



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Newfoundland and Labrador

September 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

Labour market conditions in Newfoundland and Labrador were weaker in the third quarter of 2016, following some improvements recorded in the previous quarter. The labour force edged down, while employment decreased, with full-time employment accounting for the bulk of the job losses. The unemployment rate rose by 0.8 percentage points to 12.9%, representing a return to rising unemployment rates in the province.

Compared to the third quarter of 2015, the level of employment declined by 2,800 and this was entirely due to full-time job losses. After reaching a record high of 246,000 in the first quarter of 2013, employment has generally trended downward in the province. The size of the labour force also declined, minimizing the effects of the employment reductions, and lowering the unemployment rate by 0.5 percentage points compared to the same period a year ago.

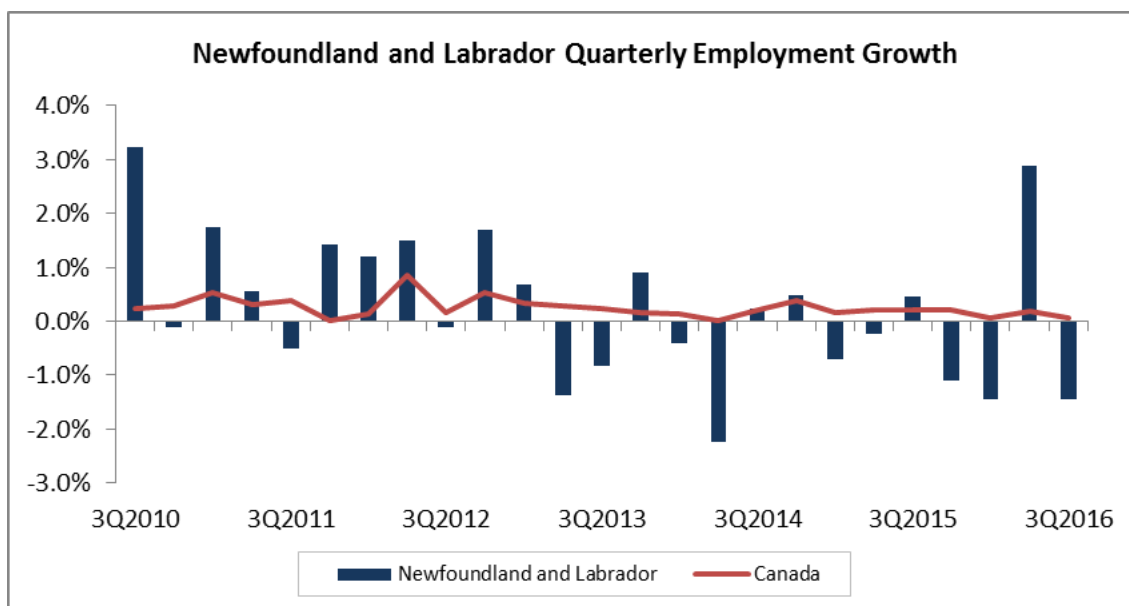
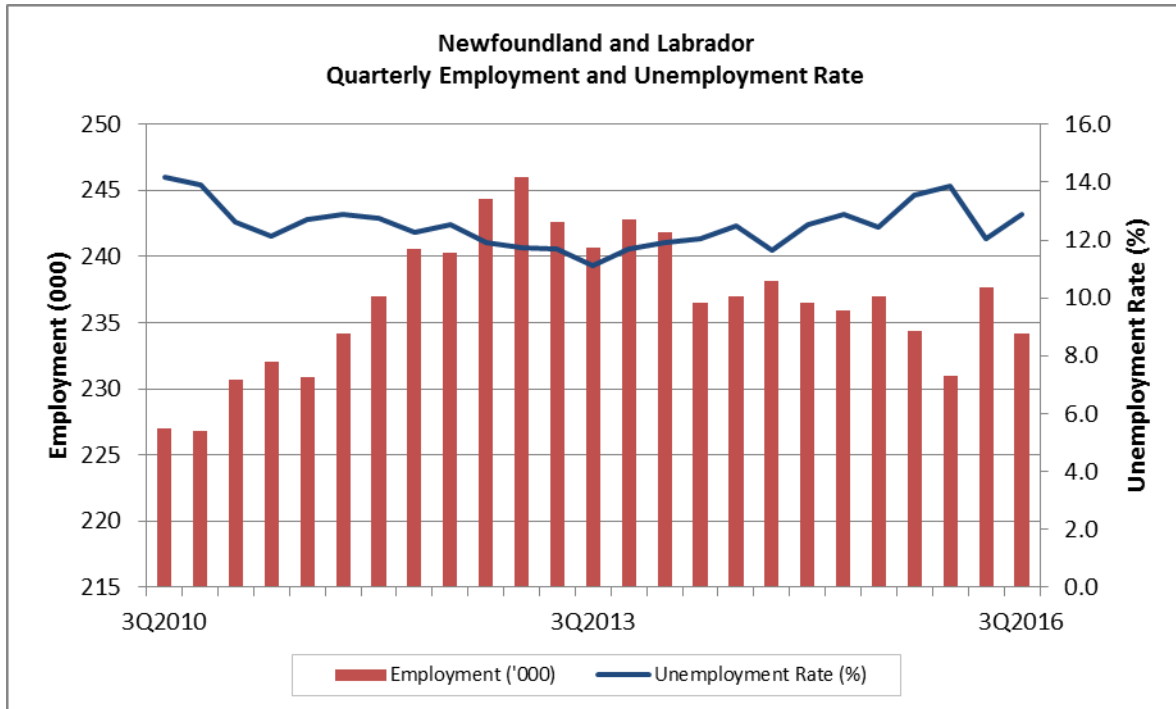
Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	3rd Quarter 2016	2nd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2015	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15+ ('000)	444.7	444.2	442.4	0.5	0.1	2.2	0.5
Labour Force ('000)	269.0	270.3	270.7	-1.4	-0.5	-1.7	-0.6
Employment ('000)	234.2	237.7	237.0	-3.5	-1.5	-2.8	-1.2
Full-Time ('000)	196.5	199.5	202.7	-3.0	-1.5	-6.2	-3.1
Part-Time ('000)	37.7	38.2	34.3	-0.5	-1.2	3.4	10.0
Unemployment ('000)	34.8	32.6	33.6	2.1	6.5	1.1	3.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	12.9	12.1	12.4	0.8	-	0.5	-
Participation Rate (%)	60.5	60.9	61.2	-0.4	-	-0.7	-
Employment Rate (%)	52.7	53.5	53.6	-0.8	-	-0.9	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

