

Latest release from the Labour Force Survey

Released at 7:00 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, November 6, 2009

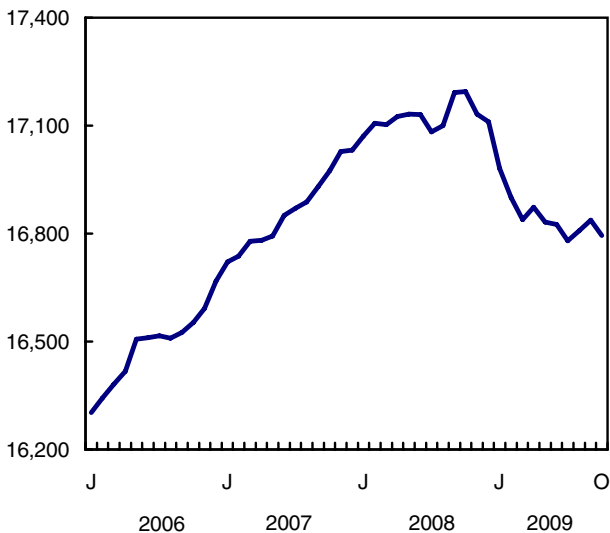
Labour Force Survey

October 2009

Following two months of moderate growth, employment decreased by 43,000 in October, all in part time. This drop pushed the unemployment rate up 0.2 percentage points to 8.6%.

Employment

thousands



Compared with the peak of October 2008, employment is down 400,000 (-2.3%), with the bulk of the decline (-357,000) occurring during the first five months of the labour market downturn.

Part-time work dropped by 60,000 in October, the second consecutive month of large declines. At the same time, full-time employment increased slightly, adding to the large full-time gain from the previous month. Over the past 12 months, however, full-time

Note to readers

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates, and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-X, free).

Changes in average hourly wages are affected by shifts in the composition of the Canadian labour force. For example, a drop in employment in low-wage occupations or industries will contribute to an increase in the national average hourly wage.

employment has fallen at a faster rate (-2.7%) than part time (-0.7%).

Most of October's employment decline came from retail and wholesale trade, "other services" and natural resources. These losses were partially offset by gains in transportation and warehousing.

Since October 2008, employment has fallen in most industries, with the steepest declines in manufacturing (-11.0%), natural resources (-11.0%), construction (-5.8%) and transportation and warehousing (-5.8%). At the same time, there were increases in information, culture and recreation (+4.8%) as well as in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+4.4%).

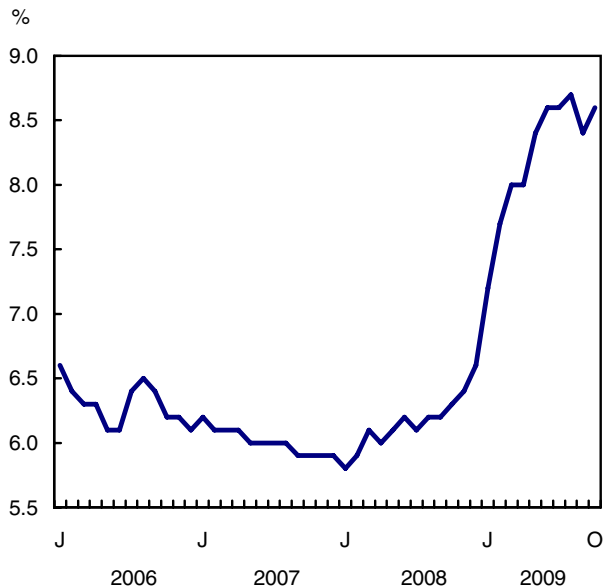
Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Newfoundland and Labrador experienced notable employment losses in October. In all other provinces, employment was little changed. Since October 2008, Alberta, Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador were the only provinces with faster rates of employment decline than the national average.

There were declines in the number of private and public sector employees in October, partially offset by gains in self-employment.

Adult women aged 25 and over and youths aged 15 to 24 accounted for all of the employment decline in October.

Average hourly wages were up 3.3% in October compared with October 2008.

Unemployment rate



Employment losses in retail and wholesale trade

In October, employment fell by 31,000 in retail and wholesale trade and by 20,000 in "other services." Employment also declined in natural resources, down 11,000, continuing a downward trend that began in February 2009.

While manufacturing employment was little changed in October, losses since the employment peak in October 2008 have totalled 218,000 (-11.0%).

Construction employment edged up in October, building on gains observed over the previous two months. Despite these recent increases, employment in this industry has fallen 5.8% (-73,000) since October 2008.

Transportation and warehousing, was the only industry to experience a notable employment gain in October (+22,000). Overall, employment in this sector has fallen by 51,000 (-5.8%) since October 2008.

