



Association of Canadian Search, Employment & Staffing Services

## **Facts about the Canadian Search, Employment & Staffing Services Industry\***

- The employment services industry's total operating revenue grew by 3.7% in 2003 to reach \$5.8 billion, marking the fourth consecutive year of revenue growth.
- This industry's operating profit margin was 3.7% in 2003, down from 5.5% in 2002.
- Ontario continued to dominate industry revenues, representing 60% of the national total, followed by Quebec (17%), Alberta (13%), and British Columbia (5%).
- In 2003, temporary staffing activities generated \$4.1 billion in operating revenue (79% of industry operating revenue), a 3.4% increase over 2002.
- Of revenues generated through temporary staffing activities, office, clerical and administrative postings accounted for 27%, followed by industrial and trades (25%), technical (12%), information technology (10%), and professional and management (10%).
- Of revenues generated through permanent placements, information technology placements accounted for 43%, followed by office, clerical, and administrative (18%), technical (10%), professional and management (8%), and industrial and trades (6%).
- Operating profit for the twenty largest companies increased from 2.7% in 2002 to 3.3% in 2003. These companies generated 37.5% of the industry's operating revenue, up from 36% in 2002.
- The Labour Force Survey also revealed that almost 7% of unemployed workers seeking work used the services of private employment agencies in 2003.
- The 2003 Survey of Employment Services showed that approximately 386,000 workers used the services of temporary staffing firms, down 3.2% from approximately 399,000 in 2002.
- The number of hours billed for temporary help workers increased to 219 million hours in 2003, up from 217 million hours in 2002.

*\*Statistics Canada, The Daily, April 8, 2005*