

The FORD(Q) Economic Update

Version française disponible

Editors: Léonel Plasse
Julie Lecomte



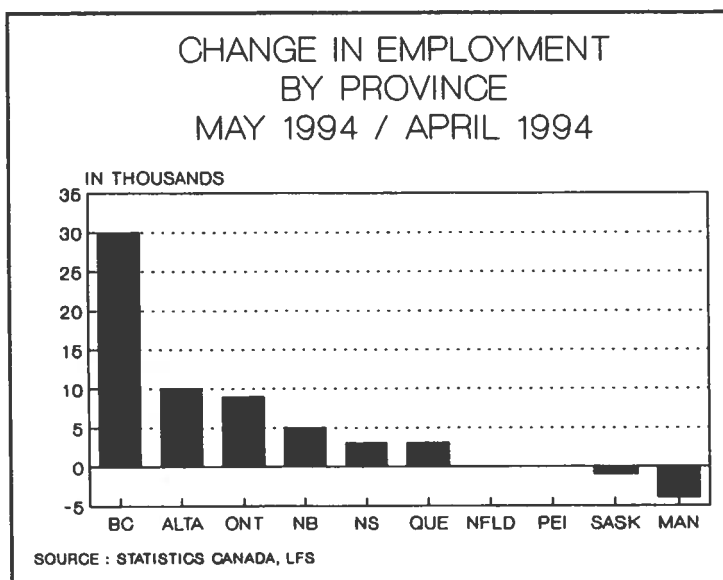
Volume 6
Number 6
June 15, 1994

Canadian economy shows strong growth

- Rapid growth in consumer spending helped to accelerate expansion of Canada's GDP during the first quarter of 1994. On a year-over-year basis, the economy grew by a stonger-than-expected rate of 4.2%, which exceeded the United States' pace. Canada's economy can also bank on almost zero inflation, a sharp curtailment of public spending and continued penetration of foreign markets. (La Presse, 11/06/94)

Disappointing month for Quebec's employment

- The number of jobs grew by only 3,000 in Quebec between April and May 1994, compared to 56,000 jobs in all of Canada. This is the third consecutive month of very little change in employment, with 8,000 jobs added in March and 1,000 in April. Compared with May 1993, Quebec's employment level rose by 58,000 to 3,020,000, which is 69,000 short of the pre-recession peak. Seasonally unadjusted data indicate that employment in the province increased by 63,000 in one year. Trade (+60,000) and services (+32,000) turned in the best job creation performance, whereas government (-37,000) and transportation (-12,000) posted the biggest losses.



Federal Office of
Regional Development
(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de
développement régional
(Québec)

Canada

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.

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

Federal Office of Regional Development - Quebec
Planning and Assessment Division
Stock Exchange Tower
800 Square Victoria, PO Box 247
Montreal, Quebec H4Z 1E8

Telephone: (514) 283-8786
Fax: (514) 283-8429

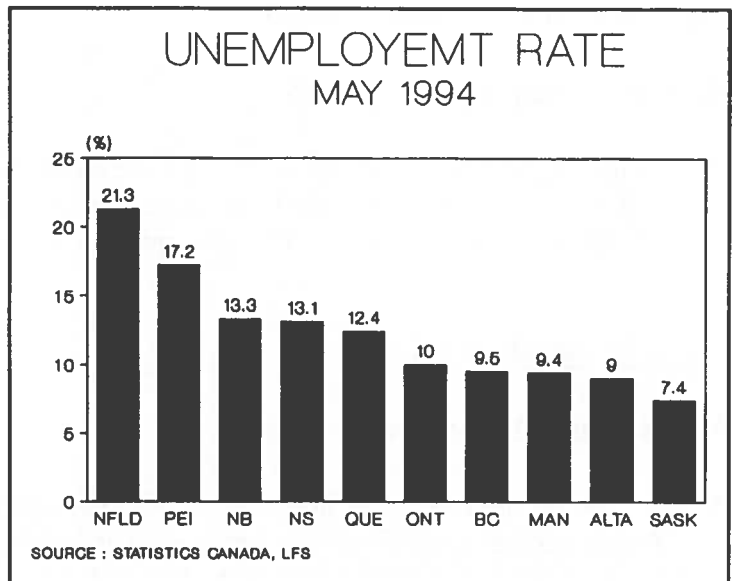
The FORD-Q ECONOMIC UPDATE is produced by the Planning and Assessment Division, Policy and Liaison Branch. The publication is photocopied and distributed by the Canada Communication Group. Translation has been provided by the Secretary of State of Canada, Translation Bureau.

