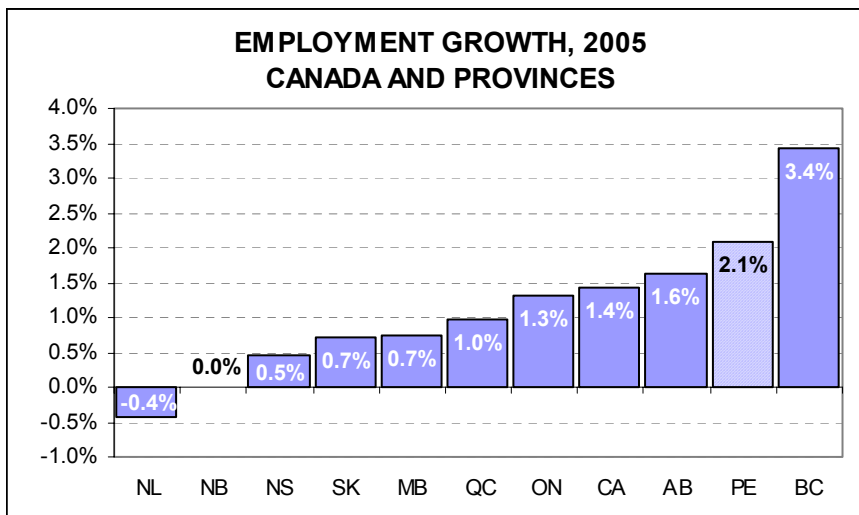
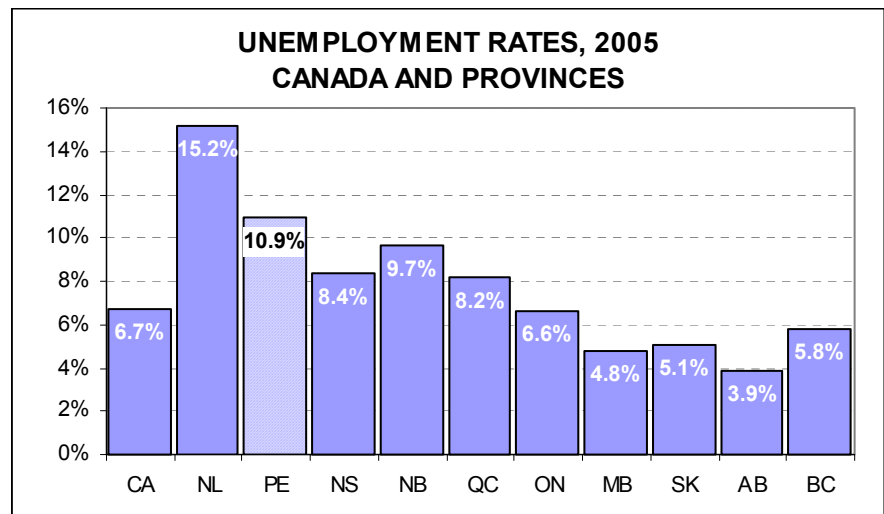


STATISTICS CANADA RELEASES 2005 LABOUR FORCE DATA

Annual labour force survey data released by Statistics Canada on 6 January 2006 show that the annual seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Prince Edward Island fell from 11.3 per cent in 2004 to 10.9 per cent in 2005. This was the lowest rate since 1980, when it stood at 10.5 per cent. The diagram shows national and provincial unemployment rates in 2005.



In 2005 there were on average 68,100 persons employed on Prince Edward Island, an increase of 1,400 jobs or 2.1 per cent from 2004. As the graph indicates, this was the highest employment increase in Atlantic Canada and the second highest rate in the country. Nationally employment grew by 1.4 per cent. The employment rate for Island males was 63.6 per cent in 2005, while 58.8 per cent of the P.E.I. female labour force was employed that year

Most of the growth in employment occurred in the service sector, where employment increased from 49,500 in 2004 to 50,300 in 2005, an increase of 800 jobs or 1.6 per cent (see Table below).

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 2004-2005, S.A.

Goods-producing:	2004	2005	Change	Services:	2004	2005	Change
Agriculture	3,600	3,400	-5.6%	Trade	10,200	9,600	-5.9%
Other primary industries	2,800	2,500	-10.7%	Transport. & Warehousing	2,300	2,400	4.4%
Utilities	400	400	0.0%	F.I.R.E.	2,200	2,200	0.0%
Manufacturing	6,200	6,700	8.1%	Business services	4,700	5,200	10.6%
Construction	4,100	4,600	12.2%	Educational services	4,600	4,900	6.5%
				Health Care & Soc. Assist.	8,000	7,900	-1.3%
				Public Administration	7,200	6,800	-5.6%
				Inform., Culture & Recr.	2,500	2,800	12.0%
				Accomm. And Food Serv.	4,700	5,600	19.2%
				Other services	3,000	3,000	0.0%
TOTAL GOODS:	17,200	17,700	2.9%	TOTAL SERVICES	49,500	50,300	1.6%

Components may not sum to total due to rounding

S.A. seasonally adjusted

In 2005 77.4 per cent of Island employment was of a permanent nature. Temporary employment consisted of 11.5% *seasonal* work, 6.9 per cent *term and contract* employment, and 4.2 per cent *casual* employment. A year earlier permanent employment was 77.1 per cent, while *seasonal*, *contract and term*, and *casual* were 10.2, 8.5 and 4.2 per cent, respectively.

Among males, the 20-24 year age group experienced the largest increase in employment at 25.7 per cent, while females between the age of 55 and 59 years saw the largest growth at 11.5 per cent. The 20-24 year males experienced the largest unemployment rate at 26.3 per cent, while among females it was the 15-19 year olds that experienced the highest unemployment rate at 13.3%.

For more information regarding these labour force survey data contact:

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