

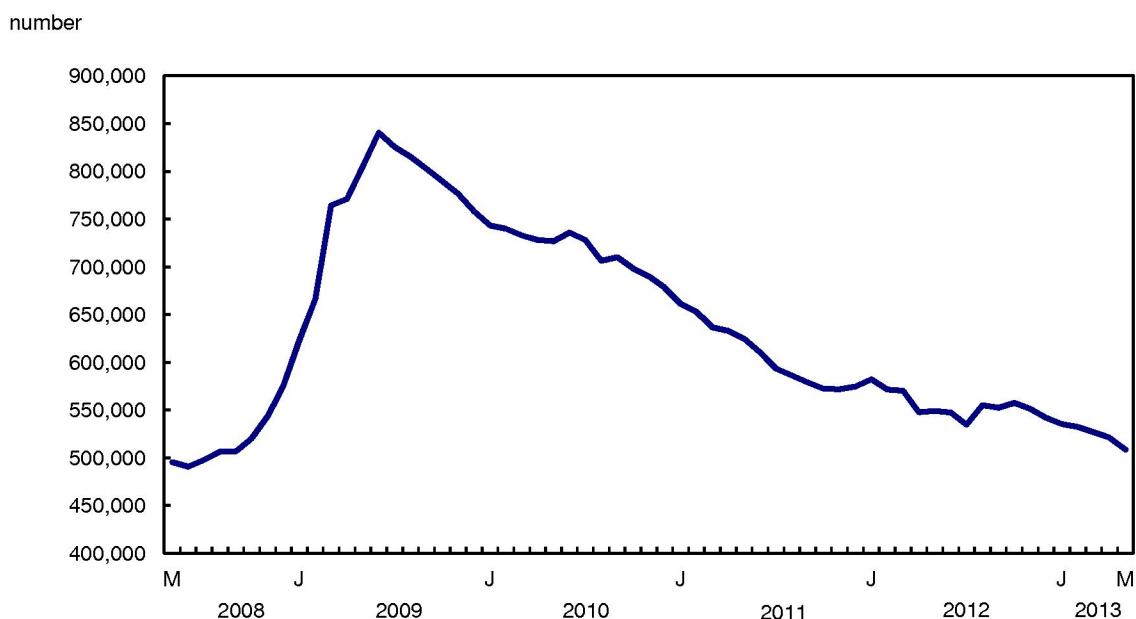
Employment Insurance, May 2013

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Thursday, July 18, 2013

The number of regular Employment Insurance (EI) beneficiaries fell by 2.4% (-12,300) to 508,500 in May, continuing the most recent downward trend. Compared with May 2012, the number of people receiving regular EI benefits was down 7.4%.

Most provinces saw decreases in the number of beneficiaries in May, while there was little change in Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Chart 1 Number of regular EI beneficiaries in steady decline



Highlights on the provinces and metropolitan areas

The number of people receiving regular benefits in Prince Edward Island declined 5.3% in May, continuing a six-month downward trend.

After nine months of little change, the number of beneficiaries in Ontario fell 3.6% in May. In the metropolitan area of Toronto, there were 60,100 people receiving benefits, down 3.5% from April.

There were 3.2% fewer people receiving regular benefits in New Brunswick in May, continuing a downward trend that started in the autumn of 2012. Both Saint John (-3.9%) and Moncton (-1.8%) had fewer beneficiaries in May compared with the previous month.

The number of beneficiaries in Quebec continued its steady decline for the seventh consecutive month, down 2.4% in May. There were fewer beneficiaries in Gatineau (-5.6%) and Saguenay (-1.9%), while there was an increase in Sherbrooke (+2.2%) and little change in the other metropolitan areas of the province.



In British Columbia, the number of people receiving regular benefits decreased for the fourth month in a row, down 1.9% in May. Of the four metropolitan areas in the province, three posted declines, with the largest in Abbotsford–Mission (-4.6%). Decreases also occurred in Kelowna (-2.4%) and Vancouver (-1.5%), while in Victoria, the number of beneficiaries was virtually unchanged.

