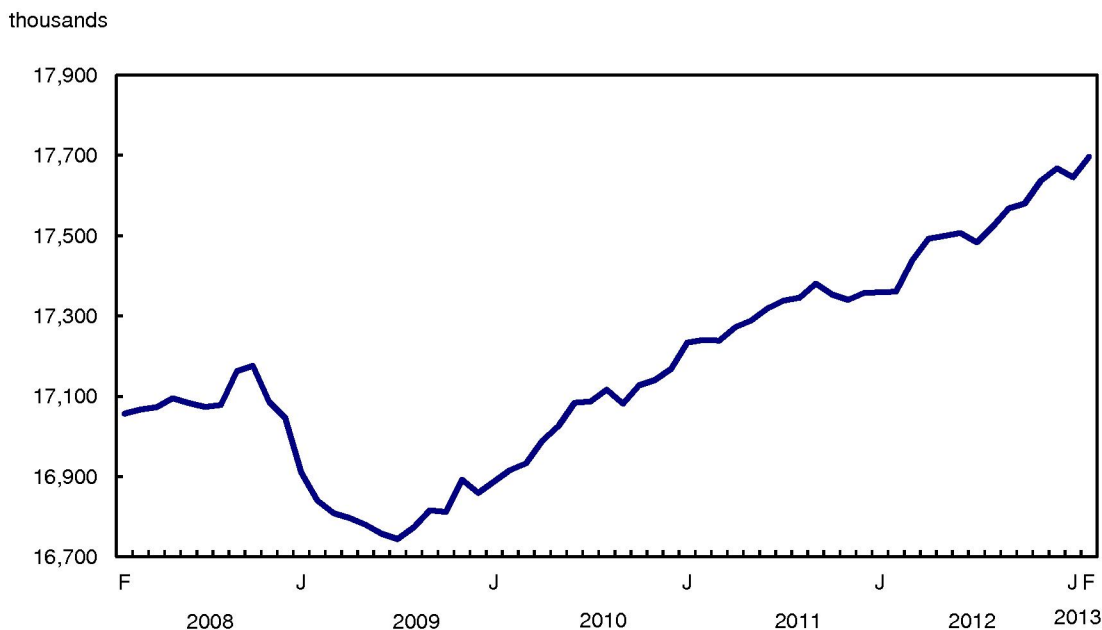


Labour Force Survey, February 2013

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Friday, March 8, 2013

Employment rose by 51,000 in February, following a slight decline the previous month. This increase was spread between full- and part-time work. The unemployment rate remained at 7.0% as more people participated in the labour force.

Chart 1
Employment



Compared with 12 months earlier, employment grew by 1.9% or 336,000, predominantly in full-time work. Over the same period, the total number of hours worked also increased by 1.9%.

Provincially, employment increased in Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, while Manitoba saw a decline.

