

Labour Force Survey, January 2016

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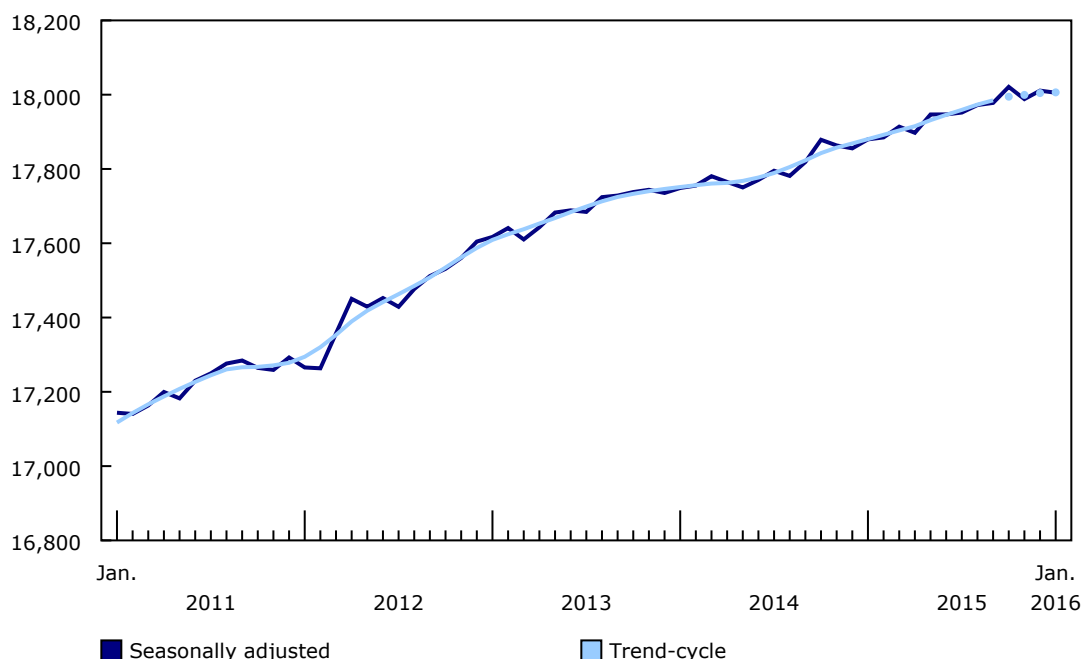
Employment was virtually unchanged in January (-5,700 or 0.0%) and the unemployment rate edged up to 7.2%.

In the 12 months to January, employment increased by 0.7% (+126,000). Over the same period, the unemployment rate rose from 6.6% to 7.2%, as the labour force grew at a faster pace than employment.

There was little change in both full-time and part-time employment in January. However, compared with 12 months earlier, full-time work increased by 172,000 (+1.2%) while part time was little changed. Over the same period, the number of hours worked rose by 1.2%.

Chart 1 Employment

thousands



Source(s): CANSIM table [282-0087](#).

In January, there were fewer employed people aged 55 and older. At the same time, employment increased among women aged 25 to 54.

There were fewer people working in Alberta, Manitoba as well as Newfoundland and Labrador in January. On the other hand, Ontario was the lone province with an employment increase.

Employment declined in agriculture; manufacturing; transportation and warehousing; and public administration. However, there were more people working in information, culture and recreation as well as in the 'other services' industry.

