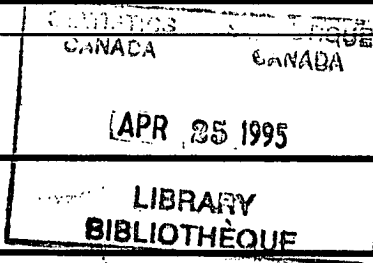


# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

Tuesday, April 25, 1995  
For release at 8:30 a.m.



### MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canada's international transactions in securities, February 1995** 2  
Non-residents sold \$2.2 billion more Canadian securities than they bought in February, reversing a similar investment in January. At the same time, Canadian residents continued to acquire foreign securities, adding a further \$1.0 billion, with the bulk going to foreign bonds.
- **Unemployment insurance, February 1995** 4  
In February, the number of Canadians receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits continued its downward trend, dropping to 752,000. This was the lowest number in over 13 years.

### OTHER RELEASES

- Electric lamps, March 1995 7
- Electric lamps, first quarter 1995 7
- Production, shipments and stocks of sawmills east of the Rockies, February 1995 7

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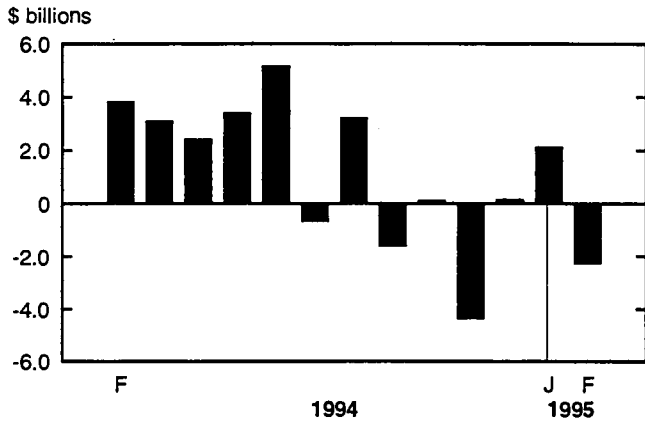
**MAJOR RELEASES**

**Canada's international transactions in securities**

February 1995

Non-residents sold \$2.2 billion more Canadian securities than they bought in February, reversing a similar investment in January. It was a continuation of the seesaw pattern between foreign investment and disinvestment that has prevailed since July 1994. At the same time, Canadian residents continued to acquire foreign securities, adding a further \$1.0 billion, with the bulk going to foreign bonds.

**Foreign investment in Canadian securities<sup>1</sup>**

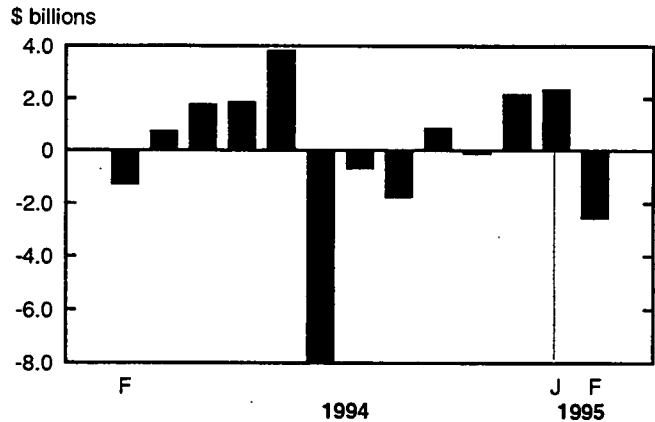


<sup>1</sup> Includes bonds, stocks and money market paper.

**Foreigners were heavy sellers of Canadian money market paper**

Foreign selling of Canadian securities was largely concentrated in short-term paper, mainly Government of Canada treasury bills. Amounting to \$2.6 billion, the foreign disinvestment from short-term paper was widespread geographically. This occurred at a time when Canadian short-term interest rates were significantly higher than their U.S. counterparts. Foreigners bought and sold \$49 billion of Canadian short-term paper in February, down from the record \$68 billion they traded in December 1994.

