

The Daily

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Releases

Employment Insurance, April 2015

There were 521,300 people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits in April, little changed from March (+0.5%) and compared with 12 months earlier (-0.4%).

For the fourth month in a row, Alberta led all provinces in terms of growth in the number of beneficiaries, with a 10.7% increase in April. British Columbia also posted a notable increase (+2.4%), while the number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan rose slightly. In contrast, the number of beneficiaries fell in Prince Edward Island (-3.5%), and also declined slightly in Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and New Brunswick.

The change in the number of regular EI beneficiaries reflects various situations, including people becoming beneficiaries, people going back to work and people no longer receiving regular benefits.

Chart 1 Number of regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0022](#).

Provincial and metropolitan area overview

The number of regular EI beneficiaries in Alberta rose for the sixth consecutive month in April, up 10.7% to 43,900. Since October 2014, the number of beneficiaries has increased by 14,600 (+49.6%). Compared with March, the number of beneficiaries increased the most for those in Alberta whose last occupation was in processing, manufacturing and utilities (+23.6%). There were also more beneficiaries among those who last worked in natural and applied sciences (+15.1%).

The number of beneficiaries in April rose for the sixth consecutive month in Edmonton (+10.4%) and Calgary (+9.3%). In the rest of Alberta, the increase was 12.2% compared with March.

British Columbia also saw an increase in the number of people receiving benefits (+2.4%), especially in the province's census agglomerations (CAs), where the increase was 3.8%, as well as in the census metropolitan areas (CMAs) of Kelowna (+3.2%) and Abbotsford–Mission (+2.9%).

The number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan edged up 1.1%, driven by a 5.2% increase in the province's CAs.

There were fewer people receiving benefits in Prince Edward Island (-3.5%) in April, the first notable monthly decrease since September 2014. The largest decline in April was in the CAs of Charlottetown and Summerside (-5.0% overall).

The number of beneficiaries edged down 1.6% in Newfoundland and Labrador, with a decline of 3.6% in St. John's.

Manitoba (-1.1%) and New Brunswick (-1.0%) also had slightly fewer beneficiaries. In Manitoba, there was a notable decline in the CMA of Winnipeg (-2.6%).

For New Brunswick, the number of beneficiaries decreased in the CAs as well as outside of the CMAs and CAs, while it rose in the metropolitan area of Saint John (+2.7%).

While Quebec posted little change in April, there was a 4.0% increase in the metropolitan area of Trois-Rivières. At the same time, the number of EI beneficiaries fell 2.0% in the province's CAs.

Ontario also saw little change in the number of beneficiaries in April compared with March. However, among the province's 15 metropolitan areas, Oshawa (+20.4%) and Windsor (+10.5%) posted notable increases.

Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation

Compared with April 2014, the number of EI beneficiaries in April 2015 was virtually unchanged.

Looking at EI recipients' last occupation, there was a large increase for those whose last job was in processing, manufacturing and utilities (+9.9%) compared with 12 months earlier.

On the other hand, there were fewer beneficiaries in other occupations, mainly for those whose last job was in art, culture, recreation and sport (-7.0%) as well as in social science, education, government service and religion (-6.0%).

Chart 2

Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries by occupation, percentage change, April 2014 to April 2015

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0041](#).

Employment Insurance beneficiaries in major demographic groups

From March to April, the number of beneficiaries among men aged 15 to 24 rose 2.9%. There was little change for most other demographic groups.

On a year-over-year basis, the number of beneficiaries decreased for women aged 25 to 54 (-4.0%) as well as for those 15 to 24 (-3.1%). In contrast, both women (+2.0%) and men (+1.7%) aged 55 and older experienced increases.

Employment Insurance claims

The number of EI claims in April declined 1.9% compared with March. The number of claims provides an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Provincially, claims declined in Prince Edward Island (-13.5%), Alberta (-8.8%) and Saskatchewan (-4.8%). There were also fewer EI claims in British Columbia (-2.8%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-2.5%) as well as in New Brunswick (-2.4%).

In contrast, the number of claims rose in Nova Scotia (+3.6%) and Manitoba (+3.2%), while there was little or no change in Quebec and Ontario, respectively.

Chart 3

Employment Insurance claims

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0004](#).

Note to readers

Regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits are available to eligible individuals who lose their jobs and who are available for and able to work, but cannot find a job. 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.

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.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

EI statistics are produced from administrative data sources provided by Service Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures.

The number of regular EI 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 April 12 to 18. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey (LFS). However, initial and renewal claims data are for the entire month.

