

Bonus Assignment

The purpose of this exercise is one of data literacy. The tables you are working on are not available in machine readable form. They contain valuable information on a number of variables that can be used to examine fluctuations in the variables over time. Many of these series start in the post-war period and include the Great Depression time period (a period that many have been interested in due to the latest economic downturn 'the Great Recession'). If you would like to see how the series line up with business cycle dates, the ones for the US are listed at <http://www.nber.org/cycles/cyclesmain.html>

There are no official dates for Canadian business cycles, but the timing of slowdowns has historically been similar.

Instructions:

For Packets P1-P22, you are responsible for entering in the employment, hours and turnover data series (monthly and annual) into an excel spread sheet, and graphing the series. We could not capture the data in these tables using the OCR software, so they will need to be manually entered. To receive credit, hand in the excel spreadsheets to Berenica by the end of the term.

For Packets P23-P38, download the pdf tables and capture the data using adobe Acrobat professional software (available on the computers at the data library) and export it into an excel table. Check the data is accurate. Graph the series over time and suggest links to the latest STATSCAN series that one could be used to continue the series past the dates shown. To receive credit, hand in the excel spreadsheets to Berenica by the end of the term.

For Packets 39-43, follow the directions in the packets to download the appropriate information. To receive credit, hand in the excel spreadsheets and electronic copies of the source documents to Berenica by the end of the term.

In all cases, please ensure that the first column of the spreadsheet contains the date and that the headers appear in the first row.

To sign up for a packet, please e-mail Berenica Vejvoda at berenica.vejvoda@utoronto.ca. Please let her know your top three Packet picks in order of preference, or if you prefer, you can ask her to assign one to you. She will e-mail back with confirmation of your assigned packet and you can start downloading the information from the sight <http://data.library.utoronto.ca/ma/>.

Packets will be assigned on a first request received bases. Please do not start work until you have received an e-mail back from Berenica.

US historical Employment, hours and turnover data

<i>Industry Covered</i>	<i>Packet num</i>
Non-durable Goods, monthly and annual	P1
Retail trade - automotive dealers and service stations	P1
transportation equipment, monthly and annual	P2
transportation services, monthly and annual	P2
motor vehicles and equipment (under transportation)	P3
water transportation, monthly and annual	P3
aircraft and parts monthly and annual	P4
transportation by air, monthly and annual	P4
Ship and boat building and repairing monthly and annual	P5
local and interurban transportation, monthly and annual	P5
Durables Goods manufacturing all annual and monthly	P6
Wholesale motor vehicles and automotive equipment	P6
Wholesale drugs, chemicals and allied products	P7
Chemical and allied products all annual and monthly	P7
Tires and inner tubes all monthly and annual	P8
Highway and street construction all monthly and annual	P8
Cement all monthly and annual	P9
trucking and warehousing monthly and annual	P9
iron and steel foundaries all montly and annual	P10
Railroad transportation, monthly and annual	P10
blast furnace and basic steel products all monthly and annual	P11
Heavy construction contractors monthly and annual	P11
mschinery, except electrical all monthly and annual	P12
Wholesale trade annual and monthly	P12
Electrical equiptment and supplies all monthly and annual	P13
Finance, Insurance and Real estate, monthly and annual	P13
men's and boys suits and coats	P14
wholesale and retail trade	P14
men's and boys' furnishings	p15
auto repair services and garages monthly and annual	P15
Electrical repair shops monthly and annual	P15
Drugs all annual and monthly	p16
Plastics materials and synthetics all annual and monthly	P16
railroad equipment monthly and annual	p17
construction and related machinery all monthly and annual	p17
Retail trade annual and monthly	p18
weaving mills cotton, annual and monthly	p18
Total Transportation	P19
Petroleum refining all monthly and annual	P19
Contract Construction all annual and monthly available	P20
non-ferrous foundaries all monthly and annual	P20
Services, monthly and annual	P21
Cigars all monthly and annual	P21

