



Nova Scotia Labour Market Brief ~May 2010~

This brief is based on Statistics Canada Data – LFS and SAAD

Labour Market Data (Seasonally Adjusted)

NOVA SCOTIA (May 2010)

Labour Force ('000): 501.1
(Apr '10 =496.6)

Employment ('000): 457.3
(Apr '10 =453.8)

Unemployment('000): 43.8
(Apr '10 =42.8)

Unemployment Rate: 8.7%
(Apr '10 =8.6%)

Participation Rate: 64.6%
(Apr '10 =64.1%)

ALL PROVINCES (May 2010)

	EMP. ('000)	UNEMP. RATE
NL:	226.9	13.8%
PE:	70.7	10.7%
NS:	457.3	8.7%
NB:	366.0	8.8%
PQ:	3,909.3	8.0%
ON:	6,633.3	8.9%
MB:	620.4	5.7%
SK:	526.0	5.0%
AB:	1,994.1	6.6%
BC:	2,292.5	7.5%
CAN:	17,096.6	8.1%

The **LABOUR MARKET BRIEF** is a publication of the Labour Market & Social Development Branch, Service Canada – Atlantic Region.

Employment improves in NS

The provincial labour market grew noticeably in May, with the labour force increasing by 4,500 on a seasonally adjusted basis and employment rising by 3,500. The majority of the increase in employment was in full time work (2,800) while part time employment increased by 700 from April to May. With the labour force increasing faster than employment, the level of unemployment rose by 1,000 on a monthly basis, and the unemployment rate increased slightly from 8.6 percent in April to 8.7 percent in May.

Net Migration Reverses for NS

One source of migration data in Canada is Statistics Canada's Small Area Administrative Data (SAAD). This source of migration data is based on the annual filing location of Revenue Canada taxation forms.

According to SAAD, Nova Scotia experienced a net inflow of 295 migrants from 2007-2008. This follows a three year period of a significant net outflow of migrants from the province.

Alberta was the destination of choice

Over the five year period 2003 to 2008, Nova Scotia had a net outflow of 3,377 migrants. Alberta was the largest recipient of this migration, with a large net inflow of more than 13,000 from Nova Scotia over the five years.

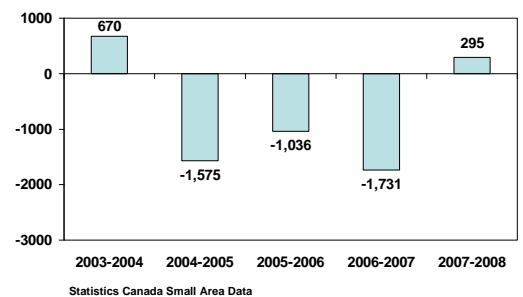
Nova Scotia's net migration to Alberta was typical of the Atlantic Provinces. In total, Alberta gained a net inflow of almost 38,000 migrants from the Atlantic provinces over the five year period 2003 to 2008.

Net Migration to Alberta declines.

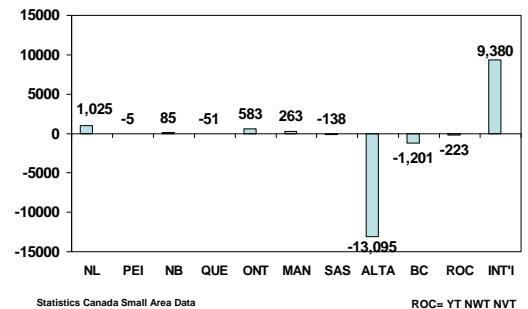
Although the net outflow to Alberta from Nova Scotia has been strong mid decade, the net outflow dropped by over 60 percent comparing 2007-2008 with the record set in the previous year.

The decline in the net outflow to Alberta was even more dramatic for Newfoundland and Labrador (68 percent), while Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick saw their net outflow to Alberta cut by more than half from 2006-2007 to 2007-2008.

