

# Labour Force Survey, April 2014

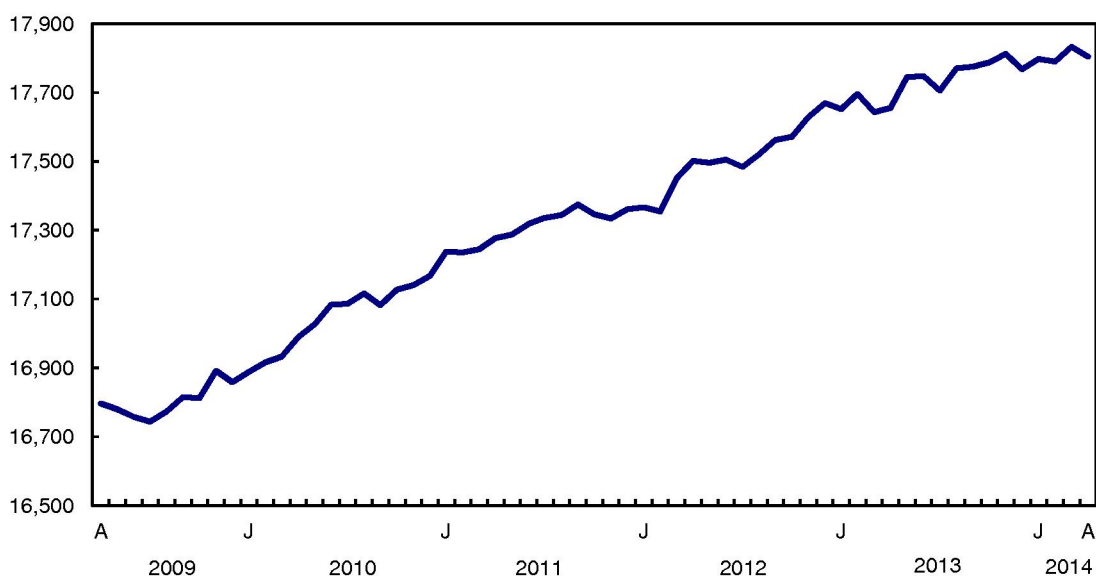
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Friday, May 9, 2014

Employment decreased by 29,000 in April, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.9% as the number of people participating in the labour market edged down. There has been little overall employment growth in Canada since August 2013.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of people working rose by 0.8% or 149,000, evenly split between part-time and full-time work.

## Chart 1 Employment

thousands



In April, employment was down in Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and in Prince Edward Island, while it increased in Saskatchewan.

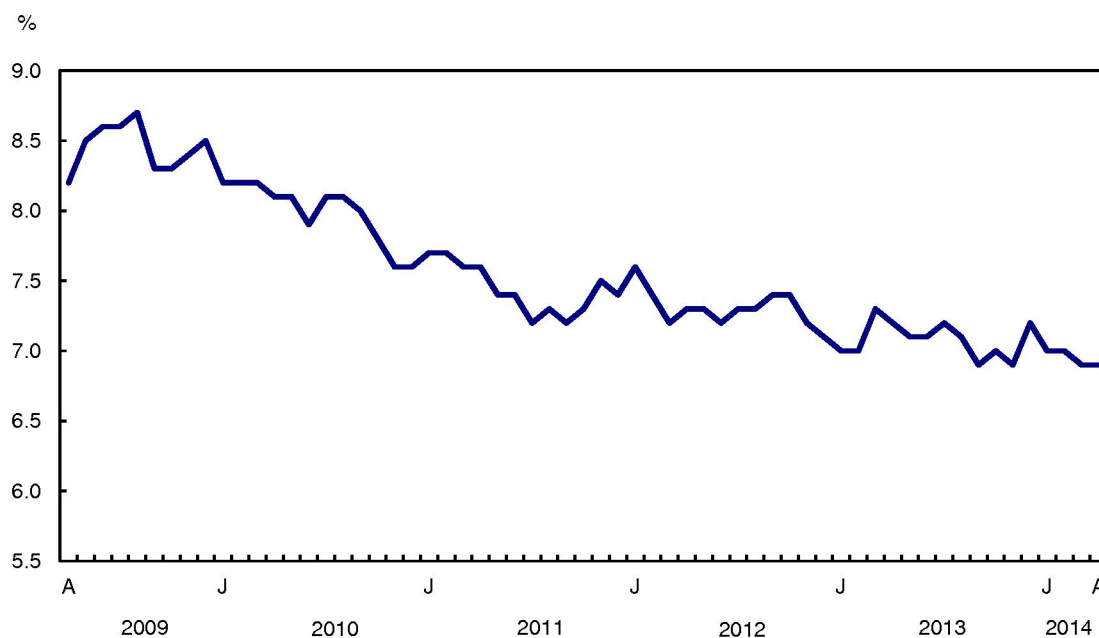
Employment declined among women aged 25 to 54 and youths aged 15 to 24, while it increased among women 55 and over.

