

# The FORD(Q) Economic Update

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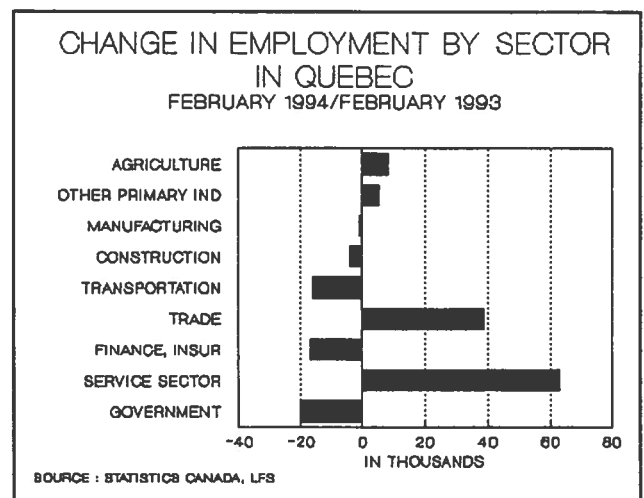
Editor: Léonel Plasse



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## Second major upswing in employment

- For the second month in a row, the number of jobs in Quebec rose sharply in February. Jobs in Quebec increased by 15,000 compared to January and by 57,000 compared to February 1993. For the first time since May 1991, seasonally adjusted employment figures surpassed three million. Seasonally unadjusted figures indicated a major increase in the number of jobs in services (+63,000) and trade (+39,000), but significant losses were registered in government (-20,000), finance, insurance and real estate (-17,000) and transportation, communications and other utilities (-16,000). The Quebec manufacturing sector lost 1,000 jobs, compared to a gain of 20,000 in Canada as a whole. The primary sector continued to show strong growth, with the number of jobs in February 1994 up 13,000 from the same month last year.



## Unemployment rate declines

- Quebec's unemployment rate fell from 12.9% in January to 12.5% in February, the lowest rate since May 1992. In Canada as a whole, the rate dropped 0.3%, to 11.1%. Three provinces recorded sharper declines than Quebec - Newfoundland (-1.8%), Nova Scotia (-0.7%) and Alberta (-0.5%).



Federal Office of  
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(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de  
développement régional  
(Québec)

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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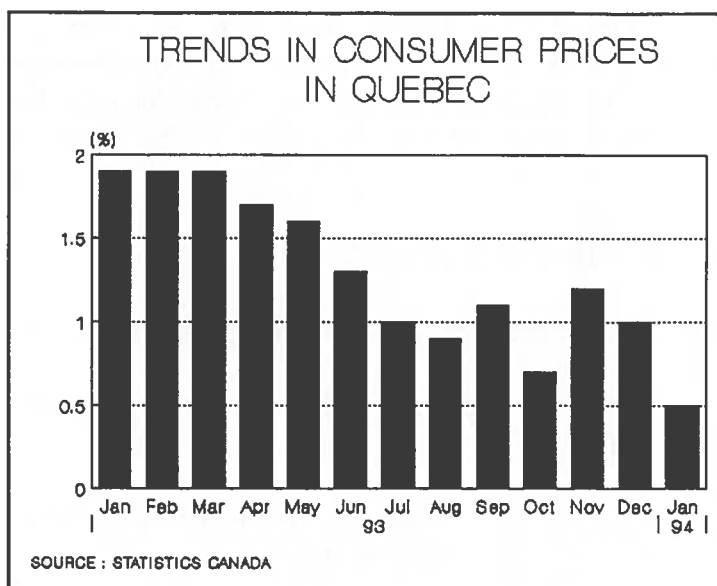
**The editors are:**

Léonel Plasse  
&  
Doris Larose

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### *Little increase in prices*

- Following an increase of 1.4% in 1993, the **Consumer Price Index** for Montreal in January 1994 rose by only 0.5% compared to the same month last year, the smallest increase shown by a Canadian city. For the past year, price growth has remained under 2%, with a downward trend which became more marked during the summer. In January 1994, prices stabilized for the following sub-indicators: food, housing, tobacco and alcoholic beverages. The clothing sub-indicator declined.



