

# Labour Force Survey Report

Prince Edward Island

July 2023 Release

WorkPEI

August 4, 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						
		Jul-23	Jun-23	Jul-22	M-M	% Chg	Y-Y	% Chg
135.3	Population (000's)	145.0	144.5	139.7	0.5	0.3	5.3	3.8
88.6	<b>Labour force (000's)</b>	95.9	94.3	90.3	1.6	1.7	5.6	6.2
80.3	<b>Employment (000's)</b>	88.1	86.6	84.6	1.5	1.7	3.5	4.1
67.7	Employment full-time (000's)	74.4	74.3	71.4	0.1	0.1	3.0	4.2
12.7	Employment part-time (000's)	13.7	12.4	13.2	1.3	10.5	0.5	3.8
8.3	<b>Unemployment (000's)</b>	7.8	7.7	5.7	0.1	1.3	2.1	36.8
9.4	Unemployment rate (%)	8.1	8.2	6.3	-0.1		1.8	
65.5	Participation rate (%)	66.1	65.3	64.6	0.8		1.5	
59.3	Employment rate (%)	60.8	59.9	60.6	0.9		0.2	

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 95,900 in July 2023, an increase of 1,600 persons in comparison to the previous month. The labour force was 6.2% higher when compared to July 2022.
- **Employment** totaled 88,100 in July 2023, an increase of 1,500 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 4.1% higher from a year ago. There was a year over year increase in **full-time employment** (+3,000) and an increase in **part-time employment** (+500).
- **Unemployment** totaled 7,800 in July, an increase of 100 persons from the prior month. There was an increase of 2,100 unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.
- The **unemployment rate** decreased month over month and sits at 8.1%. The rate is 1.8 percentage points higher than July 2022 (6.3%).
- The **participation rate** was 66.1% in July; this represents an increase of 1.5 percentage points from a year-over-year perspective. The PEI participation rate is higher than the national average (65.6%) in July and sits fourth highest among provinces behind Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

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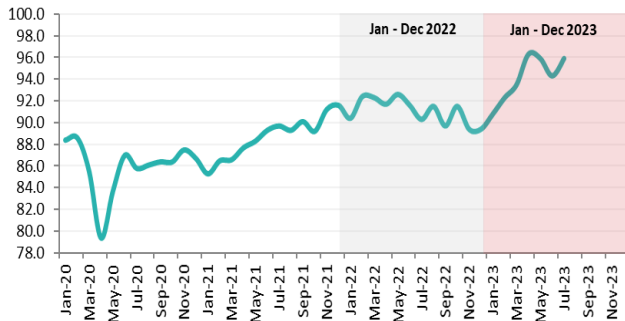


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## LFS - Progress Report

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.

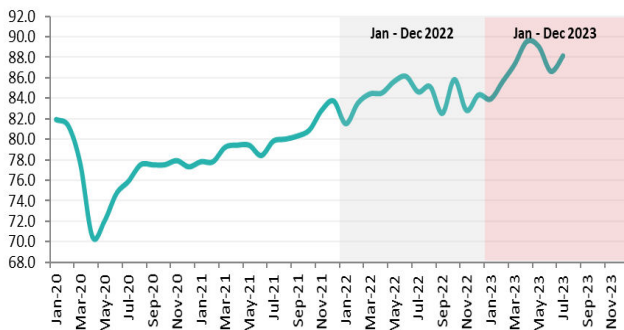
Labour Force (000's)



(000)	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Population	138.2	143.3	5.1	3.7%
Labour Force	91.6	94.1	2.5	2.8%
Not in LF	46.6	49.1	2.6	5.5%
Participation rate (%)	66.3	65.7	-0.6	-

The labour force increased in comparison to the previous month and when compared to the same month a year earlier. Labour force figures are the second highest all-time. The labour force is 2,500 more persons YTD over the same period last year. On a YTD basis, the participation rate is 0.6 of a percentage point lower than same period last year and sits at 65.7%.

