



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

February 2017



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

OVERVIEW

According to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS), the number of employed people decreased by 0.3% January and February 2017 in Quebec. The highest share of job losses stemmed from full-time employment (-10,500). The decline of employment in Quebec (-11,100) was the most significant among Canadian provinces. Employment rose slightly in Ontario and in Canada overall (+0.1%).

Despite less favourable employment numbers during the month of February in Quebec, the results of the last twelve months remain positive. There were 83,000 (+2.0%) more jobs in the province than in February 2016. This employment growth is primarily attributable to the addition of 54,800 full-time jobs and, to a lesser degree, to the addition of 28,100 part-time jobs.

The working-age population increased by 2,400 in comparison to January, while the labour force shed 3,900 persons. This explains the dip in the participation rate (-0.1%), which now sat at 64.8%.

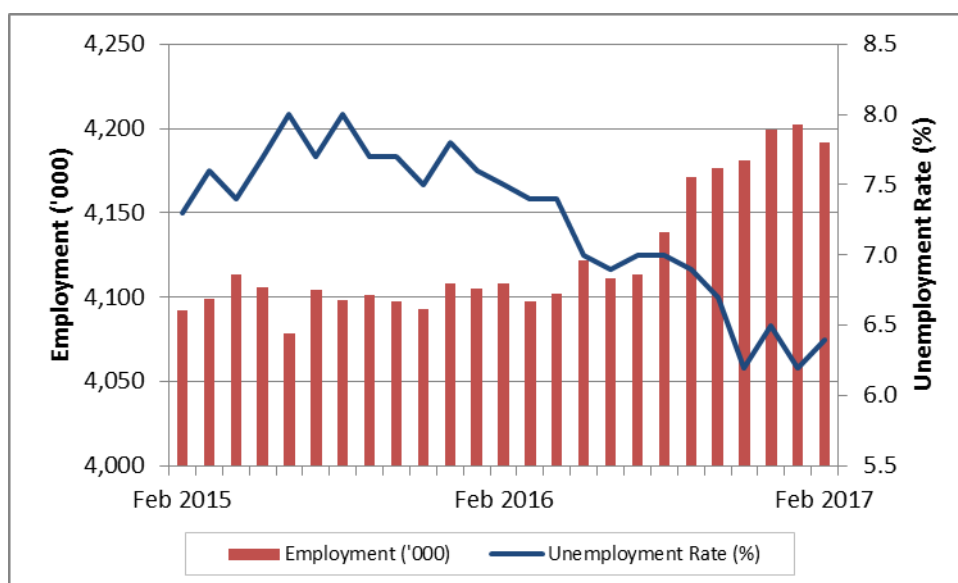
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	February 2017	January 2017	February 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,912.1	6,909.7	6,869.3	2.4	0.0	42.8	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,478.2	4,482.1	4,441.3	-3.9	-0.1	36.9	0.8
Employment ('000)	4,191.5	4,202.6	4,108.5	-11.1	-0.3	83.0	2.0
Full-Time ('000)	3,380.0	3,390.5	3,325.2	-10.5	-0.3	54.8	1.6
Part-Time ('000)	811.5	812.1	783.4	-0.6	-0.1	28.1	3.6
Unemployment ('000)	286.7	279.5	332.7	7.2	2.6	-46.0	-13.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	6.2	7.5	0.2	-	-1.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.8	64.9	64.7	-0.1	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.6	60.8	59.8	-0.2	-	0.8	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



Over the last month, the number of unemployed people rose by 7,200 in Quebec, which caused the unemployment rate to rise from 6.2% to 6.4%. Here again, the picture is more positive over a twelve-month horizon. Over that period, the number of unemployed decreased by 46,000 and the labour force rose by 36,900, which led to a decline of the unemployment rate by 1.1%.

During the past month, the unemployment rate of 15-to-24 year-olds rose slightly by 0.3 percentage point, and stood at 10.9%. This increase is entirely attributable to a rise in the unemployment rate of young women, since the rate for young men remained stable. Despite this fact the unemployment rate of young women (8.5%) remained lower than that of young men (13.4%). The employment rate of youth remained stable, at 60%, in comparison to the previous month. This can be explained by the fact that employment and the working-age population for 15-to-24 year-olds remained relatively stable. Over a one-year horizon, the unemployment rate experienced a decline, both for young men and young women.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	February 2017	January 2017	February 2016	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.4	6.2	7.5	0.2	-1.1
25 years and over	5.7	5.5	6.6	0.2	-0.9
Men - 25 years and over	6.0	5.9	7.8	0.1	-1.8
Women - 25 years and over	5.3	5.1	5.1	0.2	0.2
15 to 24 years	10.9	10.6	12.8	0.3	-1.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.4	14.7	15.9	-1.3	-2.5
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.5	6.5	9.7	2.0	-1.2

