



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

November 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

Employment in Newfoundland and Labrador edged down in November compared to the previous month. Strong gains in full-time jobs were outweighed by a larger decline in part-time work. The unemployment rate decreased from the previous month because there was a large drop in the size of the labour force.

Since November 2012, full-time employment has fallen by 18,300 while part-time jobs have risen by 3,100. During this period the unemployment rate has risen by 2.2 percentage points even though there has been a notable decline in the size of the labour force.

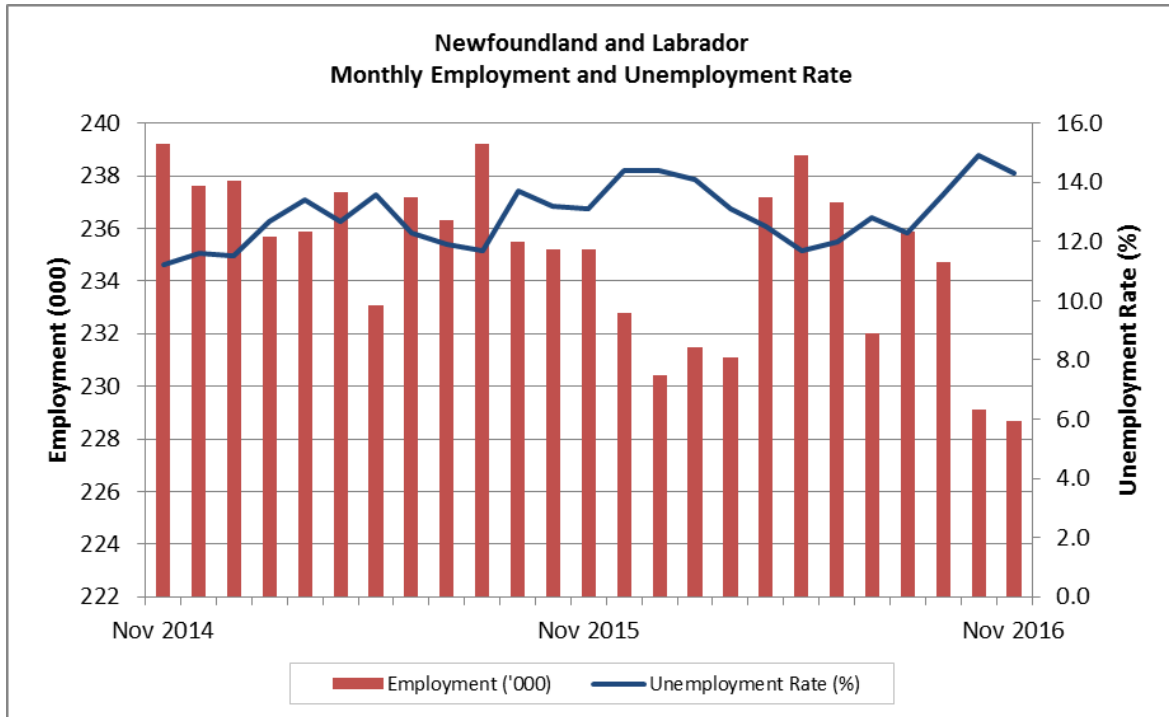
Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Nov 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15+ ('000)	444.8	444.8	442.9	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.4
Labour Force ('000)	267.0	269.3	270.8	-2.3	-0.9	-3.8	-1.4
Employment ('000)	228.7	229.1	235.2	-0.4	-0.2	-6.5	-2.8
Full-Time ('000)	192.5	190.0	200.1	2.5	1.3	-7.6	-3.8
Part-Time ('000)	36.1	39.1	35.1	-3.0	-7.7	1.0	2.8
Unemployment ('000)	38.3	40.2	35.6	-1.9	-4.7	2.7	7.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	14.3	14.9	13.1	-0.6	-	1.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	60.0	60.5	61.1	-0.5	-	-1.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	51.4	51.5	53.1	-0.1	-	-1.7	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Employment levels have fluctuated over the past two years in Newfoundland and Labrador. There has been a slight increase in part-time employment over this period while full-time employment has trended downward. Overall, employment is 2,400 less in November than it was two years previously. The unemployment rate has been trending upward, being 3.1 percentage points higher in November compared to two years earlier.



The youth (aged 15 to 24 years) unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points in November compared to the previous month, rising above the 20% mark for only the third time since the beginning of 2014. An influx of younger workers into the labour force was responsible for the increase in both the level and rate of unemployment. Full-time employment grew for this age group but this was partially offset by part-time job losses.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Nov 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2015	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	14.3	14.9	13.1	-0.6	1.2
25 years and over	13.3	14.2	13.2	-0.9	0.1
Men - 25 years and over	15.4	17.8	15.8	-2.4	-0.4
Women - 25 years and over	11.0	10.2	10.3	0.8	0.7
15 to 24 years	21.1	19.6	12.7	1.5	8.4
Men - 15 to 24 years	26.0	24.7	16.8	1.3	9.2
Women - 15 to 24 years	16.1	14.6	8.7	1.5	7.4

