



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

June 2019



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Manitoba, including the regions of Winnipeg, Northern Manitoba and Southern Manitoba.

OVERVIEW

Between the first and the second quarter of 2019, employment in Manitoba remained relatively unchanged at 652,900 (-2,700), with losses mostly seen amongst the full-time employed (-2,000).¹ In the second quarter of 2019, employment in the public sector decreased to around 161,500 (-1,200), with the private sector also declining to around 399,900 (-1,400). Self-employment remained relatively stable at 91,500.²

At the time of writing this report, Manitoba's economy is embedded in a trade dispute between China and Canada, which is affecting a variety of agriculture products, including canola and pork. Manitoba's economy will continue to face strong headwinds due to the ongoing trade dispute with its second largest trading partner.³ However, with the U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum now lifted, and cross-border trade improving, Manitoba's export industries tied to the U.S. may offset some of the financial losses.

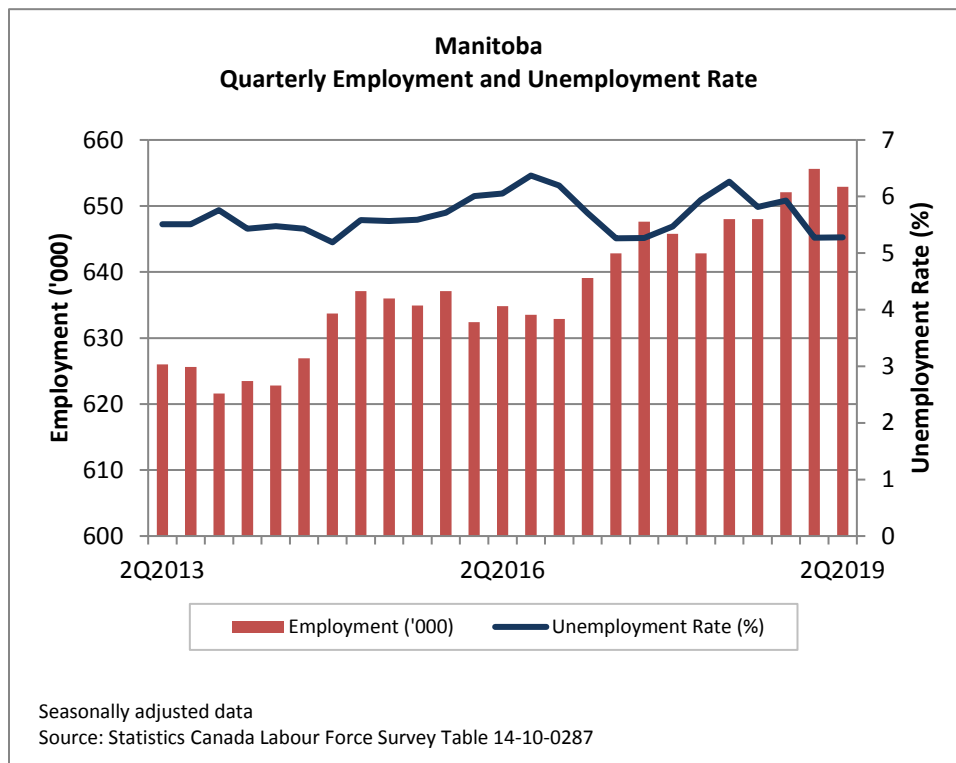
Quarter-over-quarter, Manitoba's unemployment rate remained relatively stable at 5.3%. Compared to other provinces in western Canada, Manitoba matched Saskatchewan for the second lowest unemployment rate, behind British Columbia (4.5%).⁴