The number of beneficiaries in Manitoba declined 1.8% in May, partly offsetting the increase recorded in April. In Winnipeg, the number of people receiving regular benefits fell 2.6% compared with the previous month.

There were 1.2% fewer beneficiaries in Nova Scotia, marking the seventh consecutive monthly decline. In Halifax, the number of people receiving regular benefits fell for the third month in a row, down 3.9% in May.

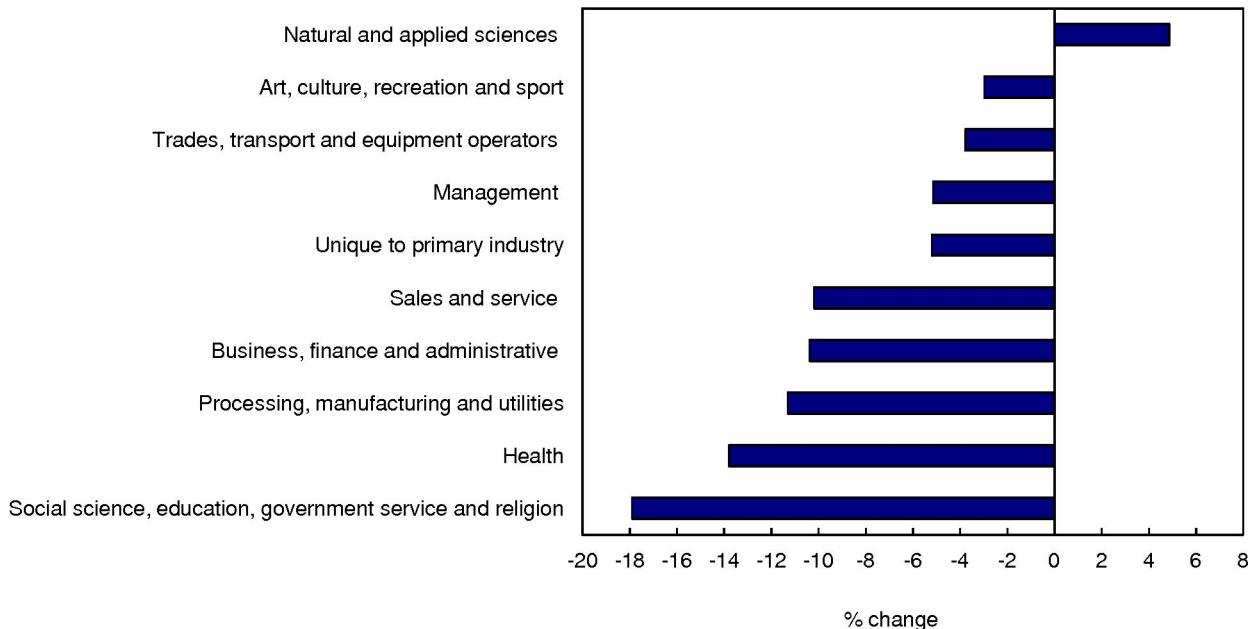
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

Most major occupation groups posted declines in the number of beneficiaries in May compared with the previous month. The largest decreases occurred in occupations unique to primary industry (-5.5%), those unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities (-3.7%), as well as occupations in trades, transport and equipment operation (-3.0%).

There were also notable declines in four other occupation groups. These declines ranged from 1.2% in sales and service to 2.6% in social science, education, government service and religion. At the same time, three occupation groups posted little change in May: management; business, finance and administrative occupations; and art, culture, recreation and sport.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of beneficiaries fell in all but one occupation group. The declines ranged from 3.0% in art, culture, recreation and sport to 17.9% in social science, education, government service and religion. At the same time, the number of beneficiaries in natural and applied science occupations rose 4.9%, the third consecutive month of year-over-year increases for this group.

Chart 2
Number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, percentage change, May 2012 to May 2013



Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

Men aged 55 and over experienced the largest decline in the number of beneficiaries (-4.9%) in May; this was also the first decline for this group after five consecutive months of little change. The second largest decrease (-4.4%) was among women aged 15 to 24, followed by women 55 and over (-3.5%).

