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Employment patterns in non-metro Canada

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Employment patterns in non-metro Canada

Robert Mendelson, Statistics Canada

Employment growth rates in non-metro Canada decline less in a recession compared to metro centres. However, leading into a recession, non-metro employment growth shows sooner and growth rates are lower than in metro centres. During recovery periods, non-metro employment growth rates are higher, but are overtaken by metro growth rates in expansion periods.

Unemployment rates are higher in non-metro Canada, except in the Prairie provinces. However, unemployment rates in metro centres increase faster and essentially close the gap during a recession.

Non-metro Canada has a lower employment/population ratio (employment rate). As in metro centres, these rates fall sharply during a recession and rise slowly following a recession.

Introduction

One of the most serious structural problems affecting the Canadian labour market is regional inequality. The traditional picture has been one of high unemployment in such areas as the Atlantic provinces, combined with much lower rates elsewhere. This pattern has been magnified during downturns in the business cycle (Gower, 1989 and 1996). Since 1976, Canada has been through two major business cycles, including two major recessions. During both of these business cycles, low employment growth and high unemployment rates during recessions have been followed by higher employment growth and lower unemployment rates during periods of recovery and expansion. What has not been addressed to-date however, is how this pattern has played itself out in both “urban” and “rural” areas in Canada over the past 20 years. This article analyses the two business cycles that have taken place since 1976 with specific attention to the recessions of 1981 to 1982 and 1990 to 1992. We wish to determine the effects on the labour markets in non-metro areas compared to metro centres for Canada as a whole and to determine how these effects manifested themselves in the different regions of Canada.

The article first compares employment growth rates in non-metro areas with rates in metro centres for Canada as a whole. Was there more or less employment growth in non-metro areas or in metro centres during this period, and how was employment growth or decline affected by the recessions of 1981 to 1982 and 1990 to 1992? The article then compares unemployment rates in non-metro areas and in metro centres. Again the question is asked, was there more or less unemployment in non-metro

areas than in metro centres during this period and how was the unemployment rate affected by both recessionary periods? Finally, the article compares employment/population ratios (employment rates) in non-metro areas with metro centres to determine whether or not employment and unemployment followed the same pattern during the 21-year period under investigation. The provincial analysis looks at unemployment and employment rates between 1976 and 1997 and employment growth rates between 1987 and 1997.

Methodology

All of the data presented in this article pertaining to employment and unemployment characteristics of non-metro Canada are taken from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS). While the article looks at 21 years of annual employment growth and unemployment rates in Canada, the author has joined two different time series which use slightly different geography and the data has two breaks in the time series which result from changes to the sample design.

The first time series runs between 1976 and 1986. During this period, the LFS classifies areas into self-representing units (SRU) and non-self-representing units (NSRU) (1). While the guidelines vary from province to province, the SRUs are generally urban areas with populations in excess of 10,000. Consequently, for this period, NSRUs constitute a proxy for non-metro areas. For Canada as a whole, over 60 percent of the NSRU population lives in places with a population of 1,000 or less (2).

The second time series runs between 1987 and 1997, with changes to the sample design taking place in 1995. Between 1987 and 1994, Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) and non-Census Metropolitan Area (non-CMA) data are based on 1981 Census geography. Between 1995 and 1997, CMA data is based on preliminary boundaries from the 1996 Census and non-CMA data is based on boundaries from the 1991 Census. The 1996 geography includes areas on the edges of cities that have grown since 1981. In this article, CMAs are used as a proxy for metro centres and non-CMAs are used as a proxy for non-metro areas. Substituting SRUs for CMAs and non-SRUs for non-CMAs is possible, given that most of the census subdivisions (incorporated towns and municipalities) found in SRUs are also found in CMAs and most of the census subdivisions found in non-SRUs are found in non-CMAs. It is hoped that the overall comparability of the two time series at the Canada level, together with the advantage of using yearly LFS estimates, outweigh the problems inherent in comparing LFS data where the geographic classification has been adjusted over time. Since the substitution of SRUs for CMAs and non-SRUs for non-CMAs is a rough fit in several smaller provinces, the provincial analysis of the level and growth of employment is limited to the 1987-1997 period (using

CMA/non-CMA data). However, proportions (e.g., unemployment rates, employment/population ratios) are less sensitive to the switch in geography and these trends are analysed by province for the entire 1976 to 1997 period.

Definitions

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)

A very large urban area (*urban core*) together with adjacent urban and rural areas (*urban and rural fringes*) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. A CMA has an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census.

Employed

Employed persons are those persons 15 years of age and older who during the reference week: (a) did any work at all. Work includes any work for pay or profit that is paid for in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or self-employment. It also includes unpaid family work where unpaid family work is defined as unpaid work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned or operated by a related member of the household: (b) had a job but were not at work due to own illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, bad weather, labour dispute or vacation.

Employment Growth Rate

The employment growth rate is the year over year percentage increase in the number of persons employed.

Employment Rate

The employment rate, or employment/population ratio as it has been called in the past, represents the number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the population, aged 15 and over.

Non-Census Metropolitan Area (non-CMA)

All urban and rural areas located outside a CMA.

Non-Self-Representing Unit (NSRU)

Correspond to areas lying outside of SRU areas, and comprise rural areas and small urban centres. For Canada, over 60 percent of the NSRU population live in places with a population of less than 1,000. The percentage varies from province to province.

Rural Area

All territory outside urban areas is considered rural.

Self-Representing Unit (SRU)

Correspond to those urban centres which are sufficiently large to yield an expected sample of 50 dwellings. While guidelines vary from province to province, SRUs generally have populations in excess of 10,000.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate represents the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Urban Area

Urban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 per square kilometre, based on the previous census population counts.

