



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

March 2017



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 grew during the first quarter of 2017, with 4,700 more people working compared to the previous quarter. Provincial employment is also up compared to the same quarter of last year (+5,600). Manitoba's quarterly employment gains (+0.7%) reflect overall national gains (+0.5%).¹

Quarterly gains were entirely in full-time employment (+9,400), while part-time employment was down 4,700. Compared to the first quarter of last year, 6,100 additional people were employed full-time. Part-time employment was down slightly (-500) over the year.

Public sector employment has remained rather unchanged since the last two quarters.² Meanwhile, the private sector saw vast gains (+5,200) while the number of self-employed individuals in Manitoba decreased by 600 over the quarter.³

There might be good news for the province as, according to the Bank of Canada, the new Canadian Free Trade Agreement could provide an economic boost of \$120M per year for Manitoba.⁴ At this point, there is limited information about this economic growth would translate into employment numbers.

Unemployment

The number of people unemployed in Manitoba fell in the first quarter of 2017 (-3,000). Accordingly, the province's unemployment rate decreased from 6.3% to 5.8%. Manitoba also retains the second lowest unemployment rate nationwide.⁵ Looking ahead, the Conference Board of Canada expects the province's unemployment rate to continue to hover around 6.0% over the next two years.⁶

Despite a small decline in unemployment for those aged 15 to 24 (13.1% to 12.6%), youth unemployment remained high this quarter. By comparison the unemployment rate for individuals aged 25 years and older was only 4.5% over the same period. Compared to the same period a year ago, however, the youth unemployment rate remained unchanged.

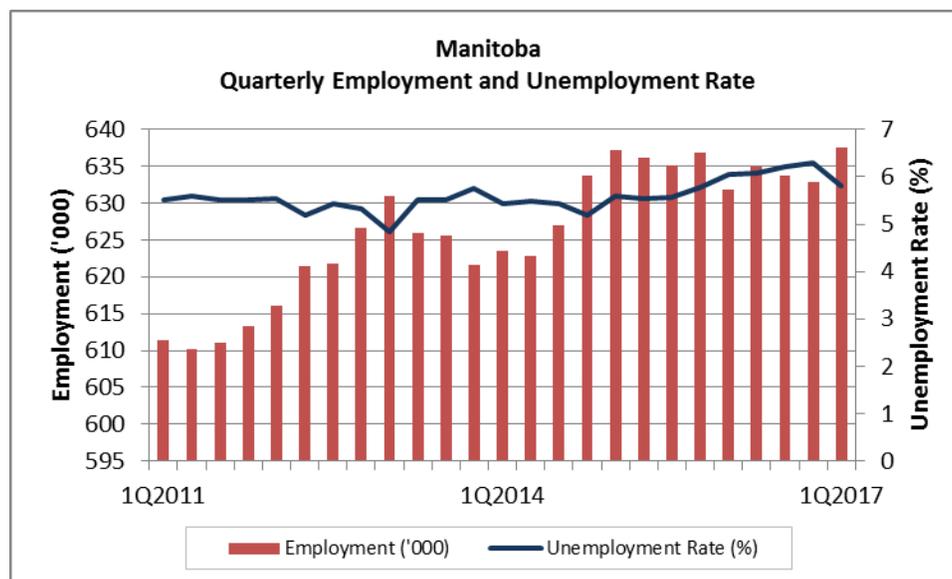
Looking at trends by gender, the unemployment rate was the highest among young men at 14.4%; slightly down from the previous quarter. Unemployment among young women stood at 10.6%; more than twice the rate of women over the age of 25 (4.2%).

