Labour Force Survey Report

Prince Edward Island

October 2026

WorkPEI

November 6, 2026

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		Current Period						
2023-25		**Oct-26**	**Sep-26**	**Oct-25**	M-M	*% Chg*	Y-Y	*% Chg*
150.1	Population (000's)	156.7	156.4	154.9	0.3	*0.2*	1.8	*1.2*
99.4	**Labour force (000's)**	103.0	104.2	101.9	-1.2	*-1.2*	1.1	*1.1*
91.8	**Employment (000's)**	95.3	96.6	93.5	-1.3	*-1.3*	1.8	*1.9*
78.8	Employment full-time (000's)	81.1	81.9	81.1	-0.8	*-1.0*	0.0	*0.0*
13.0	Employment part-time (000's)	14.2	14.7	12.4	-0.5	*-3.4*	1.8	*14.5*
7.7	**Unemployment (000's)**	7.6	7.6	8.4	0.0	*0.0*	-0.8	*-9.5*
7.7	Unemployment rate (%)	7.4	7.3	8.2	0.1		-0.8	
66.2	Participation rate (%)	65.7	66.6	65.8	-0.9		-0.1	
61.1	Employment rate (%)	60.8	61.8	60.4	-1.0		0.4	

Source: Table 14-10-0287-03; "Historical 2023-25" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

- The **labour force** totaled 103,000 in October 2026, a decrease of 1,200 persons in comparison to the previous month. The labour force was 1.1% higher when compared to October 2025.

- **Employment** totaled 95,300 in October 2026, a decrease of 1,300 persons in comparison to the previous month. Employment levels were 1.9% higher than a year ago. There was no change in **full-time employment** in a year over year comparison and a year over year increase in **part-time employment** (+1,800).

- **Unemployment** totaled 7,600 in October 2026, unchanged from the prior month. There was 800 fewer unemployed persons in comparison to the same period a year ago.

- The **unemployment rate** increased month over month and sits at 7.4%. The rate is 0.8 of a percentage point lower than it was in October 2025 (8.2%).

- The **participation rate** was 65.7% in October 2026; this represents a decrease of 0.1 of a percentage point from a year-over-year perspective. The PEI participation rate is higher than the national average (64.8%) and is fourth highest among provinces behind Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Labour Force Survey Report

Prince Edward Island

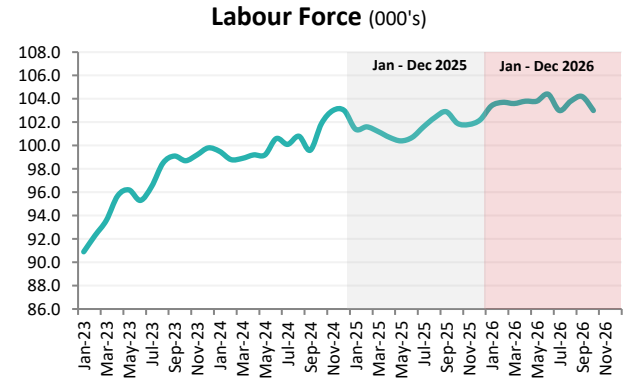
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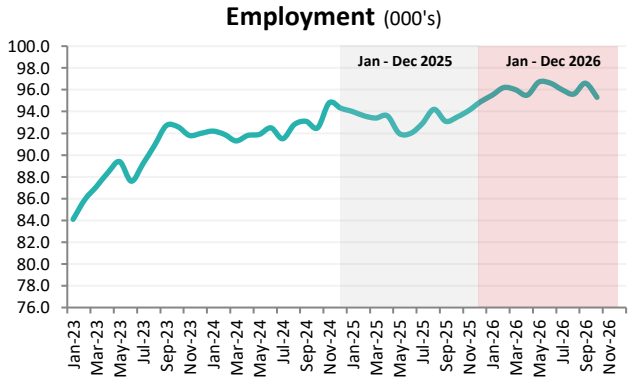
LFS - Progress Report

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 2026 to the same in 2025.



