



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador



September 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 Newfoundland and Labrador, employment increased by 1,700 jobs between Q2 and Q3 2015. During this period, the size of the labour force was unchanged. As a result, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 12.3%.

Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate has risen due to a decrease in employment and an increase in the labour force. The labour force had 1,600 more people than a year ago, while employment declined by 700 jobs. Labour force size and overall employment levels are virtually unchanged from a year ago. However, it is notable that full-time employment increased by 3,000 while part-time employment had a similar loss.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
	2015	2015	2014	Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	442.4	443.0	443.6	-0.5	-0.1	-1.2	-0.3
Labour Force ('000)	270.6	270.6	270.8	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Employment ('000)	237.3	235.7	237.5	1.7	0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Full-Time ('000)	203.2	202.7	200.2	0.5	0.3	3.0	1.5
Part-Time ('000)	34.1	33.0	37.2	1.1	3.4	-3.1	-8.3
Unemployment ('000)	33.3	34.9	33.3	-1.6	-4.7	0.0	-0.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	12.3	12.9	12.3	-0.6	-	0.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	61.2	61.1	61.0	0.1	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	53.6	53.2	53.5	0.4	-	0.1	-

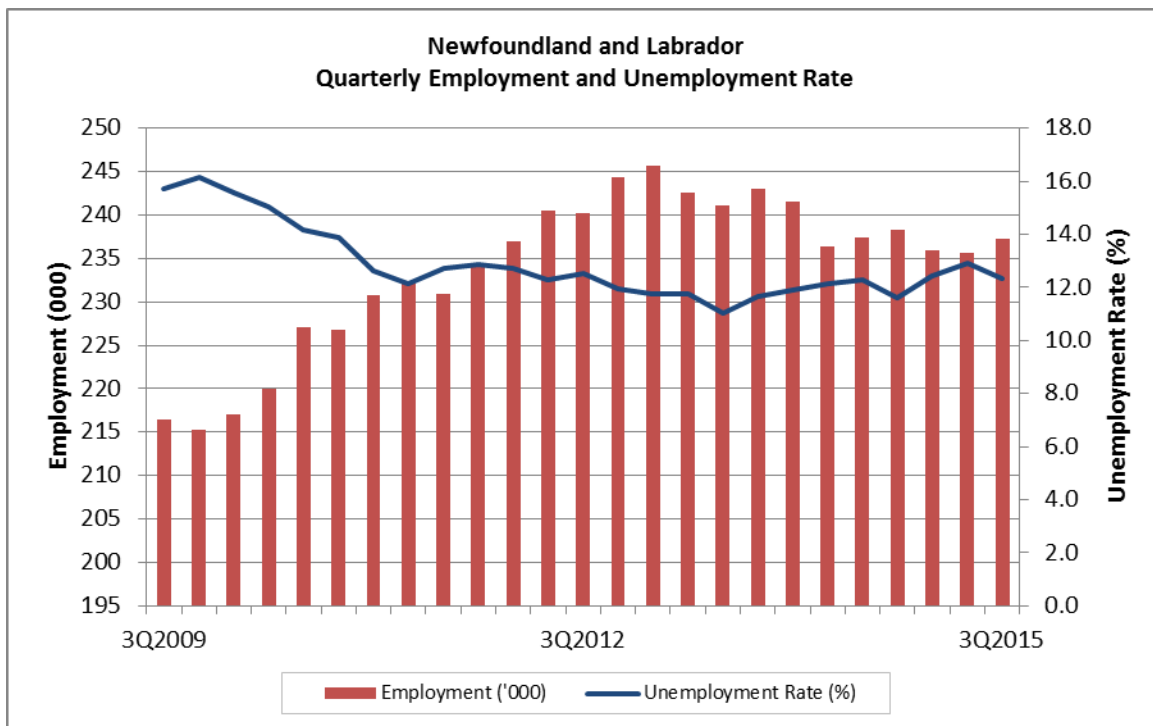
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

