

Employment Insurance, January 2014

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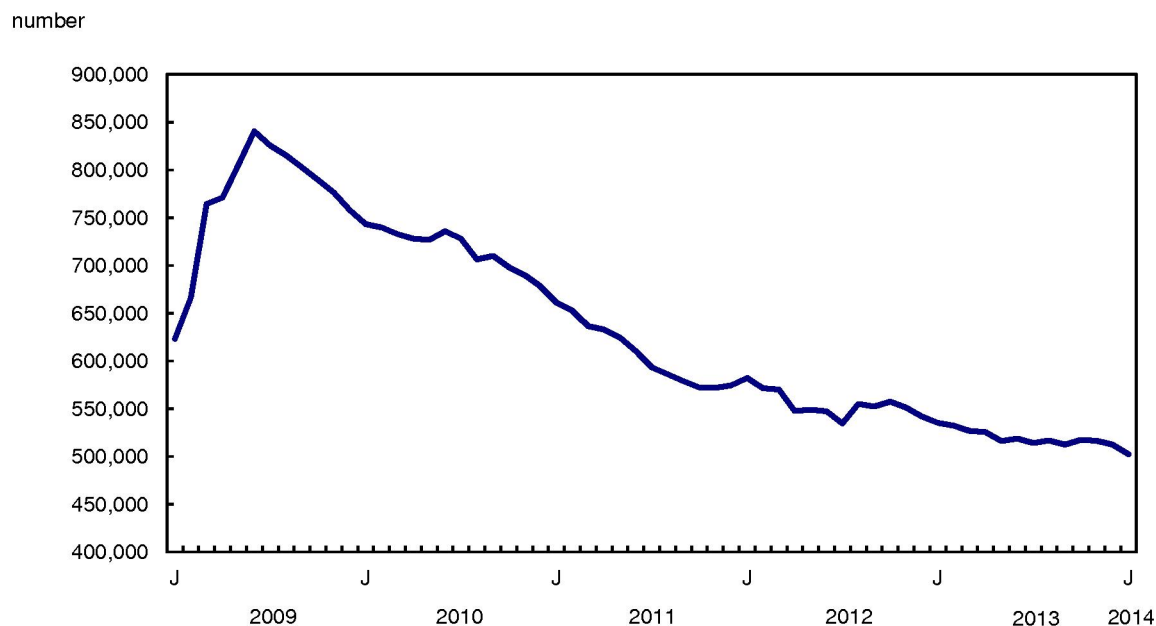
In January, 502,500 people received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, down 1.9% (-9,900) from the previous month. This decline follows a period of relative stability in the number of EI beneficiaries that began in May 2013.

Quebec, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island experienced decreases in the number of people receiving regular EI benefits in January, while there was little or no change in the other provinces.

The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people who no longer receive regular benefits.

Chart 1

Fewer regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries in January



Provincial and metropolitan area overview

Following little change over the last three months of 2013, the number of beneficiaries in Quebec declined by 4.6% in January. All metropolitan areas in the province posted declines, most notably Sherbrooke (-8.3%), Saguenay (-7.5%) and Trois-Rivières (-7.4%). In Montréal, the number of people receiving regular benefits fell by 4.5% to 50,700, the fourth consecutive monthly decline.

In British Columbia, the number of beneficiaries decreased for the second consecutive month, down 1.7% in January. Abbotsford–Mission saw fewer beneficiaries (-4.4%), marking its third consecutive monthly decline. In Vancouver, 21,800 people received benefits, down 1.6% from the previous month. The number of beneficiaries rose slightly in Kelowna (+1.2%), the third increase in four months.

There were slightly fewer beneficiaries in Prince Edward Island in January (-1.6%), similar to the decline observed the previous month. These recent declines followed increases observed last fall.



Ontario saw a slight decline (-1.1%) in January as five metropolitan areas saw fewer beneficiaries: Windsor (-9.2%), Ottawa (-2.9%), Brantford (-2.6%), St. Catharines–Niagara (-2.5%) and Greater Sudbury (-2.3%). At the same time, there were notable increases in Peterborough (+4.2%) and London (+2.5%).

In Nova Scotia, the number of people receiving benefits fell slightly (-1.0%) in January. However, the number rose by 3.1% in Halifax, the third notable increase in four months.

The number of beneficiaries was little changed in the other provinces, but this was not the case in some metropolitan areas within these provinces.

In New Brunswick, the number of beneficiaries decreased by 6.7% in Saint John.

