



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Newfoundland and Labrador

July 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 July, employment fell slightly (-200) compared to the previous month. This was due to fewer part-time positions, which was almost offset by an increase in full-time positions. The size of the labour force declined by 1,200 persons, contributing to a decrease in the unemployment rate of 0.3 percentage points. Both the labour force and most notably employment increased compared to the same period last year (during the virtual economic halt caused by the COVID-19 pandemic).

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

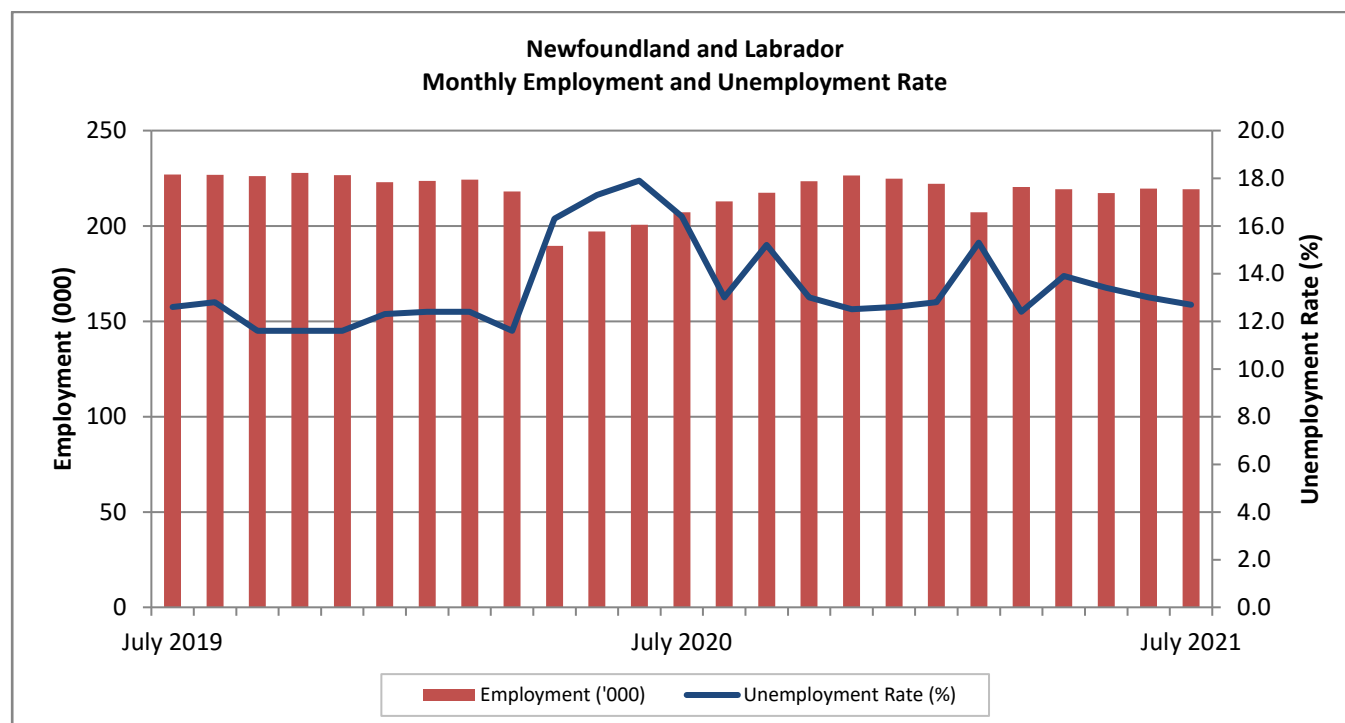
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	445.0	444.9	445.5	0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.1
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	251.2	252.4	247.9	-1.2	-0.5	3.3	1.3
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	219.3	219.5	207.2	-0.2	-0.1	12.1	5.8
Full-Time ('000)	186.2	184.3	172.1	1.9	1.0	14.1	8.2
Part-Time ('000)	33.1	35.2	35.2	-2.1	-6.0	-2.1	-6.0
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	31.9	32.9	40.6	-1.0	-3.0	-8.7	-21.4
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	12.7	13.0	16.4	-0.3	-	-3.7	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	56.4	56.7	55.6	-0.3	-	0.8	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	49.3	49.3	46.5	0.0	-	2.8	-

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 hovering near 13% since August of last year. Thus far in 2021, the unemployment rate has increased twice reaching a peak of 15.3% in February and 13.9% in April. Since April, there has been a steady decline and unemployment has returned to the near identical levels seen at the start of the year.



Males aged 25 years and older experienced the largest monthly employment loss in the latest month, mostly in part-time positions. Combined with a decline in labour force size, the unemployment rate for this group decreased over the previous month. In contrast, there was an increase in employment for females of the same age group, while the labour force increased in size, resulting in a higher unemployment rate.