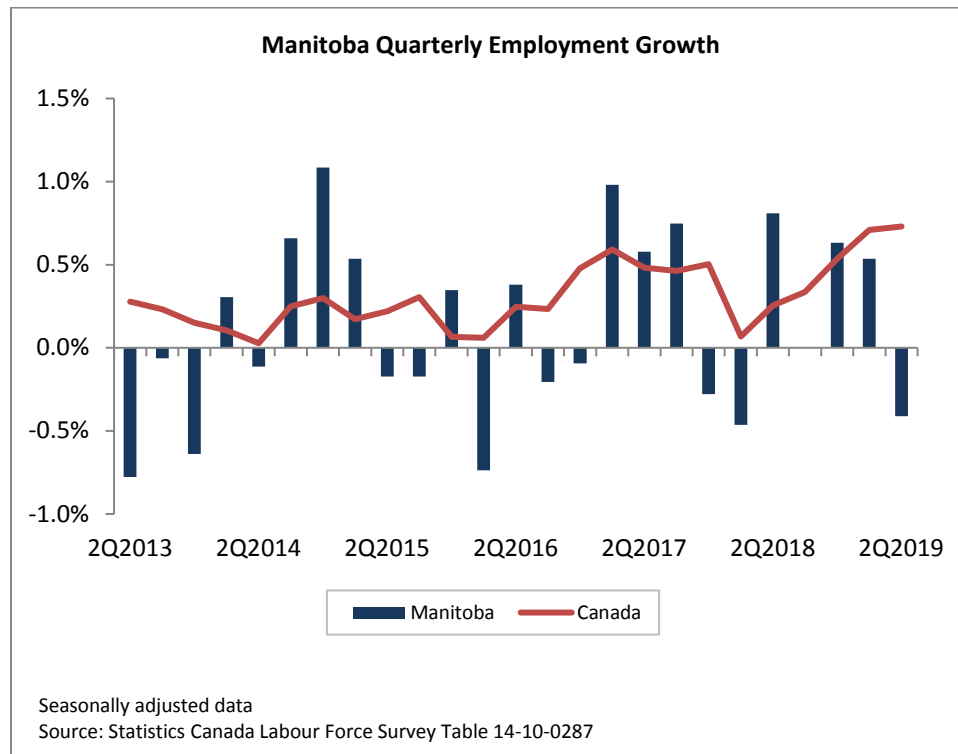
Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally adjusted data	2nd Quarter 2019	1st Quarter 2019	2nd Quarter 2018	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,035.3	1,032.2	1,023.8	3.1	0.3	11.5	1.1
Labour Force ('000)	689.3	692.1	691.3	-2.8	-0.4	-2.0	-0.3
Employment ('000)	652.9	655.6	648.0	-2.7	-0.4	4.9	0.8
Full-Time ('000)	522.8	524.8	520.1	-2.0	-0.4	2.7	0.5
Part-Time ('000)	130.1	130.8	127.9	-0.7	-0.5	2.2	1.7
Unemployment ('000)	36.4	36.5	43.3	-0.1	-0.3	-6.9	-15.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	5.3	6.3	0.0	-	-1.0	-
Participation Rate (%)	66.6	67.1	67.5	-0.5	-	-0.9	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.1	63.5	63.3	-0.4	-	-0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087





On a quarter-over-quarter basis, the unemployment rate for Manitoba’s youth (ages 15-24 years) fell to 10.6%, while that of those aged 25 years and older remained relatively unchanged at 4.3%. Year over year, Manitoba’s youth unemployment rate is down 1.6 percentage points, whereas the unemployment rate for the 25+ age group fell by 0.8 percentage points.

As the school year came to a close, hundreds of youth across the province set out to look for work. Between the months of May and August, 43 Manitoba Youth Job Centres across the province will help youth to get their first job, part or full-time work, or volunteer experience.⁵ The provincial government also provided over \$5.5 million to support close to 800 Green Team community projects across the province, employing youth over the summer months.⁶

Manitoba Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally adjusted data	2nd Quarter 2019 (%)	1st Quarter 2019 (%)	2nd Quarter 2018 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	5.3	5.3	6.3	0.0	-1.0
25 years and over	4.3	4.2	5.1	0.1	-0.8
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	4.4	5.3	0.0	-0.9
Women - 25 years and over	4.2	4.0	4.8	0.2	-0.6
15 to 24 years	10.6	10.8	12.2	-0.2	-1.6
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.6	13.3	14.4	-0.7	-1.8
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.3	8.3	9.8	0.0	-1.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

In the second quarter of 2019, the total population aged 15+ in Manitoba was 1.04 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 11.8% of that, or 122,800 people. Employment among Indigenous people in Manitoba decreased to 68,800, representing a loss of 1,000 positions (-1.4%) compared to the same time last year. Employment losses were in part-time positions (-9.9%) with a marginal increase in full-time positions (+0.7%).