**Foreign investment in Canadian money market paper**



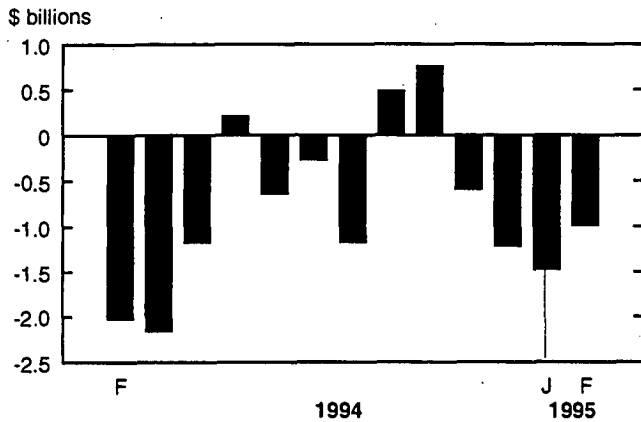
**Foreigners further reduced their holdings of Canadian stocks**

Foreigners withdrew a further \$0.4 billion from Canadian stocks. This brought to \$2.0 billion their net selling over the four months to February. The net disinvestment by both U.S. and overseas investors contrasted with their heavy accumulation in recent years. Canadian stock prices, as measured by the TSE 300 index, remained flat. Trading activity was unchanged at \$5.4 billion in February, well below the monthly average of \$7.3 billion for 1994.

**Canadians continued investing large amounts in foreign securities**

Canadian investors invested a further \$1.0 billion in foreign securities. This followed a substantial \$1.5 billion in January. February's investment was again directed mostly to foreign bonds; the investment in foreign bonds has totalled an unprecedented \$3 billion over the three months to February. The foreign buying in February was roughly split between U.S. government bonds and overseas bonds. A small investment in foreign stocks continued to go into overseas stocks, as it had for all of 1994.

Canadian investment in foreign securities



Available on CANSIM: matrix 2330.

The February 1995 issue of *Canada's International transactions in securities* (67-002, \$17/\$170) will be available in May. See "How to order publications."

For further information on this release, contact Don Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments Division.

Canada's international transactions in securities

	November 1994	December 1994	January 1995	February 1995	January and February 1995	January and February 1994
	\$ millions					
Foreign investment in Canadian securities, total	-4,332	135	2,093	-2,249	-156	9,937
Bonds (net)	-3,912	-1,208	289	677	967	7,383
Outstanding	-2,517	-2,655	-1,152	-677	-1,829	-3,528
New issues	611	2,756	2,336	1,801	4,137	13,997
Retirements	-2,006	-1,308	-894	-446	-1,341	-3,086
Money market paper (net)	-115	2,144	2,336	-2,556	-220	205
Government of Canada	200	2,168	2,145	-2,137	8	1,474
Other paper	-315	-24	191	-419	-228	-1,269
Stocks (net)	-305	-802	-533	-370	-903	2,350
Outstanding (net)	-365	-855	-577	-404	-981	2,071
New issues (net)	60	53	44	34	78	279
Canadian investment in foreign securities, total	-590	-1,210	-1,487	-984	-2,471	-2,983
Bonds (net)	135	-522	-1,533	-802	-2,335	528
Stocks (net)	-725	-688	46	-183	-136	-3,511

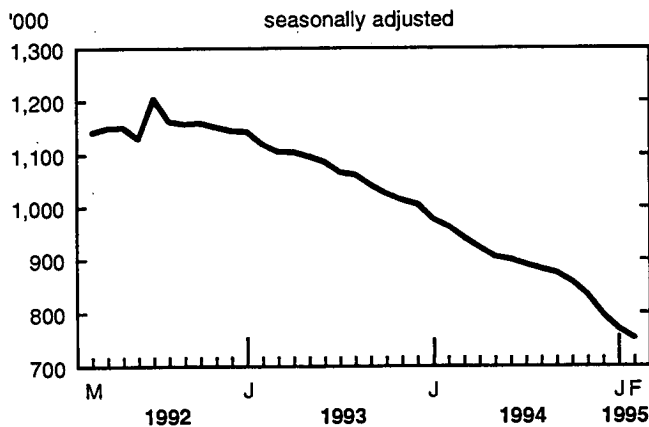
Note: Net is the "sales to" less the "purchases from" non-residents. A minus sign indicates an outflow of money from Canada.

## Unemployment insurance

February 1995 (preliminary).

In February, 752,000 Canadians received regular unemployment insurance benefits, down 2.2% from January. This was the lowest number in over 13 years and continued the downward trend started in mid-1992.

