

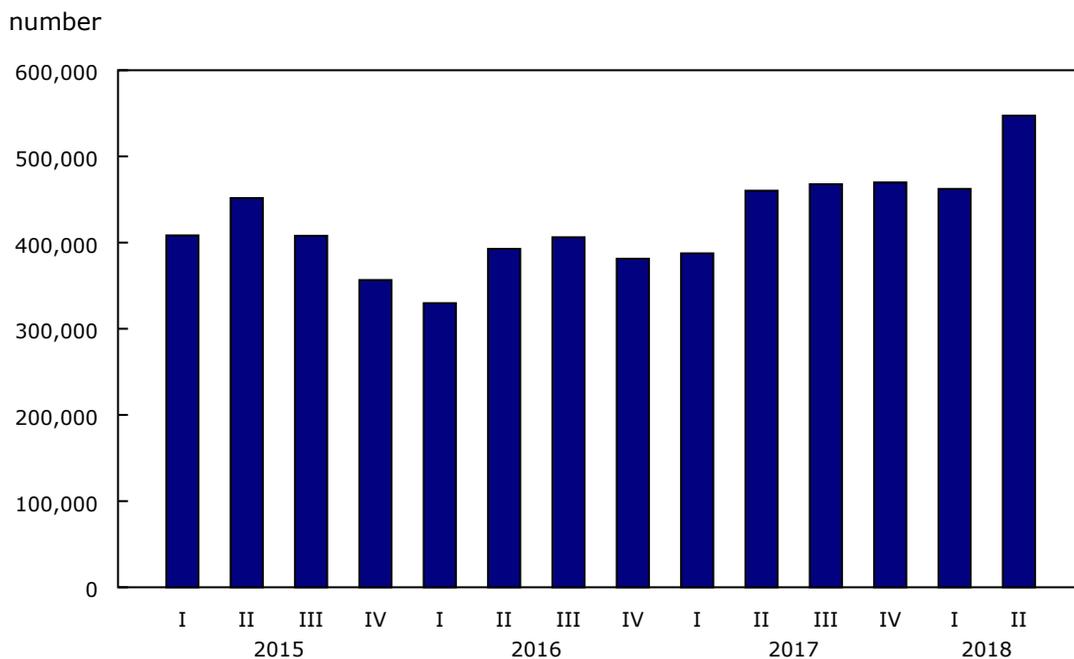
# Job vacancies, second quarter 2018

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There were 547,300 job vacancies in Canada in the second quarter, up 87,100 (+18.9%) from the second quarter of 2017. Most of the increase was for full-time job vacancies (+74,800 or +23.2%). At the same time, the job vacancy rate rose 0.5 percentage points to 3.4%, the highest national job vacancy rate since the beginning of the series in 2015. This continues a series of year-over-year increases in both the number of vacancies and the job vacancy rate that began in the fourth quarter of 2016.

The job vacancy rate represents the number of job vacancies expressed as a percentage of labour demand; that is, the sum of all occupied and vacant jobs.

**Chart 1**  
Highest number of job vacancies in the second quarter since the beginning of the series



Source(s): Table 14-10-0325-01 (formerly CANSIM table 285-0001).

The number of job vacancies in Canada (unadjusted for seasonality) was up 18.4% from the first to the second quarter of 2018. By comparison, vacancies rose 18.8% from the first to the second quarter of 2017, and 19.1% from the first to the second quarter of 2016. This is consistent with the seasonal pattern observed during this period in the unadjusted employment data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours.

