



Labour Market Bulletin

New Brunswick

June 2022



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of New Brunswick, including the regions of Campbellton—Miramichi, Edmundston—Woodstock, Fredericton—Oromocto, Moncton—Richibucto and Saint John—St. Stephen.

OVERVIEW

New Brunswick's labour market improved substantially between the first (Q1) and second (Q2) quarters of 2022. Most notably, employment surged by 7,000, thanks to a large expansion in the number of full-time positions (+6,500). Fewer people joined the labour force over this period (+2,000), resulting in a 1.3 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate. The increase in labour force participants was driven completely by a population increase as the participation rate held steady at 59.8%.

The bulk of this forward momentum was experienced during the first month (April) of the quarter. After reaching peaks in the number of employed and labour force participants, both indicators dropped in May and June. Employment remains 9,000 above its year-ago level, while the labour force is down by 2,100. This explains the unemployment rate's downward trajectory over the past year.

New Brunswick Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

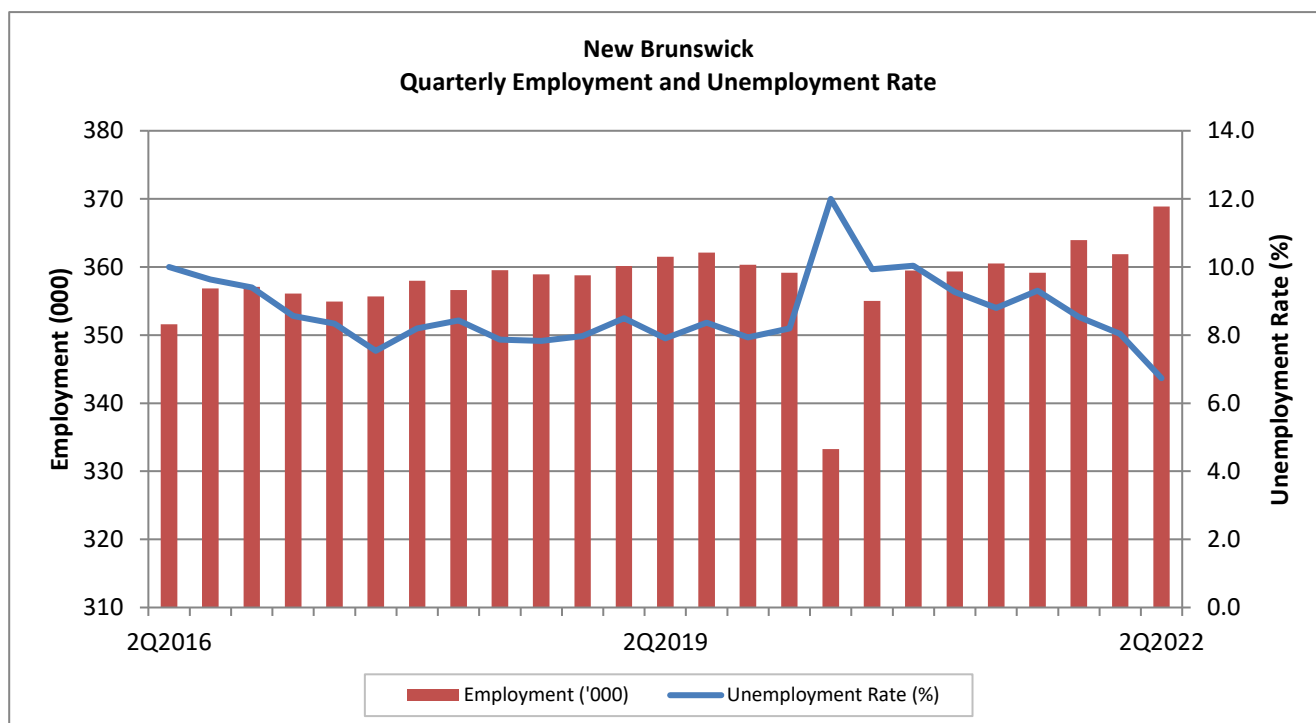
Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly Data	2nd Quarter 2022	1st Quarter 2022	2nd Quarter 2021	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	661.2	657.5	649.3	3.7	0.6	11.9	1.8
Labour Force ('000)	395.5	393.5	395.3	2.0	0.5	0.2	0.1
Employment ('000)	368.9	361.9	360.5	7.0	1.9	8.4	2.3
Full-Time ('000)	316.6	310.1	304.0	6.5	2.1	12.6	4.1
Part-Time ('000)	52.2	51.7	56.5	0.5	1.0	-4.3	-7.6
Unemployment ('000)	26.6	31.6	34.8	-5.0	-15.8	-8.2	-23.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.7	8.0	8.8	-1.3	-	-2.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	59.8	59.8	60.9	0.0	-	-1.1	-

