



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, August 4, 2006

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Employment was unchanged for the second consecutive month in July, as gains in full time were offset by similar declines in part time. This leaves overall growth so far this year at 1.3% (+210,000), up from the 0.9% gain observed over the first seven months of last year.

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Nunavut Labour Force Survey

Data from the Nunavut Labour Force Survey, covering the 10 largest communities in the territory, are now available. These estimates will be available in CANSIM table 282-0054 (three-month moving average) and 282-0055 (annual), as well as in Table six of the publication *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XIE, free).

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-4090 or toll-free 1-866-873-8788; labour@statcan.ca).



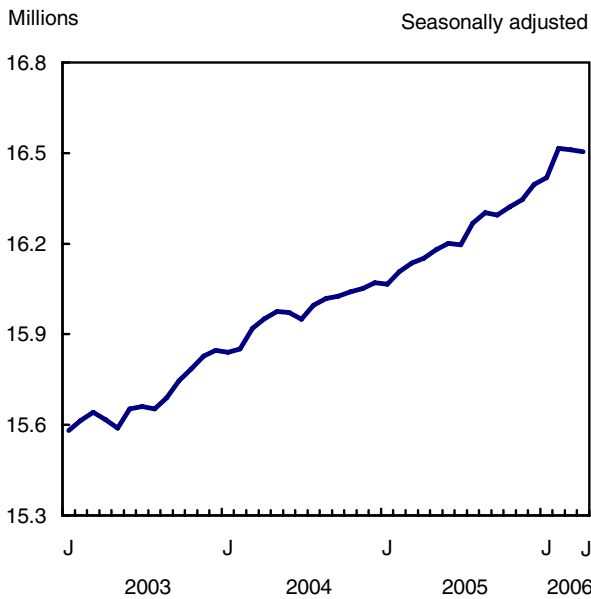
Releases

Labour Force Survey

July 2006

Employment was unchanged for the second consecutive month in July, as gains in full time were offset by similar declines in part time. This leaves overall growth so far this year at 1.3% (+210,000), up from the 0.9% gain observed over the first seven months of last year.

Employment



There was a jump in the number of people entering the labour force in search of work in July. This pushed the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 6.4%, still among the lowest in 30 years. Ontario and British Columbia accounted for the lion's share of the increase in labour force participation. After falling for much of the previous two years, labour force participation in Canada has edged up 0.2 percentage points since the start of 2006, to 67.3% in July.

For the second consecutive month, employment was little changed in almost all provinces. However, there was robust growth in the first seven months of the year in some parts of the country. Since the start of the year, the rate of employment growth in Alberta (+3.9%) was three times higher than the national average. Saskatchewan also experienced relatively strong growth over the same period (+2.3%), while

Comparing current LFS estimates to those prior to 1976

In recent months, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) has been reporting very low unemployment rates. The rates have been so low that some LFS users want to understand the historical context in which these rates are presented. Caution must be stressed when comparing recent LFS employment and unemployment estimates to those prior to 1976 — when the questionnaire underwent significant changes.

The 1976 LFS questionnaire introduced direct questioning to determine labour market status. This replaced the "main activity" style of information previously recorded. In 1975, both the new and old questionnaires were run in parallel. An analysis of the impact on employment and unemployment estimates showed that the new questionnaire measured more employment, especially among youths and women. It also picked up more unemployment, most notably among women.

At the time of the conversion to the new questionnaire, a historical series was created by adjusting pre-1976 estimates of employment and unemployment using factors determined from the parallel run. Ratios were applied to the 1966 to 1975 data to make them more (but not strictly) comparable to the new estimates. Although these adjusted 1966 to 1975 data are available, users should still be cautious when comparing the two periods because of the different questionnaires used to measure employment and unemployment. Approaching 1966, further caution should be used.

Ontario and British Columbia matched the national average.

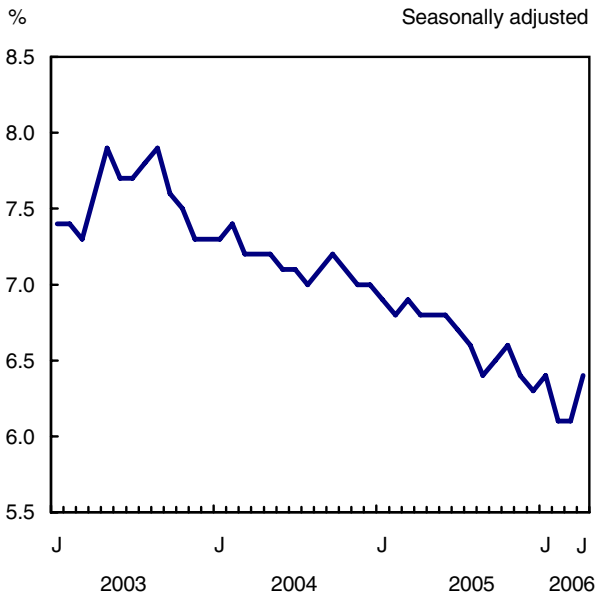
There was more employment in construction in July, especially in British Columbia. There were also more people working in public administration, mainly at the federal and municipal level.