The editor is:

Léonel Plasse

Drop in the unemployment rate

- Despite the weak growth in employment, the **unemployment rate** in Quebec fell from 12.6% in April to 12.4% in May. Quebec's unemployment rate has barely declined in a year, averaging 12.8% for the past 12 months. The difference between Quebec's unemployment rate and the national rate was 1.7% in May, the same as over the past 12 months. Saskatchewan has the lowest rate in Canada (7.4%) and Newfoundland the highest (21.3%). Nova Scotia (-1.7%), Prince Edward Island (-1.6%) and British Columbia (-1.2%) have achieved the most success in reducing their rates in the past year.



Canada ranks first

- For the second time, **Canada** has been rated "the most livable country" by the United Nations (UN), outclassing Switzerland, Japan and Sweden, and ranking way ahead of the United States, which was eighth. The ranking is based on various economic and social indicators, including education level, life expectancy, average per-capita income, number of physicians, etc.
(La Presse, 04/06/94)

New SME funding program

- The **FEDERAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK** is launching a new funding program for SMEs called the "growth fund", with an envelope of \$50 million, which will be used to provide loans to cover working capital when other sources of funds are not available. The maximum loan amount is \$100,000.
(La Presse, 12/05/94)

Increase in operating profits

- Canadian firms' operating profits increased by 38% on a year-over-year basis in the first quarter of 1994. Higher operating profits have been recorded in four of the five past quarters, but have not yet returned to the level posted in the first quarter of 1989.
(Statistics Canada Daily, 03/06/94)

REGIONAL REVIEW

METROPOLITAN MONTREAL

Slowing of employment growth

- In the Metropolitan Montreal region, the number of jobs increased by only 2,000 between April and May, compared to 5,000 last month. May's employment level of 1,392,00 is 61,000 short of the pre-recession peak. The unemployment rate remained unchanged in May at 12.6%.

ISLAND OF MONTREAL

Upgrading of Henri Bourassa Blvd

- Further to an agreement between the four municipalities concerned--Montreal, Montreal North, Anjou and Montreal East--and the federal and provincial governments, **Henri Bourassa Blvd** will be repaired and widened over a stretch of 8.5 kilometres. This \$118.5 million project is being carried out under the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program and will provide work for 1,500 people over the next three years. (La Presse, 21/05/94)

Other projects in Montreal

- \$80 million worth of projects to upgrade roads, sidewalks, storm drainage facilities, bridges and viaducts will be carried out during the summer in **Montreal** under the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program. Some 1,000 jobs will be created during the life of the projects. (Le Devoir, 31/05/94)

Standard Life investments

- The **STANDARD LIFE** company will invest \$40 million to renovate and modernize its head office in Canada and four other buildings in **Montreal**. (Le Journal de Montreal, 10/06/94)

New headquarters for Cirque du Soleil

- The **CIRQUE DU SOLEIL** will centralize its rehearsal and production studios at new headquarters close to the old Miron quarry in **Montreal**. This project requires an investment of nearly \$15 million, of which \$4.8 million will come from the federal government under Component IV of the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program. The Quebec government will match this amount, and the Cirque will contribute \$5.2 million. The construction phase will generate 216 new jobs, and the Cirque's workforce will increase by 200 people.

(FORD-Q press release, 03/06/94; Le Devoir; La Presse, 04/06/94)

École de technologie supérieure moving

- The **ÉCOLE DE TECHNOLOGIE SUPÉRIEURE (ETS)**, which has more than 2,400 students, will move into larger premises at the former O'Keefe brewery building on Notre Dame Street in **Montreal**. A total of \$6 million in financial assistance has been allocated to this \$36.1 million project under Component IV of the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program. The work, which will be completed next year, will generate 450 jobs, and the institution will add 135 employees to its staff. (La Presse, 10/06/94; Le Devoir, 11/06/94)

Sergaz saved from bankruptcy

- Thanks to an agreement with Revenue Quebec, **SERGAZ**, which has 1,000 employees at its 200 gas stations, will be able to remain in operation. (The Gazette, 03/06/94)

SOUTH SHORE

Contract for Héroux

- The **HÉROUX** company of **Longueuil** won a \$20.5 million contract to maintain and recondition aircraft landing gear for the United States Air Force. (Le Journal de Montréal, 31/05/94)

CENTRAL REGIONS

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Employment improves in the Eastern Townships

- The seasonally unadjusted number of jobs rose by 3,000 from the previous month to 119,000. On a year-over-year basis, employment grew by 9,000, the fourth largest increase among the regions of Quebec. The unemployment rate stood at 10% in May, the lowest rate in the province.

