

CANADA

Employment stumbles in Canada in December

HIGHLIGHTS

- The labour market only saw a very slight decrease in jobs (-4,300) in Canada last month.
- There was only a small decrease in the labour force (-11,200), keeping the unemployment rate steady at 6.6%.
- After a large gain in November (+19,600), Quebec posted 6,700 lost jobs in December.
- Yet, from November to December, the unemployment rate slipped to 7.5% from 7.6%. The 14,500-person drop in the labour force surpassed the decrease in jobs.
- In Ontario, employment was fairly unchanged (-3,500), following a 33,900 reduction the previous month.
- The unemployment rate is marking time at 7.0%.

COMMENTS

December has turned out to be a gloomy month for employment in Canada. All indicators stayed at practically the same level. We would have expected more movement given the strength of our U.S. neighbours' job market and economy over recent months. However, it is not unusual to see some lag between Canada and the United States. Besides the accommodation and food services sector, which lost 32,800 jobs in December, we also note a pullback in the manufacturing sector (-18,300).

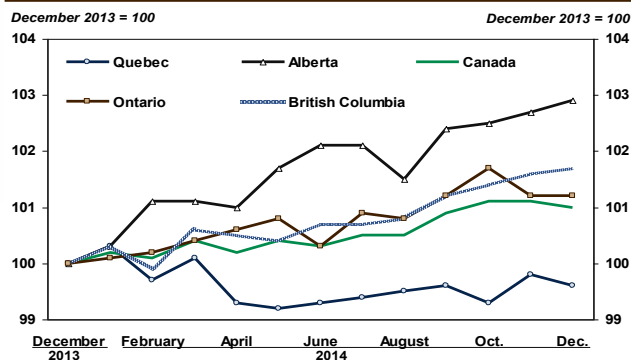
In Quebec, there was a drop in employment in December, particularly in finance, insurance and real estate (-12,200) and accommodation and food services (-8,100). For the same month, Ontario saw greater pullbacks in accommodation and food services (-19,900), other services (-12,700) and manufacturing (-12,400).

Change in employment

	Last 3 months of 2014	12 months of 2014
Canada	-4,300	185,700
Quebec	-6,700	-15,800
Ontario	-3,500	79,900

Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

Alberta has enjoyed the strongest job growth in the last year



December figures help us put together an initial picture for the year (see table). In fact, the data will be revised by Statistics Canada within a month. In light of the numbers released today, the third quarter closes without any gains for Quebec or Ontario. In Canada, the balance is positive (+28,100). For the period between December 2013 and December 2014, Canada and Ontario conclude the year with gains, while, for the moment, Quebec lost 15,800 jobs. Among the provincial frontrunners, Alberta continues to lead in job growth in 2014 (see graph). Despite the anticipated statistical revisions, this ranking will likely not change.

Implications: 2014 closes on a soft note in Canada. However, 2015 is looking positive, with an improved economic outlook for the United States and Canada; this will surely help improve exports. In addition, the value of the loonie will promote trade with the United States. However, the drop in oil prices could limit the expected gains, particularly in western Canada. These new circumstances will also upset the balance of power among the provinces and the picture of the labour market for the coming year. Central Canada could make some gains.

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Variation by sector - December 2014						
	GAINING Sectors	Balance		LOSING Sectors	Balance	
		1 month	1 year		1 month	1 year
CANADA	Agriculture	14,700	20,500	Accommodation and food services	-32,800	38,300
	Public administration	14,200	25,800	Manufacturing	-18,300	-11,500
	Construction	12,600	68,700	Others services	-13,500	-19,700
	Transportation and warehousing	11,500	15,000	Prof. and scient. services	-13,200	-34,800
QUEBEC	Construction	9,800	23,300	Fin., insurance and real estate	-12,200	-25,400
	Bus., build. and other supp. serv.	7,000	11,300	Accommodation and food services	-8,100	19,700
	Public administration	6,100	32,800	Trade	-5,600	3,400
	Agriculture	5,300	3,800	Others services	-4,300	-13,200
ONTARIO	Trade	30,200	16,600	Accommodation and food services	-19,900	17,200
	Public administration	10,700	-7,400	Others services	-12,700	-30,100
	Agriculture	8,100	14,100	Manufacturing	-12,400	3,300
	Others primaries	7,500	9,700	Bus., build. and other supp. serv.	-10,000	-11,100