### *Accelerated growth*

- Canada's **GDP** in real terms increased by 2.4% in 1993, mainly as a result of strong growth in exports and private investment in machinery and equipment. In the third quarter, the rate of growth reached an annual rate of 3.8%. In the United States, the GDP posted phenomenal growth of 7.5% in the third quarter. This augers well for the growth of Canadian exports. (La Presse, 02/03/94)

### *Weak investment growth in Quebec*

- **Capital investment** will increase by 4.2% in Canada in 1994, according to Statistics Canada's survey of private and public investment in Canada, *Perspectives 1994*. Capital investment in the mining (+20.9%), forestry (+14.9%), wholesale trade (+10.8%), manufacturing (+10.4%) and transportation and warehousing (+10%) sectors will account for the largest share of the growth. Quebec will have to make do with a modest increase of 1.1% in capital investment in 1994. However, the Quebec manufacturing sector will advance by 17.4%, compared to 16.6% in Ontario. (Le Quotidien, Statistics Canada, 28/02/94; La Presse, 01/03/94)

### *Upswing in utilization rate*

- The **industrial capacity utilization rate** rose 2% between the fourth quarter of 1992 and the fourth quarter of 1993. The mining sector continued to show the strongest growth (6.4%), followed by the manufacturing industry (3.3%).

## *Overtime replaces hiring*

- Quebec firms resorted to **overtime** to increase production in 1993, rather than hiring new workers. The \$1.8 billion paid in overtime added 2.6% to the wage bill, the equivalent of 62,800 full-time positions. Overtime costs less than hiring because it does not involve the payment of fringe benefits. (La Presse, 12/02/94)

## ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

### *Federal budget: major spending cuts*

- The federal budget of February 22 announced cuts in spending and a reduction of the deficit:
  - Total spending will be reduced by \$17 billion over the course of the next three years.
  - The deficit will be lowered from \$41.2 billion to \$39.7 billion in 1994-1995 and from \$40.6 billion to \$32.7 billion in 1995-1996. In 1996-1997, the deficit should represent 3% of the GDP, or \$25 billion.
  - The largest cuts will be in unemployment insurance payments and transfers to social security (-\$7.5 billion over three years), National Defence (-\$3.6 billion), operating budgets, including payroll (-\$3.2 billion), grants to companies and groups (-\$647 million), and international aid (-\$396 million).

(Le Plan budgétaire; Le Devoir, 23/02/94)

The **Federal Office of Regional Development**, in addition to being strongly affected by the reduction in departmental operating budgets, will face cuts of \$70 million in its transfers to companies over the next three years.

## REGIONAL REVIEW

### **METROPOLITAN MONTRÉAL**

#### *Slight increase in jobs*

- Based on the seasonally adjusted three-month moving average, there were 3,000 more jobs in February than in January in the Metropolitan Montréal region, and 7,000 more than last year. Although the unemployment rate declined by 0.4%, to 13.3%, it nevertheless was the fourth highest rate among Canadian metropolitan regions, after Chicoutimi-Jonquière, Oshawa and Trois-Rivières.

## ISLAND OF MONTREAL

### *Productivity to increase at Canadair*

- Bombardier has announced a modernization program for its Canadair plant, which will cost \$168 million and enable the St-Laurent plant to be converted into a centre of excellence in machining. This investment should reduce costs by 30% and triple production. FORD-Q provided a repayable loan of \$12 million under the Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on Industrial Development. (Le Devoir, 09/03/94; FORD-Q press release, 08/03/94)

### *Astra Pharma chooses Ville St-Laurent site*

- ASTRA PHARMA is to build a \$33 million laboratory in the Ville St-Laurent technology park. The laboratory will specialize in research into new treatments for pain and will employ 70 researchers. This investment is in addition to the previously announced \$100 million to be devoted to research. Work will begin this year and extend over a two-year period. (La Presse, 07/03/94)

