

Welcome to Employment and Training Department's monthly Employment News!

According to the Latest release from the Labour Force Survey

May 17th, 2010

April once again showed increases in employment, with the addition of 109,000 jobs nationally, resulting in a 0.1% drop in the national unemployment rate, down to 8.1%. This increase marks the single largest gain since the economic downturn began in the fall of 2008.

All of April's jobs were found in the private sector with particular increases in wholesale and retail trade; business, building and support services; and construction. Offsetting some of the gains, however, manufacturing and agriculture felt losses of a combined 31,000 jobs.

Since July, the service sector has been the recipient of consistent gains, and particularly for those in the private sector. Public sector gains have been considerably more moderate with a net increase of 1.9% as compared with a net increase of 2.4% in the private sector. Demographically, most of April's gains were led by men 25 to 54 (51,000 jobs) and youth 15 to 24 (23,000 jobs), helping both groups to move back towards former levels. Men over 55 also enjoyed gains of the addition of 21,000 positions.

Although 41,000 of the 109,000 newly available positions were located in Ontario, an increase in jobseekers kept the unemployment rate unchanged at 8.8%. This increase in jobseekers is partially attributable to both newly laid-off workers and students who are recently out of school.