



Labour Market Bulletin

Newfoundland and Labrador

June 2022



This Labour Market Bulletin is a report providing an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, including the regions of Avalon Peninsula, West Coast—Northern Peninsula—Labrador, Notre Dame—Central Bonavista Bay and South Coast—Burin Peninsula.

OVERVIEW

Employment increased for the fifth consecutive quarter, while the size of the labour force dropped slightly. The result was the lowest quarterly unemployment rate on record.

Newfoundland and Labrador Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

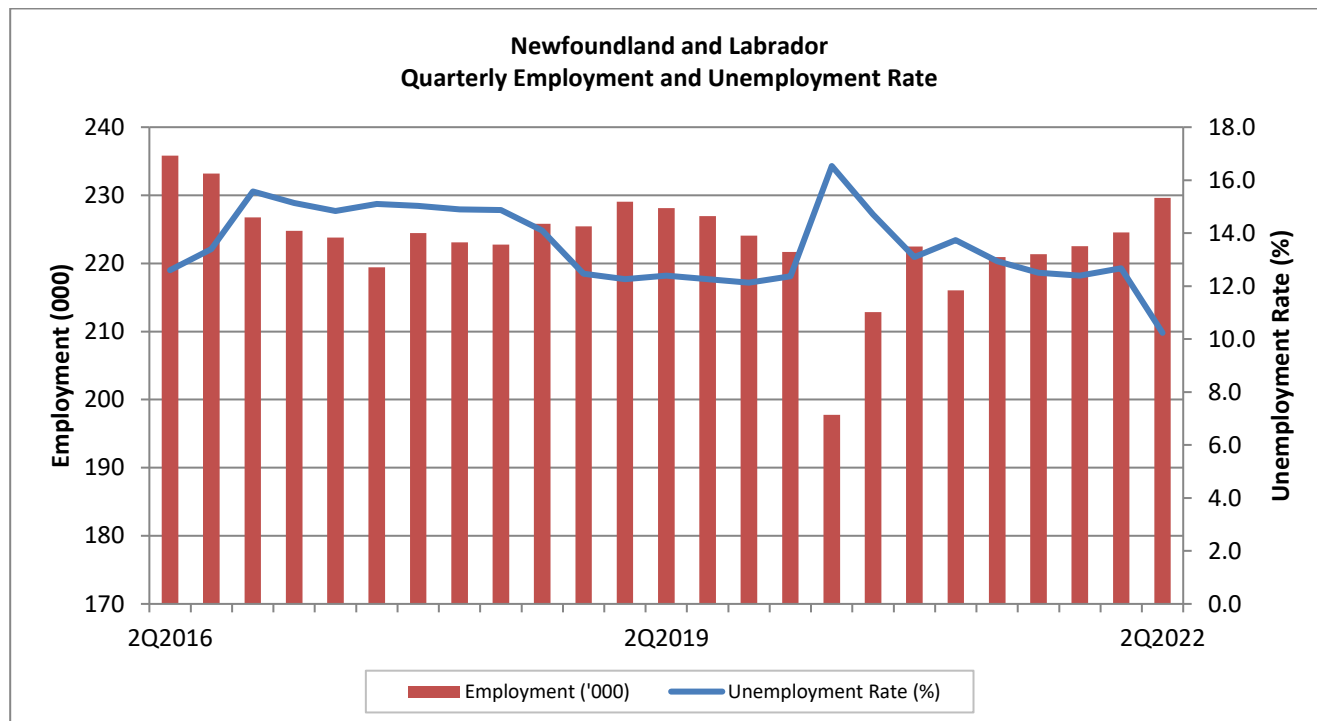
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	2nd Quarter 2022	1st Quarter 2022	2nd Quarter 2021	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	447.7	446.7	445.0	1.0	0.2	2.7	0.6
Labour Force ('000)	255.8	257.1	253.8	-1.3	-0.5	2.0	0.8
Employment ('000)	229.6	224.6	220.9	5.0	2.2	8.7	3.9
Full-Time ('000)	190.5	191.8	185.9	-1.3	-0.7	4.6	2.5
Part-Time ('000)	39.1	32.7	35.1	6.4	19.6	4.0	11.4
Unemployment ('000)	26.2	32.6	32.9	-6.4	-19.6	-6.7	-20.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.2	12.7	12.9	-2.5	-	-2.7	-
Participation Rate (%)	57.1	57.6	57.1	-0.5	-	0.0	-
Employment Rate (%)	51.3	50.3	49.7	1.0	-	1.6	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

