

The FORD(Q) Economic Update

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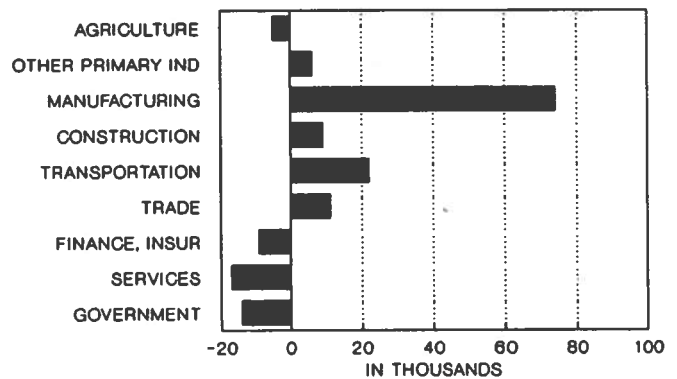
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Employment upturn continues in Quebec

- In February 1995, employment rose by 14,000 in Quebec from January 1995. On a year-over-year basis, seasonally adjusted employment in the province grew by 76,000 jobs, which represents 23% of Canada's total job creation. By comparison, Ontario chalked up 152,000 new jobs, the best performance in Canada. Quebec's year-over-year gain resulted from the addition of 110,000 full-time jobs and the loss of 34,000 part-time positions. Manufacturing was the most dynamic sector by far (+74,000 jobs), followed by transportation (+22,000) and trade (+11,000). Services (-17,000), government (-14,000), finance, insurance and real estate (-9,000) and agriculture (-5,000) all posted losses.

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR
IN QUEBEC
FEBRUARY 1995/FEBRUARY 1994



Federal Office of
Regional Development
(Québec)

Bureau fédéral de
développement régional
(Québec)

Canada

L'INFORMATEUR ÉCONOMIQUE est une publication mensuelle dont le but est de renseigner ses lecteurs sur les plus récents développements à caractère économique touchant le Québec et ses régions.

Les informations contenues dans le bulletin mensuel sont tirées de quotidiens et d'hebdomadaires, ainsi que de revues et autres publications couvrant l'économie québécoise. Les données statistiques proviennent en majeure partie de Statistique Canada.

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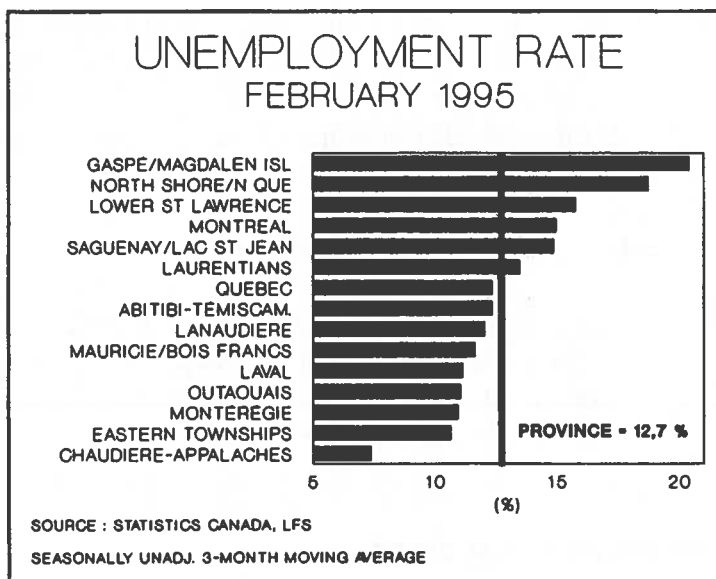
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Léonel Plasse

Drop in unemployment in Quebec and Canada

- Quebec's unemployment rate slipped 0.5 percentage points between January and February 1995. Declines were posted in the Atlantic provinces and Alberta as well. On a year-over-year basis, the jobless rate was down by 0.9 points, which falls short of the figure recorded for Canada as a whole (-1.4 points) and for Ontario (-1.8 points). Seasonally unadjusted data show that, on an annualized basis, the Gaspé/Magdalen Islands area posted the sharpest decrease (-6.9



points). Conversely, the North Shore/Northern Quebec region registered the biggest jump in the unemployment rate (+5.7 points).

Decline in federal deficit

- For the first 10 months of fiscal 1994-1995, the federal deficit shrank by \$5.4 billion compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. This decline occurred mainly as a result of an increase in revenues (\$6.8 billion), combined with the positive effects of a \$0.9 billion reduction in program spending. However, the debt service charges totalling over \$2.3 billion exerted upward pressure on the deficit.

(The Fiscal Monitor, Department of Finance, March 1995)

Upswing in exports

- Canadian exports expanded by 4.5% in December compared to November, bringing the total increase for the year to 21%. Particularly robust growth occurred in the automobile, machinery and equipment and industrial goods sectors. Imports also rose in December, and this 6% rise contributed to an overall increase of 18% for 1994, propelled mainly by the same industries as for exports.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 17/02/95)

Upsurge in retail trade

- Retail sales grew by 6.9% in 1994, with over half of this increase coming from the automobile industry. Quebec posted a gain of 6.5%, just under the Canadian average.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 21/02/95)

Cutbacks at Environment Canada

- As a result of budget cuts, **Environment Canada** is closing its weather offices in **Sherbrooke, Trois Rivières, Jonquière, Val d'Or, Sept Iles, Baie Comeau, Mirabel and St Hubert** by 1997, spelling the loss of 120 jobs. The **Montreal, Quebec City and Rimouski** offices will now serve the whole province.

(Journal de Montréal, 01/03/95)

Canada registers strong economic growth

- **Canada's** economy posted strong growth in 1994, with a 4.5% rise in the GDP, which is attributable mainly to increases in consumer spending (4%), investment (8%) and exports of goods (15%). In addition, the inflation rate is at its lowest level in 33 years, after edging up barely 0.7%.

(La Presse, 02/03/95)

Expansion in investment

- **Statistics Canada** expects business and government investment to increase by about 3.2% in 1995 compared to 1994. This upward movement will be concentrated mainly in the machinery and equipment sector, particularly the pulp and paper industry, where investment growth could exceed 100%. High profit levels, growth in exports of forest products driven by higher prices and demand in Europe and the United States, and environmental standard schedules are the factors behind this anticipated upturn in machinery and equipment investments. The railway, public transit, telephone and mining industries are also expected to boost their business spending. Quebec, which had a very good year in 1994, should register growth of 2.2% in 1995.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 23/02/95)

Rise in the CPI

- In January 1995, **Canada's** CPI climbed by 0.6% on a year-over-year basis, the highest increase since February 1994, which is when tobacco taxes were reduced. The rise in the Index compared to December 1994 amounted to 0.4%, which can be explained mainly by higher prices for food, especially fresh fruit and vegetables. During the Christmas holidays, poultry and soda pop prices rose as usual. In Quebec, the Index rose by 0.5% on a month-over-month basis, or slightly more than the Canadian average.

(Statistics Canada Daily, 28/02/95)

New Future Shop stores

- **Future Shop**, the largest chain of electronics retailers in Canada, will open 20 to 25 new stores in **Quebec** within the next two years. Several outlets are slated to open in the **Quebec City** area in 1995, creating between 1,200 and 1,500 jobs with about 60 positions per store.

(Le Journal de Québec, 07/03/95)

REGIONAL REVIEW

METROPOLITAN MONTREAL

Employment continues upward movement

- According to seasonally adjusted data based on a three-month moving average, employment in the Metropolitan Montreal region climbed by 2,000 in February from the previous month. On an annualized basis, the increase totals 69,000, which is just under the figure for the Metropolitan Toronto (90,000). In Montreal, the unemployment rate slipped 1.1 percentage points over the last year, or less than in most other metropolitan areas.

Work on the Jacques Cartier and Champlain bridges

- Jacques Cartier and Champlain Bridges Inc is to carry out \$25 million in infrastructure work, which will include changing the signage system on both bridges. Whereas on the Champlain bridge, the concrete barriers will be repaired and a new drainage system will be installed at a cost of \$18 million, the work on the Jacques Cartier bridge consists in repairing the ramp to St Helen's Island and a \$7 million painting contract.

(Constructo, 03/03/95)

ISLAND OF MONTREAL

Renovation of Sealtest plant

- By the end of 1995, the Quebec Fluids Division of Ault Foods will have spent \$20 million to modernize the Sealtest plant in Montreal. This money will go toward automating the ice cream making and distribution operations. Thanks to this investment, Sealtest will be able to boost its production capacity and continue its expansion into the frozen dairy products sector.

(Le Journal de Montréal, 17/02/95)

New engineering building at McGill

- McGill University will build a new chemical engineering and materials sciences complex on the site where the Eaton and Foster buildings currently stand. Whereas the Eaton building is to be demolished, the Foster building will be integrated with the new complex. The project should cost roughly \$30 million, with work getting under way in the spring.

(Constructo, 14/02/95)

Expansion of Dawson College

- **Dawson College in Montreal** will be expanding its Atwater campus by constructing a new building on a site currently occupied by a parking lot. The new complex, requiring an investment of some \$18 million, will have three stories and four underground levels.
(Constructo, 14/02/95)

Renovation of Youth Court premises

- Work to expand and renovate the premises of the **Youth Division in the Court of Quebec in Montreal** should begin in the summer. This project will cost nearly \$40 million and is slated for completion in the summer of 1997.
(Constructo, 14/02/95)

Samuel Irving receives offers

- The firm Raymond et Chabot, trustee for **Irving Samuel**, has received two purchase offers for this upscale women's clothing company from undisclosed interests, and will make a decision soon.
(La Presse, 24/02/95)

Sanyo closure

- **Sanyo** announced that it is closing its plant in **Town of Mount Royal** on June 2, 1995 and that its colour television operation will be moved to Arkansas, where it has a much higher production capacity. The closure will result in 46 lay-offs(CBF MA 22/02/95)

World Tourist Association Congress

- The **City of Montreal** will host the seventh annual World Congress of Tourist Guide Associations, which is to take place in January 1997. This event is being organized by the **Montreal Chapter of the Professional Association of Tourist Guides** and is expected to generate \$4 million in spinoffs.
(Journal de Montréal, 28/02/95)

Six new air links for Montreal

- Further to the open skies agreement, the US Department of Transport has approved six new air links from **Montreal** to the United States, three to the New York City area and the others to **Washington, Atlanta and Minneapolis**.
(La Presse, 28/02/95)

New flights for Air Canada

- To compensate for the political constraints preventing **Air Canada** from establishing air links to China and Hong Kong, the company is being allowed to provide service to the **Philippines and Vietnam**. The flights to Vietnam will be the first direct link between Montreal and Southeast Asia.

(Le Devoir, 02/03/95)

Northern Telecom cutting positions

- **Northern Telecom**, a subsidiary of **BCE-Bell Canada**, will eliminate 130 production and support staff positions at its **Lachine** plant over the next 12 months. The multinational firm is reducing production at **Lachine**, but boosting output at **Monterrey in Mexico** so it can be closer to US and Latin American markets.

(La Presse, 09/03/95)

Lockout at Port of Montreal

- The **Port of Montreal** has been hit by a labour dispute involving the port's 900 stevedores. Ship owners have responded by directing their vessels to other ports, especially the **Quebec City and Halifax** ports.

(Le Devoir, 09/30/95)

Investment in Magnola project

- **Magnola Metallurgy** recently announced a \$33 million investment in the **Magnola** project, which will be used to build a pilot plant in **Pointe Claire** to test the process. The plant will employ 35 people, and if the test results are conclusive, a plant costing some \$525 million will be constructed in **East Broughton**, in the **Chaudière-Appalaches** region.

(La Presse, 09/03/95)

LAVAL

Solid employment growth

- According to seasonally unadjusted data on a three-month moving average, employment in **Laval** rose by 1,000 in February from the previous month. On a year-over-year basis, there were 18,000 new jobs, the second best performance in Quebec after Montreal. The February 1995 jobless rate of 11.2% was 2.5 percentage points lower than the year-earlier level.

Contract for Aghitech

- **Aghitech of Laval** will export specialized animal feed and genetic material products to the **Philippines** under a \$17 million contract. It plans to establish a subsidiary there later on to maintain its export operations.

(Le Soleil, 28/02/95)

CD ROM on tourism in Quebec

- **Laval-based Softravel** plans to launch a computerized data base in May containing basic information on tourist-related establishments. The CD-ROM, which is expected to sell for \$40, will be targeted at markets throughout North America.

(Le Journal de Montréal, 28/02/95)

Downtown construction in Laval

- The **City of Laval** will soon begin construction in its downtown core around the **Cosmodome** near the Laurentian Highway. The \$600 million project consists in building 1,000 dwellings, a multipurpose amphitheatre, outdoor café and bistro establishments and office towers. It should create 3,000 permanent jobs, plus 7,750 jobs during the construction phase. The first phase of dwellings will be ready in July 1996.

(TQS, 13/03/95)

SOUTH SHORE

Army headquarters in St Hubert to shut down

- Further to the federal budget cuts, the Minister of National Defence announced that the army headquarters in **St Hubert** will be closed. In all, 600 people will lose their jobs, including 200 civilians, and most of the military personnel will be relocated to Longue Pointe or St Jean.

(La Presse, 28/02/95)

NORTH SHORE

Major housing project in Terrebonne

- Under the housing project **Le Casanier**, 500 single family homes will be built in Terrebonne, with the first of five phases slated to begin soon. The entire \$50 million project should be completed in 2001.

(Constructo, 03/03/95)

CENTRAL REGIONS

CHAUDIÈRE-APPALACHES

Unemployment rate drops again

- The unemployment rate continued to fall in the region, reaching 7.4% in February, by far the lowest rate in Quebec. Meanwhile, employment grew by 4,000 on a year-over-year basis.

BC's Black Lake mine to close temporarily

- **British Canadian's Black Lake** mine will shut down indefinitely on May 27, and mining company **LAB Chrysotile** is to conduct drilling tests which will determine the future of this mine and its 480 workers.

(Le Soleil, 23/02/95)

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Slight rise in employment

- Despite the usual seasonal slowdown in February, the number of jobs increased by 1,000 from January. Although 4,000 new jobs have been created in the region over the past year, the unemployment rate climbed because of an expansion of the labour force.

Bombardier hiring workers

- **Bombardier** plans to create 150 new jobs and convert 200 temporary jobs at its **Valcourt** plant to permanent status. In addition, this multinational firm hopes to hire 900 to 1,000 temporary workers to assemble two new recreational vehicles. (La Presse, 09/03/95)

Barmish closure extended

- Pants manufacturer **Barmish** of **Coaticook**, which was due to reopen in April, recently announced that it is postponing its start-up to mid-June. Its 225 plant workers have been idle since the operation shut down last February.

(La Tribune, 14/03/95)

LANAUDIÈRE

Employment picture improves

- In the Lanaudière region, the number of employed people expanded by 6,000 over the past year. The unemployment rate dipped to 12.1% in February 1995 from 15.1% in February 1994.

LAURENTIDES

Employment shrinks in February

- Employment fell by 8,000 in February compared to the previous month, and the region posted the second largest drop in Quebec after the Montreal area. On a year-over-year basis, a mere 1,000 jobs were added. Although the unemployment rate is much lower than in 1994, it edged up 1 percentage point from January 1995.

MAURICIE/BOIS FRANCS

Upturn in employment

- In February 1995, the employment level was higher than in January and the corresponding period of 1994; however, unemployment has remained fairly stable over the past year.

Modernization of the La Gabelle power station

- **Hydro-Quebec** is issuing a call for tenders for a contract to supply and install draft tube gates and embedded parts, and carry out various types of work at the **La Gabelle** power station in **St Étienne des Grès** in the **Mauricie** region. The cost of this work is estimated at between \$2 million and \$10 million. (Constructo, 10/02/95)

Closure of Exide

- **Exide Canada** will stop battery production at its **Batronics** plant in **Drummondville**, but the distribution centre will remain open. The shutdown spells the loss of 107 jobs. (L'Express, 26/02/95)

New Ro-Na warehouse store

- **Groupe Ro-Na Dismat** is building its fifth **Ro-Na, L'entrepôt** store in **Trois Rivières**, at a cost of \$18 million. (Constructo, 24/02/95)

Major housing project in Pointe du Lac

- Phase 1 of the housing project **Domaine des 30 arpents in Pointe du Lac** will get under way in the coming weeks. The entire three-phase project, consisting of 700 to 800 single family and row housing units, plus multiple-unit buildings, should cost between \$65 million and \$70 million. A bridge will also be built to improve access to Highway 138. (Constructo, 28/02/95)

MONTÉRÉGIE

Employment growth slows

- As a result of 2,000 jobs being lost between January and February 1995, the year-over-year increase slipped to 11,000 compared with 51,000 in February 1994. By contrast, the unemployment rate has barely budged over the past year.

St Jean military college

- The **Conseil économique du Haut-Richelieu** has taken possession of the **St Jean Military College** and plans to turn it into a new postsecondary educational institution, to be called **Collège de Fort-Saint-jean**. The new college will offer pre-university courses and eventually the university programs offered at the **University of Sherbrooke**, and should have a student enrolment of about 300 in September. (La Presse, 18/02/95)

Hydro-Quebec projects

- **Hydro-Quebec** will carry out major projects in 1995 at three of its facilities in the Montérégie region.
 - The **Roussillon distribution substation** will be built in **La Prairie** at a cost of between \$2 million and \$10 million.
 - The control room at the **Tracy thermal power station** will be renovated under a project also costing from \$2 million to \$10 million.
 - Repairs are to be made to alternating current generator No. 1 at the **Les Cèdres power plant near Beauharnois**. This project requires an investment of between \$2 million and \$10 million.
- (Constructo, 10/02/95)

OUTAOUAIS

Employment up on a year-over-year basis

- Despite a loss of 1,000 jobs between January and February, employment in the Outaouais region rose by 6,000 over the past year. The unemployment rate fell 1.7 points from last year, and stood at 11.1% in February 1995.

QUEBEC CITY

Deterioration in employment situation

- A further 1,000 jobs were cut between January and February 1995, bringing the year-over-year decrease in the Quebec City region to 11,000. This was the biggest drop among the regions of Quebec. The region's unemployment rate, at 12.4%, is close to the provincial average.

Major housing projects

- Two housing projects will begin soon in the region.
 - The second phase of **Les Boisés Saint-Félix**, involving the construction of 50 single family homes, should get started this summer. The entire four-phase project consists of 120 dwelling units and will cost an estimated \$20 million.
 - In the **Le Domaine Le Chemin du Roy** project, involving the construction of 63 two-storey, single family homes, the first phase has begun and the second one should start in 1996. The project requires an investment of \$10 million.

(Constructo, 24/02/95)

New tourist train in Charlevoix region

- Beginning next summer, the **St Lawrence tourist train** will be offering return trips between **Quebec City** and **Pointe au Pic**. It is a replica of the St Lawrence Tortillard train and will leave from the Gare du Palais train station in **Quebec City** every morning. The new train service, requiring an investment of \$1.8 million, is expected to create 25 jobs.

(Le Soleil, 04/03/95)

Biovac in St Foy

- The pharmaceutical company **BioVac** will set up its new vaccine production plant in the **Quebec City technology park** in **St Foy**. The company will receive a contribution of \$5.5 million under the Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on Industrial Development. This project which will create 200 jobs and will cost \$36 million.

(Le Soleil, 11/03/95)

RESOURCE REGIONS

ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE

Robust employment growth

- Between January and February, the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region's employment grew by 2,000, the best showing in Quebec. On a year-over-year basis, the increase amounted to 5,000 jobs, or 8.5%, compared to 2.6% for Quebec as a whole. The unemployment rate, at 12.4%, was lower than the provincial rate for February.

LOWER ST LAWRENCE

Decline in employment

- The number of jobs declined by 2,000 in February compared to both the previous month and the same period last year. Although the jobless rate was higher than in January, it was still lower than a year ago.

Closure of experimental farm

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada announced that it is closing its experimental farm in La Pocatière on April 1, 1997. The farm has 30 employees at present.

(Le Soleil, 01/03/95)

Upgrading work at St Laurent Paperboard

- St Laurent Paperboard plans to carry out work and upgrade the machinery at its Matane plant at a cost of \$28 million. The first phase of the project should begin in spring 1995, and completion is slated for the beginning of 1996.

(Constructo, 03/03/95)

NORTH SHORE/NORTHERN QUEBEC

Downturn in the labour market

- On a year-over-year basis, employment dropped by 4,000 in February to 51,000. The North Shore is one of three regions that posted losses between February 1994 and February 1995. Although the unemployment rate was up substantially from last year, it declined slightly from January 1995.

Hydro-Quebec awards contracts

- **Hydro-Quebec** announced major projects on the North Shore:
 - The permanent road at the **SM-3** site will be paved under a project costing more than \$10 million.
 - A project requiring an investment of \$2 million to \$10 million will be carried out to upgrade auxiliary services and modernize the telephone and audio warning systems at the **Bersimis 2** power station.
 - Construction of a power line from the **SM-3** station to the camp will cost between \$2 million and \$10 million.

(Constructo, 10/02/95)

Preparation of the SM-3 camp

- The **James Bay Power Corporation** recently awarded three contracts valued at a total of \$6.5 million.
 - **Construction RIC** of **Sept Iles** has won a \$3.5 million contract to dismantle the modular buildings at **James Bay** and move them to **Sept Iles**.
 - **Les Constructions BLH**, also based in **Sept Iles**, has received a contract to take down a modular cafeteria unit in **James Bay** and set it up at the **SM-3** camp site.
 - **Carrières de Boulevard** of **Baie Comeau** won a \$750,000 contract to produce stone chips at the **SM-3** site.

(Constructo, 21/02/95)

Water treatment project at Port Cartier

- The **Quebec government** recently granted a \$12 million contribution to the **City of Port Cartier** under its water treatment program for a three-year project slated to begin this summer.

(Le Soleil, 04/03/95)

New investments at the Grevet mine

- **Cambior** recently invested \$62 million to develop the zinc deposit at the **Grevet** mine in **Lebel sur Quévillon**. This new injection of funds raises the total cost of bringing the mine on stream and building a processing plant to \$100 million. The number of employees involved in the construction work will be boosted to 200 from 50 by the summer of 1995.

(L'écho, 22/02/95)

GASPÉ/MAGDALEN ISLANDS

Upturn in employment

- In the Gaspé/Magdalen Islands region, year-over-year employment growth totalled 2,000 in February 1995. Although the unemployment rate reached 20.4%, it was still lower than in February 1994 (27.3%)

Investment at Noranda foundry

- Noranda Mines will invest over \$20 million in its **Murdochville** plant in order to boost its copper processing capacity. The new facilities will make it possible to mine two new deposits in the region.

(Le Soleil, 17/02/95)

SAGUENAY/LAC ST JEAN

Employment situation improves

- Despite a seasonal drop of 2,000 in February from January, the number of jobs was up by 4,000 from February 1994. The unemployment rate remained fairly stable in spite of the buoyant employment situation.

Cutbacks at Bagotville

- As a result of budget cuts, the Minister of National Defence announced that 285 positions were being cut at the Bagotville military base, including five held by civilians.

(La Presse, 28/02/95)

Natural gas pipeline brought on stream

- **Gaz Métropolitain** has brought a new 39.4-kilometre pipeline on stream which links **Chambord** to **Roberval**. This project cost \$4.3 million, \$1.6 million of which was provided by the provincial and federal governments.

(Constructo, 28/02/95)

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

Industries	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
Agriculture	59	61	64	72	-2		-5	
Other primary indust.	38	39	32	44	-1		6	
Manufacturing	596	569	522	580	27		74	
Construction	113	111	104	142	2		9	
Transp., communic. and oth. util.	226	224	204	227	2		22	
Trade	546	541	535	549	5		11	
Finance, insur. and real estate	173	165	182	173	8		-9	
Services	1,144	1,158	1,161	1,173	-14		-17	
Public administration	200	204	214	211	-4		-14	
All industries	3,095	3,072	3,019	3,169	23		76	
In thousands								
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS								

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

Province				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation		
	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94		Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95	/
Newfoundland	157	155	153	169		2			4
Prince Edward Island	42	43	40	47		-1			2
Nova Scotia	292	294	279	312		-2			13
New Brunswick	240	240	231	261		0			9
Québec	2608	2575	2498	2698		33			110
Ontario	4194	4181	4020	4291		13			174
Manitoba	401	399	398	418		2			3
Saskatchewan	366	366	353	379		0			13
Alberta	1101	1103	1052	1121		-2			49
British Columbia	1389	1385	1349	1415		4			40
Canada	10791	10739	10374	11110		52			417

In thousands
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Newfoundland	28	29	28	26	-1			0
Prince Edward Island	10	9	10	9	1			0
Nova Scotia	68	68	75	69	0			-7
New Brunswick	51	50	50	48	1			1
Québec	487	497	521	471	-10			-34
Ontario	924	934	945	896	-10			-21
Manitoba	106	106	98	96	0			8
Saskatchewan	85	84	89	80	1			-4
Alberta	236	231	236	225	5			0
British Columbia	307	310	338	323	-3			-31
Canada	2301	2319	2391	2244	-18			-90

In thousands
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Newfoundland	200	200	197	196	0		3	
Prince Edward Island	57	57	55	56	0		2	
Nova Scotia	379	381	373	381	-2		6	
New Brunswick	311	312	299	309	-1		12	
Québec	3,212	3,198	3,142	3,169	14		70	
Ontario	5,238	5,249	5,079	5,189	-11		159	
Manitoba	519	518	507	513	1		12	
Saskatchewan	464	465	455	458	-1		9	
Alberta	1,370	1,368	1,318	1,347	2		52	
British Columbia	1,736	1,752	1,723	1,738	-16		13	
Canada	13,474	13,494	13,139	13,356	-20		335	

In thousands
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

EMPLOYMENT*
BY METROPOLITAN AREA
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94		Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
St-John's (Nfld)	83	82	82	81				1
Halifax	165	164	159	165				6
Saint John (NB)	60	61	60	59		-1		0
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	63	63	60	60		0		3
Québec	305	305	326	322		0		-21
Montréal	1,560	1,558	1,491	1,528		2		69
Trois-Rivières	63	63	65	64		0		-2
Sherbrooke	66	68	65	67		-2		1
Ottawa-Hull	518	522	514	521		-4		4
Sudbury	79	79	70	76		0		9
Toronto	2,108	2,091	2,018	2,052		17		90
Hamilton	309	308	316	311		1		-7
St.Catharines-Niagara	154	155	151	153		-1		3
London	212	215	206	212		-3		6
Windsor	131	131	125	128		0		6
Kitchener-Waterloo	207	210	197	204		-3		10
Thunder Bay	63	64	58	61		-1		5
Oshawa	131	131	117	127		0		14
Winnipeg	337	337	329	331		0		8
Regina	101	101	100	100		0		1
Saskatoon	107	107	104	105		0		3
Calgary	418	418	407	408		0		11
Edmonton	452	452	425	441		0		27
Vancouver	910	909	873	903		1		37
Victoria	143	142	151	145		1		-8

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

EMPLOYMENT*
BY ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Administrative Region	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	28	29	26	32	-1			2
Bas-Saint-Laurent	73	75	75	78	-2			-2
Québec	269	270	283	289	-1			-14
Chaudière-Appalaches	171	171	167	174	0			4
Estrie	120	119	116	119	1			4
Montérégie	585	587	574	597	-2			11
Montréal	774	790	742	790	-16			32
Laval	170	169	152	150	1			18
Lanaudière	155	154	149	159	1			6
Laurentides	182	190	181	196	-8			1
Outaouais	150	151	144	149	-1			6
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	64	62	59	63	2			5
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	201	200	197	207	1			4
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	105	107	101	105	-2			4
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	51	51	55	55	0			-4
Province of Québec	3,097	3,125	3,019	3,163	-28			78

* Employment: In thousands, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Province				Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94		Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
Newfoundland	43.9	44.0	43.2	42.9	-0.1		0.7	
Prince Edward Island	54.9	55.1	53.7	54.5	-0.2		1.2	
Nova Scotia	52.0	52.3	51.6	52.5	-0.3		0.4	
New Brunswick	52.1	52.3	50.5	52.0	-0.2		1.6	
Québec	55.5	55.3	54.8	55.0	0.2		0.7	
Ontario	60.4	60.6	59.5	60.3	-0.2		0.9	
Manitoba	61.3	61.2	60.1	60.7	0.1		1.2	
Saskatchewan	62.0	62.2	61.2	61.5	-0.2		0.8	
Alberta	66.6	66.6	65.0	65.9	0.0		1.6	
British Columbia	59.4	60.0	60.8	60.2	-0.6		-1.4	
Canada	58.8	58.9	58.1	58.7	-0.1		0.7	

In percentage
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Metropolitan Area	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
St-John's (Nfld)	57.4	56.8	57.5	56.1		0.6		-0.1
Halifax	62.0	61.8	60.9	62.5		0.2		1.1
Saint John (NB)	56.9	57.5	57.0	55.8		-0.6		-0.1
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	47.9	48.2	46.4	45.8		-0.3		1.5
Québec	54.4	54.5	59.0	57.7		-0.1		-4.6
Montréal	57.2	57.2	55.1	56.2		0.0		2.1
Trois-Rivières	53.9	54.1	56.4	54.8		-0.2		-2.5
Sherbrooke	55.8	56.9	55.4	56.6		-1.1		0.4
Ottawa-Hull	62.6	63.1	63.6	63.6		-0.5		-1.0
Sudbury	56.9	57.0	51.3	54.7		-0.1		5.6
Toronto	61.6	61.1	59.8	60.3		0.5		1.8
Hamilton	60.8	60.6	62.8	61.3		0.2		-2.0
St.Catharines-Niagara	53.4	53.7	52.8	53.4		-0.3		0.6
London	64.5	65.4	63.5	64.8		-0.9		1.0
Windsor	60.1	60.3	57.6	58.9		-0.2		2.5
Kitchener-Waterloo	68.0	69.0	65.9	67.5		-1.0		2.1
Thunder Bay	60.7	61.2	56.3	59.3		-0.5		4.4
Oshawa	65.2	65.5	59.5	63.8		-0.3		5.7
Winnipeg	60.8	60.9	59.9	59.9		-0.1		0.9
Regina	64.8	65.3	65.5	65.0		-0.5		-0.7
Saskatoon	62.2	62.3	61.5	61.5		-0.1		0.7
Calgary	65.8	66.0	65.3	64.8		-0.2		0.5
Edmonton	65.2	65.2	62.2	64.0		0.0		3.0
Vancouver	62.0	62.1	61.3	62.4		-0.1		0.7
Victoria	55.9	55.7	60.6	57.5		0.2		-4.7

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

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

EMPLOYMENT/POPULATION RATIO*
BY ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Administrative Region	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	33.0	34.2	30.5	37.7	-1.2		2.5	
Bas-Saint-Laurent	44.5	45.8	45.9	48.0	-1.3		-1.4	
Québec	50.6	50.9	53.8	54.7	-0.3		-3.2	
Chaudière-Appalaches	57.2	57.5	56.3	58.7	-0.3		0.9	
Estrie	54.6	54.5	53.4	54.6	0.1		1.2	
Montérégie	57.7	57.9	57.4	59.2	-0.2		0.3	
Montréal	52.3	53.3	49.8	53.2	-1.0		2.5	
Laval	63.4	63.2	57.1	56.2	0.2		6.3	
Lanaudière	52.4	52.1	51.9	54.4	0.3		0.5	
Laurentides	53.7	56.1	54.8	58.4	-2.4		-1.1	
Outaouais	60.4	60.8	59.4	60.5	-0.4		1.0	
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	53.5	51.6	49.1	52.8	1.9		4.4	
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	52.4	52.3	51.7	54.0	0.1		0.7	
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	45.9	46.8	44.5	46.1	-0.9		1.4	
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	49.0	49.2	53.5	53.3	-0.2		-4.5	
Province of Québec	53.6	54.1	52.7	54.9	-0.5		0.9	

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

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

Province	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Newfoundland	47	48	47	50	-1		0	
Prince Edward Island	10	10	13	11	0		-3	
Nova Scotia	53	56	61	57	-3		-8	
New Brunswick	46	47	45	44	-1		1	
Québec	417	435	445	434	-18		-28	
Ontario	504	493	605	528	11		-101	
Manitoba	44	43	61	49	1		-17	
Saskatchewan	32	29	37	33	3		-5	
Alberta	113	114	129	122	-1		-16	
British Columbia	172	170	195	176	2		-23	
Canada	1,436	1,449	1,632	1,504	-13		-196	

In thousands
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

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

Metropolitan Area	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
St-John's (Nfld)	12	13	12	13	-1		0	
Halifax	16	15	20	17	1		-4	
Saint John (NB)	8	8	8	8	0		0	
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	11	10	10	10	1		1	
Québec	39	41	42	41	-2		-3	
Montréal	220	218	230	217	2		-10	
Trois-Rivières	8	9	11	9	-1		-3	
Sherbrooke	7	6	7	7	1		0	
Ottawa-Hull	50	46	52	47	4		-2	
Sudbury	7	7	11	8	0		-4	
Toronto	203	207	262	229	-4		-59	
Hamilton	26	27	32	28	-1		-6	
St.Catharines-Niagara	16	15	20	17	1		-4	
London	18	16	18	18	2		0	
Windsor	9	10	16	12	-1		-7	
Kitchener-Waterloo	14	13	16	14	1		-2	
Thunder Bay	7	7	8	7	0		-1	
Oshawa	9	10	19	13	-1		-10	
Winnipeg	34	35	46	39	-1		-12	
Regina	7	7	9	8	0		-2	
Saskatoon	9	9	11	10	0		-2	
Calgary	36	37	44	41	-1		-8	
Edmonton	45	45	54	50	0		-9	
Vancouver	78	78	97	87	0		-19	
Victoria	13	12	12	12	1		1	

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

UNEMPLOYED*
BY ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Administrative Region	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	7	7	10	8	0		-3	
Bas-Saint-Laurent	14	14	15	14	0		-1	
Québec City	38	39	38	40	-1		0	
Chaudière-Appalaches	14	14	20	15	0		-6	
Estrie	14	13	14	13	1		0	
Montérégie	73	72	71	68	1		2	
Montreal	136	127	134	125	9		2	
Laval	22	21	24	20	1		-2	
Lanaudière	21	21	26	22	0		-5	
Laurentides	29	27	36	30	2		-7	
Outaouais	19	18	21	18	1		-2	
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	9	9	10	9	0		-1	
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	27	26	28	26	1		-1	
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	18	18	18	18	0		0	
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	12	12	8	10	0		4	
Province of Québec	452	439	473	436	13		-21	

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

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

Province	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/ Jan-95	Feb-95	/ Feb-94
Newfoundland	19.0	19.4	19.3	20.3	-0.4		-0.3	
Prince Edward Island	15.2	15.3	18.8	16.5	-0.1		-3.6	
Nova Scotia	12.3	12.8	14.1	13.0	-0.5		-1.8	
New Brunswick	12.9	13.1	13.1	12.4	-0.2		-0.2	
Québec	11.5	12.0	12.4	12.1	-0.5		-0.9	
Ontario	8.8	8.6	10.6	9.2	0.2		-1.8	
Manitoba	7.8	7.7	10.7	8.7	0.1		-2.9	
Saskatchewan	6.5	5.9	7.5	6.8	0.6		-1.0	
Alberta	7.6	7.7	8.9	8.3	-0.1		-1.3	
British Columbia	9.0	8.8	10.2	9.2	0.2		-1.2	
Canada	9.6	9.7	11.0	10.1	-0.1		-1.4	

In percentage
Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE*
BY METROPOLITAN AREA
(Seasonally adjusted data)

Metropolitan Area	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
St-John's (Nfld)	13.1	13.6	13.0	14.1	-0.5		0.1	
Halifax	8.7	8.5	11.4	9.1	0.2		-2.7	
Saint John (NB)	12.1	12.3	11.6	12.3	-0.2		0.5	
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	14.8	14.1	14.5	14.4	0.7		0.3	
Québec	11.4	11.9	11.3	11.3	-0.5		0.1	
Montréal	12.3	12.3	13.4	12.4	0.0		-1.1	
Trois-Rivières	11.9	12.1	14.4	12.7	-0.2		-2.5	
Sherbrooke	9.8	8.7	9.8	9.3	1.1		0.0	
Ottawa-Hull	8.7	8.1	9.2	8.2	0.6		-0.5	
Sudbury	8.0	7.7	13.2	10.0	0.3		-5.2	
Toronto	8.8	9.0	11.5	10.0	-0.2		-2.7	
Hamilton	7.7	7.9	9.1	8.1	-0.2		-1.4	
St.Catharines-Niagara	9.3	8.8	11.5	10.2	0.5		-2.2	
London	7.8	7.0	7.9	7.8	0.8		-0.1	
Windsor	6.8	6.9	11.2	8.8	-0.1		-4.4	
Kitchener-Waterloo	6.2	5.6	7.3	6.6	0.6		-1.1	
Thunder Bay	9.5	9.4	11.9	10.8	0.1		-2.4	
Oshawa	6.7	7.1	14.1	9.2	-0.4		-7.4	
Winnipeg	9.2	9.4	12.3	10.6	-0.2		-3.1	
Regina	6.8	6.8	8.1	7.2	0.0		-1.3	
Saskatoon	7.9	8.1	9.7	8.9	-0.2		-1.8	
Calgary	7.9	8.1	9.7	9.1	-0.2		-1.8	
Edmonton	9.1	9.1	11.3	10.2	0.0		-2.2	
Vancouver	7.9	7.9	10.0	8.8	0.0		-2.1	
Victoria	8.1	7.8	7.2	7.8	0.3		0.9	

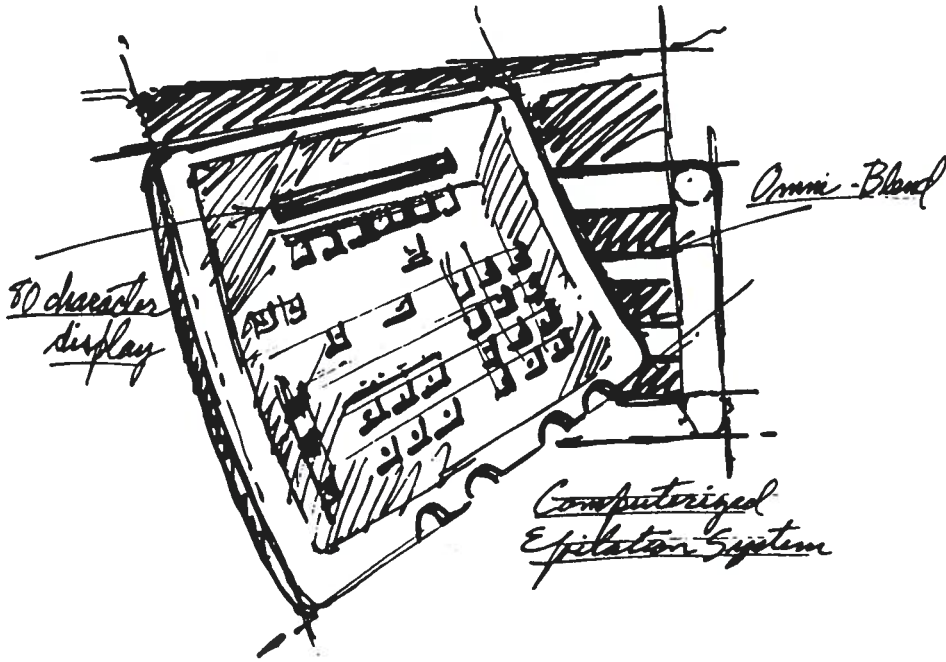
* Unemployment rate: In percentage, three-month moving average

Source: Statistics Canada, LFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE*
BY ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
(Unadjusted data)

Québec Administrative Region	Feb-95	Jan-95	Feb-94	Average of last 12 months	Variation		Variation	
					Feb-95	/	Jan-95	Feb-95
Gaspésie/Iles-de-la-Madeleine	20.4	18.9	27.3	20.6		1.5		-6.9
Bas-Saint-Laurent	15.8	15.3	17.0	15.1		0.5		-1.2
Québec	12.4	12.7	11.9	12.2		-0.3		0.5
Chaudière-Appalaches	7.4	7.6	10.7	8.0		-0.2		-3.3
Estrie	10.7	9.9	10.5	9.6		0.8		0.2
Montérégie	11.0	11.0	11.1	10.2		0.0		-0.1
Montréal	15.0	13.8	15.3	13.7		1.2		-0.3
Laval	11.2	11.2	13.7	11.9		0.0		-2.5
Lanaudière	12.1	12.2	15.1	12.2		-0.1		-3.0
Laurentides	13.5	12.5	16.7	13.2		1.0		-3.2
Outaouais	11.1	10.9	12.8	10.9		0.2		-1.7
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	12.4	12.7	14.3	12.7		-0.3		-1.9
Mauricie/Bois-Francs	11.7	11.7	12.3	11.2		0.0		-0.6
Saguenay/Lac-Saint-Jean	14.9	14.1	15.0	14.8		0.8		-0.1
Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec	18.8	19.3	13.1	15.6		-0.5		5.7
Province of Québec	12.7	12.3	13.6	12.1		0.4		-0.9

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



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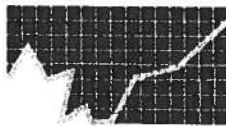
*"Our ability to complete this project was directly related to the assistance provided by FORD(Q). We particularly appreciated their sound advice which helped us select an industrial design firm that understood the specific demands of the international markets we wanted to penetrate."
Mr. Clément Beaumont, President*

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