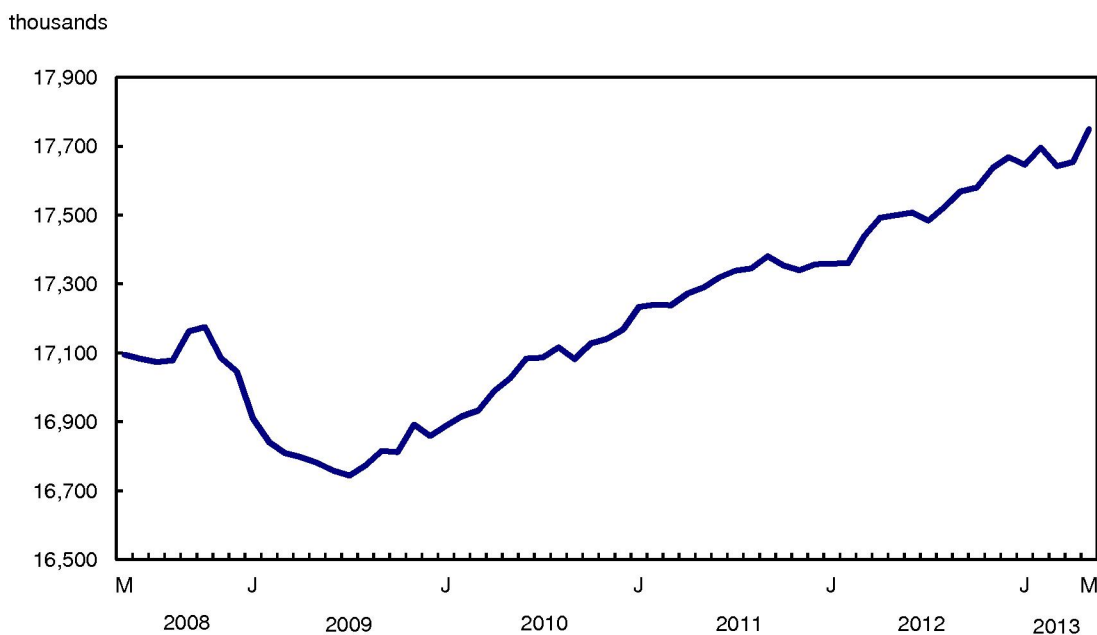


Labour Force Survey, May 2013

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Friday, June 7, 2013

Following little change the previous month, employment rose by 95,000 in May, with most of the increase in full-time work. This employment gain pushed the unemployment rate down 0.1 percentage points to 7.1%.

Chart 1
Employment



Compared with 12 months earlier, employment grew 1.4% or 250,000, all in full-time work. Over the same period, the total number of hours worked rose 1.1%.

In May, employment increased in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, New Brunswick and Manitoba, while it declined in Prince Edward Island.

Employment rose in construction; retail and wholesale trade; "other services;" and business, building and other support services.

All of the employment gains in May were among private sector employees, offsetting losses over the previous two months for this group.

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



In May, employment in retail and wholesale trade increased by 27,000. Over the previous 12 months, employment in this industry rose 3.1% or 83,000.

Employment in "other services," such as repair and maintenance or private household services, increased by 22,000 in May. Despite this month's gain, employment remained below its level from 12 months earlier, down 5.5% or 45,000.

The number of workers in business, building and other support services rose by 21,000 in May. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in this industry was up 5.6% or 38,000.

Employment rose by 95,000 among private sector employees in May, and was little changed for public sector employees and the self-employed. Compared with 12 months earlier, the number of private sector employees increased 1.1% or 123,000. Public sector employment was up 2.6% or 92,000, mainly from gains in health care and social assistance. Self-employment was little changed over this 12-month period.

Employment up among youths and people aged 55 and over

In May, employment was up 54,000 among youths aged 15 to 24, with gains in Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta. This increase pushed their unemployment rate down 0.9 percentage points to 13.6%. With the employment increase in May, year-over-year gains for this age group totalled 48,000 (+2.0%).

Following two months of little change, employment among people aged 55 and over rose by 34,000 in May, with gains for both men and women, pushing the unemployment rate for this age group down 0.3 percentage points to 5.8%. Over the previous 12 months, employment increased 142,000 (+4.4%), mostly a result of population ageing.

