



# Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

December 2016



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Manitoba, including the regions of Winnipeg, Northern Manitoba and Southern Manitoba.

## OVERVIEW

### Employment

Employment in Manitoba fell during the fourth quarter of 2016, with 1,500 fewer people working compared to the previous quarter. Provincial employment is also down compared to the same quarter of last year (-4,500). Manitoba's quarterly employment losses (-0.2%) run counter to overall national gains (+0.7%) this quarter.

Quarterly losses were entirely in full-time employment (-4,700), while part-time employment was up 3,200. Compared to the fourth quarter of last year, 4,800 fewer people are employed full-time, but part-time employment is up slightly (+200) over the year.

Public sector employment fell 200 in the fourth quarter, marking four consecutive quarters of losses among publically funded positions. Meanwhile, the private sector saw small gains (+300), while the number of self-employed individuals in Manitoba decreased by 1,700.

### Unemployment

The number of people unemployed in Manitoba grew in the fourth quarter of 2016 (+900). Accordingly, the province's unemployment rate rose from 6.2% to 6.3%. Even so, Manitoba retains the second lowest unemployment rate nationwide for the seventh quarter in a row. Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the province's unemployment rate to average about 5.9% in 2017 and drop to 5.7% the following year.<sup>1</sup>

Despite a small decline in unemployment for those aged 15 to 24 - 13.4% to 13.2% – youth unemployment remained high this quarter. This represented more than double the 5.0% rate of those aged 25 years and older. Compared to a year ago, the youth unemployment rate is up by more than a full percentage point.

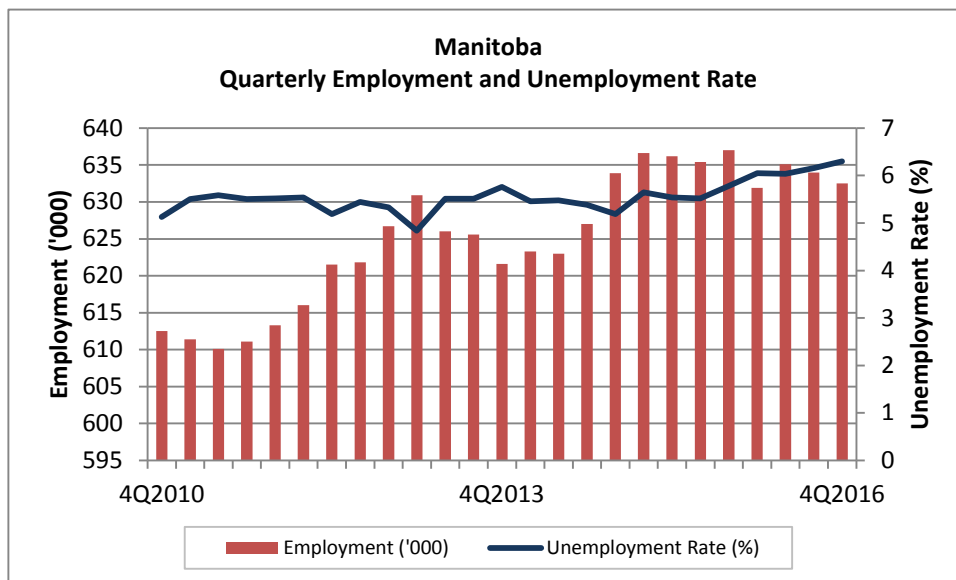
Looking at trends by gender, the unemployment rate was the highest among young men at 15.2% about the same as in the previous quarter. Unemployment among young women stood at 11.0%; nearly triple the rate of women over the age of 25 (4.4%).

