

# Labour Market Information News

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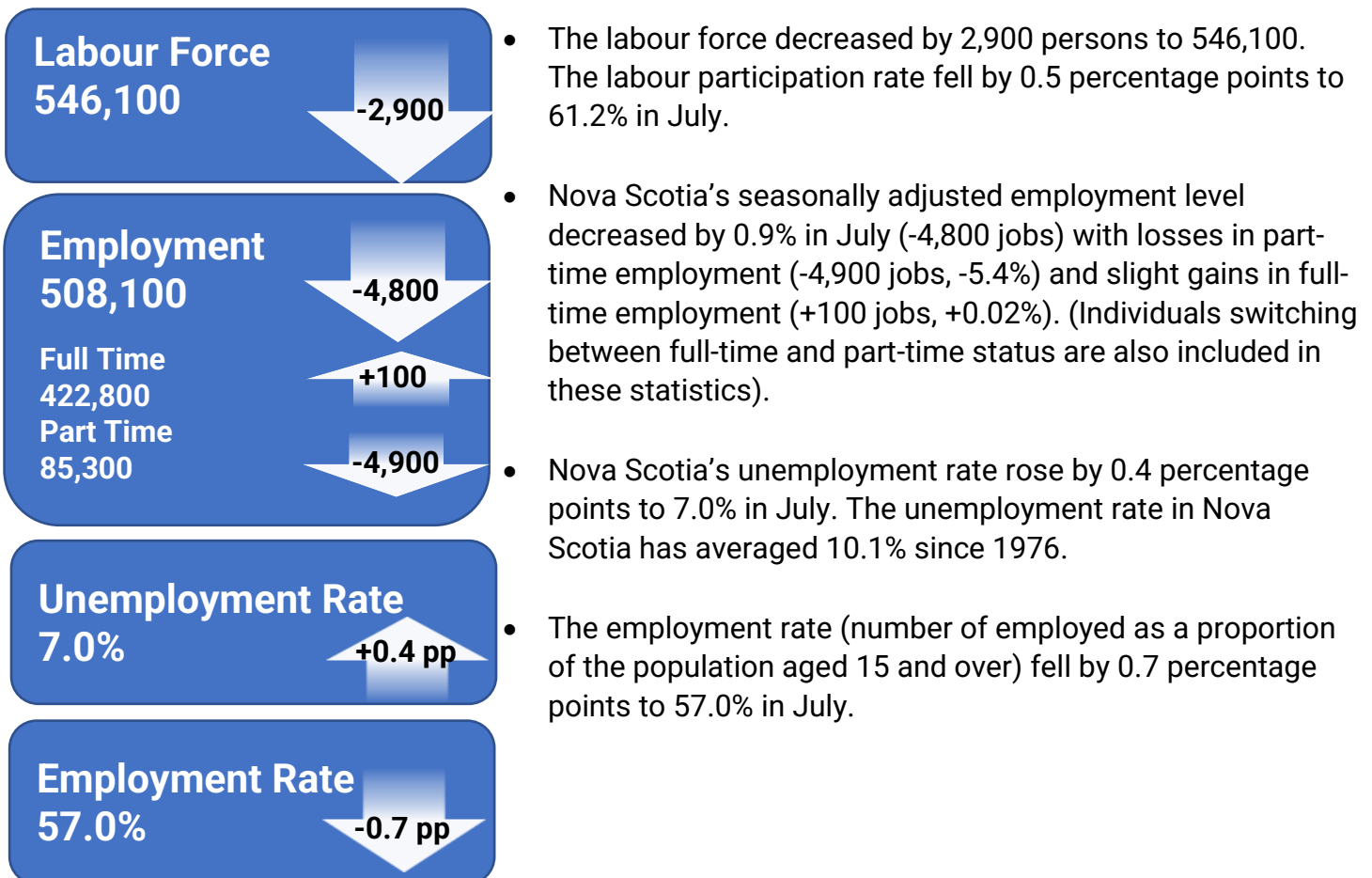
August 2024

## Labour Force Survey -- Nova Scotia Highlights

### Overview

Employment in Nova Scotia decreased in July by 4,800 jobs (-0.9%). The unemployment rate rose to 7.0% (+0.4 percentage points). This issue of the *Labour Market Information News* monitors the key labour market indicators in July. The Labour Force Survey references the week of July 14 to 20, 2024 and compares it to the week of June 09 to 15, 2024.

