



# Labour Market Bulletin

## New Brunswick

## August 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 was slightly improved in August. According to the most recent Labour Force Survey results, employment expanded by 1,900 as an increase in the number of part-time positions (+4,400) more than compensated for full-time losses (-2,600). At the same time, 4,200 people entered the labour force, thanks to increases to both the participation rate and the working population. Month-over-month, the latter expanded by an impressive 2,200, marking the largest gain since 1976, when the data series begins. With all the new labour force entrants in August, the unemployment rate inched up by 0.5 percentage points, to 7.6%.

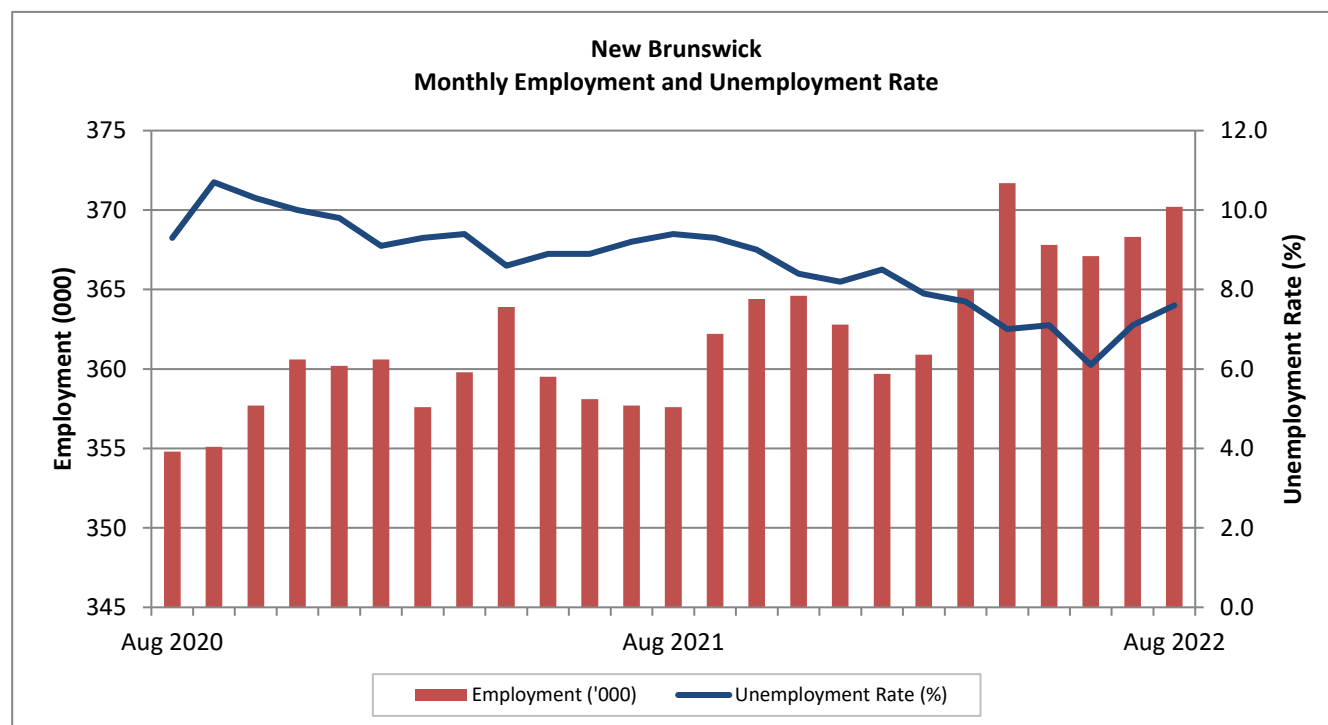
New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Aug 2022	July 2022	Aug 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	666.6	664.4	651.2	2.2	0.3	15.4	2.4
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	400.8	396.6	394.5	4.2	1.1	6.3	1.6
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	370.2	368.3	357.6	1.9	0.5	12.6	3.5
Full-Time ('000)	320.6	323.2	303.8	-2.6	-0.8	16.8	5.5
Part-Time ('000)	49.6	45.2	53.8	4.4	9.7	-4.2	-7.8
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	30.6	28.3	36.9	2.3	8.1	-6.3	-17.1
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	7.6	7.1	9.4	0.5	-	-1.8	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	60.1	59.7	60.6	0.4	-	-0.5	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	55.5	55.4	54.9	0.1	-	0.6	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Labour market outcomes were positive across all three major age groups, with youth (aged 15 to 24) leading the way. Within this group, employment expanded by 900 and this is where most of the province's part-time gains occurred (+3,100). Moreover, 2,200 young people entered the workforce thanks to a 2.3 percentage point jump in the participation rate. The unemployment rate jumped to 12.3% as labour force gains outpaced the addition of new jobs.



There were an additional 400 core-aged workers (aged 25 to 54 years) in New Brunswick, in August, thanks to the addition of 1,100 full-time jobs (part-time employment fell by 600). The labour force for this group expanded by nearly the same amount (1,000), thanks to an uptick in the working population, resulting in the unemployment rate remaining close to its prior month level (6.6%).