Decline among private and public sector employees

Declines in the number of private (-45,000) and public (-26,000) sector employees in October were partially offset by gains in self-employment (+28,000).

Since October 2008, the number of employees in the private sector has fallen by 4.1%, a faster rate of decline than in the public sector (-1.6%). Self-employment, meanwhile, has increased by 3.9%.

Largest losses in Alberta and British Columbia

Employment in Alberta decreased by 15,000 in October, pushing the unemployment rate up 0.4 percentage points to 7.5%. Since October 2008, Alberta's employment has fallen by 3.3% (-68,000), the steepest rate of decline among all provinces.

In October, British Columbia's employment declined by 13,000. This employment loss, coupled with a slight increase in the labour force, pushed the unemployment rate up 0.9 percentage points to 8.3%. Over the past 12 months, employment in the province has fallen by 2.2% (-52,000).

Employment fell by 4,000 (-1.8%) in Newfoundland and Labrador in October, all in full time, and the unemployment rate rose to 17.0%. Since October 2008, employment in the province has declined by 2.6% (-5,700).

Manitoba's employment also fell in October (-3,400) bringing the unemployment rate up 0.5 percentage points to 5.8%. Despite the decline in October, employment remains little changed from 12 months earlier.

Employment in Ontario edged down in October while the unemployment rate was little changed. Since the employment peak 12 months earlier, losses have totalled 206,000 (-3.1%), with most of the decline occurring between October 2008 and May 2009. Since October 2008, over half of the province's total employment losses were in manufacturing, well beyond that industry's 13% share of total employment.

In Quebec, although employment was little changed in October, the unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage points to 8.5% as the labour force contracted. Employment in the province has fallen by 62,000 (-1.6%) since October 2008, a slower rate of decline than the national average (-2.3%).

Employment losses among adult women and youths

October's employment decrease was among adult women (-24,000) and youths (-20,000).

Since October 2008, youths have experienced employment declines throughout the whole 12-month period, totalling 225,000 (-8.7%). Among adult men, although down 177,000 (-2.3%) since October 2008, employment has stabilized in recent months. For adult women, employment was unchanged compared with a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0100.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-X, free), is now available online for the

week ending October 17. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *All subjects*, choose *Labour*. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The CD-ROM *Labour Force Historical Review, 2008* (71F0004X, \$209), is now available. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *By subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on December 4.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Danielle Zietsma (613-4243; danielle.zietsma@statcan.gc.ca), or Judy Hosein (613-951-5704; judy.hosein@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

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Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	September 2009	October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over						
Population	27,401.5	27,433.1	31.6	389.0	0.1	1.4
Labour force	18,387.8	18,382.2	-5.6	35.9	0.0	0.2
Employment	16,838.0	16,794.8	-43.2	-399.9	-0.3	-2.3
Full-time	13,609.6	13,626.1	16.5	-378.1	0.1	-2.7
Part-time	3,228.4	3,168.7	-59.7	-21.8	-1.8	-0.7
Unemployment	1,549.7	1,587.4	37.7	435.9	2.4	37.9
Participation rate	67.1	67.0	-0.1	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.6	0.2	2.3	...	...
Employment rate	61.4	61.2	-0.2	-2.4	...	...
Part-time rate	19.2	18.9	-0.3	0.3	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years						
Population	4,398.4	4,399.1	0.7	17.2	0.0	0.4
Labour force	2,821.8	2,813.2	-8.6	-147.4	-0.3	-5.0
Employment	2,395.2	2,375.3	-19.9	-225.2	-0.8	-8.7
Full-time	1,271.1	1,283.5	12.4	-154.8	1.0	-10.8
Part-time	1,124.1	1,091.8	-32.3	-70.5	-2.9	-6.1
Unemployment	426.6	437.8	11.2	77.8	2.6	21.6
Participation rate	64.2	63.9	-0.3	-3.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	15.1	15.6	0.5	3.4	...	...
Employment rate	54.5	54.0	-0.5	-5.3	...	...
Part-time rate	46.9	46.0	-0.9	1.3	...	...
Men, 25 years and over						
Population	11,249.6	11,265.9	16.3	189.3	0.1	1.7
Labour force	8,244.1	8,247.3	3.2	52.3	0.0	0.6
Employment	7,561.9	7,563.0	1.1	-177.1	0.0	-2.3
Full-time	6,967.7	6,981.3	13.6	-191.2	0.2	-2.7
Part-time	594.2	581.7	-12.5	14.0	-2.1	2.5
Unemployment	682.2	684.3	2.1	229.4	0.3	50.4
Participation rate	73.3	73.2	-0.1	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.3	8.3	0.0	2.7	...	...
Employment rate	67.2	67.1	-0.1	-2.8	...	...
Part-time rate	7.9	7.7	-0.2	0.4	...	...
Women, 25 years and over						
Population	11,753.5	11,768.1	14.6	182.5	0.1	1.6
Labour force	7,321.8	7,321.8	0.0	131.1	0.0	1.8
Employment	6,880.9	6,856.5	-24.4	2.4	-0.4	0.0
Full-time	5,370.8	5,361.3	-9.5	-32.2	-0.2	-0.6
Part-time	1,510.1	1,495.2	-14.9	34.7	-1.0	2.4
Unemployment	440.9	465.3	24.4	128.7	5.5	38.2
Participation rate	62.3	62.2	-0.1	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.0	6.4	0.4	1.7	...	...
Employment rate	58.5	58.3	-0.2	-0.9	...	...
Part-time rate	21.9	21.8	-0.1	0.5	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS)¹

