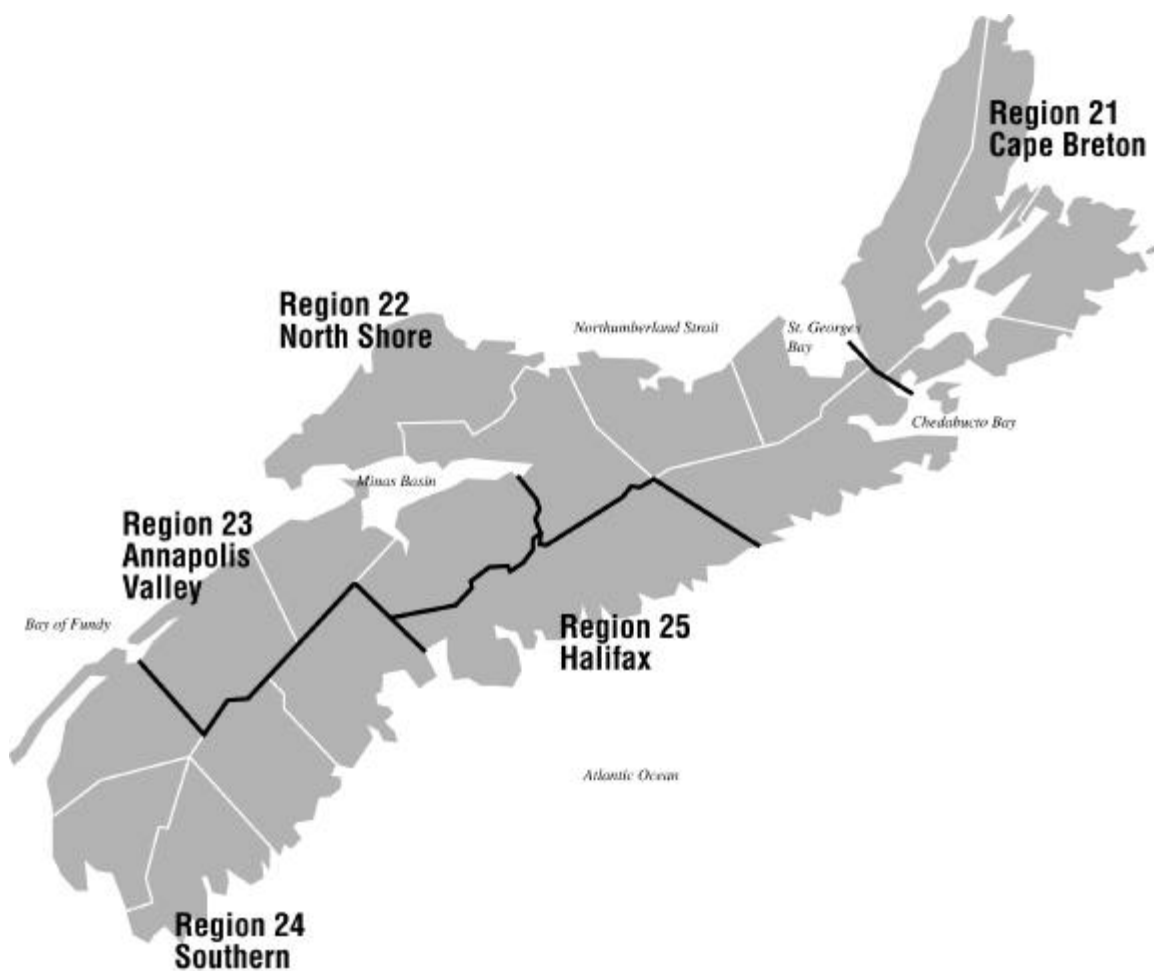


# Nova Scotia Labour Market April 2005



## **Labour Force Survey - Nova Scotia**

(May will be released June 10, 2005)

### **HIGHLIGHTS - LFS Release April 2005**

On a seasonally adjusted basis the provincial employment level in April 2005 increased by 1,800 persons over March 2005 to 444,900 employees. The size of the labour force increased 0.2% and the number of unemployed persons declined 1.7% when compared to the previous month. As a result, the monthly unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points to 8.4%. When compared to April 2004, the employment level rose 1.2% while the unemployment rate decreased 0.5 percentage points. The participation rate was 63.9% in April 2005, an increase of 0.1 percentage points from both the previous month and from April 2004.

