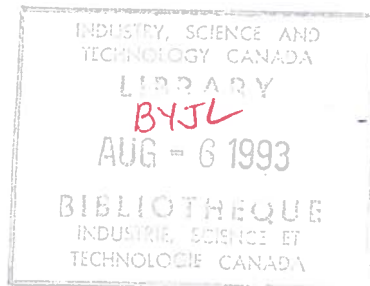


# The FORD(Q) Economic Update

Version française disponible

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Economists

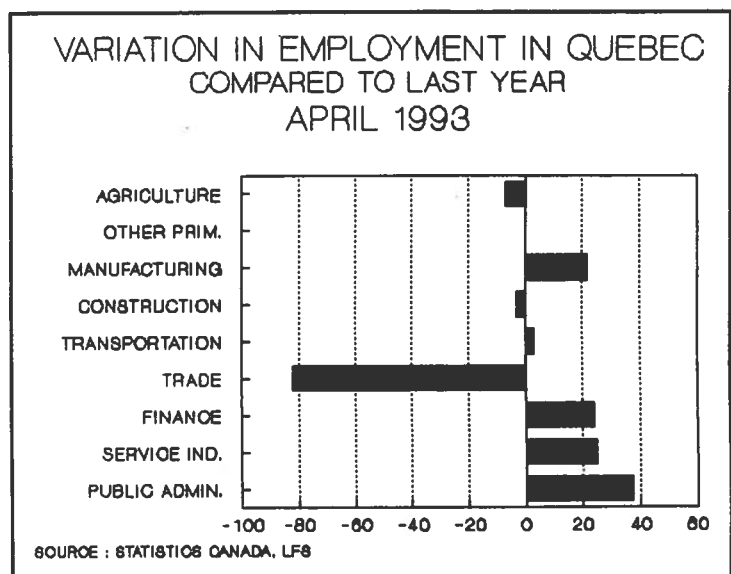


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## Changes in main indicators:

- According to economists at the **ROYAL BANK**, Canada's GDP should grow by **3.5%** in 1993 because of a marked increase in business productivity and a surge in exports. Forecasts by the **INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND** are also encouraging, with Canada's GDP expected to grow the most of all Western countries. Economists at the **TORONTO DOMINION BANK** are forecasting that Canada's economy will grow by **3%** in 1993, mostly as a result of Canada's favourable trade balance with the United States. However, the TD Bank also predicts that unemployment will continue to hover around **11%**.

- After rising for two months in a row, the number of jobs fell by 4,000 in Quebec in April compared to March. The same trend was observed across Canada, where 43,000 jobs were lost. All provinces were affected, except Saskatchewan (+2,000) and New Brunswick (unchanged). However, there were 22,000 more jobs in Quebec than in April 1992. Most industrial sectors in the province posted seasonally unadjusted job gains in April. Gains were most marked in the government (+37,000), service (+25,000), finance (+24,000) and manufacturing (+22,000) sectors. On the other hand, job losses were recorded in the construction (-3,000), agriculture (-7,000) and especially the trade (-82,000) sectors. In April alone, trade lost 16,000 jobs.



Federal Office of  
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(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de  
développement régional  
(Québec)

Canada

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The FORDQ 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.

Readers' suggestions and comments are most welcome. To have your name added to our mailing list, write to the following address:

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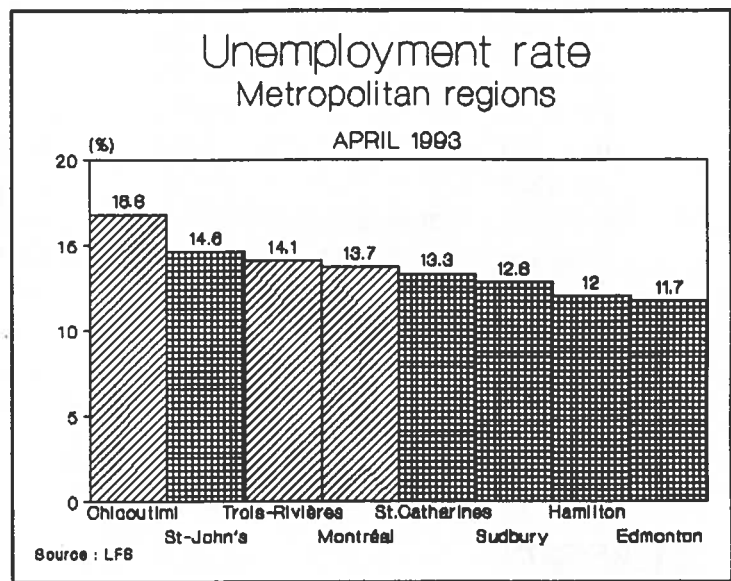
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- In terms of a three-month moving average, metropolitan **Montreal** gained 9,000 jobs in April, the sharpest increase of all metropolitan regions in Canada. There were 3,000 fewer jobs in **Quebec City**, with levels unchanged in all other metropolitan regions in Quebec. Compared to April 1992, **Montreal** and **Chicoutimi-Jonquière** lost 2,000 jobs, whereas **Sherbrooke** gained 2,000, and **Quebec City**, 1,000. Employment levels remained unchanged in **Trois Rivières**.

- The **unemployment rate** rose 0.4% in Quebec in April compared to March owing to the loss of 4,000 jobs and 12,000 new labour force participants. The same trend was recorded nationally, including in Ontario. Only New Brunswick (-0.3%) and Alberta (-0.1%) posted lower levels than in March. Quebec's unemployment rate was 0.8% higher than last year.

- Quebec's metropolitan regions recorded the highest unemployment rates in Canada in April. Three metropolitan regions in Quebec, **Chicoutimi-Jonquière** (16.8%), **Trois Rivières** (14.1%) and **Montreal** (13.7%) had three of the four highest rates, with St John's, Newfoundland completing the group. Compared to March, unemployment rose 0.5% in Quebec City and 0.1% in Montreal, while it dropped 0.7% in Trois Rivières and Sherbrooke and 0.3% in Chicoutimi-Jonquière.



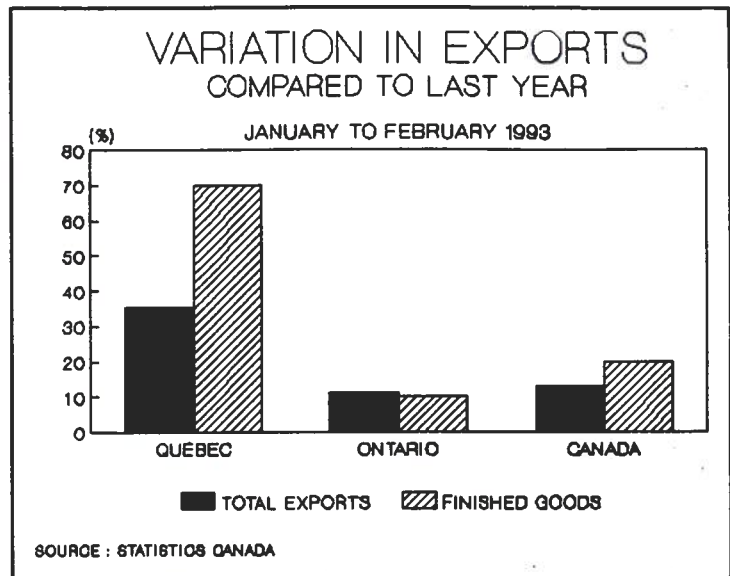
- Among the economic regions of Quebec, the **Gaspé-Magdalen Islands** posted the highest unemployment rate (27.2%) in April, a new record for the past two years. Unemployment was lowest in the **Eastern Townships** (11.5%), followed by the **Outaouais** (11.7%) and **Quebec City** and **Quebec City South** (11.8%).

- The **COMPOSITE LEADING INDEX**, the chief indicator of Canada's economic health, continued to move upward in March. The index rose 0.5% as a result of greater demand for manufactured goods and an increase in stock market transactions.

- In February, after months of slight growth, Canada's economy reached the level posted just before the recession began in the first quarter of 1990. According to STATISTICS CANADA, Canada's GDP totalled almost \$510 billion in annualized terms in February, up 0.4% from the previous month.

