

Employment Insurance Summary

Prince Edward Island

July 2026



September 18, 2026

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 90 (-1.6%) when comparing July 2026 to July 2025 and stood at 5,470.
- Males represent 57.0% of the regular beneficiaries; there was a year over year decrease in the 15 to 24 years, 25 to 54 years and 55 years and older cohorts. There was a month over month increase in all three age cohorts.
- Of the 5,470 regular beneficiaries in July 2026, there were 4,850 who did not declare earnings, or alternatively, 610 (or 11.2% of the total) who did declare earnings. In July 2025, there were 630 (or 11.3%) of the total 5,560 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.
- In July 2026, there were 1,450 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 4,020 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.
- A year over year increase in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (+30 or +1.9%) and the Summerside Census agglomeration (10 or 1.5%). The Outside census metropolitan areas (-140 or -4.2%) saw a year over year decrease.
- July 2026 saw a year over year increase in Queens County (+30) while Kings County (-70) and Prince County (-50) saw a year over year decreases.
- In July 2026, the largest number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries were in Natural resources, agriculture, and related production occupations (1,310) followed by Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (1,170) and Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (1,150).

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Labour Market Context

The figures below are based on seasonally adjusted figures.

- Employment totaled 96,000 in July 2026, a decrease of 900 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 3.3% higher than a year ago. There was a year-over-year increase in full-time employment (+2,000) and a year over year increase in part-time employment (+1,100).
- Unemployment totaled 7,000 in July 2026, a decrease of 900 persons from the prior month. There was a decrease of 1,700 unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The unemployment rate decreased from June 2026 and was 6.8%. The rate was 1.8 percentage points lower than it was in July 2025 (8.6%).

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Characteristics of Regular Beneficiaries (Seasonally Unadjusted)

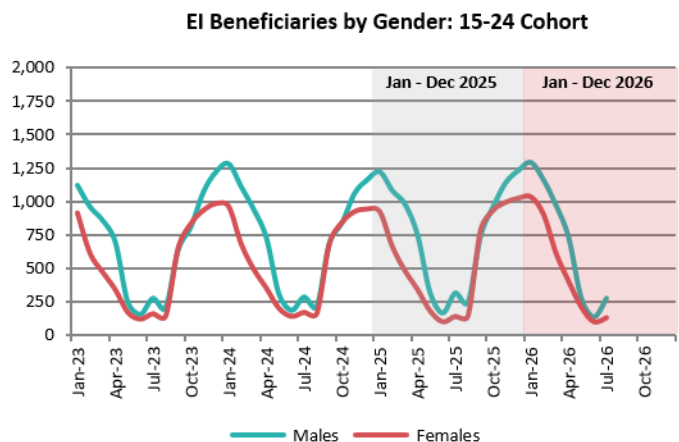
The number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries in July 2026 was 5,470 of which 57.0% were males. The number of regular beneficiaries this month represents an increase of 2,280 beneficiaries (+71.5%) in comparison to June 2026 and a decrease of 90 beneficiaries (-1.6%) in comparison to July 2025.

- On a month-over-month basis there was an increase in male beneficiaries (+1,210) and an increase in female beneficiaries (+1,070).
- On a year-over-year basis there was a decrease in male beneficiaries (-20) and a decrease in female beneficiaries (-60).
- Of the 5,470 regular beneficiaries in July 2026, there were 4,850 who did not declare earnings or alternatively, 610 (or 11.2% of the total) who did declare earnings. In July 2025, there were 630 (or 11.3%) of the total 5,560 regular beneficiaries who declared earnings.