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.

Geographical definitions

A census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA) is formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a population centre. A CMA, also referred to as a 'metropolitan area' in this release, must have a total population of at least 100,000. A CA must have a population of at least 10,000. See [Standard Geographical Classification 2011 – Definitions](#) for more information.

Table 1
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by province and territory, sex and age –
Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	number			change		% change	
Canada							
Both sexes	523,470	518,540	521,340	2,800	-2,130	0.5	-0.4
15 to 24 years	51,450	49,930	50,860	930	-590	1.9	-1.1
25 to 54 years	352,770	346,320	349,030	2,710	-3,740	0.8	-1.1
55 years and over	119,260	122,290	121,450	-840	2,190	-0.7	1.8
Men	327,890	326,800	330,840	4,040	2,950	1.2	0.9
15 to 24 years	38,750	37,480	38,550	1,070	-200	2.9	-0.5
25 to 54 years	214,680	213,310	216,530	3,220	1,850	1.5	0.9
55 years and over	74,470	76,010	75,750	-260	1,280	-0.3	1.7
Women	195,580	191,740	190,510	-1,230	-5,070	-0.6	-2.6
15 to 24 years	12,700	12,450	12,310	-140	-390	-1.1	-3.1
25 to 54 years	138,090	133,020	132,500	-520	-5,590	-0.4	-4.0
55 years and over	44,790	46,280	45,700	-580	910	-1.3	2.0
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Both sexes	31,880	32,560	32,050	-510	170	-1.6	0.5
15 to 24 years	2,760	2,900	2,890	-10	130	-0.3	4.7
25 to 54 years	19,520	19,630	19,350	-280	-170	-1.4	-0.9
55 years and over	9,600	10,040	9,810	-230	210	-2.3	2.2
Men	19,350	19,740	19,550	-190	200	-1.0	1.0
Women	12,530	12,820	12,500	-320	-30	-2.5	-0.2
Prince Edward Island							
Both sexes	7,310	7,480	7,220	-260	-90	-3.5	-1.2
15 to 24 years	790	840	820	-20	30	-2.4	3.8
25 to 54 years	4,430	4,430	4,290	-140	-140	-3.2	-3.2
55 years and over	2,090	2,210	2,110	-100	20	-4.5	1.0
Men	4,430	4,590	4,510	-80	80	-1.7	1.8
Women	2,880	2,880	2,720	-160	-160	-5.6	-5.6
Nova Scotia							
Both sexes	27,230	28,400	28,300	-100	1,070	-0.4	3.9
15 to 24 years	2,570	2,810	2,860	50	290	1.8	11.3
25 to 54 years	17,700	18,220	18,140	-80	440	-0.4	2.5
55 years and over	6,960	7,360	7,290	-70	330	-1.0	4.7

Table 1 - continued
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by province and territory, sex and age –
Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
Men	17,550	18,570	18,570	0	1,020	0.0	5.8
Women	9,680	9,830	9,730	-100	50	-1.0	0.5
New Brunswick							
Both sexes	32,390	32,360	32,050	-310	-340	-1.0	-1.0
15 to 24 years	3,460	3,520	3,580	60	120	1.7	3.5
25 to 54 years	20,090	19,760	19,500	-260	-590	-1.3	-2.9
55 years and over	8,850	9,080	8,970	-110	120	-1.2	1.4
Men	20,930	21,290	21,100	-190	170	-0.9	0.8
Women	11,460	11,070	10,960	-110	-500	-1.0	-4.4
Quebec							
Both sexes	158,740	151,130	149,970	-1,160	-8,770	-0.8	-5.5
15 to 24 years	16,240	14,080	14,140	60	-2,100	0.4	-12.9
25 to 54 years	105,540	99,500	98,650	-850	-6,890	-0.9	-6.5
55 years and over	36,970	37,560	37,180	-380	210	-1.0	0.6
Men	104,070	97,630	97,050	-580	-7,020	-0.6	-6.7
Women	54,670	53,500	52,920	-580	-1,750	-1.1	-3.2
Ontario							
Both sexes	155,850	147,390	147,100	-290	-8,750	-0.2	-5.6
15 to 24 years	13,790	12,890	12,870	-20	-920	-0.2	-6.7
25 to 54 years	110,080	103,270	103,250	-20	-6,830	0.0	-6.2
55 years and over	31,970	31,230	30,970	-260	-1,000	-0.8	-3.1
Men	93,950	88,930	89,800	870	-4,150	1.0	-4.4
Women	61,890	58,460	57,300	-1,160	-4,590	-2.0	-7.4

