

# Employment Insurance, February 2021

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February Employment Insurance (EI) statistics reflect labour market conditions as of the week of February 14 to 20.

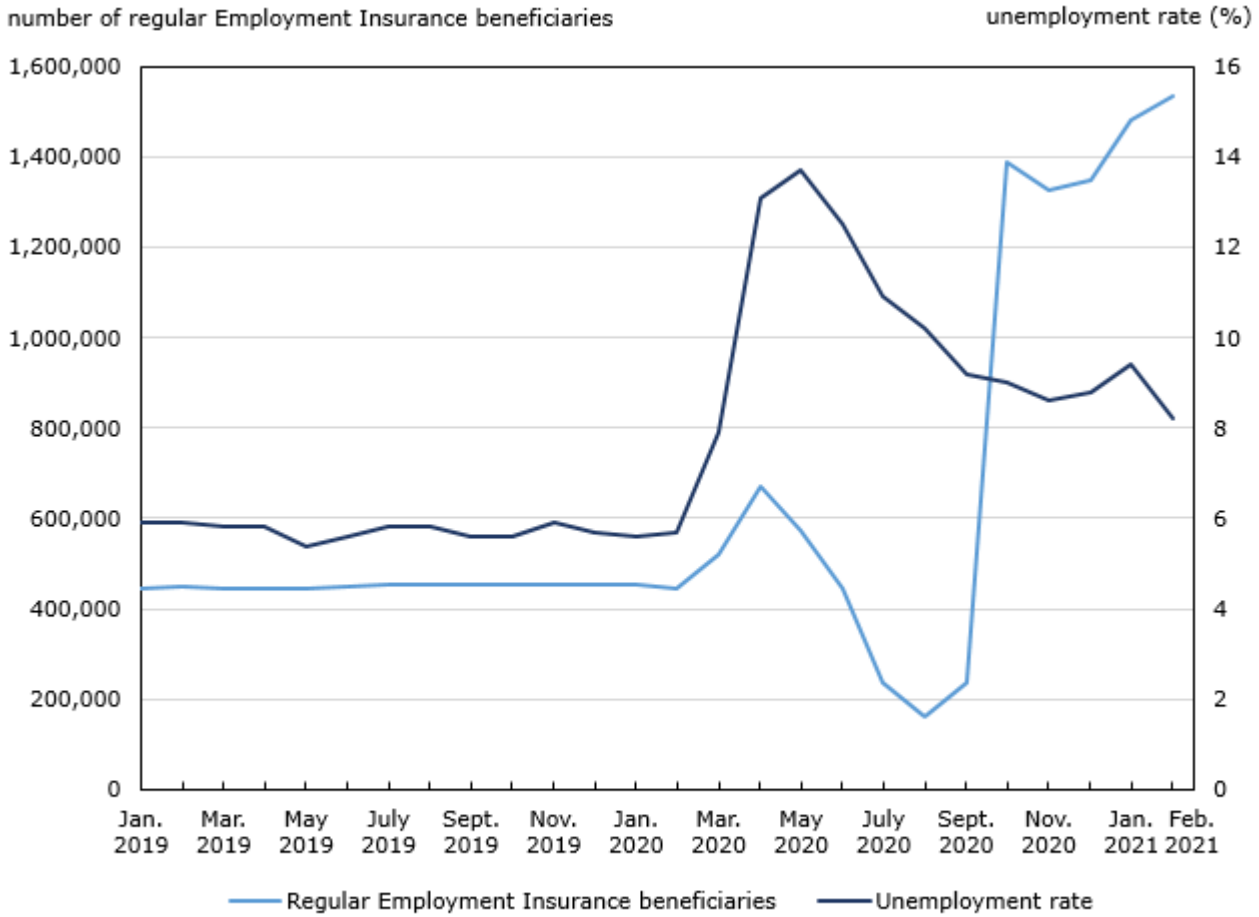
Ahead of the February reference week, non-essential businesses, cultural and recreation facilities, and in-person dining reopened in many provinces, subject to capacity limits and various other public health requirements. Public health measures were relaxed in Quebec, Alberta, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on February 8, although a curfew remained in effect in Quebec. Measures were loosened in many regions of Ontario on February 10 and 15, although stay-at-home orders remained in place in the health regions of Toronto, Peel, York and North Bay Parry Sound. In Manitoba, various measures were eased on February 12. In contrast, Newfoundland and Labrador reintroduced a lockdown on February 12, requiring the widespread closure of non-essential businesses and services.

