



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

March 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, the first quarter of 2017 ended with a positive result, as employment grew by 0.3% (+10,500 jobs). This job increase is attributable to full-time employment (+6,300 jobs) and part-time employment (+4,200 jobs). In comparison, employment also grew in Ontario and Canada during the past quarter, by 0.5%.

During the past year, the labour market situation remained positive, gaining 92,200 jobs (+2.2%). This increase came from full-time jobs (+1.8%) and part-time jobs (+4.3%). Workers from the private and public sectors contributed to this growth, as self-employed workers saw their numbers decline during the past year.

The working-age population increased by 8,300 in comparison to the last quarter, and so has the labour force (+4,400). Thus, as their respective increases were the same, proportionally speaking (+0.1%), the participation rate remained stable, at 64.8%.

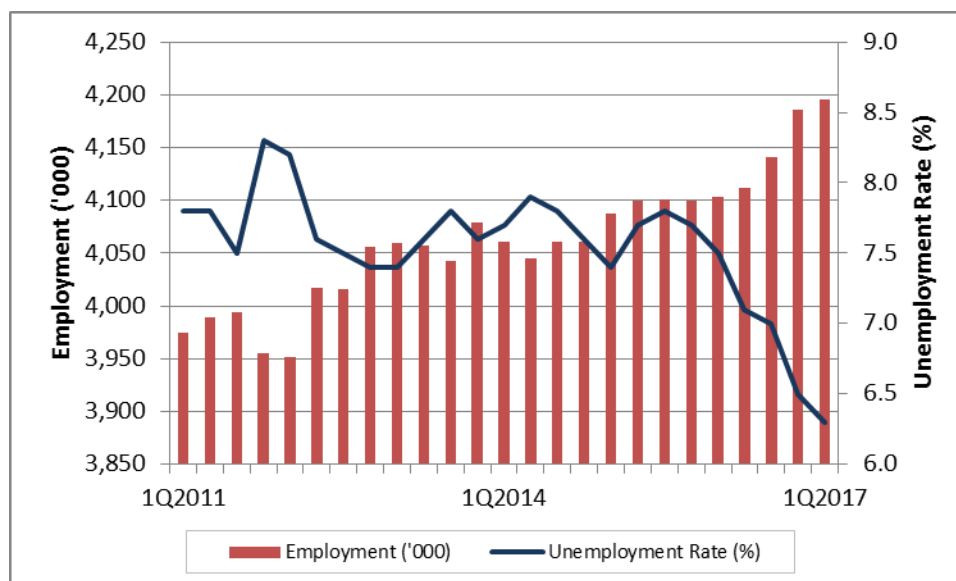
Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	1st Quarter 2017	4th Quarter 2016	1st Quarter 2016	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,912.5	6,904.2	6,869.6	8.3	0.1	42.9	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,479.9	4,475.5	4,436.5	4.4	0.1	43.4	1.0
Employment ('000)	4,196.0	4,185.5	4,103.8	10.5	0.3	92.2	2.2
Full-Time ('000)	3,377.6	3,371.3	3,319.0	6.3	0.2	58.6	1.8
Part-Time ('000)	818.4	814.2	784.8	4.2	0.5	33.6	4.3
Unemployment ('000)	283.9	290.1	332.7	-6.2	-2.1	-48.8	-14.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.3	6.5	7.5	-0.2	-	-1.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.8	64.8	64.6	0.0	-	0.2	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.7	60.6	59.7	0.1	-	1.0	-