- According to **STATISTICS CANADA'S** latest forecasts, construction projects slated this year in Quebec will be worth a total of **\$20.5 billion**. Anticipated investment in the Quebec construction industry will account for 21.7% of all construction investment planned in Canada in 1993. Last year, \$20.1 billion was invested in construction in Quebec. Signs of recovery are therefore evident. The residential construction industry will capture the largest share this year, with investment totalling \$8.2 billion.

- Since early 1993, Quebec's international trade picture has improved considerably. After last year's dismal performance, Quebec's international exports rose by 35.2% during the first two months of 1993. The increase nationally was 13%. The upswing in Quebec was even more pronounced for finished goods, exports of which rose almost 70%, compared to less than 20% across Canada.



## Regional Review (April 16 to May 12, 1993):

### ALL REGIONS

#### *Economic highlights:*

- The President of Reynolds, Richard Holder, expects 1993 to be another bad year for the aluminium sector but says that the situation should improve by the year 2000. Mr Holder also predicts that passenger cars will contain 160 kg of aluminium in the year 2000 as opposed to the current 87 kg. In addition, stricter recycling standards should also give a boost to aluminium over the next few years.
- According to preliminary estimates made public by Statistics Canada on April 19, department store sales, which totalled \$866 million in March, were up 1.7% over March 1992.
- According to the latest issue of the *Baromètre touristique du Québec*, the occupancy rate in lodging facilities in 1992 was 44.4%, relatively unchanged from 44.7% in 1991.

- The federal government is cutting \$90 million from regional development credits, its chief spending cut in the 1993-1994 fiscal year announced in the budget on April 26. The federal government will not be renewing economic and regional development agreements in the forestry and mining sectors. In Quebec, the recently signed five-year agreement on mineral development will remain in effect until it expires in 1998, at which time it will not be renewed. The same holds true for the forestry agreement, set to expire in 1996.
- Quebec's construction industry is in the throes of an unprecedented crisis, with large numbers of builders on the verge of bankruptcy. Commercial, industrial and institutional construction are all in dire straits. Construction starts fell by 25% in Quebec in the first three months of the year. Under-the-table work has taken on epidemic proportions.

***Major investment:***

- The **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** approved contributions of \$19 million in April for 81 projects across the province expected to generate more than \$59 million in investment and create or maintain 412 jobs.

**MONTREAL**

***Contracts awarded:***

- The US military ordered 102 training helicopters from **BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON LTD** of Fort Worth, Texas. Bell Helicopter's Canadian subsidiary, located in Mirabel, won slightly more than half the contract, worth almost **\$85 million US**. The contract includes an option to purchase 55 other helicopters, which is worth slightly more than \$47 million US. The Mirabel plant should receive roughly half the contract option, as in the case of the original 102 aircraft.
- After signing an initial maintenance contract with Continental Airlines, **AIR CANADA** called 80 mechanics back to work in Dorval.

***Major investment:***

- On April 28, **AIR CANADA** became part owner of **CONTINENTAL AIRLINES**. Air Canada's partner in the deal is **AIR PARTNERS** of Fort Worth, Texas. The two airlines injected \$450 million US into Continental. Air Canada says that the partnership, once it is fully operational in roughly 18 months, will generate \$400 million US more revenue for the two carriers. The new alliance will create the fourth largest air carrier network in all of North America.