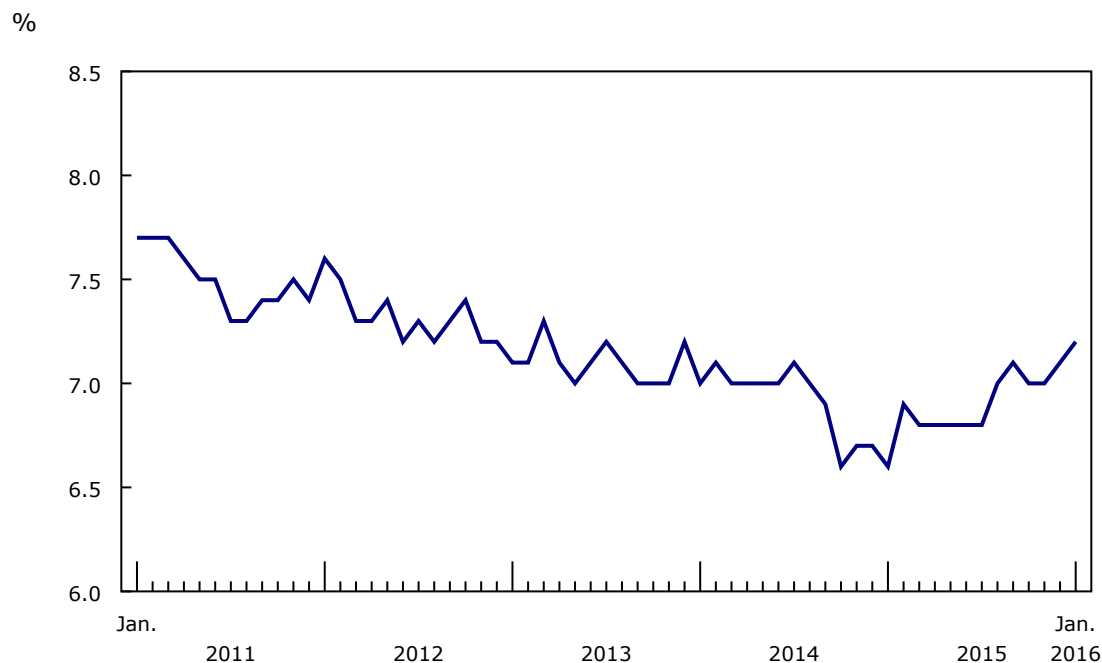
In January, there was little employment change among public and private sector employees and in the number of self-employed workers.



Statistics Canada
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Canada

Chart 2 Unemployment rate



Source(s): CANSIM table [282-0087](#).

Fewer people aged 55 and older employed

There were 24,000 fewer people aged 55 and older working in January, the first decline since November 2008, and their unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 6.1%. Despite the monthly decline, employment for this age group grew by 4.8% (+170,000) in the 12 months to January. Over the same period, the population of people aged 55 and over increased by 3.1% (+310,000).

In January, employment rose by 23,000 among women aged 25 to 54. Their unemployment rate was little changed at 5.6% as there was an increase in their labour market participation.

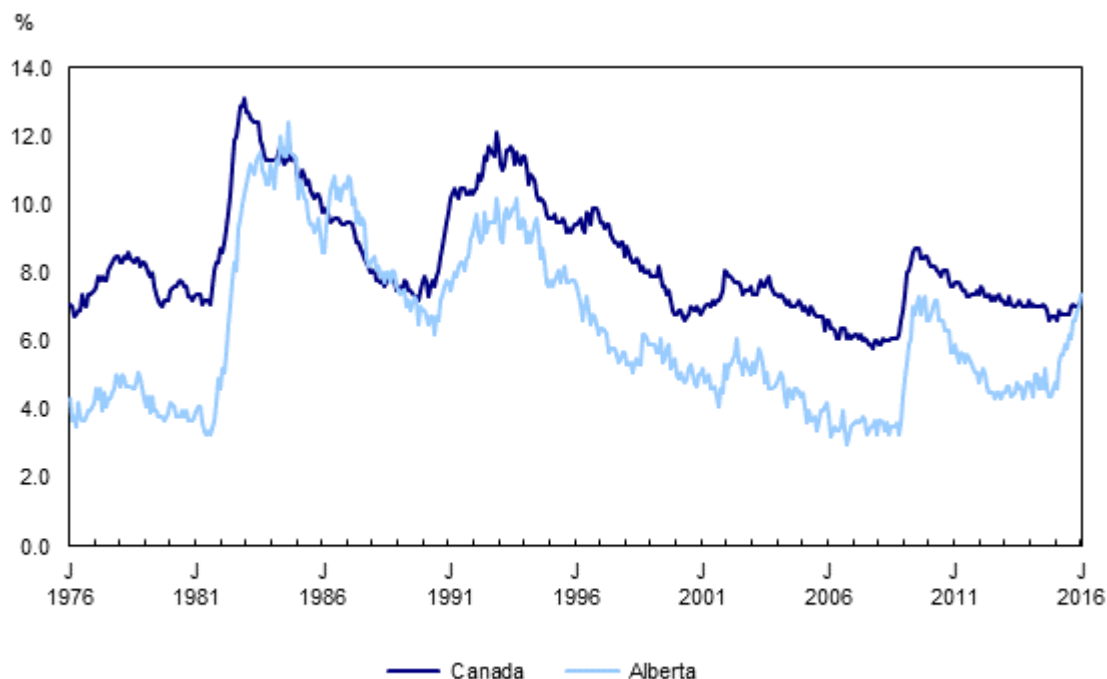
For men aged 25 to 54, employment was little changed on both a month-to-month and a year-over-year basis. However, their unemployment rate increased 1.0 percentage point to 6.7% in the 12 months to January, as more of them searched for work.

