



# Labour Market Bulletin

## New Brunswick

## May 2022



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of New Brunswick, including the regions of Campbellton—Miramichi, Edmundston—Woodstock, Fredericton—Oromocto, Moncton—Richibucto and Saint John—St. Stephen.

### OVERVIEW

New Brunswick's labour market cooled off during May. Employment losses were significant with the number of full-time and part-time jobs declining by 1,600 and 2,400, respectively (3,900 in total). Meanwhile, the labour force contracted by 4,000 due to the participation rate decreasing by 0.8 percentage points. Total unemployment and the unemployment rate are relatively unchanged with unemployment decreasing by 100 and the unemployment rate increasing by 0.1 percentage points.

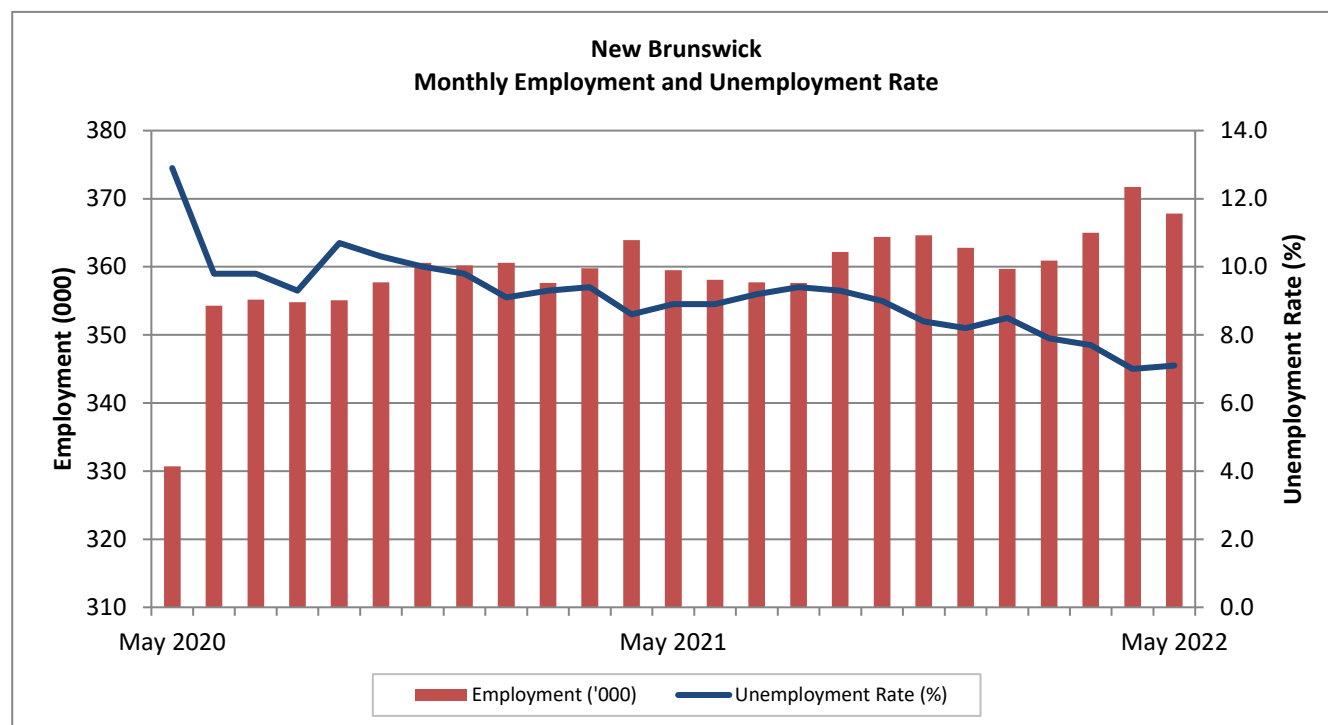
New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	661.3	659.7	649.3	1.6	0.2	12.0	1.8
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	395.7	399.7	394.6	-4.0	-1.0	1.1	0.3
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	367.8	371.7	359.5	-3.9	-1.0	8.3	2.3
Full-Time ('000)	315.8	317.4	302.3	-1.6	-0.5	13.5	4.5
Part-Time ('000)	51.9	54.3	57.2	-2.4	-4.4	-5.3	-9.3
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	27.9	28.0	35.1	-0.1	-0.4	-7.2	-20.5
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	7.1	7.0	8.9	0.1	-	-1.8	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	59.8	60.6	60.8	-0.8	-	-1.0	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	55.6	56.3	55.4	-0.7	-	0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Labour market outcomes significantly varied by age groups. Core-aged workers (aged 25 to 54 years) received the bulk of employment losses from April to May, at 3,700. The labour force declined by only 2,000 leading to the unemployment rate rising by 0.8 percentage points for this age group. However, at 6.0%, the unemployment rate is significantly below the average for all age groups (7.1%).



Seniors (aged 55 years and above) experienced little change in their labour market outcomes. Employment remained constant as a 100-person increase in the number of full-time jobs was offset by a decline of equal magnitude in the number of part-time positions. The labour force grew by 100, however this did not affect the unemployment rate of 8.8%.

