

# Employment Insurance, March 2018

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Thursday, May 24, 2018

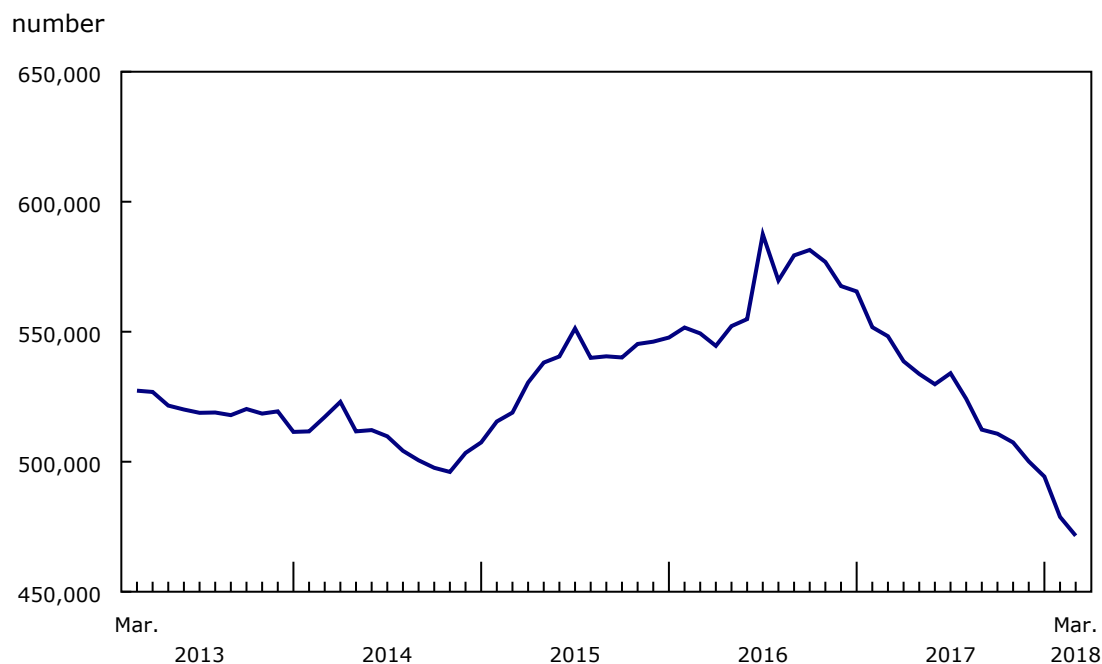
In March, 471,500 people received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, down 7,300 (-1.5%) from February. The decline continues a downward trend in the number of beneficiaries that began in the autumn of 2016.

There were fewer beneficiaries in six provinces, led by British Columbia (-3.2%), Quebec (-2.6%) and Alberta (-2.4%). Smaller declines occurred in Manitoba (-1.6%), New Brunswick (-1.2%) and Ontario (-1.2%). The number of recipients rose slightly in Nova Scotia (+1.4%) and Prince Edward Island (+1.0%), while there was little change in the other provinces.

In the 12 months to March, the number of EI recipients in Canada fell by 76,700 (-14.0%). Over the same period, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) showed the unemployment rate declining by 0.8 percentage points to 5.8%, matching a record low since comparable data became available in 1976.

In general, variations in the number of beneficiaries can reflect changes in the circumstances in a number of different groups, including those becoming beneficiaries, those going back to work, those exhausting their regular benefits, and those no longer receiving benefits for other reasons.

**Chart 1**  
**Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries**



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

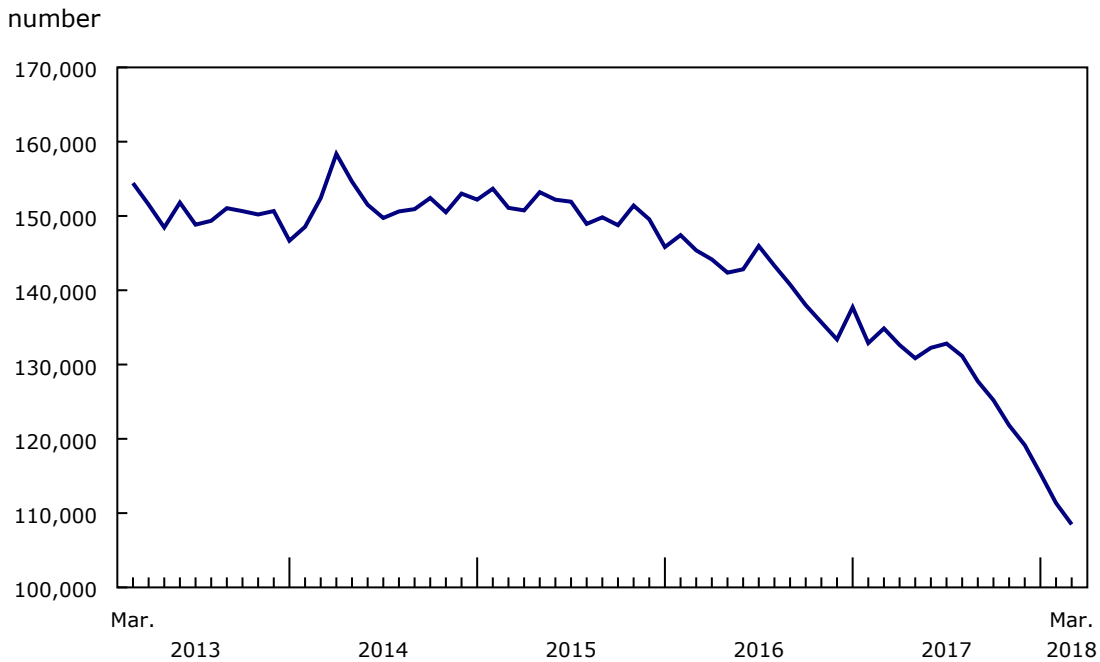
## Provincial and sub-provincial overview

