



# Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

September 2022



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 decreased in September 2022

- Employment decreased by 31,500 (-0.4%) in Ontario in September 2022, with all losses occurring in part-time employment (-35,000, -2.6%).
- The unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 5.8%.
- Employment in both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors experienced losses, with the majority concentrated in manufacturing.

## LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Employment in Ontario decreased for the fourth consecutive month in September 2022, while still remaining 1.8% above September 2021 levels.

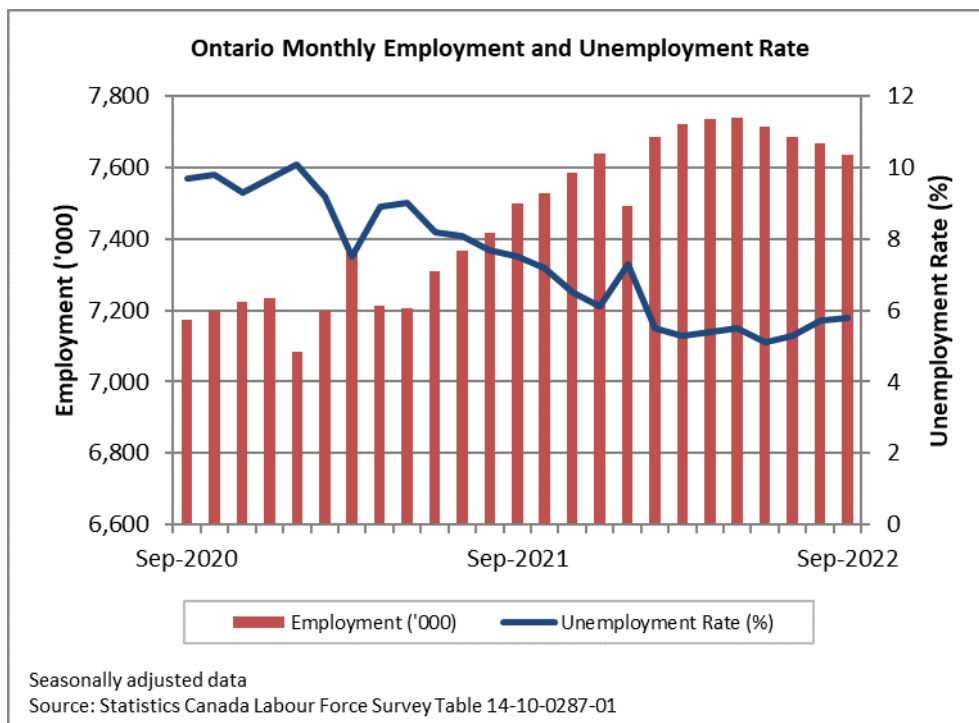
- Employment declines in September (-31,500; -0.4%) were attributed to part-time work (-35,000; -2.6%).
- Greatest share of losses were among people in the youth age group of 15-24 (-14,600; -1.4%).
- In Canada, overall employment increased (+21,000; +0.1%), with the largest gains in British Columbia (+32,900; +1.3%) and Alberta (+10,800; +0.5%). Ontario and Prince Edward Island (-3,800; -3.8%) accounted for the largest losses.

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	September 2022	August 2022	September 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15+ ('000)</b>	12,549.6	12,535.1	12,367.8	14.5	0.1	181.8	1.5
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	8,102.6	8,132.5	8,108.5	-29.9	-0.4	-5.9	-0.1
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	7,636.3	7,667.8	7,499.7	-31.5	-0.4	136.6	1.8
Full-Time ('000)	6,309.6	6,306.1	6,161.4	3.5	0.1	148.2	2.4
Part-Time ('000)	1,326.7	1,361.7	1,338.4	-35.0	-2.6	-11.7	-0.9
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	466.3	464.7	608.7	1.6	0.3	-142.4	-23.4
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	5.8	5.7	7.5	0.1	-	-1.7	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	64.6	64.9	65.6	-0.3	-	-1.0	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	60.8	61.2	60.6	-0.4	-	0.2	-