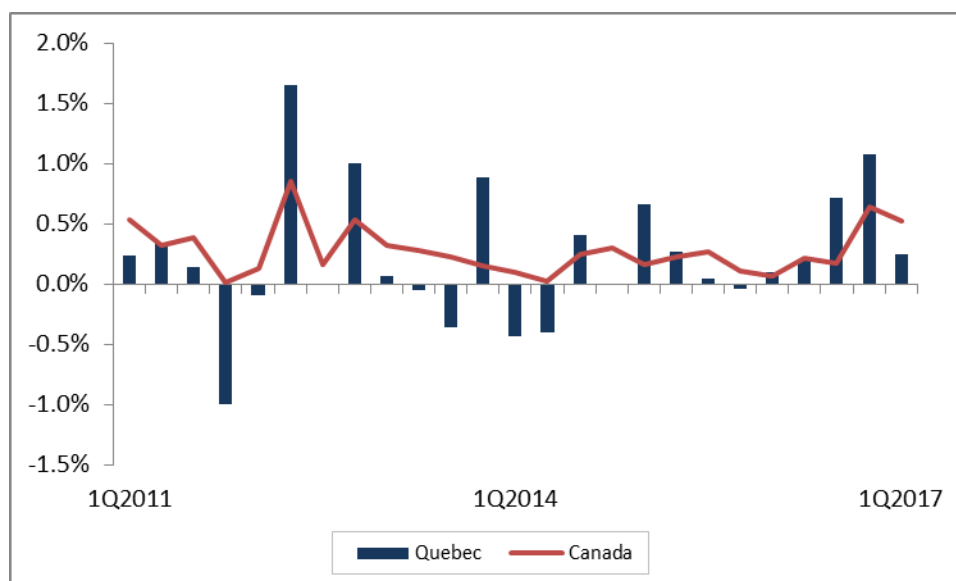
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Quebec Quarterly Employment and Unemployment Rate



Quebec Quarterly Employment Growth



The number of unemployed fell by 6,200 since the previous quarter. This decline, combined with a small increase of the labour force, allowed the unemployment rate to fall to 6.3%. The picture is also positive over one year: the number of unemployed decreased by 48,000 and the unemployment rate lost 1.2 percentage point.

Over the last quarter, the unemployment rate for 15-to-24 year-olds fell by 1.5 percentage point, and sat at 10.5%. This decline is entirely attributable to the decrease of the unemployment rate for young women, since the rate for young men increased. The reverse was true for those aged 25 and over: the unemployment rate for this group grew slightly (by 0.1 percentage point), due to an increase of the unemployment rate for women, whereas the rate for men decreased. Over a one-year period, the unemployment rate for youth and for those aged 25 and over posted a decline, both among men and women.

Quebec Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	1st Quarter 2017 (%)	4th Quarter 2016 (%)	1st Quarter 2016 (%)	Quarterly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.3	6.5	7.5	-0.2	-1.2
25 years and over	5.7	5.6	6.6	0.1	-0.9
Men - 25 years and over	6.1	6.4	7.6	-0.3	-1.5
Women - 25 years and over	5.2	4.7	5.5	0.5	-0.3
15 to 24 years	10.5	12.0	12.6	-1.5	-2.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.2	12.5	15.6	0.7	-2.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	7.8	11.6	9.5	-3.8	-1.7

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

Quebec - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q1 2017	Q1 2016	Number	%	Q1 2017	Q1 2016	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	99.3	94.4	4.9	5.2	6,813.2	6,775.4	37.8	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	55.7	48.0	7.7	16.0	4,364.2	4,325.4	38.8	0.9
Employment ('000)	50.4	41.7	8.7	20.9	4,057.7	3,969.1	88.6	2.2
Full-Time ('000)	39.7	29.0	10.7	36.9	3,203.2	3,152.7	50.5	1.6
Part-Time ('000)	10.7	12.7	-2.0	-15.7	854.5	816.4	38.1	4.7
Unemployment ('000)	5.4	6.3	-0.9	-14.3	306.5	356.3	-49.8	-14.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.6	13.2	-3.6	-	7.0	8.2	-1.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	56.1	50.9	5.2	-	64.1	63.8	0.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	50.7	44.2	6.5	-	59.6	58.6	1.0	-

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - ESDC custom table.