Employment Rate (%)	55.8	55.0	55.5	0.8	-	0.3	-
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Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

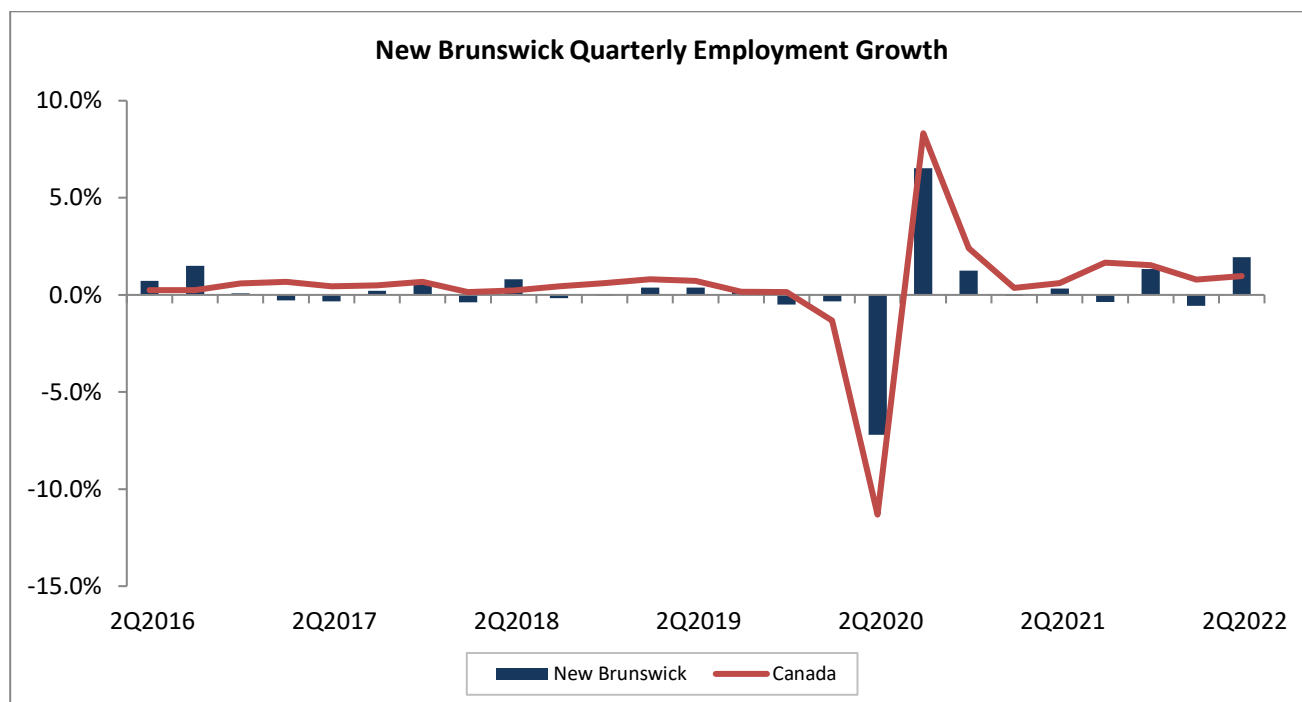
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Job gains in Q2 were spread among prime aged workers (aged 25 to 54 years) and youth (aged 24 years and under). The former added 5,300 positions over this period, all of which were full-time positions. Over 4,000 prime working aged people also joined the labour force in Q2, while its unemployment rate fell to 5.6%.



The youth age group also added jobs over this period, posting an impressive 6.9% growth rate (+3,200 positions). At the same time, the unemployment rate dropped steeply – from 14.3% to 9.2%. With few people entering the labour force (+500), this was mainly due to a steep drop in the number of unemployed (-2,700), which suggests that many young people found jobs over this period.

