total.

Also for this release, more detailed industrial series (seasonally adjusted) are available for employment and average weekly earnings for the provinces and territories.

The year-over-year growth in seasonally adjusted earnings was due in part to an increased number of average weekly hours for employees paid by the hour. For all industries, average weekly hours of employees paid by the hour rose 1.2% to 30.9 hours, while average hourly earnings were virtually unchanged. Average weekly hours were at their highest level since December 1990. The increase in hours was particularly evident in wholesale and retail trade and in manufacturing.

Average weekly earnings



Industry summaries

Trucking industry employed more workers

Employment in transportation, communications and other utilities grew for the third consecutive month, reaching a level of 857,000 in March. The increase in March was concentrated in the transportation industries related to truck and water transport and in services incidental to transportation. Ontario and Quebec reported substantial growth in truck transport.

Employment and earnings rose for wholesalers

Wholesalers employed more paid workers in March (+1.4%) after modest declines in the two previous months. This pattern was similar to wholesale sales figures, which also increased in March after two months of weakness. Drug and tobacco, food, other machinery, equipment and supplies and—to a lesser extent—motor vehicle wholesalers accounted for the increased employment levels in March. The March employment growth was centred in British Columbia and Ontario.

Wholesalers' average weekly earnings rose 3.8% from March 1993, to \$609.17 in March 1994. Increased hours worked by employees paid by the hour, higher commissions for commissioned employees, and increased earnings for salaried employees all contributed to the growth. The growth in earnings was widespread across industries, including those that reported substantial employment growth.

Retailers worked longer hours

The number of paid employees in retail trade industries rose slightly for the second consecutive month. The increase, while small, brought employment levels back to their December 1993 levels. Although the growth in retail sales since November 1993 has been slow to translate into increased employment levels, it has resulted in increased hours. Average weekly hours have shown an increasing trend, particularly during the six previous months. Despite the two recent monthly advances, employment levels were down by 20,000 from October 1993.

Average weekly earnings rose 2.9% in March from the previous month, the second substantial monthly increase in three months. The increase was widespread and largely attributable to more hours of paid work, as the average hourly earnings for employees paid by the hour were unchanged.

Automotive dealers reported both higher employment and higher average weekly earnings in March. An increase in automotive merchants' sales resulted in higher commissions and, to a lesser extent, in employment growth.

More retail trade employees were reported in most provinces in March. The notable exceptions were Ontario and British Columbia, which both reported seasonally adjusted declines of 2.0%.

Transportation equipment manufacturers expanded employment

Manufacturers increased employment levels in March, offsetting the decline in February. Manufacturing employment has generally remained at 1,602,000 for the latest six months. Transportation equipment, other machinery and equipment, and textile products manufacturers were the main contributors to the employment growth. Transportation equipment industries also increased average weekly hours for employees paid by the hour, to 42.2 hours in March. Exports of automotive products and shipments of cars both grew in March, indicating increased production in the industry.

Employers in accommodation, food and beverage services cut back employment

Employers in accommodation, food and beverage services cut back employment in March after two months when payroll employment level was virtually unchanged. Employment losses in Ontario (-22,000) and Quebec (-3,000) were only partly offset by increases in Alberta (+4,000) and Nova Scotia (+3,000)

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9438-9452, 9639-9664 and 9899-9911.

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators are available from *Employment*, earnings and hours (72-002, \$28.50/\$285) and by custom tabulation.

For further information on this release or on how the new administrative data has affected the survey's variables and industries, contact Howard Krebs or Stephen Johnson (613-951-4090, fax: 613-951-4087), Labour Division.