In April, there were fewer people working in accommodation and food services, as well as finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. At the same time, employment increased in business, building and other support services.

The number of hours worked fell 1.1% on a year-over-year basis, driven by a decline in April 2014 as Good Friday fell in the survey reference week and a number of workers took extra vacation time that week.



**Chart 2**  
**Unemployment rate**



From April 2013 to April 2014, the participation rate fell from 66.5% to 66.1%, mainly the result of a decline in the participation rate of the population aged 25 to 54, the group most likely to participate in the labour market.

Adjusted to US concepts, the unemployment rate in Canada was 6.0% in April, down 0.2 percentage points from 12 months earlier. In the United States, the rate fell 1.2 percentage points over the same period to 6.3%.

### **Employment declines in Quebec and most of Atlantic Canada**

In Quebec, employment fell by 32,000 in April. Despite this decline, the unemployment rate remained at 7.6% as fewer people participated in the labour market. Compared with a year earlier, employment in this province was virtually unchanged.

In April, there were 5,400 fewer people working in New Brunswick and the unemployment rate increased 0.8 percentage points to 10.5%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was little changed.

Employment in Newfoundland and Labrador declined by 3,300 in April, and the unemployment rate was 12.1%. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in this province was virtually unchanged.

The number of people working in Prince Edward Island fell by 1,200 and the unemployment rate was 11.7%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was down 2,100 (-2.8%).

In Saskatchewan, there were 3,000 more people employed in April. At the same time, there were fewer people looking for work, pushing the unemployment rate down 1.1 percentage points to 3.4%. This was the lowest rate in the province since comparable data became available in 1976. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment in Saskatchewan was up 8,300 (+1.5%).

In April, employment was little changed in Ontario and the unemployment rate was 7.4%. On a year-over-year basis, employment in the province was up 74,000 (+1.1%), with most of the gains occurring at the beginning of the period.

### **Fewer women aged 25 to 54 and youths employed**

In April, employment among women aged 25 to 54 fell by 29,000, bringing employment for this group to a level similar to that of April 2013. Among men in this age group, there was little change in employment in April compared with both the previous month and one year earlier.

Among youths aged 15 to 24, employment declined by 27,000 in April, but the unemployment rate was little changed at 13.4% as fewer youths participated in the labour market. Compared with 12 months earlier, youth employment was little changed.

Employment increased by 29,000 for people aged 55 and over, mostly women. Compared with 12 months earlier, employment among people in this age group rose by 139,000 (+4.2%). These gains were mainly the result of a 3.3% growth in the population of this age group.

### **Industry perspective**

In April, there were 32,000 fewer people working in accommodation and food services, bringing employment in this industry down to a level similar to that of 12 months earlier.

Employment in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing fell by 19,000 in April. Employment in this industry was little changed compared with 12 months earlier.

Employment in business, building and other support services increased for the second consecutive month, up 26,000 in April, bringing employment gains in this industry to 38,000 (+5.5%) compared with 12 months earlier.

In April, there were 46,000 fewer people working as employees. On a year-over-year basis, the number of private sector employees increased by 1.7%, while the number of public sector employees edged down. Over the same period, self-employment was little changed.

### **Canada-United States comparison**

Compared with 12 months earlier, the participation rate (adjusted to US concepts) fell in both Canada and the United States. In Canada, the participation rate declined by 0.4 percentage points to 66.1%, and in the United States, the rate fell by 0.6 percentage points to 62.8%.

In April, the unemployment rate in Canada (adjusted to US concepts) was down 0.2 percentage points to 6.0% compared with 12 months earlier. Over the same period, the rate in the United States fell 1.2 percentage points to 6.3%. The decrease in the US unemployment rate was driven by the decline in the participation rate. This was also true in Canada, but to a lesser extent.

