

Labour Force Survey Report

Prince Edward Island

April 2023 Release

WorkPEI

May 5, 2023

Every month, Statistics Canada releases Labour Force Survey (LFS) data. The releases include unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data related to the local labour market (labour force, employment and unemployment). The data presented in this report has been adjusted for seasonality. Most estimates associated with the labour market are subject to seasonal influence in which the data experiences regular and predictable changes that recur every calendar year (i.e. due to climate, vacations, holidays, etc.). The employment figures presented in the LFS is an estimate of employed Island residents and should not be interpreted as number of jobs (as reported in Statistics Canada's Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours).

Labour Force Survey – Brief

Summary

Historical 2020-22		Current Period						
		Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22	M-M	% Chg	Y-Y	% Chg
135.3	Population (000's)	143.3	142.6	138.1	0.7	0.5	5.2	3.8
88.6	Labour force (000's)	96.3	93.5	91.7	2.8	3.0	4.6	5.0
80.3	Employment (000's)	89.5	87.3	84.5	2.2	2.5	5.0	5.9
67.7	Employment full-time (000's)	75.3	73.6	71.4	1.7	2.3	3.9	5.5
12.7	Employment part-time (000's)	14.2	13.6	13.1	0.6	4.4	1.1	8.4
8.3	Unemployment (000's)	6.8	6.2	7.3	0.6	9.7	-0.5	-6.8
9.4	Unemployment rate (%)	7.1	6.6	8.0	0.5		-0.9	
65.5	Participation rate (%)	67.2	65.6	66.4	1.6		0.8	
59.3	Employment rate (%)	62.5	61.2	61.2	1.3		1.3	

Source: Table 14-10-0287-03; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

- The **labour force** totaled 96,300 in April 2023, an increase of 2,800 persons in comparison to the previous month. The labour force was 5.0% higher when compared to April 2022.
- **Employment** totaled 89,500 in April 2023, an increase of 2,200 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 5.9% higher from a year ago. There was a year over year increase in **full-time employment** (+3,900) and an increase in **part-time employment** (+1,100).
- **Unemployment** totaled 6,800 in April, an increase of 600 persons from the prior month. There was a decrease of 500 unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The **unemployment rate** increased month over month and sits at 7.1%. The rate is 0.9 of a percentage point lower than April 2022 (8.0%).
- The **participation rate** was 67.2% in April; this represents an increase of 0.8 of a percentage point from a year-over-year perspective. The PEI participation rate is higher than the national average (65.6%) in April and sits tied for the second highest among provinces behind Alberta (69.8%).

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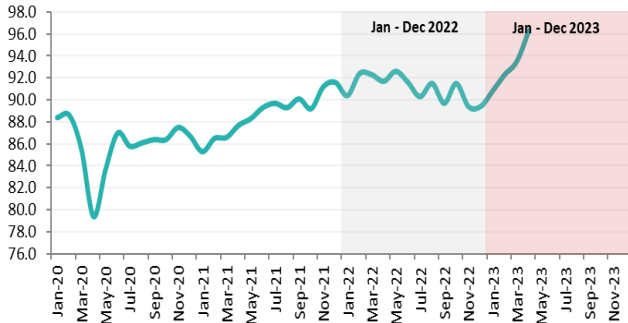


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LFS - Progress Report

LFS data is released on a monthly basis. The purpose of this section is to track the progress of key labour market indicators. "Year-to-date" (YTD) compares average values of available months in 2023 to the same in 2022.