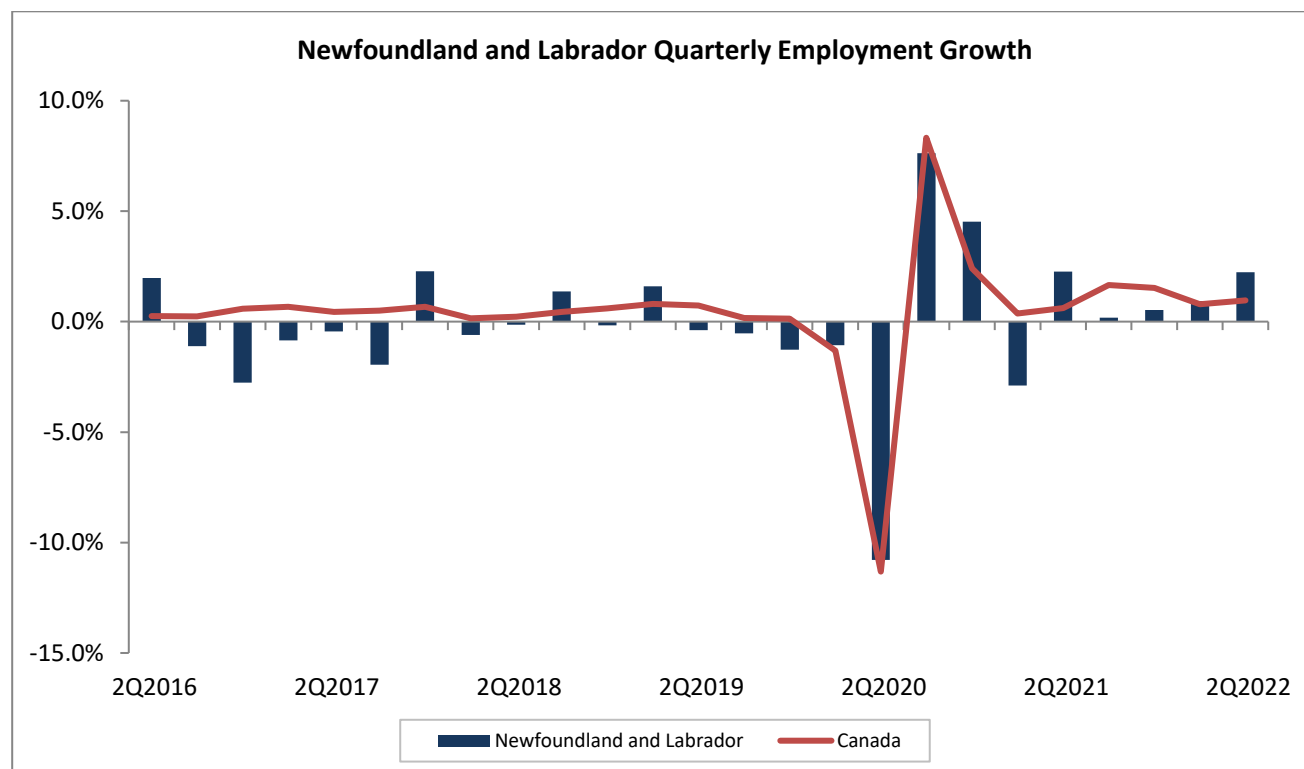
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Historically, a fall in major project spending contributed to a sustained reduction in employment beginning in 2013. This raised the quarterly unemployment rate to a six-year high of 15.6% in the fourth quarter of 2016. This rate remained near 15% over the next six quarters as employment and labour force levels remained steady. In the second half of 2018, a decline in labour force size reduced the unemployment rate, where it remained steady until pandemic-related job losses elevated the rate through most of 2020. While labour market conditions improved in

Q4 of 2020, employment fell in the following quarter due to a large COVID-19 outbreak. Since then, employment has grown faster than the labour force, pushing the unemployment rate downward.



Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Canada generally experienced small, consistent employment gains, whereas employment levels in Newfoundland and Labrador were more volatile. The onset of the pandemic caused massive job losses at both the provincial and national levels in the second quarter of 2020. While the two quarters that followed brought employment gains at both levels, Newfoundland and Labrador had a sharp loss in the first quarter of 2021 as a COVID-19 outbreak resulted in widespread restrictions and business closures. Since then, both the province and country have experienced varying degrees of quarterly growth, with each area having employment rise by approximately 6% over the past five quarters.



Most of the employment growth over the past quarter has been among males 25 years and older, with a gain of 3,400 jobs. Over the same period the labour force for this group dropped (-1,800), resulting in its lowest quarterly unemployment rate since 1989. The unemployment rate for females of this age group declined slightly over the quarter, due to a small increase in employment.

The youth (aged 15 to 24 years) unemployment rate decreased from the previous quarter, as employment outpaced labour force growth. Over the past two quarters, the youth unemployment rate fell by 3.7 percentage points, as employment rose to its highest level since 2017.

Newfoundland and Labrador 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	10.2	12.7	12.9	-2.4	-2.7
25 years and over	9.8	12.5	12.4	-2.7	-2.6
Men - 25 years and over	11.3	15.7	15.4	-4.3	-4.1
Women - 25 years and over	8.2	9.1	9.1	-0.9	-1.0
15 to 24 years	13.2	14.1	16.2	-0.9	-3.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	16.7	17.9	20.3	-1.2	-3.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	9.5	9.5	11.6	0.0	-2.1

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment growth since the previous quarter was driven by the services-producing sector (+4,900), with most industries gaining jobs. **Accommodation and food services** (+1,800) had its strongest quarterly increase since the end of 2012. **Transportation and warehousing** (+1,000) grew for the fourth consecutive quarter, and **public administration** (+800) reached a record high. However, **business, building and other support services** (-1,100) fell to its lowest quarterly level since Q3 of 2018.

Employment in the **goods-producing sector** showed little change for the second consecutive quarter. However, results were quite mixed in the sector. **Construction** (+900) increased for the fourth quarter in a row, matching its employment level in Q1 2020, just prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, **manufacturing** (-1,200) had a notable drop. This industry has lost 1,900 jobs over the past two quarters.

Newfoundland and Labrador 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	229.6	224.6	220.9	5.0	2.2	8.7	3.9
Goods-producing sector	45.2	45.0	43.9	0.1	0.3	1.3	2.9
Agriculture	1.2	1.4	1.5	-0.2	-16.7	-0.3	-22.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	14.4	14.0	13.1	0.4	2.6	1.3	9.9
Utilities	1.5	1.3	2.1	0.2	17.9	-0.6	-27.0
Construction	18.9	18.0	15.8	0.9	5.0	3.1	19.4
Manufacturing	9.2	10.3	11.4	-1.2	-11.3	-2.2	-19.6
Services-producing sector	184.5	179.5	177.1	4.9	2.7	7.4	4.2
Trade	38.0	37.4	36.5	0.6	1.6	1.5	4.0
Transportation and warehousing	10.3	9.3	7.9	1.0	10.7	2.4	30.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	6.3	5.4	7.1	0.9	16.0	-0.8	-11.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.2	11.4	10.4	-0.2	-1.8	0.8	7.3
Business, building and other support services	5.8	6.9	7.5	-1.1	-16.4	-1.8	-23.5
Educational services	18.4	17.9	16.0	0.5	3.0	2.4	15.0
Health care and social assistance	43.6	43.3	44.7	0.3	0.6	-1.1	-2.5
Information, culture and recreation	7.5	6.9	7.3	0.6	8.7	0.2	3.2
Accommodation and food services	14.4	12.6	11.5	1.8	14.6	3.0	25.9
Other services	8.1	8.4	7.9	-0.3	-3.2	0.2	2.1
Public administration	20.8	20.0	20.1	0.8	4.0	0.7	3.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Compared to a year earlier, employment growth was concentrated in one economic region. However, all three regions of the province experienced a drop in their unemployment rates.