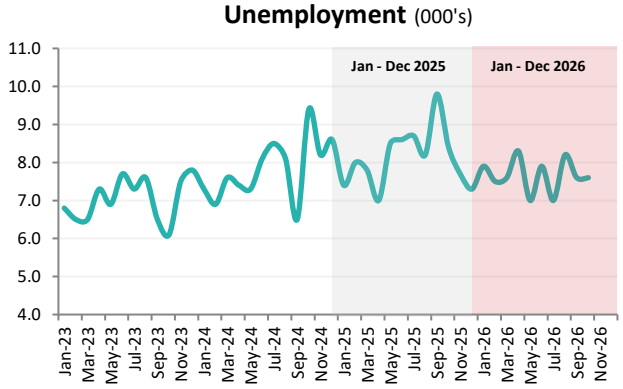
('000)	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Population	153.7	156.0	2.4	1.5%
Labour Force	101.5	103.7	2.2	2.2%
Not in LF	52.2	52.4	0.2	0.3%
Participation rate (%)	66.0	66.4	0.4	-

The labour force figure for October 2026 is tied for the seventh highest all-time. The October 2026 figure represents the tenth consecutive month the figure has exceeded 103,000 persons. The labour force has 2,200 more persons YTD over the same period last year. On a YTD basis, the participation rate is higher in comparison to the same period last year and sits at 66.4%.



('000)	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Employment	93.2	96.0	2.8	3.0%
Full-time	80.8	82.3	1.5	1.8%
Part-time	12.4	13.7	1.3	10.4%
Employment rate (%)	60.7	61.5	0.9	-

In October, employment met or exceeded 95,000 persons for the tenth consecutive month. The October employment figure is the seventh highest figure on record- all ten months in 2026 sit within the 10 highest monthly employment figures on record. The figure for full-time employment represents the tenth highest on record.



('000)	2025 YTD	2026 YTD	Level Chg	Percent Chg
Unemployment	8.2	7.7	-0.6	-7.0%
Unemployment rate (%)	8.1	7.4	-0.7	-

The unemployment rate in October 2026 marks the eleventh month out of the past twelve where the unemployment rate was below 8%. On a year to date basis, the number of unemployment individuals in 2026 is 700 persons fewer than the same period in 2025.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

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October 2026

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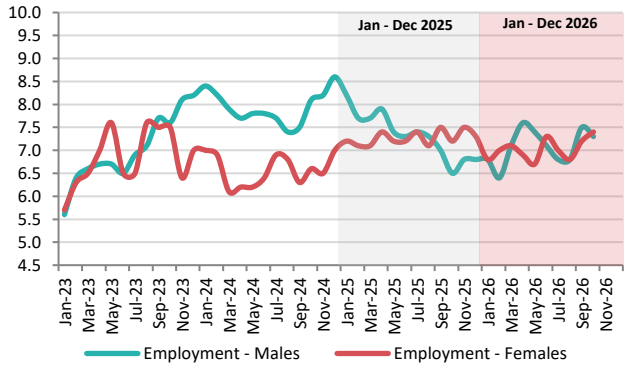
November 6, 2026

Young Worker Cohort (15-24 Years)

('000's)	Historical 2023-25	Current: 2026 YTD Both	Male	Female
Labour force	16.1	16.1	8.3	7.8
Employment	14.3	14.1	7.1	7.0
Unemployment	1.8	2.0	1.2	0.8
Unemp rate (%)	11.0	12.2	14.5	9.9

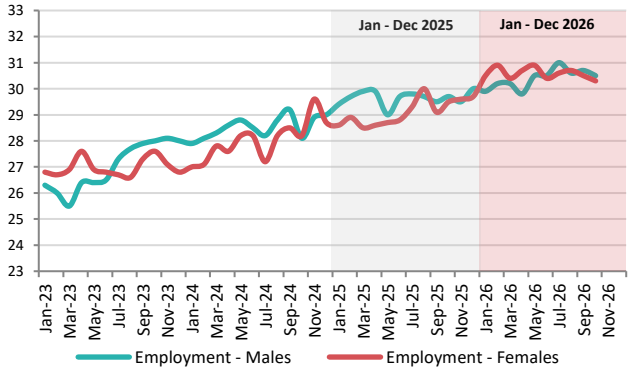
In October, there were 200 more females employed and 800 more males employed in comparison to a year earlier. For full-time employment, females (-200) saw a decrease and while males (+800) saw an increase. Part-time employment did not change for males and increased for females (+400). The unemployment rate for this cohort was 10.8%, down 4.7 percentage points year over year.