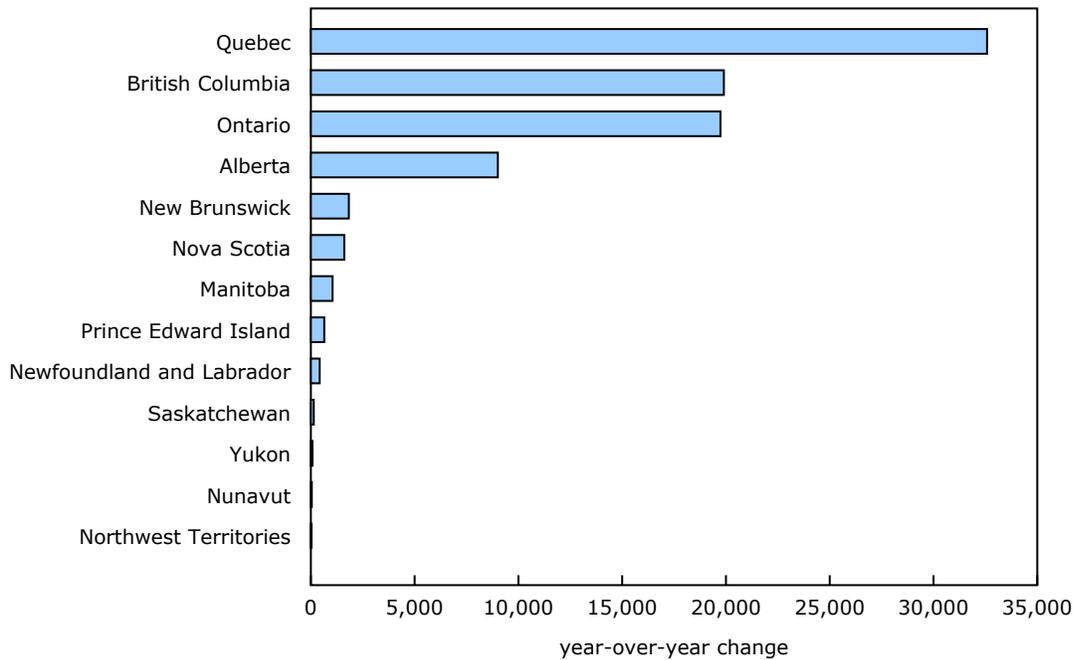
## Largest job vacancy increases in Quebec and British Columbia

Both the number of job vacancies and the job vacancy rate increased in nine provinces in the second quarter, led by Quebec and British Columbia. The job vacancy rate reached its highest level since the beginning of the series in six provinces—Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba. At the same time, there was little change in the number of job vacancies and the job vacancy rate in Saskatchewan and the territories.



**Chart 2**

**Quebec and British Columbia reported the largest rises in job vacancies in the second quarter**



Source(s): Table 14-10-0325-01 (formerly CANSIM table 285-0001).

The number of job vacancies was up 32,600 (+38.9%) in Quebec compared with the second quarter of 2017, the eighth consecutive quarter with a year-over-year rise in the number of job vacancies in the province. Almost all sectors recorded increases, with health care and social assistance (+5,100 or +60.3%) and manufacturing (+5,100 or +44.0%) contributing the most to the rise. At the same time, the job vacancy rate increased 0.8 percentage points to 3.2%.

Employers in British Columbia reported 19,900 (+23.2%) more job vacancies compared with the second quarter of 2017, driven by increases in accommodation and food services (+3,900 or +24.9%), construction (+3,700 or +45.8%) and retail trade (+2,900 or +28.5%). Over the same period, the job vacancy rate rose 0.7 percentage points to 4.7%, tied with Prince Edward Island for the highest rate among the provinces in the quarter.

There were 19,700 (+10.6%) more job vacancies in Ontario than in the same quarter one year earlier. Health care and social assistance (+7,800 or +46.0%) and administrative and support services (+4,500 or +27.7%) contributed the most to the increase. At the same time, the number of job vacancies declined notably in accommodation and food services (-3,500 or -13.8%) and finance and insurance (-1,400 or -11.3%). From the second quarter of 2017 to the second quarter of 2018, the job vacancy rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 3.3% in Ontario.

Job vacancies were up 9,000 (+17.7%) in Alberta in the second quarter, led by health care and social assistance (+2,500 or +67.6%) and transportation and warehousing (+2,200 or +103.8%). The job vacancy rate rose 0.4 percentage points to 3.0%, the sixth consecutive quarter with a year-over-year increase in the job vacancy rate.