Gaz Métropolitain to expand pipeline network

- Thanks to funding from the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program, **GAZ MÉTROPOLITAIN** will expand its pipeline network in the Eastern Townships. Under this \$20 million project, which consists of two phases, service will be extended to the municipalities of Windsor, Richmond, Danville, Asbestos, Cookshire, Marbleton and East Angus. Some 260 jobs will be created. (La Tribune, 10/05/94)

Domtar drops plans for cogeneration plant

- **DOMTAR** is abandoning its plans for a \$200 million cogeneration plant in **Windsor** further to Hydro Quebec's deferral of a decision concerning projects to generate electricity from natural gas. In addition to spelling the loss of 30 new jobs, the abandonment of this project means that the company will not be able to lower its production costs by \$20 per tonne of paper. However, Domtar is moving ahead with the biomass component of the cogeneration project, at a cost of \$30 to \$40 million. (La Presse, 04/06/94)

LANAUDIÈRE

Good employment growth

- Employment grew by 6,000 in May from the previous month. This strong growth helped to reduce the unemployment rate, which fell from 15.3% in April to 13.6% in May, the second sharpest decline in Quebec in May.

LAURENTIANS

Continuing upturn in employment

- With 3,000 new jobs in May, the overall employment level reached 191,000, the highest figure ever posted for May in the region. Since 1984, employment has expanded by nearly 60%, compared with 10% for all of Quebec. The unemployment rate fell sharply from 16.6% in April to 14.8% in May.

De-inking plant

- **CASCADES** may build a de-inking plant near the facilities of its Rolland subsidiary in **St Jérôme**. The construction schedule has not been announced, but the project will require a total investment of \$25 to \$30 million. (Le Journal de Montréal, 16/05/94)

MAURICIE/BOIS-FRANCS

4,000 jobs created

- Total employment of 194,000 was posted in May, compared to 190,000 in April. The unemployment rate remained virtually unchanged from the previous month, despite the increase in the number of jobs.

MONTÉRÉGIE

Employment continues to rise

- With the addition of 8,000 jobs in May, the Montérégie region ranked second after Montreal-Centre and Laval in terms of the number of jobs gained since the previous month. However, on a year-over-year basis, the region is way out in front with 39,000 new jobs. Despite the rise in employment, the unemployment rate rose slightly from April to 10.4% in May.

Dismantling of Soreltex plant

- After the SORELTEX plant in Sorel went bankrupt, the Peerless carpet company purchased its machinery and inventories, but decided to move the equipment to two other plants and close the Sorel facility. The closure spells the loss of 300 jobs. (Les 2 Rives, 31/05/94)

OUTAOUAIS

Little change in employment

- Although employment grew by barely 1,000 between April and May and declined by 1,000 on a year-over-year basis, the unemployment rate fell 1.1% between April and May owing to shrinkage of the labour force.

QUEBEC/CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

Good employment performance

- Employment grew by 6,000 in May compared to April and by 30,000 on a year-over-year basis. Thanks to this performance, the region ranked second in Quebec, right after the Montérégie region, in terms of employment growth. The unemployment rate eased only slightly from April because the labour force expanded by 5,000.

Developers' fund

- The **developers' fund** for the Quebec/Chaudière-Appalaches region was created to provide assistance for new companies that are just starting up. This fund is unique in that it does not offer financial support, but rather the help of people who volunteer their services for eligible firms. Companies that receive this type of assistance undertake to use the services of the member companies of the fund, which consist of law, accounting, engineering consulting, informatics and communications firms. (Le Soleil, 19/05/94)

Expansion project at CHUL gets under way

- Work under the \$30 million project to expand the research centre at **CHUL**, Laval University's teaching hospital in St Foy, will begin in August. Forty new researchers will be hired as a result of the project, and the centre is expected to have 1,000 employees by 1996.

(Le Soleil, 03/06/94)

RESOURCE REGIONS

ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

Modest increase in employment

- With a gain of 2,000 jobs in May, the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region's employment reached the peak level for the past 12 months, but remained appreciably lower than the figure recorded in 1988-1989. The unemployment rate increased from 13.7% in April to 14.3% in May.