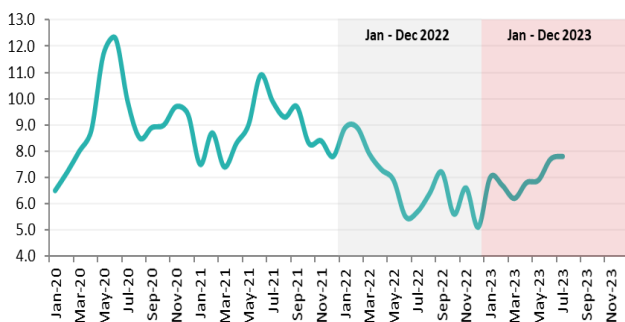
Employment (000's)



(000)	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Employment	84.3	87.1	2.8	3.4%
Full-time	71.2	73.8	2.6	3.6%
Part-time	13.1	13.4	0.3	2.0%
Employment rate (%)	61.0	60.8	-0.2	-

Employment increased month over month after two straight months of decline. The monthly figure is the third highest all-time (dating back to 1976). The full-time employment figure for July 2023 sits third all-time (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	7.3	7.0	-0.3	-3.9%
Unemployment rate (%)	8.0	7.5	-0.5	-

This was the fourth consecutive month that the monthly figure for unemployed persons has increased. Despite the increase in unemployed persons the unemployment rate decreased slightly after three consecutive months of the unemployment rate increasing. On a YTD basis, the number of unemployed persons in 2023 is 300 persons lower than the same period in 2022.

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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	15.0	8.1	6.9
Employment	12.1	13.0	6.9	6.1
Unemployment	2.0	2.0	1.2	0.8
Unemp rate (%)	14.3	13.5	14.9	11.8

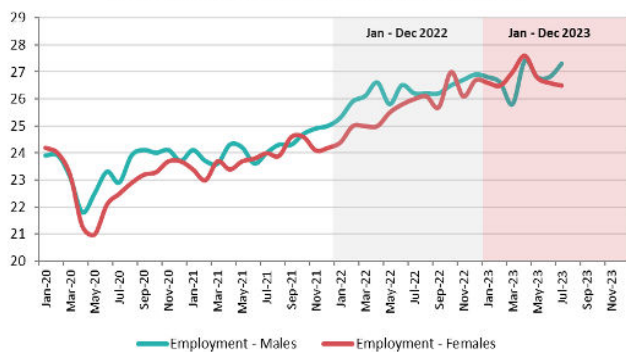
Overall, labour force and employment increased year over year in July 2023. There were 400 more males employed and the same number of females employed in comparison to a year earlier. For full-time employment, females (+200) saw an increase and males (-800) saw a decrease. Part-time employment decreased for females (-300) and increased for males (+1,100). The unemployment rate for this cohort was 11.3%.

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	57.0	28.8	28.1
Employment	48.8	53.6	26.8	26.8
Unemployment	4.0	3.4	2.1	1.3
Unemp rate (%)	7.7	5.9	7.1	4.7

In July, employment increased for females (+500) and increased for males (+1,100) in comparison to July 2022. On a FT basis, year over year employment increased for females (+400) and males (+1,400). On a PT basis, there was a year over year increase for females (+100) and a decrease for males (-300). The unemployment rate increased for males (to 7.8%) and increased for females (to 6.4%) 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	12.4	9.6
Employment	19.4	20.5	11.2	9.3
Unemployment	2.2	1.5	1.2	0.4
Unemp rate (%)	10.2	6.8	9.5	3.7