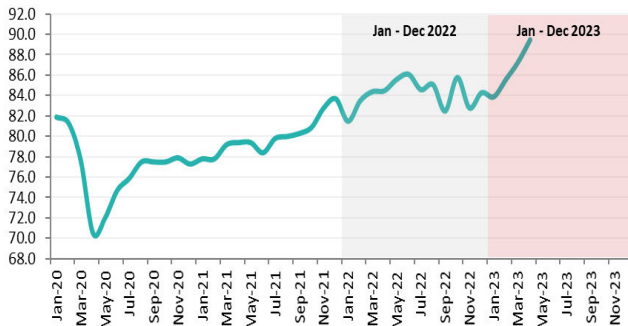
Labour Force (000's)



(000)	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Population	137.4	142.4	4.9	3.6%
Labour Force	91.7	93.2	1.5	1.7%
Not in LF	45.7	49.2	3.4	7.5%
Participation rate (%)	66.7	65.5	-1.2	-

The population and labour force increased in comparison to the previous month and when compared to the same month a year earlier. Both figures are the highest all-time. The labour force is 1,500 more persons YTD over the same period last year. On a YTD basis, the participation rate is 1.2 percentage points lower than same period last year and sits at 65.5%.

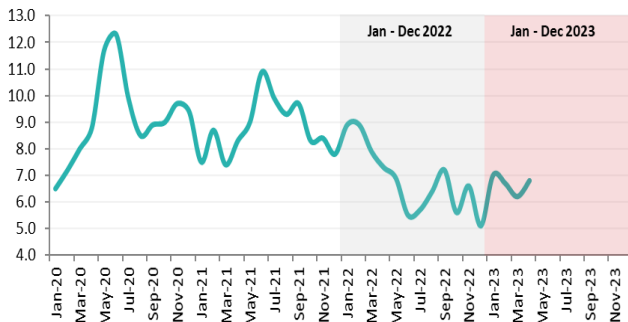
Employment (000's)



(000)	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Employment	83.5	86.6	3.1	3.7%
Full-time	70.7	72.9	2.2	3.1%
Part-time	12.8	13.7	0.9	7.0%
Employment rate (%)	60.8	60.8	0.0	-

Employment increased month over month and represents the highest all-time figure (dating back to 1976). For the second consecutive month, full-time employment established a new all-time high (dating back to 1976). The YTD increase in employment in 2023 is mainly driven by YTD growth in full-time employment.

Unemployment (000's)



(000)	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Unemployment	8.3	6.7	-1.6	-19.1%
Unemployment rate (%)	9.0	7.2	-1.8	-

There was an increase in unemployed persons in comparison to the prior month along with an increase in the unemployment rate. However, both figures are lower than the same month a year earlier. The unemployment rate is the seventh lowest figure on record. On a YTD basis, the number of unemployed persons in 2023 is 1,800 lower than the same period in 2022.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

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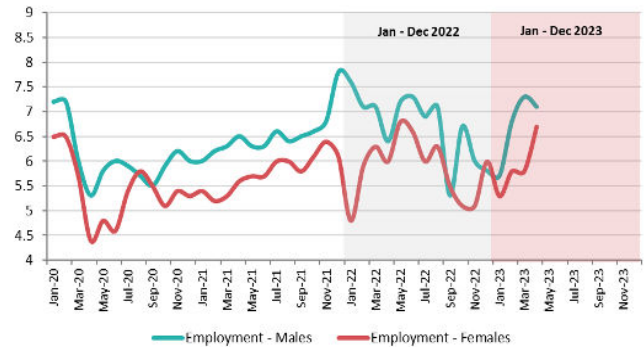
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Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	14.1	14.7	7.9	6.8
Employment	12.1	12.6	6.7	5.9
Unemployment	2.0	2.1	1.2	0.9
Unemp rate (%)	14.3	14.4	15.3	13.1

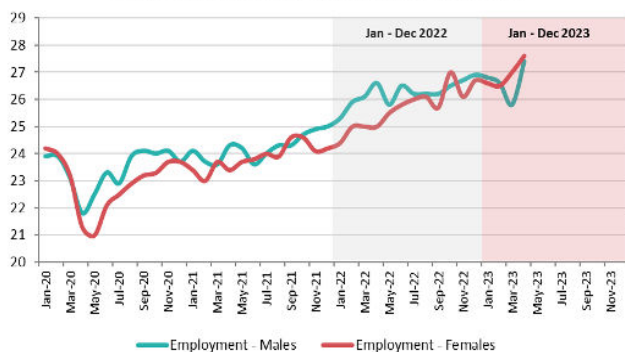
Overall, labour force and employment increased year over year in April 2023. There were 700 more females and 700 more males employed in comparison to a year earlier. For full-time employment, females (+700) saw an increase and males (+500) saw an increase. Part-time employment decreased for females (-100) and increased for males (+200). The unemployment rate for this cohort was 13.2%.