	September 2009	October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,110.5	14,039.8	-70.7	-503.5	-0.5	-3.5
Self-employed	2,727.5	2,755.0	27.5	103.6	1.0	3.9
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,433.0	3,407.4	-25.6	-54.5	-0.7	-1.6
Private	10,677.5	10,632.3	-45.2	-449.2	-0.4	-4.1
All industries	16,838.0	16,794.8	-43.2	-399.9	-0.3	-2.3
Goods-producing sector	3,714.6	3,708.3	-6.3	-330.3	-0.2	-8.2
Agriculture	319.5	321.9	2.4	-4.1	0.8	-1.3
Natural resources	313.0	301.7	-11.3	-37.2	-3.6	-11.0
Utilities	150.3	149.9	-0.4	1.3	-0.3	0.9
Construction	1,166.8	1,178.0	11.2	-72.5	1.0	-5.8
Manufacturing	1,765.0	1,756.8	-8.2	-217.7	-0.5	-11.0
Services-producing sector	13,123.4	13,086.4	-37.0	-69.7	-0.3	-0.5
Trade	2,662.9	2,632.1	-30.8	-44.7	-1.2	-1.7
Transportation and warehousing	797.7	819.9	22.2	-50.7	2.8	-5.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,121.1	1,118.0	-3.1	47.0	-0.3	4.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,199.8	1,196.9	-2.9	-7.1	-0.2	-0.6
Business, building and other support services	645.8	639.0	-6.8	-30.9	-1.1	-4.6
Educational services	1,188.4	1,196.5	8.1	-11.7	0.7	-1.0
Health care and social assistance	1,946.8	1,955.1	8.3	32.9	0.4	1.7
Information, culture and recreation	791.5	785.1	-6.4	36.3	-0.8	4.8
Accommodation and food services	1,032.0	1,034.5	2.5	-31.0	0.2	-2.9
Other services	805.4	785.5	-19.9	19.3	-2.5	2.5
Public administration	932.0	923.8	-8.2	-29.2	-0.9	-3.1

1. North American Industry Classification System.

Note: Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Labour force characteristics by province

	September 2009	October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009
	Seasonally adjusted					
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	429.7	429.9	0.2	2.7	0.0	0.6
Labour force	255.9	256.0	0.1	2.8	0.0	1.1
Employment	216.6	212.6	-4.0	-5.7	-1.8	-2.6
Full-time	184.9	180.2	-4.7	-5.1	-2.5	-2.8
Part-time	31.7	32.4	0.7	-0.6	2.2	-1.8
Unemployment	39.2	43.4	4.2	8.5	10.7	24.4
Participation rate	59.6	59.5	-0.1	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	15.3	17.0	1.7	3.2	...	...
Employment rate	50.4	49.5	-0.9	-1.6	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	116.4	116.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	1.0
Labour force	78.9	80.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.9
Employment	69.6	70.6	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.3
Full-time	57.5	57.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	-1.0
Part-time	12.1	13.4	1.3	1.5	10.7	12.6
Unemployment	9.3	9.6	0.3	0.5	3.2	5.5
Participation rate	67.8	68.9	1.1	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.8	12.0	0.2	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	59.8	60.7	0.9	0.2	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	773.3	773.7	0.4	3.5	0.1	0.5
Labour force	499.6	500.0	0.4	4.8	0.1	1.0
Employment	452.1	453.3	1.2	-4.2	0.3	-0.9
Full-time	368.8	372.4	3.6	-0.6	1.0	-0.2
Part-time	83.3	80.9	-2.4	-3.6	-2.9	-4.3
Unemployment	47.5	46.7	-0.8	9.0	-1.7	23.9
Participation rate	64.6	64.6	0.0	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.3	-0.2	1.7	...	...
Employment rate	58.5	58.6	0.1	-0.8	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	622.2	622.3	0.1	3.0	0.0	0.5
Labour force	400.1	403.6	3.5	-1.7	0.9	-0.4
Employment	367.8	369.4	1.6	0.2	0.4	0.1
Full-time	309.6	312.0	2.4	2.1	0.8	0.7
Part-time	58.2	57.4	-0.8	-1.9	-1.4	-3.2
Unemployment	32.3	34.2	1.9	-1.9	5.9	-5.3
Participation rate	64.3	64.9	0.6	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.1	8.5	0.4	-0.4	...	...
Employment rate	59.1	59.4	0.3	-0.2	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,451.9	6,458.7	6.8	68.0	0.1	1.1
Labour force	4,196.7	4,182.1	-14.6	-10.7	-0.3	-0.3
Employment	3,826.7	3,828.1	1.4	-62.1	0.0	-1.6
Full-time	3,107.6	3,131.5	23.9	-9.3	0.8	-0.3
Part-time	719.1	696.6	-22.5	-52.8	-3.1	-7.0
Unemployment	370.0	354.0	-16.0	51.4	-4.3	17.0
Participation rate	65.0	64.8	-0.2	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.8	8.5	-0.3	1.3	...	...
Employment rate	59.3	59.3	0.0	-1.6	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics by province

