

Trends and Usage in Newfoundland and Labrador

100,000+ Individuals Use EI Annually

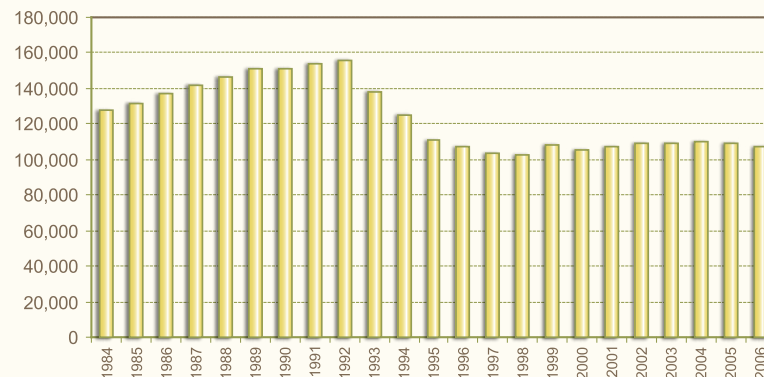
The number of different people who access the program for some period of time during the year is over 100,000, significantly higher than the monthly average. This figure peaked at nearly 156,000 in 1992, but since 1996, it has remained relatively constant between 103,000 and 110,000 people.

EI beneficiaries

Chart 3

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

Individuals Receiving EI Benefits
Newfoundland and Labrador



Many EI Beneficiaries are Frequent Users

Approximately two-thirds (67%) of all EI beneficiaries between 2002 and 2006 had more than one claim. 51% 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 51%), 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*

Distribution of EI Users by Number of Claims in Five Years
1992-1996 and 2002-2006, Newfoundland and Labrador

