Forestry and Forest Products

Atlantic Region

2017

ABSTRACT

The Forestry and forest products sector benefits from the Atlantic region’s valuable supply of natural resources and generates millions of dollars in revenues and salaries from its activities. However, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) attributable to this industry is much reduced from its 2004 peak, which has led to a drop in the employment base.

This profile provides an overview of recent labour market conditions for the Forestry and forest products sector. The factors which have impacted the sector in recent years will be highlighted and consideration will be given for the employment outlook over the next three years. The specific sub-sectors covered in this report are: Forestry and logging, Wood product manufacturing, and Paper manufacturing (including pulp). Trends and outlooks for employment in the Atlantic Region are provided when relevant and sufficient data are available.

The following are some key highlights:

- Combined, Forestry and logging and forest product manufacturing comprised an average 1.7% of total GDP in the Atlantic region in 2016 - greater than the national share (1.3%).

- The value of the economic activity represented by this sector fell by over 20% between its peak in 2004 and 2016.

- Wood product manufacturing accounted for the majority of the sector’s employment base in 2016 (45%), followed by forestry and logging (32%) and paper manufacturing (24%).

- New Brunswick has historically accounted for the majority of forestry and forest products activities within the Atlantic region and in 2016 represented nearly two-thirds of overall GDP and employment.

- Total employment in Atlantic Canada’s forestry and forest products sector is expected to decline at an annual average rate of 1.5% between 2017 and 2019.

If you would like a pdf copy of the full profile, please contact the Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Atlantic Region at:

ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@hrdc-drhc.net