

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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In December, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits fell for the third time in four months, down 8,300 (-1.6%) to 517,000. The recent decreases brought the number of beneficiaries down to a level similar to that of the spring of 2012.

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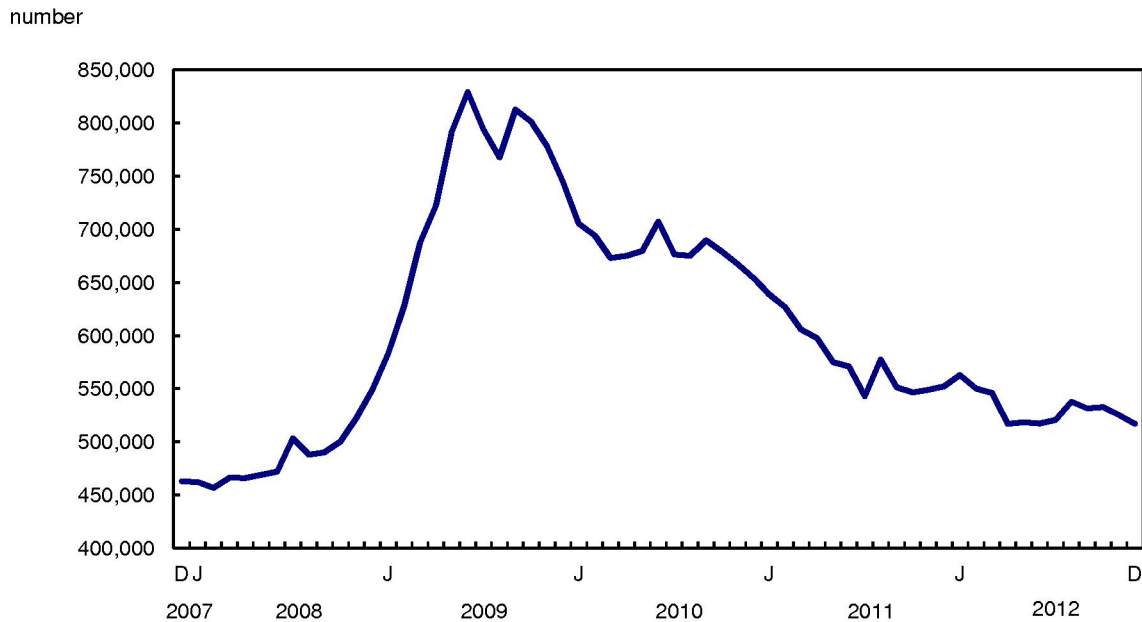
### Employment Insurance, December 2012

In December, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits fell for the third time in four months, down 8,300 (-1.6%) to 517,000. The recent decreases brought the number of beneficiaries down to a level similar to that of the spring of 2012.

All provinces had fewer beneficiaries in December, with the largest percentage decreases occurring in Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador as well as Manitoba.

**Chart 1**  
**The number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries declines in December**

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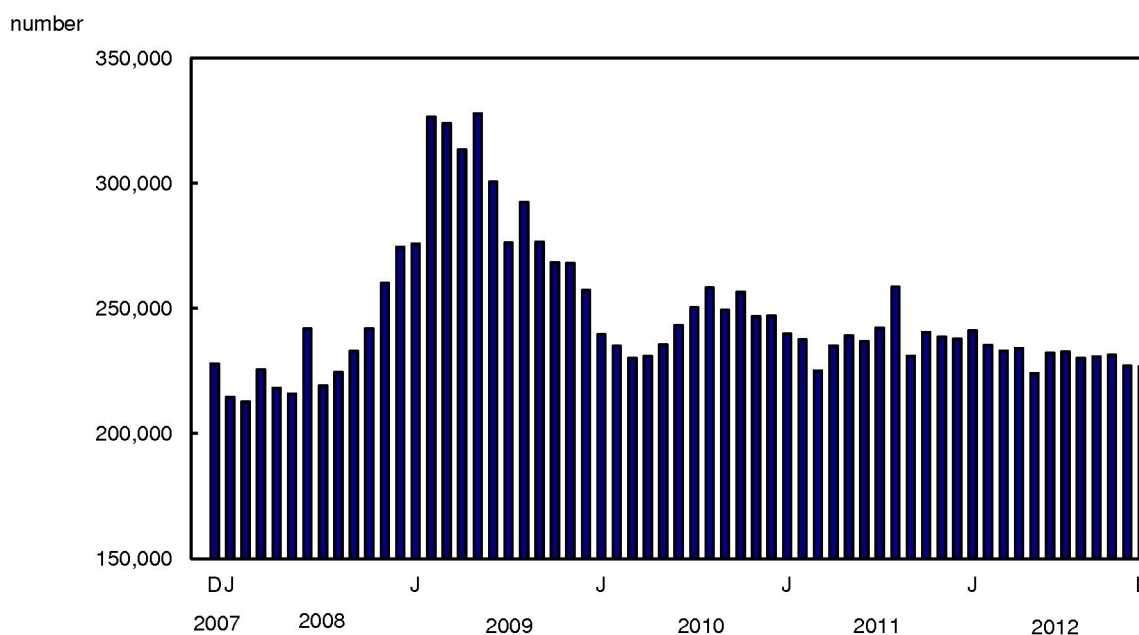
### Claims virtually unchanged in December

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Nationally, the number of initial and renewal claims totalled 226,700 in December, virtually unchanged from the previous month.