Industry group, Canada	February 1994 r	March 1994 P	March 1993	February 1994 to	March 1993
(1980 S.I.C.)	1334	1004	1000	March 1994	March 1994
	seasonally adjusted				
		dollars			% change
Industrial aggregate	561.54	564.06	555.32	0.4	1.6
Logging and forestry	714.19	698.28	708.50	-2.2	-1.4
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	930.16	964.45	952.65	3.7	1.2
Manufacturing	681.83	686.90	667.09	0.7	3.0
Construction	636.00	650.41	641.17	2.3	1.4
Transportation, communications and other utilities	708.63	700.75	703.80	-1.1	-0.4
Trade	410.48	421.03	408.10	2.6	3.2
Wholesale trade	600.80	609.17	586.96	1.4	3.8
Retail trade	328.06	337.65	328.80	2.9	2.7
Finance, insurance and real estate	656.55	646.11	618.20	-1.6	4.5
Business services	587.58	587.18	585.93	-0.1	0.2
Education-related services	673.49	675.17	673.68	0.2	0.2
Health and social services	499.26	504.51	495.73	1.1	1.8
Accommodation, food and beverage services	221.33	222.47	217.43	0.5	2.3
Public administration	745.12	746.65	739.98	0.2	0.9
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	530.81	533.09	519.91	0.4	2.5
Prince Edward Island	464.29	461.33	453.70	-0.6	1.7
Nova Scotia	497.65	496.51	494.18	-0.2	0.5
New Brunswick	507.36	498.05	500.33	-1.8	-0.5
Quebec	537.55	541.60	538.63	0.8	0.6
Ontario	597.36	601.61	587.15·	0.7	2.5
Manitoba	493.58	497.17	489.84	0.7	1.5
Saskatchewan	474.80	481.80	471.27	1.5	2.2
Alberta	548.89	545.00	552.31	-0.7	-1.3
British Columbia	568.91	571.38	552.80	0.4	3.4
Yukon	685.58	706.95	685.46	3.1	3.1
Northwest Territories	694.57	714.32	` 716.08	2.8	-0.2

Preliminary estimates. Revised estimates. For all employees.

Industry group (1980 S.I.C.)	January	February	March	January 1994	February 1994
	1994	1994 r	1994 P	to February 1994	to March 1994
	seasonally adjusted				
		thousands			% change
Industrial aggregate	10,185	10,172	10,234	-0.1	0.6
Logging and forestry	64	64	65	0.0	1.6
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	123	125	125	1.6	0.0
Manufacturing	1,603	1,595	1,602	-0.5	0.4
Construction	408	404	408	-1.0	1.0
Transportation, communications and other utilities	831	834	857	0.4	2.8
Trade	1,926	1,924	1,931	-0.1	0.4
Wholesale trade	589	584	592	-0.8	1.4
Retail trade	1,333	1,336	1,337	0.2	0.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	649	652	646	. 0.5	-0.9
Business services	539	543	540	0.7	-0.6
Education-related services	920	930	923	1.1	-0.8
Health and social services	1,141	1,144	1,146	0.3	0.2
Accommodation, food and beverage services	738	738	719	0.0	-2.6
Public administration	713	710	706	-0.4	-0.6
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	142	143	144	0.7	0.7
Prince Edward Island	39	39	39	0.0	0.0
Nova Scotia	281	278	287	-1.1	
New Brunswick	232	232	233	0.0	0.4
Quebec	2,498	2,486	2,505	-0.5	0.8
Ontario	3,990	4,020	4,029	8.0	0.2
Manitoba	382	384	388	0.5	1.0
Saskatchewan	304	305	297	0.3	-2.6
Alberta	1,008	1,017	1,045	0.9	2.8
British Columbia	1,310	1,301	1,294	-0.7	-0.5
Yukon	12	11	11	-8.3	0.0
Northwest Territories	21	21	21	0.0	0.0

Preliminary estimates. Revised estimates.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sales of refined petroleum products April 1994 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 6 112 200 cubic metres in April, down 0.1% from April 1993. Decreased demand for heavy fuel oil by some electric utilities was a factor in the overall decrease. Sales of heavy fuel oil were down 15.0% from April 1993. Other major products contributing to this decrease were sales of aviation turbo fuels (-4.4%) and motor gasoline (-1.6%).

At the end of April 1994, year-to-date sales for all refined products were up 3.2% from the same period in 1993. During the first four months of 1994, sales for five of the seven major product groups increased from the same period in 1993. Sales of diesel fuel, at 5 393 900 cubic metres for this four-month period, were up 14.2% from 1993. Increased gas-well drilling activity has played a part in the higher level of diesel fuel oil sales.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	April 1994	April 1993 to April 1994
	thousands of cubic metres	% change
Total, all products Motor gasoline Diesel fuel oil Light fuel oil Heavy fuel oil Aviation turbo fuels Petrochemical feedstocks1 All other refined products	6 112.2 2 629.7 1 280.8 444.6 529.7 319.0 316.3 592.1	-0.1 -1.6 6.7 3.8 -15.0 -4.4 16.8 0.03
	January to April 1994	January-April 1993 to January-April 1994
	thousands of cubic metres	% change
Total, all products Motor gasoline Diesel fuel oil Light fuel oil Heavy fuel oil Aviation turbo fuels Petrochemical feedstocks ¹ All other refined products	26 446.1 10 693.9 5 393.9 3 175.0 2 395.8 1 374.1 1 231.4 2 182.0	3.2 3.6 14.2 5.0 -11.8 2.6 1.1