### *Softimage sold*

- The American company MICROSOFT has acquired the Montreal firm SOFTIMAGE for \$130 million US. The American firm has made a commitment to Softimage's 160 employees to keep the firm in Montréal. In addition, the R&D budget will increase from \$8 million to \$30 million and the number of researchers will rise from 40 to 120. (La Presse, 15/02/94; Le Devoir, 16/02/94)

### *Jobs cut at Caisse Pops*

- The Montréal and Western Québec FEDERATION DES CAISSES POPULAIRES will reduce its staff by 1,800 over a three-year period, without layoffs. The Fédération currently employs 10,000 people. (La Presse, 13/02/94)

### *Major housing development*

- BELCOURT INC will start two housing projects in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue in late 1994 or early 1995. The first, located in the Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue woods, will consist of about 50 homes, and is evaluated at \$15 million. The second, the Bois Soleil project, will involve the construction of 600 single family dwellings, with an overall value of \$90 million. (Constructo, 03/02/94)

## NORTH SHORE

### *Construction in Repentigny*

- A group of promoters is to build a major residential development in Repentigny. The development, Valmont-sur-Parcs, will consist of 2,200 units, to be built over a 10 to 15 year period. The work will cost an estimated \$275 million. Phase I was completed in 1993 and Phase II should be started in 1994. (Constructo, 03/02/94)

## CENTRAL REGIONS

### EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

#### *Little change in employment figures*

- Seasonally unadjusted employment figures declined by only 1,000 in February, to 115,000. This is an increase of 3,000 jobs over February 1993. Owing to new arrivals seeking work, the unemployment rate increased by 0.4%, compared to January, but was considerably lower than last year. The unemployment rate in the Metropolitan Sherbrooke region declined sharply from January levels, to 10.3%, the lowest rate of all metropolitan regions in Québec.

#### *Contract in sight*

- C-MAC of Sherbrooke is on the list to obtain a Hydro-Québec contract to provide 700,000 thermostats, to be followed in a second stage by six million thermostats for Québec homes. This contract would spell an increase of 50 jobs in the first stage and several hundred in the second stage. (La Presse, 02/03/94)

### LANAUDIÈRE

#### *Surge in unemployment*

- Employment in Lanaudière in February remained at about the same level as in January 1994 and February 1993. However, the arrival of large numbers of job seekers created a substantial rise in the unemployment rate, from 12.8% in January to 14.9% in February.

### LAURENTIANS

#### *Employment down*

- There were 2,000 fewer jobs in February than in January, and 4,000 compared to the average over the past twelve months. The loss resulted from an increase in the rate of

unemployment, which jumped from 15.7% in January to 16.8% in February, the third highest in Québec.

### *New bridge between Québec and Ontario*

- The federal, Québec and Ontario governments have reached an agreement on building a new bridge between **Grenville**, Québec and **Hawkesbury**, Ontario, at a cost of \$45 million. Work is to begin in 1995. (Constructo, 03/02/94)

### MAURICIE/BOIS-FRANCS

#### *Employment levels plunge*

- Following a few months of relatively good performance, the number of employed in Mauricie/Bois-Francs fell by 5,000 in February, the second largest decline in Québec after Montréal Centre and Laval. The unemployment rate rose by 0.6%, to 11.9% in February. The unemployment rate in the metropolitan Trois-Rivières region (14.9%) was considerably higher than in the region as a whole.

#### *Major cultural attraction*

- The City of **Shawinigan** will become home to an Industrial Interpretation Centre, to cost \$21.8 million. The Centre will trace the history of industrial development in the region, while creating more than 200 direct and indirect jobs. **FORD-Q** will contribute \$4.5 million. (La Presse, 15/02/94)

#### *Environmental investment*

- **STONE CONSOLIDATED** is to announce an investment of \$100 million in its three plants in la Mauricie to bring them up to Québec environmental standards. (Journal de Montréal, 17/02/94)

### MONTÉRÉGIE

#### *Drop in unemployment*

- Despite an employment level identical to that of January, unemployment fell by 1.2%, to 11%, the second lowest after the Eastern Townships. There were 51,000 more jobs in the Montérégie in February 1994 than in February 1993.

