

# Labour Market Information News

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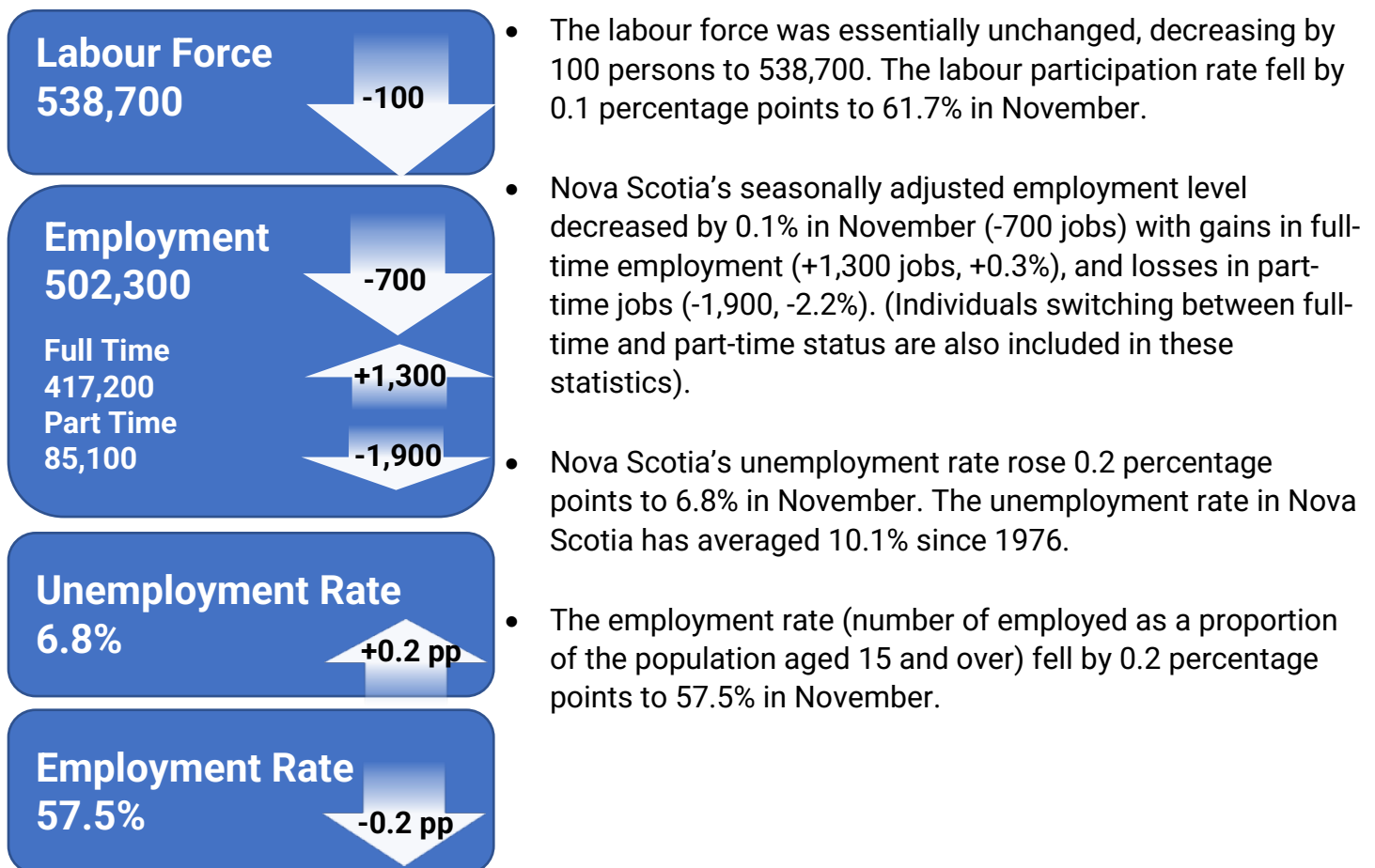
December 2023

