



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Manitoba

January 2017



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 improved in January. Gains brought employment in the province up 1,300 over the month and up 5,700 compared to the same time last year.

Monthly losses were entirely in part-time employment (-2,400), while the number of individuals employed full-time increased by 3,700. On an annual basis, both part-time and full-time employment grew.

The private sector accounted for all employment gains this month (+1,800), while public sector employment decreased by 1,100 positions. The rest of the growth in the province was accounted by self-employed individuals (+500). On a year over year basis, the public sector saw the largest employment losses as it shed just over 1,600 positions.<sup>1</sup>

#### Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons in Manitoba decreased in January (-1,000) and the province's unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 6.1%. On a yearly basis, the province's unemployment rate is unchanged from January 2016. Manitoba currently has the second lowest unemployment rate in Canada, behind only British Columbia (5.6%).<sup>2</sup> Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the province's unemployment rate to drop to 5.8% next year.<sup>3</sup>

Youth unemployment remained high this month, with the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 24 averaging 13.2%, nearly triple the rate of those aged 25 and older. Compared to this time last year, the youth unemployment rate rose slightly (+0.1 percentage points), while the rate for those 25 years and older was unchanged.

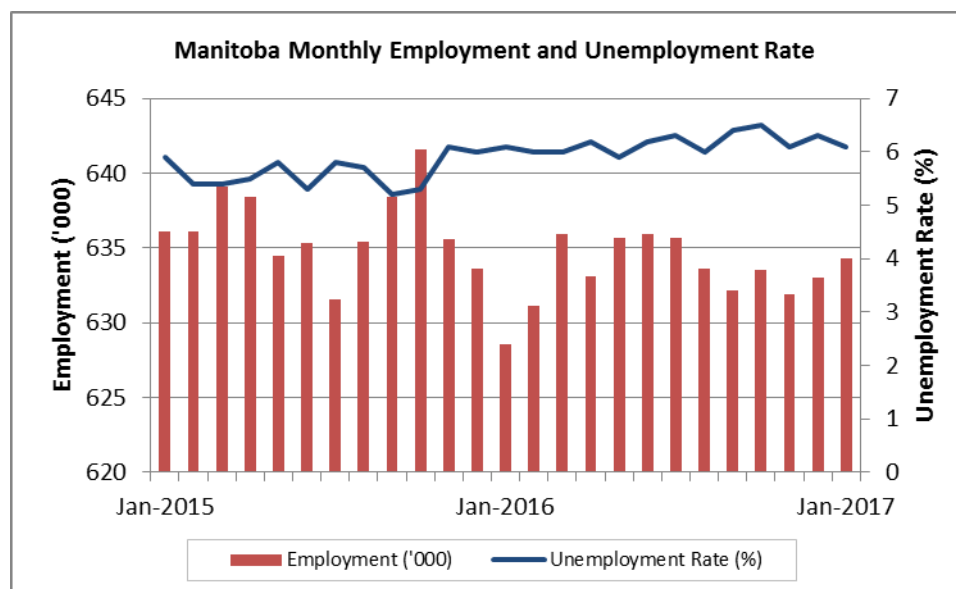
Looking at trends by gender and age, the unemployment rate remains the highest among young men (under 25 years of age) at 14.8%. Over the year, the unemployment rate for young men increased 0.3 percentage points, up from 14.5% last January. Unemployment among young women also remains high at 11.5%.

### Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics

| Seasonally Adjusted<br>Monthly Data | January 2017 | December 2016 | January 2016 | Monthly Variation |      | Yearly Variation |     |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|------|------------------|-----|
|                                     |              |               |              | Number            | %    | Number           | %   |
| <b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>       | 1,006.1      | 1,004.4       | 992.8        | 1.7               | 0.2  | 13.3             | 1.3 |
| <b>Labour Force ('000)</b>          | 675.6        | 675.3         | 669.5        | 0.3               | 0.0  | 6.1              | 0.9 |
| <b>Employment ('000)</b>            | 634.3        | 633.0         | 628.6        | 1.3               | 0.2  | 5.7              | 0.9 |
| Full-Time ('000)                    | 513.1        | 509.4         | 507.5        | 3.7               | 0.7  | 5.6              | 1.1 |
| Part-Time ('000)                    | 121.2        | 123.6         | 121.0        | -2.4              | -1.9 | 0.2              | 0.2 |
| <b>Unemployment ('000)</b>          | 41.3         | 42.3          | 40.9         | -1.0              | -2.4 | 0.4              | 1.0 |
| <b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>        | 6.1          | 6.3           | 6.1          | -0.2              | -    | 0.0              | -   |
| <b>Participation Rate (%)</b>       | 67.2         | 67.2          | 67.4         | 0.0               | -    | -0.2             | -   |
| <b>Employment Rate (%)</b>          | 63.0         | 63.0          | 63.3         | 0.0               | -    | -0.3             | -   |