In British Columbia, 43,600 people received regular benefits in March, down 3.2% from February. This continues a downward trend that began in the autumn of 2016. Declines were observed across the province in March, with notable decreases in the census metropolitan areas (CMAs) of Abbotsford–Mission (-9.7%) and Kelowna (-4.5%). In the 12 months to March, the number of EI recipients declined by 17.6% in the province. Over the same period, the LFS unemployment rate in British Columbia fell by 0.6 percentage points to 4.7%, the lowest among all provinces.



In March, EI recipients in Quebec totalled 108,500, down 2.6% from the previous month. The number of beneficiaries has trended down sharply, especially since the summer of 2017. The unemployment rate has also been on a constant downward trend and reached 5.6% in March, approaching the record low of 5.0% in December 2017. Declines in March were observed in the CMAs of Montréal (-3.3%) and Québec (-1.5%). There were also fewer beneficiaries (-2.6%) in areas outside of the CMAs and census agglomerations (CAs). Compared with March 2017, the number of beneficiaries fell by 19.6%. According to quarterly data from the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey (JVWS), Quebec has posted continuous year-over-year increases in job vacancies since the second half of 2016.

**Chart 2**  
**Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries in Quebec**



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

In Alberta, 60,100 people received benefits in March, down 1,500 (-2.4%) from February. Decreases were observed throughout the province, led by the CAs (-4.8%). Compared with March 2017, Alberta recorded the fastest year-over-year decline in the number of beneficiaries among the provinces, down 26.4%. Data from the JVWS showed that job vacancies in Alberta have increased on a year-over-year basis since the first quarter of 2017. Coinciding with the declining trend in the number of beneficiaries and an increase in job vacancies, the province recorded real gross domestic product growth of 4.9% in 2017, following declines of 3.9% in 2015 and 3.6% in 2016.

In Manitoba, 15,500 people received benefits in March, down 1.6% from the previous month. The CMA of Winnipeg led the decline (-3.6%). Compared with March 2017, the number of beneficiaries in Manitoba was little changed as a decrease in the Winnipeg CMA (-5.4%) was offset by more beneficiaries in regions outside of the CMAs and CAs (+6.9%).

The number of beneficiaries in New Brunswick fell for the fourth consecutive month in March, albeit slightly (-1.2%). Decreases were observed in the province's CAs (-4.1%). In the 12 months to March, the number of beneficiaries in New Brunswick declined by 10.4%.

EI beneficiaries in Ontario totalled 120,100 in March, down slightly (-1.2%) from the previous month. There were notable declines, however, in the CMAs of Oshawa (-4.7%) and Greater Sudbury (-4.4%). Compared with 12 months earlier, the number of beneficiaries in the province fell by 11.8%, and coincided with a 0.8 percentage point decline in the unemployment rate, reaching 5.5% in March, as reported in the LFS.

Following a decrease in February, the number of EI recipients in Nova Scotia rose slightly (+1.4%) in March to 27,400, the result of more recipients in areas outside of the CMA and CAs (+3.4%). Compared with March 2017, the number of beneficiaries in Nova Scotia was down by 3.6%.

The number of people receiving EI benefits in Prince Edward Island also rose slightly (+1.0%) in March to 8,100. On a year-over-year basis, the number of recipients rose by 2.0%.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, 37,900 people received EI benefits in March, little changed from February. However, increases were observed in the CMA of St. John's (+3.4%). Compared with March 2017, the number of beneficiaries in the province rose by 1.9%.