Employment in manufacturing continued to decline, mostly in the industrial heartland of Central Canada, maintaining a downward trend that began at the end of 2002.

In the first seven months of 2006, there was strong employment growth in a number of industries, namely, natural resources (+5.6%); health care and social assistance (+5.2%); finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+4.9%) and business, building and other support services (+3.7%).

Average hourly wages were up 3.7% from July of last year, remaining above the most recent year-over-year increase of 2.5% in the Consumer Price Index. Wage growth continues to be strong in Alberta's tight labour market, jumping 7.4% from a year ago, double the rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the province. In the last 12 months, wages have surged 9.3% in Calgary.

Unemployment rate



Gains in construction and public administration

Employment increased by 22,000 in construction in July, offsetting the decrease the month before. Just over one-third of this gain occurred in British Columbia. According to estimates compiled by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, urban housing starts increased in June compared to May. British Columbia recorded the strongest increase, with urban starts rising 14.8%.

Despite the increase in construction in July, the number of people working in the industry has levelled off so far in 2006, following strong growth in the preceding two years. The most recent gross domestic product estimates for construction indicate that output fell for the three consecutive months ending in May.

In July, employment also increased in public administration, up 19,000, mostly in federal and municipal administration. Over the last two years, employment growth in public administration has kept pace with that of overall employment.

Manufacturing continued to experience weakness in July as employment fell by an estimated 33,000, bringing total losses since the end of 2002 to 224,000 or 9.6%. Compared to the decline during the recession of the early 1990s, employment fell much more sharply over the same span of time, down 338,000 or 16.0%. The losses in July were felt most strongly in Ontario and Quebec.

Employment in transportation and warehousing fell by 17,000 in July, the second significant decrease since

the start of the year. Over the last 12 months, there has been no employment growth for this industry.

Alberta leading employment growth in 2006

Although employment in Alberta paused for the second consecutive month, since the start of the year, it has grown by 3.9% (+70,000), three times the national average. The gains over this period have stemmed from solid increases in natural resources; public administration; health care and social assistance as well as construction. The province has experienced the strongest increase in working-age population in the country, contributing to robust employment growth. The unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 3.6% in July, still among the lowest in three decades.

For the second consecutive month, employment in Saskatchewan edged up 2,000, bringing total gains since the start of the year to 11,000 (+2.3%). This strong growth observed over the first seven months of 2006 has pushed the unemployment rate down 0.6 percentage points to 4.7% over the same period. Gains so far this year have been in trade; health care and social assistance; agriculture and construction. Both the province's employment rate of 65.8% and the participation rate of 69.0% reached record highs in July.

For the second consecutive month, employment was little changed in Central Canada. In Quebec, an increase of 22,000 in full-time employment was offset by a decline of similar magnitude in part time, leaving the unemployment rate virtually unchanged at 8.1% (+0.1). So far this year, employment in the province is up only 0.5%, following relatively strong growth in the second half of last year.

In contrast, employment in Ontario is up 1.3% over the first seven months of 2006, despite little change in recent months. In July, a substantial increase in the number of people looking for work pushed the unemployment rate in Ontario up 0.6 percentage points to 6.5%. While manufacturing employment has been weak in both Ontario and Quebec, the offsetting effects from gains in the service sector continue to be stronger in Ontario.

In British Columbia, more people were looking for work in July, pushing the unemployment rate up 0.4 percentage points to 4.7%, still among the lowest in the country. Along with the low unemployment rate, the province has also experienced hourly growth. Compared to 12 months ago, average hourly wages have advanced 4.0%, second only to Alberta.

Manitoba's unemployment rate increased by an estimated 1.1 percentage points in July to 4.7% as employment edged down slightly and more people entered the labour market in search of work.

New Brunswick was the only province to experience a significant employment decline in July (-3,000),

pushing the unemployment rate up by 0.9 percentage points to 8.9%. This leaves employment in the province near the same level as at the end of 2005, but still up (+6,000 or 1.7%) from 12 months ago.

With today's release, Labour Force Survey data for the 10 largest communities in Nunavut will be publicly available for the first time. These new data show a relatively low employment rate and high unemployment for the territory. On average for May to July 2006, the employment rate was 58.5% (not seasonally adjusted) while the unemployment rate was 11.6%.

