



Labour Market Bulletin

Human Resource Centre of Canada

Sudbury

~ An Analysis of the Sudbury Area Labour Market ~ October To December 2003 ~

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An overview of the Sudbury area, including The City of Greater Sudbury (The City of Sudbury, Nickel Centre, Onaping Falls, Rayside Balfour, Valley East, Walden), the Whitefish Reserve, Sudbury East, Espanola, Manitoulin Island, Massey, & Nairn Centre.

The Sudbury labour market exhibited little change in the fourth quarter of 2003. While the employment rate remained fairly stable at 57.0%, the unemployment rate edged down from 9.3% to 8.9% during the quarter. A small decrease in the labour force (-500) resulted in the lower unemployment rate.

Sudbury's mining sector continues to face challenges. Falconbridge recorded a profit for the third quarter, however, Inco faced losses due to a lengthy labour dispute that ended at the end of August 2003. Cost cutting remains a priority for both companies. As a result, Inco has cut 160 positions from the payroll, while continuing to invest in technology to produce nickel. A new hydrometallurgical processing plant under development is expected to reduce smelting costs by one-third. Falconbridge may be facing a strike early in the new year. Workers are demanding higher wages as the price of nickel tops \$5 (US) per pound – the highest it has been in twenty years.

Research and development activity continues to expand. The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory, originally designed as a three-year experiment to learn more about the creation of the universe, will become a permanent research facility due to a grant of nearly \$39 million. Laurentian University has partnered with mining companies in the North to design and manage a virtual reality laboratory to assist in assessing ore discoveries in remote areas. The jobs being created in research and development are highly skilled. Investments in scientific research and technological advancements are enhancing the image of Sudbury in the global marketplace.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ 100 Domtar workers laid off for two weeks in December.
- ▶ Falconbridge records a third-quarter profit, while Inco reports a loss.
- ▶ Inco cuts 160 positions through attrition.
- ▶ \$38.9 million in funding ensures the future of The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory; an additional 12 workers to be hired.

The Sudbury HRCC Labour Market Bulletin is a quarterly report produced by the Area Labour Market Information Analyst. This bulletin and other LMI products may also be found at: www.labourmarketinformation.ca

For further information contact:

Marilyn Prus,
Labour Market Information Analyst

Telephone: (705) 670-6674

Visit our website at: <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca>

Note: *In preparing this Bulletin, HRDC has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since the Bulletin was published. Readers are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this Bulletin does not necessarily reflect official policies of HRDC.*



LABOUR MARKET NEWS

Highlights on industry activities that have an impact on the local labour market, this information is derived from several sources including local newspapers, newsletters and various publications. Please refer to "Notes to Readers" for additional information.

Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas

Forestry

In order to reduce its stockpile, the Domtar mill in Espanola shut down its hardwood pulp operation for two weeks at the end of December. Approximately 100 employees were affected by the closure.

Mid North Monitor, December 3, 2003

Fishing

Coldwater Fisheries in Little Current laid off 17 employees in the processing plant from October to January. In order to maintain their present production levels, the company needs to expand. The company is not producing enough fish to meet the demand. Until a sufficient supply of mature fish is available, orders will be filled by their east coast operation. Normally the company processes 60,000 pounds of fish per week, but is presently processing only 25% of that. Government approval for additional cages in the Manitoulin area is not expected in the near future.

Manitoulin Expositor, October 22, 2003

Mining

Walbridge Mining Company Limited will spend \$2.6 million over the next 16 months to explore 18 mining properties in the Sudbury area. Walbridge Mining was established in 1996 to discover and develop deposits of nickel, copper and platinum group metals.

Sudbury Star, October 10, 2003

In 2001, Falconbridge Ltd. discovered a promising ore body near the Sudbury airport - the Nickel Rim Deposit. Last year the company sank an exploratory shaft. Initial estimates indicate there is about eight million tonnes of average grade nickel ore in the discovery area. The company is building an access road, a headframe and hoist house, a temporary shop, office, dry facilities and a wastewater management system. If the Nickel Rim Deposit proves to be economically feasible, production could begin in 2008.