Based on unadjusted three month moving averages, the unemployment rate increased in three of the five regions in the province as compared to April 2004. The unemployment rate increased 1.0 percentage points in the North Shore region, 0.7 percentage points in the Southern region and 0.3 percentage points in the Cape Breton region, while it declined 2.4 percentage points in the Annapolis Valley and 0.1 percentage points in the Halifax region.

On a seasonally adjusted three month moving average basis, the unemployment rate for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area was 6.2%, unchanged from April 2004. In April 2005 the Halifax rate stood as the lowest rate east of Quebec City.

*Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 71-001*

## Key Employment Indicators - Feature

May 6, 2005

### Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

(Source: Statistics Canada, 2004 Labour Force Historic Review, Cat. No. 71F0004XCB)

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) reports on two broad categories of workers: 1) *employees*—those who work for others and 2) *self-employed*—those who work for themselves. These two groups can be subdivided into a total of seven classes of workers:

#### Employees

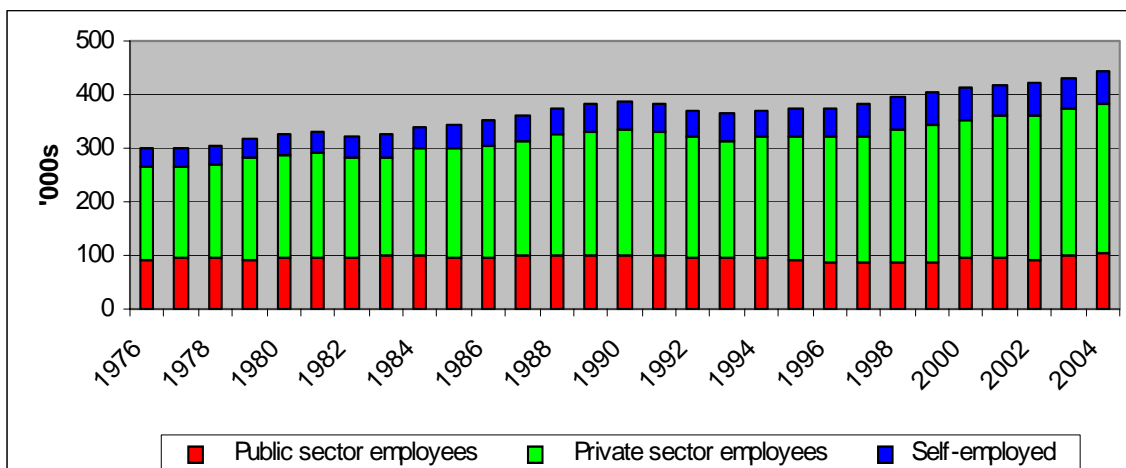
- private—those who work as an employee for a private firm or business
- public (government)—those who work for a local, provincial or federal government, for a government service or agency, a crown corporation, or a government funded public establishment such as a school/university or a hospital

#### Self-Employed

- working owners of incorporated businesses with paid help
- working owners of incorporated businesses without paid help
- working owners of unincorporated businesses and other self-employed with paid help
- working owners of unincorporated businesses and other self-employed without paid help
- unpaid family workers—persons who work without pay on a farm or in a business or professional practice owned and operated by another family member living in the same dwelling

Comparable annual data by class of worker has been published from 1976 to 2004. During this time, Nova Scotia's employment has grown from 297,900 to 441,600 persons, representing an increase of 48.2%. Over this period, the number of employees increased by 116,800 to 383,200 persons. In the public sector, the number of employees rose 12.0% to reach 104,400 in 2004. Private sector

#### Composition of Employees, by Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004



employees comprise the largest portion of employees in Nova Scotia and their number increased 61.0% to 278,800 persons. The number of self-employed increased by 26,900 to 58,400 persons. Increasing from 17,500 to 31,500 employees between 1976 and 2004, the ratio of self-employed