In Saskatchewan, the number of beneficiaries increased in Saskatoon (+3.6%) and Regina (+3.0%).

In Alberta, Calgary saw a decrease of 2.6%, the third consecutive decline, while in Edmonton, the number of beneficiaries rose by 2.1% in January, the third consecutive increase.

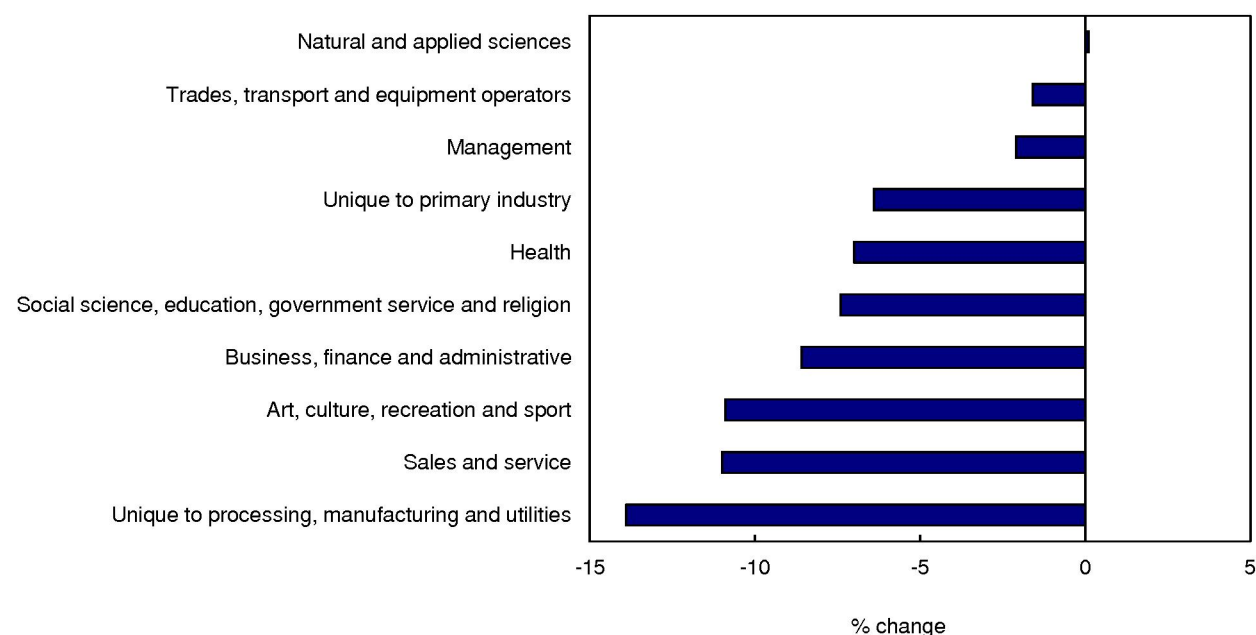
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

There were fewer beneficiaries in seven major occupation groups in January, most notably in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities (-7.3%). This marked the third consecutive monthly decline for this occupational group.

On a year-over-year basis, there were fewer people receiving benefits in all but one occupational group: natural and applied sciences. The declines ranged from 1.6% in trades, transport and equipment operators to 13.9% in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities.

Chart 2

Number of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, percentage change, January 2013 to January 2014



Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

In January, there were fewer beneficiaries among men aged 15 to 24 (-5.7%) and among men aged 25 to 54 (-4.5%). At the same time, the number of men aged 55 and over receiving benefits rose slightly (+1.3%).

For women, the number of beneficiaries was virtually unchanged in January for both the 15 to 24 and 25 to 54 age cohorts. However, there was a 1.6% increase in the number of women aged 55 and over receiving benefits.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of people receiving benefits continued to fall at a faster rate among women than men in all age groups.

