

# The FORD(Q) Economic Update

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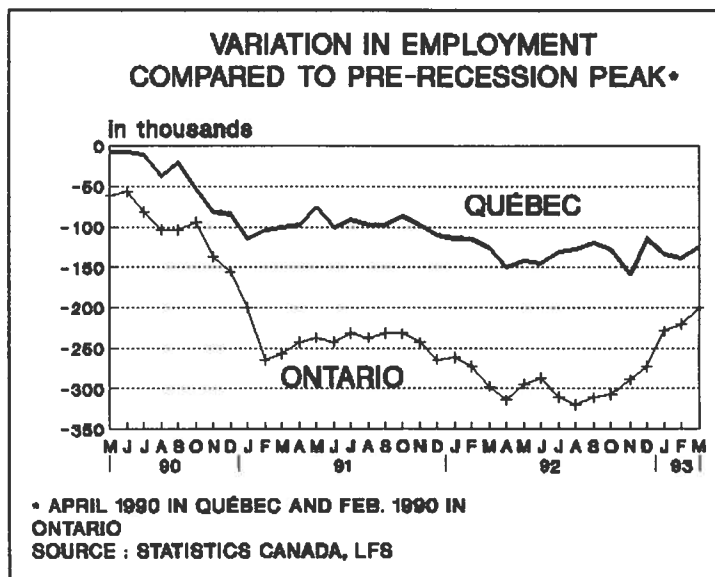
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## Changes in main indicators:

- According to the latest forecasts by the **CONFERENCE BOARD OF CANADA**, Canada's GDP will grow by **3.5%** in 1993, with exports to the United States the stimulus behind economic growth. However, consumers will continue to be very cautious in their spending.
- According to the most recent **DESJARDINS LEADING INDICATOR (DLI)**, Quebec's economy continues to grow slowly. However, relatively low interest rates and the gradual rise in house prices should result in a more rapid upturn in the second quarter of 1993.

- The recovery is taking shape more quickly in Ontario than in Quebec according to economic indicators for March. For the third month in a row, our neighbour continued to make up for jobs lost since the onset of the recession. Since the beginning of the year, the gap in employment compared to the pre-recession peak has narrowed by 72,000 jobs in Ontario, but has widened by 5,000 jobs in Quebec. Since late 1990, the gap has remained almost constant in Quebec, whereas Ontario has turned in a remarkable performance.



- In March, the number of **jobs** increased by 14,000 in Quebec compared to the previous month. During the same period, Ontario chalked up 20,000 new jobs, and Canada as a whole, 48,000. Compared to March 1992, the number of jobs increased by 11,000 in Quebec and 96,000 in Ontario. On a seasonally unadjusted year-over-year basis, Quebec has lost jobs in the trade (-53,000), construction (-16,000), primary (-5,000) and transportation and communications (-4,000) sectors. These losses have been compensated for by gains in the service industry (+39,000), government (+28,000), finance (+20,000) and the manufacturing industry (+4,000).



Federal Office of  
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(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de  
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Canada

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The FORD-Q ECONOMIC UPDATE is a monthly publication whose purpose is to inform readers about the most recent economic developments affecting Quebec and its regions.

The information in this monthly report is taken from dailies and weeklies, magazines and other publications on the Quebec economy. Most of the statistical data come from Statistics Canada.