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

The drop in employment over the previous month is attributable to losses in the service sector, whereas employment levels in the goods-producing sector remained relatively stable. This situation contrasts with the results of the last year, when the goods-producing sector saw a decline of its workforce (-15,600 or 1.8%) and employment in the service sector increased (98,500 or +3.0%). The trade, education and public administration subsectors contributed to this strong performance of the service industry, which accounts for 80% of jobs in Quebec.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	February 2017	January 2017	February 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,191.5	4,202.6	4,108.5	-11.1	-0.3	83.0	2.0
Goods-producing sector	840.6	839.8	856.2	0.8	0.1	-15.6	-1.8
Agriculture	55.6	56.8	56.6	-1.2	-2.1	-1.0	-1.8
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	35.4	35.2	30.9	0.2	0.6	4.5	14.6
Utilities	25.9	25.6	29.4	0.3	1.2	-3.5	-11.9
Construction	239.9	237.5	240.5	2.4	1.0	-0.6	-0.2
Manufacturing	483.8	484.8	498.9	-1.0	-0.2	-15.1	-3.0
Services-producing sector	3,350.8	3,362.9	3,252.3	-12.1	-0.4	98.5	3.0
Trade	683.3	671.7	647.0	11.6	1.7	36.3	5.6
Transportation and warehousing	198.9	197.0	193.5	1.9	1.0	5.4	2.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	226.5	230.8	212.5	-4.3	-1.9	14.0	6.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	312.7	313.0	313.7	-0.3	-0.1	-1.0	-0.3
Business, building and other support services	187.7	183.7	182.2	4.0	2.2	5.5	3.0
Educational services	290.6	297.4	266.9	-6.8	-2.3	23.7	8.9
Health care and social assistance	570.1	574.0	582.7	-3.9	-0.7	-12.6	-2.2
Information, culture and recreation	177.3	185.1	177.0	-7.8	-4.2	0.3	0.2
Accommodation and food services	276.9	276.4	278.3	0.5	0.2	-1.4	-0.5
Other services	172.1	179.6	160.2	-7.5	-4.2	11.9	7.4
Public administration	254.7	254.1	238.3	0.6	0.2	16.4	6.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Over the past year, Centre-du-Québec (8.7%), Montréal (7.9%) and Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec (7.6%) were the best-performing regions in terms of employment, whereas the Lanaudière (-10,700) and Montérégie (-5,900) regions showed the greatest decreases in terms of numbers.

The Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec and Mauricie regions posted the most significant drops in the unemployment rates in comparison to the previous year. Conversely, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Lanaudière and Centre-du-Québec regions saw the most significant increases in the unemployment rate. The

two Capitaes (Capitale-Nationale and Outaouais regions) had low unemployment rates, along with Laurentides, Chaudière-Appalaches and Estrie.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	February 2017 ('000)	February 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	February 2017 (%)	February 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,126.3	4,036.2	2.2	6.8	8.0	-1.2
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	35.4	33.3	6.3	14.5	19.0	-4.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	82.3	86.0	-4.3	10.3	9.4	0.9
Capitale-Nationale	406.3	396.9	2.4	5.3	5.2	0.1
Chaudière-Appalaches	209.2	213.5	-2.0	5.2	6.4	-1.2
Estrie	152.0	153.6	-1.0	5.3	7.0	-1.7
Centre-du-Québec	119.0	109.5	8.7	7.2	6.8	0.4
Montréal	773.6	779.5	-0.8	5.8	6.2	-0.4
Montréal	1,019.8	945.0	7.9	8.1	11.0	-2.9
Laval	210.3	199.5	5.4	8.6	8.5	0.1
Lanaudière	239.6	250.3	-4.3	7.2	6.7	0.5
Laurentides	316.0	309.5	2.1	5.0	5.8	-0.8
Outaouais	196.5	200.3	-1.9	5.9	7.0	-1.1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	74.0	72.0	2.8	6.4	6.7	-0.3
Mauricie	112.7	115.3	-2.3	7.8	11.3	-3.5
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	125.4	121.8	3.0	8.8	10.3	-1.5
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	54.1	50.3	7.6	7.4	11.3	-3.9

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.

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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