



Labour Market BRIEF

Nova Scotia

The staff of the ATL LMI unit of Service Canada would like to take this opportunity to extend our warmest wishes to all our readers during this festive holiday season.

This brief is based on Statistics Canada data – Labour Force Survey

November 2011

Labour Market Data (Seasonally Adjusted)

NOVA SCOTIA (November 2011)

Labour Force ('000): 496.7
(October '11 = 491.6)

Employment ('000): 453.8
(October '11 = 449.4)

Full Time: 367.0
(October '11 = 367.1)

Part Time: 86.9
(October '11 = 82.3)

Unemployment ('000): 42.9
(October '11 = 42.3)

Unemployment Rate: 8.6%
(October '11 = 8.6%)

Participation Rate: 63.7%
(October '11 = 63.1%)

ALL PROVINCES (November 2011)

	EMP. ('000)	UNEMP. RATE
NL:	224.0	13.2%
PE:	72.6	11.1%
NS:	453.8	8.6%
NB:	351.2	9.8%
PQ:	3,928.4	8.0%
ON:	6,735.2	7.9%
MB:	624.5	5.5%
SK:	524.7	5.1%
AB:	2,130.2	5.0%
BC:	2,282.3	7.0%
CAN:	17,327.0	7.4%

The NOVA SCOTIA
LABOUR MARKET BRIEF
is a publication of the
Labour Market Information Service
of Service Canada – Atlantic Region.

Labour Market improves in November

The Nova Scotia labour market improved in November as employment recovered following two consecutive months of declines. The increase in employment was concentrated in part-time work as full-time work remained stable on a monthly basis. The labour force recovered as well this month after weakening over the last two months. The increase in the labour force was slightly stronger than the increase in employment, and the level of unemployment rose marginally. Reflecting this, the provincial unemployment rate remained unchanged on a monthly basis.

Public Administration Employment expands in Atlantic Canada

Employment in Public Administration has generally grown on a year over year basis in Canada.

The growth in Public Administration was above average in Atlantic Canada. On a year to date basis, employment in Public Administration in the region is at an historic high.

Public Administration has not grown in Western Canada so far this year and has declined since 2009 on a year to date basis.

Public Administration grows in NS

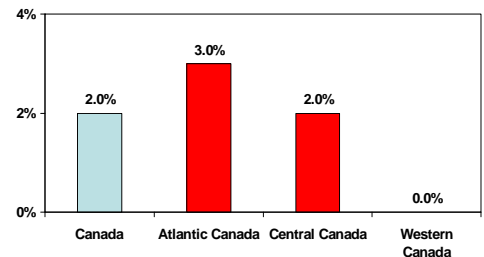
Public Administration has grown in Nova Scotia on a year to date basis, although the overall growth rate is not as pronounced as for the Atlantic region as a whole. The growth in Public Administration employment was entirely driven by an expansion of Federal employment so far this year. There has been a noticeable decline in Provincial and Municipal employment over the same period.

Public Administration Employment concentrated in Federal Government

Public Administration employment in Nova Scotia is heavily concentrated in the Federal government. This concentration is greater than for Canada as a whole. Among the Atlantic provinces, only Prince Edward Island has a concentration of Federal employment that comes close to Nova Scotia.

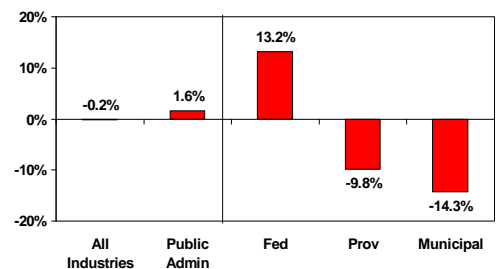
Public Administration Employment Growth

YTD Avg (to Nov) 2010-2011



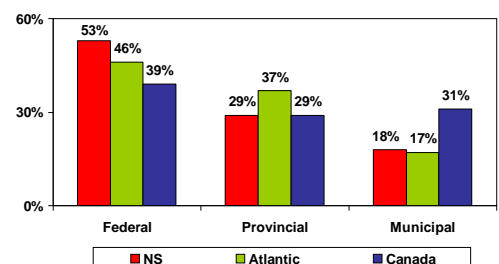
Public Administration Employment Growth in Nova Scotia

YTD Avg (to Nov) 2010-2011



Share of Employment in Public Admin by Sector

Canada, Atlantic & NS – YTD Avg (to Nov) 2011



Public Administration provides high wages

A positive benefit of having a significant share of employment in Public Administration is the relatively high wages attached to the industry.

