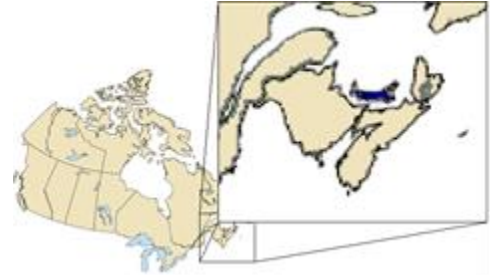




Labour Market Bulletin

Prince Edward Island



January 2018

This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Prince Edward Island.

OVERVIEW

Labour market conditions in Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) were mostly subdued in January compared to the preceding month, but have shown more-marked signs of improvement when compared to the same time last year. Employment continued its expansion with a marginal monthly gain of 100 jobs in January, but a considerable gain over the same time last year. Despite some monthly weakness shown in full-time employment, there was a monthly increase of 1,300 in part-time employment. A stronger population growth on the Island continues to support the growth of a working-age population, providing another boost of 1.5 percentage points in the past year. The labour force expanded following the addition of 1,100 participants in January, leading to a higher participation rate of 67.3% in the latest month. The provincial unemployment rate stood at 10.6% in January, up nearly a percentage point from the previous month due to the additional jobseekers in the labour force.

Prince Edward Island Monthly Labour Force Statistics

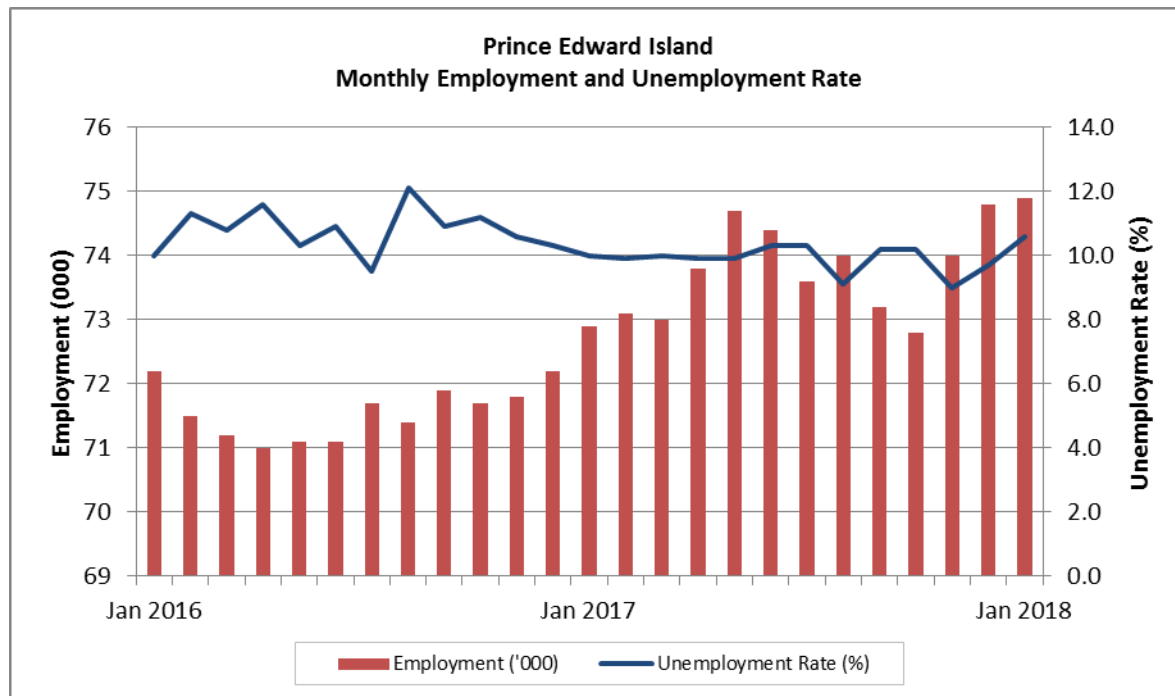
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Jan 2018	Dec 2017	Jan 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	124.5	124.4	122.6	0.1	0.1	1.9	1.5
Labour Force ('000)	83.8	82.7	81.0	1.1	1.3	2.8	3.5
Employment ('000)	74.9	74.8	72.9	0.1	0.1	2.0	2.7
Full-Time ('000)	62.2	63.3	61.5	-1.1	-1.7	0.7	1.1
Part-Time ('000)	12.7	11.4	11.4	1.3	11.4	1.3	11.4
Unemployment ('000)	8.9	8.0	8.1	0.9	11.3	0.8	9.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.6	9.7	10.0	0.9	-	0.6	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.3	66.5	66.1	0.8	-	1.2	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.2	60.1	59.5	0.1	-	0.7	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Generally, the labour market in P.E.I. remained stronger on a year-over-year basis even though the monthly performance may seem weak. Labour force grew by 2,800 year-over-year, as more men and women aged 25 years and above became more optimistic about the Island job market. Employment has been expanding over the year, with cumulative gains amounting to 2,000 jobs. Despite the recent weakening in full-time employment,