Outcomes were more positive for young males over this period. They accounted for three-quarters (2,400) of the employment growth experienced by this age cohort, as well as all of the labour force growth. The unemployment rate for young males fell 7.4 percentage points, to 9.2%, while the rate for young females fell 3.1% to 9.0%.



In contrast to these other age grouping, labour market outcomes for seniors were quite negative in Q2. On the one hand, this group shed 1,600 jobs. At the same time, the labour force contracted by an even greater amount (-2,700) thanks to a drop in the participation rate. The net effect was a 0.9 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate.

New Brunswick Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	2nd Quarter 2022 %	1st Quarter 2022 %	2nd Quarter 2021 %	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	6.7	8.0	8.8	-1.3	-2.1
25 years and over	6.3	7.0	8.6	-0.7	-2.3
Men - 25 years and over	7.4	7.6	10.4	-0.2	-3.0
Women - 25 years and over	5.2	6.4	6.7	-1.2	-1.5
15 to 24 years	9.2	14.3	10.0	-5.1	-0.7
Men - 15 to 24 years	9.2	16.7	12.7	-7.4	-3.5
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.0	12.1	6.6	-3.1	2.4

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

The bulk of employment gains in Q2 were concentrated in the **services-producing sector** which, after two weak quarters, rebounded strongly with the addition of 6,400 jobs. The **goods-producing sector** improved for the third straight quarter, though job gains were much less pronounced, at 500.

Construction (+1,500) led all industries in the goods-producing sector, registering its fifth consecutive quarter-over-quarter improvement. Indicators suggest that residential construction activity is still going strong. Employment in all four remaining industries either held firm or declined, with **agriculture** experiencing the largest drop (700).

Among services-producing industries, impressive gains were observed in **educational services** (+2,500), **accommodation and food services** (+2,100), **other services** (+1,200) and **information, culture and recreation** (+1,000). Only three industries in this sector registered losses: **business, building and other support services** (-1,900), **finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing** (-800) and **transportation and warehousing** (-200).

New Brunswick Quarterly Employed Labour Force, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	2nd Quarter 2022	1st Quarter 2022	2nd Quarter 2021	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	368.9	361.9	360.5	7.0	1.9	8.3	2.3
Goods-producing sector	77.4	76.9	69.7	0.5	0.7	7.7	11.0
Agriculture	6.5	7.2	5.1	-0.7	-9.7	1.4	28.3
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil	7.8	7.8	9.1	0.0	0.0	-1.3	-14.2
Utilities	4.6	4.7	3.9	0.0	-0.7	0.8	19.8
Construction	29.6	28.1	22.6	1.5	5.3	7.0	30.8
Manufacturing	28.9	29.1	29.0	-0.2	-0.8	-0.2	-0.6
Services-producing sector	291.4	285.0	290.8	6.4	2.3	0.6	0.2
Trade	54.4	53.7	55.7	0.7	1.4	-1.2	-2.2
Transportation and warehousing	18.2	18.4	19.4	-0.2	-1.3	-1.2	-6.2
Finance, insurance, real estate and	16.0	16.8	17.7	-0.8	-4.6	-1.7	-9.8
Professional, scientific and technical	21.6	20.8	17.1	0.8	4.0	4.5	26.5
Business, building and other support	13.8	15.7	15.2	-1.9	-	-1.4	-9.0
Educational services	33.7	31.1	27.7	2.5	8.1	6.0	21.5
Health care and social assistance	57.3	56.4	61.7	0.9	1.5	-4.4	-7.2
Information, culture and recreation	10.1	9.1	9.9	1.0	11.0	0.2	2.4
Accommodation and food services	21.5	19.4	21.4	2.1	10.8	0.1	0.5
Other services	13.6	12.4	14.6	1.2	9.7	-1.0	-6.8
Public administration	31.3	31.1	30.3	0.3	0.9	1.0	3.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Job losses in Q2 were contained to the province's northernmost Economic Region (ER) of Campbellton-Miramichi. The labour markets were mostly improved in each of the other four regions, when compared to the same point in time in 2021.

Employment fell by 400 on a year-over-year basis in the **Campbellton-Miramichi** ER, marking the fourth straight quarter of job losses. The number of full-time jobs actually increased over this period (+1,400), but were offset by a decline in part-time positions (-1,700). The labour force contracted by an even greater amount (-2,200) over this period, causing the unemployment rate to actually fall two percentage points, to 11.0%.