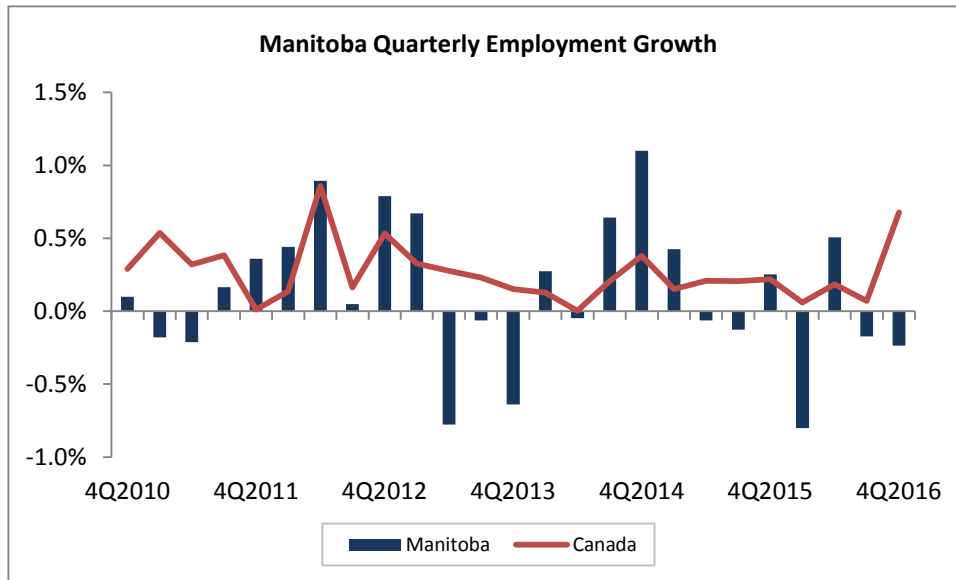
**Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	4th Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2016	4th Quarter 2015	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	1,003.6	1,001.2	991.3	2.4	0.2	12.3	1.2
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	675.0	675.6	676.2	-0.6	-0.1	-1.2	-0.2
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	632.5	634.0	637.0	-1.5	-0.2	-4.5	-0.7
Full-Time ('000)	506.8	511.5	511.6	-4.7	-0.9	-4.8	-0.9
Part-Time ('000)	125.7	122.5	125.5	3.2	2.6	0.2	0.2
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	42.5	41.6	39.1	0.9	2.2	3.4	8.7
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	6.3	6.2	5.8	0.1	-	0.5	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	67.3	67.5	68.2	-0.2	-	-1.0	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	63.0	63.3	64.3	-0.3	-	-1.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087





**Manitoba Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age**

Seasonally Adjusted Data	4th Quarter 2016 (%)	3rd Quarter 2016 (%)	4th Quarter 2015 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
	<b>Total</b>	6.3	6.2	5.8	0.1
<b>25 years and over</b>	5.0	4.8	4.6	0.2	0.4
Men - 25 years and over	5.4	5.2	4.7	0.2	0.7
Women - 25 years and over	4.4	4.2	4.5	0.2	0.0
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	13.2	13.4	12.1	-0.2	1.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	15.2	15.5	12.2	-0.3	3.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.0	11.3	12.0	-0.3	-1.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087

## Manitoba - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q4 2016	Q4 2015	Number	%	Q4 2016	Q4 2015	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	115.3	111.5	3.8	3.4	888.3	879.8	8.5	1.0
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	73.1	69.1	4.0	5.8	598.2	603.6	-5.4	-0.9
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	65.4	61.1	4.3	7.0	567.6	576.1	-8.5	-1.5
Full-Time ('000)	51.9	49.3	2.6	5.3	450.0	459.4	-9.4	-2.0
Part-Time ('000)	13.5	11.8	1.7	14.4	117.6	116.7	0.9	0.8
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	7.7	8.0	-0.3	-3.8	30.6	27.5	3.1	11.3
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	10.5	11.6	-1.1	-	5.1	4.6	0.5	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	63.4	62.0	1.4	-	67.3	68.6	-1.3	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	56.8	54.8	2.0	-	63.9	65.5	-1.6	-

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – ESDC custom table

In the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2016, the total population aged 15+ in Manitoba was a little over 1 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 11.5% of that, or 115,300 people. Employment among the Indigenous population stood at 65,400 representing an increase of +4,300 (+7.0%) from a year earlier. Full-time positions increased by +2,600 while part-time employment increased by +1,700.

The unemployment rate among the Indigenous population was 10.5% in Q4 2016, representing a decrease of -1.1 percentage points (pp) from the previous year. Among the non-Indigenous population, the unemployment rate increased to 5.1% representing an increase of +0.5 pp, compared to the previous year. Between Q4 2015 and Q4 2016, the participation rate among the Indigenous population increased to 63.4% (+1.4pp) and that of the non-Indigenous population declined to 67.3% (-1.3pp). Over the same time period, the employment rate among the Indigenous increased to 56.8% (+2.0pp) while that of the non-Indigenous population declined to 63.9% (-1.6pp).