Table 1
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by province and territory, sex and age –
Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
Manitoba							
Both sexes	13,590	13,830	13,680	-150	90	-1.1	0.7
15 to 24 years	1,830	1,890	1,870	-20	40	-1.1	2.2
25 to 54 years	9,230	9,450	9,370	-80	140	-0.8	1.5
55 years and over	2,530	2,490	2,440	-50	-90	-2.0	-3.6
Men	8,890	9,280	9,150	-130	260	-1.4	2.9
Women	4,690	4,550	4,530	-20	-160	-0.4	-3.4
Saskatchewan							
Both sexes	11,100	12,350	12,480	130	1,380	1.1	12.4
15 to 24 years	1,450	1,650	1,740	90	290	5.5	20.0
25 to 54 years	7,320	8,110	8,210	100	890	1.2	12.2
55 years and over	2,330	2,590	2,530	-60	200	-2.3	8.6
Men	7,350	8,380	8,520	140	1,170	1.7	15.9
Women	3,750	3,970	3,960	-10	210	-0.3	5.6
Alberta							
Both sexes	30,860	39,690	43,930	4,240	13,070	10.7	42.4
15 to 24 years	3,620	4,540	4,960	420	1,340	9.3	37.0
25 to 54 years	21,560	28,010	31,470	3,460	9,910	12.4	46.0
55 years and over	5,680	7,140	7,500	360	1,820	5.0	32.0
Men	19,110	26,210	29,360	3,150	10,250	12.0	53.6
Women	11,740	13,480	14,570	1,090	2,830	8.1	24.1
British Columbia							
Both sexes	51,740	50,160	51,340	1,180	-400	2.4	-0.8
15 to 24 years	4,700	4,480	4,800	320	100	7.1	2.1
25 to 54 years	35,260	33,670	34,440	770	-820	2.3	-2.3
55 years and over	11,790	12,010	12,100	90	310	0.7	2.6
Men	30,470	30,190	31,200	1,010	730	3.3	2.4
Women	21,280	19,970	20,140	170	-1,140	0.9	-5.4
Yukon							
Both sexes	940	870	820	-50	-120	-5.7	-12.8
15 to 24 years	100	110	100	-10	0	-9.1	0.0
25 to 54 years	620	550	530	-20	-90	-3.6	-14.5
55 years and over	220	210	190	-20	-30	-9.5	-13.6
Men	600	540	530	-10	-70	-1.9	-11.7
Women	340	320	300	-20	-40	-6.3	-11.8
Northwest Territories							
Both sexes	810	750	740	-10	-70	-1.3	-8.6
15 to 24 years	70	60	60	0	-10	0.0	-14.3
25 to 54 years	600	580	570	-10	-30	-1.7	-5.0
55 years and over	140	120	120	0	-20	0.0	-14.3
Men	520	490	480	-10	-40	-2.0	-7.7
Women	290	270	250	-20	-40	-7.4	-13.8
Nunavut							
Both sexes	500	350	360	10	-140	2.9	-28.0
15 to 24 years	40	40	30	-10	-10	-25.0	-25.0
25 to 54 years	410	270	280	10	-130	3.7	-31.7
55 years and over	50	40	40	0	-10	0.0	-20.0
Men	330	220	220	0	-110	0.0	-33.3
Women	170	140	140	0	-30	0.0	-17.6

^P preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0022](#).

Table 2
Initial and renewal claims received, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	number			change		% change	
Canada	227,460	245,500	240,760	-4,740	13,300	-1.9	5.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,350	9,150	8,920	-230	570	-2.5	6.8
Prince Edward Island	2,220	2,600	2,250	-350	30	-13.5	1.4
Nova Scotia	9,350	9,650	10,000	350	650	3.6	7.0
New Brunswick	9,900	9,960	9,720	-240	-180	-2.4	-1.8
Quebec	67,720	67,260	66,610	-650	-1,110	-1.0	-1.6
Ontario	73,100	73,710	73,600	-110	500	-0.1	0.7
Manitoba	7,780	7,600	7,840	240	60	3.2	0.8
Saskatchewan	5,280	6,910	6,580	-330	1,300	-4.8	24.6
Alberta	17,380	30,240	27,570	-2,670	10,190	-8.8	58.6
British Columbia	25,420	27,470	26,710	-760	1,290	-2.8	5.1
Yukon	340	330	340	10	0	3.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	300	300	280	-20	-20	-6.7	-6.7
Nunavut	180	190	210	20	30	10.5	16.7

^P preliminary

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0004](#).