Among the smaller provinces, New Brunswick reported 1,800 (+20.8%) more job vacancies in the second quarter, due entirely to gains in full-time job vacancies. The increase was driven by accommodation and food services (+700 or +71.4%) and manufacturing (+400 or +23.6%). Over the same period, the job vacancy rate in the province increased 0.6 percentage points to 3.6%. According to the LFS, the unemployment rate in New Brunswick decreased 0.6 percentage points to 7.6% from the second quarter of 2017 to the second quarter of 2018.

The number of job vacancies was up 600 (+28.5%) in Prince Edward Island and the job vacancy rate in the province increased one percentage point to 4.7%. Along with British Columbia, this was the highest job vacancy rate among the provinces for the quarter.

### Focus on economic regions

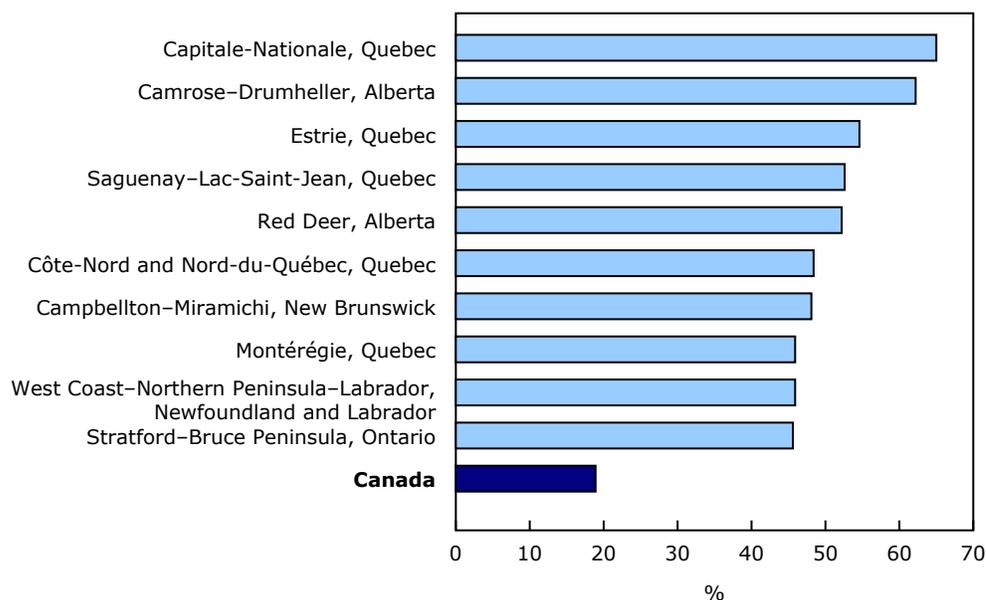
Economic region data highlight the diversity of regional labour markets across Canada.

In the second quarter, 46 of the 69 economic regions recorded year-over-year growth in job vacancies, led by Capitale-Nationale, Quebec (+65.0% or +5,100), Camrose–Drumheller, Alberta (+62.2% or +1,100) and Estrie, Quebec (+54.6% or +1,600). In both Capitale-Nationale and Estrie, the increase was driven by sales and service occupations as well as occupations in trade, transport and equipment operators. The growth in Camrose–Drumheller was driven by occupations in trades, transport and equipment operators. In the same quarter last year, 43 economic regions recorded year-over-year growth in job vacancies.

In contrast, the number of job vacancies fell in two economic regions over the same period. The decline in Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia (-25.3% or -400) was driven by sales and service occupations. The number of job vacancies also decreased in Southeast, Manitoba (-20.6% or -200).

### Chart 3

**Quebec accounts for 5 of the 10 economic regions with the highest job vacancies growth rate from the second quarter of 2017 to the second quarter of 2018**



Source(s): Table 14-10-0325-01 (formerly CANSIM table 285-0001).

