



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

August 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 August, gains in part-time jobs outpaced losses in full-time jobs in Newfoundland and Labrador. The unemployment rate decreased to 11.5%, down 0.4 percentage points from the previous month. The size of the labour force increased by 2,400 while employment increased by 3,100.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Aug 2015	July 2015	Aug 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	442.3	442.5	443.6	-0.2	0.0	-1.3	-0.3
Labour Force ('000)	270.7	268.3	271.1	2.4	0.9	-0.4	-0.1
Employment ('000)	239.6	236.5	236.9	3.1	1.3	2.7	1.1
Full-Time ('000)	204.3	205.5	200.9	-1.2	-0.6	3.4	1.7
Part-Time ('000)	35.3	31.0	36.0	4.3	13.9	-0.7	-1.9
Unemployment ('000)	31.1	31.8	34.2	-0.7	-2.2	-3.1	-9.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	11.5	11.9	12.6	-0.4	-	-1.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	61.2	60.6	61.1	0.6	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	54.2	53.4	53.4	0.8	-	0.8	-

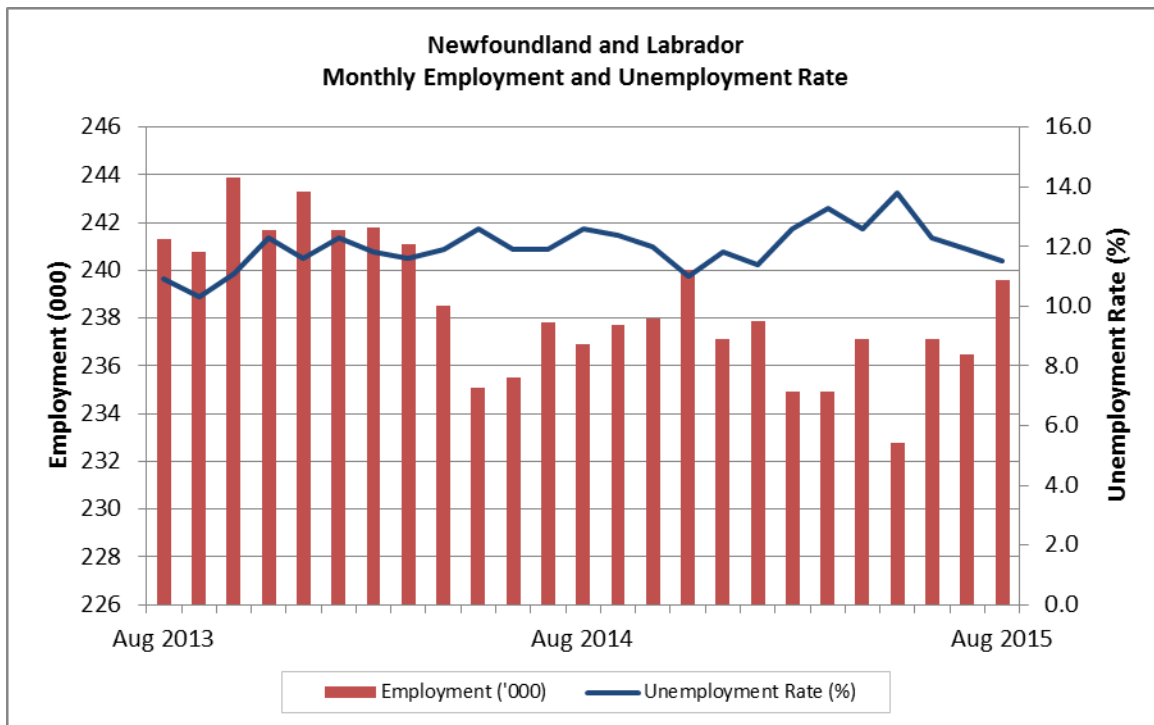
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Overall employment numbers increased by 2,700 jobs from August 2014 as notable gains in full-time employment completely offset a small decrease in part-time work. While the employment levels are strong from a historical standpoint, they remain lower than the highs seen in late 2012 and early 2013. August marked the second straight month that the unemployment rate was under 12% in the province. The unemployment rate has generally been between 11% and 13% for much of the past year.

Public sector employment has declined by 9.8% or 5,700 jobs over the past twelve months. In comparison, there are 8,600 more employees in the private sector compared to a year ago, which is an increase of 5.4%. Private

sector employment in August was the highest level on record for the province. Self-employment was virtually unchanged over August 2014.



The youth (aged 15 to 24 years) unemployment rate was 16.3% in August, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the month before. Employment decreased by 600 jobs in August compared to July, while the size of the labour force increased by 800. Youth employment has remained fairly consistent in recent months.

The unemployment rate for men 25 years and older was 13.3% in August, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from July. Compared to the previous month, the size of the labour force for this age group increased by 2,100, while employment increased by 1,800 jobs. The gains in employment were mainly in full-time work. Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate is lower as the size of the labour force has decreased while employment has increased.

