

The Atlantic Labour Market Report's

Labour Market Hot Sheet

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FREE TRIAL, WEEK 3 OF 5

JobDevelopment.org/AtlanticLMR

April 16, 2026



Get this kind of LMI every week

Welcome to Week 3 of our 5 week free trial of the **Atlantic Labour Market Report**. We still have two weeks to go, but if you would like to get this newsletter every week moving forward, **AND** a **10% discount**, let us know right away. A subscription is just **\$19.95 per month**, with discounts for quarter- and year-long subscriptions. [Click here to subscribe](#)

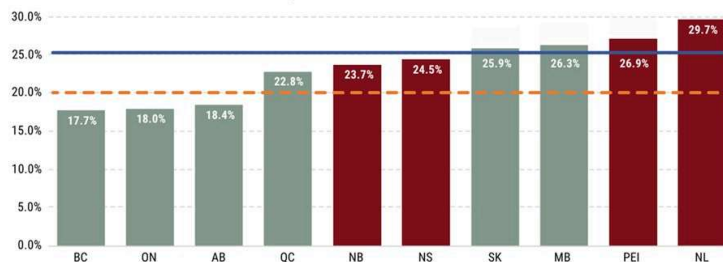
Sincerely, Christian Saint Cyr

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Publisher, Atlantic Labour Market Report.

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Public Sector Employment in Atlantic Canada



[Canadian Job Development Network](#)

Government pushes employers to hire youth

Governments throughout Atlantic Canada spend more on public sector employment

Public Sector / Economic Analysis

Atlantic Canadian provincial and municipal government sectors were larger than the national average in 2024, which resulted in \$2.7 billion in extra costs for taxpayers, according to a new report published by the **Fraser Institute**.

“Larger government workforces mean a larger public sector wage bill for taxpayers,” said Ben Eisen, Fraser Institute senior

This week for **#MotivatingMondays**, we talked about steps Employment and Social Development Canada is

fellow and co-author of 'Measuring the Size and Cost of Atlantic Canada's Government Workforce'.

The study finds that across Canada, sub-national (provincial and municipal) government sector employees accounted for 18.4 per cent of all jobs in Canada in 2024. All four Atlantic provinces exceeded that percentage, with Newfoundland and Labrador at 26.5 per cent, followed by Prince Edward Island (22.5), Nova Scotia (22.3), and New Brunswick (20.4). Measured on a per-capita basis, the four Atlantic provinces also exceeded the national average. Whereas the national average was 94 provincial and municipal employees per 1,000 residents, PEI and NL had 117, NS had 110 and NB had 97.

It should be noted that while the Atlantic provinces may have more employees per capita, with a smaller overall population, this is necessary to be able to provide all of the services and supports required of a provincial government.

The following is a breakdown of insights from this report:

- *Past analyses have shown that Atlantic Canada's public-sector workforce is unusually large compared with the national average and that high levels of government employment impose significant costs on taxpayers. This bulletin uses Statistics Canada data to quantify the size of Atlantic Canada's public sector and estimate the fiscal implications of elevated public-sector employment in the region.*
- *In 2024, public-sector employment accounted for 20.1% of all jobs nationally. In Atlantic Canada, the average was substantially higher at 25.4%. All four Atlantic provinces recorded public-sector employment shares above the national average.*
- *Elevated public-sector employment, combined with higher-than-average compensation premiums, means that government workers receive a disproportionately large share of total labour income in Atlantic Canada compared with the rest of the country.*
- *If subnational public-sector employment rates in Atlantic Canada had matched the national average in 2024, the four Atlantic provinces would have employed approximately 35,000 fewer government workers, reducing their combined public-sector wage bills by an estimated \$2.7 billion. For context, the combined operating deficits projected for these provinces in 2025/26 total \$2.9 billion.*

Click here to download: [Measuring the Size and Cost of Atlantic Canada's Government Workforce](#)

New Brunswick Truck Driver PNP: The Easiest Path to Canada PR for Truck Drivers Transportation / Immigration

