



Labour Market Bulletin

Manitoba

August 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

Manitoba continues to demonstrate consistent job growth. Since May 2017, the province experienced four consecutive months of growth, with employment rising by 4,900. Amongst the Western provinces, only Manitoba demonstrated continuous month-over-month job growth over this time period.¹

Since July 2017, employment in Manitoba increased by 300. During this time, full-time employment decreased by 4,900, while part-time employment increased by 5,300. The changes in Manitoba's employment follow the national trend, as full-time employment decreased by 88,100 and part-time employment increased by 110,400. Over the same period, Manitoba's public sector employment shrank by 1.6%, (-2,600), while private sector employment grew by 0.4%, (+1,700). Self-employment increased by 1,300.²

Unemployment

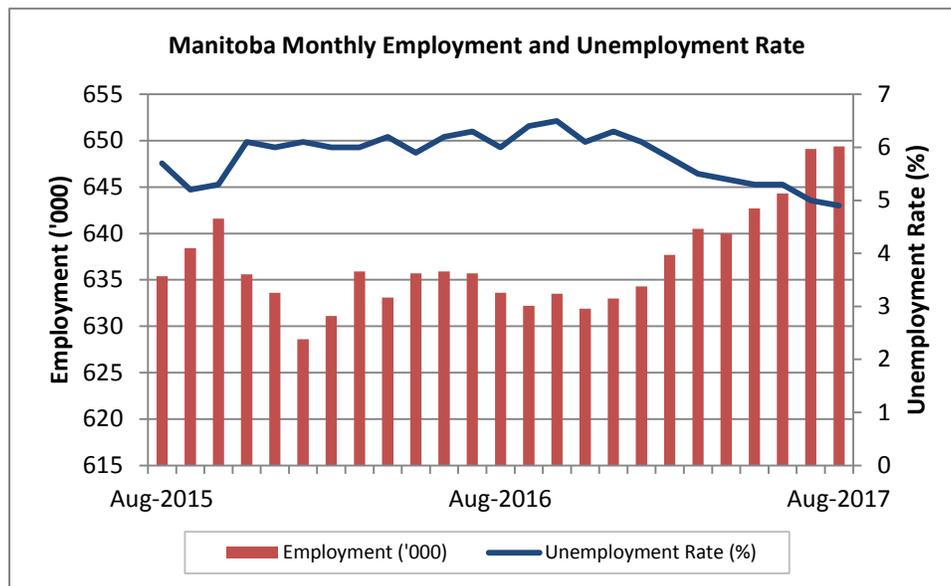
Manitoba's unemployment rate remained relatively unchanged, decreasing by 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.9%. The province had the lowest unemployment rate in Canada, well below the national average of 6.2%.

Seasonally adjusted Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	1,015.9	1,014.6	1,001.3	1.3	0.1	14.6	1.5
Labour Force ('000)	683.2	683.5	674.0	-0.3	0.0	9.2	1.4
Employment ('000)	649.4	649.1	633.6	0.3	0.0	15.8	2.5
Full-Time ('000)	520.5	525.4	510.8	-4.9	-0.9	9.7	1.9
Part-Time ('000)	128.9	123.6	122.9	5.3	4.3	6.0	4.9
Unemployment ('000)	33.7	34.4	40.4	-0.7	-2.0	-6.7	-
						16.6	
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	5.0	6.0	-0.1	-	-1.1	-
Participation Rate (%)	67.3	67.4	67.3	-0.1	-	0.0	-
Employment Rate (%)	63.9	64.0	63.3	-0.1	-	0.6	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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



In Manitoba, the unemployment rate of those aged 15-24 decreased this month by 0.3 percentage points to 10.9%. By comparison, the unemployment rate for those aged 25 years and older decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 3.8%. Compared to last year, youth unemployment decreased by 2.9 percentage points and the unemployment rate for those 25 years and older, decreased 0.7 percentage points. For both age groups, the improvement was marginally better than what was seen Nationwide (-1.6 percentage points and -0.6 percentage points).³

The unemployment rate for men aged 15 to 24 years old shrank to 11.0%, a decrease of 1.6 percentage points from the previous month. However, the unemployment rate for women aged 15 to 24 increased by 1.0 percentage points to 10.7% over the same period. In the past month, the unemployment rate for young men was about 2.5 times higher than of men 25 years and over. Whereas, the unemployment rate for young women was three times higher than for women 25 years and older.