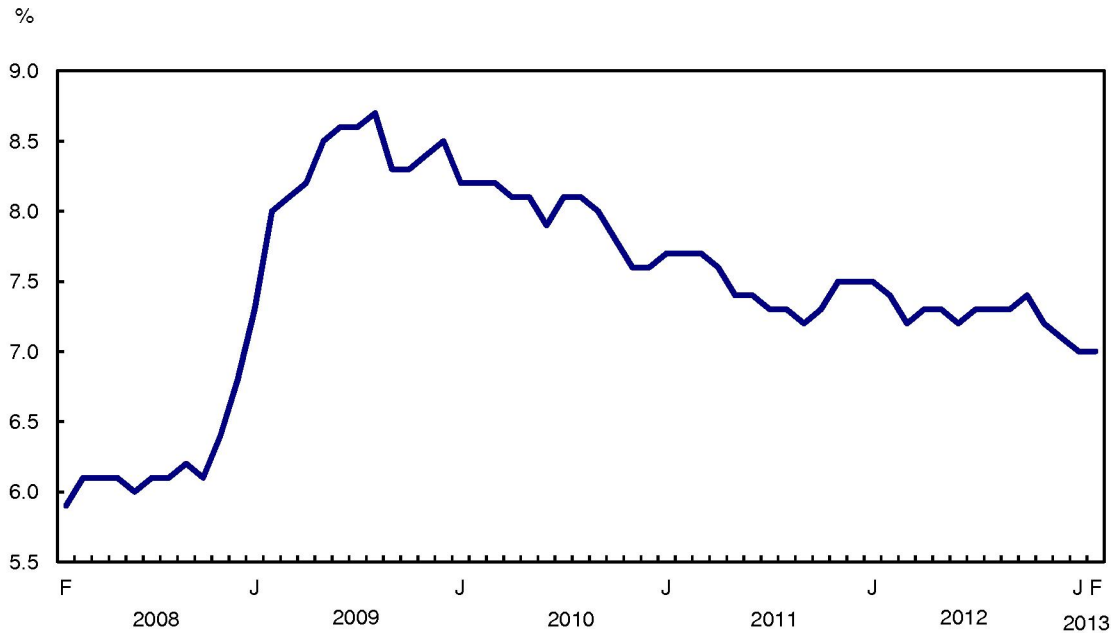
Employment gains in February were in professional, scientific and technical services; accommodation and food services; public administration; and agriculture. Manufacturing was the lone industry to post a notable decline.

In February, there were more people working as employees (+39,000), while the number of self-employed was little changed. Compared with 12 months earlier, the number of private sector employees rose by 236,000 or 2.1%, and public sector employment increased by 72,000 or 2.0%. Self-employment was little changed over the same period.

Employment increased among people aged 55 and over in February, while it was little changed among youths and people aged 25 to 54.



Chart 2
Unemployment rate



Employment gains in several provinces

Employment in Ontario rose by 35,000 in February, led by gains among youths. Despite this increase, the unemployment rate remained at 7.7% as more people participated in the labour force. Year-over-year gains in the province were 1.7%, slightly below the national growth rate of 1.9%.

Following a decline the previous month, employment in British Columbia increased by 20,000 in February. As more people participated in the labour force, the unemployment rate remained at 6.3%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in the province was little changed.

Employment rose by 3,000 in Nova Scotia and the unemployment rate was 9.3% in February. However, compared with 12 months earlier, employment in the province was down 1.4%.

In New Brunswick, the number of workers increased by 2,900, pushing the unemployment rate down 1.2 percentage points to 10.1%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was little changed.

Employment in Manitoba declined by 3,200 in February and the unemployment rate stood at 4.9%, as fewer people participated in the labour force. Despite the decline in February, employment in the province grew by 1.9% on a year-over-year basis.

Employment in Quebec was little changed in February, and the unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 7.4%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in the province increased by 2.9%.

While employment in Saskatchewan was little changed in February, robust growth over the past 12 months (+4.3%) pushed the unemployment rate down 1.1 percentage points over the period to 3.8% in February, the lowest since November 2008 and the lowest among all provinces.

Employment up in the services sector

In February, employment in professional, scientific and technical services rose by 26,000, returning to a level similar to that of 12 months earlier.

Employment in accommodation and food services increased by 21,000 in February, bringing year-over-year employment growth in this industry to 3.0%.

Public administration employment rose for the second consecutive month, up 16,000. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in this industry increased by 2.7%.

In agriculture, employment increased by 7,300 in February and was up 5.6% compared with February 2012.

The number of workers in manufacturing declined by 26,000 in February. Employment growth in the spring of 2012 was offset by a slight downward trend since the summer, leaving employment in this industry little changed compared with 12 months earlier.

Employment continued to rise among people 55 and over

Among people aged 55 and over, employment increased for the second consecutive month, up 32,000 in February and mostly among men. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment among people in this age group rose by 171,000 (+5.4%), partly a result of population ageing.

While employment among people aged 25 to 54 was little changed in February, it was up by 116,000 (+1.0%) on a year-over-year basis.

