

ECONOMIC NEWS

Quebec-Ontario: Demographics are shaping the labour market

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Quebec recorded a loss of 3,800 jobs in April, after an increase of 2,400 in the previous month.
- ▶ The unemployment rate climbed from 6.4% in March to 6.6% in April.
- ▶ Ontario saw a pullback of 1,600 jobs last month.
- ▶ A sharp decline in the labour force brought the unemployment rate down to 5.8% in April, the lowest it has been since January 2001.
- ▶ According to the 2016 Census, the population segment aged 15 to 64 is going down in Quebec whereas it still going up in Ontario and in Canada as a whole.

COMMENTS

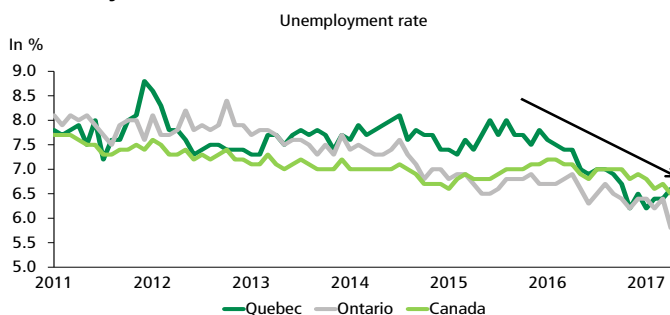
Demographic trends are influencing the labour market beyond the variable monthly statistics for employment and unemployment rate. Quebec's particular age structure has meant a drop in the number of people aged 15 to 64 for some years.

The dynamics are different in Ontario and in Canada as a whole, since the working age population continues to grow. These demographics mean that the unemployment rate in Quebec has gone down more rapidly than elsewhere in the country since 2015, despite a similar growth in employment.

IMPLICATIONS

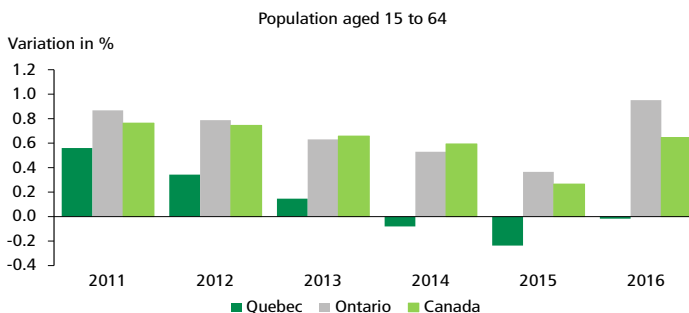
We should not be worried about the slight job losses recorded in April. The trend over several months is upwards, and the real GDP figures published recently point to strong economic growth for both provinces. Despite some blips, the unemployment rate is very low in Quebec. For some years now, declining demographics in the province are exerting additional downward pressure on the unemployment rate. This is a

GRAPH 1
Quebec's unemployment rate has declined more rapidly for some years



Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

GRAPH 2
The potential worker pool is shrinking in Quebec, but growing in Ontario and in Canada as a whole



Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

structural rather than a situational factor, and it will not change in coming years.

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Labour market reference tables

TABLE 1
Variation by sector – April 2017

GAINING SECTORS	JOB CREATION SINCE		LOSING SECTORS	JOB CREATION SINCE	
	1 month	12 months		1 month	12 months
Canada					
Educational services	19,300	29,700	Business services	-18,700	6,900
Health care and social assistance	12,400	30,900	Accommodation and food services	-12,300	-20,600
Transportation and warehousing	8,800	23,600	Wholesale and retail trade	-8,800	15,800
Prof., scientific and technical services	8,400	18,300	Information, culture and recreation	-6,200	18,500
Quebec					
Prof., scientific and technical services	5,800	4,200	Business services	-7,200	3,600
Finance, insurance, real estate	5,200	19,200	Public administration	-6,900	14,900
Health care and social assistance	4,500	-16,200	Accommodation and food services	-6,800	-15,400
Information, culture and recreation	4,400	13,700	Wholesale and retail trade	-6,600	21,700
Ontario					
Prof., scientific and technical services	12,200	18,100	Accommodation and food services	-15,100	-14,300
Transportation and warehousing	11,600	3,900	Information, culture and recreation	-9,800	-8,000
Educational services	11,300	1,200	Construction	-6,900	19,300
Forestry, fishing, mining and others	3,000	-3,100	Finance, insurance, real estate	-6,800	11,200

