



Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

June 2021



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

OVERVIEW

With the lifting of several health restrictions, Quebec's employment rose by 72,300 jobs (+1.7%) in June according to the latest results of Statistics Canada's *Labour Force Survey*. With 4,291,600 people employed, it is the highest employment level since the beginning of the pandemic (March 2020). This monthly boost is based entirely on part-time employment (+76,300 or +10.7%), while full-time employment did not vary much (-4,000 jobs or -0.1%). The majority of the jobs added are in the private sector. Employment was also on the rise throughout Canada (+1.2%), thanks to gains in Quebec, Ontario (+1.6%) and British Columbia (+1.6%).

However, the province has not yet reached its employment level of February 2020, before the start of the pandemic, posting a decline of 61,700 jobs (-1.4%). Considering the data by gender, the decline in the employment of women (-58,300 jobs or -2.8%) remains significant as it is practically non-existent for men (-3,400 jobs or -0.1%). With regard to age groups, employment of people aged 55 years and older exceeded its pre-pandemic rate (+1.6%), while declines are still being observed in the age groups 15 to 24 (-1.8%) and 25 to 54 years old (-2.3%).

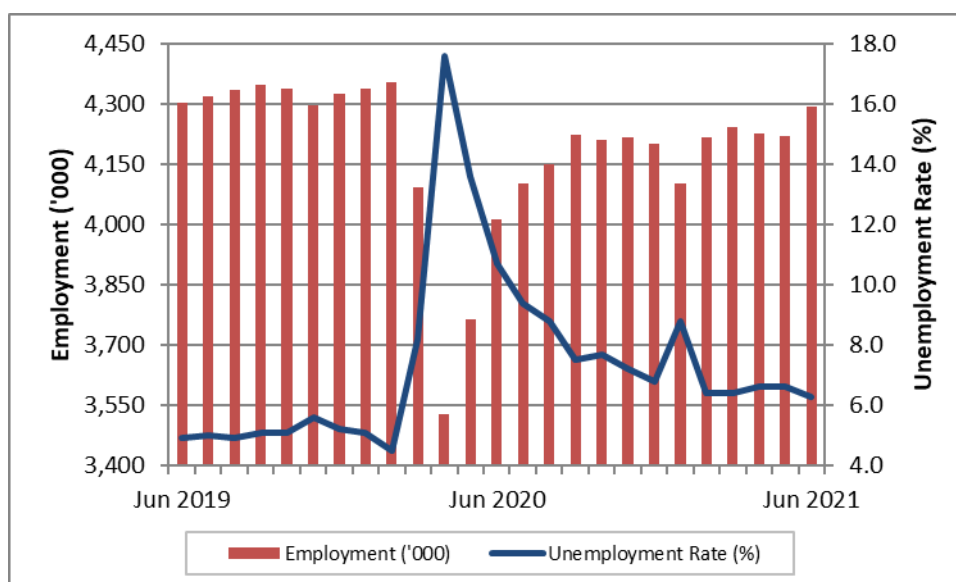
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	June 2021	May 2021	June 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	7,093.6	7,091.5	7,048.8	2.1	0.0	44.8	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	4,578.6	4,515.3	4,492.5	63.3	1.4	86.1	1.9
Employment ('000)	4,291.6	4,219.3	4,012.0	72.3	1.7	279.6	7.0
Full-Time ('000)	3,499.7	3,503.7	3,348.6	-4.0	-0.1	151.1	4.5
Part-Time ('000)	791.9	715.6	663.5	76.3	10.7	128.4	19.4
Unemployment ('000)	287.0	296.0	480.4	-9.0	-3.0	-193.4	-40.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.3	6.6	10.7	-0.3	-	-4.4	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.5	63.7	63.7	0.8	-	0.8	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.5	59.5	56.9	1.0	-	3.6	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



The number of unemployed declined by 9,000, compared with May, to reach 287,000. Therefore, the unemployment rate declined 0.3 percentage points to 6.3%, the lowest unemployment rate posted by any of the 10 Canadian provinces. In comparison, the Canadian unemployment rate reached 7.8%, a decline of 0.4 percentage points. With the rise in employment, the participation and employment rates also improved, increasing to 64.5% and 60.5%, respectively.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	June 2021	May 2021	June 2020	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	6.3	6.6	10.7	-0.3	-4.4
25 years and over	6.0	6.0	8.8	0.0	-2.8
Men - 25 years and over	6.1	6.0	8.2	0.1	-2.1
Women - 25 years and over	5.9	6.0	9.4	-0.1	-3.5
15 to 24 years	8.0	10.0	22.8	-2.0	-14.8
Men - 15 to 24 years	8.5	9.9	25.9	-1.4	-17.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	7.4	10.1	19.4	-2.7	-12.0