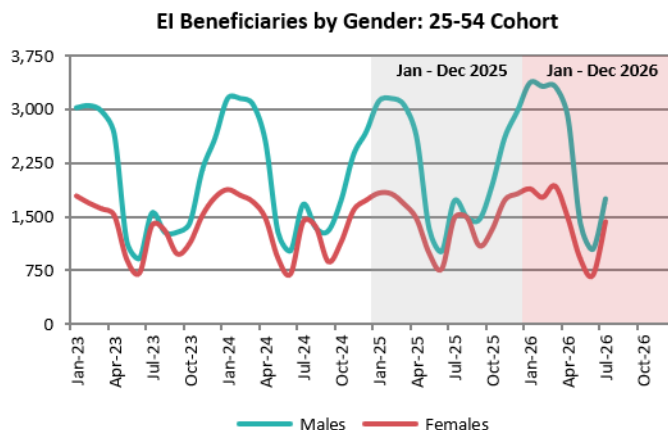
Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

	Historical 2023-25	Current Period		
		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	% Chg
Both sexes	1271	1177	1094	7.6%
Males	729	693	691	0.2%
Females	542	483	403	19.9%

There were 40 fewer regular beneficiaries year over year for this cohort. Males saw a year over year decrease (-40) and sit at a total of 280 beneficiaries. Females saw a year over year decrease of 10 to sit at a total of 130 beneficiaries. There was an increase of 180 regular beneficiaries in a month over month comparison.



Core-age Cohort (25-54 Years)



	Historical 2023-25	Current Period		
		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	% Chg
Both sexes	2379	2653	2539	4.5%
Males	1479	1680	1614	4.1%
Females	901	973	923	5.4%

In July 2026, male beneficiaries increased by 30 year-over-year, while female beneficiaries decreased by 50 during the same period. The total number of regular beneficiaries was 1,750 males and 1,430 females. When, compared to the previous month, female regular beneficiaries increased by 750 and male regular beneficiaries increased by 710.

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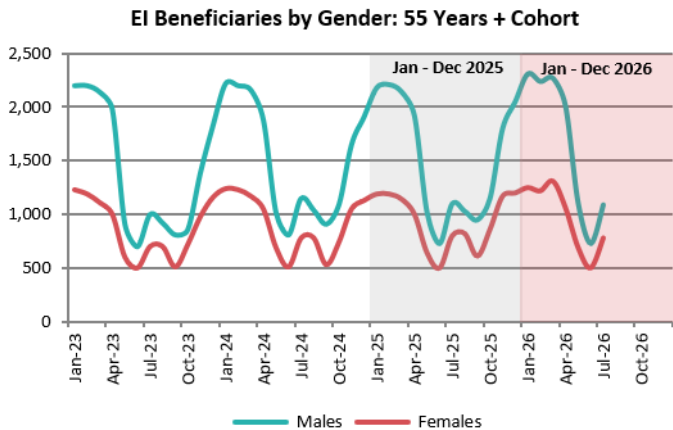
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Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

	Historical 2023-25	Current Period		% Chg
		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	
Both sexes	2379	2785	2645	5.3%
Males	1479	1780	1700	4.7%
Females	901	1005	943	6.5%

In the 55 and over age group, there was a decrease of 30 regular EI beneficiaries in a year-over-year comparison. Females (-20) and males (-10) saw decreases in a year over year comparison. When comparing July 2026 to June 2026, males in this cohort increased by 360 regular beneficiaries and while females (+280) also saw an increase in regular beneficiaries.