## Labour Force Survey -- Nova Scotia Highlights

### Overview

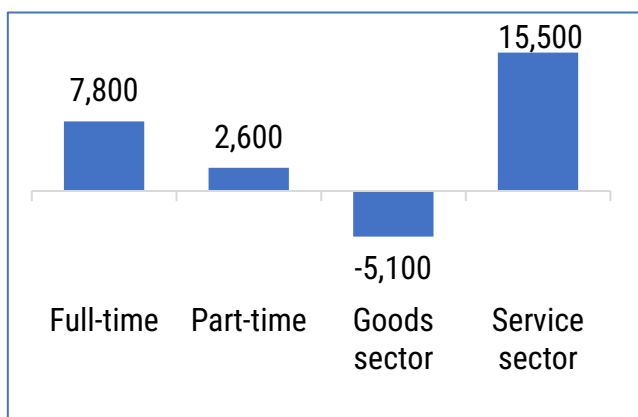
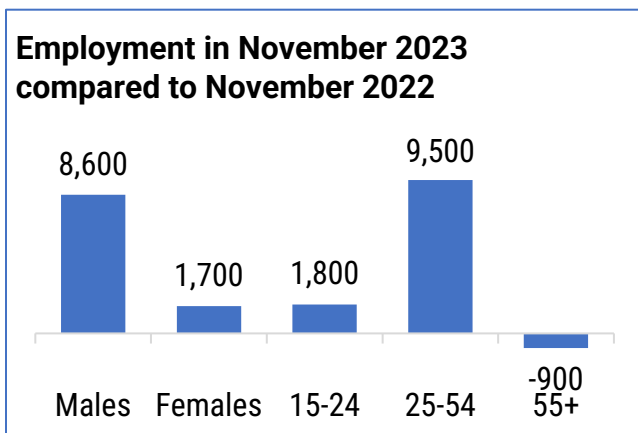
Employment in Nova Scotia decreased in November by 700 jobs (-0.1%). The unemployment rate rose to 6.8% (+0.2 percentage points). This issue of the *Labour Market Information News* monitors the key labour market indicators in November. The November Labour Force Survey references the week of November 05 to 11 and compares it to the week of October 08 to 14.

### Snapshot of Nova Scotia's Labour Market in November 2023<sup>1</sup> Compared to October 2023



<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, [Table 14-10-0287-01](#), Adjusted for Seasonality, Both Sexes, Ages 15+.

## Employment Data in November 2023 Compared to October 2023 and November 2022

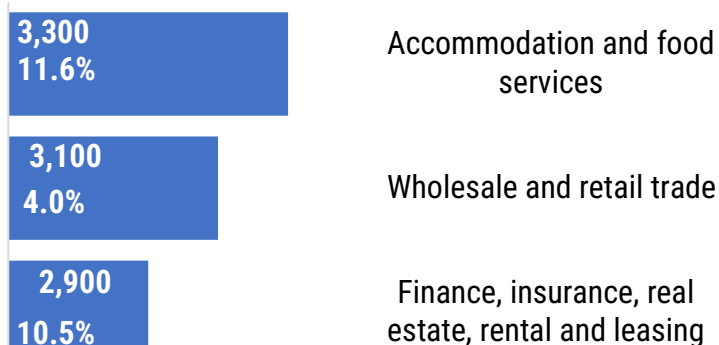


- Employment levels in November were higher for Nova Scotia males (+800 jobs, +0.3%) while there were losses for females (-1,500 jobs, -0.6%). Employment gains for males were predominantly in full-time positions (+1,500 jobs, +0.7%), contrasted with 400 full-time jobs lost for females (-0.2%). Males lost 800 part-time positions (-2.4%), while females lost 1,200 part-time jobs (-2.2%).
- Youth (15-24 years) employment decreased by 1.9% (-1,300 jobs) in November. Core-aged workers (25 to 54 years) gained 2,000 positions (+0.6%), while the employment level for older workers was down by 1.1% (-1,300 jobs).
- Full-time employment in November 2023 was 1.9% above its November 2022 level (+7,800 jobs). Part-time employment increased by 2,600 jobs (+3.2%) in November 2023 compared with November 2022.
- The employment level in the goods-producing sector was unchanged in November, while the services-producing sector lost 700 positions (-0.2%). The top expanding industries were “accommodation and food services” (+1,700 jobs, +5.6%), “finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing” (+1,300, +4.4%), and “professional, scientific and technical services” (+1,200, +3.1%). The industries that lost the most jobs in November were: “information, culture and recreation” (-2,400, -10.2%), “educational services” (-1,200, -3.1%), and “transportation and warehousing” (-1,200, -5.2%).