For youths aged 15 to 24, employment was virtually unchanged and their unemployment rate remained at 13.0%. However, in the 12 months to January, youth employment fell by 48,000, while their population declined by 44,000.

Employment down in Alberta, up in Ontario

Employment in Alberta decreased by 10,000 in January. This brought year-over-year declines to 35,000 (-1.5%), as losses in full-time work (-73,000) were partly offset by gains in part time (+38,000). The employment decrease in January raised the unemployment rate in the province to 7.4%, the highest since February 1996. The unemployment rate in Alberta was higher than the national rate for the first time since December 1988.

Chart 3
Unemployment rates in Alberta and Canada



Source(s): CANSIM table 282-0087.

In Manitoba, employment decreased by 5,300 in January, the second decline in three months. With these recent losses, employment in the province was down 1.0% (-6,600) compared with January 2015. At 6.1% in January, the unemployment rate was little changed as fewer people participated in the labour market.

Employment in Newfoundland and Labrador fell by 2,400 in January, continuing a recent downward trend that began in the autumn of 2015. In the 12 months to January, employment losses in the province totalled 7,400 (-3.1%). The unemployment rate was unchanged at 14.4% in January as fewer people participated in the labour market.

For a second month in a row, Ontario was the lone province with employment growth, up 20,000 in January. However, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.7% as more people participated in the labour market. In the 12 months to January, employment in the province increased by 100,000 (+1.5%).

In Quebec, employment was little changed for the sixth consecutive month in January, and was up slightly on a year-over-year basis (+31,000). The number of people looking for work edged down in January, lowering the unemployment rate by 0.3 percentage points to 7.6%.

Industry perspective

Employment in agriculture fell for a second consecutive month, down 14,000 in January, following a notable increase in November 2015. On a year-over-year basis, losses totalled 19,000 (-6.2%).

There were 11,000 fewer people working in manufacturing in January, the result of a large decline in Alberta. At the national level, employment in manufacturing was little changed over the 12 months to January.

Employment in transportation and warehousing declined by 10,000 in January but was little changed from 12 months earlier.

In January, employment decreased by 7,200 in public administration, mostly in provincial public administration. On a year-over-year basis, there was little change in employment in public administration.

Employment in information, culture and recreation rose by 16,000 in January, but was little changed compared with January 2015.

In January, there were 9,600 more people employed in 'other services,' such as personal and laundry services as well as repair and maintenance. On a year-over-year basis, employment in this industry was virtually unchanged.

Despite little employment change in natural resources for the month, declines in the industry totalled 13,000 (-3.6%) in the 12 months to January, driven by losses in Alberta.

Employment was little changed in January among public and private sector employees, as well as for self-employed workers.

Compared with January 2015, the number of public sector employees increased by 59,000 (+1.7%), driven by gains in health care and social assistance. Over the same period, there was little change in the number of private sector employees and self-employed workers.

Annual revision

A standard revision has been applied to Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates, as announced in *The Daily* on January 26 and 27.

Seasonally adjusted estimates from the LFS were revised back to January 2013 using the latest seasonal factors.