### **Full-time and part-time job vacancies**

In the second quarter, 32 economic regions had a higher proportion of full-time job vacancies than the national average (72.5%). Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec, Quebec had the highest proportion of full-time job vacancies (86.6%), followed by Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River, Alberta (84.8%), Chaudière–Appalaches, Quebec (83.5%) and Northeast, British Columbia (82.7%).

Meanwhile, the lowest proportion of full-time job vacancies was in Southwest, Manitoba (54.7%), followed by Camrose–Drumheller, Alberta (55.9%) and Kingston–Pembroke, Ontario (56.5%).

### **Level of education sought**

The national average proportion of job vacancies for which the minimum level of education sought was post-secondary below the bachelor's level (such as a college, CEGEP, apprenticeship or trade certificate or diploma) was 21.7% in the second quarter. However, it was 36.6% in Southwest, Manitoba, the highest among all economic regions, followed by North Coast and Nechako, British Columbia (34.4%), Centre-du-Québec, Quebec (32.0%) and Mauricie, Quebec (31.6%).

In the second quarter, the proportion of job vacancies for which the level of education sought was a university certificate or diploma at the bachelor's level or above was 14.2% in Canada. It was the highest in Montréal, Quebec (25.1%), followed by Toronto, Ontario (23.3%) and Avalon Peninsula, Newfoundland and Labrador (21.1%).

### **Average offered hourly wage**

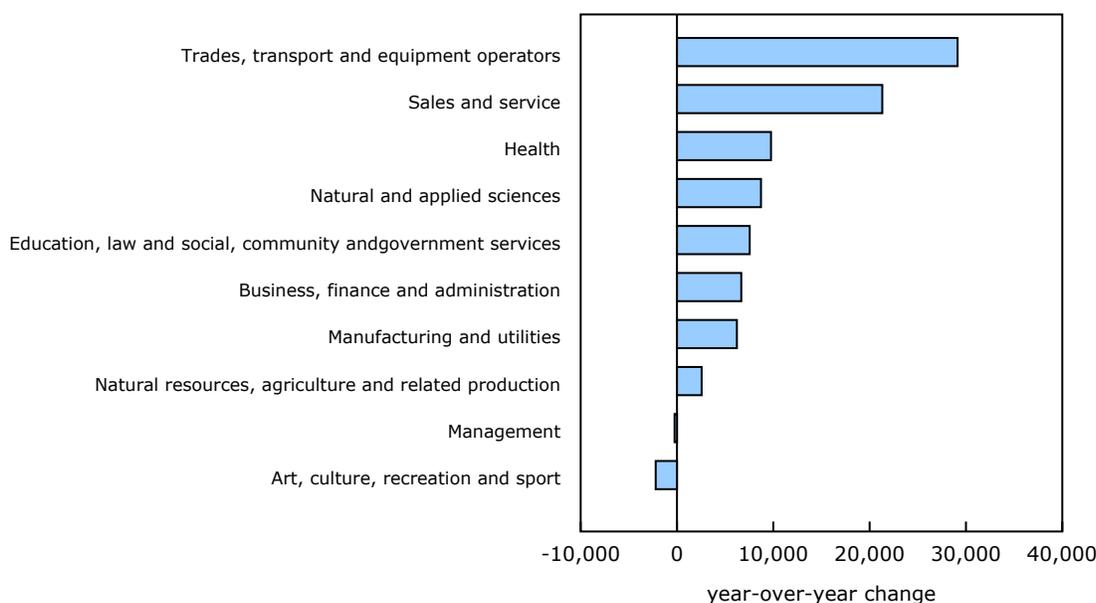
The highest average offered hourly wage for vacancies in the second quarter was in Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake, Alberta (\$28.65), followed by Northeast, British Columbia (\$26.75), Nunavut (\$26.20) and Toronto (\$23.50). According to the wage component of the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake was also the economic region with the highest hourly wage paid to full-time employees in both 2016 and 2017.

Meanwhile, the lowest average hourly wage for vacancies was in Prince Edward Island (\$14.40), Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia (\$14.95), Moncton–Richibucto, New Brunswick (\$15.40) and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia (\$15.70). Of the economic regions with the lowest average offered hourly wage for vacancies, most were in the Maritimes.