Table 3
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by census metropolitan category² – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	number		change		% change		
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Census metropolitan areas	3,980	4,160	4,010	-150	30	-3.6	0.8
St. John's	3,980	4,160	4,010	-150	30	-3.6	0.8
Census agglomerations	3,280	3,300	3,310	10	30	0.3	0.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	24,620	25,100	24,730	-370	110	-1.5	0.4
Prince Edward Island							
Census agglomerations	3,030	3,000	2,850	-150	-180	-5.0	-5.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	4,280	4,480	4,380	-100	100	-2.2	2.3
Nova Scotia							
Census metropolitan areas	5,240	5,110	5,130	20	-110	0.4	-2.1
Halifax	5,240	5,110	5,130	20	-110	0.4	-2.1
Census agglomerations	8,410	9,220	9,070	-150	660	-1.6	7.8
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	13,580	14,070	14,100	30	520	0.2	3.8
New Brunswick							
Census metropolitan areas	5,510	5,690	5,780	90	270	1.6	4.9
Moncton	3,020	3,050	3,070	20	50	0.7	1.7
Saint John	2,480	2,640	2,710	70	230	2.7	9.3
Census agglomerations	6,670	6,680	6,640	-40	-30	-0.6	-0.4
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	20,220	19,990	19,630	-360	-590	-1.8	-2.9
Quebec							
Census metropolitan areas	83,210	80,210	79,860	-350	-3,350	-0.4	-4.0
Montréal	57,810	55,600	55,120	-480	-2,690	-0.9	-4.7
Ottawa-Gatineau (Quebec part)	3,740	4,000	3,990	-10	250	-0.3	6.7
Québec	10,370	9,860	9,890	30	-480	0.3	-4.6
Saguenay	4,440	4,640	4,640	0	200	0.0	4.5
Sherbrooke	3,650	3,380	3,380	0	-270	0.0	-7.4
Trois-Rivières	3,210	2,730	2,840	110	-370	4.0	-11.5
Census agglomerations	22,590	21,460	21,030	-430	-1,560	-2.0	-6.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	52,940	49,460	49,090	-370	-3,850	-0.7	-7.3
Ontario							
Census metropolitan areas	114,000	108,230	107,880	-350	-6,120	-0.3	-5.4
Barrie	2,490	2,390	2,260	-130	-230	-5.4	-9.2
Brantford	2,000	1,960	1,870	-90	-130	-4.6	-6.5
Greater Sudbury	2,760	2,250	2,160	-90	-600	-4.0	-21.7
Guelph	1,350	1,130	1,070	-60	-280	-5.3	-20.7
Hamilton	7,370	6,730	6,570	-160	-800	-2.4	-10.9
Kingston	1,710	1,630	1,640	10	-70	0.6	-4.1
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	5,630	4,780	4,670	-110	-960	-2.3	-17.1
London	5,960	5,360	4,930	-430	-1,030	-8.0	-17.3
Oshawa	4,250	4,120	4,960	840	710	20.4	16.7
Ottawa-Gatineau (Ontario part)	7,410	7,340	7,210	-130	-200	-1.8	-2.7
Peterborough	1,550	1,430	1,390	-40	-160	-2.8	-10.3
St. Catharines-Niagara	5,960	5,050	5,250	200	-710	4.0	-11.9
Thunder Bay	1,860	1,530	1,630	100	-230	6.5	-12.4
Toronto	59,270	55,670	54,710	-960	-4,560	-1.7	-7.7
Windsor	4,430	6,860	7,580	720	3,150	10.5	71.1
Census agglomerations	18,070	16,810	17,000	190	-1,070	1.1	-5.9
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	23,780	22,350	22,210	-140	-1,570	-0.6	-6.6