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

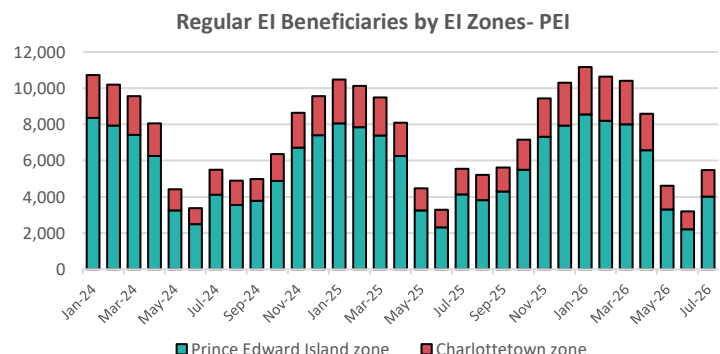
	Jul-26	Monthly Change	Annual Change	YTD Change
Canada	602,710	47.3%	-2.0%	5.1%
Newfoundland and Labrador	20,710	9.7%	-12.5%	-4.1%
Prince Edward Island	5,470	71.5%	-1.6%	5.0%
Nova Scotia	21,740	42.3%	-3.9%	-3.5%
New Brunswick	25,210	50.1%	-1.4%	0.5%
Quebec	127,270	52.5%	-5.7%	1.8%
Ontario	223,080	51.8%	-0.2%	8.1%
Manitoba	21,880	94.7%	-4.1%	-1.1%
Saskatchewan	16,490	66.7%	-5.1%	0.6%
Alberta	67,510	30.1%	-1.9%	9.8%
British Columbia	71,670	43.5%	4.7%	11.9%

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 July 2026, there were 1,450 regular employment insurance beneficiaries in the Charlottetown zone while the PEI zone had 4,020 regular employment insurance beneficiaries.

The Charlottetown zone had 30 more regular EI beneficiaries, and the PEI zone had 110 fewer EI regular beneficiaries in comparison to July 2025.



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

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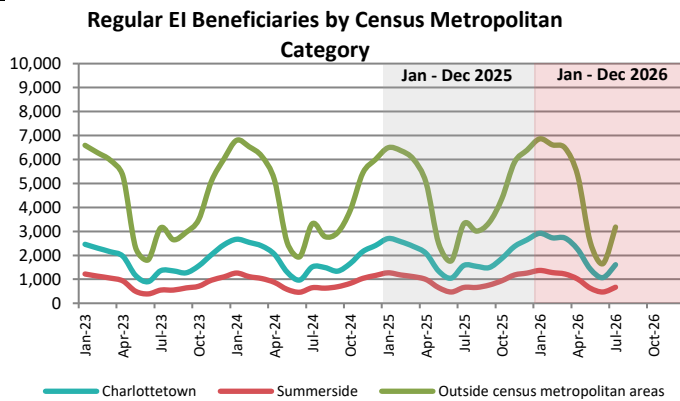
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Regular Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by Census Metropolitan Category



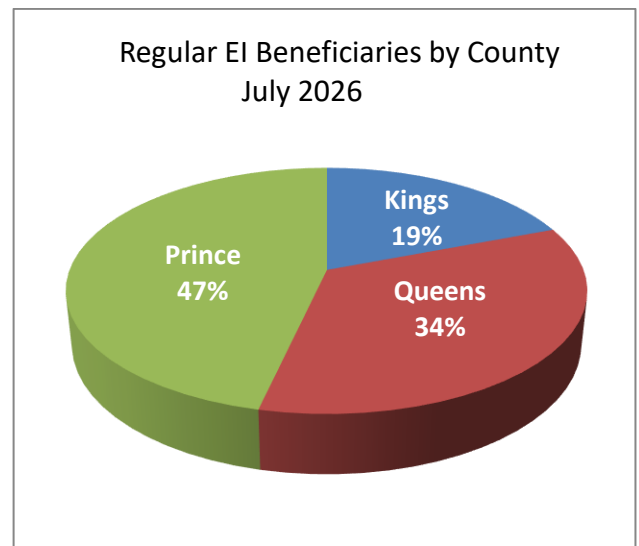
	Historical 2023-25	Current Period YTD 2026	YTD 2025	% Chg
Charlottetown	1862	2104	1956	7.6%
Summerside	866	950	904	5.1%
Outside census metropolitan areas	4433	4667	4497	3.8%

Based on unadjusted data, a year over year increase in regular beneficiaries was observed in the Charlottetown Census agglomeration (+30 or +1.9%) and the Summerside Census agglomeration (+10 or 1.5%). The Outside Census Metropolitan areas saw a year over year decrease (-140 or -4.2%).

