



# Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

July 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

Employment in Manitoba was essentially unchanged on the month, as a small decline in full-time work (-5,300) was offset by a near equally sized increase in part-time work (+5,200). Compared to July of last year, employment grew by a modest 0.5%, placing Manitoba eighth among provinces in terms of job growth.<sup>1</sup> Over the same period, the number of employees in both the public and private sectors rose, up 1.8% and 0.5% respectively. Self-employment, however, declined (-1.6%).<sup>2</sup>

As Manitoba's farmers continue to be challenged by the on-going U.S.-China trade war, they may experience a slight additional financial hit this winter should the United Kingdom (U.K.) proceed with a no-deal exit from the European Union. In 2018, Manitoba exported over \$67 million in goods to the U.K., with the majority being agriculture products.<sup>3</sup> Under a no-deal -exit, the U.K. will leave the European Union, including the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement between the E.U. and Canada.<sup>4</sup> With a risk of tariffs between Canada and the United Kingdom, and prolonged trade wars weakening the global economy, it may be difficult for Manitoba's leading exporters to find new markets.

Hourly-paid Manitobans worked 29.2 hours on average in May (the most recent data available). This was eighth among provinces and below the corresponding figure nationwide (29.9 hours). Meanwhile, at \$955 per week, average earnings in Manitoba remain seventh among provinces, up 1.8% over the previous 12 months.<sup>5</sup>

In May 2019, the number of regular Employment Insurance (EI) beneficiaries edged down to 15,480, the second monthly decrease in a row. Year over year, the number of regular EI recipients in Manitoba was 1.5% lower than in May 2018, a smaller decline than seen nationwide (-4.3%).<sup>6</sup>

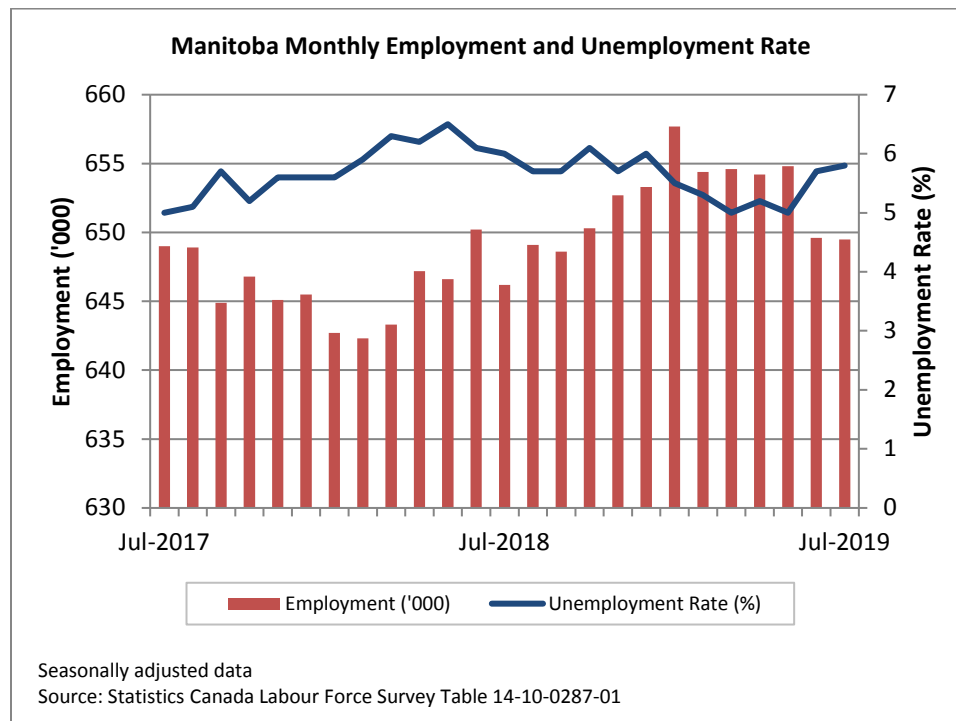
Month-over-month, Manitoba's unemployment rate inched up to 5.8%, the fifth lowest rate among provinces.<sup>7</sup>

## Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	1,038.2	1,036.2	1,026.0	2.0	0.2	12.2	1.2
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	689.7	688.7	687.2	1.0	0.1	2.5	0.4
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	649.5	649.6	646.2	-0.1	0.0	3.3	0.5
Full-Time ('000)	519.0	524.3	524.0	-5.3	-1.0	-5.0	-1.0
Part-Time ('000)	130.5	125.3	122.2	5.2	4.2	8.3	6.8
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	40.2	39.0	40.9	1.2	3.1	-0.7	-1.7
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.8	5.7	6.0	0.1	-	-0.2	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	66.4	66.5	67.0	-0.1	-	-0.6	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	62.6	62.7	63.0	-0.1	-	-0.4	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada – Table 14-10-0287-01, formerly CANSIM 282-0087



### Unemployment by major demographic grouping

On a monthly basis, the unemployment rate for Manitoba youth (age 15-24 years) increased slightly in July, up 0.2 percentage points to 12.3%. By contrast, the unemployment rate of those aged 25 years and older remained unchanged at 4.6%. Year over year, Manitoba's youth unemployment rate edged up 1.2 percentage points, whereas the unemployment rate for the 25+ age group eased by 0.4 percentage points. As is often the case in Manitoba, the unemployment rate for women was lower than for men in both age groups.

## Manitoba Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.8	5.7	6.0	0.1	-0.2
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.6	4.5	5.0	0.1	-0.4
Men - 25 years and over	4.8	4.8	5.3	0.0	-0.5
Women - 25 years and over	4.3	4.1	4.6	0.2	-0.3
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	12.3	12.1	11.1	0.2	1.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	15.2	14.7	11.6	0.5	3.6
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.4	9.3	10.5	0.1	-1.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

When compared to July of last year, employment in Manitoba's **goods producing sector** increased by 3.0% to 150,500. Employment was up sharply in construction (+4,700), and to a lesser extent in manufacturing (+800, and agriculture (+500). By contrast, employment declined in forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (-900), and utilities (-700).

Turning to **agriculture**, in July, some much-needed rain improved the growth of most crops across the province; yet more rain is required in the coming months.<sup>8</sup> This summer's earlier cool dry weather and overgrazing last fall has also created challenges for most of Manitoba's cattle farmers, who continue to search for new pastures for their herds. They may see some relief as the Government of Manitoba now allows farmers to graze their cattle and cut hay on crown land.<sup>9</sup> In addition, the federal government has released a list of regions eligible for federal tax relief under the Livestock Tax Deferral provision.<sup>10</sup>

Major **construction** projects are in full swing across the province, including the Keeyask hydroelectric project near Gillam, Roquette's pea-protein processing facility in Portage La Prairie, and the new 300 Main multi-purpose skyscraper in downtown Winnipeg.<sup>11</sup> Looking forward, over \$130 million in federal, provincial, and municipal funding will be invested in four projects to improve water and wastewater services in rural Manitoba. In addition, the federal government announced it will be providing \$8.8 million in funding towards the cost of the new \$40 million Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada. The new museum will be constructed on the Winnipeg Airports Authority's campus and is scheduled to open in 2021.<sup>12</sup>

Thanks to the **food manufacturing sub-industry**, Manitoba's canola and pea farmers may see a slight increase in demand by 2020, as Merit Foods and Burcon NurtraScience, plan to build a new canola and pea processing plant near Winnipeg. At a cost of \$65 million, the facility would process up to 20,000 tonnes of yellow field peas a year, and an unspecified amount of canola. The plant will be the first facility in the world to produce a canola protein for human consumption, particularly protein products for either veggie burgers or various beverages.<sup>13</sup>

Manitoba's **manufacturing** industry is also likely to benefit from the recently announced \$4.2 million in federal funding for nine projects that support the steel and aluminum sector. The funding will support small- and medium-sized businesses in Winnipeg, Brandon, Arborg, and the Rural Municipality of Springfield with new equipment in order to increase productivity and create new jobs.<sup>14</sup>

Year-over-year, employment in Manitoba's **services sector** remained relatively unchanged at 499,000. Notable employment growth was seen in business, building, and other support services (+3,200), educational services (+3,200), and public administration (+1,600).