Northern Life, November 7, 2003

Falconbridge Ltd. reported a profit of \$21.3 million in the third quarter compared to a loss of \$15 million for the same period a year ago. Higher profits were expected, but operating costs increased due to currency fluctuations, high energy costs and lower grades of ore mined in Sudbury and Kidd Creek. Company executives stated that the outlook for both nickel and copper is positive for at least the next two years.

Globe and Mail, October 18, 2003

Contract talks between Falconbridge Ltd and Mine Mill Local 598/Canadian Auto Workers began November 31, 2003. The current contract will expire in February, 2004. More than 1,000 workers will be directly affected, should a strike occur. Since nickel prices are well over \$5.50 US per pound, wages are one of the main issues for the workers. Current nickel prices are higher than they have been in over 20 years.

Northern Life, November 26, 2003

Inco has recently completed a \$13 million (US) mini-hydrometallurgical processing test plant in Toronto. Hydrometallurgical processing is an innovative, more environmentally friendly and cost effective method of refining ore. The first test run of the new plant performed well. A similar refinery is expected to be put into production in Argentina, Newfoundland by 2011. In the meantime, any ore mined in Voisey's Bay, Labrador, will be processed at the Sudbury mill, using traditional methods. If the new process works as well as the initial trial suggests, Inco will be able to refine nickel concentrate for about one-third of its current cost. The Sudbury operation has to produce nickel at about \$2 per pound to be profitable. The new plant in Newfoundland would allow the company to refine nickel for about \$1.15 per pound. This new technology may impact on employment levels at the Sudbury operation, which now employs about 200 workers.

Globe and Mail, October 4, 2003

Inco reported third quarter losses of \$27 million US, despite increases in nickel prices. (Nickel rose to an average of \$4.36 US per pound for this quarter from \$3.29 a year ago.) The losses have been blamed on a three-month strike in Sudbury and Port Colborne, which began in June and cost the company \$46 million. The company is continuing its efficiency drive and is seeking to reduce its operational budget (\$600 million) by 10 to 15 %. The Sudbury operation has cut its staff by 160 this year through attrition.

Sudbury Star, October 22, 2003

Construction

New home construction is rising steadily in the Sudbury area. According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), there were 25 single-detached starts and 2 semi-detached starts in October - 6 more than for the same month a year ago. The year-to-date total for single-detached starts was 235, up 2.2% (5 units) from last year's 10 month total.

Northern Life, November 14, 2003



CMHC is predicting an increased demand for housing in the Sudbury area in 2004, and an increase in the average price of a home. The agency is also forecasting an increase in single housing construction starts, from 310 in 2003 to 320 in 2004. The construction of multiple units is expected to rise from six to 10 over the same period. Low interest rates are cited as the driver behind the positive housing market. Out-migration has slowed dramatically and, while the area still has a high unemployment rate, the employment rate has remained stable. A high unemployment rate can be attractive to new businesses, offering them a ready supply of workers.
Sudbury Star, October 29, 2003

A 512-foot bridge to span the French River is being constructed to allow snowmobilers access to trails in Southern Ontario. Construction costs are expected to be well over \$1 million. J and S Schmitz Over Hauling and Manufacturing of Spanish was awarded the contract. CopperCliff Mechanical of Sudbury will be assembling the bridge, which will be delivered to the site in five pieces. Mine Tech Incorporated, also from Sudbury, will be responsible for pouring the foundation for the structure.
Mid North Monitor, October 15, 2003

M'Chigeeng First Nation, a community located on the northern shore of Manitoulin Island, will begin construction in West Bay on a fair-weather marina in 2004. The cost of the project is estimated at \$323,465. The new marina will enhance existing tourist and recreational facilities that include a boat launch and ramp.
Manitoulin Expositor, December 17, 2003

Trade

Leathers by Marie Leblanc has re-opened in the Rainbow Outlet Mall, after an eight year hiatus.
Sudbury Star, October 4, 2003

The Saan store, a retail outlet in the Lasalle Court Mall in Sudbury, will close at the end of December. Two other Saan stores, one in Val Caron, and in Chelmsford, remain open.
Sudbury Star, November 19, 2003

Giant Tiger in Espanola is expanding. Construction on the new store will be completed by Spring 2004. Presently, there are 30 employees. An additional 20 people will be hired for the new store.
Sudbury Star, November 19, 2003