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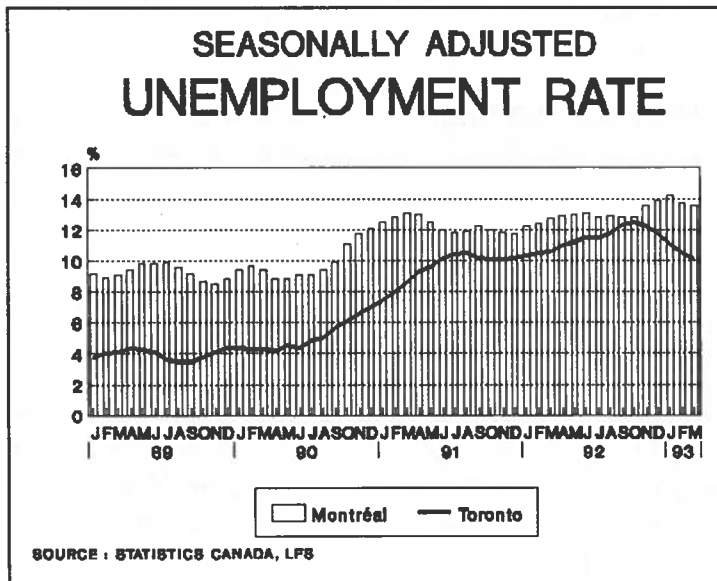
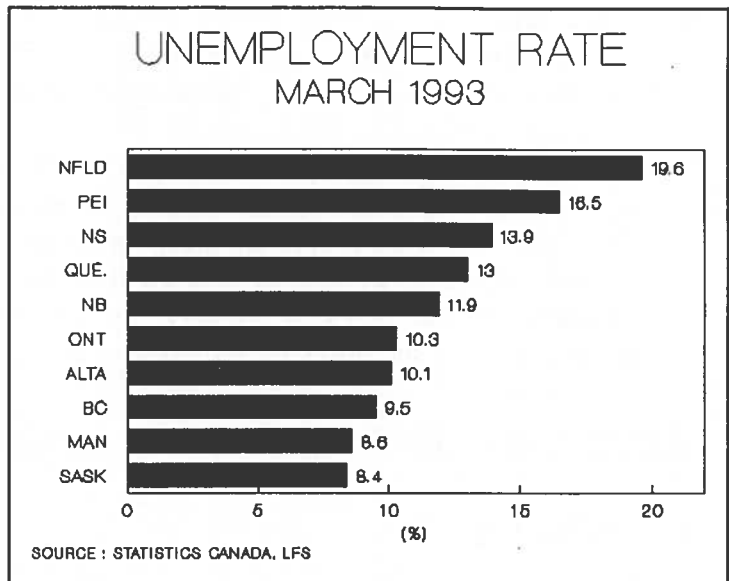
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■ In terms of a three-month moving average, **Montreal** chalked up 6,000 new jobs in March compared to February, the sharpest increase of all metropolitan regions in Canada. Despite this, on a year-over-year basis, Montreal has lost the most jobs (-20,000), compared to Edmonton (-14,000), Toronto (-13,000) and Hamilton (-10,000). Elsewhere in Quebec, only the **Chicoutimi-Jonquière** metropolitan region lost jobs (-3,000). **Quebec City** posted 4,000 new jobs, and **Sherbrooke**, 2,000. The number of jobs in **Trois Rivières** was identical to last year.

■ Quebec's **unemployment rate** remained unchanged at 13.0% in March compared to the previous month. However, it was 0.5% higher than at the same time in 1992. Only four provinces had unemployment rates in March that were higher than last year. In Canada as a whole and Ontario, the unemployment rate rose in March because of the surge in the number of labour market participants as a result of improved economic conditions. Quebec still has the fourth highest unemployment rate in Canada.



Despite a slight drop, **Montreal** had the fourth highest unemployment rate in March. And, when Quebec's other metropolitan regions are excluded from the comparison, Montreal's rate was second highest. During the recession, Montreal's and Toronto's unemployment rates gradually caught up with and almost equalled each other in October 1992. Since then, the recovery has been much more robust in Toronto, such that the gap between unemployment rates in the two cities has been widening gradually. In March, the spread was 3.5%.

- Seasonally unadjusted data, in terms of a three-month moving average, indicate that only three regions in Quebec managed to lower their unemployment rates compared to last year. They are as follows: **Quebec City and Quebec City South** (-0.4%), the **Eastern Townships** (-1.7%) and particularly **Abitibi-Témiscamingue** (-3.7%). At the other end of the scale, the unemployment rate climbed 4% in the **Saguenay-Lac St Jean**, 3.8% in the **Lower St Lawrence** and 2.9% in the **Gaspé-Magdalen Islands**.
- Even though personal bankruptcies increased by 1.1% in January compared to December, they were still down by 5.9% compared to the same period last year. Business bankruptcies fell 1.3% in January, the first decrease since August 1992.
- The outlook for the US economy has improved greatly since forecasts were made in December. According to new forecasts, the economy of our neighbours to the south should grow by 3.6% this year, compared to the 2.9% originally forecast in December. According to the most recent data, economic growth in the United States will be widespread. The United States gained 160,000 jobs in January and 365,000 in February. Even though February's increase was made up largely of part-time jobs, it should mean a sharp rise in US consumer demand in 1993.

