



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

August 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

Manitoba's labour market had a strong showing in August, posting its largest month-over-month employment increase in six months. Driven by employment growth in the services-producing sector, the number of employed grew by 2,700 in August. Employment in Manitoba has been trending downwards since peaking in March 2015. Nonetheless, employment was up 1.4% in August 2015 compared to the same time last year, thanks to strong growth in late-2014 and early-2015.

Monthly gains were found mostly in full-time employment (+1,900), while the number of individuals employed part-time increased by 800. The number of people employed full-time is now up 9,400 (+1.9%) over the year. Conversely, those employed part-time has shrunk 0.6% over the year.

The majority of growth in August was in public sector employment (+6,900), offsetting significant losses in the private sector (-6,500). Meanwhile, those self-employed increased by 2,200 in August. Year-over-year, employment increased in all three sectors.

Unemployment

The number of unemployed in Manitoba increased in August, rising for the second month in a row. The province's unemployment rate rose correspondingly from 5.6% to 5.7%. Even so, Manitoba retained the second lowest unemployment rate nationwide for the sixth consecutive month in August 2015. Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the unemployment rate to drop to 5.1% in 2016.ⁱ

Youth unemployment remained high this month, with the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 24 averaging 11.2%, more than double the rate of 4.7% for those aged 25 and older. Compared to this time last year, the youth unemployment rate is down 0.8 percentage points. Those aged 55 and older had the lowest unemployment rate (3.7%) among age groups in August 2015, despite a small monthly increase.

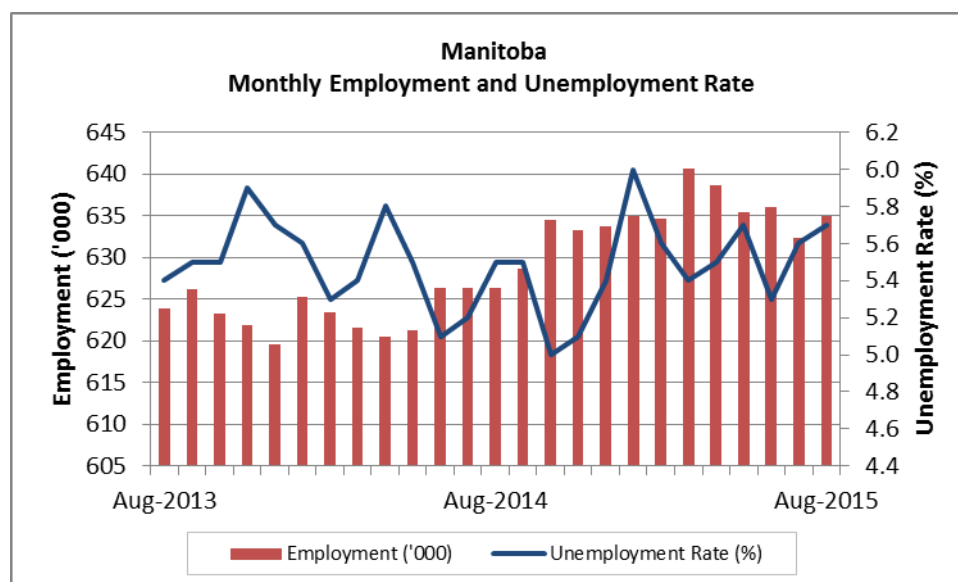
Looking at trends by gender, the unemployment rate remains the highest among young women at 11.5%, while unemployment among young men rose 1.3 percentage points to 10.8%. Over the year, the unemployment rate for young men has dropped by 5.1 percentage points.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	988.5	987.6	978.1	0.9	0.1	10.4	1.1
Labour Force ('000)	673.3	669.7	663.0	3.6	0.5	10.3	1.6
Employment ('000)	635.0	632.3	626.4	2.7	0.4	8.6	1.4
Full-Time ('000)	511.6	509.7	502.2	1.9	0.4	9.4	1.9
Part-Time ('000)	123.4	122.6	124.2	0.8	0.7	-0.8	-0.6
Unemployment ('000)	38.3	37.4	36.6	0.9	2.4	1.7	4.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.7	5.6	5.5	0.1	-	0.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	68.1	67.8	67.8	0.3	-	0.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	64.2	64.0	64.0	0.2	-	0.2	-

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	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	5.7	5.6	5.5	0.1	0.2
25 years and over	4.7	4.6	4.2	0.1	0.5
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	4.2	4.0	0.2	0.4
Women - 25 years and over	4.9	5.0	4.3	-0.1	0.6
15 to 24 years	11.2	10.9	12.0	0.3	-0.8
Men - 15 to 24 years	10.8	9.5	15.9	1.3	-5.1
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.5	12.4	7.6	-0.9	3.9

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Manitoba's **goods-producing sector** remained virtually unchanged in August, with just 100 more people employed than in July. The sector's flat performance this month can be attributed primarily to a decrease in the province's **agriculture** industry, which fell 1,000. Year-over-year, the industry employed 600 fewer individuals as a long-term downward trend in the industry continues. Nonetheless, farmers can expect a good return in 2015 as the drought affecting Saskatchewan and Alberta has not impacted Manitoba. Backlogs on Canada's railways have been almost completely cleared, which should help producers move products more easily this year.

Employment in Manitoba's **construction** industry increased for the third consecutive month in August 2015, with 500 more individuals employed. The industry now employs 2,100 more people than in August 2014. The continued expansion of the RBC Convention Centre, a new \$7.5 million addition to the MTS Iceplex, and continued infrastructure investment by the province should keep the industry busy in the near-term. Red River College is building a new Skilled Trades and Technology Centre to increase their training capacity by 1,000 students, which will help meet the high demand for construction labour in the province.