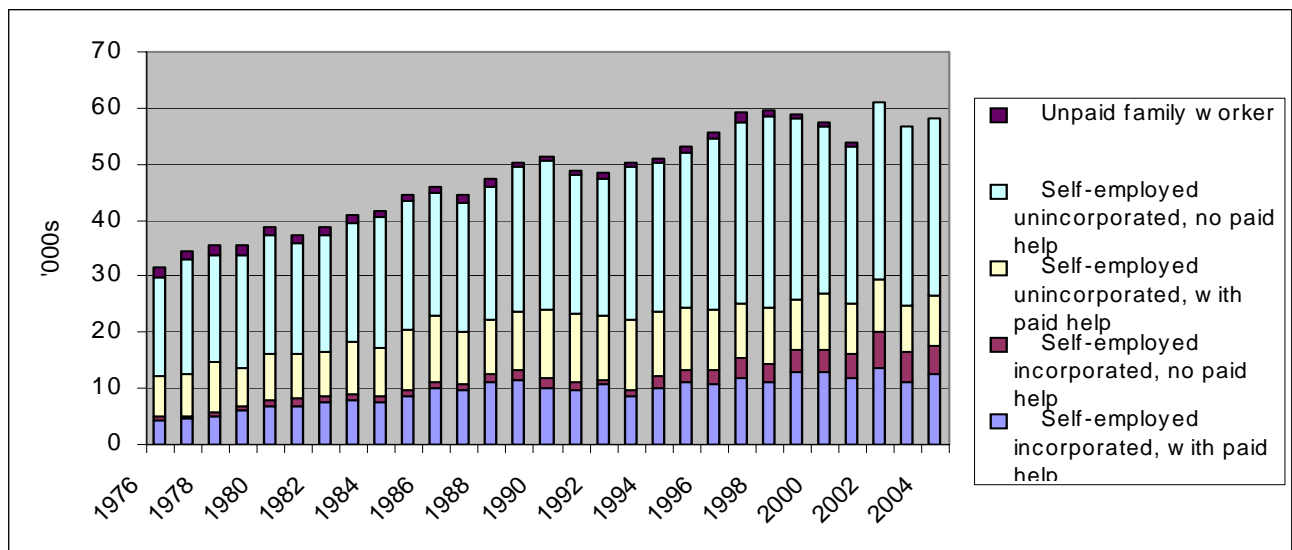
### Employees, by Class of Worker, Nova Scotia, 1976 to 2004

Class of worker	1976	2004	Change	Change
	('000)	('000)	1976-2004 ('000)	1976-2004 (%)
Total employment	297.9	441.6	143.7	48.2
Employees	266.4	383.2	116.8	43.8
Public sector employees	93.2	104.4	11.2	12.0
Private sector employees	173.2	278.8	105.6	61.0
Self-employed	31.5	58.4	26.9	85.4
Self-employed incorporated, with paid help	4.4	12.6	8.2	186.4
Self-employed incorporated, no paid help	0.8	5.0	4.2	525.0
Self-employed unincorporated, with paid help	7.1	9.1	2.0	28.2
Self-employed unincorporated, no paid help	17.5	31.5	14.0	80.0
Unpaid family worker	1.7	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a--not available

unincorporated employees, with no paid help, remained approximately 55% of all self-employed. While self-employed incorporated employees, with paid help were the third largest component of total self-employed in 1976, this group ranked in second place by 2004, representing 21.6% of all self-employed. Although a small component of self-employed employees, those self-employed incorporated with no paid help, increased five-fold from 800 in 1976 to 5,000 by 2004.

### Self-Employed Employees, by Type, Nova Scotia, 1976-2004



Further employment by class of worker data (monthly and annual), private and public sector, is available by sex and industry for Canada and the provinces.

## Key Employment Indicators

May 6, 2005

Along with the monthly Labour Force Survey, several other data sources help view changes occurring in the labour market of the province. The following tables reflect some of those activities:

**Total Wages & Salaries** (Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 13F0016XPB)  
(January - March 2005 will be released May 31, 2005)

From 2003 to 2004, the annual growth in total wages and salaries stood at 2.8% in Nova Scotia reaching \$13,401.1 million and rose 3.9% in Canada to \$559,376.9 million.