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  | January 2017<br>(%) | December 2016<br>(%) | January 2016<br>(%) | Monthly Variation | Yearly Variation |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                           |                     |                      |                     | (% points)        | (% points)       |
| <b>Total</b>              | 6.1                 | 6.3                  | 6.1                 | -0.2              | 0.0              |
| <b>25 years and over</b>  | 4.8                 | 4.9                  | 4.8                 | -0.1              | 0.0              |
| Men - 25 years and over   | 5.3                 | 5.2                  | 5.0                 | 0.1               | 0.3              |
| Women - 25 years and over | 4.1                 | 4.7                  | 4.6                 | -0.6              | -0.5             |
| <b>15 to 24 years</b>     | 13.2                | 13.1                 | 13.1                | 0.1               | 0.1              |
| Men - 15 to 24 years      | 14.8                | 14.4                 | 14.5                | 0.4               | 0.3              |
| Women - 15 to 24 years    | 11.5                | 11.8                 | 11.6                | -0.3              | -0.1             |

*Note: Totals may not add due to rounding*

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

**EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**

Manitoba's good-producing sector employed 1,000 more people in January compared to the previous month, but employment remained down 200 compared to January 2016. The sector's poor yearly performance can partly be attributed to losses in manufacturing, which now employs 800 fewer people. The industry has been slowly recovering from the 2009 recession, growing alongside a recovering U.S economy and bolstered by a weakened Canadian dollar. Sizeable losses (-1,700) in construction also negatively affected growth in the goods sector.

In contrast, the forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas industry saw the largest yearly growth rate (+14.1%) among good-producing industries.

A mixture of gains and losses across services-producing industries left overall employment in the sector mostly unchanged (+300) in January. Noteworthy is a decrease in information, culture and recreation, which saw month over month employment drop by 1,200. Employment in the industry is however up on an annual basis by 600 jobs. Conversely, wholesale and retail trade and transportation and warehousing industries saw large gains in January.

On a yearly basis, employment is up significantly in finance, insurance and real estate (+16.3%) and in professional, scientific and technical services (+6.8%). On the other hand, employment in educational services is down 2.8%, or 1,400 fewer people employed over the year.

Moving forward, economists suggest that construction spending will be a key factor contributing to Manitoba's growth in 2017 relative to 2016.<sup>4</sup> RBC Economics cites continuing expenditure by Manitoba Hydro on a number power projects including Keeyask Generating Station and the Bipole III Transmission Line as key contributors to this performance.<sup>5</sup>

## Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

| Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)                   | January 2017 | December 2016 | January 2016 | Monthly Variation |      | Yearly Variation |      |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|------|------------------|------|
|   |              |               |              | Number            | %    | Number           | %    |
| <b>Total employed, all industries</b>             | 634.3        | 633.0         | 628.6        | 1.3               | 0.2  | 5.7              | 0.9  |
| <b>Goods-producing sector</b>                     | 150.2        | 149.2         | 150.4        | 1.0               | 0.7  | -0.2             | -0.1 |
| Agriculture                                       | 24.4         | 23.3          | 23.6         | 1.1               | 4.7  | 0.8              | 3.4  |
| Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas | 7.3          | 6.5           | 6.4          | 0.8               | 12.3 | 0.9              | 14.1 |
| Utilities   | 9.8          | 9.9           | 9.3          | -0.1              | -1.0 | 0.5              | 5.4  |
| Construction                                      | 45.1         | 45.5          | 46.8         | -0.4              | -0.9 | -1.7             | -3.6 |
| Manufacturing                                     | 63.7         | 64.0          | 64.5         | -0.3              | -0.5 | -0.8             | -1.2 |
| <b>Services-producing sector</b>                  | 484.1        | 483.8         | 478.1        | 0.3               | 0.1  | 6.0              | 1.3  |
| Trade   | 88.6         | 87.1          | 87.7         | 1.5               | 1.7  | 0.9              | 1.0  |
| Transportation and warehousing                    | 36.7         | 35.6          | 35.7         | 1.1               | 3.1  | 1.0              | 2.8  |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing       | 36.3         | 36.0          | 31.2         | 0.3               | 0.8  | 5.1              | 16.3 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services   | 28.4         | 28.5          | 26.6         | -0.1              | -0.4 | 1.8              | 6.8  |
| Business, building and other support services     | 18.1         | 19.1          | 19.0         | -1.0              | -5.2 | -0.9             | -4.7 |
| Educational services                              | 49.4         | 49.7          | 50.8         | -0.3              | -0.6 | -1.4             | -2.8 |
| Health care and social assistance                 | 103.0        | 101.9         | 101.3        | 1.1               | 1.1  | 1.7              | 1.7  |
| Information, culture and recreation               | 23.5         | 24.7          | 22.9         | -1.2              | -4.9 | 0.6              | 2.6  |
| Accommodation and food services                   | 39.1         | 39.9          | 40.0         | -0.8              | -2.0 | -0.9             | -2.3 |
| Other services                                    | 27.6         | 27.8          | 30.0         | -0.2              | -0.7 | -2.4             | -8.0 |
| Public administration                             | 33.5         | 33.5          | 32.9         | 0.0               | 0.0  | 0.6              | 1.8  |