The unemployment rate among the Indigenous population was 10.6% in the second quarter of 2019, representing an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the previous year. Among the non-Indigenous population, the unemployment rate in 2019 was 4.5%. Between the second quarter of 2018 and the second quarter of 2019, the participation rate among Indigenous people decreased to 62.7%, while that of the non-Indigenous population decreased to 67.4%. Over the same period, the employment rate among the Indigenous population decreased to 56%, while the rate for the non-Indigenous population remained unchanged at 64.4%.

Manitoba - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q2 2019	Q2 2018	number	%	Q2 2019	Q2 2018	number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	122.8	119.5	3.3	2.8	912.5	904.3	8.2	0.9
Labour Force ('000)	77.0	77.9	-0.9	-1.2	615.4	616.7	-1.3	-0.2
Employment ('000)	68.8	69.8	-1.0	-1.4	587.8	582.3	5.5	0.9
Full-Time ('000)	56.1	55.7	0.4	0.7	470.3	468.4	1.9	0.4
Part-Time ('000)	12.8	14.2	-1.4	-9.9	117.5	114.0	3.5	3.1
Unemployment ('000)	8.2	8.1	0.1	1.2	27.5	34.4	-6.9	-20.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.6	10.4	0.2	-	4.5	5.6	-1.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	62.7	65.2	-2.5	-	67.4	68.2	-0.8	-
Employment Rate (%)	56.0	58.4	-2.4	-	64.4	64.4	0.0	-

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – ESDC custom table

This May, Gambler First Nation broke ground on what will become the first urban reserve in the City of Brandon.⁷ The development is expected to provide new employment opportunities, as retail space, a hotel, and other commercial services are planned for the site.⁸ The new urban reserve is over two years in the making, as just last year, a municipal development service agreement was signed between the City of Brandon and Gambler First Nation.⁹

Under a new provincial initiative, twelve members of the Pimicikamak Cree Nation (north of Lake Winnipeg), in partnership with industry stakeholders, will receive employment training for the mining industry. The program will help prepare the twelve community members for employment opportunities with Hudbay Minerals near Snow Lake.¹⁰

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

When compared to the same time last year, Manitoba's goods producing sector increased to 154,300 (+5,900). Employment increased in construction (+5,300) and manufacturing (+3,000), whereas employment in forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas fell by 1,400. Utilities and agriculture fell by 800 and 500, respectively.¹¹ With improved trade relations with the U.S., there is potential for further growth in the goods sector as tariffs have been lifted on a variety of goods.

In the second quarter, construction projects have ramped up across the province, including the ongoing construction of the Keeyask hydroelectric project near Gillam, and Roquette's pea-protein plant in Portage La Prairie.^{12,13} Looking forward, the industry will benefit from millions of dollars in provincial funding, including \$28 million towards capital projects for Manitoba's health care system, plus nearly \$58 million towards 59 school infrastructure projects.^{14,15}

The trade dispute with China continues to be a cloud over Manitoba's agriculture sector. Earlier this year, China previously banned imports of Canadian canola seeds based on allegations of a pest infestation, and cut back on its purchases of peas and soybeans.^{16,17} As such, Manitoba farmers will likely have to sell their commodities at lower prices in the coming months. In response, the Government of Canada has temporarily increased the loan limits under the Advance Payments Program. For instance, farmers can take advantage of canola loans up to \$500,000 interest-free, thereby easing some financial pressure.¹⁸

China has also banned the import of all Canadian meat, following various allegations made against Canada's pork sector.^{19,20} Such action places Manitoba's hog farmers at significant risk as, after Quebec, Manitoba slaughtered the second largest volume of hogs across Canada in 2018, with nearly 5.4 million hogs processed.²¹ With trade relations strained between Canada and China, Manitoba farmers are likely to have to sell their goods at discounted prices in the coming months as they search for new foreign markets.