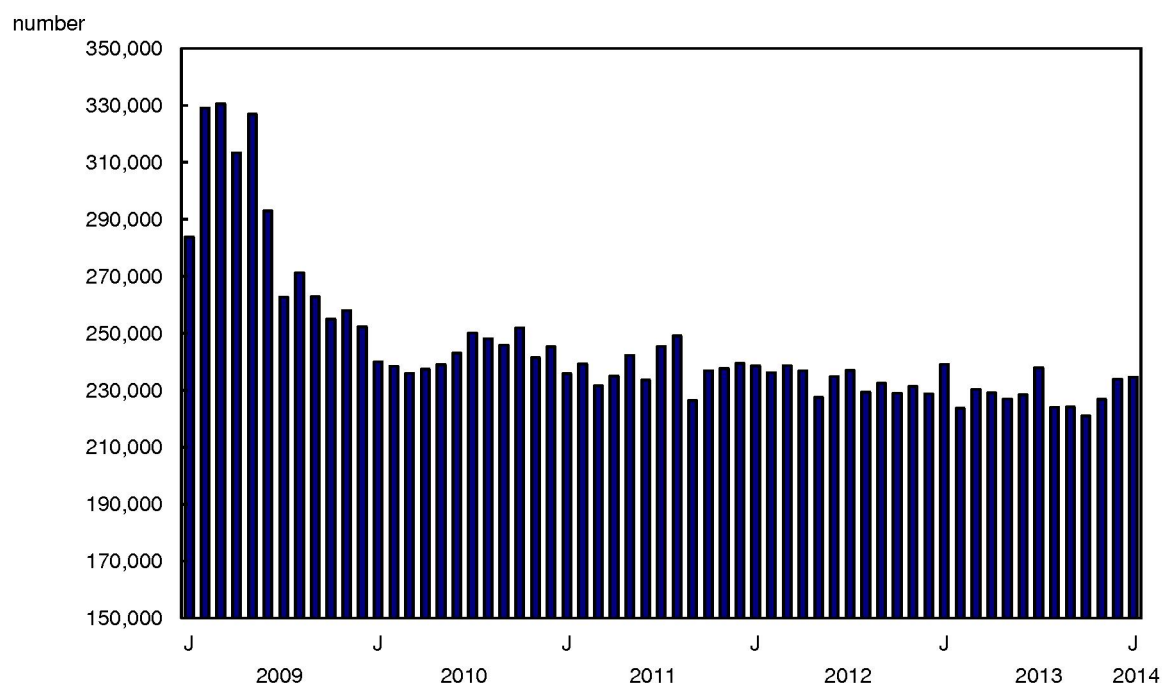
Employment Insurance claims virtually unchanged in January

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

Nationally, the number of initial and renewal claims was virtually unchanged in January at 234,600. Compared with January 2013, the number of claims fell by 1.9%.

Chart 3

Employment Insurance claims virtually unchanged in January



The small overall change nationally did not mirror variations at the provincial level, as Prince Edward Island (+9.4%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+7.4%), Nova Scotia (+4.0%) and New Brunswick (+3.4%) posted notable increases in January. At the same time, there were decreases in British Columbia (-4.4%) and Manitoba (-3.9%). There was little or no change in the number of claims in the other provinces.

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.

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.

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 January 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.

