

Employment Insurance, February 2017

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Thursday, April 20, 2017

The number of regular Employment Insurance (EI) beneficiaries fell by 11,700 (-2.1%) to 554,200 in February, similar to the level of June 2016—just before the administrative changes that took effect last July. Information on the [2016 EI changes](#) is available on Employment and Social Development Canada's website.

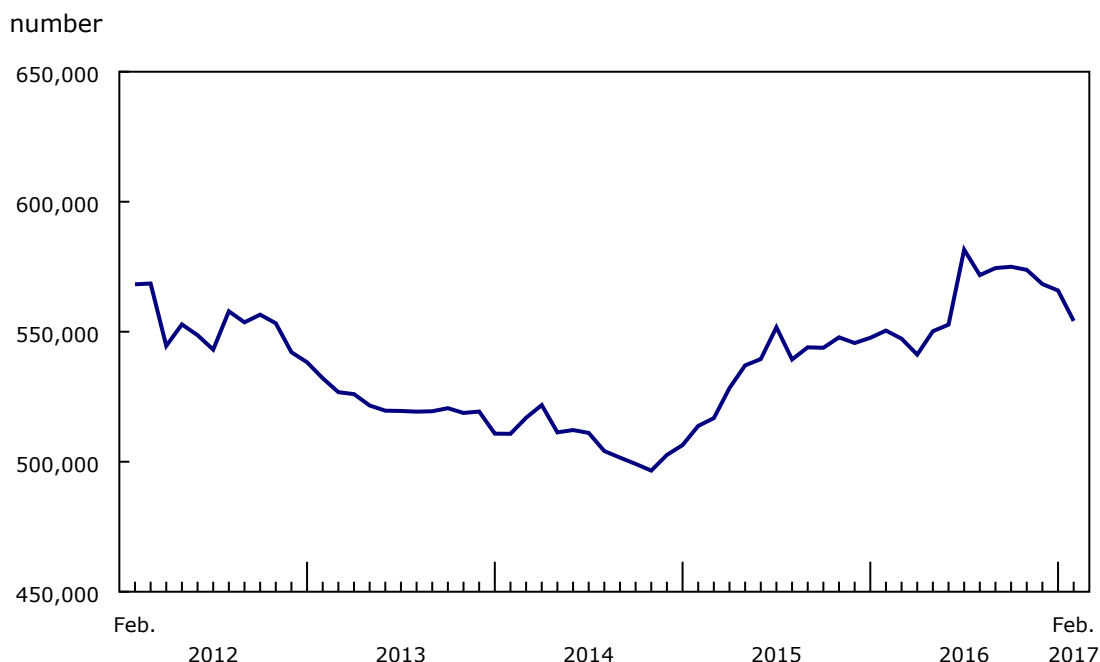
The decrease in the number of beneficiaries in February 2017 was spread among the provinces in Central and Western Canada, namely Saskatchewan (-4.1%), Alberta (-3.6%), Quebec (-3.4%) and British Columbia (-2.1%), as well as Ontario (-1.8%) and Manitoba (-1.8%).

In contrast, the number of beneficiaries increased in Nova Scotia (+2.6%) and Prince Edward Island (+1.5%), while it was little changed in Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick.

Compared with February 2016, the number of regular EI beneficiaries in Canada edged up 0.7%.

In general, changes in the number of EI beneficiaries reflect various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, those going back to work and those no longer receiving regular benefits.

Chart 1 Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries



Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0022](#).