Employment growth and decline is different in non-metro areas compared to metro centres in Canada

Employment growth statistics provide some information regarding the ability of the economy to create jobs. While job creation deals exclusively with labour demand, employment growth measures the change in the number of persons who have accepted employment at the existing wage levels (Biggs, Bollman and McNames). Employment growth patterns in Canada followed very distinctive patterns in non-metro areas and in metro centres between 1976 and 1997.

The decline in employment in both non-metro areas and metro centres during the 1981-1982 recession was shorter but deeper than the 1990-1992 recession. Employment growth rates came back to a high level during the expansionary period of the mid and late 1980s. The decline in employment

during the 1990-1992 recession was longer but more shallow than the 1981-1982 recession, although employment growth has never returned to the levels experienced before the 1990-1992 recession.

During the expansion period of 1976 to 1978, non-metro employment growth rates were higher than employment growth rates in metro centres (Figure 1). Non-metro growth rates began to decline sooner than metro rates (1979 to 1980) and remained lower during this period of time. Employment declined more in metro centres than in non-metro areas during the recession of 1981-1982. Paralleling the expansion period from 1976 to 1978, employment growth in the 1982 to 1983 recovery period was higher in non-metro areas than in metro centres. While employment growth rates in metro centres overtook the rates in non-metro areas between 1984 and 1986, non-metro areas rates were higher than metro rates at the height of economic expansion during in 1987 and 1988.

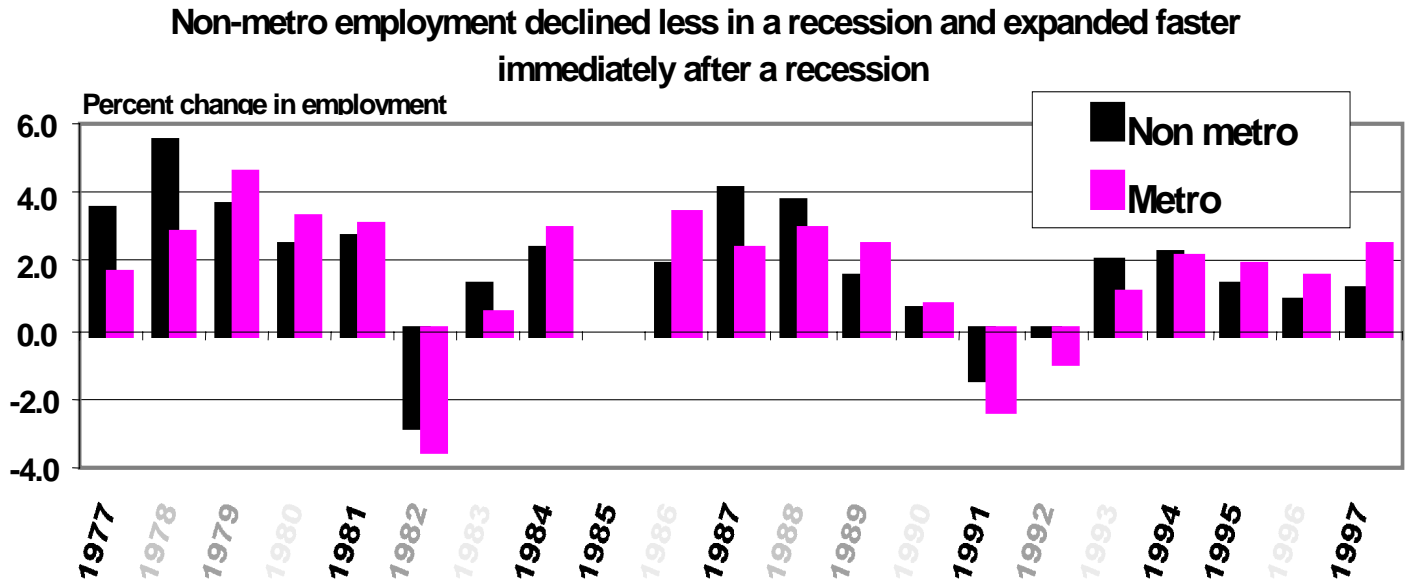
Leading into the 1990-1992 recession, employment growth rates in non-metro areas were lower than the rates in metro centres, paralleling the situation leading into the 1981-1982 recession. During the 1990-1992 recession, the decline in employment in non-metro areas was less than in metro centres, again paralleling the situation in the 1981-1982 recession. Again, the employment growth rates in non-metro areas were higher than the growth rates in metro centres during the first year of the economic recovery (1993 and 1994). Again paralleling the earlier business cycle, employment growth rates in metro centres overtook the rates in non-metro areas during the expansionary period (1994 to 1997).

Employment growth and decline in non-metro areas varied according to provincial economic activity

Non-metro employment growth rates tended to follow the economic situation in the various regions of Canada between 1987 and 1997. The actual employment growth rates are presented in Appendix 1.

Note that for Canada as a whole (Figure 1 and Table 1), non-metro employment and metro employment tended to decline and increase at the same time. However, in some provinces, such as Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, there appears to be a weaker correlation between non-metro and metro employment change. Note also that British Columbia was the only jurisdiction to show employment growth in non-metro areas and metro centres for all years since 1987. A more detailed discussion of employment change in each province is presented in Appendix 2.

Figure 1



Non-metro and metro unemployment rates converge during periods of economic recession and diverge during periods of economic expansion

Over the period studied, unemployment rates in Canada as a whole were higher in non-metro areas than in metro centres. In general, unemployment rates in metro centres are lower than unemployment rates in non-metro areas in good times and rise faster as the economy deteriorates. One explanation for phenomenon may be the industry mix, for example, agriculture may not suffer from cyclical fluctuations in demand as much as manufacturing (Gower, 1989 and 1996). As shown in Figure 2 and Appendix Table 3, unemployment rates in Canada rose sharply in both metro centres and non-metro areas during the 1981-1982 recession. In 1983, rates in both metro centres and non-metro areas converged and were at their highest (12.0 percent in non-metro areas and 11.9 percent in metro centres). With economic recovery and expansion, unemployment rates began to diverge in 1984 and reached their most divergent point at the height of the economic expansion in 1989 (9.0 percent in non-metro areas and 6.7 percent in metro centres). Unemployment rates rose again in both metro centres and non-metro areas during the 1990-1992 recession, but not as sharply as they rose during the 1981-1982 recession.

