



# Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

May 2022



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Ontario and its regions.

## SUMMARY

### Labour Force Trends – Employment increased in May 2022

- Employment increased by 1,900 (0.02%) in Ontario in May 2022, with all gains occurring in full-time employment (+13,300; +0.2%).
- The unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage points to 5.5%, while the unemployment rate for Ontario's youth aged 15 to 24 increased to 11.4%.
- Employment declined in the goods-producing sector, and increased in the services-producing sector.

## LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Employment in Ontario increased in May 2022, continuing the trend of positive month over month growth experienced throughout 2022.

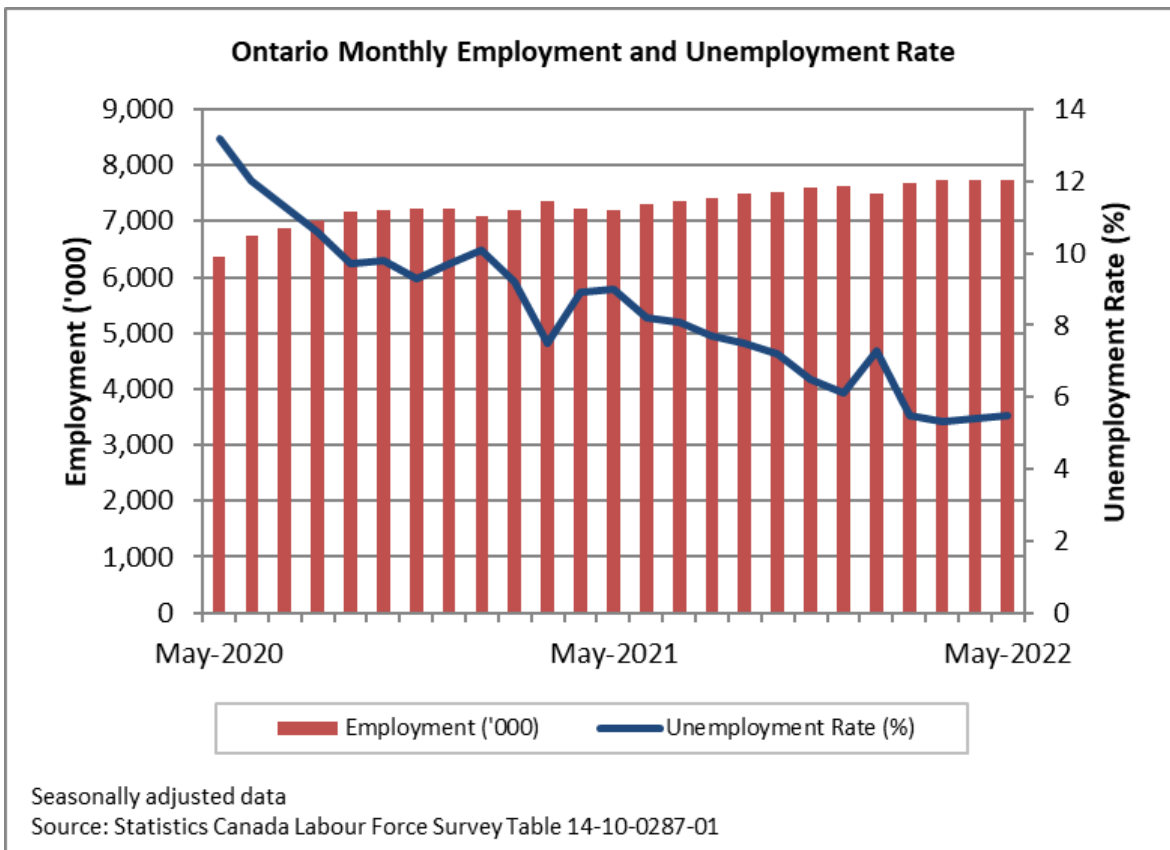
- Employment increases in May (+1,900, +0.02%), were attributed to full-time work (+13,300; +0.2%).
- Majority of gains were among people in the youth working age group of 15-24 (+14,000, +0.01%)
- In Canada, overall employment increased (+39,800; +0.2%). Alberta, British Columbia, and Quebec accounted for a majority of job gains.

**Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics**

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	12,495.6	12,482.2	12,317.2	13.4	0.1	178.4	1.4
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	8,186.8	8,178.8	7,918.5	8.0	0.1	268.3	3.4
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	7,739.1	7,737.2	7,206.1	1.9	0.0	533.0	7.4
Full-Time ('000)	6,337.1	6,323.8	5,985.9	13.3	0.2	351.2	5.9
Part-Time ('000)	1,402.0	1,413.4	1,220.3	-11.4	-0.8	181.7	14.9
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	447.7	441.6	712.3	6.1	1.4	-264.6	-37.1
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.5	5.4	9.0	0.1	-	-3.5	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	65.5	65.5	64.3	0.0	-	1.2	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	61.9	62.0	58.5	-0.1	-	3.4	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087



## Ontario Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.5	5.4	9.0	0.1	-3.5
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.5	4.5	7.3	0.0	-2.8
Men - 25 years and over	4.4	4.1	7.3	0.3	-2.9
Women - 25 years and over	4.6	4.9	7.2	-0.3	-2.6
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	11.4	11.2	20.3	0.2	-8.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	13.6	13.5	21.4	0.1	-7.8
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.1	8.7	18.9	0.4	-9.8

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment fell in Ontario's **goods-producing sector** by 47,400 (-3.1%) in May 2022, with losses in construction (-25,100; -4.2%), manufacturing (-15,500; -2.0%) agriculture (-5,000; -7.3%), and utilities (-1,800; -2.9%). Employment in forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, and oil and gas remained unchanged.

