

# Employment Insurance

## trends and usage in Newfoundland and Labrador

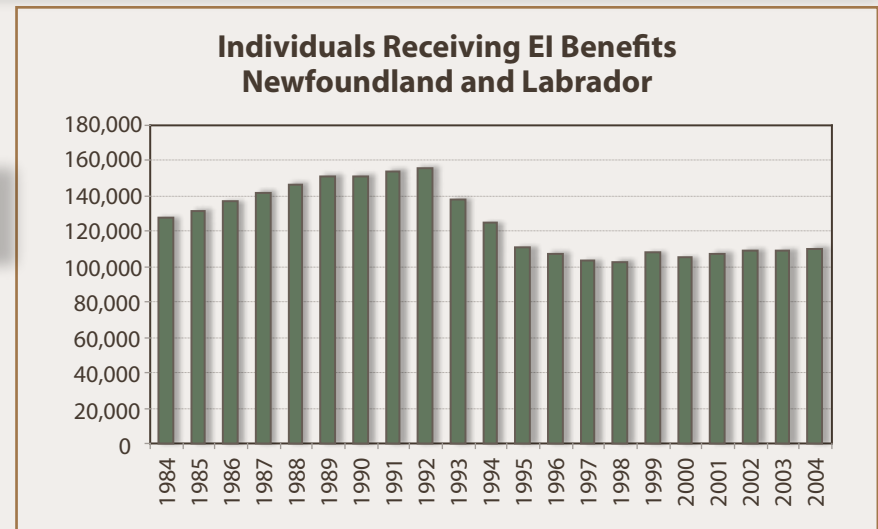
### 100,000+ Individuals Use EI Annually

The number of different people who access the program for some period of time during the year is over 100,000, significantly higher than the monthly average. This figure had peaked at nearly 156,000 in 1992, but since major reform of the program in 1996, it has remained between 103,000 and 110,000 people.

### EI beneficiaries

**Chart 3**

*Annual T4U and T4E counts.  
Statistics Canada, Labour Division  
and Small Area Administrative Data Division*



### Many EI Beneficiaries are Frequent Users

Approximately two-thirds (67%) of all EI beneficiaries between 2000 and 2004 had more than one claim. 50% had three or more claims in the 5-year period; 30% claimed benefits on five or more occasions. While there is no standard definition of what constitutes a frequent user, it is generally accepted that individuals with three or more claims in a 5-year period are considered frequent users. The proportion of frequent users has changed little from the 1992-96 pre-reform period (46% to 50%), however those individuals with 5 or more claims increased from 22% to 30%. The increase in this category is largely due to the 1996 EI reforms which enabled many fish harvesters to collect benefits on more than one claim in a single year (see "Fish Harvesters" section later in this report for more detail).

### frequent users

**Chart 4**

*Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency:  
Special Tabulation*

