

Labour Market Information News

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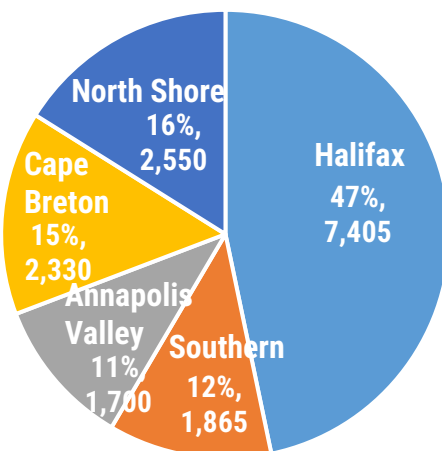
Job Vacancy and Wage Survey, 2nd Quarter 2025 Nova Scotia Highlights

In the second quarter of 2025, the number of job vacancies (15,850) in Nova Scotia rose by 24.5% compared to last quarter (12,735) and dropped by 6.6% compared to the same quarter last year (16,965).

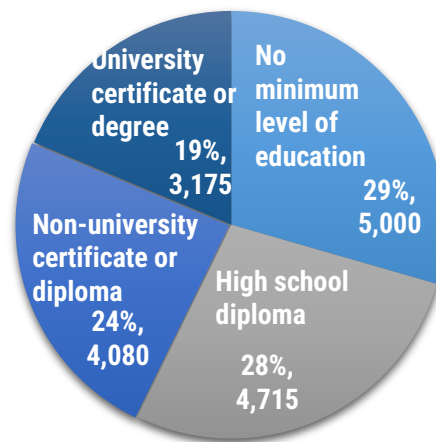
The job vacancy rate (3.6%) rose by 0.7 percentage points compared to last quarter and fell 0.2 percentage points compared to one year ago.