# Labour Market Information News

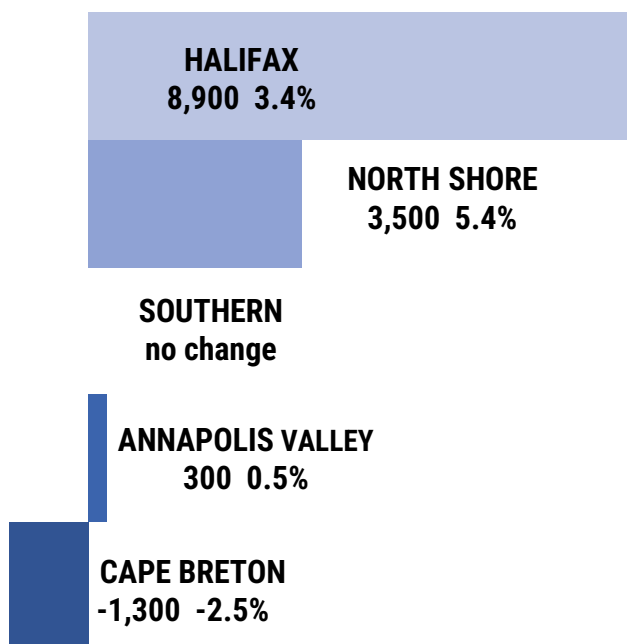
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## Top Industries by Employment Gain November 2022 to November 2023



- Compared to November of last year, employment gains were largest in the “accommodation and food services” industry (+3,300 jobs, +11.6%). This was followed by “wholesale and retail trade” (+3,100, +4.0%), and “finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing” (+2,900, +10.5%).
- Employment declines compared to a year earlier were largest in the “health care and social assistance” industry (-5,300, -6.6%), followed by “construction” (-3,800, -9.1%), and “forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas” (-2,200, -21.2%).

## Employment by Economic Region, November 2022 to November 2023



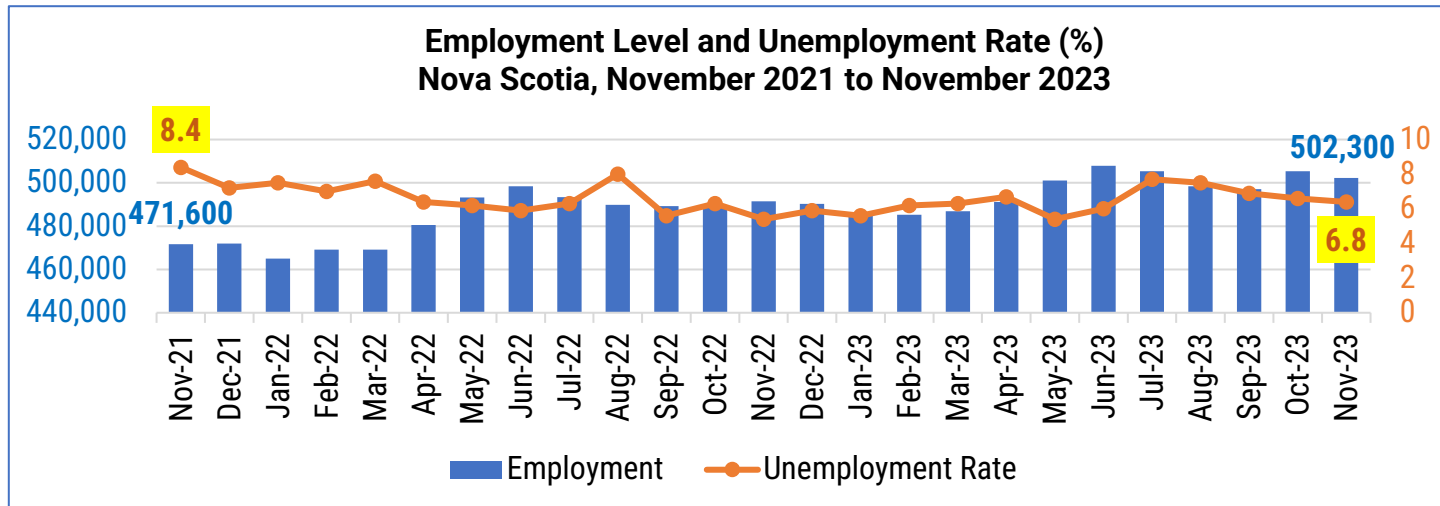
- In November (three-month average from September to November) compared to October (August to October), two economic regions posted job gains – the Halifax region (+1,800 jobs, +0.7%), and the Annapolis Valley region (+1,000 jobs, +1.6%), while job losses occurred in three regions: Southern (-700, -1.3%), North Shore (-600, -0.9%), and Cape Breton (-300, -0.6%).
- Compared with one year ago (November 2023 to November 2022), three of the five regions posted employment gains, while the Cape Breton region lost jobs. The employment level in the Southern region was unchanged<sup>2</sup>.