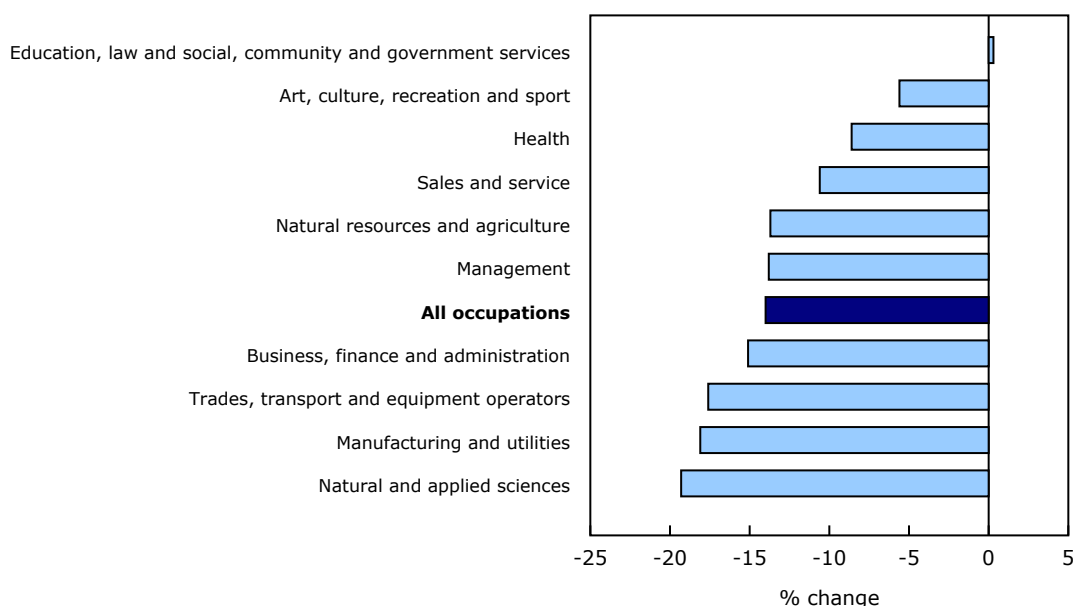
There were 17,900 EI beneficiaries in Saskatchewan in March, little changed from February. In the 12 months to March, the number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan was down 3.8%.

### **Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation**

For a seventh consecutive month, the number of beneficiaries fell on a year-over-year basis in 9 of the 10 broad occupation groups. The largest declines in March were among those whose last job was in natural and applied sciences (-19.3%); manufacturing and utilities (-18.1%); trades, transport and equipment operators (-17.6%); as well as business, finance and administration (-15.1%). In the 12 months to March, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia posted year-over-year declines in all or virtually all broad occupation groups.

The lone exception was those whose last job was in education, law and social, community and government services, as the number of beneficiaries was virtually unchanged in March compared with 12 months earlier.

**Chart 3**  
**Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, March 2017 to March 2018**



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

### Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

Compared with February, there were fewer EI recipients among men (-2.3%) in March, affecting all major age groups. While the overall number of women receiving benefits was little changed, there was a 4.0% decline among young women aged 15 to 24.

In the 12 months to March, the number of beneficiaries declined in all major demographic groups, led by young men (-22.3%) and men aged 25 to 54 (-18.2%). Declines were sharper for men than for women across all age groups and coincided with declining unemployment rates for all demographic groups over the same period, as observed in the LFS.

### Employment Insurance claims

The number of claims totalled 227,000 in March, up 1.6% from February. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

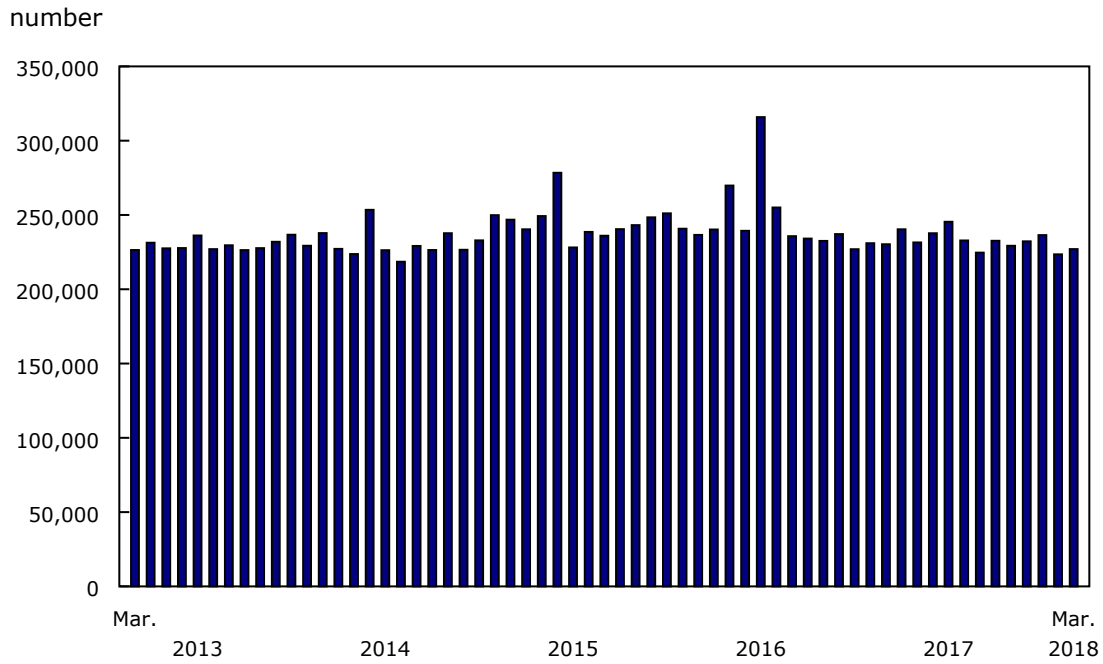
Claims rose notably in Quebec (+7.2%), following a decline of similar magnitude in February. There were also more claims in Ontario (+3.4%) and New Brunswick (+3.2%), as well as in Newfoundland and Labrador (+2.2%). These increases were moderated by declines in Saskatchewan (-11.9%), Alberta (-8.9%) and British Columbia (-2.6%). At the same time, the number of claims fell slightly in Nova Scotia (-1.0%) and Manitoba (-1.0%), while there was little change in Prince Edward Island.