There is an acute shortage of competent truck drivers in Canada, which has improved immigration chances significantly. Out of all the Canadian provinces, **New Brunswick Truck Driver PNP** immigration program has

taking to make it more challenging for employers to hire temporary foreign workers. As of April 1, 2026, employers applying for a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) under the low-wage stream of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program must advertise positions for a minimum of eight consecutive weeks — double the previous four-week requirement. Forcing employers to look closer at domestic candidates, specifically youth, will create opportunities for job developers.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

[Read the Apr. 13th Job Development Pulse](#)

[Watch it on Youtube](#)

We make these sessions available EVERY WEEK on **YouTube** and most podcast platforms for people who can't attend in person. This could be a great diversion from the eternal question: why do some people get Easter Monday off and others have to work?

Email:

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www.JobDevelopment.org

Next Topic:
Employers share the workplace

NEW BRUNSWICK

NOVA SCOTIA

become one of the most lucrative ways of becoming a PR candidate.

The best provinces for truck drivers include: New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia. Out of these provinces, New Brunswick is unique since it offers a dedicated truck driver route and an employer-focused system. This province has a constant requirement for truck drivers because of logistics and business operations.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Legislative Sitting Concludes with Budget, Powering the Economy Act Passed

Government / Funding

Budget 2026–27 key investments include \$47.5 million to hire more paramedics and emergency medical responders across the province, \$47.1 million to pay more to family doctors – including those covering shifts in long-term care facilities, hospitals and rural emergency departments – and \$1.2 billion for the **Halifax Infirmary Expansion Project** and the **Cape Breton Regional Municipality Health Care** redevelopment project.

The government is investing \$873.8 million toward its plan to build 5,700 new and replacement long-term care spaces by 2032. Seven new facilities are expected to open this year in communities from Bridgetown to Arichat. Operating funding of \$20.8 million will support those new facilities, and an additional \$26.5 million will go to the **Home Support Direct Funding Program** to help more seniors stay in their homes. The **Seniors Care Grant** program continues with \$26.5 million in funding.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

P.E.I. tourism operators mull how to keep workers as Holland College programs end

Tourism / Education

P.E.I.'s tourism and hospitality industries will no longer be able to rely on hiring graduates from a number of **Holland College** programs, which were suspended in 2025. They include hotel

skills they most want

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Mon. Apr. 20, 2026

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and restaurant operations management, marketing and advertising management, and tourism, travel and event management. The final class of students in those programs is set to graduate this spring.

"It will be a big hit to our industry," said Corryn Clemence, the CEO of the Tourism Industry Association of P.E.I., noting that the hiring rate out of those programs is very high. *"If you look at those three programs specifically, we're looking at about 90 to 100 students per year that would be educated and trained and ready to enter the workforce."*

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Newfoundland and Labrador named Provincial-Territorial Co-Chair of the Forum of Ministers Responsible for Immigration

Government / Immigration Policy

Newfoundland and Labrador has begun its three-year term as the provincial-territorial co-chair of the **Forum of Ministers Responsible for Immigration**, joining the permanent federal co-chair, **Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada**. The forum brings together federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for immigration to advance shared priorities that support a flexible, timely and effective immigration system and strengthen the economic and social benefits of immigration across Canada.

The federal and provincial-territorial co-chairs work alongside provincial and territorial partners to advance multilateral discussions related to immigration priorities, including but not limited to immigration levels planning, economic immigration and settlement and integration, consistent with the shared jurisdiction of immigration in Canada.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

Major labour market stories from the past week

Breaking Labour Market News for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador

- Prince Edward Island budget shows focus on trade, red tape reduction but falls short on immediate cost relief for small businesses ([Click Here](#))
- Government of Canada supports the expansion of Sai Krishna Foods in Cap-Pelé ([Click Here](#))
- First Nations continue call to save Mactaquac salmon facility ([Click Here](#))
- N.B. bleeds 4,700 full-time jobs, balanced out by part-time gains ([Click Here](#))
- Legislative Sitting Concludes with Budget, Powering the Economy Act Passed ([Click Here](#))
- Career fair, skills competition in Cape Breton hopes to address need for trades workers ([Click Here](#))
- Skilled trades and technology on display at Nova Scotia Skills Competition ([Click Here](#))
- Economic growth 'less collaborative' after budget cuts, says Cape Breton Partnership ([Click Here](#))
- Dalhousie career advisor preps students for competitive summer job season ([Click Here](#))
- Cumberland library workers vote unanimously to unionize ([Click Here](#))
- Prince Edward Island holds unscheduled immigration draw focused on international graduates ([Click Here](#))
- Cape Breton Partnership to host job fair series in May ([Click Here](#))
- Dalhousie career advisor preps students for competitive summer job season ([Click Here](#))
- Work permit freeze extended to Vancouver, Winnipeg, and Halifax ([Click Here](#))

This Week on LinkedIn

Please take the time to 'like' or follow:

[Atlantic Labour Market Report on LinkedIn](#)
[Christian Saint Cyr on LinkedIn](#)

Check out our new Podcast: [#MotivatingMondays](#) which looks exclusively at the Job Development Sector.

- Report details consequences of aging N.B. population on workforce ([Click Here](#))
- Nova Scotia Simplifies Zero Per Cent Interest Program for Student Loan Borrowers ([Click Here](#))
- Budget Address 2026 for the Government of Prince Edward Island ([Click Here](#))
- N.L. pharmacists call for more support as vacancy rates climb higher ([Click Here](#))

On our social media feeds we only post labour market and job search information, research and the occasional ironic observation. You can trust our **LinkedIn** feeds. We carefully evaluate social media posts to see if they would be valuable to you.

We don't want to waste your time. For instance, we're not going to post articles like: ['Giddy teenagers,' Justin Trudeau and Katy Perry go viral at Coachella after dancing to Justin Bieber.](#) *Is it just me or does that headline look like something you would get in a game of Mad Libs?*

Your time is valuable and we wouldn't want to waste it, follow us on [LinkedIn](#) :-)

Community Calendar

Career Development Events

Atlantic Strong: 16 ways trade is changing our labour market

The 2026 Atlantic Labour Market Conference, LMC26

June 25th and 26th, 2026

30% Discount for Registrations Received by May 14, 2026

Hosted online by the Atlantic Labour Market Report

Learn More: [Conference Website](#) | [Information Sheet](#) | [Registration](#)

#MotivatingMondays for Job Developers

Monday April 20th at 12:30pm in the Maritimes / 1:00pm in Newfoundland

Topic: Employers share the workplace skills they most want

Hosted by the Canadian Job Development Network

Free for All Attendees

Start your free membership to get your weekly link

For more info: www.JobDevelopment.org

Job Postings

Career Development Employment

To post a job here, please email: admin@labourmarketsolutions.ca

(When you write your cover letter, please mention you saw this advertisement in the Atlantic Labour Market Report)

[Recruitment Coordinator](#)

FundyPros Specialty Construction

Dieppe, NB

Closes: Unknown

[Mental Health Worker - Employment Unit \(At Work\)](#)

Canadian Mental Health Association

Summerside, PE

Closes: Unknown

[Employment Services Officer \(Client Services Officer\)](#)

College of the North Atlantic

St. John's, NL

Closes: Apr. 10, 2026

[BRIDGE Coach](#)

Key Industries

Saint John, NB

Closes: Unknown

[Employment Counsellor \(4-day work week\)](#)

Avalon Employment Inc.

St. John's, NL

Closes: Unknown

[Mental Health Worker - Employment Unit](#)

Canadian Mental Health Association

Alberton, Prince Edward Island

Closes: Unknown

Did you know?

Fascinating Facts

According to the March 2026 Labour Force Survey, the youth unemployment rate is 13.8%. Across the country, two out of every five job seekers are between the ages of 15 and 24.

- **Statistics Canada**

Quote of the Week

Career Inspiration.

"That worried me early on in my career - that I would change. If I went to New York or Los Angeles that I would become somebody I wouldn't like. That person that gets a big head and starts thinking they're more special than anyone else. I never wanted to be that person."

- **Anne Murray**

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