**\*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.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, Table [14-10-0387-01](#), three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.

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- The employment level in Nova Scotia decreased by 0.7% in November. The employment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 57.5% in November.
- The unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage points and landed at 6.8% in November. When compared against historical Labour Force Survey data going back to 1976, Nova Scotia's unemployment rate remains relatively low.

## Nova Scotia Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Sex and Age

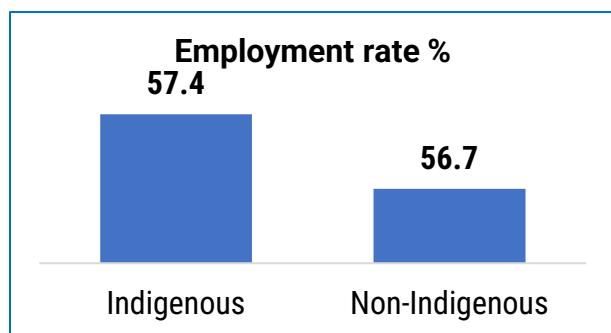
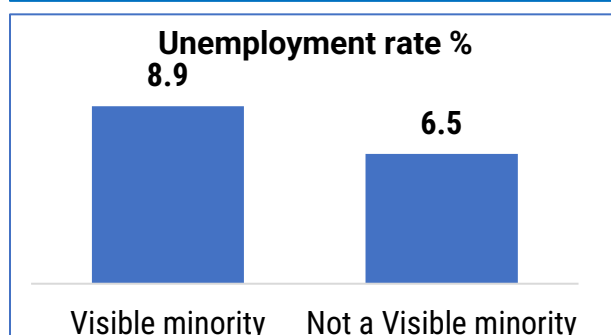
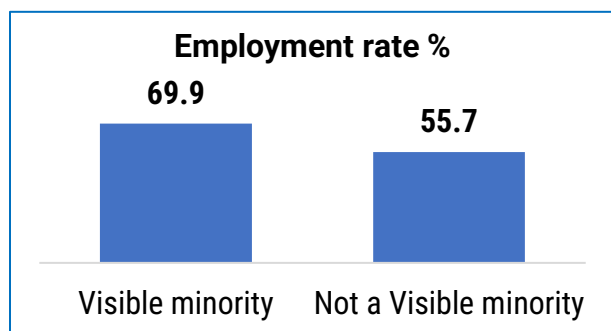
Unemployment Rate (%)	Nov-22	Oct-23	Nov-23	M/M change	Y/Y change
15-24	11.4	13.4	13.8	0.4 pp	2.4 pp
Males 15-24	13.0	15.9	15.6	-0.3 pp	2.6 pp
Females 15-24	10.2	10.9	11.5	0.6 pp	1.3 pp
25+	4.8	5.5	5.6	0.1 pp	0.8 pp
Males 25+	5.7	5.9	5.7	-0.2 pp	0.0 pp
Females 25+	3.8	5.1	5.4	0.3 pp	1.6 pp

- The overall youth (aged 15-24) unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage points between October and November to 13.8%. The female youth unemployment rate rose by 0.6 percentage points in November, while the male youth unemployment rate was down by 0.3 percentage points. The female youth unemployment rate was 1.3 percentage points higher than a year ago, while the male youth unemployment rate was 2.6 percentage points higher than in November 2022. The unemployment rate for females aged 25 and over was 1.6 percentage points higher than a year ago, compared to no change for males aged 25 and over.

# Labour Market Information News

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## Labour Market Outcomes of Visible Minorities in Atlantic Canada in November 2023<sup>3</sup>



- The employment rate (number of employed for the entire population 15 and over) for visible minorities in Atlantic Canada was higher than for non-visible minorities (69.9% vs 55.7%) on average in the last three months ending in November 2023.
- Compared to October (3-month average from August to October) the employment rate of visible minorities fell by 0.6 percentage points while the employment rate of people who are not visible minorities or Indigenous people declined by 0.4 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 data<sup>4</sup>, Arabs and Blacks face the highest unemployment rates (19.4% and 11.0%, respectively), while 6.6% of South Asians were unemployed in the last three months.
- Indigenous people have the highest unemployment rate (11.0%), while they also face the second lowest employment rate (57.4%).

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Data not available for West Asian, Korean, and Japanese minority groups.

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The next Labour Force Survey will be released on **January 05, 2024**, covering the December 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