



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Newfoundland and Labrador

April 2021



This Labour Market Bulletin is a report providing an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, including the regions of Avalon Peninsula, West Coast—Northern Peninsula—Labrador, Notre Dame—Central Bonavista Bay and South Coast—Burin Peninsula.

### OVERVIEW

In April, employment in the province decreased (-1,200) compared to the previous month, mainly in full-time positions. In contrast, the size of the labour force increased. These two changes resulted in a higher unemployment rate compared to March. Both employment and labour force sizes were notably larger than a year ago, when the economy virtually closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and brought employment to its lowest level in more than 20 years.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

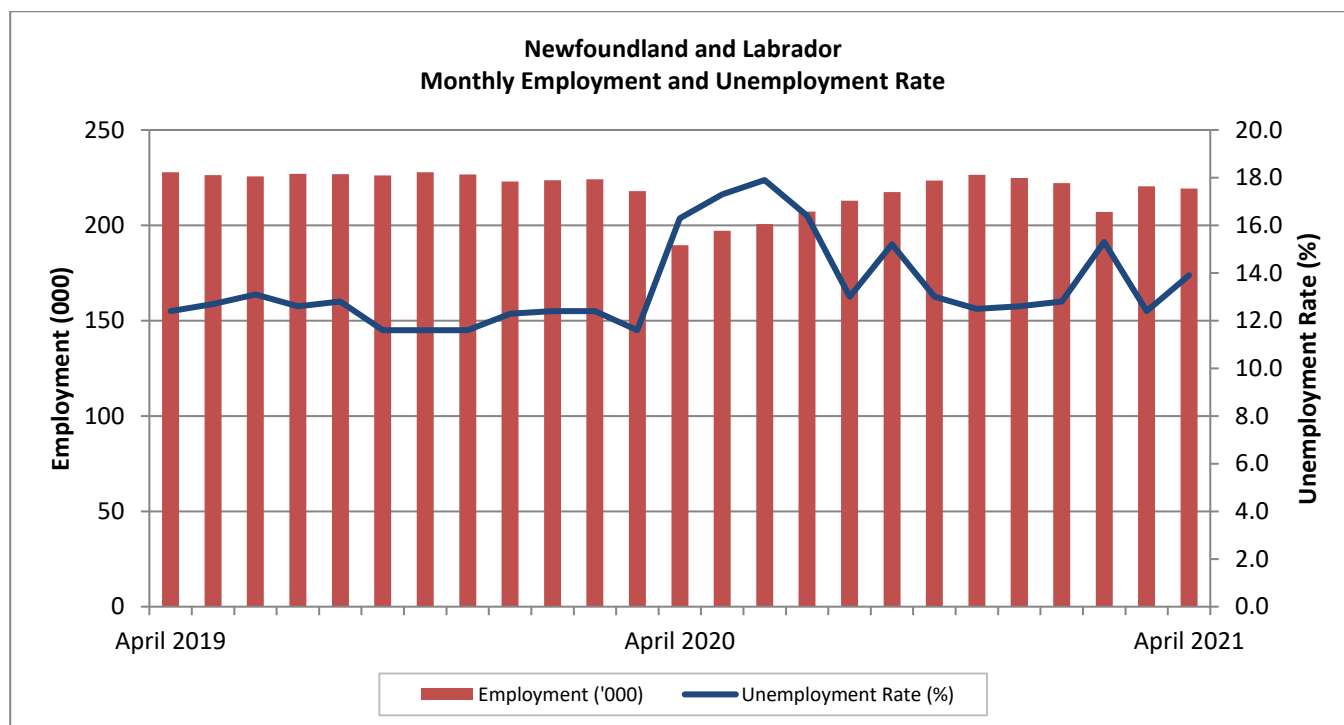
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	April 2021	March 2021	April 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	445.0	445.1	445.7	-0.1	0.0	-0.7	-0.2
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	254.6	251.6	226.4	3.0	1.2	28.2	12.5
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	219.3	220.5	189.5	-1.2	-0.5	29.8	15.7
Full-Time ('000)	184.4	186.4	161.1	-2.0	-1.1	23.3	14.5
Part-Time ('000)	34.9	34.1	28.4	0.8	2.3	6.5	22.9
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	35.3	31.2	36.9	4.1	13.1	-1.6	-4.3
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	13.9	12.4	16.3	1.5	-	-2.4	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	57.2	56.5	50.8	0.7	-	6.4	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	49.3	49.5	42.5	-0.2	-	6.8	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Prior to April of 2020, the unemployment rate was generally stable, near 12% since the fall of 2018. This was because the size of the labour force moved in line with changing employment levels over this time. However,

employment declined by nearly 30,000 jobs in April of 2020, raising the unemployment rate considerably through the summer of 2020. Since last April, the province has regained most of this employment loss, with the unemployment rate typically near 13% since August of last year.



