



# Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

November 2021



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Ontario and its regions.

## SUMMARY

### Labour Force Trends – Employment increased in November 2021

- Employment increased by 68,100 (+0.9%) in Ontario in November 2021, with the majority of gains in full-time employment (+67,200; +1.1%).
- The unemployment rate declined to 6.4%, while the unemployment rate for Ontario's youth aged 15 to 24 increased to 11.4%.
- Employment in both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors made gains.

## LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Employment in Ontario increased for the sixth consecutive month in November 2021, slowly closing the gap to pre-pandemic employment levels.

- Employment gains in November (+68,100, +0.9%) were almost entirely concentrated in full-time work (+67,200; +1.1%).
- Gains were entirely within people in the core working age group of 25-54 (+63,800; +1.3%), offsetting losses amongst youth aged 15-24 (-11,600; -1.1%).
- In Canada, overall employment improved (+153,700; +0.8%). All the provinces made employment gains, led by Ontario and followed by Quebec (+45,500; +1.1%).

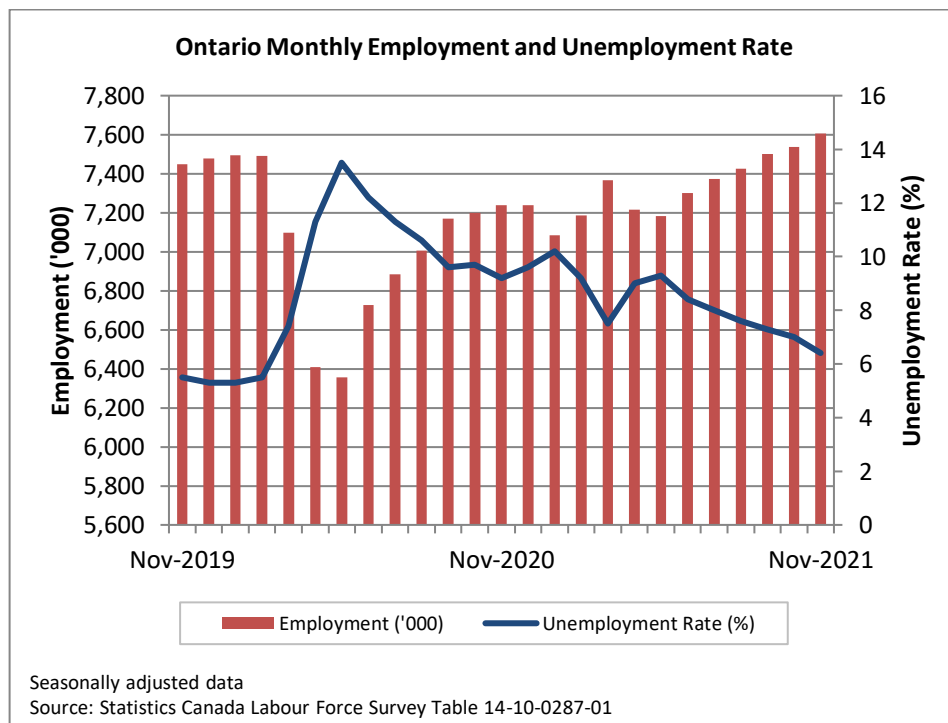
**Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics**

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	12,399.2	12,383.7	12,267.1	15.5	0.1	132.1	1.1
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	8,123.8	8,104.5	7,970.0	19.3	0.2	153.8	1.9
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	7,604.8	7,536.7	7,238.3	68.1	0.9	366.5	5.1
Full-Time ('000)	6,230.4	6,163.2	5,959.6	67.2	1.1	270.8	4.5
Part-Time ('000)	1,374.3	1,373.5	1,278.7	0.8	0.1	95.6	7.5
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	519.1	567.9	731.7	-48.8	-8.6	-212.6	-29.1
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	6.4	7.0	9.2	-0.6	-	-2.8	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	65.5	65.4	65.0	0.1	-	0.5	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	61.3	60.9	59.0	0.4	-	2.3	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

- In November, the unemployment rate fell 2.8 percentage points to 6.4%, largely due to a decline in the number of unemployed persons (-48,800).
- The overall labour force grew in size by 0.2% (+19,300).
- The participation rate grew slightly by 0.1 percentage points to 65.5%.
- For the past eight months, the unemployment rate in Ontario has been trending above the national unemployment rate, which currently sits at 6.0%.
- Employment in Ontario exceeded February 2020 (pre-pandemic levels) for the third consecutive month; however, unemployment remains higher than it was pre-pandemic.



## Ontario Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	6.4	7.0	9.2	-0.6	-2.8
<b>25 years and over</b>	5.6	6.5	7.3	-0.9	-1.7
Men - 25 years and over	5.4	6.4	6.8	-1.0	-1.4
Women - 25 years and over	5.7	6.6	7.9	-0.9	-2.2
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	11.4	9.9	19.9	1.5	-8.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	14.2	11.0	18.6	3.2	-4.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	8.5	8.9	21.3	-0.4	-12.8

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment rose in Ontario's **goods-producing sector** by 15,900 (+1.1%) in November 2021, with the largest gains in construction (+13,300; +2.5%), followed by manufacturing (+5,100; +0.7%) and the largest loss in utilities (-3,100; -0.8%).

**Construction**

- High transportation, raw materials, and fuel and energy costs are affecting this sector.
- The industry unemployment rate declined to just 3.1%, the third lowest rate in this industry in two years (3.0% in June 2021 and 2.7% in August 2021).