Among youths aged 15 to 24, employment was little changed in February and the unemployment rate was 13.6%. Employment among youths has been on a slight upward trend since August 2012.

Note to readers

The LFS estimates are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling variability. As a result, monthly estimates will show more variability than trends observed over longer time periods. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries also have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the 'Estimates quality' section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X).

The employment rate is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The rate for a particular group (for example, youth aged 15 to 24) is the number employed in that group as a percentage of the population for that group.

The unemployment rate is the number unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed).

The participation rate is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population. For more detailed information, see the Guide to the Labour Force Survey (71-543-G).

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted estimates, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.

Table 1
Labour force characteristics by age and sex – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013
	thousands (except rates)		change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over						
Population	28,501.2	28,526.3	25.1	345.4	0.1	1.2
Labour force	18,968.5	19,028.9	60.4	290.3	0.3	1.5
Employment	17,645.7	17,696.4	50.7	336.2	0.3	1.9
Full-time	14,339.4	14,373.0	33.6	308.5	0.2	2.2
Part-time	3,306.2	3,323.4	17.2	27.6	0.5	0.8
Unemployment	1,322.8	1,332.6	9.8	-45.8	0.7	-3.3
Participation rate	66.6	66.7	0.1	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.0	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	61.9	62.0	0.1	0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	18.7	18.8	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years						
Population	4,454.7	4,453.8	-0.9	-2.4	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	2,831.5	2,843.4	11.9	22.5	0.4	0.8
Employment	2,449.4	2,456.8	7.4	48.8	0.3	2.0
Full-time	1,301.0	1,283.3	-17.7	13.1	-1.4	1.0
Part-time	1,148.3	1,173.5	25.2	35.7	2.2	3.1
Unemployment	382.1	386.6	4.5	-26.3	1.2	-6.4
Participation rate	63.6	63.8	0.2	0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.5	13.6	0.1	-1.0	...	...
Employment rate	55.0	55.2	0.2	1.2	...	...
Part-time rate	46.9	47.8	0.9	0.5	...	...
Men, 25 years and over						
Population	11,770.7	11,783.7	13.0	174.4	0.1	1.5
Labour force	8,544.5	8,556.8	12.3	128.0	0.1	1.5
Employment	8,021.3	8,047.2	25.9	144.8	0.3	1.8
Full-time	7,418.2	7,448.3	30.1	162.5	0.4	2.2
Part-time	603.0	598.9	-4.1	-17.7	-0.7	-2.9
Unemployment	523.2	509.6	-13.6	-16.8	-2.6	-3.2
Participation rate	72.6	72.6	0.0	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.0	-0.1	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	68.1	68.3	0.2	0.2	...	...
Part-time rate	7.5	7.4	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Women, 25 years and over						
Population	12,275.8	12,288.9	13.1	173.5	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,592.5	7,628.7	36.2	139.9	0.5	1.9
Employment	7,175.0	7,192.3	17.3	142.5	0.2	2.0
Full-time	5,620.2	5,641.3	21.1	132.8	0.4	2.4
Part-time	1,554.9	1,551.0	-3.9	9.6	-0.3	0.6
Unemployment	417.5	436.3	18.8	-2.7	4.5	-0.6
Participation rate	61.8	62.1	0.3	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.5	5.7	0.2	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	58.4	58.5	0.1	0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	21.7	21.6	-0.1	-0.3	...	...