Materials produced by refineries and used as input by the petrochemical industry.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The April 1994 issue of Refined petroleum products (45-004, \$20/\$200) will be available the third week of July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3563), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Film and video production and motion picture post-production surveys 1992-93

Production revenues improved slightly in 1992-93 after declining for two years in a row. Production revenues increased 4% from 1991-92, to \$586 million. This mainly resulted from a 45% increase in the sales of film and video productions to the conventional television market. Revenue from the theatrical market dropped 57% to \$3.7 million. As revenue from the non-theatrical sector shrank 6% to just under \$250 million, revenue from productions for advertisement gained 8% from 1991-92.

Production revenue received from foreign clients also expanded. Total sales of film and video productions to foreign clients reached \$132 million in 1992-93, 49% higher than in the previous year. Foreign sources represented 23% of total production revenues, up from 14% in 1991-92. Production revenue from domestic sales dropped 9% from 1991-92, to \$454 million.

Television productions, home videos and educational videos continued to increase in number. But the production of theatrical features and music videos declined in number. The number of television commercials produced in 1992-93 remained unchanged from the previous year at 3,900 commercials.

Overall, the total number of film and video productions dropped 17% from 1991-92, to 16,412 in 1992-93.

Operating revenues in the motion picture laboratory and post-production services sector increased 8% to \$309 million, despite a decrease in the number of firms to 160 in 1992-93, from 173 in 1990-91.

Preliminary data from the 1992-93 annual film, video and audio-visual production survey and from the motion picture laboratory operation services survey are now available.

Culture statistics: film and video, 1992-93 (87-204, \$24) will be available this fall. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Fidelis Ifedi (613-951-1569), Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

Cereais and oilseeds review

April 1994

Field work and seeding progress in Canada were hampered by unseasonable weather conditions that prevailed during April. Last fall, the amount of field work normally completed by winter was limited by weather, and some harvesting of the 1993 crop resumed this spring. By the end of April, seeding remained spotty while field work was focussed on soil preparation.

Transportation problems continued to limit grain movements, although unloads at terminal elevators generally increased during April.

New crop seeding intentions, daily weather reports and seeding progress influenced the grain markets. (The 1994 seeding intentions report was released on April 28.) Canola futures made substantial gains over the month, supported by a record domestic crush, good export demand, transportation problems, and concerns about remaining stocks. Canola prices have been strong, despite a record 1993 crop and forecasts of a record 1994 crop.

The March 1994 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007, \$15/\$144) is scheduled for release in June. See "How to Order Publications".

For further information on this release, contact Alain Y. Bertrand (613-951-3859) or Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445), Agriculture Division.

Process cheese and instant skim milk powder

April 1994

Production of process cheese in April totalled 6 056 175 kilograms, down 12.3% from March 1994 but up 39.9% from April 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of April 1994 totalled 21 866 960 kilograms, down from 24 832 065 the previous year.

Production of instant skim milk powder in April totalled 280 127 kilograms, down 7.8% from March 1994 but up 0.5% from April 1993. Year-to-date production at the end of April 1994 totalled 1 139 541 kilograms, compared with 1 538 997 kilograms the year before.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).

The April 1994 issue of *Production and inventories of process cheese and instant skim milk powder* (32-024, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Shipments of office furniture productsFirst quarter 1994

For the quarter ended March 31, 1994, shipments of office furniture products totalled \$186.9 million, up 8.9% from \$171.7 million in first quarter of 1993.

Data on manufacturers' shipments of office furniture products for the first quarter of 1994 are now available. Data for province of destination and export data are available.

The March 1994 issue of Shipments of office furniture products (35-006, \$8/\$32) will be available later.

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



PUBLICATION RELEASED

Average prices of selected farm inputs, April 1994. Catalogue number 62-012

(Canada: \$8/\$48; United States: US\$10/US\$58; other countries: US\$12/US\$68).

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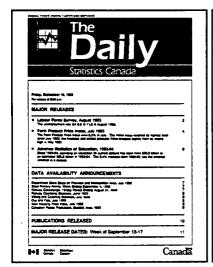
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