The situation is very different in the other two territories, where employment and unemployment are comparable to the western provinces. For May to July, three-quarters of the working-age population were employed in the Yukon (75.8%, not seasonally adjusted) and the Northwest Territories (75.1%), while unemployment rates were below the national average, at 5.2% in the Yukon and 6.5% in the Northwest Territories.

Women continue to enter labour market

Employment among women aged 25 and over increased 16,000 in July. The labour force participation rate of adult women continued to reach record highs, up 0.3 percentage points in July to 61.6%. Overall employment among adult men remained stable. There were fewer youths employed in July (-22,000) with all of the loss in part-time.

So far in 2006, employment among adults has grown by 193,000 (+1.4%), mostly among women aged 25 and over. Over the same seven month period, youth employment has grown at a much slower rate of only 0.7% or 17,000. The fastest rate of employment growth among adults has come from older workers aged 55 and over (+4.6% or 102,000) with most of the increase among older women. The surge in the number of older workers is explained in part by demographics as more baby boomers enter this age category and is also partly attributable to a strong labour market.

Better summer employment opportunities for most students

Despite a slow start in May and June, the summer job market for students aged 20 to 24 picked up in July. Compared to 12 months earlier, a greater share of these students was employed (75.2%), up 2.2 percentage points. About two-thirds of these students worked full time this July and their unemployment rate

dropped 3.2 percentage points from 12 months ago to 5.0%, a 17-year low for July.

For teens aged 17 to 19, the employment rate increased 2.8 percentage points to 66.6% compared to July 2005. The proportion of 17 to 19 year-olds with a summer job in July had fallen for three consecutive summers prior to this increase and is now at the same level as in July 2003.

The summer job market did not improve for younger teenagers aged 15 to 16. Compared to a year ago, the employment rate among this group edged down 0.7 percentage points to 37.3%.

Note: From May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects labour market information about young people aged 15 to 24 who were attending school full-time in March and intend to return to school in the fall. The published estimates are not seasonally adjusted. Therefore, comparisons can only be made on a year-over-year basis.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

Available at 7:00 a.m. on our website. From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XIE, free) is available today for the week ending 15 July. From the *Publications* page of our website under *Free Internet publications* choose *Labour*. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The 2005 *Labour Force Historical Review on CD-ROM* (71F0004XCB, \$209) is also available.

Data tables are also now available. From the *By Subject* module of our website choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, September 8.

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

□

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

	June 2006	July 2006	June to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006	June to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands			%		
All industries	16,510.3	16,504.8	-5.5	324.4	0.0	2.0
Goods-producing sector	3,975.2	3,967.8	-7.4	-24.5	-0.2	-0.6
Agriculture	346.3	345.0	-1.3	-19.6	-0.4	-5.4
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	324.9	325.9	1.0	21.5	0.3	7.1
Utilities	121.6	125.6	4.0	-1.8	3.3	-1.4
Construction	1,051.6	1,073.9	22.3	71.8	2.1	7.2
Manufacturing	2,130.7	2,097.4	-33.3	-96.5	-1.6	-4.4
Services-producing sector	12,535.1	12,536.9	1.8	348.8	0.0	2.9
Trade	2,632.1	2,630.3	-1.8	41.4	-0.1	1.6
Transportation and warehousing	803.7	786.8	-16.9	-11.7	-2.1	-1.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,058.5	1,044.8	-13.7	53.6	-1.3	5.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,088.1	1,080.7	-7.4	46.7	-0.7	4.5
Business, building and other support services	679.5	689.7	10.2	28.8	1.5	4.4
Educational services	1,155.2	1,167.1	11.9	62.0	1.0	5.6
Health care and social assistance	1,814.6	1,811.3	-3.3	69.6	-0.2	4.0
Information, culture and recreation	748.3	750.0	1.7	13.5	0.2	1.8
Accommodation and food services	1,013.8	1,014.3	0.5	10.1	0.0	1.0
Other services	700.2	702.6	2.4	8.4	0.3	1.2
Public administration	841.0	859.5	18.5	26.7	2.2	3.2
Class of worker						
Public sector employees	3,211.6	3,211.5	-0.1	81.5	0.0	2.6
Private sector	13,298.6	13,293.3	-5.3	242.9	0.0	1.9
Private employees	10,845.1	10,836.5	-8.6	282.9	-0.1	2.7
Self-employed	2,453.5	2,456.8	3.3	-40.0	0.1	-1.6