- On April 20, **MONTREAL** officially launched the first phase of an ambitious construction project. Over the next ten years, 5,000 housing units worth a total of \$350 million will be built in the Faubourg Québec complex, located near the St Lawrence east of Berri Street. Construction of the first phase is slated to begin in October, with occupancy in July 1994. During the first phase, 250 condominiums will be built at the corner of Berri and de la Commune streets. The City of Montreal will invest **\$43 million** in the project, that is, \$15 million to build the infrastructure and \$28 million to purchase, hold and prepare the site. The City anticipates **8,000 direct and indirect jobs** will be created.
- **TELEGLOBE** of Montreal, in partnership with the US firm Orbital Sciences Corporation, plans to launch a new global data communications system. The project is worth an estimated **\$135 million US**. Teleglobe will invest \$80 million US in the project, and Orbital, \$55 million. The two companies hope to sign a final agreement by June 10, 1993. Potential applications include paging, emergency road communications, remote surveillance of industrial facilities, tracking of stolen cars and electronic mail between pocket computers.
- **LES AÉROPORTS DE MONTRÉAL** announced that \$150 million will be invested at Dorval and Mirabel airports over five years to help attract more passengers.
- Around the end of April, **GAZ MÉTROPOLITAIN** will launch a major project to upgrade its network on the Island of Montreal. A total of **\$45 million** will be invested over five years, creating 180 jobs. The company plans to replace the last 250 km of cast-iron pipes with polyethylene pipes, enabling it to increase the capacity of its network eightfold, reduce maintenance costs by 20% per year and sign on new customers.
- Under the Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on Tourism Development, the governments of Canada and Quebec will invest **\$8.5 million** to set up **SPACE CAMP CANADA** in Laval. The giant complex will be built at a cost of **\$27 million**, \$5.1 million of which will be contributed by the Government of Canada, and \$3.4 million, by the Government of Quebec. The complex will not only teach visitors about space technologies, but it will also be used to test space equipment. The project is expected to create 300 person-years of employment during the construction phase, and 130 jobs, 60 of which will be on the site itself, when it opens in April 1994.
- **PLACE DESJARDINS**, the company responsible for managing the Complexe Desjardins, will invest **\$20 million** by 1996 to revitalize the shopping complex. Complexe Desjardins is expected to be the largest shopping centre in downtown Montreal in 1996 with 175 retail outlets.
- The Government of Canada will invest slightly more than **\$2.6 million** to establish the **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR APPLIED RESEARCH IN DESIGN**. The **MONTREAL DESIGN INSTITUTE** will also be set up to give Quebec design firms a more competitive edge. The Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec will contribute \$1,875,000 from the Montreal Development Fund, and the federal Department of Communications will

contribute \$750,000. A total of **\$6.5 million** will be invested in the project. In addition to the assistance provided by Ottawa, the City of Montreal will contribute, besides facilities, \$1.15 million, and the Government of Quebec, \$2.5 million.

- **FORD-Q** approved contributions of \$8.4 million in metropolitan Montreal in April 1993. A total of \$25.3 million will be invested in 24 projects, creating or maintaining 240 jobs.

#### *Layoffs:*

- The **TRANSCONTINENTAL GROUP**, the second largest commercial printer in Canada, announced the closing of its Candiach facility, throwing **300 people** out of work.
- Owing to the crisis currently facing Canadian steel producers, **SIDBEC DOSCO** announced in early May that it would be laying off roughly **160 workers** at its Montreal, Longueuil and Contrecoeur plants. In addition, in January 1993, the United States decided to impose on 21 countries, including Canada, an additional 10% tax on cold-rolled sheet metal, a product which accounts for \$10 million worth of Sidbec Dosco's sales. To become competitive once again, the company wants to cut its payroll to roughly 20% of its sales.
- In its rationalization plan, **CP RAIL** announced it would be closing eight customer service centres, including the one in Montreal. The closings will throw **150 people** out of work across Canada. The number of workers affected in Montreal is not known at present.
- **EATON'S** announced major layoffs at its warehouse in St Laurent. A total of **85 employees** will be laid off, the result of sluggish sales.

### CENTRAL REGIONS

#### *Economic highlights:*

- The Chutes de la Chaudière region posted **\$17.5 million** in new investment in manufacturing in 1992 and **249 new jobs**. Even though 213 workers were laid off, the region posted a net gain.
- **INTERGRAPH CANADA**, which specializes in digitized mapping, officially opened its research centre in Hull, which will employ some 30 people.

#### *Contracts awarded:*

- Canam Steel Corporation, the US subsidiary of **CANAM MANAC**, signed an agreement in principle to secure a **\$19.2-million** contract to manufacture, deliver and install 8,000 tonnes of metal structural components for the new Boston Gardens. The components will be produced at the Les Aciers Canam plant in St Gédéon, with delivery from August 1993 to April 1994.

