

Sault Ste. Marie Labour Force Survey Data Analysis | October 2022

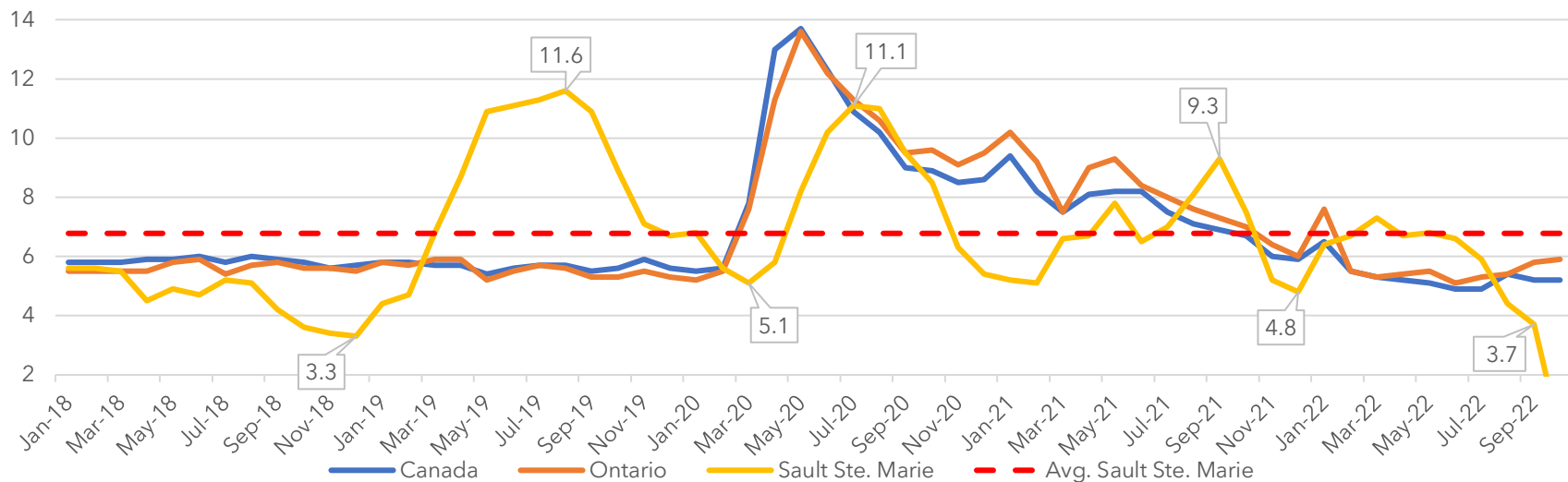
Unemployment Rate

- Sault Ste. Marie’s unemployment rate in October 2022 was suppressed, meaning that the number of unemployed individuals is under the confidentiality threshold of 1,500 individuals. (Canada 5.2%, Ontario 5.9%).
- October 2022 is the lowest recorded unemployment rate over the last 4 years for Sault Ste. Marie.
- This represents a drop from 3.7% in September 2022 and is lower than last year’s high of 7.3% in October 2021.
- The low unemployment rate can be attributed to several factors and potentially indicates a tight labour market/labour shortage. Either potential workers are finding work, or potential workers are dropping out of the labour force and no longer looking for work.
- The national and provincial rates have remained similar and steady over the past 3 months.

If we compare unemployment rates by age group, we can see that all of Sault Ste. Marie’s data is suppressed due to confidentiality thresholds of Statistics Canada and reflects the overall low unemployment rate of workers aged 15 years and over. Provincially and nationally, the 15 to 24 age group trends higher in unemployment rates than the other age groups.

Unemployment Rate	15 years and over	15 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	55 years and over
Sault Ste Marie	x	x	x	x
Ontario	5.9%	12.9%	4.6%	5.0%
Canada	5.2%	10.6%	4.2%	4.6%

Unemployment Rate - October 2022



Data Source: Statistic Canada. Labour force estimates by age, Sault Ste. Marie (Census Agglomeration), 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, January 2018 to present (persons x 1,000)

