



# Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

August 2022



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

## SUMMARY

- Employment decreased in Ontario by **19,200** (-0.2%) in August 2022, with the majority of losses concentrated in part-time employment (-17,900).
- The unemployment rate increased for the second consecutive month to **5.7%** (+0.4).
- The labour force in Ontario more than made up for last month's decline as it grew by **18,500** (+0.2%) workers.

## LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Employment decreased for the third consecutive month in August 2022, while managing to remain 3.4% above August 2021 levels.

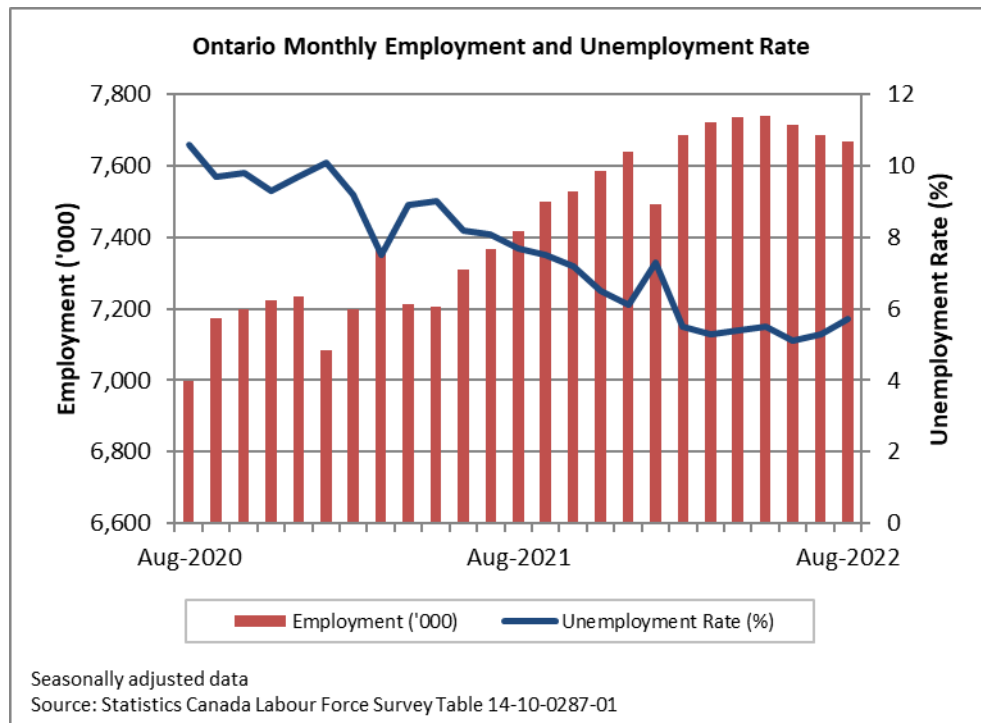
- While older workers aged 55 and above recorded an increase in employment for the month of August (+2,100; +0.1%), job losses among the core working age group of 25-54 years (-13,300; -0.3%) and youth aged 15-24 years (-8,000 ; -1.0%) were significantly higher.
- Gains in full-time employment among women (+1,700; +0.1%) were more than offset by full-time job losses among men (-2,900; -0.1%) in Ontario.
- In Canada, overall employment decreased (-39,700; -0.2%). Quebec recorded healthy gains in employment, while British Columbia and Ontario accounted for the highest job losses among all provinces.

**Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics**

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15+ ('000)</b>	12,535.1	12,519.3	12,354.7	15.8	0.1	180.4	1.5
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	8,132.5	8,114.0	8,038.4	18.5	0.2	94.1	1.2
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	7,667.8	7,687.0	7,416.2	-19.2	-0.2	251.6	3.4
Full-Time ('000)	6,306.1	6,307.4	6,018.5	-1.3	0.0	287.6	4.8
Part-Time ('000)	1,361.7	1,379.6	1,397.7	-17.9	-1.3	-36.0	-2.6
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	464.7	426.9	622.2	37.8	8.9	-157.5	-25.3
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.7	5.3	7.7	0.4	-	-2.0	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.9	64.8	65.1	0.1	-	-0.2	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	61.2	61.4	60.0	-0.2	-	1.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - Table 14-10-0287



### Ontario Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.7	5.3	7.7	0.4	-2.0
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.8	4.4	6.6	0.4	-1.8
Men - 25 years and over	4.5	3.9	6.9	0.6	-2.4
Women - 25 years and over	5.1	4.9	6.3	0.2	-1.2
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	11.4	10.7	14.5	0.7	-3.1
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.5	11.5	15.6	1.0	-3.1
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.3	10.0	13.4	0.3	-3.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - Table 14-10-0287

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

The Ontario **goods-producing sector** workforce shrank by 6,200 (-0.4%) in August. Employment decreased in construction (-9,600, -1.6%), agriculture (-2,000, -2.8%), and forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (-200, -0.5%). Employment remained relatively stable in manufacturing (+600, +0.1%) and posted strong gains in utilities (5,100, +8.7%).

