



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Newfoundland and Labrador

April 2022



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 April, the unemployment rate matched a record low as employment increased (+2,500) but fewer people participated in the labour force (-3,300). Part-time employment rose sharply (+6,100). Full-time employment fell (-3,700) compared to a month ago, but remained higher than a year earlier (+4,500).

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

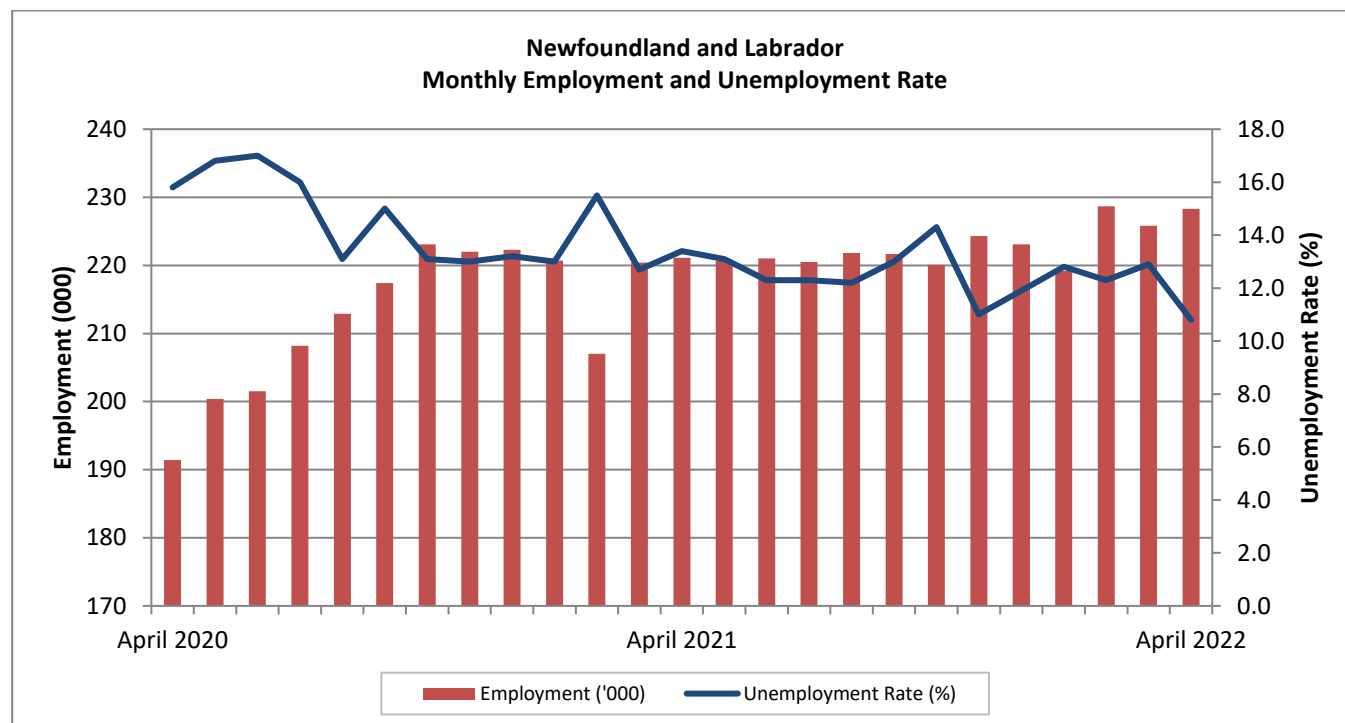
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	447.2	447.0	445.0	0.2	0.0	2.2	0.5
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	255.8	259.1	255.4	-3.3	-1.3	0.4	0.2
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	228.3	225.8	221.1	2.5	1.1	7.2	3.3
Full-Time ('000)	189.9	193.6	185.4	-3.7	-1.9	4.5	2.4
Part-Time ('000)	38.4	32.3	35.8	6.1	18.9	2.6	7.3
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	27.6	33.3	34.3	-5.7	-17.1	-6.7	-19.5
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	10.8	12.9	13.4	-2.1	-	-2.6	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	57.2	58.0	57.4	-0.8	-	-0.2	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	51.1	50.5	49.7	0.6	-	1.4	-

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, with an unemployment rate between 12% and 13%. In the past three months, employment has grown to exceed pre-pandemic levels, with the unemployment rate falling below 11% in April.



Most of the monthly job gain was among males 25 years of age and older (+2,300), resulting in this group's lowest unemployment rate since October of 2019. In contrast, females of this age group experience little change in employment overall (+600), but a drop in labour force size (-1,100) lowered the unemployment rate.

The unemployment rate for youth (ages 15 to 24 years) increased slightly over the previous month, as employment fell slightly faster than the labour force. However, both changes were small. A drop in full-time positions (-1,600) outweighed part-time job gains (+1,000). Compared to the pre-pandemic conditions of February of 2020, employment was higher (+2,000) while the labour force was quite similar in size (+300).