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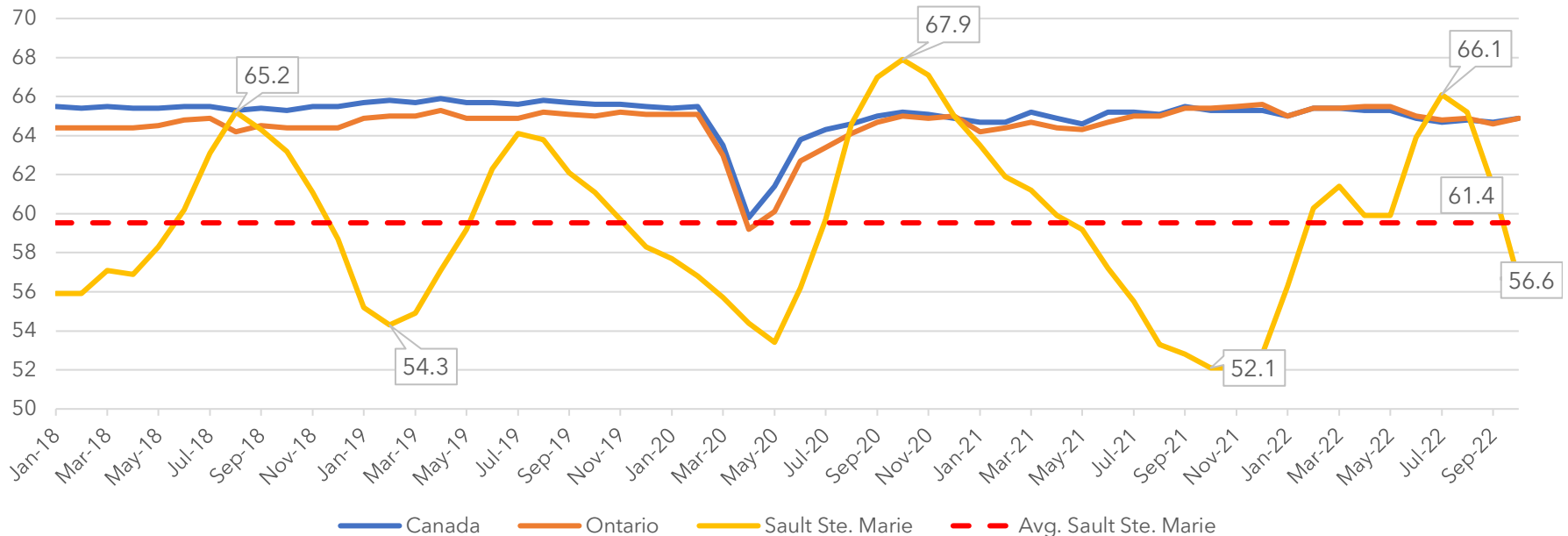
Participation Rate

- Sault Ste. Marie’s participation rate in October 2022 was 56.6% (Canada 64.9%, Ontario 64.9%).
- The participation rate dropped 4.8 percentage points from 61.4% in September 2022.
- Notably, the participation rate remains higher than the previous year’s participation rate of 52.1% in October 2021.
- In general, Sault Ste. Marie’s lower participation rate (compared to national and provincial rates) is mainly attributable to the fact that we have an older population and therefore more individuals in the labour pool are exiting the labour force.

If we compare participation rates by age group, we can see that Sault Ste. Marie is in line with the provincial and national rates for the core working ages of 25 to 54, and is significantly lower in the 55 and over age group at approx. 10% less participation.

Participation Rate	15 years and over	15 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	55 years and over
Sault Ste Marie	56.6%	58.8%	86.9%	26.1%
Ontario	64.9%	62.6%	87.4%	37.2%
Canada	64.9%	64.4%	88.2%	36.2%

Participation Rate - October 2022



Data Source: Statistic Canada. Labour force estimates by age, Sault Ste. Marie (Census Agglomeration), 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, January 2018 to present (persons x 1,000)

