

# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

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### Releases

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### Perspectives on Labour and Income

March 2009 online edition

The March 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, released today, features three items.

"Earnings of women with and without children" examines the earnings differences between mothers and childless women.

"The recent labour market in Canada and the United States" compares various labour market indicators for the two countries using Canadian numbers adjusted to reflect American definitions.

The third item is an update on work absences in 2008 extracted from the publication *Work Absence Rates: 2008* (71-211-XWE, free), also released today.

The March 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 10, no. 3 (75-001-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; [henry.pold@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:henry.pold@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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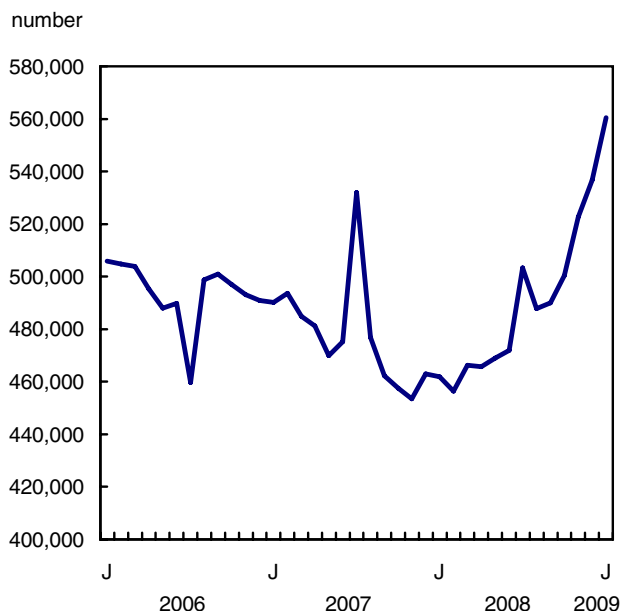
## Releases

### Employment Insurance

January 2009 (preliminary)

The number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits rose to 560,400 in January, up 4.4% or 23,700 from December.

#### Number of people receiving regular benefits



Since the most recent low recorded in February 2008, the number of regular EI beneficiaries has climbed by 104,000, or 22.8%. Over half the rise occurred in Ontario, much greater than that province's share of the labour force (39.1%).

In January, growth in the number of beneficiaries was especially strong in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario, all of which registered month-over-month increases that were above the national average.

In Alberta, 23,300 people were receiving regular EI benefits in January, up 10.5% from December. British Columbia had 56,100 beneficiaries, up 9.0%, while Ontario had 181,500, a 6.2% increase.

Over the February 2008 to January 2009 period, the number of regular EI beneficiaries has increased across the country, with the largest percentage gains in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

#### Note to readers

Employment Insurance statistics are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for December 2008 and January 2009 are preliminary.

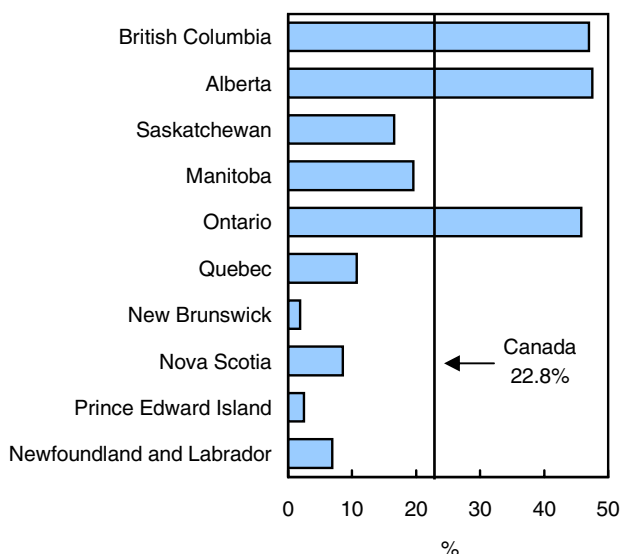
The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits from the 11th to the 17th of January. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey for January.