## **Regional Review** (March 16 to April 13, 1993):

### **ALL REGIONS**

#### ***Economic highlights:***

- On April 1, Canada decided to impose an anti-dumping duty on steel exporters from countries that it says have sold their steel products in Canada at prices below production costs. These countries include Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the United States. The duties imposed range from 8.7% to 87.3%, depending on the severity of the infraction.
- The federal **EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EDC)** wants to increase its borrowing capacity by 50% in the next few years. The EDC is currently allowed to borrow up to 10 times its capital. Under Bill C-118, the EDC could increase this figure to 15. The EDC is an organization which provides funding for foreign buyers of Canadian products and which insures Canadian exporters against potential bad debts. The federal agency, which is active around the world, pledged **\$3.6 billion** to Quebec businesses in 1992. Quebec exports totalled \$25.6 billion.
- Over the next five years, the federal government will help the pulp and paper industry develop less polluting processes and better-quality products. The federal assistance, to total \$45 million, will have a multiplier effect on investment by the private sector in research and development over the long term. In addition, Ottawa will assist the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association (CPPA) by covering half the cost of setting up an office in Brussels, the headquarters of the European Economic Community.

- To avoid a disaster, Quebec's 11,000 maple syrup producers recently established the **REGROUPEMENT POUR LA COMMERCIALISATION DES PRODUITS DE L'ÉRABLE DU QUÉBEC INC.** Their problems stem from the fact that they are unable to sell the surplus 28 million pounds of maple syrup that has accumulated over the past few years, and the producers have debts totalling \$40 million, and counting.

*Major investment:*

- Of a total investment of **\$164.3 million**, \$36.6 million has been injected into 12 research centres in Quebec since the creation of the **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENTS (APRE)** in September 1992. This program is administered by the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec (FORD-Q).
- For Quebec as a whole, the **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** granted contributions totalling \$19.9 million in March for investment of more than \$181 million. More than 1,500 jobs will be created or preserved through 83 development projects. For more information, see the appended tables.

**MONTREAL**

*Economic highlights:*

- Since it was established in January, **INNOVATECH** has already sponsored nine research projects involving investment totalling **\$43.6 million**. These projects, which have created 102 jobs and 78 others, involve innovation in leading-edge sectors, such as medical research and high technology. Innovatech's mandate is to enhance the capacity for technological innovation among companies in metropolitan Montreal, thereby helping to revitalize Quebec's economy. To this end, the organization tries to obtain an average multiplier effect of four for its investment, and has a budget of \$300 million.
- Real estate activity is at a standstill in Montreal, despite relatively low mortgage rates and a very wide range of available properties. March ended with the number of transactions down sharply by 14%, the third decrease in a row since the beginning of the year. Unemployment is cited as the chief culprit in the slump, as consumers are afraid of losing their jobs. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) predicts that residential construction will rebound slightly in 1993 in the Montreal region, with a 4% increase in the number of housing starts. It would be the first increase in six years.

*Contracts awarded:*

- **NOVA-QUINTECH**, which bought the MCI bus plant in St Eustache, is reportedly on the verge of winning a contract to manufacture 300 buses for the nine transit commissions in Quebec. The contract would be worth more than **\$100 million**. The buses will be manufactured over a two-year period.

- The engineering firm **SNC-LAVALIN INTERNATIONAL INC** recently signed a **\$5-million** contract with Saudi Aramco of Saudi Arabia. SNC will carry out the first phase of a project to modernize control systems at the Saudi company's gas complex.

*Major investment:*

- In early April, **DUPONT PHARMA** announced a five-year plan to invest **\$14.7 million** in pharmaceutical research in Quebec. Of this amount, \$7.5 million will be spent on basic research, which will be subcontracted to **BIO-RECHERCHES**, a private laboratory in Senneville on the western tip of the Island of Montreal. The remainder of the investment will be devoted to research on organ transplants.
- The **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** granted contributions totalling \$6.3 million in the Montreal region under its various programs. The contributions were allocated for 20 projects calling for almost \$32 million in investment and which will create or maintain 431 jobs. For more information on these programs, see the appended tables.

*Layoffs:*

- **ELECTROVERT LTD** of La Prairie, which manufactures specialized equipment for the electronics assembly industry, will gradually shut down over the next 12 months, throwing **275 people** out of work. The parent company in London decided to close Electrovert in order to restructure and consolidate its subsidiaries.