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In terms of industries, accommodation and food services (+32,200 jobs or +20.4%) posted the most significant growth compared with previous month, as restaurants were able to reopen their dining rooms and patios across Quebec before the LFS reference week. However, the industry's employment rate is far from reaching its pre-pandemic rate, posting a decline of 26.6%. Retail and wholesale trade (+13,700 jobs or +2.1%); educational services (+10,100 jobs or +2.8%); and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+9,000 jobs or +3.4%) also recorded notable increases in employment over May. In contrast, four industries posted declines compared with the previous month, the most significant being public administration (-10,500 jobs -4.1%) and forestry, fisheries and mining (-5,800 jobs -13.3%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	June 2021	May 2021	June 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,291.6	4,219.3	4,012.0	72.3	1.7	279.6	7.0
Goods-producing sector	886.1	892.3	825.3	-6.2	-0.7	60.8	7.4
Agriculture	58.5	56.9	54.4	1.6	2.8	4.1	7.5
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	37.8	43.6	31.6	-5.8	-13.3	6.2	19.6
Utilities	28.1	30.1	24.0	-2.0	-6.6	4.1	17.1
Construction	286.8	286.8	250.5	0.0	0.0	36.3	14.5
Manufacturing	474.9	474.8	464.9	0.1	0.0	10.0	2.2
Services-producing sector	3,405.5	3,327.0	3,186.7	78.5	2.4	218.8	6.9
Trade	660.5	646.8	629.9	13.7	2.1	30.6	4.9
Transportation and warehousing	228.1	229.0	218.0	-0.9	-0.4	10.1	4.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	276.6	267.6	248.9	9.0	3.4	27.7	11.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	357.7	356.0	321.7	1.7	0.5	36.0	11.2
Business, building and other support services	162.2	155.0	170.9	7.2	4.6	-8.7	-5.1
Educational services	373.1	363.0	306.6	10.1	2.8	66.5	21.7
Health care and social assistance	600.3	591.9	604.2	8.4	1.4	-3.9	-0.6
Information, culture and recreation	161.4	158.9	154.9	2.5	1.6	6.5	4.2
Accommodation and food services	189.8	157.6	161.2	32.2	20.4	28.6	17.7
Other services	152.7	147.6	140.3	5.1	3.5	12.4	8.8
Public administration	243.1	253.6	230.1	-10.5	-4.1	13.0	5.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Labour Force Survey data for the economic regions are three-month non-seasonally adjusted moving averages; the June data therefore correspond to an average of April, May and June.

All of Quebec economic regions posted significant increases in employment compared with their June 2020 rates, when the labour market was barely starting to recover from the first lockdown. However, only five economic regions recorded employment rates higher than those in June 2019, where the situation was more positive (and even reached full employment in some regions): Laval (+8,500 jobs or +3.9%), Lanaudière (+5,800 jobs or +2.2%), Montréal (+18,000 jobs or +1.7%), Mauricie (+1,000 jobs or +0.8%) and Montérégie (+1,800 jobs or +0.2%).

All economic regions posted significant drops in their unemployment rates compared with June 2020. The economic regions that posted lower unemployment rates in Quebec in June 2021 were Chaudière-Appalaches (3.6%), Lanaudière (3.8%) and Centre-du-Québec (3.9%). In contrast, the economic regions with the highest unemployment rate were Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (11.1%), Montréal (9.5%) and Laval (7.1%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	June 2021 ('000)	June 2020 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	June 2021 (%)	June 2020 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,274.8	3,800.0	12.5	6.4	13.8	-7.4
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	34.4	29.2	17.8	11.1	14.6	-3.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	87.8	79.7	10.2	5.3	12.6	-7.3
Capitale-Nationale	378.0	341.9	10.6	5.3	11.5	-6.2
Chaudière-Appalaches	215.1	208.1	3.4	3.6	10.3	-6.7
Estrie	161.7	150.6	7.4	4.8	11.0	-6.2
Centre-du-Québec	129.4	113.4	14.1	3.9	11.8	-7.9
Montréal	813.2	729.7	11.4	5.5	14.0	-8.5
Montréal	1,077.5	938.4	14.8	9.5	16.3	-6.8
Laval	227.7	193.4	17.7	7.1	13.2	-6.1
Lanaudière	264.7	258.0	2.6	3.8	13.6	-9.8
Laurentides	314.1	243.1	29.2	5.6	14.6	-9.0
Outaouais	196.1	179.1	9.5	6.1	11.4	-5.3
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	75.2	62.3	20.7	4.2	11.6	-7.4
Mauricie	124.9	116.3	7.4	5.7	12.8	-7.1
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	124.2	110.7	12.2	6.5	17.2	-10.7
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	50.7	45.9	10.5	4.2	14.2	-10.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0387

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, 2021, all rights reserved