Table 1. Non-metro employment growth rates varied by province between 1987 and 1997.

| | 87-88 | | 89-90 | 90-91 | 91-92 | 92-93 | 93-94 | 94-95 | 95-96 | 96-97 |
|---------------------|-------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Canada | + | + | 0 | - | 0 | + | + | + | + | + |
| Metro | + | + | 0 | - | - | + | + | + | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | 0 | - | 0 | + | + | + | + | + |
| Newfoundland | + | + | 0 | - | - | 0 | 0 | + | - | + |
| Metro | + | 0 | + | 0 | - | + | + | + | - | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | - | - | - | - | - | + | - | 0 |
| P.E.I. (1) | + | 0 | + | - | + | 0 | + | + | + | 0 |
| N.S. | + | + | + | - | - | - | + | + | 0 | + |
| Metro | + | + | + | - | - | + | + | + | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | 0 | - | - | - | + | + | 0 | + |
| N.B. | + | + | + | - | + | + | 0 | + | 0 | + |
| Metro | + | 0 | + | + | + | + | - | + | - | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | + | - | + | 0 | + | + | + | + |
| Québec | + | + | 0 | - | - | 0 | + | + | 0 | + |
| Metro | + | + | 0 | - | - | - | + | 0 | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | + | + | + | - | + |
| Ontario | + | + | 0 | - | - | + | + | + | + | + |
| Metro | + | + | 0 | - | - | + | + | + | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | - | - | 0 | + | + | 0 | + | - |
| Manitoba | 0 | + | + | - | - | + | 0 | + | + | + |
| Metro | + | + | 0 | - | - | + | 0 | + | 0 | + |
| Non-metro | - | - | + | - | 0 | + | 0 | - | + | + |
| Saskatchewan | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | + |
| Metro | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | + | + | 0 | + | + |
| Non-metro | - | - | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | + | - | + |
| Alberta | + | + | + | + | 0 | + | + | + | + | + |
| Metro | + | + | + | 0 | 0 | 0 | + | + | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | + | + | - | + | + | 0 | + | 0 |
| B.C. | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| Metro | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| Non-metro | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey.

Metro refers to Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)

Non-metro refers to non-Census Metropolitan Areas (non-CMAs)

(1) In this table, the total for Prince Edward Island is the non-CMA figure (because there are no CMAs (i.e. metro areas) in Prince Edward Island).

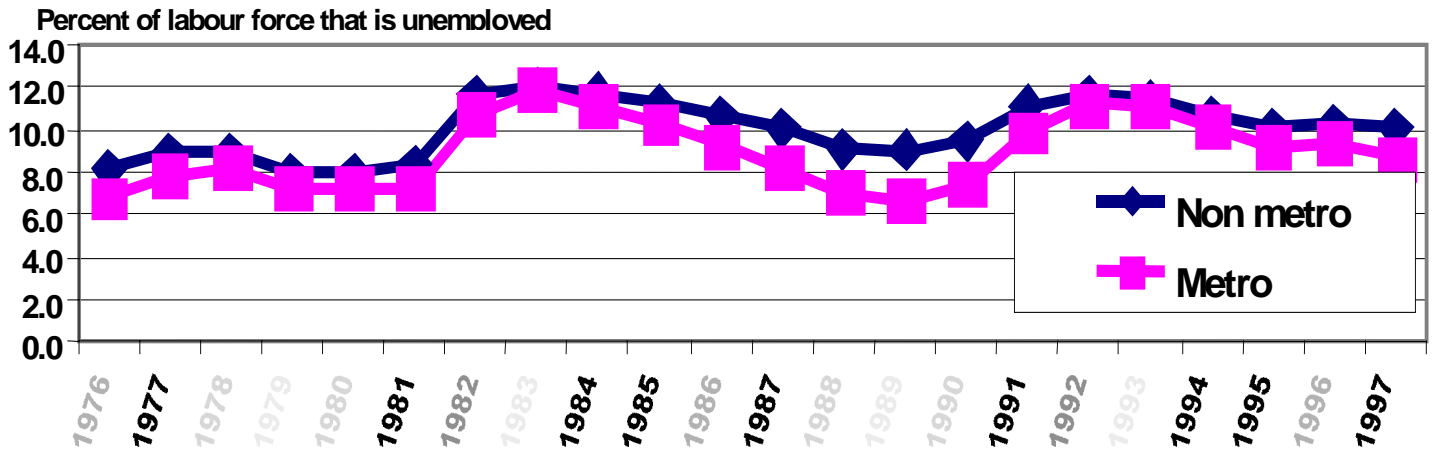
The + sign stands for positive growth, the - sign stands for negative growth and 0 stands for insignificant movement between -0.75 percent and +0.75 percent.

In the Prairie provinces, non-metro unemployment rates are generally lower than metro centre unemployment rates

In the Prairie provinces, the unemployment rate in non-metro areas has generally been lower than the unemployment rate in metro centres. This gap was particularly noticeable in Manitoba and Alberta during both the 1981-1982 and 1990-1992 recessions. In Manitoba, there was a gap of 3.3 percentage points in 1983 and a gap of 4.9 percentage points in 1994 between unemployment rates in non-metro areas and metro centres. In Alberta, there was a gap of 5.2 percentage points in 1985 and a gap of 3.4 percentage points in 1994 between unemployment rates in non-metro areas and in metro centres (Appendix Table 3).