The unemployment rate in August for women 25 years and older was 7.8%, a decrease of 1.0 percentage point from July, and the lowest unemployment rate for this group since November 2014. The size of the labour force decreased by 600 while employment increased by 600, lowering 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	Aug 2015	July 2015	Aug 2014	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	11.5	11.9	12.6	-0.4	-1.1
25 years and over	10.8	11.2	12.2	-0.4	-1.4
Men - 25 years and over	13.3	13.4	15.5	-0.1	-2.2
Women - 25 years and over	7.8	8.8	8.5	-1.0	-0.7
15 to 24 years	16.3	16.1	15.2	0.2	1.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	19.8	19.8	18.1	0.0	1.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	12.7	12.4	12.4	0.3	0.3

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

While the **Services-producing sector** remained relatively flat, there were job gains in the **Goods-producing sector** in August compared to July. Employment in the **Goods-producing sector** increased by 2,400 jobs compared to the previous month, marking the third straight month of increases in this sector. Over the past twelve months, employment in the **Goods-producing sector** increased by 4,300 jobs, while employment in the **Services-producing sector** decreased by 1,600 jobs.

In the **Goods-producing sector**, **Construction** industry employment increased by 1,800 jobs in August, compared to the previous month, and there were 2,000 more jobs in the industry than there were twelve months ago. The gains in **Construction** employment in August brings the industry near the record high level of 27,700 reached in October 2014.

Manufacturing employment was up 700 jobs in August compared to the previous month, and increased by 2,400 jobs compared to twelve months ago. Major project activity has kept employment levels strong in durable manufacturing industries.

In the **Services-producing sector**, there were slight employment decreases in **Educational services** and **Trade**, which showed a combined decline of 1,200 jobs between July and August 2015. Compared to August 2014, employment in **Educational services** has decreased by 2,700 jobs. There was a notable gain of 1,100 jobs in the **Transportation and warehousing** industry in August compared to the previous month. However, employment in this industry remains lower when compared to August 2014.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Aug 2015	July 2015	Aug 2014	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	239.6	236.5	236.9	3.1	1.3	2.7	1.1
Goods-producing sector	57.7	55.3	53.4	2.4	4.3	4.3	8.1
Agriculture	0.8	1.3	0.8	-0.5	-38.5	0.0	0.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	17.6	16.6	17.3	1.0	6.0	0.3	1.7
Utilities	2.4	2.9	2.6	-0.5	-17.2	-0.2	-7.7
Construction	24.4	22.6	22.4	1.8	8.0	2.0	8.9
Manufacturing	12.6	11.9	10.2	0.7	5.9	2.4	23.5
Services-producing sector	181.9	181.2	183.5	0.7	0.4	-1.6	-0.9
Trade	40.6	41.2	38.6	-0.6	-1.5	2.0	5.2
Transportation and warehousing	11.1	10.0	11.7	1.1	11.0	-0.6	-5.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	8.0	7.6	8.9	0.4	5.3	-0.9	-10.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.4	11.3	11.2	0.1	0.9	0.2	1.8
Business, building and other support services	7.4	7.2	6.6	0.2	2.8	0.8	12.1
Educational services	13.8	14.4	16.5	-0.6	-4.2	-2.7	-16.4
Health care and social assistance	38.4	38.0	38.8	0.4	1.1	-0.4	-1.0
Information, culture and recreation	7.4	8.0	7.2	-0.6	-7.5	0.2	2.8
Accommodation and food services	15.7	15.0	14.8	0.7	4.7	0.9	6.1
Other services	12.7	12.7	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.9	7.6
Public administration	15.4	15.6	17.4	-0.2	-1.3	-2.0	-11.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In August, there were job gains in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central – Bonavista Bay** economic regions, while the **Avalon Peninsula** and **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** economic regions both experienced a small number of job losses. The unemployment rate showed little change from a year ago in the **Avalon Peninsula** economic region but experienced significant decreases in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central – Bonavista Bay** economic regions.

On the **Avalon Peninsula**, the unemployment rate was 8.3% in August, down 0.1 percentage points from twelve months ago. Both employment levels and the size of the labour force decreased slightly over the 12 month period. An increase of 3,000 full-time jobs was offset by a decrease of 3,500 part-time jobs.

With the exception of **Trade**, which gained 700 jobs over the past year, the **Avalon Peninsula** experienced notable job losses in the **Services-producing sector** in August. There were job losses in **Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing** (-1,500 jobs), **Educational services** (1,000 jobs), and **Public Administration** which had 900 fewer jobs over the past year. Job gains in the **Good-producing sector** were mainly in the **Manufacturing industry**, which increased by 1,500 jobs.

The unemployment rate in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central – Bonavista Bay** economic region in August was 13.4%, a decrease of 2.1 percentage points from twelve months ago. Employment grew faster than the labour force on a year-over-year basis. Most of the employment gains were in full-time work, with a slight decrease of 400 part-time jobs. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** increased by 3,600 jobs compared to twelve months earlier, and most of the gains were in **Trade**. Job losses in the **Goods-producing sector** were evenly split between **Construction** and **Forestry, fishing, mining and oil & gas**.

In the **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** region, the unemployment rate increased to 14.2%, a change of 1.3 percentage points compared to August 2014. The size of the labour force remained unchanged while employment declined, with most of 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. **Trade, Educational services and Healthcare and social assistance** together accounted for 3,400 job losses (1,000, 1,300 and 1,100 job losses respectively). In the **Goods-producing sector**, job gains were mainly in **Construction**.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Aug 2015 ('000)	Aug 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Aug 2015 (%)	Aug 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Newfoundland and Labrador	250.6	249.2	0.6	10.8	11.1	-0.3
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	141.3	141.9	-0.4	8.3	8.4	-0.1
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	62.9	60.3	4.3	13.4	15.5	-2.1
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	46.4	47.1	-1.5	14.2	12.9	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.

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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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