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 a year over year decrease (-90) in regular employment insurance beneficiaries. At the county level there was an increase in Queens County (+30) while Kings (-70) and Prince (-50) Counties saw a year over year decrease.
- For the 15-24 age group, Kings (-10) and Prince (-20) Counties had a decrease in the number of regular beneficiaries in a year over year comparison. Queens County saw no change.
- For the 25-54 age group, Queens County (+40) had a year over year increase in regular beneficiaries. Kings (-40) and Prince (-20) Counties saw a year over year decrease.
- For individuals aged 55 and over, a year over year comparison shows that Kings (-20) and Prince (-10) Counties had a decrease in the number of regular beneficiaries. Queens County saw no change.



Kings County- 1,050 Regular Beneficiaries
Queens County- 1,880 Regular Beneficiaries
Prince County- 2,540 Regular Beneficiaries

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

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

The table below displays the number of EI beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by occupational grouping.

- In July 2026, the largest number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries were in Natural resources, agriculture, and related production occupations (1,310) followed by Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (1,170) and Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (1,150).
- There was a year over year decrease in regular employment insurance beneficiaries in Business, finance, and administration occupations (-50), Sales and service occupations (-40), Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (-40), Occupations in manufacturing and utilities (-40) and Unclassified occupations (-30).
- There was a year over year increase in regular employment insurance beneficiaries in Management occupations (+10), Natural and applied sciences and related occupations (+30), Health occupations (+10), Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (+40) and Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations (+30).
- There was no change in the number of regular employment insurance beneficiaries in Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport in a year over year comparison.

Note: Any further details on occupational groupings may not be available due to data limitations.

Table 3

Employment Insurances Beneficiaries Receiving Regular Benefits National Occupation Classification (NOC) Skill Type-Seasonally Unadjusted

Historical 2023-25		Current Period				
		Jul-26	Jun-26	Jul-25	M-M	Y-Y
7,160	All occupations	5,470	3,190	5,560	2,280	-90
27	Management occupations	30	20	20	10	10
555	Business, finance and administration occupations	450	340	500	110	-50
288	Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	190	180	160	10	30
135	Health occupations	80	80	70	0	10
414	Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	1,150	290	1,110	860	40
116	Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	40	40	40	0	0
1,294	Sales and service occupations	530	560	570	-30	-40
1,817	Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	1,170	920	1,210	250	-40
1,733	Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	1,310	450	1,280	860	30
766	Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	500	280	540	220	-40
24	Unclassified occupations	30	30	60	0	-30

Data source: Table 14-10-0336-01; "Historical 2022-24" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