Figure 2

Unemployment rates converged during recessions and diverged during expansions



The lower non-metro unemployment rate in the Prairie provinces is explained, in part, by the larger concentration of farming activity in the Prairie rural regions. Farmers do not become unemployed even during the off-season because they are the owners of businesses (Fellegi, 1996). In addition, unemployed persons in the rural Prairies tend to move to the bigger cities to look for work and get enumerated as unemployed in the bigger cities (Also, the Labour Force Survey does not enumerate on Indian Reserves).

On the other hand, in Eastern Canada and in British Columbia (B.C.), the unemployment rate in non-metro areas has generally been higher than the unemployment rate in metro centres. The rural economy in the Eastern provinces and B.C. is more diversified than the economy in the Prairie provinces. In the Eastern provinces and B.C., farming accounts for a much smaller share of non-metro employment than in the Prairie provinces. The non-metro economy in the Eastern provinces and in B.C. also includes a greater percentage of paid workers in seasonal work such as fish processing and saw mills. (Fellegi, 1996). The gap between non-metro areas and metro unemployment rates was particularly noticeable in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and B.C. Besides having on-going double-digit unemployment rates in both non-metro areas and metro centres since 1976, Newfoundland experienced significant differences between non-metro and metro unemployment rates. While the gap between Newfoundland non-metro areas and metro centres was in the single digits (percentage points) in 1981-1982, the gap was in the double-digits in 1990-1992. In Newfoundland in 1994 and 1995, non-metro areas experienced unemployment rates around 8 percentage points higher than the rest of the province (St. John's), a result that was most likely affected by the decline in the fishing industry. In Nova Scotia, the gap between non-metro and metro unemployment rates was most pronounced in 1986 and 1994 when there were gaps of 5.3 and 5.5 percentage points (Appendix Table 3). In British Columbia, the gap between non-metro areas and metro unemployment rates was greatest in 1982 (3.6 percentage points) and 1991 (4.3 percentage points).

Employment/ population ratios (employment rates) are higher in metro centres

The employment rate shows what percentage of the working-age population is employed. A rise (or drop) in the employment rate generally indicates that growth in employment during the period of observation is faster (or slower) than the growth in the working age population. The employment rate is very sensitive downward. This is because the denominator (working-age population) generally increases over time whereas the numerator (employment) moves in either direction, depending on the health of the economy (Akyeampong, 1996).

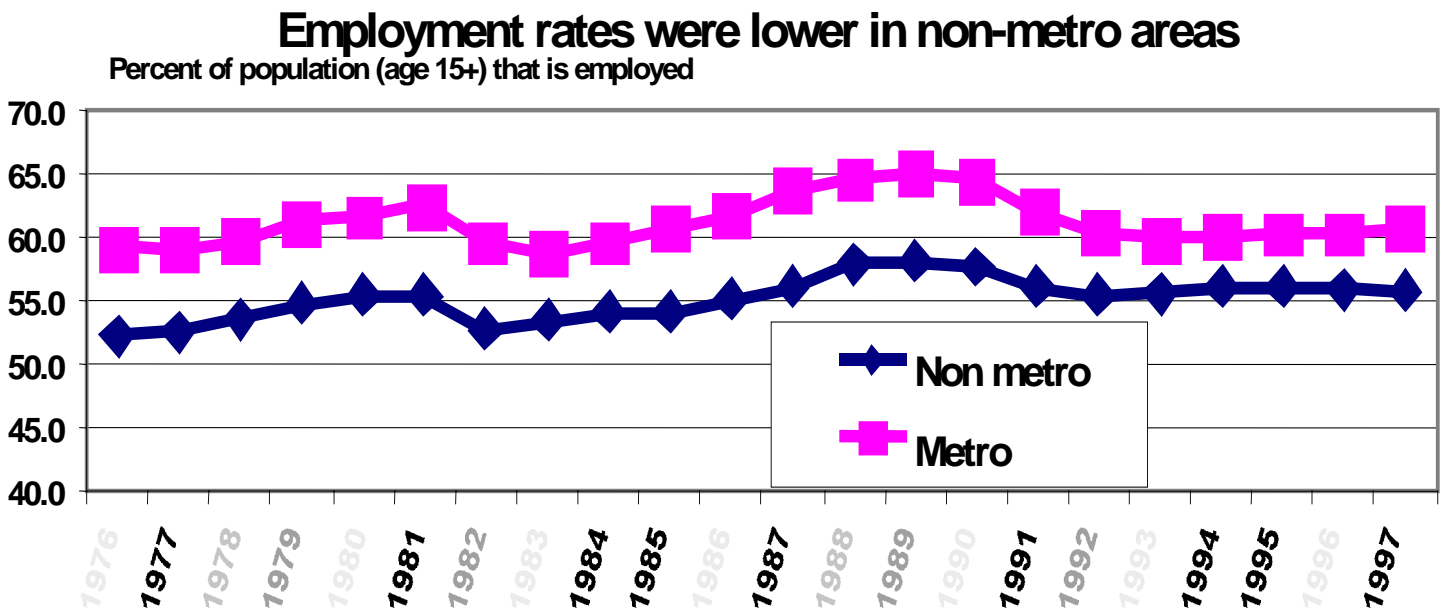
For Canada as a whole, employment rates were lower in non-metro areas and higher in metro centres over the period studied, signifying that a higher proportion of the adult population was employed in metro centres than in non-metro areas (Figure 3 and Appendix Table 4). One of the possible factors responsible for the lower employment rate in non-metro areas is the aging of the population. Among all age groups, the highest growth rates in non-metro areas in Canada tend to be among persons 65 years of age and

over (Government of Canada, 1995). As the population ages, fewer people of working age tend to be employed. As previously discussed, the fewer people of working age that are employed, the lower the employment rate.