### Construction

- Employment in Ontario's construction sector decreased by 9,600 jobs (-1.6%) in August.
- Five consecutive policy interest rate hikes from Bank of Canada have caused the housing market in Ontario to cool down as borrowers lose affordability, causing home sales to slide compared to the previous year.<sup>1</sup>
- New home construction in Ontario is expected to remain tepid as the value of residential permits issued in Ontario dropped by 23.1% in July.<sup>2</sup>

Employment in Ontario's **services-producing sector** decreased by 13,100 (-0.2%) in August 2022, with the largest losses in educational services (-19,300; -3.4%), information, culture and recreation (-11,700; -3.5%), and accommodation and food services (-5,600, -1.4%). Employment increases occurred in wholesale and retail trade (+8,600, +0.8%), other services (except public administration) (+7,300; +3.0%), and health care and social assistance (+4,900; +0.5%).

### Educational services

- Employment in the educational services sector contracted for the third consecutive month in August 2022, decreasing by 19,300 (-3.4%).
- August marked the expiration of the \$516.7M in temporary funding to schools from the Government of Ontario, provided through the Supports for Students Fund (SSF) and the COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund for staffing additional education workers to address COVID-19 needs.<sup>3</sup>
- The collective agreement for all teacher unions in the province also expired in August.<sup>4</sup>

### Information, culture and recreation

- The information, culture and recreation sector in Ontario recorded a notable decline in employment (-11,700) in the month of August, amid a wave of layoffs in the technology sector.

- However, employment recovery remains likely as other sector firms, such as Royal Bank of Canada, are continuing to hire for technology roles.<sup>5</sup> Some technology firms, such as Ottawa-based Kinaxis<sup>6</sup> and Lytica<sup>7</sup> are also planning to expand their workforce.
- Jobs in this sector are supported by the return of concerts, festivals, and entertainment events, and resumption of regular in-person programming. Toronto's Canadian National Exhibition created over 5,000 jobs in the region this summer,<sup>8</sup> and Canada's Wonderland is hiring for hundreds of positions for its Halloween Haunt event in Toronto.<sup>9</sup>

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2022	July 2022	August 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	7,667.8	7,687.0	7,416.2	-19.2	-0.2	251.6	3.4
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	1,541.5	1,547.7	1,457.7	-6.2	-0.4	83.8	5.7
Agriculture	70.6	72.6	70.2	-2.0	-2.8	0.4	0.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	42.8	43.0	34.9	-0.2	-0.5	7.9	22.6
Utilities	63.8	58.7	53.4	5.1	8.7	10.4	19.5
Construction	581.4	591.0	533.1	-9.6	-1.6	48.3	9.1
Manufacturing	783.0	782.4	766.1	0.6	0.1	16.9	2.2
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	6,126.3	6,139.4	5,958.5	-13.1	-0.2	167.8	2.8
Trade	1,115.1	1,106.5	1,080.2	8.6	0.8	34.9	3.2
Transportation and warehousing	382.3	387.5	371.5	-5.2	-1.3	10.8	2.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	671.7	667.3	598.7	4.4	0.7	73.0	12.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	801.7	801.3	752.9	0.4	0.0	48.8	6.5
Business, building and other support services	291.3	290.1	292.8	1.2	0.4	-1.5	-0.5
Educational services	546.7	566.0	559.9	-19.3	-3.4	-13.2	-2.4
Health care and social assistance	921.3	916.4	916.4	4.9	0.5	4.9	0.5
Information, culture and recreation	318.5	330.2	299.9	-11.7	-3.5	18.6	6.2
Accommodation and food services	385.2	390.8	412.8	-5.6	-1.4	-27.6	-6.7
Other services	254.7	247.4	265.9	7.3	3.0	-11.2	-4.2
Public administration	437.8	435.8	407.6	2.0	0.5	30.2	7.4

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - Table 14-10-0355

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In August 2022, all but one economic region in Ontario, Northwest, reported a year-over-year increase in employment compared to August 2021. Compared to pre-pandemic employment levels, all 11 economic regions had higher levels of employment in August 2022.