Gaz Métropolitain to extend pipeline network

- **GAZ MÉTROPOLITAIN** will invest \$69 million to extend its pipeline network in Abitibi-Témiscamingue. This project, which is being carried out under the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program, will link the municipalities of Cadillac, Malartic, Val d'Or and Amos to the natural gas network. The work will cover a distance of 226 kilometres and create 1,015 jobs.

(Press release, 10/05/94)

Agreement at Tembec

- **TEMBEC** has signed a letter of commitment with a banking syndicate to restructure its loans and those of its subsidiaries. The agreement will enable Tembec to keep its Temboard division in Témiscamingue in operation.

(Financial Post, 03/06/94)

LOWER ST LAWRENCE

Stable employment in May

- In May, the employment level was the same as in April--73,000. On a year-over-year basis, however, employment was up by 4,000. May's unemployment rate of 17.2% was virtually unchanged from the year-earlier rate.

NORTH SHORE/NORTHERN QUEBEC

Slight rise in employment

- In May, the number of jobs increased by only 1,000; however, the employment level was the same as the average for the past 12 months (43,000). There was very little change in the unemployment rate between April and May.

Silica deposit on the North Shore

- **NOVEDER** has discovered a silica deposit near Fermont, and the preliminary results are very encouraging since the reserves have been estimated at 400,000 tonnes, but the final volume may turn out to be ten times higher. The processing would be done on the North Shore and would require the construction of a plant costing \$50 to \$100 million, resulting in the creation of some 100 jobs.
(Le Soleil, 07/06/94)

GASPÉ/MAGDALEN ISLANDS

Improvement in employment situation

- There were 3,000 more jobs in May than in April, and the employment level rose by 3,000 on a year-over-year basis as well, matching the average for the past 12 months. Despite a 1.1% drop, the region's unemployment rate (26.2%) was much higher than that of all the other regions in the province.

Temporary shutdown of Cap Chat sawmill

- The **Cap Chat sawmill** will be closed until next September, but may start up again before then if the owner, Groupe Lebel, obtains the 75,000 cubic metres more timber that it has been demanding for months.
(Verbatim, 20/05/94)

Factory vessel project

- Entrepreneurs in Matane are planning to process mussels in **Carleton**, which they would harvest from the 652 lines used previously by Produits Baie Bleue, a firm that went bankrupt in 1990. The company would employ about a dozen people to start and roughly 20 as the production volume increases.
(Le Soleil, 10/06/94)

SAGUENAY/LAC ST JEAN

No increase in employment

- The employment level remained unchanged in May at 100,000, which represents a decrease of 8,000 jobs on a year-over-year basis and 7,000 compared to the average for the past 12 months. The unemployment rate reached nearly 16% in May, the third highest rate in Quebec.

Major contracts for Génivel

- The GÉNIVEL engineering firm of Jonquière won two contracts worth a total of \$32 million. Under the first contract, awarded by Daishowa, the firm will install a complete processing line at Daishowa's plant in Quebec City. The second is a subcontract from the KSH engineering company for the Abitibi-Price's de-inking project in Alma. Génivel expects to increase its workforce in order to carry out these contracts. (Verbatim, Le Quotidien, 05/05/94)

Gaz Métropolitain to extend network

- GAZ MÉTROPOLITAIN will extend its pipeline network in the Saguenay/Lac St Jean region at a cost of \$11.3 million. This 89-kilometre extension project will be carried out under the Canada-Quebec Infrastructure Works Program and will hook up the municipalities of Roberval, St Prime and St Félicien. An estimated 170 direct and indirect jobs will be created. (Le Quotidien, 12/05/94)

Provigo closing Chicoutimi warehouse

- PROVIGO will close its warehouse in Chicoutimi on July 8, putting 67 people out of work, including 46 full-time employees. (La Presse, 11/06/94)

**EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
IN QUEBEC**
(Unadjusted data)

| Industries | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|--------|
| | | | | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| Agriculture | 79 | 69 | 75 | 73 | 10 | | 4 | |
| Other primary indust. | 41 | 29 | 32 | 38 | 12 | | 9 | |
| Manufacturing | 532 | 517 | 526 | 522 | 15 | | 6 | |
| Construction | 156 | 119 | 150 | 134 | 37 | | 6 | |
| Transp., communic. and oth. util. | 211 | 213 | 223 | 218 | -2 | | -12 | |
| Trade | 534 | 511 | 474 | 508 | 23 | | 60 | |
| Finance, insur. and real estate | 184 | 185 | 189 | 175 | -1 | | -5 | |
| Services | 1,118 | 1,105 | 1,086 | 1,102 | 13 | | 32 | |
| Public administration | 189 | 195 | 226 | 213 | -6 | | -37 | |
| All industries | 3,043 | 2,943 | 2,980 | 2,983 | 100 | | 63 | |
| In thousands | | | | | | | | |
| Source: Statistics Canada, LFS | | | | | | | | |

