



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Quebec



November 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 is experiencing a second consecutive decline, according to the latest estimates of *Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey* (seasonally adjusted data). The number of jobs shrank by 45,100 in comparison with the previous month, a 1.0%<sup>1</sup> decline resulting from full-time employment (-32,700 or -0.9%) and part-time employment (-12,400 or -1.5%). This decline also affects employed (private and public) and self-employed workers. A decline in employment was also noted in Canada as a whole (-0.4%) over the previous month, with the exception of employment increases in the provinces of Ontario (+0.2%) and Prince Edward Island (+0.1%).

### Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	November 2019	October 2019	November 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	7,077.0	7,071.8	7,011.6	5.2	0.1	65.4	0.9
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	4,579.6	4,597.9	4,525.3	-18.3	-0.4	54.3	1.2
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	4,325.0	4,370.1	4,280.1	-45.1	-1.0	44.9	1.0
Full-Time ('000)	3,514.5	3,547.2	3,475.5	-32.7	-0.9	39.0	1.1
Part-Time ('000)	810.5	822.9	804.6	-12.4	-1.5	5.9	0.7
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	254.7	227.8	245.2	26.9	11.8	9.5	3.9
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.6	5.0	5.4	0.6	-	0.2	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.7	65.0	64.5	-0.3	-	0.2	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	61.1	61.8	61.0	-0.7	-	0.1	-

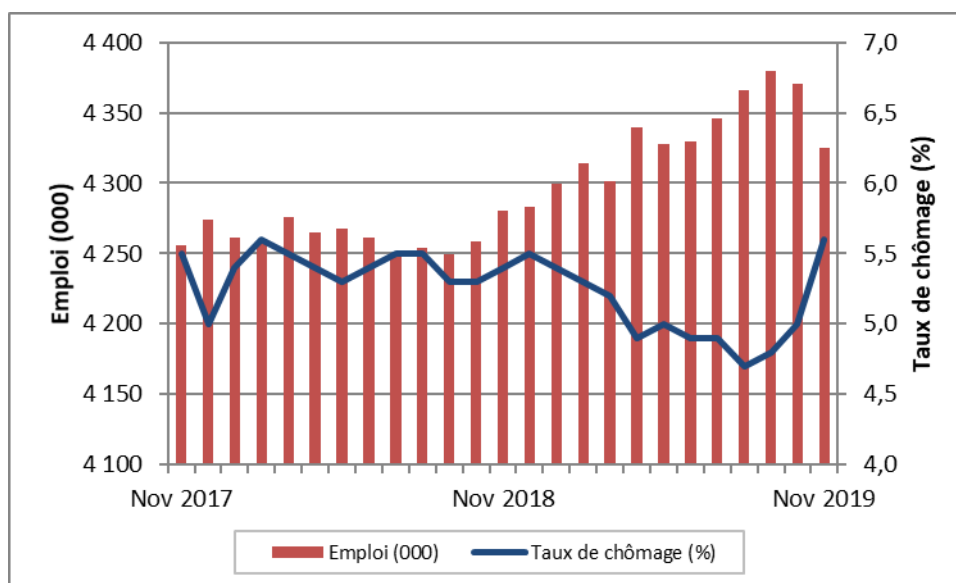
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

<sup>1</sup> When interpreting this decline, caution is required, given the high volatility of monthly employment results.

In spite of these monthly declines, the number of employed persons remains higher than it was 12 months ago, an increase of 44,900 jobs (+1.0%, nearing long-term employment growth). Most of these gains result from full-time employment (+39,000 or +1.1%), while the increase in part-time employment was slightly more moderate (+5,900 jobs or +0.7%). These gains were mostly made among the 15 to 24-year-olds and the 55-year-olds and over, but the result was negative for the 25 to 54-year-olds (-36,500).

**Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate**



In comparison with October, Quebec had an additional 26,900 unemployed persons, a noteworthy increase of 11.8%. Because of this increase in the number of unemployed persons and a decrease in the number of employed persons, the unemployment rate increased by 0.6 percentage points, reaching 5.6%, its highest rate in 21 months. The decrease in the number of employed persons can be explained by a decline in employment, which creates drop in the participation rate (-0.3 percentage points). Lastly, the employment rate also dropped, with a decrease of 0.7 percentage points in comparison with October, settling at 6.11 %. However, it remains slightly higher than it was 12 months ago (+0.1 percentage points).

**Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	November 2019	October 2019	November 2018	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.6	5.0	5.4	0.6	0.2
<b>25 years and over</b>	5.0	4.2	4.8	0.8	0.2
Men - 25 years and over	5.1	4.5	4.8	0.6	0.3
Women - 25 years and over	4.9	4.0	4.8	0.9	0.1
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	8.8	9.3	9.5	-0.5	-0.7
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.3	11.6	11.6	-0.3	-0.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	6.2	6.9	7.5	-0.7	-1.3

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

As for industries, the goods-producing sector and the services-producing sector experienced a decrease in the number of jobs in comparison with October. The goods-producing sector recorded a drop of 5,900 jobs (-0.7%). Manufacturing and the forestry, fishing, mining and oil and gas extraction industries experienced the greatest losses. However, jobs have increased in the construction industry and in agriculture, again in comparison with the previous month. In comparison with November 2018, the goods-producing sector posted an increase of 15,500 jobs, essentially owing to employment growth in the construction industry.