Table 3 - continued

Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by census metropolitan category² – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
Manitoba							
Census metropolitan areas	7,060	7,260	7,070	-190	10	-2.6	0.1
Winnipeg	7,060	7,260	7,070	-190	10	-2.6	0.1
Census agglomerations	900	940	950	10	50	1.1	5.6
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	5,630	5,630	5,650	20	20	0.4	0.4
Saskatchewan							
Census metropolitan areas	3,600	3,920	3,920	0	320	0.0	8.9
Regina	1,440	1,480	1,460	-20	20	-1.4	1.4
Saskatoon	2,160	2,440	2,450	10	290	0.4	13.4
Census agglomerations	1,910	2,330	2,450	120	540	5.2	28.3
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	5,590	6,100	6,110	10	520	0.2	9.3
Alberta							
Census metropolitan areas	20,860	25,430	27,930	2,500	7,070	9.8	33.9
Calgary	10,290	12,380	13,530	1,150	3,240	9.3	31.5
Edmonton	10,570	13,040	14,400	1,360	3,830	10.4	36.2
Census agglomerations	4,740	6,800	7,800	1,000	3,060	14.7	64.6
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	5,250	7,460	8,200	740	2,950	9.9	56.2
British Columbia							
Census metropolitan areas	29,500	26,600	27,050	450	-2,450	1.7	-8.3
Abbotsford–Mission	2,770	2,740	2,820	80	50	2.9	1.8
Kelowna	2,370	2,500	2,580	80	210	3.2	8.9
Vancouver	21,520	18,780	19,070	290	-2,450	1.5	-11.4
Victoria	2,840	2,580	2,590	10	-250	0.4	-8.8
Census agglomerations	12,590	13,200	13,700	500	1,110	3.8	8.8
Outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations	9,650	10,360	10,590	230	940	2.2	9.7

^P preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

2. 2011 Standard Geographical Classification.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0034](#).

Table 4
Beneficiaries receiving regular income benefits¹ by occupation,² Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014	March 2015 ^P	April 2015 ^P	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	number			change		% change	
All occupations	523,470	518,540	521,340	2,800	-2,130	0.5	-0.4
Management occupations	31,510	31,440	31,780	340	270	1.1	0.9
Senior management occupations	2,800	2,840	2,810	-30	10	-1.1	0.4
Other management occupations	28,720	28,610	28,970	360	250	1.3	0.9
Business, finance and administrative occupations	64,820	62,440	62,760	320	-2,060	0.5	-3.2
Professional occupations in business and finance	5,060	4,740	4,780	40	-280	0.8	-5.5
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	17,450	16,970	17,000	30	-450	0.2	-2.6
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	42,320	40,730	40,970	240	-1,350	0.6	-3.2
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	28,370	28,260	28,830	570	460	2.0	1.6
Health occupations	7,950	7,520	7,550	30	-400	0.4	-5.0
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	1,330	1,260	1,250	-10	-80	-0.8	-6.0
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	6,630	6,260	6,300	40	-330	0.6	-5.0
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	29,070	28,350	27,340	-1,010	-1,730	-3.6	-6.0
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	15,130	15,300	14,900	-400	-230	-2.6	-1.5
Teachers and professors	13,940	13,050	12,440	-610	-1,500	-4.7	-10.8
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	9,890	9,170	9,200	30	-690	0.3	-7.0
Sales and service occupations	91,470	87,620	87,090	-530	-4,380	-0.6	-4.8
Wholesale, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	5,230	4,920	4,930	10	-300	0.2	-5.7
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	16,940	15,390	15,150	-240	-1,790	-1.6	-10.6
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	17,660	16,660	16,610	-50	-1,050	-0.3	-5.9
Occupations in protective services	4,910	4,710	4,730	20	-180	0.4	-3.7
Childcare and home support workers	15,250	15,710	15,580	-130	330	-0.8	2.2
Sales and service occupations (not elsewhere classified), including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	31,480	30,220	30,100	-120	-1,380	-0.4	-4.4
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	175,900	175,750	176,490	740	590	0.4	0.3
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	6,870	6,970	7,060	90	190	1.3	2.8
Construction trades	38,230	37,360	36,620	-740	-1,610	-2.0	-4.2
Other trades occupations	40,810	41,280	42,740	1,460	1,930	3.5	4.7
Transport and equipment operators	40,740	41,060	41,620	560	880	1.4	2.2
Trades helpers, construction and transportation labourers and related occupations	49,250	49,070	48,440	-630	-810	-1.3	-1.6
Occupations unique to primary industry	36,220	36,710	37,390	680	1,170	1.9	3.2
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	47,340	50,420	52,030	1,610	4,690	3.2	9.9
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	23,050	26,440	28,200	1,760	5,150	6.7	22.3
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	24,290	23,990	23,840	-150	-450	-0.6	-1.9

^P preliminary

1. Includes people who receive regular income benefits whether or not they participate in one of three employment benefit programs, namely the Skills Development Program, Job Creation Partnerships Program and Self-employment Program.

2. 2006 National Occupational Classification – Statistics.