**New Brunswick Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Aug 2022 %	July 2022 %	Aug 2021 %	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Total</b>	7.6	7.1	9.4	0.5	-1.8
<b>25 years and over</b>	6.9	6.6	8.9	0.3	-2.0
Men - 25 years and over	7.7	7.5	9.7	0.2	-2.0
Women - 25 years and over	6.0	5.6	8.0	0.4	-2.0
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	12.3	10.4	12.3	1.9	0.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.7	11.3	13.7	2.4	0.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.8	9.6	10.9	1.2	-0.1

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

Seniors (aged 55 years and above) employment edged up by 600 in August as an increase in part-time employment (+2,000) offset a decline in the number of full-time positions. Once again, the labour force increased by a sizeable amount (+1,000), thanks to both an increase in the participation rate and working population. The net result was a slight increase in the group's unemployment rate (from 7.3% to 7.6%).

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment gains in August were concentrated in the **services-producing sector** (+2,500), while the **goods-producing sector** was little changed, adding 600 jobs.

Losses in the goods-producing sector were concentrated in **construction** (-1,200), which could reflect a slow-down in certain areas of residential construction. **Agriculture** and **manufacturing** each added 300 jobs, while **forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas** and **utilities** remained unchanged.

Within the services-producing sector, **health care and social assistance** led all industries, with 1,400 additional jobs, while gains in **finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing** also topped one thousand (+1,000). **Other services** (+900), **wholesale and retail trade** (+600), and **accommodation and food services** (+600) also added jobs. Job losses were spread across **business, building and other support services** (-900), **information, culture and recreation** (-400), **public administration** (-400) and **professional, scientific and technical services** (-100).

New Brunswick Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Aug 2022	July 2022	Aug 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	370.2	368.3	357.6	1.9	0.5	12.6	3.5
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	76.0	76.6	68.7	-0.6	-0.8	7.3	10.6
Agriculture	6.5	6.2	5.2	0.3	4.8	1.3	25.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	7.4	7.4	8.6	0.0	0.0	-1.2	-14.0
Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	12.2
Construction	27.9	29.1	23.6	-1.2	-4.1	4.3	18.2
Manufacturing	29.6	29.3	27.2	0.3	1.0	2.4	8.8
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	294.2	291.7	288.9	2.5	0.9	5.3	1.8
Trade	56.1	55.5	56.3	0.6	1.1	-0.2	-0.4
Transportation and warehousing	18.2	18.4	19.1	-0.2	-1.1	-0.9	-4.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	16.5	15.5	16.7	1.0	6.5	-0.2	-1.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	21.4	21.5	17.3	-0.1	-0.5	4.1	23.7
Business, building and other support services	11.9	12.8	13.4	-0.9	-7.0	-1.5	-11.2
Educational services	31.4	31.4	28.9	0.0	0.0	2.5	8.7
Health care and social assistance	60.0	58.6	60.0	1.4	2.4	0.0	0.0
Information, culture and recreation	11.0	11.4	9.9	-0.4	-3.5	1.1	11.1
Accommodation and food services	21.4	20.8	21.0	0.6	2.9	0.4	1.9
Other services	14.7	13.8	14.5	0.9	6.5	0.2	1.4
Public administration	31.7	32.1	32.0	-0.4	-1.2	-0.3	-0.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Labour market outcomes were positive throughout most of New Brunswick in August, with the exception of the Moncton-Richibucto Economic Region (ER).

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 had been in decline for nearly a full year. An impressive 4,900 jobs were added in August, as an increase in full-time employment (+6,600) offset a decline in the number of part-time positions (-1,600). The labour force expanded by 3,100 over this same period, thanks to a population increase and higher rate of participation. The net result was a 3.0 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate, which landed at 8.9%.

Labour market performance in the **Moncton-Richibucto** ER was mostly negative in August. Employment fell by 2,300, thanks to declines in both full-time and part-time jobs, while 4,500 people left the labour force. The latter occurred despite a sizeable working population influx (+5,800) and can be explained by a steep drop in the participation rate (from 67.8% to 63.5%). The unemployment rate fell by 1.6 percentage 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 2,500 on a year-over-year basis. The gains stem from a significant increase in full-time jobs (4,300) which make up for a decline in part-time employment (-1,700). The labour force grew by a little less (+1,100) since August 2021, causing the unemployment rate to decline by 1.6 percentage points on a year-over-year basis.

The **Fredericton-Oromocto** ER added 5,000 jobs on a year-over-year basis, as an increase in full-time positions (+6,700) offset part-time job losses (-1,600). Meanwhile, the labour force expanded by 3,000 thanks to a jump in the working aged population (+3,200). The unemployment rate fell by 2.9 percentage points over this period, to 5.8%.

The **Edmundston-Woodstock** ER added 400 jobs in August on a year-over-year basis as, once again, full-time job growth (+1,100) offset part-time job losses (-700). The labour force remained unchanged over this period, resulting in a 1.0 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate. At 5.4%, it is the lowest in the province.

New Brunswick Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Aug 2022 ('000)	Aug 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Aug 2022 (%)	Aug 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% Points)
<b>New Brunswick</b>	380.9	370.3	2.9	6.6	8.6	-2.0
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Campbellton-Miramichi	66.0	61.1	8.0	9.3	12.3	-3.0
Moncton-Richibucto	117.1	119.4	-1.9	5.7	7.3	-1.6
Saint John-St. Stephen	86.2	83.7	3.0	6.9	8.5	-1.6

Fredericton-Oromocto	74.6	69.6	7.2	5.8	8.7	-2.9
Edmundston-Woodstock	36.9	36.5	1.1	5.4	6.4	-1.0

*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.

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