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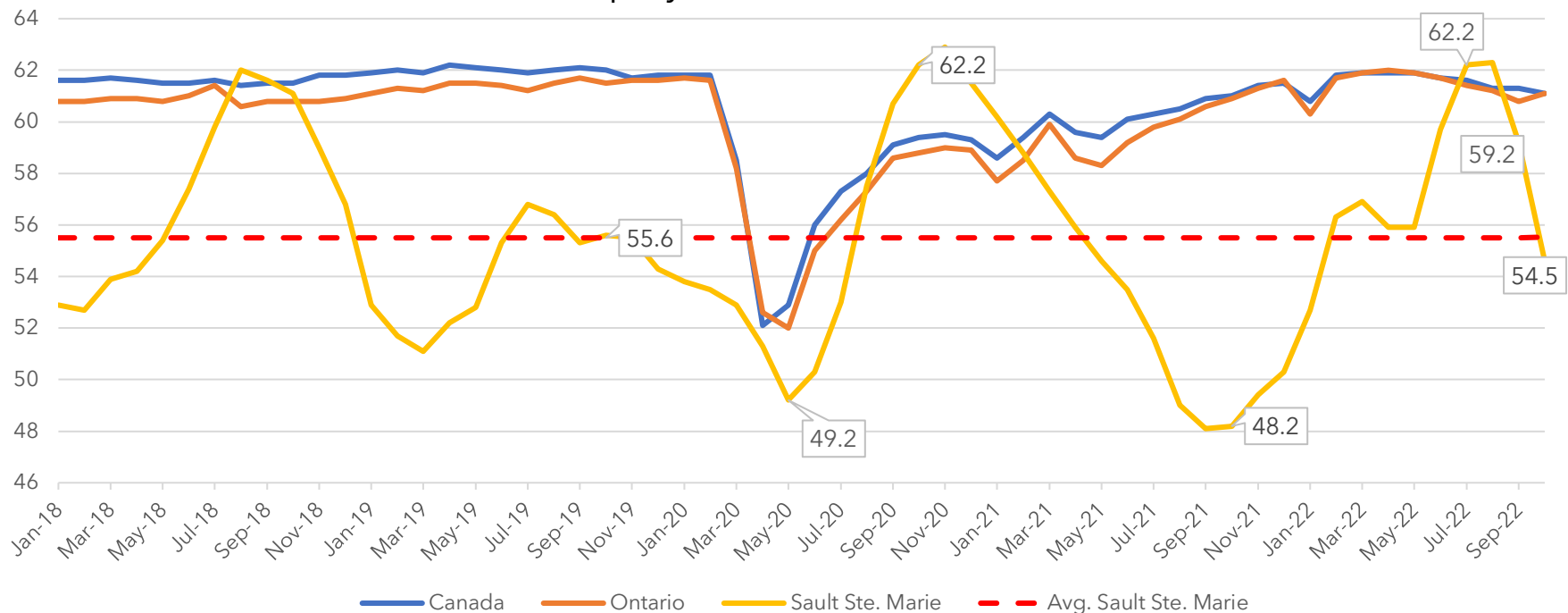
Employment Rate

- Sault Ste. Marie’s employment rate in October 2022 was 54.5% (Canada 61.1%, Ontario 61.1%).
- The employment rate dropped 4.7 percentage points from 59.2% in September 2022.
- Notably, the current employment rate is similar to the pre-pandemic rate of 55.6% in October 2019 and slightly below the 4-year average trend.

If we compare employment rates by age group, we can isolate the population aged 55 years and over, which has a lower employment rate than the provincial and national rates. The table also illustrates that we have a slightly higher employment rate in the core (25 to 54) working age groups when compared to provincial and national employment rates.

Employment Rate	15 years and over	15 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	55 years and over
Sault Ste. Marie	54.5%	58.8%	86.9%	26.1%
Ontario	61.1%	54.6%	83.4%	35.3%
Canada	61.6%	57.5%	84.5%	34.6%

Employment Rate - October 2022



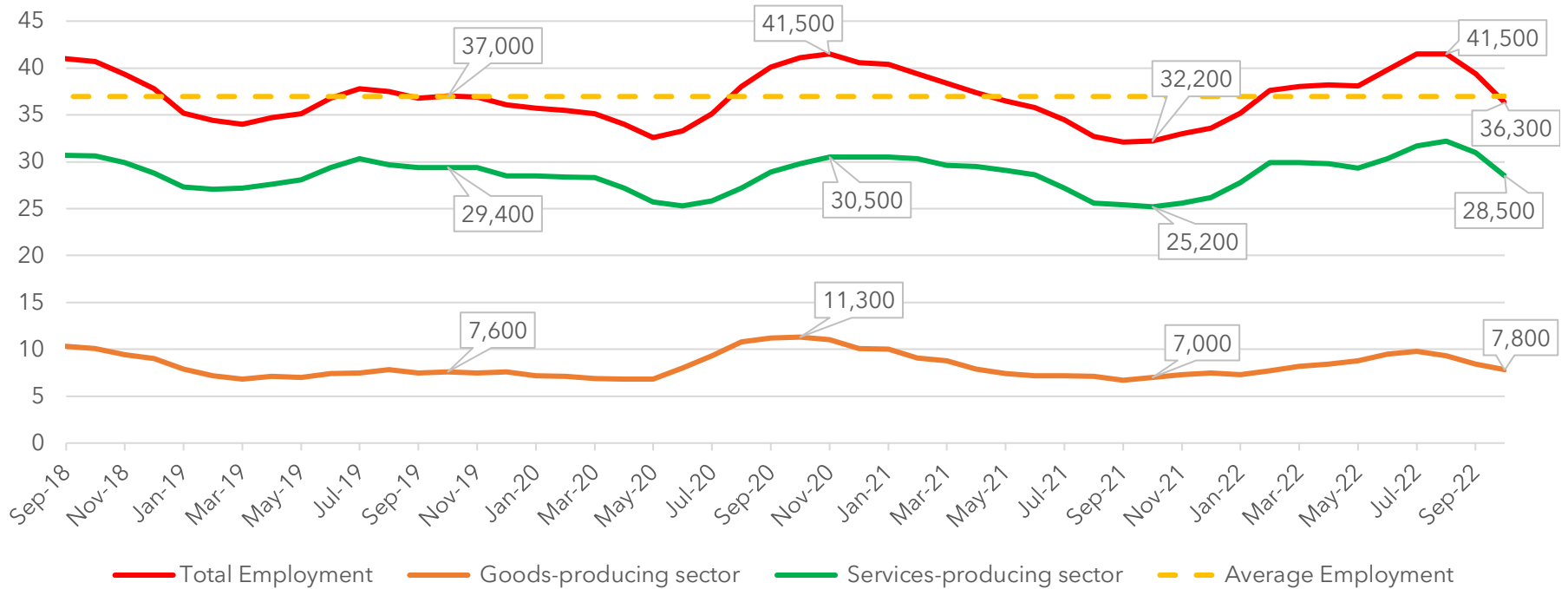
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Employment Numbers