Table 1
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by province and territory,² sex and age –
Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	December 2013 ^p	January 2014 ^p	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	number			change		% change	
Canada							
Both sexes	535,440	512,420	502,530	-9,890	-32,910	-1.9	-6.1
15 to 24 years	55,690	51,260	49,050	-2,210	-6,640	-4.3	-11.9
25 to 54 years	359,130	343,230	333,870	-9,360	-25,260	-2.7	-7.0
55 years and over	120,630	117,920	119,610	1,690	-1,020	1.4	-0.8
Men	324,130	318,940	308,460	-10,480	-15,670	-3.3	-4.8
15 to 24 years	40,510	38,410	36,220	-2,190	-4,290	-5.7	-10.6
25 to 54 years	209,630	207,140	197,890	-9,250	-11,740	-4.5	-5.6
55 years and over	73,980	73,390	74,360	970	380	1.3	0.5
Women	211,320	193,480	194,070	590	-17,250	0.3	-8.2
15 to 24 years	15,170	12,850	12,840	-10	-2,330	-0.1	-15.4
25 to 54 years	149,500	136,100	135,980	-120	-13,520	-0.1	-9.0
55 years and over	46,650	44,530	45,250	720	-1,400	1.6	-3.0
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	31,940	32,750	32,620	-130	680	-0.4	2.1
15 to 24 years	3,010	2,910	2,850	-60	-160	-2.1	-5.3
25 to 54 years	19,490	20,070	19,760	-310	270	-1.5	1.4
55 years and over	9,440	9,770	10,010	240	570	2.5	6.0
Men	18,500	19,540	19,480	-60	980	-0.3	5.3
Women	13,430	13,210	13,140	-70	-290	-0.5	-2.2
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	8,230	7,650	7,530	-120	-700	-1.6	-8.5
15 to 24 years	960	860	860	0	-100	0.0	-10.4
25 to 54 years	4,950	4,610	4,480	-130	-470	-2.8	-9.5
55 years and over	2,320	2,180	2,190	10	-130	0.5	-5.6
Men	4,780	4,590	4,450	-140	-330	-3.1	-6.9
Women	3,450	3,070	3,080	10	-370	0.3	-10.7
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	29,490	27,360	27,090	-270	-2,400	-1.0	-8.1
15 to 24 years	3,200	2,730	2,680	-50	-520	-1.8	-16.3
25 to 54 years	19,170	17,680	17,370	-310	-1,800	-1.8	-9.4
55 years and over	7,110	6,960	7,030	70	-80	1.0	-1.1
Men	18,190	17,550	17,210	-340	-980	-1.9	-5.4
Women	11,290	9,810	9,880	70	-1,410	0.7	-12.5
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	34,130	32,210	32,310	100	-1,820	0.3	-5.3
15 to 24 years	4,000	3,610	3,620	10	-380	0.3	-9.5
25 to 54 years	21,240	19,780	19,690	-90	-1,550	-0.5	-7.3
55 years and over	8,900	8,820	9,000	180	100	2.0	1.1
Men	21,680	20,810	20,680	-130	-1,000	-0.6	-4.6
Women	12,450	11,400	11,640	240	-810	2.1	-6.5
Quebec							
Both sexes	157,750	148,780	142,000	-6,780	-15,750	-4.6	-10.0
15 to 24 years	16,920	15,280	13,940	-1,340	-2,980	-8.8	-17.6
25 to 54 years	102,770	98,110	92,390	-5,720	-10,380	-5.8	-10.1
55 years and over	38,060	35,390	35,670	280	-2,390	0.8	-6.3
Men	100,200	97,320	90,930	-6,390	-9,270	-6.6	-9.3
Women	57,540	51,460	51,060	-400	-6,480	-0.8	-11.3
Ontario							
Both sexes	160,170	153,100	151,480	-1,620	-8,690	-1.1	-5.4
15 to 24 years	14,640	13,550	13,090	-460	-1,550	-3.4	-10.6
25 to 54 years	113,880	107,830	105,980	-1,850	-7,900	-1.7	-6.9
55 years and over	31,650	31,720	32,420	700	770	2.2	2.4
Men	92,260	91,750	89,350	-2,400	-2,910	-2.6	-3.2
Women	67,900	61,350	62,130	780	-5,770	1.3	-8.5

Table 1 - continued

Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by province and territory,² sex and age – Seasonally adjusted

	January 2013	December 2013 ^P	January 2014 ^P	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
Manitoba							
Both sexes	13,750	13,160	12,970	-190	-780	-1.4	-5.7
15 to 24 years	1,800	1,790	1,790	0	-10	0.0	-0.6
25 to 54 years	9,460	9,010	8,810	-200	-650	-2.2	-6.9
55 years and over	2,490	2,360	2,380	20	-110	0.8	-4.4
Men	8,670	8,480	8,350	-130	-320	-1.5	-3.7
Women	5,080	4,680	4,620	-60	-460	-1.3	-9.1
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	11,030	10,410	10,500	90	-530	0.9	-4.8
15 to 24 years	1,540	1,390	1,380	-10	-160	-0.7	-10.4
25 to 54 years	7,160	6,820	6,870	50	-290	0.7	-4.1
55 years and over	2,320	2,190	2,250	60	-70	2.7	-3.0
Men	7,130	6,830	6,860	30	-270	0.4	-3.8
Women	3,900	3,580	3,640	60	-260	1.7	-6.7
Alberta							
Both sexes	29,240	29,650	29,370	-280	130	-0.9	0.4
15 to 24 years	3,580	3,690	3,530	-160	-50	-4.3	-1.4
25 to 54 years	20,410	20,570	20,390	-180	-20	-0.9	-0.1
55 years and over	5,250	5,390	5,450	60	200	1.1	3.8
Men	17,860	18,460	18,020	-440	160	-2.4	0.9
Women	11,380	11,200	11,350	150	-30	1.3	-0.3
British Columbia							
Both sexes	56,040	52,710	51,810	-900	-4,230	-1.7	-7.5
15 to 24 years	5,630	4,950	4,770	-180	-860	-3.6	-15.3
25 to 54 years	37,980	35,480	34,750	-730	-3,230	-2.1	-8.5
55 years and over	12,430	12,280	12,290	10	-140	0.1	-1.1
Men	32,530	30,730	30,150	-580	-2,380	-1.9	-7.3
Women	23,510	21,970	21,660	-310	-1,850	-1.4	-7.9
Yukon							
Both sexes	970	930	920	-10	-50	-1.1	-5.2
15 to 24 years	100	110	110	0	10	0.0	10.0
25 to 54 years	640	600	590	-10	-50	-1.7	-7.8
55 years and over	220	220	220	0	0	0.0	0.0
Men	600	600	590	-10	-10	-1.7	-1.7
Women	370	320	330	10	-40	3.1	-10.8
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	880	780	780	0	-100	0.0	-11.4
15 to 24 years	90	70	70	0	-20	0.0	-22.2
25 to 54 years	650	570	580	10	-70	1.8	-10.8
55 years and over	140	130	130	0	-10	0.0	-7.1
Men	570	490	500	10	-70	2.0	-12.3
Women	310	280	280	0	-30	0.0	-9.7
Nunavut							
Both sexes	550	450	450	0	-100	0.0	-18.2
15 to 24 years	60	40	50	10	-10	25.0	-16.7
25 to 54 years	440	360	370	10	-70	2.8	-15.9
55 years and over	50	50	40	-10	-10	-20.0	-20.0
Men	400	290	290	0	-110	0.0	-27.5
Women	160	160	160	0	0	0.0	0.0

