



Labour Market Bulletin

New Brunswick

July 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 improved slightly in July. Employment expanded by 1,200, as an increase in the number of full-time positions (+6,600) offset a decline in part-time jobs (-5,300). At the same time, 5,500 people entered the labour force, thanks to increases to both the participation rate and the working population. Month-over-month growth for the latter metric has topped 1,000 in each month since December 2021. With all the new labour force entrants, in July, the unemployment rate inched up by a full percentage point, to 7.1%.

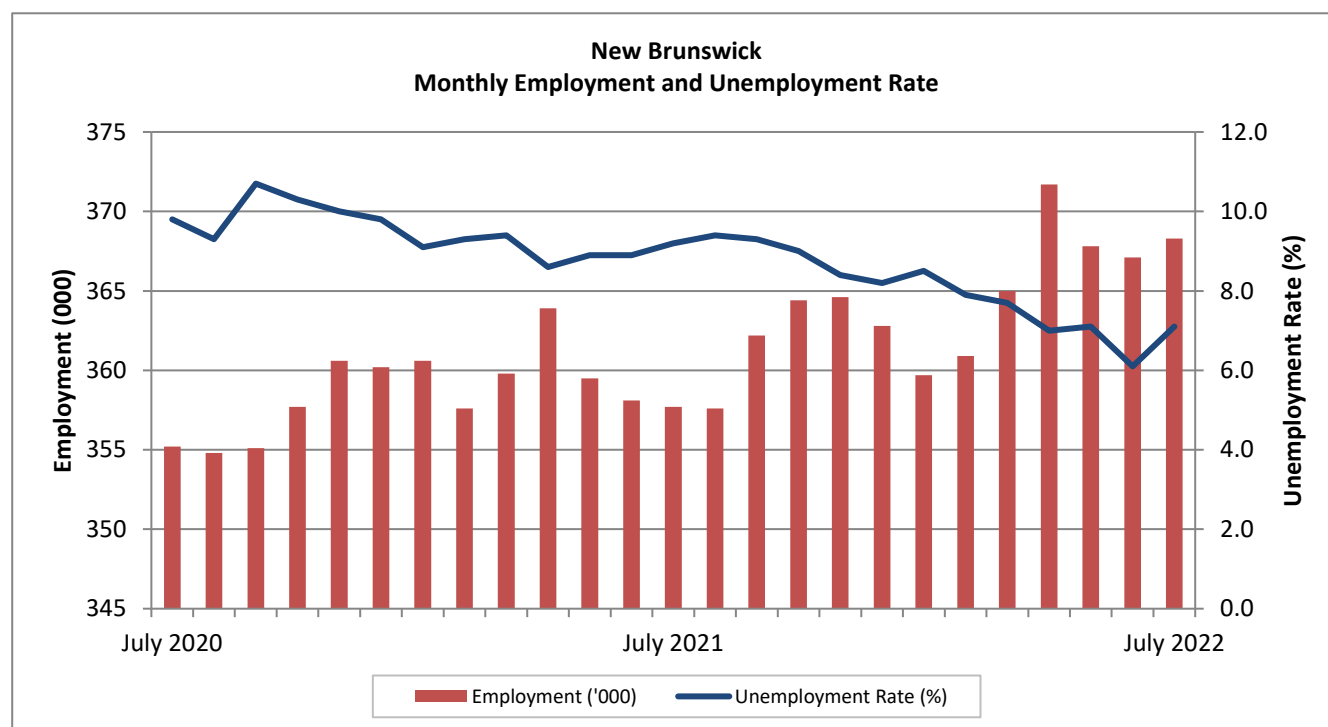
New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	664.4	662.6	650.2	1.8	0.3	14.2	2.2
Labour Force ('000)	396.6	391.1	394.0	5.5	1.4	2.6	0.7
Employment ('000)	368.3	367.1	357.7	1.2	0.3	10.6	3.0
Full-Time ('000)	323.2	316.6	302.7	6.6	2.1	20.5	6.8
Part-Time ('000)	45.2	50.5	55.0	-5.3	-10.5	-9.8	-17.8
Unemployment ('000)	28.3	24.0	36.3	4.3	17.9	-8.0	-22.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	6.1	9.2	1.0	-	-2.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	59.7	59.0	60.6	0.7	-	-0.9	-
Employment Rate (%)	55.4	55.4	55.0	0.0	-	0.4	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Core-aged workers (aged 25 to 54 years) generated the bulk of employment gains (+1,200) from June to July. Over half of all new entrants to the labour force (+2,900) fell into this group as well. A 0.7 percentage point increase in the unemployment rate reflects this surge in participation.



The labour market for youth (aged 15 to 24 years) was also improved, though to a lesser degree. The group's labour force expanded by an impressive 2,400, thanks to a sizeable jump in the rate of participation (from 63.5% to 66.1%). However, employment gains were negligible, at 400, with full-time gains just offsetting part-time losses.

New Brunswick Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	July 2022 %	June 2022 %	July 2021 %	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	7.1	6.1	9.2	1.0	-2.1
25 years and over	6.6	6.0	8.8	0.6	-2.2
Men - 25 years and over	7.5	6.9	10.6	0.6	-3.1
Women - 25 years and over	5.6	5.0	7.0	0.6	-1.4
15 to 24 years	10.4	7.0	11.6	3.4	-1.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.3	6.8	14.5	4.5	-3.2
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.6	7.1	8.6	2.5	1.0

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

Seniors (aged 55 years and above) experienced little change in July. Employment fell by 300, or 0.3% of the overall workforce, while 200 people entered the labour force. The net result was a slight increase in the group's unemployment rate (from 6.7% to 7.3%).