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

| Province | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|--------|
| | | | | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| Newfoundland | 192 | 192 | 188 | 188 | | 0 | | 4 |
| Prince Edward Island | 55 | 55 | 53 | 54 | | 0 | | 2 |
| Nova Scotia | 372 | 369 | 356 | 360 | | 3 | | 16 |
| New Brunswick | 288 | 283 | 294 | 287 | | 5 | | -6 |
| Québec | 3,020 | 3,017 | 2,962 | 2,982 | | 3 | | 58 |
| Ontario | 4,827 | 4,818 | 4,777 | 4,799 | | 9 | | 50 |
| Manitoba | 493 | 497 | 480 | 492 | | -4 | | 13 |
| Saskatchewan | 435 | 436 | 445 | 439 | | -1 | | -10 |
| Alberta | 1,281 | 1,271 | 1,246 | 1,266 | | 10 | | 35 |
| British Columbia | 1,630 | 1,600 | 1,532 | 1,590 | | 30 | | 98 |
| Canada | 12,590 | 12,534 | 12,338 | 12,457 | | 56 | | 252 |

In thousands
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

EMPLOYMENT*
BY METROPOLITAN AREA
(Seasonally adjusted data)

| Metropolitan Area | | | | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|--------|-----|
| | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 | / |
| St-John's (Nfld) | 74 | 75 | 70 | 73 | -1 | | | | 4 |
| Halifax | 160 | 157 | 153 | 152 | 3 | | | | 7 |
| Saint John (NB) | 52 | 53 | 56 | 55 | -1 | | | | -4 |
| Chicoutimi-Jonquière | 49 | 49 | 54 | 52 | 0 | | | | -5 |
| Québec | 306 | 305 | 283 | 293 | 1 | | | | 23 |
| Montréal | 1,392 | 1,390 | 1,387 | 1,378 | 2 | | | | 5 |
| Trois-Rivières | 54 | 54 | 52 | 53 | 0 | | | | 2 |
| Sherbrooke | 57 | 57 | 57 | 56 | 0 | | | | 0 |
| Ottawa-Hull | 458 | 457 | 444 | 447 | 1 | | | | 14 |
| Sudbury | 67 | 66 | 68 | 68 | 1 | | | | -1 |
| Toronto | 1,761 | 1,754 | 1,771 | 1,761 | 7 | | | | -10 |
| Hamilton | 310 | 313 | 287 | 302 | -3 | | | | 23 |
| St.Catharines-Niagara | 146 | 145 | 139 | 140 | 1 | | | | 7 |
| London | 172 | 174 | 176 | 173 | -2 | | | | -4 |
| Windsor | 122 | 120 | 115 | 118 | 2 | | | | 7 |
| Kitchener-Waterloo | 198 | 198 | 196 | 197 | 0 | | | | 2 |
| Thunder Bay | 56 | 55 | 57 | 57 | 1 | | | | -1 |
| Oshawa | 117 | 114 | 122 | 115 | 3 | | | | -5 |
| Winnipeg | 301 | 301 | 298 | 303 | 0 | | | | 3 |
| Regina | 87 | 88 | 89 | 88 | -1 | | | | -2 |
| Saskatoon | 87 | 87 | 85 | 85 | 0 | | | | 2 |
| Calgary | 367 | 369 | 357 | 368 | -2 | | | | 10 |
| Edmonton | 373 | 369 | 359 | 368 | 4 | | | | 14 |
| Vancouver | 841 | 834 | 815 | 820 | 7 | | | | 26 |
| Victoria | 139 | 139 | 126 | 134 | 0 | | | | 13 |