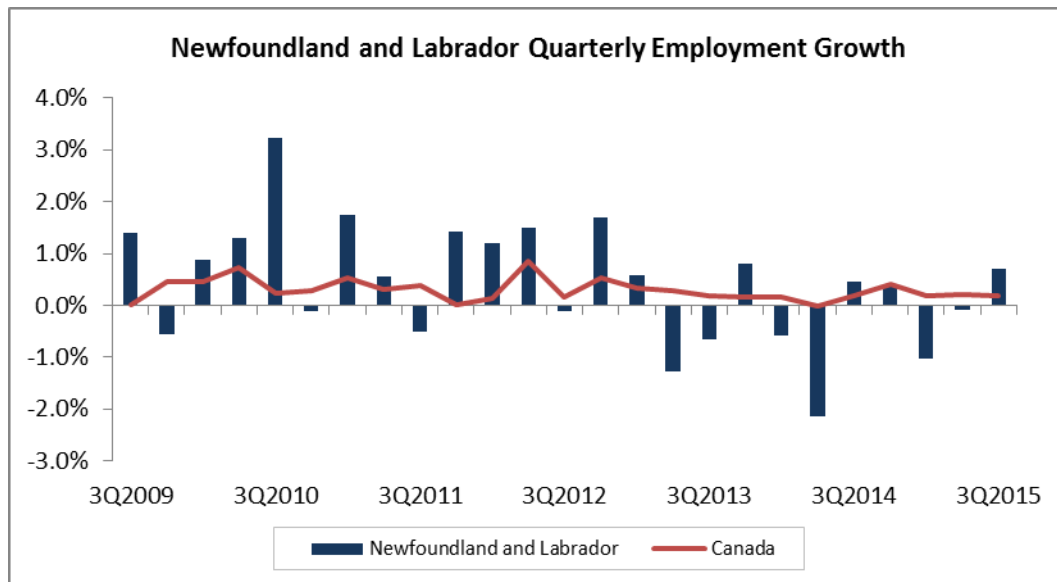
After reaching a record high in the first quarter of 2013, employment has continued to trend downward in Newfoundland and Labrador. This has been mainly due to job losses in **Public administration, Educational services, and Health care and social assistance**. However, **Construction** employment remains quite strong in the prov-

ince, higher than same period last year but slightly below a record quarterly high in Q4 2014. A key contributor to **Construction** employment has been the presence of major projects in oil and gas as well as hydroelectricity.

A broader look at the data shows the province’s unemployment rate has been on an upward trend since it reached a quarterly low of 10.8% in the third quarter of 2013, mostly due to a decrease in employment as the size of the labour force remained relatively flat since then.



Since 2013 the province has generally lagged behind the country in its pace of employment growth. However, in Q3 2015 job growth in the province (0.7%) was stronger than the national rate of job growth (0.2%). This follows two quarters in which provincial employment declined slightly and was the first quarter since Q3 of 2014 where the provincial rate of employment growth exceeded the national rate.



The unemployment rate for those aged 25 years and older decreased from 12.2% in the second quarter to 11.5% in the third quarter of 2015. Employment increased by 2,100 jobs while the labour force remained fairly stable. Employment levels for this age group are fairly strong from a historical perspective. However, employment levels have been on a generally downward trend since the last quarter of 2013.

For males 25 years and older, the unemployment rate decreased from 14.5% in the second quarter to 14.0% in the third quarter. Compared to the previous quarter, an increase in the labour force of 1,500 was outpaced by a gain in employment of 2,000 jobs, with 1,500 of these jobs being full-time in nature. Compared to the same quarter last year, employment is relatively unchanged, with 1,300 being offset by a loss of 1,400 part-time jobs. The labour force decreased by 1,800, bringing the unemployment rate down from 15.1% a year ago.

For females 25 years and older, the unemployment rate decreased to 8.6% from 9.7% in the previous quarter. While employment remained fairly stable, the size of the labour force declined by 1,200 for this group. Employment is down slightly from the third quarter of last year, while the labour force showed little change, increasing the unemployment rate by 0.3 percentage points compared to the third quarter of last year.