... not applicable

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Table 2
Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS¹) – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,970.2	15,008.8	38.6	307.7	0.3	2.1
Self-employed	2,675.5	2,687.5	12.0	28.4	0.4	1.1
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,621.5	3,630.9	9.4	72.0	0.3	2.0
Private	11,348.7	11,377.9	29.2	235.7	0.3	2.1
All industries	17,645.7	17,696.4	50.7	336.2	0.3	1.9
Goods-producing sector	3,862.3	3,853.7	-8.6	20.4	-0.2	0.5
Agriculture	312.3	319.6	7.3	16.9	2.3	5.6
Natural resources ²	357.1	351.1	-6.0	-16.6	-1.7	-4.5
Utilities	133.7	133.6	-0.1	-2.3	-0.1	-1.7
Construction	1,293.6	1,309.4	15.8	37.1	1.2	2.9
Manufacturing	1,765.6	1,740.0	-25.6	-14.7	-1.4	-0.8
Services-producing sector	13,783.4	13,842.7	59.3	315.8	0.4	2.3
Trade	2,689.9	2,703.1	13.2	73.0	0.5	2.8
Transportation and warehousing	864.7	861.4	-3.3	33.1	-0.4	4.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,109.2	1,108.0	-1.2	34.8	-0.1	3.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,300.5	1,326.7	26.2	21.8	2.0	1.7
Business, building and other support services	696.0	706.0	10.0	22.0	1.4	3.2
Educational services	1,292.9	1,280.8	-12.1	19.9	-0.9	1.6
Health care and social assistance	2,165.9	2,165.6	-0.3	83.5	0.0	4.0
Information, culture and recreation	791.8	785.6	-6.2	-10.1	-0.8	-1.3
Accommodation and food services	1,122.2	1,143.3	21.1	33.4	1.9	3.0
Other services	781.5	777.2	-4.3	-21.5	-0.6	-2.7
Public administration	968.7	985.0	16.3	25.8	1.7	2.7

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Also referred to as forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas.

Note(s): Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Table 3
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013
	thousands (except rates)		change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	428.6	429.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1
Labour force	265.1	265.4	0.3	3.7	0.1	1.4
Employment	234.7	234.4	-0.3	6.1	-0.1	2.7
Full-time	202.1	200.5	-1.6	2.8	-0.8	1.4
Part-time	32.6	33.9	1.3	3.3	4.0	10.8
Unemployment	30.4	31.0	0.6	-2.4	2.0	-7.2
Participation rate	61.9	61.9	0.0	0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.5	11.7	0.2	-1.1	...	...
Employment rate	54.8	54.6	-0.2	1.3	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	120.6	120.5	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.3
Labour force	83.8	85.1	1.3	4.4	1.6	5.5
Employment	73.9	75.2	1.3	3.1	1.8	4.3
Full-time	60.7	61.6	0.9	1.7	1.5	2.8
Part-time	13.2	13.6	0.4	1.4	3.0	11.5
Unemployment	9.9	9.9	0.0	1.2	0.0	13.8
Participation rate	69.5	70.6	1.1	3.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.8	11.6	-0.2	0.8	...	...
Employment rate	61.3	62.4	1.1	2.4	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	780.9	781.0	0.1	1.2	0.0	0.2
Labour force	498.4	499.5	1.1	-1.1	0.2	-0.2
Employment	449.9	452.9	3.0	-6.4	0.7	-1.4
Full-time	363.4	362.8	-0.6	-3.3	-0.2	-0.9
Part-time	86.5	90.0	3.5	-3.2	4.0	-3.4
Unemployment	48.5	46.7	-1.8	5.4	-3.7	13.1
Participation rate	63.8	64.0	0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.7	9.3	-0.4	1.0	...	...
Employment rate	57.6	58.0	0.4	-0.9	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	620.1	619.9	-0.2	-0.6	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	395.0	393.0	-2.0	1.1	-0.5	0.3
Employment	350.4	353.3	2.9	0.7	0.8	0.2
Full-time	292.8	297.6	4.8	0.7	1.6	0.2
Part-time	57.6	55.7	-1.9	0.0	-3.3	0.0
Unemployment	44.6	39.7	-4.9	0.4	-11.0	1.0
Participation rate	63.7	63.4	-0.3	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.3	10.1	-1.2	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	56.5	57.0	0.5	0.2	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,668.3	6,671.3	3.0	57.1	0.0	0.9
Labour force	4,360.9	4,356.9	-4.0	78.6	-0.1	1.8
Employment	4,049.7	4,036.6	-13.1	113.2	-0.3	2.9
Full-time	3,301.5	3,293.2	-8.3	108.3	-0.3	3.4
Part-time	748.2	743.3	-4.9	4.8	-0.7	0.6
Unemployment	311.2	320.3	9.1	-34.6	2.9	-9.7
Participation rate	65.4	65.3	-0.1	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.4	0.3	-0.9	...	...
Employment rate	60.7	60.5	-0.2	1.2	...	...

