

Labour Market Information News

Published by the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration

July 2023

Labour Force Survey -- Nova Scotia Highlights

Overview

Employment in Nova Scotia increased in June by 3,600 jobs (+0.7%). The unemployment rate rose to 6.4% (+0.7 percentage points). This issue of the *Labour Market Information News* monitors the key labour market indicators in June. The June Labour Force Survey references the week of June 11 to 17 and compares it to the week of May 14 to 20.

Snapshot of Nova Scotia's Labour Market in June 2023¹ Compared to May 2023

Labour Force
529,800

+7,800

Employment
495,700

+3,600

Full Time
406,300
Part Time
89,400

+5,900

-2,400

Unemployment Rate
6.4%

+0.7 pp

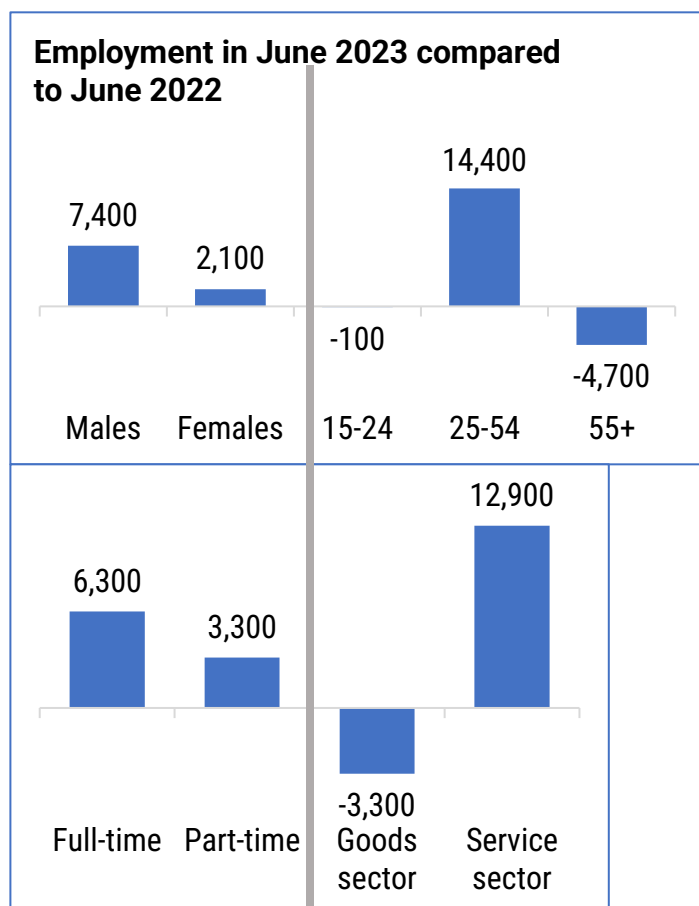
Employment Rate
57.5%

+0.3 pp

- The labour force increased by 1.5% to 529,800, with 7,800 more people entering the labour market than leaving. The labour participation rate rose by 0.7 percentage points to 61.4% in June.
- Nova Scotia's seasonally adjusted employment level increased by 0.7% in June (+3,600 jobs) with gains in full-time employment (+5,900 jobs, +1.5%), and losses in part-time jobs (-2,400, -2.6%). (Individuals switching between full-time and part-time status are also included in these statistics).
- Nova Scotia's unemployment rate rose to 6.4% in June (returning to the same level it was in June 2022). The unemployment rate in Nova Scotia has averaged 10.2% since 1976.
- The employment rate (number of employed as a proportion of the whole labour force population aged 15 and over) rose by 0.3 percentage points to 57.5% in June.

¹ Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0287-01, Adjusted for Seasonality, Both Sexes, Ages 15+.