There were also fewer beneficiaries among women aged 25 to 54 and their male counterparts (-2.2% and -1.7% respectively). Only men aged 15 to 24 saw little change in May, following an eight-month downward trend.

On a year-over-year basis, women aged 15 to 24 and those aged 25 to 54 had the largest declines in the number of beneficiaries (-14.9% and -10.0% respectively). As for men aged 15 to 24 and those aged 25 to 54, the rates of decline were slower but similar (-7.9% and -7.3% respectively).

At the same time, the year-over-year rate of decline in the number of beneficiaries among men 55 and over was 1.4%, the slowest among all major demographic groups.

Fewer claims in May

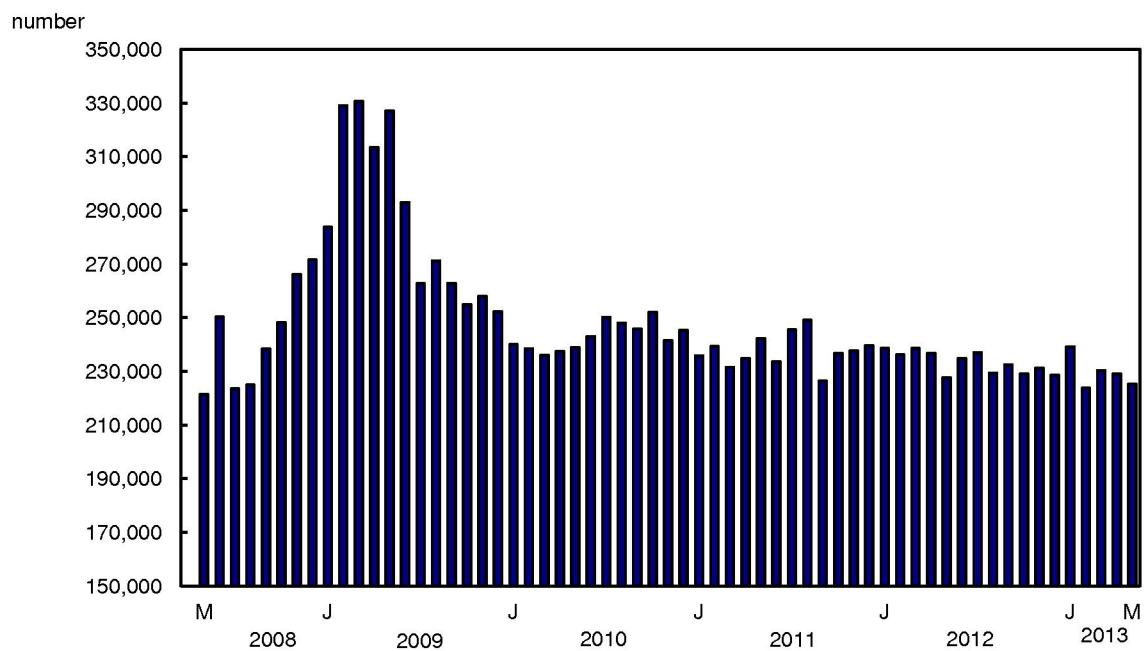
The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Following little change in April, the number of initial and renewal claims fell by 1.7% to 225,200 in May.

Provincially, claims declined most markedly in Saskatchewan (-9.7%). Other notable declines occurred in Prince Edward Island (-4.5%), Manitoba (-3.8%) and Quebec (-3.1%).

The number of claims also decreased in New Brunswick (-2.1%) and British Columbia (-1.1%), while it was little changed in the other provinces.

Chart 3 Fewer Employment Insurance claims in May



Note to readers

Regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits are available to eligible individuals who lose their jobs and who are available for and able to work, but can't find a job. To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people exhausting their regular benefits.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed people who do not qualify for benefits. Some unemployed people have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.