- **IPL** of St Damien de Bellechasse won a contract from General Motors worth up to **\$17.5 million** over five years to mould auto parts. Since the Free Trade Agreement took effect in 1989, IPL's sales in the US involving products other than automobile products that it markets itself have risen 300% from \$4 to \$12 million. Over the past 18 months, the company has added 11 new products designed specifically for the US market.
- **ST LAWRENCE CEMENT** of Beauport won a **\$15-million** contract to supply 90,000 metric tonnes of cement powder for the Hibernia drilling platform. Silica fume is added to the cement produced in Beauport to prevent corrosion by sea water. The silica fume is produced by SKW of Bécancour.
- **C-MAC** of Sherbrooke won a \$10-million contract from Laser Magnetics Storage International Company of Colorado Springs. C-MAC will supply electronic system boards for personal computers (CD-ROM systems). The contract will preserve the 100 jobs that were jeopardized because of the contract the company had lost with IBM. C-MAC will also invest \$14 million to purchase new equipment.

*Major investment:*

- Les Immeubles St-Jérôme Inc will build the **CARREFOUR ST-JÉRÔME**, a commercial and business complex, along the Laurentian autoroute in St Jérôme. The project, to cost an estimated **\$16 million**, will be carried out in two phases. During the initial construction phase, slated to be completed in August and cost \$6 million, some 100 workers will likely be hired. During the second phase, to cost \$10 million, an office tower, hotel/motel and recreation centre will be built. The second phase should be completed in the spring of 1994.
- Some 15 firms in and around Granby received federal government contributions through the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec. They received more than **\$1.1 million** in assistance, with investment totalling more than **\$4.2 million**. **Sixty new jobs** will be created.
- **MASKI CUBE INC** began building a plant that will produce dehydrated alfalfa cubes in Louiseville in the St Maurice Valley. The project, to cost an estimated **\$2 million**, should create five permanent jobs.
- The Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec, under the Manufacturing Productivity Improvement Program (MPIP), will inject **\$1 million** to help the **CANLAC CORPORATION** set up a facility in Victoriaville specializing in chemicals for the pharmaceutical industry. A total of \$12 million will be invested in the project, and 23 jobs will be created.
- The **FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QUEBEC** granted **\$554,000** in contributions to help five Beauce firms gain a more competitive edge. The companies that received government assistance are:
  - Manac Inc of St Georges, which, with a \$312,000 repayable contribution, will invest \$1.3 million to purchase specialized equipment.

- Beaulé et Fils Inc of St Zacharie will receive a \$95,000 contribution and will invest \$380,000 to modernize its facilities.
- Royal Mat Inc of Beauceville will receive a \$32,000 contribution to conduct a feasibility study on automating its entire manufacturing operation.
- Filature Lemieux Inc of St Ephrem will receive a \$50,000 contribution to purchase modern equipment. The company will invest \$400,000.
- L'Atelier d'usinage Ray-Jean Inc will receive a \$65,000 contribution to purchase modern equipment.

These contributions were made under the Manufacturing Productivity Improvement Program (MPIP).

- **FORD-Q** approved contributions of \$3.1 million in April for all the central regions, with investment totalling \$18.2 million. It is hoped that 120 jobs will be created or maintained.

#### *Layoffs:*

- **MIL DAVIE** shipyards in Quebec City, having completed two major frigate contracts, expects to lay off **1,000** of its 3,200 employees in 1993.
- **CANADIAN PACIFIC FOREST PRODUCTS (CPFP)** announced that its commercial pulp division at its La Tuque plant would be closing permanently. Some **200 employees** will lose their jobs, with no hope of being hired back. The reasons for the company's decision include a sharp drop in demand, overcapacity and high inventories.
- **LES ATELIERS FABRON**, a subsidiary of the Laperrière & Verreault Group (GVL), went bankrupt in late April. The Trois Rivières plant employed **150 people**. Les Ateliers Fabron specialized in machining and manufacturing for heavy industry. The President of GVL stated that the closing was not the result of poor production quality, but rather global markets and competition.

## **RESOURCE REGIONS**

### *Economic highlights:*

- The value of mineral production in the Abitibi region declined in 1992 for the first time since 1984. Production totalled \$892 million, down 10% from 1991. It is expected to continue to fall in 1993, with no improvement in sight before a few years. The decline, resulting in 700 jobs being cut, is due chiefly to the drop in metal prices and the depletion of some Abitibi mines. In addition, the current slowdown in exploration will make it virtually impossible to replenish mineral stockpiles in the region.

