

Ontario Economic Update

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Economy

Item	Monthly: 2024 Jan	Monthly: 2024 Feb	Monthly: 2024 Mar	Monthly: 2024 Apr	Quarterly: 2023 Q3	Quarterly: 2023 Q4	Quarterly: 2024 Q1	Year to Date*	Annual: 2022	Annual: 2023
Real Gross Domestic Product (\$2017 millions) ^[1]	–	–	–	–	921,066	921,173	N/A	920,218	909,121	920,218
Real Gross Domestic Product (% change)	–	–	–	–	0.1	0.0	N/A	1.2	3.9	1.2
Current Dollar Gross Domestic Product (\$ millions) ^[1]	–	–	–	–	1,100,632	1,114,805	N/A	1,093,659	1,048,259	1,093,659
Current Dollar Gross Domestic Product (% change)	–	–	–	–	1.2	1.3	N/A	4.3	9.2	4.3

Employment

Item	Monthly: 2024 Jan	Monthly: 2024 Feb	Monthly: 2024 Mar	Monthly: 2024 Apr	Quarterly: 2023 Q3	Quarterly: 2023 Q4	Quarterly: 2024 Q1	Year to Date*	Annual: 2022	Annual: 2023
Employment (000's)	7,938	7,944	7,971	7,996	7,945	7,938	7,951	7,897	7,732	7,915
Net New Jobs (000's)	23.8	6.7	26.1	25	28.8	–6.9	12.9	93.6	338.3	183.2
Net New Jobs (% change)	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	–0.1	0.2	1.2	4.6	2.4
Unemployment Rate (per cent)	6.2	6.5	6.7	6.8	5.9	6.2	6.5	6.6	5.6	5.7
Average Weekly Wage Rate, nsa (\$)	1,324	1,319	1,312	1,316	1,288	1,306	1,318	1,318	1,216	1,278
Average Weekly Wage Rate, nsa (% change)	5.8	5.2	4.2	3.8	4.9	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.7	5.1
Employment Insurance Beneficiaries (regular)	144,680	145,680	147,460	N/A	125,907	137,060	145,940	180,157	138,917	124,498
Employment Insurance Beneficiaries (regular) (% change)	1.4	0.7	1.2	N/A	5.1	8.9	6.5	22.4	–70.6	–10.4

Consumers

Item	Monthly: 2024 Jan	Monthly: 2024 Feb	Monthly: 2024 Mar	Monthly: 2024 Apr	Quarterly: 2023 Q3	Quarterly: 2023 Q4	Quarterly: 2024 Q1	Year to Date*	Annual: 2022	Annual: 2023
Retail Sales (\$ millions)	25,273	25,180	25,098	N/A	74,296	75,204	75,550	65,994	295,392	297,337
Retail Sales (% change)	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3	N/A	0.4	1.2	0.5	2.6	10.9	0.7
New Motor Vehicle Sales, nsa (units)	45,493	58,891	68,834	N/A	192,710	170,134	173,218	173,218	634,915	719,569
New Motor Vehicle Sales, nsa (% change)	9.8	33.8	6.5	N/A	16.1	11.2	15.4	15.4	-5.9	13.3
Consumer Price Index (CPI), nsa	159.9	160.2	161.4	162.2	159.7	160.3	160.5	160.9	152.9	158.7
Consumer Price Index (CPI), nsa (% change)	2.7	2.4	2.6	2.7	3.5	3.3	2.6	2.6	6.8	3.8

Housing

Item	Monthly: 2024 Jan	Monthly: 2024 Feb	Monthly: 2024 Mar	Monthly: 2024 Apr	Quarterly: 2023 Q3	Quarterly: 2023 Q4	Quarterly: 2024 Q1	Year to Date*	Annual: 2022	Annual: 2023
Housing Starts (000's) ^[2]	81	87.4	72.8	73.5	93.7	80.8	80.7	23.2	96.1	89.3
Housing Starts (% change)	14.4	7.9	-16.7	1.0	-7.7	-13.8	-0.1	-11.9	-3.5	-7.1
MLS Home Resales (units)	14,962	13,900	13,564	13,171	40,708	38,280	42,426	54,992	185,749	162,782
MLS Home Resales (% change)	7.5	-7.1	-2.4	-2.9	-10.6	-6.0	10.8	4.9	-32.1	-12.4

Business

Item	Monthly: 2024 Jan	Monthly: 2024 Feb	Monthly: 2024 Mar	Monthly: 2024 Apr	Quarterly: 2023 Q3	Quarterly: 2023 Q4	Quarterly: 2024 Q1	Year to Date*	Annual: 2022	Annual: 2023
Manufacturing Sales (\$ millions)	31,663	31,514	30,749	N/A	98,850	94,403	93,927	91,327	368,471	388,465
Manufacturing Sales (% change)	1.6	-0.5	-2.4	N/A	0.2	-4.5	-0.5	-3.1	18.0	5.4
International Merchandise Exports, nsa (\$ millions) ^[3]	19,582	21,668	21,344	N/A	62,204	61,971	62,594	62,594	226,156	251,405
International Merchandise Exports, nsa (% change)	-4.2	16.0	-5.3	N/A	9.3	7.7	1.5	1.5	14.7	11.2
International Merchandise Imports, nsa (\$ millions) ^[3]	33,360	35,644	39,918	N/A	116,087	115,949	108,922	108,922	443,603	458,160
International Merchandise Imports, nsa (% change)	-4.4	2.8	0.7	N/A	0.8	2.1	-0.3	-0.3	18.3	3.3
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions)	44,780	44,602	46,741	N/A	140,710	136,487	136,123	130,633	490,514	545,801
Wholesale Trade (% change)	-0.9	-0.4	4.8	N/A	1.8	-3.0	-0.3	3.7	10.8	11.3
Non-residential Building Permits (\$ millions)	1,636	2,181	1,868	N/A	5,574	5,188	5,686	5,359	18,823	21,323
Non-residential Building Permits (% change)	-5.8	33.3	-14.3	N/A	7.1	-6.9	9.6	9.0	17.7	13.3
Private and Public Investment (\$ millions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,555	102,623
Private and Public Investment (% change)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.1	8.5

Notes

All monthly and quarterly data are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified with "nsa". Year to Date data is nsa. Per cent change for nsa data is calculated on a year-to-year basis.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Ontario Ministry of Finance, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Canadian Real Estate Association.

Contact us

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Footnotes

- [1] ^ GDP levels are expressed at annual rates.

- [2] ^ Monthly and quarterly housing starts are expressed at seasonally adjusted annual rates. Year-to-date housing starts are based on actual unadjusted urban-area data.
- [3] ^ International merchandise trade is reported on a customs basis.