EI statistics are produced from administrative data sources provided by Service Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. Recent examples are the pilot project entitled "Working While on Claim," introduced on August 5, 2012, and the regulation on search for suitable employment, that came into effect on January 6, 2013.

The number of regular EI beneficiaries and the number of claims received for the current and previous month are subject to revision.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all people who received EI benefits from May 12 to 18. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with LFS data, which provide information on the total number of unemployed people.

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	number			change		% change	
Canada							
Both sexes	548,980	520,800	508,510	-12,290	-40,470	-2.4	-7.4
15 to 24 years	58,200	52,960	52,510	-450	-5,690	-0.8	-9.8
25 to 54 years	375,220	350,190	343,520	-6,670	-31,700	-1.9	-8.4
55 years and over	115,550	117,660	112,470	-5,190	-3,080	-4.4	-2.7
Men	329,400	316,140	309,230	-6,910	-20,170	-2.2	-6.1
15 to 24 years	42,270	38,780	38,950	170	-3,320	0.4	-7.9
25 to 54 years	216,950	204,530	201,060	-3,470	-15,890	-1.7	-7.3
55 years and over	70,180	72,830	69,230	-3,600	-950	-4.9	-1.4
Women	219,580	204,660	199,280	-5,380	-20,300	-2.6	-9.2
15 to 24 years	15,930	14,180	13,560	-620	-2,370	-4.4	-14.9
25 to 54 years	158,280	145,660	142,470	-3,190	-15,810	-2.2	-10.0
55 years and over	45,370	44,830	43,240	-1,590	-2,130	-3.5	-4.7
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	34,830	31,840	32,000	160	-2,830	0.5	-8.1
15 to 24 years	3,300	2,790	2,850	60	-450	2.2	-13.6
25 to 54 years	21,920	19,430	19,540	110	-2,380	0.6	-10.9
55 years and over	9,610	9,610	9,610	0	0	0.0	0.0
Men	20,060	18,360	18,520	160	-1,540	0.9	-7.7
Women	14,770	13,480	13,480	0	-1,290	0.0	-8.7
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	8,890	7,890	7,470	-420	-1,420	-5.3	-16.0
15 to 24 years	1,080	900	840	-60	-240	-6.7	-22.2
25 to 54 years	5,490	4,750	4,580	-170	-910	-3.6	-16.6
55 years and over	2,320	2,250	2,040	-210	-280	-9.3	-12.1
Men	5,180	4,690	4,500	-190	-680	-4.1	-13.1
Women	3,710	3,200	2,960	-240	-750	-7.5	-20.2
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	31,070	28,180	27,840	-340	-3,230	-1.2	-10.4
15 to 24 years	3,430	2,870	2,890	20	-540	0.7	-15.7
25 to 54 years	20,650	18,390	18,120	-270	-2,530	-1.5	-12.3
55 years and over	6,990	6,910	6,830	-80	-160	-1.2	-2.3
Men	19,050	17,420	17,280	-140	-1,770	-0.8	-9.3
Women	12,020	10,750	10,570	-180	-1,450	-1.7	-12.1
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	35,320	33,540	32,480	-1,060	-2,840	-3.2	-8.0
15 to 24 years	4,210	3,800	3,810	10	-400	0.3	-9.5
25 to 54 years	22,620	20,850	20,120	-730	-2,500	-3.5	-11.1
55 years and over	8,480	8,890	8,550	-340	70	-3.8	0.8
Men	21,860	21,080	20,650	-430	-1,210	-2.0	-5.5
Women	13,460	12,460	11,830	-630	-1,630	-5.1	-12.1
Quebec							
Both sexes	163,300	150,460	146,840	-3,620	-16,460	-2.4	-10.1
15 to 24 years	17,370	15,680	15,710	30	-1,660	0.2	-9.6
25 to 54 years	110,300	98,890	98,170	-720	-12,130	-0.7	-11.0
55 years and over	35,620	35,880	32,970	-2,910	-2,650	-8.1	-7.4
Men	102,050	95,840	93,630	-2,210	-8,420	-2.3	-8.3
Women	61,240	54,620	53,210	-1,410	-8,030	-2.6	-13.1