^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

	January 2013	December 2013 ^P	January 2014 ^P	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	number			change		% change	
Canada	239,120	233,960	234,580	620	-4,540	0.3	-1.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,640	8,660	9,300	640	660	7.4	7.6
Prince Edward Island	2,400	2,240	2,450	210	50	9.4	2.1
Nova Scotia	9,400	9,250	9,620	370	220	4.0	2.3
New Brunswick	10,250	9,850	10,180	330	-70	3.4	-0.7
Quebec	72,950	67,980	68,710	730	-4,240	1.1	-5.8
Ontario	77,560	76,860	76,850	-10	-710	0.0	-0.9
Manitoba	7,290	7,490	7,200	-290	-90	-3.9	-1.2
Saskatchewan	5,590	5,780	5,820	40	230	0.7	4.1
Alberta	17,280	18,480	18,340	-140	1,060	-0.8	6.1
British Columbia	26,450	26,320	25,150	-1,170	-1,300	-4.4	-4.9
Yukon	340	320	330	10	-10	3.1	-2.9
Northwest Territories	280	290	300	10	20	3.4	7.1
Nunavut	250	200	190	-10	-60	-5.0	-24.0

^P preliminary

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

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

	January 2013	December 2013 ^P	January 2014 ^P	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	number		change		% change		
Newfoundland and Labrador							
St. John's	3,630	3,870	3,920	50	290	1.3	8.0
Nova Scotia							
Halifax	5,260	4,790	4,940	150	-320	3.1	-6.1
New Brunswick							
Moncton	2,920	2,830	2,850	20	-70	0.7	-2.4
Saint John	3,000	2,530	2,360	-170	-640	-6.7	-21.3
Quebec							
Saguenay	3,920	4,150	3,840	-310	-80	-7.5	-2.0
Québec	9,710	9,200	8,940	-260	-770	-2.8	-7.9
Sherbrooke	3,360	3,030	2,780	-250	-580	-8.3	-17.3
Trois-Rivières	3,540	3,100	2,870	-230	-670	-7.4	-18.9
Montréal	55,430	53,030	50,650	-2,380	-4,780	-4.5	-8.6
Ottawa–Gatineau, Quebec part	3,660	3,360	3,170	-190	-490	-5.7	-13.4
Ontario							
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part	7,250	7,120	6,910	-210	-340	-2.9	-4.7
Kingston	1,530	1,650	1,630	-20	100	-1.2	6.5
Peterborough	1,520	1,420	1,480	60	-40	4.2	-2.6
Oshawa	4,720	4,200	4,200	0	-520	0.0	-11.0
Toronto	62,590	59,160	59,050	-110	-3,540	-0.2	-5.7
Hamilton	7,440	7,250	7,190	-60	-250	-0.8	-3.4
St. Catharines–Niagara	6,370	5,970	5,820	-150	-550	-2.5	-8.6
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	5,580	5,410	5,490	80	-90	1.5	-1.6
Brantford	2,070	1,920	1,870	-50	-200	-2.6	-9.7
Guelph	1,320	1,200	1,210	10	-110	0.8	-8.3
London	5,880	5,610	5,750	140	-130	2.5	-2.2
Windsor	4,850	4,120	3,740	-380	-1,110	-9.2	-22.9
Barrie	2,520	2,440	2,460	20	-60	0.8	-2.4
Greater Sudbury	2,650	2,610	2,550	-60	-100	-2.3	-3.8
Thunder Bay	1,520	1,630	1,650	20	130	1.2	8.6
Manitoba							
Winnipeg	7,200	6,890	6,810	-80	-390	-1.2	-5.4
Saskatchewan							
Regina	1,410	1,340	1,380	40	-30	3.0	-2.1
Saskatoon	2,160	1,930	2,000	70	-160	3.6	-7.4
Alberta							
Calgary	9,610	9,660	9,410	-250	-200	-2.6	-2.1
Edmonton	9,450	10,170	10,380	210	930	2.1	9.8
British Columbia							
Kelowna	2,630	2,430	2,460	30	-170	1.2	-6.5
Abbotsford–Mission	3,120	2,970	2,840	-130	-280	-4.4	-9.0
Vancouver	23,070	22,190	21,830	-360	-1,240	-1.6	-5.4
Victoria	3,080	2,870	2,860	-10	-220	-0.3	-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