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

EMPLOYMENT*
BY ECONOMIC REGION
(Unadjusted data)

| Québec Economic Region | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine | 30 | 27 | 27 | 30 | | 3 | | 3 |
| Bas-Saint-Laurent | 73 | 73 | 69 | 76 | | 0 | | 4 |
| Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean | 100 | 100 | 108 | 107 | | 0 | | -8 |
| Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches | 444 | 438 | 414 | 434 | | 6 | | 30 |
| Mauricie/Bois-Francs | 194 | 190 | 194 | 198 | | 4 | | 0 |
| Estrie | 119 | 116 | 110 | 116 | | 3 | | 9 |
| Montréal-Centre and Laval | 581 | 573 | 542 | 573 | | 8 | | 39 |
| Montréal-Centre and Laval | 852 | 841 | 885 | 869 | | 11 | | -33 |
| Laurentides | 191 | 188 | 180 | 188 | | 3 | | 11 |
| Lanaudière | 152 | 146 | 148 | 148 | | 6 | | 4 |
| Outaouais | 136 | 135 | 137 | 139 | | 1 | | -1 |
| Abitibi-Témiscamingue | 58 | 56 | 57 | 58 | | 2 | | 1 |
| Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec | 43 | 42 | 41 | 43 | | 1 | | 2 |
| Province of Québec | 2,972 | 2,923 | 2,911 | 2,978 | | 49 | | 61 |

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

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

| Province | | | | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|--------|---|
| | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 | / |
| Newfoundland | 52 | 49 | 46 | 48 | | 3 | | 6 | |
| Prince Edward Island | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | -1 | | -1 | |
| Nova Scotia | 56 | 59 | 62 | 61 | | -3 | | -6 | |
| New Brunswick | 44 | 43 | 42 | 43 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| Québec | 428 | 435 | 442 | 436 | | -7 | | -14 | |
| Ontario | 536 | 550 | 573 | 568 | | -14 | | -37 | |
| Manitoba | 51 | 52 | 51 | 52 | | -1 | | 0 | |
| Saskatchewan | 35 | 37 | 38 | 36 | | -2 | | -3 | |
| Alberta | 126 | 122 | 132 | 129 | | 4 | | -6 | |
| British Columbia | 171 | 185 | 183 | 170 | | -14 | | -12 | |
| Canada | 1,511 | 1,547 | 1,580 | 1,556 | | -36 | | -69 | |
| In thousands | | | | | | | | | |
| Source: Statistics Canada, LFS | | | | | | | | | |

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

| Metropolitan Area | | | | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|--------|
| | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| St-John's (Nfld) | 12 | 11 | 12 | 11 | | 1 | | 0 |
| Halifax | 17 | 18 | 18 | 19 | | -1 | | -1 |
| Saint John (NB) | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | | 0 | | 1 |
| Chicoutimi-Jonquière | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | | 0 | | -2 |
| Québec | 41 | 41 | 36 | 37 | | 0 | | 5 |
| Montréal | 200 | 201 | 220 | 213 | | -1 | | -20 |
| Trois-Rivières | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Sherbrooke | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | | 1 | | 0 |
| Ottawa-Hull | 44 | 44 | 37 | 44 | | 0 | | 7 |
| Sudbury | 8 | 10 | 9 | 8 | | -2 | | -1 |
| Toronto | 207 | 212 | 220 | 226 | | -5 | | -13 |
| Hamilton | 30 | 31 | 42 | 34 | | -1 | | -12 |
| St.Catharines-Niagara | 18 | 18 | 21 | 22 | | 0 | | -3 |
| London | 17 | 15 | 16 | 16 | | 2 | | 1 |
| Windsor | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 | | -1 | | -1 |
| Kitchener-Waterloo | 16 | 15 | 20 | 18 | | 1 | | -4 |
| Thunder Bay | 8 | 8 | 7 | 8 | | 0 | | 1 |
| Oshawa | 15 | 16 | 14 | 17 | | -1 | | 1 |
| Winnipeg | 39 | 42 | 37 | 39 | | -3 | | 2 |
| Regina | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Saskatoon | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Calgary | 40 | 41 | 45 | 43 | | -1 | | -5 |
| Edmonton | 44 | 44 | 48 | 47 | | 0 | | -4 |
| Vancouver | 88 | 91 | 90 | 85 | | -3 | | -2 |
| Victoria | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | | 1 | | 0 |

