



# Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

October 2018



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

## OVERVIEW

Following declines over four consecutive months, the labour market posted a slight increase in October, according to the latest data from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey. In total, 9,000 jobs were added during the previous month, amounting to a 0.2% growth rate. However, this increase was not sufficient to offset the combined losses of the two previous months, as illustrated by the chart below. Full-time employment registered an increase of 23,600 jobs (+0.7%) which was partly erased by a decline in part-time employment (-14,500 jobs or -1.8%). Employment growth was concentrated in the 15-54 age group, while employment levels for workers aged 55 and over decreased. In comparison, employment remained relatively stable in Canada (+0.1%) and in Ontario (0.0%). Year over year, the picture remained positive for Quebec (0.2% employment increase), but job growth is slowing. From this perspective, part-time employment gained 10,300 jobs, while part-time employment shed 3,900 jobs. The decline of part-time employment during the past month (-41,400 jobs) explains this reversal between the yearly and monthly variations.

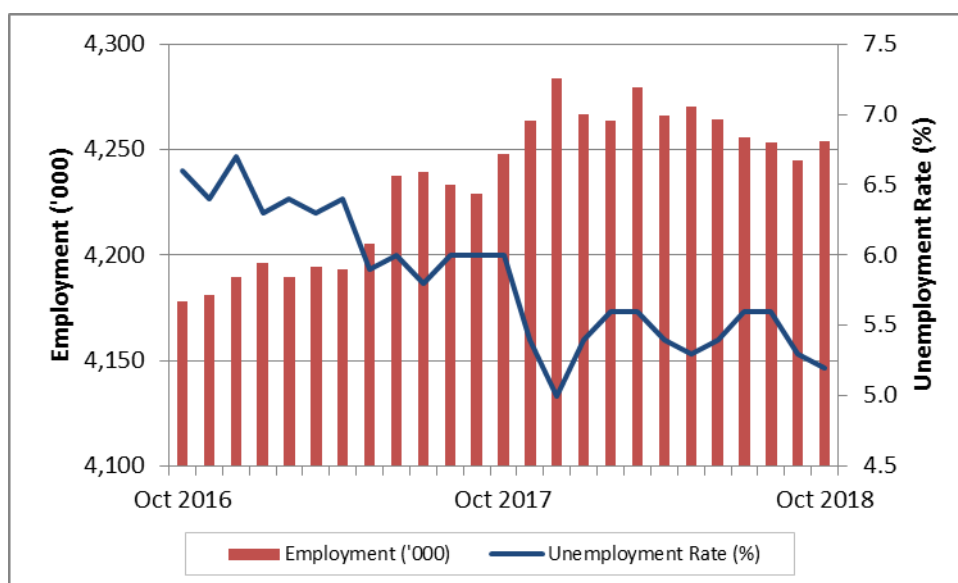
### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	7,005.7	6,999.4	6,947.1	6.3	0.1	58.6	0.8
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	4,488.5	4,484.3	4,518.0	4.2	0.1	-29.5	-0.7
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	4,254.1	4,245.0	4,247.7	9.1	0.2	6.4	0.2
Full-Time ('000)	3,445.6	3,422.0	3,449.5	23.6	0.7	-3.9	-0.1
Part-Time ('000)	808.5	823.0	798.2	-14.5	-1.8	10.3	1.3
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	234.4	239.3	270.3	-4.9	-2.0	-35.9	-13.3
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.2	5.3	6.0	-0.1	-	-0.8	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.1	64.1	65.0	0.0	-	-0.9	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	60.7	60.6	61.1	0.1	-	-0.4	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

## Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



In comparison to September, the unemployment rate dropped slightly, by 0.1 percentage point and stood at 5.2%, thanks to an increase in the number of employed persons which was higher than the growth of the labour force. It was the second lowest unemployment rate among Canadian provinces, behind British Columbia (4.2%). However, with respect to age groups, the unemployment rate increased by 1.6 percentage point for men aged 15 to 24 and reached 11.9%, due to a growth of the labour force and a virtually stable number of unemployed people. Women aged 15 to 24 on the other hand, had a 6.4% unemployment rate, a 0.8 percentage point decrease since September. On a yearly basis, the unemployment rate for the population aged 15 and over declined by 0.8 percentage point. In comparison to September, the participation rate (64.1%) remained unchanged, but it showed a significant growth in comparison to last year, when it stood at 65.0%. Finally, the employment rate gained 0.1 percentage point and reached 60.7%, but remained below the level reached in October 2017 (61.1%).

## Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.2	5.3	6.0	-0.1	-0.8
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.6	4.8	5.2	-0.2	-0.6
Men - 25 years and over	4.8	5.0	5.2	-0.2	-0.4
Women - 25 years and over	4.5	4.6	5.1	-0.1	-0.6
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	9.1	8.7	11.3	0.4	-2.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.9	10.3	9.6	1.6	2.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	6.4	7.2	13.0	-0.8	-6.6

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At the industry level, the goods-producing sector saw an employment decrease (-1,800 jobs or -0.2%) over the past month. Gains from agriculture and construction were erased by declines in manufacturing and forestry, fishing and mining. On a yearly basis, the goods-producing sector showed a decline of 12,100 jobs (-1.4%), due to significant losses in manufacturing (-20,300 jobs or -4.1%). Canada (-1.8%) and Ontario (-1.1%) also experienced employment declines in this industry over the past year, but at a slower rate.

