



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

May 2017



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

OVERVIEW

The latest data from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey show a gain of 14,900 jobs (+0.4%) in Quebec in May. The increase in full-time employment (+29,800) offset the losses incurred in part-time employment (-14,900 jobs). On the other hand, public and private sector contributed to this employment increase, while the number of self-employed workers fell. At a national level, the number of jobs grew in all provinces, except for Newfoundland-and-Labrador.

Yearly data also show positive results, with a 2% increase in the number of jobs (+83,300) in comparison to last year. Part-time jobs increased employment levels, with a gain of 69,900 jobs (+9.2%). The number of full-time jobs rose by 13,400.

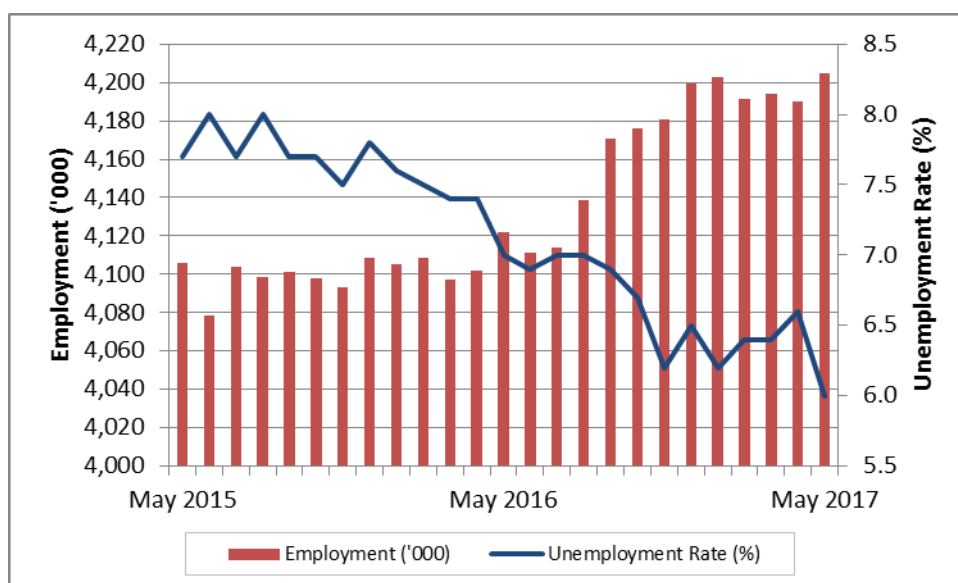
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,925.5	6,920.2	6,881.7	5.3	0.1	43.8	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,472.2	4,484.6	4,433.2	-12.4	-0.3	39.0	0.9
Employment ('000)	4,205.0	4,190.1	4,121.7	14.9	0.4	83.3	2.0
Full-Time ('000)	3,375.0	3,345.2	3,361.6	29.8	0.9	13.4	0.4
Part-Time ('000)	830.0	844.9	760.1	-14.9	-1.8	69.9	9.2
Unemployment ('000)	267.2	294.5	311.6	-27.3	-9.3	-44.4	-14.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.0	6.6	7.0	-0.6	-	-1.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.6	64.8	64.4	-0.2	-	0.2	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.7	60.5	59.9	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



The participation rate decreased slightly in May, due to a decline of the labour force while the working-age population increased. The employment rate grew by 0.2 percentage point, pushed up by employment growth. This rate saw significant growth (0.8 percentage point) over the past year, and now stood at 60.7%.

The significant decrease in the number of unemployed workers (-27,300 or -9.3%) explains the 0.6% decline of the unemployment rate over the previous month. The unemployment rate stood at 6.0% in May, its lowest level since 1976. The yearly trend is similar: the number of unemployed workers fell by 44,000 and the unemployment rate shed one percentage point.

Over the last month, the unemployment rate for the 15-24 year-old age group followed the same trend as the unemployment rate of the province, falling by 0.6 percentage point in one month, to settle at 10.1%. The unemployment rate fell for both young men and young women, by 1.0 percentage point and 0.4 percentage point, respectively. The unemployment rate for youth declined also over a one year period, at a significant rate moreover: 4 percentage points.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.0	6.6	7.0	-0.6	-1.0
25 years and over	5.3	5.9	5.9	-0.6	-0.6
Men - 25 years and over	5.6	6.5	6.8	-0.9	-1.2
Women - 25 years and over	5.0	5.3	4.8	-0.3	0.2
15 to 24 years	10.1	10.7	14.1	-0.6	-4.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.4	12.4	17.2	-1.0	-5.8
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.7	9.1	10.9	-0.4	-2.2