For youth (aged 15 to 24), the unemployment rate remained at 17.5% as employment and the size of the labour force both experienced very small declines. The unemployment rate is relatively low from a historical perspective for this age group but has been trending upwards since the third quarter of 2014, as the labour force has grown somewhat faster than employment. The youth unemployment rate is notably up compared to the third quarter of last year, when it was 15.0%. While employment for this group increased by 400 jobs from a year ago, the labour force by 1,600 people.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Quarterly Variation	Yearly Variation
	2015 (%)	2015 (%)	2014 (%)	(% points)	(% points)
Total	12.3	12.9	12.3	-0.6	0.0
25 years and over	11.5	12.2	11.9	-0.7	-0.4
Men - 25 years and over	14.0	14.5	15.1	-0.5	-1.1
Women - 25 years and over	8.6	9.7	8.3	-1.0	0.3
15 to 24 years	17.5	17.5	15.0	0.1	2.6
Men - 15 to 24 years	23.2	24.7	18.7	-1.5	4.6
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.7	11.5	11.7	0.2	0.0

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In the third quarter of 2015, the **Goods-producing sector** gained 1,800 jobs compared to the previous quarter. **Construction** employment increased by 1,400 jobs, remaining strong from a historical perspective. Employment in **Manufacturing** increased by 800 jobs, showing notable growth from a year ago.

The **Services-producing sector** was virtually unchanged in the third quarter of 2015. Overall employment in this sector has levelled off in 2015 after declining from a record high over the previous two years. Employment is slightly below levels reported for the same period a year ago. **Trade** employment reached a new quarterly high for the second straight quarter. **Health care and social assistance** showed a quarterly gain for the first time in a year. This left employment levels in this industry nearly the same as they were a year ago. **Professional, scientific and technical services** declined from the previous quarter's record high. However, the number of jobs in this industry remains quite strong. This is related major project activity in oil and gas, as well as hydroelectricity. **Educational services** lost 1,800 jobs in the third quarter. This industry has shown declines over the past two years. Employment is down by 3,300 jobs from a year ago. **Accommodation and food services** experienced a loss of 1,000 jobs in the third quarter, compared to the previous quarter. Employment in this industry was growing through 2015 until the most recent quarter. The number of jobs in this industry is relatively unchanged when compared to a year ago. Employment in **Public administration** declined by 300 jobs compared to the previous quarter, continuing a downward trend that has been seen for more than a year. Employment in this industry was down by 1,800 jobs from a year ago.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	3rd Quarter 2015	2nd Quarter 2015	3rd Quarter 2014	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	237.3	235.7	237.5	1.7	0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Goods-producing sector	55.3	53.5	53.6	1.8	3.4	1.7	3.2
Agriculture	0.9	1.7	1.0	-0.8	-48.1	-0.1	-10.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	17.0	16.3	17.3	0.7	4.3	-0.3	-1.7
Utilities	2.5	2.8	2.6	-0.3	-9.6	-0.1	-3.8
Construction	23.3	21.8	22.5	1.4	6.6	0.8	3.4
Manufacturing	11.7	10.9	10.1	0.8	7.4	1.6	15.5
Services-producing sector	182.1	182.2	183.9	-0.1	-0.1	-1.9	-1.0
Trade	41.8	40.9	38.9	0.9	2.3	2.9	7.5
Transportation and warehousing	10.5	10.7	11.9	-0.1	-1.3	-1.4	-11.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	8.3	8.0	8.7	0.3	3.8	-0.4	-4.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.1	11.8	11.2	-0.6	-5.4	0.0	-0.3
Business, building and other support services	7.4	6.5	6.6	0.8	12.8	0.8	12.2
Educational services	14.0	15.8	17.3	-1.8	-11.4	-3.3	-19.0
Health care and social assistance	37.9	36.6	38.0	1.3	3.5	-0.1	-0.3
Information, culture and recreation	7.6	7.3	7.5	0.3	4.1	0.1	0.9
Accommodation and food services	15.2	16.2	15.2	-1.0	-6.0	0.1	0.4
Other services	12.7	12.7	11.5	0.0	0.0	1.2	10.4
Public administration	15.4	15.8	17.3	-0.3	-2.1	-1.8	-10.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