The Marketplace, a small grocery store with a deli counter and salad bar, opened in December 2003 in the Rainbow Value Outlet in downtown Sudbury. The store will hire as many as 25 full- and part-time staff.
Sudbury Star, November 14, 2003

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing

Sixteen striking members of the Communications, Energy and Paperworks (CEP) Union Local 74-1 have reached a five-year agreement with their employer, the Espanola and District Credit Union. Workers had been on strike since June 23, 2003. The main issue in the strike was job security. All 16 positions have been maintained.
Mid North Monitor, October 22, 2003

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO), a laboratory built 6,800 feet below the surface in Inco's Creighton Mine, has received \$1 million for research. Researchers at SNO are learning more about how the universe was formed by studying neutrinos. SNO is now recognized as a major training ground for the study of particle, nuclear and astrophysicists from around the world. Initially, SNO was to be in operation for three years. More research dollars will extend the life of the facility, which employs about 24 workers. Presently, the SNO website has seven vacant research positions, each requiring a doctorate in physics.
Sudbury Star, November 25, 2003

The Canadian Foundation for Innovation has provided \$38.9 million to construct a permanent neutrino laboratory adjacent to the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO). The new facility will require an additional 12 staff. Excavation for the new facility is expected to begin in March 2004.
Sudbury Star, December 2, 2003

Laurentian University's Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation (MIRARCO) in partnership with Goldcorp Inc. and Placer Dome Canada, has established the first virtual reality laboratory (VRL) in an active mining camp in Red Lake. MIRARCO designed and manages the \$1.25 million VRL, which is located in Red Lake, Ontario. The VRL will be used by over 30 mining companies to analyze discoveries simultaneously. The VRL will allow board members in Toronto to visualize an ore body in real time with personnel situated in Red Lake. MIRARCO and its partners are working on another project that will use the VRL to network four mining sites in Northern Ontario. The Northern Ontario Visualization Network (NAVNET) would link Red Lake, Timmins, Kirkland Lake and Thunder Bay.
Northern Life, December 12, 2003

Health Care & Social Assistance

St. Joseph's Villa, the City of Greater Sudbury's newest long-term care facility, opened December 1, 2003. The facility is located on Laurentian University property. Laurentian students in health care and related disciplines will gain practical experience at the facility.
Sudbury Star, December 1, 2003



Accommodation & Food Services

In August, Quizno's Sub, a fast-food franchise, opened an outlet on Lasalle Boulevard in Sudbury with 20 employees. Business has been so good that the franchise operator plans on opening a second outlet in the Algonquin Square Mall in the south end. An additional 20 people will be hired for the new operation.

Sudbury Star, October 25, 2003

Tourism

Tourism is an important component of the economy of Manitoulin Island. More cruise ships are starting to include Manitoulin as a port of call, and the number of cruise passengers stopping on the Island is expected to triple in 2004. The Orion, a new 106-passenger ship launched in Germany and the Nantucket Clipper with an estimated 3,000 passengers, will each dock three times next summer.

Sudbury Star, October 16, 2003

The Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands (NEMI) Community Development and Lakeshore Excursions announced that the number of cruise ships visiting the area this year will increase. An additional 20 visits by cruise ships are scheduled this year, bringing over 3,000 tourists. It has been estimated that each visitor spends about \$50 a day on shore. The additional visitors could potentially inject \$150,000 into the local economy.

The number of visitors stopping at the Tourist Information Centre at the intersection of Highways 6 and Highway 17 has steadily increased over the past three years. From June to September 2003, there were 9,447 visitors stopping by the centre. The Espanola economic development branch is expecting the numbers to top 10,000 this year. The increase in visitors is being attributed to the many tour busses that use the intersection as a routine stop. As yet, the higher Canadian dollar has not adversely affected tourism in the Espanola/Manitoulin area. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the number of European visitors, especially visitors from Germany, is on the rise.

It seems that tourism in the Espanola/Manitoulin area is bucking the national trend. While foreign visitors are on the rise in the Espanola/Manitoulin area, they are in decline for the nation as a whole. According to Statistics Canada's figures, the number of foreign visitors to Canada fell in August 2003 for the seventh time in eight months. The number of Canadians taking foreign trips rose for the third time in four

months. The stronger Canadian dollar has made it more costly for foreigners to visit Canada but more affordable for Canadians to visit other countries.