Occupation data estimates have been reclassified to the 2011 National Occupational Classification from the 2006 National Occupational Classification for Statistics.

New CANSIM tables have been created for all occupation-related series and are available from the start of each respective series. A list of the [occupation tables](#) is available.

At the same time, the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2012 replaced the NAICS 2007. This change did not affect the CANSIM tables for the LFS as there were only minor changes at the four-digit level.

Note to readers

The LFS estimates for January are for the week of January 10 to 16.

The LFS estimates are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling variability. As a result, monthly estimates will show more variability than trends observed over longer time periods. For more information, see "[Interpreting Monthly Changes in Employment from the Labour Force Survey](#)." Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries also have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication *Labour Force Information* ([71-001-X](#)).

This analysis focuses on differences between estimates that are statistically significant at the 68% confidence level.

The **employment rate** is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and older. The rate for a particular group (for example, youths aged 15 to 24) is the number employed in that group as a percentage of the population for that group.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed).

The **participation rate** is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population.

For more detailed information, see the *Guide to the Labour Force Survey* ([71-543-G](#)).

Seasonal adjustment

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted estimates, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Chart 1 shows trend-cycle data on employment. These data represent a smoothed version of the seasonally adjusted time series, which provides information on longer-term movements, including changes in direction underlying the series. These data are available in CANSIM table [282-0087](#) for the Canada-level employment series. For more information, see the [StatCan Blog](#) and [Trend-cycle estimates – Frequently asked questions](#).

Next release

The next release of the LFS will be on March 11.

**Table 1
Labour force characteristics by age and sex – Seasonally adjusted**

	December 2015	January 2016	Standard error ¹	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over							
Population	29,419.0	29,439.8	...	20.8	300.6	0.1	1.0
Labour force	19,397.3	19,395.5	29.8	-1.8	248.8	0.0	1.3
Employment	18,010.9	18,005.2	29.5	-5.7	125.5	0.0	0.7
Full-time	14,617.8	14,623.4	42.5	5.6	171.5	0.0	1.2
Part-time	3,393.1	3,381.8	39.7	-11.3	-45.9	-0.3	-1.3
Unemployment	1,386.4	1,390.3	25.3	3.9	123.2	0.3	9.7
Participation rate	65.9	65.9	0.1	0.0	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	...	...
Employment rate	61.2	61.2	0.1	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Part-time rate	18.8	18.8	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years							
Population	4,412.0	4,407.3	...	-4.7	-44.1	-0.1	-1.0
Labour force	2,808.3	2,813.0	17.4	4.7	-49.1	0.2	-1.7
Employment	2,442.5	2,447.0	16.4	4.5	-48.3	0.2	-1.9
Full-time	1,288.8	1,309.6	20.6	20.8	22.5	1.6	1.7
Part-time	1,153.7	1,137.4	21.4	-16.3	-70.8	-1.4	-5.9
Unemployment	365.8	366.0	14.9	0.2	-0.8	0.1	-0.2
Participation rate	63.7	63.8	0.4	0.1	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.0	13.0	0.5	0.0	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	55.4	55.5	0.4	0.1	-0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	47.2	46.5	0.8	-0.8	-1.9	...	...
Men, 25 years and over							
Population	12,232.6	12,244.7	...	12.1	169.9	0.1	1.4
Labour force	8,812.4	8,801.0	16.0	-11.4	164.0	-0.1	1.9
Employment	8,228.2	8,207.3	16.7	-20.9	73.1	-0.3	0.9
Full-time	7,577.0	7,549.9	23.4	-27.1	94.1	-0.4	1.3
Part-time	651.2	657.3	19.2	6.1	-21.1	0.9	-3.1
Unemployment	584.2	593.7	14.9	9.5	90.9	1.6	18.1
Participation rate	72.0	71.9	0.1	-0.1	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.7	0.2	0.1	0.9	...	...
Employment rate	67.3	67.0	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	7.9	8.0	0.2	0.1	-0.3	...	...
Women, 25 years and over							
Population	12,774.4	12,787.9	...	13.5	174.8	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,776.5	7,781.5	17.0	5.0	133.8	0.1	1.7
Employment	7,340.2	7,350.9	16.9	10.7	100.8	0.1	1.4
Full-time	5,752.0	5,763.9	27.9	11.9	54.9	0.2	1.0
Part-time	1,588.2	1,587.1	26.7	-1.1	46.0	-0.1	3.0
Unemployment	436.3	430.5	13.5	-5.8	32.9	-1.3	8.3
Participation rate	60.9	60.9	0.1	0.0	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.5	0.2	-0.1	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	57.5	57.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	...	...
Part-time rate	21.6	21.6	0.4	0.0	0.3	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)* for further explanations.

