



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

August 2016



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

OVERVIEW

Following two months of losses, employment rebounded in Quebec in August 2016, according to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS). Since last month, 21,900 jobs were added (+0.5%), completely erasing the decline that had been posted over the two previous months. Full-time employment contributed to this increase (+7,100 jobs), with a growth rate of 0.2%. However, two-thirds of employment growth came from part-time employment (+14,800 jobs or +1.9%). This increase benefited mostly men, in particular those aged 55 and over and, to a lesser degree, young men (aged 15-24).

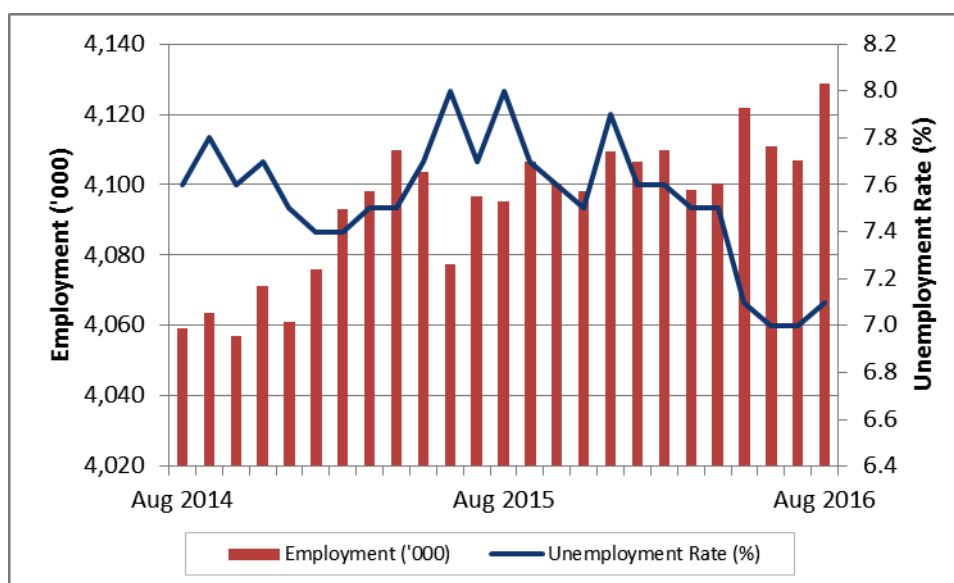
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2016	July 2016	August 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,896.9	6,892.2	6,848.6	4.7	0.1	48.3	0.7
Labour Force ('000)	4,443.0	4,417.7	4,449.8	25.3	0.6	-6.8	-0.2
Employment ('000)	4,128.7	4,106.8	4,095.1	21.9	0.5	33.6	0.8
Full-Time ('000)	3,325.1	3,318.0	3,293.9	7.1	0.2	31.2	0.9
Part-Time ('000)	803.5	788.7	801.2	14.8	1.9	2.3	0.3
Unemployment ('000)	314.3	310.9	354.7	3.4	1.1	-40.4	-11.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	7.0	8.0	0.1	-	-0.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.4	64.1	65.0	0.3	-	-0.6	-
Employment Rate (%)	59.9	59.6	59.8	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



On a yearly basis, employment growth in Quebec (+0.8%) is higher than in Canada (+0.4%) and Ontario (0.5%). Of the 33,600 jobs added to the Quebec labour market since August 2015, 9 out of 10 are full-time; the number of full-time jobs increased at a rate of 0.9%, compared to 0.3% for part-time jobs. The private sector was the sole contributor to job growth over the past year, whereas workers in the public sector and self-employed workers saw employment decreases.

Since the labour force increased at a faster rate than employment, the unemployment rate gained 0.1 percentage point and stood at 7.1% in August 2016. Sign of an improving labour market, the participation and employment rates both rose by 0.3 percentage point, and stood at 64.4% and 59.9%, respectively. It is worth noting that although employment growth over the past year was higher in Quebec than in Canada, the Canadian employment rate (60.9%) was higher than the provincial one.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2016	July 2016	August 2015	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	7.1	7.0	8.0	0.1	-0.9
25 years and over	6.0	6.1	7.0	-0.1	-1.0
Men - 25 years and over	6.8	6.8	7.8	0.0	-1.0
Women - 25 years and over	5.2	5.3	6.2	-0.1	-1.0
15 to 24 years	13.5	12.7	13.5	0.8	0.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	16.3	15.2	15.0	1.1	1.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.7	10.3	12.0	0.4	-1.3