Source: LFS, Statistics Canada

Labour Market							
December 2014	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	JOB CREATION in numbers					
		December 2014	Last month	Last 3 months	Since december	Last year	Last year in %
Seasonally adjusted data							
TOTAL JOBS	Canada	17,953,600	-4,300	28,100	185,700	185,700	1.0%
	Quebec	4,029,700	-6,700	-1,300	-15,800	-15,800	-0.4%
	Ontario	6,956,700	-3,500	-400	79,900	79,900	1.2%
PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES	Canada	3,656,300	5,500	-25,700	34,000	34,000	0.9%
	Quebec	887,100	-12,200	-19,200	11,500	11,500	1.3%
	Ontario	1,354,200	13,700	-6,800	12,100	12,100	0.9%
PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES	Canada	11,574,500	5,100	30,100	97,100	97,100	0.8%
	Quebec	2,586,800	-11,300	9,600	-37,900	-37,900	-1.4%
	Ontario	4,553,500	-4,000	2,800	48,300	48,300	1.1%
SELF-EMPLOYED	Canada	2,722,800	-14,900	23,700	54,600	54,600	2.0%
	Quebec	555,800	16,700	8,300	10,600	10,600	1.9%
	Ontario	1,049,100	-13,000	3,700	19,600	19,600	1.9%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Labour Market - Recent trends

Seasonally adjusted data

	Employment in numbers	Job creation in last:			Labour Force Numbers	Variation over 1 month	Participation rate	Employment rate	Unemploy- ment rate
		1 month	3 months	12 months					
Canada									
2013.12	17,767,900	-44,000	-7,200	99,000	19,151,400	13,300	66.4%	61.6%	7.2%
2014.01	17,797,300	29,400	10,500	145,900	19,130,500	-20,900	66.3%	61.6%	7.0%
2014.02	17,790,300	-7,000	-21,600	94,700	19,133,400	2,900	66.2%	61.6%	7.0%
2014.03	17,833,200	42,900	65,300	190,000	19,158,600	25,200	66.2%	61.7%	6.9%
2014.04	17,804,300	-28,900	7,000	149,200	19,133,000	-25,600	66.1%	61.5%	6.9%
2014.05	17,830,100	25,800	39,800	85,500	19,173,900	40,900	66.1%	61.5%	7.0%
2014.06	17,820,700	-9,400	-12,500	72,300	19,190,200	16,300	66.1%	61.4%	7.1%
2014.07	17,862,400	41,700	58,100	156,800	19,214,900	24,700	66.1%	61.4%	7.0%
2014.08	17,851,400	-11,000	21,300	81,300	19,194,100	-20,800	66.0%	61.3%	7.0%
2014.09	17,925,500	74,100	104,800	150,400	19,223,100	29,000	66.0%	61.5%	6.8%
2014.10	17,968,600	43,100	106,200	181,800	19,227,300	4,200	66.0%	61.6%	6.5%
2014.11	17,957,900	-10,700	106,500	146,000	19,236,600	9,300	66.0%	61.6%	6.6%
2014.12	17,953,600	-4,300	28,100	185,700	19,225,400	-11,200	65.9%	61.5%	6.6%
Quebec									
2013.12	4,045,500	-16,100	26,600	3,900	4,384,000	4,900	65.3%	60.3%	7.7%
2014.01	4,058,200	12,700	11,700	10,000	4,384,900	900	65.3%	60.4%	7.5%
2014.02	4,032,700	-25,500	-28,900	-2,600	4,375,300	-9,600	65.1%	60.0%	7.8%
2014.03	4,047,800	15,100	2,300	31,400	4,379,100	3,800	65.1%	60.2%	7.6%
2014.04	4,015,800	-32,000	-42,400	-4,800	4,347,400	-31,700	64.6%	59.7%	7.6%
2014.05	4,015,000	-800	-17,700	-24,700	4,364,900	17,500	64.8%	59.6%	8.0%
2014.06	4,018,500	3,500	-29,300	-13,900	4,374,900	10,000	64.9%	59.6%	8.1%
2014.07	4,020,400	1,900	4,600	16,300	4,375,600	700	64.8%	59.6%	8.1%
2014.08	4,024,500	4,100	9,500	20,200	4,361,600	-14,000	64.6%	59.6%	7.7%
2014.09	4,031,000	6,500	12,500	12,100	4,363,800	2,200	64.6%	59.7%	7.6%
2014.10	4,016,800	-14,200	-3,600	-29,700	4,353,800	-10,000	64.4%	59.4%	7.7%
2014.11	4,036,400	19,600	11,900	-25,200	4,369,300	15,500	64.6%	59.7%	7.6%
2014.12	4,029,700	-6,700	-1,300	-15,800	4,354,800	-14,500	64.4%	59.6%	7.5%
Ontario									
2013.12	6,876,800	-30,300	-31,600	20,500	7,466,300	12,200	66.3%	61.0%	7.9%
2014.01	6,882,800	6,000	-16,000	53,800	7,438,200	-28,100	66.0%	61.0%	7.5%
2014.02	6,888,900	6,100	-18,200	28,700	7,448,700	10,500	66.0%	61.0%	7.5%
2014.03	6,902,300	13,400	25,500	60,500	7,449,700	1,000	65.9%	61.1%	7.3%
2014.04	6,919,900	17,600	37,100	73,500	7,475,500	25,800	66.1%	61.2%	7.4%
2014.05	6,934,700	14,800	45,800	39,400	7,483,600	8,100	66.1%	61.2%	7.3%
2014.06	6,900,800	-33,900	-1,500	10,300	7,463,400	-20,200	65.8%	60.9%	7.5%
2014.07	6,940,300	39,500	20,400	60,300	7,500,300	36,900	66.1%	61.2%	7.5%
2014.08	6,932,400	-7,900	-2,300	14,000	7,486,000	-14,300	65.9%	61.1%	7.4%
2014.09	6,957,100	24,700	56,300	48,700	7,487,200	1,200	65.9%	61.2%	7.1%
2014.10	6,994,100	37,000	53,800	95,300	7,484,200	-3,000	65.8%	61.5%	6.5%
2014.11	6,960,200	-33,900	27,800	53,100	7,481,200	-3,000	65.7%	61.1%	7.0%
2014.12	6,956,700	-3,500	-400	79,900	7,480,600	-600	65.6%	61.0%	7.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Other Labour Market Indicators