Provincially, there were fewer claims in Manitoba (-6.1%), Alberta (-3.2%), New Brunswick (-2.1%) and Quebec (-1.9%), while the number increased in Nova Scotia (+4.3%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+2.7%) and Ontario (+1.7%). There was little change in the other provinces.

**Chart 2**  
**Number of claims virtually unchanged in December**



**Fewer beneficiaries in all provinces**

The number of people receiving regular benefits fell in all provinces in December.

The largest percentage decrease occurred in Prince Edward Island, where the number of beneficiaries declined 4.6% to 7,800 in December, following four months of little change.

There was also a notable decline in Newfoundland and Labrador, where the number of beneficiaries fell by 4.1% to 32,400, continuing a downward trend that began in the fall of 2011.

The number of people receiving regular benefits in Manitoba decreased by 3.3% to 12,900 in December, following a 1.5% decline the month before.

The number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan fell by 2.5% to 9,700 in December, after little change in the previous three months.

In Nova Scotia, the number of beneficiaries declined 2.1% to 29,000, following a decrease of similar magnitude in the previous month.

Smaller declines also occurred in New Brunswick (-1.9%), Alberta (-1.7%), Quebec (-1.1%), Ontario (-0.8%) and British Columbia (-0.8%).

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### **Note to readers**

*Employment Insurance regular benefits are available to eligible individuals who lose their jobs and who are available for and able to work, but can't find a job. The change in the number of regular beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work, and people exhausting their regular benefits.*

*All data in this release are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).*

*EI statistics are produced from administrative data sources provided by Service Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. Recent examples are the pilot project entitled "Working While on Claim," introduced on August 5, 2012, and the regulation on search for suitable employment, that came into effect on January 6, 2013.*

*The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for the current and previous month are subject to revision.*

*The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all people who received EI benefits from December 2 to 8. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS).*

*EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with LFS data, which provide information on 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 is not insured. Other unemployed people 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.*

### **New content and historical revision on the way**

*Over the next few months, data on people who receive regular EI benefits will be available for the first time by occupation and detailed age group.*

*New seasonally adjusted data by sex, age, census metropolitan area, census agglomeration and occupation will also be available.*

*Seasonally adjusted series will be revised back to January 1997 to reflect the most recent seasonal factors. Geography boundaries will be updated from the 2001 to the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification (SGC), which mainly affects boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.*

*In addition, the definition of regular beneficiaries will be expanded to include those receiving regular benefits while participating in employment benefit programs, such as training. Furthermore, self-employed people receiving special benefits will be included in the special benefits category.*

*All data are available on CANSIM.*

**Table 1  
Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted**

	November 2012 <sup>P</sup>	December 2012 <sup>P</sup>	November to December 2012	December 2011 to December 2012	November to December 2012	December 2011 to December 2012
	number		change in number		% change	
<b>Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits</b>						
<b>Canada</b>	<b>525,280</b>	<b>517,020</b>	<b>-8,260</b>	<b>-35,280</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-6.4</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	33,770	32,380	-1,390	-2,780	-4.1	-7.9
Prince Edward Island	8,180	7,800	-380	-390	-4.6	-4.8
Nova Scotia	29,580	28,960	-620	-2,190	-2.1	-7.0
New Brunswick	34,010	33,380	-630	220	-1.9	0.7
Quebec	155,520	153,850	-1,670	-10,660	-1.1	-6.5
Ontario	157,860	156,580	-1,280	-6,730	-0.8	-4.1
Manitoba	13,380	12,940	-440	-210	-3.3	-1.6
Saskatchewan	9,930	9,680	-250	-400	-2.5	-4.0
Alberta	27,630	27,160	-470	-2,330	-1.7	-7.9
British Columbia	54,900	54,470	-430	-6,510	-0.8	-10.7
Yukon	960	950	-10	10	-1.0	1.1
Northwest Territories	870	830	-40	-50	-4.6	-5.7
Nunavut	560	560	0	90	0.0	19.1
<b>Initial and renewal claims received</b>						
<b>Canada</b>	<b>226,970</b>	<b>226,730</b>	<b>-240</b>	<b>-11,000</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-4.6</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,550	8,780	230	-400	2.7	-4.4
Prince Edward Island	2,370	2,420	50	-120	2.1	-4.7
Nova Scotia	9,120	9,510	390	-660	4.3	-6.5
New Brunswick	9,910	9,700	-210	-460	-2.1	-4.5
Quebec	68,130	66,860	-1,270	-2,490	-1.9	-3.6
Ontario	69,940	71,160	1,220	-3,990	1.7	-5.3
Manitoba	7,870	7,390	-480	-360	-6.1	-4.6
Saskatchewan	5,820	5,730	-90	-20	-1.5	-0.3
Alberta	17,820	17,250	-570	-1,200	-3.2	-6.5
British Columbia	26,040	26,240	200	-1,460	0.8	-5.3
Yukon	350	340	-10	-20	-2.9	-5.6
Northwest Territories	290	310	20	10	6.9	3.3
Nunavut	170	180	10	10	5.9	5.9

<sup>P</sup> preliminary

**Note(s):** The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

**Available in CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0004, 276-0006, 276-0009 and 276-0011.**

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

[Data tables](#) are also now available online. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*, choose *Subject*, then *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance for January will be released on March 21.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; [vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.