Mid North Monitor, October 15, 2003 & Sudbury Star, October 21, 2003 Manitoulin Expositor, December 17, 2003

Science North has received \$500,000 from FedNor to create a 4-D theatre experience about bush pilots and their role in the development of Northern Ontario. They are partnering with the Canadian Bush Pilot Heritage Centre (CBHC) in Sault Ste. Marie. The completed project is expected to cost \$3,245,000. The new attraction is expected to encourage visitors to stay longer in the Sudbury area, giving them more attractions to visit.

Northern Life, November 14, 2003

Bits & Pieces

Our community has identified out migration, and particularly the out-migration of our youth, as a prime concern. The out migration issue has been well documented in the City of Greater Sudbury's June 2003 Strategic Plan and in several environmental scans completed by the Sudbury Manitoulin Training and Adjustment Board. Net out-migration hit 2,923 in 1998-1999, but dropped to 521 for 2001-2002. The decline in out-migration over that four-year period had far reaching economic benefits for the entire community. The apartment vacancy rate has fallen from 11.1% in 1999 to 5.1% in 2002. Similarly, the average selling price of a home rose from \$105,092 in 1999 to \$111,113 in 2001, while new home construction climbed from 226 to 315 during this same period.

Statistics Canada is projecting a decline in the population for the City of Greater Sudbury over the next three years. In 1996, the city's population was 165,618. By 2001, it dropped to 155,601. It is expected to drop another 5 percent by 2006. The population decline is due to low birth rates combined with a lack of immigrants to the area. On a more positive note, Statistics Canada points out that:

- there are business opportunities to service an aging population;
- Sudbury is one of the most bilingual communities in the country; and
- housing prices are inexpensive compared to other urban centres.

Sudbury Star, October 24, 2003



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

Sudbury Census Metropolitan Area

Sudbury labour market calm in the 4th quarter - Shift from full-time to part-time employment

Labour market conditions in the Sudbury CMA were generally stable in the fourth quarter of 2003. The labour force participation rate edged down slightly, from 63.0% in the third quarter to 62.7%. There was a 3 percent decline in the number of people working full-time in the CMA. However, this was mostly offset by a 10 percent gain in part-time jobs. The net result was a minute employment loss, and Sudbury's employment rate was virtually unchanged at 57.0%. Moreover, since this modest decline was edged out by the small labour force contraction, unemployment fell. Consequently, Sudbury's unemployment rate decreased from 9.3% in the third quarter to 8.9%.

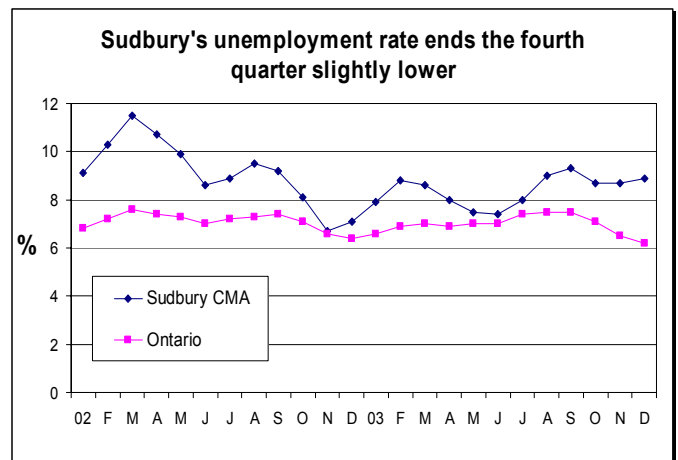
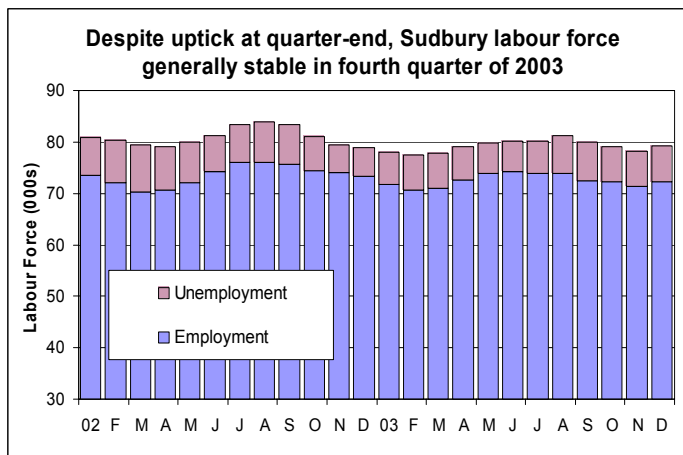
Current conditions are similar to those recorded in the CMA in the fourth quarter of 2002. The labour force expanded slightly year over year. Combined with a small decline in the working age population, this expansion caused Sudbury's participation rate to climb from 61.9% in the fourth quarter of 2002 to the current 62.7%. The level of employment is slightly lower year over year (-1,100). Again, the decline in the working age population lessened the impact of this job loss on the employment rate, which fell from 57.5% last year to the current 57.0%. However, the employment loss, coupled with the larger labour force, resulted in higher unemployment. As a result, Sudbury's unemployment rate rose from 7.1% in the fourth quarter of 2002 to the current 8.9%.