Note(s): The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [282-0087](#).

Table 2
Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS¹) – Seasonally adjusted

	December 2015	January 2016	Standard error ²	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016
	thousands			change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker							
Employees	15,194.0	15,208.5	36.5	14.5	89.4	0.1	0.6
Self-employed	2,816.9	2,796.7	26.2	-20.2	36.2	-0.7	1.3
Public/private sector employees							
Public	3,602.3	3,621.0	21.1	18.7	59.4	0.5	1.7
Private	11,591.6	11,587.5	36.6	-4.1	30.0	0.0	0.3
All industries	18,010.9	18,005.2	29.5	-5.7	125.5	0.0	0.7
Goods-producing sector	3,886.6	3,861.3	17.0	-25.3	-43.7	-0.7	-1.1
Agriculture	297.4	283.7	5.6	-13.7	-18.7	-4.6	-6.2
Natural resources ³	351.9	353.3	5.5	1.4	-13.3	0.4	-3.6
Utilities	132.3	135.6	2.6	3.3	-4.3	2.5	-3.1
Construction	1,369.4	1,364.0	11.6	-5.4	-24.7	-0.4	-1.8
Manufacturing	1,735.6	1,724.6	10.8	-11.0	17.1	-0.6	1.0
Services-producing sector	14,124.2	14,143.9	28.0	19.7	169.2	0.1	1.2
Trade	2,723.6	2,732.0	14.7	8.4	17.6	0.3	0.6
Transportation and warehousing	909.5	899.1	8.4	-10.4	-1.7	-1.1	-0.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,110.3	1,110.7	8.8	0.4	18.1	0.0	1.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,397.2	1,388.1	10.9	-9.1	38.5	-0.7	2.9
Business, building and other support services	760.3	760.3	10.4	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.9
Educational services	1,271.5	1,274.7	10.4	3.2	7.6	0.3	0.6
Health care and social assistance	2,331.1	2,342.4	11.5	11.3	90.0	0.5	4.0
Information, culture and recreation	751.3	767.1	10.0	15.8	8.7	2.1	1.1
Accommodation and food services	1,188.1	1,185.6	11.9	-2.5	-33.1	-0.2	-2.7
Other services	761.8	771.4	8.1	9.6	4.2	1.3	0.5
Public administration	919.6	912.4	7.1	-7.2	12.2	-0.8	1.4

1. North American Industry Classification System.

2. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)* for further explanations.

3. Also referred to as forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction.

Note(s): The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM tables [282-0088](#) and [282-0089](#).

