



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

May 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's labour market increased by 2,700 from April to May, 2017. On a monthly basis, individuals employed full-time increased by 7,000, while the number of those employed part-time decreased by 4,300.

Within the past year, employment in Manitoba increased by 7,000 individuals. Full-time employment increased by 7,200, while there was a loss of 200 part-time jobs. Looking at classes of workers, over the same period, public sector employment fell by 2.4%, (loss of 4,000 jobs), while private sector employment grew by 2.5%, (gain of 9,900 jobs).¹

According to the Conference Board of Canada's outlook, Manitoba's economy will grow 2.1% in 2017. Looking ahead, the growth rate is expected to slow to an average 1% per year from 2018 until 2021 as mining projects in Northern Manitoba near the end of their life spans and construction of the Keeyask generating station and Bipole Line III projects near completion.²

The Province of Manitoba announced in the 2017 budget a reduction to overall debt through various austerity measures. These measures include the recent elimination of 15% of management level positions at Regional Health Authorities and a pending 15% reduction of management positions at Crown Corporations.³

Unemployment

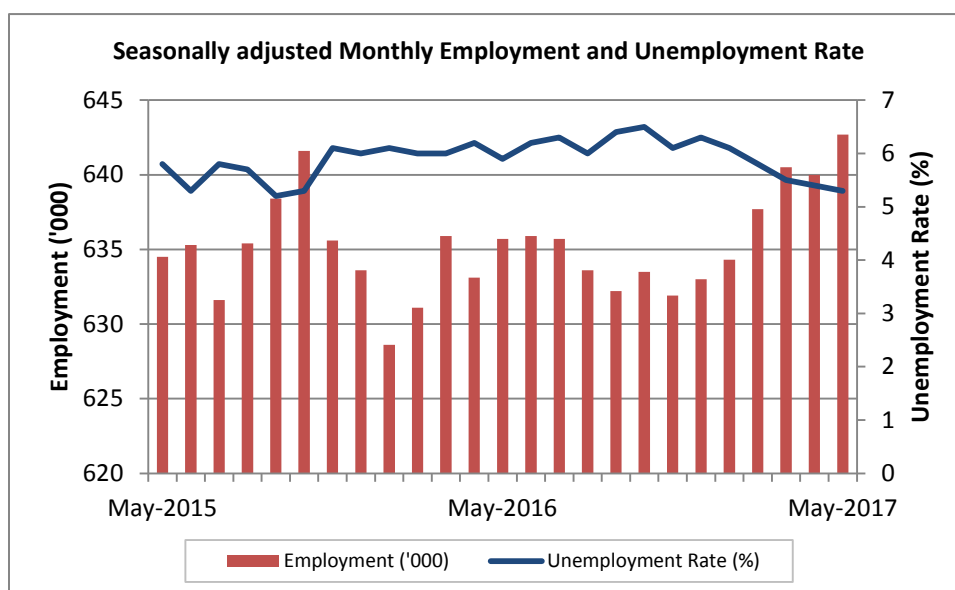
Manitoba's unemployment rate remained relatively unchanged, decreasing by only a 0.1 percentage point to 5.3% in May, 2017. Manitoba currently has one of the lowest unemployment rates in Western Canada, well below the national average of 6.6%. However, the Conference Board of Canada forecasts that Manitoba's unemployment rate may climb up to eventually match the national average.⁴

Seasonally adjusted Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,012.0	1,010.4	997.5	1.6	0.2	14.5	1.5
Labour Force ('000)	678.6	676.8	675.7	1.8	0.3	2.9	0.4
Employment ('000)	642.7	640.0	635.7	2.7	0.4	7.0	1.1
Full-Time ('000)	523.9	516.9	516.7	7.0	1.4	7.2	1.4
Part-Time ('000)	118.8	123.1	119.0	-4.3	-3.5	-0.2	-0.2
Unemployment ('000)	35.9	36.8	40.0	-0.9	-2.4	-4.1	10.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	5.4	5.9	-0.1	-	-0.6	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.1	67.0	67.7	0.1	-	-0.6	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.5	63.3	63.7	0.2	-	-0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



The unemployment rate of those aged 15-25 remained relatively unchanged since April, at 11%. By comparison, the unemployment rate for individuals aged 25 years and older decreased by 0.2 percentage points, to 4.2% in the past month. Compared to last year, youth unemployment decreased by 2 percentage points, and the unemployment rate for those 25 years and older decreased by 0.4 percentage points 4.2%.