Source: Statistics Canada's "Labour Force Survey"

TABLE 2
By sector

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA	NUMBER OF JOBS	JOB CREATION SINCE				
	April 2017	1 month	3 months	Dec. 2016	12 months	12 months (%)
Total jobs						
Canada	18,311,200	3,200	37,900	86,200	275,700	1.5
Quebec	4,190,100	-3,800	-12,500	-9,100	88,000	2.1
Ontario	7,067,000	-1,600	-8,200	20,600	86,600	1.2
Public sector employees						
Canada	3,696,600	35,200	15,700	23,400	92,000	2.6
Quebec	905,000	3,800	-20,200	-16,500	25,000	2.8
Ontario	1,332,400	11,400	8,900	12,100	20,900	1.6
Private sector employees						
Canada	11,826,200	-50,500	-20,100	12,300	151,600	1.3
Quebec	2,730,900	-15,100	-8,400	2,700	53,500	2.0
Ontario	4,622,200	-25,500	-42,900	-21,400	58,000	1.3
Self-employed						
Canada	2,788,400	18,500	42,200	50,400	32,200	1.2
Quebec	554,300	7,600	16,200	4,800	9,600	1.8
Ontario	1,112,400	12,500	25,800	29,900	7,700	0.7

Source: Statistics Canada's "Labour Force Survey"

TABLE 3
Recent trends

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA	EMPLOYMENT Numbers	JOB CREATION SINCE			LABOUR FORCE		RATE (%)		
		1 month	3 months	12 months	Numbers	1 month*	Part.	Empl.	Unempl.
Canada									
April 2016	18,035,500	3,900	38,300	140,200	19,411,600	0	65.8	61.1	7.1
May 2016	18,048,900	13,400	48,400	103,300	19,394,100	-17,500	65.6	61.1	6.9
June 2016	18,060,200	11,300	28,600	109,300	19,384,300	-9,800	65.5	61.1	6.8
July 2016	18,034,300	-25,900	-1,200	65,300	19,382,400	-1,900	65.5	60.9	7.0
Aug. 2016	18,069,800	35,500	20,900	84,300	19,433,300	50,900	65.6	61.0	7.0
Sept. 2016	18,134,400	64,600	74,200	153,100	19,495,200	61,900	65.7	61.1	7.0
Oct. 2016	18,181,300	46,900	147,000	165,000	19,546,300	51,100	65.9	61.3	7.0
Nov. 2016	18,178,900	-2,400	109,100	197,100	19,505,100	-41,200	65.7	61.2	6.8
Dec. 2016	18,225,000	46,100	90,600	229,000	19,566,600	61,500	65.8	61.3	6.9
Jan. 2017	18,273,300	48,300	92,000	276,100	19,597,700	31,100	65.9	61.4	6.8
Feb. 2017	18,288,600	15,300	109,700	288,100	19,574,700	-23,000	65.8	61.4	6.6
March 2017	18,308,000	19,400	83,000	276,400	19,621,700	47,000	65.9	61.5	6.7
April 2017	18,311,200	3,200	37,900	275,700	19,576,200	-45,500	65.6	61.4	6.5
Quebec									
April 2016	4,102,100	4,800	-3,400	-11,200	4,431,800	5,800	64.4	59.7	7.4
May 2016	4,121,700	19,600	13,200	15,800	4,433,200	1,400	64.4	59.9	7.0
June 2016	4,111,600	-10,100	14,300	33,000	4,418,300	-14,900	64.2	59.7	6.9
July 2016	4,113,700	2,100	11,600	9,600	4,424,100	5,800	64.2	59.7	7.0
Aug. 2016	4,138,700	25,000	17,000	40,000	4,451,700	27,600	64.5	60.0	7.0
Sept. 2016	4,170,900	32,200	59,300	69,800	4,478,200	26,500	64.9	60.4	6.9
Oct. 2016	4,176,300	5,400	62,600	78,500	4,476,700	-1,500	64.9	60.5	6.7
Nov. 2016	4,180,900	4,600	42,200	87,600	4,456,600	-20,100	64.5	60.6	6.2
Dec. 2016	4,199,200	18,300	28,300	90,800	4,493,300	36,700	65.1	60.8	6.5
Jan. 2017	4,202,600	3,400	26,300	97,100	4,482,100	-11,200	64.9	60.8	6.2
Feb. 2017	4,191,500	-11,100	10,600	83,000	4,478,200	-3,900	64.8	60.6	6.4
March 2017	4,193,900	2,400	-5,300	96,600	4,479,400	1,200	64.8	60.6	6.4
April 2017	4,190,100	-3,800	-12,500	88,000	4,484,600	5,200	64.8	60.5	6.6
Ontario									
April 2016	6,980,400	-1,900	-4,700	91,000	7,500,300	10,700	65.3	60.8	6.9
May 2016	7,000,900	20,500	28,600	77,300	7,491,800	-8,500	65.1	60.9	6.6
June 2016	7,005,700	4,800	23,400	64,200	7,480,000	-11,800	65.0	60.8	6.3
July 2016	6,968,400	-37,300	-12,000	20,400	7,450,000	-30,000	64.6	60.4	6.5
Aug. 2016	6,983,700	15,300	-17,200	36,500	7,486,000	36,000	64.8	60.5	6.7
Sept. 2016	7,002,600	18,900	-3,100	85,100	7,492,500	6,500	64.8	60.6	6.5
Oct. 2016	7,028,100	25,500	59,700	88,200	7,509,200	16,700	64.9	60.7	6.4
Nov. 2016	7,040,000	11,900	56,300	107,300	7,508,000	-1,200	64.8	60.8	6.2
Dec. 2016	7,046,400	6,400	43,800	83,600	7,525,600	17,600	64.9	60.8	6.4
Jan. 2017	7,075,200	28,800	47,100	90,100	7,559,900	34,300	65.1	61.0	6.4
Feb. 2017	7,079,800	4,600	39,800	107,500	7,549,000	-10,900	65.0	61.0	6.2
March 2017	7,068,600	-11,200	22,200	86,300	7,551,200	2,200	64.9	60.8	6.4
April 2017	7,067,000	-1,600	-8,200	86,600	7,504,400	-46,800	64.5	60.7	5.8