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Southeast saw the largest employment growth (+4.4%) over the past year. The region's unemployment rate is also down from last January and sits well below the provincial average. The majority of Southeast region's employment growth was in the goods-producing sector, with the largest gain in agriculture.<sup>6</sup>

Employment in Parklands and Northern region remained almost unchanged over the year, but its unemployment rate grew from 4.6% to 5.0%, suggesting that more people are joining the regional labour force and are looking for work.

Employment in Winnipeg region is up 0.4% year over year. The region's finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing industry leading employment growth over the past year.<sup>7</sup> Manufacturing and Information, culture and recreation also saw strong employment growth.<sup>8</sup>

The largest percentage drop in employment was in Southwest region, where employment is down 4.2% compared to January 2016. However, the region's unemployment rate decreased 1.1 percentage points to 5.2% during the past year. In contrast to what has happened in the Parklands and Northern region, Southwest region will see a decrease in labour size.

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

| 3-Month Moving Averages<br>Seasonally Unadjusted Data | Employment                |                           |                            | Unemployment Rate      |                        |                                      |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|   | January<br>2017<br>('000) | January<br>2016<br>('000) | Yearly<br>Variation<br>(%) | January<br>2017<br>(%) | January<br>2016<br>(%) | Yearly<br>Variation<br>(%<br>points) |
| <b>Manitoba</b>                                       | 630.2                     | 629.0                     | 0.2                        | 5.9                    | 5.7                    | 0.2                                  |
| <b>Economic Regions</b>                               |                           |                           |                            |                        |                        |                                      |
| Southeast   | 59.6                      | 57.1                      | 4.4                        | 4.2                    | 5.6                    | -1.4                                 |
| South Central and North Central                       | 53.8                      | 53.2                      | 1.1                        | 3.1                    | 3.6                    | -0.5                                 |
| Southwest   | 53.1                      | 55.4                      | -4.2                       | 5.2                    | 6.3                    | -1.1                                 |
| Winnipeg  | 382.1                     | 380.7                     | 0.4                        | 6.7                    | 6.2                    | 0.5                                  |
| Interlake   | 45.8                      | 47.0                      | -2.6                       | 5.6                    | 4.9                    | 0.7                                  |
| Parklands and Northern                                | 35.9                      | 35.6                      | 0.8                        | 5.0                    | 4.6                    | 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 the Statistics Canada Web site at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0089 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (persons), CANSIM (database). (accessed: January 10, 2017)

<sup>2</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and age group, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (persons unless otherwise noted), CANSIM (database). (accessed: January 10, 2017)

<sup>3</sup> Conference Board of Canada, Provincial Outlook: Autumn 2016

<sup>4</sup> TD Economics, Provincial economic forecast. December 20, 2016.

[https://www.td.com/document/PDF/economics/qef/ProvincialEconomicForecast\\_Dec2016.pdf](https://www.td.com/document/PDF/economics/qef/ProvincialEconomicForecast_Dec2016.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Paul Ferley. RBC Economics – Research. Manitoba: Provincial outlook. December 2016.

<http://www.rbc.com/economics/economic-reports/pdf/provincial-forecasts/man.pdf>

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<sup>6</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0124 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by economic region based on 2011 Census boundaries and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, monthly (persons), CANSIM (database). (accessed: January 10, 2017)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Ibid