



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Manitoba

October 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

Employment in Manitoba reached 647,900 in October, an increase of 4,000 (+0.6%) from September 2017 and the second highest monthly increase among western provinces; Alberta (+11,900) was first in the West.<sup>1</sup> This continues a period of steady growth for Manitoba. Since January 2017, employment in Manitoba has grown 2.1% from 634,300.

In the past month, full-time employment in Manitoba increased by 1,000, while part-time employment increased by 3,000. This bucks the national trend, as part-time employment decreased by 53,400 nationally. Over the same period, Manitoba's public sector employment grew by 0.8%, (1,400), while private sector employment grew by 0.3%, (1,400). Meanwhile, self-employment increased by 1,300.<sup>2</sup>

The provincial government announced *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* for 2018. Pending legislative approval, the plan would add a price on carbon at \$25 per tonne until 2022. The tax would cost a family of four an estimated \$356 per year.<sup>3</sup> Earlier this year, Manitoba Hydro increased their rates by 3.36% per year for the next two years, and Manitoba Public Insurance is awaiting approval to increase their 2018 rates by 2.7%. A carbon tax and additional rate increases will negatively affect consumer spending, as Manitobans will soon have less disposable income.

#### Unemployment

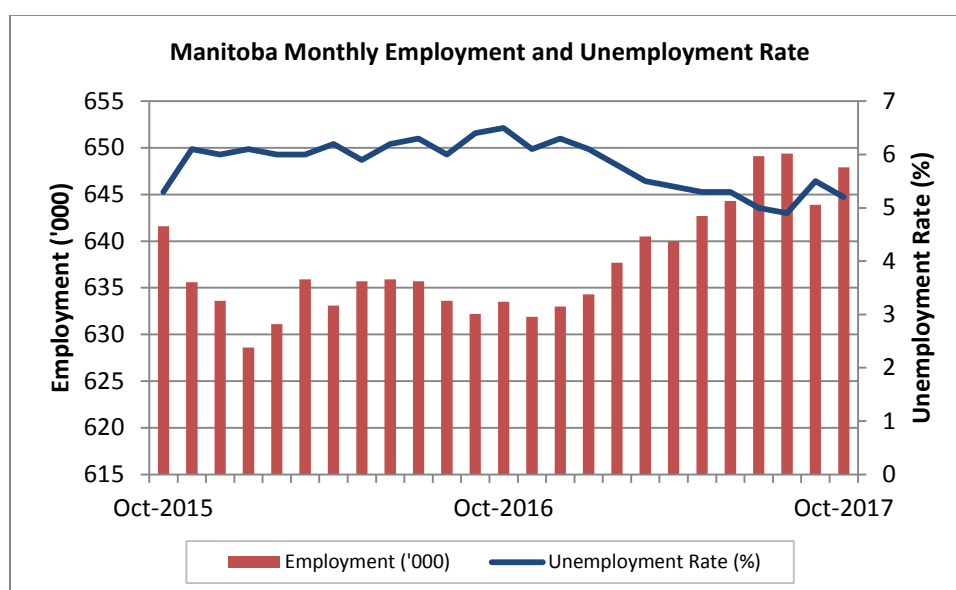
Manitoba's unemployment rate remained relatively unchanged, decreasing by 0.3 of a percentage point to 5.2%. The province had the second lowest unemployment rate in Canada, falling behind British Columbia (4.9%), and was well below the national average of 6.3%.

## Seasonally adjusted Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	October 2017	September 2017	October 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	1,017.3	1,016.7	1,002.8	0.6	0.1	14.5	1.4
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	683.7	681.7	677.2	2.0	0.3	6.5	1.0
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	647.9	643.9	633.5	4.0	0.6	14.4	2.3
Full-Time ('000)	521.2	520.2	507.4	1.0	0.2	13.8	2.7
Part-Time ('000)	126.7	123.7	126.1	3.0	2.4	0.6	0.5
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	35.8	37.8	43.7	-2.0	-5.3	-7.9	-18.1
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.2	5.5	6.5	-0.3	-	-1.3	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	67.2	67.1	67.5	0.1	-	-0.3	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	63.7	63.3	63.2	0.4	-	0.5	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



In Manitoba, the unemployment rate for those aged 15-24 decreased this month by 0.4 percentage points to 11.3%. By comparison, the unemployment rate for those aged 25 years and older decreased by 0.3 percentage points to 4.1%. Compared to last year, youth unemployment decreased by 1.8 percentage points and the unemployment rate for those 25 years and older decreased 1.1 percentage points. For both age groups, the improvement was marginally better over the past year than what was seen nationwide (-1.8 percentage points and -0.5 percentage points).<sup>4</sup>

The unemployment rate for men aged 15 to 24 years old remained relatively unchanged at 13.0%, decreasing by 0.1 percentage points from the previous month. The unemployment rate for women aged 15 to 24 improved, decreasing by 0.6 percentage points to 9.6% over the same period.

