

Employment Insurance Summary

Prince Edward Island

May 2023



July 25, 2023

Background: The Statistics Canada Employment Insurance Statistics are based on administrative data; the microdata on beneficiaries are collected and provided by Service Canada. The number of EI beneficiaries represents a count of persons who qualified for employment insurance benefits during the Labour Force Survey reference week, usually the week containing the 15th day of the month. This survey is a census with a cross-sectional design. Data are collected for all units of the target population; therefore no sampling is done.

The release of the data includes information on benefits paid, benefit weeks paid, claims received and allowed and the number of beneficiaries along with their characteristics such as age, and gender. For reference purposes, a regular beneficiary is an individual in receipt of employment insurance benefits in a month and is not currently in receipt of special benefits such as maternity, parental, or sick leave.

The following information is a summary for data that is unadjusted for seasonality. Note on Seasonality: *The EI time series is subject to seasonal and/or calendar effects and is therefore, seasonally adjusted. Seasonal effects are the monthly fluctuations which occur more or less regularly from year to year. They result from composite effects of climatic events, institutional decisions or modes of operation which occur repeatedly with some regularity within the year. Calendar effects are related to the composition of the calendar. They include trading-day effects associated with the location of the Labour Force Survey reference week, moving holiday effects associated with non-fixed date holidays such as Easter, and other predictable events from the calendar.*

Employment Insurance- Brief

- The number of regular beneficiaries decreased by 4,200 (-51.5%) when comparing May 2023 to May 2022 and stood at 3,960. Prince Edward Island ranked highest among provinces in year over year percentage decrease in regular beneficiaries and had ranked highest in month over month decrease among provinces.
- Males represent 58.1% of the regular beneficiaries; there were year over year and month over month decreases in all three age cohorts (15 to 24 years, 25 to 54 years and 55 years and older).
- Of the 3,960 regular beneficiaries in May 2023, there were 3,420 who did not declare earnings or alternatively, 540 (or 13.6% of the total) who did declare earnings. In May 2022, there were 920 (or 15.6%) of the total 5,880 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.
- In May 2023, there were 1,230 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 2,720 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.
- A year over year decrease in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (-660 or -34.6%), Summerside census agglomeration (-420 or -40.4%) and outside census metropolitan areas (-840 or -28.7%).
- May 2023 saw year over year decreases in Prince County (-840), Kings County (-270) and Queens County (-820).
- Previous versions of this report had occupational data however Statistics Canada has indicated the related data tables are not currently available as Statistics Canada are converting the EI statistics data to the 2021 National Occupational Classification (NOC) standard. It is anticipated this data will be released in June 2023.

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Labour Market Context

Figures below are based on seasonally adjusted figures

- Employment totaled 89,000 in May 2023, a decrease of 500 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 4.0% higher from a year ago. There was a year-over-year increase in full-time employment (+4,100) while there was a year over year decrease in part-time employment (-800).
- Unemployment totaled 6,900 in May, an increase of 100 persons from the prior month. There was no change in the number of unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The unemployment rate increased month over month in May 2023 and sits at 7.2%. The rate is 0.3 of a percentage point lower than it was in May 2022 (7.5%).

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Characteristics of Regular Beneficiaries (Seasonally Unadjusted)

The number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries in May 2023 was 3,960 of which 58.1% were males. The number of regular beneficiaries in this month represents a decrease of 4,200 beneficiaries (-51.5%) in comparison to April 2023 and a decrease of 1,920 beneficiaries (-32.7%) in comparison to May 2022.

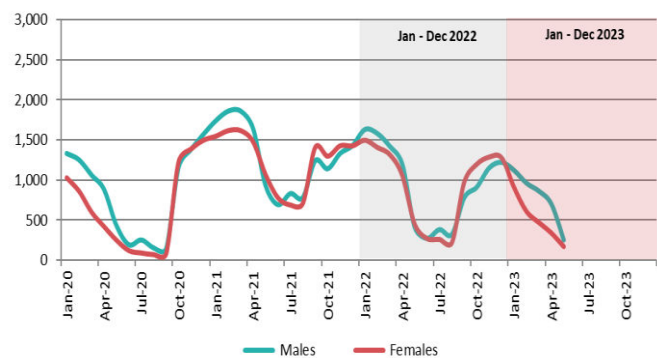
- On a month-over-month basis there was a decrease in male beneficiaries (-3,020) and a decrease in female beneficiaries (-1,180).
- On a year-over-year basis there was a decrease in male beneficiaries (-790) and a decrease in female beneficiaries (-1,130).
- Of the 3,960 regular beneficiaries in May 2023, there were 3,420 who did not declare earnings or alternatively, 540 (or 13.6% of the total) who did declare earnings. In May 2022, there were 920 (or 15.6%) of the total 5,880 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.

Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

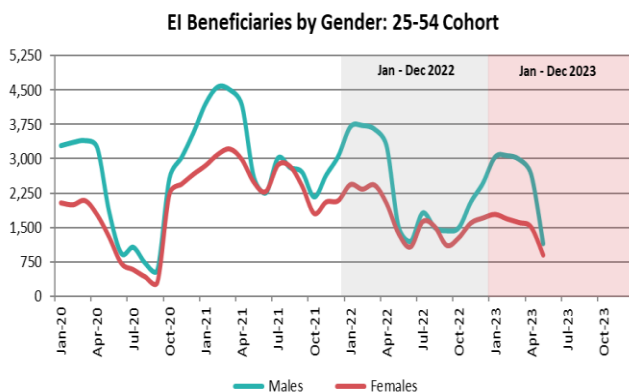
	Historical 2020-22	Current Period YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Chg
Both sexes	1957.8	1276.0	2398.0	-46.8%
Males	1014.7	778.0	1248.0	-37.7%
Females	943.6	500.0	1148.0	-56.4%

There was 440 fewer regular beneficiaries year over year for this cohort. Males saw a year over year decrease (-160) and sit at a total of 250 beneficiaries. Females saw a year over year decrease of 280 to sit at a total of 170 beneficiaries. There was a decrease of 610 regular beneficiaries in a month over month comparison.

EI Beneficiaries by Gender: 15-24 Cohort



Core-age Cohort (25-54 Years)



	Historical 2020-22	Current Period YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Chg
Both sexes	4555.8	4068.0	5286.0	-23.0%
Males	2608.3	2572.0	3168.0	-18.8%
Females	1948.9	1500.0	2122.0	-29.3%

Both males (-370) and females (-470) saw a year over year decrease in May 2023. In May 2023, there were 1,140 males and 900 female regular beneficiaries. In a month over month comparison there was a decrease of 1,510 male regular beneficiaries and a decrease of 610 female regular beneficiaries.

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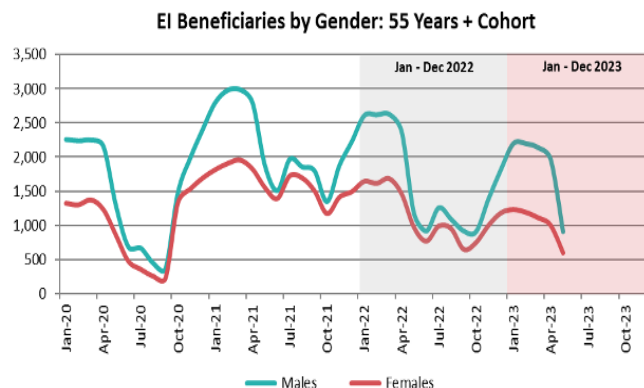


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Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

	Historical	Current Period		% Chg
	2020-22	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	
Both sexes	3029.2	2908.0	3754.0	-22.5%
Males	1779.2	1884.0	2284.0	-17.5%
Females	1250.3	1026.0	1472.0	-30.3%

In the 55 and over age group there was a year over year decrease of 30.2%. Females (-370 or -38.1%) and males (-270 or -22.9%) saw a decrease in year over year comparisons. When comparing May 2023 to April 2023, males in this cohort decreased by 1,060 regular beneficiaries and females decreased by 400 regular beneficiaries.



Employment Insurances Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits by Province (Seasonally Unadjusted)

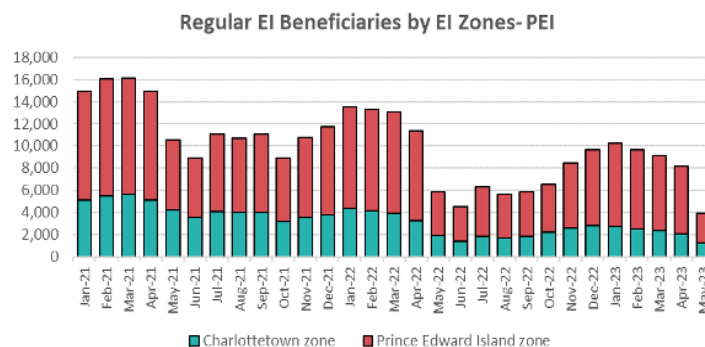
	Apr-23	Monthly Change	Annual Change	YTD Change
Canada	319,590	-25.5%	-23.5%	-27.9%
Newfoundland and Labrador	28,500	-17.6%	-16.7%	-18.3%
Prince Edward Island	3,960	-51.5%	-32.7%	-27.9%
Nova Scotia	15,830	-29.8%	-27.6%	-28.7%
New Brunswick	19,280	-34.2%	-32.0%	-31.9%
Quebec	67,520	-36.4%	-27.6%	-30.6%
Ontario	88,920	-20.8%	-20.7%	-26.9%
Manitoba	11,000	-26.9%	-29.7%	-28.4%
Saskatchewan	10,000	-35.9%	-25.5%	-25.7%
Alberta	35,800	-18.0%	-27.0%	-31.0%
British Columbia	36,480	-6.4%	-12.6%	-24.9%

Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0010-01 Employment insurance beneficiaries by age group, monthly, unadjusted for seasonality

Regular Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by EI Zones

In May 2023, there were 1,230 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 2,720 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.

The Charlottetown zone had 650 fewer EI beneficiaries and the EI zone had 1,270 fewer EI beneficiaries in comparison to May 2022.



Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0346-01 Employment Insurance beneficiaries by employment insurance region, monthly, unadjusted for seasonality

Employment Insurance Summary

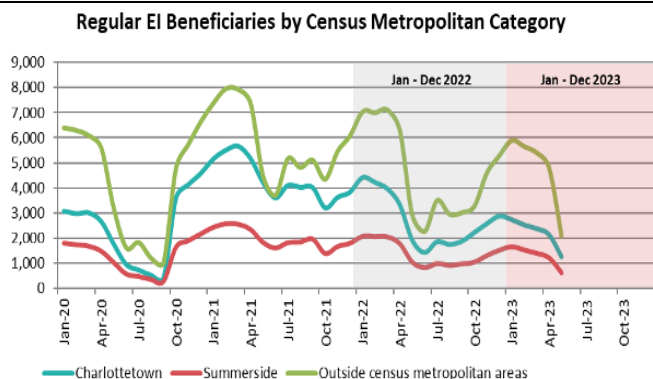
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Regular Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by Census Metropolitan Category



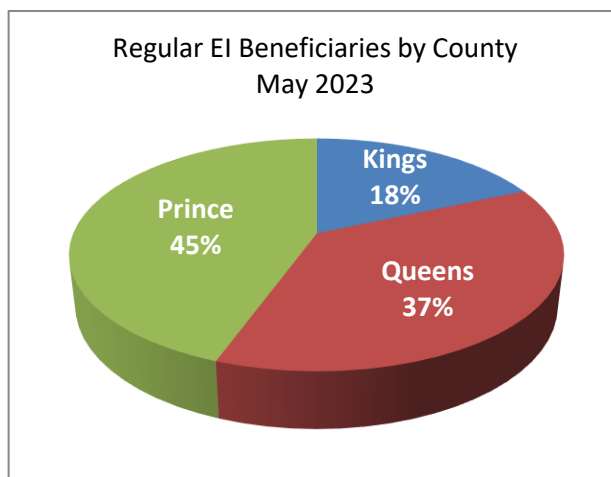
	Historical	Current Period		% Chg
	2020-22	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	
Charlottetown	3131.7	2200.0	3977.5	-44.7%
Summerside	1533.9	1278.0	1980.0	-35.5%
Outside census metropolitan areas	4876.9	4776.0	6867.5	-30.5%

Based on unadjusted data, a year over year decrease in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (-660 or -34.6%), Summerside census agglomeration (-420 or -40.4%) and outside census metropolitan areas (-840 or -28.7%).

Note: Table 14-10-0137-01 – Employment insurance beneficiaries (regular benefits) by census metropolitan category, monthly, seasonally adjusted.

Regular Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by County

- Based on unadjusted data there was an annual year over year decrease (-1,920). The decrease is attributed to Kings (-270), Queens (-820) and Prince (-840) Counties.
- For the 15-24 age group, Kings (-80), Queens (-180) and Prince (-180) Counties had year over year decreases.
- For the 25-54 age group, Kings (-100), Queens (-380) and Prince (-360) Counties had year over year decreases in regular beneficiaries.
- For the 55 and over age group, Kings County (-100), Queens (-250) and Prince (-300) Counties had year over year decreases in regular beneficiaries.



Kings County- 730 Regular Beneficiaries
 Queens County- 1,470 Regular Beneficiaries
 Prince County- 1,760 Regular Beneficiaries

Note: Table 14-10-0323-01 – Employment insurance beneficiaries by census division unadjusted for seasonally