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At an industrial level, employment in the goods-producing sector rose slightly since the last month, adding 1,300 jobs (+0.2%). All of the industries making up this sector saw an increase in job numbers, except manufacturing, which posted a loss of 2,000 jobs (-0.4%). Over the past year, the goods-producing sector

gained 7,300 jobs (+0.9%). The agriculture, construction and manufacturing industries contributed the most to this growth. The number of jobs in the service industry, which accounts for nearly 80% of total employment, increased by 20,600 since last month, which is equivalent to a growth rate of 0.6%. The yearly results are also positive, with the addition of 26,300 jobs (+0.8%). The most significant job increases since August 2015 occurred in the accommodation and food services industries, healthcare and social assistance, as well as information, culture and recreation. Conversely, trade, professional, scientific and technical services, as well as public administration saw the most significant declines over the past 12 months.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2016	July 2016	August 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,128.7	4,106.8	4,095.1	21.9	0.5	33.6	0.8
Goods-producing sector	839.1	837.8	831.8	1.3	0.2	7.3	0.9
Agriculture	56.9	55.8	53.2	1.1	2.0	3.7	7.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	31.8	30.2	31.0	1.6	5.3	0.8	2.6
Utilities	25.9	25.8	30.1	0.1	0.4	-4.2	-14.0
Construction	232.7	232.2	228.7	0.5	0.2	4.0	1.7
Manufacturing	491.8	493.8	488.9	-2.0	-0.4	2.9	0.6
Services-producing sector	3,289.6	3,269.0	3,263.3	20.6	0.6	26.3	0.8
Trade	645.3	640.0	668.7	5.3	0.8	-23.4	-3.5
Transportation and warehousing	200.6	197.0	201.1	3.6	1.8	-0.5	-0.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	216.2	216.2	211.4	0.0	0.0	4.8	2.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	306.5	313.0	319.5	-6.5	-2.1	-13.0	-4.1
Business, building and other support services	186.8	184.6	171.6	2.2	1.2	15.2	8.9
Educational services	275.5	275.9	276.6	-0.4	-0.1	-1.1	-0.4
Health care and social assistance	591.7	591.2	573.8	0.5	0.1	17.9	3.1
Information, culture and recreation	182.4	173.9	165.4	8.5	4.9	17.0	10.3
Accommodation and food services	291.9	293.1	272.4	-1.2	-0.4	19.5	7.2
Other services	158.4	160.5	158.6	-2.1	-1.3	-0.2	-0.1
Public administration	234.2	223.8	244.2	10.4	4.6	-10.0	-4.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In regards to economic regions, the four Intermediary Regions posted positive numbers in terms of employment gains since August 2015, in particular Mauricie (+ 11,800 jobs) with a growth rate of 10.3% and Centre-du-Québec (+7,600 jobs or +6.3%). The unemployment rate fell by 2.3% in Mauricie and stood at 4.8%, and by 1.1% in Centre-du-Québec, and stood at 5.2%, whereas it remained stable in Chaudière-Appalaches and Estrie.

The Greater Montréal Region posted an overall job decline over the past year, due to significant losses in Laurentides (-12,900 jobs or -4.0%), Montérégie (-11,100 jobs or -1.4%) and in Lanaudière (-6,700 jobs or -2.5%). However, these losses were offset in part by employment increases in the Montréal region (+14,300

jobs or +1.4%) and in Laval (+10,600 jobs or +5.1%). The most significant declines in the unemployment rate were observed in Lanaudière and Laval (-3.7 percentage points in both regions). In Laval, the decline of the unemployment rate can be explained by an improvement of the labour market, while in Lanaudière, which saw an employment decrease, the decline can be explained by a decrease of the labour force, which means that some of the unemployed workers stopped actively looking for work. The most significant increase of the unemployment rate (+1.5%) occurred in the Laurentides region, reaching 6.4%.

Results were mixed for the Capital Regions, with job losses in Outaouais (-6,600 jobs or -3.2%) and a slight increase in Capitale-Nationale (+2,700 jobs or +0.7%). The unemployment rate grew in both regions, despite employment gains in Capitale-Nationale, as the labour force grew at a faster pace than employment.

Among the Resource Regions, the most significant employment growth was posted by Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec (+10.5%). Conversely, Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine saw the most significant losses, shedding 1,000 jobs or 2.5%. The Côte-Nord/Nord-du-Québec region posted the most significant decline in the unemployment rate, which shed 4 percentage points and stood at 5.5%.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2016 ('000)	August 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2016 (%)	August 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,197.6	4,177.4	0.5	6.9	7.7	-0.8
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	39.4	40.4	-2.5	9.6	9.2	0.4
Bas-Saint-Laurent	89.4	89.8	-0.4	6.1	4.9	1.2
Capitale-Nationale	411.8	409.1	0.7	4.7	4.5	0.2
Chaudière-Appalaches	221.3	216.8	2.1	5.2	5.2	0.0
Estrie	154.6	153.4	0.8	6.2	6.2	0.0
Centre-du-Québec	128.5	120.9	6.3	5.2	6.3	-1.1
Montérégie	773.1	784.2	-1.4	6.2	6.0	0.2
Montréal	1,007.7	993.4	1.4	10.1	11.4	-1.3
Laval	217.0	206.4	5.1	6.1	9.8	-3.7
Lanaudière	257.8	264.5	-2.5	5.6	9.3	-3.7
Laurentides	311.0	323.9	-4.0	6.4	4.9	1.5
Outaouais	200.9	207.5	-3.2	7.5	6.7	0.8
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	72.4	71.5	1.3	6.0	6.0	0.0
Mauricie	126.2	114.4	10.3	4.8	7.1	-2.3
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	128.6	128.8	-0.2	5.4	8.5	-3.1
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	57.9	52.4	10.5	5.5	9.5	-4.0

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.

Prepared by: Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Quebec

For further information, please contact the Labour Market Analysis Directorate at:

NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

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

www.statcan.gc.ca

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