

Trends and Usage in Newfoundland and Labrador

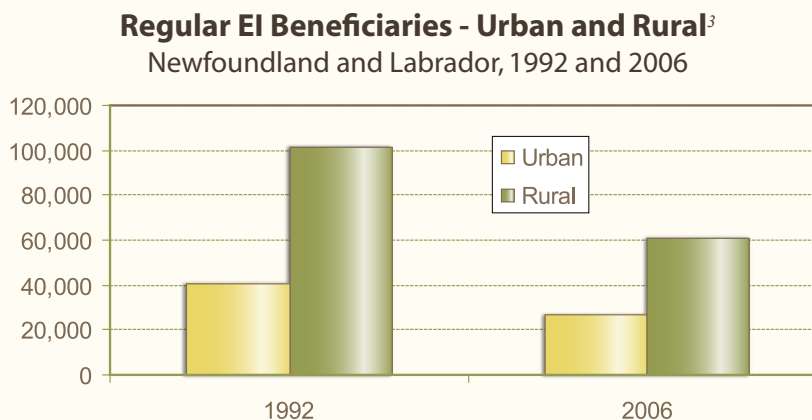
Declining EI Usage is Higher in Rural Areas

The proportional decline in EI usage between 1992 and 2006 for rural and urban regions was 40% and 33% respectively. Within both urban and rural areas, however, are regions or "pockets" which vary considerably from the average. The decline in beneficiaries may be for different reasons depending on location. In the past, evidence indicates that a decline in rural areas implies reduced employment opportunities while a decline in urban regions indicates that there are more jobs or longer duration employment available. Population decline in rural areas is also a likely significant factor in reduced EI usage.

urban and rural

Chart 8

Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency:
Special Tabulation



Duration of Employment is Up Significantly Since Early 1990s

Individuals are now working longer before applying for EI. In 1992, the average number of weeks worked prior to applying for EI was 22.8. By 2006, this figure had increased by 9.4 weeks (or 41%) to 32.2 weeks. Changing EI regulations which effect eligible benefit duration and benefit amounts, along with increased employment opportunities in recent years, have contributed to this trend.

insured weeks

Chart 9

Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency:
Special Tabulation