Regional EI data and data by sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and therefore should only be compared on a year-over-year basis. These comparisons can be influenced by unusual spikes or declines in the end points of the period.

EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with data coming from the Labour Force Survey, which provides information on the total number of unemployed.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed who do not qualify for benefits. The first are those who have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insurable. This group includes self-employed workers. The second are those who 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.

#### Percentage change in number of people receiving regular benefits from February 2008 to January 2009



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To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. Statistics on claims are an indication of the number of future beneficiaries. While the number of claims received in Canada in January (267,700) edged down from December (-2.5%), it was the second highest level since 1997, the start of the period for which comparable data are available.

In recent months, labour market conditions in Canada have deteriorated significantly. Through the early part of 2008, employment growth weakened, only to fall sharply later that year and into 2009, causing a spike in the unemployment rate. By February 2009, the unemployment rate hit 7.7%, up almost two percentage points from a record low at the start of 2008.

#### **Regional and demographic overview: Southwestern Ontario hard hit**

Virtually every census metropolitan area across Canada experienced an increase in the number of regular beneficiaries over the last year. Regional EI data and data by sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and therefore should only be compared on a year-over-year basis.

The largest increases between January 2008 and January 2009 occurred in Southwestern Ontario, where the manufacturing sector in particular experienced heavy layoffs.

In Windsor, the number of regular beneficiaries rose 81.6% to 10,600. Also affected were London (+70.3%), Kitchener (+70.0%), and Hamilton (+69.0%), as were Guelph, Woodstock, Tillsonburg and Stratford.

In Toronto, the number of regular beneficiaries increased by 48.3% between January 2008 and January 2009.

Other notable increases in beneficiaries over the 12-month period included Calgary (+61.7%), Vancouver (+55.0%) and Edmonton (+48.9%).

#### **Sharp increase in male beneficiaries**

Between January 2008 and January 2009, the increase in the number of men receiving regular EI benefits (+27.1%) was double that of women (+13.8%).

This difference between men and women was reflected in all age groups and in all provinces and territories.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.**

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

Data on Employment Insurance for February will be released on April 28.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; [labour@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Dominique Pérusse (613-951-4064) or Jane Lin (613-951-9691), Labour Statistics Division.

□

## Employment Insurance: Statistics by province

	December 2008 <sup>P</sup>	January 2009 <sup>P</sup>	December 2008 to January 2009	January 2008 to January 2009	December 2008 to January 2009	January 2008 to January 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	number		change in number		% change	
<b>Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits</b>						
<b>Canada</b>	<b>536,730</b>	<b>560,400</b>	<b>23,670</b>	<b>98,520</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>21.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	36,910	36,870	-40	1,610	-0.1	4.6
Prince Edward Island	8,030	7,790	-240	120	-3.0	1.6
Nova Scotia	29,100	29,110	10	2,240	0.0	8.3
New Brunswick	30,500	30,470	-30	280	-0.1	0.9
Quebec	170,590	175,850	5,260	15,020	3.1	9.3
Ontario	170,850	181,510	10,660	54,570	6.2	43.0
Manitoba	11,380	11,670	290	1,960	2.5	20.2
Saskatchewan	8,810	9,090	280	710	3.2	8.5
Alberta	21,120	23,340	2,220	7,370	10.5	46.1
British Columbia	51,480	56,110	4,630	18,120	9.0	47.7
Yukon	880	880	0	130	0.0	17.3
Northwest Territories	710	810	100	160	14.1	24.6
Nunavut	410	420	10	110	2.4	35.5
<b>Initial and renewal claims received</b>						
<b>Canada</b>	<b>274,700</b>	<b>267,730</b>	<b>-6,970</b>	<b>53,330</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>24.9</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,450	9,510	60	690	0.6	7.8
Prince Edward Island	2,480	2,530	50	160	2.0	6.8
Nova Scotia	10,600	9,630	-970	720	-9.2	8.1
New Brunswick	10,580	9,840	-740	370	-7.0	3.9
Quebec	78,830	72,960	-5,870	6,170	-7.4	9.2
Ontario	100,590	94,660	-5,930	27,080	-5.9	40.1
Manitoba	7,370	6,930	-440	830	-6.0	13.6
Saskatchewan	5,620	5,750	130	1,180	2.3	25.8
Alberta	19,430	21,170	1,740	7,520	9.0	55.1
British Columbia	33,130	35,120	1,990	11,130	6.0	46.4
Yukon	310	310	0	10	0.0	3.3
Northwest Territories	320	330	10	60	3.1	22.2
Nunavut	180	220	40	90	22.2	69.2