In the 12 months to April, the employment rate in Canada (adjusted to US concepts) declined by 0.3 percentage points to 62.1%. This contrasts with the United States, where the employment rate increased 0.3 percentage points to 58.9% over the same period.

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### Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for April 2014 are for the week of April 13 to 19.

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. For more information, see [Interpreting Monthly Changes in Employment from the Labour Force Survey](#). 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 "Data quality" section of the publication *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)*.

This analysis focuses on differences between estimates that are statistically significant at the 68% confidence level.

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, youths 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**

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
<b>Both sexes, 15 years and over</b>							
Population	28,924.1	28,965.1	...	41.0	376.4	0.1	1.3
Labour force	19,158.6	19,133.0	29.1	-25.6	118.0	-0.1	0.6
Employment	17,833.2	17,804.3	28.9	-28.9	149.2	-0.2	0.8
Full-time	14,456.4	14,425.5	39.2	-30.9	70.0	-0.2	0.5
Part-time	3,376.8	3,378.8	36.1	2.0	79.2	0.1	2.4
Unemployment	1,325.4	1,328.6	24.9	3.2	-31.3	0.2	-2.3
Participation rate	66.2	66.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.9	6.9	0.1	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	61.7	61.5	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	18.9	19.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	...	...
<b>Youths, 15 to 24 years</b>							
Population	4,432.0	4,429.5	...	-2.5	-21.7	-0.1	-0.5
Labour force	2,838.5	2,802.8	17.2	-35.7	-31.0	-1.3	-1.1
Employment	2,453.2	2,426.1	15.8	-27.1	2.1	-1.1	0.1
Full-time	1,282.0	1,248.3	18.6	-33.7	-41.5	-2.6	-3.2
Part-time	1,171.2	1,177.8	19.7	6.6	43.6	0.6	3.8
Unemployment	385.3	376.7	14.6	-8.6	-33.1	-2.2	-8.1
Participation rate	64.0	63.3	0.4	-0.7	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.6	13.4	0.5	-0.2	-1.1	...	...
Employment rate	55.4	54.8	0.4	-0.6	0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	47.7	48.5	0.7	0.8	1.7	...	...
<b>Men, 25 years and over</b>							
Population	11,996.4	12,018.3	...	21.9	202.4	0.2	1.7
Labour force	8,650.4	8,661.0	15.1	10.6	91.4	0.1	1.1
Employment	8,123.0	8,128.1	16.4	5.1	84.0	0.1	1.0
Full-time	7,448.2	7,482.4	22.0	34.2	64.9	0.5	0.9
Part-time	674.7	645.6	18.0	-29.1	19.0	-4.3	3.0
Unemployment	527.5	532.9	14.5	5.4	7.5	1.0	1.4
Participation rate	72.1	72.1	0.1	0.0	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.7	67.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Part-time rate	8.3	7.9	0.2	-0.4	0.1	...	...
<b>Women, 25 years and over</b>							
Population	12,495.7	12,517.3	...	21.6	195.8	0.2	1.6
Labour force	7,669.6	7,669.2	16.6	-0.4	57.6	0.0	0.8
Employment	7,257.0	7,250.2	16.4	-6.8	63.3	-0.1	0.9
Full-time	5,726.2	5,694.8	25.7	-31.4	46.6	-0.5	0.8
Part-time	1,530.8	1,555.4	24.0	24.6	16.7	1.6	1.1
Unemployment	412.6	419.0	13.3	6.4	-5.6	1.6	-1.3
Participation rate	61.4	61.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.5	0.2	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.1	57.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	21.1	21.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" 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. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

