Wholesale Trade

Atlantic Region

2017

ABSTRACT

The Wholesale trade sector is a moderately sized employer in Atlantic Canada, which comprised 3.8% of the regions total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2016.

This profile provides an overview of recent labour market conditions for the Wholesale trade industry in the Atlantic Region. The specific industries within Wholesale trade are Farm products, Petroleum and petroleum products, Food, beverage and tobacco, Personal and household goods, Motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts, Building material and supplies, Machinery, equipment and supplies, Miscellaneous merchant wholesalers, and Business-to-business electronic markets, and agents and brokers. Trends and outlooks for employment in the Atlantic Region are provided when relevant and sufficient data are available.

The following are some key highlights:

- Wholesale Trade accounted for 3.8% of Atlantic Canada’s gross domestic product (GDP) and 2.6% of regional employment in 2016.
- Wholesale trade GDP growth outpaced total GDP growth in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, but was negative in New Brunswick.
- Since 2005, sales growth in this sector has been strong in all four provinces while employment has remained static or declined slightly.
- In the medium term, positive GDP and sales growth combined with slowly declining employment is expected to persist.
- The labour force in this sector is characterized by an under-representation of females and youths.
- The geographical distribution of Wholesale Trade businesses appears to be related to transportation networks and the regional presence of specific goods-producing industries.

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