



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

October 2016



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 saw positive employment gains in October, following a slight decline in employment in September. The number of employed persons grew by 900, with gains in the goods-producing sector exceeding job losses in the services-producing sector. Despite this recent growth, employment in Manitoba remains down from levels in October 2015 (-8,500).

Monthly gains were entirely in part-time employment (+1,700). Meanwhile, the number of individuals employed full-time declined by 800. Over the year, full-time employment is down significantly (-12,000), while part-time employment is up by 3,500.

The private sector accounted for most of the employment gains this month, up 2,600, while public sector employment increased by 800 positions. Meanwhile, the number of self-employed individuals in Manitoba fell by 2,500 compared to the previous month, representing a drop of 2.8%. On a year-over-year basis, the public sector has been responsible for the majority of employment losses in the province (-9,600).

Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons in Manitoba increased in October (+400), and the province's unemployment rate remained flat at 6.4%. On a yearly basis, the province's unemployment rate is up by a full percentage point compared to October 2015 (5.4%). Nonetheless, Manitoba and Ontario share the second lowest unemployment rate in Canada, behind only British Columbia (6.2%). Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the province's unemployment rate to average about 5.9% in 2016 and drop to 5.5% next year.¹

Youth unemployment remained high this month, with the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 24 averaging 13%, over double the rate of 5.2% for those aged 25 and older. Compared to this time last year, the youth unemployment rate rose considerably (+2.5 percentage points), while the rate for those 25 years and older rose only one percentage point. Those aged 55 and older had the lowest unemployment rate (4.3%) among age groups in October 2016.

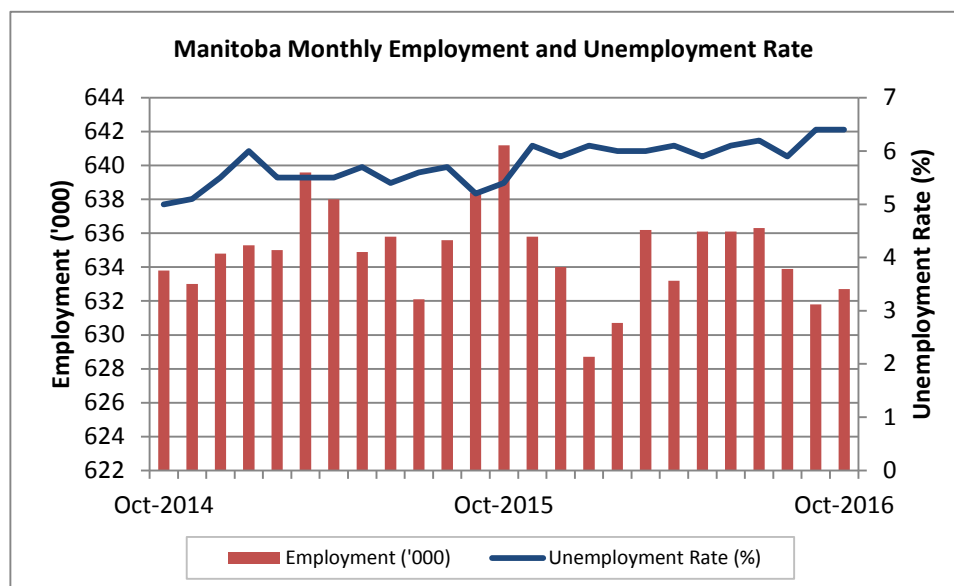
Looking at trends by gender and age, the unemployment rate remains the highest among young men (under 25 years of age) at 14.9%. Over the year, the unemployment rate for young men jumped 2.9 percentage points, up from 12% last October. Unemployment among young women also remains high (11.2%) but is unchanged from the same time last year.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	October 2016	September 2016	October 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,002.8	1,002.2	990.6	0.6	0.1	12.2	1.2
Labour Force ('000)	676.2	674.9	677.5	1.3	0.2	-1.3	-0.2
Employment ('000)	632.7	631.8	641.2	0.9	0.1	-8.5	-1.3
Full-Time ('000)	506.5	507.3	518.5	-0.8	-0.2	-12.0	-2.3
Part-Time ('000)	126.2	124.5	122.7	1.7	1.4	3.5	2.9
Unemployment ('000)	43.5	43.1	36.3	0.4	0.9	7.2	19.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	6.4	5.4	0.0	-	1.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.4	67.3	68.4	0.1	-	-1.0	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.1	63.0	64.7	0.1	-	-1.6	-

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	October 2016 (%)	September 2016 (%)	October 2015 (%)	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.4	6.4	5.4	0.0	1.0
25 years and over	5.2	5.1	4.2	0.1	1.0
Men - 25 years and over	5.7	5.3	4.4	0.4	1.3
Women - 25 years and over	4.6	5.0	3.9	-0.4	0.7
15 to 24 years	13.0	13.0	11.5	0.0	1.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	14.9	14.3	12.0	0.6	2.9
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.2	11.6	11.1	-0.4	0.1

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment in Manitoba's goods-producing sector increased 1,300 in October. Aside from a weak month in September, employment in the sector has steadily increased through the summer and fall, now up 3,700 compared to the same time last year. In October, employment is up across all goods-producing industries, with the exception of agriculture.

Employment in the province's manufacturing industry continued to trend upwards in October (+500). This marks the fifth consecutive month of employment gains for the industry. Prospects are bright for several key segments of Manitoba's manufacturing industry. Potential layoffs at bus manufacturing giant New Flyer Industries have been avoided, as funding for a 1,200-commuter bus order from New Jersey is no longer in question.