15,850 job vacancies in 2025 Q2

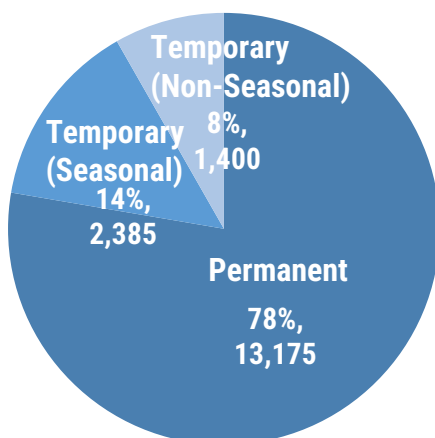
By Economic Region



By Education Requirement



By Job Type

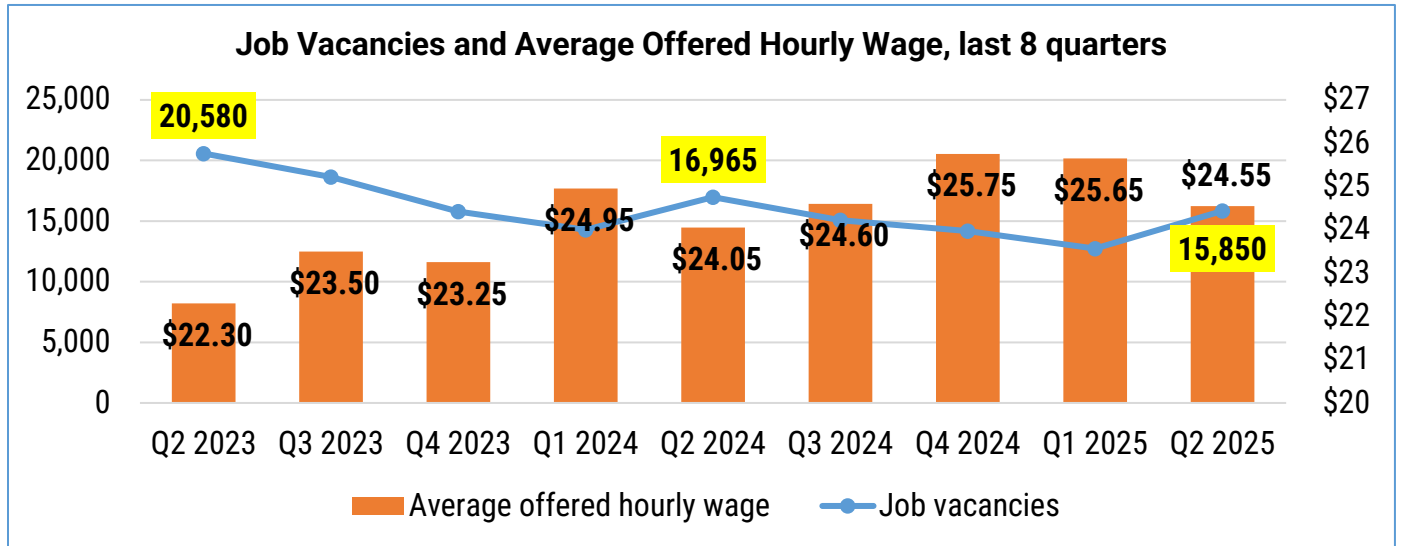


2025 Q2 Overview quarter-over-quarter comparison

- The number of **job vacancies** rose by 3,115 (+24.5%) to 15,850 in Q2 2025.
- The **offered hourly wage** in Q2 of 2025 in Nova Scotia fell by \$1.10/hr (-4.3%) to \$24.55 compared to Q1 2025.
- The **job vacancy rate*** rose by 0.7 percentage points to 3.6% from Q1 to Q2 2025.

Job Vacancy Trend

- The number of job vacancies rebounded in Q2 2025 after being on a downward trend since Q2 2023, with a slight uptick in Q2 2024. Compared to a year ago, vacancies have declined by 6.6% in Q2 2025.
- The average offered hourly wage dropped by 4.3% in Q2 2025 after remaining flat in Q1 2025. However, compared to a year ago, it was up by 2.1% from Q2 2024 to Q2 2025.

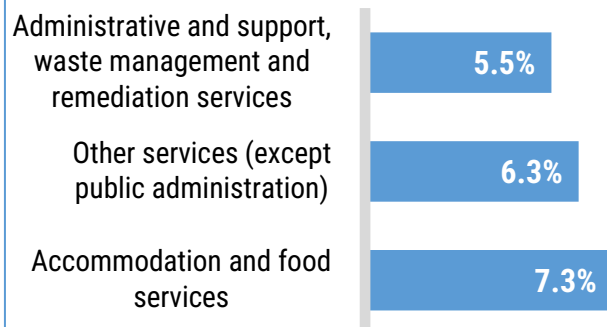


Job Vacancy & Wage Rate	Q2 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q/Q % change	Y/Y %change
Job vacancies	16,965	12,735	15,850	24.5%	-6.6%
Payroll employees	425,365	426,195	429,750	0.8%	1.0%
Job vacancy rate	3.8%	2.9%	3.6%	0.7 points	-0.2 points
Average offered hourly wage	\$24.05	\$25.65	\$24.55	-4.3%	2.1%

Industry Analysis

- In Q2 2025, the highest job vacancy rates were in “accommodation and food services” (7.3%), “other services, except public administration” (6.3%) & “administrative and support, waste management and remediation services” (5.5%). For comparison, the provincial average job vacancy rate was 3.6% in Q2 2025.

