

# Latest release from the Labour Force Survey

Released at 7:00 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, March 12, 2010

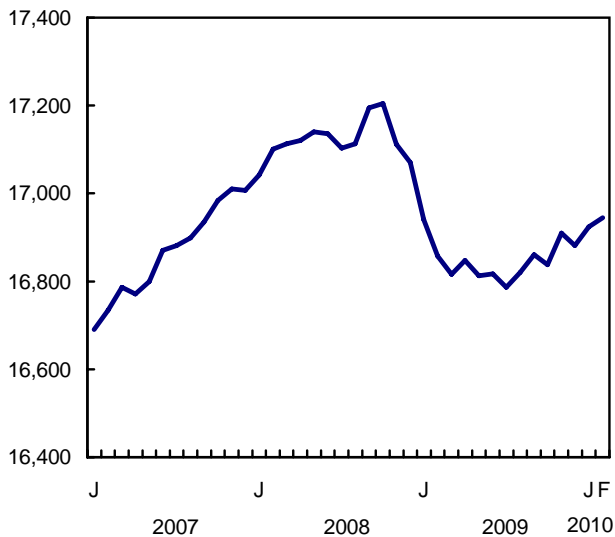
## Labour Force Survey

February 2010

Employment rose by 21,000 in February, with large gains in full-time work partly offset by losses in part time. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 8.2% in February.

### Employment

thousands



Employment has been on an upward trend since July 2009 (+159,000). This contrasts with the sharp drop of 417,000 between the peak in October 2008 and July 2009.

Underlying February's employment change was a notable gain in full-time work (+60,000), which was partially offset by a decline in part time (-39,000). Since the summer of 2009, employment growth has been all in full time.

Men aged 55 and over accounted for all of February's employment gain.

February's increase was among public sector employees (+46,000). Compared with the summer of 2009, the number of public and private sector employees has risen, while self-employment has edged down.

### Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will 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, free).

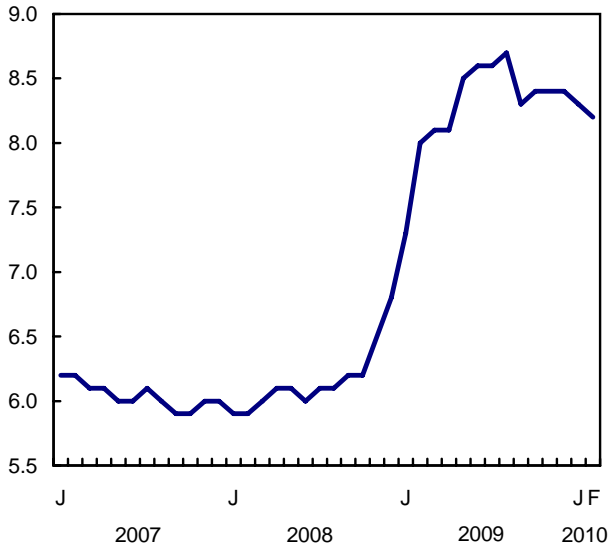
Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which eases comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

Employment increases in February occurred in accommodation and food services; business, building and other support services; manufacturing; health care and social assistance; and natural resources. These gains were partially offset by losses in retail and wholesale trade; finance, insurance, real estate and leasing; and "other services."

In February, employment increased in British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan, while it declined in Alberta. There was little change in the other provinces.

### Unemployment rate

%



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## Employment up among older workers

Continuing on an upward trend sustained throughout the labour market downturn, employment for men aged 55 and over increased by 26,000 in February. This pushed the unemployment rate for this group down 0.6 percentage points to 7.1%.

Employment for women aged 55 and over was little changed in February, and their unemployment rate was 5.7%.

Employment for men and women aged 55 and over has been trending up for a number of years, the result of employment growth combined with more people moving into that age group.

Employment was little changed for core-age workers (those aged 25 to 54) and youths in February. Since July 2009, employment has stabilized among core-age men and youths, whereas it has increased among core-age women.

## Continued growth in natural resources

Within the goods sector, employment increased in manufacturing (+17,000) and natural resources (+11,000) in February. Following declines throughout the labour market downturn, natural resources has experienced employment growth since the early fall of 2009, while manufacturing employment has been stable.

In the service sector, the largest employment increases in February occurred in accommodation and food services (+27,000); business, building and other support services (+18,000); as well as in health care and social assistance (+16,000).

