

Tourism satellite account: Human resource module, 2012

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The number of jobs in tourism industries rose 1.5% to 1.7 million in 2012. These jobs, which include both employee jobs and jobs from self-employment, represented 9.4% of the 17.9 million jobs in Canada.

The growth in the number of jobs in tourism outpaced the 1.0% increase in jobs in the total economy during the year.

All of the growth in tourism industries was because of an increase in the number of full-time employee jobs (+33,000), largely in food and beverage services (+23,000). This offset job losses recorded in part-time employee jobs (-5,000) as well as full-time and part-time jobs from self-employment (-3,000) in 2012.

Air transportation (+7.7%) and food and beverage services (+2.3%) led in terms of job growth in 2012. More modest gains were recorded in transportation industries other than air (+1.3%) and accommodation (+0.5%). On the other hand, recreation and entertainment (-0.4%) and travel services (-1.5%) recorded job losses.

The food and beverage services industry was the largest employer, accounting for 54% of all jobs in tourism industries.

The average work week in the tourism sector was 29.1 hours, up 1.0% from 2011. The work week in food and beverage services (27.3 hours) was shorter than the sector average, reflecting a higher proportion of part-time jobs in this industry.

Average hourly compensation increased 1.1% in tourism industries to \$20.10 from \$19.88. It continued to trail hourly compensation in the total economy, which grew 2.0% to reach \$31.86.

The largest occupational group, food counter attendants and kitchen helpers and related occupations, accounted for 17% of employee jobs in the tourism sector.

In 2012, workers aged 15 to 24 held more than one third of all employee jobs in tourism (589,000 jobs), and of these, nearly three quarters were in food and beverage services (430,000 jobs). This share has trended slightly upward over the time series (+5.0 percentage points since 1997).

Note to readers

The Human Resource Module of the Tourism Satellite Account is funded through a partnership agreement with the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council. It provides timely and reliable statistics on the human resource dimension of tourism. This update includes revised data for 1997 to 2011 and new data for reference year 2012.

The Human Resource Module provides the total hours worked, compensation and jobs in tourism industries, including jobs that are attributable to demand from both tourists and non-tourists. This is different from the data for tourism jobs in the National Tourism Indicators and the Tourism Satellite Account, which include only those jobs that are directly attributable to demand from tourists. These variables are aggregated into five industry groups: transportation (air transportation and other transportation industries), accommodation, food and beverage services, recreation and entertainment, and travel services.

Employee jobs are defined as jobs for which the employer must complete a Canada Revenue Agency T4 form. Jobs in which workers are paid by tips or commissions are also included.

Jobs from self-employment include jobs performed by working owners of unincorporated enterprises, and members of their households who work without a wage or salary (that is, unpaid family workers).



Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1910.

The [National economic accounts](#) module, accessible from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website, features an up-to-date portrait of national and provincial economies and their structure.

The paper "Human Resource Module of the Tourism Satellite Account, 2012" is now available as part of the *Income and Expenditure Accounts Technical Series (13-604-M)*. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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