Quarterly employment on the **Avalon Peninsula** increased for the fifth consecutive quarter, mainly in full-time positions. The labour force also grew, but could not match the gain in jobs. This resulted in a lower unemployment rate. Job growth in the most recent quarter was the strongest on record going back to 2006, The services-producing sector (+8,300) had most of the job growth compared to a year earlier, led by educational services (+3,300), wholesale and retail trade (+2,100), and accommodation and food services (+2,000). However, finance, insurance, real estate and leasing lost jobs for the fourth consecutive quarter. In the goods-producing sector, construction showed impressive growth (+3,800).

The unemployment rate declined in the **South Coast–Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central-Bonavista Bay** economic region. The labour force had a sharper loss compared to employment. Growth in the services-producing sector (+1,000) was outweighed by a drop in the goods-producing sector (-2,000). Construction (-1,400) and manufacturing (-1,200) had the deepest losses, while the strongest gains were forestry, fishing, mining and oil and gas (+1,000), as well as accommodation and food services (+900).

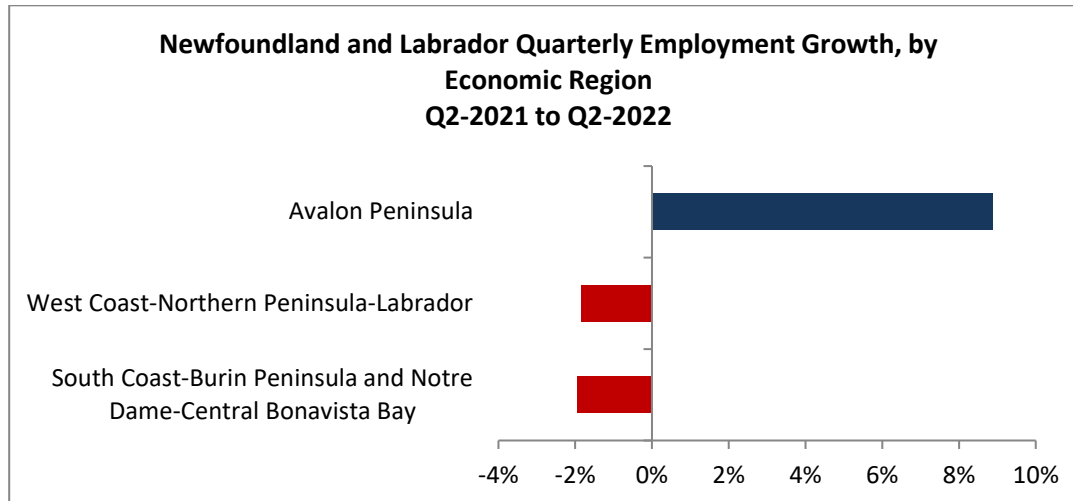
In the **West Coast–Northern Peninsula–Labrador** region, the labour force fell faster than employment, resulting in a lower unemployment rate. Part-time employment gains were outweighed by full-time losses. The services producing sector led the decline, with the strongest drop being in health care and social assistance (-1,800). The largest source of growth was in transportation and warehousing, with 1,100 more jobs than a year earlier.

Newfoundland and Labrador 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)
Newfoundland and Labrador	230.7	221.3	4.2	10.8	13.8	-3.0
Economic Regions						
Avalon Peninsula	137.3	126.1	8.9	8.0	10.6	-2.6
South Coast-Burin Peninsula and Notre Dame-Central Bonavista Bay	50.8	51.8	-1.9	14.3	18.3	-4.0
West Coast-Northern Peninsula-Labrador	42.6	43.4	-1.8	14.6	17.0	-2.4

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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For further information, please contact the LMI team at:

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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