



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

August 2015



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Quebec and its regions.

OVERVIEW

Employment remained relatively stable from the previous month with a modest loss of 2,000 jobs. The Quebec labour market was up 40,000 jobs compared to August 2014, which represents 1% of the workforce. This increase is entirely attributable to full-time jobs (+64,600) since part-time employment lost 24,500 jobs. All age groups experienced employment growth except the 15-to-24 group, where employment dropped 2.1%.

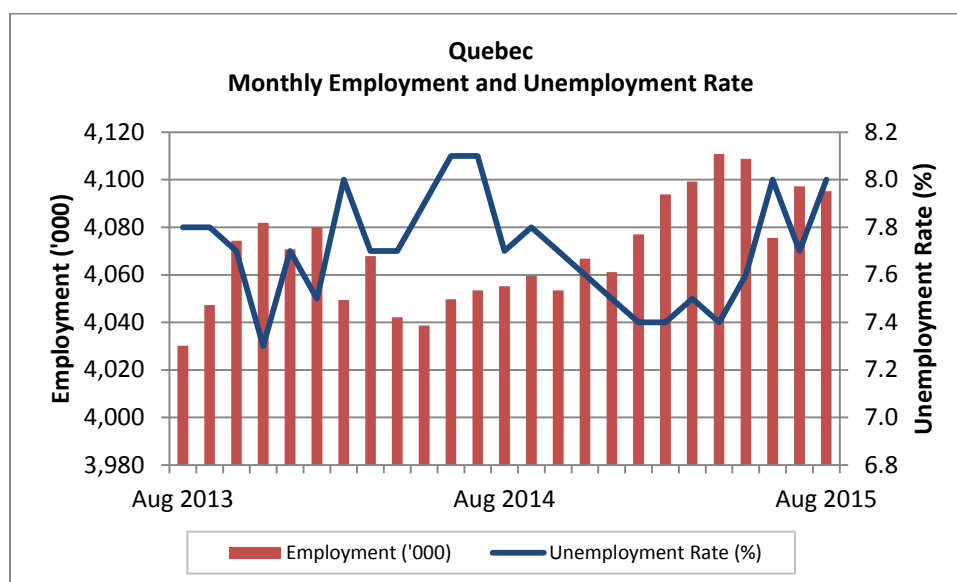
The unemployment rate was up by 0.3 percentage points from a year ago to 8.0%. In the last year, it reached the 8.0% level twice (June and August 2015). This increase is attributable to much stronger growth in the labour force than in the working-age population. The number of jobs created was not enough to accommodate all job seekers. The employment rate still rose 0.3 percentage points from August 2014 to 59.8%, while the participation rate increased 0.5 percentage points to 65.0%. Despite the difficulties in the energy sector, Canada maintained an employment rate of 61.3%, up slightly by 0.1 percentage points from a year ago.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,848.6	6,845.1	6,809.9	3.5	0.1	38.7	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,451.1	4,438.5	4,394.1	12.6	0.3	57.0	1.3
Employment ('000)	4,095.2	4,097.2	4,055.2	-2.0	0.0	40.0	1.0
Full-Time ('000)	3,292.8	3,297.4	3,228.2	-4.6	-0.1	64.6	2.0
Part-Time ('000)	802.5	799.8	827.0	2.7	0.3	-24.5	-3.0
Unemployment ('000)	355.9	341.3	339.0	14.6	4.3	16.9	5.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.0	7.7	7.7	0.3	-	0.3	-
Participation Rate (%)	65.0	64.8	64.5	0.2	-	0.5	-
Employment Rate (%)	59.8	59.9	59.5	-0.1	-	0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087



Employment of youth aged 15 to 24 was down 12,300 jobs from August 2014 with full-time employment experiencing the most significant decrease. The unemployment rate for this age group climbed 0.9 percentage points to 13.4%. The 15-to-24 population has decreased quite substantially since August 2014 (-21,700) although the labour force for the same group was down by only about one-third that amount (-7,900). As a result, the participation rate rose to 67.9%.

The unemployment rate for those 25 and older was 7.1%, up 0.2 percentage points from August 2014. This increase is entirely attributable to women. The increase in the number of job seekers was considerably higher for women in all age categories.

Employment for persons 55 and older continued to rise with a gain of 13,300 jobs since August 2014. More men were active in this age group (+27,300 since August 2014). Although across Canada 35,000 (+2.2%) more women aged 55 and older were employed compared to 12 months ago, employment in this age group declined in Quebec by 14,000 (-4%). In addition, the unemployment rate for women 55 and older increased significantly over the past 12 months, climbing from 4.9% to 6.8%.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	8.0	7.7	7.7	0.3	0.3
25 years and over	7.1	6.9	6.9	0.2	0.2
Men - 25 years and over	7.8	7.7	8.0	0.1	-0.2
Women - 25 years and over	6.2	5.9	5.5	0.3	0.7
15 to 24 years	13.4	12.6	12.5	0.8	0.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	14.9	15.3	15.3	-0.4	-0.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.9	10.0	9.8	1.9	2.1

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment gains in the province since August 2014 are entirely attributable to the service sector, which experienced strong growth (+1.8% or 56,600 jobs). Transportation and warehousing and business services experienced the strongest growth at 12.7% and 11.5% respectively. Public administration also saw a large increase in its workforce (21,400 jobs or 9.6%). In contrast, the information, culture and recreation sector lost 23,700 jobs (-12.7% of its workforce).