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 2023-25	Current: 2026 YTD Both	Male	Female
Labour force	60.4	64.6	32.5	32.0
Employment	56.4	61.0	30.4	30.6
Unemployment	4.0	3.6	2.1	1.5
Unemp rate (%)	6.5	5.6	6.5	4.5

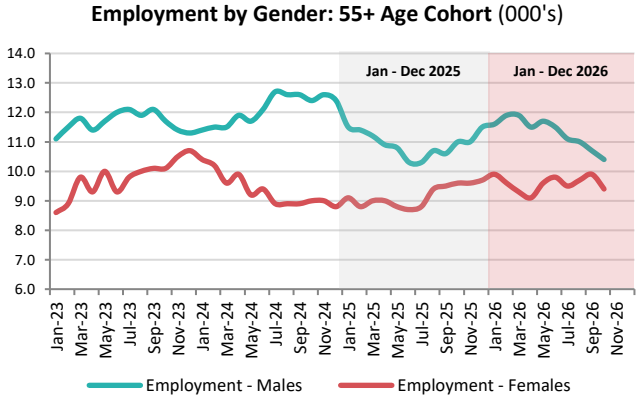
In October, employment increased for females (+800) and for males (+800) in comparison to October 2025. On a FT basis, year over year employment decreased for females (-100) and increased for males (+1,000). On a PT basis, there was a year over year increase for females (+900) and a decrease for males (-200). The unemployment rate decreased for males (to 5.3%) and decreased for females (to 5.3%) on a year over year basis.

Older-worker Cohort (55 Years +)

('000's)	Historical 2023-25	Current: 2026 YTD Both	Male	Female
Labour force	22.9	23.0	12.7	10.4
Employment	21.0	20.9	11.3	9.6
Unemployment	1.9	2.1	1.3	0.8
Unemp rate (%)	8.4	9.3	10.5	7.9

On a year over year basis there were 200 fewer females and 600 fewer males employed. There were more females (+200) and fewer males (-500) in the labour force when comparing October 2026 to October 2025.

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



LFS – Industry Perspective (Employment)

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

Historical		Current Period					Year to Date		
2023-25		**Oct-26**	**Sep-26**	**Oct-25**	M-M	Y-Y	**2026**	**2025**	Change
91.8	**Total industries** *('000s)*	**95.3**	**96.6**	**93.5**	**-1.3**	**1.8**	**96.0**	**93.2**	**2.8**
23.0	**Goods-sector**	**21.2**	**21.6**	**23.0**	**-0.4**	**-1.8**	**22.4**	**24.2**	**-1.8**
3.8	Agriculture	2.8	3.1	3.0	-0.3	-0.2	3.4	3.4	-0.1
2.2	Other primary	1.7	2.0	2.1	-0.3	-0.4	1.7	2.3	-0.6
0.3	Utilities	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.4
8.7	Construction	9.1	9.1	9.4	0.0	-0.3	9.4	9.6	-0.2
8.1	Manufacturing	7.1	6.9	8.3	0.2	-1.2	7.3	8.6	-1.3
68.7	**Services-sector**	**74.1**	**75.0**	**70.4**	**-0.9**	**3.7**	**73.7**	**69.1**	**4.6**
11.0	Wholesale/retail trade	13.2	13.3	11.1	-0.1	2.1	12.7	11.2	1.5
2.7	Transport/Warehousing	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-0.1	2.0	2.4	-0.4
3.9	Fin/Ins/Real estate	4.4	4.5	4.2	-0.1	0.2	4.4	3.9	0.5
4.9	Prof/ scientific/technical	5.0	4.9	5.7	0.1	-0.7	5.5	5.2	0.3
2.2	Business/building/other	2.2	2.0	2.5	0.2	-0.3	1.8	2.3	-0.5
6.3	Educational services	7.4	7.6	6.3	-0.2	1.1	6.9	6.1	0.8
15.0	Health/social assistance	16.1	16.5	16.1	-0.4	0.0	16.3	15.9	0.4
2.7	Info/culture/rec	2.9	2.9	2.3	0.0	0.6	2.7	2.2	0.5
5.9	Accomm/food services	7.1	7.6	6.7	-0.5	0.4	7.4	6.2	1.3
3.5	Other services	2.8	2.9	3.1	-0.1	-0.3	3.1	3.1	0.0
10.5	Public administration	11.0	10.6	10.4	0.4	0.6	10.8	10.6	0.2