Women aged 15 to 24 years old had the highest unemployment rate at 11.8%, with the unemployment rate increasing by 2.3 percentage points from the previous month, compared to a 2 percentage point drop for

young men. The unemployment rate of women 15 to 24 years old was nearly 3 times that of women 25 years and older.

Seasonally adjusted Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2017 (%)	April 2017 (%)	May 2016 (%)	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	5.3	5.4	5.9	-0.1	-0.6
25 years and over	4.2	4.4	4.6	-0.2	-0.4
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	4.8	5.0	-0.4	-0.6
Women - 25 years and over	4.0	3.9	4.0	0.1	0.0
15 to 24 years	11.0	11.1	13.0	-0.1	-2.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	10.5	12.5	14.6	-2.0	-4.1
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.8	9.5	11.3	2.3	0.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087⁵

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Within the past month, Manitoba's goods-producing sector contracted by almost 2,000. This is still an improvement, with around 2,200 more workers in this sector compared to the same time last year. This sector saw losses in all of its industries, except for agriculture. The manufacturing industry had a significant loss of 2,100 people in May 2017. This job loss was slightly offset by employment gains in agriculture (+1,000) during this same time.

Manitoba's services-producing industries demonstrated stronger growth with an increase of 4,600 jobs in May. Mixed results were observed among Manitoba's public-sector industries in May. Employment declined in education services, while health care and social assistance (+1,800) and the information and culture and recreation industries (+1,400) increased during the same period.

Public administration saw a modest growth rate of 0.9%. Additionally, the short-term employment outlook for these industries is not positive, as the Government of Manitoba is currently facing a budget deficit and is implementing restraint and saving measures in an effort to move the budget back to balance.

Seasonally adjusted Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	642.7	640.0	635.7	2.7	0.4	7.0	1.1
Goods-producing sector	152.4	154.4	150.2	-2.0	-1.3	2.2	1.5
Agriculture	23.1	22.1	24.0	1.0	4.5	-0.9	-3.7
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	7.2	7.6	6.4	-0.4	-5.3	0.8	12.5
Utilities	9.4	9.6	10.0	-0.2	-2.1	-0.6	-6.0
Construction	49.3	49.7	48.6	-0.4	-0.8	0.7	1.4
Manufacturing	63.4	65.5	61.1	-2.1	-3.2	2.3	3.8
Services-producing sector	490.2	485.6	485.5	4.6	0.9	4.7	1.0
Trade	91.7	91.1	91.9	0.6	0.7	-0.2	-0.2
Transportation and warehousing	36.7	37.5	35.2	-0.8	-2.1	1.5	4.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	36.9	37.0	33.8	-0.1	-0.3	3.1	9.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	28.1	28.7	27.9	-0.6	-2.1	0.2	0.7
Business, building and other support services	18.4	17.9	17.7	0.5	2.8	0.7	4.0
Educational services	49.0	49.5	51.2	-0.5	-1.0	-2.2	-4.3
Health care and social assistance	102.0	100.2	101.9	1.8	1.8	0.1	0.1
Information, culture and recreation	24.5	23.1	23.0	1.4	6.1	1.5	6.5
Accommodation and food services	42.2	41.1	42.8	1.1	2.7	-0.6	-1.4
Other services	26.8	26.1	29.1	0.7	2.7	-2.3	-7.9
Public administration	33.9	33.6	31.0	0.3	0.9	2.9	9.4