**CENTRAL REGIONS**

*Contracts awarded:*

- **ROUSSEAU METAL** of St Jean-Port Joli won a **\$1.5-million contract** from the federal government. The company will manufacture filing systems. **Twenty-five employees** will be called back to work at the end of April.

*Major investment:*

- Quebec Health Minister Marc-Yvan Côté and federal Health Minister Benoît Bouchard announced a \$23.4-million grant to build two research centres, one at **Enfant Jésus Hospital**, and the other, at **Hôtel Dieu Hospital** in Quebec City. The hospitals will receive \$9.3 million and \$14.1 million respectively. The research centres are expected to be completed in two years. The number of researchers will increase from 26 to 54, and the number of staff will increase by 240 from 190 to 430.
- The governments of Quebec and Canada have entered into a financial partnership with **Intrawest** to develop the **Mont Tremblant resort**. The two governments will invest **\$20 million** in the first phase of the project under the **Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on Tourism Development**. The federal government will provide \$10 million in repayable financial assistance under Phase I.

In a second phase, the two governments may provide up to **\$14 million** more in the form of repayable contributions or loan guarantees in the eventuality of investment in a major hotel project. Intrawest plans to invest an estimated **\$413 million** over the next five years. This major investment will create nearly 5,500 full-time jobs during the construction phase and roughly 1,000 permanent jobs afterward.

- The **GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC** has two projects to consolidate and develop the Aquarium and the Jardin Zoologique du Québec located in St Foy and Charlesbourg respectively. The cost of these two projects is estimated at more than **\$62 million**. The Government of Quebec is looking for private-sector partners to carry out these projects.
- **ASSURANCE-VIE DESJARDINS** and the **SOCIÉTÉ IMMOBILIÈRE CHETLIN** are investing **\$40 million** in an office and condo complex in St Foy. The project will be built in two phases. However, the City of St Foy will have to rezone the area, and public consultations will be held regarding the project.
- **JAMES MACLAREN INDUSTRIES** will invest **\$37.6 million** to treat effluent from the kraft pulp mill in Thurso. The new facilities will also serve another purpose by treating wastewater from the Town of Thurso before it is discharged into the Ottawa River.
- A housing project worth an estimated **\$25 million** will be built in Lac St Charles in the Quebec City region. It is a major project for the municipality, because there have been no major development projects in the area since 1976. Under the project, called La Lorraine, more than 800 single-family and semidetached dwellings and town houses will be built over the next five years.
- The "**NATURALIUM**", a museum of natural science, will be built at Quebec City's old port this spring at a cost of roughly **\$6 million**. The project is being financed entirely by the private sector. The Naturalium is slated to open in late May or early June.
- The **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** approved 27 projects in the central regions, excluding Montreal, in March. Authorized contributions amounted to \$12.1 million, with investment totalling \$144.7 million. The projects will help maintain or create 1,058 jobs.

*Layoffs:*

- **EXPRO CHEMICAL PRODUCTS INC** of St Timothée recently laid off **200 workers** for one month. The plant, which manufactures explosives and propellant powder and exports 90% of its products to the United States, has been affected by budget cuts announced by President Clinton.
- **GICLEURS ASTRA** of Sherbrooke has shut down temporarily, throwing some **15 employees** out of work. The company manufactured sprinkler heads and valves.

## RESOURCE REGIONS

### *Economic highlights:*

- In 1991-1992, the pulp and paper industry in the Lower St Lawrence managed to increase production by **14%** despite the recession. In the first ten months of 1992, pulp and paper mills in the Lower St Lawrence were operating at **88%** capacity, compared to **85%** during the same period in 1991.
- The state of industry in the KAMOURASKA region contrasts with conditions in many other regions in Quebec that are normally in better shape. Despite difficult conditions in 1992, the region managed to add some 382 manufacturing jobs, an increase of **18%**. The value of shipments rose **12%** to \$336 million. The metal products and public transportation equipment sectors were the driving force behind growth in the region. These sectors employ **60%** of Kamouraska's industrial labour force.
- As a result of drastic cuts in groundfish quotas in the Gulf of St Lawrence announced last fall, the Société des pêches de Newport and the Gaspé Cure group will have to import between 10,000 and 12,000 tonnes of cod from the Pacific and the Barents Sea to continue operating. At least 350 fishing-related jobs are currently at stake.