Employment levels increased for males (+200) and for females (+400) in July 2023 in comparison to June 2023. On a year over year, basis there were 200 more females and 1,300 more males employed. There were more females (+300) and more males (+1,600) in the labour force when comparing July 2023 to July 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
		Jul-23	Jun-23	Jul-22	M-M	Y-Y			
80.3	<b>Total industries ('000s)</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>86.6</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>87.1</b>	<b>84.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>
20.1	<b>Goods-sector</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
3.4	Agriculture	4.5	3.8	3.1	0.7	1.4	3.5	3.3	0.2
2.5	Other primary	1.6	2.1	1.8	-0.5	-0.2	1.9	2.3	-0.4
0.3	Utilities	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0
6.5	Construction	7.5	7.0	7.4	0.5	0.1	7.1	7.3	-0.2
7.4	Manufacturing	8.0	8.3	8.5	-0.3	-0.5	8.2	8.4	-0.2
60.3	<b>Services-sector</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>62.8</b>	<b>3.3</b>
11.3	Wholesale/retail trade	10.1	9.9	11.1	0.2	-1.0	10.7	11.3	-0.6
2.5	Transport/Warehousing	2.4	2.3	1.7	0.1	0.7	2.2	2.1	0.1
3.0	Fin/Ins/Real estate	3.6	3.8	2.8	-0.2	0.8	3.6	2.8	0.8
4.4	Prof/ scientific/technical	4.8	4.5	5.1	0.3	-0.3	4.6	5.1	-0.4
2.3	Business/building/other	2.0	1.9	2.9	0.1	-0.9	2.2	2.3	-0.1
5.9	Educational services	5.5	6.0	5.9	-0.5	-0.4	6.2	5.8	0.4
11.3	Health/social assistance	14.5	13.7	12.0	0.8	2.5	13.9	11.9	2.1
2.5	Info/culture/rec	3.3	2.6	3.2	0.7	0.1	2.9	2.9	0.1
4.5	Accomm/food services	5.3	5.6	5.3	-0.3	0.0	5.3	5.1	0.3
3.3	Other services	3.8	3.7	3.2	0.1	0.6	3.7	3.6	0.0
9.2	Public administration	10.6	11.0	10.4	-0.4	0.2	10.7	9.9	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 66,000 persons employed in the **Services-producing sector** in June 2023, comprising 74.9% of PEI's industrial employment base. There was a year-over-year increase of 2,400 persons employed in the service-sector. There was year over year growth in Transportation and warehousing (+700), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+800), Health care and social assistance (+2,500), Information, culture and recreation (+100), Other services (except public administration) (+600) and Public administration (+200). There was a year over year decrease in Wholesale and retail trade (-1,000), Professional, technical and scientific services (-300), Business, building and other support services (-900) and Educational services (-400). There was no year over year change in employment for Accommodation and food services.

There were 22,100 persons employed in the **Goods-producing sector** in July 2023, resulting in an increase of 1,100 persons employed compared to a year ago. There was a year over year increase in Agriculture (+1,400), Utilities (+300) and Construction (+100). There was a year over year decrease in Other Primary (-200) and Manufacturing (-500).

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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						
		Jul-23	Jun-23	Jul-22	M-M	Y-Y	2023 YTD	2022 YTD
25.5	<b>Total industries ('000s)</b>	<b>27.29</b>	<b>27.47</b>	<b>25.42</b>	<b>-0.18</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>27.80</b>	<b>26.39</b>
23.3	<b>Goods-sector</b>	<b>25.40</b>	<b>25.28</b>	<b>24.27</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>25.91</b>	<b>24.92</b>
19.7	Agriculture	21.88	20.92	21.03	0.96	0.85	21.53	22.44
26.6	Other primary	28.59	24.73	25.79	3.86	2.80	27.78	30.23
39.1	Utilities	38.14	43.57	50.10	-5.43	-11.96	43.08	41.54
23.4	Construction	25.76	24.66	22.84	1.10	2.92	25.64	24.11
23.6	Manufacturing	25.71	26.69	25.45	-0.98	0.26	26.82	25.23
26.2	<b>Services-sector</b>	<b>27.86</b>	<b>28.20</b>	<b>25.76</b>	<b>-0.34</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>28.33</b>	<b>26.84</b>
18.6	Wholesale/retail trade	21.69	22.37	20.16	-0.68	1.53	20.73	19.21
24.4	Transport/Warehousing	25.35	24.09	24.23	1.26	1.12	24.15	25.26
27.3	Fin/Ins/Real estate	32.23	31.60	24.01	0.63	8.22	31.46	28.49
30.3	Prof/ scientific/technical	30.33	32.70	29.27	-2.37	1.06	31.24	31.77
17.8	Business/building/other	19.42	20.43	16.93	-1.01	2.49	19.56	19.87
33.7	Educational services	35.48	33.18	34.76	2.30	0.72	33.36	33.25
28.0	Health/social assistance	28.82	28.93	28.36	-0.11	0.46	30.03	28.43
23.0	Info/culture/rec	21.68	23.40	22.17	-1.72	-0.49	22.86	23.75
15.9	Accomm/food services	17.39	17.69	16.15	-0.30	1.24	17.56	16.26
22.6	Other services	25.63	22.91	20.81	2.72	4.82	24.24	24.33
34.5	Public administration	37.94	36.81	34.20	1.13	3.74	37.53	35.19

