

Ontario Labour Market Statistics for December 2013

Ontario Employment Declines in December

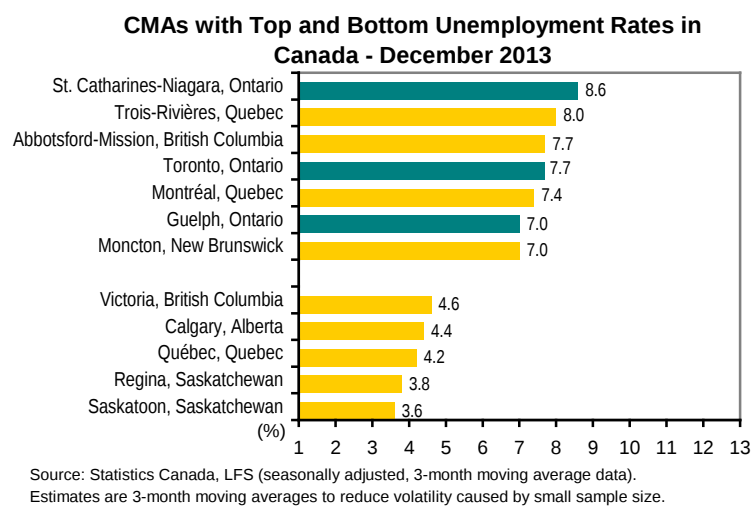
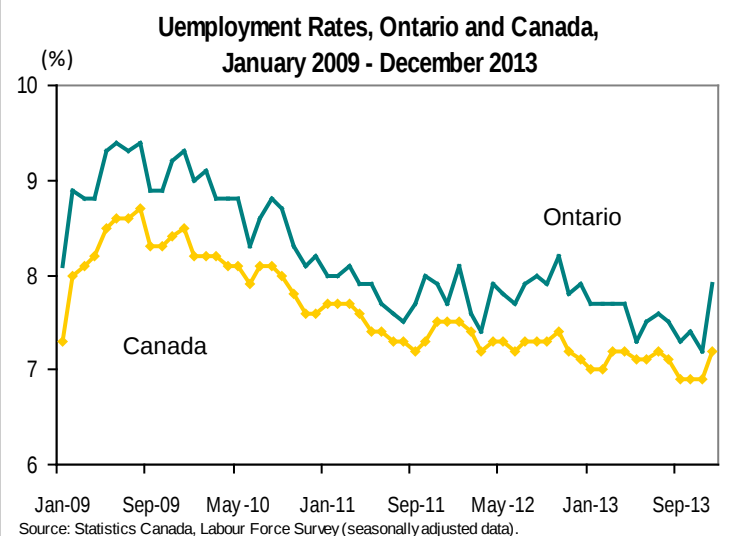
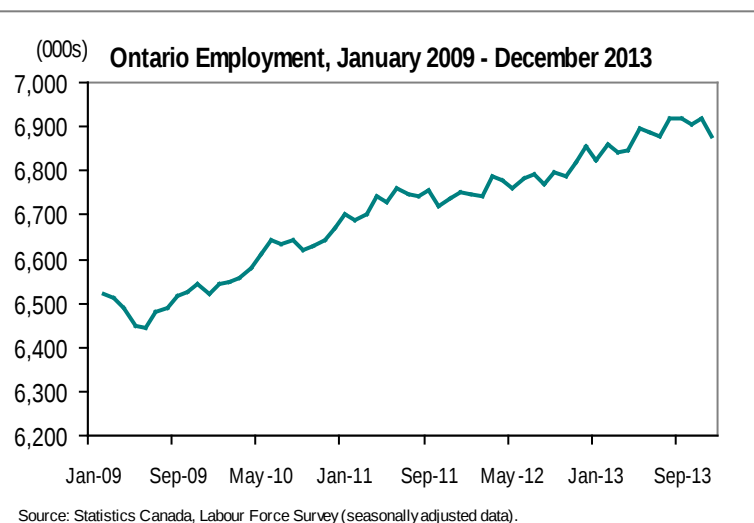
- After an increase of 13,800 jobs in November, Ontario employment fell by 39,300 in December, the largest monthly drop since May 2009. Losses occurred in both full-time positions (-26,700) and part-time positions (-12,500).
- Employment in Canada declined by 45,900 in December after a 21,600 increase in November.
- By age group, youth aged 15 to 24 and workers aged 25 to 54 posted employment declines of 19,600 and 27,900 respectively. In contrast, workers aged 55 and over recorded an employment increase of 8,400 in December.
- Despite the decline in December, Ontario has recovered all of the jobs lost during the recession, and employment is now 2.5% or 169,600 above the pre-recession peak. Despite monthly volatility, employment in Ontario was up by 95,700 net new jobs in 2013.