### *Major investment:*

- Toronto mining company **AGNICO-EAGLE**, spurred on by good drilling results, will increase its exploration program in the Abitibi region from \$25 to more than **\$60 million**. Recent drilling results at two test sites point to a major deposit. The tests were conducted 3,000 feet from the main shaft at the LaRonde mine near Cadillac, located between Val d'Or and Rouyn-Noranda.
- The federal government, through the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec, announced that the Corporation de développement industriel de Charlevoix-Est Inc will receive a non-repayable contribution of **\$90,323** to conduct a feasibility study to assess investment opportunities for developing and processing Charlevoix silica. The Charlevoix area has a deposit of more than 200 million tonnes of quartz silica that has yet to be developed.
- The Quebec Minister of Forestry, Albert Côté, announced in late April that the Belleterre plant in Abitibi would be rebuilt by Commonwealth Plywood Ltd. Once the construction work has been completed in a few months, some **73 workers** will be employed at the plant, which should be in production 11 months a year.
- The federal government, through the Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec, granted a non-repayable contribution of **\$574,000** to establish a prehistoric archaeological interpretation centre on the North Shore. The centre will be built in Grandes Bergeronnes, located some 30 kilometres from Tadoussac. Roughly **\$1.5 million** will be invested in the project. The Government of Quebec will contribute \$745,000. The project will create the equivalent of **seven permanent jobs**, with economic spinoffs estimated at more than \$500,000 per year. The centre should be self-financing in three years.
- In April 1993, **FORD-Q** approved contributions of \$7.7 million in the region. The 26 projects that received funding will create or maintain 52 jobs, with investment totalling almost \$16 million.

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

Province	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Newfoundland	186	189	188	187	-3	-2
Prince Edward Island	53	55	51	54	-2	2
Nova Scotia	356	359	359	359	-3	-3
New Brunswick	296	296	286	291	0	10
Québec	2961	2965	2939	2954	-4	22
Ontario	4793	4806	4693	4739	-13	100
Manitoba	484	492	479	486	-8	5
Saskatchewan	440	438	441	438	2	-1
Alberta	1228	1229	1238	1237	-1	-10
British Columbia	1539	1540	1502	1529	-1	37
Canada	12333	12376	12173	12274	-43	160
In thousands						
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS						

**EMPLOYMENT\***  
**BY METROPOLITAN AREA**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
St-John's (Newfoundland)	69	67	69	69	2	0
Halifax	154	153	150	151	1	4
Saint John (New Brunswick)	56	56	53	55	0	3
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	53	53	55	54	0	-2
Québec	284	287	283	287	-3	1
Montréal	1380	1371	1382	1373	9	-2
Trois-Rivières	51	51	51	50	0	0
Sherbrooke	58	58	56	55	0	2
Ottawa-Hull	446	444	438	441	2	8
Sudbury	66	65	58	62	1	8
Toronto	1777	1781	1790	1771	-4	-13
Hamilton	284	284	296	287	0	-12
St. Catharines - Niagara	138	141	145	141	-3	-7
London	175	174	161	168	1	14
Windsor	116	116	115	114	0	1
Kitchener - Waterloo	197	194	188	188	3	9
Thunder Bay	57	57	60	57	0	-3
Oshawa	123	121	105	108	2	18
Winnipeg	300	301	298	298	-1	2
Regina	89	89	90	88	0	-1
Saskatoon	84	84	86	84	0	-2
Calgary	359	358	358	361	1	1
Edmonton	358	362	374	367	-4	-16
Vancouver	820	818	812	822	2	8
Victoria	126	127	129	125	-1	-3

