

# The FORD(Q) Economic Update

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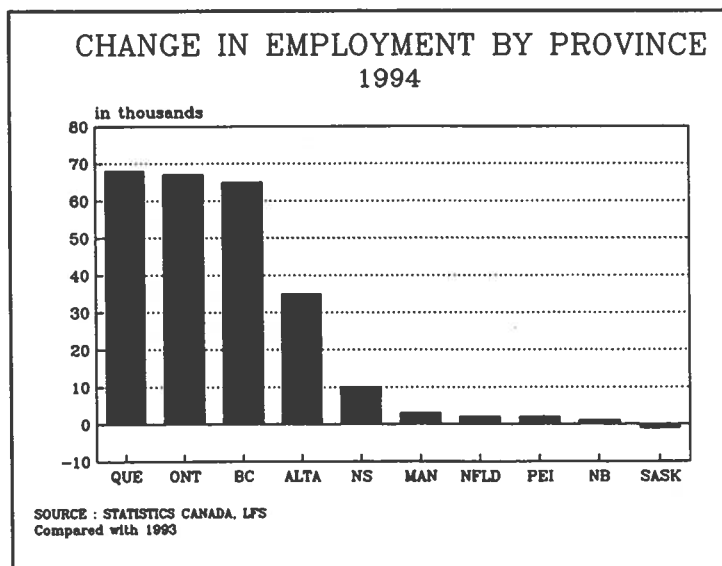
Editor: Léonel Plasse



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## 68,000 new jobs in Quebec

- According to an unofficial estimate based on the average monthly gains for 1994, Quebec's employment grew by **68,000** in 1994, or about the same number of jobs as in Ontario and British Columbia. Hence, the province put in a good showing for 1994, despite its December loss of 8,000 jobs. Only two other provinces sustained losses in December: Manitoba (-3,000) and Alberta (-3,000). British Columbia took the lead in job creation, with 7,000 new jobs, followed by New Brunswick with 5,000 and Ontario with 4,000. On a seasonally unadjusted basis, Quebec lost 51,000 jobs in December compared to November, 44,000 of them full time, including 20,000 in manufacturing and 15,000 in services.



Federal Office of  
Regional Development  
(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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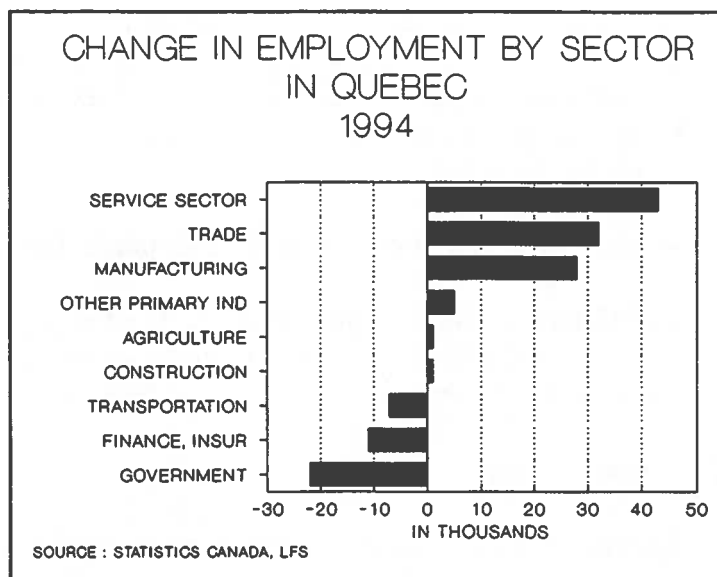
**The editor is:**

Léonel Plasse

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### Three sectors fuel employment growth in 1994

- On a year-over-year basis in 1994, employment expanded in services (+43,000), trade (+32,000), manufacturing (+28,000) and the other primary industries (+5,000). By contrast, jobs losses were recorded in transportation, communication and utilities (-7,000), finance, insurance and real estate (-11,000), and above all in government (-22,000). The number of full-time positions increased by 78,000 in Quebec in 1994, despite a substantial loss in December.



### Unemployment rate up sharply in December

- Quebec's unemployment rate rose from 11.4% in November to 12.1% in December, an increase of 0.7 percentage points and the largest rise registered in Canada. In fact, Alberta was the only other province to post an increase in the unemployment rate, but its rate was up by only 0.2 points. Quebec had the fourth highest jobless rate, after New Brunswick. The loss of 8,000 jobs and the influx of 18,000 unemployed people into the labour market were what caused the increase in the number of jobless (+26,000).