Provincial and sub-provincial overview

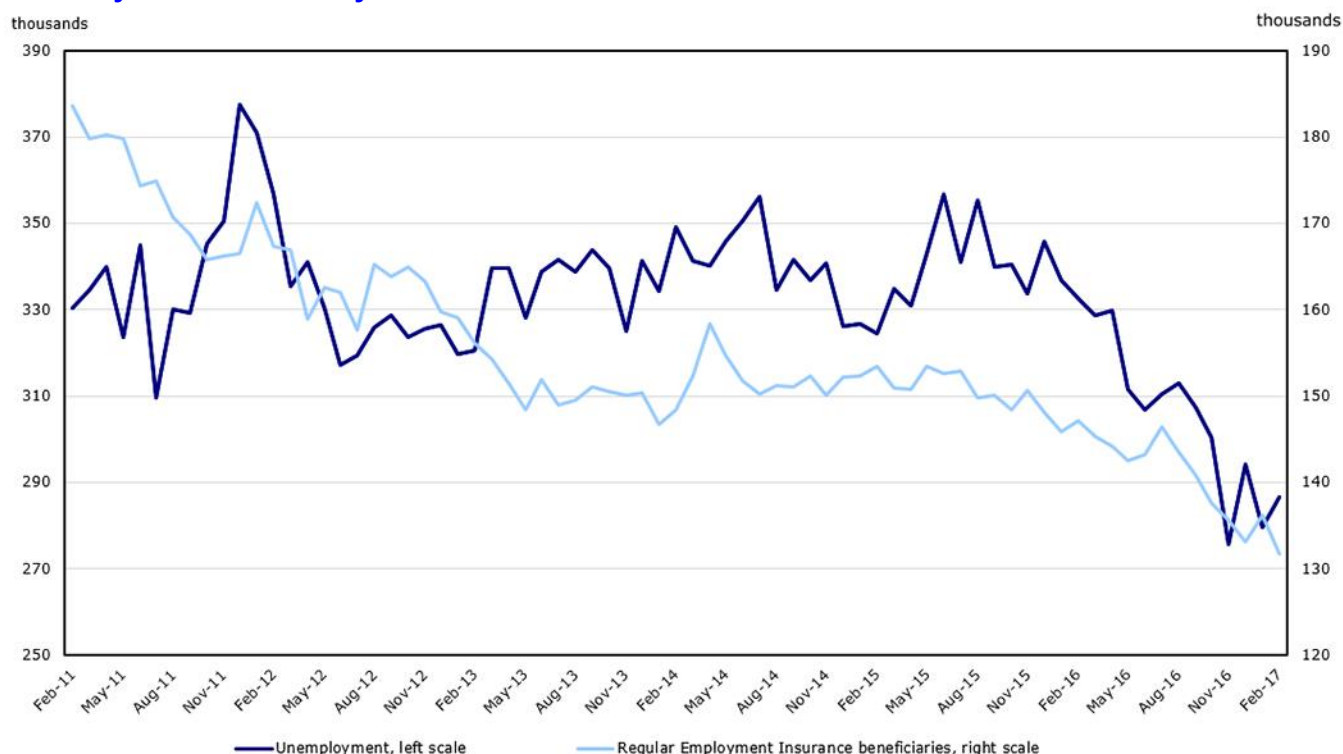
The number of EI recipients in Saskatchewan fell for the fourth consecutive month, down 4.1% to 18,000 in February. The decrease was spread across the province, including the census metropolitan areas (CMAs) of Saskatoon (-3.3%) and Regina (-2.8%). In the 12 months to February, the number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan was up 13.5%.



In Alberta, 88,500 people received benefits in February, down 3.6%. This was the second consecutive monthly decline for the province. All areas recorded decreases, including the CMAs of Calgary (-3.5%) and Edmonton (-1.4%). On a year-over-year basis, the number of beneficiaries in Alberta rose by 31.8%.

The number of EI beneficiaries in Quebec fell by 3.4% to 131,700 in February—the lowest level since the start of the series in 1997. The most recent downward trend in Quebec's beneficiaries, which began at the end of 2015, coincides with a downward trend in unemployment. All the province's CMAs recorded declines, ranging from 2.0% in Gatineau to 8.3% in Sherbrooke and in Trois-Rivières. In Montréal, the number of beneficiaries fell by 3.9% to 49,200, partly offsetting an increase from the previous month. In the 12 months to February, the number of beneficiaries in Quebec was down 10.5%.

Infographic 1 – Unemployment and regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries, Quebec, February 2011 to February 2017



Note: Unemployment estimates from the Labour Force Survey.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey and Employment Insurance Statistics, CANSIM tables 282-0087 and 276-0022.

In British Columbia, 53,500 people received benefits in February, down 2.1% from January. While the decline was spread across the province, most of it was recorded in areas outside the CMAs. Among the CMAs, however, Abbotsford–Mission showed the largest decrease (-5.3%), followed by Kelowna (-2.7%). In Vancouver, 17,300 people received benefits in February, unchanged from the previous month. Compared with 12 months earlier, the number of beneficiaries in British Columbia edged down (-0.9%).

Ontario had 134,900 people receiving benefits in February, down 1.8% from the previous month. The majority of CMAs showed decreases, most notably Thunder Bay (-5.4%). In contrast, the number of beneficiaries rose in Oshawa (+3.5%) and Windsor (+1.3%). In Toronto, the number of EI recipients was little changed at 49,600. In the 12 months to February, Ontario recorded a decrease of 7.1% in the number of beneficiaries.

The number of EI beneficiaries in Manitoba also fell by 1.8%, to 15,700 in February. Most of the decline was recorded outside the CMA of Winnipeg. In the 12 months to February, the number of EI recipients in the province was virtually unchanged.

In Nova Scotia, 29,500 people received benefits, up 2.6% in February, with nearly all the increase occurring outside the CMA of Halifax and the census agglomerations. Compared with February 2016, the number of beneficiaries in Nova Scotia was up 5.9%.