Offsetting these gains were employment losses in retail and wholesale trade (-34,000); finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (-22,000); and "other services" (-13,000).

Employment in the service sector in February was 67,000 above its October 2008 level. However, employment in the goods sector remained 326,000 below its October 2008 level, with manufacturing accounting for the bulk of the losses (-206,000).

## Slight gains in British Columbia

Building on gains since the summer of 2009, employment edged up by 10,000 in British Columbia in February and the unemployment rate dropped 0.4 percentage points to 7.7%.

Employment rose by 4,200 in Nova Scotia in February, pushing the unemployment rate in the province down 0.5 percentage points to 9.3%.

Employment increased by 4,100 in Saskatchewan in February. This brought the unemployment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 4.3%, the lowest of all provinces.

Following a sizeable gain in January, employment in Ontario was little changed in February and the unemployment rate was 9.1%. Since May 2009, employment in the province has grown by 1.4% (+92,000).

In February, employment in Quebec was also little changed and the unemployment rate was 8.1%. Employment in this province has been on an upward trend since July 2009, growing by 1.3% (+50,000).

Alberta was the only province with a notable employment loss in February (-15,000), pushing the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 6.9%. February marks the second month of employment declines in the province, bringing employment 0.9% (-19,000) lower than it was a year ago.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0100.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.**

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-X, free), is now available online for the week ending February 20. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Labour*. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The DVD-ROM *Labour Force Historical Review*, 2009 (71F0004X, \$209), is also available. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *Subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on April 9.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; [labour@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Danielle Zietsma (613-951-4243; [danielle.zietsma@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:danielle.zietsma@statcan.gc.ca)) or Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720; [jeannine.usalcas@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:jeannine.usalcas@statcan.gc.ca)), Labour Statistics Division.

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## Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	January 2010	February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
<b>Both sexes, 15 years and over</b>						
Population	27,522.2	27,555.8	33.6	394.6	0.1	1.5
Labour force	18,456.1	18,464.7	8.6	151.2	0.0	0.8
Employment	16,924.4	16,945.3	20.9	87.7	0.1	0.5
Full-time	13,678.6	13,738.8	60.2	98.3	0.4	0.7
Part-time	3,245.8	3,206.5	-39.3	-10.6	-1.2	-0.3
Unemployment	1,531.7	1,519.4	-12.3	63.4	-0.8	4.4
Participation rate	67.1	67.0	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.3	8.2	-0.1	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.5	61.5	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	19.2	18.9	-0.3	-0.2	...	...
<b>Youths, 15 to 24 years</b>						
Population	4,401.2	4,401.5	0.3	14.1	0.0	0.3
Labour force	2,850.7	2,849.6	-1.1	-55.9	0.0	-1.9
Employment	2,421.3	2,417.1	-4.2	-62.2	-0.2	-2.5
Full-time	1,275.9	1,274.7	-1.2	-65.0	-0.1	-4.9
Part-time	1,145.4	1,142.4	-3.0	2.8	-0.3	0.2
Unemployment	429.4	432.5	3.1	6.3	0.7	1.5
Participation rate	64.8	64.7	-0.1	-1.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	15.1	15.2	0.1	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	55.0	54.9	-0.1	-1.6	...	...
Part-time rate	47.3	47.3	0.0	1.3	...	...
<b>Men, 25 years and over</b>						
Population	11,309.1	11,325.7	16.6	193.0	0.1	1.7
Labour force	8,242.1	8,248.7	6.6	94.2	0.1	1.2
Employment	7,592.3	7,622.2	29.9	78.9	0.4	1.0
Full-time	7,004.3	7,042.6	38.3	83.0	0.5	1.2
Part-time	588.0	579.6	-8.4	-4.1	-1.4	-0.7
Unemployment	649.8	626.6	-23.2	15.4	-3.6	2.5
Participation rate	72.9	72.8	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.9	7.6	-0.3	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.1	67.3	0.2	-0.5	...	...
Part-time rate	7.7	7.6	-0.1	-0.1	...	...
<b>Women, 25 years and over</b>						
Population	11,811.9	11,828.5	16.6	187.4	0.1	1.6
Labour force	7,363.3	7,366.4	3.1	112.8	0.0	1.6
Employment	6,910.8	6,906.1	-4.7	71.1	-0.1	1.0
Full-time	5,398.5	5,421.6	23.1	80.4	0.4	1.5
Part-time	1,512.4	1,484.5	-27.9	-9.3	-1.8	-0.6
Unemployment	452.5	460.3	7.8	41.7	1.7	10.0
Participation rate	62.3	62.3	0.0	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.2	0.1	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	58.5	58.4	-0.1	-0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	21.9	21.5	-0.4	-0.4	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

## Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS)<sup>1</sup>

	January 2010	February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
<b>Class of worker</b>						
Employees	14,208.1	14,246.2	38.1	37.0	0.3	0.3
Self-employed	2,716.3	2,699.1	-17.2	50.7	-0.6	1.9
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,450.5	3,496.1	45.6	116.7	1.3	3.5
Private	10,757.7	10,750.2	-7.5	-79.5	-0.1	-0.7
<b>All industries</b>	<b>16,924.4</b>	<b>16,945.3</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>87.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	<b>3,693.5</b>	<b>3,711.3</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>-101.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Agriculture	304.9	303.8	-1.1	-20.5	-0.4	-6.3
Natural resources	311.4	322.0	10.6	-8.5	3.4	-2.6
Utilities	144.3	146.8	2.5	0.5	1.7	0.3
Construction	1,186.0	1,174.9	-11.1	17.8	-0.9	1.5
Manufacturing	1,746.9	1,763.8	16.9	-90.8	1.0	-4.9
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	<b>13,230.9</b>	<b>13,234.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>189.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Trade	2,677.4	2,643.9	-33.5	12.1	-1.3	0.5
Transportation and warehousing	792.3	802.0	9.7	-36.0	1.2	-4.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,127.0	1,105.5	-21.5	8.3	-1.9	0.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,219.5	1,220.3	0.8	35.5	0.1	3.0
Business, building and other support services	650.5	668.9	18.4	12.9	2.8	2.0
Educational services	1,228.7	1,229.8	1.1	63.6	0.1	5.5
Health care and social assistance	1,990.0	2,005.8	15.8	59.0	0.8	3.0
Information, culture and recreation	777.5	772.0	-5.5	13.3	-0.7	1.8
Accommodation and food services	1,069.2	1,095.7	26.5	18.2	2.5	1.7
Other services	774.3	761.0	-13.3	2.0	-1.7	0.3
Public administration	924.4	929.0	4.6	0.3	0.5	0.0

1. North American Industry Classification System.

**Note:** Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

## Labour force characteristics by province

	January 2010	February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
	Seasonally adjusted					
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>						
Population	430.8	431.0	0.2	3.1	0.0	0.7
Labour force	256.8	257.3	0.5	3.7	0.2	1.5
Employment	218.6	219.6	1.0	5.2	0.5	2.4
Full-time	187.2	188.8	1.6	4.7	0.9	2.6
Part-time	31.4	30.8	-0.6	0.5	-1.9	1.7
Unemployment	38.2	37.7	-0.5	-1.5	-1.3	-3.8
Participation rate	59.6	59.7	0.1	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	14.9	14.7	-0.2	-0.8	...	...
Employment rate	50.7	51.0	0.3	0.9	...	...
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>						
Population	116.4	116.6	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.1
Labour force	79.6	80.3	0.7	1.9	0.9	2.4
Employment	71.7	72.2	0.5	3.5	0.7	5.1
Full-time	57.9	58.6	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.9
Part-time	13.8	13.6	-0.2	3.0	-1.4	28.3
Unemployment	7.9	8.2	0.3	-1.5	3.8	-15.5
Participation rate	68.4	68.9	0.5	0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.9	10.2	0.3	-2.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.6	61.9	0.3	2.3	...	...
<b>Nova Scotia</b>						
Population	774.8	775.0	0.2	3.6	0.0	0.5
Labour force	495.8	497.6	1.8	-3.6	0.4	-0.7
Employment	447.0	451.2	4.2	-4.9	0.9	-1.1
Full-time	360.7	367.3	6.6	-4.7	1.8	-1.3
Part-time	86.3	83.8	-2.5	-0.3	-2.9	-0.4
Unemployment	48.8	46.5	-2.3	1.4	-4.7	3.1
Participation rate	64.0	64.2	0.2	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.8	9.3	-0.5	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	57.7	58.2	0.5	-0.9	...	...
<b>New Brunswick</b>						
Population	622.9	623.2	0.3	2.8	0.0	0.5
Labour force	401.7	402.6	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.1
Employment	364.5	365.9	1.4	0.3	0.4	0.1
Full-time	310.4	310.2	-0.2	-0.7	-0.1	-0.2
Part-time	54.1	55.8	1.7	1.1	3.1	2.0
Unemployment	37.2	36.7	-0.5	0.3	-1.3	0.8
Participation rate	64.5	64.6	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.3	9.1	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	58.5	58.7	0.2	-0.2	...	...
<b>Quebec</b>						
Population	6478.4	6484.9	6.5	73.7	0.1	1.1
Labour force	4199.8	4212.7	12.9	37.9	0.3	0.9
Employment	3864.6	3873.3	8.7	37.3	0.2	1.0
Full-time	3122.9	3137.5	14.6	36.8	0.5	1.2
Part-time	741.6	735.8	-5.8	0.5	-0.8	0.1
Unemployment	335.3	339.4	4.1	0.5	1.2	0.1
Participation rate	64.8	65.0	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.0	8.1	0.1	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	59.7	59.7	0.0	-0.1	...	...

