



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Newfoundland and Labrador

October 2015



This Labour Market Bulletin is a report providing an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, including the regions of Avalon Peninsula, West Coast—Northern Peninsula—Labrador, Notre Dame—Central Bonavista Bay and South Coast—Burin Peninsula.

### OVERVIEW

In October, the unemployment rate in Newfoundland and Labrador declined by 0.6 percentage points from the previous month to 13.0%. The size of the labour force declined while employment was relatively steady in comparison. Slight gains in full-time employment were offset by losses in part time work, resulting in a small decline in net employment. There was a small employment loss, but full-time employment showed a slight increase.

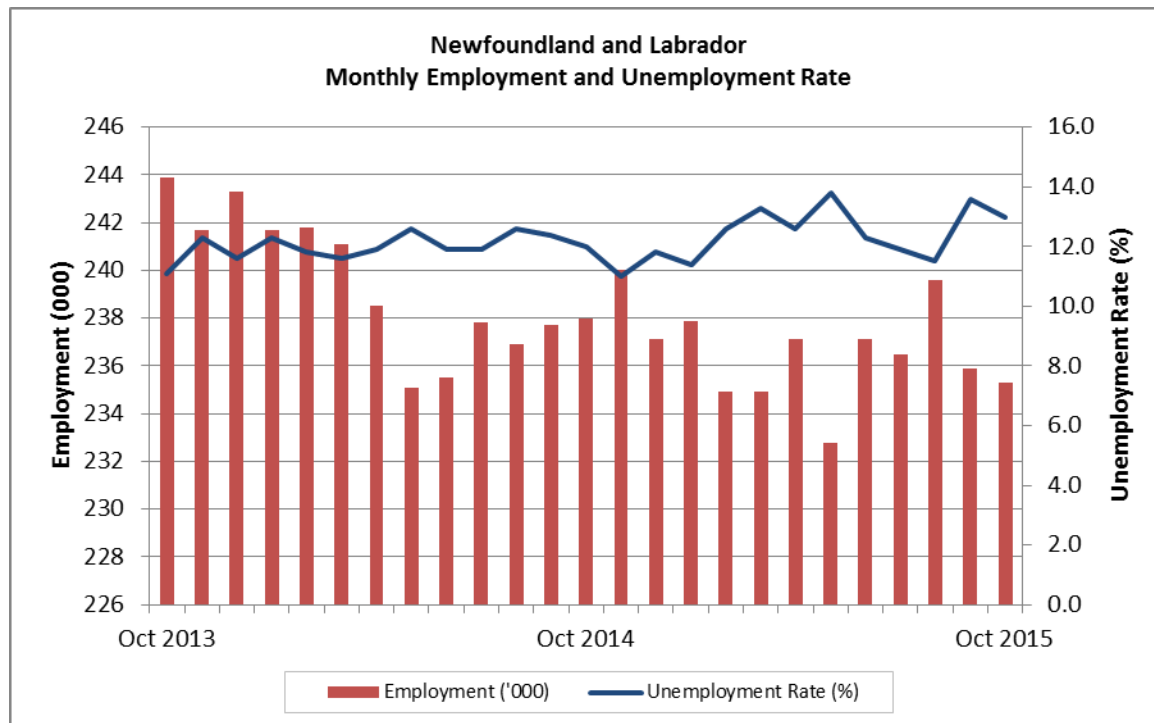
Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	442.7	442.5	443.4	0.2	0.0	-0.7	-0.2
Labour Force ('000)	270.4	272.9	270.4	-2.5	-0.9	0.0	0.0
Employment ('000)	235.3	235.9	238.0	-0.6	-0.3	-2.7	-1.1
Full-Time ('000)	200.6	199.9	201.4	0.7	0.4	-0.8	-0.4
Part-Time ('000)	34.7	36.0	36.6	-1.3	-3.6	-1.9	-5.2
Unemployment ('000)	35.1	37.0	32.4	-1.9	-5.1	2.7	8.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	13.0	13.6	12.0	-0.6	-	1.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	61.1	61.7	61.0	-0.6	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	53.2	53.3	53.7	-0.1	-	-0.5	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Employment decreased by 2,700 jobs from October 2014. Most of the losses were in part-time employment. While the employment levels are strong from a historical standpoint, they remain lower than the highs seen in late 2012 and early 2013. This was the second consecutive month with an unemployment rate of 13% or higher. The last time the unemployment rate was this elevated for two straight months was nearly four years ago.



The youth (aged 15 to 24 years) unemployment rate was 13.7% in October, a decrease of 6.5 percentage points from the month before and the second lowest rate on record for this group. Employment increased by 800 jobs in October compared to September, while the size of the labour force decreased by 1,900. Full-time employment increased by 1,700 jobs while part-time employment declined by 900 jobs.

The unemployment rate for men 25 years and older in October was unchanged from the month before, at 15.3%. Employment and the size of the labour force both showed small declines. Job losses were in part-time work. Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate is lower as employment is down by 2,400 jobs while the size of the labour force is virtually unchanged.

The unemployment rate in October for women 25 years and older was 10.1%, an increase of 0.8 percentage point from September. The size of the labour force increased by 300 while employment decreased by 600, raising the unemployment rate for this group of workers. Full-time employment decreased while part-time employment increased.

**Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	13.0	13.6	12.0	-0.6	1.0
<b>25 years and over</b>	12.9	12.5	11.3	0.4	1.6
Men - 25 years and over	15.3	15.3	13.4	0.0	1.9
Women - 25 years and over	10.1	9.3	9.0	0.8	1.1
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	13.7	20.2	16.8	-6.5	-3.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	15.9	30.1	21.3	-14.2	-5.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.6	9.9	12.4	1.7	-0.8

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

While the **Goods-producing sector** remained relatively flat, there were job losses in the **Services-producing sector** in October compared to September. Over the past twelve months, employment in the **Goods-producing sector** decreased by 6.7% or 3,800 jobs. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** increased by 1,100 jobs, or 0.6%.

In the **Goods-producing sector**, job gains from September in **Construction, Manufacturing, and Agriculture** were offset by losses of 1,600 jobs in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas**, which declined to its lowest employment level since October 2009. This was mainly due to losses in **Mining and Support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction**. There were job gains in **Construction** which kept the industry's employment at one of the strongest levels on record.

In the **Services-producing sector**, there were notable employment decreases in **Trade** as well as **Transportation and warehousing**. **Trade** experienced a decrease of 1,000 jobs between September and October, though employment remained at the second-highest level on record for the industry. **Transportation and warehousing** lost 2,300 jobs in October to reach a new low of 8,200 jobs. Employment in the industry had been declining over the past year, but not to the extent experienced in October. **Health care and social assistance** employment increased by 900 jobs, compared to September. After a declining trend over the past two years, **Public administration** experienced a strong gain of 1,500 jobs between September and October. This was the strongest monthly gain for the industry since April 2011.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	235.3	235.9	238.0	-0.6	-0.3	-2.7	-1.1
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	53.0	52.9	56.8	0.1	0.2	-3.8	-6.7
Agriculture	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.4	66.7	-0.4	-28.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	15.1	16.7	17.3	-1.6	-9.6	-2.2	-12.7
Utilities	2.3	2.2	2.5	0.1	4.5	-0.2	-8.0
Construction	23.2	22.8	24.7	0.4	1.8	-1.5	-6.1
Manufacturing	11.4	10.5	11.0	0.9	8.6	0.4	3.6
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	182.3	183.1	181.2	-0.8	-0.4	1.1	0.6
Trade	42.6	43.6	38.8	-1.0	-2.3	3.8	9.8
Transportation and warehousing	8.2	10.5	11.0	-2.3	-21.9	-2.8	-25.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	9.2	9.3	8.3	-0.1	-1.1	0.9	10.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.1	10.7	11.8	0.4	3.7	-0.7	-5.9
Business, building and other support services	7.7	7.5	6.0	0.2	2.7	1.7	28.3
Educational services	14.4	13.9	17.2	0.5	3.6	-2.8	-16.3
Health care and social assistance	38.1	37.2	36.6	0.9	2.4	1.5	4.1
Information, culture and recreation	7.0	7.4	7.4	-0.4	-5.4	-0.4	-5.4
Accommodation and food services	14.4	15.0	16.0	-0.6	-4.0	-1.6	-10.0
Other services	12.7	12.7	11.9	0.0	0.0	0.8	6.7
Public administration	16.8	15.3	16.2	1.5	9.8	0.6	3.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In October, there were job gains in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central – Bonavista Bay** economic region, while the **Avalon Peninsula** and **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** economic regions both experienced job losses. The unemployment rate increased notably from a year ago in the **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** economic region but declined significantly in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central - Bonavista Bay** economic region.

On the **Avalon Peninsula**, the unemployment rate was 8.5% in October, up 0.4 percentage points from twelve months ago. Both employment levels and the size of the labour force decreased over the twelve month period. Job losses were in full-time and part-time employment.

Most industries in the **Services-producing sector** had job losses from a year ago. However, **Business, building and other support services** increased by 1,100 jobs, while **Trade** gained 400 jobs. Job gains in the **Goods-producing sector** were mainly in **Manufacturing**, which increased by 1,200 jobs. **Manufacturing** has experienced gains for six consecutive months in this economic region.

The unemployment rate in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central - Bonavista Bay** economic region in October was 14.3%, a decrease of 2.8 percentage points from twelve months ago. Employment grew faster than the labour force over this period. Employment gains were in full-time work, while part-time employment showed a small decrease. Labour force and employment levels have increased for six straight months. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** increased by 5,600 jobs compared to twelve months earlier, and most of the gains were in **Trade**. Most of the job losses in the **Goods-producing sector** were in **Construction**.

In the **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** region, the unemployment rate increased to 15.8%, a change of 3.4 percentage points compared to October 2014. The size of the labour force remained relatively unchanged while employment declined, with the job losses occurring in full-time work. The **Services-producing sector** accounted for the job losses in the region in the last twelve months. This sector has recorded declines for ten straight months. **Educational services** and **Public administration** together accounted for 2,100 job losses (1,300 and 800 job losses respectively). In the **Goods-producing sector**, job gains were mainly in **Construction**, which has experienced an increase for five consecutive months.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Oct 2015 ('000)	Oct 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Oct 2015 (%)	Oct 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	242.9	242.8	0.0	11.4	11.2	0.2
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Avalon Peninsula	138.5	141.4	-2.1	8.5	8.1	0.4
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	60.0	55.6	7.9	14.3	17.1	-2.8
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	44.3	45.8	-3.3	15.8	12.4	3.4

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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