



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

April 2019



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Quebec and its regions.

OVERVIEW

Following the decline registered in the previous months, robust employment growth resumed in April in Quebec, according to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada’s Labour Force Survey. In comparison to the data for March, 37,900 additional people were employed, amounting to a 0.9% growth rate, thanks to gains in full-time employment (+27,000) and in part-time employment (+10,900). Employees in the public and private sectors saw growth, while the number of self-employed workers declined. Employment growth, although slower, was also registered in Ontario (+0.6%) and in Canada as a whole (+0.6%).

From a yearly perspective, the number of employed people grew by 1.8% (+74,900 jobs), amounting to the strongest annual growth rate registered over the past 13 months. The increase in employment came primarily from part-time employment (+48,200 jobs or +6.2%) while full-time employment grew by 0.8% (+26,000 jobs). The three major age groups (15-24 year-olds, 25-54 year-olds and people aged 55 years and over) all benefited from the growth in employment.

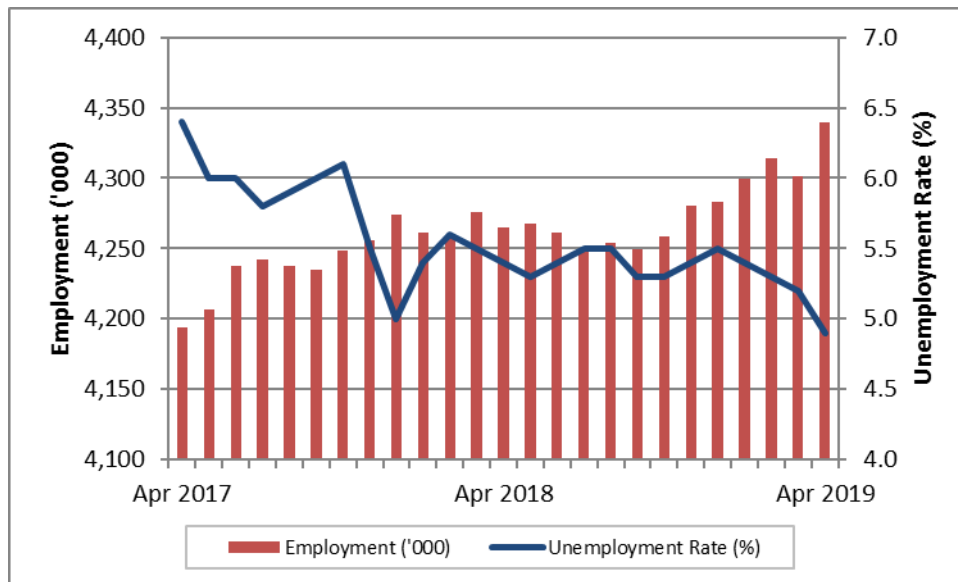
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	7,036.0	7,030.4	6,970.9	5.6	0.1	65.1	0.9
Labour Force ('000)	4,564.5	4,537.1	4,506.2	27.4	0.6	58.3	1.3
Employment ('000)	4,339.5	4,301.6	4,264.6	37.9	0.9	74.9	1.8
Full-Time ('000)	3,512.6	3,485.6	3,486.0	27.0	0.8	26.6	0.8
Part-Time ('000)	826.9	816.0	778.7	10.9	1.3	48.2	6.2
Unemployment ('000)	225.0	235.5	241.5	-10.5	-4.5	-16.5	-6.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	5.2	5.4	-0.3	-	-0.5	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.9	64.5	64.6	0.4	-	0.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	61.7	61.2	61.2	0.5	-	0.5	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



Thanks to the growth in employment, the number of unemployed people declined by 10,500 in comparison to March. Thus, the unemployment rate continued to fall, reaching 4.9%, its lowest monthly level since 1976, when Labour Force Survey data were first published. The participation rate rose by 0.4 percentage point in comparison to the previous month, settling at 64.9%. Finally, employment growth allowed the participation rate to gain half of a percentage point and reached 61.7%, which was also a historical peak. From a yearly perspective, a similar increase was seen in the employment rate (+0.5 percentage point).

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
	%	%	%		
Total	4.9	5.2	5.4	-0.3	-0.5
25 years and over	4.6	4.8	4.7	-0.2	-0.1
Men - 25 years and over	5.3	5.3	5.2	0.0	0.1
Women - 25 years and over	3.8	4.2	4.2	-0.4	-0.4
15 to 24 years	7.0	7.9	9.5	-0.9	-2.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	7.9	8.8	11.2	-0.9	-3.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	6.2	7.0	7.8	-0.8	-1.6

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At the industry level, the goods-producing sector progressed slightly in comparison to March data (+500 jobs or +0.1%). Employment growth in construction, utilities and in agriculture offset the losses registered in manufacturing, as well as in forestry, fishing and mining. From a yearly perspective however, the goods-producing sector added 21,800 jobs (+2.6%). All industries in the sector showed growth in comparison to April 2018.