Table 3 - continued
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013	January to February 2013	February 2012 to February 2013
Ontario						
Population	11,140.0	11,150.2	10.2	135.3	0.1	1.2
Labour force	7,388.4	7,431.5	43.1	134.8	0.6	1.8
Employment	6,823.0	6,858.3	35.3	116.2	0.5	1.7
Full-time	5,504.2	5,516.6	12.4	75.0	0.2	1.4
Part-time	1,318.7	1,341.7	23.0	41.2	1.7	3.2
Unemployment	565.5	573.1	7.6	18.5	1.3	3.3
Participation rate	66.3	66.6	0.3	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.7	7.7	0.0	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	61.2	61.5	0.3	0.3	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	968.3	969.1	0.8	9.5	0.1	1.0
Labour force	673.8	669.3	-4.5	7.6	-0.7	1.1
Employment	640.0	636.8	-3.2	12.1	-0.5	1.9
Full-time	515.2	512.0	-3.2	10.9	-0.6	2.2
Part-time	124.8	124.8	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.0
Unemployment	33.8	32.5	-1.3	-4.5	-3.8	-12.2
Participation rate	69.6	69.1	-0.5	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.9	-0.1	-0.7	...	...
Employment rate	66.1	65.7	-0.4	0.6	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	818.8	819.7	0.9	13.9	0.1	1.7
Labour force	574.9	574.1	-0.8	17.2	-0.1	3.1
Employment	551.6	552.3	0.7	22.9	0.1	4.3
Full-time	452.9	456.8	3.9	20.6	0.9	4.7
Part-time	98.8	95.5	-3.3	2.3	-3.3	2.5
Unemployment	23.2	21.8	-1.4	-5.7	-6.0	-20.7
Participation rate	70.2	70.0	-0.2	0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.0	3.8	-0.2	-1.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.4	67.4	0.0	1.7	...	...
Alberta						
Population	3,121.7	3,128.4	6.7	91.3	0.2	3.0
Labour force	2,276.3	2,282.0	5.7	46.5	0.3	2.1
Employment	2,175.0	2,179.2	4.2	52.9	0.2	2.5
Full-time	1,835.3	1,847.0	11.7	68.2	0.6	3.8
Part-time	339.6	332.1	-7.5	-15.4	-2.2	-4.4
Unemployment	101.4	102.8	1.4	-6.4	1.4	-5.9
Participation rate	72.9	72.9	0.0	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.5	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	69.7	69.7	0.0	-0.3	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,834.0	3,837.2	3.2	36.8	0.1	1.0
Labour force	2,451.9	2,472.1	20.2	-2.4	0.8	-0.1
Employment	2,297.6	2,317.4	19.8	15.4	0.9	0.7
Full-time	1,811.3	1,824.8	13.5	23.6	0.7	1.3
Part-time	486.3	492.7	6.4	-8.1	1.3	-1.6
Unemployment	154.4	154.7	0.3	-17.8	0.2	-10.3
Participation rate	64.0	64.4	0.4	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.3	6.3	0.0	-0.7	...	...
Employment rate	59.9	60.4	0.5	-0.2	...	...

... not applicable

Note(s): Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Available in CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0051, 282-0054, 282-0055, 282-0060 to 282-0063, 282-0069 to 282-0089, 282-0092 to 282-0095, 282-0100 to 282-0121 and 282-0200 to 282-0219.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)*, is now available online for the week ending February 16. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*.

[Data tables](#) are also now available online. From the *Browse by subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on April 5.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact May Roos (613-951-6014; may.roos@statcan.gc.ca) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.