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

The unemployment rate for those 25 years and older decreased by 0.9 percentage points as the labour force declined faster than employment. Large reductions in part-time jobs overshadowed increases in full-time employment. Males accounted for virtually all of the labour force decline for this age group. The unemployment rate declined for males, while females experienced an increase for the third month in a row.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In November, there were job gains in the **Goods-producing sector** compared to the previous month but these were overshadowed by employment declines in the **Services-producing sector**. Over the past twelve months,

employment in the Goods-producing sector decreased by 3.6% or 1,900 jobs, while the Services-producing sector decreased by 4,600 jobs, or 2.5%.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Nov 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	228.7	229.1	235.2	-0.4	-0.2	-6.5	-2.8
Goods-producing sector	50.9	50.0	52.8	0.9	1.8	-1.9	-3.6
Agriculture	2.1	1.6	1.1	0.5	31.3	1.0	90.9
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	14.0	14.1	15.0	-0.1	-0.7	-1.0	-6.7
Utilities	3.0	3.1	2.2	-0.1	-3.2	0.8	36.4
Construction	22.8	22.0	23.3	0.8	3.6	-0.5	-2.1
Manufacturing	8.9	9.1	11.2	-0.2	-2.2	-2.3	-20.5
Services-producing sector	177.8	179.2	182.4	-1.4	-0.8	-4.6	-2.5
Trade	39.9	41.6	43.1	-1.7	-4.1	-3.2	-7.4
Transportation and warehousing	9.7	9.8	8.8	-0.1	-1.0	0.9	10.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	7.2	7.3	8.6	-0.1	-1.4	-1.4	-16.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.4	10.4	11.4	0.0	0.0	-1.0	-8.8
Business, building and other support services	6.6	6.4	7.7	0.2	3.1	-1.1	-14.3
Educational services	14.4	14.4	14.7	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-2.0
Health care and social assistance	39.1	39.5	38.5	-0.4	-1.0	0.6	1.6
Information, culture and recreation	7.1	7.1	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Accommodation and food services	15.8	15.6	14.3	0.2	1.3	1.5	10.5
Other services	11.9	11.4	12.9	0.5	4.4	-1.0	-7.8
Public administration	15.5	15.8	15.4	-0.3	-1.9	0.1	0.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

The largest monthly employment gains in the Goods-producing sector were in the **Construction** industry (+800) while **Agriculture** also increased. Employment edged down fairly evenly among the remaining industries in this sector. Construction employment has been generally declining over the past two years as major projects have passed their peak construction phases. Manufacturing employment has had a downward trend due to lower commodity prices¹.

In the **Services-producing sector**, most of the industries experienced small monthly changes in November 2016. The bulk of the employment losses occurred in the **Wholesale and retail trade** industry (-1,700). Declining employment has led to reduced consumer spending². Employment levels in Retail Trade fell below 40,000 for the first time since December 2014. Employment levels in **Health and social assistance** have been increasing since October 2014.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

On the **Avalon Peninsula** the unemployment rate increased despite strong gains in employment. Both full-time and part-time employment grew between November 2015 and 2016 but there was an even larger increase in the labour force. As a result of the large increase in the size of the labour force the level and rate of unemployment went up. This region has shown employment and labour force gains in recent months. Employment levels in both the **Services-producing sector** and **Goods-producing sector** have risen, and growth in the Services-producing sector has been three times higher than in Goods-producing. The industries within the Services sector with the largest employment gains were **Health care and social assistance; Accommodations and food services; Trans-**

¹ The Conference Board of Canada, [Provincial Outlook – Provincial Outlook](#), Summer 2016, p. ii

² The Conference Board of Canada, [Provincial Outlook – Newfoundland and Labrador](#), Summer 2016, p. 3

portation and warehousing; and Wholesale and retail trade. Construction was the main driver of employment growth in the Goods-producing sector.

In the **South Coast – Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame – Central – Bonavista Bay** economic region part-time employment gains were considerably outweighed by decreases in full-time work, resulting in a net decline of 5,000 jobs. The labour force also declined but at a slower rate than employment. This increased the unemployment rate by 1.3 percentage points. Most of the employment reduction was in the **Services-producing** sector. As with most of the province there were large reductions in the **Wholesale and retail trade** industries. **Transportation and warehousing** also showed large job losses. The **Educational services** industry had significant employment gains. There were fewer jobs in the **Goods-producing sector** mainly due to job losses in the **Construction** industry.

The West Coast – Northern Peninsula – Labrador was the only economic region in the province to experience a decrease in the unemployment rate between November 2015 and 2016. The Region's unemployment rate fell for the eighth straight month but this reduction resulted from people leaving the labour force. There were small gains in part-time employment which were outweighed by large losses in full-time jobs. Unlike the rest of the province, there were larger job losses in the **Goods-producing sector** (-2,000) in this economic region with most of the employment reduction occurring in the **Construction** industry. Employment levels edged down in the Services-producing sector. **Wholesale and retail trade**, unlike the other regions of the province, had slight job gains. The **Business, building and other support services** and **Educational services** had declines while **Public administration** and **Accommodation and food services** experienced some job gains.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Nov 2016 ('000)	Nov 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Nov 2016 (%)	Nov 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Newfoundland and Labrador	233.0	237.3	-1.8	13.2	12.0	1.2
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	139.5	136.8	2.0	11.1	8.5	2.6
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	51.7	56.7	-8.8	17.3	16.0	1.3
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	41.8	43.8	-4.6	14.5	16.9	-2.4

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.

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

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2016, all rights reserved