



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

November 2015



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Manitoba, including the regions of Winnipeg, Northern Manitoba and Southern Manitoba.

OVERVIEW

Employment

After three months of positive month-over-month performance, Manitoba's labour market faltered in November. Employment fell by 5,400 this month, the largest monthly decrease in the province in over 25 years. Nonetheless, employment remains up on the year (+3,100), and Manitoba appears largely on track for moderate employment gains in 2015. In fact, the province's overall economy appears well-positioned for stable growth, with key sectors like manufacturing and transportation benefitting from persistently low oil and gas prices.

Monthly gains were found entirely in part-time employment (+3,100). Meanwhile, the number of individuals employed full-time decreased by 8,500; the largest monthly decrease on record. Over the year, full-time employment is down 5,200 (-1.0%), while part-time employment is up by 8,300 (+7.1%).

Losses were seen across public (-500) and private sector (-4,100) employment this month, and self-employment decreased by 600. Even so, only private sector employment saw losses over the year (-7,400).

Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons in Manitoba increased significantly in November (+4,800), and the province's unemployment rate climbed sharply from 5.3% to 6.1%. As a result, Manitoba no longer boasts the lowest unemployment rate nationwide, now sitting behind Saskatchewan (5.5%). Year-over-year, Manitoba's unemployment rate increased a full percentage point. Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the province's unemployment rate to drop to 5.1% in 2016.¹

Youth unemployment remained high this month, with the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 24 averaging 12.1%, over double the rate of 4.9% for those aged 25 and older. Compared to this time last year, the youth unemployment rate is up a full two percentage points. Those aged 55 and older had the lowest unemployment rate (3.5%) among age groups in November 2015.

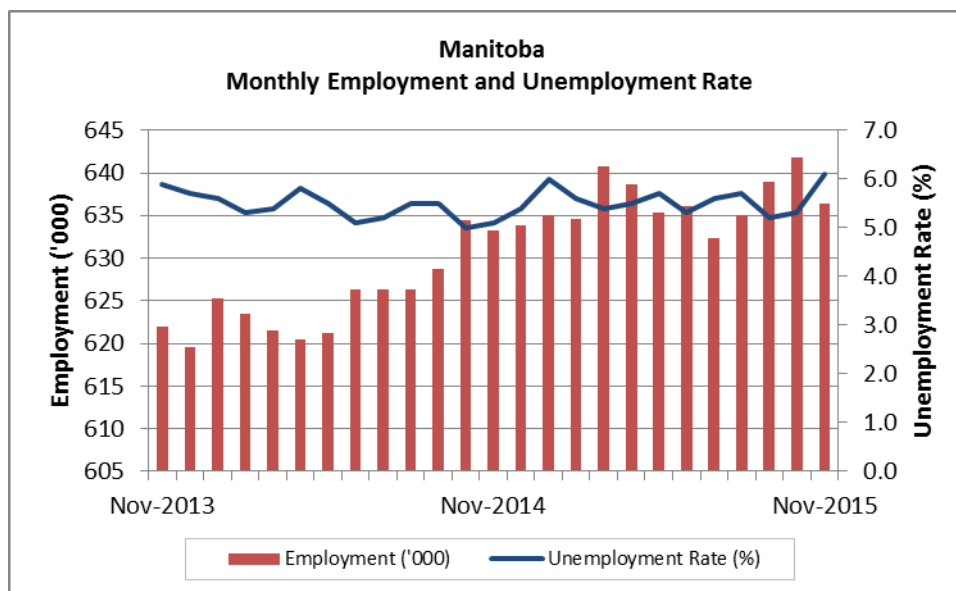
Looking at trends by gender, the unemployment rate remains the highest among young men at 12.8%, while unemployment among young women rose half a percentage point to 11.4%. For those aged 25 years and over, the unemployment rate for both genders is closer to that age group's average, 5.1% for males and 4.7% for females.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	991.5	990.6	980.5	0.9	0.1	11.0	1.1
Labour Force ('000)	677.4	678.0	667.3	-0.6	-0.1	10.1	1.5
Employment ('000)	636.4	641.8	633.3	-5.4	-0.8	3.1	0.5
Full-Time ('000)	510.6	519.1	515.8	-8.5	-1.6	-5.2	-1.0
Part-Time ('000)	125.8	122.7	117.5	3.1	2.5	8.3	7.1
Unemployment ('000)	41.0	36.2	34.1	4.8	13.3	6.9	20.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.1	5.3	5.1	0.8	-	1.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	68.3	68.4	68.1	-0.1	-	0.2	-
Employment Rate (%)	64.2	64.8	64.6	-0.6	-	-0.4	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