## Number of regular EI beneficiaries up in February

The number of Canadians receiving regular EI benefits rose 3.6% (+53,000) to 1.5 million in February, following an 11.2% increase in January. Results from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicate that employment increased 259,000 in February, following two months of losses, while unemployment fell to 1.7 million, including 1.4 million who were looking for work and 300,000 who had a connection to a job, either because they were on temporary layoff or had arrangements to begin a new job in the near future.



**Infographic 1 – Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries up in February**



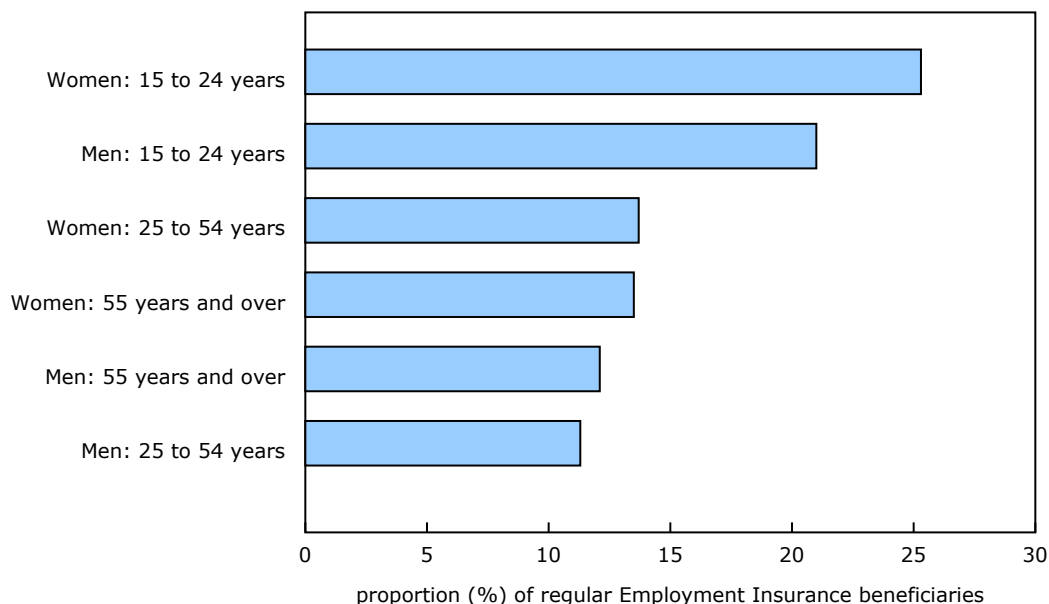
**Source(s):** Employment Insurance Statistics (2604), table 14-10-0011-01; Labour Force Survey (3701), table 14-10-0287-01.

**Female youth more likely than other age groups to qualify for regular EI under the new rules**

In September 2020, temporary changes to EI eligibility criteria were introduced to support workers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In February, 14.2% of regular EI recipients—including almost one-quarter (23.0%) of those aged 15 to 24—qualified under these new eligibility criteria.

**Chart 1**

**Proportion of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries qualifying under the new rules in February, by age group and sex (not seasonally adjusted)**



Source(s): Employment Insurance Statistics (2604), custom tabulation.

**Number of regular EI beneficiaries increases in seven provinces**

The number of regular EI beneficiaries rose in seven provinces in February, led by Ontario (+35,000; +6.3%), British Columbia (+18,000; +13.2%), and Newfoundland and Labrador (+10,000; +22.0%). Almost three-quarters of the increase observed in Ontario was attributable to regular EI beneficiaries who also worked at some point during the reference week, reflecting the loosening of public health measures in the province during that week.

Reflecting the reintroduction of strict public health measures in Newfoundland and Labrador, almost one in four individuals (22.6%) in the labour force in that province received regular EI benefits in February. The increase observed in Newfoundland and Labrador was almost entirely driven by EI beneficiaries who did not work during the reference week.