Manitoba Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2017 (%)	July 2017 (%)	August 2016 (%)	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	4.9	5.0	6.0	-0.1	-1.1
25 years and over	3.8	3.9	4.5	-0.1	-0.7
Men - 25 years and over	4.0	3.9	5.1	0.1	-1.1
Women - 25 years and over	3.6	3.8	3.8	-0.2	-0.2
15 to 24 years	10.9	11.2	13.8	-0.3	-2.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	11.0	12.6	15.7	-1.6	-4.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.7	9.7	11.8	1.0	-1.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Manitoba's goods-producing sector grew by 1,500 between July and August, and employed 1,300 (+0.9%) more workers compared to the same time last year. Since August 2016, strong employment gains were made in both construction (+2,400) and manufacturing (+2,200), yet these gains were nearly offset by job losses in both the agriculture (-1,800) and utilities (-2,000) industries. Looking forward, the goods-producing sector may contract in the short-term as additional job losses are expected at Manitoba Hydro (utilities) and Vale (mining), and as construction projects slow down during the winter.

In the past month, the good-producing sector saw losses in utilities (-500) and forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (-300). These losses were offset by strong gains in both agriculture (+600) and in manufacturing (+1,200). Favorably dry weather conditions have continued since July, and crops are producing above average yields. Harvesting of crops and fall field work across the province has contributed to job gains in agriculture.⁴

On a year-over-year basis, the services-producing sector experienced strong employment growth across the province, with employment increasing by 3.0% (+14,400). Almost all service industries experienced strong employment gains, with the strongest growth in the finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+3,700); and information, culture and recreation industries (+3,400). Only the other services industry shrank by 400 workers.

Since last month, Manitoba's services-producing sector declined by 1,100, with losses in the education services industry (-5,800). These losses were partially offset by gains in both health care and social assistance (+2,000) and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+1,100).⁵

Employment in the services-producing sector may continue to decrease in the short-term as tight government budgets potentially constrain growth in the public sector. However, increased manufacturing and an appreciating Canadian dollar have stimulated growth in the private sector in the past months and may continue to do so.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2017	July 2017	August 2016	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	649.4	649.1	633.6	0.3	0.0	15.8	2.5
Goods-producing sector	153.8	152.3	152.5	1.5	1.0	1.3	0.9
Agriculture	24.5	23.9	26.3	0.6	2.5	-1.8	-6.8
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	6.6	6.9	6.1	-0.3	-4.3	0.5	8.2
Utilities	8.2	8.7	10.2	-0.5	-5.7	-2.0	-19.6
Construction	48.5	48.0	46.1	0.5	1.0	2.4	5.2
Manufacturing	66.0	64.8	63.8	1.2	1.9	2.2	3.4
Services-producing sector	495.6	496.7	481.2	-1.1	-0.2	14.4	3.0
Trade	92.0	91.5	90.7	0.5	0.5	1.3	1.4
Transportation and warehousing	36.3	35.9	35.4	0.4	1.1	0.9	2.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	37.7	36.6	34.0	1.1	3.0	3.7	10.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	27.6	27.4	27.4	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.7
Business, building and other support services	20.5	20.6	17.9	-0.1	-0.5	2.6	14.5
Educational services	51.2	57.0	51.0	-5.8	-10.2	0.2	0.4
Health care and social assistance	103.2	101.2	101.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Information, culture and recreation	24.3	24.7	20.9	-0.4	-1.6	3.4	16.3
Accommodation and food services	42.4	42.2	42.4	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0
Other services	27.8	26.9	28.2	0.9	3.3	-0.4	-1.4
Public administration	32.8	32.8	32.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Within the past year, employment grew in all the regions of Manitoba, except for the Parklands and North region. The unemployment rate decreased in four of the six regions, with exceptions being the Southwest, and Parklands and North.

Manitoba Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2017 (%)	August 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2017 (%)	August 2016 ('000)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Manitoba	655.4	641.7	2.1	5.4	6.6	-1.2
Economic Regions						
Southeast	64.2	61.3	4.7	3.2	4.7	-1.5
South Central and North Central	57.4	55.0	4.4	3.7	5.7	-2.0
Southwest	55.9	55.1	1.5	5.7	5.3	0.4
Winnipeg	395.0	386.0	2.3	6.1	7.4	-1.3
Interlake	47.5	47.2	0.6	4.0	7.1	-3.1
Parklands and North	35.4	37.2	-4.8	5.9	4.4	1.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

The unemployment rate in the Interlake decreased by nearly half (to 4.0%), with overall employment increasing by 300 workers since the same time last year. Employment gains were made in the past month in the goods-producing sector, (+200), and in the professional, scientific, and technical services (+500). August job gains were offset by losses in education services (-500) and transportation and warehousing (-600).⁶