	September 2009	October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009	September to October 2009	October 2008 to October 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Ontario						
Population	10,695.3	10,707.6	12.3	147.5	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,182.5	7,182.4	-0.1	-15.4	0.0	-0.2
Employment	6,525.1	6,513.1	-12.0	-205.9	-0.2	-3.1
Full-time	5,265.5	5,268.7	3.2	-195.1	0.1	-3.6
Part-time	1,259.6	1,244.4	-15.2	-10.9	-1.2	-0.9
Unemployment	657.4	669.3	11.9	190.5	1.8	39.8
Participation rate	67.2	67.1	-0.1	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.2	9.3	0.1	2.6	...	...
Employment rate	61.0	60.8	-0.2	-2.8	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	926.1	926.9	0.8	13.8	0.1	1.5
Labour force	643.2	642.8	-0.4	8.3	-0.1	1.3
Employment	608.9	605.5	-3.4	-1.4	-0.6	-0.2
Full-time	489.1	488.5	-0.6	-5.2	-0.1	-1.1
Part-time	119.8	117.0	-2.8	3.8	-2.3	3.4
Unemployment	34.3	37.3	3.0	9.7	8.7	35.1
Participation rate	69.5	69.3	-0.2	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.8	0.5	1.5	...	...
Employment rate	65.7	65.3	-0.4	-1.2	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	782.1	783.0	0.9	10.9	0.1	1.4
Labour force	544.3	546.8	2.5	5.8	0.5	1.1
Employment	519.0	517.7	-1.3	-2.0	-0.3	-0.4
Full-time	421.8	421.2	-0.6	-4.6	-0.1	-1.1
Part-time	97.2	96.6	-0.6	2.7	-0.6	2.9
Unemployment	25.3	29.0	3.7	7.7	14.6	36.2
Participation rate	69.6	69.8	0.2	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.6	5.3	0.7	1.4	...	...
Employment rate	66.4	66.1	-0.3	-1.2	...	...
Alberta						
Population	2,882.2	2,887.1	4.9	74.8	0.2	2.7
Labour force	2,134.0	2,127.6	-6.4	14.5	-0.3	0.7
Employment	1,982.1	1,967.2	-14.9	-68.0	-0.8	-3.3
Full-time	1,627.9	1,618.0	-9.9	-83.2	-0.6	-4.9
Part-time	354.2	349.1	-5.1	15.1	-1.4	4.5
Unemployment	151.9	160.5	8.6	82.7	5.7	106.3
Participation rate	74.0	73.7	-0.3	-1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.5	0.4	3.8	...	...
Employment rate	68.8	68.1	-0.7	-4.3	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,722.6	3,727.5	4.9	63.6	0.1	1.7
Labour force	2,452.7	2,460.8	8.1	26.2	0.3	1.1
Employment	2,270.1	2,257.2	-12.9	-51.8	-0.6	-2.2
Full-time	1,777.0	1,776.5	-0.5	-76.9	0.0	-4.1
Part-time	493.1	480.7	-12.4	25.1	-2.5	5.5
Unemployment	182.6	203.5	20.9	77.8	11.4	61.9
Participation rate	65.9	66.0	0.1	-0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.4	8.3	0.9	3.1	...	...
Employment rate	61.0	60.6	-0.4	-2.4	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.