Employment Data in June 2023 Compared to May 2023 and June 2022

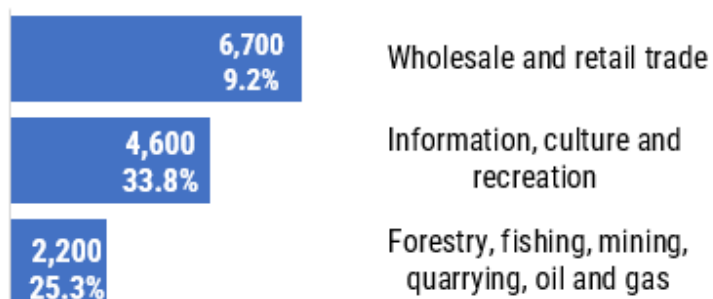


- Employment levels in June were higher for Nova Scotia males (+4,700 jobs, +1.9%), and lower for females (-1,100, -0.4%). Employment gains for males were both in full-time positions (+3,800, +1.8%), and in part-time positions (+900, +2.7%). The rise in the employment level for females was due to an increase in full-time employment (+2,100, +1.1%), while they lost 3,300 part-time jobs (-5.7%). Both females and males surpassed their employment levels from a year ago by 0.9% and 3.0% respectively.
- Youth (15-24 years) employment increased by 3.9% (+2,500 jobs) in June. Core-aged workers (25 to 54 years) gained 5,400 positions (+1.7%), while the employment level for older workers was down by 3.6% (-4,300 jobs).
- Full-time employment increased by 5,900 jobs (+1.5%) in June, and it was 1.6% above its June 2022 level (+6,300 jobs). Part-time employment decreased by 2,400 jobs (-2.6%) in June and was 3.8% higher (+3,300 jobs) compared with June 2022.
- The services-producing sector gained 600 jobs in June (+0.1%), while the goods-producing sector gained 3,000 positions (+3.3%). The top expanding industries were “forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas” (+1,600, +17.2%), “manufacturing” (+1,500, +4.4%), and “services other than public administration” (+1,500, +7.8%). The industries that lost the most jobs in June

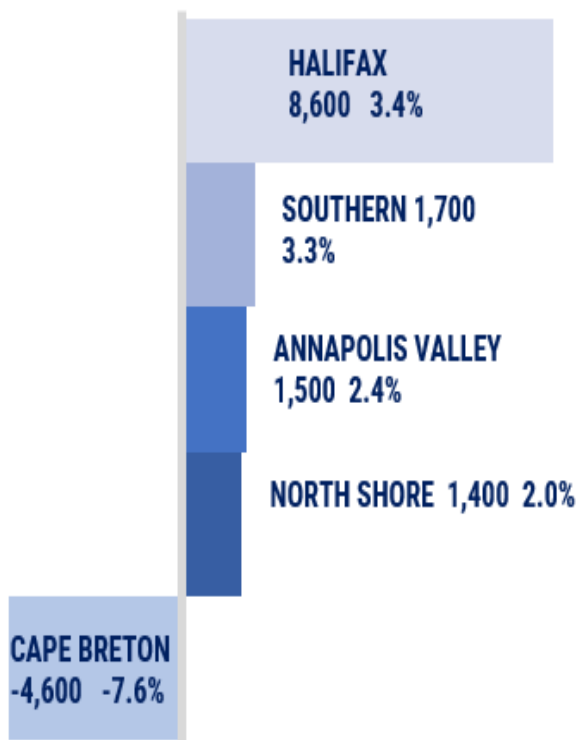
Labour Market Information News

Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Research, Accountability & Intergovernmental Affairs Division

Top Industries by Employment Gain June 2022 to June 2023



Employment Recovery Progress by Economic Region, June 2022 to June 2023



were: “business, building and other support services” (-1,100, -6.3%). “educational services” (-1,100, -2.8%), and “professional, scientific and technical services” (-700, -1.8%).

