



# Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

May 2019



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

## OVERVIEW

The Quebec labour market registered a slight decline in May, according to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey. The number of employed people fell by 11,600 in comparison to the previous month, or a 0.6% decline. This decrease is entirely attributable to the decline in part-time employment (-12,600 jobs or -1.5%) while full-time employment remained relatively stable (+1,100 jobs). The three main age groups experienced a decrease in employment, but this drop was most significant among 25-54 year-olds (-0.4%). In Canada as a whole, employment rose slightly (+0.1%), primarily due to gains registered in Ontario (+0.3%) and in British Columbia (+0.7%).

From a yearly perspective, the trend remained positive, with 60,100 additional jobs (+1.4%) year over year. This growth was exclusively due to full-time employment (+62,000 jobs or +1.8%), while part-time employment registered a slight decline (-1,800 jobs or -0.2%). Private sector and public sector employees, as well as self-employed workers saw an increase in employment levels year over year.

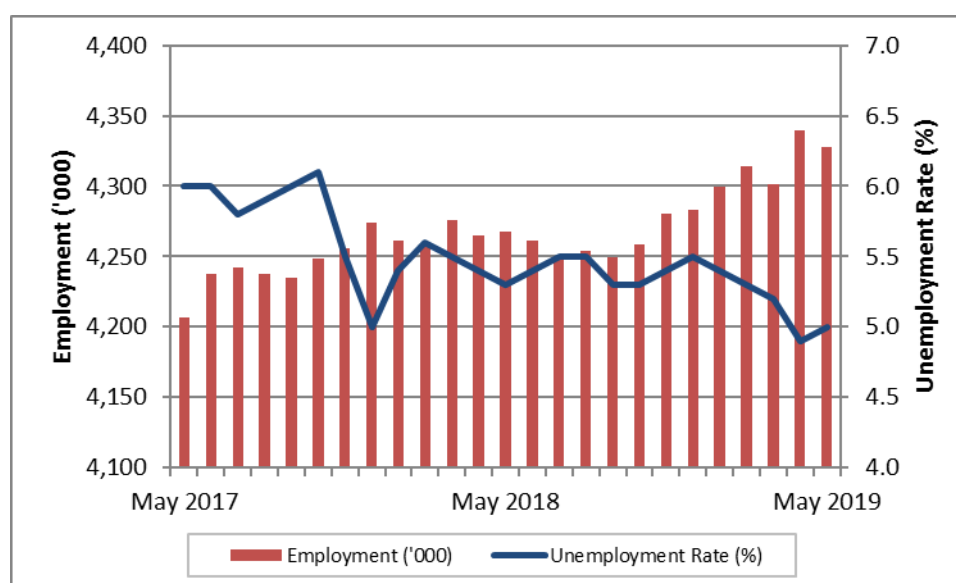
### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2019	April 2019	May 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	7,040.7	7,036.0	6,976.5	4.7	0.1	64.2	0.9
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	4,553.7	4,564.5	4,508.9	-10.8	-0.2	44.8	1.0
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	4,327.9	4,339.5	4,267.8	-11.6	-0.3	60.1	1.4
Full-Time ('000)	3,513.7	3,512.6	3,451.7	1.1	0.0	62.0	1.8
Part-Time ('000)	814.3	826.9	816.1	-12.6	-1.5	-1.8	-0.2
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	225.7	225.0	241.1	0.7	0.3	-15.4	-6.4
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.0	4.9	5.3	0.1	-	-0.3	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.7	64.9	64.6	-0.2	-	0.1	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	61.5	61.7	61.2	-0.2	-	0.3	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



In comparison to April, the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point, due to the decline in employment. At 5.0% however, the unemployment rate remained lower than a year earlier, when it had reached 5.3%. The inactive population, i.e. people who are neither employed nor looking for work, grew by 0.6% (+15,500 people) in one month. As this growth was higher than that of the population aged 15 years and over during the same period, the participation rate contracted by 0.2 percentage point, settling at 64.7%. The employment rate also decreased by 0.2 percentage point over the past month, settling at 61.5%, once again due to the decline of the employed population. At 61.5% however, this rate was still higher than twelve months earlier (61.2%).

## Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2019	April 2019	May 2018	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
	%	%	%		
<b>Total</b>	5.0	4.9	5.3	0.1	-0.3
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.0	-0.1
Men - 25 years and over	5.4	5.3	5.0	0.1	0.4
Women - 25 years and over	3.7	3.8	4.3	-0.1	-0.6
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	7.2	7.0	9.6	0.2	-2.4
Men - 15 to 24 years	8.8	7.9	11.0	0.9	-2.2
Women - 15 to 24 years	5.8	6.2	8.2	-0.4	-2.4

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At the industry level, employment in the goods-producing sector grew by 5,400 since the previous month (+0.6%). This growth is primarily attributable to gains in manufacturing and, to a lesser degree, in forestry, fishing and mining, as well as in construction. Year over year, employment in the goods-producing sector added

29,700 jobs, amounting to nearly half of total employment growth. It is worth noting that the goods-producing sector accounts for only 20% of jobs in Quebec. All industries in this sector saw employment growth.