This July, the Government of Canada announced \$862,000 in funding towards four projects to support Manitoba's tourism sector and Francophone communities. The funding aims to promote Manitoba's cultural and linguistic diversity, and to develop snowmobile tourism in the north.<sup>15</sup>

### Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	July 2019	June 2019	July 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	649.5	649.6	646.2	-0.1	0.0	3.3	0.5
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	150.5	152.4	146.1	-1.9	-1.2	4.4	3.0
Agriculture	25.1	26.0	24.6	-0.9	-3.5	0.5	2.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	5.3	5.0	6.2	0.3	6.0	-0.9	-14.5
Utilities	6.4	6.4	7.1	0.0	0.0	-0.7	-9.9
Construction	50.5	49.6	45.8	0.9	1.8	4.7	10.3
Manufacturing	63.2	65.3	62.4	-2.1	-3.2	0.8	1.3
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	499.0	497.3	500.1	1.7	0.3	-1.1	-0.2
Trade	88.6	88.1	87.8	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.9
Transportation and warehousing	41.2	43.3	40.0	-2.1	-4.8	1.2	3.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	34.3	33.5	36.0	0.8	2.4	-1.7	-4.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	29.0	28.9	28.4	0.1	0.3	0.6	2.1
Business, building and other support services	23.7	22.3	20.5	1.4	6.3	3.2	15.6
Educational services	53.3	51.9	50.1	1.4	2.7	3.2	6.4
Health care and social assistance	100.7	101.8	105.1	-1.1	-1.1	-4.4	-4.2
Information, culture and recreation	23.2	22.6	23.8	0.6	2.7	-0.6	-2.5
Accommodation and food services	41.6	42.1	43.3	-0.5	-1.2	-1.7	-3.9
Other services	27.5	27.4	30.6	0.1	0.4	-3.1	-10.1
Public administration	35.9	35.4	34.3	0.5	1.4	1.6	4.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada – Table 14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Over the past year, employment increased in three of Manitoba's six Economic Regions (ERs). Perhaps not surprisingly, Winnipeg led employment growth in the province (+8,800), followed by Southwest (+2,000), and Interlake (+900). Over the same period, the unemployment rates in Winnipeg, Southeast, and Interlake declined, while increasing in Parklands and Northern, Southwest, and South Central and North Central.

### Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	July 2019 ('000)	July 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	July 2019 (%)	July 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Manitoba</b>	659.2	655.9	0.5	5.5	6.1	-0.6
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Southeast	61.9	64.0	-3.3	3.0	4.6	-1.6
South Central and North Central	53.8	55.4	-2.9	4.8	4.2	0.6
Southwest	58.7	56.7	3.5	5.2	4.2	1.0
Winnipeg	407.4	398.6	2.2	5.8	6.9	-1.1
Interlake	47.0	46.1	2.0	4.7	6.3	-1.6
Parklands and Northern	30.5	35.1	-13.1	8.7	4.9	3.8

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Compared to July of last year, employment increased by 2.2% in the **Winnipeg** region. As construction projects progress across the city and surrounding area, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples has created new opportunities for development. In July – and after years of negotiation – the Peguis First Nation officially established an urban reserve in Winnipeg.<sup>16</sup> Construction of a multi-development complex on the new reserve began earlier this year, with the first phase now complete. The \$30 million complex will be occupied primarily by First Nation organizations and businesses.<sup>17</sup> In a somewhat similar vein, the Government of Canada announced it will be providing up to \$5.1 million towards the construction of the Metis National Heritage Centre in Winnipeg.<sup>18</sup> The new museum is planned for 2020.<sup>19</sup>

In **Southwest**, employment grew by 3.5% on the year. Despite the job gains the regional unemployment rate increased by 1.0 percentage points, as labour force growth outpaced employment. Over a year after the provincial government lifted the moratorium against new hog barns, the hog sector within the region continues to grow. For instance, HyLife plans to build four new nursery barns in the Boissevain-Morton area. The \$7 million construction project is expected to begin later this fall.<sup>20,21</sup>