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA	Last publication		-1 MONTH	-3 MONTHS	-6 MONTHS	Same month -1 YEAR
	Month	Level				
CANADA						
Average weekly wages (\$)	October	1,046.50	1,056.89	1,055.40	1,040.90	1,011.67
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	October	30.6	30.3	30.5	30.3	30.5
QUEBEC						
Average weekly wages (\$)	October	968.96	958.29	986.10	957.31	962.49
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	October	30.0	29.9	30.1	30.0	30.2
ONTARIO						
Average weekly wages (\$)	October	1,073.53	1,083.11	1,088.89	1,064.00	1,044.35
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	October	30.3	29.9	30.3	30.0	30.1

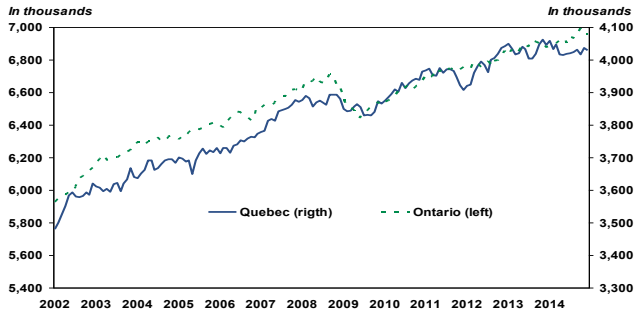
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Annual Data

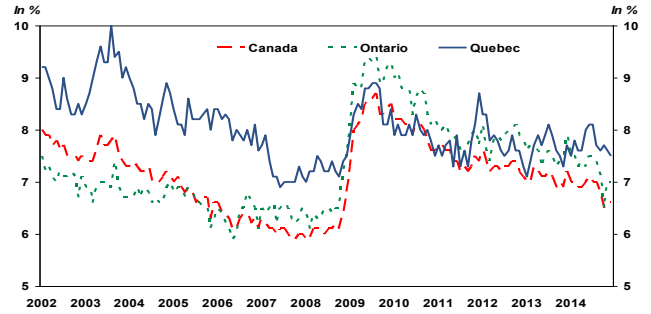
Annual average	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
CANADA TOTAL JOBS	16,813,100	17,041,000	17,306,200	17,507,700	17,731,200	17,872,200
JOB CREATION	-274,300	227,900	265,200	201,500	223,500	141,000
Job growth (%)	-1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	1.3%	0.8%
Unemployment rate	8.3%	8.0%	7.5%	7.2%	7.1%	6.9%
QUEBEC TOTAL JOBS	3,848,400	3,915,100	3,953,600	3,984,400	4,032,200	4,029,900
JOB CREATION	-32,000	66,700	38,500	30,800	47,800	(2,300)
Job growth (%)	-0.8%	1.7%	1.0%	0.8%	1.2%	(0.1%)
Unemployment rate	8.5%	8.0%	7.8%	7.8%	7.6%	7.7%
ONTARIO TOTAL JOBS	6,502,000	6,610,000	6,731,300	6,783,800	6,879,400	6,933,000
JOB CREATION	-164,300	108,000	121,300	52,500	95,600	53,600
Job growth (%)	-2.5%	1.7%	1.8%	0.8%	1.4%	0.8%
Unemployment rate	9.0%	8.7%	7.8%	7.8%	7.5%	7.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