The province’s unemployment rate has been on an upward trend since it reached a quarterly low of 11.1% in the third quarter of 2013. The unemployment rate for people aged 25 years and older increased by 0.6 percentage points compared to the third quarter of 2015. Both males and females in this age group experienced increases in their unemployment rates. For females, the increase in the unemployment rate was caused by a drop in employment and more women entering the labour market.



Employment levels for the 25 years and older age group also decreased and this was due to large losses in full-time jobs, which were only partially offset by some gains in part-time employment. The size of the labour force

for this age group also fell, minimizing the rise in the level and rate of unemployment. Males had greater employment losses than females with the decline in the level of full-time employment being twice as large.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	3rd Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Quarterly Variation	Yearly Variation
	2016 (%)	2016 (%)	2015 (%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	12.9	12.1	12.4	0.8	0.5
<b>25 years and over</b>	12.3	12.0	11.7	0.3	0.6
Men - 25 years and over	15.0	14.1	14.3	0.9	0.7
Women - 25 years and over	9.3	9.7	8.8	-0.5	0.5
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	16.9	12.5	17.4	4.4	-0.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	19.8	14.5	23.0	5.3	-3.2
Women - 15 to 24 years	13.5	10.5	11.6	3.0	1.9

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

The unemployment rate for youth (aged 15 to 24 years) increased in third quarter by 4.4 percentage points to reach its highest level in the past four quarters. This was due to a decline in part-time employment and more youths entering the labour force. Despite the increase, the youth unemployment rate was still lower than it was a year ago.