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, except for the Parklands and North region. Simultaneously, the unemployment rates decreased in four of the six regions, with the exceptions being Southeast and Parklands North regions.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2017 ('000)	May 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2017 (%)	May 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	640.4	633.4	1.1	5.4	6.1	-0.7
Economic Regions						
Southeast	61.4	61.4	0.0	5.1	5.0	0.1
South Central and North Central	55.0	54.6	0.7	3.3	3.7	-0.4
Southwest	55.5	53.2	4.3	5.9	7.2	-1.3
Winnipeg	386.2	383.2	0.8	5.8	6.4	-0.6
Interlake	46.8	45.4	3.1	3.7	7.7	-4.0
Parklands and North	35.5	35.7	-0.6	5.8	4.8	1.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Southeast region did not experience major changes in overall employment within the past year. While the province lost jobs in the accommodation and food services industry, these were offset by strong gains in construction. Employment prospects in the construction industry could further improve should the proposed Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Line by Manitoba Hydro receive regulatory approval.

Employment growth was strongest in the Southwest region, which increased 4.3% since the same time last year. Job gains were most notable in health care and social assistance and in the wholesale and retail trade. Though the employment within the agriculture industry dropped sharply since last fall, growth is expected in the short term due to a need for seasonal employment. In addition, the Province is proposing to ease government restrictions and regulations for hog producers this summer.⁶

Employment in Winnipeg improved slightly, with growth of 0.8% over the previous year. The construction industry demonstrated strong growth, adding around 1,000 jobs this month, aided by the construction of the True North Square and other commercial construction developments. However, these jobs gains will be more than offset, with the announcement in April that Great-West Lifeco would eliminate 450 positions at its Winnipeg headquarters.⁷ Manitoba Hydro also announced in June that it would be providing voluntary buyouts to 818 employees of the targeted 900 positions to be eliminated in the province.⁸ And, the provincial government recently announced the termination of 197 management positions within Manitoba's Regional Health Authorities, with 132 positions located in Winnipeg.⁹

Parklands and the North region had shown a small decrease in employment by 0.6% in the past year. The region continues to be tied to the successes of the goods-producing sector, as job gains in the agriculture industry outpaced the job losses in the services-producing sector in the past year. However, the overall labour market may contract in the near future, as the number of mining projects near the end of their life spans. The construction of the Keeyask generating station and Bipole III projects, will continue to support employment prospects in the construction industry till their targeted completion dates of 2019-2021.

At the time of this report it has been announced that rail service to Churchill has been suspended until this winter due to flooding. This has caused disruption in a number of services and will have an adverse economic impact in a number of areas, including the summer tourist industry.

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

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¹ Source: 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 June 9, 2017)

² The Conference Board of Canada. *Provincial Outlook Executive Summary: Spring 2017*. Ottawa: the Conference Board of Canada.

³ CBC News. February 6, 2017 - *MPI, Liquor and Lotteries to trim 15%, Manitoba premier says*.
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/reduction-targets-for-manitoba-crowns-1.3969722>

⁴ The Conference Board of Canada. *Provincial Outlook Economic Forecast: Manitoba – Winter 2017*. Ottawa: the Conference Board of Canada, 2017.

⁵ Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 281-0049 ; Payroll employment, earnings and hours, December 2016 ; Accessed March 13, 2017
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170223/t001b-eng.htm>

⁶ Canadian Cattlemen. March 17, 2017 - *Manitoba to axe limits on hog barns*.
<https://www.canadiancattlemen.ca/daily/manitoba-to-axe-limits-on-hog-barns-winter-manure-spreading>.

⁷ CBC News. April 25, 2017 - *Great-West Life cuts 'a big hit for all at once' in Winnipeg*.
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/great-west-layoffs-1.4084794>

⁸ CBC News. June 1, 2017 - *More than 800 Manitoba Hydro employees take voluntary buyout*.
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/manitoba-hydro-voluntary-buyout-1.4142384>

⁹ CBC News. June 6, 2017 - *At least 197 management positions cut at Manitoba health authorities, agencies*.
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/wrha-management-cuts-1.4147950>