



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

August 2017



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

OVERVIEW

Following three consecutive months of increases, recent data from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey show a dip in the Quebec labour market for the month of August. Employment fell by 6,000 between July and August 2017, by a slight 0.1%. However, it is worth noting that this decline occurred one month after employment peaked. Full-time jobs fell by 27,700 between July and August, while part-time jobs increased by 21,600. This employment decline was seen among salaried workers, particularly private sector employees, who suffered almost 80% of employment losses. Among public sector workers, the decline was less significant. The number of self-employed workers rose slightly during this period. Canada saw its employment levels increase by 0.1% (+22,200 jobs), while in the province of Ontario, gains amounted to 0.4% (+31,100 jobs). On a yearly basis, employment in Quebec grew by 2.3% (+93,300 jobs). Full-time employment played a key role in this growth, with a gain of over 60,000 jobs or 1.8%. Part-time employment increased by 32,700 jobs (4.1%). The participation rate remained at 64.9% in August, as the labour force and the working-age population rose at the same pace. Over the last month, the employment rate dipped from 61.1% to 61.0%. Year over year, it rose by one percentage point.

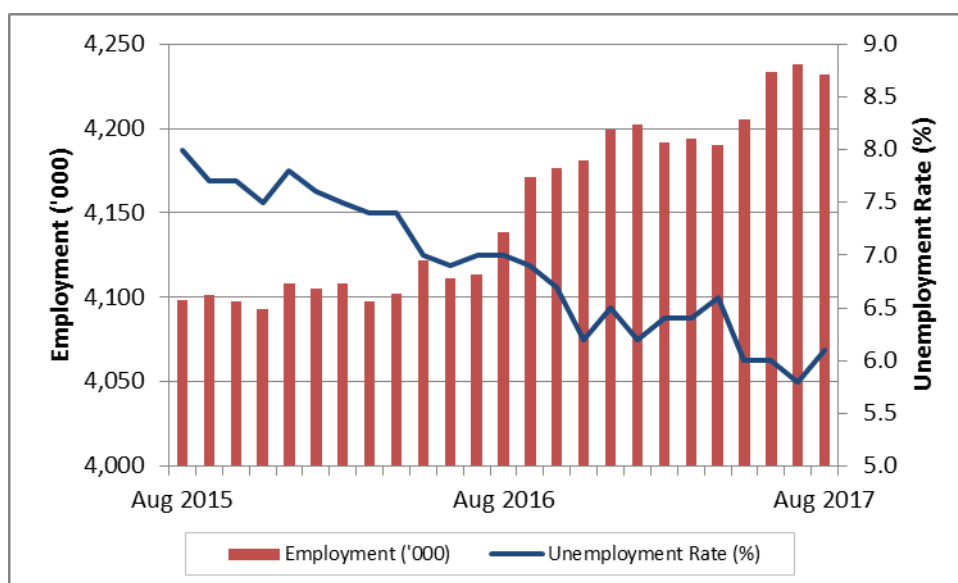
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,940.70	6,935.0	6,896.9	5.7	0.1	43.8	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,504.9	4,500.6	4,451.7	4.3	0.1	53.2	1.2
Employment ('000)	4,232.0	4,238.0	4,138.7	-6.0	-0.1	93.3	2.3
Full-Time ('000)	3,392.8	3,420.5	3,332.2	-27.7	-0.8	60.6	1.8
Part-Time ('000)	839.2	817.6	806.5	21.6	2.6	32.7	4.1
Unemployment ('000)	272.9	262.6	313.0	10.3	3.9	-40.1	-12.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.1	5.8	7.0	0.3	-	-0.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.9	64.9	64.5	0.0	-	0.4	-
Employment Rate (%)	61.0	61.1	60.0	-0.1	-	1.0	-

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 unemployment rate was lower than a year ago, despite an increase between July and August 2017. This recent progression can be explained by an increase in the number of unemployed workers (+10,300). However, their numbers decreased by 12.8% (-40,100) over one year.

