

Ontario Labour Market Statistics for October 2014

Strong Employment Increase in October

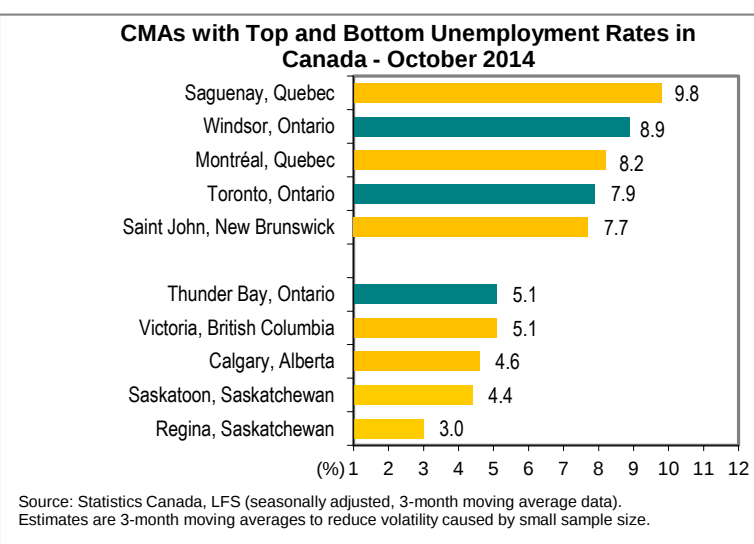
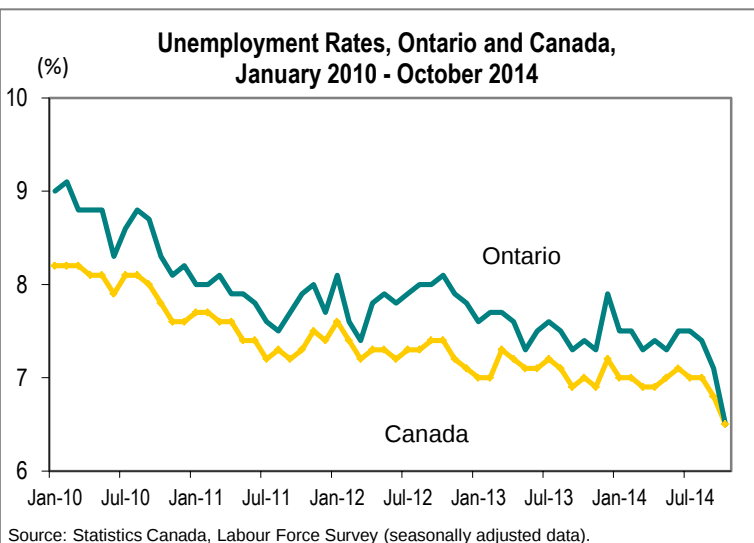
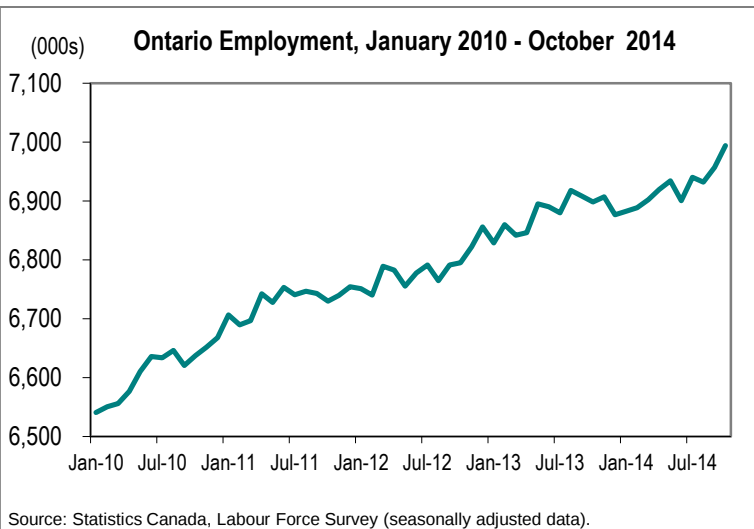
- Ontario employment increased by 37,000 in October 2014, following a 24,700 increase in September. Both full-time and part-time positions increased in October, up by 33,700 and 3,300 respectively.
- Employment across Canada increased by 43,100 in October following a 74,100 increase in September.
- By age group, employment increased for youth (ages 15-24) by 6,300 in October following a 12,600 increase in September. Employment also increased by 24,500 for workers aged 25 to 54 and by 6,200 for workers aged 55 and over.
- Ontario has recovered all of the jobs lost during the recession and employment is now 4.3% or 285,500 above the pre-recession peak.