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment gains in July were concentrated in the **goods-producing sector** (+1,000), while the **services-producing sector** remained fairly flat, adding just 200 jobs.

The addition of a thousand jobs in the goods-producing sector reverses some of the 3,600 jobs lost during the two previous months. **Manufacturing** posted the largest month-over-month gain, with 900 new jobs, followed by **forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** (+400). The three remaining goods-producing industries shed jobs, though fairly insignificant amounts. Employment in **agriculture** fell by 200, while **utilities** and **construction** shed 100 jobs apiece.

Within the services-producing sector, **health care and social assistance** led all industries, with 1,500 additional jobs, while gains in **wholesale and retail trade** also exceeded one thousand (+1,100). Four other industries posted positive growth, but gains were sub-500. The bulk of job losses were experienced in **educational services** (-2,200), while again four other industries shed fewer than 500 jobs. In summary, aside from the three industries identified here, most industries did not experience much change.

New Brunswick Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	July 2022	June 2022	July 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	368.3	367.1	357.7	1.2	0.3	10.6	3.0
Goods-producing sector	76.6	75.6	70.0	1.0	1.3	6.6	9.4
Agriculture	6.2	6.4	5.9	-0.2	-3.1	0.3	5.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	7.4	7.0	8.6	0.4	5.7	-1.2	-14.0
Utilities	4.6	4.7	4.1	-0.1	-2.1	0.5	12.2
Construction	29.1	29.2	23.2	-0.1	-0.3	5.9	25.4
Manufacturing	29.3	28.4	28.2	0.9	3.2	1.1	3.9
Services-producing sector	291.7	291.5	287.7	0.2	0.1	4.0	1.4
Trade	55.5	54.4	57.1	1.1	2.0	-1.6	-2.8
Transportation and warehousing	18.4	18.1	19.9	0.3	1.7	-1.5	-7.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	15.5	16.0	17.3	-0.5	-3.1	-1.8	-10.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	21.5	21.4	16.8	0.1	0.5	4.7	28.0
Business, building and other support services	12.8	13.1	13.7	-0.3	-2.3	-0.9	-6.6
Educational services	31.4	33.6	25.7	-2.2	-6.5	5.7	22.2
Health care and social assistance	58.6	57.1	61.1	1.5	2.6	-2.5	-4.1
Information, culture and recreation	11.4	11.1	10.3	0.3	2.7	1.1	10.7
Accommodation and food services	20.8	21.3	20.3	-0.5	-2.3	0.5	2.5
Other services	13.8	13.3	14.2	0.5	3.8	-0.4	-2.8
Public administration	32.1	32.3	31.4	-0.2	-0.6	0.7	2.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

While employment gains were observed in each **economic region (ER)** in July, other outcomes were mixed for certain regions.

Year-over-year employment in the **Campbellton-Miramichi** ER was positive for the second month in a row, which is good news as, prior to this, the region experienced 10 consecutive months of decline. An impressive 2,800 jobs were added in July, bringing employment to its highest level (65,400) since the end of 2020. Over this period, a gain in the number of full-time positions (+4,600) more than offset a drop in part-time jobs (-1,800). Compared to July of last year, the labour force was little changed, with 300 additional participants, stemming mainly from an increase to the working population. The net result was a 3.7 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate, which landed at 8.9%.

Labour market performance in the **Moncton-Richibucto** ER was mostly negative in July. Employment growth was fairly flat (+200 jobs), while 3,500 people left the labour force. The latter occurred despite a sizeable working population influx (+5,400) and can be explained by a steep drop in the participation rate (from 67.5% to 63.8%). The unemployment rate fell by 2.7% points, but this was not a positive development as the drop was mostly due to a smaller labour force.

The **Saint John-St. Stephen** ER experienced job growth of 1,600 on a year-over-year basis. The gains stem from a significant increase in full-time jobs (4,700) which make up for a steep decline in part-time employment (-3,100). The labour force grew by much less (200) since July 2021, causing the unemployment rate to decline by 1.5 percentage points on a year-over-year basis.

The **Fredericton-Oromocto** ER added 4,100 jobs on a year-over-year basis, as an increase in full-time positions (+5,300) offset part-time job losses (-1,200). Meanwhile, the labour force expanded by 2,400 thanks to a jump in the working aged population (+3,100). The unemployment rate fell by 2.4 percentage points over this period, to 5.9% (tied for lowest in the province).

The **Edmundston-Woodstock** ER added 1,500 jobs in July, on a year-over-year basis as, once again, full-time job growth (+1,700) offset part-time job losses (-300). The addition to the labour force was somewhat smaller (+1,100), resulting in a 1.3 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate. At 5.9%, it is tied for lowest in the province.

New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	July 2022 ('000)	July 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	July 2022 (%)	July 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% Points)
New Brunswick	380.2	370.0	2.8	6.4	8.8	-2.4
Economic Regions						
Campbellton-Miramichi	65.4	62.6	4.5	8.9	12.6	-3.7
Moncton-Richibucto	118.2	118.0	0.2	5.0	7.7	-2.7
Saint John-St. Stephen	85.5	83.9	1.9	6.9	8.4	-1.5
Fredericton-Oromocto	74.6	70.5	5.8	5.9	8.3	-2.4

Edmundston-Woodstock	36.5	35.0	4.3	5.9	7.2	-1.3
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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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