Part.: Participation; Empl.: Employment; Unempl.: Unemployment; * Variation over a month.

Source: Statistics Canada's "Labour Force Survey"

TABLE 4
Other labour market indicators

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA	LAST PUBLICATION		PREVIOUS DATA			
	Month	Level	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-12 months
Canada						
Average weekly wages (\$)	Feb.	1,115.75	1,110.14	1,092.26	1,094.66	1,082.23
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	Feb.	29.9	30.0	30.1	30.1	30.4
Quebec						
Average weekly wages (\$)	Feb.	1,041.86	1,019.52	1,022.00	1,021.44	1,008.09
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	Feb.	30.3	30.3	30.4	29.9	30.1
Ontario						
Average weekly wages (\$)	Feb.	1,160.28	1,138.03	1,120.01	1,122.14	1,117.71
Average hours worked in the manufacturing sector	Feb.	29.8	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.3

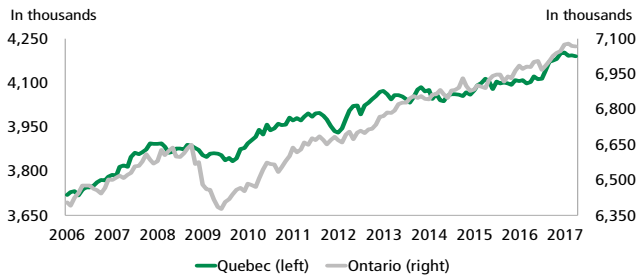
Source: Statistics Canada's "Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours"

TABLE 5
Annual data

	ANNUAL AVERAGES					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Canada						
Total jobs	17,221,000	17,438,000	17,691,100	17,802,200	17,946,600	18,079,900
Job creation	256,700	217,000	253,100	111,100	144,400	133,300
Job growth (%)	1.5	1.3	1.5	0.6	0.8	0.7
Unemployment rate (%)	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.9	7.0
Quebec						
Total jobs	3,975,600	4,005,900	4,060,800	4,059,700	4,097,000	4,133,100
Job creation	37,700	30,300	54,900	-1,100	37,300	36,100
Job growth (%)	1.0	0.8	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.9
Unemployment rate (%)	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.1
Ontario						
Total jobs	6,658,400	6,702,600	6,823,400	6,877,900	6,923,200	6,999,600
Job creation	120,600	44,200	120,800	54,500	45,300	76,400
Job growth (%)	1.8	0.7	1.8	0.8	0.7	1.1
Unemployment rate (%)	7.9	7.9	7.6	7.3	6.8	6.5

