

Statistics Canada

Friday, April 8, 2005

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Major releases

■ Labour Force Survey, March 2005
Employment continued to show little change in March as an increase of 34,000 part-time jobs was offset by a similar decline in the number of people working full time. With fewer people looking for work, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 6.9%.

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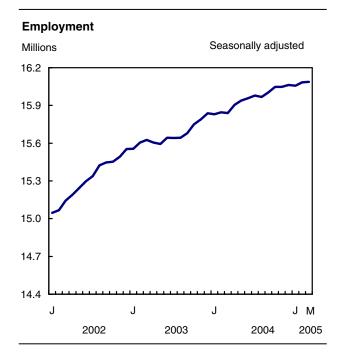
Release dates: April 11 to 15

Major releases

Labour Force Survey

March 2005

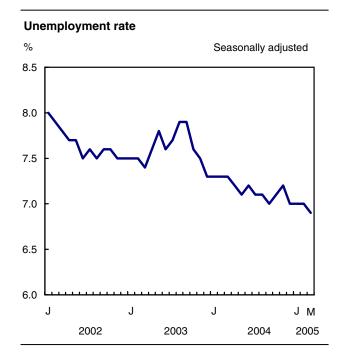
Employment continued to show little change in March as an increase of 34,000 part-time jobs was offset by a similar decline in the number of people working full time. With fewer people looking for work, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 6.9%.



Over the first three months of 2005, employment was up only 0.2% (+25,000), a growth rate similar to that in the United States. The number of hours worked was unchanged in March and has edged up 0.2% so far this year.

Sectors with the strongest employment growth in the first quarter of 2005 include retail and wholesale trade, educational services as well as finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. In contrast, the most pronounced employment losses have occurred in accommodation and food services and in manufacturing.

The only provinces with employment growth rates above the national average of 0.2% over the first three months of this year were Alberta (+0.8%), British Columbia (+0.6%) and Saskatchewan (+0.6%).



More adult men working but fewer youths

Among men aged 25 and over, employment increased by 21,000 in March, almost all part time. There was little change among adult women as a gain in part-time jobs was offset by a similar decline in full-time work. There were 21,000 fewer youths working in March.

There was modest job growth among adult men (+0.5%) and women (+0.4%) during the first quarter of 2005. The increases were mostly in part-time jobs. For youths, employment declined by 1.3% over the first three months of the year, all in full time. Weakness in youth employment over this period has been in retail trade and accommodation and food services.

Weakness in accommodation and food services

There were job losses for the second consecutive month in accommodation and food services, with losses of 18,000 in March and 20,000 in February. All of these declines occurred in food and beverage services. Compared to a year ago, employment and hours worked have declined in parts of this sector, notably in taverns and bars, possibly due to the National Hockey League lockout.

Employment fell by 15,000 in professional, scientific and technical services in March, mostly in computer system design. Despite the decline, employment in the sector is up 1.6% from 12 months ago.

There were job losses of 14,000 in transportation and warehousing in March, with drops in scenic and sight-seeing as well as air transportation. The decline continued the employment weakness observed in this sector since July of last year.

There were 11,000 more people working in public administration in March, offsetting losses observed at the start of the year. The increase in March was mainly in Quebec at the municipal level.

Employment rose by 8,000 in agriculture, the second consecutive monthly gain. The bulk of the increase in March occurred in Quebec and Ontario. Despite this increase, agricultural employment at the national level is at about the same level as a year ago.

Provincial focus

Most provinces experienced little change in both employment and unemployment in March.

There were 3,000 more people working in Newfoundland and Labrador in March with gains in natural resources and public administration. Despite this increase, employment in the province is unchanged from the level of a year ago.

The number of people working in Manitoba fell by an estimated 6,000 following a gain of 3,000 in February. This leaves employment in the province up by 0.8% (+4,000) from a year ago. Declines in March occurred in construction, agriculture and other services such as personal care.

Although employment was little changed in both Alberta and British Columbia, there were significant declines in their unemployment rates.

In Alberta, the unemployment rate fell 0.7 percentage points to a 24-year low of 3.5% in March, mainly the result of fewer people looking for work. Along with this low unemployment rate, the proportion of the employed working-age population in March (70.2%) remains near the historic high.

In British Columbia, a decline in the number of people looking for work also pushed the unemployment rate down in March, falling 0.5 percentage points

to 6.5%. The unemployment rate in March is among the lowest in two decades.

