

Employment Insurance Summary

Prince Edward Island

October 2023



December 21, 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 840 (-12.8%) when comparing October 2023 to October 2022 and stood at 5,700. Prince Edward Island ranked second highest among provinces in year over year percentage *decrease* in regular beneficiaries and ranked highest among provinces in month over month percentage *increase* in regular beneficiaries.
- Males represent 53.5% of the regular beneficiaries; there were year over year decreases in all three age cohorts (15 to 24 years, 25 to 54 years and 55 years and older). There were month over month increases in all three age cohorts.
- Of the 5,700 regular beneficiaries in October 2023, there were 4,850 who did not declare earnings or alternatively, 860 (or 15.1% of the total) who did declare earnings. In October 2022, there were 880 (or 13.5%) of the total 6,540 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.
- In October 2023, there were 1,640 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 4,050 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.
- A year over year decrease in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (-550 or -24.8%), Summerside census agglomeration (-140 or -13.5%) and outside census metropolitan areas (-150 or -4.6%).
- October 2023 saw year over year decreases in Prince County (-170), Kings County (-50) and Queens County (-620).
- 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 or later.

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Labour Market Context

Figures below are based on seasonally adjusted figures

- Employment totaled 92,300 in October 2023, a decrease of 300 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 7.6% higher from a year ago. There was a year-over-year increase in full-time employment (+5,900) while there was a year over year increase in part-time employment (+700).
- Unemployment totaled 6,100 in October, a decrease of 100 persons from the prior month. There was an increase of 500 unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The unemployment rate decreased month over month in October 2023 and sits at 6.2%. The rate is 0.1 of a percentage point higher than it was in October 2022 (6.1%).

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Characteristics of Regular Beneficiaries (Seasonally Unadjusted)

The number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries in October 2023 was 5,700 of which 53.5% were males. The number of regular beneficiaries in this month represents an increase of 940 beneficiaries (+19.7%) in comparison to September 2023 and a decrease of 840 beneficiaries (-12.8%) in comparison to October 2022.

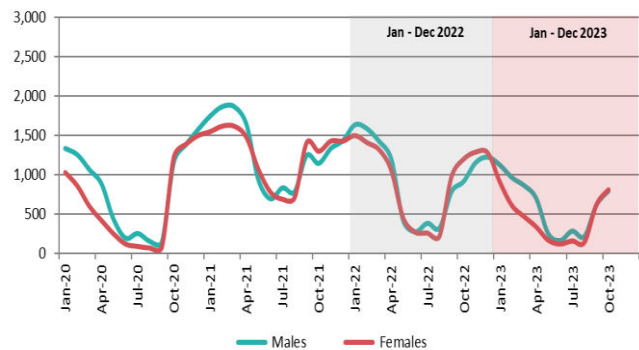
- On a month-over-month basis there was an increase in male beneficiaries (+390) and an increase in female beneficiaries (+570).
- On a year-over-year basis there was a decrease in male beneficiaries (-260) and a decrease in female beneficiaries (-570).
- Of the 5,700 regular beneficiaries in October 2023, there were 4,850 who did not declare earnings or alternatively, 860 (or 15.1% of the total) who did declare earnings. In October 2022, there were 880 (or 13.5%) of the total 6,540 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.

Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

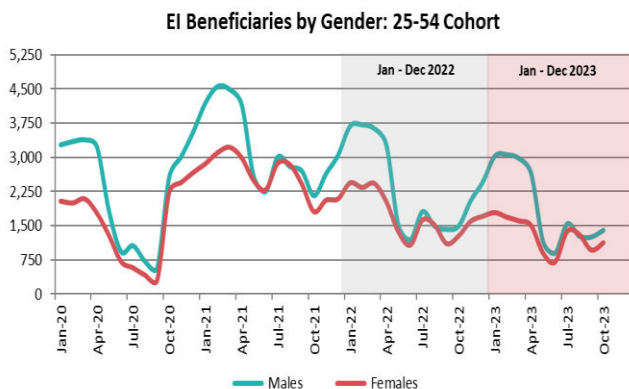
	Historical 2020-22	Current Period YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Chg
Both sexes	1957.8	1029.0	1758.0	-41.5%
Males	1014.7	594.0	890.0	-33.3%
Females	943.6	435.0	867.0	-49.8%

There was 510 fewer regular beneficiaries year over year for this cohort. Males saw a year over year decrease (-120) and sit at a total of 790 beneficiaries. Females saw a year over year decrease of 390 to sit at a total of 810 beneficiaries. There was an increase of 370 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	3221.0	4046.0	-20.4%
Males	2608.3	1924.0	2324.0	-17.2%
Females	1948.9	1300.0	1723.0	-24.6%

Both males (-90) and females (-150) saw a year over year decrease in October 2023. In October 2023, there were 1,400 males and 1,130 female regular beneficiaries. In a month over month comparison there was an increase of 150 male regular beneficiaries and an increase of 160 female regular beneficiaries.

