



# Labour Market Bulletin

## Annapolis Valley

Economic Region 230



www.labourmarketinformation.ca

### April 2009\*

#### Overview

April's general labour market indicators show no sign of a recession in the Annapolis Valley. Employment is up from March's level and the job gains over the month were all full-time. Despite more people entering the labour force looking for work, unemployment was lower in April as was the unemployment rate.

Compared to last April, employment is higher this year with more of both full-time and part-time jobs. There are also more unemployed this April though, and the unemployment rate is higher. This is because of a greater rate of participation in the labour force; more people are looking for work.

Annapolis Valley	April-09	March-09	April -08	April, 2008 to April, 2009
Population aged 15+	101,500	101,500	100,800	700
Labour force	63,700	63,500	60,900	2,800
Employed	57,200	56,600	54,800	2,400
Full-time	45,800	44,800	44,600	1,200
Part-time	11,400	11,800	10,300	1,100
Unemployed	6,500	6,900	6,000	500
Participation rate	62.8%	62.6%	60.4%	2.4pp**
Unemployment rate	10.2%	10.9%	9.9%	0.3pp**

Source: Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey.

\*\* Changes in the last column comparing rates are percentage point changes denoted by "pp".

#### Industry Analysis

Employment is up slightly from March in the **Goods Sector**. Only Forestry, Fishing, Mining & Oil & Gas saw a decline during the month and that was a minor decrease.

The number of jobs in the sector is down from last April, however. Construction and Manufacturing are the industry groups responsible for the decline over the past 12 months. More than any other, these two industries have been affected by recessionary pressures here at home and from south of the border. Construction is now at the April 2005 level and Manufacturing employment hasn't been this low for April since 1997.

\* This report is an analysis of three month moving average data from Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey. The reader should be cautioned that because of relatively small sample sizes in sub-provincial regions, data reliability may be an issue.

**Service Sector** employment is up both from March this year and from April of last year. Gains or losses among individual industry groups were slight over the last month.

Compared to last year in April, employment is down in Education and Health Care most notably while Other Services and Business, Building & Other Support Services showed marked employment gains.

Employment	April-09	March-09	April -08	April, 2008 to April, 2009
<b>Goods-Producing Sector</b>	13,200	13,000	14,600	-1,400
<b>Services-Producing Sector</b>	43,900	43,600	40,300	3,600

*Source: Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey*

## In the News

The new **Hart Department Store** opened on April 1 at the Fort Edward Mall in Windsor. The store has filled 40 full and part-time positions with local area residents including rehiring several former SAAN store employees. Hants Journal - *April 9, 2009*

**Frito-Lay** is looking for about a dozen university students to work at its New Minas plant this summer as Packing Technicians.

Staff - *April 30, 2009*

**Larsens** is looking for 30 post secondary students to work in the plant this summer.

Staff - *April 30, 2009*

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, representatives of **The Shaw Group** told about 20 **GS Concrete** employees in the Windsor Forks plant it would cease operations and close permanently by the end of the year. Expectations are for some operations to run until July and others until December.

Hants Journal - *April 9, 2009*

**New Construction and Renovations at Valley Schools** was recently announced as part of the new 7-year \$307.3 million Nova Scotia school construction and renovation program which is considered a part of the province's "Building for Growth" economic stimulus plan. It includes a new P-5 school to open in 2014 in Digby/Clementsport (\$9.3 million) and renovations at Aldershot Elementary (\$4 million); Annapolis West Education Centre (\$1.4 million); Bridgetown Regional High (\$2.78 million); Evangeline Middle School (\$1.3 million); Hantsport (\$2.97 million); Three Mile Plains (\$4.64 million); and Wolfville (\$4.64 million).

Annapolis County Spectator – *April 16, 2009*

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