Source(s): CANSIM table [276-0041](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [276-0003](#), [276-0004](#), [276-0011](#), [276-0017](#), [276-0018](#), [276-0020 to 276-0022](#), [276-0033 to 276-0035](#), [276-0040](#) and [276-0041](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2604](#).

Data on Employment Insurance for May will be released on July 23.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; 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), Labour Statistics Division.

Study: Volunteering in Canada, 2004 to 2013

The proportion of Canadians who volunteered has remained relatively unchanged at 44% over the past decade, but volunteer involvement has fallen in certain sectors. While still among the most common, volunteer participation in the education and research sector declined from 25% in 2004 to 20% in 2013 and participation in religious organizations fell from 22% to 19%.

The decrease in the education and research sector was partly explained by the decline in volunteering among Canadians aged 35 to 44—the group most likely to help out at schools. Meanwhile, the drop in the religious sector mirrors a decline in volunteering among weekly religious attendees, from 65% in 2004 to 59% in 2013.

Involvement in most other sectors has held steady over time, with the exception of a significant increase in volunteering at universities and colleges. While a minority of volunteers committed their time to this sector, the proportion has grown from 2% in 2004 to 5% in 2013.

Older Canadians less likely to volunteer but contributing more hours

Similar to previous years, the overall rate of volunteering was highest among teens aged 15 to 19, at 66%. This was followed by people aged 35 to 44, at 48%. Rates subsequently declined with age, with the lowest rates recorded among Canadians aged 75 years and older, at 27%.

While older Canadians were less likely to volunteer, they devoted more hours to their volunteer work. On average, volunteers aged 65 to 74 devoted the most hours, at 231 hours annually. This was followed by those aged 55 to 64, at 203 hours, and those 75 years and older, at 196 hours. Teen and middle-aged volunteers logged half as many hours.

Lack of time: Leading barrier to volunteering

Both women and men cited a lack of time as the leading barrier to volunteering, with 66% giving this as a reason for not volunteering. Certain barriers, like a lack of awareness and interest, were more commonly reported by men. For example, 33% of men said they were not interested in volunteer work, compared with 25% of women.

The barriers to volunteering shift as people get older. For those under 55, a lack of time was by far the biggest challenge to devoting any time to volunteering, reported by three-quarters (75%) of non-volunteers in the age group. After 55, time constraints became a less common factor (50%), while issues related to health (43%) and the preference to give money rather than time (62%) grew as reasons for not volunteering.

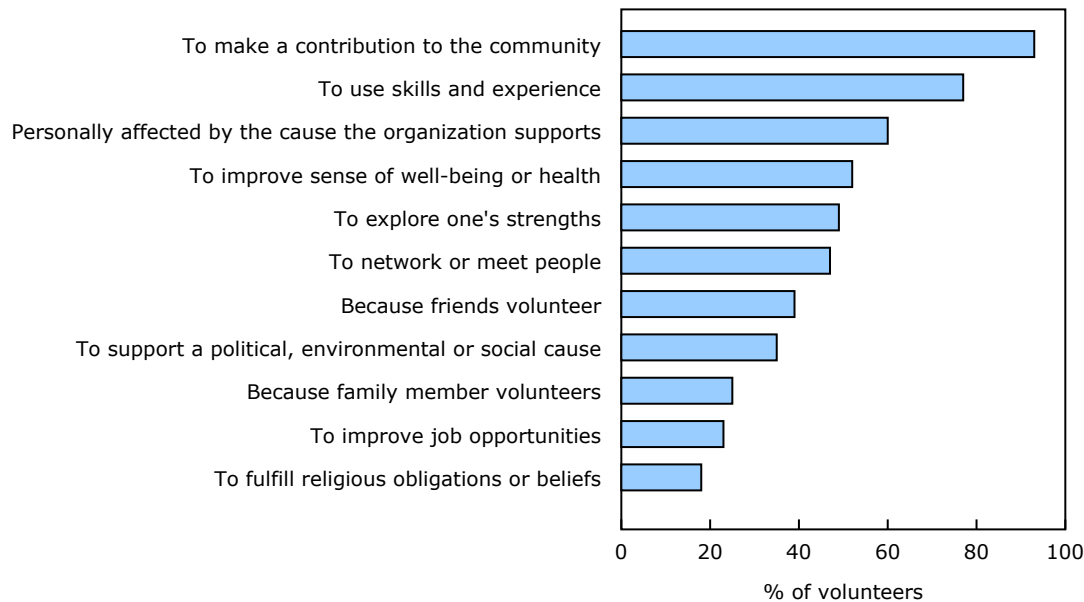
The leading barriers to volunteering have remained relatively constant over time, though the percentage of non-volunteers citing a lack of interest in volunteering increased from 23% in 2004 to 29% in 2013. A growing share said that no one had asked them to volunteer, from 40% in 2004 to 49% in 2013.