**Table 2**  
**Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS<sup>1</sup>) – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error <sup>2</sup>	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
<b>Class of worker</b>							
Employees	15,128.5	15,082.5	35.7	-46.0	143.1	-0.3	1.0
Self-employed	2,704.6	2,721.8	25.5	17.2	6.2	0.6	0.2
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,625.6	3,608.2	25.0	-17.4	-44.0	-0.5	-1.2
Private	11,502.9	11,474.3	37.9	-28.6	187.0	-0.2	1.7
<b>All industries</b>	<b>17,833.2</b>	<b>17,804.3</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>-28.9</b>	<b>149.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	<b>3,881.0</b>	<b>3,864.8</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>-16.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Agriculture	298.3	294.4	7.5	-3.9	-26.1	-1.3	-8.1
Natural resources <sup>3</sup>	387.2	380.4	7.4	-6.8	22.8	-1.8	6.4
Utilities	160.7	155.4	5.4	-5.3	20.8	-3.3	15.5
Construction	1,300.2	1,300.8	17.7	0.6	-16.0	0.0	-1.2
Manufacturing	1,734.5	1,733.7	19.6	-0.8	1.1	0.0	0.1
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	<b>13,952.2</b>	<b>13,939.6</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>-12.6</b>	<b>146.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Trade	2,694.3	2,706.6	24.5	12.3	22.4	0.5	0.8
Transportation and warehousing	895.4	900.5	14.2	5.1	46.8	0.6	5.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,129.4	1,110.0	16.8	-19.4	-11.7	-1.7	-1.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,373.6	1,363.8	18.6	-9.8	17.2	-0.7	1.3
Business, building and other support services	706.5	732.6	14.4	26.1	38.0	3.7	5.5
Educational services	1,281.1	1,274.1	16.2	-7.0	-15.9	-0.5	-1.2
Health care and social assistance	2,217.6	2,234.0	19.5	16.4	51.3	0.7	2.4
Information, culture and recreation	800.6	800.2	14.8	-0.4	19.3	0.0	2.5
Accommodation and food services	1,147.3	1,115.1	17.2	-32.2	-6.1	-2.8	-0.5
Other services	784.0	775.6	13.8	-8.4	28.3	-1.1	3.8
Public administration	922.4	927.2	13.0	4.8	-42.8	0.5	-4.4

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" 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. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

**Table 3**  
**Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
Population	429.1	428.7	...	-0.4	-0.8	-0.1	-0.2
Labour force	262.1	259.9	1.9	-2.2	-4.2	-0.8	-1.6
Employment	231.8	228.5	2.0	-3.3	-3.2	-1.4	-1.4
Full-time	197.3	193.2	2.4	-4.1	-5.0	-2.1	-2.5
Part-time	34.5	35.3	1.9	0.8	1.8	2.3	5.4
Unemployment	30.3	31.4	1.8	1.1	-1.0	3.6	-3.1
Participation rate	61.1	60.6	0.4	-0.5	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.6	12.1	0.6	0.5	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	54.0	53.3	0.5	-0.7	-0.6	...	...
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
Population	121.3	121.4	...	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.6
Labour force	83.9	82.6	0.6	-1.3	-2.0	-1.5	-2.4
Employment	74.1	72.9	0.7	-1.2	-2.1	-1.6	-2.8
Full-time	62.4	60.9	0.9	-1.5	-0.9	-2.4	-1.5
Part-time	11.7	12.0	0.7	0.3	-1.2	2.6	-9.1
Unemployment	9.9	9.7	0.7	-0.2	0.1	-2.0	1.0
Participation rate	69.2	68.0	0.5	-1.2	-2.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.8	11.7	0.8	-0.1	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	61.1	60.0	0.6	-1.1	-2.1	...	...
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
Population	781.2	780.8	...	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.0
Labour force	492.9	492.3	2.6	-0.6	-9.2	-0.1	-1.8
Employment	447.3	448.4	2.6	1.1	-7.9	0.2	-1.7
Full-time	360.1	363.3	3.5	3.2	-9.3	0.9	-2.5
Part-time	87.2	85.1	3.2	-2.1	1.3	-2.4	1.6
Unemployment	45.6	43.9	2.4	-1.7	-1.3	-3.7	-2.9
Participation rate	63.1	63.1	0.3	0.0	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.3	8.9	0.5	-0.4	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	57.3	57.4	0.3	0.1	-1.0	...	...
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
Population	620.3	620.3	...	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1
Labour force	394.8	392.2	2.2	-2.6	1.3	-0.7	0.3
Employment	356.3	350.9	2.4	-5.4	2.6	-1.5	0.7
Full-time	296.3	295.7	3.0	-0.6	3.2	-0.2	1.1
Part-time	60.0	55.2	2.6	-4.8	-0.6	-8.0	-1.1
Unemployment	38.4	41.3	2.3	2.9	-1.2	7.6	-2.8
Participation rate	63.6	63.2	0.4	-0.4	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.7	10.5	0.6	0.8	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	57.4	56.6	0.4	-0.8	0.4	...	...
<b>Quebec</b>							
Population	6,724.1	6,730.2	...	6.1	50.0	0.1	0.7
Labour force	4,379.1	4,347.4	15.1	-31.7	-16.3	-0.7	-0.4
Employment	4,047.8	4,015.8	15.2	-32.0	-4.8	-0.8	-0.1
Full-time	3,266.1	3,243.2	20.0	-22.9	-17.5	-0.7	-0.5
Part-time	781.7	772.6	18.3	-9.1	12.7	-1.2	1.7
Unemployment	331.3	331.6	13.2	0.3	-11.5	0.1	-3.4
Participation rate	65.1	64.6	0.2	-0.5	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.6	0.3	0.0	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	60.2	59.7	0.2	-0.5	-0.5	...	...