Sudbury Census Metropolitan Area Labour Force Trends

	October to December 2003	July to September 2003	October to December 2002	Change		Change	
				Quarter/Quarter Absolute	%	Year/Year Absolute	%
Population 15 +	126,700	126,900	127,500	-200	-0.2	-800	-0.6
Labour Force	79,400	79,900	78,900	-500	-0.6	500	0.6
Employed	72,200	72,500	73,300	-300	-0.4	-1,100	-1.5
Full-time	56,300	58,100	57,200	-1,800	-3.1	-900	-1.6
Part-time	15,900	14,400	16,100	1,500	10.4	-200	-1.2
Unemployed	7,100	7,400	5,600	-300	-4.1	1,500	26.8
Not in Labour Force	47,300	46,900	48,700	400	0.9	-1,400	-2.9
Participation Rate	62.7%	63.0%	61.9%	-0.3		0.8	
Unemployment Rate	8.9%	9.3%	7.1%	-0.4		1.8	
Employment Rate	57.0%	57.1%	57.5%	-0.1		-0.5	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



Sudbury Census Metropolitan Area Employment by Industry

Trade employment higher in the 4th quarter

Sudbury's employment level was stable in the fourth quarter. There were job gains in the services-producing sector (+1,800), the result of a 22 percent increase in Trade employment. However, these gains were offset by losses in the goods-producing sector (-2,200). Manufacturing posted the largest loss (-1,100) in the quarter.

These trends are reversed in the comparison of year-over-year data. A modest gain in the goods sector helped to offset a 3 percent decline on the services-producing side of the labour market. Employment in Educational Services was 25 percent lower than in the fourth quarter of 2002 (-2,000).

Sudbury Census Metropolitan Area Employment by Industry

Industry	October to December 2003	July to September 2003	October to December 2002	Change		Absolute	%
				Quarter/Quarter Absolute	Year/Year %		
Total	72,200	72,500	73,300	-300	-0.4	-1,100	-1.5
<i>Goods-Producing Sector</i>	15,800	18,000	15,300	-2,200	-12.2	500	3.3
Agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	7,100	7,200	6,600	-100	-1.4	500	7.6
Utilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Construction	4,400	5,000	3,600	-600	-12.0	800	22.2
Manufacturing	3,900	5,000	4,500	-1,100	-22.0	-600	-13.3
<i>Services-Producing Sector</i>	56,400	54,600	58,000	1,800	3.3	-1,600	-2.8
Trade	13,200	10,800	12,700	2,400	22.2	500	3.9
Transportation and Warehousing	3,900	3,800	3,400	100	2.6	500	14.7
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	2,600	3,200	2,800	-600	-18.8	-200	-7.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2,700	2,500	2,400	200	8.0	300	12.5
Management, Administrative and Other Support	3,600	3,200	3,400	400	12.5	200	5.9
Educational Services	5,900	5,100	7,900	800	15.7	-2,000	-25.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	10,100	9,300	9,900	800	8.6	200	2.0
Information, Culture and Recreation	2,700	3,600	2,600	-900	-25.0	100	3.8
Accommodation and Food Services	4,300	5,100	4,300	-800	-15.7	0	0.0
Other Services	2,300	2,700	3,200	-400	-14.8	-900	-28.1
Public Administration	5,000	5,300	5,500	-300	-5.7	-500	-9.1