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## Machinery and Equipment Price Index, fourth quarter 2012

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) was unchanged in the fourth quarter compared with the previous quarter. The import component was up 0.1% over this period, while the domestic component was down 0.1%.

Among industries, an increase in mines, quarries and oil wells (+0.5%) and transportation excluding pipeline transportation (+0.3%) was offset mainly by a decrease in other services excluding public administration (-0.3%) and manufacturing (-0.1%).

On a commodity basis, an increase in trucks, road tractors and chassis (+1.3%) and construction machinery (+2.0%) was offset mainly by a decrease in broadcasting and radio communications equipment (-1.6%) and pumps, compressors, fans and blowers (-0.8%).

The Canadian dollar appreciated 0.4% against the US dollar in the fourth quarter compared with the previous quarter. Variations in exchange rates can have a strong influence on the MEPI given the high weight that imported machinery and equipment has on the index.

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2011, the total MEPI decreased 0.7%, with the import component down 1.8% and the domestic component up 1.2%. The movement in the import component was partly influenced by the year-over-year change in the Canadian dollar (+3.2%) against the US dollar.

### **Note to readers**

*The Machinery and Equipment Price Index provides quarterly estimates of price changes for machinery and equipment purchased by industries in Canada.*

*With each release, data for the previous four quarters may have been revised. The indexes are not seasonally adjusted.*

**Table 1**  
**Machinery and Equipment Price Index – Not seasonally adjusted**

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	Fourth quarter 2011 <sup>r</sup>	Third quarter 2012 <sup>r</sup>	Fourth quarter 2012 <sup>p</sup>	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2012	Fourth quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2012
	%	(1997=100)			% change	
<b>Total Machinery and Equipment Price Index</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>32.03</b>	<b>109.3</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>110.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Imported</b>	<b>67.97</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-1.8</b>
Crop and animal production	4.07	105.7	104.5	104.8	0.3	-0.9
Forestry and logging	0.27	103.0	103.0	103.9	0.9	0.9
Fishing, hunting and trapping	0.08	115.9	114.8	115.3	0.4	-0.5
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	0.10	103.7	103.4	103.7	0.3	0.0
Mines, quarries and oil wells	4.26	110.7	110.7	111.3	0.5	0.5
Utilities	3.55	100.5	99.2	99.2	0.0	-1.3
Construction	3.54	99.5	98.9	99.2	0.3	-0.3
All manufacturing	22.34	97.8	97.1	97.0	-0.1	-0.8
Trade	8.38	88.7	89.0	89.1	0.1	0.5
Transportation (excluding pipeline transportation)	7.66	106.5	106.1	106.4	0.3	-0.1
Pipeline transportation	1.18	107.4	107.1	106.7	-0.4	-0.7
Warehousing and storage	0.26	110.3	111.9	111.8	-0.1	1.4
Finance, insurance and real estate	19.90	82.5	81.6	81.7	0.1	-1.0
Private education services	0.12	73.1	72.1	71.9	-0.3	-1.6
Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance	2.09	86.2	86.1	86.0	-0.1	-0.2
Other services (excluding public administration)	16.39	76.6	76.1	75.9	-0.3	-0.9
Public administration	5.81	82.4	80.7	80.6	-0.1	-2.2

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

1. The relative importance in the Machinery and Equipment Price Index represent shares of capital investment by industry for year 1997. They are derived from the final demand matrix of the input-output table, compiled by the Canadian System of National Accounts.

**Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0041 and 327-0042.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.**

The fourth quarter 2012 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in April.

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index for the first quarter will be released on May 23.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

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## Construction Union Wage Rate Index, January 2013

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was unchanged in January compared with the previous month. The composite index increased 2.5% compared with January 2012.

### **Note to readers**

*Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 22 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. The indexes (2007=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.*

*The wage rates and indexes are subject to a 30-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data. This is because of the length of time that can transpire between the expiration of a collective agreement and the ratification of a new collective agreement. The wage rates and indexes are not seasonally adjusted.*

**Available in CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0045.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.**

The fourth quarter 2012 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-X) will be available in April.

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index for February will be released on March 21.

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



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## **Pipeline inventories and exports of crude oil and condensate, December 2012**

Data on closing inventories, held in Canada; tanks: crude oil and condensate; and exports of crude oil are now available for December upon request.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2148 and 2191.**

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

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## New products and studies

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### New products

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Catalogue number 11-017-X (HTML | PDF)

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Catalogue number 51-008-X (HTML | PDF)



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