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note:** Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

## Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age, sex and province

	January 2008	January 2009 <sup>P</sup>	January 2008 to January 2009	January 2008 to January 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		Change in number	% change
<b>Canada</b>				
Both sexes	606,660	744,110	137,450	22.7
Under 25 years	66,780	82,710	15,930	23.9
25 to 54 years	430,290	527,940	97,650	22.7
55 years and over	109,600	133,460	23,860	21.8
Men	402,530	511,770	109,240	27.1
Under 25 years	51,670	65,610	13,940	27.0
25 to 54 years	276,760	353,740	76,980	27.8
55 years and over	74,100	92,420	18,320	24.7
Women	204,130	232,340	28,210	13.8
Under 25 years	15,110	17,100	1,990	13.2
25 to 54 years	153,530	174,200	20,670	13.5
55 years and over	35,490	41,040	5,550	15.6
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>				
Both sexes	46,200	48,160	1,960	4.2
Under 25 years	4,400	4,440	40	0.9
25 to 54 years	32,310	33,070	760	2.4
55 years and over	9,500	10,650	1,150	12.1
Men	28,410	30,170	1,760	6.2
Women	17,790	18,000	210	1.2
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>				
Both sexes	11,150	11,170	20	0.2
Under 25 years	1,060	1,080	20	1.9
25 to 54 years	7,490	7,340	-150	-2.0
55 years and over	2,600	2,750	150	5.8
Men	6,800	6,910	110	1.6
Women	4,350	4,230	-120	-2.8
<b>Nova Scotia</b>				
Both sexes	34,490	37,470	2,980	8.6
Under 25 years	3,590	4,010	420	11.7
25 to 54 years	24,260	26,100	1,840	7.6
55 years and over	6,640	7,360	720	10.8
Men	22,130	24,670	2,540	11.5
Women	12,360	12,800	440	3.6
<b>New Brunswick</b>				
Both sexes	40,800	41,660	860	2.1
Under 25 years	3,670	3,770	100	2.7
25 to 54 years	28,910	28,950	40	0.1
55 years and over	8,220	8,940	720	8.8
Men	27,340	28,560	1,220	4.5
Women	13,460	13,110	-350	-2.6
<b>Quebec</b>				
Both sexes	218,540	242,250	23,710	10.8
Under 25 years	26,280	29,540	3,260	12.4
25 to 54 years	153,630	168,850	15,220	9.9
55 years and over	38,620	43,860	5,240	13.6
Men	149,460	170,020	20,560	13.8
Women	69,080	72,210	3,130	4.5
<b>Ontario</b>				
Both sexes	160,290	230,330	70,040	43.7
Under 25 years	17,530	23,490	5,960	34.0
25 to 54 years	117,260	170,900	53,640	45.7
55 years and over	25,500	35,940	10,440	40.9
Men	107,350	160,210	52,860	49.2
Women	52,940	70,100	17,160	32.4

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note:** Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

## Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age, sex and province

	January 2008	January 2009 <sup>P</sup>	January 2008 to January 2009	January 2008 to January 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
<b>Manitoba</b>				
Both sexes	12,590	15,300	2,710	21.5
Under 25 years	1,710	2,100	390	22.8
25 to 54 years	8,590	10,530	1,940	22.6
55 years and over	2,290	2,670	380	16.6
Men	9,210	11,460	2,250	24.4
Women	3,380	3,850	470	13.9
<b>Saskatchewan</b>				
Both sexes	11,260	12,300	1,040	9.2
Under 25 years	1,260	1,480	220	17.5
25 to 54 years	7,570	8,140	570	7.5
55 years and over	2,430	2,680	250	10.3
Men	8,260	9,300	1,040	12.6
Women	3,000	3,000	0	0.0
<b>Alberta</b>				
Both sexes	19,610	29,060	9,450	48.2
Under 25 years	2,070	3,480	1,410	68.1
25 to 54 years	13,960	20,440	6,480	46.4
55 years and over	3,590	5,140	1,550	43.2
Men	12,650	19,670	7,020	55.5
Women	6,950	9,390	2,440	35.1
<b>British Columbia</b>				
Both sexes	49,430	73,620	24,190	48.9
Under 25 years	5,010	9,060	4,050	80.8
25 to 54 years	34,580	51,530	16,950	49.0
55 years and over	9,840	13,030	3,190	32.4
Men	29,440	48,890	19,450	66.1
Women	19,980	24,730	4,750	23.8
<b>Yukon</b>				
Both sexes	1,080	1,280	200	18.5
Under 25 years	100	140	40	40.0
25 to 54 years	770	870	100	13.0
55 years and over	220	270	50	22.7
Men	700	850	150	21.4
Women	380	420	40	10.5
<b>Northwest Territories</b>				
Both sexes	740	940	200	27.0
Under 25 years	60	90	30	50.0
25 to 54 years	570	710	140	24.6
55 years and over	120	140	20	16.7
Men	510	670	160	31.4
Women	240	270	30	12.5
<b>Nunavut</b>				
Both sexes	340	480	140	41.2
Under 25 years	30	50	20	66.7
25 to 54 years	270	390	120	44.4
55 years and over	30	40	10	33.3
Men	240	350	110	45.8
Women	110	130	20	18.2

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note:** Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

## Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by census metropolitan area

	January 2008	January 2009 <sup>P</sup>	January 2008 to January 2009	January 2008 to January 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>				
St. John's	5,390	5,710	320	5.9
<b>Nova Scotia</b>				
Halifax	5,100	6,050	950	18.6
<b>New Brunswick</b>				
Saint John	2,240	2,410	170	7.6
<b>Quebec</b>				
Saguenay	6,320	6,480	160	2.5
Québec	13,480	14,940	1,460	10.8
Sherbrooke	3,820	4,750	930	24.3
Trois-Rivières	4,450	4,870	420	9.4
Montréal	64,320	72,480	8,160	12.7
Ottawa-Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,890	4,440	550	14.1
<b>Ontario</b>				
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ottawa part	6,160	6,850	690	11.2
Kingston	1,570	1,820	250	15.9
Oshawa	4,820	5,690	870	18.0
Toronto	53,860	79,900	26,040	48.3
Hamilton	7,000	11,830	4,830	69.0
St. Catharines-Niagara	7,410	10,510	3,100	41.8
Kitchener	5,240	8,910	3,670	70.0
London	5,550	9,450	3,900	70.3
Windsor	5,820	10,570	4,750	81.6
Greater Sudbury	2,530	3,300	770	30.4
Thunder Bay	2,460	2,270	-190	-7.7
<b>Manitoba</b>				
Winnipeg	5,410	7,120	1,710	31.6
<b>Saskatchewan</b>				
Regina	1,290	1,320	30	2.3
Saskatoon	1,640	1,830	190	11.6
<b>Alberta</b>				
Calgary	5,530	8,940	3,410	61.7
Edmonton	5,730	8,530	2,800	48.9
<b>British Columbia</b>				
Abbotsford	2,430	3,580	1,150	47.3
Vancouver	16,790	26,020	9,230	55.0
Victoria	2,040	3,250	1,210	59.3

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note:** Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.