### First drop in bank rate in 12 weeks

- On January 4, the **Bank of Canada** announced that it was lowering the **bank rate** by 31 basis points to 7.12%. According to financial institutions, however, this drop will not lead to lower interest rates or a reversal of the current uptrend in rates. (Le Devoir, 05/01/95)

### Higher R&D spending in Quebec

- Between 1988 and 1992, gross domestic R&D expenditures increased nearly 44% in Quebec. R&D spending as a percentage of GDP reached 1.8% in 1992, compared with 1.4% in 1988. The corresponding figures for Canada as a whole are 1.5% and 1.4%.

(Le Devoir, 13/12/94)

### **Decrease in unit labour cost**

- As a result of the drop in the value of the Canadian dollar and the low wage increases, **Canada's unit labour cost** fell by 6.6%, for the first time since 1962. In the United States, the unit cost rose 2.0%. However, in Canada, productivity, measured in terms of GDP per hour worked, increased at a slower pace than in the United States.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 13/12/94)

### **New investment division at Caisse de dépôt et placement**

- The **Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec** announced that it is setting up a new division which will invest \$75 million annually in companies and funds in the communications, software and health sectors, at various stages in their development. (Telbec, 21/12/94)

### **Free trade changing export trends**

- According to the **Quebec manufacturers' association**, the manufacturing sector is becoming increasingly export driven, as a result of the industrial restructuring sparked by free trade. Shipments to other Canadian provinces are steadily declining, which means that the provinces are becoming more and more dependent on the United States. Manufacturing sector investments are expected to increase in Quebec in 1994 (+25.8%) and in 1995 (+13.6%). However, employment is growing rather slowly, with an estimated gain of 25,000 jobs in 1994. (Le Devoir, 21/12/94)

### **Revenue transfers through unemployment insurance**

- Some sectors and provinces receive more **unemployment insurance** benefit money than they contribute in the form of premiums. That is the case, for example, in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries and construction sectors. Conversely, the finance, government and transportation sectors are contributing more than they are receiving. Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, **Quebec** and British Columbia draw more money from the unemployment insurance program than they pay into it.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 15/12/94)

## Major business bankruptcies in 1994

■ According to an article in *La Presse*, many companies closed in 1994, most notably:

- **Confederation Life** insurance company
- The **Perrette** chain, whose assets were purchased by Ault and Alimentation Couche-Tard
- **Belcourt** real estate company, which owns about one hundred buildings
- The **69 Discus** stores, including 37 in Quebec, and
- **CJMS** radio station, further to the merger of Télémedia and Radiomutuel.

A number of other companies also declared bankruptcy, for example, Unigesco, Armand Boudrias textile mills, Pennington's, NDG Photo, Réservation Québec and Furama Hotel.

(*La Presse*, 31/12/94)

## Deficit continuing to decline

■ During the April to October 1994 period, the **federal deficit** shrank by \$5.7 billion compared with the same period in 1993. This improvement is attributable to a \$5.9 billion increase in revenues and a \$1.4 billion reduction in program spending. By contrast, public debt charges rose by \$1.4 billion during the period.

(*The Fiscal Monitor*, Department of Finance, December 1994)

## REGIONAL REVIEW

### METROPOLITAN MONTREAL

#### Robust employment growth in Montreal in 1994

■ A good 28,000 jobs were created in the Metropolitan Montreal region in 1994, the best performance in Canada and on a par with Vancouver's showing. Particularly strong growth was recorded as of mid-year and right into December, when the year-over-year increase totalled 65,000 jobs. The unemployment rate contracted, falling from 13.6% in 1993 to 12.5% in 1994.

