



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

September 2015



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

OVERVIEW

In the third quarter of 2015, employment in Quebec has continued to grow, and has reached a historical peak. There have been 1,200 jobs created since the last quarter, and 43,500 over the last year. Compared to the last quarter, growth in part-time employment (3,200) has managed to surpass the losses in part-time employment (-2,000). However, year over year, this upward trend is entirely due to the growth of full-time employment (+62,700), while part-time employment shed 19,200 jobs. During the same period, Canada and Ontario also posted employment gains, of 1.0% and 0.8%, respectively.

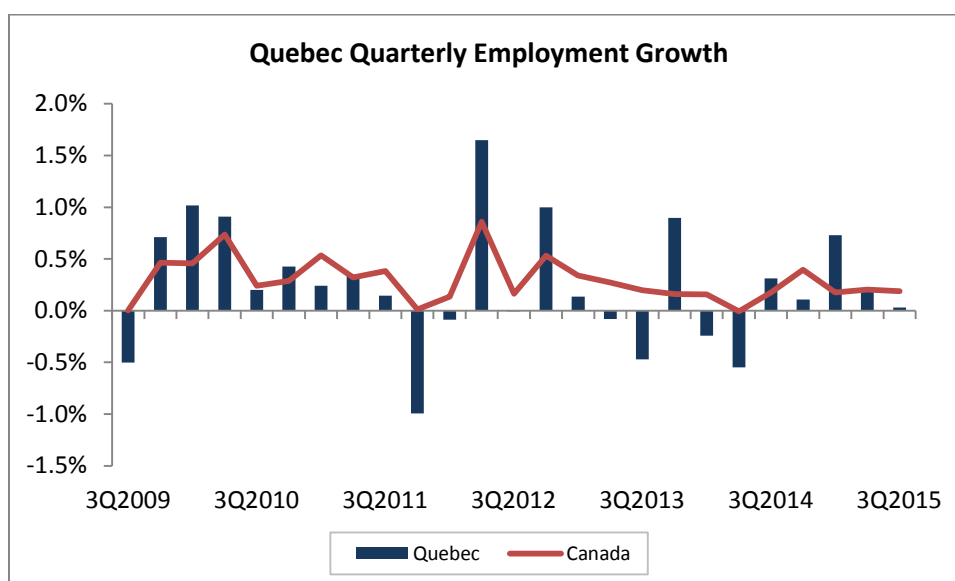
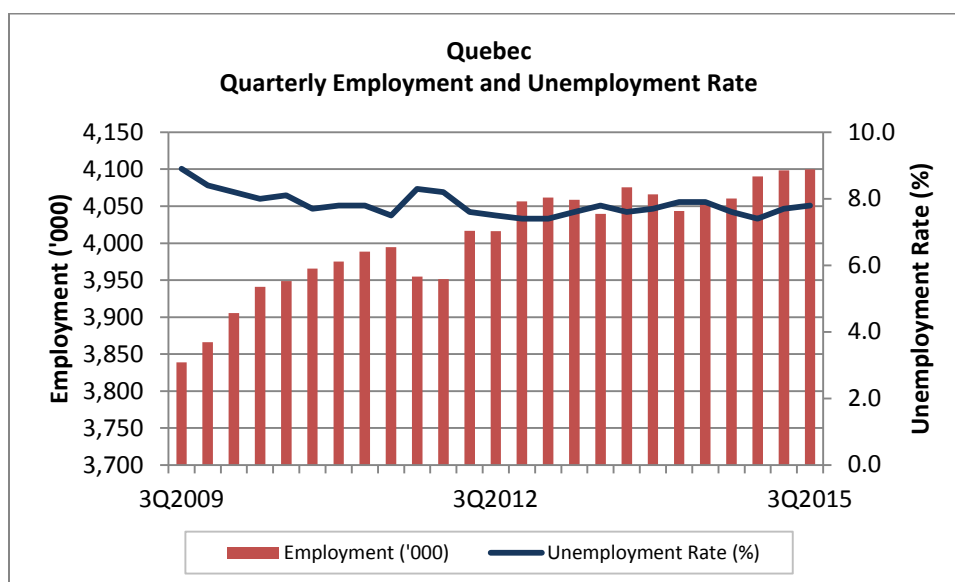
Despite an increase of 0.1 percentage points compared to the 2nd quarter of 2015, the unemployment rate has fallen over the past year and now sits at 7.8%. This decline can be explained by the fact that the labour force grew much faster than the number of unemployed workers. The participation rate has remained stable since the previous quarter, at 64.9%. This rate accounts for a 0.3 percentage point increase since the 3rd quarter of 2014. Finally, in comparison to last year, the employment rate has risen from 59.6% to 59.9% in Quebec, whereas it has remained stable in Canada, at 61.3%.

Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	3rd Quarter 2015	2nd Quarter 2015	3rd Quarter 2014	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,849.0	6,837.5	6,810.1	11.5	0.2	38.9	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,446.9	4,439.8	4,402.6	7.1	0.2	44.3	1.0
Employment ('000)	4,099.6	4,098.4	4,056.1	1.2	0.0	43.5	1.1
Full-Time ('000)	3,297.1	3,299.1	3,234.4	-2.0	-0.1	62.7	1.9
Part-Time ('000)	802.5	799.3	821.7	3.2	0.4	-19.2	-2.3
Unemployment ('000)	347.3	341.4	346.6	5.9	1.7	0.7	0.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.8	7.7	7.9	0.1	-	-0.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.9	64.9	64.6	0.0	-	0.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	59.9	60.0	59.6	-0.1	-	0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



Since the 3rd quarter of 2014, men have benefited more from the employment situation in Quebec than women. Out of the 44,300 jobs created, nearly 84% were held by men, as opposed to 16% (or 7,000 jobs) by women. We can also see that full-time jobs grew faster than part-time jobs among men. Among women, despite a significant growth in full-time employment (-29,700), a significant loss of part-time jobs (-22,700) darkens the picture.

Whereas all other age groups have benefited from employment growth since the same period last year, youth aged 15 to 24 have experienced losses. Young men were more affected (-4,800 jobs), while the drop was limited to 500 jobs among women. Despite this fact, the unemployment rate of this age group decreased slightly, to 12.8% (a drop of 0.2 percentage points). This situation can be partly explained by a significant decline in the number of young people aged 15-24 entering the labour market since last year.

The unemployment rate for men aged 25 and older has fallen (-0.3%), whereas it has risen among women (0.3%). The overall unemployment rate of the 25 and older age group is 7.0%, up 0.1% over the past year.

Employment growth for persons 55 and older is entirely attributable to men. Since the 3rd quarter of 2014, the number of employed women has dropped significantly (-16,800). Since this decline occurred faster than that of the female labour force, many women have become unemployed. In addition, the unemployment rate for women 55 and older increased significantly over the past 12 months, climbing from 5.6% to 6.9%, whereas the rate for men in the same age group dropped slightly, from 9.1% to 8.7%.

Quebec Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	3rd Quarter 2015 (%)	2nd Quarter 2015 (%)	2nd Quarter 2014 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	7.8	7.7	7.9	0.1	-0.1
25 years and over	7.0	6.8	6.9	0.2	0.1
Men - 25 years and over	7.8	7.5	8.1	0.3	-0.3
Women - 25 years and over	6.0	5.9	5.7	0.1	0.3
15 to 24 years	12.8	13.1	13.0	-0.3	-0.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	15.0	15.7	17.0	-0.7	-2.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.6	10.4	9.0	0.2	1.6

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Compared to the third quarter of 2014, employment gains in the province are entirely attributable to the service sector, which grew 2.1% (or 66,200 jobs). The highest growth was posted by transportation and warehousing, as well as public administration and business services, at 11.4% (20,600 jobs), 9.7% (21,700 jobs) and 9.5% (14,700 jobs), respectively. On the other hand, the other services sector has suffered the most significant losses (-11.4%, or 20,700 jobs).

Over the last year, the labour force in the goods-producing sector fell 2.7% (or -22,800 jobs). The construction industry has experienced the most significant losses (-25,600 jobs or -10.1%), mostly due to a considerable decrease in the number of housing starts over the last year. In the 3rd quarter, employment in the manufacturing industry has fallen in comparison to the previous quarter, but remains higher than where it was at the same date a year ago. Despite the weak dollar, employment growth in manufacturing continues to depend on the economic situation in the United States. The decline in the goods-producing sector can be also explained by employment losses in agriculture (-1,000 jobs or -1.9%).

Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
	2015	2015	2014	Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,099.6	4,098.4	4,056.1	1.2	0.0	43.5	1.1
Goods-producing sector	829.5	840.8	852.3	-11.3	-1.3	-22.8	-2.7
Agriculture	53.0	51.3	54.0	1.7	3.3	-1.0	-1.9
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	31.3	32.2	30.3	-0.9	-2.8	1.0	3.3
Utilities	29.2	27.5	28.2	1.7	6.2	1.0	3.5
Construction	227.2	239.9	252.8	-12.7	-5.3	-25.6	-10.1
Manufacturing	488.7	490.0	486.9	-1.3	-0.3	1.8	0.4
Services-producing sector	3,270.0	3,257.6	3,203.8	12.4	0.4	66.2	2.1
Trade	667.7	660.4	648.9	7.3	1.1	18.8	2.9
Transportation and warehousing	200.9	197.3	180.3	3.6	1.8	20.6	11.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	212.1	221.7	219.3	-9.6	-4.3	-7.2	-3.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	319.4	312.4	298.1	7.0	2.2	21.3	7.1
Business, building and other support services	169.6	169.0	154.9	0.6	0.4	14.7	9.5
Educational services	275.7	285.7	272.1	-10.0	-3.5	3.6	1.3
Health care and social assistance	575.3	581.6	570.2	-6.3	-1.1	5.1	0.9
Information, culture and recreation	167.9	166.3	181.1	1.6	1.0	-13.2	-7.3
Accommodation and food services	276.2	278.8	274.6	-2.6	-0.9	1.6	0.6
Other services	160.2	161.2	180.9	-1.0	-0.6	-20.7	-11.4
Public administration	245.0	223.2	223.3	21.8	9.8	21.7	9.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