In the 12 months to March, claims decreased 1.4% nationally.

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**Chart 4**  
**Employment Insurance claims**

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

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## 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.

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 March 11 to 17. 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 April will be released on June 21.

**Table 1**  
**Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits<sup>1</sup> by province and territory, sex and age group –**  
**Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
	number		change		% change		
<b>Canada</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>548,260</b>	<b>478,790</b>	<b>471,540</b>	<b>-7,250</b>	<b>-76,720</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-14.0</b>
15 to 24 years	52,940	43,910	42,600	-1,310	-10,340	-3.0	-19.5
25 to 54 years	356,400	304,570	299,610	-4,960	-56,790	-1.6	-15.9
55 years and over	138,920	130,310	129,340	-970	-9,580	-0.7	-6.9
<b>Men</b>	<b>346,610</b>	<b>296,330</b>	<b>289,630</b>	<b>-6,700</b>	<b>-56,980</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-16.4</b>
15 to 24 years	38,700	30,870	30,080	-790	-8,620	-2.6	-22.3
25 to 54 years	220,550	185,110	180,500	-4,610	-40,050	-2.5	-18.2
55 years and over	87,360	80,350	79,050	-1,300	-8,310	-1.6	-9.5
<b>Women</b>	<b>201,650</b>	<b>182,460</b>	<b>181,910</b>	<b>-550</b>	<b>-19,740</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-9.8</b>
15 to 24 years	14,240	13,040	12,520	-520	-1,720	-4.0	-12.1
25 to 54 years	135,860	119,460	119,100	-360	-16,760	-0.3	-12.3
55 years and over	51,550	49,960	50,290	330	-1,260	0.7	-2.4
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>37,170</b>	<b>37,720</b>	<b>37,870</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>
15 to 24 years	3,530	3,600	3,620	20	90	0.6	2.5
25 to 54 years	21,750	21,430	21,570	140	-180	0.7	-0.8
55 years and over	11,890	12,690	12,680	-10	790	-0.1	6.6
<b>Men</b>	<b>22,590</b>	<b>23,370</b>	<b>23,540</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>14,580</b>	<b>14,350</b>	<b>14,330</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-250</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>7,970</b>	<b>8,050</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>
15 to 24 years	1,040	1,380	1,410	30	370	2.2	35.6
25 to 54 years	4,450	4,250	4,260	10	-190	0.2	-4.3
55 years and over	2,400	2,340	2,380	40	-20	1.7	-0.8
<b>Men</b>	<b>4,790</b>	<b>4,660</b>	<b>4,660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-130</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>3,310</b>	<b>3,390</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>28,400</b>	<b>27,020</b>	<b>27,390</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>-1,010</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
15 to 24 years	3,190	3,220	3,250	30	60	0.9	1.9
25 to 54 years	17,500	16,180	16,420	240	-1,080	1.5	-6.2
55 years and over	7,700	7,620	7,730	110	30	1.4	0.4
<b>Men</b>	<b>18,300</b>	<b>17,410</b>	<b>17,630</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>-670</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>-3.7</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>9,620</b>	<b>9,770</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>-330</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>32,960</b>	<b>29,900</b>	<b>29,530</b>	<b>-370</b>	<b>-3,430</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-10.4</b>
15 to 24 years	4,570	4,430	3,840	-590	-730	-13.3	-16.0
25 to 54 years	18,750	16,410	16,530	120	-2,220	0.7	-11.8
55 years and over	9,640	9,060	9,170	110	-470	1.2	-4.9
<b>Men</b>	<b>21,310</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>19,220</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-2,090</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-9.8</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>11,650</b>	<b>10,680</b>	<b>10,320</b>	<b>-360</b>	<b>-1,330</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>-11.4</b>
<b>Quebec</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>134,860</b>	<b>111,350</b>	<b>108,480</b>	<b>-2,870</b>	<b>-26,380</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-19.6</b>
15 to 24 years	11,310	7,920	7,620	-300	-3,690	-3.8	-32.6
25 to 54 years	86,890	69,540	67,520	-2,020	-19,370	-2.9	-22.3
55 years and over	36,660	33,900	33,330	-570	-3,330	-1.7	-9.1
<b>Men</b>	<b>86,730</b>	<b>69,750</b>	<b>67,560</b>	<b>-2,190</b>	<b>-19,170</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>-22.1</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>48,130</b>	<b>41,610</b>	<b>40,920</b>	<b>-690</b>	<b>-7,210</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-15.0</b>
<b>Ontario</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>136,150</b>	<b>121,500</b>	<b>120,070</b>	<b>-1,430</b>	<b>-16,080</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-11.8</b>
15 to 24 years	11,430	9,330	9,190	-140	-2,240	-1.5	-19.6
25 to 54 years	93,160	81,550	80,320	-1,230	-12,840	-1.5	-13.8
55 years and over	31,550	30,620	30,560	-60	-990	-0.2	-3.1
<b>Men</b>	<b>81,220</b>	<b>69,320</b>	<b>66,530</b>	<b>-2,790</b>	<b>-14,690</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>-18.1</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>54,920</b>	<b>52,180</b>	<b>53,540</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>-1,380</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>-2.5</b>