Employment was little changed in Ontario in March, as an increase of 38,000 part-time jobs was offset by a decline of 31,000 in full-time work. This leaves employment in the province up 80,000 (+1.3%) from a year ago. While there were employment losses across a number of sectors in March, there were significant gains in construction and information, culture and recreation.

In Quebec, a decline of 18,000 part-time jobs was nearly offset by a gain in full-time work, leaving employment in the province up 1.2% (+44,000) from March 2004. Despite little overall change in March, there were declines in accommodation and food services and in transportation and warehousing. These were offset by gains in educational services and public administration.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064, 282-0069 to 282-0096 and 282-0098.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

Available at 7:00 a.m. on our Web site. From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Labour Force Survey*.

A more detailed summary, Labour Force Information, is available today for the week ending March 19 (71-001-XIE, \$9/\$84). The 2004 Labour Force Historical Review on CD-ROM (71F0004XCB, \$209) is also available. See How to order products. LAN and bulk prices are available on request.

Data tables are also available in the *Canadian Statistics* module of our website.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, May 6.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720) or Danielle Zietsma (613-951-4243), Labour Statistics Division.

March

February

-18.3

-8.6

10.9

17.1

-12.8

-26.9 14.1

-19.4

7.0

14.0

85.2

163.9 67.0 96.9

February

-1.8

-1.2

1.3

0.6

-0.1

-0.3 0.6

March

-1.9

1.0

1.7

2.8

1.3 0.6 4.0

Employment by industry (based on NAICS) and class of worker for both sexes, aged 15 and over

February

707.6

823.2

3,089.2

12,994.8

10,499.9 2,494.9

1,005.8

	2005	2005	to	2004	to	2004
			March	to	March	to
			2005	March	2005	March
				2005		2005
_			Seasonally ad	ljusted		
		'000			%	
All industries	16,084.0	16,088.4	4.4	249.3	0.0	1.6
Goods-producing sector	4,006.7	4,017.5	10.8	49.2	0.3	1.2
Agriculture	324.8	333.0	8.2	1.8	2.5	0.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	300.6	298.3	-2.3	18.5	-0.8	6.6
Utilities	119.7	125.6	5.9	-8.0	4.9	-6.0
Construction	994.3	993.2	-1.1	72.1	-0.1	7.8
Manufacturing	2,267.3	2,267.5	0.2	-35.1	0.0	-1.5
Services-producing sector	12,077.2	12,070.9	-6.3	200.0	-0.1	1.7
Trade	2,548.5	2,556.2	7.7	58.7	0.3	2.4
Transportation and warehousing	798.0	783.6	-14.4	-33.2	-1.8	-4.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	989.2	1,000.7	11.5	68.2	1.2	7.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,032.9	1,018.2	-14.7	15.6	-1.4	1.6
Business, building and other support services	635.8	634.0	-1.8	19.6	-0.3	3.2
Educational services	1,068.3	1,075.9	7.6	41.7	0.7	4.0
Health care and social assistance	1,732.0	1,737.1	5.1	4.9	0.3	0.3
Information, culture and recreation	736.0	744.5	8.5	22.8	1.2	3.2
A in the table	4 005 0	007.5	40.0	40.4	4.0	4.0

987.5

699.0

834.1

3,106.3

12,982.0 10,473.0 2,509.0

Note: Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Accommodation and food services

Other services

Class of worker

Private sector

Public administration

Public sector employees

Private employees Self-employed

Employment by type of work, age and sex, seasonally adjusted

	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March
	2005	to	2004	2005	to	2004	2005	to	2004
		March	to		March	to		March	to
		2005	March		2005	March		2005	March
		2000	2005		2000	2005		2000	2005
			2000	Sea	asonally adjust				2000
		Both sexes			Men			Women	
					'000				
Employment	16,088.4	4.4	249.3	8,553.8	9.7	142.2	7,534.6	-5.3	107.1
Full-time	13,088.3	-29.5	177.2	7,612.8	-5.0	133.7	5,475.5	-24.5	43.5
Part-time	3,000.0	33.9	72.0	940.9	14.6	8.3	2,059.1	19.3	63.6
15-24	2,453.8	-20.6	31.9	1,235.6	-11.4	9.7	1,218.3	-9.1	22.3
25 and over	13,634.5	24.9	217.3	7,318.2	21.1	132.5	6,316.4	3.9	84.9
25-54	11,460.7	13.2	78.4	6,057.3	22.2	63.3	5,403.5	-8.9	15.3
55 and over	2,173.8	11.7	138.9	1,260.9	-1.1	69.2	912.9	12.8	69.6