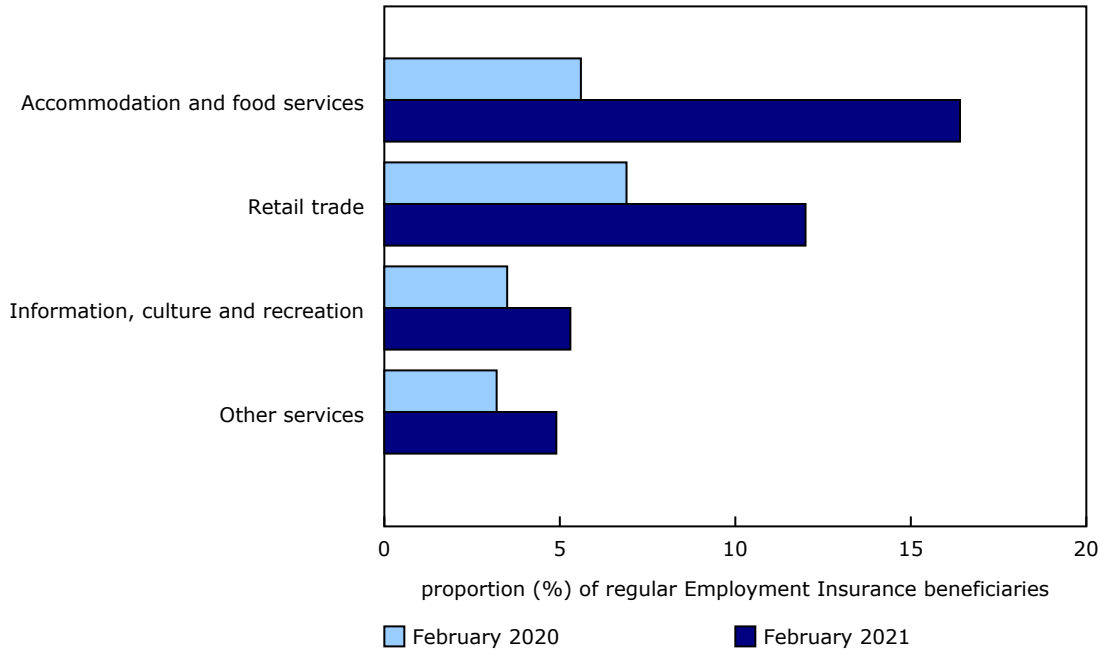
At the same time, Quebec (-18,000; -4.8%), Alberta (-2,000; -1.0%) and Manitoba (-1,000; -1.4%) posted decreases in the number of regular EI recipients.

On a regional basis, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) (+29,000; +2.8%) recorded the largest increase in regular EI recipients, followed by regions outside CMAs and census agglomerations (+15,000; +5.9%).

**Industries most impacted by public health measures account for over one-third of regular EI recipients**

According to February LFS results, employment remained below pre-COVID-19 levels in the industries most impacted by public health measures, including accommodation and food services (-26.1%); information, culture and recreation (-15.1%); other services (-6.0%); and retail trade (-5.4%). The profile of regular EI recipients further illustrates the impact of pandemic response measures on these same industries. In February, more than one-third (38.7%) of all regular EI recipients last worked in one of these four industries, compared with 19.4% one year previously (not seasonally adjusted).

**Chart 2**  
**Industries most impacted by public health measures account for over one-third of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries (not seasonally adjusted)**



Source(s): Employment Insurance Statistics (2604), custom tabulation.

### Young women particularly hard hit by public health measures

In February, women accounted for a larger proportion of regular EI recipients in all age groups, compared with one year previously. The increase among female youth aged 15 to 24 years, who accounted for 44.9% of all youth regular EI beneficiaries, compared with 29.9% in February 2020, was particularly notable. Results from the February LFS show that year-over-year employment losses among young women were almost double those among young men, indicating that young women have been particularly hard hit by pandemic-related public health measures.

## **Sustainable development goals**

On January 1, 2016, the world officially began implementing the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)—the United Nations' transformative plan of action that addresses urgent global challenges over the following 15 years. The plan is based on 17 specific sustainable development goals.

Employment Insurance statistics are an example of how Statistics Canada supports the reporting on the global sustainable development goals. This release will be used to help measure the following goal:



## Note to readers

### Employment Insurance in the context of broader COVID-19 benefit programs

No methodological changes were made to the Employment Insurance Statistics (EIS) program over the COVID-19 period. EIS reflect the Employment Insurance (EI) program for the Labour Force Survey (LFS) reference week in each month.

Data for the October 2020 reference period and onward consist of individuals who obtained EI benefits, and exclude beneficiaries of the Canada recovery benefits (Canada Recovery Benefit, Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit and Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit).

### Concepts and methodology

The analysis focuses on people who received regular EI benefits related to job loss.