Among people aged 25 to 54, employment was little changed in May. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment for people in this age group was up 60,000 (+0.5%).

Student summer employment

From May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects labour market data about young people aged 15 to 24 who were attending school full time in March and who intend to return to school full time in the fall. The May survey results provide the first indicators of the summer job market, especially for students aged 20 to 24, as many students aged 15 to 19 are not yet out of school for the summer. The data for June, July and August will provide further insight into the summer job market. The published data are not seasonally adjusted, and therefore comparisons can only be made from one year to another.

The rate of employment among returning students aged 20 to 24, that is, the number of employed as a percentage of their population, was 59.9% in May, similar to that of 12 months earlier. Their unemployment rate was 15.5% in May, little changed from a year earlier.

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (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.

Each year, the LFS revises its estimates for the previous three years, using the latest seasonal factors.

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

	April 2013	May 2013	Standard error ¹	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over							
Population	28,588.7	28,619.6	...	30.9	348.0	0.1	1.2
Labour force	19,016.1	19,097.0	29.1	80.9	217.6	0.4	1.2
Employment	17,654.4	17,749.4	28.7	95.0	250.2	0.5	1.4
Full-time	14,355.0	14,431.7	38.2	76.7	258.8	0.5	1.8
Part-time	3,299.4	3,317.6	35.1	18.2	-8.7	0.6	-0.3
Unemployment	1,361.7	1,347.6	25.2	-14.1	-32.7	-1.0	-2.4
Participation rate	66.5	66.7	0.1	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.2	7.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.8	62.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	18.7	18.7	0.2	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years							
Population	4,451.2	4,450.1	...	-1.1	-7.2	0.0	-0.2
Labour force	2,839.5	2,873.4	17.2	33.9	31.5	1.2	1.1
Employment	2,428.1	2,482.5	15.9	54.4	48.2	2.2	2.0
Full-time	1,292.0	1,338.0	18.5	46.0	60.5	3.6	4.7
Part-time	1,136.2	1,144.6	19.4	8.4	-12.2	0.7	-1.1
Unemployment	411.4	390.9	15.1	-20.5	-16.7	-5.0	-4.1
Participation rate	63.8	64.6	0.4	0.8	0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	14.5	13.6	0.5	-0.9	-0.7	...	...
Employment rate	54.5	55.8	0.4	1.3	1.2	...	...
Part-time rate	46.8	46.1	0.7	-0.7	-1.4	...	...
Men, 25 years and over							
Population	11,815.9	11,831.8	...	15.9	177.9	0.1	1.5
Labour force	8,567.0	8,593.7	15.1	26.7	92.1	0.3	1.1
Employment	8,042.6	8,058.4	16.3	15.8	87.4	0.2	1.1
Full-time	7,416.7	7,442.2	21.6	25.5	79.6	0.3	1.1
Part-time	625.9	616.3	17.4	-9.6	8.0	-1.5	1.3
Unemployment	524.4	535.3	14.7	10.9	4.7	2.1	0.9
Participation rate	72.5	72.6	0.1	0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	68.1	68.1	0.1	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	7.8	7.6	0.2	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Women, 25 years and over							
Population	12,321.5	12,337.6	...	16.1	177.2	0.1	1.5
Labour force	7,609.6	7,629.8	16.5	20.2	93.9	0.3	1.2
Employment	7,183.7	7,208.4	16.4	24.7	114.5	0.3	1.6
Full-time	5,646.4	5,651.6	25.0	5.2	118.8	0.1	2.1
Part-time	1,537.4	1,556.8	23.6	19.4	-4.4	1.3	-0.3
Unemployment	425.9	421.4	13.4	-4.5	-20.6	-1.1	-4.7
Participation rate	61.8	61.8	0.1	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.5	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	58.3	58.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	21.4	21.6	0.3	0.2	-0.4	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

