



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

November 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 November, employment increased considerably (+9,100) compared to the previous month, reaching its highest level in nearly three years. Almost all of the gain was in full-time positions. The size of the labour force showed relatively little change (+300) over the same period, resulting in the lowest unemployment rate on record going back to 1976.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

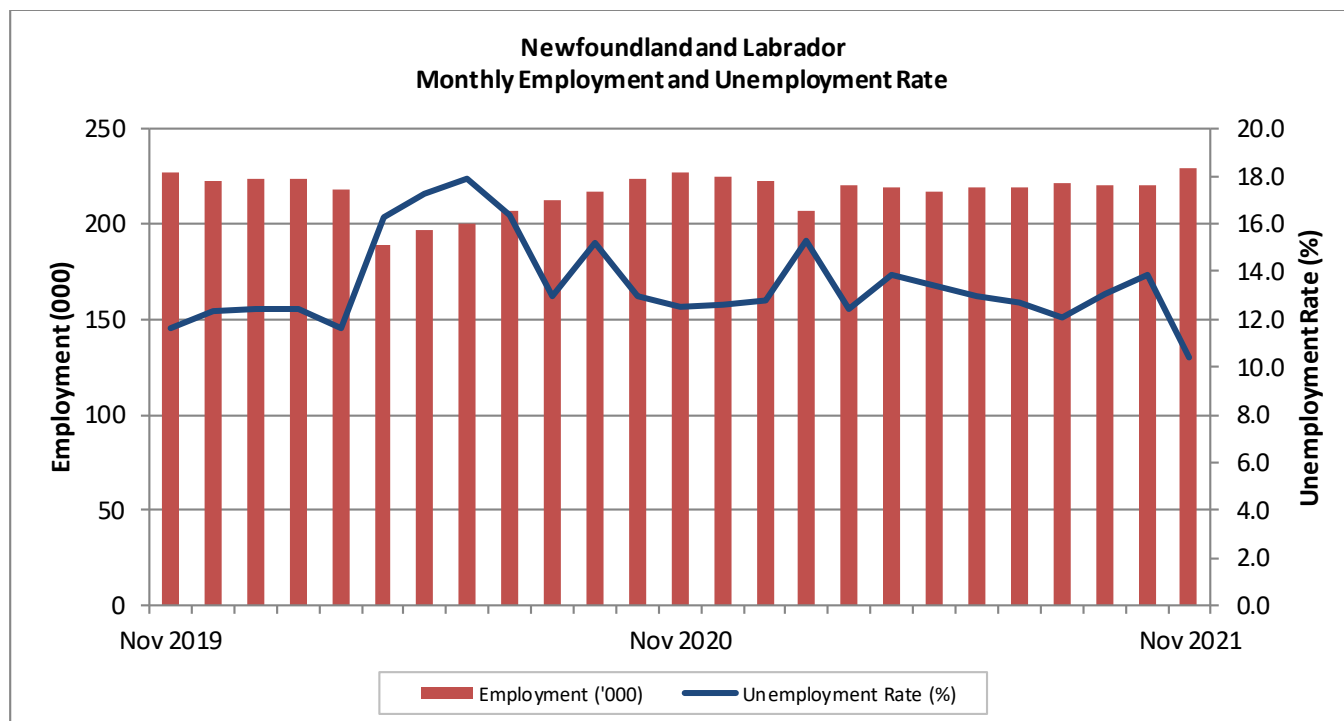
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	445.7	445.5	445.4	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1
Labour Force ('000)	255.5	255.2	258.6	0.3	0.1	-3.1	-1.2
Employment ('000)	228.9	219.8	226.5	9.1	4.1	2.4	1.1
Full-Time ('000)	195.0	186.4	188.8	8.6	4.6	6.2	3.3
Part-Time ('000)	33.9	33.4	37.7	0.5	1.5	-3.8	-10.1
Unemployment ('000)	26.6	35.4	32.2	-8.8	-24.9	-5.6	-17.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.4	13.9	12.5	-3.5	-	-2.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	57.3	57.3	58.1	0.0	-	-0.8	-
Employment Rate (%)	51.4	49.3	50.9	2.1	-	0.5	-

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 that year. By the fall of 2020, April's loss was recovered and employment levels remained generally

steady since that time, with the exception of November's sharp increase. Prior to November, the unemployment rate was typically near 13% over the past year, but this most recent job gain has significantly lowered the rate.



Small changes in labour force and employment size resulted in a lower unemployment rate for youth (ages 15 to 24 years). Compared to a year earlier, youth employment levels have decreased, mainly in full-time positions.