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

Seasonally Adjusted Data	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	10.8	12.9	13.4	-2.1	-2.6
<b>25 years and over</b>	10.5	12.9	12.6	-2.4	-2.1
Men - 25 years and over	11.6	15.0	16.0	-3.4	-4.4
Women - 25 years and over	9.3	10.7	8.9	-1.4	0.4
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	12.9	12.5	18.4	0.4	-5.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	15.6	18.6	21.5	-3.0	-5.9
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.8	5.2	14.9	4.6	-5.1

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Most of the monthly employment gain was in the **goods-producing sector** (+2,000), led by gains in construction (+1,000) and manufacturing (+600). Construction employment was more than 30% higher than a year earlier, due in part to higher residential activity and work on projects such as the development of a new mental health and addictions facility in St. John's.

Employment in the **services-producing sector** (+500) showed little change, though employment was higher than a year earlier (+3,500). Monthly changes were mixed throughout the sector. Leading the losses was the other services industry (-1,300), which includes repair and maintenance, and personal services. Health care and social assistance (-500) has experienced lower employment to date in 2022 than in the same period a year earlier. The strongest increase was in accommodation and food services (+1,600). This industry has faced considerable challenges since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, recent months have been more positive. The industry has not yet experienced a monthly loss in 2022, and the past three months have been the first since the pandemic began to show higher employment than a year earlier. In addition, public administration (+600) reached a record high in April.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	April 2022	March 2022	April 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	228.3	225.8	221.1	2.5	1.1	7.2	3.3
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	47.4	45.4	43.8	2.0	4.4	3.6	8.2
Agriculture	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.2	15.4	0.4	36.4
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	14.1	14.2	12.9	-0.1	-0.7	1.2	9.3
Utilities	1.6	1.4	2.4	0.2	14.3	-0.8	-33.3
Construction	19.7	18.7	15.0	1.0	5.3	4.7	31.3
Manufacturing	10.5	9.9	12.4	0.6	6.1	-1.9	-15.3
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	180.9	180.4	177.4	0.5	0.3	3.5	2.0
Trade	37.3	36.6	37.5	0.7	1.9	-0.2	-0.5
Transportation and warehousing	10.1	9.4	8.4	0.7	7.4	1.7	20.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	5.3	5.1	7.2	0.2	3.9	-1.9	-26.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	10.8	11.1	10.3	-0.3	-2.7	0.5	4.9
Business, building and other support services	6.1	6.6	8.1	-0.5	-7.6	-2.0	-24.7
Educational services	17.6	18.1	16.4	-0.5	-2.8	1.2	7.3
Health care and social assistance	43.4	43.9	44.4	-0.5	-1.1	-1.0	-2.3
Information, culture and recreation	7.2	7.5	5.3	-0.3	-4.0	1.9	35.8
Accommodation and food services	14.6	13.0	11.7	1.6	12.3	2.9	24.8
Other services	7.3	8.6	8.3	-1.3	-15.1	-1.0	-12.0
Public administration	21.2	20.6	19.7	0.6	2.9	1.5	7.6

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 declined in the West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador economic region, but increased elsewhere. The unemployment rate fell in all economic regions in the province.

The **Avalon Peninsula** led employment growth (+10,400), mainly in full-time positions. Labour force growth was also strong (+8,400). The unemployment rate has fallen for twelve consecutive months, mainly due to employment gains over this period. Educational services had 4,300 more jobs than a year earlier, while forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas (+2,200) and construction showed healthy gains as well. Also of note, accommodation and food services (+500) posted its first increase since February of 2020, just prior to the start of the COVID-10 pandemic. However, utilities (-1,200) and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (-1,200) have both experienced consistent declines since July of 2021.

In the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay** economic region, employment (+2,400) increased while the size of the labour force showed little change (+300), lowering the unemployment rate. Following a prolonged period of losses, conditions have improved for accommodation and food services in recent months, adding more jobs (+1,200) than any other industry in April. Public administration (+800) has consistently shown strong growth since the middle of 2021. In the goods-producing sector, construction (-600) had a loss for the sixth consecutive month, while the rest of the sector showed little change.

In the **West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador** economic region, the unemployment rate fell for the first time since July of 2021. The size of the labour force fell (-1,700) slightly faster than employment (-1,200). Job losses were in full-time positions (-2,000). While there were gains in construction (+1,300), forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas (-1,100) was down by 31% from a year ago. Professional, scientific and technical services (+800) led job growth in the services-producing sector. However, most service industries experienced a loss, led by health care and social assistance (-1,800). Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (-900) was down by 60% from a year earlier.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	April 2022 ('000)	April 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	April 2022 (%)	April 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% Points )
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	216.8	205.2	5.7	13.7	15.9	-2.2
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Avalon Peninsula	131.2	120.8	8.6	10.4	12.5	-2.1
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	47.2	44.8	5.4	18.5	22.2	-3.7
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	38.4	39.6	-3.0	17.8	18.2	-0.4

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.

**Prepared by:** Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Atlantic Region

**For further information,** please contact the LMI team at:

[http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact\\_us.aspx?section=lmi](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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2022, all rights reserved