Employment by Gender: 15-24 Age Cohort (000's)



Core-age Cohort (25-54 Years)

Employment by Gender: 25-54 Age Cohort (000's)



('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	52.8	56.6	28.4	28.2
Employment	48.8	53.6	26.7	26.9
Unemployment	4.0	3.0	1.8	1.3
Unemp rate (%)	7.7	5.3	6.2	4.6

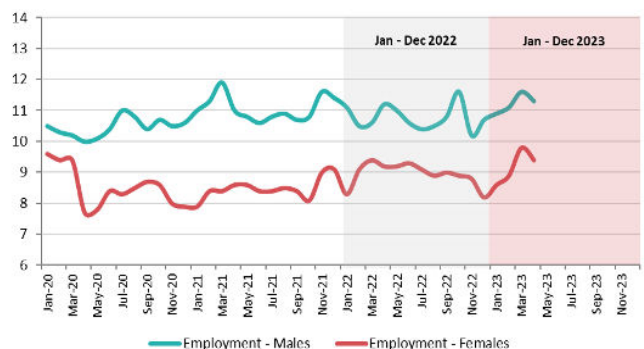
In April, employment increased for females (+2,600) and increased for males (+800) in comparison to April 2022. On a FT basis, year over year employment increased for females (+1,800) and males (+600). On a PT basis, there was a year over year increase for females (+200) and for males (+800). The unemployment rate increased for males (to 6.8%) and decreased for females (to 4.8%) on a year over year basis.

Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

('000's)	Historical	Current: 2023 YTD		
	2020-22	Both	Male	Female
Labour force	21.6	22.0	12.5	9.5
Employment	19.4	20.4	11.2	9.2
Unemployment	2.2	1.6	1.2	0.4
Unemp rate (%)	10.2	7.2	9.7	3.7

Employment levels decreased for males (-300) and for females (-400) in April 2023 in comparison to March 2023. On a year over year, basis there were 200 more females and 100 more males employed. There were fewer females (-200) and fewer males (-300) in the labour force when comparing April 2023 to April 2022.

Employment by Gender: 55+ Age Cohort (000's)



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LFS – Industry Perspective (Employment)

The following presents LFS employment estimates by industry for Prince Edward Island.

Historical 2020-22		Current Period					2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
		Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22	M-M	Y-Y			
80.3	Total industries ('000s)	89.5	87.3	84.5	2.2	5.0	86.6	83.5	3.1
20.1	Goods-sector	21.2	20.5	21.8	0.7	-0.6	20.6	21.6	-0.9
3.4	Agriculture	3.6	3.0	3.1	0.6	0.5	3.2	3.3	-0.2
2.5	Other primary	1.6	2.1	2.5	-0.5	-0.9	2.0	2.3	-0.3
0.3	Utilities	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0
6.5	Construction	7.3	7.1	7.2	0.2	0.1	7.0	7.4	-0.4
7.4	Manufacturing	8.4	8.2	8.7	0.2	-0.3	8.3	8.3	-0.1
60.3	Services-sector	68.3	66.7	62.7	1.6	5.6	66.0	61.9	4.1
11.3	Wholesale/retail trade	10.4	10.7	11.3	-0.3	-0.9	10.9	11.4	-0.5
2.5	Transport/Warehousing	2.1	2.2	2.3	-0.1	-0.2	2.1	2.3	-0.3
3.0	Fin/Ins/Real estate	3.5	3.6	3.0	-0.1	0.5	3.5	2.8	0.7
4.4	Prof/ scientific/technical	4.3	4.3	5.3	0.0	-1.0	4.5	5.1	-0.6
2.3	Business/building/other	2.3	2.9	1.9	-0.6	0.4	2.5	2.0	0.5
5.9	Educational services	7.0	6.5	5.8	0.5	1.2	6.4	5.7	0.7
11.3	Health/social assistance	14.2	14.5	11.8	-0.3	2.4	13.8	11.8	2.0
2.5	Info/culture/rec	3.0	2.7	2.6	0.3	0.4	2.9	2.4	0.5
4.5	Accomm/food services	6.1	5.3	5.3	0.8	0.8	5.2	4.9	0.3
3.3	Other services	4.1	3.5	3.5	0.6	0.6	3.6	3.8	-0.2
9.2	Public administration	11.2	10.4	9.8	0.8	1.4	10.6	9.7	0.9

