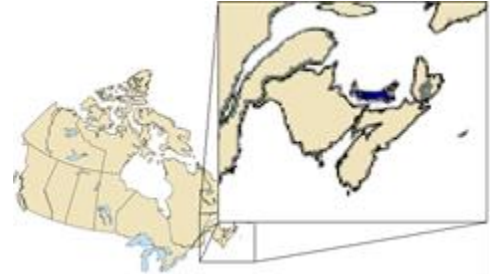




Labour Market Bulletin

Prince Edward Island

July 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 improved in July, both on a monthly and yearly basis. The number of people in the labour force grew by 600 in July from a month earlier, slightly exceeding the 300 increase in the level of employment. The increase in the labour force was much more pronounced on an annual basis, growing by a sizeable 3.1% during the past year, due in part to an increase in the participation rate and the working age population.

Prince Edward Island Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	125.7	125.5	124.0	0.2	0.2	1.7	1.4
Labour Force ('000)	84.4	83.8	81.9	0.6	0.7	2.5	3.1
Employment ('000)	76.5	76.2	73.6	0.3	0.4	2.9	3.9
Full-Time ('000)	63.9	63.7	60.9	0.2	0.3	3.0	4.9
Part-Time ('000)	12.6	12.6	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unemployment ('000)	8.0	7.5	8.4	0.5	6.7	-0.4	-4.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.5	8.9	10.3	0.6	-	-0.8	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.1	66.8	66.0	0.3	-	1.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.9	60.7	59.4	0.2	-	1.5	-

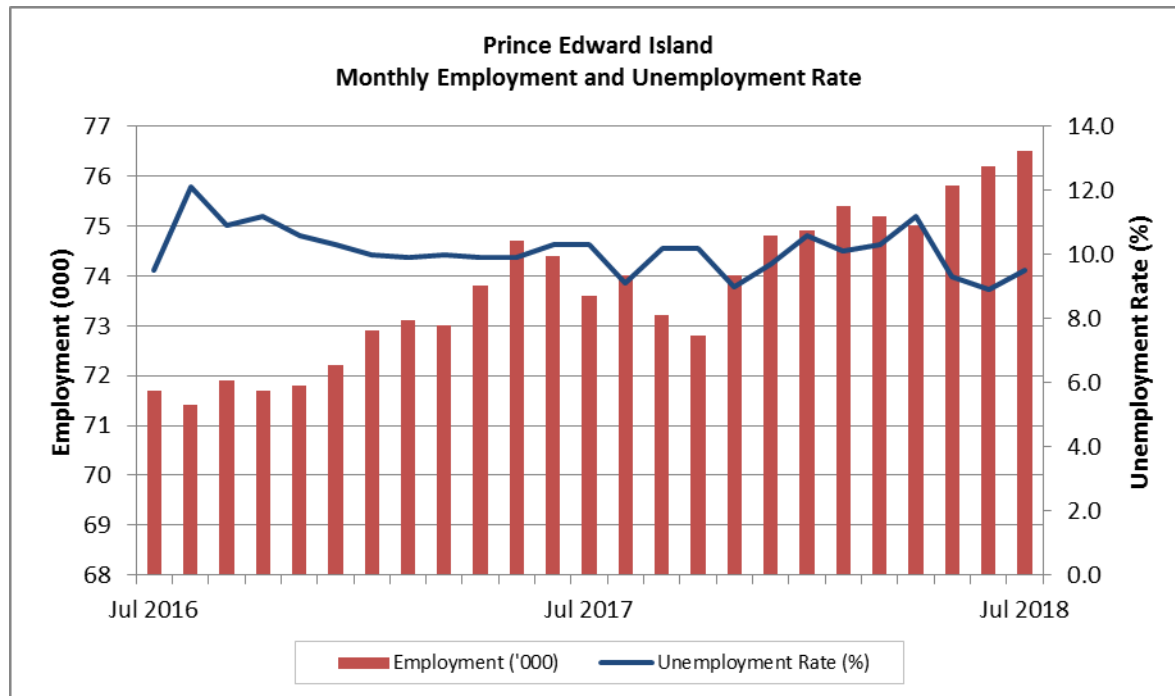
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

The level of employment, although up only slightly on a month-over-month basis in July, was considerably higher than July of last year, close to 4%. Of note is that the number of Islanders that were employed in July was at its highest level since records began in 1976. The rise in employment was due to an increase in full-time work.

Despite the monthly rise in employment, more Islanders were unemployed, as 500 Islanders entered the labour force. The rise in the number of people searching for work lifted the unemployment rate by 0.6 of a percentage

point to 9.5% in July. This marked only the third time the rate has risen this year, having done so earlier in March and April.