#### *Federal budget deals a blow to St-Jean*

- Cuts in National Defence spending will be strongly felt in **St-Jean-sur-Richelieu**. The region will lose a total of 1,250 jobs, 280 of them as a result of the closing of the

Collège Militaire Royal, and 970 through cutbacks in activities at the military base.  
(La Presse, 23/02/94)

### *More bad news for St-Jean*

- The **CUTLER-HAMMER** plant, formerly Westinghouse, in **St-Jean-sur-Richelieu** will close its doors in December 1994. The plant manufactures electrical equipment, and the closure will result in the loss of 176 jobs. (La Presse, 24/02/94)

### OUTAOUAIS

#### *Job market deteriorates*

- The Outaouais had 2,000 fewer jobs in February than in January, and its unemployment rate rose to 12.7%. However, the level registered in February (137,000) was not markedly different from the average over the past 12 months.

#### *McLaren sawmill lives again*

- Local promoters have purchased the McLaren Sawmill in **Maniwaki**, and plan to reopen it under the name of Makibois in early summer. The mill has been closed for two years. The group expects to hire 60 persons. (Le Devoir, 24/02/94)

### QUÉBEC/CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

#### *Employment makes a healthy recovery*

- The number of jobs rose by 6,000 in February, as compared to the previous month. This was the only increase in employment levels among Québec administrative regions. There were 13,000 more jobs that last year, the second best performance in Québec. Despite these figures, the rate of unemployment was higher in February than it was in January or in the same month last year. The rate of unemployment in metropolitan Québec City was about the same as in the region as a whole.

#### *Development in Val-Bélair*

- The **GROUPE IMMOBILIER PRODEM** will build 500 housing units in the Boisé Royal project in **Val-Bélair**. The project will cost an estimated \$50 million and work is to begin in the spring of 1994. (Constructo, 01/03/94)

## *New plant*

- **DONNACART INC** will build a medium density particle board plant at **Donnacona**. The cost of the project, to begin in 1995 or 1996, will be between \$40 and \$50 million. (Constructo, 03/02/94)

## *Métallurgie Frontenac to reopen*

- As a result of an agreement between Plessitech and the former owners of **MÉTALLURGIE FRONTENAC**, Norcast Castings, the **Thetford Mines** firm will resume activities in about two months, following some five months of closure. The 100 former employees of the foundry will gradually return to their positions. (Le Soleil, 25/02/94)

## **RESOURCE REGIONS**

### *ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE*

#### *Decline in employment*

- The level of employment fell slightly in February (-1,000), compared to January levels. As compared to last year, however, the decline was more serious (-3,000). Owing to the withdrawal of workers from the job market, the unemployment rate nevertheless decreased slightly in February, to 14.4%.

#### *Mining exploration*

- **AGNICO-EAGLE** will invest \$13 million in its Goldex Extention property, near **Val-d'Or** to carry out an underground exploration program. This is in addition to the two investments made by the same firm in the Laronde mine (\$25 million) in Preissac and its Vezza property (\$9.2 million) near Matagami. (L'Écho, 19/01/04)
- **AGNICO-EAGLE** will increase its investment in exploration at the LaRonde mine, near **Rouyn-Noranda** to \$57 million. The results of earlier drilling are encouraging and the firm will be drilling deeper so that it can better assess reserves of gold, zinc and copper. (La Presse, 02/03/94)

#### *New UQAT campus*

- The **University of Québec in Abitibi-Témiscamingue** will build a campus at **Rouyn-Noranda**, at a cost of \$15 million. Construction will begin in the summer of 1994. (Constructo, 15/02/94)

## LOWER ST-LAWRENCE

### *Improvement over 1993*

- The number of employed persons on the Lower North Shore increased by 6,000 over the past year, the fourth best performance in Québec. The unemployment rate fell by 2%, to stand at 17% in February 1994, compared to 19% in February 1993.