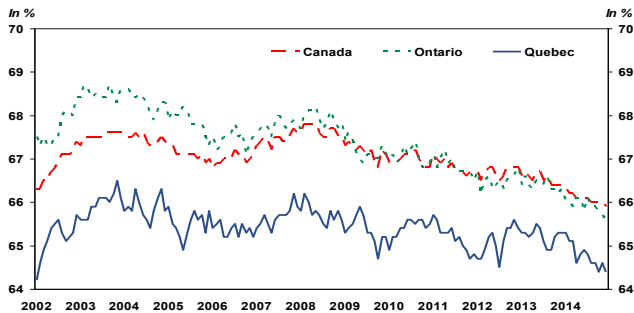
QUEBEC / ONTARIO – Level of employment



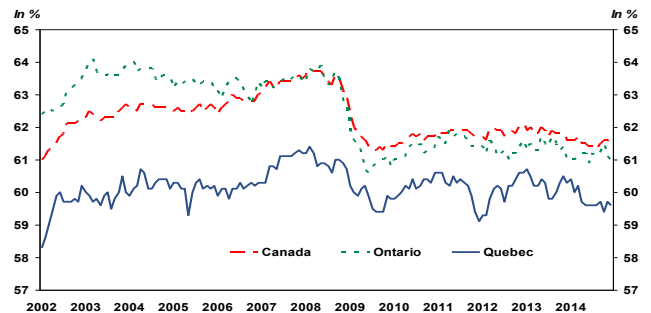
CANADA / QUEBEC / ONTARIO – Unemployment Rate



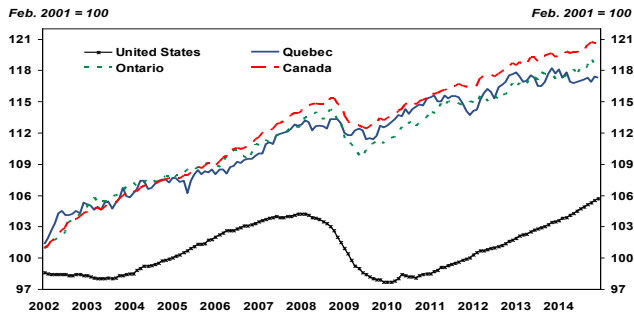
CANADA / QUEBEC / ONTARIO – Participation Rate



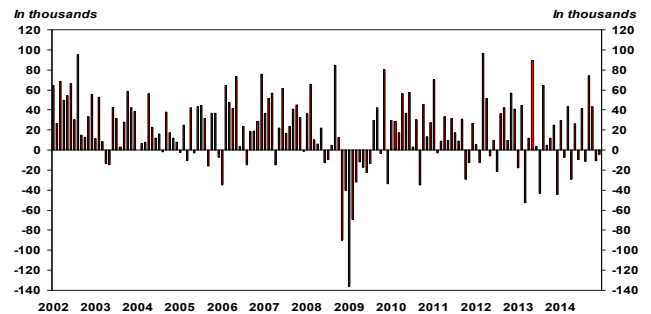
CANADA / QUEBEC / ONTARIO – Employment Rate



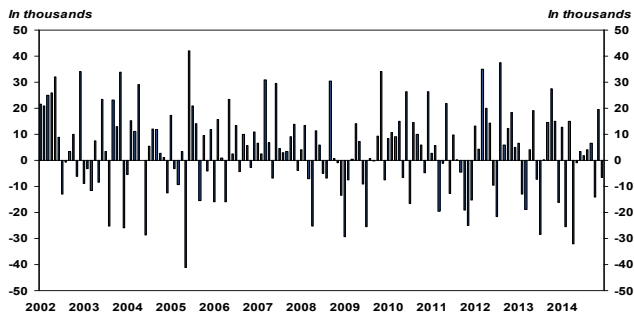
UNITED STATES / CANADA / QUEBEC / ONTARIO – Employment Index



