



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

August 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 August, the unemployment rate increased slightly as the size of the labour force grew faster than employment. Compared to a year ago, the province has added 7,000 jobs, lowering the unemployment rate over this time from 12.2% to 10.5%.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Labour Force Statistics

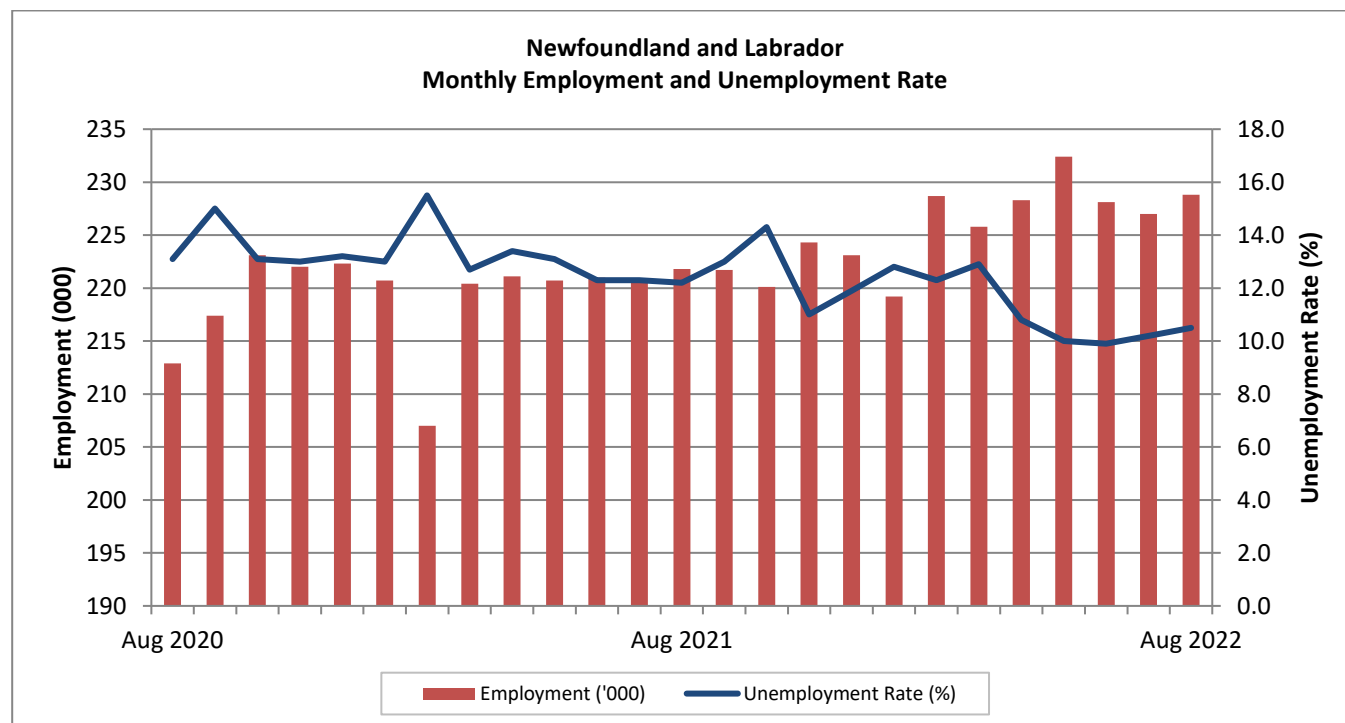
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	Aug 2022	July 2022	Aug 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	449.2	448.6	445.2	0.6	0.1	4.0	0.9
Labour Force ('000)	255.7	252.8	252.7	2.9	1.1	3.0	1.2
Employment ('000)	228.8	227.0	221.8	1.8	0.8	7.0	3.2
Full-Time ('000)	195.0	190.1	186.3	4.9	2.6	8.7	4.7
Part-Time ('000)	33.8	36.9	35.5	-3.1	-8.4	-1.7	-4.8
Unemployment ('000)	26.9	25.8	30.9	1.1	4.3	-4.0	-12.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.5	10.2	12.2	0.3	-	-1.7	-
Participation Rate (%)	56.9	56.4	56.8	0.5	-	0.1	-
Employment Rate (%)	50.9	50.6	49.8	0.3	-	1.1	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Between October of 2020 and January of 2022, employment and the unemployment rate were generally steady. The one notable exception was in February of 2021, when COVID-19 cases increased considerably and brought enhanced restrictions and closures. Since February of 2022, employment levels have been notably higher. Much

of this increase can be attributed to the lifting of public health restrictions. In recent months, the unemployment rate has lowered as this higher employment combined with a downward trend in labour force size.



The unemployment rate for youth (ages 15 to 24 years) increased compared to the previous month. This was due to an increase in labour force size. Employment for the group showed little change. Compared to a year ago, youth employment has increased (+2,000) reducing the unemployment rate.