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.

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits and should not be confused with 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 was not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their jobs voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise specified. Values for all series from March 2020 to February 2021 have been treated as outliers in the determination of a seasonal pattern for seasonal adjustment. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

The number of regular EI beneficiaries for the current month and the previous month is subject to revision.

The **number of beneficiaries** is a measure of all people who received regular EI benefits from February 14 to 20. This period coincides with the reference week of the LFS.

### Beneficiaries who qualified for EI under the new EI rules introduced in September 2020

Temporary changes to the EI program that provided all new regular EI beneficiaries with a one-time credit of 300 insurable hours were introduced on September 27, 2020. In addition, the unemployment rate used to calculate their eligibility and entitlement weeks was 13.1%, unless their region's unemployment rate was higher.

This supplementary indicator presents the number of individuals who qualified for EI only as a result of these program changes.

### EI beneficiaries by industry

The industry of EI beneficiaries is determined through the integration of EI and record of employment administrative data. For beneficiaries with more than one record of employment in the past 52 weeks, the records with the greatest number of hours are used. If no industry information can be found, industry information is deemed "Not classified" for the beneficiary.

### EI beneficiaries by number of months on EI or Canada Emergency Response Benefit over the last year

This supplementary indicator presents the number of regular EI recipients who received either regular EI benefits or the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) for a defined number of total months over the last 12 months.

A **census metropolitan area (CMA)** or **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 2016 – Definitions](#) for more information.

### Data availability

Data tables 14-10-0336 and 14-10-0337 remain suspended as of the December 2019 reference period, because of occupational coding issues from the source data file. Work is ongoing to identify a solution and continue publication of the tables.

Data tables 14-10-0004, 14-10-0005, 14-10-0007 and 14-10-0008 remain suspended as of the March 2020 reference period, because a source data file contains records for CERB claimants and beneficiaries that could not be identified and excluded through processing.

In the data table 14-10-0009, for the March to September reference periods, sub-aggregates of the parent "regular benefits" benefit type have been suppressed because of data quality.