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

UNEMPLOYED*
BY ECONOMIC REGION
(Unadjusted data)

| Québec Economic Region | | | | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|--------|
| | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine | 11 | 10 | 10 | 9 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Bas-Saint-Laurent | 15 | 16 | 14 | 14 | | -1 | | 1 |
| Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean | 19 | 18 | 21 | 18 | | 1 | | -2 |
| Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches | 59 | 60 | 53 | 51 | | -1 | | 6 |
| Mauricie/Bois-Francs | 27 | 26 | 31 | 26 | | 1 | | -4 |
| Estrie | 13 | 13 | 14 | 13 | | 0 | | -1 |
| Montérégie | 67 | 65 | 92 | 79 | | 2 | | -25 |
| Montréal-Centre and Laval | 140 | 145 | 151 | 140 | | -5 | | -11 |
| Laurentides | 33 | 37 | 29 | 33 | | -4 | | 4 |
| Lanaudière | 24 | 26 | 20 | 20 | | -2 | | 4 |
| Outaouais | 18 | 20 | 17 | 18 | | -2 | | 1 |
| Abitibi-Témiscamingue | 10 | 9 | 8 | 10 | | 1 | | 2 |
| Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec | 7 | 7 | 9 | 7 | | 0 | | -2 |
| Province of Québec | 443 | 453 | 469 | 437 | | -10 | | -26 |

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

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

| Province | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|
| | | | | | May-94 / | Apr-94 | May-94 / | May-93 |
| Newfoundland | 21.3 | 20.3 | 19.7 | 20.3 | 1.0 | | 1.6 | |
| Prince Edward Island | 17.2 | 18.2 | 18.8 | 18.2 | -1.0 | | -1.6 | |
| Nova Scotia | 13.1 | 13.8 | 14.8 | 14.5 | -0.7 | | -1.7 | |
| New Brunswick | 13.3 | 13.2 | 12.5 | 13.0 | 0.1 | | 0.8 | |
| Québec | 12.4 | 12.6 | 13.0 | 12.8 | -0.2 | | -0.6 | |
| Ontario | 10.0 | 10.2 | 10.7 | 10.6 | -0.2 | | -0.7 | |
| Manitoba | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.6 | -0.1 | | -0.2 | |
| Saskatchewan | 7.4 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 7.7 | -0.4 | | -0.5 | |
| Alberta | 9.0 | 8.8 | 9.6 | 9.3 | 0.2 | | -0.6 | |
| British Columbia | 9.5 | 10.4 | 10.7 | 9.7 | -0.9 | | -1.2 | |
| Canada | 10.7 | 11.0 | 11.4 | 11.1 | -0.3 | | -0.7 | |

In percentage
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE* BY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Seasonally adjusted data)

| Metropolitan Area | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|--------|
| | | | | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 |
| St-John's (Nfld) | 14.2 | 13.0 | 14.1 | 13.3 | | 1.2 | | 0.1 |
| Halifax | 9.8 | 10.4 | 10.4 | 11.3 | | -0.6 | | -0.6 |
| Saint John (NB) | 12.7 | 12.5 | 10.9 | 11.0 | | 0.2 | | 1.8 |
| Chicoutimi-Jonquière | 14.6 | 14.5 | 15.9 | 15.6 | | 0.1 | | -1.3 |
| Québec | 11.8 | 11.8 | 11.2 | 11.1 | | 0.0 | | 0.6 |
| Montréal | 12.6 | 12.6 | 13.7 | 13.4 | | 0.0 | | -1.1 |
| Trois-Rivières | 13.2 | 13.4 | 13.2 | 13.7 | | -0.2 | | 0.0 |
| Sherbrooke | 10.5 | 10.1 | 11.3 | 11.2 | | 0.4 | | -0.8 |
| Ottawa-Hull | 8.7 | 8.8 | 7.7 | 8.9 | | -0.1 | | 1.0 |
| Sudbury | 10.7 | 12.6 | 11.6 | 10.5 | | -1.9 | | -0.9 |
| Toronto | 10.5 | 10.8 | 11.0 | 11.4 | | -0.3 | | -0.5 |
| Hamilton | 8.8 | 9.1 | 12.8 | 10.3 | | -0.3 | | -4.0 |
| St.Catharines-Niagara | 10.9 | 11.1 | 13.3 | 13.4 | | -0.2 | | -2.4 |
| London | 8.8 | 8.0 | 8.4 | 8.4 | | 0.8 | | 0.4 |
| Windsor | 10.5 | 11.1 | 11.5 | 11.2 | | -0.6 | | -1.0 |
| Kitchener-Waterloo | 7.4 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 8.2 | | 0.3 | | -1.9 |
| Thunder Bay | 12.8 | 12.8 | 11.5 | 11.7 | | 0.0 | | 1.3 |
| Oshawa | 11.2 | 12.4 | 10.6 | 13.0 | | -1.2 | | 0.6 |
| Winnipeg | 11.5 | 12.2 | 11.1 | 11.4 | | -0.7 | | 0.4 |
| Regina | 8.3 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 8.2 | | 0.2 | | -0.1 |
| Saskatoon | 9.1 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 9.4 | | -0.4 | | -0.9 |
| Calgary | 9.9 | 9.9 | 11.3 | 10.4 | | 0.0 | | -1.4 |
| Edmonton | 10.6 | 10.7 | 11.7 | 11.4 | | -0.1 | | -1.1 |
| Vancouver | 9.5 | 9.8 | 9.9 | 9.4 | | -0.3 | | -0.4 |
| Victoria | 7.7 | 7.2 | 8.7 | 7.9 | | 0.5 | | -1.0 |