The **Moncton-Richibucto** ER added 2,700 jobs on a year-over-year basis, all of which were full-time positions. At the same time, though, 2,100 people dropped out of the labour force, resulting in a 3.6 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate (to 5.2%).

The **Saint John-St. Stephen** ER's labour market performance was somewhat mixed in Q2. On the one hand, employment grew by 1,500 as an increase in full-time jobs (4,500) offset a decline in part-time positions (-3,000). At the same time, though, the labour force contracted somewhat (-100), despite an increase in the region's working population. These two forces, combined, caused the unemployment rate to fall from 8.1% to 6.4%.

On a year-over-year basis, employment in the **Fredericton-Oromocto** ER grew by an impressive 3,300, thanks to an expansion in the number of full-time positions. While the participation rate held steady, an increasing working aged population resulted in 1,800 people joining the labour force. The net result of these changes was a 2.1 percentage point drop in the unemployment rate. At 6.5%, it is just under the provincial average.

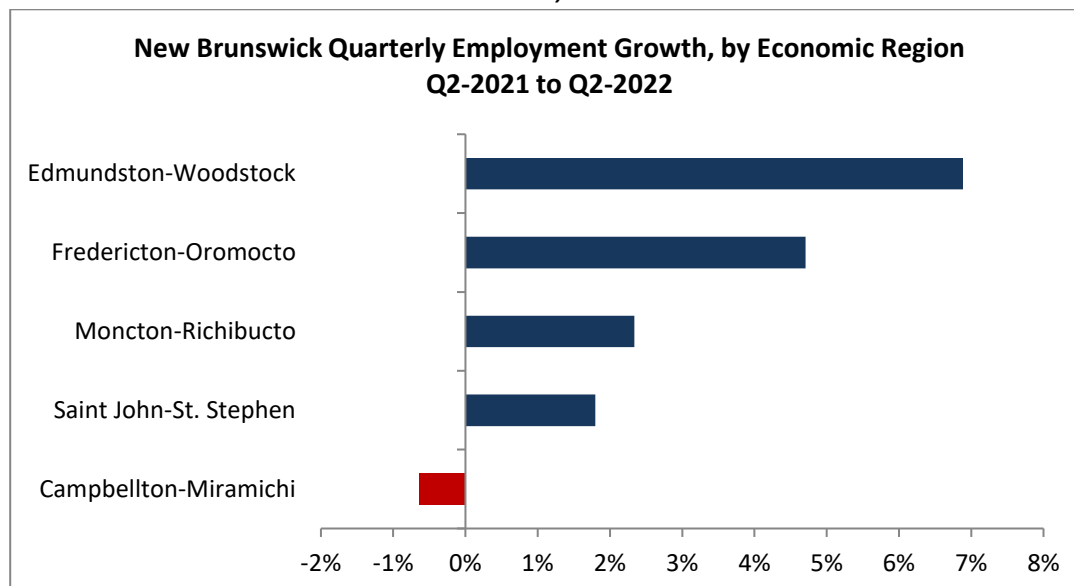
The **Edmundston-Woodstock** ER added 2,300 jobs in Q2, thanks mostly to a bump in full-time positions (2,100). The combination of an improved participation rate (+2.4 percentage points) and a higher working aged population (+600) also caused the labour force to increase. However, the impact of the employment change on the unemployment rate was stronger, causing the rate to fall by 1.1 percentage points, to 6.1%.

New Brunswick Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	2nd Quarter 2022 ('000)	2nd Quarter 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	2nd Quarter 2022 (%)	2nd Quarter 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% Points)
New Brunswick	374.7	365.4	2.5	6.8	9.3	-2.5
Economic Regions						
Campbellton-Miramichi	62.5	62.9	-0.6	11.0	13.0	-2.0
Moncton-Richibucto	118.2	115.5	2.3	5.2	8.8	-3.6
Saint John-St. Stephen	85.0	83.5	1.8	6.4	8.1	-1.7
Fredericton-Oromocto	73.4	70.1	4.7	6.5	8.6	-2.1
Edmundston-Woodstock	35.7	33.4	6.9	6.1	7.2	-1.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



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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http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi

For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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