### Number of beneficiaries \* continued to decline



\* Receiving regular benefits.

### Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	February 1995	January 1995 to February 1995
	seasonally adjusted	
		% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>752,420</b>	<b>-2.2</b>
Newfoundland	38,380	-4.3
Prince Edward Island	10,800	-2.3
Nova Scotia	40,580	-5.5
New Brunswick	46,870	-2.3
Quebec	260,220	-1.4
Ontario	187,810	-2.5
Manitoba	19,150	-2.0
Saskatchewan	15,120	-1.7
Alberta	51,410	-0.5
British Columbia	85,770	-0.4
Yukon	1,280	-7.1
Northwest Territories	1,270	-2.3

#### Note to readers

Unless noted, all figures in this release are seasonally adjusted. The seasonally adjusted data have been revised for 1994 and preceding years.

Most who collect unemployment insurance benefits receive regular benefits (79.0% in February). In order to qualify for regular benefits, a person must have experienced an interruption of earnings, be capable of and available for work, and be unable to find suitable employment.

In addition to regular benefits, claimants can qualify for special benefits (e.g., training, maternity, sickness and fishing benefits).

Data on the number of beneficiaries relate to a specific week of the reference month. Data on benefit payments, benefit weeks, and claims refer to a complete calendar month.

The decline from January to February in the number receiving regular benefits was spread across all provinces and territories. Compared with February 1994, there were 21.9% fewer beneficiaries collecting regular UI benefits.

### The number of younger beneficiaries of regular benefits has shown the largest decline since mid-1992

The number of beneficiaries among the 15-to-24 age group has been falling faster than among the older age groups: -50.0% from the peak in July 1992, compared with -37.3% for the 25-to-44 age group and -29.3% for the 45-and-older age group.

There has also been a long-term decline in the proportion of beneficiaries in the 15-to-24 age group. In February 1995, the number of beneficiaries in this age group represented 13.5% of all beneficiaries, compared with 28.1% a decade earlier. This drop is partly explained by a decrease in the population among this age group, from 22.7% in February 1985 to 17.2% in February 1995. As suggested in the article "Youths—waiting it out" in the Spring 1994 issue of *Perspectives*, another possibility may be that since the 1990-92 recession, many young people have returned to or stayed in school.

### Benefits paid fell 15.0% compared with February 1994

On an unadjusted basis, in February, Canadians received \$1.4 billion in benefits (including regular and special benefits), down 15.0% compared with February 1994. Comparing the same month in prior years, this was the lowest level since February 1990, when \$1.2 billion was paid. For the first two months of 1995,

benefits paid amounted to \$2.9 billion, down 12.1% from the same period last year.

### Number of claims remained almost unchanged

In February, 250,000 people submitted applications (claims) seeking financial assistance from the UI program. This was almost unchanged from the number in January. Since mid-1994, the trend for the number of claims received has edged up slightly.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717 and 5735-5736.**

The February 1995 issue of *Unemployment insurance statistics* (73-001, \$16/\$160) will contain data for December, January and February. It will be available in April. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Adib Farhat (613-951-4045) or Ruth Barnes (613-951-4046), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087).

### Number of beneficiaries<sup>1</sup>

	February 1995	February 1994 to February 1995
	unadjusted	
		% change
<b>Census metropoli- tan area</b>		
St. John's	10,610	-22.8
Halifax	12,320	-12.8
Saint John	6,150	- 5.1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	10,480	-12.2
Québec	34,560	- 7.5
Sherbrooke	7,020	-16.2
Trois-Rivières	7,790	-21.7
Montréal	130,020	-14.4
Hull	10,180	-14.0
Ottawa	16,380	-10.1
Oshawa	6,230	-19.2
Toronto	106,560	-22.6
Hamilton	15,360	-27.7
St. Catharines- Niagara	14,050	-26.7
Kitchener	8,210	-38.4
London	9,440	-20.7
Windsor	6,430	-35.3
Sudbury	5,280	-29.7
Thunder Bay	4,890	-33.7
Winnipeg	19,780	-16.2
Regina	4,570	-30.9
Saskatoon	6,280	-23.7
Calgary	23,340	-18.2
Edmonton	27,320	-12.5
Vancouver	53,560	-15.8
Victoria	7,850	-12.1

<sup>1</sup> Beneficiaries include all claimants who received regular benefits (e.g., because of layoff) or special benefits (e.g., because of sickness).