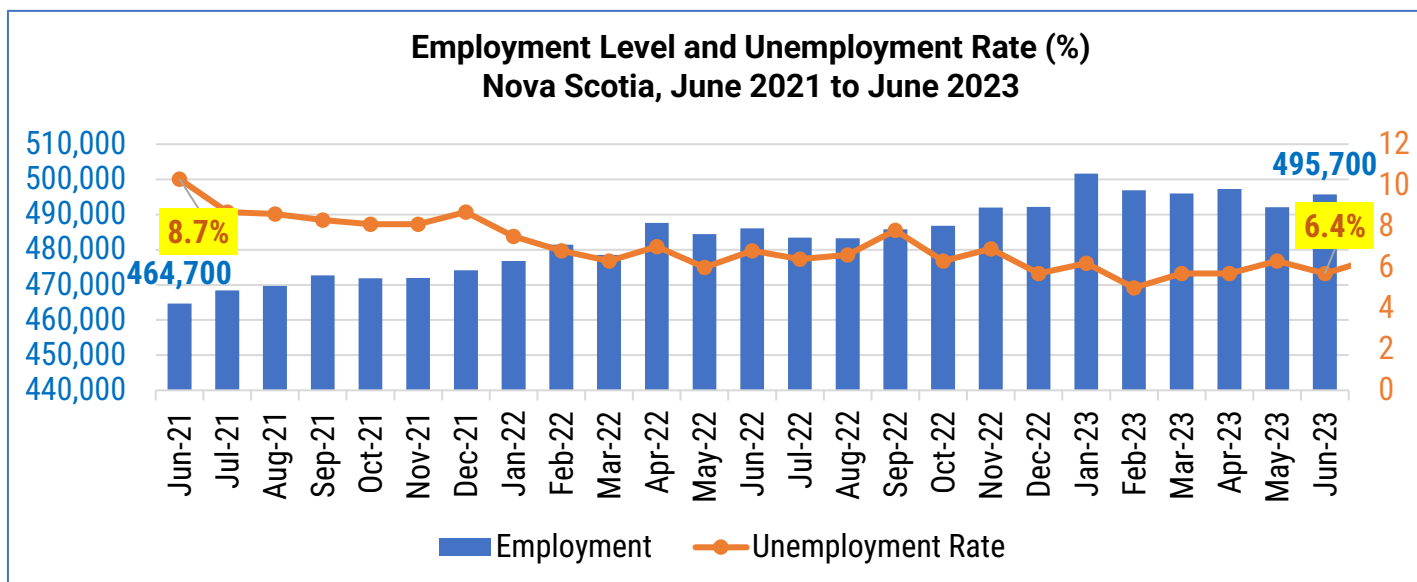
- Compared to June of last year, employment gains were largest in the “wholesale and retail trade” industry (+6,700, +9.2%). This was followed by “information, culture and recreation” (+4,600, +33.8%), and “forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas” (+2,200, +25.3%).
- Employment declines compared to a year earlier were largest in the “construction” (-6,000 jobs, -13.5%), followed by “business, building and other support services” (-2,400, -12.8%), and “health care and social assistance” (-1,700 -2.1%).
- In June (three-month average from April to June) compared to May (March to May), all five economic regions posted job gains -- Halifax region (+2,200 jobs, +0.8%), North Shore (+2,000, +2.9%), Southern region (+1,300, +2.5%), Annapolis Valley (+1,000, +1.6%), and Cape Breton 500 jobs (+1.0%).
- Compared with one year ago (June 2023 to June 2022), four of the five regions posted employment gains, while the Cape Breton region lost jobs².

***Note:** The regional statistics is a 3-month moving average and is seasonally unadjusted. Therefore, it is not comparable to the statistics used in the rest of the report and may show a delay in data demonstrating sudden impacts to labour.

² Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0387-01, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.

Labour Market Information News

Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, Research, Accountability & Intergovernmental Affairs Division



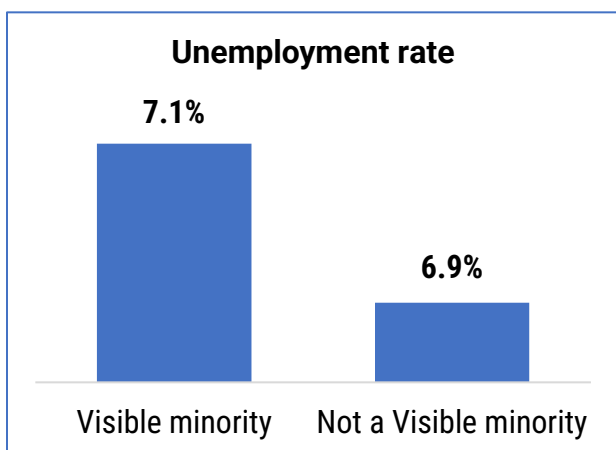
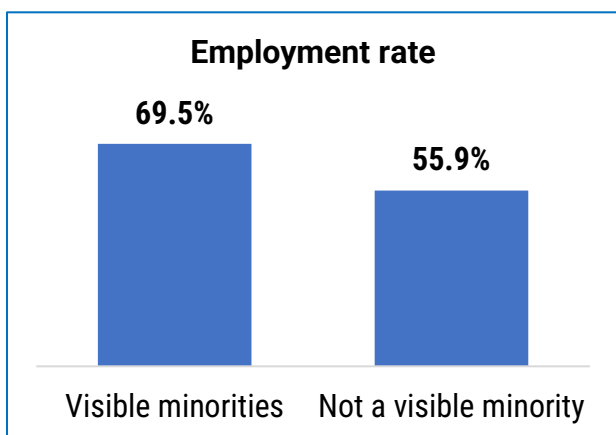
- The employment level in Nova Scotia increased by 0.7% in June. The employment rate rose by 0.3 percentage points to 57.5% in June.
- The unemployment rate rose by 0.7 percentage points and landed at 6.4% in June (the same level it was in June 2022). When compared against historical Labour Force Survey data going back to 1976, Nova Scotia’s unemployment rate remains very low.

