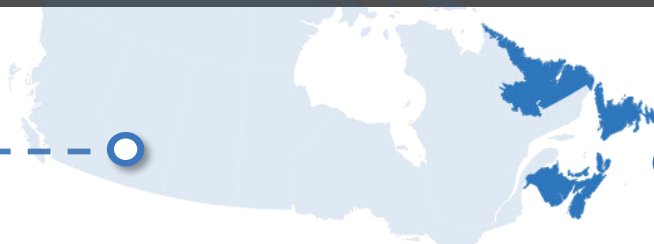




SEPTEMBER 2026

LABOUR MARKET BRIEF ■ ATLANTIC REGION



CANADA

- Employment fell sharply in September, down from the previous month by 68,300 jobs.
- The job reductions occurred in both full-time and part-time positions.
- The unemployment rate increased slightly in September to 6.5%, influenced by the job reductions.
- The goods-producing sector lost jobs in September (-16,000), while the services sector saw job reductions of 52,300.

ATLANTIC CANADA

- The Atlantic region experienced growth in employment in September, amounting to 2,300 jobs, making it the fourth consecutive monthly gain.
- Full-time jobs increased alongside fewer part-time.
- The unemployment rate moved higher in the month to 7.3%, resting just above the 12-month low of 7.1%.
- The goods-producing sector added jobs (+2,800), while the services sector saw job reductions of 400.

22,579,700 (-52,900)

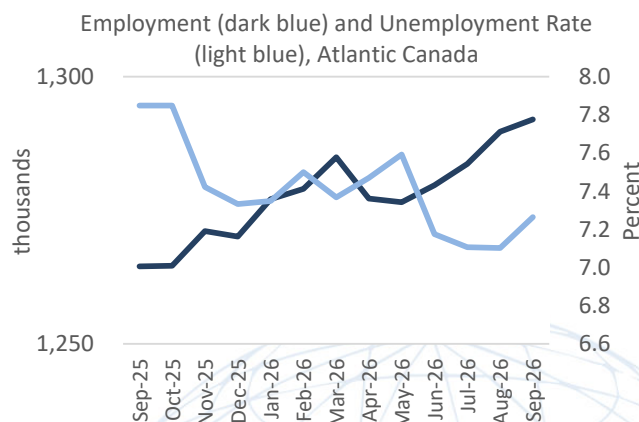
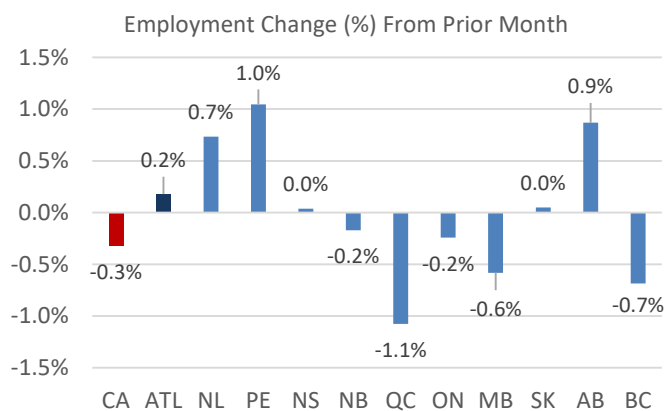
LABOUR FORCE

1,393,200 (+4,900)

21,104,800 (-68,300)

EMPLOYMENT

1,292,000 (+2,300)



6.5% (+0.1)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

7.3% (+0.2)

64.8% (-0.2)

PARTICIPATION RATE

60.8% (+0.2)

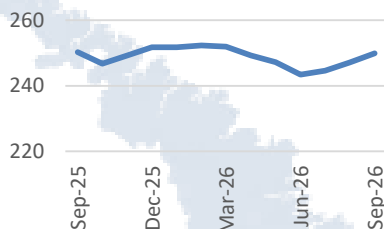
Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table 14-10-0287-01
Data above are seasonally adjusted. Values in brackets are month-over-month changes.

Employment and
Social Development CanadaEmploi et
Développement social Canada

Canada

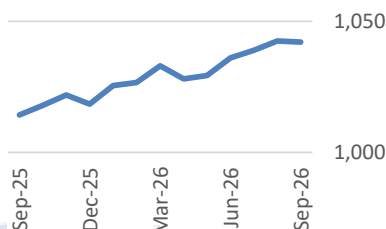
Goods Sector

Employment ('000), Atl.



Services Sector

Employment ('000), Atl.



Did You Know...

Public sector employment in Atlantic Canada declined by 0.8% over the past year, representing a loss of approximately 2,800 jobs. In contrast, private sector employment increased by 3.4%, an addition of 26,800 jobs during the same period. This shift comes nearly a year after the federal government announced plans to reduce the size of the public service. At the provincial level, the governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have also implemented workforce reduction measures as they seek to address significant budgetary pressures and fiscal deficits.

FASTEST GROWING INDUSTRIES

Year/year employment change, Jul-Sep averages, Atl.

1. Transportation and warehousing **+8%**
2. Accommodation and food services **+6%**
3. Utilities **+5%**
4. Educational services **+4%**
5. Professional, scientific and technical services **+4%**



NOVA SCOTIA

577,100

Labour Force

540,700

Employment

6.3%

Unemployment Rate

+1,400

Labour Force Change

+200

Employment Change

+0.2

Unemployment Rate Change



NEW BRUNSWICK

440,500

Labour Force

407,900

Employment

7.4%

Unemployment Rate

-200

Labour Force Change

-700

Employment Change

+0.1

Unemployment Rate Change



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

271,400

Labour Force

246,800

Employment

9.1%

Unemployment Rate

+3,300

Labour Force Change

+1,800

Employment Change

+0.5

Unemployment Rate Change



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

104,200

Labour Force

96,600

Employment

7.3%

Unemployment Rate

+400

Labour Force Change

+1,000

Employment Change

-0.6

Unemployment Rate Change

Provincial estimates based on seasonally-adjusted data for the latest month and compared to the previous month.

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Contact us at: ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@servicecanada.gc.ca