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

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

	April 2013	May 2013	Standard error ²	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker							
Employees	14,929.9	15,031.1	35.7	101.2	214.8	0.7	1.4
Self-employed	2,724.5	2,718.3	25.5	-6.2	35.4	-0.2	1.3
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,657.4	3,664.0	25.0	6.6	91.7	0.2	2.6
Private	11,272.5	11,367.1	37.9	94.6	123.2	0.8	1.1
All industries	17,654.4	17,749.4	28.7	95.0	250.2	0.5	1.4
Goods-producing sector	3,849.0	3,879.2	26.6	30.2	-44.6	0.8	-1.1
Agriculture	320.9	321.2	7.2	0.3	-1.2	0.1	-0.4
Natural resources ³	357.5	360.8	7.3	3.3	-16.1	0.9	-4.3
Utilities	133.6	131.8	4.9	-1.8	-2.0	-1.3	-1.5
Construction	1,300.6	1,343.3	17.1	42.7	74.2	3.3	5.8
Manufacturing	1,736.4	1,722.2	19.9	-14.2	-99.4	-0.8	-5.5
Services-producing sector	13,805.4	13,870.1	34.3	64.7	294.7	0.5	2.2
Trade	2,685.3	2,712.5	23.6	27.2	82.5	1.0	3.1
Transportation and warehousing	852.8	860.0	14.1	7.2	10.5	0.8	1.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,123.7	1,122.8	16.0	-0.9	43.7	-0.1	4.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,348.0	1,330.4	18.4	-17.6	33.8	-1.3	2.6
Business, building and other support services	691.6	712.9	14.3	21.3	37.8	3.1	5.6
Educational services	1,290.6	1,304.0	17.2	13.4	21.7	1.0	1.7
Health care and social assistance	2,187.2	2,177.2	19.3	-10.0	68.9	-0.5	3.3
Information, culture and recreation	785.3	784.5	14.5	-0.8	-1.7	-0.1	-0.2
Accommodation and food services	1,121.1	1,135.4	16.8	14.3	28.6	1.3	2.6
Other services	746.0	767.5	13.8	21.5	-44.6	2.9	-5.5
Public administration	973.9	962.9	12.6	-11.0	13.4	-1.1	1.4

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

3. 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

	April 2013	May 2013	Standard error ¹	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Population	429.5	429.5	...	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.5
Labour force	265.0	264.1	2.0	-0.9	2.8	-0.3	1.1
Employment	232.1	233.5	2.1	1.4	3.8	0.6	1.7
Full-time	198.8	201.3	2.4	2.5	2.4	1.3	1.2
Part-time	33.3	32.2	1.9	-1.1	1.5	-3.3	4.9
Unemployment	32.9	30.6	1.8	-2.3	-1.1	-7.0	-3.5
Participation rate	61.7	61.5	0.5	-0.2	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.4	11.6	0.7	-0.8	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	54.0	54.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	...	...
Prince Edward Island							
Population	120.7	120.7	...	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Labour force	85.2	83.9	0.6	-1.3	2.5	-1.5	3.1
Employment	75.3	74.5	0.7	-0.8	2.4	-1.1	3.3
Full-time	62.2	61.7	0.8	-0.5	2.9	-0.8	4.9
Part-time	13.1	12.8	0.8	-0.3	-0.5	-2.3	-3.8
Unemployment	9.9	9.4	0.7	-0.5	0.1	-5.1	1.1
Participation rate	70.6	69.5	0.5	-1.1	2.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.6	11.2	0.8	-0.4	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	62.4	61.7	0.5	-0.7	1.9	...	...
Nova Scotia							
Population	781.1	781.1	...	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.1
Labour force	501.7	499.3	2.6	-2.4	-0.7	-0.5	-0.1
Employment	456.2	456.0	2.8	-0.2	1.9	0.0	0.4
Full-time	372.0	370.7	3.6	-1.3	4.0	-0.3	1.1
Part-time	84.3	85.3	3.2	1.0	-2.1	1.2	-2.4
Unemployment	45.4	43.3	2.4	-2.1	-2.6	-4.6	-5.7
Participation rate	64.2	63.9	0.3	-0.3	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.0	8.7	0.5	-0.3	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	58.4	58.4	0.4	0.0	0.2	...	...
New Brunswick							
Population	619.9	619.9	...	0.0	-0.4	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	390.7	392.8	2.2	2.1	-0.3	0.5	-0.1
Employment	348.0	351.7	2.3	3.7	-4.5	1.1	-1.3
Full-time	292.3	293.4	2.8	1.1	-7.7	0.4	-2.6
Part-time	55.7	58.3	2.3	2.6	3.2	4.7	5.8
Unemployment	42.7	41.2	2.2	-1.5	4.3	-3.5	11.7
Participation rate	63.0	63.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.9	10.5	0.5	-0.4	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	56.1	56.7	0.4	0.6	-0.7	...	...
Quebec							
Population	6,680.2	6,684.6	...	4.4	55.5	0.1	0.8
Labour force	4,363.4	4,379.3	15.0	15.9	49.3	0.4	1.1
Employment	4,022.5	4,042.6	15.3	20.1	50.5	0.5	1.3
Full-time	3,265.0	3,266.2	20.0	1.2	29.3	0.0	0.9
Part-time	757.5	776.4	18.1	18.9	21.1	2.5	2.8
Unemployment	340.9	336.7	13.5	-4.2	-1.2	-1.2	-0.4
Participation rate	65.3	65.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.7	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	60.2	60.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	...	...

