



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

August 2019



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

OVERVIEW

Employment continued to grow in August in Quebec, according to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey. The Quebec labour market had 19,700 additional workers in comparison to the previous month, amounting to a 0.5% growth rate. This employment increase came, in almost equal proportions, from full-time employment (+9,300) and from part-time employment (+10,400). Employment growth was also observed in Canada as a whole (+0.4%) and in Ontario (+0.8%) in August, in comparison to the previous month.

In total, 112,100 jobs were added year over year, which amounts to a 2.6% growth rate. A higher rate than the one registered this month has not seen since July 2017. Employment growth came primarily from full-time employment (+84,000) but also from part-time employment (+28,100). The main age groups saw an increase in the number of employed people, which was proportionally highest for people age 55 years and over (+4.7%). The number of employees in the private and public sector increased, while the number of self-employed workers decreased.

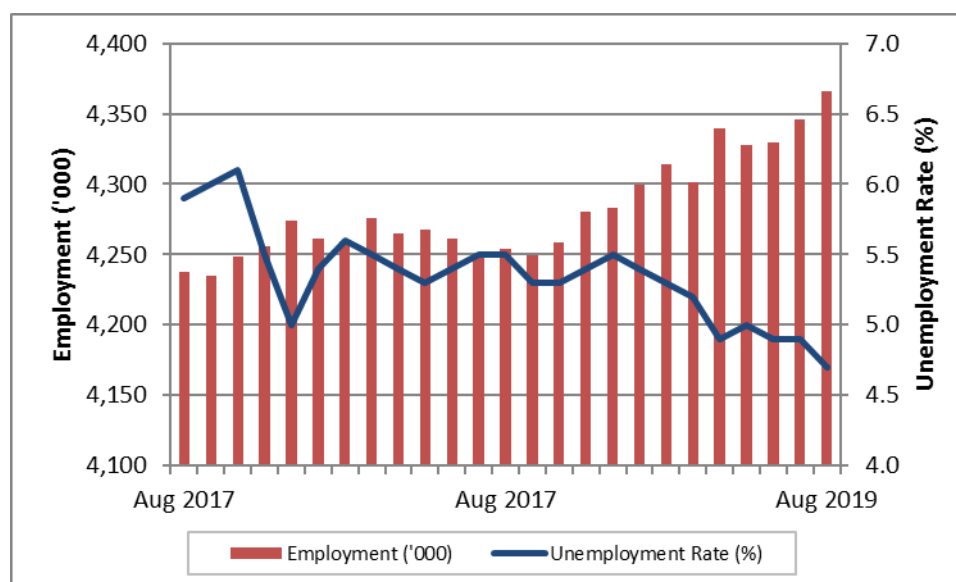
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2019	July 2019	August 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	7,060.3	7,054.8	6,994.3	5.5	0.1	66.0	0.9
Labour Force ('000)	4,579.7	4,569.1	4,502.5	10.6	0.2	77.2	1.7
Employment ('000)	4,366.0	4,346.3	4,253.9	19.7	0.5	112.1	2.6
Full-Time ('000)	3,546.5	3,537.2	3,462.5	9.3	0.3	84.0	2.4
Part-Time ('000)	819.5	809.1	791.4	10.4	1.3	28.1	3.6
Unemployment ('000)	213.8	222.8	248.6	-9.0	-4.0	-34.8	-14.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.9	5.5	-0.2	-	-0.8	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.9	64.8	64.4	0.1	-	0.5	-
Employment Rate (%)	61.8	61.6	60.8	0.2	-	1.0	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



Also in August, the number of unemployed people reached 213,800, amounting to a decrease of 9,000 in comparison to July. The unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point, settling at 4.7%. Besides reaching its lowest historical level, it was also the lowest unemployment rate among Canadian provinces, for the first time since the publication of such data. Thanks to employment growth, the employment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point in comparison to the previous month, reaching 61.8%. Year over year, the employment rate increased by 1.0 percentage point. Finally, the participation rate grew by 0.1 percentage point in comparison to July, reaching 64.4%.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2019	July 2019	August 2018	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	4.7	4.9	5.5	-0.2	-0.8
25 years and over	4.0	4.4	5.0	-0.4	-1.0
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	4.9	5.5	-0.5	-1.1
Women - 25 years and over	3.5	3.8	4.6	-0.3	-1.1
15 to 24 years	9.0	8.0	8.6	1.0	0.4
Men - 15 to 24 years	9.9	8.5	10.4	1.4	-0.5
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.1	7.6	7.0	0.5	1.1

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

At the industry level, the goods-producing sector experienced employment growth (+3,600 jobs or +0.4%) during the past month, thanks to increases registered in the construction industry, and, to a lesser degree, in agriculture. From a yearly perspective, the goods-producing sector posted a significant growth of 40,100 jobs, amounting to a +4.7% growth rate. This increase was attributable primarily to the manufacturing and construction industries.