Employment within the services sector increased by 0.3%, amounting to 11,000 additional jobs since September. The most significant gains came from trade, professional, scientific and technical services, as well as from business services, building services, and other support services. Conversely, some industries saw declines, the most significant of which occurred in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing, as well as in other services. The yearly picture for the services sector was positive, with the addition of 18,600 jobs (+0.6%).

**Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry**

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	October 2018	September 2018	October 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	4,254.1	4,245.0	4,247.7	9.1	0.2	6.4	0.2
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	855.6	857.4	867.7	-1.8	-0.2	-12.1	-1.4
Agriculture	57.3	55.6	60.4	1.7	3.1	-3.1	-5.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	38.8	41.1	37.9	-2.3	-5.6	0.9	2.4
Utilities	28.3	28.1	24.4	0.2	0.7	3.9	16.0
Construction	252.8	252.0	246.3	0.8	0.3	6.5	2.6
Manufacturing	478.4	480.5	498.7	-2.1	-0.4	-20.3	-4.1
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	3,398.6	3,387.6	3,380.0	11.0	0.3	18.6	0.6
Trade	668.4	654.4	661.5	14.0	2.1	6.9	1.0
Transportation and warehousing	217.3	216.3	211.4	1.0	0.5	5.9	2.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	235.9	245.0	235.9	-9.1	-3.7	0.0	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	328.4	323.7	333.7	4.7	1.5	-5.3	-1.6
Business, building and other support services	191.9	188.5	187.0	3.4	1.8	4.9	2.6
Educational services	297.2	298.4	294.4	-1.2	-0.4	2.8	1.0
Health care and social assistance	596.2	595.4	582.6	0.8	0.1	13.6	2.3
Information, culture and recreation	174.5	172.6	183.7	1.9	1.1	-9.2	-5.0
Accommodation and food services	271.8	270.7	266.6	1.1	0.4	5.2	2.0
Other services	173.4	176.5	179.9	-3.1	-1.8	-6.5	-3.6
Public administration	243.7	246.0	243.3	-2.3	-0.9	0.4	0.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Year over year, employment levels increased in several economic regions. The most significant gains were seen in the Montréal region (+25,600 jobs), in Laurentides (+19,800 jobs), in the Laval region (+14,100 jobs) and in Bas-Saint-Laurent (+10,700 jobs). Conversely, the following regions saw the most significant declines: Montérégie (-24,600 jobs), Lanaudière (-18,600 jobs), Capitale-Nationale (-17,600 jobs) and Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean (-11,000 jobs).

The Abitibi-Témiscamingue region posted the lowest unemployment rate (2.9%) among all economic regions in Canada. The unemployment rate of this region decreased by 2.9 percentage points over the last year, but this was due to a decline of the labour force, as the number of employed people fell by 1,300 during the same period. Laval (-1.7 percentage point), Montréal (-1.4 percentage point) and Laurentides (-1.3 percentage point) also saw unemployment rate decreases, which were however due to rising employment. Finally, the greatest unemployment rate increases among all Quebec economic regions were registered in Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine (+3.3 percentage point) and in Chaudière-Appalaches (+1.6 percentage point). The unemployment rate in Chaudière-Appalaches still remained among the lowest, at 3.7%.

**Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region**

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	October 2018 ('000)	October 2017 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	October 2018 (%)	October 2017 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Quebec</b>	4,281.2	4,269.4	0.3	5.3	5.8	-0.5
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	33.2	37.9	-12.4	13.1	9.8	3.3
Bas-Saint-Laurent	93.2	82.5	13.0	4.2	4.4	-0.2
Capitale-Nationale	388.0	405.6	-4.3	4.2	4.6	-0.4
Chaudière-Appalaches	223.4	214.4	4.2	3.7	2.1	1.6
Estrie	167.8	159.1	5.5	4.4	4.4	0.0
Centre-du-Québec	120.5	123.1	-2.1	4.9	6.0	-1.1
Montérégie	787.6	812.2	-3.0	4.4	4.2	0.2
Montréal	1,075.1	1,049.5	2.4	6.9	8.3	-1.4
Laval	235.2	221.1	6.4	5.7	7.4	-1.7
Lanaudière	248.8	267.4	-7.0	5.9	5.3	0.6
Laurentides	325.7	305.9	6.5	4.9	6.2	-1.3
Outaouais	203.8	200.5	1.6	4.6	5.8	-1.2
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	74.7	76.0	-1.7	2.9	5.0	-2.1
Mauricie	125.1	124.0	0.9	4.7	5.6	-0.9
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	124.1	135.1	-8.1	5.0	5.0	0.0
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	54.9	55.0	-0.2	5.0	4.7	0.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293

**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 LMI team at:

[http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact\\_us.aspx?section=lmi](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi)

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

[www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

© Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2018, all rights reserved