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	September 2022	August 2022	September 2021	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	5.8	5.7	7.5	0.1	-1.7
<b>25 years and over</b>	4.8	4.8	6.7	0.0	-1.9
Men - 25 years and over	4.6	4.5	6.7	0.1	-2.1
Women - 25 years and over	5.1	5.1	6.6	0.0	-1.5
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	11.5	11.4	12.4	0.1	-0.9
Men - 15 to 24 years	12.1	12.5	15.1	-0.4	-3.0
Women - 15 to 24 years	10.9	10.3	9.7	0.6	1.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment decreased in Ontario's **goods-producing sector** by 21,900 (-1.4%) in September 2022, with the largest losses in manufacturing (-19,100; -2.4%), followed by construction (-2,200; -2.2%), and forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (-400; -0.9%).

**Manufacturing**

- The Markit Canada Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which provides an indication of the overall health of the economy, rose to 49.8 in September, a slight increase from 48.7 in August 2022.<sup>1</sup>
- Output levels and new orders fell as interest rate hikes take effect and client uncertainty grows, leading to a third monthly build-up of finished items held at manufacturing firms. The sector also continues to experience material shortages and delivery delays.
- Manufacturers, however, remain cautiously optimistic about their output expectations for the year ahead. Overall, the growth of input prices for manufacturers has also slowed to the lowest rate in nearly two years, leading to lower prices for clients.

**Construction**

- Employment in the construction sector decreased by 2,200 (-2.2%) jobs in September, a smaller decline compared to the month prior.
- The Bank of Canada issued a fifth consecutive interest hike on September 7<sup>th</sup>, further cooling the housing market in Ontario.<sup>2</sup>
- However, non-residential projects are supporting employment in the sector. Construction activities related to future electric vehicle and battery production in Ontario has begun, with a cobalt sulfate refinery in Northern Ontario, and preparatory work for a \$5B EV battery plant in Windsor.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the value of building permits issued in Ontario increased 44.4% in August.<sup>4</sup>

Employment in Ontario's **services-producing sector** decreased by 9,600 (-0.2%) in September 2022, with the largest losses in professional, scientific and technical services (-18,500; -2.31%), wholesale and retail trade (-

11,600; -1.04%), and transportation and warehousing (-4,900; -1.3%). Employment gains occurred in educational services (+16,700; +3.05%) and business, building and other support services (+11,700; +4.0%).

### Educational services

- Employment in the educational services sector increased by 16,700 jobs in September 2022, following three consecutive months of decline.
- Gains are supported by the return of students to schools and in-person learning.
- Collective agreements for all five major education unions in the province expired at the end of August. Unions are currently engaged in bargaining discussions with the Ontario Government.<sup>5</sup>

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	September 2022	August 2022	September 2021	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	7,636.3	7,667.8	7,499.7	-31.5	-0.4	136.6	1.8
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	1,519.6	1,541.5	1,454.0	-21.9	-1.4	65.6	4.5
Agriculture	70.7	70.6	64.7	0.1	0.1	6.0	9.3
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	42.4	42.8	36.1	-0.4	-0.9	6.3	17.5
Utilities	63.5	63.8	52.7	-0.3	-0.5	10.8	20.5
Construction	579.2	581.4	535.7	-2.2	-0.4	43.5	8.1
Manufacturing	763.9	783.0	764.8	-19.1	-2.4	-0.9	-0.1
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	6,116.7	6,126.3	6,045.7	-9.6	-0.2	71.0	1.2
Trade	1,103.5	1,115.1	1,075.6	-11.6	-1.0	27.9	2.6
Transportation and warehousing	377.4	382.3	379.0	-4.9	-1.3	-1.6	-0.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	670.0	671.7	622.5	-1.7	-0.3	47.5	7.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	783.2	801.7	771.3	-18.5	-2.3	11.9	1.5
Business, building and other support services	303.0	291.3	298.0	11.7	4.0	5.0	1.7
Educational services	563.4	546.7	562.7	16.7	3.1	0.7	0.1
Health care and social assistance	921.4	921.3	929.0	0.1	0.0	-7.6	-0.8
Information, culture and recreation	317.6	318.5	327.5	-0.9	-0.3	-9.9	-3.0
Accommodation and food services	385.7	385.2	399.1	0.5	0.1	-13.4	-3.4
Other services	256.1	254.7	258.7	1.4	0.5	-2.6	-1.0
Public administration	435.4	437.8	422.4	-2.4	-0.5	13.0	3.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In September 2022, all but two economic regions in Ontario, Windsor-Sarnia and Northwest, reported a year-over-year increase in employment compared to September 2021. Compared to September 2020, all 11 economic regions – except Northeast, Ontario – had higher levels of employment in September 2022.