The unemployment rate for youth (ages 15 to 24 years) showed a notable decline from June. This was mainly due to a drop in the size of the labour force. This group's unemployment rate was just over 9 percentage points lower than it was a year earlier – reflecting the improvement seen in key industries employing youth.

**Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
	%	%	%		
<b>Total</b>	12.7	13.0	16.4	-0.3	-3.7
<b>25 years and over</b>	12.4	12.5	15.3	-0.1	-2.9
Men - 25 years and over	15.7	15.8	18.4	-0.1	-2.7
Women - 25 years and over	8.9	8.8	12.0	0.1	-3.1
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	14.7	16.7	24.1	-2.0	-9.4
Men - 15 to 24 years	16.3	21.0	31.5	-4.7	-15.2
Women - 15 to 24 years	12.8	11.9	15.8	0.9	-3.0

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment in the **goods-producing sector** increased slightly over the previous month (+300). Much of the employment increase was in **manufacturing** (+700), an industry that has posted solid job growth over the year. **Utilities** declined (-400) reaching its lowest since 2010. **Construction** declined (-300) after recovering most of the loss it experienced in April last month. Employment grew in all the remaining industries compared to June.

The **services-producing sector** recorded a slight drop in employment in June. A handful of industries contributed to this trend: **Business, building and other support services** (-1,300) saw employment fall to its lowest since 2018, while **health care and social assistance**, and **professional, scientific and technical services** both cut their workforce by 600. **Educational services** had the largest job gain among broad industry groups, up 900. While **transportation and warehousing** recovered from its record low in May 2021, adding 700 jobs in July, employment is still about 20% below pre-COVID levels. **Public administration** reached a record high in employment, supported by growth of more than 20% from a year earlier.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	July 2021	June 2021	July 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	219.3	219.5	207.2	-0.2	-0.1	12.1	5.8
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	44.0	43.7	37.4	0.3	0.7	6.6	17.6
Agriculture	2.5	2.2	1.2	0.3	13.6	1.3	108.3
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	13.0	12.9	12.7	0.1	0.8	0.3	2.4
Utilities	1.7	2.1	2.5	-0.4	-19.0	-0.8	-32.0
Construction	15.8	16.1	14.1	-0.3	-1.9	1.7	12.1
Manufacturing	11.0	10.3	6.9	0.7	6.8	4.1	59.4
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	175.3	175.8	169.8	-0.5	-0.3	5.5	3.2
Trade	37.1	37.3	32.4	-0.2	-0.5	4.7	14.5
Transportation and warehousing	8.8	8.1	10.2	0.7	8.6	-1.4	-13.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	6.7	6.9	8.7	-0.2	-2.9	-2.0	-23.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	9.7	10.3	9.8	-0.6	-5.8	-0.1	-1.0
Business, building and other support services	6.0	7.3	7.1	-1.3	-17.8	-1.1	-15.5
Educational services	16.5	15.6	14.1	0.9	5.8	2.4	17.0
Health care and social assistance	43.5	44.1	39.1	-0.6	-1.4	4.4	11.3
Information, culture and recreation	7.0	6.9	6.5	0.1	1.4	0.5	7.7
Accommodation and food services	11.5	11.4	14.9	0.1	0.9	-3.4	-22.8
Other services	7.9	7.9	10.1	0.0	0.0	-2.2	-21.8
Public administration	20.6	20.1	17.1	0.5	2.5	3.5	20.5

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 unemployment rate declined in all economic regions, with each area showing an employment gain. However, employment throughout the province remained lower than it was two years earlier, suggesting the labour market has yet to fully rebound from the impact of pandemic restrictions.

The **Avalon Peninsula** economic region's employment gain was mainly in full-time positions. Accommodation and food services, an industry that has suffered throughout the pandemic, had strong job losses compared to a year earlier, while gains were made in public administration as well as health care and social assistance.

In the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay** economic region, the unemployment rate had a very small decline as the size of the labour force and employment increased at similar rates. Employment in manufacturing was over twice as large compared to a year ago, while the services-producing sector produced mixed results.

In the **West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador** economic region, both employment and labour force grew, while the unemployment rate fell. Employment growth was concentrated in full-time work and in the services-producing sector, mainly in health care and social assistance.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	July 2021 ('000)	July 2020 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	July 2021 (%)	July 2020 (%)	Yearly Variation (%)
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	228.4	210.9	8.3	12.3	16.2	-3.9
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Avalon Peninsula	129.1	123.6	4.4	9.6	14.3	-4.7
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	54.1	48.2	12.2	15.4	18.7	-3.3
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	45.2	39.1	15.6	16.0	18.9	-2.9

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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