Data source: Table 14-10-0355-02; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

There were 68,300 persons employed in the **Services-producing sector** in April 2023, comprising 76.3% of PEI's industrial employment base. There was a year-over-year increase of 5,600 persons employed in the service-sector. There was year over year growth in Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+500), Business, building and other support services (+400), Educational services (+1,200), Health care and social assistance (+2,400), Information, culture and recreation (+400), Accommodation and food services (+800), Other services (except public administration) (+600) and Public administration (+1,400). There was a year over year decrease in Wholesale and retail trade (-900), Transportation and warehousing (-200) and Professional, scientific and technical services (-1,000).

There were 21,200 persons employed in the **Goods-producing sector** in April 2023, resulting in a decrease of 600 persons employed compared to a year ago. There was a year over year increase in Agriculture (+500) and Construction (+100). There was a year over year decrease in Other Primary (-900) and Manufacturing (-300). There was no year over year change in employment for Utilities.

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LFS – Industry Perspective (Average Hourly Wages)

The following presents LFS average hourly wages by industry for Prince Edward Island.

Historical 2020-22		Current Period						
		Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22	M-M	Y-Y	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
25.5	Total industries ('000s)	27.62	28.10	26.68	-0.48	0.94	28.05	26.82
23.3	Goods-sector	25.37	27.12	25.75	-1.75	-0.38	26.22	25.41
19.7	Agriculture	19.92	22.12	23.89	-2.20	-3.97	22.06	22.90
26.6	Other primary	31.94	26.20	29.99	5.74	1.95	29.06	33.89
39.1	Utilities	44.24	40.66	35.06	3.58	9.18	43.61	42.44
23.4	Construction	25.47	25.39	23.52	0.08	1.95	25.65	24.97
23.6	Manufacturing	26.33	28.86	26.76	-2.53	-0.43	26.93	25.25
26.2	Services-sector	28.23	28.34	26.96	-0.11	1.27	28.51	27.22
18.6	Wholesale/retail trade	19.89	20.23	19.70	-0.34	0.19	20.29	19.22
24.4	Transport/Warehousing	22.95	24.39	24.60	-1.44	-1.65	24.14	24.25
27.3	Fin/Ins/Real estate	29.80	31.90	27.99	-2.10	1.81	31.77	30.51
30.3	Prof/ scientific/technical	32.72	30.97	32.31	1.75	0.41	30.28	32.43
17.8	Business/building/other	19.81	17.78	21.68	2.03	-1.87	18.81	20.80
33.7	Educational services	32.08	33.15	33.57	-1.07	-1.49	32.78	33.37
28.0	Health/social assistance	29.27	30.84	27.77	-1.57	1.50	30.72	28.10
23.0	Info/culture/rec	21.89	21.63	23.60	0.26	-1.71	23.30	24.40
15.9	Accomm/food services	17.33	16.65	15.99	0.68	1.34	17.29	16.11
22.6	Other services	25.11	22.48	25.44	2.63	-0.33	24.21	25.40
34.5	Public administration	38.52	37.43	34.50	1.09	4.02	37.76	35.43

Data source: Table 14-10-0063-01; "Historical 2020-22" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

The average hourly wage rate across all industries was \$27.62/hr in April 2023, this represents an increase of 3.5% in comparison to the same month a year earlier. On a year to date basis, the average hourly rate is 4.6% higher in 2023 (\$28.05/hr) in comparison to the same period in 2022 (\$26.82/hr).