employers have still added 700 full-time jobs in the past year, maintaining strength in this area. The full-time gains were largely in the 25 years and above age group, and mostly among men. Conversely, part-time employment remained virtually unchanged between January and December 2017, but rose 11.3% in January this year. These gains were largely split between men aged 25 years and over (+600) and young women (+500). The gains in part-time work, combined with the yearly gains in full-time, supported the year-over-year job growth. The unemployment rate on the Island was roughly half a percentage point higher in January than it was a year before. The participation rate also climbed higher during the year, moving from 66.1% in January 2017 to 67.3% in January 2018.



The private sector employs roughly 3 out of every 5 workers on the Island, and it saw growth of 1,200 jobs over the last 12 months. The public sector also contributed to the yearly growth in employment, adding 100 jobs. The past 12 months have also seen a gradual rise in popularity of self-employment among the Islanders as 500 more Islanders became self-employed.

Prince Edward Island Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Jan 2018	Dec 2017	Jan 2017	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	10.6	9.7	10.0	0.9	0.6
25 years and over	9.8	8.9	9.0	0.9	0.8
Men - 25 years and over	9.9	9.6	11.1	0.3	-1.2
Women - 25 years and over	9.6	8.1	6.4	1.5	3.2
15 to 24 years	15.6	14.4	15.6	1.2	0.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	18.3	12.1	20.6	6.2	-2.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	12.9	16.7	9.8	-3.8	3.1

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

The unemployment rate for those aged 25 and older increased 0.8 of a percentage point year-over-year, with a comparable increase also occurring from the previous month of December. Among these group of workers, women mirrored the overall trend; their unemployment rate rose by 1.5 percentage points in January and by 3.2 percentage points in the past year. The unemployment rate of men in the same age group, however, saw a

monthly rise, but a yearly decline. Similarly, the unemployment rate for young men (aged 15 to 24) rose fairly sharply in the latest month, up 6.2 percentage points, and still remains below the rate seen twelve months ago. Young women, on the other hand, saw a monthly decrease of 3.8 percentage points and yet a yearly increase of 3.1 percentage points. Overall, the youth unemployment rate was higher than that of adults aged 25 and over, and rose a further 1.2 percentage points month-over-month in January.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Between January 2017 and January 2018, employment grew in the **Goods-producing sector**, but declined in the **Services-producing sector**. Monthly employment gains in the Goods-producing sector were modest (+200), but the sector's yearly gains were marked (+2,300). Employment growth was strongest in **Construction** (+1,100) over the past 12 months, as population growth on the Island continued to sustain demand for construction services. **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** and **Agriculture** added another combined 1,000 jobs over the same time to meet both local and international demands.

The Services-producing sector, on the other hand, has struggled to retain workers over the past year, shedding 300 jobs since January 2017. The yearly gains in **Professional, Scientific and technical services** (+500), **Wholesale and retail trade** (+500), and **Health care and social assistance** (+400) were dampened by losses in **Business, buildings and other support services** (-600), **Transportation and warehousing** (-600), and **Accommodation and food services** (-300). On a monthly basis in the Service Sector, employment dropped by 100. **Professional, scientific and technical services** (+200) and **Accommodation and food services** (+200) were outweighed by even losses in **Educational services** (-200), **Health care and social assistance** (-200), and **Business, building and other support services** (-200).

Prince Edward Island Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Jan 2018	Dec 2017	Jan 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	74.9	74.8	72.9	0.1	0.1	2.0	2.7
Goods-producing sector	19.2	19.0	16.9	0.2	1.1	2.3	13.6
Agriculture	3.7	3.7	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	15.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	2.7	2.6	2.2	0.1	3.8	0.5	22.7
Utilities			0.2	0.0	-	-0.2	-100.0
Construction	6.1	6.0	5.0	0.1	1.7	1.1	22.0
Manufacturing	6.5	6.5	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.2
Services-producing sector	55.6	55.8	55.9	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5
Trade	11.1	11.1	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.5	4.7
Transportation and warehousing	2.3	2.5	2.9	-0.2	-8.0	-0.6	-20.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	3.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.6	3.4	3.1	0.2	5.9	0.5	16.1
Business, building and other support services	1.5	1.7	2.1	-0.2	-11.8	-0.6	-28.6
Educational services	5.4	5.6	5.5	-0.2	-3.6	-0.1	-1.8
Health care and social assistance	10.7	10.9	10.3	-0.2	-1.8	0.4	3.9
Information, culture and recreation	2.7	2.6	2.8	0.1	3.8	-0.1	-3.6
Accommodation and food services	5.4	5.2	5.7	0.2	3.8	-0.3	-5.3
Other services	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	3.1
Public administration	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

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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http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi

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

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