This growth of the unemployment rate over a one month period was stronger in the 15-24 age group, with a 0.9 percentage point increase in August, to sit at 11.1%. Over the past year, the unemployment rate for young men fell by 3.6 percentage points, to 12.3%. The rate for young women stood at 9.8%, falling by 1.1 percentage point over the past year. The gap between the unemployment rates for young men and young women diminished over one year, going from 5 percentage points in August 2016 to only 2.5 percentage points in August 2017.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.1	5.8	7.0	0.3	-0.9
25 years and over	5.3	5.1	6.0	0.2	-0.7
Men - 25 years and over	5.8	5.6	6.8	0.2	-1.0
Women - 25 years and over	4.7	4.7	5.1	0.0	-0.4
15 to 24 years	11.1	10.2	13.4	0.9	-2.3
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.3	10.5	15.9	1.8	-3.6
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.8	10.0	10.9	-0.2	-1.1

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment losses during the last month were attributable to the goods-producing sector (-19,900 jobs). Nearly 90% of the decrease in employment in this sector was concentrated in construction and manufacturing. The number of jobs in the service sector increased by 13,900 between July and August 2017. Health services, technical and professional services, retail and wholesale trade, as well as finance and insurance contributed to the growth of employment in this sector.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,232.0	4,238.0	4,138.7	-6.0	-0.1	93.3	2.3
Goods-producing sector	848.7	868.6	840.8	-19.9	-2.3	7.9	0.9
Agriculture	57.8	57.6	56.3	0.2	0.3	1.5	2.7
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	36.5	37.0	32.3	-0.5	-1.4	4.2	13.0
Utilities	25.4	27.2	25.9	-1.8	-6.6	-0.5	-1.9
Construction	237.5	244.6	233.9	-7.1	-2.9	3.6	1.5
Manufacturing	491.5	502.2	492.5	-10.7	-2.1	-1.0	-0.2
Services-producing sector	3,383.3	3,369.4	3,297.9	13.9	0.4	85.4	2.6
Trade	665.8	661.5	647.9	4.3	0.7	17.9	2.8
Transportation and warehousing	208.9	210.7	200.3	-1.8	-0.9	8.6	4.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	235.6	231.7	217.2	3.9	1.7	18.4	8.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	344.1	339.7	306.8	4.4	1.3	37.3	12.2
Business, building and other support services	171.5	169.2	185.2	2.3	1.4	-13.7	-7.4
Educational services	285.8	289.7	279.3	-3.9	-1.3	6.5	2.3
Health care and social assistance	589.4	580.5	591.3	8.9	1.5	-1.9	-0.3
Information, culture and recreation	187.2	191.2	183.5	-4.0	-2.1	3.7	2.0
Accommodation and food services	273.5	272.5	290.8	1.0	0.4	-17.3	-5.9
Other services	171.4	174.9	159.0	-3.5	-2.0	12.4	7.8
Public administration	250.2	247.9	236.6	2.3	0.9	13.6	5.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The Montréal and Montérégie economic regions posted the most significant employment increases in terms of numbers, with 47,400 and 43,700 jobs added over one year, respectively. This positive trend was not reflected in all regions, since six of them posted an employment decline over one year. The most significant decreases were seen in Chaudière-Appalaches (-7,400) and Capitale-Nationale (-5 200).

The unemployment rate decreased in most of the economic regions. It increased in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (+0.4 percentage point), Centre-du-Québec (+0.3 percentage point), Mauricie (+0.7 percentage point), the Laval region (+0.7 percentage point) and in Laurentides (+0.4 percentage point). In August 2017, four Quebec regions posted an unemployment rate below the 4.5% threshold: Chaudière-Appalaches (3.0%), Montérégie (4.2%), Estrie (4.3%) and Capitale-Nationale (4.3%).

For a second consecutive month, the labour market of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region stood out with the strongest increase in the employment rate over one year (3.4 percentage points), rising from 60.0% in August 2016 to 63.4% in August 2017.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2017 ('000)	August 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2017 (%)	August 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,311.1	4,197.6	2.7	6.0	6.9	-0.9
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	40.9	39.4	3.8	8.9	9.6	-0.7
Bas-Saint-Laurent	85.5	89.4	-4.4	6.0	6.1	-0.1
Capitale-Nationale	406.6	411.8	-1.3	4.3	4.7	-0.4
Chaudière-Appalaches	213.9	221.3	-3.3	3.0	5.2	-2.2
Estrie	162.0	154.6	4.8	4.3	6.2	-1.9
Centre-du-Québec	126.9	128.5	-1.2	5.5	5.2	0.3
Montréal	816.8	773.1	5.7	4.2	6.2	-2.0
Montréal	1,055.1	1,007.7	4.7	8.7	10.1	-1.4
Laval	228.9	217.0	5.5	6.8	6.1	0.7
Lanaudière	270.0	257.8	4.7	5.3	5.6	-0.3
Laurentides	306.6	311.0	-1.4	6.8	6.4	0.4
Outaouais	204.4	200.9	1.7	5.6	7.5	-1.9
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	76.3	72.4	5.4	5.0	6.0	-1.0
Mauricie	127.9	126.2	1.3	5.5	4.8	0.7
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	134.2	128.6	4.4	5.8	5.4	0.4
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	55.2	57.9	-4.7	5.3	5.5	-0.2

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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