Note: "..." indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey



Northeastern Ontario Economic Region 590

Northeast records mixed results - Labour force withdrawals lead to lower unemployment rate

The Northeastern Ontario labour market continued to weaken in the final quarter of 2003. While the unemployment rate fell to its lowest point in two years, the underlying causes for this trend were not positive. The Region did experience a sharp increase in part-time employment (+3,300). However, this was completely offset by a decline in the number of people working full-time (-3,200). As a result, the employment rate was steady at 56.2%. At the same time, labour force participation declined for the third consecutive quarter as 4,400 individuals withdrew from the labour force. This caused the participation rate to fall from 61.4% in the third quarter to 60.6%. Since the labour force contracted without any change in total employment, unemployment decreased (-4,500). Consequently, the unemployment rate fell from 8.7% in the third quarter to 7.2%. This was the lowest unemployment rate recorded in Northeastern Ontario since the last quarter of 2001.

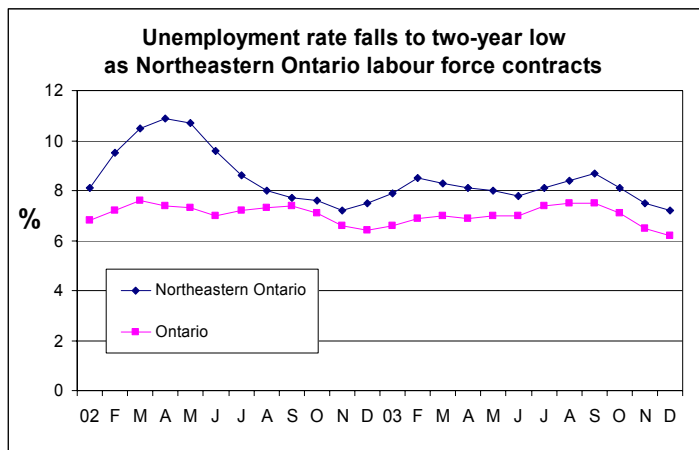
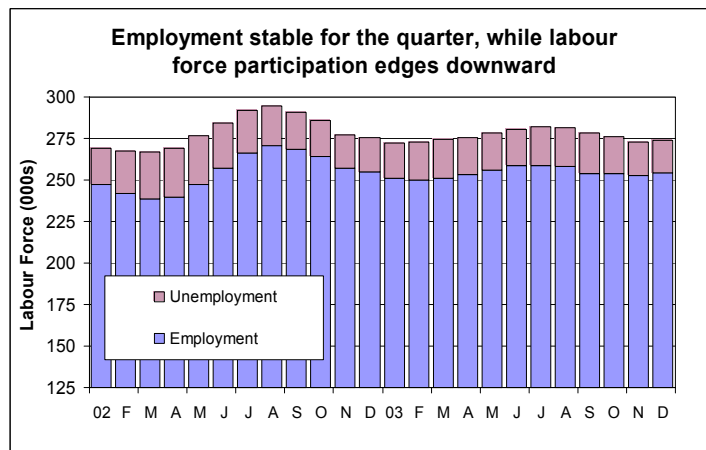
The comparison of year-over-year data for the Region yields mixed results. The labour force has contracted (-1,700). However, this decline was overshadowed by the decrease in the working age population (-4,300). As a result, the participation rate was actually higher year over year, up from 60.4% in the fourth quarter of 2002 to 60.6%. Similarly, though employment was slightly lower, the employment rate rose from 55.9% one year ago to the current 56.2% because of the smaller working age population. Moreover, since the decline in the labour force was greater than the employment loss, unemployment decreased. Consequently, Northeastern Ontario's unemployment rate edged down from 7.5% in the fourth quarter of 2002 to the current 7.2%.