### Total Wages & Salaries, Nova Scotia (\$millions - Actual)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Total Wages & Salaries	11,508.3	11,947.3	12,539.6	13,037.3	13,401.1

*Beginning with March 2001 data, the labour income estimates has been based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). NAICS based historical series were released for the period January 1997 through March 2001. Also beginning with the March 2001 data, the monthly estimates of labour income has become a quarterly release in conjunction with the National Income and Expenditure Accounts estimates.*

**Average Weekly Earnings** (Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 72-002-XPB)  
(March 2005 will be released May 26, 2005)

In 2004 the average earnings for all employees—incl. overtime (industrial aggregate) in Nova Scotia of \$611.93<sup>r</sup> per week increased \$14.85, up 2.5% from 2003, while the Canadian figure of \$705.68<sup>r</sup> represented an increase of \$15.33 or 2.2%. In February 2005 Nova Scotia's average weekly earnings (industrial aggregate) increased 5.4% over February 2004 to \$636.89 compared to an increase of 1.7% to \$715.12 in Canada. The February 2005 average weekly earnings in Nova Scotia were 89.1% of the Canadian average.

### Average Weekly Earnings, Nova Scotia NAICS-based(including overtime)

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>February 2005</u>
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	574.14	590.68	597.08	611.93	636.89

## Employment Insurance

(March 2005 will be released May 24, 2005)

There were 29,500 beneficiaries (seasonally adjusted) in Nova Scotia that received regular Employment Insurance benefits in February 2005. This figure was unchanged from last month and represented a decline of 3.2% over February 2004. Nationwide there were 525,080 beneficiaries, an increase of 0.8% over last month and a decline of 5.3% over February 2004. Compared to February 2004, the number of beneficiaries increased 0.9% in Newfoundland and Labrador and was unchanged in New Brunswick, while it declined in all other provinces and territories. The most significant decline was reported in Alberta at -19.2%.

### Number of Beneficiaries Receiving Regular EI Benefits

(Seasonally Adjusted)

	<u>February 2005p</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>February 2004 -</u> <u>February 2005</u>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>525,080</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
Newfoundland & Labrador	37,340	0.8
Prince Edward Island	7,890	-3.1
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>-3.2</b>
New Brunswick	34,410	0.0
Quebec	176,870	-3.0
Ontario	131,790	-6.0
Manitoba	12,510	-11.3
Saskatchewan	11,810	-7.7
Alberta	25,170	-19.2
British Columbia	54,720	-11.7
Yukon	880	-10.9
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,110	-9.8

*Statistics Canada's Employment Insurance program completed a revision of the benefit payments and disqualifications and disentitlements data series. Due to adjustments received from HRSDC, a revision to job creation, training and self-employment benefit payments occurred for the months of April to October 2001. Please note, the Employment Insurance data on beneficiaries, claims, weeks paid and average weekly payment were not affected by the revision.*

## Public Sector Employment - Nova Scotia

(Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector FMS Reports (CANSIM retrieval Tables 183-0002 and 183-0004))

(1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2005 and 4-year revision will be released May 25, 2005)

	<u>1999*</u>	<u>2000*</u>	<u>2001*</u>	<u>2002*</u>	<u>2003*</u>	<u>2004p**</u>	% Change 2003- <u>2004p</u>
Federal Government (includes military)	23,077	22,592	22,709	23,146	23,480	23,397	-0.3
Military	11,431	10,814	10,391	10,526	10,599	10,697	0.9
Provincial General	11,922	11,615	11,303	11,108	11,288	11,047	-2.1
Universities & Colleges	9,144	8,877	8,268	7,906	7,200	5,745	-20.2
Health & Social Services Institution	27,301	27,501	28,156	29,068	30,309	27,717	-8.6
Local General Government	8,720	9,212	9,483	10,244	11,775	12,349	4.9
School Boards	17,038	16,933	16,470	15,800	16,374	16,120	-1.6
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>97,203</b>	<b>96,731</b>	<b>96,390</b>	<b>97,271</b>	<b>100,425</b>	<b>96,374</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
Government Business Enterprises	7,439	6,825	6,396	6,479	7,049	7,676	8.9
Federal GBE	4,652	4,050	3,738	3,809	4,333	4,912	13.4
Provincial GBE	2,302	2,290	2,172	2,183	2,229	2,277	2.2
Local GBE	485	485	486	486	487	488	0.2
<b>Total Public Sector</b>	<b>104,641</b>	<b>103,556</b>	<b>102,786</b>	<b>103,750</b>	<b>107,474</b>	<b>104,051</b>	<b>-3.2</b>

\* Figures by jurisdiction do not always add to published totals.

\*\* Quarterly data is not comparable to annual data due to normal seasonal changes in some groups, e.g., universities, schools.