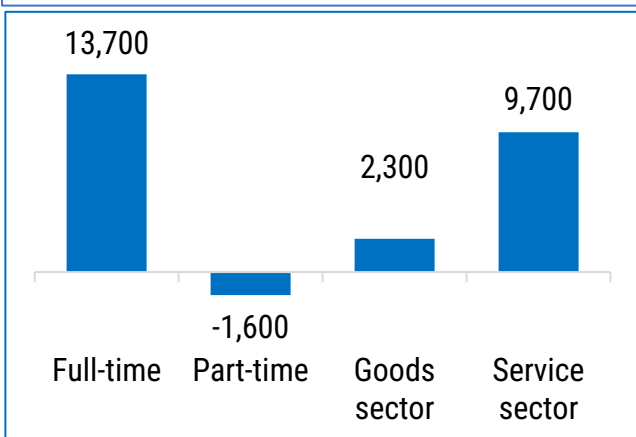
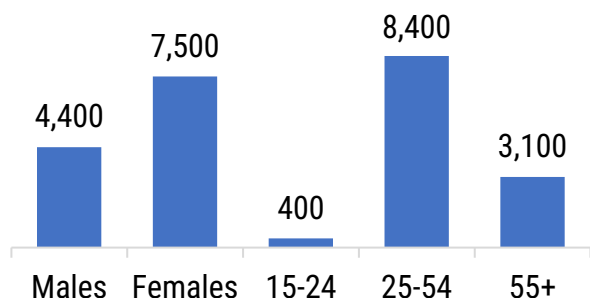
### Snapshot of Nova Scotia's Labour Market in July 2024<sup>1</sup> Compared to June 2024



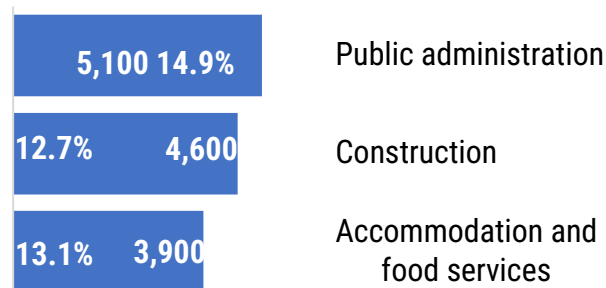
<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, [Table 14-10-0287-01](#), Adjusted for Seasonality, Both Sexes, Ages 15+.

## Employment Data in July 2024 Compared to June 2024 and July 2023

**Employment in Jul 2024 compared to Jul 2023**



**Top Industries by Employment Gain Jul 2023 to Jul 2024**

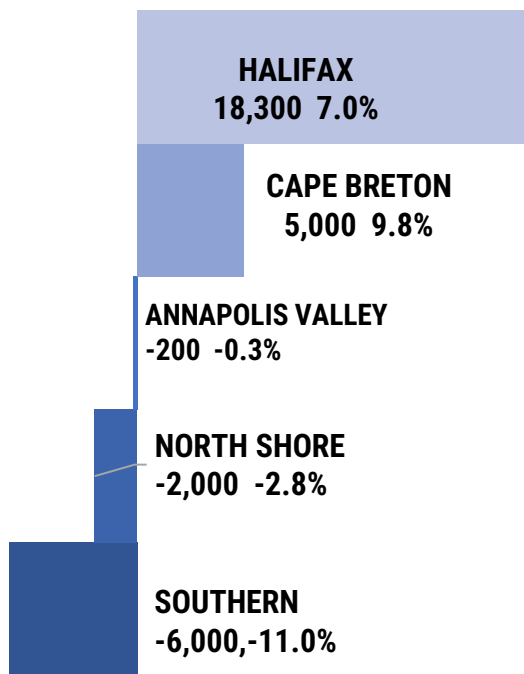


- Employment levels in July were lower for Nova Scotia males (-4,600 jobs, -1.8%) than for females, who also lost jobs, but to a lesser extent (-200 jobs, -0.1%) compared to June. Employment gains for males were concentrated in full-time positions (+1,400 jobs, +0.6%), while females lost full-time jobs (-1,300 jobs, -0.6%). Males lost 6,000 part-time positions (-15.9%) while females gained 1,100 part-time jobs (+2.1%).
- Youth (15-24 years) employment decreased by 2.4% (-1,700 jobs) in July. Core-aged workers (25 to 54 years) gained 1,500 positions (+0.5%), while the employment level for older workers was down by 3.8% (-4,600 jobs).
- Full-time employment in July 2024 was 3.3% above its July 2023 level (+13,700 jobs). Part-time employment decreased by 1,600 jobs (-1.8%) in July 2024 compared with July 2023.
- The employment level in the goods-producing sector increased by 1,300 jobs in July (+1.4%), while the services-producing sector lost 6,100 positions (-1.4%). The top expanding industries were “professional, scientific and technical services” (+3,000 jobs, +8.9%), “construction” (+1,000, +2.5%), and “forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas” (+900 jobs, +9.6%). Industries that lost the most jobs in July were “educational services” (-2,900 jobs, -6.7%), “wholesale and retail trade” (-1,800, -2.2%), “accommodation and food services” (-1,700, -4.8%) and “transportation and warehousing” (-1,700, -7.7%).