Construction industry employment was also up in October (+500), following four months of declines. However, construction employment remains down from October 2015 (-900). The outlook for construction employment in the near-term is positive though. A number of hydro projects – representing over \$11-billion of construction spending – will drive activity throughout the province, while several large-scale developments in Winnipeg will keep that region's labour market busy. Notably, construction continues on the \$400 million dollar True North Square, which represents the largest mixed-use development in Winnipeg's history.

Finally, forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and gas employed 300 more people in October. Although not as significant an employer in Manitoba as in other western provinces, the industry appears to be weathering the global downturn in commodity prices fairly well. The industry now employs 600 more individuals compared to the same time last year.

Turning to the services-producing sector, employment was down in a number of industries. Noteworthy is the decrease in healthcare and social assistance, which saw month-over-month employment drop by 3,800. Employment in the industry is also down on an annual basis (-4,000), bringing employment levels below 100,000 for the first since June 2014.

A few industries in the services-producing sector fared very well in October. Employment in information, culture and recreation was up 7% (+1,600) on a monthly basis, while employment in educational services and in finance, insurance and real estate grew 6% and 5%, respectively.

On a yearly basis, employment is up significantly in finance, insurance and real estate (+14.9%) and in professional, scientific and technical services (+8.7%). In contrast, employment in Business, building and other support services is down by 10.8% compared to October 2015.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	October 2016	September 2016	October 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	632.7	631.8	641.2	0.9	0.1	-8.5	-1.3
Goods-producing sector	153.3	152.0	149.6	1.3	0.9	3.7	2.5
Agriculture	25.7	25.7	24.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	7.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	6.3	6.0	5.7	0.3	5.0	0.6	10.5
Utilities	10.1	10.0	8.6	0.1	1.0	1.5	17.4
Construction	45.8	45.3	46.7	0.5	1.1	-0.9	-1.9
Manufacturing	65.5	65.0	64.6	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.4
Services-producing sector	479.4	479.8	491.6	-0.4	-0.1	-12.2	-2.5
Trade	88.2	89.0	91.9	-0.8	-0.9	-3.7	-4.0
Transportation and warehousing	35.7	35.6	36.7	0.1	0.3	-1.0	-2.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	36.3	34.6	31.6	1.7	4.9	4.7	14.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	27.4	27.7	25.2	-0.3	-1.1	2.2	8.7
Business, building and other support services	18.2	18.3	20.4	-0.1	-0.5	-2.2	-10.8
Educational services	49.5	46.8	53.5	2.7	5.8	-4.0	-7.5
Health care and social assistance	99.3	103.1	103.3	-3.8	-3.7	-4.0	-3.9
Information, culture and recreation	23.9	22.3	23.1	1.6	7.2	0.8	3.5
Accommodation and food services	41.7	41.8	41.6	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.2
Other services	26.5	27.4	29.2	-0.9	-3.3	-2.7	-9.2
Public administration	32.7	33.2	35.4	-0.5	-1.5	-2.7	-7.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Southeast region employment was up 4.2% on an annual basis in October. The region's unemployment rate also fell during the past year and now sits well below the provincial average (4.3% vs. 6.4%). The majority of Southeast region's employment growth was in the services-producing sector, with the largest gain in trade. Agriculture was responsible for the majority of employment growth within the goods-producing sector.

Parklands and Northern region saw employment grow 1.4% over the year, while the unemployment rate for the region dropped from 5.7% to 4.4%, representing the largest decrease in Manitoba. October's positive

performance may be short-lived though after a number of recent large-scale layoff announcements in the province's North. Some potential relief should be coming to the region as Tolko Industries has found a purchaser for their pulp and paper mill in The Pas, likely averting the loss of 320 direct jobs and a significant negative impact on the local economy.²

Employment in Winnipeg region is down 0.6% year-over-year, due mostly to a sharp drop in employment in the services-producing sector. Unemployment reached 7.3% in Winnipeg in October, exceeding the provincial rate. Growth in the goods-producing sector helped to partially offset losses in the services-producing sector. Led by the construction industry, employment in the sector is up 4,000 over the past year. And construction activity should remain strong moving forward as a number of residential units are planned or in development for Winnipeg's downtown³. The units are part of \$1.26-billion worth of building intentions in the downtown area; the core-area building boom will keep demand high for construction labour in the near-term.

The largest percentage drop in employment was in Southwest region, where employment is down 6.6% compared to October 2015. All labour market indicators point to negative results for the region. Employment is down both in the goods- and in the services-producing sectors, with the steepest drop occurring in the manufacturing industry. Not surprisingly, the region's unemployment rate jumped 1.6 percentage points to 5.3% during the past year.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	October 2016 ('000)	October 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	October 2016 (%)	October 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	636.3	641.3	-0.8	6.4	5.6	0.8
Economic Regions						
Southeast	59.7	57.3	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.5
South Central and North Central	53.2	54.4	-2.2	4.7	4.9	-0.2
Southwest	55.4	59.3	-6.6	5.3	3.7	1.6
Winnipeg	384.1	386.5	-0.6	7.3	6.1	1.2
Interlake	47.1	47.6	-1.1	5.8	5.0	0.8
Parklands and Northern	36.7	36.2	1.4	4.4	5.7	-1.3

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.

Prepared by: Labour Market Information (LMI) Directorate, Service Canada, Manitoba

For further information, please contact the LMI team at: NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2016, all rights reserved

¹ Conference Board of Canada, Provincial Outlook Economic Forecast: Summer 2016

² Winnipeg Free Press, (accessed November 07, 2016)

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/tolko-employees-vote-in-favour-of-concessions-plant-purchase-imminent-400070281.html>

³ Downtown Winnipeg BIZ <http://downtownwinnipegtrands.com/why-downtown/live/>