In the services-producing sector, employment decreased by 39,200 jobs (-1.1%) since October. Jobs decreased in most services-producing industries, the most significant of which were accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, as well public administration. Only trade and health care and social assistance experienced increases in employment in the last month. In comparison with 12 months earlier, the employment trend was positive for the services-producing sector. The most noteworthy increases occurred in health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, as well as professional, scientific and technical services. However, accommodation and food services, as well as business services, building services and other support services suffered significant job losses in comparison with November 2018.

**Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry**

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	November 2019	October 2019	November 2018	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	4,325.0	4,370.1	4,280.1	-45.1	-1.0	44.9	1.0
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	880.2	886.1	864.7	-5.9	-0.7	15.5	1.8
Agriculture	55.8	51.1	56.5	4.7	9.2	-0.7	-1.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	38.1	42.3	40.8	-4.2	-9.9	-2.7	-6.6
Utilities	23.6	25.3	29.2	-1.7	-6.7	-5.6	-19.2
Construction	277.8	265.0	253.5	12.8	4.8	24.3	9.6
Manufacturing	484.9	502.3	484.7	-17.4	-3.5	0.2	0.0
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	3,444.8	3,484.0	3,415.4	-39.2	-1.1	29.4	0.9
Trade	660.9	654.6	661.7	6.3	1.0	-0.8	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	234.7	244.2	219.0	-9.5	-3.9	15.7	7.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	246.5	251.2	238.5	-4.7	-1.9	8.0	3.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	349.1	349.8	338.4	-0.7	-0.2	10.7	3.2
Business, building and other support services	174.8	179.5	196.6	-4.7	-2.6	-21.8	-11.1
Educational services	304.4	307.0	303.5	-2.6	-0.8	0.9	0.3
Health care and social assistance	618.2	617.7	595.0	0.5	0.1	23.2	3.9
Information, culture and recreation	176.0	180.0	172.8	-4.0	-2.2	3.2	1.9
Accommodation and food services	249.7	263.1	272.7	-13.4	-5.1	-23.0	-8.4
Other services	177.7	178.8	169.9	-1.1	-0.6	7.8	4.6
Public administration	252.7	258.0	247.4	-5.3	-2.1	5.3	2.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

When looking at the non-seasonally adjusted data, the picture is different. Quebec accounted for 103,400 more jobs than in November 2018 (+2.4%). Employment increases have been noted in most economic regions. The largest employment increase occurred on the Island of Montreal (+51,700 jobs or +4.8%), in Montérégie (+31,800 jobs or +4.0%), in Lanaudière (+17,900 jobs or +7.2%), in the National Capital (+13,400 jobs or +3.5%) and in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean (+11,600 jobs or +9.6%). However, three economic regions suffered job losses in comparison with November 2018: the Laval region (-28,600 jobs or -12.0%), the Laurentians (-20,100 jobs or -6.1%) and la Mauricie (-4,800 jobs or -3.9%).

The greatest drops in the unemployment rate were noted in the Centre-du-Québec Region (-2.8 percentage points, settling at 1.5%) and in the Laval Region (-2.2 percentage points, reaching 3.2%), where a significant decrease in the number of job seekers was noted. There was also a decrease in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean (-1.0 percentage points, reaching 4.3%). Moreover, the Centre-du-Québec, the Montérégie and the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean posted their lowest unemployment rate since the beginning of the publication of these data, in 2001. Six regions saw their unemployment rate increase, the greatest of which was noted in la Mauricie (+2.0 percentage points, settling at 6.3%) and in the Laurentians (+0.7 percentage points, reaching 5.3%).

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

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	November 2019 ('000)	November 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	November 2019 (%)	November 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Quebec</b>	4,378.9	4,275.5	2.4	4.5	4.9	-0.4
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	33.9	31.9	6.3	12.2	13.1	-0.9
Bas-Saint-Laurent	91.3	90.5	0.9	4.1	4.1	0.0
Capitale-Nationale	399.6	386.2	3.5	2.8	3.7	-0.9
Chaudière-Appalaches	229.7	220.1	4.4	2.8	3.5	-0.7
Estrie	167.3	164.8	1.5	4.6	4.4	0.2
Centre-du-Québec	128.1	120.2	6.6	1.5	4.3	-2.8
Montérégie	824.6	792.8	4.0	3.3	4.2	-0.9
Montréal	1,126.0	1,074.3	4.8	6.4	6.3	0.1
Laval	208.9	237.5	-12.0	3.2	5.4	-2.2
Lanaudière	266.0	248.1	7.2	4.5	4.9	-0.4
Laurentides	311.5	331.6	-6.1	5.3	4.6	0.7
Outaouais	208.9	203.2	2.8	4.3	4.3	0.0
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	76.2	75.8	0.5	2.9	2.6	0.3
Mauricie	118.4	123.2	-3.9	6.3	4.3	2.0
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	132.2	120.6	9.6	4.3	5.3	-1.0
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	56.2	54.9	2.4	4.9	4.7	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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