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## Employment by Economic Region, Jul 2023 to Jul 2024



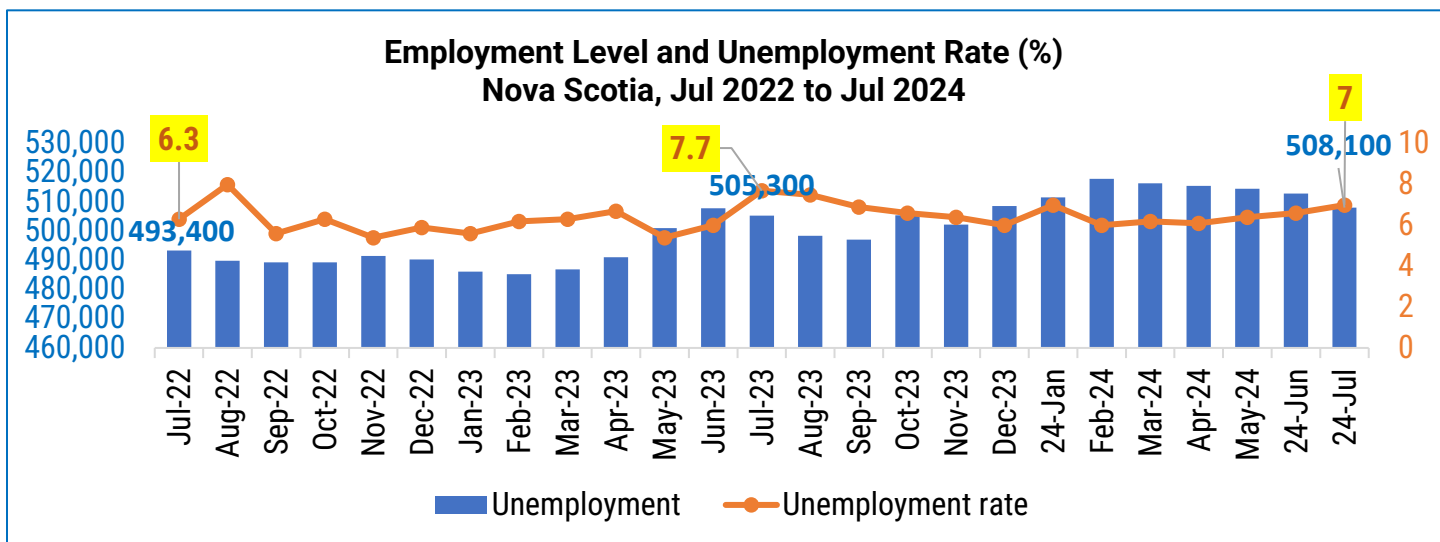
- Compared to July of last year, employment gains were largest in the “public administration” industry (+5,100 jobs, +14.9%). This was followed by “construction” (+4,600 jobs, +12.7%), and “accommodation and food services” (+3,900 jobs, +13.1%).
- Employment declines compared to a year earlier were largest in the “manufacturing” industry (-2,700 jobs, -7.5%), “transportation and warehousing” (-2,700 jobs, -11.7%), and “wholesale and retail trade” (-1,800 jobs, -2.2%).
- In July 2024 (three-month average from May to July 2024) compared to June 2024 (April to June 2024) three economic regions recorded job gains –the Cape Breton region (+2,300, +4.3%), the North Shore region (+1,200, +1.8%), and the Annapolis Valley region (+500, +0.8%); while job losses occurred in the Southern region (-2,200 jobs, -4.3%) and the Halifax region (-600, -0.2%).
- Compared with one year ago (July 2024 versus July 2023), two economic regions recorded job gains, while the Southern region, North Shore and the Annapolis Valley region recorded modest job losses<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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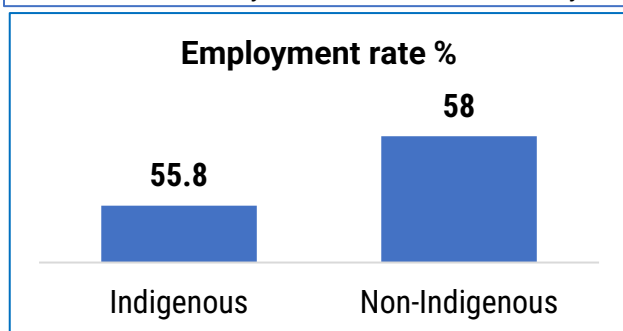
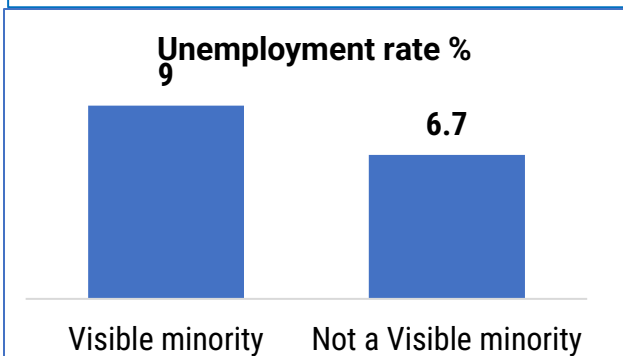
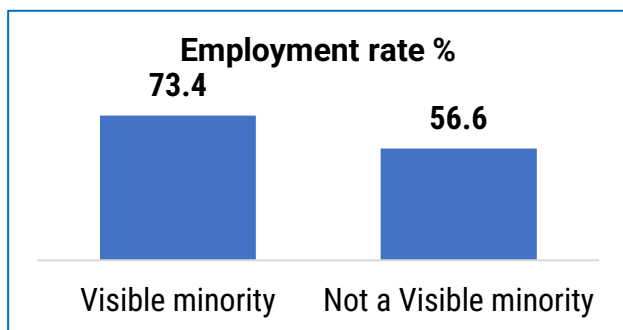
- The employment level in Nova Scotia decreased by 0.9% in July. The employment rate decreased by 0.7 percentage points to 57.0% in July.
- The unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage points and landed at 7.0% in July. When compared against historical Labour Force Survey data going back to 1976, Nova Scotia's unemployment rate remains relatively low.