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Québec Economic Region	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Gaspésie - Iles-de-la-Madeleine	25	25	27	29	0	-2
Bas-Saint-Laurent	66	65	75	76	1	-9
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	107	106	108	112	1	-1
Québec and Québec-Sud	409	410	415	428	-1	-6
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	188	182	187	193	6	1
Estrie	111	111	106	111	0	5
Montréal-Centre and Laval	528	518	545	540	10	-17
Montréal-Centre and Laval	875	871	881	899	4	-6
Laurentides	179	180	163	182	-1	16
Lanaudière	143	141	126	144	2	17
Outaouais	137	136	133	137	1	4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	57	59	52	59	-2	5
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	41	41	40	44	0	1
Province of Québec	2864	2846	2859	2952	18	5

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Newfoundland	46	46	44	48	0	2
Prince Edward Island	11	11	11	11	0	0
Nova Scotia	60	58	54	57	2	6
New Brunswick	39	40	43	41	-1	-4
<b>Québec</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>36</b>
Ontario	575	551	562	576	24	13
Manitoba	51	46	51	50	5	0
Saskatchewan	41	40	38	41	1	3
Alberta	136	138	121	131	-2	15
British Columbia	172	162	169	175	10	3
Canada	1581	1537	1514	1572	44	67
In thousands						
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS						

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

Metropolitan Area	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
St-John's (Newfoundland)	12	12	12	12	0	0
Halifax	17	17	16	17	0	1
Saint John (New Brunswick)	6	6	8	7	0	-2
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	11	11	8	10	0	3
Québec	36	34	39	36	2	-3
Montréal	219	216	205	211	3	14
Trois-Rivières	8	9	8	9	-1	0
Sherbrooke	7	8	8	9	-1	-1
Ottawa-Hull	37	37	45	41	0	-8
Sudbury	10	10	7	9	0	3
Toronto	208	200	221	227	8	-13
Hamilton	39	38	30	36	1	9
St. Catharines - Niagara	21	20	16	22	1	5
London	15	15	15	15	0	0
Windsor	14	15	17	17	-1	-3
Kitchener - Waterloo	19	19	17	20	0	2
Thunder Bay	7	7	5	7	0	2
Oshawa	13	12	16	14	1	-3
Winnipeg	36	35	38	37	1	-2
Regina	8	8	7	8	0	1
Saskatoon	11	11	10	11	0	1
Calgary	40	39	41	41	1	-1
Edmonton	47	44	45	45	3	2
Vancouver	84	83	81	83	1	3
Victoria	12	13	12	11	-1	0

\*Unemployed: In thousands, three-month moving average  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Québec Economic Region	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Gaspésie - Iles-de-la-Madeleine	9	8	8	8	1	1
Bas-Saint-Laurent	14	15	13	14	-1	1
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	23	23	19	21	0	4
Québec and Québec-Sud	55	54	56	51	1	-1
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	33	34	30	30	-1	3
Estrie	14	15	17	16	-1	-3
Montréal-Centre and Laval	89	84	76	71	5	13
Montréal-Centre and Laval	153	156	149	149	-3	4
Laurentides	30	30	25	26	0	5
Lanaudière	25	26	20	21	-1	5
Outaouais	18	19	18	18	-1	0
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	9	8	10	9	1	-1
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	9	9	7	7	0	2
<b>Province of Québec</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>30</b>

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Newfoundland	19.8	19.6	19.0	20.4	0.2	0.8
Prince Edward Island	16.6	16.5	18.1	17.4	0.1	-1.5
Nova Scotia	14.4	13.9	13.1	13.6	0.5	1.3
New Brunswick	11.6	11.9	13.1	12.4	-0.3	-1.5
Québec	13.4	13.0	12.6	13.1	0.4	0.8
Ontario	10.7	10.3	10.7	10.8	0.4	0.0
Manitoba	9.5	8.6	9.6	9.4	0.9	-0.1
Saskatchewan	8.5	8.4	7.9	8.6	0.1	0.6
Alberta	10.0	10.1	8.9	9.6	-0.1	1.1
British Columbia	10.1	9.5	10.1	10.3	0.6	0.0
Canada	11.4	11.0	11.1	11.3	0.4	0.3
In percentage						
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS						