Some 16,600 jobs (-2.0%) were lost in the goods-producing sector with the decline due mainly to lower employment in the construction sector (-22,900 or 9.1%). Since November 2014, employment in this sector has decreased substantially. For its part, the manufacturing sector grew slightly with a gain of 4,100 jobs (+1.8%). The rebound in the American economy and the expected increase in exports due to the weak Canadian dollar could prove favourable to this sector.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employment, all industries	4,095.2	4,097.2	4,055.2	-2.0	0.0	40.0	1.0
Goods-producing sector	831.7	827.9	848.3	3.8	0.5	-16.6	-2.0
Agriculture	52.4	49.9	54.0	2.5	5.0	-1.6	-3.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	30.8	32.4	30.1	-1.6	-4.9	0.7	2.3
Utilities	31.1	30.0	28.0	1.1	3.7	3.1	11.1
Construction	229.7	230.8	252.6	-1.1	-0.5	-22.9	-9.1
Manufacturing	487.6	484.7	483.5	2.9	0.6	4.1	0.8
Services-producing sector	3,263.5	3,269.3	3,206.9	-5.8	-0.2	56.6	1.8
Trade	669.9	668.7	649.4	1.2	0.2	20.5	3.2
Transportation and warehousing	202.1	202.0	179.3	0.1	0.0	22.8	12.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	211.8	214.9	219.1	-3.1	-1.4	-7.3	-3.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	319.3	318.2	298.4	1.1	0.3	20.9	7.0
Business, building and other support services	171.5	167.8	153.8	3.7	2.2	17.7	11.5
Educational services	279.3	282.8	272.9	-3.5	-1.2	6.4	2.3
Health care and social assistance	573.1	573.8	567.5	-0.7	-0.1	5.6	1.0
Information, culture and recreation	162.5	169.5	186.2	-7.0	-4.1	-23.7	-12.7
Accommodation and food services	270.7	273.0	274.7	-2.3	-0.8	-4.0	-1.5
Other services	158.5	158.8	182.0	-0.3	-0.2	-23.5	-12.9
Public administration	245.0	239.8	223.6	5.2	2.2	21.4	9.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0088

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Regionally, the portrait is divided into two parts. Half of the economic regions enjoyed higher employment. Considerable growth occurred in three of those regions: the Outaouais, Laurentides and Lanaudière. On a percentage basis, Laval and Abitibi-Témiscamingue experienced the most significant losses.

As for the unemployment rate, 10 economic regions posted a better result than the province as a whole. The most substantial decreases were in the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Laurentides and Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine regions. In contrast, the unemployment rate was up substantially in the Laval, Lanaudière, Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec regions. In the latter two cases, it should be noted that participation rates and employment rates have been improving for the past year, which may reflect the vitality of local labour markets.

The Capital-Nationale region had the highest employment rate at 66.3 %, retaining the lead position it has held since April 2015. It is followed closely by the Laurentides region at 65.7%.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2015 ('000)	August 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2015 (%)	August 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,177.4	4,145.9	0.8	7.7	7.6	0.1
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	40.4	42.6	-5.2	9.2	10.7	-1.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	89.8	87.8	2.3	4.9	7.2	-2.3
Capitale-Nationale	409.1	396.8	3.1	4.5	5.2	-0.7
Chaudière-Appalaches	216.8	224.5	-3.4	5.2	6.4	-1.2
Estrie	153.4	158.7	-3.3	6.2	5.8	0.4
Centre-du-Québec	120.9	116.8	3.5	6.3	5.9	0.4
Montréal	784.2	813.0	-3.5	6.0	5.9	0.4
Montréal	993.4	950.0	4.6	11.4	11.2	0.2
Laval	206.4	227.9	-9.4	9.8	7.0	2.8
Lanaudière	264.5	249.4	6.1	9.3	6.8	2.5
Laurentides	323.9	304.5	6.4	4.9	6.5	-1.6
Outaouais	207.5	193.2	7.4	6.7	8.0	-1.3
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	71.5	77.5	-7.7	6.0	5.5	0.5
Mauricie	114.4	118.0	-3.1	7.1	8.0	-0.9
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	128.8	134.3	-4.1	8.5	8.3	0.2
Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec	52.4	50.9	2.9	9.5	7.6	1.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0122

Note: In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

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For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada website at:

www.statcan.gc.ca

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