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

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

	July 2006	June to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006	July 2006	June to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006	July 2006	June to July 2006	July 2005 to July 2006
Seasonally adjusted									
	Both sexes			Men			Women		
	thousands								
Employment	16,504.8	-5.5	324.4	8,726.1	-7.4	124.4	7,778.7	1.9	200.0
Full time	13,518.5	21.6	301.1	7,770.3	-5.2	94.7	5,748.2	26.8	206.4
Part time	2,986.3	-27.0	23.3	955.7	-2.3	29.6	2,030.5	-24.8	-6.4
15 to 24	2,529.5	-21.8	67.3	1,270.2	-8.0	39.5	1,259.3	-13.9	27.8
25 and over	13,975.3	16.3	257.1	7,455.9	0.6	84.8	6,519.4	15.8	172.3
25-54	11,629.4	8.9	160.3	6,132.9	0.3	68.2	5,496.5	8.6	92.1
55 and over	2,345.8	7.3	96.7	1,323.0	0.2	16.6	1,022.9	7.2	80.2

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	June 2006	July 2006	June to July 2006	June 2006	July 2006	June to July 2006
Seasonally adjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	thousands		% change	%		change
Canada	17,577.3	17,641.5	0.4	67.2	67.3	0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	252.0	248.7	-1.3	58.9	58.2	-0.7
Prince Edward Island	76.8	76.6	-0.3	68.4	68.1	-0.3
Nova Scotia	478.9	477.4	-0.3	62.8	62.6	-0.2
New Brunswick	389.6	390.3	0.2	63.7	63.8	0.1
Quebec	4,094.3	4,105.3	0.3	65.5	65.6	0.1
Ontario	6,934.3	6,969.0	0.5	67.8	68.1	0.3
Manitoba	610.4	614.9	0.7	68.4	68.9	0.5
Saskatchewan	514.2	514.8	0.1	68.9	69.0	0.1
Alberta	1,937.7	1,940.5	0.1	73.5	73.5	0.0
British Columbia	2,289.1	2,303.9	0.6	65.2	65.6	0.4
	Employment			Employment rate		
	thousands		% change	%		change
Canada	16,510.3	16,504.8	0.0	63.1	63.0	-0.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	214.7	212.5	-1.0	50.2	49.7	-0.5
Prince Edward Island	68.6	67.9	-1.0	61.1	60.4	-0.7
Nova Scotia	439.4	437.7	-0.4	57.6	57.4	-0.2
New Brunswick	358.5	355.5	-0.8	58.6	58.1	-0.5
Quebec	3,768.5	3,772.2	0.1	60.3	60.3	0.0
Ontario	6,522.2	6,516.4	-0.1	63.8	63.7	-0.1
Manitoba	588.5	586.0	-0.4	66.0	65.7	-0.3
Saskatchewan	488.7	490.8	0.4	65.5	65.8	0.3
Alberta	1,869.2	1,870.0	0.0	70.9	70.8	-0.1
British Columbia	2,191.8	2,195.6	0.2	62.5	62.5	0.0
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	thousands		% change	%		change
Canada	1,067.1	1,136.7	6.5	6.1	6.4	0.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	37.3	36.2	-2.9	14.8	14.6	-0.2
Prince Edward Island	8.1	8.6	6.2	10.5	11.2	0.7
Nova Scotia	39.5	39.7	0.5	8.2	8.3	0.1
New Brunswick	31.1	34.8	11.9	8.0	8.9	0.9
Quebec	325.8	333.2	2.3	8.0	8.1	0.1
Ontario	412.0	452.6	9.9	5.9	6.5	0.6
Manitoba	21.9	28.9	32.0	3.6	4.7	1.1
Saskatchewan	25.4	24.0	-5.5	4.9	4.7	-0.2
Alberta	68.5	70.4	2.8	3.5	3.6	0.1
British Columbia	97.3	108.3	11.3	4.3	4.7	0.4

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.



Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending July 29, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending July 29 totalled 305 590 metric tonnes, up 11.3% from 274 518 tonnes a week earlier and up 14.5% from 266 996 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of July 29 was 9 148 055 tonnes, up 1.8% from 8 982 456 tonnes in the same period of 2005.

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 (613-951-9497 or toll-free 1-866-873-8789; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Energy Statistics Handbook, January 1 to March 31, 2006
Catalogue number 57-601-XCB (\$54/\$161).

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Energy Statistics Handbook, January 1 to March 31, 2006
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Labour Force Information, July 9 to 15, 2006
Catalogue number 71-001-XIE
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-G, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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The Daily, August 4, 2006

Release dates: August 8 to 11, 2006

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
8	Building permits	June 2006
10	Canadian international merchandise trade	June 2006
10	New Housing Price Index	June 2006