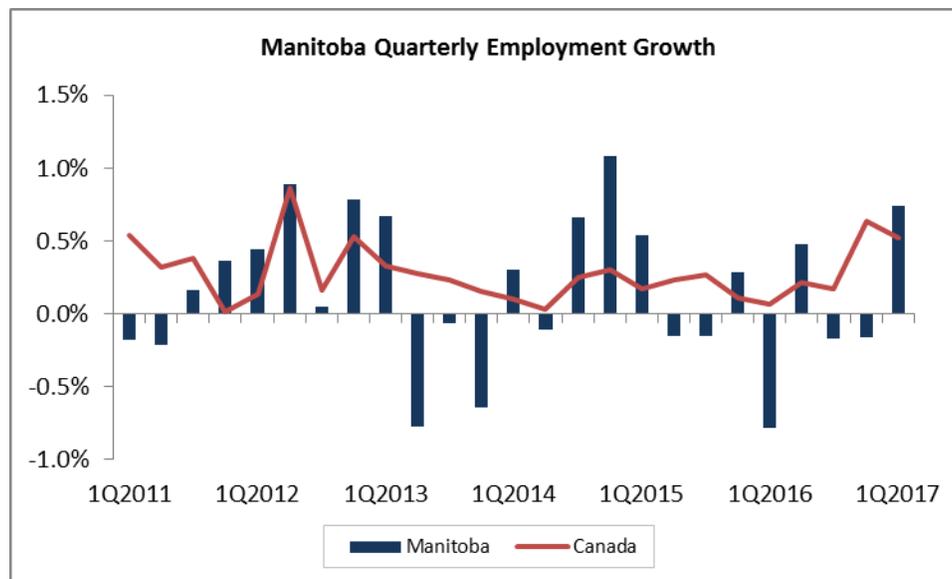
Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Data	1st Quarter 2017	4th Quarter 2016	1st Quarter 2016	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,007.4	1,003.6	994.0	3.8	0.4	13.4	1.3
Labour Force ('000)	676.9	675.2	672.5	1.7	0.3	4.4	0.7
Employment ('000)	637.5	632.8	631.9	4.7	0.7	5.6	0.9
Full-Time ('000)	516.6	507.2	510.5	9.4	1.9	6.1	1.2
Part-Time ('000)	120.9	125.6	121.4	-4.7	-3.7	-0.5	-0.4
Unemployment ('000)	39.4	42.4	40.6	-3.0	-7.1	-1.2	-3.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.8	6.3	6.0	-0.5	-	-0.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.2	67.3	67.7	-0.1	-	-0.5	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.3	63.1	63.6	0.2	-	-0.3	-

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	1st Quarter 2017 (%)	4th Quarter 2016 (%)	1st Quarter 2016 (%)	Quarterly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	5.8	6.3	6.0	-0.5	-0.2
25 years and over	4.5	5.0	4.8	-0.4	-0.3
Men - 25 years and over	4.8	5.4	5.2	-0.6	-0.4
Women - 25 years and over	4.2	4.4	4.3	-0.2	-0.1
15 to 24 years	12.6	13.1	12.6	-0.6	-0.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	14.4	15.0	14.0	-0.5	0.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.6	11.2	11.1	-0.6	-0.6

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

In the first quarter (Q1) of 2017, the total population aged 15+ in Manitoba was 1.0 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 11.5% of that, or 116,000 people. Employment among Indigenous people in Manitoba stood at 66,300, representing an increase of +4,200 (+6.8%) from a year earlier (Q1 2016). All employment gains were in full-time positions (+4,300 or +8.6%), partially offset by a small decrease in part-time employment (-100 or -0.8%).

The unemployment rate among the Indigenous population was 11.3% in Q1 2017, representing a decrease of -1.1 percentage points (pp) from the previous year. Among the non-Indigenous population, the unemployment rate was 5.3% (-0.1pp). Between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017, the participation rate among Indigenous people increased to 64.4% (+1.3pp) while that of the non-Indigenous population was 66.8% (-0.6pp). Over the same time period, the employment rate among the Indigenous population increased to 57.1% (+1.8pp) while the rate for the non-Indigenous population declined to 63.2% (-0.6pp).

Manitoba - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q1 2017	Q1 2016	Number	%	Q1 2017	Q1 2016	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	116.0	112.3	3.7	3.3	891.5	881.7	9.8	1.1
Labour Force ('000)	74.7	70.9	3.8	5.4	595.3	594.5	0.8	0.1
Employment ('000)	66.3	62.1	4.2	6.8	563.7	562.2	1.5	0.3
Full-Time ('000)	54.3	50.0	4.3	8.6	451.4	448.4	3.0	0.7
Part-Time ('000)	12.0	12.1	-0.1	-0.8	112.3	113.8	-1.5	-1.3
Unemployment ('000)	8.4	8.8	-0.4	-4.5	31.6	32.3	-0.7	-2.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	11.3	12.4	-1.1	-	5.3	5.4	-0.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.4	63.1	1.3	-	66.8	67.4	-0.6	-
Employment Rate (%)	57.1	55.3	1.8	-	63.2	63.8	-0.6	-

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment in Manitoba's goods-producing sector increased by 1,300 in the first quarter of 2017. 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 construction (+2,100) were largely responsible for quarterly employment growth among goods-producing industries. The industry was also a strong driver over the year, growing by 3.0%. Economists forecast growth in this sector in 2017 compared to 2016, notably citing continuing expenditure by Manitoba Hydro in major projects.

Employment in the province's manufacturing industry fell slightly in the first quarter (-300), but overall the sector has been growing (+300) over the year. Growth should continue as Bank of Canada reports improvements in business confidence.⁷ TD Economics also notes that ongoing strength in the food, wood products, machinery and transportation equipment sectors should help support manufacturing moving forward.⁸

Employment in the services-producing sector grew by 3,500 since last quarter. Compared to the same 3-month period in 2016, the sector employs 3,200 more people. The trade industry notably added 1,600 positions in the first quarter. Employment in accommodation and food services decreased in the first quarter. Year-over-year, this mid-sized industry has lost a large share of employment (-2.9%).