Nova Scotia Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Sex and Age

Unemployment Rate (%)	Jun-22	May-23	Jun-23	M/M change	Y/Y change
15 to 24 years	9.8	11.2	12.4	1.2 pp	2.6 pp
Males 15 to 24 years	12.7	12.7	13.5	0.8 pp	0.8 pp
Females 15 to 24 years	7.0	9.8	11.3	1.5 pp	4.3 pp
25 years and over	5.9	4.8	5.4	0.6 pp	-0.5 pp
Males 25 years and over	7.3	5.8	5.9	0.1 pp	-1.4 pp
Females 25 years and over	4.4	3.8	5.0	1.2 pp	0.6 pp

- The overall youth (aged 15-24) unemployment rate increased by 1.2 percentage points between May and June to 12.4%. The female youth unemployment rate rose by 1.5 percentage points in June, while the male youth unemployment rate was up by 0.8 percentage points. The female youth unemployment rate was 4.3 percentage points higher than a year ago, while the male youth unemployment rate was 0.8 percentage points higher than in June 2022. The unemployment rate for women aged 25 and over was 0.6 percentage points higher than a year ago, compared to a decrease of 1.4 percentage points for males aged 25 and over.

Labour Market Outcomes of Visible Minorities in Atlantic Canada in June 2023³



- The employment rate (number of employed for the entire labour force population 15 and over) for visible minorities in Atlantic Canada was higher than for non-visible minorities (69.5% vs 55.9%) on average in the last three months ending in June 2023.
- Compared to May (3-month average from March to May) the employment rate of visible minorities rose by 0.9 percentage points while the employment rate of people who are not visible minorities or indigenous people rose by 1.1 percentage points in Atlantic Canada.
- It is worth noting that aggregate data masks the fact that visible minorities and indigenous people face additional labour market barriers.
- There are large gaps among different visible minority groups. Among the groups with available data⁴, Latin Americans face the highest unemployment rates (9.9%), while only 6.5% of South Asians were unemployed in the last three months.
- Due to the relatively low participation rate of Arabs, they faced the lowest employment rate among all visible minority groups for whom data was reported (55.6%). Chinese had the second-lowest employment rate over the period at 61.5%

³ Source: Statistics Canada, Table: 14-10-0373-01, three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality. Starting in March 2022, the Monthly Labour Force Survey started to report labour market indicators of visible minority groups averaged over the last three-month period instead of monthly indicators.

⁴ Data not available for West Asian, Korean, and Japanese minority groups.

The next Labour Force Survey will be released on **August 4th, 2023**, covering the July 2023 labour market.

Labour Force Survey Glossary

Employment: Employed persons are those who, during the reference week, did any work for pay or profit or had a job and were absent from work.

Employment rate (employment/population ratio): Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (for example, one defined by age, sex, marital status, or province) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Labour force: Civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age and over who, during the survey reference week, were employed or unemployed. Prior to 1966, persons aged 14 and over were covered by the survey.

Participation rate: Total labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate for a particular group (for example, women aged 25 years and over) is the labour force of that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Unemployment: Unemployed persons are those who, during reference week, were without work, were available for work and were either on temporary layoff, had looked for work in the past four weeks or had a job to start within the next four weeks.

Unemployment rate: Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (for example, one defined by age, sex, or marital status) is the number of unemployed persons in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that same group.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey Guide