**Manufacturing**

- The Markit Canada Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which provides an indication of the overall health of the economy, fell slightly to 57.2 in November from 57.7 in October.<sup>1</sup>
- In Canada, production levels were high, driven by new orders and strong domestic and international demand, though transportation bottlenecks and materials shortages continue to affect the industry.

Employment in Ontario's **services-producing sector** rose by 52,300 (+0.9%) in November 2021, with the largest gains in healthcare and social assistance (+23,100; +2.5%) and trade (+20,400; +1.8%). The largest loss was in other services (-20,300; -7.4%), which includes establishments in motor vehicle maintenance and repair, provision of personal care services, laundry and funeral services, promotion of religious activities, and support of political or social causes.

**Health care and social assistance**

- Though the industry has faced labour shortage challenges recently, this sector made strong gains in November, posting an increase in employment for the first time since July.
- In early October, the provincial government announced funding for the hiring of over 4,000 long-term care staff,<sup>2</sup> supporting employment growth in this industry in November and over the next year.

## Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	November 2021	October 2021	November 2020	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Num- ber	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	7,604.8	7,536.7	7,238.3	68.1	0.9	366.5	5.1
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	1,480.3	1,464.4	1,476.3	15.9	1.1	4.0	0.3
Agriculture	68.5	67.6	71.4	0.9	1.3	-2.9	-4.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	37.3	37.6	39.1	-0.3	-0.8	-1.8	-4.6
Utilities	55.3	58.4	50.0	-3.1	-5.3	5.3	10.6
Construction	544.4	531.1	533.8	13.3	2.5	10.6	2.0
Manufacturing	774.9	769.8	781.8	5.1	0.7	-6.9	-0.9
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	6,124.5	6,072.2	5,762.0	52.3	0.9	362.5	6.3
Trade	1,141.8	1,121.8	1,073.4	20.0	1.8	68.4	6.4
Transportation and warehousing	382.1	376.7	341.7	5.4	1.4	40.4	11.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	637.0	625.1	626.8	11.9	1.9	10.2	1.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	768.8	758.5	688.8	10.3	1.4	80.0	11.6
Business, building and other support services	291.3	289.4	290.3	1.9	0.7	1.0	0.3
Educational services	553.0	556.3	528.8	-3.3	-0.6	24.2	4.6
Health care and social assistance	936.8	913.7	880.4	23.1	2.5	56.4	6.4
Information, culture and recreation	348.7	342.0	289.1	6.7	2.0	59.6	20.6
Accommodation and food services	392.7	402.9	359.5	-10.2	-2.5	33.2	9.2
Other services	254.6	274.9	303.8	-20.3	-7.4	-49.2	-16.2
Public administration	417.8	410.9	379.2	6.9	1.7	38.6	10.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Labour Force Survey data for economic regions are three-month non-seasonally adjusted moving averages; the November data therefore correspond to an average of September, October and November and comparisons are year-over-year.

In November 2021, nine of the eleven economic regions had a higher level of employment than November 2020 as the pandemic has subsided significantly since this time last year. However, compared to November 2019, before the pandemic, only five economic regions posted a higher level of employment: Kingston-Pembroke, Toronto, Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie, London, and Windsor-Sarnia.

All economic regions reported decreases in their unemployment rates compared to November 2020. However, when compared to November 2019, before the pandemic, only the Northeast economic region had a lower unemployment rate in November 2021.

## Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	November 2021 ('000)	November 2020 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	November 2021 (%)	November 2020 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Ontario</b>	7,552.6	7,216.9	4.7	6.4	8.8	-2.4
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Ottawa	721.1	709.9	1.6	4.6	6.7	-2.1
Kingston - Pembroke	224.1	206.1	8.7	5.5	6.3	-0.8
Muskoka - Kawarthas	160.6	185.2	-13.3	6.6	7.6	-1.0
Toronto	3,691.8	3,509.5	5.2	7.2	10.3	-3.1
Kitchener - Waterloo - Barrie	787.0	740.0	6.4	5.3	7.8	-2.5
Hamilton - Niagara Peninsula	764.2	729.2	4.8	6.1	7.2	-1.1
London	380.2	344.3	10.4	6.4	7.5	-1.1
Windsor - Sarnia	313.5	286.8	9.3	7.1	8.5	-1.4
Stratford - Bruce Peninsula	162.2	158.8	2.1	2.8	5.8	-3.0
Northeast	248.7	249.2	-0.2	5.2	6.9	-1.7
Northwest	99.3	97.9	1.4	5.2	6.3	-1.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0387, formerly CANSIM 282-0122

Notable changes between November 2020 and November 2021 include:

- Unemployment declined by 28.7% (-115,900) in the **Toronto** economic region as full-time employment made strong gains (+163,000; +5.6%).
- The labour force in the **Muskoka-Kawarthas** economic region declined by 14.2% (-28,400). This is reflected in a decline in the participation rate from 57.7% to 49.1%.
- Employment in the **London** economic region increased by 10.4% (+35,900) as part-time employment increased by 25.0% (+15,700).

**Note:** In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

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**For information on the Labour Force Survey,** please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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<sup>1</sup> Patel, S. (2021, December 1). IHS Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI. IHS Markit. Retrieved from <https://www.markiteconomics.com/Public/Home/PressRelease/1742b89d9add40c89d2f32810ec8eb6a>

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<sup>2</sup> Ferguson, R. (2021, October 6). Ontario nursing homes get \$270M to hire 4,000 workers. *The Toronto Star*. Retrieved from <https://www.thestar.com/politics/provincial/2021/10/06/ontario-nursing-homes-get-270m-to-hire-4000-workers.html>