Northeastern Ontario Labour Force Trends

	October to December 2003	July to September 2003	October to December 2002	Change		Change	
				Quarter/Quarter	%	Year/Year	%
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Population 15 +	451,900	452,900	456,200	-1,000	-0.2	-4,300	-0.9
Labour Force	273,700	278,100	275,400	-4,400	-1.6	-1,700	-0.6
Employed	254,100	254,000	254,800	100	0.0	-700	-0.3
Full-time	200,600	203,800	194,300	-3,200	-1.6	6,300	3.2
Part-time	53,500	50,200	60,500	3,300	6.6	-7,000	-11.6
Unemployed	19,600	24,100	20,700	-4,500	-18.7	-1,100	-5.3
Not in Labour Force	178,200	174,700	180,800	3,500	2.0	-2,600	-1.4
Participation Rate	60.6%	61.4%	60.4%	-0.8		0.2	
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	8.7%	7.5%	-1.5		-0.3	
Employment Rate	56.2%	56.1%	55.9%	0.1		0.3	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey



Northeastern Ontario Economic Region 590 Employment by Industry

Losses in goods sector offset by services gains

There was no change to the level of employment in Northeastern Ontario in the fourth quarter of 2003. There were, however, changes in the distribution of employment by industry. The number of people working in the goods-producing sector fell more than 5 percent (-3,300) during the quarter. Losses in Construction (-2,400) and in Manufacturing (-2,100) were only partially offset by an increase in Agricultural employment (+1,300). In contrast, the services-producing sector expanded by almost 2 percent during the quarter (+3,400). Gains in Educational Services (+4,500), Trade (+4,400) and Transportation and Warehousing (+2,300) were more than sufficient to overcome losses in Other Services (-3,100), Accommodation and Food Services (-2,100) and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing (-1,600).

These trends are amplified in the comparison of year-over-year data for the Region. Employment in the goods-producing sector has decreased more than 7 percent over the past four quarters (-4,800). The Construction industry posted the largest year-over-year loss, both in absolute (-2,000) and in percentage (-11.6 percent) terms. A large portion of these goods-sector losses was offset by gains on the services-producing side of the labour market. Employment in the sector was 2 percent higher than in the fourth quarter of 2002. Health Care and Social Assistance recorded the largest year-over-year gain (+3,300), followed by Public Administration (+2,300).

Northeastern Ontario Economic Region 590 Employment by Industry

Industry	October to December 2003	July to September 2003	October to December 2002	Change			
				Quarter/Quarter Absolute	%	Year/Year Absolute	%
Total	254,100	254,000	254,800	100	0.0	-700	-0.3
<i>Goods-Producing Sector</i>	59,600	62,900	64,400	-3,300	-5.2	-4,800	-7.5
Agriculture	3,200	1,900	3,200	1,300	68.4	0	0.0
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	14,600	14,600	15,800	0	0.0	-1,200	-7.6
Utilities	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	0	0.0
Construction	15,200	17,600	17,200	-2,400	-13.6	-2,000	-11.6
Manufacturing	24,200	26,300	25,800	-2,100	-8.0	-1,600	-6.2
<i>Services-Producing Sector</i>	194,500	191,100	190,300	3,400	1.8	4,200	2.2
Trade	43,400	39,000	43,500	4,400	11.3	-100	-0.2
Transportation and Warehousing	14,800	12,500	15,400	2,300	18.4	-600	-3.9
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	9,900	11,500	8,500	-1,600	-13.9	1,400	16.5
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8,800	9,400	9,100	-600	-6.4	-300	-3.3
Management, Administrative and Other Support	9,100	8,900	8,100	200	2.2	1,000	12.3
Educational Services	18,500	14,000	19,100	4,500	32.1	-600	-3.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	40,400	39,200	37,100	1,200	3.1	3,300	8.9
Information, Culture and Recreation	8,700	9,500	9,100	-800	-8.4	-400	-4.4
Accommodation and Food Services	16,400	18,500	15,900	-2,100	-11.4	500	3.1
Other Services	8,300	11,400	10,500	-3,100	-27.2	-2,200	-21.0
Public Administration	16,300	17,100	14,000	-800	-4.7	2,300	16.4

Note: "..." indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey



LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Employment Insurance Claimload

There was little change in the total number of EI claims in the Sudbury area from the third to the fourth quarter of 2003. While the total number of EI claims by females declined by nearly 12% in the fourth quarter, the number of claims by males increased by slightly more than 9%.