For those aged 25 years and older, males and females both experienced strong employment gains in November. For males, the increase in jobs was the largest since June of 2020, when the labour market started to rebound from the initial shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The size of the labour force for this group actually declined slightly in November, resulting in its lowest unemployment rate in two years. Employment rose for females of this age group (+3,600), but the labour force also grew (+2,400), resulting in a smaller reduction in the unemployment rate compared to males. Job gains for both genders were mainly in full-time positions.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2020	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
Total	10.4	13.9	12.5	-3.5	-2.1
25 years and over	9.7	13.0	12.1	-3.3	-2.4
Men - 25 years and over	12.4	17.4	14.3	-5.0	-1.9
Women - 25 years and over	6.8	8.1	9.8	-1.3	-3.0
15 to 24 years	14.5	19.1	14.7	-4.6	-0.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	20.2	22.7	12.4	-2.5	7.8
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.3	15.2	16.8	-6.9	-8.5

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment in the **services-producing sector** increased (+6,000) over the past month. **Health care and social assistance** (+2,700) had nearly half of the sector's gain, while **accommodation and food services** (+1,500) recovered the loss it experienced in the previous month. However, employment levels in this industry remained well below pre-pandemic levels (-30%), when a record high was set in February of 2020.

Employment in the **goods-producing sector** increased (+3,100) over the previous month. This was the first month where job losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic were recovered. Most of the gain was in **manufacturing** (+2,600), resulting in the highest number of jobs in the industry since April of 2012. **Construction** showed no change in November, leaving the industry 1,600 jobs lower than pre-pandemic levels. **Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas** (+800) continued its upward trend experienced over the past year, mainly due to mining activity throughout the province.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Nov 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	228.9	219.8	226.5	9.1	4.1	2.4	1.1
Goods-producing sector	47.4	44.3	45.1	3.1	7.0	2.3	5.1
Agriculture	0.5	0.7	0.9	-0.2	-28.6	-0.4	-44.4
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	15.3	14.5	13.1	0.8	5.5	2.2	16.8
Utilities	1.3	1.5	2.8	-0.2	-13.3	-1.5	-53.6
Construction	16.9	16.9	18.0	0.0	0.0	-1.1	-6.1
Manufacturing	13.3	10.7	10.4	2.6	24.3	2.9	27.9
Services-producing sector	181.5	175.5	181.4	6.0	3.4	0.1	0.1
Trade	38.3	37.6	35.8	0.7	1.9	2.5	7.0
Transportation and warehousing	9.1	9.4	10.3	-0.3	-3.2	-1.2	-11.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	5.8	5.8	7.7	0.0	0.0	-1.9	-24.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.8	11.3	10.3	-0.5	-4.4	0.5	4.9
Business, building and other support services	6.8	6.4	5.8	0.4	6.2	1.0	17.2
Educational services	18.3	18.7	16.9	-0.4	-2.1	1.4	8.3
Health care and social assistance	43.9	41.2	42.7	2.7	6.6	1.2	2.8
Information, culture and recreation	7.7	7.1	7.3	0.6	8.5	0.4	5.5
Accommodation and food services	12.7	11.2	16.5	1.5	13.4	-3.8	-23.0
Other services	8.2	7.2	8.9	1.0	13.9	-0.7	-7.9
Public administration	19.9	19.6	19.1	0.3	1.5	0.8	4.2

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, employment increased on the Avalon Peninsula, but declined elsewhere in the province. The unemployment rate fell in two of the province's three regions.

The unemployment rate on the **Avalon Peninsula** economic region declined for the seventh consecutive month, mainly due to strong employment growth. This region has shown year-over-year employment gains of 5,000 or more since May, led by full-time positions. Forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas led employment growth for the second consecutive month, with 3,200 more jobs than a year earlier, an 82% increase. Mining and oil and gas have led this growth. Manufacturing and construction had notable gains, but utilities lost jobs (-1,700) compared to twelve months earlier. Health care and social assistance has shown year over year gains in each month since July of 2020, while educational services also added jobs in November. However, accommodation and food services has struggled since the onset of the pandemic, with 4,300 fewer jobs than two years earlier (-39%).

In the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay** economic region, the unemployment rate fell as the size of the labour force fell faster than employment. Most of the loss was in the goods-producing sector, mainly in construction and manufacturing. In the services-producing sector, accommodation and food services has shown year-over-year losses of 1,000 jobs or more since February. However, public administration has experienced strong gains since July.

In the **West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador** economic region, the unemployment rate increased, as employment fell faster than the size of the labour force. Job losses were in full-time positions. The employment loss was the largest for this region since August of 2020. Forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas (-1,400) had its heaviest decline in over two years, while the drop in health care and social assistance (-1,400) was its largest since May of 2020. On a positive note, wholesale and retail trade (+2,000) grew strongly for the fourth consecutive month.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	Nov 2021 ('000)	Nov 2020 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	Nov 2021 (%)	Nov 2020 (%)	Yearly Variation (%)
Newfoundland and Labrador	226.1	224.4	0.8	11.1	11.9	-0.8
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	134.7	128.8	4.6	8.2	9.8	-1.6
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	49.8	51.7	-3.7	14.9	16.7	-1.8
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	41.7	44.0	-5.2	15.1	11.8	3.3

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

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http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi

For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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