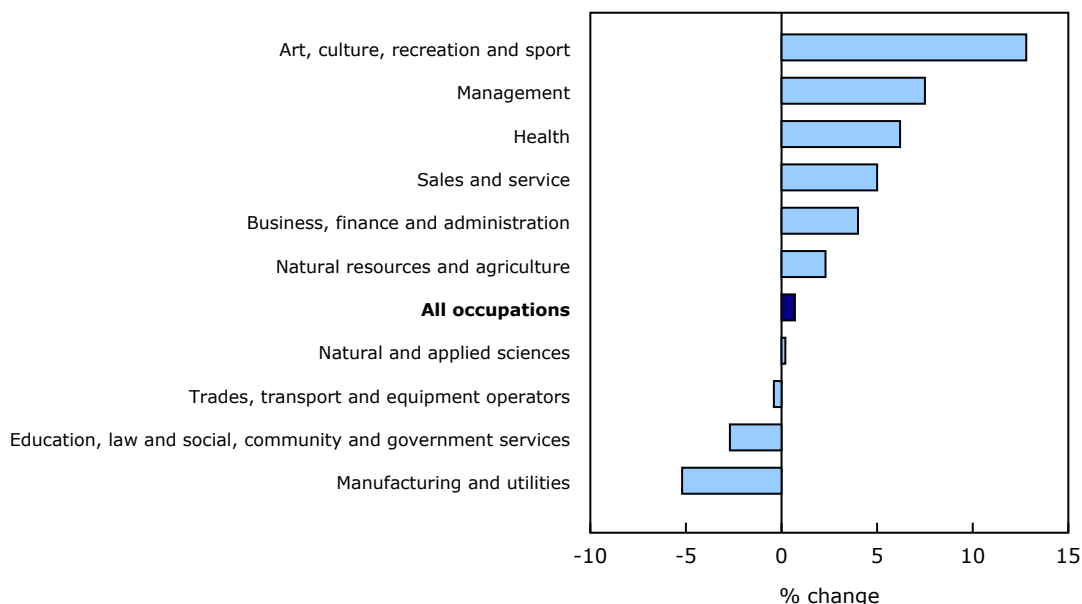
The number of EI recipients in Prince Edward Island rose by 1.5% to 8,100 in February, continuing an upward trend that began at the end of 2014. Compared with February 2016, the number of beneficiaries in the province was up 5.6%.

There was virtually no change in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, but the CMA of St. John's recorded a small increase (+1.0%) in the number of EI recipients. Likewise, little change was recorded in New Brunswick overall, but increases were observed in the CMAs of Saint John (+3.5%) and Moncton (+1.3%).

Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

In the 12 months to February, the number of EI beneficiaries rose in 6 of the 10 major occupational groups, most notably art, culture, recreation and sport (+12.8%), management (+7.5%) and health (+6.2%). On the other hand, there were fewer beneficiaries whose last job was in manufacturing and utilities (-5.2%) and in education, law and social, community and government services (-2.7%).

Chart 2
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, February 2016 to February 2017



Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0043](#).

Employment Insurance claims

Following a decrease in January, EI claims rose by 1.7% (+3,800) to 230,000 in February. Compared with 12 months earlier, EI claims were down 4.3%.

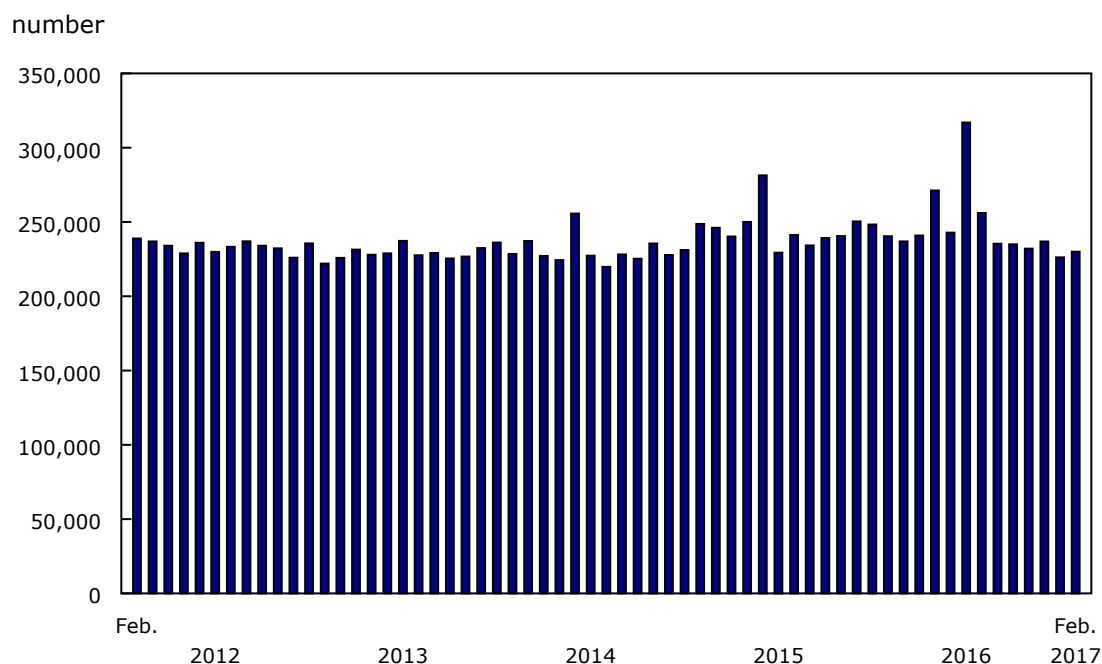
The largest monthly increase in claims in February was recorded in Newfoundland and Labrador (+21.8%). This was also the second consecutive monthly increase and may reflect the impact of the end of some major development projects. Employment in the province has been on a downward trend since early 2013.