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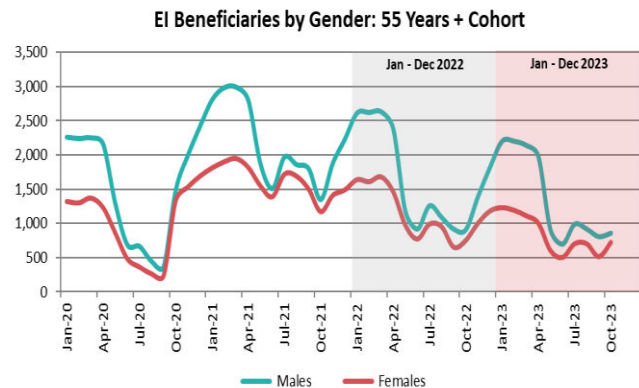


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Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

	Historical	Current Period		% Chg
	2020-22	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	
Both sexes	3029.2	2198.0	2799.0	-21.5%
Males	1779.2	1371.0	1652.0	-17.0%
Females	1250.3	826.0	1147.0	-28.0%

In the 55 and over age group there was a year over year decrease of 8.7%. Females (-150 or -11.7%) and males (-90 or -6.0%) saw a decrease in year over year comparisons. When comparing October 2023 to September 2023, males in this cohort increased by 150 regular beneficiaries and while females increased by 160 regular beneficiaries.



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

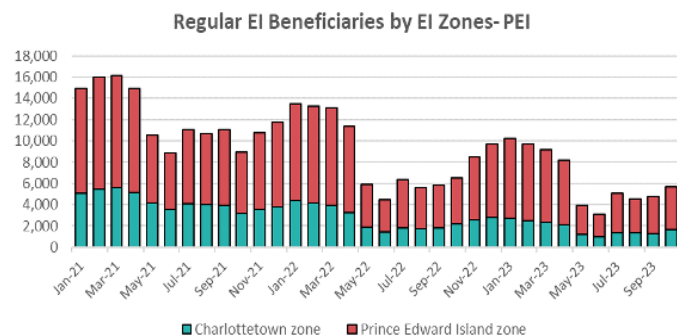
	Oct-23	Monthly Change	Annual Change	YTD Change
Canada	338,570	6.8%	7.1%	-18.9%
Newfoundland and Labrador	25,440	10.4%	-6.9%	-17.7%
Prince Edward Island	5,700	19.7%	-12.8%	-25.1%
Nova Scotia	17,770	2.1%	-9.5%	-23.4%
New Brunswick	18,520	9.1%	-14.0%	-27.4%
Quebec	70,590	9.0%	2.2%	-22.7%
Ontario	99,770	3.9%	17.7%	-15.8%
Manitoba	11,040	3.7%	4.9%	-20.0%
Saskatchewan	9,860	6.4%	3.1%	-18.2%
Alberta	37,370	6.1%	7.4%	-20.2%
British Columbia	40,210	8.9%	31.7%	-9.5%

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 October 2023, there were 1,640 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 4,050 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.

The Charlottetown zone had 550 fewer EI beneficiaries and the EI zone had 290 fewer EI beneficiaries in comparison to October 2022.



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

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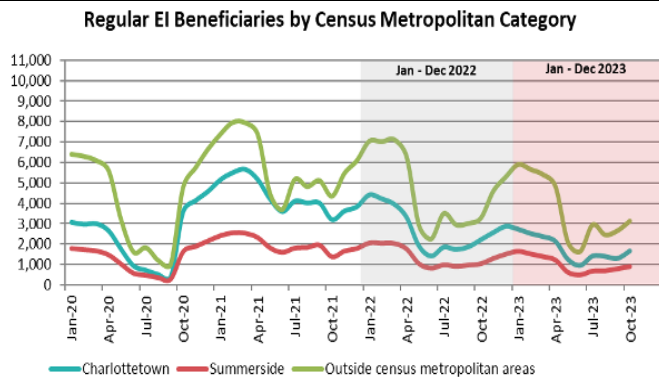
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Regular Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by Census Metropolitan Category



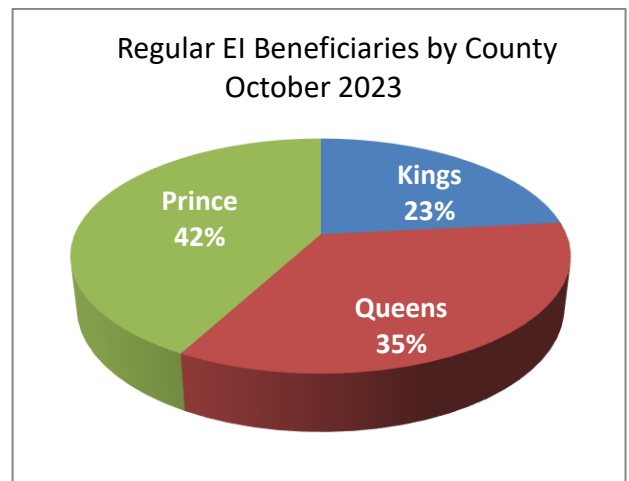
	Historical	Current Period		% Chg
	2020-22	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	
Charlottetown	3131.7	1777.0	2692.0	-34.0%
Summerside	1533.9	995.0	1368.0	-27.3%
Outside census metropolitan areas	4876.9	3676.0	4541.0	-19.0%

Based on unadjusted data, a year over year decrease in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (-550 or -24.8%), Summerside census agglomeration (-140 or -13.5%) and outside census metropolitan areas (-150 or -4.6%).

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 (-840). The decrease is attributed to Kings (-50), Queens (-620) and Prince (-170) Counties.
- For the 15-24 age group, Kings (-40), Queens (-360) and Prince (-110) Counties had year over year decreases.
- For the 25-54 age group, Kings (-20), Queens (-170) and Prince (-50) Counties had year over year decreases in regular beneficiaries.
- For the 55 and over age group, Kings County (+20) had a year over year increase while Queens (-80) and Prince (-20) Counties had year over year decreases in regular beneficiaries.



Kings County- 1,330 Regular Beneficiaries
 Queens County- 1,970 Regular Beneficiaries
 Prince County- 2,400 Regular Beneficiaries

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