### *Major investment:*

- Telecommunications company **QUEBEC TELEPHONE** plans to invest **\$320 million** over the next five years to expand and modernize its network. A large part of the money will be allocated to convert local networks to fibre optics.
- **TEMBEC** will build a hydroelectric plant at Témiskaming at a cost of **\$150 million**. The hydroelectric power will be sold to Hydro Quebec, and the steam generated will be used by Tembec in its pulp and paperboard mills. The project will create 200 jobs during the construction phase and some 15 permanent jobs to operate the plant.
- **PRELCO INC** of Rivière du Loup will invest \$4 million to manufacture new products made out of tempered and rolled glass. The project will create 30 jobs. The company will receive a non-repayable contribution of \$900,000 from the Federal Office of Regional Development.
- The **GRANDS JARDINS**, an immense ornamental garden covering more than 100 acres, will be developed in Normandin near Dolbeau in the Lac St Jean region. The federal government will invest **\$1.5 million** in the project, which calls for an estimated **\$3.4 million** in investment. The project will generate significant economic spinoffs and help local officials in their efforts to promote tourism in the Lac St Jean region. The assistance was granted by the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec under the **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR TOURIST ATTRACTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (APTAIP)**.

- On April 1, the Governments of Quebec and Canada jointly announced the establishment of a joint voluntary buy-back program for commercial salmon fishing licenses on the North Shore. The program is a major component of the Salmon Economic Development Program (SEDP). A budget envelope of up to **\$3.2 million**, which is in addition to the \$24 million already earmarked for the SEDP, has been allocated for the buy-back program. The federal government will provide 70% of funding, and the Quebec government, 30%. The voluntary buy-back program for commercial fishing licences, slated to last two years, is targeted at the 62 commercial fishermen on the North Shore who fish in the Saguenay and Olomane Rivers.
- On March 24, the Honourable Benoît Bouchard, Minister responsible for the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec, announced a **\$425,000** grant for the **BOIS-AISÉ** sawmill in Roberval. The plant had been destroyed by fire in early April 1992. The federal investment is in accordance with the objectives of the "Investing in Growth" program. The plant will be rebuilt at an estimated cost of \$2.1 million. Under the project, new buildings will be erected, and modern equipment for resawing, planing and trimming lumber will be purchased. The project will preserve 45 jobs. The assistance is granted under the industrial component of the ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (EDP-I).
- The federal government provided the **SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA GASPÉSIE INC** with **\$648,000** in financial assistance to expand and modernize the Musée de la Gaspésie. The project, which will require **\$720,000** in investment, will create two permanent jobs and help attract more visitors to the museum. The assistance is granted under the tourism component of the ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (EDP-T). The program is administered by the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec under the Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on the Economic Development of the Regions of Quebec.
- In all, the **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** granted \$1.5 million in contributions in March in the resource regions for a total investment of \$4.9 million. Thirty jobs will be created through 36 projects.

*Layoffs:*

- The **TULINOR** plant in Grandes Bergeronnes on the North Shore declared bankruptcy, throwing some **30 employees** out of work. The plant used to make granite tiles. The recession is behind the closing of the plant.
- The **LACTEL** dairy plant in Trois Pistoles closed in mid March. It employed some **20 workers**. However, a group of local people are going to try to get the plant going again by making such specialized products as high-quality butter oil.

## EMPLOYMENT BY PROVINCE

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Province	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Newfoundland	189	183	188	187	6	1
Prince Edward Island	55	55	53	54	0	2
Nova Scotia	359	359	361	360	0	-2
New Brunswick	296	290	289	290	6	7
Québec	2965	2951	2954	2952	14	11
Ontario	4806	4786	4710	4731	20	96
Manitoba	492	490	482	485	2	10
Saskatchewan	438	438	444	438	0	-6
Alberta	1229	1236	1237	1238	-7	-8
British Columbia	1540	1539	1502	1526	1	38
Canada	12376	12328	12223	12261	48	153
In thousands						
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS						