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

	April 2013	May 2013	Standard error ¹	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
Ontario							
Population	11,173.8	11,184.5	...	10.7	130.2	0.1	1.2
Labour force	7,414.6	7,437.5	20.0	22.9	104.6	0.3	1.4
Employment	6,844.7	6,895.3	19.3	50.6	136.3	0.7	2.0
Full-time	5,525.9	5,613.5	25.6	87.6	146.3	1.6	2.7
Part-time	1,318.8	1,281.8	23.6	-37.0	-10.0	-2.8	-0.8
Unemployment	569.9	542.2	17.6	-27.7	-31.7	-4.9	-5.5
Participation rate	66.4	66.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.7	7.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	61.3	61.7	0.2	0.4	0.6	...	...
Manitoba							
Population	971.1	971.9	...	0.8	9.7	0.1	1.0
Labour force	666.2	668.4	2.6	2.2	4.0	0.3	0.6
Employment	627.7	630.7	2.7	3.0	0.5	0.5	0.1
Full-time	503.7	508.9	3.6	5.2	4.7	1.0	0.9
Part-time	124.0	121.8	3.5	-2.2	-4.1	-1.8	-3.3
Unemployment	38.5	37.8	2.2	-0.7	3.6	-1.8	10.5
Participation rate	68.6	68.8	0.3	0.2	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.7	0.3	-0.1	0.6	...	...
Employment rate	64.6	64.9	0.3	0.3	-0.6	...	...
Saskatchewan							
Population	821.9	823.2	...	1.3	14.3	0.2	1.8
Labour force	576.4	577.9	2.5	1.5	15.8	0.3	2.8
Employment	553.2	552.0	2.6	-1.2	15.5	-0.2	2.9
Full-time	453.9	457.8	3.3	3.9	16.9	0.9	3.8
Part-time	99.2	94.2	3.1	-5.0	-1.4	-5.0	-1.5
Unemployment	23.2	25.9	1.9	2.7	0.3	11.6	1.2
Participation rate	70.1	70.2	0.3	0.1	0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.0	4.5	0.3	0.5	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.3	67.1	0.3	-0.2	0.8	...	...
Alberta							
Population	3,145.7	3,156.1	...	10.4	97.7	0.3	3.2
Labour force	2,282.1	2,313.5	8.7	31.4	59.3	1.4	2.6
Employment	2,182.7	2,201.3	8.9	18.6	48.8	0.9	2.3
Full-time	1,862.4	1,855.0	11.8	-7.4	66.0	-0.4	3.7
Part-time	320.3	346.3	10.9	26.0	-17.2	8.1	-4.7
Unemployment	99.4	112.2	6.8	12.8	10.4	12.9	10.2
Participation rate	72.5	73.3	0.3	0.8	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.4	4.8	0.3	0.4	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	69.4	69.7	0.3	0.3	-0.7	...	...
British Columbia							
Population	3,844.7	3,848.1	...	3.4	37.8	0.1	1.0
Labour force	2,471.0	2,480.3	10.7	9.3	-19.6	0.4	-0.8
Employment	2,312.1	2,311.8	10.3	-0.3	-5.1	0.0	-0.2
Full-time	1,818.9	1,803.2	14.5	-15.7	-6.1	-0.9	-0.3
Part-time	493.2	508.6	13.6	15.4	1.0	3.1	0.2
Unemployment	158.8	168.4	8.6	9.6	-14.6	6.0	-8.0
Participation rate	64.3	64.5	0.3	0.2	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.4	6.8	0.3	0.4	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	60.1	60.1	0.3	0.0	-0.7	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling Errors" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X) for further explanations.

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 May 18. 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 July 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 Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca) or Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118; jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.