Manitoba Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	November 2015 %	October 2015 %	November 2014 %	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.1	5.3	5.1	0.8	1.0
25 years and over	4.9	4.1	4.1	0.8	0.8
Men - 25 years and over	5.1	4.4	3.8	0.7	1.3
Women - 25 years and over	4.7	3.9	4.4	0.8	0.3
15 to 24 years	12.1	11.6	10.1	0.5	2.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.8	12.3	10.2	0.5	2.6
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.4	10.9	9.9	0.5	1.5

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Losses occurred in both of Manitoba's major sectors this month, with employment dropping by 900 in goods-producing industries and decreasing by 4,500 across the province's service industries. On an annual basis, strong services-sector growth (+4,200) compensated for a loss in goods-sector employment (-1,100).

Among goods-producing industries, only manufacturing saw growth in November, with 700 more employed. A lower Canadian dollar and recovering US economy were expected to boost demand from key manufacturing sectors. An increase of 1,000 individuals employed in the industry over the year may indicate the projection is holding true. In fact, Winnipeg bus manufacturer New Flyer recently purchased Motor Coach Industries for \$604-million CAD, establishing the company one of the largest bus manufacturers in the world.

Agriculture employment dropped slightly compared to October (-500). While crop farmers in some parts of the province experienced challenging weather conditions in early summer, they remain in much better shape than drought-stricken counterparts in other western provinces.

Construction industry employment fell in November (-1,300), while also shedding jobs on an annual basis (-1,800). Nonetheless, the outlook for construction employment in the near-term is positive, as core infrastructure investment remains a priority for the province. The Manitoba government recently extended its infrastructure plan by three years and increased total funding to \$10-billion throughout the province. Originally, \$5.5-billion was to be invested over five years.

Finally, forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and gas employed 200 more people in November. Although not as significant an employer in Manitoba as other western provinces, the industry appears to have been negatively impacted by the global downturn in commodity prices. Employment in the industry has contracted -17.4% since the same time last year.

Turning to service-industries, employment decreased this month in almost all areas, ending three consecutive months of overall growth in the sector. The only noteworthy improvement among service-industries was found in the finance, insurance, real estate and leasing industry, which employed 1,000 more people in November.

After five consecutive months with no employment growth, the transportation and warehousing industry expanded slightly in November (+200). Over the year, the industry is down -1,200. Nonetheless, shipping requirements of a strong provincial manufacturing sector and the introduction of low-cost airline NewLeaf Travel to Winnipeg should positively impact employment trends going forward. Meanwhile, despite a monthly loss (-300), accommodation and food services remained up 1,600 compared to November 2014 as the industry retains a large portion of the employment gains it experienced over the summer.

The trade and business, building and other support services industries accounted for the majority of losses within the service-sector this month, down 1,700 and 1,200 respectively. The trade industry experienced the largest year-over-year employment loss among Manitoba's industries, dropping 4,300 individuals since last November's near-record-high employment levels. A number of retail developments should help trade employment return to positive growth in the long-term. Work has started on the 100-store Outlet Collection Winnipeg mall which is expected to employ 1,300 once open in 2017. Supermarket chain, Save-on-Foods, also intends to open over a dozen new stores in Manitoba in the next three to five years. Each location is expected to create 150 new retail positions.