The number of claims also rose in Manitoba (+4.9%), Saskatchewan (+4.9%), New Brunswick (+4.4%), Quebec (+2.1%) and Prince Edward Island (+2.1%). Overall, claims in most of these provinces have been trending downward in recent months. In Quebec, claims have been edging down slightly.

On the other hand, claims fell in Nova Scotia (-1.8%), while they were essentially unchanged in Alberta and Ontario. Similarly, British Columbia showed no change in claims in February, following a marked decrease in January.

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

Chart 3
Employment Insurance claims



Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0004](#).



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Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971

While the Employment Insurance program has undergone various changes since its inception in 1940, significant modifications were introduced in the 1971 *Unemployment Insurance Act*. The aim of this Act was to help Canadians cope with interruptions in earnings and assist them in entering or re-entering the labour market. The legislation provided greater coverage, eased eligibility, and added new, special benefits in case of sickness, maternity and retirement.

To be eligible for regular benefits (benefits related to job loss), claimants needed to show they were unemployed and had worked a minimum of eight weeks in insurable employment during the qualifying period. Regular benefits became payable after a two-week waiting period if the claimant was unable to find employment and was available for and capable of work.

In 1970, prior to the 1971 *Unemployment Insurance Act*, the total number of beneficiaries (recipients of all income support benefits, regular and special) was 385,000. By 1975, the number had increased 60% to 617,000. In 2016, it was 821,000.

For more information, see "*Unemployment Insurance Statistics, 1995*", Catalogue no. 73-202S, and *Historical Statistics of Canada, 1983 (11-516-X)*.

Note to readers

Concepts and methodology

The analysis presented here focuses on people who received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits related to job loss. Claims data pertain to initial and renewal claims received for any type of EI benefits, including special benefits.

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 most recent series of changes was introduced in July 2016.

Regular EI benefits are available to eligible individuals who lose their jobs and who are available for and able to work, but cannot find a job. To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim.

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits and should not be confused with Labour Force Survey (LFS) data, which provide estimates of the total number of unemployed people. 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 [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Numbers in the Daily text are rounded to the nearest hundred.

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 February 12 to 18. This period coincides with the reference week of the LFS. However, claims data are for the entire month.

Geographical definitions

A census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA) is formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a population centre. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000. A CA must have a population of at least 10,000. See [Standard Geographical Classification 2011 – definitions](#) for more information.

Next release

Data on Employment Insurance for March will be released on May 18.