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At an industrial level, the job gains posted by the province in May came primarily from the service sector (+13,000), and, to a lesser degree, the goods-producing sector, where the workforce rose slightly (+1,800). Construction and utilities contributed to employment growth in the goods-producing industry, while manufacturing, agriculture and forestry were losing steam. The positive results in the service industry over the past month came from transportation and warehousing, as well as professional, scientific and technical services. On a yearly basis, despite a slight employment decline in the goods-producing sector (-0.3%), employment levels grew by 2% thanks to the service sector. Trade, as well as the finance and insurance sector contributed to this positive trend over the past year.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,205.0	4,190.1	4,121.7	14.9	0.4	83.3	2.0
Goods-producing sector	848.1	846.3	850.5	1.8	0.2	-2.4	-0.3
Agriculture	54.2	55.6	60.2	-1.4	-2.5	-6.0	-10.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	33.7	34.7	28.6	-1.0	-2.9	5.1	17.8
Utilities	26.8	25.5	28.2	1.3	5.1	-1.4	-5.0
Construction	249.2	244.6	235.4	4.6	1.9	13.8	5.9
Manufacturing	484.2	486.0	498.1	-1.8	-0.4	-13.9	-2.8
Services-producing sector	3,356.8	3,343.8	3,271.1	13.0	0.4	85.7	2.6
Trade	668.9	676.8	649.6	-7.9	-1.2	19.3	3.0
Transportation and warehousing	208.1	198.5	192.5	9.6	4.8	15.6	8.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	229.9	232.5	210.3	-2.6	-1.1	19.6	9.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	326.4	319.6	317.2	6.8	2.1	9.2	2.9
Business, building and other support services	176.9	180.7	188.9	-3.8	-2.1	-12.0	-6.4
Educational services	290.1	291.2	278.7	-1.1	-0.4	11.4	4.1
Health care and social assistance	573.1	566.6	582.2	6.5	1.1	-9.1	-1.6
Information, culture and recreation	185.6	189.4	171.2	-3.8	-2.0	14.4	8.4
Accommodation and food services	277.2	270.9	279.6	6.3	2.3	-2.4	-0.9
Other services	172.3	170.0	165.1	2.3	1.4	7.2	4.4
Public administration	248.3	247.7	235.8	0.6	0.2	12.5	5.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The Montréal and Montérégie regions were primarily responsible for employment growth, adding 46,600 and 34,100 jobs, respectively. Conversely, employment fell in the Mauricie region, from 124,400 to 117,000, amounting to a loss of 5,900 jobs.

Most economic regions saw their unemployment rates decrease, except for Centre-du-Québec (+0.2 percentage point), Laval (+0.4 percentage point) and Capitale-Nationale (+1.4 percentage points). The Chaudière-Appalaches (4.5%) and Montérégie (4.8%) regions stood out with low unemployment rates.

Finally, the labour market of the Montérégie region was dynamic in May, with employment growth, a low unemployment rate, as well as one of the highest participation rates (66.8%) and employment rates (63.6%) in the province. Only the Capitale-Nationale region had a higher participation rate (67.5%) and a higher employment rate (63.8%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2017 ('000)	May 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2017 (%)	May 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,161.7	4,073.6	2.2	6.7	7.8	-1.1
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	36.2	33.2	9.0	13.8	18.2	-4.4
Bas-Saint-Laurent	85.7	86.7	-1.2	6.5	8.3	-1.8
Capitale-Nationale	398.2	396.8	0.4	5.6	4.2	1.4
Chaudière-Appalaches	209.1	210.9	-0.9	4.5	6.5	-2.0
Estrie	152.8	151.4	0.9	6.3	7.1	-0.8
Centre-du-Québec	119.1	118.9	0.2	5.9	5.7	0.2
Montérégie	805.4	771.3	4.4	4.8	6.8	-2.0
Montréal	1,017.2	970.6	4.8	8.9	10.5	-1.6
Laval	212.9	213.5	-0.3	6.2	5.7	0.5
Lanaudière	254.6	246.3	3.4	6.1	6.8	-0.7
Laurentides	302.3	303.8	-0.5	6.7	7.1	-0.4
Outaouais	200.3	197.4	1.5	6.1	7.5	-1.4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	73.5	71.7	2.5	5.4	8.2	-2.8
Mauricie	117.0	124.4	-5.9	6.8	8.1	-1.3
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	123.6	124.5	-0.7	9.0	10.1	-1.1
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	53.8	52.2	3.1	7.9	11.4	-3.5

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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