Unemployment Rate Increased

- The unemployment rate in Ontario increased to 7.9% in December from 7.2% in November. The national unemployment rate also increased, rising to 7.2% from 6.9% in November.
- By age group, the jobless rate for youth increased to 16.7% in December from 15.3% in November. The unemployment rate among adults (aged 25 to 54) also increased from 6.1% to 6.6%, while the rate for workers aged 55 and over increased by 0.4 percentage points to 5.6% in December.

Mixed Unemployment Rates in Ontario CMAs

- Ontario's Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) recorded three of the top five highest unemployment rates across Canada in December:
 - At 8.6%, St. Catharines-Niagara had the highest unemployment rate in Ontario and Canada. Toronto had the second highest unemployment rate in Ontario and tied for the third highest nationally (7.7%). Guelph had the third highest unemployment rate in Ontario and tied for the fifth highest nationally.
- In Ontario, Brantford had the lowest unemployment rate among Ontario CMAs at 5.1%, ranking seventh lowest in Canada.



Employment Growth by Educational Attainment

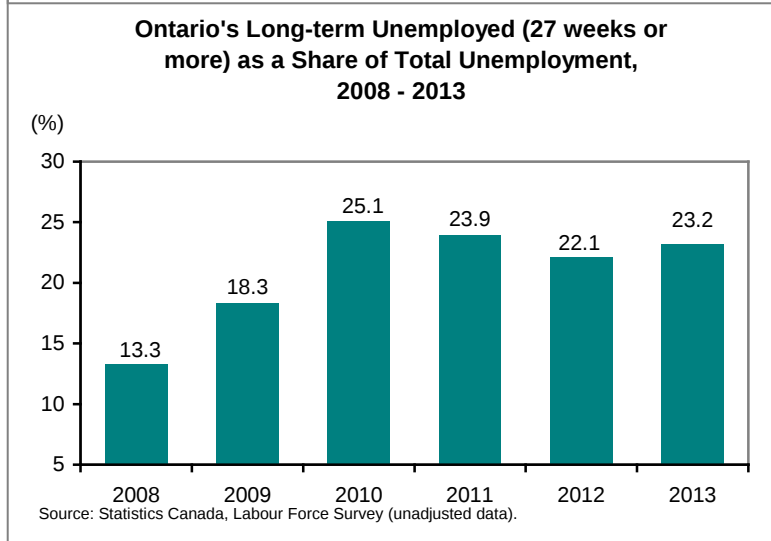
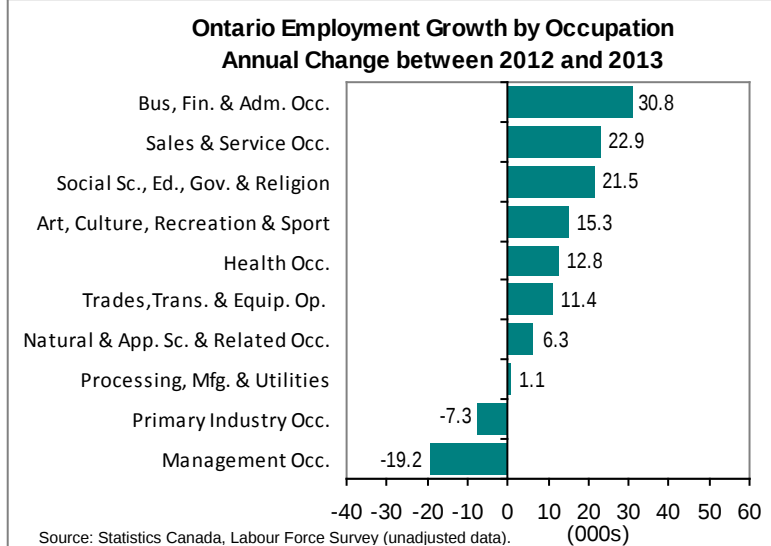
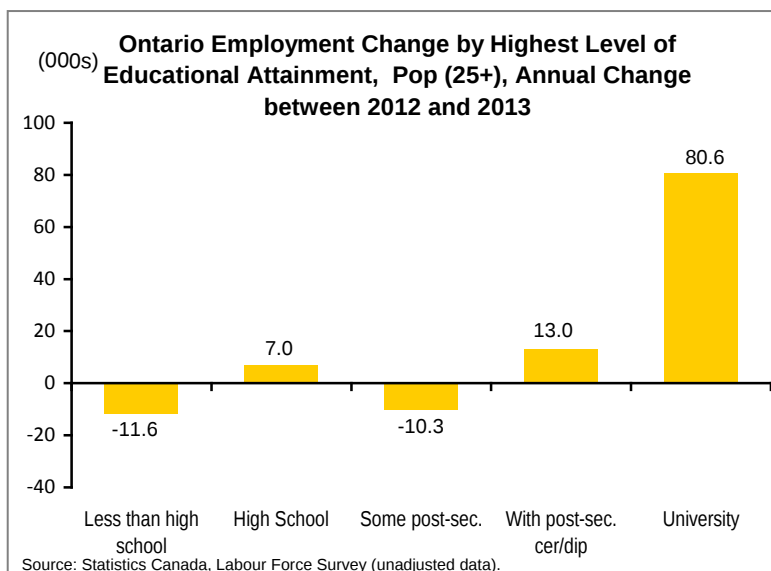
- On an annual basis, employment increased by 78,600 net new jobs for adults 25 years and over in 2013. All of the increase was among adults with post-secondary education (PSE), who gained 93,600 net jobs whereas those without PSE credentials recorded a loss of 15,000 in 2013.
- Adults with a university degree accounted for a large share of the job gains (+80,600) in 2013, while employment among those with a post-secondary certificate or diploma increased by 13,000.
- In 2013, the unemployment rate among adults with PSE was 5.3%, down from 5.5% in 2012. In contrast, for adults aged 25 years and over without PSE credentials, the unemployment rate edged up from 7.8% in 2012 to 7.9% in 2013.

Occupational Employment Growth

- Eight of the ten major occupational groups in Ontario recorded employment growth in 2013 compared to 2012. The largest job gains were recorded in Business, Finance and Administrative Occupations (+30,800), and Sales and Service Occupations (+22,900), followed by Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion (+21,500).
- In 2013, the only employment losses were in Management Occupations (-19,200), followed by Primary Industry Occupations (-7,300).

Long-Term Unemployment Remains High

- In 2013, a total of 130,100 people faced long-term unemployment (27 weeks or more). This group represents 23.2% of all unemployed workers in Ontario, still higher than the pre-recessionary share recorded in 2008.
- At 21.8 weeks, the average duration of unemployment in 2013 was the same compared to 2012, but notably higher compared to the pre-recessionary average of 14.6 weeks reported over the same period in 2008.



For detailed labour market data tables, please contact ResearchStrategy@ontario.ca.