Unemployment insurance statistics

		February 1994	December 1994	January 1995	February 1995	January 1995 to February 1995
seasonally adjusted						
						% change
Regular beneficiaries	'000	963	796 <sup>r</sup>	769 <sup>P</sup>	752 <sup>P</sup>	-2.2
Amount paid	\$ '000	1,089,542	895,500	909,495	865,793	-4.8
Weeks of benefits	'000	4,284	3,562	3,608	3,438	-4.7
Claims received	'000	259	251	251	250	-0.5
unadjusted						
		February 1994	December 1994	January 1995	February 1995	February 1994 to February 1995
						% change
All beneficiaries	'000	1,410	1,060 <sup>r</sup>	1,178 <sup>P</sup>	1,182 <sup>P</sup>	-16.2
Regular beneficiaries	'000	1,154	827 <sup>r</sup>	944 <sup>P</sup>	935 <sup>P</sup>	-19.0
Male	'000	726	483 <sup>r</sup>	590 <sup>P</sup>	593 <sup>P</sup>	-18.3
Female	'000	427	344 <sup>r</sup>	353 <sup>P</sup>	341 <sup>P</sup>	-20.1
Claims received	'000	211	314	342	203	-3.9
Amount paid	\$ '000	1,591,701	1,143,564	1,534,773	1,353,298	-15.0
Weeks of benefits	'000	5,798	4,251	5,655	4,779	-17.6
Average weekly benefit	\$	265.86	258.42	263.56	265.26	-0.2
Year-to-date (January to February)						
		1994	1995		1994 to 1995	
						% change
All beneficiaries, average	'000	1,405	1,180 <sup>P</sup>		-16.0	
Regular beneficiaries, average	'000	1,158	939 <sup>P</sup>		-18.9	
Claims received	'000	552	545		-1.2	
Amount paid	\$ '000	3,285,210	2,888,071		-12.1	
Weeks of benefits	'000	11,979	10,434		-12.9	
Average weekly benefit	\$	264.99	264.34		-0.2	

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

Note: "All beneficiaries" includes all claimants who receive regular benefits (e.g., because of lay-off) or special benefits (e.g., in case of sickness).

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Electric lamps

March 1995

Light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 25,716,000 light bulbs and tubes in March, a 2.5% decrease from 26,369,000 sold a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales at the end of March 1995 totalled 73,427,000 light bulbs and tubes, an 8.0% decrease from 79,800,000 sold in the same period a year earlier.

The March 1995 issue of *Electric lamps* (43-009, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division.

■

### Electric lamps

First quarter 1995

Data for the first quarter of 1995 on manufacturers' imports, production and inventories of electric lamps are now available.

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division.

■

### Production, shipments and stocks of sawmills east of the Rockies

February 1995

Lumber production in sawmills east of the Rockies increased 8.2% to 2 348 233 cubic metres in February, up from 2 169 930 cubic metres after revisions in February 1994.

Stocks on hand at the end of February 1995 totalled 3 398 353 cubic metres, up 7.1% from 3 172 808 cubic metres in February 1994.

At the end of February 1995, year-to-date production totalled 4 656 387 cubic metres, a 9.1% increase from 4 268 250 cubic metres after revisions for the same period in 1994.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 (except series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2) and 122.**

The February 1995 issue of *Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmills east of the Rockies* (35-002, \$11/\$110) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyzetz (613-951-3516), Industry Division.

■



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Canadian international merchandise trade,  
February 1995

Catalogue number 65-001

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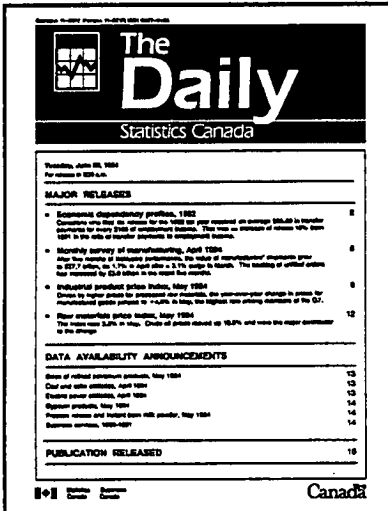
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