... not applicable

**Note:** Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

## Labour force characteristics by province

	January 2010	February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010	January to February 2010	February 2009 to February 2010
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
<b>Ontario</b>						
Population	10,739.8	10,752.8	13.0	148.2	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,221.0	7,219.6	-1.4	43.2	0.0	0.6
Employment	6,557.7	6,564.8	7.1	24.1	0.1	0.4
Full-time	5,315.3	5,323.9	8.6	27.5	0.2	0.5
Part-time	1,242.5	1,240.8	-1.7	-3.5	-0.1	-0.3
Unemployment	663.2	654.9	-8.3	19.2	-1.3	3.0
Participation rate	67.2	67.1	-0.1	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.2	9.1	-0.1	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.1	61.1	0.0	-0.6	...	...
<b>Manitoba</b>						
Population	929.5	930.5	1.0	13.7	0.1	1.5
Labour force	647.6	646.1	-1.5	7.5	-0.2	1.2
Employment	612.4	611.3	-1.1	4.5	-0.2	0.7
Full-time	489.4	494.3	4.9	1.2	1.0	0.2
Part-time	123.1	117.0	-6.1	3.3	-5.0	2.9
Unemployment	35.2	34.8	-0.4	3.0	-1.1	9.4
Participation rate	69.7	69.4	-0.3	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.4	0.0	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	65.9	65.7	-0.2	-0.5	...	...
<b>Saskatchewan</b>						
Population	785.2	786.4	1.2	10.8	0.2	1.4
Labour force	545.4	547.3	1.9	0.0	0.3	0.0
Employment	519.8	523.9	4.1	1.9	0.8	0.4
Full-time	428.6	433.2	4.6	10.3	1.1	2.4
Part-time	91.2	90.7	-0.5	-8.4	-0.5	-8.5
Unemployment	25.6	23.5	-2.1	-1.8	-8.2	-7.1
Participation rate	69.5	69.6	0.1	-1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.7	4.3	-0.4	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	66.2	66.6	0.4	-0.7	...	...
<b>Alberta</b>						
Population	2,899.5	2,904.1	4.6	68.0	0.2	2.4
Labour force	2,127.2	2,118.8	-8.4	2.9	-0.4	0.1
Employment	1,987.6	1,972.8	-14.8	-18.9	-0.7	-0.9
Full-time	1,638.1	1,623.8	-14.3	-14.8	-0.9	-0.9
Part-time	349.6	349.0	-0.6	-4.1	-0.2	-1.2
Unemployment	139.6	145.9	6.3	21.6	4.5	17.4
Participation rate	73.4	73.0	-0.4	-1.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.9	0.3	1.0	...	...
Employment rate	68.5	67.9	-0.6	-2.3	...	...
<b>British Columbia</b>						
Population	3,745.0	3,751.3	6.3	69.5	0.2	1.9
Labour force	2,481.2	2,482.4	1.2	57.1	0.0	2.4
Employment	2,280.5	2,290.4	9.9	34.8	0.4	1.5
Full-time	1,768.2	1,801.2	33.0	37.5	1.9	2.1
Part-time	512.4	489.2	-23.2	-2.7	-4.5	-0.5
Unemployment	200.7	192.0	-8.7	22.4	-4.3	13.2
Participation rate	66.3	66.2	-0.1	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.1	7.7	-0.4	0.7	...	...
Employment rate	60.9	61.1	0.2	-0.2	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.