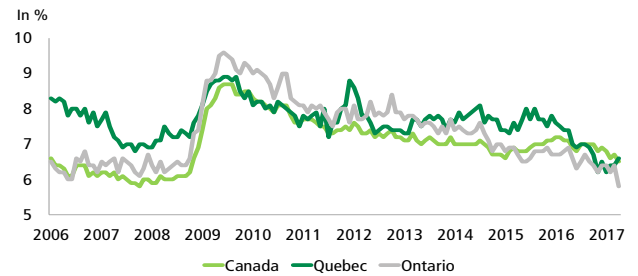
Source: Statistics Canada's "Labour Force Survey"

QUEBEC-ONTARIO
Level of employment



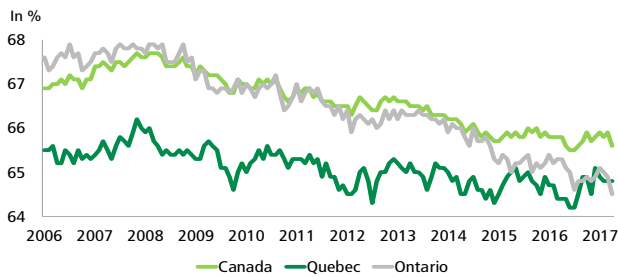
Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

CANADA-QUEBEC-ONTARIO
Unemployment Rate



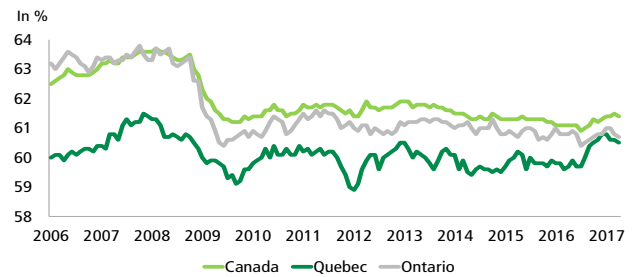
Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

CANADA-QUEBEC-ONTARIO
Participation Rate



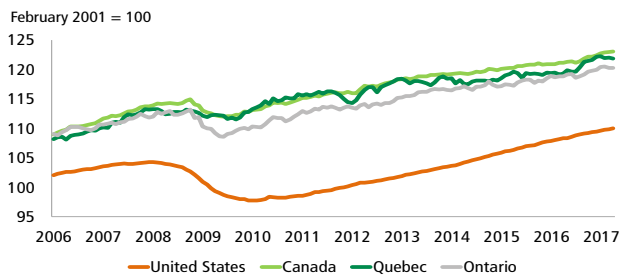
Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

CANADA-QUEBEC-ONTARIO
Employment Rate



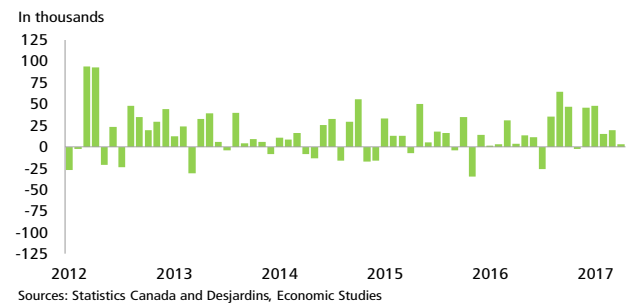
Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