While it is beyond the scope of this article to look at age and gender differences in the employment rate, further analysis of these variables might yield a more detailed understanding of the employment rate in Canada.

Employment rates in both non-metro areas and metro centres followed similar trends over the last two business cycles. In both non-metro areas and metro centres, employment rates fell very sharply in 1981 and rose very slowly during the economic recovery and expansionary periods between 1983 and 1989. Despite high employment growth rates during the economic recovery and expansion periods of the 1980s, it took six years for employment rates in both non-metro areas and metro centres to return to their pre-recession levels. During the business cycle of the 1990s, non-metro and metro employment rates fell less sharply between 1990 and 1992, but given the lower employment growth rates in both non-metro areas and metro centres between 1993 and 1997, employment rates have not returned to their pre-recession levels (Figure 3 and Appendix Table 4).

Figure 3



Employment/ population ratios (employment rates) are higher in Western Canada and Ontario

For the most part, non-metro and metro employment rates followed the same pattern at the provincial level as they did at the national level, employment rates were lower in non-metro areas and higher in metro centres over the period studied. In 1997, Alberta had both the highest metro and non-metro employment rate. Except for Prince Edward Island and Ontario, the provinces with non-metro employment rates above the Canadian average were in the West. During the same year, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia had the lowest non-metro employment rates while New Brunswick and Newfoundland had the lowest metro employment rates (Table 2).

Table 2. In non-metro areas in 1997, Alberta had the highest employment rate and Newfoundland and Nova Scotia had the lowest employment rates

| Province | Metro centres | Non-metro areas | Percentage Point Difference |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Employment rate in 1997 (percent of individuals 15+ years who are employed) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3)=(1)-(2) |
| Newfoundland | 55.4 | 36.6 | 18.8 |
| Prince Edward Island | n.a. | 56.4 | n.a. |
| Nova Scotia | 61.9 | 47.5 | 14.4 |
| New Brunswick | 54.0 | 52.1 | 1.9 |
| Quebec | 56.4 | 52.3 | 4.1 |
| Ontario | 61.8 | 56.6 | 5.2 |
| Manitoba | 62.6 | 62.4 | 0.2 |
| Saskatchewan | 64.1 | 61.0 | 3.1 |
| Alberta | 67.9 | 66.8 | 1.1 |
| British Columbia | 60.0 | 58.3 | 1.7 |
| Canada | 60.7 | 55.7 | 5.0 |

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey.

There are no CMAs (i.e. metro centres) in Prince Edward Island.

With the exception of New Brunswick, above average differences (percentage point gap) between non-metro and metro employment rates occurred in the provinces east of Manitoba, the highest percentage gap being in Newfoundland with 19 percent. Four provinces showed a small between non-metro and metro employment rates (the four western provinces plus Quebec and New Brunswick), with the lowest percentage gap being in Manitoba with less than 1 percent. In 1991 to 1996 period,

employment rates in Alberta non-metro areas were actually higher than in its metro centres. This reflects the relative capacity of the regions' resource bases (primarily located in rural areas) to provide local employment opportunities (Biggs, Bollman and McNAMES, 1993).

For the most part, the trends in the employment rate at the provincial level were similar to the trends in the employment rate at the national level. Employment rates in both non-metro areas and metro centres fell sharply during the 1981-1982 recession and fell more slowly during the 1990-1992 recession. After the 1981-1982 recession, provincial employment rates took a number of years to return to their pre-recession levels in both non-metro areas and metro centres. The number of years taken to return to pre-recession employment rate levels varied among provinces, but was most pronounced in Western Canada. While it took 7 and 5 years for employment rates to return to their pre-recession levels in Manitoba and Saskatchewan metro centres, it only took 3 years in both provinces' non-metro areas. Although it took 9 years for employment rates in Alberta's non-metro areas to return to their pre-recession level, Alberta's metro employment rates never returned to their pre-recession levels. Alberta has been the only province in Canada to have its non-metro areas rates return to pre-1991 levels. In 1991, employment rates in Alberta's non-metro areas overtook employment rates in Alberta's metro centres. Again, this reflects the capacity of the regions' resource bases to provide local employment opportunities. The province of British Columbia has had one of the more unusual employment trends in Canada. While it took 8 years for both the province's non-metro areas and metro centres to return to their pre-1981 levels, employment never declined between 1976 and 1997, indicating that the economy of the province could not produce enough jobs for all the persons 15 years and over who wanted to work. (Appendix Table 4).

Conclusion

The labour force activity found in non-metro areas and metro centres in Canada followed different patterns during the business cycles of the 1980s and 1990s. While this article does not tell us where the labour force in Canada is going, the analysis of employment growth, unemployment and employment rates, does provide useful insights into how the labour force has functioned in non-metro areas and metro centres in the recent past.

While employment growth in non-metro areas tended to decline less during recessions and to be higher than metro centres during periods of economic recovery, employment growth in metro centres was greater than non-metro areas growth leading into recessions and overtook non-metro areas growth during periods of economic expansion. The relationship of employment growth and decline to the business cycle varied in the provinces according to provincial economic activity.

Like employment, unemployment followed a different pattern in non-metro areas and metro centres. Unemployment rates in Canada as a whole were higher in non-metro areas than in metro centres, although provincially, unemployment rates in non-metro areas tended to be lower than in metro centres in the Prairie provinces and to be higher than in metro centres in the Eastern provinces and British Columbia. The differences between the two categories can be partially explained by the larger concentration of self-employment in the Prairie provinces, leading to more stable employment, and the more diversified economy in the Eastern provinces and British Columbia, based on wage employment. During the two business cycles, non-metro and metro unemployment rates converged during periods of economic recession and diverged during periods of economic expansion.