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
Ontario							
Both sexes	158,680	159,880	154,190	-5,690	-4,490	-3.6	-2.8
15 to 24 years	15,300	14,660	14,370	-290	-930	-2.0	-6.1
25 to 54 years	113,800	113,210	108,960	-4,250	-4,840	-3.8	-4.3
55 years and over	29,580	32,010	30,870	-1,140	1,290	-3.6	4.4
Men	91,590	93,100	89,780	-3,320	-1,810	-3.6	-2.0
Women	67,090	66,780	64,410	-2,370	-2,680	-3.5	-4.0
Manitoba							
Both sexes	14,470	14,220	13,970	-250	-500	-1.8	-3.5
15 to 24 years	1,950	1,870	1,840	-30	-110	-1.6	-5.6
25 to 54 years	9,960	9,650	9,580	-70	-380	-0.7	-3.8
55 years and over	2,560	2,710	2,550	-160	-10	-5.9	-0.4
Men	9,090	9,220	9,000	-220	-90	-2.4	-1.0
Women	5,380	5,000	4,970	-30	-410	-0.6	-7.6
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	11,080	10,920	10,900	-20	-180	-0.2	-1.6
15 to 24 years	1,500	1,460	1,450	-10	-50	-0.7	-3.3
25 to 54 years	7,290	7,130	7,140	10	-150	0.1	-2.1
55 years and over	2,280	2,330	2,310	-20	30	-0.9	1.3
Men	6,940	7,160	7,120	-40	180	-0.6	2.6
Women	4,140	3,760	3,770	10	-370	0.3	-8.9
Alberta							
Both sexes	28,910	28,350	28,260	-90	-650	-0.3	-2.2
15 to 24 years	3,670	3,390	3,310	-80	-360	-2.4	-9.8
25 to 54 years	20,270	19,890	19,900	10	-370	0.1	-1.8
55 years and over	4,970	5,070	5,060	-10	90	-0.2	1.8
Men	17,380	17,330	17,230	-100	-150	-0.6	-0.9
Women	11,530	11,020	11,030	10	-500	0.1	-4.3
British Columbia							
Both sexes	59,560	51,890	50,930	-960	-8,630	-1.9	-14.5
15 to 24 years	6,100	5,140	5,060	-80	-1,040	-1.6	-17.0
25 to 54 years	40,780	35,400	34,820	-580	-5,960	-1.6	-14.6
55 years and over	12,680	11,360	11,040	-320	-1,640	-2.8	-12.9
Men	34,370	29,670	29,250	-420	-5,120	-1.4	-14.9
Women	25,190	22,230	21,680	-550	-3,510	-2.5	-13.9
Yukon							
Both sexes	1,020	1,000	1,040	40	20	4.0	2.0
15 to 24 years	110	120	130	10	20	8.3	18.2
25 to 54 years	680	660	680	20	0	3.0	0.0
55 years and over	230	220	230	10	0	4.5	0.0
Men	640	630	670	40	30	6.3	4.7
Women	380	360	370	10	-10	2.8	-2.6
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	920	830	810	-20	-110	-2.4	-12.0
15 to 24 years	90	80	80	0	-10	0.0	-11.1
25 to 54 years	700	620	600	-20	-100	-3.2	-14.3
55 years and over	120	130	130	0	10	0.0	8.3
Men	610	540	530	-10	-80	-1.9	-13.1
Women	310	290	280	-10	-30	-3.4	-9.7

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
Nunavut							
Both sexes	510	470	470	0	-40	0.0	-7.8
15 to 24 years	50	50	40	-10	-10	-20.0	-20.0
25 to 54 years	420	380	380	0	-40	0.0	-9.5
55 years and over	40	40	40	0	0	0.0	0.0
Men	350	330	320	-10	-30	-3.0	-8.6
Women	160	140	150	10	-10	7.1	-6.3

^p preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

2. 2006 Standard Geographical Classification.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table: 276-0022.

