

July 2017 Labour Force Survey metrics for Sault Ste Marie

Each month Stats Canada release Labour Force Estimates Census Agglomerations including Sault Ste. Marie.

	July 2017	July 2016	July 2015
Population ('000)	66.7	67.1	67.5
Labour Force ('000)	37.8	38.7	35.1
Employed ('000)	35.7	36.0	31.5
Unemployed ('000)	2.1	2.6	3.6
Not in Labour Force ('000)	28.8	28.4	32.4
Participation Rate	56.7	57.7	52.0
Unemployment Rate	5.6	6.7	10.3
Employment Rate	53.5	53.7	46.7

Population, for the purpose of the Labour Force Survey, defines the number of people 15 years of age and over.

Labour Force is the total number people who are employed or actively looking for employment.

Participation rate is the number of employed and unemployed as a percentage of the population. People who are Not included in the participation rate are those who do not work or cannot work (students, homemakers, incarcerated people, and retirees).

Unemployment rate is the measure of people actively searching for work, who cannot find any divided by the number of people in the labour force. Unemployment can be further broken down into voluntary (searching for other means of employment) or involuntary (fired or laid off).

Employment rate is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population that are 15 years of age or over.

What do the can we tell from the Employment Numbers

- The unemployment rate is lower at 5.6% compared to the same time last year.
- Total number is of jobs (employment) is down by about 300 jobs from the same time last year – 35,700 vs. 36,000. This is also below the 20-year average of approximately 37,000 jobs.
- Participation and Employment rates have improved from their levels 2 years ago, but have slightly dropped compared to last year.
- Participation and Employment rates close to 50% means that for every person in the participating local labour market, one person is not. This is related to Sault Ste. Marie's aging population, which is seeing more people retiring and leaving the workforce than entering it.
- Typically, the summer months show an increase in employment rates as more seasonal jobs are available.
- Employment then drops in September.