The services sector had 17,000 fewer jobs in comparison to April, amounting to a 0.5% decline. Losses were registered in business, building and other support services, in public administration and in trade. Some service industries saw employment growth, including finance, insurance, real estate and leasing, health care and social assistance, as well as professional, scientific and technical services. In comparison to the previous year, the overall picture for the services sector is positive, with the addition of 30,400 jobs (+0.9%). the most significant employment growth occurred in professional, scientific and technical services, in health care and social assistance, as well as in transportation and warehousing. Four industries experienced employment losses, the most significant of which was seen in accommodation and food services.

### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2019	April 2019	May 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	4,327.9	4,339.5	4,267.8	-11.6	-0.3	60.1	1.4
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	881.6	876.2	851.9	5.4	0.6	29.7	3.5
Agriculture	56.3	58.3	56.2	-2.0	-3.4	0.1	0.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	43.7	42.9	36.5	0.8	1.9	7.2	19.7
Utilities	27.4	27.5	25.8	-0.1	-0.4	1.6	6.2
Construction	253.9	253.1	246.2	0.8	0.3	7.7	3.1
Manufacturing	500.4	494.5	487.3	5.9	1.2	13.1	2.7
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	3,446.3	3,463.3	3,415.9	-17.0	-0.5	30.4	0.9
Trade	670.6	680.1	668.5	-9.5	-1.4	2.1	0.3
Transportation and warehousing	234.4	233.8	221.3	0.6	0.3	13.1	5.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	244.8	238.7	243.2	6.1	2.6	1.6	0.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	347.8	344.0	326.1	3.8	1.1	21.7	6.7
Business, building and other support services	185.0	198.2	189.9	-13.2	-6.7	-4.9	-2.6
Educational services	301.1	301.8	293.1	-0.7	-0.2	8.0	2.7
Health care and social assistance	602.8	598.7	585.1	4.1	0.7	17.7	3.0
Information, culture and recreation	171.1	170.3	176.3	0.8	0.5	-5.2	-2.9
Accommodation and food services	249.4	247.8	280.4	1.6	0.6	-31.0	-11.1
Other services	189.0	189.4	178.4	-0.4	-0.2	10.6	5.9
Public administration	250.2	260.4	253.5	-10.2	-3.9	-3.3	-1.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Year over year, nice economic regions, saw an increase in employment levels. The most significant growth was registered in the following regions: Laurentides (+30,500 jobs), the Island of Montréal (+23,500 jobs), Capitale-Nationale (+11,100 jobs) and Centre-du-Québec (+11,100 jobs). Conversely, seven regions experienced significant losses year over year, including Montérégie (-20,500 jobs), Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (-3,800 jobs), as well as Lanaudière (-3,000 jobs).

Decreases in the unemployment rate were posted by the following regions: Laurentides (-2.5 percentage points), Lanaudière (-1.5 percentage point), Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (-1.2 percentage point) and Estrie (-1.0 percentage point). It is worth noting that the decline in Lanaudière was due to a significant drop in the labour force, since employment fell. The unemployment rate rose in some regions. The highest growth was observed in Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (+1.0 percentage point), Abitibi-Témiscamingue (+0.9 percentage point), in the Côte-Nord and Nord-du-Québec regions (+0.5 percentage point) and finally, in Montérégie (+0.5 percentage point).

**Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region**

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2019 ('000)	May 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2019 (%)	May 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Quebec</b>	4,295.8	4,241.1	1.3	5.4	5.7	-0.3
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	32.3	36.1	-10.5	15.7	14.7	1.0
Bas-Saint-Laurent	91.6	90.0	1.8	7.4	7.1	0.3
Capitale-Nationale	419.1	408.0	2.7	3.9	4.1	-0.2
Chaudière-Appalaches	216.0	218.0	-0.9	3.7	3.3	0.4
Estrie	160.8	159.2	1.0	3.9	4.9	-1.0
Centre-du-Québec	125.5	114.4	9.7	5.4	5.2	0.2
Montérégie	799.2	819.7	-2.5	4.6	4.1	0.5
Montréal	1,063.2	1,039.7	2.3	6.9	7.5	-0.6
Laval	226.2	236.0	-4.2	5.0	5.2	-0.2
Lanaudière	252.8	255.8	-1.2	4.7	6.2	-1.5
Laurentides	322.1	291.6	10.5	3.6	6.1	-2.5
Outaouais	210.1	202.7	3.7	5.8	5.9	-0.1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	76.7	77.5	-1.0	5.3	4.4	0.9
Mauricie	122.8	115.2	6.6	6.0	5.7	0.3
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	126.3	123.9	1.9	6.4	7.6	-1.2
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	51.2	53.0	-3.4	6.2	5.7	0.5

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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[www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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