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment in Manitoba's goods-producing sector increased by 200 in the fourth quarter of 2016. An upward trend in employment throughout 2016 has translated into 2,500 more people working in the sector compared to the same time last year. Sizeable gains in manufacturing (+1,100) were largely responsible for quarterly employment growth among goods-producing industries. While employment slipped slightly in utilities (-100) this quarter, employment is up 15.1% over the past year. It was the second quarter of growth in a row after a downward trend that started at the beginning of 2016. As Bank of Canada reports, growth should continue as business confidence in the near future recovers from the drag from the oil prices and US demand continues to support export prospects.<sup>2</sup>

Construction employment remained unchanged from the previous quarter as well as the fourth quarter last year; however, economists forecast growth in 2017<sup>3</sup>, citing continuing expenditure by Manitoba Hydro in major projects such as the Keeyask Generating Station and the Bipole III Transmission Line.

Employment in the services-producing sector fell by 1,700 since last quarter. Compared to the same three-month period in 2015, the sector employs 7,000 fewer people. The trade industry shed 2,000 positions in the fourth quarter, continuing a long-term downward trend since employment peaked in late 2014. Meanwhile, employment in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing increased in the fourth quarter. Year-over-year, this mid-sized industry has gained the largest percentage of employment among all industries in Manitoba (+12.5%).

Among public-sector industries: employment is down in educational services and in health care and social assistance (-3,800 and -2,100 respectively). Public administration continued to see employment gains this quarter (+700). It was the fastest growing sector in the previous quarter.

## Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	4th Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2016	4th Quarter 2015	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	632.5	634.0	637.0	-1.5	-0.2	-4.5	-0.7
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	151.9	151.7	149.4	0.2	0.1	2.5	1.7
Agriculture	24.6	25.7	24.1	-1.1	-4.3	0.5	2.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	6.4	6.1	5.9	0.3	4.9	0.5	8.5
Utilities	9.9	10.0	8.6	-0.1	-1.0	1.3	15.1
Construction	46.2	46.2	46.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	64.7	63.6	64.7	1.1	1.7	0.0	0.0
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	480.6	482.3	487.6	-1.7	-0.4	-7.0	-1.4
Trade	87.7	89.7	90.6	-2.0	-2.2	-2.9	-3.2
Transportation and warehousing	35.6	35.7	36.7	-0.1	-0.3	-1.1	-3.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	36.0	34.1	32.0	1.9	5.6	4.0	12.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	27.6	27.7	25.5	-0.1	-0.4	2.1	8.2
Business, building and other support services	18.7	18.0	19.7	0.7	3.9	-1.0	-5.1
Educational services	49.1	50.6	52.9	-1.5	-3.0	-3.8	-7.2
Health care and social assistance	100.6	101.7	102.7	-1.1	-1.1	-2.1	-2.0
Information, culture and recreation	24.1	22.0	22.9	2.1	9.5	1.2	5.2
Accommodation and food services	40.7	42.3	41.4	-1.6	-3.8	-0.7	-1.7
Other services	27.2	28.0	28.8	-0.8	-2.9	-1.6	-5.6
Public administration	33.3	32.6	34.6	0.7	2.1	-1.3	-3.8

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0088

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Many of Manitoba's economic regions saw poor labour market results in the fourth quarter, with only a single area experiencing strong annual employment growth. Employment in the Southeast region rose 3.4% year-over-year, thanks in large part to continued employment growth in the trade industry (+11.6%).<sup>4</sup> The region's unemployment rate also dropped a full percentage point to 3.5% during the past year.