The unemployment rate declined in all economic regions in Ontario compared to August 2021. In August 2022, the unemployment rate was lower for all but two economic regions, Toronto and London, as compared to August 2019. Compared to March 2020, all economic regions except Toronto and London had lower unemployment rates in August 2022.

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2022 ('000)	August 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2022 (%)	August 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Ontario</b>	7,784.5	7,458.5	4.4	5.8	8.6	-2.8
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Ottawa	772.6	755.2	2.3	4.6	7.0	-2.4
Kingston-Pembroke	234.9	219.4	7.1	4.7	7.2	-2.5
Muskoka-Kawarthas	189.5	174.7	8.5	4.4	8.5	-4.1
Toronto	3,763.7	3,592.0	4.8	6.5	9.8	-3.3
Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie	816.9	777.9	5.0	5.2	6.6	-1.4
Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula	785.9	753.5	4.3	5.1	8.3	-3.2
London	386.2	374.0	3.3	6.6	7.8	-1.2
Windsor-Sarnia	304.1	303.1	0.3	6.7	9.5	-2.8
Stratford-Bruce Peninsula	169.1	161.0	5.0	3.8	3.9	-0.1
Northeast	260.5	246.7	5.6	4.2	7.1	-2.9
Northwest	101.0	101.1	-0.1	4.5	6.7	-2.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - Table 14-10-0387

Notable changes between August 2021 and August 2022 include:

- Employment increased by 4.8% (+171,700) in the **Toronto** economic region, as full-time employment increased by 5.5% (+167,000) and part-time employment increased by 0.8% (+4,700).
- Employment in the **Muskoka-Kawarthas** economic region had the largest increase by 8.5% (+14,800), bumping up the employment rate from 50.0% to 53.6%.
- Employment in the **Kingston-Pembroke** economic region had the second largest increase by 7.1% (+15,500), as full-time employment increased by 7.6% (+13,400) and part-time employment increased by 5.1% (+2,200).
- Employment in the **Northwest** region saw a slight decrease by 0.1% (-100). It is notable that the participation rate also decreased by 1.8 percentage points to 60.7%.

**Prepared by:** Labour Market Information (LMI) Directorate, Service Canada, Ontario

**For further information,** please contact the LMI team at: [NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdcc.gc.ca](mailto:NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdcc.gc.ca)

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

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/core-functions/monetary-policy/key-interest-rate/>

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada. (2022, September 1). The Daily - Building Permits, July 2022. Retrieved from <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220901/dq220901a-eng.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Education. (2022, February 17). 2022 – 23 Grants for Student Needs Funding. Retrieved from [https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos/B2022/B03\\_EN.pdf](https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos/B2022/B03_EN.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Rushowy, K. (2022, August 31). 'People need to be patient': Education contracts set to expire across Ontario. thestar.com. <https://www.thestar.com/politics/provincial/2022/08/30/people-need-to-be-patient-education-contracts-set-to-expire-across-ontario.html>

<sup>5</sup> The Canadian Press Staff. (2022, July 10). Canadian tech talent still in demand, despite layoffs and recession predictions. CityNews. <https://toronto.citynews.ca/2022/07/10/canadian-tech-talent-jobs/>

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<sup>6</sup> Sali, D. (2022, August 10). Kinaxis to keep hiring ‘aggressively’ as revenues soar amid ongoing supply-chain disruptions. Ottawa Business Journal. Retrieved from <https://www.obj.ca/article/techopia/kinaxis-keep-hiring-aggressively-revenues-soar-amid-ongoing-supply-chain>

<sup>7</sup> Sali, D. (2022, September 1). 'Well set up to win': Lytica raises \$13M as it chases global customers for pricing intelligence software. Ottawa Business Journal. Retrieved from <https://www.obj.ca/index.php/article/techopia/well-set-win-lytica-raises-13m-it-chases-global-customers-pricing-intelligence>

<sup>8</sup> CBC News Staff. (2022, August 5). Hiring for CNE is underway as officials prepare for 'huge crowds' in 1st year back since 2019. CBC News. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/cne-hiring-fair-midway-huge-crowds-1.6542024>

<sup>9</sup> Arsenych, A. (2022, August 26). Canada's Wonderland Is Hiring For Halloween Haunt & You Really Can Get Paid To Be Scary AF. Retrieved from <https://www.narcity.com/toronto/canadas-wonderland-hiring-halloween-haunt-can-get-paid-to-be-scary-af>