**Table 1 - continued**  
**Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits<sup>1</sup> by province and territory, sex and age group –**  
**Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
<b>Manitoba</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>15,480</b>	<b>15,760</b>	<b>15,500</b>	<b>-260</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>
15 to 24 years	2,160	2,170	2,160	-10	0	-0.5	0.0
25 to 54 years	10,140	10,310	10,170	-140	30	-1.4	0.3
55 years and over	3,180	3,280	3,180	-100	0	-3.0	0.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>10,360</b>	<b>10,550</b>	<b>10,320</b>	<b>-230</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>5,130</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>18,550</b>	<b>17,820</b>	<b>17,850</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-700</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-3.8</b>
15 to 24 years	2,550	2,140	2,140	0	-410	0.0	-16.1
25 to 54 years	11,830	11,560	11,620	60	-210	0.5	-1.8
55 years and over	4,160	4,110	4,090	-20	-70	-0.5	-1.7
<b>Men</b>	<b>12,910</b>	<b>12,370</b>	<b>12,270</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-640</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-5.0</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>5,630</b>	<b>5,450</b>	<b>5,570</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
<b>Alberta</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>81,580</b>	<b>61,550</b>	<b>60,070</b>	<b>-1,480</b>	<b>-21,510</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-26.4</b>
15 to 24 years	8,150	5,590	5,320	-270	-2,830	-4.8	-34.7
25 to 54 years	55,700	41,830	40,850	-980	-14,850	-2.3	-26.7
55 years and over	17,730	14,130	13,890	-240	-3,840	-1.7	-21.7
<b>Men</b>	<b>55,130</b>	<b>40,710</b>	<b>39,680</b>	<b>-1,030</b>	<b>-15,450</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-28.0</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>26,450</b>	<b>20,850</b>	<b>20,390</b>	<b>-460</b>	<b>-6,060</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-22.9</b>
<b>British Columbia</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>52,930</b>	<b>45,050</b>	<b>43,610</b>	<b>-1,440</b>	<b>-9,320</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>-17.6</b>
15 to 24 years	4,770	3,800	3,740	-60	-1,030	-1.6	-21.6
25 to 54 years	34,560	29,280	28,120	-1,160	-6,440	-4.0	-18.6
55 years and over	13,600	11,970	11,750	-220	-1,850	-1.8	-13.6
<b>Men</b>	<b>31,810</b>	<b>26,950</b>	<b>26,230</b>	<b>-720</b>	<b>-5,580</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>-17.5</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>18,100</b>	<b>17,380</b>	<b>-720</b>	<b>-3,730</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>-17.7</b>
<b>Yukon</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-9.5</b>	<b>-2.9</b>
15 to 24 years	70	70	70	0	0	0.0	0.0
25 to 54 years	450	480	440	-40	-10	-8.3	-2.2
55 years and over	170	190	170	-20	0	-10.5	0.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-8.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-12.5</b>	<b>-12.5</b>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
15 to 24 years	90	70	70	0	-20	0.0	-22.2
25 to 54 years	530	540	520	-20	-10	-3.7	-1.9
55 years and over	120	150	150	0	30	0.0	25.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-12.0</b>
<b>Nunavut</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>11.3</b>
15 to 24 years	70	60	60	0	-10	0.0	-14.3
25 to 54 years	420	460	460	0	40	0.0	9.5
55 years and over	40	70	70	0	30	0.0	75.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>17.1</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>