Year-over-year, employment in the **Parklands and North** declined sharply, with the regional unemployment rate rising accordingly. Over the past several years, job losses were largely due to a decline in the region's mining sector, particularly in the centres of Flin Flon and Thompson. Nevertheless, the regional mining industry may rebound over the medium term, as the Rockcliff Metals Corporation's exploratory drilling program is set to continue in the Flin Flon-Snow Lake greenstone belt until the end of 2020.<sup>22</sup>

Further to the north, the first cargo ship left Churchill in roughly two years, with supplies for Nunavut's Kivalliq communities, including Arivat and Rankin Inlet. The rail line to Churchill had been in disrepair following a washout in the spring of 2017, when the previous owner Omnitrax refused to repair the tracks due to the high costs.<sup>23</sup> The Artic Gateway Group purchased the rail line and port last year, and completed repairs to the rail line last fall. As the rehabilitation of the Churchill port continues, the Artic Gateway Group is rebuilding the local re-supply business and operations. Looking forward, grain shipments are expected to be ready for export, although it is uncertain if past shipping volumes will be met as the Canadian Wheat Board, once the leading grain supplier for the port, was dissolved in 2012.<sup>24,25</sup>

**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 Information (LMI) Directorate, Service Canada, Manitoba

**For further information,** please contact the LMI team at: [http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cqi-bin/contact/esdc-esdc/eng/contact\\_us.aspx?section=lmi](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cqi-bin/contact/esdc-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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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

---

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0287-01 Labour force characteristics, monthly, seasonally adjusted and trend-cycle, last 5 months, last modified August 9, 2019, accessed August 9, 2019

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410028701>

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0288-01 Employment by class of worker, monthly, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, last 5 months (x 1,000), last modified August 9, 2019, accessed August 9, 2019

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410028801>

<sup>3</sup> Report – Trade Data Online, Import, Export and investment, Government of Canada online, last modified August 7, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019

<https://www.ic.gc.ca/app/scr/tdst/tdo/crtr.html?timePeriod=5%7CComplete+Years&reportType=TE&searchType=All&productType=NAICS&currency=CDN&countryList=specific&runReport=true&grouped=GROUPED&toFromCountry=CDN&areaCodes=101&naArea=P46>

<sup>4</sup> Brexit – Summary information for Canadian companies, United Kingdom, Country and sector information, Trade Commission Service, Government of Canada online, last modified April 15, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019

[https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/trade\\_commissioners-delegues\\_commerciaux/country-pays/united-kingdom-royaume-uni/information-brexit-renseignements.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/trade_commissioners-delegues_commerciaux/country-pays/united-kingdom-royaume-uni/information-brexit-renseignements.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0222-01 Employment, average hourly and weekly earnings (including overtime), and average weekly hours for the industrial aggregate excluding unclassified businesses, monthly, seasonally adjusted. Accessed June 10, 2019

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410022201>

<sup>6</sup> Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0011-01 Employment insurance beneficiaries (regular benefits) by province and territory, monthly, seasonally adjusted; Accessed June 10, 2019

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410001101>

<sup>7</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0287-01 Labour force characteristics, monthly, seasonally adjusted and trend-cycle, last 5 months, last modified August 9, 2019, accessed August 9, 2019

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410028701>

<sup>8</sup> CROP REPORT #14 –July 30 2019, Seasonal Reports, Agriculture, Government of Manitoba, last modified July 30, 2019, 2019, accessed August 6, 2019 <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/seasonal-reports/pubs/crop-report-2019-07-30.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> Crown land opened up to Manitoba cattle producers, The Western Producer online, last modified July 18, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.producer.com/2019/07/crown-land-opened-up-to-manitoba-cattle-producers-2/>

<sup>10</sup> 2019 Livestock Tax Deferral – Initial Prescribed Regions, Livestock Tax Deferral Provision, Drought Watch, Programs and services, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Government of Canada, last modified July 22, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/drought-watch/livestock-tax-deferral-provision/2019-livestock-tax-deferral-initial-prescribed-regions/?id=1563200329910>

