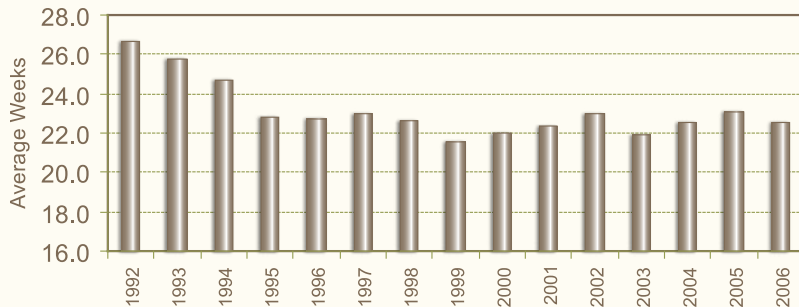


Trends and Usage in Newfoundland and Labrador

EI Benefit Weeks Paid to Regular Beneficiaries
Newfoundland and Labrador, 1992-2006



duration

Chart 10

*Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency:
Special Tabulation*

Duration of Claims is Down Since Early 1990s

The length of time people collect benefits has declined since the early 1990s. In 1992, the average number of annual benefit weeks paid to regular EI beneficiaries was 26.6. By 2006, this figure had declined by 4.1 weeks (or 15%) to 22.5 weeks. Changes to regulations in 1994 and again in 1996 which shortened the eligible duration of benefit periods is a contributing factor. Increased employment opportunities in recent years have also likely played a role.

Average Benefits - Regular EI Beneficiaries
Newfoundland and Labrador, 1992 and 2006

	\$ 1992	\$ 2006	\$ Change	% Change
Average Qualified Weekly Benefit	245	312	67	27
Median Qualified Weekly Benefit	233	342	109	47
Average Total Benefits Paid in Year	6,550	6,960	410	6

average paid

Table 3

*Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency:
Special Tabulation*

Average Benefits Paid Have Not Changed Significantly

While the average weekly benefit for which workers have qualified has increased, total annual benefits paid to individuals have changed little. Average qualified weekly benefits are up 27% and half of EI clients qualified for a 47% higher benefit in 2006 versus 1992. However, the average annual benefit amount paid to regular beneficiaries has increased by only 6%, from \$6,550 in 1992 to \$6,960 in 2006. The shorter duration for which workers now collect benefits is the major factor for keeping average total benefits paid nearly the same as 1992.