In the 1st quarter of 2017, the total population aged 15 and over in Quebec was 6.9 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 1.4% of this total, or 99,300 persons. During the 1st quarter of 2017, 50,400 people in the Indigenous population were employed, corresponding to a gain of 8,700 jobs (+20.9%) year over year. This increase can be explained, for the most part, by a significant increase of full-time employment (+10,700).

In the first quarter of 2017, the unemployment rate of the Indigenous population was 9.6%, a decrease of 3.6 percentage points in comparison to the 1st quarter of 2016. The unemployment rate of the non-Indigenous population decreased by -1.2% since last year and stood at 7.0%. Between the 1st quarter of 2016 and that of 2017, the participation rate of the Indigenous population increased by 5.3 percentage points, to 55.5%. The participation rate of the non-Indigenous population rose by 5.2 percentage points, posting 56.1% in 2017. The employment rate of the Indigenous population also increased in 2017 (+6.5 percentage points), to 50.7%. By way of comparison, the employment rate of the non-Indigenous population rose slightly in comparison to the 1st quarter of 2016, to 59.6% (+1.0 percentage point).

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At an industrial level, the goods-producing sector lost 8,200 jobs (-1.0%) since the last quarter, due to an employment decline in manufacturing (-8,700) and construction (-1,100). On a yearly basis, the goods-producing sector also posted losses (-0.6%). This can be explained mainly by a decline of the labour force in manufacturing (-10,400 jobs), whereas employment increases in construction (5,300 jobs) partly offset this situation.

The service sector grew since the last quarter, adding 18,700 jobs (+0.6%). On a yearly basis, the trend remained positive, with an employment increase of 3.0% or 97,400 jobs. This growth is explained, in part, by gains posted in trade (+33,000 jobs) and educational services (+22,700 jobs). Conversely, the healthcare and social assistance sector experienced a decline (-3.0%).

Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	1st Quarter	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
	2017	2016	2016	Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,196.0	4,185.5	4,103.8	10.5	0.3	92.2	2.2
Goods-producing sector	841.5	849.7	846.7	-8.2	-1.0	-5.2	-0.6
Agriculture	55.4	54.7	57.4	0.7	1.3	-2.0	-3.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	35.4	33.3	30.6	2.1	6.3	4.8	15.7
Utilities	26.1	27.1	28.9	-1.0	-3.7	-2.8	-9.7
Construction	240.1	241.2	234.8	-1.1	-0.5	5.3	2.3
Manufacturing	484.7	493.4	495.1	-8.7	-1.8	-10.4	-2.1
Services-producing sector	3,354.5	3,335.8	3,257.1	18.7	0.6	97.4	3.0
Trade	679.5	666.2	646.5	13.3	2.0	33.0	5.1
Transportation and warehousing	198.1	197.5	192.8	0.6	0.3	5.3	2.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	228.2	223.9	208.9	4.3	1.9	19.3	9.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	313.2	308.3	313.6	4.9	1.6	-0.4	-0.1
Business, building and other support services	186.4	174.4	183.1	12.0	6.9	3.3	1.8
Educational services	292.0	294.6	269.3	-2.6	-0.9	22.7	8.4
Health care and social assistance	568.7	576.4	586.1	-7.7	-1.3	-17.4	-3.0
Information, culture and recreation	182.5	186.3	175.7	-3.8	-2.0	6.8	3.9
Accommodation and food services	277.0	282.0	280.6	-5.0	-1.8	-3.6	-1.3
Other services	174.4	177.4	163.7	-3.0	-1.7	10.7	6.5
Public administration	254.5	248.9	236.8	5.6	2.2	17.7	7.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Three economic regions stood out in terms of employment growth during the last quarter: Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (+9.1%), Montréal (+8.0%), as well as Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec (7,6 %), while the Mauricie (3.0%) and Lanaudière (-2.1%) saw the most significant declines.

