



# Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

May 2016



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

## OVERVIEW

Following a mixed start to the year, employment in Quebec posted a significant jump in May 2016. Based on the latest estimates by Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, the number of jobs increased by 21,600 in the province since April 2016, or at a rate of 0.5%. This growth came entirely from full-time employment (+55,800 jobs or 1.7%), whereas part-time employment shed 34,200 jobs (-4.3%). The number of public sector employees and self-employed workers grew, whereas the number of jobs fell in the private sector.

Compared to May 2015, the results were positive, with the addition of 18,200 jobs (+0.4%). In comparison, still year over year, employment also grew in Canada (+0.6%) and Ontario (+1.1%). Employment gains in Quebec benefited essentially the 25-54 year old group and those aged 55 and over, whereas young people (aged 15-24), both young men and young women, saw their employment levels fall during the past year (-5.9%).

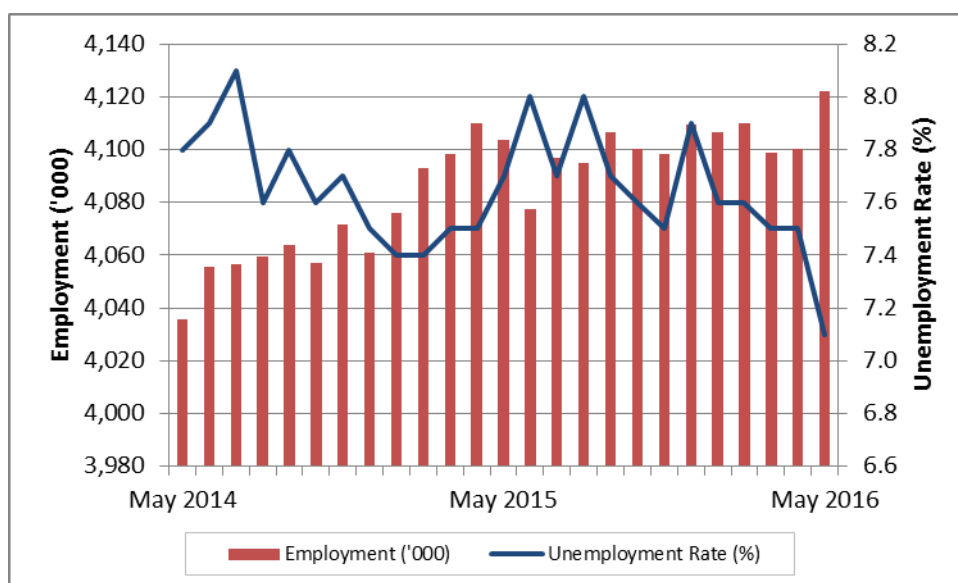
### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2016	April 2016	May 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	6,881.7	6,876.5	6,837.1	5.2	0.1	44.6	0.7
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	4,435.4	4,434.6	4,443.9	0.8	0.0	-8.5	-0.2
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	4,122.0	4,100.4	4,103.8	21.6	0.5	18.2	0.4
Full-Time ('000)	3,364.9	3,309.1	3,292.6	55.8	1.7	72.3	2.2
Part-Time ('000)	757.1	791.3	811.3	-34.2	-4.3	-54.2	-6.7
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	313.3	334.2	340.0	-20.9	-6.3	-26.7	-7.9
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	7.1	7.5	7.7	-0.4	-	-0.6	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.5	64.5	65.0	0.0	-	-0.5	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	59.9	59.6	60.0	0.3	-	-0.1	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



As a combined effect of job growth and a virtually stable labour force, the unemployment rate fell since the previous month by four tenths of a percentage point, to 7.1%. As the previous graph shows, the unemployment rate hit its lowest level in two years. In fact, such a low rate has not been seen since March 2008. The participation rate remained stable between April and May (64.5%), but lost half a percentage point year over last year. Finally, the employment rate climbed by 0.4 percentage point, and reached 59.9%, which had been the average rate over the last 5 years.

## Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2016	April 2016	May 2015	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	7.1	7.5	7.7	-0.4	-0.6
<b>25 years and over</b>	5.9	6.7	6.8	-0.8	-0.9
Men - 25 years and over	6.8	7.6	7.5	-0.8	-0.7
Women - 25 years and over	4.8	5.7	6.0	-0.9	-1.2
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	14.2	12.3	12.6	1.9	1.6
Men - 15 to 24 years	17.6	16.8	15.2	0.8	2.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.8	7.8	10.1	3.0	0.7

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At the industrial level, both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors benefited from employment growth. However, the 12,000 new jobs added between May and June in the goods-producing sector were not sufficient to compensate for the losses of the two previous months (-21,700 jobs). Over the past month, the most significant job growth was posted by the manufacturing sector, with the addition of 10,100 jobs. In comparison to May 2015, the overall picture is just as positive, as 11,700 more jobs (+1.4%) were added in the goods-producing sector. Agriculture and manufacturing posted job increases year over year.