Most volunteers motivated by a desire to contribute to their communities

The vast majority of volunteers are motivated by their desire to contribute to their community, as 93% gave this reason in 2013. Additionally, 77% wanted to make good use of their skills and experience, 60% said they had been personally affected by the cause the organization supported, and 52% volunteered because they wanted to improve their own sense of well-being.

Reasons for volunteering have remained largely the same over time, although volunteering because of the involvement of friends and volunteering because of religious obligations decreased as motivations between 2004 and 2013.

Chart 1
Making a contribution to the community: Leading reason for volunteering, 2013



Note(s): Reasons for volunteering with the organization to which the volunteer gave the most hours (main organization). Volunteers were able to give multiple reasons for volunteering; therefore, responses will not total 100%.

Source(s): General Social Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating (4430).

Note to readers

Today, Statistics Canada releases a report on volunteering in Canada from 2004 to 2013, based on data from the 2013 General Social Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating and the 2004, 2007 and 2010 Canadian Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating.

For this report, the target population included all persons 15 years of age and older living in the provinces and excluded full-time residents of institutions.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4430.

The article "[Volunteering in Canada, 2004 to 2013](#)" is now available as part of *Spotlight on Canadians: Results from the General Social Survey (89-652-X)* from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Travel between Canada and other countries, April 2015

There were 2.2 million trips made to Canada in April, the highest level since February 2010.

Travel from the United States increased 0.3% to 1.8 million trips. The number of same-day car trips from the United States rose 0.9% to 617,000 trips.

Travel from overseas countries also increased, up 2.6% to 441,000 trips. Among the top 12 overseas markets, 9 recorded a gain in travel to Canada. Travel from France to Canada posted the largest increase, up 18.8% in April.

In the other direction, travel by Canadian residents abroad fell 0.6% to 4.8 million trips compared with March. This decrease was largely due to the 1.2% decline in same-day car trips by Canadian residents to the United States.

The number of trips made by Canadian residents to overseas countries increased 1.5% to 929,000 trips.

Note to readers

Monthly data are seasonally adjusted. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Overseas markets refer to countries other than the United States.

A **Canadian resident traveller** is an international traveller from Canada who has travelled outside of Canada for a period of less than 12 months.

A **non-resident traveller** is an international traveller resident of a country other than Canada who is travelling to Canada for a period of less than 12 months.

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	April 2014 ^r	March 2015 ^r	April 2015 ^p	March to April 2015
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	5,350	4,823	4,793	-0.6
To the United States	4,508	3,908	3,863	-1.1
To other countries	842	915	929	1.5
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,532	2,046	2,021	-1.2
Total trips, one or more nights	2,781	2,744	2,739	-0.2
United States ³	1,939	1,829	1,810	-1.0
Car	1,173	1,043	1,025	-1.8
Plane	669	684	687	0.4
Other modes of transportation	98	102	99	-3.1
Other countries ⁴	842	915	929	1.5
Travel to Canada²	2,104	2,195	2,211	0.8
From the United States	1,679	1,765	1,770	0.3
From other countries	425	430	441	2.6
Same-day car trips from the United States	585	611	617	0.9
Total trips, one or more nights	1,355	1,420	1,417	-0.2
United States ³	945	1,004	989	-1.4
Car	560	595	579	-2.6
Plane	276	293	297	1.5
Other modes of transportation	108	117	114	-2.6
Other countries ⁴	410	417	428	2.6
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets,⁵ by country of origin⁶				
United Kingdom	56	61	60	-2.6
China	38	44	44	0.1
France	39	35	41	18.8
Germany	30	27	26	-3.3
Australia	24	24	24	2.2
Japan	23	22	23	3.1
Mexico	14	16	17	6.0
South Korea	16	15	16	6.7
India	15	15	16	6.3
Hong Kong	10	12	12	0.6
Italy	10	11	10	-3.3
Switzerland	10	9	9	0.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Data for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and data for planes, trains, boats and other methods of transportation.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only via the United States.

5. Overseas markets refer to countries other than the United States.

6. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Source(s): CANSIM tables [427-0004](#), [427-0005](#) and [427-0006](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [427-0001 to 427-0006](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5005](#).