All of the Resource Regions (Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec) posted a decrease in their unemployment rates. In addition, the unemployment rate increased in only three economic regions. In Lanaudière, the unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point, due to the higher number of unemployed, combined with a decline in employment. Conversely, in the Laurentides and Centre-du-Québec regions, the unemployment rate grew, due a greater increase in the number of unemployed than in the labour force. Finally, the Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches and Montérégie regions stood out with below 6% unemployment rate levels during the first quarter of 2017.

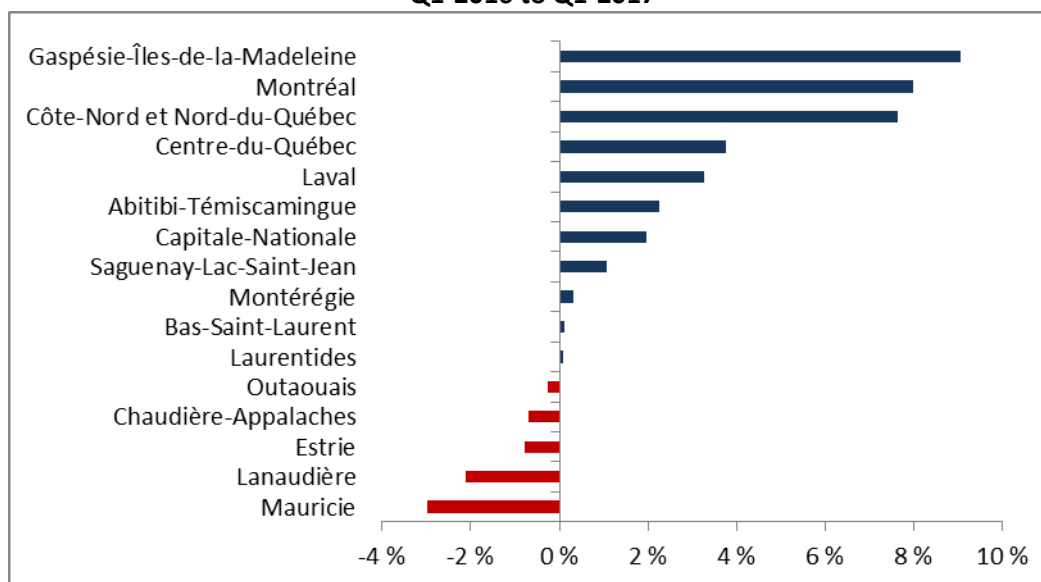
Quebec Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	1st Quarter 2017 ('000)	1st Quarter 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	1st Quarter 2017 (%)	1st Quarter 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,110.7	4,016.2	2.4	7.1	8.3	-1.2
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	34.9	32.0	9.1	14.0	19.6	-5.6
Bas-Saint-Laurent	85.6	85.5	0.1	8.7	9.1	-0.4
Capitale-Nationale	401.9	394.1	2.0	5.4	5.4	0.0
Chaudière-Appalaches	209.5	211.0	-0.7	5.4	7.1	-1.7
Estrie	151.0	152.2	-0.8	6.2	7.4	-1.2
Centre-du-Québec	115.9	111.7	3.8	7.4	7.2	0.2
Montérégie	777.8	775.4	0.3	5.9	6.7	-0.8
Montréal	1,017.2	941.9	8.0	8.6	11.1	-2.5
Laval	209.2	202.6	3.3	6.9	8.0	-1.1
Lanaudière	241.7	246.9	-2.1	7.0	6.8	0.2
Laurentides	307.6	307.3	0.1	6.4	5.9	0.5
Outaouais	195.9	196.4	-0.3	6.1	7.5	-1.4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	73.0	71.4	2.2	6.3	7.4	-1.1
Mauricie	114.1	117.6	-3.0	8.0	10.1	-2.1
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	121.7	120.4	1.1	9.3	12.1	-2.8
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	53.6	49.8	7.6	8.1	12.2	-4.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

**Quebec Quarterly Employment Growth, by Economic Region
Q1-2016 to Q1-2017**



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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