### **Increases in job vacancies across most broad occupational categories**

Job vacancies were up in 8 of the 10 broad occupational categories in the second quarter, with the largest increase in trades, transport and equipment operators, followed by sales and service occupations. Over the same period, the number of vacancies declined in art, culture, recreation and sport occupations and was little changed in management occupations.

**Chart 4**  
**Job vacancies increase in 8 of the 10 broad occupational categories<sup>1</sup> in the second quarter**



1. Broad occupational category of the 2016 National Occupational Classification.  
 Source(s): Table 14-10-0356-01 (formerly CANSIM table 285-0003).

Job vacancies in trades, transport and equipment operators grew by 29,100 (+39.7%) on a year-over-year basis. Full-time job vacancies accounted for 94.7% of the rise. Increases were observed in many of the more detailed occupational groups within this broad category, mainly motor vehicle and transit drivers (+8,500 or +48.0%) and trade helpers and labourers (+3,800 or +39.1%). Job vacancies in trades, transport and equipment operators were up in nine provinces, led by British Columbia and Quebec.

There were 21,300 (+12.8%) more job vacancies in sales and service occupations compared with the second quarter of 2017, with the rise concentrated in Quebec and British Columbia. Full-time job vacancies accounted for 86.6% of the increase. Notable rises in vacancies were observed for retail salespersons (+6,400 or +29.4%) and food counter attendants, kitchen helpers and related support occupations (+4,100 or +14.2%). At the same time, a notable decline in vacancies for cashiers (-3,000 or -33.7%) moderated the overall increase in this broad occupational group.

The average offered hourly wage for vacant positions in sales and service occupations was up 9.2% to \$14.80. Among the provinces, the highest average hourly wage growth rate for this broad occupational group was in Ontario (+16.7% to \$15.70). This increase coincided with a notable rise in Ontario's minimum wage at the beginning of 2018.

In contrast, job vacancies were down 2,200 (-15.4%) in art, culture, recreation and sport occupations. This was the first year-over-year decline in job vacancies for this broad occupational group since the second quarter of 2016. The decrease was mostly attributable to fewer vacancies for athletes, coaches, referees and related occupations in Ontario.

## Note to readers

The Job Vacancy and Wage Survey (JVWS) provides comprehensive data on job vacancies and wages by industrial sector and detailed occupations for Canada, the provinces, territories and economic regions. Job vacancy and offered wage data are released quarterly. The annual wage data for 2017 were released on June 26, 2018.

Collection of the wage component was suspended in January 2018. A study is being conducted on how to provide more detailed information by regions and occupations. Collection of wage information will resume based on the results of the study.

JVWS data are not seasonally adjusted. Therefore, quarter-to-quarter comparisons should be interpreted with caution as they may reflect seasonal movements.

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

Summary statistics related to the job vacancy time series from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours are available in tables [14-10-0224-01](#), [14-10-0225-01](#), [14-10-0226-01](#) and [14-10-0227-01](#).

The National Occupational Classification (NOC) is a four-tiered hierarchical structure of occupational groups with successive levels of disaggregation. The structure is as follows: 1) 10 broad occupational categories, also referred to as one-digit NOC; 2) 40 major groups, also referred to as two-digit NOC; 3) 140 minor groups, also referred to as three-digit NOC; and 4) 500 unit groups, also referred to as four-digit NOC.

Improvements were made to the occupation coding procedures starting in the second quarter of 2017. This has resulted in a decrease in the number of vacancies for which the occupation is unclassified. The new coding procedures do not affect the total number of vacancies, but may affect estimates by occupation.

With the release of data for the first quarter of 2018, the geographical classification was updated to the [Standard Geographical Classification \(SGC\) 2016](#). Estimates from the first quarter of 2015 to the first quarter of 2018 are based on the SGC 2011.

With the release of data for the second quarter of 2018, the JVWS will start using the [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\) Canada 2017 Version 2.0](#). Industry estimates before the second quarter of 2018 are based on the 2012 NAICS. The NAICS has 20 industrial sectors at the two-digit level in both versions of the industry classification.