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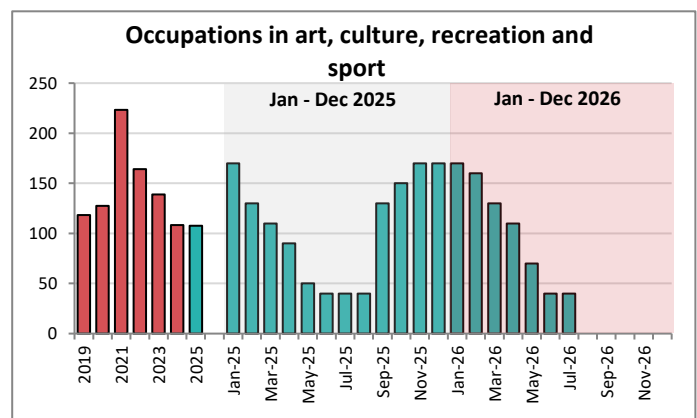
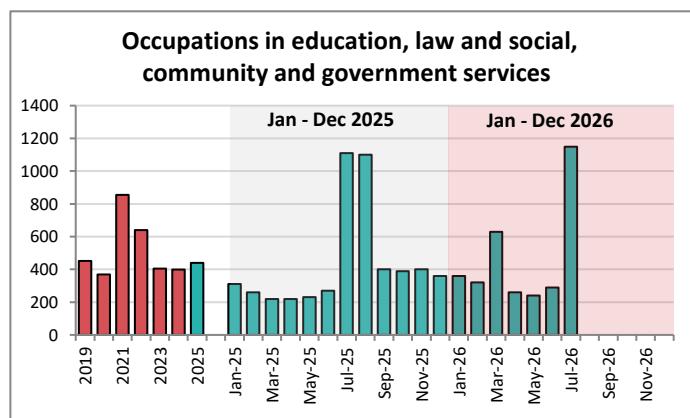
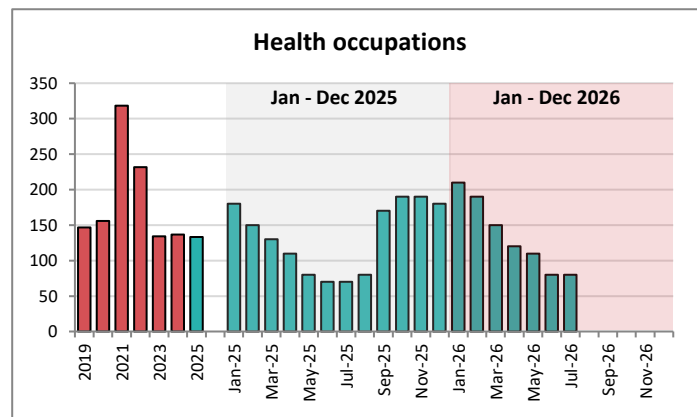
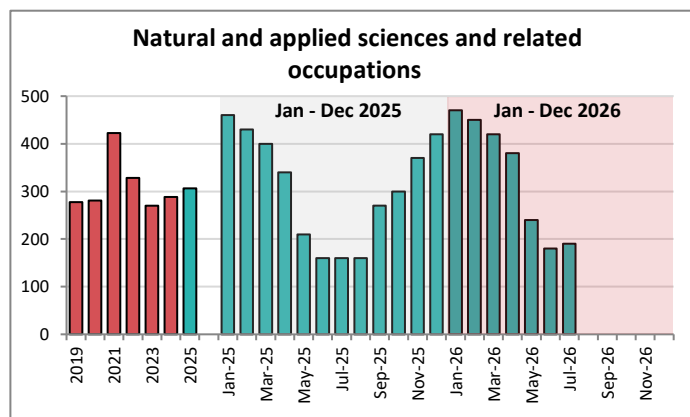
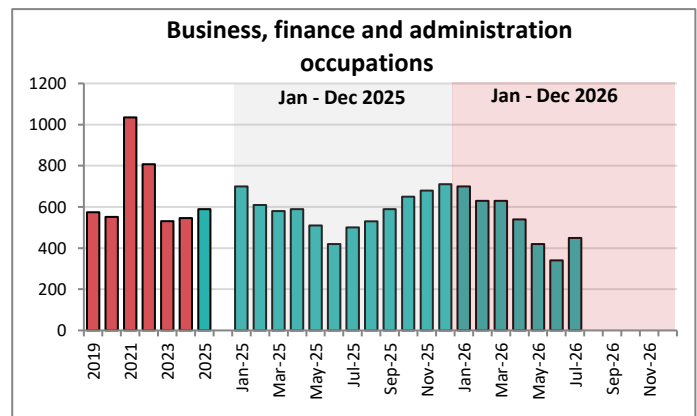
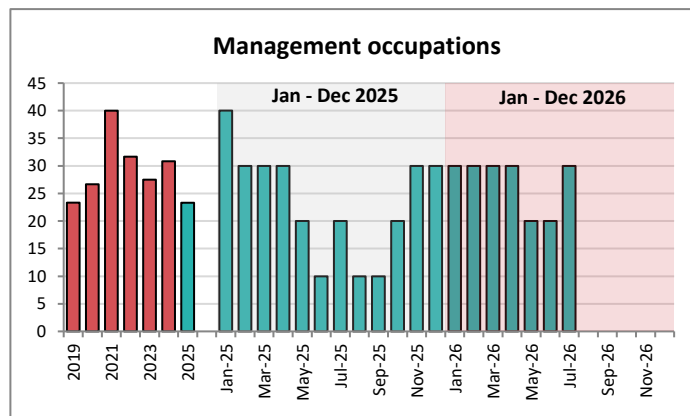