## EMPLOYMENT\*

### BY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
St-John's (Newfoundland)	67	67	69	69	0	-2
Halifax	153	152	151	151	1	2
Saint John (New Brunswick)	56	56	52	55	0	4
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	53	53	56	54	0	-3
Québec	287	290	283	287	-3	4
Montréal	1371	1365	1391	1373	6	-20
Trois-Rivières	51	51	51	50	0	0
Sherbrooke	58	57	56	55	1	2
Ottawa-Hull	444	443	440	440	1	4
Sudbury	65	65	59	62	0	6
Toronto	1781	1777	1794	1772	4	-13
Hamilton	284	281	294	288	3	-10
St. Catharines - Niagara	141	142	145	142	-1	-4
London	174	173	160	167	1	14
Windsor	116	113	118	114	3	-2
Kitchener - Waterloo	194	190	188	187	4	6
Thunder Bay	57	58	60	58	-1	-3
Oshawa	121	117	105	106	4	16
Winnipeg	301	299	299	297	2	2
Regina	89	89	89	88	0	0
Saskatoon	84	84	87	84	0	-3
Calgary	358	359	357	361	-1	1
Edmonton	362	365	376	368	-3	-14
Vancouver	818	822	816	821	-4	2
Victoria	127	126	129	125	1	-2

\*Employment: In thousands, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**EMPLOYMENT\***  
**BY ECONOMIC REGION**  
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Economic Region	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Gaspésie - Iles-de-la-Madeleine	25	24	27	29	1	-2
Bas-Saint-Laurent	65	67	76	76	-2	-11
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	106	107	109	112	-1	-3
Québec and Québec-Sud	410	416	412	428	-6	-2
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	182	181	180	193	1	2
Estrie	111	112	106	111	-1	5
Montérégie	518	514	542	541	4	-24
Montréal-Centre and Laval	871	880	894	899	-9	-23
Laurentides	180	180	158	180	0	22
Lanaudière	141	141	123	142	0	18
Outaouais	136	136	133	136	0	3
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	59	59	53	59	0	6
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	41	43	40	44	-2	1
<b>Province of Québec</b>	<b>2846</b>	<b>2860</b>	<b>2853</b>	<b>2951</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>-7</b>

\*Employment: In thousands, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**UNEMPLOYED  
BY PROVINCE**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Province	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Newfoundland	46	46	49	48	0	-3
Prince Edward Island	11	11	11	11	0	0
Nova Scotia	58	57	55	56	1	3
New Brunswick	40	38	44	42	2	-4
Québec	442	441	423	441	1	19
Ontario	551	532	559	575	19	-8
Manitoba	46	45	53	50	1	-7
Saskatchewan	40	42	38	41	-2	2
Alberta	138	124	130	130	14	8
British Columbia	162	166	174	174	-4	-12
Canada	1537	1500	1538	1566	37	-1
In thousands						
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS						

**UNEMPLOYED  
BY METROPOLITAN AREA**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
St-John's (Newfoundland)	12	12	14	12	0	-2
Halifax	17	17	15	17	0	2
Saint John (New Brunswick)	6	6	8	7	0	-2
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	11	11	7	9	0	4
Québec	34	34	37	36	0	-3
Montréal	216	216	203	210	0	13
Trois-Rivières	9	9	8	9	0	1
Sherbrooke	8	8	8	9	0	0
Ottawa-Hull	37	38	42	42	-1	-5
Sudbury	10	9	6	9	1	4
Toronto	200	208	215	228	-8	-15
Hamilton	38	37	30	36	1	8
St. Catharines - Niagara	20	20	16	22	0	4
London	15	15	16	15	0	-1
Windsor	15	16	16	17	-1	-1
Kitchener - Waterloo	19	19	16	20	0	3
Thunder Bay	7	7	5	7	0	2
Oshawa	12	13	14	14	-1	-2
Winnipeg	35	36	40	37	-1	-5
Regina	8	8	7	8	0	1
Saskatoon	11	11	9	11	0	2
Calgary	39	39	42	41	0	-3
Edmonton	44	42	47	45	2	-3
Vancouver	83	82	83	83	1	0
Victoria	13	12	12	11	1	1

\*Unemployed: In thousands, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**UNEMPLOYED\***  
**BY ECONOMIC REGION**  
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Economic Region	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	8	8	8	8	0	0
Bas-Saint-Laurent	15	16	13	14	-1	2
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	23	23	18	20	0	5
Québec and Québec-Sud	54	50	56	51	4	-2
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	34	33	29	30	1	5
Estrie	15	16	17	16	-1	-2
Montréal-Centre and Laval	84	79	77	70	5	7
Montréal-Centre and Laval	156	149	150	149	7	6
Laurentides	30	29	24	26	1	6
Lanaudière	26	25	21	21	1	5
Outaouais	19	19	17	18	0	2
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	8	8	10	9	0	-2
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	9	8	7	7	1	2
Province of Québec	481	464	448	438	17	33