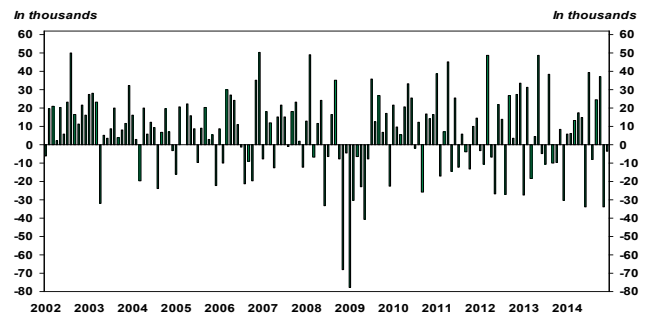
CANADA – Evolution of employment



QUEBEC – Evolution of employment



ONTARIO – Evolution of employment



LABOUR MARKET BY PROVINCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA		December 2014	PREVIOUS MONTHS				Monthly averages			Employment In the last year
			2014.11	2014.10	2014.09	2014.08	3 months	6 months	12 months	
CANADA	JOB	17,953,600	17,957,900	17,968,600	17,925,500	17,851,400	17,960,033	17,919,900	17,866,275	17,767,900
	CREATION	-4,300	-10,700	43,100	74,100	-11,000	9,367	22,150	15,475	185,700
	Unemployment rate	6.6%	6.6%	6.5%	6.8%	7.0%	6.6%	6.8%	6.9%	1.0%*
Newfoundland	JOB	228,900	230,300	227,200	227,900	224,100	228,800	227,433	228,000	234,000
	CREATION	-1,400	3,100	-700	3,800	-2,100	333	1,233	-425	-5,100
	Unemployment rate	11.3%	10.7%	12.0%	12.7%	13.5%	11.3%	12.1%	12.1%	-2.2%*
Prince Edward Island	JOB	74,000	75,000	74,900	74,000	74,500	74,633	74,450	74,225	73,600
	CREATION	-1,000	100	900	-500	200	0	-33	33	400
	Unemployment rate	11.0%	10.5%	9.2%	9.5%	10.0%	10.2%	9.9%	10.7%	0.5%*
Nova Scotia	JOB	447,500	449,100	450,400	446,300	447,000	449,000	447,233	447,642	449,500
	CREATION	-1,600	-1,300	4,100	-700	3,900	400	83	-167	-2,000
	Unemployment rate	8.3%	8.8%	8.6%	8.6%	8.8%	8.6%	8.8%	8.8%	-0.4%*
New Brunswick	JOB	349,400	349,900	351,800	354,100	353,000	350,367	351,267	351,842	353,700
	CREATION	-500	-1,900	-2,300	1,100	3,600	-1,567	-567	-358	-4,300
	Unemployment rate	10.2%	9.6%	9.3%	9.6%	8.7%	9.7%	9.6%	9.8%	-1.2%*
Quebec	JOB	4,029,700	4,036,400	4,016,800	4,031,000	4,024,500	4,027,633	4,026,467	4,028,900	4,045,500
	CREATION	-6,700	19,600	-14,200	6,500	4,100	-433	1,867	-1,317	-15,800
	Unemployment rate	7.5%	7.6%	7.7%	7.6%	7.7%	7.6%	7.7%	7.7%	-0.4%*
Ontario	JOB	6,956,700	6,960,200	6,994,100	6,957,100	6,932,400	6,970,333	6,956,800	6,930,850	6,876,800
	CREATION	-3,500	-33,900	37,000	24,700	-7,900	-133	9,317	6,658	79,900
	Unemployment rate	7.0%	7.0%	6.5%	7.1%	7.4%	6.8%	7.1%	7.3%	1.2%*
Manitoba	JOB	643,900	642,000	641,800	633,800	632,600	642,567	637,983	634,125	630,500
	CREATION	1,900	200	8,000	1,200	-1,200	3,367	1,967	1,117	13,400
	Unemployment rate	5.2%	5.1%	5.0%	5.3%	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%	5.4%	2.1%*
Saskatchewan	JOB	572,800	572,100	576,000	573,700	566,700	573,633	571,300	565,767	558,000
	CREATION	700	-3,900	2,300	7,000	200	-300	1,467	1,233	14,800
	Unemployment rate	3.6%	3.4%	3.5%	3.5%	4.2%	3.5%	3.6%	3.8%	2.7%*
Alberta	JOB	2,302,600	2,296,900	2,293,700	2,290,400	2,269,200	2,297,733	2,289,233	2,276,592	2,236,700
	CREATION	5,700	3,200	3,300	21,200	-13,400	4,067	3,083	5,492	65,900
	Unemployment rate	4.7%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.9%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	2.9%*
British Columbia	JOB	2,348,200	2,346,000	2,341,800	2,337,200	2,327,600	2,345,333	2,337,767	2,328,367	2,309,700
	CREATION	2,200	4,200	4,600	9,600	1,800	3,667	3,733	3,208	38,500
	Unemployment rate	5.4%	5.8%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	5.8%	5.9%	6.0%	1.7%*

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour force Survey * Change in employment in the last year