Year-over-year, Manitoba's services sector remained relatively unchanged at 498,600, due in part to growth in transportation and warehousing (+4,600), business, building and other support services (+2,800), and public administration (+1,200). However, while these few industries saw gains, much of the remainder in this sector experienced job losses, including other services (-2,700), finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (-2,300), information, culture and recreation (-1,900), education services (-1,200), and trade (-1,100).²²

Compared to the same time last year, employment in health care and social assistance has remained relatively steady. Changes to Manitoba's health care sector are anticipated, due to a bilateral agreement signed this April between the governments of Canada and Manitoba. Under the agreement, millions of dollars will be invested annually towards home and community care, and mental health and addiction services. A variety of initiatives will benefit under this agreement, including the development of community-based home care and supports, enhancing supports for rural palliative care, and increased access to coordinated care for mental health and addiction services.²³

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally adjusted data ('000)	2nd Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
	2019	2019	2018	Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	652.9	655.6	648.0	-2.7	-0.4	4.9	0.8
Goods-producing sector	154.3	153.8	148.4	0.5	0.3	5.9	4.0
Agriculture	25.9	25.1	26.4	0.8	3.2	-0.5	-1.9
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	5.1	6.2	6.5	-1.1	-17.7	-1.4	-21.5
Utilities	6.3	6.6	7.1	-0.3	-4.5	-0.8	-11.3
Construction	51.5	51.0	46.2	0.5	1.0	5.3	11.5
Manufacturing	65.4	64.9	62.4	0.5	0.8	3.0	4.8
Services-producing sector	498.6	501.7	499.6	-3.1	-0.6	-1.0	-0.2
Trade	87.2	86.6	88.3	0.6	0.7	-1.1	-1.2
Transportation and warehousing	43.1	42.8	38.5	0.3	0.7	4.6	11.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	34.1	34.2	36.4	-0.1	-0.3	-2.3	-6.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	28.7	29.7	28.0	-1.0	-3.4	0.7	2.5
Business, building and other support services	22.8	22.8	20.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	14.0
Educational services	51.4	51.0	52.6	0.4	0.8	-1.2	-2.3
Health care and social assistance	103.8	105.2	104.7	-1.4	-1.3	-0.9	-0.9
Information, culture and recreation	22.4	22.9	24.3	-0.5	-2.2	-1.9	-7.8
Accommodation and food services	42.3	42.4	42.6	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7
Other services	27.6	28.9	30.3	-1.3	-4.5	-2.7	-8.9
Public administration	35.1	35.3	33.9	-0.2	-0.6	1.2	3.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table T14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

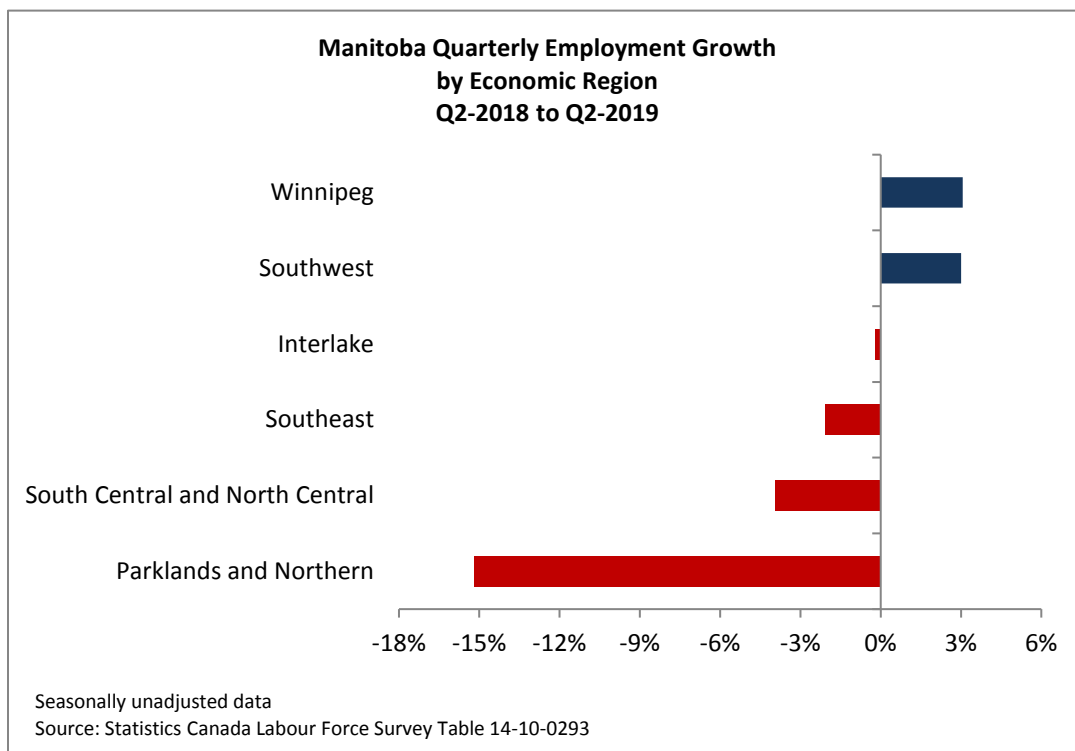
Since the second quarter of 2018, Winnipeg led employment growth with 12,100 new jobs created, followed by Southwest (+1,700). Over the same period, half of the regions saw their unemployment rates improve, led by Interlake which declined by 2.3 percentage points. Whereas, the largest increase amongst the regional unemployment rates was in Southwest (+1.8 percentage points).²⁴

