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## CANADA LOST A RECORD 129,000 JOBS IN JANUARY

Canada lost a record number of jobs in January, pushing the unemployment rate to a four-year high of 7.2%. Employers cut 129,000 workers, three times the loss forecast by economists, after a drop of 20,400 in December. The Canadian dollar weakened 1.4% to 1.2494 per US dollar. The economy will contract 1.2% this year and then grow 3.8% in 2010, Canada's central bank predicts. Employers reduced full-time employment by 113,900 positions in January, most of them in manufacturing, which lost 101,000 jobs.

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