



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

January 2016



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 January, the unemployment rate in Newfoundland and Labrador was unchanged from the prior month at 14.4%. The size of the labour force declined at virtually the same rate as employment. Most of the employment decline was in part-time work. Compared to a year ago, the labour force was relatively unchanged in size, while employment has fallen by 7,400 jobs, concentrated in full-time employment. This has brought the unemployment rate up by nearly three percentage points over this time.

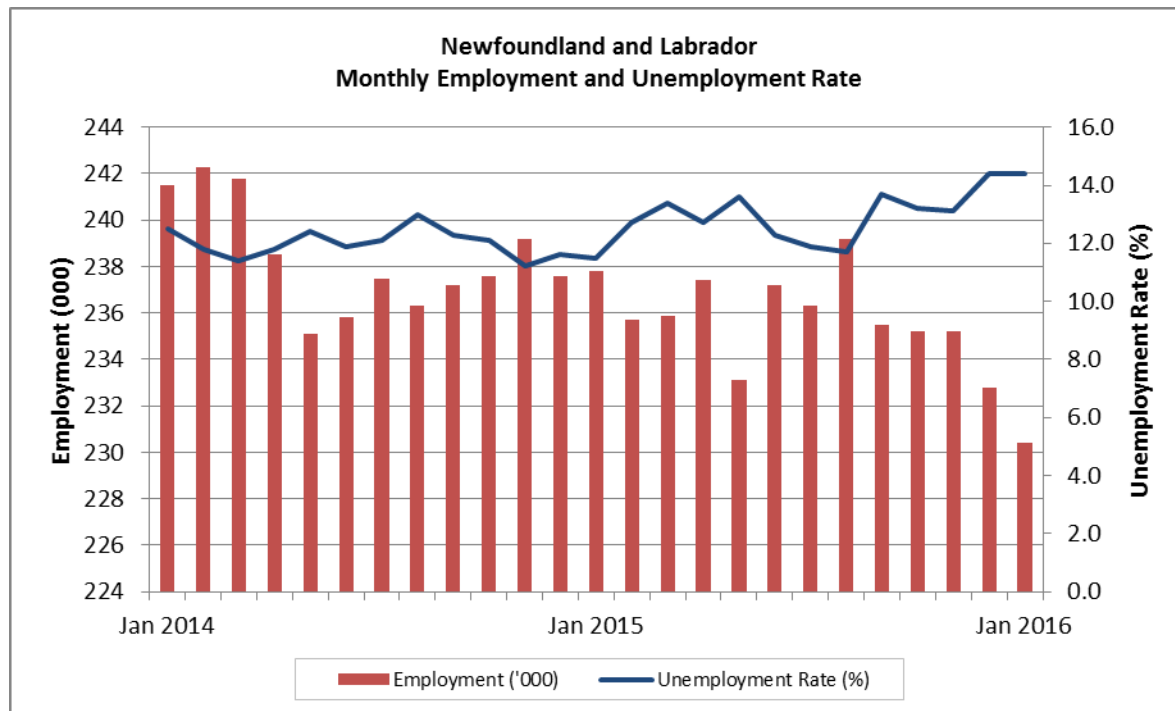
Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15+ ('000)	443.3	443.0	443.4	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Labour Force ('000)	269.2	272.1	268.7	-2.9	-1.1	0.5	0.2
Employment ('000)	230.4	232.8	237.8	-2.4	-1.0	-7.4	-3.1
Full-Time ('000)	193.8	194.7	201.4	-0.9	-0.5	-7.6	-3.8
Part-Time ('000)	36.7	38.1	36.4	-1.4	-3.7	0.3	0.8
Unemployment ('000)	38.8	39.3	30.9	-0.5	-1.3	7.9	25.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	14.4	14.4	11.5	0.0	-	2.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	60.7	61.4	60.6	-0.7	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	52.0	52.6	53.6	-0.6	-	-1.6	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

The decrease in employment has been particularly strong since August of 2015, with employment declining by 8,800 jobs. In addition, the losses have been in full-time work. This was the fifth consecutive month with an unemployment rate of 13% or higher. The last time the unemployment rate was this elevated for five straight months was in 2010.



The youth (aged 15 to 24 years) unemployment rate was 18.0% in January, an increase of 1.2 percentage points from the previous month. Employment decreased by 300 jobs in January compared to December 2015, while the size of the labour force increased by 300. Full-time employment decreased by 900 jobs while part-time employment increased by 600 jobs. The participation rate for this group reached a new high of 68.0% in January. The youth population has been decreasing over the past year, while the labour force has shown a slight increasing trend.

The unemployment rate for men 25 years and older in January decreased by 0.6 percentage points from the month before to 16.7%. The size of the labour force decreased faster than employment. Job losses were in full-time work. Compared to a year ago, the unemployment rate is 3.5 percentage points higher as employment is down by 5,300 jobs while the size of the labour force has declined by 1,200. The employment decrease has happened mainly since August of 2015.

The unemployment rate in October for women 25 years and older was 10.7%, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from December. The size of the labour force decreased by 1,000 while employment decreased by 1,100. Job losses were in part-time work. Full-time employment showed a gain of 1,800 jobs.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	14.4	14.4	11.5	0.0	2.9
25 years and over	13.8	14.1	11.3	-0.3	2.5
Men - 25 years and over	16.7	17.3	13.2	-0.6	3.5
Women - 25 years and over	10.7	10.5	9.1	0.2	1.6
15 to 24 years	18.0	16.8	13.1	1.2	4.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	22.3	19.6	18.8	2.7	3.5
Women - 15 to 24 years	13.5	14.8	8.5	-1.3	5.0

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Most of the job losses in the past month were in the **Goods-producing sector**. The **Services-producing sector** also declined, but to a lesser extent. Over the past twelve months, employment in the **Goods-producing sector** decreased by 9.4% or 5,200 jobs. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** decreased by 2,100 jobs, or 1.2%, over the past year.