UNITED STATES-CANADA-QUEBEC-ONTARIO
Employment Index

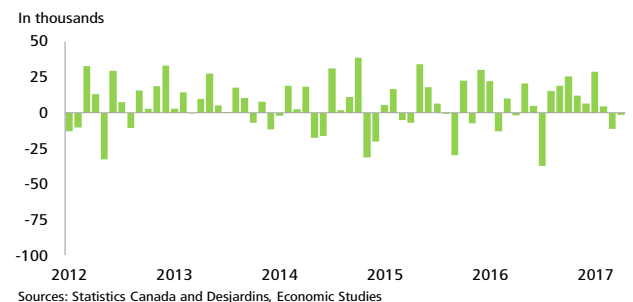


Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

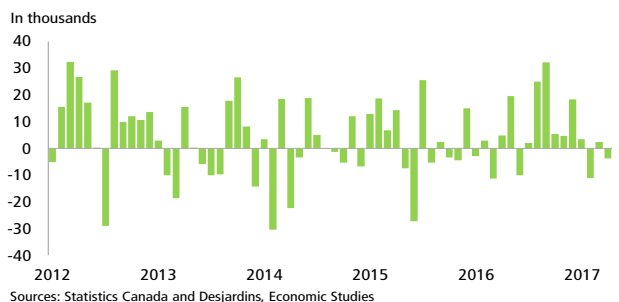
CANADA
Evolution of employment



ONTARIO
Evolution of employment



QUEBEC
Evolution of employment



Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic Studies

TABLE 6
By province – April 2017

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA	ACTUAL	PREVIOUS MONTHS			MONTHLY AVERAGES			EMPLOYMENT Since 1 year
		March 2017	Feb. 2017	Jan. 2017	3 months	6 months	12 months	
Canada								
Total jobs	18,311,200	18,308,000	18,288,600	18,273,300	18,302,600	18,264,167	18,176,158	18,035,500
Job creation	3,200	19,400	15,300	48,300	12,633	21,650	22,975	275,700
Unempl. rate (%)	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.8	1.5*
Newfoundland								
Total jobs	227,400	225,500	225,500	229,300	226,133	227,133	230,558	237,200
Job creation	1,900	0	-3,800	2,200	-633	-267	-817	-9,800
Unempl. rate (%)	14.0	14.9	14.2	13.8	14.4	14.5	13.7	-4.1*
Prince Edward Island								
Total jobs	73,500	72,700	73,000	72,700	73,067	72,583	72,000	71,000
Job creation	800	-300	300	600	267	350	208	2,500
Unempl. rate (%)	10.3	10.1	10.0	9.8	10.1	10.2	10.6	3.5*
Nova Scotia								
Total jobs	450,000	450,500	445,900	452,700	448,800	449,283	447,283	449,100
Job creation	-500	4,600	-6,800	4,200	-900	767	75	900
Unempl. rate (%)	8.3	8.6	8.1	7.7	8.3	8.2	8.2	0.2*
New Brunswick								
Total jobs	351,600	353,600	351,900	351,900	352,367	353,050	352,983	349,700
Job creation	-2,000	1,700	0	-3,000	-100	-433	158	1,900
Unempl. rate (%)	8.7	8.4	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.8	9.2	0.5*
Quebec								
Total jobs	4,190,100	4,193,900	4,191,500	4,202,600	4,191,833	4,193,033	4,165,925	4,102,100
Job creation	-3,800	2,400	-11,100	3,400	-4,167	2,300	7,333	88,000
Unempl. rate (%)	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.4	6.7	2.1*
Ontario								
Total jobs	7,067,000	7,068,600	7,079,800	7,075,200	7,071,800	7,062,833	7,030,533	6,980,400
Job creation	-1,600	-11,200	4,600	28,800	-2,733	6,483	7,217	86,600
Unempl. rate (%)	5.8	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.4	1.2*
Manitoba								
Total jobs	640,000	640,500	637,700	634,300	639,400	636,233	635,333	633,100
Job creation	-500	2,800	3,400	1,300	1,900	1,083	575	6,900
Unempl. rate (%)	5.4	5.5	5.8	6.1	5.6	5.9	6.0	1.1*
Saskatchewan								
Total jobs	568,200	570,400	575,500	567,500	571,367	569,800	569,325	566,900
Job creation	-2,200	-5,100	8,000	-700	233	317	108	1,300
Unempl. rate (%)	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.1	6.3	6.4	0.2*
Alberta								
Total jobs	2,289,000	2,289,300	2,268,900	2,267,600	2,282,400	2,273,983	2,265,550	2,271,600
Job creation	-300	20,400	1,300	200	7,133	2,483	1,450	17,400
Unempl. rate (%)	7.9	8.4	8.3	8.8	8.2	8.5	8.4	0.8*
British Columbia								
Total jobs	2,454,300	2,443,000	2,438,800	2,419,400	2,445,367	2,426,183	2,406,633	2,374,400
Job creation	11,300	4,200	19,400	11,200	11,633	8,550	6,658	79,900
Unempl. rate (%)	5.5	5.4	5.1	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.7	3.4*

Unempl.: Unemployment; * Variation in employment over a year.

Source: Statistics Canada's "Labour Force Survey"