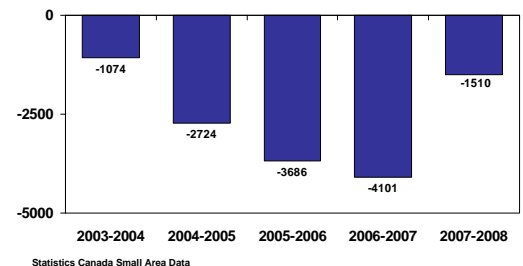
Net Migration to/from NS
Annual 2003-2008



Net Migration to/from NS
2003-2008



Net Migration to/from NS 2003-2008
Annually - Alberta

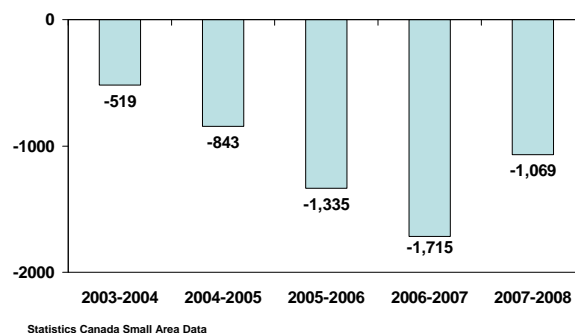


Net Out Migration eases for Youth age 18-24

Youth constitute a dominant share of net out migrants from Nova Scotia. In 2007-2008, youth aged 18-24 were the only age group in the province to experience net out migration – all other age groups experienced net in migration to Nova Scotia during the period.

Net migration out of the province for those aged 18-24 fell significantly (38 percent) from a peak of 1,715 in 2006-2007 to 1,069 in 2007-2008. Over the same period, decreases in net youth out migration were found across the rest of the Atlantic provinces, including New Brunswick (43 percent) Newfoundland and Labrador (39 percent) and Prince Edward Island (20 percent).

Net Migration to/from NS - Aged 18-24
Annual 2003-2008



Economic Region Highlights – May 2010

The labour market in Cape Breton expanded from May 2009 to May 2010. The labour force increased by 1,400 on a year over year basis. Employment increased by 1,200 over the same period, reflecting an increase in full time work of 1,300 and a small decrease in part time work. With the increase in the labour force being only marginally greater than the rise in employment, both the level of unemployment and the unemployment rate changed little from May 2009 to May 2010.

Economic Region Data Three month Moving Averages (ending May 2010)										
Economic Region	Cape Breton		Northern		Valley		Southern		Halifax	
Year	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Labour Force (000)	62.6	64.0	77.6	77	63.2	60.9	63.8	62.4	229.8	232.6
Employed (000)	51.8	53.0	67.6	69.7	57.6	54.9	55.3	53.6	215.3	218.8
Full Time	41.6	42.9	54.5	56	46.8	43.2	45.1	41	176.6	180.5
Part Time	10.3	10.1	13.1	13.7	10.8	11.7	10.3	12.6	38.8	38.3
Unemployed (000)	10.8	11	10	7.4	5.7	6.1	8.4	8.7	14.5	13.8
Participation Rate (%)	54.3	56	59.1	58.6	62.2	59.7	61.7	60.5	71.7	71.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	17.3	17.2	12.9	9.6	9	10	13.2	13.9	6.3	5.9

Employment increased noticeably (2,100) in Northern Nova Scotia on a year over year basis. The bulk of the employment increase was in full time work (1,500). The labour force decreased by 600 over this period. With employment increasing and the labour force decreasing, the level of unemployment fell significantly (2,600) in the region, and the unemployment rate declined by 3.3 percentage points from 12.9 percent in May 2009 to 9.6 percent in May 2010.

The labour market continued to deteriorate in the Valley Region on a year over year basis. Employment fell significantly (2,700) on a year over year basis, with the decrease in employment reflecting a large drop in full time work (3,600) being offset by an increase in part time work of 900. The labour force in the Valley decreased by 2,300 over the same time period. With the decrease in employment being larger than the drop in the labour force, the level of unemployment increased on a year over year basis, and the unemployment rate increased from 9.0 percent in May 2009 to 10.0 percent in May 2010.

The labour force decreased by 1,400 in Southern Nova Scotia from May 2009 to May 2010. Employment fell by 1,700 on a year over year basis in the region, reflecting a very large decrease in full time work (4,100) being only partially offset by an increase in part time work. With employment decreasing at a faster rate than the labour force, the level of unemployment rose comparing May 2010 with the same month last year. Correspondingly, the unemployment rate increased on year over year basis, rising from 13.2 percent to 13.9 percent this month.

The labour market in Halifax continued to improve on a year over year basis. Employment increased by 3,500, reflecting a large increase in full time work of 3,900 being offset by a fairly small decline in part time work. The labour force expanded by 2,800 from May 2009 to May 2010. With labour force growth being outpaced by employment growth, the level of unemployment decreased by 700 on a year over year basis, and the unemployment rate fell from 6.3 percent to 5.9 percent this month.

Comments/Questions?

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More information can be found at:
www.labourmarketinformation.ca