- Sault Ste. Marie’s total employment is 36,300 for October 2022 for 15 years and over.
- A total decrease in employment of 5,200 (-13%) from August 2022.
- The current employment is similar to the pre-pandemic level of 37,00 in October 2019 and currently slightly below the average trend.
- Employment in the goods-producing sector decreased from the previous month to 7,800 (-7%) mainly in the construction sector.
- Employment in the services-producing sector decreased to 28,500 (-8%) from the previous month in the majority of all sectors.

Employment levels (x1000) by Sector - October 2022



Data Source: Statistic Canada. Labour force estimates by age, Sault Ste. Marie (Census Agglomeration), 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality, January 2018 to present (persons x 1,000)

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- Comparing employment levels in key sectors from September 2022 to October 2022, the only sector to see an increase in employment is Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+6%).
- There were prominent losses in Accommodation and food services, Information, culture and recreation, construction, and Professional, scientific and technical services sectors.
- The education services remained steady at 1,900 employed individuals in that sector.

Employment levels (x1,000) by Month

	Sept. 2022	Oct. 2022	% Change Sept. 2022 to Oct. 2022
Total, all industries	39.4	36.3	-8%
Goods-producing sector	8.4	7.8	-7%
Construction	3	2.5	-17%
Manufacturing	3.8	3.7	-3%
Services-producing sector	31	28.5	-8%
Wholesale and retail trade	4.4	3.8	-14%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	1.6	1.7	6%
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.4	2.9	-15%
Educational services	1.9	1.9	0%
Health care and social assistance	9.4	9	-4%
Information, culture and recreation	3	2.4	-20%
Accommodation and food services	1.7	x	↓
Public administration	3.4	3.2	-6%

- Compared to October 2020, total industry employment is down 5,400 (-13%), down 3,700 (-32%) in goods-producing sectors, and down by 1,700 (-6%) in the service-producing sectors.
- There are several other notable figures when looking at the percentage change in employment from October 2020 to October 2022:

Gains in employment:

- ✓ Public Administration (+52%)
- ✓ Information, culture and recreation (+33%)
- ✓ Health care and social assistance (+25%)
- ✓ Construction (+19%)

Losses in employment:

- ✓ Manufacturing (-56%)
- ✓ Wholesale and retail trade (-37%)
- ✓ Educational services (-41%)
- ✓ Accommodation and food services

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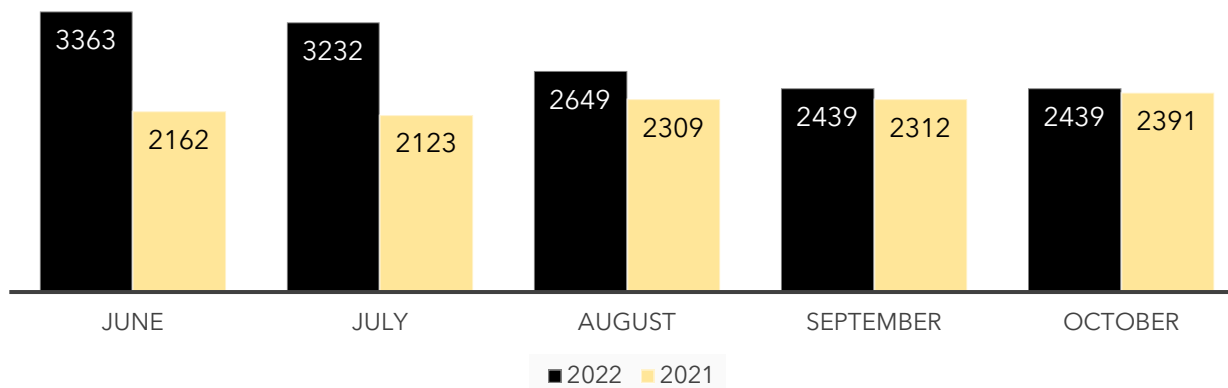
Job Postings