Top Industries with Highest Job Vacancy Rates -- Q2 2025



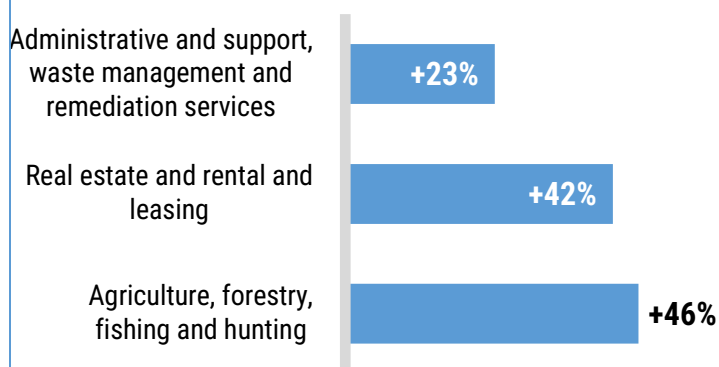
- Vacancy growth rate, year over year, varies across industries. “Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting” experienced the largest expansion at 46%, followed by “real estate and rental and leasing” (+42%) and “administrative and support, waste management and remediation services” (+23%).

Wages

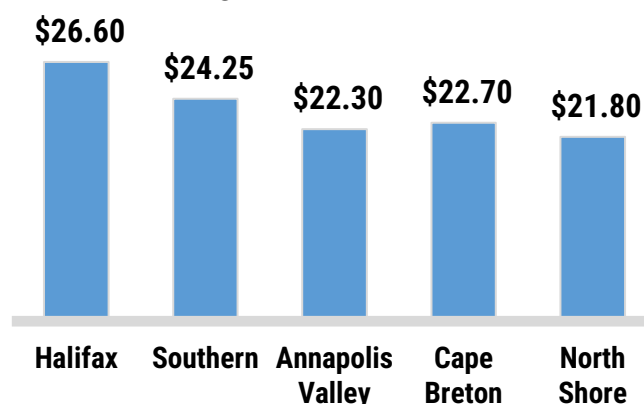
year-over-year comparison

- The average offered **hourly wage** is \$24.55, up \$0.50 (+2.1%) year-over-year (compared to the 2nd quarter of 2024).
- During Q2 of 2025, three of five economic regions posted higher offered wage for vacant positions compared to the previous year (Q2 2024), led by Southern (+4.3%), followed by Halifax (+4.1%), and Annapolis Valley (+2.3%). Average offered hourly wage in Cape Breton remained virtually the same while they declined in North Shore (-3.1%).
- The average offered hourly wage increases, on average, with the educational requirements of the offered position. Compared to Q2 of 2024, positions requiring some level of education offered higher wages in Q2 of 2025. This was led by “university below bachelor’s” (+6.4%), followed by “high school diploma” (+6.3%), “bachelor’s degree” (+4.5%), “non-university degree” (+3.7%), and “master’s and above” (+3.7%). In contrast, positions with no minimum education requirement offered lower wages (-1.1%).

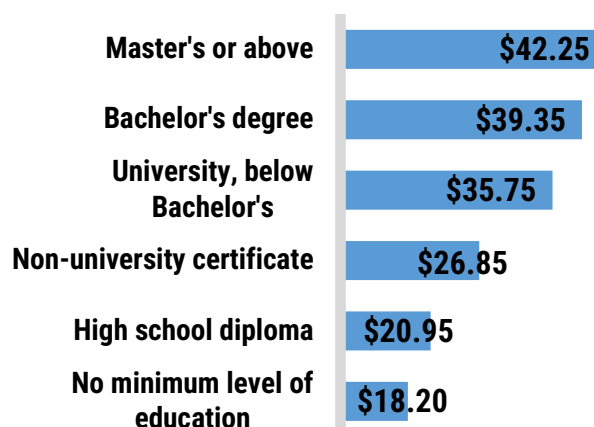
Top Industries with Year-over-Year Vacancy Growth -- Q2 2025



Average Offered Hourly Wage by Economic Region -- Q2 2025



Average Offered Hourly Wage by Educational Requirements -- Q2 2025



For more data, please visit the “Job Opportunities” Page in [LMI Dashboard | Labour market Information](#).

Sources: Statistics Canada, Job Vacancy & Wage Survey, Tables 14-10-0441-01, 14-10-0442-01 and 14-10-0443-01, unadjusted for seasonality.