## NORTH SHORE/NORTHERN QUÉBEC

### *Employment remains stable*

- Employment figures remained unchanged from last year, and fell by 1,000 compared to January 1994. Nevertheless, the unemployment rate declined by 3%, compared to February 1993, indicating that some workers have withdrawn from the job market.

### *SM3 to go ahead*

- The Premier of Québec has announced the start of work on the hydroelectric facilities on the Ste-Marguerite River, near **Sept-Îles**. The \$1.2 billion project will get under way next summer, with the hiring of 900 persons. The station, to produce 650 MW, will employ 4,500 persons during its ten-year construction period. (Le Soleil, 25/02/94)

### *Another step closer*

- The city of **Port-Cartier** has sold the former Cascades plant to **UNIFORÊT**. All that remains is for Uniforêt to obtain a wood supply permit, before it can begin construction of the sawmill and refitting of the plant. (Le Soleil, 02/03/94)

## GASPÉ/MAGDALEN ISLANDS

### *Change in the labour market*

- There was no change in employment figures compared to January, and very little compared to February 1993 (+2,000). However, the arrival of new job seekers caused the unemployment rate to increase to 27.1% in February 1994, compared to 25.5% in January and 24.4% in February 1993.

## SAGUENAY/LAC-ST-JEAN

### *Employment continues to fall*

- The region lost 3,000 jobs in February, compared to January, and 4,000 compared to February 1993. The withdrawal of workers from the labour market softened the impact

on the unemployment rate, which has declined by 2.9% over the past year and increased slightly, by 0.6%, since January.

### *New plant*

- **MABOCO** is to build a wood planing mill at **St-Prime**, at a cost of \$11 million. Work could begin as early as spring. (Constructo, 08/02/94)

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

Province				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation		
	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93		Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94	/
Newfoundland	190	185	184	187					6
Prince Edward Island	54	54	54	54					0
Nova Scotia	359	357	360	357					-1
New Brunswick	286	284	291	290					-5
Québec	3008	2993	2951	2968					57
Ontario	4780	4769	4781	4792					-1
Manitoba	489	487	489	490					0
Saskatchewan	440	438	440	440					0
Alberta	1269	1262	1237	1257					32
British Columbia	1614	1592	1538	1571					76
Canada	12485	12419	12328	12406					157
In thousands									
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS									

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

Metropolitan Area	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
St-John's (Nfld)	76	75	67	72		1		9
Halifax	150	151	152	151		-1		-2
Saint John (NB)	55	56	56	56		-1		-1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	51	52	53	53		-1		-2
Québec	298	293	288	287		5		10
Montréal	1378	1375	1371	1376		3		7
Trois-Rivières	54	54	51	52		0		3
Sherbrooke	56	55	57	56		1		-1
Ottawa-Hull	451	447	442	443		4		9
Sudbury	64	67	65	69		-3		-1
Toronto	1741	1743	1777	1767		-2		-36
Hamilton	314	311	281	295		3		33
St.Catharines-Niagara	142	141	141	139		1		1
London	171	171	174	174		0		-3
Windsor	119	119	114	117		0		5
Kitchener-Waterloo	198	198	190	196		0		8
Thunder Bay	56	57	58	58		-1		-2
Oshawa	111	111	118	117		0		-7
Winnipeg	303	305	298	302		-2		5
Regina	89	88	89	89		1		0
Saskatoon	85	85	84	85		0		1
Calgary	375	375	358	365		0		17
Edmonton	365	366	364	366		-1		1
Vancouver	818	813	822	816		5		-4
Victoria	140	138	126	131		2		14

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

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

Québec Economic Region	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	26	26	24	30		0		2
Bas-Saint-Laurent	73	74	67	74		-1		6
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	103	106	107	109		-3		-4
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	429	423	416	427		6		13
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	190	195	181	197		-5		9
Estrie	115	116	112	114		-1		3
Montréal	565	565	514	562		0		51
Montréal-Centre and Laval	838	850	880	878		-12		-42
Laurentides	182	184	180	186		-2		2
Lanaudière	141	142	141	147		-1		0
Outaouais	137	139	136	139		-2		1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	56	57	59	58		-1		-3
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	43	44	43	43		-1		0
<b>Province of Québec</b>	<b>2896</b>	<b>2922</b>	<b>2860</b>	<b>2964</b>		<b>-26</b>		<b>36</b>