<sup>P</sup> 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**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
	number			change		% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>230,280</b>	<b>223,490</b>	<b>227,020</b>	<b>3,530</b>	<b>-3,260</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-1.4</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,820	8,270	8,450	180	-1,370	2.2	-14.0
Prince Edward Island	2,260	2,420	2,440	20	180	0.8	8.0
Nova Scotia	9,410	9,650	9,550	-100	140	-1.0	1.5
New Brunswick	10,190	9,780	10,090	310	-100	3.2	-1.0
Quebec	61,680	60,630	65,020	4,390	3,340	7.2	5.4
Ontario	72,390	68,750	71,110	2,360	-1,280	3.4	-1.8
Manitoba	7,910	8,100	8,020	-80	110	-1.0	1.4
Saskatchewan	7,190	7,170	6,320	-850	-870	-11.9	-12.1
Alberta	23,400	23,020	20,970	-2,050	-2,430	-8.9	-10.4
British Columbia	25,140	24,800	24,160	-640	-980	-2.6	-3.9
Yukon	270	290	270	-20	0	-6.9	0.0
Northwest Territories	300	300	290	-10	-10	-3.3	-3.3
Nunavut	210	200	210	10	0	5.0	0.0

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

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

**Table 3**  
**Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits<sup>1</sup> by census metropolitan category<sup>2</sup> – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
	number		change		% change		
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>5,150</b>	<b>4,930</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
St. John's	5,150	4,930	5,100	170	-50	3.4	-1.0
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>3,870</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>28,180</b>	<b>28,920</b>	<b>28,830</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>3,020</b>	<b>2,890</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-120</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>4,870</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>5,150</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>5,460</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-260</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-4.8</b>
Halifax	5,460	5,200	5,200	0	-260	0.0	-4.8
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>8,890</b>	<b>8,960</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>14,040</b>	<b>12,860</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>-740</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>5,680</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>4,930</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-750</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-13.2</b>
Moncton	3,040	2,730	2,760	30	-280	1.1	-9.2
Saint John	2,650	2,230	2,170	-60	-480	-2.7	-18.1
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>7,030</b>	<b>6,320</b>	<b>6,060</b>	<b>-260</b>	<b>-970</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>-13.8</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>20,250</b>	<b>18,620</b>	<b>18,550</b>	<b>-70</b>	<b>-1,700</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-8.4</b>
<b>Quebec</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>71,280</b>	<b>57,890</b>	<b>56,350</b>	<b>-1,540</b>	<b>-14,930</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>-20.9</b>
Montréal	49,680	40,440	39,120	-1,320	-10,560	-3.3	-21.3
Ottawa–Gatineau (Quebec part)	3,660	2,600	2,570	-30	-1,090	-1.2	-29.8
Québec	9,010	7,530	7,420	-110	-1,590	-1.5	-17.6
Saguenay	3,650	2,990	2,930	-60	-720	-2.0	-19.7
Sherbrooke	2,960	2,340	2,340	0	-620	0.0	-20.9
Trois-Rivières	2,310	1,990	1,970	-20	-340	-1.0	-14.7
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>18,630</b>	<b>14,720</b>	<b>14,370</b>	<b>-350</b>	<b>-4,260</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-22.9</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>44,950</b>	<b>38,740</b>	<b>37,750</b>	<b>-990</b>	<b>-7,200</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-16.0</b>
<b>Ontario</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>97,580</b>	<b>86,850</b>	<b>86,270</b>	<b>-580</b>	<b>-11,310</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-11.6</b>
Barrie	2,210	1,990	1,960	-30	-250	-1.5	-11.3
Brantford	1,760	1,420	1,430	10	-330	0.7	-18.8
Greater Sudbury	2,780	2,520	2,410	-110	-370	-4.4	-13.3
Guelph	1,250	1,080	1,090	10	-160	0.9	-12.8
Hamilton	6,810	5,770	5,740	-30	-1,070	-0.5	-15.7
Kingston	1,470	1,160	1,130	-30	-340	-2.6	-23.1
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,360	4,040	4,050	10	-310	0.2	-7.1
London	4,690	4,190	4,230	40	-460	1.0	-9.8
Oshawa	3,750	4,020	3,830	-190	80	-4.7	2.1
Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part)	6,800	5,890	5,850	-40	-950	-0.7	-14.0
Peterborough	1,290	1,210	1,190	-20	-100	-1.7	-7.8
St. Catharines–Niagara	5,120	4,440	4,330	-110	-790	-2.5	-15.4
Thunder Bay	1,560	1,460	1,420	-40	-140	-2.7	-9.0
Toronto	50,540	44,740	44,700	-40	-5,840	-0.1	-11.6
Windsor	3,190	2,910	2,900	-10	-290	-0.3	-9.1
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>16,060</b>	<b>14,720</b>	<b>14,420</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1,640</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>-10.2</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>22,500</b>	<b>19,930</b>	<b>19,380</b>	<b>-550</b>	<b>-3,120</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>-13.9</b>