The April 2015 issue of *International Travel: Advance Information*, Vol. 31, no. 4 ([66-001-P](#)), is now available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Balance sheet of the agricultural sector, December 31, 2014

Equity in Canada's farm sector totalled \$452.0 billion on December 31, 2014, up \$45.1 billion (+11.1%) from the same date a year earlier. Equity increased in every province except Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia.

The value of total farm assets rose by 10.4% to \$531.5 billion in 2014, primarily as a result of continued gains in the value of farmland (+13.3%). Strong growth in the total value of livestock and poultry inventories also contributed (+48.7%), boosted by prices in the cattle sector.

Total farm liabilities increased by \$5.0 billion (+6.6%) to \$79.6 billion. The debt-to-asset ratio was 15.0% in 2014, the lowest recorded since 1997.

Note to readers

The balance sheet of the agricultural sector provides the value of farm assets used to produce agricultural products, the liabilities associated with these assets and the farm sector equity as of December 31 for Canada and the provinces.

Assets and liabilities in the agriculture sector's balance sheet include those of farm businesses and non-operator landlords (for farm real estate assets leased to farm operators and the corresponding liabilities) and exclude the personal portion of farm households. This most closely reflects the assets and liabilities used in the production of agricultural products.

The balance sheet of the agricultural sector integrates data already produced by Statistics Canada, such as farm debt, value of farm capital, livestock and crop estimates, farm product prices and selected data from the Farm Financial Survey. These data are subject to revision.

Available in CANSIM: table [002-0020](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5029](#).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Natural gas sales, April 2015

Natural gas sales totalled 7.3 billion cubic metres in April, down 3.5% from April 2014.

The volume of sales to the residential (-7.6%), commercial (-8.6%) and industrial (-0.5) sectors was down compared with the same month a year earlier.

Total sales in April were 23.9% lower compared with the previous month.

Note to readers

Data for January and March 2015 have been revised.

Table 1
Natural gas sales

	April 2014	March 2015 ^r	April 2015 ^p	March to April 2015	April 2014 to April 2015
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
Total sales	7 534 195	9 545 545	7 267 079	-23.9	-3.5
Residential ¹	1 740 553	2 421 449	1 607 990	-33.6	-7.6
Commercial ²	1 302 541	1 806 258	1 190 327	-34.1	-8.6
Industrial ³ and direct sales ⁴	4 491 101	5 317 838	4 468 762	-16.0	-0.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

Source(s): Survey on Gas Utilities/Transportation and Distribution Systems (2149).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Civil aviation operating statistics, April 2015

The two major Canadian air carriers flew 3.9 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in April, up 5.4% from the same month in 2014. On average, each passenger travelled 2 681 kilometres, up 1.1% compared with April 2014.

Both Air Canada and WestJet increased their passenger capacity and traffic in April. Capacity advanced 7.6% on a year-over-year basis to 12.6 billion available seat-kilometres, as international growth (+9.6%) for scheduled services outstripped domestic growth (+3.1%). Traffic totalled 10.5 billion passenger-kilometres, up 6.6%.

The volume of turbo fuel consumed totalled 408.3 million litres, up 5.3% from the same month a year earlier.

Note to readers

Data for Air Canada also include data for Air Canada rouge.

Data in this monthly release are not seasonally adjusted.

Available in CANSIM: tables [401-0001](#) and [401-0043](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5026](#).

A [summary table](#) is also available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Annual telecommunications statistics, 2013

Operating revenues for the telecommunications industry rose 1.3% from 2012 to \$57.2 billion in 2013. Operating expenses increased 0.6% from 2012 to \$45.0 billion in 2013. The industry's operating profit margin increased from 20.8% to 21.4%.

Mobile and paging services and Internet services had the largest percentage growth in operating revenues from 2012 to 2013. Mobile and paging services operating revenues rose 3.5% to \$21.3 billion, while Internet services operating revenues were up 6.9% to \$8.0 billion. In comparison, operating revenues from wireline telephony services (local and access services and long distance services) decreased 5.1% over the same period.

Available in CANSIM: table [356-0004](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2722](#).

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New products and studies

New products

Wholesale Trade, April 2015, Vol. 78, no. 4
Catalogue number [63-008-X](#) (HTML | PDF)

International Travel: Advance Information, April 2015, Vol. 31, no. 4
Catalogue number [66-001-P](#) (HTML | PDF)

New studies

Spotlight on Canadians: Results from the General Social Survey: "Volunteering in Canada, 2004 to 2013"
Catalogue number [89-652-X2015003](#) (HTML | PDF)



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