\*Unemployed: In thousands, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
BY PROVINCE**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Province	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Newfoundland	19.6	20.1	20.7	20.3	-0.5	-1.1
Prince Edward Island	16.5	16.6	17.4	17.5	-0.1	-0.9
Nova Scotia	13.9	13.7	13.2	13.5	0.2	0.7
New Brunswick	11.9	11.6	13.2	12.5	0.3	-1.3
Québec	13.0	13.0	12.5	13.0	0.0	0.5
Ontario	10.3	10.0	10.6	10.8	0.3	-0.3
Manitoba	8.6	8.4	9.9	9.4	0.2	-1.3
Saskatchewan	8.4	8.8	7.9	8.5	-0.4	0.5
Alberta	10.1	9.1	9.5	9.5	1.0	0.6
British Columbia	9.5	9.7	10.4	10.3	-0.2	-0.9
Canada	11.0	10.8	11.2	11.3	0.2	-0.2

In percentage  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\***  
**BY METROPOLITAN AREA**

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area				Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92			
St-John's (Newfoundland)	15.3	15.7	16.5	15.2	-0.4	-1.2
Halifax	10.2	10.2	9.1	10.2	0.0	1.1
Saint John (New Brunswick)	9.9	9.3	12.7	11.0	0.6	-2.8
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	17.1	16.7	11.8	14.8	0.4	5.3
Québec	10.7	10.6	11.6	11.2	0.1	-0.9
Montréal	13.6	13.7	12.7	13.3	-0.1	0.9
Trois-Rivières	14.8	15.1	13.3	15.7	-0.3	1.5
Sherbrooke	11.6	12.8	12.1	13.7	-1.2	-0.5
Ottawa-Hull	7.6	8.0	8.8	8.7	-0.4	-1.2
Sudbury	12.9	12.4	9.7	12.3	0.5	3.2
Toronto	10.1	10.5	10.7	11.4	-0.4	-0.6
Hamilton	11.7	11.6	9.3	11.0	0.1	2.4
St. Catharines - Niagara	12.4	12.4	9.8	13.2	0.0	2.6
London	8.0	7.7	9.0	8.4	0.3	-1.0
Windsor	11.4	12.6	11.8	12.9	-1.2	-0.4
Kitchener - Waterloo	9.0	9.2	8.0	9.7	-0.2	1.0
Thunder Bay	10.4	10.4	7.7	10.4	0.0	2.7
Oshawa	9.3	9.7	11.9	11.9	-0.4	-2.6
Winnipeg	10.5	10.7	11.7	11.1	-0.2	-1.2
Regina	8.3	8.6	7.1	8.5	-0.3	1.2
Saskatoon	11.8	12.0	9.7	11.7	-0.2	2.1
Calgary	9.9	9.9	10.6	10.1	0.0	-0.7
Edmonton	10.9	10.4	11.0	11.0	0.5	-0.1
Vancouver	9.2	9.1	9.2	9.2	0.1	0.0
Victoria	9.2	8.6	8.7	8.4	0.6	0.5

\*Unemployment rate: In percentage, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\***  
**BY ECONOMIC REGION**  
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Economic Region	Mar 93	Feb 93	Mar 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Mar93 / Feb93	Variation Mar93 / Mar92
Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	25.2	24.4	22.3	22.0	0.8	2.9
Bas-Saint-Laurent	18.5	19.0	14.7	15.2	-0.5	3.8
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	17.9	17.5	13.9	15.4	0.4	4.0
Québec and Québec-Sud	11.6	10.7	12.0	10.6	0.9	-0.4
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	15.8	15.5	14.1	13.5	0.3	1.7
Estrie	12.1	12.6	13.8	13.0	-0.5	-1.7
Montréal	13.9	13.4	12.4	11.4	0.5	1.5
Montréal-Centre and Laval	15.2	14.5	14.4	14.2	0.7	0.8
Laurentides	14.1	13.9	13.3	12.5	0.2	0.8
Lanaudière	15.8	15.2	14.6	12.6	0.6	1.2
Outaouais	12.2	12.5	11.4	11.5	-0.3	0.8
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	12.2	12.1	15.9	13.4	0.1	-3.7
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	17.3	15.9	15.7	13.7	1.4	1.6
Province of Québec	14.5	14.0	13.6	12.9	0.5	0.9

\*Unemployment rate: In percentage, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS