

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, August 17, 1988

Major Release

A Mid-year Look at Labour Market Developments, 1988

- Employment during the first six months of 1988 rose by 194,000, a slightly lower increase than that recorded during the first half of last year.

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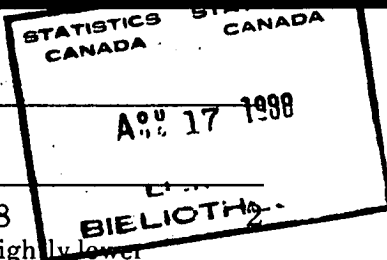
The Canadian Economic Observer, August 1988

The August issue of the *Canadian Economic Observer*, Statistics Canada's new flagship publication for economic statistics, is now available.

The August issue contains a monthly summary of the economy, major economic and statistical events in July, and two feature articles on labour market conditions. The first focuses on labour market comparisons between Canada and the United States from 1980 to 1987, while the second provides a mid-year review of labour market conditions in Canada to date in 1988. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The Canadian Economic Observer (11-010, \$20/\$200) can now be ordered from Publication Sales (613-951-7276).

For more information, call Philip Cross (613-951-9162), International and Financial Economics Division.



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Major Release

A Mid-year Look at Labour Market Developments 1988

Employment during the first six months of 1988 rose by 194,000, a slightly lower figure than the 226,000 increase recorded during the first half of last year.

The feature article in the July issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001), "A Mid-year Look at Labour Market Developments: 1988" offers an overview of labour market performance so far this year, by examining employment growth and other vital aspects of the labour market.

Highlights

- Employment growth experienced this year has not been evenly distributed. Almost all of the jobs have been gained by workers 25 years and over. Provinces such as Ontario, Alberta and Newfoundland have benefited most from employment growth.
- All the growth in jobs so far this year has occurred in "white collar" occupations, with slightly more than 60% (122,000) of these in clerical and sales occupations. Jobs in "blue collar" occupations have actually declined by 0.6% (24,000) during the first six months of this year.
- The number of Canadian workers holding more than one job rose by 13% over the past year, averaging over half a million (530,000) during the first half of 1988. The number of multiple jobholders has more than doubled over the decade.
- So far this year, part-time employment is once again growing much faster than full-time employment (2.3% compared with 1.3%). This has been a familiar pattern throughout the past decade, except in 1987 when full-time jobs accounted for all of the employment growth at mid-year.
- The number of unemployed Canadians declined by 60,000 from the last quarter of 1987 to the second quarter of 1988 and the unemployment rate fell by half a percentage point to 7.7%. However, the decrease was not uniform across Canada: the unemployment rate in both Prince Edward Island and Manitoba rose during this period.
- During the first six months, there has been a steep decline (38%) in the number of unemployed people who have been looking for work for over a year, dropping by 45,000 to 75,000.
- During the first quarter of 1988, average weekly earnings (\$456.48) were 4.7% higher than in the first quarter of 1987, a slightly bigger increase than the 4.1% rate of inflation (as measured by the Consumer Price Index). This is a reversal from recent years (1985 to 1987) during which inflation was higher than wage gains.

For more detailed information on this current release, order the July issue of *The Labour Force* (71-001, \$22/\$220) available today. An abridged version also appears in the August issue of *The Canadian Economic Observer* (11-010, \$20/\$200). See "How to Order Publications".

For further information concerning the data in this release, contact Ernest B. Akyeampong (613-951-4624), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Provincial and Territorial Government Employment

March 1988

- Provincial and territorial general government employment, excluding the province of Alberta¹, increased slightly in March 1988 compared to March 1987. General government includes departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and government-owned institutions but excludes government-owned enterprises.
- Excluding Alberta, there were 423,943 general government employees in March 1988 compared to 418,253 in March 1987, an increase of 1.4% or 5,690 employees.
- Provincial and territorial government enterprise employment decreased by 0.8% or 1,284 employees from March 1987 to number 151,851.
- Compared to March 1987, total provincial and territorial government employment, excluding Alberta general government employment, rose slightly by 0.8% or 4,406 employees to 575,794.

Available on CANSIM: monthly data by province or territory are located in matrix 2722. General government data are in series 1 to 1.12 and their corresponding payroll in series 2 to 2.12. Government enterprise employment data are in series 3 to 3.12 and their corresponding payroll in series 4 to 4.12.

The January-March 1988 issue of *Provincial and Territorial Government Employment* (72-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be released in September. See "How to Order Publications".

For further detailed information on this release, contact Peter Dudley (613-951-1845), Public Institutions Division.

¹ Due to the upgrading of the automated system in Public Institutions Division, Alberta's general government figures are not available for this release.

