In general, the Accommodation and food services (AFS) industry makes a fairly modest contribution to the region’s overall economy and employment base. However, during peak tourism season, its impact within certain communities is more noticeable.

This profile provides an overview of current labour market conditions for the AFS industry in the Atlantic region, highlighting the seasonal nature of the industry. The specific industries covered in this report include: Traveller accommodation, Recreational vehicle (RV) parks and recreational camps, Rooming and boarding houses, Special food services, Drinking places (alcoholic beverages), and Full-service restaurants and limited-service restaurants. Trends and outlooks for employment in the Atlantic Region are provided when relevant and sufficient data is available.

The following are some key highlights:

- AFS accounted for nearly 7% of total employment in the Atlantic region, in 2016.
- The industry’s contribution to Atlantic Canada’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is relatively small, at 2.0% of the total in 2016.
- In Atlantic Canada, approximately 8 out of 10 workers in Accommodations and food services work in the Food services and drinking places sub-sector.
- Females account for approximately two-thirds of the industry’s work force.
- Seasonality results in significant employment fluctuations in Accommodations and food services, with summertime employment typically being 20% higher than the lowest level observed during the winter months.
- AFS Employment in Atlantic Canada is expected to decline at an average annual rate of 0.2% over the 2017-2019 period.
If you would like a complete pdf copy of this profile please contact the Labour Market Analysis Division, Service Canada, Atlantic Region at: ATL-LMI-IMT-GD@hrdc-drhc.net