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New products and studies



Study: Self-employment in the downturn October 2008 to October 2009

Self-employment rose substantially during the recent economic downturn, while paid employment declined. Layoffs among paid workers might account for some of the increase in self-employment, but not all of it.

Between October 2008 and October 2009, self-employment in Canada increased by more than 100,000, or 4.3%. At the same time, paid employment fell by 480,000, or 3.3%.

The decrease in paid employment largely predated the increase in self-employment. This raises the possibility that a large portion of the newly self-employed could have been paid employees who lost their jobs in the first few months of the downturn.

However, this study found several reasons why this was unlikely to have been the case.

First, the characteristics of those who lost their jobs bore little resemblance to those who became self-employed after the first five months of the downturn. Five months after the beginning of the downturn, 28% of recently laid-off paid employees were employed by manufacturing industries. In contrast, many of those who became self-employed in the ensuing months were in services.

Second, although most laid-off employees become re-employed in a relatively short time span, only a small proportion become self-employed in the months that follow the loss of a paid job. Even if the transition rate of recently laid-off workers reached the maximum observed in the previous 14 years, laid-off workers would account for just over one-third of those who became self-employed over the period.

The study also pointed out that the growth in self-employment between October 2008 and October 2009 was not evenly distributed across demographic groups. For example, women accounted for the majority (58%) of the increase over the period even though men comprised the vast majority of the self-employed at the onset of the downturn.

Furthermore, the increase was also entirely concentrated among older workers, especially those at least 55 years of age. Despite this increase, the self-employment rate among older workers remained lower than in the late 1990s.

Changes also occurred within self-employment categories over the period as the increase was entirely among "own account" workers, that is, self-employed without paid help. In contrast, the number of "entrepreneurs," those with paid help, remained relatively stable.

Net changes in self-employment also concealed a substantial degree of entries and

exits over the period. Between October 2008 and October 2009, 285,000 individuals entered self-employment while 170,000 exited.

Note: The article "Self-employment in the downturn" uses monthly data from the Labour Force Survey to examine net changes in self-employment levels between October 2008 and October 2009. Self-employed individuals are defined as those working for themselves or working without pay for a family business, as opposed to paid workers, who are working for "others." The vast majority of self-employed workers are incorporated and unincorporated individuals with or without paid help.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3701 and 3889.

The article "Self-employment in the downturn" is now available in the March 2010 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 11, no. 3 (75-001-X, free), from the *Key resource* module or website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Sébastien LaRoche-Côté (613-951-0803; sebastien.larochelle-cote@statcan.gc.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Food services and drinking places January 2010 (preliminary)

Sales for the food services and drinking places industry increased 0.3% from December to January to nearly \$4.1 billion in current dollars. During the same period, the price of food purchased in restaurants rose 0.2%, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

In January, two of the industry's four sectors posted higher sales. The largest advance, at 0.9%, occurred in limited-service restaurants, where patrons order and pay for their meals at the counter. In drinking places, the sales increase was 0.5%.

The special food services sector, comprising food service contractors, caterers and mobile food services, recorded a 0.6% decrease in sales.

Full-service restaurants, the largest of the industry's four sectors, registered a 0.2% decline.

Provincially, Ontario (-1.0%) and Manitoba (-0.6%) were the only two provinces to record lower sales. Alberta and Nova Scotia posted sales increases of 2.4% and 1.9% respectively.

Note: All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and expressed in current dollars.

Preliminary data are provided for the current reference month. Unadjusted data, based on late responses, are revised for the two previous months. Seasonally adjusted data are revised for the three previous months. An annual revision will take place every spring to update all months in the previous year. Revisions are based on information not available at the time of initial estimates, to improve data quality and coherence.

Starting with the reference month of March 2009, estimates are based on the latest re-stratified sample. For additional information, consult the article "Monthly Survey of Food Services and Drinking Places: Impact of re-stratification" by clicking on the survey number 2419 listed below.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Racette (613-951-2924; fax: 613-951-6696; marc.racette@statcan.gc.ca) or Pierre Felx (613-951-0075; fax: 613-951-6696; pierre.felx@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division.