**Manitoba Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	October 2017 (%)	September 2017 (%)	October 2016 (%)	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.2	5.5	6.5	-0.3	-1.3
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.1	4.4	5.2	-0.3	-1.1
Men - 25 years and over	4.1	4.2	5.7	-0.1	-1.6
Women - 25 years and over	4.0	4.6	4.6	-0.6	-0.6
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	11.3	11.7	13.1	-0.4	-1.8
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.0	13.1	14.9	-0.1	-1.9
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.6	10.2	11.2	-0.6	-1.6

*Note: Totals may not add due to rounding*

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

**EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**

Manitoba's goods-producing sector grew by 1,100 between September and October, yet employment in the sector remains 1,500 lower (-1.0%) than in October 2016. Year over year, strong employment gains were made in construction (+2,500), but these were offset by job loss in almost the whole sector. Significant employment losses were in utilities (-1,400), manufacturing (-2,100), and agriculture (-800). The goods-producing sector may contract further, as most farming operations and construction projects are ending for the season, and nearly 200 workers were affected after Vale's Birchtree mine was placed into care and maintenance.

In the past month, the good-producing sector experienced losses in manufacturing (-700); however, these were offset by strong gains both in construction (+1,100) and in forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (+500).

On a year-over-year basis, the services-producing sector experienced strong employment growth across the province, with employment increasing by 3.3% (+16,000). Almost all service industries experienced strong employment gains, with the strongest growth in health care and social assistance (+3,300) and educational services (+3,000). Over the same period, employment decreased in public administration (-900) and information, culture and recreation (-400).

Since last month, Manitoba's services-producing sector increased by 3,000, with gains in health care and social assistance (+2,800) and accommodation and food services (+1,600). Losses were predominant in the trade (-2,600), and transportation and warehousing (-800) industries.

Retail related employment could decrease slightly in the short-term following the recent closure of Sears stores across the province. However, such losses may be offset with new hires in preparation for holiday shopping.

## Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	October 2017	September 2017	October 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	647.9	643.9	633.5	4.0	0.6	14.4	2.3
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	151.7	150.6	153.2	1.1	0.7	-1.5	-1.0
Agriculture	24.5	24.4	25.3	0.1	0.4	-0.8	-3.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	6.7	6.2	6.4	0.5	8.1	0.3	4.7
Utilities	8.6	8.5	10.0	0.1	1.2	-1.4	-14.0
Construction	48.4	47.3	45.9	1.1	2.3	2.5	5.4
Manufacturing	63.4	64.1	65.5	-0.7	-1.1	-2.1	-3.2
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	496.3	493.3	480.3	3.0	0.6	16.0	3.3
Trade	89.4	92.0	88.0	-2.6	-2.8	1.4	1.6
Transportation and warehousing	36.6	37.4	35.8	-0.8	-2.1	0.8	2.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	37.7	36.6	36.3	1.1	3.0	1.4	3.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	28.6	27.9	28.1	0.7	2.5	0.5	1.8
Business, building and other support services	20.3	20.5	18.3	-0.2	-1.0	2.0	10.9
Educational services	52.5	52.5	49.4	0.0	0.0	3.1	6.3
Health care and social assistance	102.9	100.1	99.6	2.8	2.8	3.3	3.3
Information, culture and recreation	23.6	23.5	24.0	0.1	0.4	-0.4	-1.7
Accommodation and food services	44.3	42.7	41.5	1.6	3.7	2.8	6.7
Other services	28.4	27.5	26.5	0.9	3.3	1.9	7.2
Public administration	31.9	32.6	32.8	-0.7	-2.1	-0.9	-2.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Within the past year, employment growth occurred in all the regions of Manitoba, with the exception of the Interlake and the Parklands and North regions. During the same period, the unemployment rate decreased in all six regions.