There was only a slight variation in the claimload for the fourth quarter of 2003 compared to the same period a year ago. In the fourth quarter of 2003, there was a small decrease in the total number of claims for both males and females, compared to the fourth quarter of 2002.

Regular Employment Insurance Claimants - SudburyArea

Area	October to December '03			July to September '03			October to December '02		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Espanola HRCC	512	218	294	357	193	164	334	136	198
Sudbury HRCC	5034	2174	2860	5177	2481	2696	5365	2329	3037
Total Sudbury Area	5546	2392	3154	5534	2674	2860	5699	2465	3235

Source: HRCC administrative data C-356

Employment Opportunities

At the time of printing, data on vacancies advertised in the National Job Bank was unavailable. The data is expected at a later date.

FROM THE AUTHOR'S DESK

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada is committed to helping the homeless through the Homelessness Initiative. A listing of the agencies that have received funding under the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) can be found on the National Homelessness Initiative website at: <http://homelessness.gc.ca>.

The latest study of the homeless conducted by the Sudbury Social Planning Council, the seventh in the series, was completed in early December 2003. Researchers believe that original estimates were understated. The first six reports saw homeless figures fluctuate from a low of 341 in January 2001 to a high of 485 in July 2002. The latest report indicates there are more than 600 people in Sudbury who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Carol Kauppi, associate professor in Laurentian University's School of Social Work, attributes the increase, in part, to changes in research methodology. The report concludes that Sudbury is better prepared to address the needs of the homeless now than it was in 2000. These reports have helped shape local policies and identified service needs for the homeless.



Notes to Readers:

1. **Northeastern Ontario (Economic Region 590)** is comprised of eight Census Divisions: the Districts of Nipissing, Parry Sound, Manitoulin, Sudbury, Timiskaming, Cochrane and Algoma.. The **Sudbury Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)** is comprised of the City of Greater Sudbury (Nickel Centre, Onaping Falls, Rayside Balfour, Valley East, and Walden) and the Whitefish Reserve. The Whitefish Lake 6 Reserve is excluded from this definition because Statistics Canada does not include residents of Reserves in the Labour Force Survey. Statistics Canada will incorporate the new **City of Greater Sudbury** boundaries into a future revision of the Survey.
2. For the purpose of this publication, **Sudbury and Area** includes all of the above communities.
3. The information contained in the Labour Market News section is gathered using a variety of internal and external sources. The primary sources of information include the following local newspapers: **The Sudbury Star, The Northern Life, Le Voyageur, The Mid-North Monitor and The Recorder.**
4. **Definitions – Labour Force Survey data**
Population 15+ (the working age population) consists of all persons 15 years of age and over residing in Canada with the exception of residents of the Territories, persons living on Indian Reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed forces. The **Labour Force** consists of people employed or unemployed and searching for work. Those who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not willing or able to supply labour services are considered **Not in the Labour Force**. The **Participation Rate** is the percentage of the working age population (15+) who are seeking work or are employed. The **Unemployment Rate** is the number of people who are unemployed and looking for work as a percentage of the number of people in the Labour Force. The **Employment Rate** is the number of people employed as a percentage of the working age population.
5. **Definitions - HRSDC Corporate Data**
Employment Insurance claim load: The number of individuals with an active claim for regular Employment Insurance benefits. Data on Employment Insurance claimants is not an accurate measure of the absolute level of unemployment. The data does not include unemployed individuals who: 1/ have not met the program's eligibility requirements or 2/ have exhausted their benefit entitlement.
Employment Opportunities: Advertised employment opportunities are comprised of vacancies notified to the HRCC offices in our area and newspaper want ads. This data is not a count of all labour market activity; in practical terms, such a count is not feasible. This data is useful to track short and long-term changes in the demand for individual occupations. The total number of opportunities is equal to full-time plus part-time and casual.
6. This review uses data from **Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS)**. In any survey there is a chance of variation due to sampling size. **Three-month moving averages** are used for selected labour force characteristics in an attempt to improve the reliability of this data. For further information on the Labour Force Survey, visit Statistics Canada's website at:
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm>
7. For more information on Industrial and Occupational categories used in this review, visit **Statistics Canada's website** at:
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/index.htm>