The unemployment rate declined in all economic regions when compared to September 2021. Similarly, compared to September 2019, all but two economic regions – Toronto and Windsor-Sarnia – had lower unemployment rates in September 2022.

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

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	September 2022 ('000)	September 2021 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	September 2022 (%)	September 2021 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Ontario</b>	7,717.4	7,485.0	3.1	5.8	8.1	-2.3
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Ottawa	773.4	738.3	4.8	4.6	6.3	-1.7
Kingston-Pembroke	229.6	222.6	3.1	5.1	6.9	-1.8
Muskoka-Kawarthas	192.9	163.9	17.7	4.0	9.0	-5.0
Toronto	3,712.2	3,633.2	2.2	6.5	9.3	-2.8
Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie	816.5	778.6	4.9	5.6	6.4	-0.8
Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula	782.4	763.6	2.5	5.3	7.4	-2.1
London	385.8	371.1	4.0	6.3	7.8	-1.5
Windsor-Sarnia	303.7	304.5	-0.3	7.2	9.1	-1.9
Stratford-Bruce Peninsula	167.0	162.2	3.0	2.7	3.6	-0.9
Northeast	253.2	246.4	2.8	4.5	7.0	-2.5
Northwest	100.6	100.6	0.0	4.7	6.1	-1.4

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

Notable changes between September 2021 and September 2022 include:

- Employment increased by 2.2% (+79,000) in the **Toronto** economic region, as full-time employment increased by 2.9% (+87,300) and part-time employment decreased by 1.4% (-8,200). However, in the same time period, the labour force decreased by 0.9% (-34,800) and participation rate fell by 1.6%, from 68.6% to 67.0%.
- Employment increased by 17.7% (+29,000) in the **Muskoka-Kawarthas** economic region, as full-time employment increased by 22.3% (+28,500) and part-time employment increased by 1.4% (+500). The labour force in the economic region also increased by 11.7% (+21,000), bumping up the participation rate from 51.5% to 56.8%.
- Employment in the **Windsor-Sarnia** economic region fell by 0.3% (-800), as full-time employment decreased by 0.2% (-600) and part-time employment decreased by 0.3% (-200).

**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. (2022, October 3). IHS Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI. *IHS Markit*. Retrieved from [5e0cbc6f56ce4ffe8f4dc98642db2667. \(spglobal.com\)](https://www.spglobal.com)

<sup>2</sup> Bank of Canada. (2022, September). Policy Interest Rate. *Bank of Canada*. Retrieved from [Policy interest rate - Bank of Canada](https://www.bankofcanada.ca/policy-interest-rate/)

<sup>3</sup> CBC News. (2022, September 2). Windsor's EV battery plant needs a million tonnes of gravel. Here's how it will get here. Retrieved from [Windsor's EV battery plant needs a million tonnes of gravel. Here's how it will get here | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/canada/windsor-ev-battery-plant-gravel-1.6611111)

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada. (2022, October 5). Building Permits, August 2022. Retrieved from [The Daily — Building permits, August 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/28-263-x/202209/00001-eng.htm)

<sup>5</sup> Jones, A. (2022, October 3). Ontario CUPE education workers vote 96.5% in favour of strike mandate. *The Canadian Press* Retrieved from [Ontario CUPE education workers vote 96.5% in favour of strike mandate | CBC News](https://www.cbc.com/news/canada/ontario-cupe-education-workers-vote-1.6611111)