

Labour Market Data (Seasonally Adjusted)

NOVA SCOTIA (December 2012)

Labour Force ('000): 495.8
(November '12 = 498.4)

Employment ('000): 449.8
(November '12 = 454.8)

Full Time: 363.2
(November '12 = 366.0)

Part Time: 86.5
(November '12 = 88.5)

Unemployment ('000): 46.1
(November '12 = 43.7)

Unemployment Rate: 9.3%
(November '12 = 8.8%)

Participation Rate: 63.5%
(November '12 = 63.8%)

ALL PROVINCES (December 2012)

	EMP. ('000)	UNEMP. RATE
NL:	235.7	11.5%
PE:	74.4	11.0%
NS:	449.8	9.3%
NB:	347.8	10.8%
PQ:	4,044.0	7.3%
ON:	6,853.8	7.9%
MB:	638.4	5.2%
SK:	544.4	4.6%
AB:	2,165.0	4.5%
BC:	2,313.3	6.5%
CAN:	17,666.6	7.1%

The NOVA SCOTIA
LABOUR MARKET BRIEF
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Employment weakens in December

The labour market deteriorated noticeably in Nova Scotia in December. The provincial labour force fell for the second consecutive month, and has declined significantly from the historic peak of 506,000 in August of this year. The labour force has declined noticeably for Youth aged 15-24, whose labour force has dropped by almost 5 percent since August compared to a drop of well under 2 percent for those aged 25+.

Employment in the province fell sharply this month, continuing a decline evident since October. The decrease in employment this month was split between full-time and part-time work. Part-time employment has declined fairly steadily since peaking in July, while full-time has not grown in the province over the same time period.

With employment in the province decreasing by a greater rate than the labour force, both the level of unemployment and the unemployment rate rose this month. However, both of these indicators are still well below the recent peaks experienced in August of this year.

Seasonal employment higher in the east

Employment that is non-permanent in nature tends to be more prevalent in eastern Canada. One aspect of this is seasonal employment, which is much higher in Atlantic Canada than for the remainder of the country. As an example, one in 10 employees in Prince Edward Island is seasonally employed, compared to just over 2 percent in Alberta.

Nova Scotia has the lowest percentage of seasonal workers in the Atlantic region, with roughly 22,000 seasonal employees on average in the province.

Seasonal employment high for youth, older workers

The proportion of employees who are seasonal varies by age in Nova Scotia. Employment for youth (aged 15-24) has a high degree of seasonality, which is not surprising given many in this group are students with summer jobs.

Interestingly, a relatively high share of senior workers aged 65+ are in seasonal jobs, primarily in Trade. The number of senior workers overall is small, but is rising relatively quickly in the region.

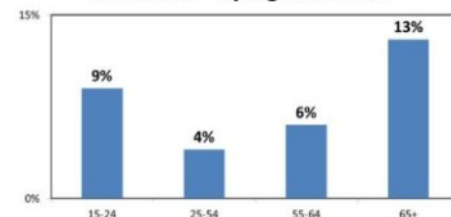
Seasonal employment high for construction

Not surprisingly, the industry with the highest number of seasonal workers in 2012 on average was Construction. The second largest number was in Information, Culture and Recreation industries, which reflects the seasonal recreational and cultural sectors (i.e. museums) in the group.

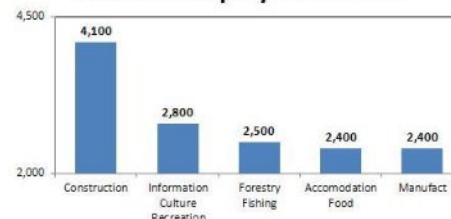
% of employees that are Seasonal
By Province – 2012 Annual Average