Males aged 25 years and older experienced most of the monthly employment loss. Combined with growth in labour force size, the unemployment rate for this group increased over the previous month. In contrast, females aged 25 years and older showed little change.

While youth (ages 15 to 24 years) had virtually no monthly change in employment, the group’s unemployment rate increased since there are more youth in the labour market.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	April 2021	March 2021	April 2020	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	13.9	12.4	16.3	1.5	-2.4
<b>25 years and over</b>	12.9	11.7	15.0	1.2	-2.1
Men - 25 years and over	16.4	14.1	19.7	2.3	-3.3
Women - 25 years and over	9.1	9.0	10.0	0.1	-0.9
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	19.6	16.7	25.3	2.9	-5.7
Men - 15 to 24 years	21.4	14.2	31.7	7.2	-10.3
Women - 15 to 24 years	17.5	19.6	20.1	-2.1	-2.6

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

While employment in the **goods-producing sector** (+100) was virtually unchanged from the previous month, **construction** (-2,800) had one of its largest losses on record. Employment in this industry was similar to what it was a year ago, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This loss was offset by a strong gain in **manufacturing** (+2,500), as employment in that industry rose to its highest level in five years. The increase was mainly in the manufacturing of non-durable goods.

The **services-producing sector** (-1,200) lost jobs in April, mainly due to losses in **information, culture and recreation** (-2,100), as well as **health care and social assistance** (-1,300); falling from its record high in March. **Transportation and warehousing** (-600) continued to show weakness, with the industry near a record low since the start of 2021.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	April 2021	March 2021	April 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	219.3	220.5	189.5	-1.2	-0.5	29.8	15.7
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	43.2	43.1	34.5	0.1	0.2	8.7	25.2
Agriculture	1.1	0.6	1.7	0.5	83.3	-0.6	-35.3
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	13.0	12.7	9.3	0.3	2.4	3.7	39.8
Utilities	2.5	2.8	2.4	-0.3	-10.7	0.1	4.2
Construction	14.5	17.3	14.7	-2.8	-16.2	-0.2	-1.4
Manufacturing	12.1	9.6	6.4	2.5	26.0	5.7	89.1
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	176.1	177.3	155.0	-1.2	-0.7	21.1	13.6
Trade	37.8	38.3	30.5	-0.5	-1.3	7.3	23.9
Transportation and warehousing	8.2	8.8	8.7	-0.6	-6.8	-0.5	-5.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	7.2	7.2	5.8	0.0	0.0	1.4	24.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.0	10.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	20.5
Business, building and other support services	8.1	7.3	6.7	0.8	11.0	1.4	20.9
Educational services	16.3	15.5	16.5	0.8	5.2	-0.2	-1.2
Health care and social assistance	43.8	45.1	37.5	-1.3	-2.9	6.3	16.8
Information, culture and recreation	4.9	7.0	4.3	-2.1	-30.0	0.6	14.0
Accommodation and food services	11.7	11.0	13.1	0.7	6.4	-1.4	-10.7
Other services	8.6	7.6	8.7	1.0	13.2	-0.1	-1.1
Public administration	19.5	19.4	14.9	0.1	0.5	4.6	30.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Compared to a year ago, the only notable change in the unemployment rate was an increase in the South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay region. The Avalon Peninsula region was the only area with an employment loss.

The **Avalon Peninsula** economic region had a slight dip in employment compared to a year ago, but the unemployment rate was unchanged since the size of the labour force also fell. Construction and educational services had strong losses compared to a year ago, while public administration has risen.

In the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay** economic region, the unemployment rate was higher compared to a year earlier. The size of the labour force increased faster than employment. Manufacturing had a strong gain, while the services-producing sector produced mixed results.

In the **West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador** economic region, labour force growth exceeded employment growth, raising the unemployment rate slightly. Employment has risen for the past seven months, concentrated in full-time work. The goods-producing sector had its first increase in more than a year. Health care and social assistance has been the main source of growth in the services-producing sector.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	April 2021 ('000)	April 2020 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	April 2021 (%)	April 2020 (%)	Yearly Variation (%)
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	205.2	201.7	1.7	15.9	15.3	0.6
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Avalon Peninsula	120.8	121.6	-0.7	12.5	12.5	0.0
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	44.8	43.9	2.1	22.2	19.7	2.5
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	39.6	36.3	9.1	18.2	18.6	-0.4

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.

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