Table 2

Initial and renewal claims received, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	number			change		% change	
Canada	227,530	228,980	225,170	-3,810	-2,360	-1.7	-1.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,990	8,930	9,000	70	10	0.8	0.1
Prince Edward Island	2,470	2,450	2,340	-110	-130	-4.5	-5.3
Nova Scotia	10,040	9,360	9,340	-20	-700	-0.2	-7.0
New Brunswick	9,920	9,960	9,750	-210	-170	-2.1	-1.7
Quebec	67,650	68,040	65,950	-2,090	-1,700	-3.1	-2.5
Ontario	71,590	70,850	70,720	-130	-870	-0.2	-1.2
Manitoba	7,330	7,670	7,380	-290	50	-3.8	0.7
Saskatchewan	5,380	6,200	5,600	-600	220	-9.7	4.1
Alberta	16,230	18,740	18,610	-130	2,380	-0.7	14.7
British Columbia	26,890	25,920	25,630	-290	-1,260	-1.1	-4.7
Yukon	370	330	330	0	-40	0.0	-10.8
Northwest Territories	300	290	290	0	-10	0.0	-3.3
Nunavut	220	170	170	0	-50	0.0	-22.7

^p preliminary

Note(s): Related CANSIM table: 276-0004.

Table 3
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by census metropolitan area² – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	number			change		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
St. John's	4,070	3,540	3,530	-10	-540	-0.3	-13.3
Nova Scotia							
Halifax	5,270	5,130	4,930	-200	-340	-3.9	-6.5
New Brunswick							
Moncton	3,150	2,800	2,750	-50	-400	-1.8	-12.7
Saint John	2,730	2,810	2,700	-110	-30	-3.9	-1.1
Quebec							
Saguenay	3,830	3,700	3,630	-70	-200	-1.9	-5.2
Québec	9,730	9,080	9,030	-50	-700	-0.6	-7.2
Sherbrooke	3,740	3,200	3,270	70	-470	2.2	-12.6
Trois-Rivières	3,830	3,220	3,190	-30	-640	-0.9	-16.7
Montréal	58,190	54,600	54,810	210	-3,380	0.4	-5.8
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,840	3,720	3,510	-210	-330	-5.6	-8.6
Ontario							
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	7,460	7,520	7,270	-250	-190	-3.3	-2.5
Kingston	1,610	1,600	1,570	-30	-40	-1.9	-2.5
Peterborough	1,680	1,600	1,440	-160	-240	-10.0	-14.3
Oshawa	4,400	4,630	4,520	-110	120	2.4	2.7
Toronto	60,900	62,260	60,080	-2,180	-820	-3.5	-1.3
Hamilton	7,120	7,200	6,900	-300	-220	-4.2	-3.1
St. Catharines–Niagara	6,600	6,410	6,250	-160	-350	-2.5	-5.3
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	5,210	5,490	5,210	-280	0	-5.1	0.0
Brantford	2,260	2,160	2,020	-140	-240	-6.5	-10.6
Guelph	1,370	1,230	1,150	-80	-220	-6.5	-16.1
London	6,540	5,860	5,390	-470	-1,150	-8.0	-17.6
Windsor	4,290	4,460	4,370	-90	80	-2.0	1.9
Barrie	2,480	2,590	2,430	-160	-50	-6.2	-2.0
Greater Sudbury	2,310	2,870	2,830	-40	520	-1.4	22.5
Thunder Bay	1,660	1,590	1,540	-50	-120	-3.1	-7.2
Manitoba							
Winnipeg	7,290	7,350	7,160	-190	-130	-2.6	-1.8
Saskatchewan							
Regina	1,280	1,460	1,430	-30	150	-2.1	11.7
Saskatoon	2,190	2,070	2,000	-70	-190	-3.4	-8.7
Alberta							
Calgary	9,350	9,300	9,260	-40	-90	-0.4	-1.0
Edmonton	9,170	9,610	9,430	-180	260	-1.9	2.8
British Columbia							
Kelowna	2,880	2,480	2,420	-60	-460	-2.4	-16.0
Abbotsford–Mission	3,310	2,600	2,480	-120	-830	-4.6	-25.1
Vancouver	24,000	22,160	21,830	-330	-2,170	-1.5	-9.0
Victoria	3,250	3,040	3,020	-20	-230	-0.7	-7.1

^p preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

2. 2006 Standard Geographical Classification.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table: 276-0031.