Atlantic Canada - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q3 2016	Q3 2015	number	%	Q3 2016	Q3 2015	number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	66.8	65.9	0.9	1.4%	1,912.8	1,905.5	7.3	0.4%
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	43.9	43.3	0.6	1.4%	1,209.1	1,217.4	-8.3	-0.7%
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	36.8	37.8	-1.0	-2.6%	1,104.3	1,108.5	-4.2	-0.4%
<b>Full-Time ('000)</b>	30.8	31.1	-0.3	-1.0%	934.5	950.2	-15.7	-1.7%
<b>Part-Time ('000)</b>	6.0	6.7	-0.7	-10.4%	169.8	158.3	11.5	7.3%
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	7.1	5.5	1.6	29.1%	104.8	109.0	-4.2	-3.9%
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	16.2	12.7	3.5	-	8.7	9.0	-0.3	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	65.7	65.7	0.0	-	63.2	63.9	-0.7	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	55.1	57.4	-2.3	-	57.7	58.2	-0.5	-

**Notes:** The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

**Source:** Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - ESDC custom table.

In the third quarter of 2016, the total population aged 15+ in the Atlantic Provinces was 1.98 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 3.4% of that, or 66,800 people. Employment among the Indigenous population stood at 36,800 representing a decline of -1,000 (-2.6%) from a year earlier. The declines were in both full-time (-300 or -1.0%) and part-time (-700 or -10.4%) positions.

In Q3 2016, the unemployment rate among the Indigenous population increased significantly from Q3 2015 to 16.2%, representing a +3.5 percentage point (pp) increase, while that of the non-Indigenous population declined slightly to 8.7% (-0.3pp). Year-over-year, the participation rate among the Indigenous population, at 65.7%, did

not experience variation and a smaller decline was seen amongst the non-Indigenous population whose participation rate fell from 63.9% to 63.2% in Q3 2016 (-0.7pp). The employment rate of the Indigenous population also declined year-over-year to 55.1% (-2.3pp), and the employment rate amongst the non-Indigenous population fell slightly from 58.2% to 57.7% (-0.5pp) compared to a year earlier.

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In the third quarter of 2016, the **Goods-producing sector** lost 3,800 jobs compared to the same quarter in 2015. There were job losses in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas, Manufacturing and Construction**, which are the three largest industries by employment size in the sector. Construction employment has been relatively strong in the province, though it was down from the record quarterly high reached during the fourth quarter of 2014. A key contributor to Construction employment has been the presence of major projects in oil and gas as well as hydroelectricity, but some of these projects are now past the peak of their employment levels.

The **Services-producing sector** gained 1,000 jobs in the third quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015. **Wholesale and retail trade (+2,300), Accommodations and food services (+1,700) and Health Care and social assistance (+1,500)** experienced the largest job gains. Employment in **Trade** has been steadily increasing since the start of 2013. There were notable job losses in **Business, building and other support services (-1,200)** and **Professional, scientific and technical services (-1,100)**.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	3rd Quarter 2016	2nd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2015	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	234.2	237.7	237.0	-3.5	-1.5	-2.8	-1.2
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	51.2	53.1	55.0	-1.8	-3.5	-3.8	-6.9
Agriculture	1.8	1.2	0.9	0.5	43.2	0.9	103.8
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	14.4	15.5	16.7	-1.1	-7.1	-2.3	-14.0
Utilities	3.1	2.8	2.5	0.3	10.6	0.6	25.3
Construction	22.5	22.7	23.3	-0.2	-0.9	-0.8	-3.4
Manufacturing	9.5	10.9	11.7	-1.4	-13.1	-2.2	-18.9
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	183.0	184.6	182.0	-1.6	-0.8	1.0	0.6
Trade	44.2	43.7	41.9	0.6	1.3	2.4	5.7
Transportation and warehousing	9.5	10.0	10.3	-0.5	-5.0	-0.8	-7.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	7.7	8.3	8.3	-0.6	-7.2	-0.6	-7.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.1	10.0	11.2	0.1	1.0	-1.0	-9.3
Business, building and other support services	6.3	7.2	7.5	-0.9	-12.0	-1.1	-15.2
Educational services	14.1	14.5	14.1	-0.3	-2.3	0.1	0.5
Health care and social assistance	39.5	39.1	38.0	0.4	1.0	1.4	3.8
Information, culture and recreation	6.9	7.2	7.5	-0.3	-3.7	-0.6	-8.4
Accommodation and food services	16.9	16.7	15.2	0.3	1.6	1.8	11.6
Other services	11.9	12.5	12.7	-0.6	-5.1	-0.8	-6.6
Public administration	15.6	15.6	15.4	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