	January 2013	December 2013 ^p	January 2014 ^p	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
	number			change		% change	
All occupations	535,440	512,420	502,530	-9,890	-32,910	-1.9	-6.1
Management occupations	31,670	31,350	31,020	-330	-650	-1.1	-2.1
Senior management occupations	2,690	2,770	2,740	-30	50	-1.1	1.9
Other management occupations	28,990	28,580	28,280	-300	-710	-1.0	-2.4
Business, finance and administrative occupations	68,650	63,790	62,740	-1,050	-5,910	-1.6	-8.6
Professional occupations in business and finance	5,200	5,010	4,980	-30	-220	-0.6	-4.2
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	17,930	17,170	16,890	-280	-1,040	-1.6	-5.8
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	45,520	41,610	40,870	-740	-4,650	-1.8	-10.2
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	27,450	27,640	27,490	-150	40	-0.5	0.1
Health occupations	8,270	7,740	7,690	-50	-580	-0.6	-7.0
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	1,300	1,280	1,260	-20	-40	-1.6	-3.1
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	6,980	6,460	6,430	-30	-550	-0.5	-7.9
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	28,840	27,220	26,710	-510	-2,130	-1.9	-7.4
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	15,040	14,260	14,210	-50	-830	-0.4	-5.5
Teachers and professors	13,800	12,960	12,500	-460	-1,300	-3.5	-9.4
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	10,750	9,770	9,580	-190	-1,170	-1.9	-10.9
Sales and service occupations	100,170	90,870	89,140	-1,730	-11,030	-1.9	-11.0
Wholesale, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	5,470	5,090	4,940	-150	-530	-2.9	-9.7
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	19,010	17,360	17,140	-220	-1,870	-1.3	-9.8
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	19,680	17,380	17,240	-140	-2,440	-0.8	-12.4
Occupations in protective services	5,480	4,960	4,840	-120	-640	-2.4	-11.7
Childcare and home support workers	16,180	14,910	14,540	-370	-1,640	-2.5	-10.1
Sales and service occupations (not elsewhere classified), including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	34,360	31,160	30,440	-720	-3,920	-2.3	-11.4
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	169,310	169,320	166,610	-2,710	-2,700	-1.6	-1.6
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	6,360	6,560	6,510	-50	150	-0.8	2.4
Construction trades	35,430	36,700	35,620	-1,080	190	-2.9	0.5
Other trades occupations	38,270	39,230	38,650	-580	380	-1.5	1.0
Transport and equipment operators	39,860	39,070	38,070	-1,000	-1,790	-2.6	-4.5
Trades helpers, construction and transportation labourers and related occupations	49,380	47,760	47,760	0	-1,620	0.0	-3.3

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

	January 2013	December 2013 ^P	January 2014 ^P	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014	December 2013 to January 2014	January 2013 to January 2014
Occupations unique to primary industry	39,240	37,090	36,730	-360	-2,510	-1.0	-6.4
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	50,910	47,280	43,810	-3,470	-7,100	-7.3	-13.9
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	24,350	23,100	19,800	-3,300	-4,550	-14.3	-18.7
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	26,560	24,180	24,010	-170	-2,550	-0.7	-9.6

^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 February will be released on April 17.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

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