Share of Employees who are
Seasonal – by Age NS 2012



Top 5 Industries with
Seasonal Employees NS 2012

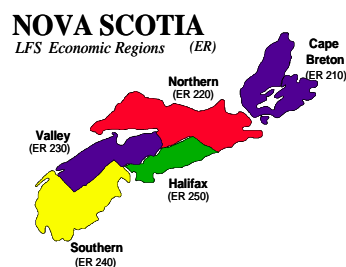
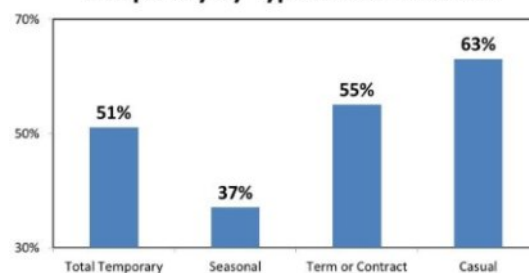


Females under represented in seasonal employment, over represented in casual employment

Seasonal employment is one component of temporary work. Other types of temporary work are term or contract work and casual employment.

Females make up about 50 percent of employment in the province overall, and make up roughly 50 percent of temporary workers. However, females are under-represented in seasonal employment, accounting for only 37 percent of seasonal workers. Females are over-represented in casual employment, accounting for almost two thirds of casual workers. Almost one third of female casual workers are employed in Health care, while a significant number also work in Trade, Education and Accommodation & Food Services.

Share of Female Employees who are Temporary by Type of Job - NS 2012



Economic Region Data

Three month Moving Averages (December 2011 and December 2012)

Economic Region	Cape Breton		Northern		Valley		Southern		Halifax	
Year	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011
Labour Force (000)	59.9	62.8	79.4	77.0	61.6	58.2	57.0	58.5	238.4	236.4
Employed (000)	50.7	52.8	70.4	69.3	57.0	54.2	50.0	52.8	225.4	225.3
Full Time	41.6	43.6	56.5	55.6	46.4	43.5	37.6	40.9	180.7	181.6
Part Time	9.0	9.2	13.9	13.7	10.5	10.7	12.3	11.9	44.8	43.8
Unemployed (000)	9.3	10.0	9.0	7.7	4.7	4.0	7.0	5.8	12.9	11.0
Participation Rate (%)	54.2	56.3	61.6	59.4	61.9	58.4	58.9	59.8	69.1	69.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	15.5	15.9	11.3	10.0	7.6	6.9	12.3	9.9	5.4	4.7

Source: Statistics Canada LFS

Regional Breakout:

The **Cape Breton** labour market continued to remain weak as 2012 ended. The labour force in the region has declined significantly comparing December with the same month last year. Employment is also down in the region on a year over year basis, with the declines being primarily in full-time work. With a large decrease in the region's labour force, the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate fell this month compared to the same month last year.

The labour market gained ground in **Northern Nova Scotia** in December compared to the same period last year. The region's labour force has increased noticeably on a year over year basis. Employment is up as well in the area, with the increase being primarily in full-time work. Since the expansion of the labour force was greater than the increase in the number of jobs, the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate increased in the area.

The labour market in the **Valley** area has strengthened in the latter months of 2012, with the labour force recovering significantly from a weak performance in the same period last year. Employment has also rebounded in the Valley region, with the increase on a year over year basis being entirely in full-time work. With the recovery in the labour force being stronger than the growth in jobs, the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate rose marginally in the area.

The labour market remained weak in the **Southern** region of the province as the year ended, with a relatively large decrease in employment on a year over year basis. The decrease in jobs from last December to this month was in full-time work. The labour force in the region also shrank on a year over year basis, and the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate rose noticeably this month compared to the same period last year.

The labour market in **Halifax** did not change dramatically comparing December 2012 and 2011. The labour force in the region expanded over the two periods, but the rate of growth was minimal. Employment remained stable over the same period, with a small decrease in full-time employment being offset by a similar rise in part-time work. With an increase in the labour force and stagnant employment, both the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate rose in the region on a year over year basis.

Comments/Questions?

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