With the exception of Alberta, employment rates were lower in non-metro areas and higher in metro centres at both the Canada and provincial levels. The provinces with the greatest gap between non-metro and metro rates were in Eastern Canada, while the provinces with the smallest gap between non-metro and metro rates were in Western Canada. Not surprisingly, employment rates in non-metro areas were highest in provinces that had high employment growth (the Western provinces, Ontario and Prince Edward Island). Employment rates were lowest in provinces that had low employment growth (the Maritimes and Québec). In both non-metro areas and metro centres, employment rates fell sharply during recessions and rose slowly during economic recovery and expansion. Except for Alberta non-metro areas, employment rates have not returned to the level they were prior to the 1981-1982 recession.

Notes

- (1) The SRU/NSRU series is available between 1976 and 1994. During this period, SRUs/NSRUs are based on 1981 Census geography. This article uses the series between 1976 and 1986, and changes over to the new Census Metropolitan (CMA)/Non-Census Metropolitan (non-CMA) series in 1987. The Labour Force Survey was re-designed in 1985 to take into account the labour force structure enumerated in the 1981 Census of population. Previous to 1985, the Labour Force Survey used 1971 Census boundaries. As a result, a number of NSRUs on the fringes of Census Metropolitan Areas were re-classified as SRUs in 1985. Thus, the change in the level of employment between 1984 and 1985 is not presented in this paper.
- (2) This article uses the 1996 Census definition of rural. All territory outside urban areas is considered rural. Urban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 per square kilometre, based on the previous census population counts.

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Appendix Table 1. Employment growth rates in non-metro and metro areas

| | 76-77 | 77-78 | 78-79 | 79-80 | 80-81 | 81-82 | 82-83 | 83-84 | 84-85 | 85-86 | 86-87 |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Canada | 2.1 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 3.0 | -3.2 | 0.6 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.7 |
| SRU | 1.6 | 2.7 | 4.5 | 3.2 | 2.9 | -3.4 | 0.4 | 2.8 | - | 3.4 | 2.3 |
| NSRU | 3.5 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 2.4 | 2.6 | -2.7 | 1.2 | 2.3 | - | 1.8 | 4.1 |
| | 87-88 | 88-89 | 89-90 | 90-91 | 91-92 | 92-93 | 93-94 | 94-95 | 95-96 | 96-97 | |
| Canada | 3.2 | 2.1 | 0.6 | -1.9 | -0.6 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.9 | |
| Metro | 2.9 | 2.4 | 0.6 | -2.2 | -0.9 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 2.3 | |
| Non-metro | 3.7 | 1.5 | 0.6 | -1.3 | -0.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 1.2 | |
| Terre-Neuve | 5.4 | 3.7 | -0.1 | -1.4 | -4.3 | -0.4 | 0.7 | 1.4 | -3.8 | 1.1 | |
| Metro | 6.5 | 0.3 | 5.1 | -0.1 | -4.2 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 1.9 | -4.5 | 1.9 | |
| Non-metro | 4.8 | 5.7 | -3.1 | -2.2 | -4.4 | -3.3 | -1.2 | 1.0 | -3.4 | 0.6 | |
| I.-P.-É. | 2.7 | 0.5 | 1.1 | -3.3 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 3.1 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 0.6 | |
| N.-É. | 4.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 | -2.1 | -2.8 | -0.8 | 3.1 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.8 | |
| Metro | 2.7 | 3.5 | 2.6 | -1.2 | -4.0 | 2.0 | 3.6 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.8 | |
| Non-metro | 5.8 | 1.0 | 0.7 | -2.7 | -1.9 | -2.8 | 2.8 | 1.4 | -0.7 | 2.6 | |
| N.-B. | 3.2 | 1.6 | 2.0 | -1.7 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 2.1 | -0.3 | 1.1 | |
| Metro | 7.6 | 0.2 | 3.7 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 2.6 | -3.8 | 0.8 | -5.2 | 1.8 | |
| Non-metro | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.5 | -2.3 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 0.9 | 0.9 | |
| Québec | 2.8 | 1.2 | 0.5 | -2.3 | -1.0 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 1.5 | |
| Metro | 2.4 | 1.7 | 0.6 | -1.9 | -1.6 | 0.2 | 2.5 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 1.0 | |
| Non-metro | 3.7 | 0.0 | 0.3 | -3.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 2.4 | 3.3 | -1.9 | 2.5 | |
| Ontario | 3.7 | 2.0 | -0.3 | -3.5 | -0.8 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.9 | |
| Metro | 3.3 | 2.0 | 0.0 | -4.2 | -1.0 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 3.0 | |
| Non-metro | 5.0 | 2.2 | -1.0 | -1.5 | -0.4 | 2.5 | 1.7 | -0.5 | 1.7 | -0.9 | |
| Manitoba | 0.1 | 0.9 | 1.1 | -2.4 | -1.5 | 2.1 | 0.5 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 2.4 | |
| Metro | 0.8 | 1.9 | 0.3 | -2.6 | -2.0 | 2.4 | 0.5 | 4.1 | 0.7 | 2.0 | |
| Non-metro | -1.4 | -0.9 | 2.6 | -2.0 | -0.5 | 1.7 | 0.4 | -1.7 | 1.0 | 3.3 | |
| Saskatchewan | -0.6 | -1.5 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -1.7 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 2.8 | |
| Metro | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -1.2 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 2.9 | |
| Non-metro | -1.4 | -2.9 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -2.1 | 0.1 | -0.6 | 1.1 | -1.1 | 2.7 | |
| Alberta | 3.1 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 1.0 | -0.4 | 0.9 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.1 | |
| Metro | 3.0 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.8 | 4.1 | 2.7 | 4.5 | |
| Non-metro | 3.3 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 1.6 | -1.0 | 2.5 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 3.2 | 0.6 | |
| C.-B. | 3.9 | 5.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 1.8 | |
| Metro | 3.3 | 6.5 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 1.2 | |
| Non-metro | 4.8 | 3.9 | 2.7 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 5.8 | 4.0 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.5 | |

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey.
 Metro refers to Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)
 Non-metro refers to non-Census Metropolitan Areas (non-CMAs) there are no CMAs in P.E.I.