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

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
	number		change		% change		
Canada							
Both sexes	550,440	565,850	554,160	-11,690	3,720	-2.1	0.7
15 to 24 years	55,270	55,720	53,730	-1,990	-1,540	-3.6	-2.8
25 to 54 years	364,780	369,830	361,450	-8,380	-3,330	-2.3	-0.9
55 years and over	130,390	140,310	138,990	-1,320	8,600	-0.9	6.6
Men	355,390	364,150	352,920	-11,230	-2,470	-3.1	-0.7
15 to 24 years	42,150	41,300	39,340	-1,960	-2,810	-4.7	-6.7
25 to 54 years	230,130	233,560	225,650	-7,910	-4,480	-3.4	-1.9
55 years and over	83,110	89,290	87,930	-1,360	4,820	-1.5	5.8
Women	195,050	201,700	201,240	-460	6,190	-0.2	3.2
15 to 24 years	13,120	14,410	14,390	-20	1,270	-0.1	9.7
25 to 54 years	134,650	136,270	135,790	-480	1,140	-0.4	0.8
55 years and over	47,280	51,010	51,060	50	3,780	0.1	8.0
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	34,780	37,390	37,340	-50	2,560	-0.1	7.4
15 to 24 years	3,150	3,590	3,580	-10	430	-0.3	13.7
25 to 54 years	20,840	22,030	22,030	0	1,190	0.0	5.7
55 years and over	10,800	11,770	11,730	-40	930	-0.3	8.6
Men	21,810	22,980	22,820	-160	1,010	-0.7	4.6
Women	12,970	14,410	14,520	110	1,550	0.8	12.0
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	7,680	7,990	8,110	120	430	1.5	5.6
15 to 24 years	930	1,070	1,070	0	140	0.0	15.1
25 to 54 years	4,520	4,530	4,610	80	90	1.8	2.0
55 years and over	2,240	2,390	2,430	40	190	1.7	8.5
Men	4,760	4,850	4,900	50	140	1.0	2.9
Women	2,930	3,150	3,210	60	280	1.9	9.6
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	27,880	28,780	29,520	740	1,640	2.6	5.9
15 to 24 years	2,800	3,240	3,290	50	490	1.5	17.5
25 to 54 years	17,690	17,850	18,390	540	700	3.0	4.0
55 years and over	7,390	7,690	7,830	140	440	1.8	6.0
Men	18,300	18,640	18,960	320	660	1.7	3.6
Women	9,580	10,140	10,550	410	970	4.0	10.1
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	32,930	33,730	33,830	100	900	0.3	2.7
15 to 24 years	3,740	4,740	4,640	-100	900	-2.1	24.1
25 to 54 years	19,750	19,170	19,330	160	-420	0.8	-2.1
55 years and over	9,440	9,820	9,860	40	420	0.4	4.4
Men	21,540	21,880	21,920	40	380	0.2	1.8
Women	11,400	11,850	11,910	60	510	0.5	4.5
Quebec							
Both sexes	147,170	136,270	131,690	-4,580	-15,480	-3.4	-10.5
15 to 24 years	13,420	11,390	10,650	-740	-2,770	-6.5	-20.6
25 to 54 years	96,890	87,960	84,700	-3,260	-12,190	-3.7	-12.6
55 years and over	36,860	36,920	36,330	-590	-530	-1.6	-1.4
Men	95,700	88,130	84,120	-4,010	-11,580	-4.6	-12.1
Women	51,470	48,140	47,570	-570	-3,900	-1.2	-7.6
Ontario							
Both sexes	145,250	137,360	134,880	-2,480	-10,370	-1.8	-7.1
15 to 24 years	12,560	11,760	11,390	-370	-1,170	-3.1	-9.3
25 to 54 years	101,060	94,200	92,410	-1,790	-8,650	-1.9	-8.6
55 years and over	31,640	31,390	31,080	-310	-560	-1.0	-1.8
Men	88,870	84,480	82,110	-2,370	-6,760	-2.8	-7.6
Women	56,390	52,880	52,770	-110	-3,620	-0.2	-6.4

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

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
Manitoba							
Both sexes	15,640	15,950	15,660	-290	20	-1.8	0.1
15 to 24 years	2,330	2,280	2,230	-50	-100	-2.2	-4.3
25 to 54 years	10,240	10,520	10,310	-210	70	-2.0	0.7
55 years and over	3,080	3,150	3,120	-30	40	-1.0	1.3
Men	10,940	10,860	10,560	-300	-380	-2.8	-3.5
Women	4,700	5,090	5,100	10	400	0.2	8.5
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	15,900	18,810	18,040	-770	2,140	-4.1	13.5
15 to 24 years	2,430	2,640	2,550	-90	120	-3.4	4.9
25 to 54 years	10,120	12,010	11,690	-320	1,570	-2.7	15.5
55 years and over	3,360	4,170	3,800	-370	440	-8.9	13.1
Men	11,330	13,400	12,980	-420	1,650	-3.1	14.6
Women	4,580	5,410	5,060	-350	480	-6.5	10.5
Alberta							
Both sexes	67,110	91,800	88,470	-3,330	21,360	-3.6	31.8
15 to 24 years	8,390	9,470	8,940	-530	550	-5.6	6.6
25 to 54 years	46,400	63,360	60,680	-2,680	14,280	-4.2	30.8
55 years and over	12,310	18,970	18,860	-110	6,550	-0.6	53.2
Men	46,790	62,970	59,740	-3,230	12,950	-5.1	27.7
Women	20,320	28,830	28,730	-100	8,410	-0.3	41.4
British Columbia							
Both sexes	53,990	54,680	53,530	-1,150	-460	-2.1	-0.9
15 to 24 years	5,320	5,160	5,010	-150	-310	-2.9	-5.8
25 to 54 years	35,750	36,040	35,110	-930	-640	-2.6	-1.8
55 years and over	12,910	13,480	13,410	-70	500	-0.5	3.9
Men	33,940	33,980	32,780	-1,200	-1,160	-3.5	-3.4
Women	20,040	20,700	20,740	40	700	0.2	3.5
Yukon							
Both sexes	750	750	710	-40	-40	-5.3	-5.3
15 to 24 years	80	80	70	-10	-10	-12.5	-12.5
25 to 54 years	500	490	460	-30	-40	-6.1	-8.0
55 years and over	160	180	170	-10	10	-5.6	6.3
Men	510	500	470	-30	-40	-6.0	-7.8
Women	240	260	240	-20	0	-7.7	0.0
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	680	790	770	-20	90	-2.5	13.2
15 to 24 years	60	90	90	0	30	0.0	50.0
25 to 54 years	500	570	560	-10	60	-1.8	12.0
55 years and over	130	130	130	0	0	0.0	0.0
Men	480	520	520	0	40	0.0	8.3
Women	200	270	250	-20	50	-7.4	25.0
Nunavut							
Both sexes	400	500	500	0	100	0.0	25.0
15 to 24 years	50	70	70	0	20	0.0	40.0
25 to 54 years	320	390	390	0	70	0.0	21.9
55 years and over	40	40	40	0	0	0.0	0.0
Men	280	320	320	0	40	0.0	14.3
Women	130	180	190	10	60	5.6	46.2