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 \$27.29/hr in July 2023, this represents an increase of 7.4% in comparison to the same month a year earlier. On a year to date basis, the average hourly rate is 5.3% higher in 2023 (\$27.80/hr) in comparison to the same period in 2022 (\$26.39/hr).

The wages for the **Services-producing sector** was \$27.86/hr in July 2023, which is 8.2% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. There was year over year wage growth in Wholesale/retail trade (\$1.53/hr or 7.6%), Transportation and warehousing (\$1.12/hr or 4.6%), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (\$8.22 or 34.2%), Professional, scientific and technical services (\$1.06/hr or 3.6%), Business, building and other support services (\$2.49/hr or 14.7%), Educational services (\$0.72/hr or 2.1%), Health care and social assistance (\$0.46/hr or 1.6%), Accommodation and food services (\$1.24/hr or 7.7%), Other services (except public administration) (\$4.82/hr or 23.2%) and Public administration (\$3.74/hr or 10.9%).

The average hourly wage rate for the **Goods-producing sector** was \$25.40/hr in July 2023, which is 4.7% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. Year over year growth for wages occurred in Agriculture (\$0.85/hr or 4.0%), Other primary (\$2.80/hr or 10.9%), Construction (\$2.92/hr or 12.8%) and Manufacturing (\$0.26/hr or 1.0%).

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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
<b>Labour force</b>	<b>21,333.2</b>	<b>259.6</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>536.8</b>	<b>413.2</b>
Level	590.6	-0.2	5.6	19.6	8.7
Percent	2.8%	-0.1%	6.2%	3.8%	2.2%
<b>Employment</b>	<b>20,166.4</b>	<b>236.9</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>495.2</b>	<b>387.5</b>
Level	435.3	3.7	3.5	11.8	12.7
Percent	2.2%	1.6%	4.1%	2.4%	3.4%
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>1,166.8</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>25.7</b>
Level	155.3	-3.9	2.1	7.7	-4.1
Percent	15.4%	-14.7%	36.8%	22.7%	-13.8%
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Level	0.6	-1.5	1.8	1.1	-1.2

### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

NL experienced a year-over-year increase in employment in July 2023 (+1.6%).

On year over year basis, the unemployment rate in NL decreased 1.5 percentage points in July 2023 to 8.7%.

### **Nova Scotia**

Employment in Nova Scotia increased year-over-year (+2.4%).

On a year over year basis, their unemployment rate increased 1.1 percentage points and sits at 7.7%.

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

(000's)	CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
<b>Labour force</b>	<b>21,333.2</b>	<b>259.6</b>	<b>95.9</b>	<b>536.8</b>	<b>413.2</b>
Level	13.3	0.6	1.6	7.0	3.8
Percent	0.1%	0.2%	1.7%	1.3%	0.9%
<b>Employment</b>	<b>20,166.4</b>	<b>236.9</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>495.2</b>	<b>387.5</b>
Level	-6.4	0.8	1.5	-0.5	4.2
Percent	0.0%	0.3%	1.7%	-0.1%	1.1%
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>1,166.8</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>25.7</b>
Level	19.7	-0.1	0.1	7.5	-0.4
Percent	1.7%	-0.4%	1.3%	22.0%	-1.5%
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Level	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.3	-0.2

### **New Brunswick**

New Brunswick saw a 3.4% increase in year over year employment.

On year over year basis, their unemployment rate decreased 1.2 percentage points to 6.2%.