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**Next release**

*Data on EI for March 2021 will be released on May 20, 2021.*

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

	February 2020	January 2021 <sup>P</sup>	February 2021 <sup>P</sup>	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021
	number		change		% change		
<b>Canada</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>446,490</b>	<b>1,480,630</b>	<b>1,533,680</b>	<b>53,050</b>	<b>1,087,190</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>243.5</b>
15 to 24 years	40,600	222,140	231,630	9,490	191,030	4.3	470.5
25 to 54 years	279,040	891,010	916,010	25,000	636,970	2.8	228.3
55 years and over	126,850	367,470	386,030	18,560	259,180	5.1	204.3
<b>Men</b>	<b>279,780</b>	<b>777,720</b>	<b>808,260</b>	<b>30,540</b>	<b>528,480</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>188.9</b>
15 to 24 years	28,480	121,410	127,560	6,150	99,080	5.1	347.9
25 to 54 years	171,910	459,080	473,700	14,620	301,790	3.2	175.6
55 years and over	79,390	197,230	207,010	9,780	127,620	5.0	160.8
<b>Women</b>	<b>166,710</b>	<b>702,910</b>	<b>725,420</b>	<b>22,510</b>	<b>558,710</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>335.1</b>
15 to 24 years	12,120	100,740	104,080	3,340	91,960	3.3	758.7
25 to 54 years	107,130	431,930	442,320	10,390	335,190	2.4	312.9
55 years and over	47,460	170,240	179,030	8,790	131,570	5.2	277.2
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>32,150</b>	<b>45,320</b>	<b>55,290</b>	<b>9,970</b>	<b>23,140</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>72.0</b>
15 to 24 years	2,740	4,880	6,870	1,990	4,130	40.8	150.7
25 to 54 years	17,370	23,830	29,540	5,710	12,170	24.0	70.1
55 years and over	12,040	16,610	18,880	2,270	6,840	13.7	56.8
<b>Men</b>	<b>19,590</b>	<b>27,280</b>	<b>31,620</b>	<b>4,340</b>	<b>12,030</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>61.4</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>12,550</b>	<b>18,040</b>	<b>23,670</b>	<b>5,630</b>	<b>11,120</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>88.6</b>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>7,570</b>	<b>9,990</b>	<b>10,730</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>3,160</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>41.7</b>
15 to 24 years	1,320	1,790	2,110	320	790	17.9	59.8
25 to 54 years	3,790	4,920	5,200	280	1,410	5.7	37.2
55 years and over	2,470	3,280	3,420	140	950	4.3	38.5
<b>Men</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>5,980</b>	<b>6,230</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>1,720</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>38.1</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>3,060</b>	<b>4,020</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>47.1</b>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>25,470</b>	<b>43,620</b>	<b>45,670</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>20,200</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>79.3</b>
15 to 24 years	2,470	5,170	5,480	310	3,010	6.0	121.9
25 to 54 years	15,130	25,630	26,680	1,050	11,550	4.1	76.3
55 years and over	7,880	12,820	13,510	690	5,630	5.4	71.4
<b>Men</b>	<b>16,480</b>	<b>25,650</b>	<b>26,380</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>8,990</b>	<b>17,970</b>	<b>19,290</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>114.6</b>
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>29,890</b>	<b>45,300</b>	<b>50,120</b>	<b>4,820</b>	<b>20,230</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>67.7</b>
15 to 24 years	5,090	8,090	9,770	1,680	4,680	20.8	91.9
25 to 54 years	15,240	23,110	25,480	2,370	10,240	10.3	67.2
55 years and over	9,560	14,100	14,870	770	5,310	5.5	55.5
<b>Men</b>	<b>18,830</b>	<b>26,400</b>	<b>28,210</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>9,380</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>49.8</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>11,060</b>	<b>18,910</b>	<b>21,910</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>10,850</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>98.1</b>
<b>Quebec</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>100,390</b>	<b>372,940</b>	<b>355,050</b>	<b>-17,890</b>	<b>254,660</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>253.7</b>
15 to 24 years	6,900	53,910	51,050	-2,860	44,150	-5.3	639.9
25 to 54 years	61,150	224,140	210,100	-14,040	148,950	-6.3	243.6
55 years and over	32,340	94,890	93,910	-980	61,570	-1.0	190.4
<b>Men</b>	<b>64,880</b>	<b>207,890</b>	<b>201,350</b>	<b>-6,540</b>	<b>136,470</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>210.3</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>35,520</b>	<b>165,050</b>	<b>153,700</b>	<b>-11,350</b>	<b>118,180</b>	<b>-6.9</b>	<b>332.7</b>
<b>Ontario</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>121,060</b>	<b>557,310</b>	<b>592,360</b>	<b>35,050</b>	<b>471,300</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>389.3</b>
15 to 24 years	9,360	89,480	94,680	5,200	85,320	5.8	911.5
25 to 54 years	80,670	336,290	358,000	21,710	277,330	6.5	343.8
55 years and over	31,030	131,530	139,670	8,140	108,640	6.2	350.1
<b>Men</b>	<b>70,840</b>	<b>264,730</b>	<b>283,830</b>	<b>19,100</b>	<b>212,990</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>300.7</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>50,210</b>	<b>292,580</b>	<b>308,520</b>	<b>15,940</b>	<b>258,310</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>514.5</b>