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EI Beneficiaries by NOC Skill Type Progress Report

EI Beneficiary data is released monthly. The purpose of this section is to track the progress of employment by industry with historical context. "Year-to-date" (YTD) compares average values of available months in 2026 to the same in 2025.

Graph interpretation: Annual – Historical perspective: 2019 – 2025
Monthly – Current perspective: 2025 - 2026 (YTD)



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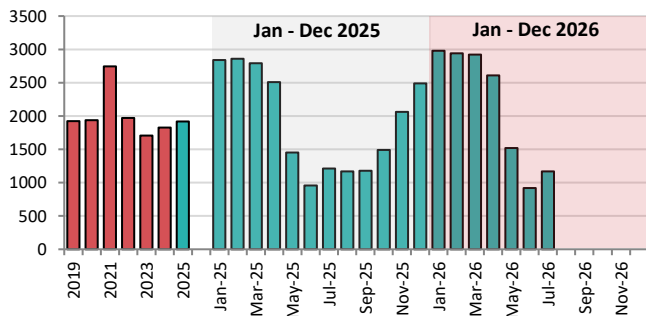
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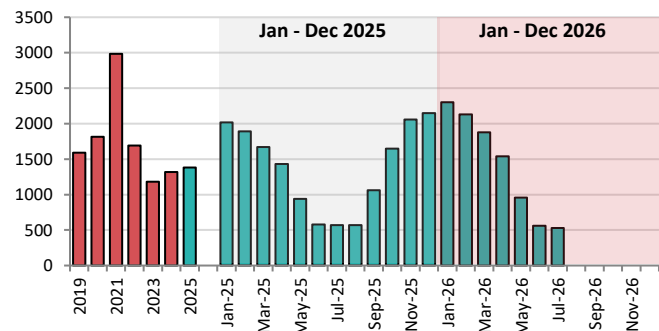
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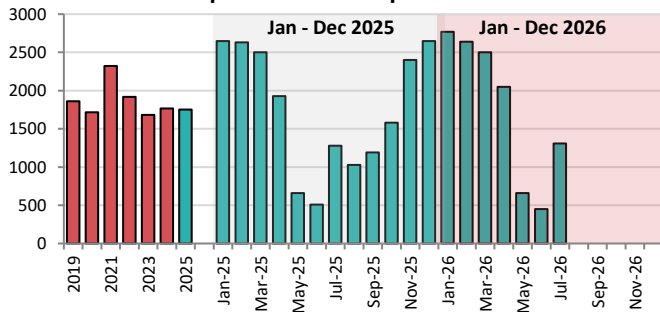
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations



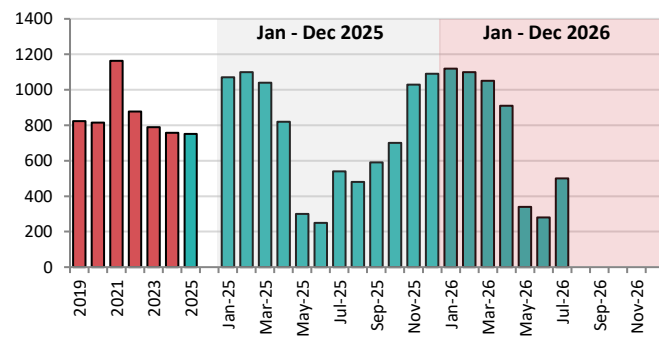
Sales and service occupations



Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations



Occupations in manufacturing and utilities



Unclassified occupations