Sizeable losses also occurred in all three public-sector industries: educational services (-700), health care and social assistance (-700), and public administration (-800). However, only the latter employed fewer individuals on an annual basis.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	636.4	641.8	633.3	-5.4	-0.8	3.1	0.5
Goods-producing sector	148.4	149.3	149.5	-0.9	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7
Agriculture	23.5	24.0	23.2	-0.5	-2.1	0.3	1.3
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	5.7	5.5	6.9	0.2	3.6	-1.2	-17.4
Utilities	8.6	8.6	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.7	8.9
Construction	45.5	46.8	47.3	-1.3	-2.8	-1.8	-3.8
Manufacturing	65.2	64.5	64.2	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.6
Services-producing sector	488.0	492.5	483.8	-4.5	-0.9	4.2	0.9
Trade	90.7	92.4	95.0	-1.7	-1.8	-4.3	-4.5
Transportation and warehousing	36.9	36.7	38.1	0.2	0.5	-1.2	-3.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	32.5	31.5	34.0	1.0	3.2	-1.5	-4.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	25.5	25.2	24.4	0.3	1.2	1.1	4.5
Business, building and other support services	18.9	20.1	16.7	-1.2	-6.0	2.2	13.2
Educational services	52.9	53.6	49.5	-0.7	-1.3	3.4	6.9
Health care and social assistance	102.8	103.5	101.0	-0.7	-0.7	1.8	1.8
Information, culture and recreation	23.3	23.1	21.5	0.2	0.9	1.8	8.4
Accommodation and food services	41.3	41.6	39.7	-0.3	-0.7	1.6	4.0
Other services	28.4	29.2	28.8	-0.8	-2.7	-0.4	-1.4
Public administration	34.8	35.6	35.1	-0.8	-2.2	-0.3	-0.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Mixed labour market results were observed across Manitoba, with strong annual employment growth occurring in some of the province's economic regions and moderate to severe losses occurring in others.

Winnipeg saw employment rise 3.6% year-over-year thanks to gains mainly across services-producing industries. The region's educational services industry employs 7.0% more individuals this November compared to last year as the province continues to lower student-to-teacher ratios in kindergarten to grade 8 classrooms. Accommodation and food services jumped 10.4%, or 2,600 jobs year-over-year. Winnipeg held a number of large sporting events throughout 2015. Most recently, the city welcomed an estimated 28,000 visitors while hosting the 2015 Grey Cup game; an event that infused an estimated \$85.5-million into the economyⁱⁱ. Winnipeg's unemployment rate held steady at 5.6%, unchanged from the same time in 2014.

Employment grew both in Parklands and Northern (+4.3%) and in Southeast (+0.3%) regions. Parklands and Northern saw its unemployment rate decrease nearly half a percentage point during this time. Job growth in Southeast was not sufficient to keep up with the number of individuals seeking work, and the region's unemployment rate rose over the year. Transportation options to the Parklands & North region are uncertain after the Port of Churchill and accompanying Hudson Bay rail line were put up for sale. The track provides a vital link to northern communities and ships an annual average of 550,000 tonnes of grain each year. Rail-operator Omnitrax has asked federal and provincial governments for financial help to operate in the north.

In contrast, the South Central and North Central Interlake underwent the largest employment decrease (-5.8%) among Manitoba's regions this month. The region also saw a substantial yearly unemployment rate increase during the same time; from 2.4% to 4.3%. Losses also occurred in Interlake (-3.2%), though the region's unemployment rate improved over the year. Finally, while Southwest saw no change in employment compared to last November, the region was unable to accommodate a large influx of people entering to the labour force and the unemployment rate rose sharply (1.4 percentage points) as a result.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	November 2015 ('000)	November 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	November 2015 (%)	November 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	640.5	633.3	1.1	5.1	4.8	0.3
Economic Regions						
Southeast	58.1	57.9	0.3	4.4	4.0	0.4
South Central and North Central	54.0	57.3	-5.8	4.3	2.4	1.9
Southwest	58.8	58.8	0.0	4.4	3.0	1.4
Winnipeg	385.1	374.7	2.8	5.6	5.6	0.0
Interlake	48.2	49.8	-3.2	3.8	4.2	-0.4
Parklands and Northern	36.4	34.9	4.3	4.5	4.9	-0.4

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 [Statistics Canada](http://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/75-602-x/2015001/article/14461-eng.htm)

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ⁱ Conference Board of Canada, Provincial Outlook Economic Forecast: Summer 2015

ⁱⁱ Adrian Cheung. (November 25,2015) [Busy days and big dollars ahead for business in Winnipeg](http://globalnews.ca/news/2359438/busy-days-and-big-dollars-ahead-for-business-in-winnipeg/). Retrieved from:
<http://globalnews.ca/news/2359438/busy-days-and-big-dollars-ahead-for-business-in-winnipeg/>