Data source: Table 14-10-0355-02; "Historical 2023-25" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

Note: Not all values sum up due to rounding

There were 74,100 persons employed in the **Services-producing sector** in October 2026, comprising 77.8% of PEI's industrial employment base. There was a year-over-year increase of 3,700 persons employed in the service sector. There was year over year growth in Wholesale/retail trade (+2,100), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+200), Educational services (+1,100), Information, culture and recreation (+600), Accommodation and food services (+400) and Public administration (+600). There was a year over year decrease in Transportation and warehousing (-100), Professional, technical and scientific services (-700), Business, building and other support services (-300) and Other services (except public administration) (-300). There was no change in Health care and social assistance in a year over year comparison.

There were 21,200 persons employed in the **Goods-producing sector** in October 2026, resulting in a decrease of 1,800 persons employed compared to a year ago. There was year over year growth in Utilities (+500). There was a year over year decrease in Agriculture (-200), Other primary (-400), Construction (-300) and Manufacturing (-1,200).

LFS – Industry Perspective (Average Hourly Wages)

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

Historical		Current Period						
2023-25		**Oct-26**	**Sep-26**	**Oct-25**	M-M	Y-Y	2026 YTD	2025 YTD
29.2	**Total industries** *('000s)*	**32.53**	**31.91**	**30.96**	**0.62**	**1.57**	**31.75**	**29.85**
27.0	**Goods-sector**	**30.50**	**29.65**	**28.05**	**0.85**	**2.45**	**29.59**	**27.31**
22.0	Agriculture	23.44	23.51	22.55	-0.07	0.89	24.93	22.16
28.8	Other primary	42.68	31.66	30.67	11.02	12.01	31.41	30.75
43.7	Utilities	54.02	60.80	38.83	-6.78	15.19	49.76	40.74
27.4	Construction	29.74	28.82	28.98	0.92	0.76	29.17	28.40
27.6	Manufacturing	30.70	29.94	28.49	0.76	2.21	29.56	27.36
29.9	**Services-sector**	**33.03**	**32.49**	**31.80**	**0.54**	**1.23**	**32.30**	**30.65**
21.9	Wholesale/retail trade	25.20	25.29	23.61	-0.09	1.59	24.11	22.87
26.6	Transport/Warehousing	27.24	26.94	28.29	0.30	-1.05	28.35	27.76
31.8	Fin/Ins/Real estate	33.91	30.52	36.27	3.39	-2.36	33.02	30.21
34.8	Prof/ scientific/technical	42.32	39.95	37.58	2.37	4.74	39.11	37.56
22.1	Business/building/other	25.67	27.32	22.35	-1.65	3.32	26.66	23.33
35.9	Educational services	40.37	42.28	35.92	-1.91	4.45	39.28	35.92
31.8	Health/social assistance	34.30	33.97	34.78	0.33	-0.48	34.37	33.48
24.2	Info/culture/rec	27.78	29.00	24.54	-1.22	3.24	27.82	23.90
18.6	Accomm/food services	20.39	21.21	19.53	-0.82	0.86	20.34	18.66
25.5	Other services	29.04	29.58	26.22	-0.54	2.82	28.79	24.84
39.4	Public administration	42.89	41.68	41.33	1.21	1.56	42.17	40.45

Data source: Table 14-10-0063-01; "Historical 2023-25" is provided as average values over the past 3 years for historical context.