From a regional perspective, 8 economic regions registered employment increases. The most significant growth was posted by the Outaouais and Lanaudière regions. However, in terms of the number of jobs created, the most significant gains were observed in Montreal (50,400 jobs).

Conversely, 8 economic regions posted employment losses. The most significant variations can be found in Laval and Abitibi-Témiscamingue. In terms of the number of jobs lost, the Laval and Montérégie regions suffered the most losses (-26,800 and -24,700, respectively).

In the 3rd quarter of 2015, the unemployment rates of ten economic regions were lower than the provincial rate. Compared to the same period last year, the Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine and Laurentides regions show the most significant losses. However, the increase in the unemployment rate is significant in Laval.

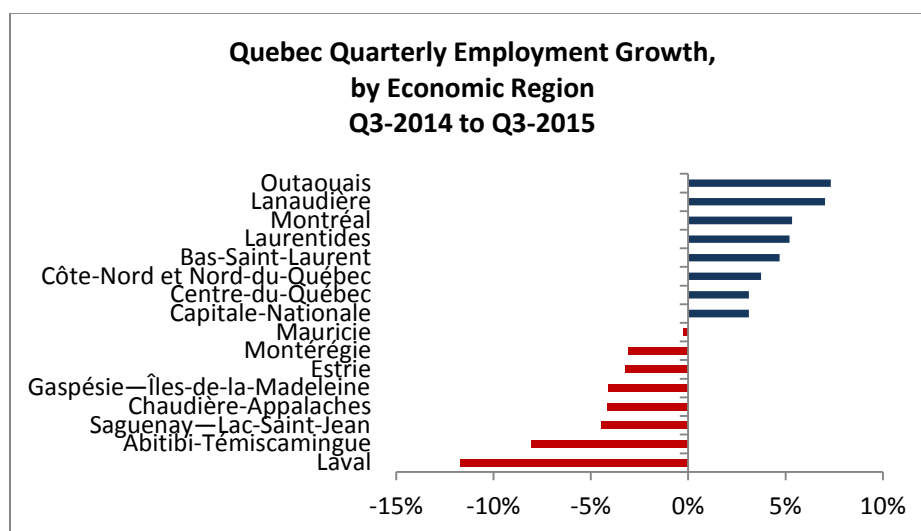
On the other hand, the Laurentides region has the highest employment rate, at 65.6%, followed closely by the Capitale-Nationale and the Outaouais regions, where the employment rates are 65.5% and 64.9%, respectively. Conversely, the Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine and Mauricie have the lowest employment rates in the province (50.9% and 51.2%).

Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	3rd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Yearly	3rd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Yearly
	2015 ('000)	2014 ('000)	Variation (%)	2015 (%)	2014 (%)	Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,161.2	4,121.6	1.0	7.5	7.4	0.1
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	39.7	41.4	-4.1	8.9	11.2	-2.3
Bas-Saint-Laurent	89.1	85.1	4.7	5.5	6.6	-1.1
Capitale-Nationale	404.1	391.9	3.1	4.2	5.2	-1.0
Chaudière-Appalaches	215.3	224.6	-4.1	5.1	6.0	-0.9
Estrie	153.5	158.6	-3.2	5.7	5.7	0.0
Centre-du-Québec	119.1	115.5	3.1	6.0	5.3	0.7
Montréal	782.7	807.4	-3.1	6.3	6.1	0.2
Montréal	994.0	943.6	5.3	10.7	10.6	0.1
Laval	202.8	229.6	-11.7	10.4	6.6	3.8
Lanaudière	265.0	247.6	7.0	8.0	7.3	0.7
Laurentides	323.4	307.4	5.2	4.2	6.3	-2.1
Outaouais	206.6	192.5	7.3	6.9	8.2	-1.3
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	70.8	77.0	-8.1	5.7	5.4	0.3
Mauricie	115.5	115.8	-0.3	7.4	7.2	0.2
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	126.9	132.8	-4.4	9.1	8.1	1.0
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	52.8	50.9	3.7	9.1	6.6	2.5

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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