### Data quality of the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey

The target population of the survey includes all business locations in Canada, excluding those primarily involved in religious organizations and private households. While federal, provincial and territorial administrations are also currently excluded from the survey, they will be phased in later.

### Next release

Job vacancy data from the JVWS for the third quarter will be released on January 9, 2019.

**Table 1**  
**The 10 economic regions with the highest proportion of full-time job vacancies, second quarter 2018**

	Proportion of full-time job vacancies
	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>72.5</b>
Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec, Quebec	86.6
Banff–Jasper–Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca–Grande Prairie–Peace River, Alberta	84.8
Chaudière–Appalaches, Quebec	83.5
Northeast, British Columbia	82.7
Centre-du-Québec, Quebec	82.6
Edmundston–Woodstock, New Brunswick	82.3
Yukon	81.8
Wood Buffalo–Cold Lake, Alberta	81.1
Campbellton–Miramichi, New Brunswick	80.8
Fredericton–Oromocto, New Brunswick	80.4

Source(s): Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, custom tabulations.

**Table 2**  
**The 10 economic regions with the lowest proportion of full-time job vacancies, second quarter 2018**

	Proportion of full-time job vacancies
	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>72.5</b>
Southwest, Manitoba	54.7
Camrose–Drumheller, Alberta	55.9
Kingston–Pembroke, Ontario	56.5
South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central Bonavista Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador	57.0
North Coast and Nechako, British Columbia	57.8
Regina–Moose Mountain, Saskatchewan	60.1
Avalon Peninsula, Newfoundland and Labrador	61.2
Northwest, Ontario	62.6
Interlake, Manitoba	62.9
Red Deer, Alberta	63.6

Source(s): Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, custom tabulations.

**Table 3**  
**The 10 economic regions with the highest proportion of job vacancies for which the minimum level of education sought was a non-university certificate or diploma or university certificate or diploma below bachelor's level, second quarter 2018**

	Proportion
	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>21.7</b>
Southwest, Manitoba	36.6
North Coast and Nechako, British Columbia	34.4
Centre-du-Québec, Quebec	32.0
Mauricie, Quebec	31.6
Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec, Quebec	31.5
South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central Bonavista Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador	30.8
Montréal, Quebec	30.5
Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, Quebec	30.5
Abitibi–Témiscamingue, Quebec	29.9
Capitale-Nationale, Quebec	28.5

Source(s): Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, custom tabulations.

**Table 4**  
**The 10 economic regions with the highest proportion of job vacancies for which the level of education sought was a university certificate or diploma at the bachelor's level or above, second quarter 2018**

	Proportion
	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Montréal, Quebec	25.1
Toronto, Ontario	23.3
Avalon Peninsula, Newfoundland and Labrador	21.1
Ottawa, Ontario	19.0
West Coast–Northern Peninsula–Labrador, Newfoundland and Labrador	16.5
Calgary, Alberta	15.8
South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central Bonavista Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador	15.6
Regina–Moose Mountain, Saskatchewan	15.5
Winnipeg, Manitoba	15.0
Halifax, Nova Scotia	14.9

Source(s): Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, custom tabulations.

**Available tables:** [14-10-0325-01](#), [14-10-0326-01](#), [14-10-0328-01](#) and [14-10-0356-01](#).

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey number [5217](#).

More information about the concepts and use of data from the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey is available online in the *Guide to the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey* ([75-514-G](#)).

The product *Labour Market Indicators, by province, territory and economic region, unadjusted for seasonality* ([71-607-X2017002](#)) is also available. This dynamic web application provides access to Statistics Canada's labour market indicators for Canada, by province, territory and economic region, and allows users to view a snapshot of key labour market indicators, observe geographical rankings for each indicator using an interactive map and table, and easily copy data into other programs.

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 Dominique Dionne-Simard (613-618-9411; [dominique.dionne-simard@canada.ca](mailto:dominique.dionne-simard@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.