The wages for the **Services-producing sector** was \$28.23/hr in April 2023, which is 4.7% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. There was year over year wage growth in Wholesale/retail trade (\$0.19/hr or 1.0%), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (\$1.81 or 6.5%), Professional, scientific and technical services (\$0.41/hr or 1.3%), Health care and social assistance (\$1.50/hr or 5.4%), Accommodation and food services (\$1.34/hr or 8.4%) and Public administration (\$4.02/hr or 11.7%).

The average hourly wage rate for the **Goods-producing sector** was \$25.37/hr in April 2023, which is 1.5% lower than the wage rate a year earlier. Year over year growth for wages occurred in Other primary (\$1.95/hr or 6.5%), Utilities (\$9.18/hr or 26.2%) and Construction (\$1.95/hr or 8.3%).

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LFS – Regional Perspective

The following compares LFS estimates and changes among the Atlantic Provinces and nationally, by month and year.

Regional Comparison of Labour Market Indicators YEAR-over-YEAR Changes

(000's)	CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
Labour force	21,188.4	264.6	96.3	530.8	408.7
Level	376.5	4.1	4.6	11.9	8.3
Percent	1.8%	1.6%	5.0%	2.3%	2.1%
Employment	20,130.2	238.0	89.5	497.3	383.6
Level	414.0	7.8	5.0	9.7	8.9
Percent	2.1%	3.4%	5.9%	2.0%	2.4%
Unemployment	1,058.2	26.6	6.8	33.5	25.1
Level	-37.5	-3.8	-0.5	2.2	-0.5
Percent	-3.4%	-12.5%	-6.8%	7.0%	-2.0%
Unemployment rate (%)	5.0	10.1	7.1	6.3	6.1
Level	-0.3	-1.6	-0.9	0.3	-0.3

Newfoundland and Labrador

NL experienced a year-over-year increase in employment in April 2023 (+3.4%).

On year over year basis, the unemployment rate in NL decreased 1.6 percentage points in April 2023 to 10.1%.

Nova Scotia

Employment in Nova Scotia increased year-over-year (+2.0%).

On a year over year basis, their unemployment rate increased 0.3 of a percentage point to 6.3%.

New Brunswick

New Brunswick saw a 2.4% increase in year over year employment.

On year over year basis, their unemployment rate decreased by 0.3 of a percentage point to 6.1%.

Regional Comparison of Labour Market Indicators MONTH-over-MONTH Changes

(000's)	CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
Labour force	21,188.4	264.6	96.3	530.8	408.7
Level	46.6	-0.3	2.8	5.0	-0.5
Percent	0.2%	-0.1%	3.0%	1.0%	-0.1%
Employment	20,130.2	238.0	89.5	497.3	383.6
Level	41.4	0.2	2.2	1.3	-1.9
Percent	0.2%	0.1%	2.5%	0.3%	-0.5%
Unemployment	1,058.2	26.6	6.8	33.5	25.1
Level	5.2	-0.6	0.6	3.7	1.5
Percent	0.5%	-2.2%	9.7%	12.4%	6.4%
Unemployment rate (%)	5	10.1	7.1	6.3	6.1
Level	0	-0.2	0.5	0.6	0.3

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LFS – Growth Indicators and Provincial Rankings

The following compares and ranks growth estimates for select labour market indicators across provinces.

YEAR OVER YEAR – PROVINCIAL RANKINGS

(Current month vs same month a year ago)

WORKING AGE POPULATION

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	3.8%
2	Alberta	3.4%
3	New Brunswick	2.8%
4	Nova Scotia	2.7%
5	Saskatchewan	2.5%
6	Manitoba	2.0%
7	Ontario	1.9%
8	British Columbia	1.7%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.4%
10	Quebec	1.3%
	Canada	2.0%

LABOUR FORCE

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	5.0%
2	Alberta	3.0%
3	Quebec	2.4%
4	Nova Scotia	2.3%
5	New Brunswick	2.1%
6	Manitoba	2.0%
7	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.6%
8	British Columbia	1.4%
9	Ontario	1.3%
10	Saskatchewan	0.4%
	Canada	1.8%

EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	5.9%
2	Newfoundland and Labrador	3.4%
3	Alberta	3.2%
4	Quebec	2.6%
5	New Brunswick	2.4%
6	Nova Scotia	2.0%
7	Manitoba	2.0%
8	Ontario	1.8%
9	British Columbia	1.3%
10	Saskatchewan	1.0%
	Canada	2.1%

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	5.5%
2	Alberta	4.5%
3	Manitoba	4.1%
4	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.9%
5	Ontario	2.6%
6	Quebec	2.5%
7	British Columbia	2.2%
8	Nova Scotia	2.0%
9	Saskatchewan	1.6%
10	New Brunswick	1.2%
	Canada	2.8%

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	New Brunswick	9.3%
2	Prince Edward Island	8.4%
3	Newfoundland and Labrador	6.1%
4	Quebec	3.0%
5	Nova Scotia	1.7%
6	Saskatchewan	-1.8%
7	Ontario	-1.9%
8	Alberta	-2.2%
9	British Columbia	-2.4%
10	Manitoba	-6.9%
	Canada	-0.8%

AVG HOURLY WAGES

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	British Columbia	6.3%
2	Quebec	5.8%
3	Ontario	5.5%
4	Manitoba	4.5%
5	New Brunswick	4.5%
6	Newfoundland and Labrador	4.4%
7	Nova Scotia	4.3%
8	Saskatchewan	3.6%
9	Prince Edward Island	3.5%
10	Alberta	3.1%
	Canada	5.2%

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LFS – Growth Indicators and Provincial Rankings

The following compares and ranks growth estimates for select labour market indicators across provinces.

YEAR TO DATE – PROVINCIAL RANKINGS

(Average: January to current month relative to the same period a year ago)

WORKING AGE POPULATION

YEAR TO DATE

1	Prince Edward Island	3.6%
2	Alberta	3.2%
3	New Brunswick	2.8%
4	Nova Scotia	2.7%
5	Saskatchewan	2.4%
6	Manitoba	1.8%
7	Ontario	1.7%
8	British Columbia	1.5%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.3%
10	Quebec	1.2%
	Canada	1.8%

LABOUR FORCE

YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	3.1%
2	New Brunswick	3.0%
3	Nova Scotia	2.6%
4	Quebec	2.4%
5	Prince Edward Island	1.7%
6	Manitoba	1.6%
7	Ontario	1.4%
8	British Columbia	1.4%
9	Saskatchewan	0.9%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.7%
	Canada	1.9%

EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	4.0%
2	Prince Edward Island	3.7%
3	Alberta	3.7%
4	Newfoundland and Labrador	3.6%
5	Nova Scotia	3.5%
6	Quebec	2.8%
7	Ontario	2.4%
8	Manitoba	1.8%
9	Saskatchewan	1.6%
10	British Columbia	1.6%
	Canada	2.5%

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	4.9%
2	Manitoba	4.0%
3	Prince Edward Island	3.1%
4	Ontario	3.1%
5	British Columbia	2.8%
6	Nova Scotia	2.6%
7	Quebec	2.4%
8	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.3%
9	New Brunswick	2.2%
10	Saskatchewan	1.3%
	Canada	3.0%

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	15.1%
2	Newfoundland and Labrador	11.3%
3	Nova Scotia	7.9%
4	Prince Edward Island	7.0%
5	Quebec	4.7%
6	Saskatchewan	3.0%
7	Ontario	-0.9%
8	Alberta	-1.3%
9	British Columbia	-3.0%
10	Manitoba	-7.5%
	Canada	0.4%

AVG HOURLY WAGES

YEAR TO DATE

1	Quebec	6.3%
2	Nova Scotia	6.0%
3	British Columbia	5.7%
4	Manitoba	5.4%
5	Newfoundland and Labrador	5.2%
6	Ontario	5.0%
7	New Brunswick	4.9%
8	Prince Edward Island	4.6%
9	Alberta	3.2%
10	Saskatchewan	2.9%
	Canada	5.1%