Employment levels in the service industry increased by 0.3% (+9,000 jobs) since April 2016. Business services, building and other support services, public administration, as well as professional, scientific and technical services showed a positive trend, both over the past month and the past year. Conversely, trade, finance and insurance, as well as transportation and warehousing saw a decrease in employment over the past month and the past year.

### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2016	April 2016	May 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	4,122.0	4,100.4	4,103.8	21.6	0.5	18.2	0.4
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	850.6	838.0	838.9	12.6	1.5	11.7	1.4
Agriculture	61.0	57.2	51.0	3.8	6.6	10.0	19.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	28.0	29.6	32.2	-1.6	-5.4	-4.2	-13.0
Utilities	28.3	28.7	28.8	-0.4	-1.4	-0.5	-1.7
Construction	234.9	234.0	237.0	0.9	0.4	-2.1	-0.9
Manufacturing	498.5	488.4	490.0	10.1	2.1	8.5	1.7
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	3,271.4	3,262.4	3,264.9	9.0	0.3	6.5	0.2
Trade	649.6	655.5	660.7	-5.9	-0.9	-11.1	-1.7
Transportation and warehousing	191.1	191.3	197.1	-0.2	-0.1	-6.0	-3.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	209.4	213.3	219.5	-3.9	-1.8	-10.1	-4.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	318.5	315.6	313.1	2.9	0.9	5.4	1.7
Business, building and other support services	190.7	175.9	178.5	14.8	8.4	12.2	6.8
Educational services	278.8	270.6	281.2	8.2	3.0	-2.4	-0.9
Health care and social assistance	583.0	583.9	581.5	-0.9	-0.2	1.5	0.3
Information, culture and recreation	171.5	175.8	166.7	-4.3	-2.4	4.8	2.9
Accommodation and food services	277.4	286.4	282.6	-9.0	-3.1	-5.2	-1.8
Other services	165.7	161.5	159.9	4.2	2.6	5.8	3.6
Public administration	235.6	232.7	224.2	2.9	1.2	11.4	5.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Among economic regions, Montréal saw the most significant employment growth, with the addition of 11,000 jobs (+1.1%) since May 2015. Two resource regions also registered significant increases in employment during the previous month: Bas-Saint-Laurent (+5,900 jobs or 7.3%) and Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec (+4,400 or 9.2%). Conversely, the following regions had the poorest results: Chaudière-Appalaches (-13,000 jobs or -5.8%), Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean (-6,400 or -1.4%) and Capitale-Nationale (-5,800 or -1.4%).

Thanks to a solid performance in terms of employment, the Bas-Saint-Laurent region saw the most significant decline in its unemployment rate, which went from 11.2% in May 2015 to 8.3% a year later. Lanaudière (-2.6 percentage points) and Centre-du-Québec (-1.8 percentage point) also posted significant drops in unemployment rates over one year. However, the decline of the unemployment rate in Lanaudière is essentially due to a reduction of the labour force. The Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean (+1.8 percentage point),

Chaudière-Appalaches (+1.7 percentage point) and Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec (+1.1 percentage point) posted the highest increases in unemployment rates.

### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2016 ('000)	May 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2016 (%)	May 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Quebec</b>	4,073.6	4,070.4	0.1	7.8	8.0	-0.2
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	33.2	34.0	-2.4	18.2	17.5	0.7
Bas-Saint-Laurent	86.7	80.8	7.3	8.3	11.2	-2.9
Capitale-Nationale	396.8	402.6	-1.4	4.2	5.0	-0.8
Chaudière-Appalaches	210.9	223.9	-5.8	6.5	4.8	1.7
Estrie	151.4	152.1	-0.5	7.1	6.9	0.2
Centre-du-Québec	118.9	117.6	1.1	5.7	7.5	-1.8
Montréal	771.3	768.1	0.4	6.8	6.2	0.6
Montréal	970.6	959.6	1.1	10.5	10.6	-0.1
Laval	213.5	215.8	-1.1	5.7	6.5	-0.8
Lanaudière	246.3	249.4	-1.2	6.8	9.4	-2.6
Laurentides	303.8	304.6	-0.3	7.1	7.9	-0.8
Outaouais	197.4	194.7	1.4	7.5	8.2	-0.7
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	71.7	71.2	0.7	8.2	8.4	-0.2
Mauricie	124.4	117.1	6.2	8.1	7.3	0.8
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	124.5	130.9	-4.9	10.1	8.3	1.8
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	52.2	47.8	9.2	11.4	10.3	1.1

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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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