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

Unemployment Rate (%)	Jul-23	Jun-24	Jul-24	M/M change	Y/Y change
15-24	12.0	12.7	15.4	2.7 pp	3.4 pp
Males 15-24	13.8	11.8	17.9	6.1 pp	4.1 pp
Females 15-24	10.1	13.7	12.6	-1.1 pp	2.5 pp
25+	7.0	5.5	5.5	0.0 pp	-1.5 pp
Males 25+	7.3	5.9	6.5	0.6 pp	-0.8 pp
Females 25+	6.8	5.2	4.5	-0.7 pp	-2.3 pp

- The overall youth (aged 15-24) unemployment rate increased by 2.7 percentage points between June and July 2024 to 15.4%. The male youth unemployment rate rose by 6.1 percentage points in July, while the female youth unemployment rate fell by 1.1 percentage points. The male youth unemployment rate was 4.1 percentage points higher than a year ago, while the female youth unemployment rate was 2.5 percentage points higher than in July 2023. The unemployment rate for females aged 25 and over was 2.3 percentage point lower than a year ago, compared to a decrease of 0.8 percentage points for males aged 25 and over.

## Labour Market Outcomes of Visible Minorities in Atlantic Canada in July 2024<sup>3</sup>



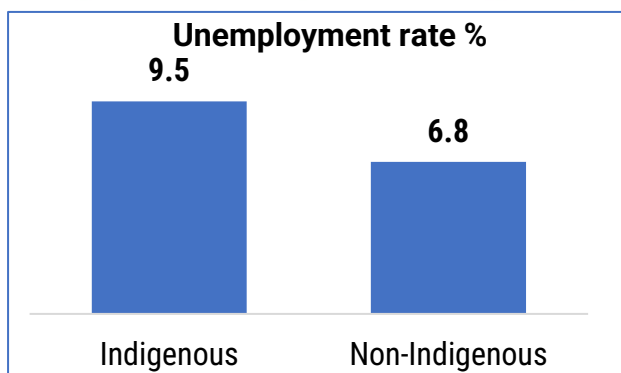
- The employment rate (number of employed for the entire population 15 and over) for visible minorities in Atlantic Canada was higher than for non-visible minorities (73.4% vs 56.6%) on average in the last three months ending in July 2024.
- Compared to June 2024 (3-month average from April to June 2024) the employment rate of visible minorities rose by 0.5 percentage points while the employment rate of people who are not visible minorities or Indigenous people also rose by 0.5 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>, Latin Americans and Blacks face the highest unemployment rates (12.5% and 12.1%, respectively), while 3.8% of Southeast Asians were unemployed in the last three months.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, Table: [14-10-0373-01](#); [14-10-0401-01](#), 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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- Indigenous people in Atlantic Canada have an unemployment rate that is well above the region overall (9.5% versus 6.8%), while they also face the lowest employment rate of any visible minority group (55.8%).

The next Labour Force Survey will be released on **September 06, 2024**, covering the August 2024 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