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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 OVER YEAR – PROVINCIAL RANKINGS

(Current month vs same month a year ago)

#### WORKING AGE POPULATION

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Alberta	4.1%
2	Prince Edward Island	3.8%
3	New Brunswick	3.0%
4	Nova Scotia	2.9%
5	Saskatchewan	2.7%
6	Ontario	2.4%
7	Manitoba	2.3%
8	British Columbia	2.1%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.6%
10	Quebec	1.4%
	Canada	2.4%

#### LABOUR FORCE

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	6.2%
2	Alberta	4.7%
3	Nova Scotia	3.8%
4	Manitoba	3.0%
5	Ontario	2.9%
6	Quebec	2.6%
7	New Brunswick	2.2%
8	British Columbia	1.7%
9	Saskatchewan	1.4%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	-0.1%
	Canada	2.8%

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	4.1%
2	Alberta	3.5%
3	New Brunswick	3.4%
4	Nova Scotia	2.4%
5	Ontario	2.3%
6	Quebec	2.3%
7	Manitoba	1.9%
8	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.6%
9	British Columbia	0.8%
10	Saskatchewan	0.4%
	Canada	2.2%

#### FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Alberta	4.4%
2	Prince Edward Island	4.2%
3	Manitoba	3.8%
4	Ontario	2.6%
5	Nova Scotia	2.6%
6	New Brunswick	2.4%
7	Quebec	1.3%
8	British Columbia	1.2%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.0%
10	Saskatchewan	0.4%
	Canada	2.3%

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	New Brunswick	10.4%
2	Quebec	6.9%
3	Newfoundland and Labrador	5.2%
4	Prince Edward Island	3.8%
5	Nova Scotia	1.9%
6	Ontario	1.3%
7	Saskatchewan	0.1%
8	British Columbia	-0.7%
9	Alberta	-0.9%
10	Manitoba	-6.1%
	Canada	1.9%

#### AVG HOURLY WAGES

##### YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	7.4%
2	British Columbia	6.4%
3	Alberta	6.0%
4	Ontario	5.7%
5	Newfoundland and Labrador	5.3%
6	Manitoba	4.4%
7	Saskatchewan	3.8%
8	Nova Scotia	3.5%
9	New Brunswick	3.2%
10	Quebec	2.8%
	Canada	5.0%

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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	3.7%
2	Alberta	3.5%
3	New Brunswick	2.9%
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 TO DATE

1	Alberta	3.3%
2	Prince Edward Island	2.8%
3	New Brunswick	2.7%
4	Quebec	2.4%
5	Nova Scotia	2.4%
6	Manitoba	2.3%
7	Ontario	2.0%
8	British Columbia	1.6%
9	Saskatchewan	1.0%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.3%
	Canada	2.2%

#### EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	3.6%
2	Alberta	3.4%
3	Prince Edward Island	3.4%
4	Nova Scotia	2.9%
5	Quebec	2.6%
6	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.3%
7	Ontario	2.3%
8	Manitoba	2.1%
9	British Columbia	1.3%
10	Saskatchewan	1.1%
	Canada	2.4%

#### FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	4.2%
2	Manitoba	4.2%
3	Prince Edward Island	3.6%
4	Ontario	2.7%
5	New Brunswick	2.4%
6	British Columbia	2.2%
7	Quebec	2.1%
8	Nova Scotia	2.1%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.8%
10	Saskatchewan	1.1%
	Canada	2.7%

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	New Brunswick	10.8%
2	Nova Scotia	6.5%
3	Newfoundland and Labrador	5.3%
4	Quebec	4.8%
5	Prince Edward Island	2.0%
6	Saskatchewan	1.4%
7	Ontario	0.4%
8	Alberta	0.0%
9	British Columbia	-1.9%
10	Manitoba	-6.7%
	Canada	1.0%

#### AVG HOURLY WAGES

##### YEAR TO DATE

1	Newfoundland and Labrador	6.0%
2	British Columbia	6.0%
3	Quebec	5.4%
4	Prince Edward Island	5.3%
5	Manitoba	5.0%
6	Ontario	4.9%
7	Nova Scotia	4.9%
8	New Brunswick	4.6%
9	Alberta	3.6%
10	Saskatchewan	3.2%
	Canada	5.0%