

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Employment Insurance

December 2008 (preliminary)

In December, 538,200 Canadians received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, up 25,000 or 4.9% from November, after seasonal adjustment.

The number of Canadians receiving regular EI benefits rose by 79,100 between December 2007 and December 2008, a 16.6% increase. The number of men receiving benefits went up 21.7% while for women the number increased by 8.6%.

The number of regular beneficiaries were up in all provinces and territories compared with the same month a year earlier, with the largest increases occurring in British Columbia (+33.2%), Alberta (+30.3%) and Ontario (+29.6%).

Most census metropolitan areas experienced an increase in the number of regular beneficiaries. The largest year-over-year changes occurred in London (+75.5%), Windsor (+61.3%), Kitchener (+50.9%) and Victoria (+49.1%).

Note: Employment Insurance Statistics Program data 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 beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits from the 7th to the 13th of December. This coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey for the month of December. The regular benefit payments figure measures the total of all monies paid to individuals during the month. Month-to-month comparisons are made based on seasonally adjusted data, which removes the effects of seasonal variations.

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 on Employment Insurance for January will be released on March 24.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4091), Labour Statistics Division.

Employment Insurance statistics

	December 2007	November 2008	December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
Regular beneficiaries	463.0	513.2 ^r	538.2 ^p	4.9	16.2
Initial and renewal claims received (thousands)	227.9	259.0 ^r	273.5 ^p	5.6	20.0
Unadjusted					
All beneficiaries (thousands) ¹	744.9	714.6 ^p	831.0 ^p		
Regular beneficiaries (thousands)	476.6	443.3 ^p	555.7 ^p		16.6
Men (thousands)	291.2	262.9 ^p	354.3 ^p		21.7
Women (thousands)	185.4	180.3 ^p	201.4 ^p		8.6
Initial and renewal claims received (thousands)	317.3	304.9	420.7		
Payments (\$ millions)	1,304.1	1,294.2	1,326.3		
Year-to-date (January to December)					
			2007	2008	2007 to 2008
					% change
Claims received (thousands)			2,649.2	2,848.0	7.5
Payments (\$ millions)			14,561.9	15,033.3	3.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. "All beneficiaries" includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (for example, as a result of layoff) or special benefits (for example, as a result of illness) and are representative of data for the Labour Force Survey reference week, which is usually the week containing the 15th day of the month.

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	December 2008 ^P	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted			
	% change		
Canada	538,180	4.9	16.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	36,880	0.5	4.2
Prince Edward Island	8,090	0.4	3.2
Nova Scotia	28,990	2.6	6.6
New Brunswick	30,490	0.5	1.8
Quebec	171,840	5.7	6.5
Ontario	167,190	4.0	29.6
Manitoba	11,220	2.1	16.5
Saskatchewan	8,710	2.6	2.7
Alberta	20,380	6.5	30.3
British Columbia	49,790	5.3	33.2
Yukon	880	-3.3	15.8
Northwest Territories	700	6.1	9.4
Nunavut	400	2.6	25.0

^P preliminary

Note: The number of beneficiaries includes all claimants who received regular benefits for the Labour Force Survey reference week, usually containing the 15th day of the month.

Canadian Vehicle Survey

July to September 2008

After four consecutive quarters in which vehicle kilometres declined compared with the previous year, Canadians drove their vehicles more during the third quarter of 2008 than they did during the same quarter a year earlier. Total kilometres driven in Canada increased by 0.7% compared with the third quarter of 2007. The distance travelled in light vehicles (weighing less than 4.5 metric tonnes) also increased by 0.7%, and heavy vehicles (weighing 4.5 metric tonnes or more) travelled 1.6% more than they had during the same quarter a year earlier.

Nationally, motor vehicle registrations were up by 2.1% for the quarter. Light vehicle registrations increased by 2.0%, while heavy vehicle registrations were 4.1% higher.

Larger style light vehicles (vans, sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks) were driven 2.9% less in the third quarter compared with the same quarter in 2007. Declines occurred in four of the previous five quarters, reversing the trend that had existed for several years where the distance driven in larger style light vehicles

converged with the distance driven in smaller style vehicles (cars and station wagons). These smaller style vehicles were driven 4.8% more in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the same quarter a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: tables 405-0005 to 405-0020, 405-0026 to 405-0042, 405-0044 to 405-0046, 405-0053, 405-0054, 405-0099 and 405-0101 to 405-0110.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2749.

The July to September 2008 issue of *Canadian Vehicle Survey: Quarterly* (53F0004XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Réjean Doiron (613-951-5680; rejean.doiron@statcan.gc.ca) or Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division.

Amusement and recreation industry 2007

Operating revenues for Canada's amusement and recreation industry amounted to \$7.4 billion in 2007, up 3.4% from 2006.

This increase was driven mainly by the skiing sector where revenues rose 9.1% to \$946.4 million. However, the operating profit margin for this sector declined from 10.1% in 2006 to 9.4% in 2007.

Golf courses and country clubs, the largest of the five recreation sectors, generated \$2.4 billion in operating revenues, almost one-third of the total.

Operating revenues rose 6.5% in the amusement parks and arcades sector, which also posted the highest operating profit margin (13.6%).

Note: The amusement and recreation industry includes golf courses and country clubs, skiing facilities, fitness and recreational sports centres, amusement parks and arcades, and all other amusement and recreational industries. All other amusement and recreational industries comprises marinas, bowling centres, and all other amusement industries. These estimates exclude data for the gambling industry. All data are expressed in current dollars.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0015.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yukman Cheung (613-951-8354; fax: 613-951-6696; yukman.cheung@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

January 2009

Aircraft take-offs and landings at Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 12.9% in January compared with the same month in 2008. These 93 airports reported 362,228 movements in January compared with 416,051 movements at 95 airports in January 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The January 2009 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)* (51-007-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

New products

Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141), January 2009
Catalogue number 51-007-XWE
 (free).

Canadian Vehicle Survey: Quarterly, July to September 2008
Catalogue number 53F0004XWE
 (free).

Retail Trade, December 2008, Vol. 80, no. 12
Catalogue number 63-005-XWE
 (free).

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

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