Appendix 2

Employment growth and decline in non-metro areas varied according to provincial economic activity

The Atlantic provinces experienced positive employment growth in non-metro areas in 1987-88 but some areas showed no growth in 1988-89 (Table 1 in main text). Newfoundland, on the other hand, experienced employment decline in non-metro areas as early as 1989-1990 due, in part, to the shutdown of the cod fishery. Along with Nova Scotia, the decline in non-metro employment in Newfoundland lasted longer than anywhere else in Canada. Non-metro employment decline in Newfoundland took place between 1989-1990 and 1993-1994 while the non-metro employment decline in Nova Scotia took place between 1990-1991 and 1992-1993. To a large extent, the lengthy recession in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia non-metro areas can be attributed to the cod moratorium and the effects that the moratorium had on employment in the fish processing component of the food and beverage industry.

In both Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, metro centres experienced employment growth before non-metro areas after the 1990-1992 recession. Employment declines in Prince Edward Island during 1990-1991 were caused by a decline in primary industries while employment declines in New Brunswick during 1990-1991 were caused by poor performance in the mining, forestry and paper industries. No Atlantic Province has show steady growth since the 1990-1992 recession.

Both Ontario and Québec non-metro areas experienced positive employment growth in 1987-1988. While Ontario non-metro areas had positive employment growth in 1988-1989 (despite the fact that employment growth rates in Ontario as a whole fell below the national average), Québec non-metro areas had zero percent growth during the same year. The zero percent growth in Québec non-metro areas could have been caused, in part, by the reduced activity that took place in certain industries in the province as a whole in 1989. These industries included: construction; transportation; communication and other utilities; as well as community, business and personal services. While Québec non-metro areas had neither employment gain nor employment decline in 1989-90, Ontario non-metro areas experienced a sharp decline in employment during the same year, most likely due to the heavy employment loss in manufacturing and construction industries that occurred in the province in 1990. Employment loss in Ontario and Québec non-metro areas continued into 1990-1991. Employment growth in both Ontario and Québec non-metro areas was stagnant in 1991-1992. During the 1990 to 1992 recession, employment decline in Québec was sharper in non-metro areas while in Ontario, employment decline was sharper in metro centres. Non-metro employment

growth began to increase in 1992-1993 in both Ontario and Quebec. While Ontario non-metro areas experienced a pause in employment growth in 1994-1995, Québec non-metro areas growth continued until 1995-1996, when there was a decline in employment, potentially due to employment losses in trade and public services in the province as a whole in 1996 (Table 1 in main text).

Manitoba and Saskatchewan non-metro areas experienced employment decline in 1987-1988 and 1988-1989. Alberta on the other hand, experienced solid non-metro employment growth between 1987 and 1991. Employment growth in Alberta non-metro areas was almost always above employment growth in Alberta metro centres during this period. While Manitoba had strong non-metro employment growth in 1989-1990, possibly due to bumper crops and solid gains in other primary industries, Saskatchewan non-metro employment growth moved from a position of decline to a position of zero growth, possibly due the same factors that affected employment growth in Manitoba. All three Prairie provinces experienced a decline in non-metro employment in 1991-1992 with the greatest decline was in Saskatchewan (-2 percent). The decline in non-metro employment in the Prairies provinces was most likely the result of a decline in employment in primary industries and construction. Alberta is the only Prairie province that experienced steady non-metro employment growth in the post-recession period (although the growth in 1994-95 and in 1996-97 was less than 0.75 percent). Alberta as a whole had widespread employment gains across industries, including: community, business and personal services; transportation, communications and other utilities; and trade (Table 1). Except for 1995-1995. Alberta had significantly higher employment growth in non-metro areas than metro centres between 1992-1993 and 1995-1996, due in part to growth in natural gas, lumber, cattle feeding and cattle slaughter.

British Columbia (B. C.) was the only province in Canada that had strong, steady employment growth for the entire period under discussion. Even during the height of the national recession in 1990-91, British Columbia non-metro areas had 1 percent employment growth. British Columbia employment gains as a whole were widespread across industries in the post-recession period, with strong growth in lumber exports, construction and the services sectors (Table 1 in main text). Except for 1988-1989 and 1991-1992, British Columbia non-metro areas had employment growth rates equal to or higher than employment growth rates in metro centres.