Among public-sector industries, employment is up across the board (i.e. educational services, health care and social assistance, and public administration) this quarter. The largest quarterly gains came in health care and social assistance (+900 jobs or +0.9%).

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	1st Quarter	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
	2017	2016	2016	Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	637.5	632.8	631.9	4.7	0.7	5.6	0.9
Goods-producing sector	152.9	151.6	150.4	1.3	0.9	2.5	1.7
Agriculture	23.3	24.4	23.4	-1.1	-4.5	-0.1	-0.4
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	7.4	6.5	6.4	0.9	13.8	1.0	15.6
Utilities	9.6	9.9	9.7	-0.3	-3.0	-0.1	-1.0
Construction	48.3	46.2	46.9	2.1	4.5	1.4	3.0
Manufacturing	64.3	64.6	64.0	-0.3	-0.5	0.3	0.5
Services-producing sector	484.7	481.2	481.5	3.5	0.7	3.2	0.7
Trade	89.1	87.5	88.7	1.6	1.8	0.4	0.5
Transportation and warehousing	37.0	35.6	35.3	1.4	3.9	1.7	4.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	37.2	36.0	32.2	1.2	3.3	5.0	15.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	28.2	28.3	27.0	-0.1	-0.4	1.2	4.4
Business, building and other support services	17.9	18.7	18.6	-0.8	-4.3	-0.7	-3.8
Educational services	49.8	49.1	50.9	0.7	1.4	-1.1	-2.2
Health care and social assistance	101.6	100.7	101.9	0.9	0.9	-0.3	-0.3
Information, culture and recreation	23.7	24.1	23.3	-0.4	-1.7	0.4	1.7
Accommodation and food services	39.8	40.6	41.0	-0.8	-2.0	-1.2	-2.9
Other services	27.0	27.2	29.7	-0.2	-0.7	-2.7	-9.1
Public administration	33.4	33.3	32.7	0.1	0.3	0.7	2.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Most of Manitoba's economic regions saw good labour market results in the first quarter, with only a single area experiencing annual employment losses. Employment in the Southwest region decreased 0.8% year-over-year. This was notably due to a poor performance of the agricultural sector (-37.7% from last year).⁹ However, the region's unemployment rate dropped nearly a full percentage point to 5.5% during the past year. There is hope on the horizon for the region as European food-manufacturing giant Roquette announced plans to build the world's largest pea protein facility in Portage la Prairie. Construction of the facility is expected to begin in late 2017 and should create about 350 construction as well as design-related jobs over two years. The plant is anticipated to employ about 150 workers when production begins in 2019.¹⁰

Employment in the Winnipeg region remained almost unchanged compared to the first quarter of 2016. Employment increased by 0.1% year-over-year, with small gains coming from the service-producing industries (+1,400).¹¹ Within the sector there were some noteworthy moves. For example, employment in Winnipeg's finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing industry jumped 22.8% or 4,900 positions since the first quarter of 2016.¹² This year, Winnipeg was chosen as the site for a heavy maintenance hangar for Canada's new

fleet of Airbus C-295 search-and-rescue aircrafts – a \$2.4B, 11-year contract.¹³ On the other hand, the City of Winnipeg has implemented a hiring and wage freeze on many positions to deal with a \$9.5M shortfall in the 2017 budget. The city is also cancelling or delaying some major projects to help with the budget deficit.¹⁴