The improvement in employment on the Island between July 2017 and July 2018 were equally strong in the private (+3.2%) and public sectors (+3.1%). Self-employment was virtually unchanged on a monthly basis in July, but close to 9% higher compared to a year earlier.

Prince Edward Island Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	9.5	8.9	10.3	0.6	-0.8
25 years and over	8.4	8.3	9.8	0.1	-1.4
Men - 25 years and over	10.2	9.8	11.3	0.4	-1.1
Women - 25 years and over	6.1	7.0	7.8	-0.9	-1.7
15 to 24 years	15.7	12.8	13.0	2.9	2.7
Men - 15 to 24 years	18.2	16.7	17.2	1.5	1.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	13.1	8.6	8.6	4.5	4.5

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Individuals aged 25 years and above on the Island continue to experience a rate of unemployment that is relatively high. The latter, which edged up slightly to 8.4%, is nevertheless down by 1.4 percentage points from 9.8% a year earlier, which is encouraging. As it stands, the unemployment rate within this age group is higher for men (10.2%) than it is for women (6.1%). A rise in the number of men seeking work was key in lifting their unemployment rate past 10% in July compared to the month before. A lower rate of participation among women has been the primary reason behind their lower rate of unemployment.

Young people (aged 15 to 24) on the Island remained more likely to be unemployed than those aged 25 years and above. In July, the unemployment rate among youth was over seven percentage points higher than that of individuals aged 25 and over. The gap between the two widened significantly since June, when it was around 4.5%. The unemployment rate remained higher among young men (18.2%) in July, which was over five percentage points higher than that of women. The gap between the two widened significantly from the month before, due primarily to a much stronger increase in the unemployment rate for men.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In the **Goods-producing industries**, the level of employment remained unchanged at 19,300 in July, as monthly gains in **Agriculture** (+200), **Utilities** (+100), and **Construction** (+100) were easily offset by monthly losses in **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** (-200) and **Manufacturing** (-100). On an annual basis, however, demand for workers was stronger in all the good-producing industries but **Utilities**. **Forestry, Fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** had almost 59% extra workers year-over-year despite a weakened monthly demand for workers. Similarly, **Manufacturing** employed over 3% more workers in July than 12 months previously.

Employment in the **Services-producing industries**, by comparison, grew by 0.4% on a monthly basis in July. Most of the increase arose from the **Information, culture and recreation industry**, which employed nearly 12% additional workers in July. Similarly, **Transportation and warehousing** added 8% more workers in July than the 2,500 who were employed a month before. Despite this, employment in July remained down 10% from 12 months earlier. Other monthly gains in Services-producing industries were in **Public Administration** (+200), **Other services** (+200), and **Educational services** (+100). Employment in **Trade** was little changed from June.

Job losses in the **Services-producing industries** in July occurred in the **Health care and social assistance** sector employing 500 fewer workers than it did the month earlier. Meanwhile, there were 200 fewer employed in **Professional, scientific and technical services** and 90 fewer in **Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing**. The level of employment also shrank slightly in the **Accommodation and food services** sector.

Prince Edward Island Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	76.5	76.2	73.6	0.3	0.4	2.9	3.9
Goods-producing sector	19.3	19.3	17.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	13.5
Agriculture	4.0	3.8	3.3	0.2	5.3	0.7	21.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	2.7	2.9	1.7	-0.2	-6.9	1.0	58.8
Utilities	0.3	0.2		0.1	50.0	0.3	-
Construction	5.7	5.6	5.3	0.1	1.8	0.4	7.5
Manufacturing	6.7	6.8	6.5	-0.1	-1.5	0.2	3.1
Services-producing sector	57.1	56.9	56.6	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.9
Trade	11.2	11.2	11.4	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-1.8
Transportation and warehousing	2.7	2.5	3.0	0.2	8.0	-0.3	-10.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	2.9	3.0	2.6	-0.1	-3.3	0.3	11.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.4	3.6	3.7	-0.2	-5.6	-0.3	-8.1
Business, building and other support services	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Educational services	5.7	5.6	5.0	0.1	1.8	0.7	14.0
Health care and social assistance	10.2	10.7	10.6	-0.5	-4.7	-0.4	-3.8
Information, culture and recreation	2.9	2.6	2.7	0.3	11.5	0.2	7.4
Accommodation and food services	6.5	6.6	5.5	-0.1	-1.5	1.0	18.2
Other services	3.2	3.0	3.4	0.2	6.7	-0.2	-5.9
Public administration	6.5	6.3	6.8	0.2	3.2	-0.3	-4.4

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355

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 the LMI team at:

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

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2018, all rights reserved