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

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

Province	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
Newfoundland	45	49	46	47	-4			-1
Prince Edward Island	13	12	11	12	1			2
Nova Scotia	59	62	58	62	-3			1
New Brunswick	43	43	38	42	0			5
Québec	428	445	441	443	-17			-13
Ontario	574	582	536	574	-8			38
Manitoba	59	58	45	52	1			14
Saskatchewan	35	36	41	37	-1			-6
Alberta	123	129	125	132	-6			-2
British Columbia	180	179	166	169	1			14
Canada	1559	1592	1509	1571	-33			50

In thousands  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Metropolitan Area	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
St-John's (Nfld)	11	11	12	12		0		-1
Halifax	20	20	17	19		0		3
Saint John (NB)	7	6	6	7		1		1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	9	10	10	10		-1		-1
Québec	39	37	34	36		2		5
Montréal	211	218	216	217		-7		-5
Trois-Rivières	9	9	9	8		0		0
Sherbrooke	6	7	8	7		-1		-2
Ottawa-Hull	47	45	39	42		2		8
Sudbury	10	8	9	8		2		1
Toronto	233	238	206	225		-5		27
Hamilton	32	32	38	37		0		-6
St.Catharines-Niagara	18	19	20	22		-1		-2
London	14	14	15	16		0		-1
Windsor	15	14	16	15		1		-1
Kitchener-Waterloo	15	16	20	19		-1		-5
Thunder Bay	7	7	7	7		0		0
Oshawa	20	19	13	16		1		7
Winnipeg	42	38	36	38		4		6
Regina	8	8	8	8		0		0
Saskatoon	10	9	11	9		1		-1
Calgary	41	41	40	43		0		1
Edmonton	47	48	43	48		-1		4
Vancouver	91	80	80	84		11		11
Victoria	11	11	12	12		0		-1

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Québec Economic Region	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	9	9	8	8	0		1	
Bas-Saint-Laurent	15	14	16	14	1		-1	
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	18	17	23	19	1		-5	
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	55	52	50	50	3		5	
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	26	25	33	27	1		-7	
Estrie	13	13	16	14	0		-3	
Montérégie	70	78	79	84	-8		-9	
Montréal-Centre and Laval	147	143	149	142	4		-2	
Laurentides	37	34	29	31	3		8	
Lanaudière	25	21	25	19	4		0	
Outaouais	20	19	19	18	1		1	
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	9	10	8	10	-1		1	
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	6	6	8	8	0		-2	
Province of Québec	450	443	464	444	7		-14	