The services sector had 16,100 additional jobs in comparison to July, amounting to a 0.5% growth rate. The following service industries posted the most significant employment increases: finance, insurance, real estate and leasing, educational services, as well as health care and social assistance. However, several service industries experienced job number decreases, including business services, building services and other support services, as well as public administration. In comparison to August 2018, the services sector posted a growth of 72,000 jobs (+2.1%). Eight out of 11 service industries experienced employment increases, the most significant of which were seen in transportation and warehousing, retail and wholesale trade, as well as health care and social assistance.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2019	July 2019	August 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,366.0	4,346.3	4,253.9	19.7	0.5	112.1	2.6
Goods-producing sector	899.2	895.6	859.1	3.6	0.4	40.1	4.7
Agriculture	53.8	52.3	54.2	1.5	2.9	-0.4	-0.7
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	43.4	43.3	40.1	0.1	0.2	3.3	8.2
Utilities	24.3	24.9	28.5	-0.6	-2.4	-4.2	-14.7
Construction	268.5	270.4	247.7	-1.9	-0.7	20.8	8.4
Manufacturing	509.2	504.7	488.6	4.5	0.9	20.6	4.2
Services-producing sector	3,466.8	3,450.7	3,394.8	16.1	0.5	72.0	2.1
Trade	657.8	661.9	637.0	-4.1	-0.6	20.8	3.3
Transportation and warehousing	237.8	239.6	215.2	-1.8	-0.8	22.6	10.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	248.7	237.1	242.2	11.6	4.9	6.5	2.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	343.0	347.2	323.8	-4.2	-1.2	19.2	5.9
Business, building and other support services	175.5	180.5	192.6	-5.0	-2.8	-17.1	-8.9
Educational services	312.7	303.3	307.9	9.4	3.1	4.8	1.6
Health care and social assistance	611.3	603.9	590.5	7.4	1.2	20.8	3.5
Information, culture and recreation	191.0	184.3	194.0	6.7	3.6	-3.0	-1.5
Accommodation and food services	260.3	257.7	269.8	2.6	1.0	-9.5	-3.5
Other services	179.2	180.8	176.1	-1.6	-0.9	3.1	1.8
Public administration	249.5	254.4	245.6	-4.9	-1.9	3.9	1.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In comparison to August 2018, eleven economic regions saw employment growth. The highest increases were observed on the Island of Montréal (+32,900 jobs), in Capitale-Nationale (+27,600 jobs) and in the Lanaudière region (+21,100 jobs). Conversely, the Laval region experienced the most significant employment decline, posting 19,100 fewer jobs than twelve months previously.

Six economic regions posted their historically lowest unemployment rates since 2001. Of these, four are resource regions: Bas-Saint-Laurent (3.4%), Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec (3.7%), Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine (8.3%) and Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean (4.8%). The Laval region (3.6%) and the Lanaudière region (3.2%) also posted their lowest unemployment rates. It is worth noting that the Laval and Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec regions, despite record low rates, posted employment declines during the same period. In these two regions, the labour force decreased significantly.

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2019 ('000)	August 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2019 (%)	August 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,418.6	4,323.5	2.2	4.8	5.5	-0.7
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	37.6	37.1	1.3	8.3	10.4	-2.1
Bas-Saint-Laurent	98.3	95.5	2.9	3.4	4.7	-1.3
Capitale-Nationale	420.3	392.7	7.0	2.6	4.3	-1.7
Chaudière-Appalaches	226.2	225.7	0.2	2.3	3.2	-0.9
Estrie	167.7	169.6	-1.1	4.7	4.2	0.5
Centre-du-Québec	127.0	119.4	6.4	3.8	6.6	-2.8
Montréal	817.6	804.8	1.6	3.7	4.5	-0.8
Montréal	1,111.3	1,078.4	3.1	8.1	7.7	0.4
Laval	218.9	238.0	-8.0	3.6	4.7	-1.1
Lanaudière	271.6	250.5	8.4	3.2	5.4	-2.2
Laurentides	317.8	317.9	0.0	4.2	5.7	-1.5
Outaouais	214.6	206.7	3.8	3.9	4.9	-1.0
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	76.9	76.5	0.5	3.6	3.2	0.4
Mauricie	125.3	128.3	-2.3	4.1	4.0	0.1
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	132.9	127.4	4.3	4.8	5.3	-0.5
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	54.7	54.9	-0.4	3.7	4.2	-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.

Prepared by: Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Quebec

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 website at:

www.statcan.gc.ca

© Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2019, all rights reserved