South Central and North Central reported a monthly increase in healthcare and social assistance (+500) and agriculture (+700).⁷ The increase in agriculture may be short-lived, as various harvests are now completed or nearing completion. However, employment in the construction industry may increase this autumn, as the Province of Manitoba announced in August that it would invest \$34.9 million in water and wastewater upgrades for municipalities. The City of Portage La Prairie will receive \$3 million and the Rural Municipality of Portage La Prairie will receive \$350,000 of this funding.⁸

Southwest saw another monthly increase in agriculture related employment (+500).⁹ Farmers in the region grow a diversity of crops that have benefited from good weather. Though the region could use more rain for dugouts and pastures to feed livestock, agricultural related employment is nearing its seasonal peak as crops are now being harvested.¹⁰

Employment in Winnipeg increased by 2.3% over the previous year due to strong employment growth in manufacturing, and in the health care and social services industries. As a current example of manufacturing's health, New Flyer Industries announced in August that it was awarded a contract from the city of Edmonton for 110 diesel buses, and that the city of Winnipeg extended its contract for an additional 70 diesel buses.^{11,12} The company employs around 1,350 people at its Winnipeg plant and distribution centre. Similarly, employment in the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority should increase marginally in the short-term as the province signed a

health-care funding agreement with the federal government. The agreement includes an additional \$399.6 million over 10 years for home care and mental health services, and a one-time \$5 million payment to address kidney disease and the opioid crises.¹³

Parklands and North region experienced a decrease in employment by 4.8% compared to the same period last year due to a decline in the services-producing sector. The region experienced a loss of a 1,000 jobs each in accommodation and food services, and in other services, during the past year. Mining and forestry also decreased by 100 jobs in the past year, and further job losses are forthcoming as Vale announced in May 2017 that it would close its Birchtree mine near Thompson on October 1, 2017. The closure is expected to affect 200 workers.¹⁴

Rail service to Churchill remains out of service due to spring flooding, with no announcement of a scheduled repair date. An engineering report has been shared with all the stakeholders, and concludes that repairs of the rail line will be \$43.5 million.¹⁵ Two potential buyers of the rail line, One North and Mississippi Rail LP, have agreed to merge in an effort to buy the line from the current owner Omnitrax.¹⁶ Negotiations to purchase the line have begun in an effort to begin repairs before winter sets in.¹⁷ The continued closure of the single rail line has negatively impacted the community's seasonal tourism industry and has raised the costs of food and supplies that have to be flown in.

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

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¹ Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 – Labour Force survey estimates (LFS), by sex and age group, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted. (accessed September 11, 2017)

² Statistics Canada. Table 282-0089 – Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (person), CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

³ Statistics Canada. Table 282-0087 – Labour force survey estimates (LFS), employment by class of worker and sex, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly (person), CANSIM (database). (accessed September 13, 2017)

⁴ Government of Manitoba. September. "Crop Report: Issue 19, September 5, 2017". <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/seasonal-reports/crop-report-archive/crop-report-2017-09-05.html>

⁵ 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

⁶ 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

⁷ 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

⁸ Government of Manitoba. August 10, 2017. “Province announces new water and wastewater projects for Manitoba municipalities” <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=41993&posted=2017-08-10>

⁹ 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, CANSIM (database). (accessed September 8, 2017)

¹⁰ Government of Manitoba. September. “Crop Report: Issue 19, September 5, 2017”.
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/seasonal-reports/crop-report-archive/crop-report-2017-09-05.html>

¹¹ New Flyer Industries Canada ULC. August 16, 2017. “Winnipeg exercises contract extension to order 70 additional transit buses” <https://www.newflyer.com/rss/860-winnipeg-exercises-contract-extension-to-order-70-additional-transit-buses>

¹² New Flyer Industries Canada ULC. August 15, 2017. “Edmonton awards New Flyer a contract for 110 Clean Diesel Buses” <https://www.newflyer.com/rss/859-edmonton-awards-new-flyer-a-contract-for-110-clean-diesel-buses>

¹³ CBC News. August 21, 2017. “Manitoba final province to sign health-care pact with feds”
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/funding-health-manitoba-1.4255391>

¹⁴ CBC News. May 16, 2017. “Thompson mine to close in October, will put at least 150 out of work”
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/thompson-mine-closure-1.4117616>

¹⁵ CBC News. September 6, 2017. “Repairs to Churchill rail line will cost \$43.5M: Consultant report”
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/manitoba-churchill-omnitrax-repair-1.4278282>

¹⁶ CBC News. September 5, 2017. “Competing groups join forces to buy rail line and Port of Churchill”
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/churchill-omnitrax-rail-dumas-spence-ottawa-manitoba-port-1.4275738>

¹⁷ CBC News. September 8, 2017 “Ottawa appoints former top bureaucrat to find solution on Churchill rail line”
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/churchill-rail-line-wayne-wouters-1.4281563>