Table 4
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by occupation,² Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
	number			change		% change	
All occupations	548,980	520,800	508,510	-12,290	-40,470	-2.4	-7.4
Management occupations	32,300	30,930	30,640	-290	-1,660	-0.9	-5.1
Senior management occupations	2,790	2,620	2,650	30	-140	1.1	-5.0
Other management occupations	29,510	28,320	27,990	-330	-1,520	-1.2	-5.2
Business, finance and administrative occupations	73,810	66,780	66,150	-630	-7,660	-0.9	-10.4
Professional occupations in business and finance	5,240	5,100	5,080	-20	-160	-0.4	-3.1
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	18,920	17,500	17,300	-200	-1,620	-1.1	-8.6
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	49,650	44,180	43,770	-410	-5,880	-0.9	-11.8
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	24,680	26,250	25,880	-370	1,200	-1.4	4.9
Health occupations	8,850	7,760	7,630	-130	-1,220	-1.7	-13.8
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	1,390	1,230	1,230	0	-160	0.0	-11.5
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	7,460	6,520	6,400	-120	-1,060	-1.8	-14.2
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	30,840	25,990	25,320	-670	-5,520	-2.6	-17.9
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	15,430	14,010	13,620	-390	-1,810	-2.8	-11.7
Teachers and professors	15,410	11,980	11,700	-280	-3,710	-2.3	-24.1
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	10,450	10,220	10,140	-80	-310	-0.8	-3.0

Table 4 - continued
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by occupation,² Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2012	April 2013 ^p	May 2013 ^p	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013	April to May 2013	May 2012 to May 2013
Sales and service occupations	105,920	96,270	95,120	-1,150	-10,800	-1.2	-10.2
Wholesale, technical, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	5,540	5,280	5,230	-50	-310	-0.9	-5.6
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	19,740	18,760	18,680	-80	-1,060	-0.4	-5.4
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	20,780	18,700	18,110	-590	-2,670	-3.2	-12.8
Occupations in protective services	5,960	5,470	5,440	-30	-520	-0.5	-8.7
Childcare and home support workers	16,870	15,190	15,100	-90	-1,770	-0.6	-10.5
Sales and service occupations (not elsewhere classified), including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	37,030	32,860	32,560	-300	-4,470	-0.9	-12.1
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	170,670	169,300	164,240	-5,060	-6,430	-3.0	-3.8
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	6,440	6,580	6,330	-250	-110	-3.8	-1.7
Construction trades	35,280	36,020	34,160	-1,860	-1,120	-5.2	-3.2
Other trades occupations	39,000	37,020	36,790	-230	-2,210	-0.6	-5.7
Transport and equipment operators	39,770	40,480	39,580	-900	-190	-2.2	-0.5
Trades helpers, construction and transportation labourers and related occupations	50,170	49,200	47,380	-1,820	-2,790	-3.7	-5.6
Occupations unique to primary industry	36,720	36,850	34,810	-2,040	-1,910	-5.5	-5.2
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	54,600	50,280	48,430	-1,850	-6,170	-3.7	-11.3
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	25,960	24,250	23,190	-1,060	-2,770	-4.4	-10.7
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	28,640	26,030	25,240	-790	-3,400	-3.0	-11.9

^p preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

2. 2006 National Occupational Classification – Statistics.

Note(s): Related CANSIM table: 276-0041.

Available in CANSIM: tables 276-0003, 276-0004, 276-0011, 276-0020 to 276-0022, 276-0030 to 276-0032, 276-0040 and 276-0041.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

[Data tables](#) are also now available online. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*, choose *Subject*, then *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance for June will be released on August 22.

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

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