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

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	October 2017 ('000)	October 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	October 2017 (%)	October 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Manitoba</b>	650.5	636.3	2.2	5.3	6.4	-1.1
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Southeast	62.8	59.7	5.2	3.7	4.3	-0.6
South Central and North Central	57.9	53.2	8.8	3.7	4.7	-1.0
Southwest	56.2	55.4	1.4	5.1	5.3	-0.2
Winnipeg	391.7	384.1	2.0	6.1	7.3	-1.2
Interlake	46.6	47.1	-1.1	3.7	5.8	-2.1
Parklands and North	35.3	36.7	-3.8	4.1	4.4	-0.3

*Note: Totals may not add due to rounding*

*Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0122*

Since October 2016, Interlake had the most significant improvement in the unemployment rate, with a decrease of 2.1 percentage points to 3.7%, one of the lowest rates in the province. However, overall employment decreased by 500 workers (-1.1%) since the same time last year. In the past month, employment gains were made in the accommodation and food services, public administration, and health care and social assistance; each increasing by 300 jobs. Yet, regional employment remained unchanged as employment gains were offset by losses in finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (-400), business, building and other support services (-500), and agriculture (-300).<sup>5</sup>

In the past year, Southeast experienced the second largest employment growth rate (5.2%) in the province, with employment reaching 62,800. The region may continue to experience strong economic growth, as it is home to the city of Steinbach, the third largest city in the province. According to the 2016 Census, Steinbach's population grew by 17% over the past 5 years, as nearly a fifth of the population (3,185) self-identified as immigrants.<sup>6</sup> Additional employment opportunities in the region may become available next year, as Manitoba Hydro could soon start construction of its Manitoba-Minnesota transmission line from Winnipeg to the U.S. border. After passing the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission's environmental review in October, Manitoba Hydro is now awaiting provincial approval to begin construction. After completion, the transmission line would export an additional 883 megawatts to the United States.<sup>7</sup>

Employment in Winnipeg increased by 2.0% in the past year due to strong growth in the information, culture and recreation (+1,900), health care and social assistance (+2,200), and transportation and warehousing (+1,600) industries.<sup>8</sup> However, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority is currently being restructured in order to cut costs, and it is unknown how many health care positions may be affected as schedules are altered and services become centralized. Manufacturing continues to remain strong, after a new dairy processing facility opened in Winnipeg. The new facility employs 67 workers, and has increased the province's processing capacity by almost 40% (180 million litres). Manitoba dairy farmers will now no longer need to export their excess milk out of province.<sup>9</sup>

Parklands and North region experienced a decrease in employment of 3.8% compared to the same period last year. Over the same period, the region experienced a loss of 900 workers in accommodation and food services, 800 in wholesale and retail trade, and 700 in other services. The province of Manitoba is now working in

partnership with the Opaskwayak Cree Nation and Manitoba Aerospace to create a manufacturing company. The new company is to be operational within the next two years, and be located near the Paskwayak region.<sup>10</sup>

On October 13, the federal government issued Omnitrax a 30 day deadline to repair the rail line or face legal action. Repairs have yet to begin, and the town of Churchill continues to face economic and transportation challenges. Gas prices have since risen by 30% (\$0.50/litre) as supplies of less expensive gas have now been exhausted. With no relief in sight, Polar Industries, Remote Area Services, and the Fox Lake Cree Nation have formed a partnership to create a temporary winter road from Sundance to Churchill. Construction would begin in late December, with completion set for early January.<sup>11</sup>

**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> Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 – Labour Force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and age group, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted. (accessed September 11, 2017)

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 282-0089 – Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (person), CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

<sup>3</sup> CTV News. “Fuel, natural gas prices to increase with carbon tax in Manitoba: Pallister”. <http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/fuel-natural-gas-prices-to-increase-with-new-carbon-tax-in-manitoba-pallister-1.3651965> (October 27, 2017)

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 – Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (person), CANSIM (database). (accessed September 13, 2017)

<sup>5</sup> 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

<sup>6</sup> Statistics Canada. Census Profile, 2016 Census. Steinbach, City [Census subdivision], Manitoba and Canada [Country] <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4602044&Geo2=PR&Code2=01&Data=Count&SearchText=Steinbach&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&TABID=1&B1=All>. (accessed November 3, 2017)

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<sup>7</sup> CTV News. “Environmental review approves hydro transmission line from Manitoba to Minnesota”. <http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/environmental-review-approves-hydro-transmission-line-from-manitoba-to-minnesota-1.3627465> (October 11, 2017)

<sup>8</sup> 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

<sup>9</sup> McNeill, Murrar. “Got processing? New plant keeps more milk in Manitoba”. Winnipeg Free Press [Winnipeg] October 26, 2017. Page B5.

<sup>10</sup> Government of Manitoba. “Province announces new partnership to support aerospace manufacturing and create jobs in the north”. <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=42391&posted=2017-10-26> (October 26, 2017)

<sup>11</sup> The Reminder. “Winter road proposed to connect Churchill with highway system”. <http://www.there minder.ca/news/local-news/winter-road-proposed-to-connect-churchill-with-highway-system-1.23079994> (November 1, 2017)