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## Study: Earnings of women with and without children

1993 to 2004

A sizeable earnings gap exists between Canadian women with children and those without children, but much of this gap can be explained by differences in work experience and other characteristics. During the period 1993 to 2004, average hourly earnings of women with children were 12% below those of women without children.

At younger ages, the gap between women with and without children was quite small. At the age of 20, for example, the earnings of women with and without children were \$8.60 and \$9.50, respectively (2004 dollars), a gap of 10%.

At the age of 30, the gap widened to 19%. Although it shrank slightly between the ages of 34 and 38, it widened further thereafter. For example, at age 40 the gap became 21%.

Much of this widening gap can be attributed to the career interruptions of mothers. Women with children had almost a six-year difference between their actual and potential work experience, while women without children had a disparity of just above one year.

Long career interruptions had a strong negative impact on the earnings of mothers. For example, the difference in average hourly earnings between childless women and mothers with more than three years of interruption was close to 30% at the age of 40.

Among mothers with different lengths of interruption, the gaps were significant only for mothers who had more than three years of interruption.

The study controlled for both observed factors (such as education) and unobserved factors such as career motivation.

The gap was also related to the number of children: it was fully explained for mothers with one child but remained significant for mothers of two or more children.

The earnings gap between single mothers and single childless women was almost twice as large as that between married mothers and married childless women. Once other individual characteristics were

controlled for, the gap for married mothers disappeared, while that for single mothers persisted.

Well-educated (more than high school) mothers incurred greater earnings losses than less educated mothers. This was still so even after controlling for other individual characteristics.

Overall, about 70% of the earnings gap was accounted for by observed individual characteristics and unobserved factors.

But persistent gaps for certain groups of mothers were still evident. In particular, lone mothers, mothers with three or more children and highly educated mothers incurred greater losses than married mothers, mothers with one child, and mothers with less than a high school education.

**Note:** This study used data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID), a longitudinal household survey that collects information on human capital investment, labour market experience, earnings and income for Canadians age 15 and over. It records important life events such as childbirth, which allows examination of the relationship between childbirth and mothers' earnings through cross-sectional and longitudinal analysis. SLID currently has three completed panels available (1993 to 1998, 1996 to 2001, and 1999 to 2004).

In this study, a sample of women age 18 to 44 was selected from the three SLID panels. The pooled sample contained 9,239 women with children and 6,393 women without children.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3889.**

The article "Earnings of women with and without children" is now available in the March 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 10, no. 3 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Xuelin Zhang (613-951-4295; [xuelin.zhang@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:xuelin.zhang@statcan.gc.ca)), Income Statistics Division. ■



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## **Steel pipe and tubing**

January 2009

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 2009 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XWE, free) will soon be available.

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

## New products

**Work Absence Rates, 2008**  
**Catalogue number 71-211-XWE**  
(free).

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

**Perspectives on Labour and Income, March 2009,**  
**Vol. 10, no. 3**  
**Catalogue number 75-001-XWE**  
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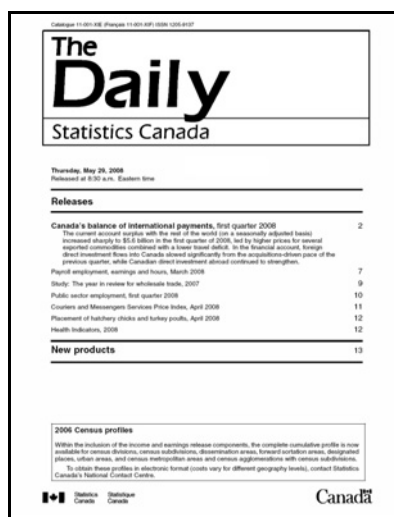
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