## **Tourism picks up in 1994**

- The Greater Montreal Convention and Tourism Office, represented by its president Charles Lapointe, stated that an estimated 9 million tourists visited Montreal in 1994, up 10% from last year; the tourists spent at least \$1.2 billion in the city. Moreover, according to the Greater Montreal hotel association, the occupancy rate reached 62.5% last year, in comparison with 56.1% in 1993. Finally, the Quebec Restaurant Association has estimated the rise in sales at Quebec restaurants at 5% in 1994, compared with 3.8% for Canada as a whole. (The Gazette, 31/12/94)

## **ISLAND OF MONTREAL**

### **Imperial Tobacco investment**

- The Imperial Tobacco company will invest \$22 million to modernize the manufacturing equipment at its Notre Dame Street West plant in Montreal, a move aimed at reducing manufacturing costs and raising productivity. Job losses are anticipated further to this modernization program. (Le Journal de Québec, 08/12/94)

### **United States centralizing immigration services in Montreal**

- The United States government has decided to centralize its immigration services for Eastern Canada in Montreal in the fall of 1995. At present, these services are offered in Toronto. About a dozen new jobs should be created at the US consulate. (La Presse, 16/12/94)

### **200 temporary lay-offs at Matol**

- Matol Botanical, a natural products maker, laid off the 200 employees at its Lachine plant for an indeterminate period. (Le Journal de Montréal, 20/12/94)

## **LAVAL**

### **Expansion of research centre**

- Servier Canada is expanding its research facility in Laval. The first phase of this project, slated for year-end, consists in building a \$3 million annex to house pharmaceutical production equipment. The second phase, which is to cost \$10 million but has not yet been scheduled, involves the construction of a second clinical research and pharmaceutical production facility. (Constructo, 22/12/94)

## **CENTRAL REGIONS**

### **EASTERN TOWNSHIPS**

#### **1994 ends on a good note in Eastern Townships**

- Employment rose by 2,000 in December on a month-over-month basis, resulting in a gain of 3,000 positions for all of 1994. Nonetheless, the unemployment rate moved upward in December owing to an influx of 3,000 people into the labour market. The jobless rate for 1994 was 9.6%, versus 10.9% in 1993.

#### **Contract for C-MAC**

- C-MAC of Sherbrooke won a \$13 million contract from Hydro Quebec to manufacture 500,000 electronic thermostats, which will provide employment for 120 people.  
(La Tribune, 23/12/94)

#### **Housing project**

- At St Élie d'Orford, 280 single-family and semi-detached homes are slated to be built under the *Jardins de l'avenir* project, which will span five years and require an investment of \$19 million.  
(Constructo, 22/12/94)

### **LANAUDIÈRE**

#### **Slight improvement in job market in 1994**

- In the Lanaudière region, employment grew by 3,000 in 1994, an increase of 2% compared to 2.3% for Quebec as a whole; however, the unemployment rate rose 1 percentage point to 12.4% last year.

### **LAURENTIANS**

#### **Loss of 6,000 jobs in December**

- Despite a substantial loss of jobs last December, the second largest decline in Quebec, the Laurentian region posted a net gain of 11,000 jobs in 1994. The 1994 unemployment rate of 13.7% was slightly lower than the 1993 rate (14.1%).

## MAURICIE/BOIS FRANCS

### **Unemployment rate drops**

- Employment expanded by 2,000 jobs, or barely 1%, in the Mauricie/Bois Francs area in 1994. Nonetheless, the unemployment rate declined substantially from 12.4% in 1993 to 11% last year.

### **Hydro Quebec to undertake major upgrading project**

- Hydro Quebec plans to carry out major upgrading work at the **La Tuque** power station. This \$375 million project is slated to begin in 1996 and run for six years.

(Le Nouvelliste, 23/12/94)

## MONTÉRÉGIE

### **28,000 more jobs than in 1994**

- In 1994, the Montérégie region's employment totalled 586,000, which is 28,000 higher than in 1993 and 19,000 higher than the pre-recession peak recorded in 1990. Until now, only five regions have succeeded in surpassing this pre-recession employment level. The unemployment rate of 10.2% in 1994 is down 3 percentage points from the 1993 figure.

### **GEC Alsthom cutting jobs**

- After a labour dispute that lasted two months, **GEC Alsthom** of Tracy announced that 200 employees would be laid off temporarily because the company, a manufacturer of turbines, does not have enough contracts. During 1995, the company will have a total work force of about 400.

(Le Journal de Montréal, 14/12/94)

### **Goodyear investment**

- **Goodyear** announced that it will invest \$22 million at its **Valleyfield** plant. The company plans to expand the facility by adding 23,000 square feet and to purchase equipment to increase production.

(Le Journal de Montréal, 15/12/94)

### **Wastewater treatment work**

- Starting in 1996, the *Société québécoise d'assainissement des eaux* will carry out a \$35 million wastewater treatment project encompassing the municipalities of **Rougement**, **St Césaire**, **St Bruno de Montarville** and **St Basile le Grand**.

(Constructo, 22/12/94)

## OUTAOUAIS

### **Moderate job growth in 1994**

- The number of jobs in the Outaouais region rose by 2,000 in 1994, or 1.4% compared with 2.3% for Quebec as a whole. Similarly, the unemployment rate declined marginally from 11.5% in 1993 to 11.2% in 1994.

## QUEBEC CITY/CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

### **Sharp drop in employment in December**

- Despite a loss of 11,000 jobs in December compared to November, the largest drop in Quebec, total employment for 1994 was up by 19,000 jobs from 1993. This represents a growth rate of 4.5%, or nearly double the provincial rate. The 1994 unemployment rate (10.4%) was the same as in 1993.

### **MIL Davie finally wins contracts**

- The MIL Davie shipyard won five ship repair contracts worth \$5 million, which will provide work for 200 people over the next three months. (Le Journal de Québec, 17/12/94)

## **RESOURCE REGIONS**

### ABITIBI-TEMISCAMINGUE

#### **Little change in 1994**

- Employment rose by only 1,000 in 1994 (+1.7%), which represents a lower growth rate than the provincial average. The unemployment rate declined 0.8 percentage points to 13.1%.

#### **Contract for Ross Finlay**

- **Ross Finlay**, a subsidiary of the Espalau mining company obtained a \$10 million contract to develop, prepare work sites for and exploit the River Gold Mines property in Wawa, Ontario. (L'Écho, 14/12/94)

### LOWER ST LAWRENCE

#### **Slight improvement in employment**

- The number of jobs increased by 2,000 in 1994, after declining in 1992 and 1993. However, the unemployment rate moved down only 0.3 percentage points to 15.4%.

## NORTH SHORE/NORTHERN QUEBEC

### **Stable employment**

- The region's employment stood at 44,000 in 1994, which is essentially the same level as in 1993 (+1,000) and 1992, but 6,000 jobs short of the pre-recession peak reached in 1990. The unemployment rate, at 14.5% in 1994, was slightly lower than in 1993 (15.1%).

### **Various wastewater treatment projects**

- A number of North Shore municipalities will benefit from wastewater treatment projects to be carried out by the **Société québécoise d'assainissement des eaux**, including **Blanc Sablon, Gallix, Longue Pointe de Mingan, Rivière au Tonnerre, Port Cartier** and **Sept Îles**. The work, requiring an investment of some \$40 million, is slated to begin in 1996.  
(Constructo, 22/12/94)

## GASPÉ/MAGDALEN ISLANDS

### **Second year of job growth**

- In 1994, for the second consecutive year, the number of jobs in the Gaspé/Magdalen Islands region increased moderately, reaching 31,000. The unemployment rate edged down slightly from 22% in 1993 to 21.7% in 1994.

### **Wind power complex in the Islands**

- A consortium composed of **Kennetech** and **AXOR** will build a wind power complex in **Havre aux Maisons**, in the Magdalen Islands, at a cost of \$8 million. This facility, which is to have a generating capacity of 450 Kw, will come on stream in late 1995.  
(Le Soleil, 17/12/94)

### **Wastewater treatment projects**

- The **Société québécoise d'assainissement des eaux** plans to build aerated ponds, build pumping stations and carry out water collection and sewer system work in **St Anne des Monts** and **Tourelle**. This \$11 million project may get off the ground in 1996.  
(Constructo, 22/12/94)

## SAGUENAY/LAC ST JEAN

### **Fourth drop in employment**

- The employment situation has deteriorated steadily over the past four years in Saguenay/Lac St Jean, with the total number of jobs falling from 119,000 in 1990 to 106,000 in 1994, an 11% decrease. Despite the dismal employment picture, the unemployment rate declined in 1994 to 14.5%.

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

Industries	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
Agriculture	60	60	70	71	0		-10	
Other primary indust.	40	45	35	41	-5		5	
Manufacturing	562	567	511	549	-5		51	
Construction	119	139	110	136	-20		9	
Transp., communic. and oth. util.	220	221	212	216	-1		8	
Trade	519	528	510	523	-9		9	
Finance, insur. and real estate	157	148	169	169	9		-12	
Services	1,126	1,141	1,097	1,124	-15		29	
Public administration	198	203	207	201	-5		-9	
All industries	3,002	3,053	2,922	3,030	-51		80	
In thousands								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

**FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT  
BY PROVINCE**  
(Unadjusted data)

Province				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93		Dec-94	/ Nov-94	Dec-94	/ Dec-93
Newfoundland	154	160	154	163	-6		0	
Prince Edward Island	45	46	40	46	-1		5	
Nova Scotia	296	298	281	299	-2		15	
New Brunswick	244	249	227	247	-5		17	
Québec	2530	2574	2423	2573	-44		107	
Ontario	4044	4078	3883	4013	-34		161	
Manitoba	389	399	389	401	-10		0	
Saskatchewan	355	362	342	361	-7		13	
Alberta	1072	1087	1027	1068	-15		45	
British Columbia	1333	1325	1254	1317	8		79	
Canada	10461	10577	10019	10487	-116		442	

In thousands  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT  
BY PROVINCE**  
(Unadjusted data)

Province	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/ Nov-94	Dec-94	/ Dec-93
Newfoundland	27	26	26	26	1		1	
Prince Edward Island	9	9	10	9	0		-1	
Nova Scotia	67	68	70	69	-1		-3	
New Brunswick	49	48	47	46	1		2	
Québec	472	479	499	457	-7		-27	
Ontario	883	874	895	852	9		-12	
Manitoba	103	102	103	92	1		0	
Saskatchewan	84	80	85	79	4		-1	
Alberta	231	225	232	220	6		-1	
British Columbia	285	297	320	309	-12		-35	
Canada	2209	2208	2287	2158	1		-78	
In thousands								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

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

Province	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94 /	Nov-94	Dec-94 /	Dec-93
Newfoundland	188	188	185	188	0		3	
Prince Edward Island	57	57	54	55	0		3	
Nova Scotia	370	367	353	367	3		17	
New Brunswick	305	300	287	292	5		18	
Québec	3,056	3,064	2,970	3,028	-8		86	
Ontario	4,955	4,951	4,810	4,860	4		145	
Manitoba	498	501	498	493	-3		0	
Saskatchewan	448	448	437	439	0		11	
Alberta	1,314	1,317	1,272	1,287	-3		42	
British Columbia	1,639	1,632	1,591	1,626	7		48	
Canada	12,820	12,821	12,458	12,634	-1		362	

In thousands  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Metropolitan Area	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
St-John's (Nfld)	73	73	74	74	0		-1	
Halifax	155	154	150	156	1		5	
Saint John (NB)	54	54	56	53	0		-2	
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	53	52	52	51	1		1	
Québec	286	296	289	300	-10		-3	
Montréal	1,434	1,424	1,369	1,403	10		65	
Trois-Rivières	51	52	54	53	-1		-3	
Sherbrooke	58	57	55	57	1		3	
Ottawa-Hull	459	459	444	457	0		15	
Sudbury	73	72	69	68	1		4	
Toronto	1,783	1,774	1,755	1,758	9		28	
Hamilton	307	308	304	310	-1		3	
St.Catharines-Niagara	146	145	139	144	1		7	
London	179	182	173	175	-3		6	
Windsor	126	125	118	121	1		8	
Kitchener-Waterloo	210	209	197	202	1		13	
Thunder Bay	62	61	58	58	1		4	
Oshawa	123	122	113	118	1		10	
Winnipeg	308	307	307	303	1		1	
Regina	88	89	88	88	-1		0	
Saskatoon	86	84	85	85	2		1	
Calgary	378	378	373	371	0		5	
Edmonton	384	384	369	375	0		15	
Vancouver	857	860	813	844	-3		44	
Victoria	132	132	134	136	0		-2	

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

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

Québec Economic Region	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	29	31	29	31	-2		0	
Bas-Saint-Laurent	75	77	76	76	-2		-1	
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	108	109	106	106	-1		2	
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	429	440	425	444	-11		4	
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	196	199	199	198	-3		-3	
Estrie	117	115	117	117	2		0	
Montérégie	578	583	567	586	-5		11	
Montréal-Centre and Laval	911	906	866	875	5		45	
Laurentides	201	207	187	197	-6		14	
Lanaudière	147	148	144	150	-1		3	
Outaouais	145	145	140	141	0		5	
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	60	60	59	60	0		1	
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	40	42	44	44	-2		-4	
<b>Province of Québec</b>	<b>3,036</b>	<b>3,062</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>3,023</b>	<b>-26</b>		<b>77</b>	

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

**EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIO  
BY PROVINCE**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Province	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/ Nov-94	Dec-94	/ Dec-93
Newfoundland	42.2	42.2	41.7	42.2	0.0		0.5	
Prince Edward Island	55.7	55.4	53.5	54.4	0.3		2.2	
Nova Scotia	52.3	51.9	50.2	52.0	0.4		2.1	
New Brunswick	53.4	52.5	50.7	51.2	0.9		2.7	
Québec	55.1	55.2	54.0	54.7	-0.1		1.1	
Ontario	60.3	60.4	59.5	59.6	-0.1		0.8	
Manitoba	61.0	61.4	61.3	60.5	-0.4		-0.3	
Saskatchewan	62.1	62.1	60.9	61.1	0.0		1.2	
Alberta	66.7	66.9	65.3	65.6	-0.2		1.4	
British Columbia	59.4	59.3	59.6	59.9	0.1		-0.2	
Canada	58.7	58.7	57.8	58.2	0.0		0.9	
In percentage								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

**EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIO\***  
**BY METROPOLITAN AREA**  
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation		
	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93		Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94	/
St-John's (Nfld)	55.7	55.4	56.6	56.3		0.3			-0.9
Halifax	61.6	61.4	60.5	62.3		0.2			1.1
Saint John (NB)	56.7	56.0	59.1	55.9		0.7			-2.4
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	47.5	46.7	47.1	45.4		0.8			0.4
Québec	55.7	57.7	56.8	58.8		-2.0			-1.1
Montréal	56.7	56.3	54.7	55.7		0.4			2.0
Trois-Rivières	53.7	54.7	56.9	55.7		-1.0			-3.2
Sherbrooke	56.5	56.1	54.1	55.7		0.4			2.4
Ottawa-Hull	63.1	63.3	62.6	63.6		-0.2			0.5
Sudbury	56.6	56.2	54.6	53.3		0.4			2.0
Toronto	59.9	59.7	60.0	59.6		0.2			-0.1
Hamilton	60.6	60.9	60.6	61.4		-0.3			0.0
St. Catharines-Niagara	53.2	52.9	51.1	52.8		0.3			2.1
London	65.5	66.5	64.2	64.5		-1.0			1.3
Windsor	59.7	59.5	56.7	57.8		0.2			3.0
Kitchener-Waterloo	68.6	68.3	65.5	66.5		0.3			3.1
Thunder Bay	61.7	61.6	58.1	58.3		0.1			3.6
Oshawa	63.3	62.9	59.5	61.5		0.4			3.8
Winnipeg	60.7	60.6	60.9	59.9		0.1			-0.2
Regina	64.8	65.0	64.9	64.5		-0.2			-0.1
Saskatoon	60.5	59.3	60.1	60.3		1.2			0.4
Calgary	65.7	65.6	65.8	64.7		0.1			-0.1
Edmonton	64.5	64.5	62.7	63.3		0.0			1.8
Vancouver	61.6	62.0	60.3	61.6		-0.4			1.3
Victoria	54.9	55.1	57.6	57.6		-0.2			-2.7

\*Employment/population ratio: In percentage, three-month moving average  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

**EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIO\***  
**BY ECONOMIC REGION**  
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Economic Region	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	35.1	36.9	34.6	37.2	-1.8			0.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	47.2	48.7	47.6	47.8	-1.5			-0.4
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	47.3	47.7	46.7	46.3	-0.4			0.6
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	54.6	55.9	54.4	56.5	-1.3			0.2
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	53.2	54.0	54.3	53.7	-0.8			-1.1
Estrie	53.9	53.1	54.5	54.4	0.8			-0.6
Montréal-Centre and Laval	57.9	58.5	57.8	59.1	-0.6			0.1
Montréal-Centre and Laval	55.2	54.8	52.4	52.9	0.4			2.8
Laurentides	58.7	60.5	56.2	58.3	-1.8			2.5
Lanaudière	52.5	53.2	53.6	54.6	-0.7			-1.1
Outaouais	61.1	61.2	60.4	60.0	-0.1			0.7
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	51.7	51.9	50.9	51.5	-0.2			0.8
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	49.5	51.7	54.9	53.9	-2.2			-5.4
Province of Québec	54.7	55.2	53.8	54.7	-0.5			0.9

\* Employment/population ratio: In percentage, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93		Dec-94	/ Nov-94	Dec-94	/ Dec-93
Newfoundland	49	50	50	49	-1		-1	
Prince Edward Island	10	10	12	11	0		-2	
Nova Scotia	52	53	63	57	-1		-11	
New Brunswick	40	40	44	42	0		-4	
Québec	422	396	437	417	26		-15	
Ontario	457	469	579	519	-12		-122	
Manitoba	43	44	48	50	-1		-5	
Saskatchewan	29	31	39	33	-2		-10	
Alberta	108	106	126	119	2		-18	
British Columbia	151	161	172	168	-10		-21	
Canada	1,356	1,364	1,568	1,466	-8		-212	
In thousands								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

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

Metropolitan Area	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
St-John's (Nfld)	12	13	11	12		-1		1
Halifax	14	14	20	17		0		-6
Saint John (NB)	7	7	6	7		0		1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	9	8	10	9		1		-1
Québec	35	35	36	37		0		-1
Montréal	197	194	219	200		3		-22
Trois-Rivières	7	8	8	8		-1		-1
Sherbrooke	6	5	8	6		1		-2
Ottawa-Hull	39	39	44	42		0		-5
Sudbury	6	6	7	8		0		-1
Toronto	192	201	230	211		-9		-38
Hamilton	26	26	33	28		0		-7
St.Catharines-Niagara	15	15	21	17		0		-6
London	12	10	15	14		2		-3
Windsor	9	10	14	13		-1		-5
Kitchener-Waterloo	12	12	18	15		0		-6
Thunder Bay	6	6	7	7		0		-1
Oshawa	11	12	19	15		-1		-8
Winnipeg	34	35	36	38		-1		-2
Regina	6	6	8	7		0		-2
Saskatoon	8	9	8	9		-1		0
Calgary	34	34	41	39		0		-7
Edmonton	40	41	48	45		-1		-8
Vancouver	75	76	75	85		-1		0
Victoria	10	11	12	11		-1		-2

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

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

Québec Economic Region	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	7	6	8	8		1		-1
Bas-Saint-Laurent	12	12	14	14		0		-2
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	17	16	18	18		1		-1
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	48	47	48	52		1		0
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	24	23	23	24		1		1
Estrie	12	11	13	12		1		-1
Montérégie	69	65	85	66		4		-16
Montréal-Centre and Laval	128	128	133	136		0		-5
Laurentides	26	24	32	31		2		-6
Lanaudière	18	18	18	21		0		0
Outaouais	17	16	18	18		1		-1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	8	8	10	9		0		-2
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	9	8	6	7		1		3
<b>Province of Québec</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>418</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>-30</b>

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

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

Province	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/ Nov-94	Dec-94	/ Dec-93
Newfoundland	20.7	21.0	21.3	20.6	-0.3		-0.6	
Prince Edward Island	15.0	15.3	17.7	17.2	-0.3		-2.7	
Nova Scotia	12.3	12.6	15.1	13.4	-0.3		-2.8	
New Brunswick	11.6	11.8	13.3	12.5	-0.2		-1.7	
Québec	12.1	11.4	12.8	12.1	0.7		-0.7	
Ontario	8.4	8.7	10.7	9.6	-0.3		-2.3	
Manitoba	7.9	8.1	8.8	9.2	-0.2		-0.9	
Saskatchewan	6.1	6.5	8.2	7.1	-0.4		-2.1	
Alberta	7.6	7.4	9.0	8.5	0.2		-1.4	
British Columbia	8.4	9.0	9.8	9.4	-0.6		-1.4	
Canada	9.6	9.6	11.2	10.4	0.0		-1.6	