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\* BY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
St-John's (Newfoundland)	14.6	15.3	15.3	15.1	-0.7	-0.7
Halifax	10.1	10.2	9.6	10.2	-0.1	0.5
Saint John (New Brunswick)	10.2	9.9	12.6	10.8	0.3	-2.4
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	16.8	17.1	12.7	15.1	-0.3	4.1
Québec	11.2	10.7	12.0	11.1	0.5	-0.8
Montréal	13.7	13.6	12.9	13.3	0.1	0.8
Trois-Rivières	14.1	14.8	14.3	15.7	-0.7	-0.2
Sherbrooke	10.9	11.6	12.9	13.5	-0.7	-2.0
Ottawa-Hull	7.6	7.6	9.3	8.6	0.0	-1.7
Sudbury	12.8	12.9	10.6	12.5	-0.1	2.2
Toronto	10.5	10.1	11.0	11.4	0.4	-0.5
Hamilton	12.0	11.7	9.1	11.2	0.3	2.9
St. Catharines - Niagara	13.3	12.4	10.0	13.5	0.9	3.3
London	8.1	8.0	8.7	8.3	0.1	-0.6
Windsor	10.7	11.4	12.9	12.8	-0.7	-2.2
Kitchener - Waterloo	8.9	9.0	8.3	9.8	-0.1	0.6
Thunder Bay	10.8	10.4	7.9	10.7	0.4	2.9
Oshawa	9.5	9.3	12.8	11.6	0.2	-3.3
Winnipeg	10.6	10.5	11.3	11.0	0.1	-0.7
Regina	8.4	8.3	7.6	8.6	0.1	0.8
Saskatoon	11.3	11.8	10.7	11.8	-0.5	0.6
Calgary	10.1	9.9	10.3	10.1	0.2	-0.2
Edmonton	11.7	10.9	10.8	11.1	0.8	0.9
Vancouver	9.3	9.2	9.0	9.2	0.1	0.3
Victoria	8.8	9.2	8.7	8.4	-0.4	0.1

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

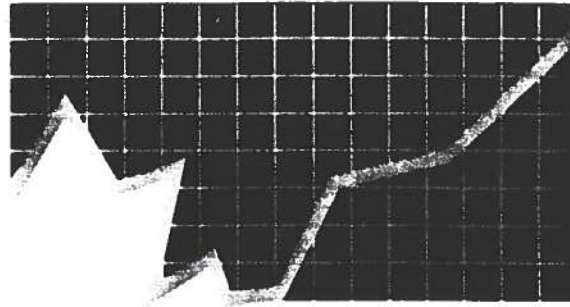
**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\***  
**BY ECONOMIC REGION**  
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Economic Region	Apr 93	Mar 93	Apr 92	Average of last 12 months	Variation Apr93 / Mar93	Variation Apr93 / Apr92
Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	27.2	25.2	24.2	22.2	2.0	3.0
Bas-Saint-Laurent	17.6	18.5	15.0	15.4	-0.9	2.6
Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	17.5	17.9	14.9	15.6	-0.4	2.6
Québec and Québec-Sud	11.8	11.6	11.8	10.6	0.2	0.0
Mauricie - Bois-Francs	14.8	15.8	13.7	13.6	-1.0	1.1
Estrie	11.5	12.1	14.0	12.8	-0.6	-2.5
Montréal	14.4	13.9	12.2	11.6	0.5	2.2
Montréal-Centre and Laval	14.9	15.2	14.5	14.2	-0.3	0.4
Laurentides	14.3	14.1	13.2	12.6	0.2	1.1
Lanaudière	14.7	15.8	13.7	12.7	-1.1	1.0
Outaouais	11.7	12.2	11.8	11.5	-0.5	-0.1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	13.1	12.2	16.5	13.1	0.9	-3.4
Côte-Nord - Nord-du-Québec	17.2	17.3	15.4	13.8	-0.1	1.8
Province of Québec	14.3	14.5	13.6	13.0	-0.2	0.7

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

# A BOOST FOR YOUR BUSINES



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**R**egional development calls for tools suited to the specifics of each region.

**T**he Federal Office of Regional Development-Quebec administers a range of financial assistance programs designed to meet the needs of local businesses and organizations. These programs can provide support for such projects as:

- establishment, expansion or modernization of a business;
- development, acquisition or integration of new technologies;

- research and development;
- tourism and industrial development.

**I**n the interests of better response to specific local needs, FORD-Q is represented in each region of Quebec.

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