**Table 3
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted**

	December 2015	January 2016	Standard error ¹	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016
	thousands (except rates)			change in thousands (except rates)		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador							
Population	443.0	443.3	...	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.0
Labour force	272.1	269.2	2.0	-2.9	0.5	-1.1	0.2
Employment	232.8	230.4	2.1	-2.4	-7.4	-1.0	-3.1
Full-time	194.7	193.8	2.7	-0.9	-7.6	-0.5	-3.8
Part-time	38.1	36.7	2.1	-1.4	0.3	-3.7	0.8
Unemployment	39.3	38.8	2.1	-0.5	7.9	-1.3	25.6
Participation rate	61.4	60.7	0.5	-0.7	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	14.4	14.4	0.7	0.0	2.9	...	...
Employment rate	52.6	52.0	0.5	-0.6	-1.6	...	...
Prince Edward Island							
Population	121.2	121.2	...	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3
Labour force	80.6	80.1	0.6	-0.5	-2.4	-0.6	-2.9
Employment	72.8	72.4	0.6	-0.4	-1.6	-0.5	-2.2
Full-time	60.7	60.6	0.9	-0.1	-1.5	-0.2	-2.4
Part-time	12.1	11.8	0.7	-0.3	-0.1	-2.5	-0.8
Unemployment	7.9	7.6	0.6	-0.3	-0.9	-3.8	-10.6
Participation rate	66.5	66.1	0.5	-0.4	-2.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.8	9.5	0.7	-0.3	-0.8	...	...
Employment rate	60.1	59.7	0.5	-0.4	-1.6	...	...
Nova Scotia							
Population	787.0	787.1	...	0.1	3.0	0.0	0.4
Labour force	488.1	484.8	2.7	-3.3	-6.8	-0.7	-1.4
Employment	445.9	443.5	2.7	-2.4	-7.0	-0.5	-1.6
Full-time	368.4	365.5	3.8	-2.9	-3.3	-0.8	-0.9
Part-time	77.5	78.0	3.3	0.5	-3.7	0.6	-4.5
Unemployment	42.2	41.4	2.5	-0.8	0.3	-1.9	0.7
Participation rate	62.0	61.6	0.3	-0.4	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.6	8.5	0.5	-0.1	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	56.7	56.3	0.3	-0.4	-1.2	...	...
New Brunswick							
Population	621.9	622.2	...	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0
Labour force	387.3	387.5	2.2	0.2	-6.3	0.1	-1.6
Employment	352.8	351.7	2.3	-1.1	-2.4	-0.3	-0.7
Full-time	301.3	296.7	3.0	-4.6	-2.0	-1.5	-0.7
Part-time	51.5	55.0	2.6	3.5	-0.4	6.8	-0.7
Unemployment	34.5	35.9	2.1	1.4	-3.8	4.1	-9.6
Participation rate	62.3	62.3	0.4	0.0	-1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.9	9.3	0.5	0.4	-0.8	...	...
Employment rate	56.7	56.5	0.4	-0.2	-0.4	...	...
Quebec							
Population	6,862.2	6,865.9	...	3.7	40.9	0.1	0.6
Labour force	4,459.8	4,445.2	15.6	-14.6	44.0	-0.3	1.0
Employment	4,109.6	4,106.4	15.9	-3.2	30.5	-0.1	0.7
Full-time	3,310.5	3,324.4	22.5	13.9	67.4	0.4	2.1
Part-time	799.1	781.9	20.9	-17.2	-37.0	-2.2	-4.5
Unemployment	350.2	338.8	13.7	-11.4	13.5	-3.3	4.2
Participation rate	65.0	64.7	0.2	-0.3	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.9	7.6	0.3	-0.3	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	59.9	59.8	0.2	-0.1	0.1	...	...

Table 3 - continued
Labour force characteristics by province – Seasonally adjusted