In percentage  
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE\* BY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation		
	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93		Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94	/
St-John's (Nfld)	14.1	14.8	12.7	13.9		-0.7			1.4
Halifax	8.5	8.5	11.5	9.7		0.0			-3.0
Saint John (NB)	12.1	12.2	9.0	11.8		-0.1			3.1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	14.3	14.0	16.2	15.1		0.3			-1.9
Québec	10.9	10.6	11.0	10.9		0.3			-0.1
Montréal	12.1	12.0	13.8	12.6		0.1			-1.7
Trois-Rivières	12.8	12.9	13.2	13.3		-0.1			-0.4
Sherbrooke	8.8	8.7	12.1	9.9		0.1			-3.3
Ottawa-Hull	7.9	7.8	9.1	8.4		0.1			-1.2
Sudbury	7.6	8.1	8.7	10.7		-0.5			-1.1
Toronto	9.7	10.2	11.6	10.7		-0.5			-1.9
Hamilton	7.8	7.9	9.9	8.3		-0.1			-2.1
St.Catharines-Niagara	9.1	9.2	13.2	10.6		-0.1			-4.1
London	6.4	5.3	8.1	7.5		1.1			-1.7
Windsor	6.7	7.3	10.6	9.6		-0.6			-3.9
Kitchener-Waterloo	5.3	5.5	8.2	6.8		-0.2			-2.9
Thunder Bay	8.6	9.0	10.4	11.1		-0.4			-1.8
Oshawa	8.3	8.9	14.3	11.1		-0.6			-6.0
Winnipeg	9.8	10.2	10.5	11.1		-0.4			-0.7
Regina	6.6	6.3	8.5	7.4		0.3			-1.9
Saskatoon	8.8	9.5	9.1	9.4		-0.7			-0.3
Calgary	8.2	8.2	9.9	9.4		0.0			-1.7
Edmonton	9.4	9.7	11.6	10.7		-0.3			-2.2
Vancouver	8.0	8.1	8.5	9.1		-0.1			-0.5
Victoria	7.3	7.7	8.2	7.7		-0.4			-0.9

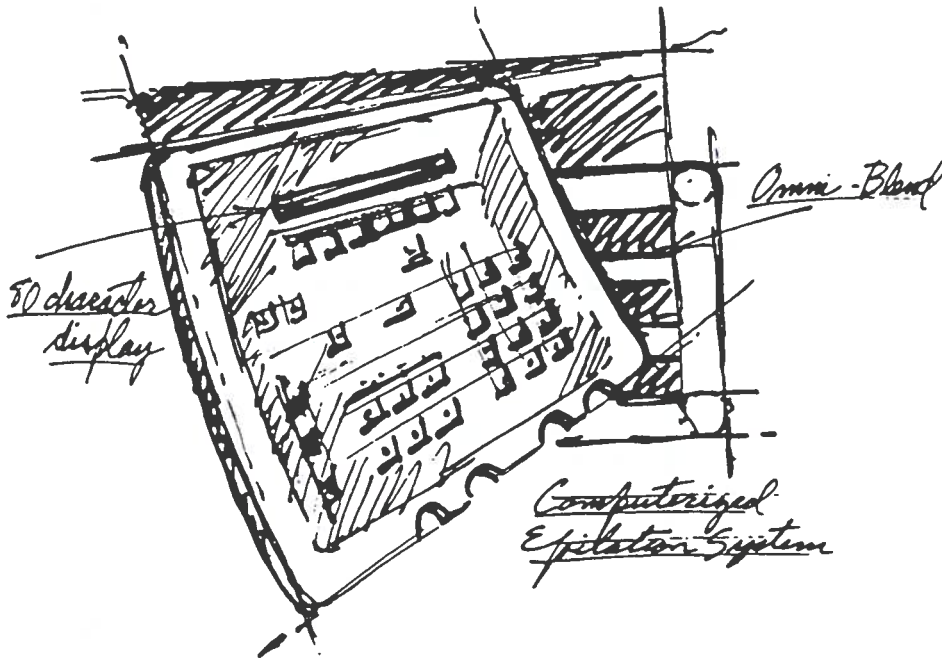
\*Unemployment rate: In percentage, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Québec Economic Region	Dec-94	Nov-94	Dec-93	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Dec-94	/	Nov-94	Dec-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	19.0	17.4	21.5	21.7		1.6		-2.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	13.7	13.2	15.1	15.4		0.5		-1.4
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	13.7	13.0	14.6	14.5		0.7		-0.9
Québec/Chaudière-Appalaches	10.0	9.6	10.1	10.4		0.4		-0.1
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	10.9	10.6	10.4	11.0		0.3		0.5
Estrie	9.3	8.9	10.2	9.6		0.4		-0.9
Montréal-Centre and Laval	10.7	10.0	13.1	10.2		0.7		-2.4
Montréal-Centre and Laval	12.3	12.4	13.3	13.5		-0.1		-1.0
Laurentides	11.4	10.6	14.7	13.7		0.8		-3.3
Lanaudière	11.0	10.6	11.1	12.4		0.4		-0.1
Outaouais	10.5	10.1	11.6	11.2		0.4		-1.1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	11.7	11.3	14.3	13.1		0.4		-2.6
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	19.0	16.4	12.2	14.5		2.6		6.8
Province of Québec	11.5	11.1	12.6	12.2		0.4		-1.1

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



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