**Table 3 - continued**  
**Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits<sup>1</sup> by census metropolitan category<sup>2</sup> – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
<b>Manitoba</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>7,740</b>	<b>7,590</b>	<b>7,320</b>	<b>-270</b>	<b>-420</b>	<b>-3.6</b>	<b>-5.4</b>
Winnipeg	7,740	7,590	7,320	-270	-420	-3.6	-5.4
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-2.8</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>6,670</b>	<b>7,120</b>	<b>7,130</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>6.9</b>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>6,980</b>	<b>6,350</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>-640</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-9.2</b>
Regina	2,240	2,180	2,120	-60	-120	-2.8	-5.4
Saskatoon	4,740	4,180	4,220	40	-520	1.0	-11.0
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>3,320</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-220</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-6.6</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>8,240</b>	<b>8,410</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Alberta</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>55,930</b>	<b>42,360</b>	<b>41,640</b>	<b>-720</b>	<b>-14,290</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-25.5</b>
Calgary	27,990	20,610	20,180	-430	-7,810	-2.1	-27.9
Edmonton	27,940	21,740	21,460	-280	-6,480	-1.3	-23.2
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>11,900</b>	<b>8,960</b>	<b>8,530</b>	<b>-430</b>	<b>-3,370</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>-28.3</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>13,750</b>	<b>10,240</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>-340</b>	<b>-3,850</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>-28.0</b>
<b>British Columbia</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>25,300</b>	<b>21,910</b>	<b>21,280</b>	<b>-630</b>	<b>-4,020</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>-15.9</b>
Abbotsford–Mission	2,360	1,950	1,760	-190	-600	-9.7	-25.4
Kelowna	3,120	2,670	2,550	-120	-570	-4.5	-18.3
Vancouver	17,300	15,190	14,900	-290	-2,400	-1.9	-13.9
Victoria	2,510	2,100	2,070	-30	-440	-1.4	-17.5
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>15,420</b>	<b>12,570</b>	<b>12,020</b>	<b>-550</b>	<b>-3,400</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>-22.0</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>12,200</b>	<b>10,580</b>	<b>10,310</b>	<b>-270</b>	<b>-1,890</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-15.5</b>