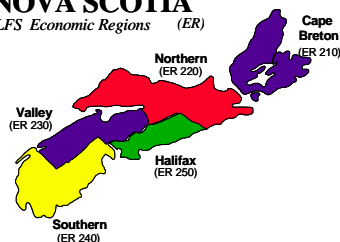
Average hourly wages in Public Administration are the highest of any industry grouping in the province, followed by Utilities and Educational Services.

Wages in Public Administration are well over twice that paid in the lowest grouping, Accommodation and Food Services.

Average Hourly Wage - 2010 Annual Average - NS	
By Industry	
Public administration	\$ 27.79
Utilities	\$ 27.20
Educational services	\$ 26.08
Professional, scientific and technical services	\$ 25.34
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	\$ 21.81
Health care and social assistance	\$ 21.69
Manufacturing	\$ 20.55
Transportation and warehousing	\$ 20.32
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	\$ 20.02
Construction	\$ 20.01
Information, culture and recreation	\$ 19.46
Other services	\$ 17.79
Trade	\$ 14.98
Business, building and other support services	\$ 13.74
Agriculture	\$ 12.38
Accommodation and food services	\$ 11.98
Total employees	\$ 19.90

NOVA SCOTIA

LFS Economic Regions (ER)



Economic Region Data

Three month Moving Averages (ending November 2011)

Economic Region	Cape Breton		Northern		Valley		Southern		Halifax	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
Year										
Labour Force (000)	62.8	63.5	76.6	77.6	58.1	61.9	58.3	61.0	237.3	233.1
Employed (000)	52.9	54.2	68.9	70.2	54.1	56.3	52.6	54.3	225.1	218.1
Full Time	43.9	44.5	55.8	57.9	44.1	43.2	42.2	42.0	183.6	175.1
Part Time	8.9	9.7	13.1	12.2	10.0	13.1	10.4	12.3	41.6	43.1
Unemployed (000)	9.9	9.3	7.7	7.5	4.1	5.7	5.6	6.6	12.2	15.0
Participation Rate (%)	56.2	56.1	59.1	59.6	58.3	61.9	59.6	61.6	69.7	69.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	15.8	14.6	10.1	9.7	7.1	9.2	9.6	10.8	5.1	6.4

Source: Statistics Canada LFS

Regional Breakout:

The **Cape Breton** labour market continued to deteriorate on a year over year basis. Employment in November is below that for November 2010, with the decrease being fairly evenly split between full-time and part-time work. The labour force for Cape Breton fell on a year over year basis, although the drop was less than that for employment. Correspondingly, the level of unemployment rose in the area and the unemployment rate increased in November compared to the previous year.

The labour market also continued to weaken in **Northern Nova Scotia** in November. Employment fell in the region on a year over year basis, with a sharp decline in full-time work more than offsetting an increase in part-time employment. The decline in jobs was not matched by a decrease in the labour force. The level of unemployment rose slightly in the region and the unemployment rate increased from November 2010 to November 2011.

The labour force decreased sharply in the **Valley** area in November compared to the same month last year. The decline in the labour force was much more than the drop in employment on a year over year basis, which was concentrated entirely in part-time work. As a consequence, the number of unemployed fell in the Valley region on year over year basis, and the unemployment rate fell noticeably from November 2010 to November 2011.

The labour market continued to deteriorate in **Southern Nova Scotia** on a year over year basis. The labour force remained well below that of November of last year. Weakness in employment persisted as well, particularly for part-time work in the region. With the labour force decreasing at a greater rate than employment, the level of unemployment fell on a year over year basis and the unemployment rate dropped noticeably from November 2010 to November 2011.

The labour market in **Halifax** continued to improve on a year over year basis. Employment rose sharply this month compared to the same month last year, with the surge in full-time employment more than compensating for a decrease in part-time work. The labour force expanded as well from November 2010 to November 2011, although at a rate less than employment. Correspondingly, the level of unemployment and the unemployment rate fell on a year over year basis.

Comments/Questions?

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