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

	February 2020	January 2021 <sup>P</sup>	February 2021 <sup>P</sup>	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021
<b>Manitoba</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>15,380</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>50,280</b>	<b>-730</b>	<b>34,900</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>226.9</b>
15 to 24 years	1,990	10,070	9,770	-300	7,780	-3.0	391.0
25 to 54 years	10,010	29,340	28,650	-690	18,640	-2.4	186.2
55 years and over	3,370	11,600	11,850	250	8,480	2.2	251.6
<b>Men</b>	<b>10,280</b>	<b>25,900</b>	<b>26,130</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>15,850</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>154.2</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>25,110</b>	<b>24,150</b>	<b>-960</b>	<b>19,060</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>374.5</b>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>16,260</b>	<b>33,350</b>	<b>35,720</b>	<b>2,370</b>	<b>19,460</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>119.7</b>
15 to 24 years	1,890	4,710	5,250	540	3,360	11.5	177.8
25 to 54 years	10,570	20,130	21,310	1,180	10,740	5.9	101.6
55 years and over	3,800	8,520	9,170	650	5,370	7.6	141.3
<b>Men</b>	<b>11,560</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>21,190</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>9,630</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>83.3</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>13,650</b>	<b>14,530</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>209.1</b>
<b>Alberta</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>53,820</b>	<b>180,570</b>	<b>178,840</b>	<b>-1,730</b>	<b>125,020</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>232.3</b>
15 to 24 years	5,010	26,330	26,380	50	21,370	0.2	426.5
25 to 54 years	36,320	118,030	115,750	-2,280	79,430	-1.9	218.7
55 years and over	12,490	36,210	36,700	490	24,210	1.4	193.8
<b>Men</b>	<b>35,650</b>	<b>101,330</b>	<b>101,340</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>65,690</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>184.3</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>18,170</b>	<b>79,240</b>	<b>77,500</b>	<b>-1,740</b>	<b>59,330</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>326.5</b>
<b>British Columbia</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>41,830</b>	<b>135,450</b>	<b>153,380</b>	<b>17,930</b>	<b>111,550</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>266.7</b>
15 to 24 years	3,560	16,930	19,440	2,510	15,880	14.8	446.1
25 to 54 years	26,920	81,790	91,190	9,400	64,270	11.5	238.7
55 years and over	11,340	36,730	42,750	6,020	31,410	16.4	277.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>25,440</b>	<b>69,640</b>	<b>78,560</b>	<b>8,920</b>	<b>53,120</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>208.8</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>16,390</b>	<b>65,810</b>	<b>74,820</b>	<b>9,010</b>	<b>58,430</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>356.5</b>
<b>Yukon</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>162.5</b>
15 to 24 years	50	150	160	10	110	6.7	220.0
25 to 54 years	350	840	920	80	570	9.5	162.9
55 years and over	150	350	390	40	240	11.4	160.0
<b>Men</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>129.7</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>226.3</b>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,430</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>107.2</b>
15 to 24 years	60	150	140	-10	80	-6.7	133.3
25 to 54 years	510	910	970	60	460	6.6	90.2
55 years and over	130	310	320	10	190	3.2	146.2
<b>Men</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>95.6</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>129.2</b>
<b>Nunavut</b>							
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>80.0</b>
15 to 24 years	50	90	110	20	60	22.2	120.0
25 to 54 years	340	540	600	60	260	11.1	76.5
55 years and over	60	100	100	0	40	0.0	66.7
<b>Men</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>64.5</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>107.1</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): Table 14-10-0011-01 (formerly CANSIM table 276-0022).

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

	February 2020	January 2021 <sup>P</sup>	February 2021 <sup>P</sup>	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021
	number		change		% change		
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>9,250</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>3,950</b>	<b>9,020</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>215.8</b>
St. John's	4,180	9,250	13,200	3,950	9,020	42.7	215.8
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>4,260</b>	<b>6,080</b>	<b>7,560</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>77.5</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>23,700</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>34,540</b>	<b>4,540</b>	<b>10,840</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>45.7</b>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>5,070</b>	<b>5,460</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>65.5</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>4,920</b>	<b>5,270</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>23.1</b>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>13,830</b>	<b>13,850</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9,050</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>188.5</b>
Halifax	4,800	13,830	13,850	20	9,050	0.1	188.5
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>12,050</b>	<b>12,700</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>51.2</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>12,270</b>	<b>17,730</b>	<b>19,110</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>6,840</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>55.7</b>
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>5,040</b>	<b>12,850</b>	<b>14,230</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>9,190</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>182.3</b>
Moncton	2,580	6,530	7,200	670	4,620	10.3	179.1
Saint John	2,470	6,320	7,030	710	4,560	11.2	184.6
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>6,480</b>	<b>10,070</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>76.5</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>18,370</b>	<b>22,380</b>	<b>24,450</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>6,080</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>33.1</b>
<b>Quebec</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>52,120</b>	<b>267,460</b>	<b>252,130</b>	<b>-15,330</b>	<b>200,010</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>383.7</b>
Montréal	36,290	202,720	191,480	-11,240	155,190	-5.5	427.6
Ottawa–Gatineau (Quebec part)	2,590	13,910	13,340	-570	10,750	-4.1	415.1
Québec	6,770	26,210	24,790	-1,420	18,020	-5.4	266.2
Saguenay	2,640	6,720	6,210	-510	3,570	-7.6	135.2
Sherbrooke	2,080	9,580	8,720	-860	6,640	-9.0	319.2
Trois-Rivières	1,760	8,330	7,590	-740	5,830	-8.9	331.3
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>12,850</b>	<b>36,840</b>	<b>34,610</b>	<b>-2,230</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>169.3</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>35,420</b>	<b>68,640</b>	<b>68,310</b>	<b>-330</b>	<b>32,890</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>92.9</b>
<b>Ontario</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>89,270</b>	<b>465,770</b>	<b>493,620</b>	<b>27,850</b>	<b>404,350</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>453.0</b>
Barrie	1,990	8,550	8,810	260	6,820	3.0	342.7
Belleville	1,180	4,110	4,130	20	2,950	0.5	250.0
Brantford	1,520	6,710	6,920	210	5,400	3.1	355.3
Greater Sudbury	2,290	5,980	6,650	670	4,360	11.2	190.4
Guelph	1,170	5,120	5,500	380	4,330	7.4	370.1
Hamilton	5,840	28,240	27,480	-760	21,640	-2.7	370.5
Kingston	1,480	6,820	6,590	-230	5,110	-3.4	345.3
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,550	19,850	20,120	270	15,570	1.4	342.2
London	4,300	18,970	20,180	1,210	15,880	6.4	369.3
Oshawa	3,850	15,530	17,020	1,490	13,170	9.6	342.1
Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part)	5,570	36,810	37,550	740	31,980	2.0	574.1
Peterborough	1,100	4,020	4,120	100	3,020	2.5	274.5
St. Catharines–Niagara	4,400	28,720	30,680	1,960	26,280	6.8	597.3
Thunder Bay	1,670	5,170	5,600	430	3,930	8.3	235.3
Toronto	44,880	257,890	270,180	12,290	225,300	4.8	502.0
Windsor	3,470	13,270	22,090	8,820	18,620	66.5	536.6
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>13,460</b>	<b>42,320</b>	<b>45,720</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>32,260</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>239.7</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>18,330</b>	<b>49,210</b>	<b>53,010</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>34,680</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>189.2</b>
<b>Manitoba</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>7,320</b>	<b>35,120</b>	<b>34,150</b>	<b>-970</b>	<b>26,830</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>366.5</b>
Winnipeg	7,320	35,120	34,150	-970	26,830	-2.8	366.5
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>-140</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>-3.6</b>	<b>165.0</b>