Related CANSIM table 282-0087. Note:

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	February 2005	March 2005	February to March 2005	February 2005	March 2005	February to March 2005
			Seasonally adj	usted		
	Lab	our force		Particip	ation rate	
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	17,292.5	17,281.0	-0.1	67.4	67.3	-0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	252.2	254.3	0.8	58.6	59.1	0.5
Prince Edward Island	76.5	76.3	-0.3	68.7	68.5	-0.2
Nova Scotia	490.9	484.6	-1.3	64.6	63.8	-0.8
New Brunswick	387.7	385.9	-0.5	63.6	63.3	-0.3
Quebec	4,041.2	4,041.2	0.0	65.7	65.6	-0.1
Ontario	6,805.6	6,819.1	0.2	68.1	68.1	0.0
Manitoba	613.3	608.9	-0.7	69.2	68.6	-0.6
Saskatchewan Alberta	513.6 1,853.4	516.4 1,846.0	0.5 -0.4	68.7 73.2	69.0 72.8	0.3 -0.4
British Columbia	2,258.1	2,248.2	-0.4	66.0	65.6	-0.4
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	16,084.0	16,088.4	0.0	62.7	62.6	-0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	213.9	216.5	1.2	49.7	50.3	0.6
Prince Edward Island	68.7	68.4	-0.4	61.7	61.4	-0.3
Nova Scotia	442.8	443.1	0.1	58.3	58.3	0.0
New Brunswick	351.2	349.6	-0.5	57.6	57.3	-0.3
Quebec	3,716.2	3,710.8	-0.1	60.4	60.2	-0.2
Ontario	6,344.3	6,351.4	0.1	63.4	63.4	0.0
Manitoba	582.5	576.5	-1.0	65.7	65.0	-0.7
Saskatchewan	488.3	489.6	0.3	65.3	65.4	0.1
Alberta British Columbia	1,776.3 2,099.8	1,781.6 2,101.0	0.3 0.1	70.1 61.3	70.2 61.3	0.1 0.0
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
Canada	1,208.5	1,192.7	-1.3	7.0	6.9	-0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	38.3	37.8	-1.3	15.2	14.9	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	7.8	7.9	1.3	10.2	10.4	0.2
Nova Scotia	48.1	41.6	-13.5	9.8	8.6	-1.2
New Brunswick	36.5	36.4	-0.3	9.4	9.4	0.0
Quebec	325.1	330.5	1.7	8.0	8.2	0.2
Ontario	461.3	467.7	1.4	6.8	6.9	0.1
Manitoba	30.8	32.4	5.2	5.0	5.3	0.3
Saskatchewan	25.3	26.9	6.3	4.9	5.2	0.3
Alberta British Columbia	77.1 158.2	64.4 147.2	-16.5 -7.0	4.2 7.0	3.5 6.5	-0.7 -0.5
DOUSH COMMON						

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

	March 2004	March 2005	March 2004	March 2004	March 2005	March 2004	
	2004	2005	to	2004	2005	to	
			March 2005			March 2005	
			Unadjuste	d		2000	
	-	Labour force		Pa	articipation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	16,882.5	17,053.3	1.0	66.7	66.4	-0.3	
Newfoundland and Labrador	244.2	242.2	-0.8	56.8	56.3	-0.5	
Prince Edward Island	71.4	72.9	2.1	64.5	65.4	0.9	
Nova Scotia New Brunswick	471.9 375.4	474.1 372.8	0.5 -0.7	62.4 61.9	62.4 61.2	0.0 -0.7	
Quebec	3.952.8	3,983.9	0.8	64.9	64.7	-0.7 -0.2	
Ontario	6,668.1	6,747.2	1.2	67.7	67.4	-0.3	
Manitoba	597.9	602.8	0.8	68.0	68.0	0.0	
Saskatchewan	498.6	507.6	1.8	66.9	67.9	1.0	
Alberta	1,820.0	1,824.1	0.2	73.1	71.9	-1.2	
British Columbia	2,182.3	2,225.7	2.0	64.7	64.9	0.2	
	Employment			Employment rate			
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	15,560.3	15,800.8	1.5	61.5	61.5	0.0	
Newfoundland and Labrador	201.5	201.5	0.0	46.9	46.8	-0.1	
Prince Edward Island	61.1	63.4	3.8	55.2	56.9	1.7	
Nova Scotia	423.3	428.0	1.1	56.0	56.3	0.3	
New Brunswick Quebec	334.4 3,589.9	333.3 3,632.6	-0.3 1.2	55.1 59.0	54.7 59.0	-0.4 0.0	
Ontario	6,179.7	6,256.3	1.2	62.8	62.5	-0.3	
Manitoba	566.0	568.8	0.5	64.4	64.1	-0.3	
Saskatchewan	466.3	479.5	2.8	62.6	64.1	1.5	
Alberta	1,727.5	1,760.2	1.9	69.4	69.4	0.0	
British Columbia	2,010.7	2,077.3	3.3	59.6	60.6	1.0	
		Unemployment		Unemployment rate			
	'000		% change	%		change	
Canada	1,322.2	1,252.5	-5.3	7.8	7.3	-0.5	
Newfoundland and Labrador	42.7	40.7	-4.7	17.5	16.8	-0.7	
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia	10.3 48.7	9.5 46.0	-7.8 -5.5	14.4 10.3	13.0 9.7	-1.4 -0.6	
New Brunswick	41.1	39.5	-3.9	10.9	10.6	-0.3	
Quebec	362.8	351.3	-3.2	9.2	8.8	-0.4	
Ontario	488.4	490.9	0.5	7.3	7.3	0.0	
Manitoba	31.8	34.0	6.9	5.3	5.6	0.3	
		_					
Maniloba Saskatchewan Alberta	32.3 92.5	28.1 64.0	-13.0 -30.8	6.5 5.1	5.5 3.5	-1.0 -1.6	