Employment in the Winnipeg region remains almost unchanged compared to the fourth quarter of 2015. Employment decreased by 0.1% year-over-year as significant losses across service-producing industries (-4,300) held back gains in a number of large goods-producing industries (+3,000). For example, employment in Winnipeg's manufacturing industry jumped 5.1% or 1,900 positions since the fourth quarter of 2015.<sup>5</sup>

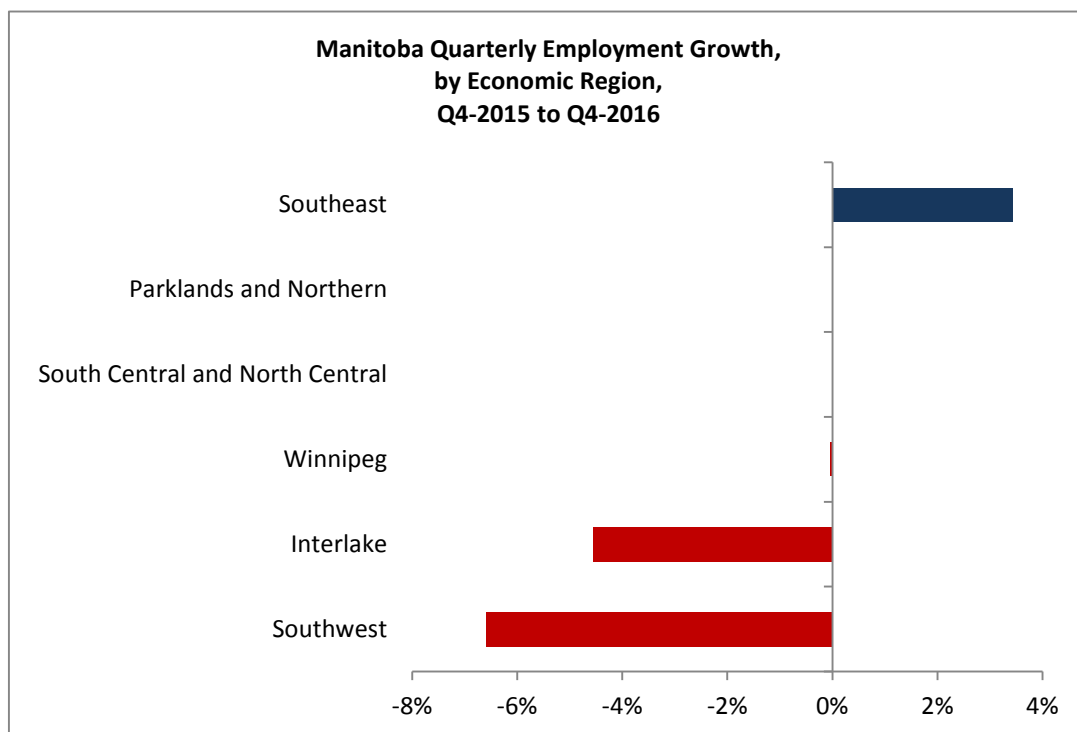
The largest percentage drop in employment occurred in the Southwest region, where employment fell 6.6% compared to the fourth quarter of 2015. Employment is down both in the goods- and in the services-producing sectors, with the steepest drop occurring in the manufacturing industry.<sup>6</sup> Not surprisingly, the region's unemployment rate increased from 5.1% to 5.3% during the past year.

**Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region**

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	4th Quarter 2016 ('000)	4th Quarter 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	4th Quarter 2016 (%)	4th Quarter 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Manitoba</b>	633.4	637.4	-0.6	5.7	5.2	0.5
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Southeast	60.1	58.1	3.4	3.5	4.8	-1.3
South Central and North Central	53.7	53.7	0.0	3.1	3.9	-0.8
Southwest	53.9	57.7	-6.6	5.3	5.1	0.2
Winnipeg	383.6	383.8	-0.1	6.6	5.8	0.8
Interlake	46.1	48.3	-4.6	5.1	3.6	1.5
Parklands and Northern	35.9	35.9	0.0	4.3	4.3	0.0

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0122



**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 information on the Labour Force Survey,** please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> Conference Board of Canada, Provincial Outlook Economic Forecast: Autumn 2016

<sup>2</sup> Bank of Canada. Business Outlook Survey. Results of the Winter 2016–17 Survey | Vol. 13.4 | 9 January 2017

<sup>3</sup> RBC Economics. Manitoba: Provincial Outlook. December 2016.

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 282-0124 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by economic region based on 2011 Census boundaries and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, quarterly (persons), CANSIM (database). (accessed: 09/1/17)

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Ibid