<sup>11</sup> 300 Main, 300 THREE HUNDRED MAIN online, accessed August 8, 2019 <https://300main.ca/livecam/>

<sup>12</sup> TAKING FLIGHT TO A NEW LOCATION, ROYAL AVIATION MUSEUM OF WESTERN CANADA online, last modified July 23, 2019, accessed August 8, 2019 <http://royalaviationmuseum.com/>

<sup>13</sup> Ashley Robinson, Pea-protein craze lures second processing plant to Manitoba, BNN Bloomberg News online, last modified July 15, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/pea-protein-craze-lures-second-processing-plant-to-manitoba-1.1287449>

<sup>14</sup> Manitoba businesses benefit from support for steel and aluminum sector, Western Economic Diversification Canada, Government of Canada online, last modified July 26, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2019/07/government-invests-100-million-in-small--and-medium-sized-businesses-across-the-country.html>

<sup>15</sup> Government of Canada announces support for tourism and Manitoba's official language minority communities, Western Economic Diversification Canada, Government of Canada online, last modified July 29, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019

<https://www.canada.ca/en/western-economic-diversification/news/2019/07/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-tourism-and-manitobas-official-language-minority-communities.html>

<sup>16</sup> Peguis First Nation Establishes Urban Reserve in Winnipeg, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Government of Manitoba online, last modified July 10, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2019/07/peguis-first-nation-establishes-urban-reserve-in-winnipeg.html>

<sup>17</sup> Nicholas Frew, Portage Ave. property officially treaty land, Winnipeg Free Press online, last modified July 10, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/business/portage-ave-property-officially-treaty-land-512565202.html>

<sup>18</sup> Minister Bennet announces funding for Metis National Heritage Centre, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Government of Canada online, last modified August 7, 2019 <https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2019/07/minister-bennett-announces-funding-for-metis-national-heritage-centre.html>

- 
- <sup>19</sup> Sam Thompson, First-of-its kind heritage centre planned for Manitoba Metis, Global News online, last modified July 12, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://globalnews.ca/news/5487914/first-of-its-kind-heritage-centre-planned-for-manitoba-metis/>
- <sup>20</sup> Barry Lamb, Hog Barn Project Gets Go Ahead From Boissevain-Morton Council, Discover Westman online, last modified July 4, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.discoverwestman.com/local/hog-barn-project-gets-go-ahead-from-boissevain-morton-council>
- <sup>21</sup> Barry Lamb, Planning Continues For New Hog Barns North of Boissevain, Discover Westman online, last modified July 30, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.discoverwestman.com/local/planning-continues-for-new-hog-barns-north-of-boissevain>
- <sup>22</sup> Rockcliff to Commence 100,000 Metre Drill Program on its High-Grade Copper Properties in Snow Lake, Manitoba, Rockcliff Metals Corp. online, last modified August 1, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <http://rockcliffmetals.com/news/2019/8/1/rockcliff-to-commence-100000-metre-drill-program-on-its-high-grade-copper-properties-in-snow-lake-manitoba>
- <sup>23</sup> First ship docks at Churchill July 9 to load cargo bound for Nunavut, Thompson Citizen online, last modified July 10, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.thompsoncitizen.net/news/nickel-belt/first-ship-docks-at-churchill-july-9-to-load-cargo-bound-for-nunavut-1.23881220>
- <sup>24</sup> Churchill viewed as a viable surge port for prairie grain, says Al-Katib, RealAgriculture online, last modified June 12, 2018, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://www.realagriculture.com/2018/06/churchill-viewed-as-a-viable-surge-port-for-prairie-grain-says-al-katib/>
- <sup>25</sup> Ashley Robinson, Bloomberg News, Canada's arctic port of Churchill set for its first grain shipments since 2015, Financial Post online, last modified July 22, 2019, accessed August 7, 2019 <https://business.financialpost.com/commodities/agriculture/canadas-arctic-port-set-for-first-grain-shipments-since-2015>
-