^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, the Job Creation Partnerships Program and the Self-employment Program.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0022](#).

Table 2
Initial and renewal claims received, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
	number		change		% change		
Canada	240,410	226,180	230,000	3,820	-10,410	1.7	-4.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,810	8,130	9,900	1,770	1,090	21.8	12.4
Prince Edward Island	2,410	2,360	2,410	50	0	2.1	0.0
Nova Scotia	9,260	9,360	9,190	-170	-70	-1.8	-0.8
New Brunswick	10,230	9,580	10,000	420	-230	4.4	-2.2
Quebec	67,300	63,600	64,930	1,330	-2,370	2.1	-3.5
Ontario	68,240	67,900	67,430	-470	-810	-0.7	-1.2
Manitoba	8,050	7,720	8,100	380	50	4.9	0.6
Saskatchewan	7,260	7,090	7,440	350	180	4.9	2.5
Alberta	32,930	24,870	25,030	160	-7,900	0.6	-24.0
British Columbia	25,030	24,650	24,660	10	-370	0.0	-1.5
Yukon	280	290	280	-10	0	-3.4	0.0
Northwest Territories	300	300	310	10	10	3.3	3.3
Nunavut	200	190	200	10	0	5.3	0.0

^P preliminary

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0004](#).

Table 3
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by census metropolitan category² – Seasonally adjusted

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
	number		change		% change		
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Census metropolitan areas	4,580	5,150	5,200	50	620	1.0	13.5
St. John's	4,580	5,150	5,200	50	620	1.0	13.5
Census agglomerations	3,500	3,890	3,880	-10	380	-0.3	10.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	26,700	28,350	28,250	-100	1,550	-0.4	5.8
Prince Edward Island							
Census agglomerations	3,030	3,070	3,120	50	90	1.6	3.0
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	4,660	4,920	4,990	70	330	1.4	7.1
Nova Scotia							
Census metropolitan areas	5,380	5,620	5,640	20	260	0.4	4.8
Halifax	5,380	5,620	5,640	20	260	0.4	4.8
Census agglomerations	9,230	9,190	9,210	20	-20	0.2	-0.2
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	13,270	13,970	14,670	700	1,400	5.0	10.6
New Brunswick							
Census metropolitan areas	6,020	5,990	6,130	140	110	2.3	1.8
Moncton	3,290	3,170	3,210	40	-80	1.3	-2.4
Saint John	2,730	2,820	2,920	100	190	3.5	7.0
Census agglomerations	6,910	7,070	7,010	-60	100	-0.8	1.4
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	20,000	20,670	20,690	20	690	0.1	3.5
Quebec							
Census metropolitan areas	79,000	72,690	69,920	-2,770	-9,080	-3.8	-11.5
Montréal	54,770	51,160	49,180	-1,980	-5,590	-3.9	-10.2
Ottawa–Gatineau (Quebec part)	4,140	3,570	3,500	-70	-640	-2.0	-15.5
Québec	9,760	8,760	8,560	-200	-1,200	-2.3	-12.3
Saguenay	4,150	3,750	3,670	-80	-480	-2.1	-11.6
Sherbrooke	3,450	3,150	2,890	-260	-560	-8.3	-16.2
Trois-Rivières	2,730	2,300	2,110	-190	-620	-8.3	-22.7
Census agglomerations	20,810	18,560	17,970	-590	-2,840	-3.2	-13.6
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	47,350	45,020	43,800	-1,220	-3,550	-2.7	-7.5
Ontario							
Census metropolitan areas	104,500	97,310	96,350	-960	-8,150	-1.0	-7.8
Barrie	2,450	2,270	2,190	-80	-260	-3.5	-10.6
Brantford	1,820	1,800	1,740	-60	-80	-3.3	-4.4
Greater Sudbury	2,830	2,950	2,820	-130	-10	-4.4	-0.4
Guelph	1,170	1,220	1,230	10	60	0.8	5.1
Hamilton	6,690	6,740	6,670	-70	-20	-1.0	-0.3
Kingston	1,630	1,550	1,490	-60	-140	-3.9	-8.6
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,610	4,420	4,350	-70	-260	-1.6	-5.6
London	4,850	4,570	4,540	-30	-310	-0.7	-6.4
Oshawa	4,570	3,700	3,830	130	-740	3.5	-16.2
Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part)	7,540	6,800	6,650	-150	-890	-2.2	-11.8
Peterborough	1,450	1,260	1,250	-10	-200	-0.8	-13.8
St. Catharines–Niagara	5,250	5,370	5,200	-170	-50	-3.2	-1.0
Thunder Bay	1,730	1,670	1,580	-90	-150	-5.4	-8.7
Toronto	54,220	49,890	49,640	-250	-4,580	-0.5	-8.4
Windsor	3,680	3,110	3,150	40	-530	1.3	-14.4
Census agglomerations	17,440	16,590	16,060	-530	-1,380	-3.2	-7.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	23,310	23,460	22,470	-990	-840	-4.2	-3.6