- There was a total of 1,852 online job postings in Sault Ste. Marie and 2,439 in Algoma for the month of October 2022.
- Overall, the total number of job postings has been decreasing.
- We continue to see strong demand in healthcare, social services, retail, and accommodations and food services occupations.

Top 10 Postings by Occupation

October 2022	October 2021
Retail Salesperson	Retail salespersons
Cooks	Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses
Social and community service workers	Other customer and information services representatives
Other customer and information services representatives	Other instructors
Home support workers housekeepers and related occupations	Light duty cleaners
Transport truck drivers	Food counter attendants, kitchen helpers and related support occupations
Light duty cleaners	Cooks
Food counter attendants kitchen helpers and related support occupations	Delivery and courier service drivers
Retail and wholesale trade managers	Social and community service workers
Administrative assistants	Retail and wholesale trade managers

Total number of job postings - Algoma



Glossary of Terms:

Population (x 1,000)

- The number of persons of working age (15 years and over). Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred

Labour Force (x 1,000)

- Number of civilian, non-institutionalized persons 15 years of age and over who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred.

Employment (x 1,000)

- The number of persons who, during the reference week, worked for pay or profit, performed unpaid family work or had a job but were not at work due to their illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, labour dispute, vacation, or other reasons. Those persons on layoff and persons without work but who had a job to start at a definite date in the future are not considered employed. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred.

Full-time Employment (x 1,000)

- Full-time employment consists of persons who usually work 30 hours or more per week at their main or only job. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred.

Part-time Employment (x1,000)

- Part-time employment consists of persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week at their main or only job. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred.

Unemployment (x 1,000)

- The number of persons who, during the reference week, were without work, had looked for work in the past four weeks and were available for work. Those persons on layoff or who had a new job to start in four weeks or less are considered unemployed. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred. The unemployment rate does not consider unemployed workers who have given up looking altogether, even though they want to work.

Not in the Labour Force (x 1,000)

- Persons in the civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age and over who, during the reference week, were neither employed nor unemployed. Estimates in thousands rounded to the nearest hundred.

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Unemployment rate:

- The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (age, sex and marital status) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group. Estimates are percentages, rounded to the nearest tenth.

Participation Rate:

- The participation rate is the number of labour force participants expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The participation rate for a particular group (age, sex and marital status) is the number of labour force participants in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group. Estimates are percentages, rounded to the nearest tenth.

Employment Rate:

- The employment rate (formerly the employment/population ratio) is the number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex and marital status) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group. Estimates are percentages, rounded to the nearest tenth.

“X” Suppressed data

- To ensure the respondent's confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act, detailed data are suppressed. Data for Ontario are suppressed if the estimate is below 1,500. “x” Suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.

How the Unemployment Rate is Calculated for Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie's monthly Labour Force Survey estimates are based on a sample of the working-age population (the population 15 years and above). For example, the results in a typical month would be based on the survey completions of 205 households and these would be extrapolated for the entire working population of 66,500.

While labour force estimates are produced for Census Agglomerations such as Sault Ste. Marie, the Labour Force Survey sample is not allocated specifically at this level of geography. Sault Ste. Marie's data is captured within surveys of the entire North East region of Ontario. Regular sample rotation within the larger Economic Regions (ERs) that contain these communities may cause the sample size within CA boundaries to vary over time. As a result, data level movements may be due to real change, or they may be due to data variability from changes in sample size. Users are encouraged to use the employment rate and participation rate as their main variables of analysis. These estimates are the most reliable, while other estimates should be interpreted with caution.

Job Postings

The monthly Job Demand Report for the Algoma District and the Unorganized North Algoma District in Ontario is created using data collected by the Algoma Workforce Investment Corporation from national, provincial and locally-significant job boards as well as employer career pages.

For this report, only job postings in Sault Ste. Marie are referenced.

Previous Job Demand Reports can be found at <https://awic.ca/job-demand-report/>



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