In the **Goods-producing sector**, job losses were focused in **Construction** while other goods-producing industries were relatively unchanged. **Construction** employment decreased by 1,300 jobs compared to December. With the exception of May of last year, **Construction** employment levels have not been this low since October of 2012. Employment in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas** has decreased by 1,400 jobs or 8.5%. This was mainly due to losses in **Mining** and **Support activities for mining and oil and gas extraction**.

The **Services-producing sector** showed a loss of 800 jobs in January compared to December. Results were mixed throughout the sector. **Trade** gained 300 jobs to reach the second-highest employment level on record for the industry. Employment in **Transportation and warehousing** increased for the third straight month after reaching a historic low of 8,200 in October 2015. **Professional, scientific and technical services** declined by 500 jobs from the month before, leaving employment in the industry virtually the same as a year ago. This industry reached a record high of 12,100 in June of last year and has been on a downward trend since then. Employment in **Educational services** decreased by 800 jobs compared to December and down by 2,400 jobs from a year ago. **Public administration** has experienced a declining trend over the past two years, showing a decline in employment or no change in 18 of the past 24 months.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	230.4	232.8	237.8	-2.4	-1.0	-7.4	-3.1
Goods-producing sector	50.2	51.7	55.4	-1.5	-2.9	-5.2	-9.4
Agriculture	1.1	1.2	1.9	-0.1	-8.3	-0.8	-42.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	15.1	15.3	16.5	-0.2	-1.3	-1.4	-8.5
Utilities	2.5	2.3	2.4	0.2	8.7	0.1	4.2
Construction	20.6	21.9	22.6	-1.3	-5.9	-2.0	-8.8
Manufacturing	10.9	11.0	12.1	-0.1	-0.9	-1.2	-9.9
Services-producing sector	180.3	181.1	182.4	-0.8	-0.4	-2.1	-1.2
Trade	43.5	43.2	40.4	0.3	0.7	3.1	7.7
Transportation and warehousing	9.5	9.1	11.1	0.4	4.4	-1.6	-14.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	8.7	8.8	7.6	-0.1	-1.1	1.1	14.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.8	11.3	10.9	-0.5	-4.4	-0.1	-0.9
Business, building and other support services	7.9	8.3	7.0	-0.4	-4.8	0.9	12.9
Educational services	14.1	14.9	16.5	-0.8	-5.4	-2.4	-14.5
Health care and social assistance	38.5	38.9	37.5	-0.4	-1.0	1.0	2.7
Information, culture and recreation	6.8	5.9	7.2	0.9	15.3	-0.4	-5.6
Accommodation and food services	14.6	14.2	16.1	0.4	2.8	-1.5	-9.3
Other services	12.5	12.4	11.4	0.1	0.8	1.1	9.6
Public administration	13.4	14.2	16.6	-0.8	-5.6	-3.2	-19.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In January, there were job losses on the **Avalon Peninsula** compared to twelve months earlier. Other economic regions in the province experienced increases in the number of jobs over the same period. The unemployment rate decreased from a year ago for all three economic regions.

On the **Avalon Peninsula**, the unemployment rate was 9.9% in January, up 2.0 percentage points from twelve months ago. Employment was down by 7,300 jobs, while the size of the labour force declined by 4,800. Job losses were in full-time employment. Employment and labour force size have both declined for six straight months, with the decreases becoming larger each month over this period.

Most of the job losses on the **Avalon Peninsula** were in the **Services-producing sector**. **Health care and social assistance** decreased by 2,400 jobs from a year ago while **Public administration** (-1,700), **Accommodation and food services** (-1,300), and **Transportation and warehousing** (-1,100) also had steep declines in employment. However, the largest drop in employment was in **Construction**, which showed losses of 2,900 jobs from twelve months earlier. This was the industry's fifth straight month with a decline in employment in this economic region.

The unemployment rate in the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central - Bonavista Bay** economic region in January was 21.0%, an increase of 1.6 percentage points from twelve months ago. Despite an increase of 1,200 jobs over January of 2015, the unemployment rate was higher because the size of the labour force grew faster (+2,900) than employment 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 nine straight months. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** increased by 3,500 jobs compared to twelve months earlier, led by gains in **Health care and social assistance** as well as **Trade**. However, **Educational services**

experienced losses of 2,000 jobs, the sixth straight month with a decline in employment. The **Goods-producing sector** lost 2,200 jobs, mostly in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas**.

In the **West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador** region, the unemployment rate increased to 20.0%, a change of 5.0 percentage points compared to January 2015. The size of the labour force increased by 4,400, or 9.0%, over this period. In comparison, employment gains in the economic region were not as strong, with an increase of 1,100 jobs. The job gains were mainly in part-time work. The **Services-producing sector** led the increase with gains of 1,800 jobs from twelve months prior. It was the sector's first increase in employment since December 2014. **Trade** led the increase with 2,500 more jobs than a year ago. Results in the rest of the sector were mixed, including losses of 1,200 jobs in **Accommodation and food services**. The **Goods-producing sector** lost 700 jobs as **Construction** job gains (+1,200) were outweighed by losses in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas** (-1,800). Other industries in the **Goods-producing sector** showed little change in their employment levels.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Jan 2016 ('000)	Jan 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Jan 2016 (%)	Jan 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Newfoundland and Labrador	227.0	232.0	-2.2	14.6	11.9	2.7
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	133.4	140.7	-5.2	9.9	7.9	2.0
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	51.1	49.9	2.4	21.0	19.4	1.6
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	42.5	41.4	2.7	20.0	15.0	5.0

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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