New Brunswick Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	7.1	7.0	8.9	0.1	-1.8
<b>25 years and over</b>	6.8	6.2	8.6	0.6	-1.8
Men - 25 years and over	7.6	7.6	10.1	0.0	-2.5
Women - 25 years and over	5.9	4.7	7.0	1.2	-1.1
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	8.8	11.9	10.8	-3.1	-2.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	7.7	13.2	11.1	-5.5	-3.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.9	10.0	10.4	-0.1	-0.5

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

Labour market performance for youths (aged 15 to 24 years) was mostly positive. Employment for this group fell by 300 due to a decline of 1,000 for part-time employment and a gain of 700 full-time jobs. The labour force contracted by 2,200 resulting in the unemployment rate decreasing by 3.1 percentage points.

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment losses in May were evenly distributed amongst the **goods-producing sector** (-1,800) and the **services-producing sector** (-2,200). The decrease follows two months of growth for both sectors.

**Manufacturing** led the monthly employment losses in the goods-producing sector with a decline of 1,800. Employment losses were also present in **agriculture** (-900), and **utilities** (-400). **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** (+700) led the employment gains. The gains were driven by strong demand for natural resources such as oil and lumber. **Construction** employment also increased by 600.

Job losses in the services-producing sector were driven by **business, building and other support services** (-1,900), **educational services** (-1,400), and **finance, insurance, real estate and leasing** (-800). Monthly employment gains were present in **trade** (+1,500), **health care and social assistance** (+800), **accommodation and food services** (+500), and **transportation and warehousing** (+100).

New Brunswick Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	367.8	371.7	359.5	-3.9	-1.0	8.3	2.3
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	77.4	79.2	68.3	-1.8	-2.3	9.1	13.3
Agriculture	6.1	7.0	4.8	-0.9	-12.9	1.3	27.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	8.6	7.9	9.0	0.7	8.9	-0.4	-4.4
Utilities	4.4	4.8	3.9	-0.4	-8.3	0.5	12.8
Construction	30.1	29.5	22.5	0.6	2.0	7.6	33.8
Manufacturing	28.2	30.0	28.1	-1.8	-6.0	0.1	0.4
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	290.3	292.5	291.2	-2.2	-0.8	-0.9	-0.3
Trade	55.2	53.7	55.8	1.5	2.8	-0.6	-1.1
Transportation and warehousing	18.3	18.2	19.4	0.1	0.5	-1.1	-5.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	15.6	16.4	18.1	-0.8	-4.9	-2.5	-13.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	21.5	22.0	16.8	-0.5	-2.3	4.7	28.0
Business, building and other support services	13.2	15.1	15.0	-1.9	-12.6	-1.8	-12.0
Educational services	33.0	34.4	27.5	-1.4	-4.1	5.5	20.0
Health care and social assistance	57.8	57.0	61.6	0.8	1.4	-3.8	-6.2
Information, culture and recreation	9.5	9.7	9.9	-0.2	-2.1	-0.4	-4.0
Accommodation and food services	21.9	21.4	22.6	0.5	2.3	-0.7	-3.1
Other services	13.6	14.0	14.0	-0.4	-2.9	-0.4	-2.9
Public administration	30.8	30.9	30.5	-0.1	-0.3	0.3	1.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Employment losses were limited to the northernmost Economic Region (ER) of **Campbellton-Miramichi**. The remaining four regions' labour market outcomes are significantly improved on a year-to-year basis.

The **Campbellton-Miramichi** ER lost 2,700 jobs on a year-over-year basis. After 6 months of decreases, employment grew by 3,700 from April to May with the gains coming from full-time employment (+4,000). Compared to May of last year, the labour force grew by 2,600 resulting in the unemployment rate decreasing by 2.1 percentage points; however, the unemployment rate is still by far the highest in the province at 13.3%. This region recovered quickly from the initial effects of the pandemic but has lagged since the fall of 2020.

Jobs increased in the **Moncton-Richibucto** ER by 4,300 on a year-over-year basis. The significant gains in full-time employment (4,800) more than offset the decline in part-time employment (-500). The unemployment rate fell by 3.6 percentage points compared to May 2021 as a result of employment growing and the labour force remaining constant (-100).

The **Saint John-St. Stephen** ER experienced job growth of 1,400 on a year-over-year basis. The gains stem from a significant increase in full-time jobs (4,400) which make up for the steep decline in part-time employment (-2,800). The labour force contracted by 400 since May 2021 which resulted in the unemployment rate declining by 1.9 percentage points on a year-over-year basis.

The **Fredericton-Oromocto** ER added 2,400 jobs on a year-over-year basis thanks to a 2,500-person jump in full-time employment. Meanwhile, part-time jobs are relatively unchanged on a yearly basis (-100). The labour force expanded by 1,400 people resulting in a drop in the unemployment level of 1.4 percentage points.

The **Edmundston-Woodstock** ER has performed very well on a year-over-year basis with a yearly employment gain of 9.4% or 3,000 jobs. The gains come from full-time employment (+3,100), while part-time jobs (-100) remain relatively unchanged. The unemployment rate declined by 1.9 percentage points because of the labour force expanding by only 2,600 people.

New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2022 ('000)	May 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2022 (%)	May 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% Points)
<b>New Brunswick</b>	364.2	355.6	2.4	7.9	10.2	-2.3
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Campbellton-Miramichi	58.5	61.2	-4.4	13.3	14.4	-1.1
Moncton-Richibucto	115.5	111.2	3.9	6.2	9.8	-3.6
Saint John-St. Stephen	83.1	81.7	1.7	7.5	9.4	-1.9
Fredericton-Oromocto	72.0	69.6	3.4	7.0	8.4	-1.4
Edmundston-Woodstock	35.0	32.0	9.4	6.7	8.6	-1.9

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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