In the services sector, 37,500 jobs were added in comparison to the previous month, amounting to a growth of 1.1%. Industries with the highest growth include trade, public administration and other services. Only four industries saw employment declines, the most significant of which was seen in professional, technical and scientific services. In comparison to April 2018, the services sector added 53,100 jobs (+1.6%). Most industries saw employment increases, except accommodation and food services, as well as information, culture and recreation.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	April 2019	March 2019	April 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,339.5	4,301.6	4,264.6	37.9	0.9	74.9	1.8
Goods-producing sector	876.2	875.7	854.4	0.5	0.1	21.8	2.6
Agriculture	58.3	57.5	54.1	0.8	1.4	4.2	7.8
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	42.9	45.2	38.3	-2.3	-5.1	4.6	12.0
Utilities	27.5	26.6	24.9	0.9	3.4	2.6	10.4
Construction	253.1	248.3	248.5	4.8	1.9	4.6	1.9
Manufacturing	494.5	498.1	488.6	-3.6	-0.7	5.9	1.2
Services-producing sector	3,463.3	3,425.8	3,410.2	37.5	1.1	53.1	1.6
Trade	680.1	664.0	659.5	16.1	2.4	20.6	3.1
Transportation and warehousing	233.8	228.5	218.3	5.3	2.3	15.5	7.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	238.7	235.6	230.8	3.1	1.3	7.9	3.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	344.0	354.2	327.1	-10.2	-2.9	16.9	5.2
Business, building and other support services	198.2	199.9	191.6	-1.7	-0.9	6.6	3.4
Educational services	301.8	299.8	296.5	2.0	0.7	5.3	1.8
Health care and social assistance	598.7	592.6	596.0	6.1	1.0	2.7	0.5
Information, culture and recreation	170.3	171.2	179.3	-0.9	-0.5	-9.0	-5.0
Accommodation and food services	247.8	251.2	279.3	-3.4	-1.4	-31.5	-11.3
Other services	189.4	180.2	181.7	9.2	5.1	7.7	4.2
Public administration	260.4	248.6	250.3	11.8	4.7	10.1	4.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Taking into account seasonally unadjusted data, the province registered 55,200 additional jobs in comparison to the same period in the previous year. Overall, employment grew in the *Capitals* (the Capitale-Nationale and Outaouais regions) and in the *Intermediary Regions*, except in Chaudière-Appalaches. In the *Greater Montréal Region*, the overall picture is positive thanks to substantial growth in the Laurentides region and on the island of Montréal, despite employment declines in Montérégie, the Laval region and in Lanaudière. Among the *Resource Regions*, only Bas-Saint-Laurent saw a growth in employment, while employment in Abitibi-Témiscamingue remained stable.

The most significant declines in the unemployment rate were registered in the following regions: Laurentides (-2.1 percentage points, settling at 4.5%); Lanaudière (-1.8 percentage point, settling at 5.0%) and in Estrie (-1.6 percentage point, settling at 4.2%). Conversely, the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine region (+1.8 percentage point) posted the strongest increase in the unemployment rate, which reached 17.6%. The Chaudière-Appalaches region had the second highest increase in the unemployment rate (+0.8 percentage point), reaching 4.3%, which however remains at a very low historical level and below the provincial average (5.8%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	April 2019 ('000)	April 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	April 2019 (%)	April 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,253.4	4,198.2	1.3	5.8	6.1	-0.3
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	30.0	35.2	-14.8	17.6	15.8	1.8
Bas-Saint-Laurent	89.4	87.8	1.8	8.4	7.7	0.7
Capitale-Nationale	411.4	404.5	1.7	4.5	4.4	0.1
Chaudière-Appalaches	211.5	217.9	-2.9	4.3	3.5	0.8
Estrie	158.5	155.4	2.0	4.2	5.8	-1.6
Centre-du-Québec	121.3	110.5	9.8	7.0	6.4	0.6
Montérégie	791.6	814.9	-2.9	5.3	4.8	0.5
Montréal	1,059.7	1,030.0	2.9	6.9	7.5	-0.6
Laval	229.6	235.7	-2.6	5.5	5.6	-0.1
Lanaudière	249.0	254.4	-2.1	5.0	6.8	-1.8
Laurentides	326.3	286.2	14.0	4.5	6.6	-2.1
Outaouais	205.8	201.0	2.4	6.4	6.0	0.4
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	77.3	77.3	0.0	4.4	4.7	-0.3
Mauricie	119.5	109.0	9.6	6.3	7.4	-1.1
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	121.5	124.1	-2.1	6.8	7.5	-0.7
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	51.1	54.3	-5.9	5.7	5.9	-0.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293

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 website at:

www.statcan.gc.ca

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