Food services and drinking places

	January 2009	October 2009 ^r	November 2009 ^r	December 2009 ^r	January 2010 ^p	December 2009 to January 2010	January 2009 to January 2010
Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ thousands				% change		
Total, food services sales	3,936,088	4,034,646	4,015,866	4,076,783	4,088,754	0.3	3.9
Full-service restaurants	1,727,773	1,769,085	1,771,095	1,807,894	1,804,313	-0.2	4.4
Limited-service eating places	1,667,093	1,735,795	1,726,349	1,737,995	1,754,327	0.9	5.2
Special food services	324,113	316,499	312,030	318,788	316,979	-0.6	-2.2
Drinking places	217,109	213,267	206,392	212,106	213,135	0.5	-1.8
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	47,928	50,009	49,240	49,885	50,640	1.5	5.7
Prince Edward Island	13,632	14,801	14,321	14,601	14,631	0.2	7.3
Nova Scotia	104,011	104,042	102,987	103,234	105,145	1.9	1.1
New Brunswick	75,789	80,145	80,790	80,443	81,206	0.9	7.1
Quebec	777,209	805,824	808,978	823,243	823,227	0.0	5.9
Ontario	1,475,901	1,522,000	1,514,864	1,557,059	1,541,402	-1.0	4.4
Manitoba	113,368	121,387	120,009	121,122	120,421	-0.6	6.2
Saskatchewan	108,003	116,704	116,114	116,371	117,705	1.1	9
Alberta	550,044	542,800	546,031	543,535	556,697	2.4	1.2
British Columbia	657,350	663,570	649,869	654,268	664,117	1.5	1
Yukon	4,108	4,367	4,368	4,282	F	F	F
Northwest Territories	7,172	7,639	6,950	7,198	F	F	F
Nunavut	1,573	1,358	1,345	1,542	F	F	F

^r revised

^p preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults

February 2010 (preliminary)

Data on placements of hatchery chicks and turkey poults are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.

The March data on placements of hatchery chicks and turkey poults will be available on April 27.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Plourde (613-951-8716; robert.plourde@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Performing arts

2008

Data on the performing arts industry are now available for 2008.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3108.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Performing Arts*, 2008 (87F0003X, free), will be available in May.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Binks (613-951-0521; david.binks@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Annual Survey of Traveller Accommodation

2008

Data on the traveller accommodation industry are now available for 2008.

Available on CANSIM: table 351-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2418.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Traveller Accommodation Services*, 2008 (63-253-X, free), will be available in May.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kristina Myers (613-951-2327; kristina.myers@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Family income and individuals income, related variables: Sub-provincial data

2007

Data on family and individuals income and related variables derived from the 2007 personal income tax returns filed in the spring of 2008 are now available for various sub-provincial geographies.

Available on CANSIM: tables 111-0004 to 111-0022, 111-0024 to 111-0026, 111-0032 to 111-0035, 111-0043 and 111-0044.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4105.

Data for census *Family Income* (13C0016, various prices) and *Seniors' Income* (89C0022, various prices), data for income of individuals including *Neighbourhood Income and Demographics* (13C0015, various prices), *Labour Income Profiles* (71C0018, various prices) and *Economic Dependency Profiles* (13C0017, various prices) are available for letter carrier routes, census tracts, urban forward sortation areas (the first three characters of the postal code), cities, towns, federal electoral districts, census agglomerations, census divisions, census metropolitan areas, economic regions, provinces, territories and Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-652-8443; 613-951-9720; fax: toll-free 1-866-652-8444 or 613-951-4745; saadinfo@statcan.gc.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

New products and studies

Perspectives on Labour and Income, Vol. 11, no. 3
Catalogue number 75-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics Profile
Series: "Child and Youth Victims of Police-reported Violent Crime, 2008", no. 23
Catalogue number 85F0033M2010023 (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

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