	December 2015	January 2016	Standard error ¹	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016	December 2015 to January 2016	January 2015 to January 2016
Ontario							
Population	11,444.5	11,454.5	...	10.0	125.4	0.1	1.1
Labour force	7,466.2	7,491.4	19.8	25.2	99.6	0.3	1.3
Employment	6,966.1	6,985.9	19.3	19.8	100.2	0.3	1.5
Full-time	5,684.0	5,700.3	28.0	16.3	180.6	0.3	3.3
Part-time	1,282.0	1,285.6	26.2	3.6	-80.4	0.3	-5.9
Unemployment	500.1	505.6	17.0	5.5	-0.5	1.1	-0.1
Participation rate	65.2	65.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.7	6.7	0.2	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	60.9	61.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	...	...
Manitoba							
Population	991.9	992.8	...	0.9	10.3	0.1	1.0
Labour force	674.2	669.5	2.5	-4.7	-6.2	-0.7	-0.9
Employment	634.0	628.7	2.6	-5.3	-6.6	-0.8	-1.0
Full-time	506.5	507.6	3.8	1.1	-11.1	0.2	-2.1
Part-time	127.6	121.1	3.6	-6.5	4.5	-5.1	3.9
Unemployment	40.1	40.8	2.1	0.7	0.5	1.7	1.2
Participation rate	68.0	67.4	0.3	-0.6	-1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.9	6.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	63.9	63.3	0.3	-0.6	-1.4	...	...
Saskatchewan							
Population	865.0	865.2	...	0.2	7.4	0.0	0.9
Labour force	608.6	607.0	2.6	-1.6	13.2	-0.3	2.2
Employment	575.1	573.3	2.7	-1.8	6.4	-0.3	1.1
Full-time	478.9	472.9	3.8	-6.0	5.1	-1.3	1.1
Part-time	96.2	100.4	3.5	4.2	1.3	4.4	1.3
Unemployment	33.6	33.7	2.1	0.1	6.8	0.3	25.3
Participation rate	70.4	70.2	0.3	-0.2	1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.5	5.6	0.3	0.1	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	66.5	66.3	0.3	-0.2	0.2	...	...
Alberta							
Population	3,379.0	3,381.7	...	2.7	58.7	0.1	1.8
Labour force	2,457.1	2,457.8	9.8	0.7	34.2	0.0	1.4
Employment	2,286.1	2,276.1	9.8	-10.0	-35.0	-0.4	-1.5
Full-time	1,880.9	1,859.0	14.1	-21.9	-73.0	-1.2	-3.8
Part-time	405.2	417.1	13.1	11.9	38.0	2.9	10.0
Unemployment	171.0	181.7	8.1	10.7	69.2	6.3	61.5
Participation rate	72.7	72.7	0.3	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.4	0.3	0.4	2.8	...	...
Employment rate	67.7	67.3	0.3	-0.4	-2.2	...	...
British Columbia							
Population	3,903.2	3,905.9	...	2.7	54.3	0.1	1.4
Labour force	2,503.2	2,503.0	10.5	-0.2	78.9	0.0	3.3
Employment	2,335.7	2,336.9	10.6	1.2	48.6	0.1	2.1
Full-time	1,831.9	1,842.6	15.6	10.7	16.8	0.6	0.9
Part-time	503.8	494.3	14.8	-9.5	31.8	-1.9	6.9
Unemployment	167.5	166.0	8.5	-1.5	30.2	-0.9	22.2
Participation rate	64.1	64.1	0.3	0.0	1.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.7	6.6	0.3	-0.1	1.0	...	...
Employment rate	59.8	59.8	0.3	0.0	0.4	...	...

... not applicable

1. Average standard error for change in two consecutive months. See "Sampling variability of estimates" in the section "About the Labour Force Survey" at the end of the publication *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)* for further explanations.

Note(s): The sum of individual categories may not always add up to the total as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [282-0087](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [282-0001](#), [282-0003](#), [282-0005 to 282-0007](#), [282-0011](#), [282-0013](#), [282-0015](#), [282-0017](#), [282-0019](#), [282-0021](#), [282-0027](#), [282-0032](#), [282-0035](#), [282-0037](#), [282-0041](#), [282-0047](#), [282-0049](#), [282-0071](#), [282-0073](#), [282-0075](#), [282-0077](#), [282-0079](#), [282-0083](#), [282-0085](#), [282-0087 to 282-0089](#), [282-0092](#), [282-0094](#), [282-0100](#), [282-0101](#), [282-0103](#), [282-0105](#), [282-0107](#), [282-0122](#), [282-0124](#), [282-0128](#), [282-0130](#), [282-0135 to 282-0137](#), [282-0139](#), [282-0141](#), [282-0143](#), [282-0145](#), [282-0147](#), [282-0149](#), [282-0151](#), [282-0153](#), [282-0155](#), [282-0156](#), [282-0158](#), [282-0160](#), [282-0162](#), [282-0167](#), [282-0200](#), [282-0204](#), [282-0208](#), [282-0210](#), [282-0212](#), [282-0214](#), [282-0216](#) and [282-0218](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [3701](#).

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information (71-001-X)*, is now available for the week ending January 16. From the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*, choose *All subjects* then *Labour*.

[Summary tables](#) are now available online. From the *Browse by subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

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