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

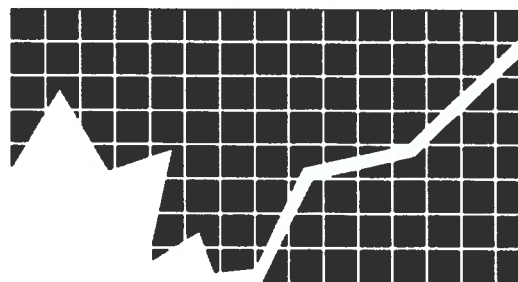
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE*
BY ECONOMIC REGION
(Unadjusted data)

| Québec Economic Region | | | | Average of last 12 months | Variation | | Variation | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|--------|---|
| | May-94 | Apr-94 | May-93 | | May-94 | / | Apr-94 | May-94 | / |
| Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine | 26.2 | 27.3 | 27.7 | 22.7 | -1.1 | | | -1.5 | |
| Bas-Saint-Laurent | 17.2 | 17.6 | 17.0 | 15.5 | -0.4 | | | 0.2 | |
| Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean | 15.9 | 15.2 | 16.4 | 14.7 | 0.7 | | | -0.5 | |
| Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches | 11.7 | 12.0 | 11.3 | 10.5 | -0.3 | | | 0.4 | |
| Mauricie/Bois-Francs | 12.1 | 12.2 | 13.9 | 11.5 | -0.1 | | | -1.8 | |
| Estrie | 10.0 | 10.3 | 11.4 | 10.3 | -0.3 | | | -1.4 | |
| Montréal-Centre and Laval | 10.4 | 10.2 | 14.4 | 12.1 | 0.2 | | | -4.0 | |
| Montréal-Centre and Laval | 14.1 | 14.7 | 14.6 | 13.8 | -0.6 | | | -0.5 | |
| Laurentides | 14.8 | 16.6 | 14.0 | 14.9 | -1.8 | | | 0.8 | |
| Lanaudière | 13.6 | 15.3 | 11.8 | 11.6 | -1.7 | | | 1.8 | |
| Outaouais | 11.7 | 12.8 | 11.1 | 11.6 | -1.1 | | | 0.6 | |
| Abitibi-Témiscamingue | 14.3 | 13.7 | 12.8 | 14.4 | 0.6 | | | 1.5 | |
| Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec | 14.5 | 14.3 | 17.3 | 14.1 | 0.2 | | | -2.8 | |
| Province of Québec | 13.0 | 13.4 | 13.9 | 12.8 | -0.4 | | | -0.9 | |

*Unemployment rate: In percentage, three-month moving average
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

ASSISTANCE TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS



Alma

Rita Tremblay, Director
(418) 668-3084 / 1-800-463-9808

Drummondville

René Gélinas, Director
(819) 478-4664 / 1-800-567-1418

Hull

Guillaume Donati, Director
(819) 994-7442 / 1-800-561-4353

Laurentides, Montérégie and Outaouais regions

René Gélinas, Director
(514) 283-7834 / 1-800-263-4689

Montréal

Georges-Henri Goulet, Director
(514) 283-7557 / 1-800-263-4689

Northern Québec

Jocelyne Durand, Director
(514) 283-5174 / 1-800-561-0633

Québec City

Vianney Tanguay, Director
(418) 648-4826 / 1-800-463-5204

Rimouski

Christian Audet, Director
(418) 722-3282 / 1-800-463-9073

Sept-Îles

Robert Audet, Director
(418) 968-3426 / 1-800-463-1707

Sherbrooke

Normand Bégin, Director
(819) 564-5904 / 1-800-567-6084

Trois-Rivières

Claude Lortie, Director
(819) 371-5182 / 1-800-567-8637

Val-d'Or

Léo Couture, Director
(819) 825-5260 / 1-800-567-6451

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

- research and development;
- tourism and industrial development.

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;

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
(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de
développement régional
(Québec)