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Other releases

Employment services industry 2003

The employment services industry's total operating revenue grew by 3.7% in 2003 to \$5.8 billion, marking the fourth consecutive year of revenue growth.

This industry's operating profit margin was 3.7% in 2003, down from 5.5% in 2002.

Ontario continued to dominate industry revenues with a 60% share, followed by Quebec (17%), Alberta (13%), and British Columbia (5%).

Temporary staffing activities generated \$4.1 billion in operating revenue, a 3.4% increase over 2002. Temporary staffing activities accounted for 79% of operating revenue, unchanged from 2002.

Permanent placement activities generated \$1.1 billion in revenues, an increase of 13.7% from 2002 and significantly outpacing the growth of temporary staffing activities. Accordingly, placement activities saw their share of total operating revenue increase to 20.4% from 18.6% in 2002.

Of revenues generated through temporary staffing activities, office, clerical and administrative postings accounted for 27%, followed by industrial and trades (25%), technical (12%), information technology (10%), and professional and management (10%).

Of revenues generated through permanent placements, information technology placements accounted for 43%, followed by office, clerical, and administrative (18%), technical (10%), professional and management (8%), and industrial and trades (6%).

Operating profit for the 20 largest companies increased from 2.7% in 2002 to 3.3% in 2003.

These companies generated 37.5% of the industry's operating revenue, up from 36% in 2002.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4718.

Data for the 2003 employment services industry are now available. These data cover information such as revenue, salaries and wages, profit margin and expenditures.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nancy Preston (613-951-0392; fax: 613-951-6696;

nancy.preston@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Production of eggs and poultry

February 2005 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 43.2 million dozen in February, down 3.8% from February 2004.

Poultry meat production reached 92.3 million kilograms in February, down 1.1% from February 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3424, 3425 and 5039.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca) or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; barbara.bowen@statcan.ca), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending April 2, 2005 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 2 totalled 321 827 metric tonnes, up 14.8% from 280 323 tonnes a week earlier and up 0.6% from 319 806 tonnes in the same week of 2004.

The year-to-date total as of April 2 was 4 069 754 tonnes, down 1.5% from 4 131 634 tonnes in the same period of 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Steel pipe and tubing

January 2005

Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for January.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.

The January 2005 issue of *Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing*, Vol. 29,

no. 1 (41-011-XIB, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

New products

Production and Shipments of Steel Pipe and Tubing, January 2005, Vol. 29, no. 1 Catalogue number 41-011-XIB (\$6/\$51).

Labour Force Information, Week ending March 19, 2005 **Catalogue number 71-001-XIE** (\$9/\$84).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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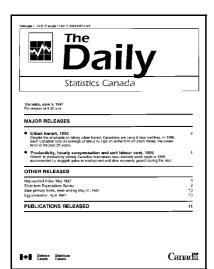
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The Daily, April 8, 2005

Release dates: April 11 to 15

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
11	Investment in non-residential building construction	First quarter 2005
12	Canadian international merchandise trade	February 2005
12	New Housing Price Index	February 2005
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	February 2005