Table 3 - continued

Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by census metropolitan category² – Seasonally adjusted

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
Manitoba							
Census metropolitan areas	8,030	7,840	7,770	-70	-260	-0.9	-3.2
Winnipeg	8,030	7,840	7,770	-70	-260	-0.9	-3.2
Census agglomerations	1,160	1,140	1,110	-30	-50	-2.6	-4.3
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	6,450	6,970	6,770	-200	320	-2.9	5.0
Saskatchewan							
Census metropolitan areas	5,480	6,680	6,460	-220	980	-3.3	17.9
Regina	1,990	2,170	2,110	-60	120	-2.8	6.0
Saskatoon	3,490	4,510	4,360	-150	870	-3.3	24.9
Census agglomerations	3,210	3,600	3,370	-230	160	-6.4	5.0
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	7,220	8,530	8,200	-330	980	-3.9	13.6
Alberta							
Census metropolitan areas	43,350	61,630	60,130	-1,500	16,780	-2.4	38.7
Calgary	21,760	31,070	29,990	-1,080	8,230	-3.5	37.8
Edmonton	21,590	30,560	30,140	-420	8,550	-1.4	39.6
Census agglomerations	11,620	14,450	13,430	-1,020	1,810	-7.1	15.6
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	12,130	15,720	14,910	-810	2,780	-5.2	22.9
British Columbia							
Census metropolitan areas	26,930	25,700	25,440	-260	-1,490	-1.0	-5.5
Abbotsford–Mission	2,240	2,430	2,300	-130	60	-5.3	2.7
Kelowna	2,950	3,350	3,260	-90	310	-2.7	10.5
Vancouver	18,830	17,340	17,340	0	-1,490	0.0	-7.9
Victoria	2,920	2,570	2,540	-30	-380	-1.2	-13.0
Census agglomerations	15,570	16,280	15,720	-560	150	-3.4	1.0
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	11,480	12,700	12,370	-330	890	-2.6	7.8

^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, the Job Creation Partnerships Program and the Self-employment Program.

2. 2011 Standard Geographical Classification.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0034](#).