On the **Avalon Peninsula**, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points from a year ago to 8.6%. Employment declined slightly faster than the size of the labour force. While full-time employment increased by 600 jobs, part-time employment declined by 2,400. The **Goods-producing sector** grew by 1,700 jobs compared to the same period a year ago, mainly in **Manufacturing**. Employment decreased by 3,600 jobs in the **Services-producing sector** over the same period last year. While **Trade** employment increased by 900 jobs, there were notable losses in **Accommodation and food services**, as well as **Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing**.

The **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central–Bonavista Bay** region's unemployment rate was 13.4% in the third quarter of 2015, down from 15.7% twelve months earlier. Employment increased by 3,500 jobs over the same period last year, while the size of the labour force increased by 2,200. The job gains were in full-time employment. This was the second straight quarter with employment and labour force gains after experiencing five straight quarters of losses. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** showed a gain of 4,700 jobs from a year ago. This was mainly in **Trade**. In the **Goods-producing sector**, employment declined by 1,300 jobs over the past twelve months, mainly in **Construction**.

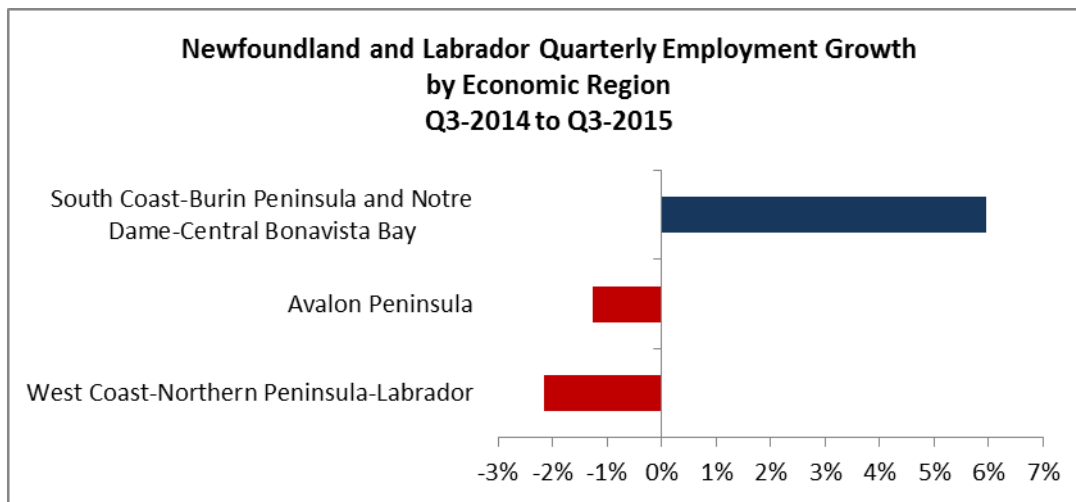
In the **West Coast–Northern Peninsula–Labrador** region, the unemployment rate increased to 14.7% in the third quarter of 2015, from 13.1% a year earlier. Employment decreased by 1,000 jobs over the same period last year, while the size of the labour force was relatively unchanged. The job losses were in full-time employment. This was the third straight quarter with employment losses. The third quarter's employment gain was mainly in the **Goods-producing sector** and occurred predominantly in **Construction**. The **Services-producing sector** experienced losses of 2,800 jobs, with most of the decrease happening in **Educational services, Health care and social assistance, and Trade**.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	3rd Quarter 2015 ('000)	3rd Quarter 2014 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	3rd Quarter 2015 (%)	3rd Quarter 2014 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Newfoundland and Labrador	247.8	247.2	0.2	11.0	11.1	-0.1
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	140.3	142.1	-1.3	8.6	8.4	0.2
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	62.2	58.7	6.0	13.4	15.7	-2.3
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	45.4	46.4	-2.2	14.7	13.1	1.6

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.

Prepared by: Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Atlantic Region

For further information, please contact Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Atlantic Region at: NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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