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally unadjusted data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	2nd Quarter 2019 ('000)	2nd Quarter 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	2nd Quarter 2019 (%)	2nd Quarter 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	657.5	652.8	0.7	5.2	6.1	-0.9
Economic Regions						
Southeast	61.9	63.2	-2.1	2.8	4.8	-2.0
South Central and North Central	53.8	56.0	-3.9	4.6	3.4	1.2
Southwest	58.4	56.7	3.0	5.7	3.9	1.8
Winnipeg	407.0	394.9	3.1	5.3	6.8	-1.5
Interlake	45.7	45.8	-0.2	5.0	7.3	-2.3
Parklands and Northern	30.7	36.2	-15.2	7.5	6.0	1.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293, formerly CANSIM 282-0122



Within the past 12 months, employment in Winnipeg increased to 407,000, and should continue to grow due to its diversified economy.²⁵ While several major private construction projects are expected to be completed over the year, a number of projects are also underway and will boost the construction sector over the coming months. For example, Manitoba Building Trades recently announced a \$12 million trades training facility and the ongoing construction of industrial buildings at CentrePort Canada.^{26,27}

Looking forward, the outlook for the region's construction sector has improved as Wawanesa announced plans to become the sole tenant in the planned fifth office tower at True North Square.²⁸ In addition, CentreVenture Development Corporation, announced its new plans for the Northwest Exchange District and Chinatown neighbourhoods. The agency will focus on filling in vacant lots, enhancing historic buildings, creating affordable housing, and supporting businesses.²⁹

Winnipeg's health care industry continues to move forward under the Province's Health System Transformation, and the delivery of health care services continue to change, most recently with the conversion of the emergency department at Concordia Hospital into an Urgent Care Centre in June.³⁰ The emergency department at Seven Oaks Hospital will also be converted into an Urgent Care Centre. In June, close to 240 nurses at Seven Oaks received deletion notices, meaning their jobs are being cut, but that they can apply for the new positions at an urgent care centre.³¹

Compared to the same time last year, employment within Southwest grew to 58,400 (+1,700), and may experience some moderate growth in 2020, as the federal government announced the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot project.³² Under this pilot project, eleven communities, including Brandon, will receive a variety of supports to attract newcomers. The goal of this pilot project is to attract skilled newcomers to help fill labour gaps and drive economic growth.³³

Since the first quarter of 2018, employment within Interlake remained relatively stable at 45,700, and its unemployment rate fell to 5.0%.³⁴ Looking forward, the City of Selkirk is growing, as residential construction has begun on the new Vaughan Avenue West development, including an 84-unit townhouse complex and single-family homes.³⁵ In addition, the City of Selkirk and Peguis First Nation have reached an agreement, of which the Peguis First Nation will build a \$5M strip mall within the city.³⁶

In the past year, employment in Parklands and North declined to 30,700 (-5,500), and the unemployment rate grew to 7.5%.³⁷ Following a recent decline in the economic regions' mining industry, there may be an opportunity for growth in the near future, as the provincial government issued an environmental licence for an estimated \$150 million silica sand mining project. Located near Seymourville and Hollow Water First Nation, the province anticipates that the project will create 150 jobs and run for nearly 50 years.³⁸

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 Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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¹ Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0287-01 Labour force characteristics, monthly, seasonally adjusted and trend-cycle, last 5 months, last modified July 6, 2019, accessed July 6, 2019

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