Utilities

Atlantic Region

2017

ABSTRACT

The Utilities sector in Atlantic Canada generated over $2 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2016, which accounted for 2.4% of the region’s GDP that year. Large-scale investments in alternative energy sources and infrastructure, such as wind farms, have helped drive employment gains in recent years.

This profile provides an overview of recent labour market conditions for the Utilities sector. The specific industries included in this report are: Electric power generation, transmission and distribution, Natural gas distribution, and Water, sewage and other systems. The following are some key highlights:

- The Utilities sector is worth over two billion dollars to the Atlantic economy every year which is 2.5% of total economic activity, similar to the national level.

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the Utilities sector has grown at an average annual rate of 0.5% since 2001 in the Atlantic region as compared to 1.4% for the overall economy.

- Electrical power generation, transmission and distribution are responsible for 64% of economic activity in the Utilities sector.

- Workers in the Utilities sector come from eight of the nine major occupational groups. However, four of these groups, Trades, Occupations Unique to Utilities, Scientific/Technical and Clerical/Professional, account for 82% of employment.

- Utilities workers are found mostly in the 25 to 54 year old group, but in recent years the number of 55 years and older employees has risen.

- Employment for Utilities in the Atlantic Provinces over the 2017 to 2019 period is expected to fall very slightly compared to slight growth for overall employment during this period.

If you would like a pdf copy of the full profile, please contact the Labour Market Analysis Division, Service Canada, Atlantic Region at: ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@hrdc-drhc.net