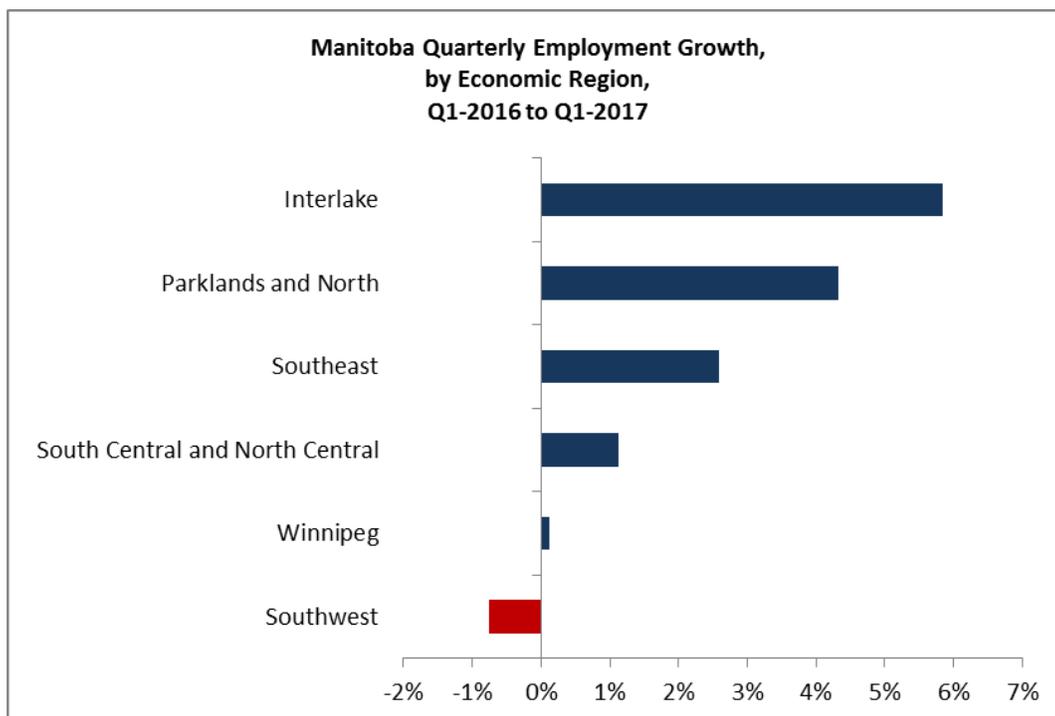
The largest percentage jump in employment occurred in Interlake region, where employment grew 5.8% compared to the first quarter of 2016. Employment was down in the goods-producing sectors but up in the services-producing sectors.¹⁵ Largest gains occurred in the health care and social assistance (+1,300).¹⁶ Not surprisingly, the region's unemployment rate decreased massively from 7.7% to 4.8% during the past year. These gains are welcome news as the Manitoba government has indicated intentions to introduce legislation that would control wage increases in the public sector, including health and education, and introduce a sector-wide wage freeze.¹⁷ The government had also cut funding to six health-care projects, including a \$300M expansion to CancerCare Manitoba.¹⁸

Manitoba Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	1st Quarter 2017 ('000)	1st Quarter 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	1st Quarter 2017 (%)	1st Quarter 2016 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	630.3	623.9	1.0	5.9	6.2	-0.3
Economic Regions						
Southeast	59.6	58.1	2.6	5.4	5.7	-0.3
South Central and North Central	53.6	53.0	1.1	3.2	3.6	-0.4
Southwest	52.9	53.3	-0.8	5.4	6.3	-0.9
Winnipeg	380.9	380.4	0.1	6.7	6.5	0.2
Interlake	47.1	44.5	5.8	4.8	7.7	-2.9
Parklands and North	36.2	34.7	4.3	4.5	4.7	-0.2

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.

Prepared by: Labour Market Information (LMI) Directorate, Service Canada, Manitoba

For further information, please contact the LMI team at: NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

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

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¹ Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and age group, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, quarterly (persons unless otherwise noted), CANSIM (database). (accessed: April 11, 2017)

² Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0089 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, quarterly (persons), CANSIM (database). (accessed: April 11, 2017)

³ Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0089 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, quarterly (persons), CANSIM (database). (accessed: April 11, 2017)

⁴ <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/canadas-own-free-trade-pact-418703753.html>

⁵ Source: Statistics Canada. Table 282-0001 - Labour force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and detailed age group, unadjusted for seasonality, quarterly (persons unless otherwise noted), CANSIM (database). (accessed: April 11, 2017)

⁶ The Conference Board of Canada. Provincial Outlook Executive Summary: Winter 2017. Ottawa: The Conference Board of Canada, 2017.

⁷ Bank of Canada. Business Outlook Survey. Results of the Winter 2016–17 Survey | Vol. 13.4 | 9 January 2017

⁸ TD Economics. Provincial Economic Forecast. March 27, 2017.

⁹ Source: 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: April 11, 2017)

¹⁰ <https://steinbachonline.com/ag-news/400-million-pea-processing-plant-to-be-built-near-portage>

¹¹ Source: 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: April 11, 2017)

¹² Source: 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: April 11, 2017)

¹³ <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/two-decade-24b-aircraft-deal-likely-to-bring-100-jobs-here-405471256.html>

¹⁴ <http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/city-enacts-hiring-freeze-to-make-up-9-5m-shortfall-caused-by-december-snow-1.3317861>

¹⁵ Source: 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: April 11, 2017)

¹⁶ Source: 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: April 11, 2017)

¹⁷ <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/wage-freeze-manitoba-1.4033651> AND
<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/province-to-impose-two-year-public-sector-wage-freeze-416646124.html>

¹⁸ <http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/6-capital-health-projects-cut-by-manitoba-government-1.3277180>