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/ Jan-94	Feb-94	/ Feb-93
Newfoundland	19.1	20.9	20.0	20.2	-1.8		-0.9	
Prince Edward Island	18.9	18.3	16.7	18.2	0.6		2.2	
Nova Scotia	14.1	14.8	13.9	14.7	-0.7		0.2	
New Brunswick	13.1	13.1	11.6	12.8	0.0		1.5	
Québec	12.5	12.9	13.0	13.0	-0.4		-0.5	
Ontario	10.7	10.9	10.1	10.7	-0.2		0.6	
Manitoba	10.8	10.6	8.4	9.6	0.2		2.4	
Saskatchewan	7.4	7.6	8.5	7.8	-0.2		-1.1	
Alberta	8.8	9.3	9.2	9.5	-0.5		-0.4	
British Columbia	10.0	10.1	9.7	9.7	-0.1		0.3	
Canada	11.1	11.4	10.9	11.3	-0.3		0.2	
In percentage								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\* BY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/	Jan-94	Feb-94
St-John's (Nfld)	12.4	12.9	15.4	13.7	-0.5			-3.0
Halifax	11.5	11.5	10.2	11.3	0.0			1.3
Saint John (NB)	10.6	9.5	9.6	10.5	1.1			1.0
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	15.6	15.6	16.4	16.0	0.0			-0.8
Québec	11.5	11.3	10.7	11.0	0.2			0.8
Montréal	13.3	13.7	13.6	13.6	-0.4			-0.3
Trois-Rivières	14.9	14.3	14.6	13.7	0.6			0.4
Sherbrooke	10.3	11.4	12.7	11.5	-1.1			-2.4
Ottawa-Hull	9.3	9.2	8.0	8.6	0.1			1.3
Sudbury	13.2	10.7	12.4	10.5	2.5			0.8
Toronto	11.8	12.0	10.4	11.3	-0.2			1.4
Hamilton	9.2	9.3	11.9	11.1	-0.1			-2.7
St.Catharines-Niagara	11.3	12.1	12.4	13.9	-0.8			-1.1
London	7.3	7.7	7.8	8.4	-0.4			-0.5
Windsor	11.3	10.8	12.5	11.3	0.5			-1.2
Kitchener-Waterloo	7.0	7.7	9.3	8.7	-0.7			-2.3
Thunder Bay	11.3	10.7	10.4	11.4	0.6			0.9
Oshawa	15.1	14.7	9.8	12.3	0.4			5.3
Winnipeg	12.0	11.2	10.8	11.1	0.8			1.2
Regina	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.3	-0.1			-0.1
Saskatoon	10.1	9.8	11.8	9.7	0.3			-1.7
Calgary	9.8	9.7	10.1	10.6	0.1			-0.3
Edmonton	11.4	11.6	10.6	11.5	-0.2			0.8
Vancouver	10.0	9.0	8.9	9.3	1.0			1.1
Victoria	7.1	7.1	8.6	8.3	0.0			-1.5

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Québec Economic Region	Feb-94	Jan-94	Feb-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-94	/ Jan-94	Feb-94	/ Feb-93
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	27.1	25.5	24.4	22.6	1.6		2.7	
Bas-Saint-Laurent	17.0	16.0	19.0	15.7	1.0		-2.0	
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	14.6	14.0	17.5	15.2	0.6		-2.9	
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	11.4	11.0	10.7	10.4	0.4		0.7	
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	11.9	11.3	15.5	12.2	0.6		-3.6	
Estrie	10.5	10.1	12.6	10.7	0.4		-2.1	
Montréal-Centre and Laval	11.0	12.2	13.4	13.0	-1.2		-2.4	
Montréal-Centre and Laval	14.9	14.4	14.5	13.9	0.5		0.4	
Laurentides	16.8	15.7	13.9	14.4	1.1		2.9	
Lanaudière	14.9	12.8	15.2	11.4	2.1		-0.3	
Outaouais	12.7	12.2	12.5	11.4	0.5		0.2	
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	14.4	14.7	12.1	14.1	-0.3		2.3	
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	12.9	12.9	15.9	14.9	0.0		-3.0	
Province of Québec	13.5	13.2	14.0	13.0	0.3		-0.5	

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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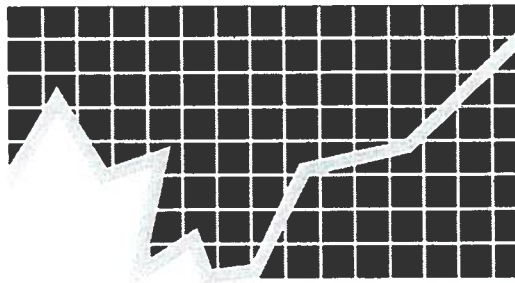
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# ASSISTANCE TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS



Regional development calls for tools suited to the specifics of each region.

The Federal Office of Regional Development - Québec administers a range of programs and services designed to meet the needs of local businesses and organizations. They provide support for projects as:

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

- research and development;
- tourism and industrial development.

In the interests of better response to specific local needs, FORD-Q is represented in each region of Québec.

The Federal Office of Regional Development - Québec: a true partner in the realization of your project.

Canada



Federal Office of  
Regional Development  
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développement régional  
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