

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

According to the Latest release from the Labour Force Survey April 9th, 2010

March continued to show increases in employment, with a net increase of 18,000 jobs nationally, however, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 8.2 %. This was due to an increase of 32,000 part-time jobs which helped to compensate for the losses in full-time employment.

The areas showing the greatest gains were professional, scientific and technical services; construction; and natural resources. However, business, building and other support services as well as transportation and warehousing were down.

Although static for the previous four months, construction enjoyed an increase of 21,000 workers in March as the weather warmed and more projects were undertaken. The declines in transportation and warehousing echo the ongoing losses in the manufacturing industry, as these fields are closely linked. The total losses in transportation and warehousing since October 2008 have been 83,000 positions.

Ontario was a source of growth for the National statistics as it held 10,000 of the new positions, lowering its unemployment rate 0.3 percentage points to 8.8%. Ontario's general minimum wage also increased from \$9.50 to \$10.25 per hour.

As has been consistently true since July 2009, the demographic groups accounting for the majority of the increases have been women aged 25-54 and men aged 55 and older.