<sup>P</sup> 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 benefits<sup>1</sup> by occupation,<sup>2</sup> Canada – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
	number			change		% change	
<b>All occupations</b>	<b>548,260</b>	<b>478,790</b>	<b>471,540</b>	<b>-7,250</b>	<b>-76,720</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-14.0</b>
<b>Management occupations</b>	<b>36,130</b>	<b>31,620</b>	<b>31,160</b>	<b>-460</b>	<b>-4,970</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-13.8</b>
Senior management occupations	3,150	2,920	2,950	30	-200	1.0	-6.3
Specialized middle management occupations	13,050	10,920	10,690	-230	-2,360	-2.1	-18.1
Middle management occupations in retail and wholesale trade and customer services	12,120	11,120	10,940	-180	-1,180	-1.6	-9.7
Middle management occupations in trades, transportation, production and utilities	7,800	6,660	6,580	-80	-1,220	-1.2	-15.6
<b>Business, finance and administration occupations</b>	<b>60,010</b>	<b>51,150</b>	<b>50,920</b>	<b>-230</b>	<b>-9,090</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-15.1</b>
Professional occupations in business and finance	7,130	6,260	6,180	-80	-950	-1.3	-13.3
Administrative and financial supervisors and administrative occupations	25,040	22,180	22,310	130	-2,730	0.6	-10.9
Finance, insurance and related business administrative occupations	2,210	1,950	1,940	-10	-270	-0.5	-12.2
Office support occupations	17,570	14,170	13,950	-220	-3,620	-1.6	-20.6
Distribution, tracking and scheduling co-ordination occupations	8,050	6,580	6,550	-30	-1,500	-0.5	-18.6
<b>Natural and applied sciences and related occupations</b>	<b>31,630</b>	<b>25,890</b>	<b>25,530</b>	<b>-360</b>	<b>-6,100</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-19.3</b>
Professional occupations in natural and applied sciences	9,500	7,280	7,170	-110	-2,330	-1.5	-24.5
Technical occupations related to natural and applied sciences	22,140	18,610	18,360	-250	-3,780	-1.3	-17.1
<b>Health occupations</b>	<b>8,070</b>	<b>7,280</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-690</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-8.6</b>
Professional occupations in nursing	780	730	740	10	-40	1.4	-5.1
Professional occupations in health (except nursing)	630	540	550	10	-80	1.9	-12.7
Technical occupations in health	2,840	2,480	2,550	70	-290	2.8	-10.2
Assisting occupations in support of health services	3,810	3,530	3,540	10	-270	0.3	-7.1
<b>Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services</b>	<b>45,920</b>	<b>44,780</b>	<b>46,070</b>	<b>1,290</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Professional occupations in education services	12,750	11,450	12,520	1,070	-230	9.3	-1.8
Professional occupations in law and social, community and government services	5,500	4,950	4,860	-90	-640	-1.8	-11.6
Paraprofessional occupations in legal, social, community and education services	10,030	9,490	9,830	340	-200	3.6	-2.0
Occupations in front-line public protection services	710	670	660	-10	-50	-1.5	-7.0
Care providers and educational, legal and public protection support occupations	16,940	18,220	18,200	-20	1,260	-0.1	7.4
<b>Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport</b>	<b>9,340</b>	<b>8,860</b>	<b>8,820</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-520</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-5.6</b>
Professional occupations in art and culture	1,910	1,770	1,770	0	-140	0.0	-7.3
Technical occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	7,440	7,090	7,050	-40	-390	-0.6	-5.2
<b>Sales and service occupations</b>	<b>86,620</b>	<b>78,360</b>	<b>77,410</b>	<b>-950</b>	<b>-9,210</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-10.6</b>
Retail sales supervisors and specialized sales occupations	4,570	4,080	4,070	-10	-500	-0.2	-10.9
Service supervisors and specialized service occupations	16,470	14,960	14,900	-60	-1,570	-0.4	-9.5
Sales representatives and salespersons - wholesale and retail trade	12,610	12,360	12,310	-50	-300	-0.4	-2.4
Service representatives and other customer and personal services occupations	22,570	19,980	19,610	-370	-2,960	-1.9	-13.1
Sales support occupations	8,120	7,630	7,510	-120	-610	-1.6	-7.5
Service support and other service occupations, n.e.c.	22,270	19,340	19,000	-340	-3,270	-1.8	-14.7
<b>Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations</b>	<b>189,250</b>	<b>160,500</b>	<b>155,980</b>	<b>-4,520</b>	<b>-33,270</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>-17.6</b>
Industrial, electrical and construction trades	73,470	57,520	55,990	-1,530	-17,480	-2.7	-23.8
Maintenance and equipment operation trades	19,350	14,970	14,660	-310	-4,690	-2.1	-24.2
Other installers, repairers and servicers and material handlers	10,500	9,190	8,780	-410	-1,720	-4.5	-16.4
Transport and heavy equipment operation and related maintenance occupations	43,630	40,430	39,750	-680	-3,880	-1.7	-8.9
Trades helpers, construction labourers and related occupations	42,300	38,400	36,810	-1,590	-5,490	-4.1	-13.0

Table 4 - continued

**Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits<sup>1</sup> by occupation,<sup>2</sup> Canada – Seasonally adjusted**

	March 2017	February 2018 <sup>P</sup>	March 2018 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018	February to March 2018	March 2017 to March 2018
<b>Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations</b>	<b>36,990</b>	<b>32,950</b>	<b>31,940</b>	<b>-1,010</b>	<b>-5,050</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>-13.7</b>
Supervisors and technical occupations in natural resources, agriculture and related production	7,740	7,200	6,980	-220	-760	-3.1	-9.8
Workers in natural resources, agriculture and related production	14,820	13,110	12,960	-150	-1,860	-1.1	-12.6
Harvesting, landscaping and natural resources labourers	14,430	12,630	11,990	-640	-2,440	-5.1	-16.9
<b>Occupations in manufacturing and utilities</b>	<b>43,350</b>	<b>36,440</b>	<b>35,510</b>	<b>-930</b>	<b>-7,840</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-18.1</b>
Processing, manufacturing and utilities supervisors and central control operators	3,240	2,700	2,630	-70	-610	-2.6	-18.8
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and related production workers	13,120	10,300	9,960	-340	-3,160	-3.3	-24.1
Assemblers in manufacturing	5,840	5,920	5,490	-430	-350	-7.3	-6.0
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	21,150	17,520	17,430	-90	-3,720	-0.5	-17.6

<sup>P</sup> 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. National Occupational Classification 2011.

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

Available in CANSIM: tables [276-0003](#), [276-0004](#), [276-0011](#), [276-0017](#), [276-0018](#), [276-0021](#), [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](mailto:STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; [vincent.ferrao@canada.ca](mailto:vincent.ferrao@canada.ca)) or Client Services (toll free: 1-866-873-8788; [statcan.labour-travail.statcan@canada.ca](mailto:statcan.labour-travail.statcan@canada.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.