Unemployment Rate Fell Sharply to 6.5%

- The unemployment rate in Ontario decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 6.5% in October. Ontario's rate is the lowest in six years and now matches the national rate for the first time since December 2006.
- The youth unemployment rate fell sharply from 15.5% to 13.4% in October as the decrease in number of unemployed outpaced the labour force decline.
- The unemployment rate in October also fell for workers aged 25 to 54 (from 5.5% to 5.3%) and for those aged 55 and over (from 6.2% to 5.5%).

Mixed Unemployment Rates in Ontario CMAs

- Ontario's Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) recorded two of the top five highest unemployment rates across Canada in October:
 - At 8.9%, Windsor had the highest unemployment rate in Ontario and the second highest in Canada. Toronto had the fourth highest unemployment rate in Canada (7.9%)
- A number of other Ontario CMAs also had relatively high unemployment rates, including: Kingston (7.5%), London (7.5%) and Oshawa (7.4%). Thunder Bay had the lowest unemployment rate among Ontario CMAs at 5.1%.



Year-over-Year Comparisons

Employment Gains by Educational Attainment

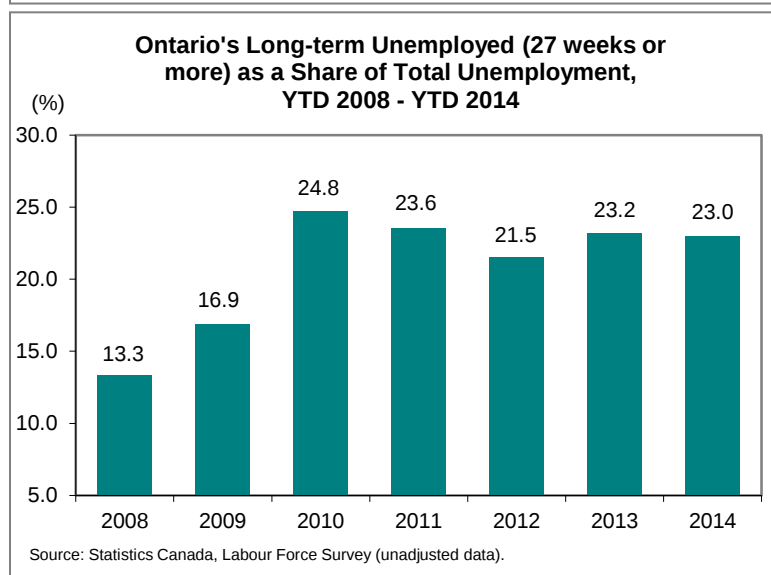
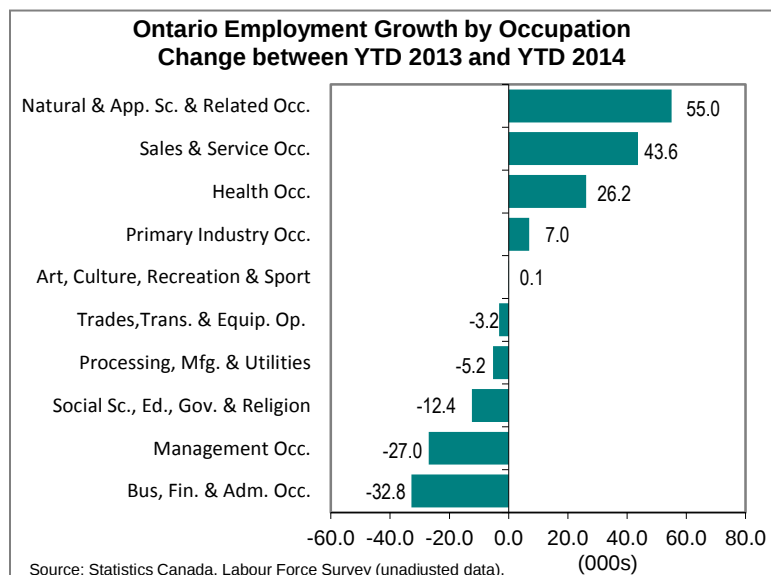
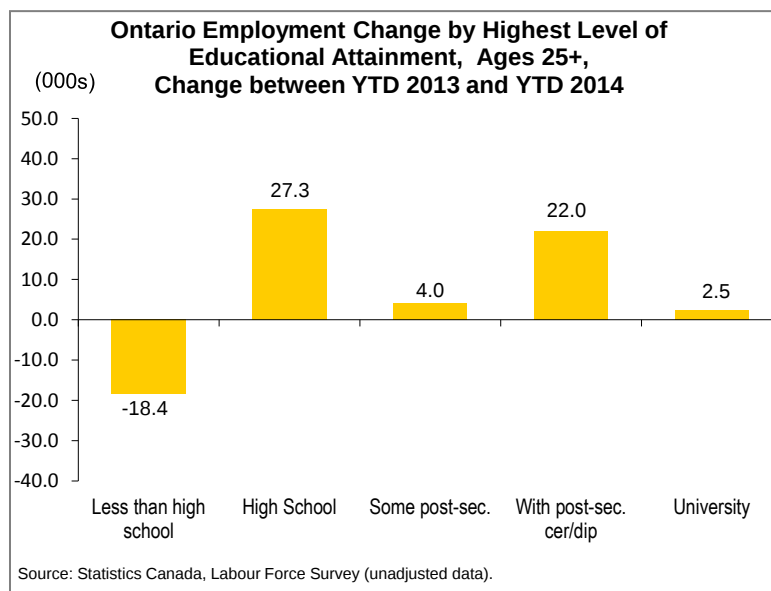
- Over the first ten months of 2014, employment increased by 37,400 for adults 25 years and over compared to the same period of 2013.
- Employment increases were recorded by adults in most educational categories. Large job gains were recorded by those with high school education (+27,300) and those with a postsecondary education (PSE) certificate or diploma (+22,000). In contrast, employment for those with less than high school decreased by 18,400 over this period.
- The unemployment rate for adults 25 years and over with a PSE credential was 5.3% over the first ten months of 2014 compared to 7.5% for adults without PSE.

Occupational Employment Gains

- Half of the ten major occupational groups in Ontario recorded employment growth over the January to October period of 2014 compared to 2013.
- The largest job gains were in Natural and Applied Science Occupations (+55,000), Sales and Service Occupations (+43,600) and Health Occupations (+26,200).
- In contrast, the largest employment declines were in Business, Finance and Administrative Occupations (-32,800), Management (-27,000), and Occupations in Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion (-12,400).

Long-Term Unemployment Remains High

- So far in 2014, an average of 128,400 people faced long-term unemployment (27 weeks or more). This group represents 23.0% of all unemployed workers in Ontario and the share has remained fairly constant over the past five years. The pre-recessionary share recorded in 2008 was 13.3%.
- At 22.2 weeks, the average duration of unemployment recorded over the first ten months of 2014 was similar to the average recorded over the last few years, but elevated when compared to the pre-recessionary period.



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