On the **Avalon Peninsula**, employment increased in the third quarter, as the large gains in part-time work more than offset full-time job losses. However, the unemployment rate went up to 9.9%, as more people entered the labour force. Employment in the **Services-producing sector** increased by 5,200 jobs compared to a year ago. Industries with notable gains included **Trade, Transportation and warehousing and Accommodations and food services**. The largest losses occurred in **Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing, Educational services, and Business, building and other support services**. The **Goods-producing sector** gained 1,000 jobs compared to

the same period a year ago. There were job losses in **Manufacturing** while **Construction** employment increased. Other employment changes in the sector were relatively small.

The unemployment rate in the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central–Bonavista Bay** region was 13.2% in the third quarter of 2016, down slightly from twelve months earlier. Employment decreased by 5,500 jobs over the same period last year, but unemployment and the labour force also decreased. Full-time employment accounted for most of the job losses. Employment in the **Goods-producing sector** edged down compared to a year ago. Job gains in **Construction** were outweighed by employment losses in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas** and **Manufacturing**. The **Services-producing sector** lost 4,000 jobs from a year ago, mostly in **Trade**, which represents the fifth consecutive employment reduction in this industry since the second quarter of 2015. **Health care and social assistance** gained the most jobs from a year ago.

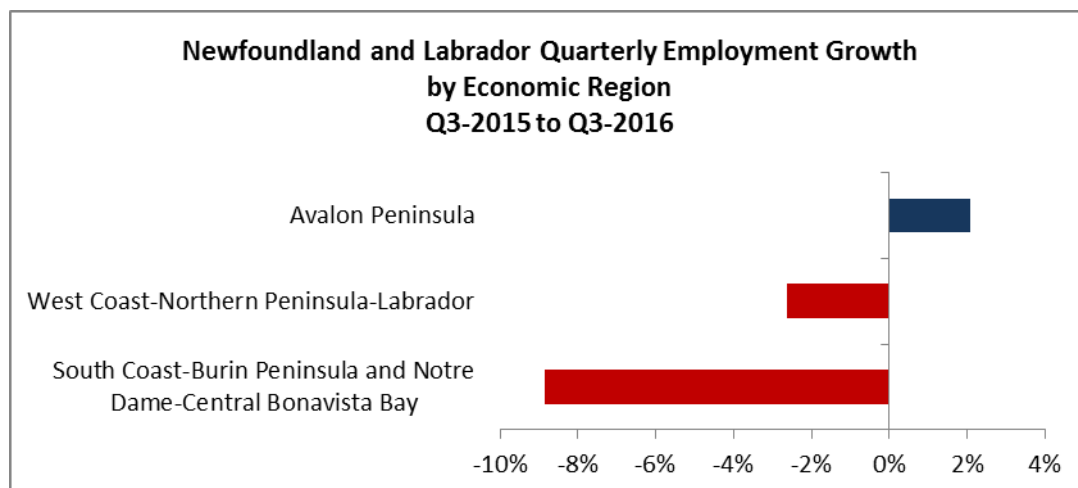
In the **West Coast–Northern Peninsula–Labrador** region, the unemployment rate decreased to 14.2% in the third quarter of 2016, down slightly from a year earlier. The labour force, unemployment and employment all declined from the same quarter in 2015. Job gains in part-time employment partially offset losses in full-time employment. Employment gains in the **Services-producing sector** were not sufficient to overcome the 3,000 jobs losses experienced in the **Goods-producing sector**. There were notable employment increases in **Public Administration** and **Trade**. The largest job losses in this sector occurred in **Business, building and other support services**. In the **Goods-producing sector**, there were large job losses in **Construction** and **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil and gas**. Other changes in the sector were relatively small.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	3rd Quarter 2016 ('000)	3rd Quarter 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	3rd Quarter 2016 (%)	3rd Quarter 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Newfoundland and Labrador	244.1	247.8	-1.5	11.5	11.0	0.5
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Avalon Peninsula	143.2	140.3	2.1	9.9	8.6	1.3
South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame–Central Bonavista Bay	56.7	62.2	-8.8	13.2	13.4	-0.2
West Coast–Northern Peninsula–Labrador	44.2	45.4	-2.6	14.2	14.7	-0.5

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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