The average hourly wage rate across all industries was $32.53/hr in October 2026, this represents an increase of 5.1% in comparison to the same month a year earlier. On a year to date basis, the average hourly rate is 6.4% higher in 2026 ($31.75/hr) in comparison to the same period in 2025 ($29.85/hr).

The wages for the **Services-producing sector** was $33.03/hr in October 2026, which is 3.9% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. There was year over year wage growth in Wholesale/retail trade ($1.59/hr or 6.7%), Professional, scientific and technical services ($4.74/hr or 12.6%), Business, building and other support services ($3.32/hr or 14.9%), Educational services ($4.45/hr or 12.4%), Information, culture and recreation ($3.24/hr or 13.2%), Accommodation and food services ($0.86/hr or 4.4%), Other services (except public administration ($2.82/hr or 10.8%) and Public Administration ($1.56/hr or 3.8%).

The average hourly wage rate for the **Goods-producing sector** was $30.50/hr in October 2026, which is 8.7% higher than the wage rate a year earlier. Year over year growth for wages occurred in Agriculture ($0.89/hr or 3.9%), Other primary ($12.01/hr or 39.2%), Utilities ($15.19/hr or 39.1%), Construction ($0.76/hr or 2.6%) and Manufacturing ($2.21/hr or 7.8%).

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		**22,607.7**	**273.5**	**103.0**	**578.9**	**441.9**
	Level	-26.6	0.6	1.1	19.8	3.5
	Percent	-0.1%	0.2%	1.1%	3.5%	0.8%
Employment		**21,100.1**	**249.7**	**95.3**	**543.0**	**409.1**
	Level	16.5	4.5	1.8	21.6	4.6
	Percent	0.1%	1.8%	1.9%	4.1%	1.1%
Unemployment		**1,507.7**	**23.8**	**7.6**	**35.9**	**32.8**
	Level	-43.0	-3.9	-0.8	-1.8	-1.1
	Percent	-2.8%	-14.1%	-9.5%	-4.8%	-3.2%
Unemployment rate (%)		**6.7**	**8.7**	**7.4**	**6.2**	**7.4**
	Level	-0.2	-1.5	-0.8	-0.5	-0.3

Newfoundland and Labrador

NL experienced an increase in employment year-over-year in October 2026 (+1.8%).

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

Nova Scotia

Employment in Nova Scotia increased year-over-year (4.1%).

On a year over year basis, the unemployment rate decreased 0.5 of a percentage point and sits at 6.2%.

New Brunswick

New Brunswick saw an increase (1.1%) in a year over year comparison for employment.

On year over year basis, their unemployment rate decreased by 0.3 of a percentage point to 7.4%.

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

(000"s)		CA	NL	PE	NS	NB
Labour force		**22,607.7**	**273.5**	**103.0**	**578.9**	**441.9**
	Level	28.0	2.1	-1.2	1.8	1.4
	Percent	0.1%	0.8%	-1.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Employment		**21,100.1**	**249.7**	**95.3**	**543.0**	**409.1**
	Level	-4.7	2.9	-1.3	2.3	1.2
	Percent	0.0%	1.2%	-1.3%	0.4%	0.3%
Unemployment		**1,507.7**	**23.8**	**7.6**	**35.9**	**32.8**
	Level	32.8	-0.8	0.0	-0.5	0.2
	Percent	2.2%	-3.3%	0.0%	-1.4%	0.6%
Unemployment rate (%)		**6.7**	**8.7**	**7.4**	**6.2**	**7.4**
	Level	0.2	-0.4	0.1	-0.1	0

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	2.1%
2	Saskatchewan	2.0%
3	New Brunswick	1.3%
4	Nova Scotia	1.3%
5	Prince Edward Island	1.2%
6	Manitoba	1.0%
7	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.8%
8	Ontario	0.5%
9	British Columbia	0.0%
10	Quebec	-0.3%
	Canada	*0.5%*