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

	March 2014	April 2014	Standard error <sup>1</sup>	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014	March to April 2014	April 2013 to April 2014
<b>Ontario</b>							
Population	11,298.6	11,313.9	...	15.3	140.1	0.1	1.3
Labour force	7,449.7	7,475.5	19.8	25.8	62.1	0.3	0.8
Employment	6,902.3	6,919.9	19.0	17.6	73.5	0.3	1.1
Full-time	5,599.4	5,625.2	26.6	25.8	92.3	0.5	1.7
Part-time	1,302.9	1,294.7	24.6	-8.2	-18.8	-0.6	-1.4
Unemployment	547.4	555.6	17.2	8.2	-11.4	1.5	-2.0
Participation rate	65.9	66.1	0.2	0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.3	7.4	0.2	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.1	61.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1	...	...
<b>Manitoba</b>							
Population	982.1	983.6	...	1.5	12.5	0.2	1.3
Labour force	667.1	666.7	2.7	-0.4	1.0	-0.1	0.2
Employment	629.3	627.4	2.7	-1.9	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
Full-time	508.9	505.0	3.7	-3.9	0.6	-0.8	0.1
Part-time	120.5	122.3	3.5	1.8	-0.9	1.5	-0.7
Unemployment	37.8	39.4	2.1	1.6	1.3	4.2	3.4
Participation rate	67.9	67.8	0.3	-0.1	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	64.1	63.8	0.3	-0.3	-0.8	...	...
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
Population	837.9	839.7	...	1.8	17.8	0.2	2.2
Labour force	584.4	580.7	2.5	-3.7	4.9	-0.6	0.9
Employment	558.3	561.3	2.6	3.0	8.3	0.5	1.5
Full-time	457.7	459.1	3.4	1.4	6.5	0.3	1.4
Part-time	100.6	102.2	3.1	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.8
Unemployment	26.1	19.5	1.8	-6.6	-3.3	-25.3	-14.5
Participation rate	69.7	69.2	0.3	-0.5	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.5	3.4	0.3	-1.1	-0.6	...	...
Employment rate	66.6	66.8	0.3	0.2	-0.5	...	...
<b>Alberta</b>							
Population	3,243.9	3,254.9	...	11.0	109.2	0.3	3.5
Labour force	2,377.7	2,370.7	9.3	-7.0	84.7	-0.3	3.7
Employment	2,261.2	2,258.3	9.9	-2.9	72.3	-0.1	3.3
Full-time	1,895.2	1,871.9	12.6	-23.3	10.4	-1.2	0.6
Part-time	366.0	386.4	11.2	20.4	62.0	5.6	19.1
Unemployment	116.5	112.4	7.1	-4.1	12.3	-3.5	12.3
Participation rate	73.3	72.8	0.3	-0.5	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.7	0.3	-0.2	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	69.7	69.4	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	...	...
<b>British Columbia</b>							
Population	3,885.6	3,891.6	...	6.0	46.9	0.2	1.2
Labour force	2,466.8	2,464.9	10.5	-1.9	-4.3	-0.1	-0.2
Employment	2,324.7	2,321.0	10.4	-3.7	10.9	-0.2	0.5
Full-time	1,813.0	1,808.0	14.6	-5.0	-10.2	-0.3	-0.6
Part-time	511.7	513.0	13.8	1.3	21.1	0.3	4.3
Unemployment	142.1	143.8	8.6	1.7	-15.3	1.2	-9.6
Participation rate	63.5	63.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.8	0.3	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Employment rate	59.8	59.6	0.3	-0.2	-0.5	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" 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. The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.



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 282-0225.

**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 April 19. 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 June 6.

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

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