**Construction**

- Employment in the construction industry declined by 4.2%, erasing all of the gains made from the first quarter of 2022.
- Production across the industry was brought to a near standstill for most of the month due to labour disruptions – when workers across a several unions went on strike. By the end of the month, majority of striking workers have returned to work.<sup>1</sup>

**Manufacturing**

- The Markit Canada Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which provides an indication of the overall health of the economy, increased to 56.8 in May from 56.2 in April 2022.<sup>2</sup>
- Despite rising domestic and international demand for Canadian manufactured goods, the industry is facing cost pressures due to raw material scarcity, ongoing supply-chain disruptions, and COVID-19 lockdowns in China.
- Firms are facing inflationary concerns as higher prices were reported for metals, resin, fuel, transportation, machinery, and other production inputs.

Employment in Ontario's **services-producing sector** increased by 49,300 (+0.8%) in May 2022, with the largest gains in wholesale and retail trade (+16,300; +1.4%), educational services (+14,400; +2.5%), and accommodation and food services (+11,700; +3.0%). Employment declines occurred in finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (-4,700; -0.7%), health care and social assistance (-4,000; -0.4%), other services (-3,500; -1.4%), and transportation and warehousing (-2,300; -0.6%).

**Accommodation and food services**

- Employment in the accommodation and food services industry increased for the second consecutive month in May – adding 11,700 jobs.

- Despite the optimism the industry is feeling with restrictions lifted and the summer patio season commencing, widespread labour shortages are being reported with many firms struggling to find staff.<sup>3</sup>

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	7739.1	7737.2	7206.1	1.9	0.0	533.0	7.4
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	1504.9	1552.3	1448.8	-47.4	-3.1	56.1	3.9
Agriculture	63.3	68.3	72.4	-5.0	-7.3	-9.1	-12.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	42.4	42.4	35.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	21.1
Utilities	60.6	62.4	50.9	-1.8	-2.9	9.7	19.1
Construction	570.3	595.4	527.7	-25.1	-4.2	42.6	8.1
Manufacturing	768.3	783.8	762.7	-15.5	-2.0	5.6	0.7
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	6234.2	6184.9	5757.3	49.3	0.8	476.9	8.3
Trade	1144.1	1127.8	1004.4	16.3	1.4	139.7	13.9
Transportation and warehousing	384.8	387.1	381.8	-2.3	-0.6	3.0	0.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	651.3	656.0	624.8	-4.7	-0.7	26.5	4.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	811.8	807.1	731.4	4.7	0.6	80.4	11.0
Business, building and other support services	291.5	287.6	281.3	3.9	1.4	10.2	3.6
Educational services	582.1	567.7	532.3	14.4	2.5	49.8	9.4
Health care and social assistance	937.1	941.1	916.2	-4.0	-0.4	20.9	2.3
Information, culture and recreation	347.4	341.8	281.3	5.6	1.6	66.1	23.5
Accommodation and food services	402.7	391.0	326.1	11.7	3.0	76.6	23.5
Other services	254.0	257.5	276.8	-3.5	-1.4	-22.8	-8.2
Public administration	427.3	420.1	400.9	7.2	1.7	26.4	6.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In May 2022, all but one economic region in Ontario, Muskoka-Kawarthas, reported a year-over-year increase in employment compared to May 2021. Compared to pre-pandemic employment levels, 9 of the 11 economic regions had higher levels of employment in May 2022.

The unemployment rate in all economic regions declined compared to May 2021 and compared to the onset of the pandemic in May 2020, all economic regions had lower unemployment rates in May 2022.

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2022 ('000)	May 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	May 2022 (%)	May 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Ontario</b>	7691.4	7211.3	480.1	5.6	8.9	-3.3
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Ottawa	760.1	739.2	20.9	4.9	7.8	-2.9
Kingston-Pembroke	234.8	204.5	30.3	4.5	9.9	-5.4
Muskoka-Kawarthas	186.6	190.0	-3.4	4.0	6.8	-2.8
Toronto	3710.8	3417.7	293.1	6.3	9.8	-3.5
Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie	791.5	755.4	36.1	5.2	7.9	-2.7
Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula	785.1	741.2	43.9	5.0	8.6	-3.6
London	393.3	365.0	28.3	5.5	9.5	-4.0
Windsor-Sarnia	308.8	298.4	10.4	5.1	9.1	-4.0
Stratford-Bruce Peninsula	161.5	159.9	1.6	3.6	4.0	-0.4
Northeast	259.8	242.4	17.4	4.8	7.9	-3.1
Northwest	99.1	97.6	1.5	5.3	7.9	-2.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - Table 14-10-0387

Notable changes between May 2021 and May 2022 include:

- Employment increased by 8.6% (+293,100) in the **Toronto** economic region, as full-time employment increased by 6.3% (+181,200) and part-time employment increased by 21.3% (+111,900).
- The labour force in the **Muskoka-Kawarthas** economic region declined by 4.6% (-9,400). This is reflected in the participation rate decline from 58.5% to 55.1%.
- Employment in the **Kingston-Pembroke** economic region increased by 14.8% (+30,300), as part-time employment increased by 22.9% (+9,500).

**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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**For information on the Labour Force Survey,** please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> ConstructConnect (2022, June 02). ConstructConnect. Retrieved from <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/labour/2022/06/rescon-says-worst-is-over-for-residential-strikes>

<sup>2</sup> Patel, S. (2022, June 1). IHS Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI. *IHS Markit*. Retrieved from <https://www.pmi.spglobal.com/Public/Home/PressRelease/bef334104d894ee9a140e644c530fe71>

<sup>3</sup> CBC News (2022, May 28). CBC News. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/waterloo-kw-kitchener-cooks-andrew-coppolino-staff-pandemic-covid-1.6467906>