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

	February 2020	January 2021 <sup>P</sup>	February 2021 <sup>P</sup>	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021	January to February 2021	February 2020 to February 2021
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>6,650</b>	<b>12,040</b>	<b>12,410</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>5,760</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>86.6</b>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>5,910</b>	<b>15,080</b>	<b>16,250</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>175.0</b>
Regina	2,210	6,490	6,920	430	4,710	6.6	213.1
Saskatoon	3,700	8,600	9,330	730	5,630	8.5	152.2
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>6,520</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>141.4</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>7,450</b>	<b>11,750</b>	<b>12,480</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>67.5</b>
<b>Alberta</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>36,560</b>	<b>131,060</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>-1,060</b>	<b>93,440</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>255.6</b>
Calgary	16,710	60,040	59,560	-480	42,850	-0.8	256.4
Edmonton	18,700	67,970	67,350	-620	48,650	-0.9	260.2
Lethbridge	1,150	3,050	3,100	50	1,950	1.6	169.6
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>7,440</b>	<b>23,680</b>	<b>23,150</b>	<b>-530</b>	<b>15,710</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>211.2</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>25,820</b>	<b>25,690</b>	<b>-130</b>	<b>15,860</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>161.3</b>
<b>British Columbia</b>							
<b>Census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>20,660</b>	<b>89,960</b>	<b>102,060</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>81,400</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>394.0</b>
Abbotsford–Mission	1,710	4,050	5,380	1,330	3,670	32.8	214.6
Kelowna	2,270	5,870	6,740	870	4,470	14.8	196.9
Vancouver	14,530	71,690	80,560	8,870	66,030	12.4	454.4
Victoria	2,160	8,360	9,380	1,020	7,220	12.2	334.3
<b>Census agglomerations</b>	<b>11,930</b>	<b>26,360</b>	<b>29,560</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>17,630</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>147.8</b>
<b>Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations</b>	<b>9,230</b>	<b>19,130</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>2,630</b>	<b>12,530</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>135.8</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. 2016 Standard Geographical Classification.

Source(s): Table [14-10-0322-01](#).

**Available tables:** [14-10-0006-01](#), [14-10-0009-01](#) to [14-10-0011-01](#) , [14-10-0137-01](#), [14-10-0322-01](#), [14-10-0323-01](#), [14-10-0343-01](#), [14-10-0344-01](#) and [14-10-0346-01](#).

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

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; [STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca)).