LABOUR FORCE

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Nova Scotia	3.5%
2	Saskatchewan	1.4%
3	Alberta	1.2%
4	Manitoba	1.2%
5	Prince Edward Island	1.1%
6	New Brunswick	0.8%
7	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.2%
8	Ontario	0.0%
9	British Columbia	-0.3%
10	Quebec	-1.9%
	Canada	*-0.1%*

EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Nova Scotia	4.1%
2	Manitoba	2.2%
3	Prince Edward Island	1.9%
4	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.8%
5	Alberta	1.6%
6	New Brunswick	1.1%
7	Saskatchewan	1.0%
8	Ontario	0.3%
9	British Columbia	0.0%
10	Quebec	-2.3%
	Canada	*0.1%*

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Alberta	3.9%
2	Newfoundland and Labrador	2.5%
3	Nova Scotia	2.4%
4	Manitoba	1.8%
5	Ontario	0.6%
6	Prince Edward Island	0.0%
7	British Columbia	0.0%
8	New Brunswick	-0.2%
9	Saskatchewan	-0.4%
10	Quebec	-2.9%
	Canada	*0.2%*

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	Prince Edward Island	14.5%
2	Nova Scotia	13.1%
3	New Brunswick	8.9%
4	Saskatchewan	7.5%
5	Manitoba	4.0%
6	Quebec	0.4%
7	British Columbia	0.2%
8	Ontario	-1.1%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	-1.6%
10	Alberta	-8.8%
	Canada	*-0.6%*

AVG HOURLY WAGES

YEAR OVER YEAR

1	New Brunswick	5.6%
2	Prince Edward Island	5.1%
3	Quebec	3.8%
4	British Columbia	3.4%
5	Alberta	2.8%
6	Nova Scotia	2.8%
7	Manitoba	2.2%
8	Saskatchewan	2.0%
9	Ontario	0.7%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.7%
	Canada	*2.2%*

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	Alberta	2.3%
2	Saskatchewan	1.8%
3	Prince Edward Island	1.5%
4	Manitoba	1.3%
5	Nova Scotia	1.1%
6	New Brunswick	1.1%
7	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.7%
8	Ontario	0.6%
9	British Columbia	0.2%
10	Quebec	0.1%
	Canada	*0.7%*

LABOUR FORCE

YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	2.6%
2	Prince Edward Island	2.2%
3	Nova Scotia	1.8%
4	Manitoba	1.4%
5	Saskatchewan	1.3%
6	New Brunswick	1.0%
7	Ontario	0.0%
8	British Columbia	-0.2%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	-0.4%
10	Quebec	-1.0%
	Canada	*0.2%*

EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	3.3%
2	Prince Edward Island	3.0%
3	Manitoba	1.9%
4	Nova Scotia	1.9%
5	New Brunswick	1.1%
6	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.7%
7	Ontario	0.6%
8	Saskatchewan	0.6%
9	British Columbia	-0.5%
10	Quebec	-0.9%
	Canada	*0.5%*

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	Alberta	4.2%
2	Prince Edward Island	1.8%
3	Manitoba	1.4%
4	Nova Scotia	1.3%
5	Newfoundland and Labrador	1.2%
6	Ontario	1.2%
7	New Brunswick	0.6%
8	Saskatchewan	0.4%
9	British Columbia	-0.2%
10	Quebec	-2.0%
	Canada	*0.6%*

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

YEAR TO DATE

1	Prince Edward Island	10.4%
2	Nova Scotia	4.6%
3	Manitoba	4.4%
4	Quebec	3.9%
5	New Brunswick	3.7%
6	Saskatchewan	1.5%
7	Alberta	-1.0%
8	British Columbia	-1.5%
9	Newfoundland and Labrador	-1.8%
10	Ontario	-2.2%
	Canada	*0.0%*

AVG HOURLY WAGES

YEAR TO DATE

1	Prince Edward Island	6.4%
2	Quebec	4.6%
3	New Brunswick	4.2%
4	Nova Scotia	4.1%
5	Alberta	3.2%
6	British Columbia	2.9%
7	Ontario	2.7%
8	Saskatchewan	2.2%
9	Manitoba	1.9%
10	Newfoundland and Labrador	0.7%
	Canada	*3.2%*