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

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
	number		change		% change		
All occupations	550,440	565,850	554,160	-11,690	3,720	-2.1	0.7
Management occupations	33,640	36,000	36,150	150	2,510	0.4	7.5
Senior management occupations	2,880	3,110	3,120	10	240	0.3	8.3
Specialized middle management occupations	11,520	12,860	12,910	50	1,390	0.4	12.1
Middle management occupations in retail and wholesale trade and customer services	11,460	12,090	12,230	140	770	1.2	6.7
Middle management occupations in trades, transportation, production and utilities	7,780	7,940	7,890	-50	110	-0.6	1.4
Business, finance and administration occupations	57,990	60,920	60,330	-590	2,340	-1.0	4.0
Professional occupations in business and finance	6,600	7,190	7,120	-70	520	-1.0	7.9
Administrative and financial supervisors and administrative occupations	23,520	25,480	25,170	-310	1,650	-1.2	7.0
Finance, insurance and related business administrative occupations	2,110	2,330	2,310	-20	200	-0.9	9.5
Office support occupations	17,180	17,450	17,440	-10	260	-0.1	1.5
Distribution, tracking and scheduling co-ordination occupations	8,580	8,480	8,290	-190	-290	-2.2	-3.4
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	32,780	33,540	32,850	-690	70	-2.1	0.2
Professional occupations in natural and applied sciences	9,630	9,950	9,790	-160	160	-1.6	1.7
Technical occupations related to natural and applied sciences	23,150	23,590	23,060	-530	-90	-2.2	-0.4
Health occupations	7,590	8,000	8,060	60	470	0.8	6.2
Professional occupations in nursing	750	780	800	20	50	2.6	6.7
Professional occupations in health (except nursing)	550	610	610	0	60	0.0	10.9
Technical occupations in health	2,790	2,870	2,880	10	90	0.3	3.2
Assisting occupations in support of health services	3,490	3,740	3,770	30	280	0.8	8.0
Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	44,180	42,860	42,980	120	-1,200	0.3	-2.7
Professional occupations in education services	12,430	12,150	12,080	-70	-350	-0.6	-2.8
Professional occupations in law and social, community and government services	5,640	5,390	5,370	-20	-270	-0.4	-4.8
Paraprofessional occupations in legal, social, community and education services	9,590	9,120	9,250	130	-340	1.4	-3.5
Occupations in front-line public protection services	710	740	740	0	30	0.0	4.2
Care providers and educational, legal and public protection support occupations	15,810	15,450	15,530	80	-280	0.5	-1.8
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	8,370	9,140	9,440	300	1,070	3.3	12.8
Professional occupations in art and culture	1,760	1,860	1,930	70	170	3.8	9.7
Technical occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	6,600	7,270	7,510	240	910	3.3	13.8
Sales and service occupations	83,270	87,980	87,460	-520	4,190	-0.6	5.0
Retail sales supervisors and specialized sales occupations	4,590	4,700	4,640	-60	50	-1.3	1.1
Service supervisors and specialized service occupations	15,620	16,720	16,730	10	1,110	0.1	7.1
Sales representatives and salespersons - wholesale and retail trade	12,060	12,620	12,520	-100	460	-0.8	3.8
Service representatives and other customer and personal services occupations	22,020	22,990	22,680	-310	660	-1.3	3.0
Sales support occupations	7,820	8,170	8,110	-60	290	-0.7	3.7
Service support and other service occupations, n.e.c.	21,160	22,780	22,780	0	1,620	0.0	7.7
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	192,750	201,020	191,940	-9,080	-810	-4.5	-0.4
Industrial, electrical and construction trades	72,750	76,660	74,140	-2,520	1,390	-3.3	1.9
Maintenance and equipment operation trades	20,690	20,150	19,800	-350	-890	-1.7	-4.3
Other installers, repairers and servicers and material handlers	10,920	10,800	10,670	-130	-250	-1.2	-2.3
Transport and heavy equipment operation and related maintenance occupations	44,780	46,070	43,980	-2,090	-800	-4.5	-1.8
Trades helpers, construction labourers and related occupations	43,610	47,340	43,350	-3,990	-260	-8.4	-0.6

Table 4 - continued

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

	February 2016	January 2017 ^P	February 2017 ^P	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017	January to February 2017	February 2016 to February 2017
Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	37,430	38,490	38,290	-200	860	-0.5	2.3
Supervisors and technical occupations in natural resources, agriculture and related production	8,030	8,110	8,150	40	120	0.5	1.5
Workers in natural resources, agriculture and related production	14,850	14,890	14,930	40	80	0.3	0.5
Harvesting, landscaping and natural resources labourers	14,550	15,490	15,220	-270	670	-1.7	4.6
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	46,750	45,200	44,330	-870	-2,420	-1.9	-5.2
Processing, manufacturing and utilities supervisors and central control operators	3,150	3,410	3,270	-140	120	-4.1	3.8
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and related production workers	12,780	13,060	13,010	-50	230	-0.4	1.8
Assemblers in manufacturing	8,190	6,790	6,470	-320	-1,720	-4.7	-21.0
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	22,630	21,940	21,580	-360	-1,050	-1.6	-4.6

^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. National Occupational Classification 2011.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0043](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [276-0003](#), [276-0004](#), [276-0011](#), [276-0017](#), [276-0018](#), [276-0020 to 276-0022](#), [276-0033 to 276-0035](#), [276-0042](#) and [276-0043](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2604](#).

More information about the concepts and use of Employment Insurance statistics is available online in the *Guide to Employment Insurance Statistics* ([73-506-G](#)).

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

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