Meanwhile, employment in **manufacturing** continued trending downwards this month (-1.2%). Recovery in the United States and a weakening Canadian dollar have the industry waiting for increased foreign demand to translate into more manufacturing employment. Utilities employment in Manitoba grew by 1,400 individuals in August, offsetting previously mentioned losses. Finally, **forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and gas** remained effectively unchanged in August. Employment in the industry remains down over the year (-28.2%).

Employment in the **services-producing sector** grew 0.5% since July 2015 thanks to a rebound in **educational services**. Employment in the industry increased 1,900 in August to reach a new record high. The industry has been on a long-term upward trend as the province hires staff as part of its commitment to reduce class sizes in kindergarten to grade 3. Two new elementary schools are under construction in Winnipeg, which should lead to even more individuals employed in educational services in 2016.

Accommodation and food services employed 400 more people in August, marking the industry's fourth consecutive month of growth. The industry employed 2,500 more individuals in August 2015 than at that time the previous year. Large crowds at the FIFA Women's World Cup gave the industry a boost over the summer as the number of American tourists entering the province in June increased by 67% over the same time last year.

Healthcare and social assistance employed 300 more people in August. Employment in the industry has remained fairly stable since surpassing 100,000 in mid-2014. Employment was also up in **public administration** (+700) in August, ending a three-month downward trend. However, the industry remains down over the year (-1,900). Balancing out the gains in these industries were monthly losses in business, building, and other services (-2.1%) and **professional, scientific, and technical services** (-2.1%). Finally, the **trade** industry remained almost unchanged in August (-100). Employment in the industry has trended downward since peaking in October 2014. In fact, the trade industry employed 2,800 fewer people in August 2015 compared to August 2014. The falling employment numbers were mainly found in **retail trade**.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2015	July 2015	August 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	635.0	632.3	626.4	2.7	0.4	8.6	1.4
Goods-producing sector	147.3	147.2	147.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Agriculture	23.2	24.2	23.8	-1.0	-4.1	-0.6	-2.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	5.1	5.0	7.1	0.1	2.0	-2.0	-28.2
Utilities	9.1	7.7	8.3	1.4	18.2	0.8	9.6
Construction	46.3	45.8	44.2	0.5	1.1	2.1	4.8
Manufacturing	63.6	64.4	63.9	-0.8	-1.2	-0.3	-0.5
Services-producing sector	487.7	485.1	479.0	2.6	0.5	8.7	1.8
Trade	90.4	90.5	93.2	-0.1	-0.1	-2.8	-3.0
Transportation and warehousing	39.1	39.1	35.4	0.0	0.0	3.7	10.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	31.3	31.6	33.7	-0.3	-0.9	-2.4	-7.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	26.5	26.6	24.7	-0.1	-0.4	1.8	7.3
Business, building and other support services	18.6	19.0	15.7	-0.4	-2.1	2.9	18.5
Educational services	53.0	51.1	50.4	1.9	3.7	2.6	5.2
Health care and social assistance	100.9	100.6	99.9	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.0
Information, culture and recreation	22.8	22.7	22.2	0.1	0.4	0.6	2.7
Accommodation and food services	42.0	41.6	39.5	0.4	1.0	2.5	6.3
Other services	30.1	30.0	29.4	0.1	0.3	0.7	2.4
Public administration	33.1	32.4	35.0	0.7	2.2	-1.9	-5.4

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Accounting for approximately 60% of Manitoba's total employment, **Winnipeg's** labour market reflected provincial trends in August. Employment in the region rose 3.6% year-over-year, thanks to gains across many of Winnipeg's industries. Employment in construction jumped 9.3% or 2,400 jobs since August 2014. Going forward, jobs in construction should remain in high demand. The city dedicated \$168 million to infrastructure projects and a number of large-scale projects are currently under development. The proposed \$400-million True North Square multi-use complex (mentioned earlier) and the 45-story SkyCity Centre are both moving forward through the development phase and should keep construction employment in high demand once ground is broken. **Winnipeg's** unemployment rate remained at 6.0% this month, the same as in the previous year. It has the second highest rate among Manitoba's economic regions.

Focusing on the other regions, employment fell year-over-year in **Interlake** (-8.6%), **Southeast** (-3.1%), and **South Central and North Central** (-3.1%). The three regions also saw their individual unemployment rates jump compared to August 2014. Meanwhile, employment increased in **Southwest** (2.4%) and **Parklands & North** (2.3%) thanks to gains in the agriculture and transportation industries. Access to parts of the **Parklands & North** region will soon be improved as construction begins on the next step of the 1,000 kilometer long, \$3 billion all-season northern road. This phase will last 1 year and connect the fly-in community of Berens River.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2015 ('000)	August 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2015 (%)	August 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	640.2	632.4	1.2	6.1	5.7	0.4
Economic Regions						
Southeast	55.6	57.4	-3.1	5.6	4.3	1.3
South Central and North Central	55.3	57.0	-3.0	5.1	4.4	0.7
Southwest	58.6	57.2	2.4	3.9	3.5	0.4
Winnipeg	388.0	374.6	3.6	6.6	6.6	0.0
Interlake	47.0	51.4	-8.6	5.6	4.1	1.5
Parklands and Northern	35.7	34.9	2.3	7.5	6.7	0.8

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/75-662-x/2015001/article/14461-eng.htm)

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