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin

May 1988

Highlights

- Preliminary operational data for the first five months of 1988 show that passengers carried on scheduled services by major Canadian air carriers increased by 3.2% over the same period in 1987. (Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.)
- In 1987, domestic charter passenger traffic dropped to its lowest level since the survey began in 1978. Wardair, the largest Canadian charter operator, began its scheduled domestic services in May 1986. Its domestic charter traffic dropped from 49,634 passengers (25.4% of the 1986 total) to just 955 passengers (1.5% of the 1987 total).
- Air passenger origin and destination data indicate that the number of passengers travelling on scheduled services between Montreal and Fort Lauderdale increased by 50.3% during the first nine months of 1987 compared to the same period of 1986.
- Preliminary data reported by four major Canadian air carriers - Air Canada, Canadian Pacific Air Lines, Pacific Western Airlines and Wardair - indicate that 53.1% of passengers carried on domestic scheduled services travelled on discount fares during the first two quarters of 1987, down from 55.6% for the corresponding period in 1986.

The May issue of the *Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin* (51-004, \$8.50/\$85) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact the Aviation Statistics Centre (819-997-1986), Transportation Division.

Chemical and Petrochemical Plant Price Indexes

Second Quarter 1988

The Chemical and Petrochemical Plant Price Index (1981=100) reached a preliminary level of 134.8 in the second quarter of 1988, up 1.1% from the revised first quarter level of 133.3.

- Above average increases for the machinery and equipment component (1.9%) and the buildings component (1.7%) were softened by a smaller increase for engineering, design and administration (0.7%). The construction indirects component declined 0.4% while construction labour was unchanged.
- Within machinery and equipment, larger than average increases were posted for piping, valves and fittings (4.3%) and fabricated equipment (2.3%), while lesser increases were registered for electric equipment (1.7%) and structural support, paint and insulation (1.1%). Process instruments and controls decreased 0.3%, while process machinery was unchanged.
- Comparing the second quarter of 1988 with the corresponding quarter in 1987, the total index climbed 3.8%. Changes to major components were: machinery and equipment (5.0%), construction labour (1.5%), construction indirects (0.7%), buildings (6.0%), and engineering, design and administration (3.1%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 294.

The second quarter 1988 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in September. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gordon Flynn (613-951-2629), Capital Expenditures, Prices Division.

Chemical and Mineral Process Plant Price Indexes

Second Quarter 1988

The Chemical and Mineral Process Plant Price Indexes (1981=100) reached a preliminary level of 136.2 in the second quarter of 1988, up 1.5% from the revised first quarter level of 134.2.

- Increases of 2.2% in the heavily-weighted machinery and equipment component and 1.7% in the buildings component were dampened by a more modest increase of 0.8% for engineering, design and administration. The field erection component declined 0.4% due to unchanged construction labour rates coupled with a 3.0% decrease for construction machinery and equipment. The latter was largely due to the Canadian dollar's advance of 3.3% against the United States dollar in the second quarter.
- Within the machinery and equipment component, larger than average increases were posted for fabricated equipment (5.7%) and piping valves and fittings (2.9%). Smaller increases were recorded for electric equipment (1.8%), structural support, paint and insulation (1.1%), process machinery (0.4%), and other utilities equipment (0.3%). Price decreases were registered for pumps and compressors (-0.5%) and process instruments and controls (-0.3%).
- Comparing the second quarter of 1988 with the same quarter of 1987, the total index rose 4.5%. Changes for the major components were: machinery and equipment (5.8%), field erection (0.2%), buildings (6.0%), and engineering, design and administration (3.1%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 291.

The second quarter 1988 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$16.50/\$66) will be available in September. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Gordon Flynn (613-951-2629), Capital Expenditures, Prices Division.

Soft Drinks

July 1988

Data on soft drinks are now available for July 1988. The publication *Monthly Production of Soft Drinks* (32-001, \$2.50/\$25) will be released at a later date.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 196.

For further information, contact Brian Preston (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Telephone Statistics

June 1988

Canada's 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$968.9 million in June 1988, up 4.2% from June 1987.

Operating expenses were \$674.2 million, an increase of 2.8% over June 1987. Net operating revenue was \$294.8 million, an increase of 7.3% over June 1987.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

The June 1988 issue of *Telephone Statistics* (56-002, \$7.50/\$75) is scheduled for release the week of August 29. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact J.R. Slattery (613-951-2205), Services Division.



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Publications Released

The Canadian Economic Observer, August 1988.

Catalogue number 11-010

(Canada: \$20/\$200; Other Countries: \$22/\$220).

The Labour Force, July 1988.

Catalogue number 71-001

(Canada: \$22/\$220; Other Countries: \$24/\$240).

How to Order Publications

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-951-7276.

Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications and provide full information on publications required (catalogue number, title, issue).

Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Sturgeon Falls, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.

A national toll-free telephone order service is now in operation at Statistics Canada. The toll-free line (1-800-267-6677) can be used by Canadian customers for the ordering of Statistics Canada products and services.

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