For those aged 25 years and older, the labour force grew faster than employment for both genders. This resulted in a higher unemployment rate compared to the previous month. Males had most of the labour force and employment growth in August. Compared to a year earlier, the labour force and employment for females each grew by approximately 2,000, keeping this group's unemployment rate relatively steady. However, employment growth for males was stronger (+2,800) while its labour force showed little change. This lowered the unemployment rate for males by three percentage points. Employment gains for all groups above have been mainly full-time in nature.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	Aug 2022	July 2022	Aug 2021	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
	%	%	%		
Total	10.5	10.2	12.2	0.3	-1.7
25 years and over	10.1	9.9	11.6	0.2	-1.5
Men - 25 years and over	11.8	11.7	14.8	0.1	-3.0
Women - 25 years and over	8.3	8.0	8.2	0.3	0.1
15 to 24 years	13.4	12.2	16.4	1.2	-3.0
Men - 15 to 24 years	17.9	16.5	17.6	1.4	0.3

Women - 15 to 24 years	8.0	7.1	15.2	0.9	-7.2
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Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Most of the monthly employment gain was in the services-producing sector (+1,700). This sector has been the key source of the province's job gains over the past year, adding 8,500 jobs over this period. Transportation and warehousing (+1,900) had its strongest monthly increase in over two years. Employment in this industry was 35% higher than a year earlier. Accommodation and food services (+900) has regularly experienced gains through 2022, following a prolonged downturn related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Employment in this industry has grown by 27% in the past twelve months. However, educational services (-600) and health care and social assistance (-700) produced losses for the second consecutive month.

The goods-producing sector showed no monthly change overall, but industry results were mixed. Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas (+1,400) had its strongest monthly gain in two years. This was offset by losses throughout the rest of the sector. Manufacturing employment in August was 23% lower than a year earlier.

Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	Aug 2022	July 2022	Aug 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	228.8	227.0	221.8	1.8	0.8	7.0	3.2
Goods-producing sector	42.4	42.4	44.0	0.0	0.0	-1.6	-3.6
Agriculture	1.1	1.3	1.9	-0.2	-15.4	-0.8	-42.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	14.7	13.3	13.4	1.4	10.5	1.3	9.7
Utilities	1.4	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-6.7	-0.1	-6.7
Construction	16.5	17.2	15.9	-0.7	-4.1	0.6	3.8
Manufacturing	8.7	9.0	11.3	-0.3	-3.3	-2.6	-23.0
Services-producing sector	186.3	184.6	177.8	1.7	0.9	8.5	4.8
Trade	37.9	37.4	37.2	0.5	1.3	0.7	1.9
Transportation and warehousing	11.9	10.0	8.8	1.9	19.0	3.1	35.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	7.9	8.3	6.2	-0.4	-4.8	1.7	27.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.9	11.4	11.0	0.5	4.4	0.9	8.2
Business, building and other support services	6.3	6.5	6.1	-0.2	-3.1	0.2	3.3
Educational services	16.2	16.8	16.7	-0.6	-3.6	-0.5	-3.0
Health care and social assistance	42.8	43.5	44.3	-0.7	-1.6	-1.5	-3.4
Information, culture and recreation	7.0	7.6	7.1	-0.6	-7.9	-0.1	-1.4
Accommodation and food services	16.1	15.2	12.7	0.9	5.9	3.4	26.8
Other services	8.0	7.9	7.6	0.1	1.3	0.4	5.3
Public administration	20.4	20.0	20.1	0.4	2.0	0.3	1.5

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 in the Avalon Peninsula economic region, but showed a loss or little change in other regions. The unemployment rate fell in two of the province's three economic regions.

The Avalon Peninsula led employment growth (+11,400), mainly in full-time positions (+8,900). Labour force growth was also strong (+9,000). The unemployment rate has fallen for sixteen consecutive months, mainly due to employment gains. Compared to a year ago, accommodation and food services (+2,700) led all industries in employment growth. This was its fifth consecutive increase following declines in every month since the start of the COVID-10 pandemic. Construction (+2,400) has shown growth in each month since August of 2021. Wholesale and retail trade (+2,100) has experienced gains throughout 2022. Among the few industries with losses, manufacturing had the deepest drop in employment (-2,000). Utilities (-300) has experienced consistent losses since July of 2021. Health care and social assistance (-600) showed a loss for the first time since June of 2020.

In the South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay economic region, employment dropped at a slightly faster rate than the size of the labour force, raising the unemployment rate. Nearly all of the employment loss was in full-time positions. It was the third consecutive month with a loss in employment. Construction (-2,400), manufacturing (-1,300) and wholesale and retail trade (-1,100) led industries in decline. Among industries with a gain, transportation and warehousing (+900) had the strongest growth. This industry has posted increases for ten consecutive months. Accommodation and food services (+300) as well as forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (+300) have both increased throughout 2022 following prolonged periods with losses.

In the West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador economic region, employment increased slightly (+400) from a year earlier, while the labour force declined (-2,200). As a result, the unemployment rate had the sharpest fall in the province. Construction (+1,000) was responsible for virtually all of the employment growth in the goods-producing sector. The industry was up by 27% compared to a year earlier. The services-producing sector lost jobs (-800). Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing had the largest increase (+800), followed by transportation and warehousing (+700). However, industries with gains were outweighed by those with losses, including public administration (-1,100), information, culture and recreation (-700), and educational services (-500). In addition, health care and social assistance (-200) has lost jobs in each of the past twelve months.

Newfoundland and Labrador 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)
Newfoundland and Labrador	239.2	231.6	3.3	9.4	11.6	-2.2
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	143.2	131.8	8.6	6.8	8.8	-2.0
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	50.0	54.1	-7.6	14.7	14.4	0.3
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	46.0	45.6	0.9	11.5	15.7	-4.2

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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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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