Appendix Table 3. Unemployment rates in non-metro and metro areas

| | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Canada | 7.2 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 11.0 | 12 | 11.3 | 10.5 | 9.6 |
| SRU | 6.8 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 10.8 | 11.9 | 11.1 | 10.3 | 9.3 |
| NSRU | 8.1 | 8.9 | 8.9 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.3 | 11.6 | 12.0 | 11.7 | 11.2 | 10.6 |
| Newfoundland | 13.2 | 15.7 | 16.2 | 15.1 | 13.3 | 13.9 | 16.7 | 18.9 | 20.5 | 21 | 19.3 |
| SRU | 12.1 | 13.3 | 14.3 | 13.1 | 11.4 | 12.8 | 15.4 | 16.6 | 17.6 | 16.7 | 15.2 |
| NSRU | 14.8 | 19.7 | 19.3 | 17.9 | 15.9 | 15.5 | 18.9 | 22.2 | 24.7 | 26.5 | 24.9 |
| P.E.I. | 9.7 | 9.9 | 9.9 | 11.3 | 10.9 | 11.4 | 13 | 12.5 | 13 | 13.5 | 13.6 |
| SRU | 8.9 | 9.3 | 8.6 | 11.8 | 12.3 | 12.7 | 15.0 | 12.4 | 11.8 | 10.1 | 12.0 |
| NSRU | 9.9 | 9.9 | 10.4 | 11.0 | 10.2 | 10.8 | 11.9 | 12.5 | 13.4 | 14.8 | 14.1 |
| N.S. | 9.5 | 10.6 | 10.6 | 10.2 | 9.8 | 10.2 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 13.6 | 13.1 |
| SRU | 9.2 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 10.1 | 12.5 | 12.4 | 12.7 | 13.2 | 12.9 |
| NSRU | 9.8 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 10.3 | 9.9 | 10.2 | 13.8 | 13.9 | 13.5 | 14.1 | 13.4 |
| N.B. | 11.0 | 13.2 | 12.6 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 14.1 | 14.9 | 15 | 15.2 | 14.4 |
| SRU | 8.6 | 11.0 | 10.3 | 9.2 | 9.7 | 9.1 | 12.5 | 13.0 | 13.2 | 13.4 | 11.9 |
| NSRU | 13.3 | 15.2 | 14.7 | 13.0 | 12.3 | 13.7 | 15.6 | 16.5 | 16.7 | 17.3 | 17.2 |
| Québec | 8.7 | 10.3 | 11 | 9.7 | 9.9 | 10.5 | 13.9 | 14.0 | 12.9 | 12 | 11.0 |
| SRU | 7.8 | 9.7 | 10.4 | 9.2 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 13.2 | 13.6 | 12.4 | 11.7 | 10.6 |
| NSRU | 11.3 | 12.1 | 12.3 | 10.9 | 11.0 | 11.8 | 15.8 | 15.3 | 14.1 | 12.7 | 12.3 |
| Ontario | 6.2 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 6.5 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 9.7 | 10.4 | 9.1 | 8.1 | 7.0 |
| SRU | 6.1 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 6.5 | 6.8 | 6.5 | 9.7 | 10.4 | 8.9 | 8.0 | 6.9 |
| NSRU | 6.6 | 7.1 | 7.1 | 6.7 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 9.8 | 10.4 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.7 |
| Manitoba | 4.7 | 5.9 | 6.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 8.5 | 9.5 | 8.4 | 8.2 | 7.7 |
| SRU | 4.9 | 6.1 | 6.7 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 9.3 | 10.5 | 9.2 | 8.8 | 8.3 |
| NSRU | 4.1 | 5.5 | 6.1 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 6.7 | 7.2 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 6.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 6.2 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 8.2 | 7.7 |
| SRU | 4.7 | 5.2 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 7.7 | 9.5 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 9.3 |
| NSRU | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 5.4 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 5.8 |
| Alberta | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 7.7 | 10.7 | 11.1 | 10.1 | 9.9 |
| SRU | 4.3 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 8.4 | 12.0 | 12.9 | 10.9 | 10.7 |
| NSRU | 3.4 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 6.4 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 8.0 | 7.9 |
| B.C. | 8.7 | 8.5 | 8.4 | 7.7 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 12.2 | 13.9 | 14.8 | 14.2 | 12.5 |
| SRU | 8.4 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 6.4 | 6.1 | 11.3 | 13.6 | 14.3 | 13.8 | 12.0 |
| NSRU | 9.5 | 9.5 | 8.9 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 8.6 | 14.9 | 14.8 | 16.3 | 15.9 | 15.0 |

Appendix Table 3. Unemployment rates in non-metro and metro areas (concluded)

| | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Canada | 8.9 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 10.4 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 10.4 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 9.2 |
| Metro | 8.2 | 7.1 | 6.7 | 7.4 | 9.9 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 10.2 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 8.7 |
| Non-metro | 10.1 | 9.1 | 9.0 | 9.5 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 11.4 | 10.7 | 10.1 | 10.3 | 10.1 |
| Newfoundland | 18.1 | 16.4 | 15.8 | 17.0 | 18.4 | 20.2 | 20.2 | 20.4 | 18.3 | 19.5 | 18.8 |
| Metro | 12.5 | 11.2 | 10.8 | 11.9 | 13.3 | 15.6 | 14.1 | 14.1 | 12.6 | 14.2 | 13.8 |
| Non-metro | 20.8 | 19.2 | 18.2 | 19.8 | 21.1 | 22.8 | 23.7 | 24.3 | 21.9 | 22.7 | 22.0 |
| P.E.I. (1) | 13.3 | 13.1 | 14.1 | 15.1 | 17.1 | 18.1 | 18.3 | 17.2 | 14.9 | 14.7 | 15.1 |
| N.S. | 12.4 | 10.3 | 9.8 | 10.6 | 12.0 | 13.2 | 14.7 | 13.3 | 12.1 | 12.6 | 12.3 |
| Metro | 9.0 | 7.9 | 6.9 | 7.9 | 9.1 | 9.9 | 11.2 | 9.4 | 8.8 | 8.6 | 9.1 |
| Non-metro | 14.6 | 11.8 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 14.1 | 15.3 | 17.1 | 16.1 | 14.4 | 15.6 | 14.5 |
| N.B. | 13.2 | 12.0 | 12.5 | 12.1 | 12.8 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 12.5 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 12.9 |
| Metro | 13.0 | 11.2 | 10.7 | 9.6 | 11.8 | 11.5 | 10.4 | 12.3 | 10.3 | 12.2 | 12.7 |
| Non-metro | 13.2 | 12.2 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 13.0 | 13.2 | 13.1 | 12.5 | 11.8 | 11.5 | 12.8 |
| Québec | 10.3 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 10.2 | 12.0 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 12.2 | 11.3 | 11.8 | 11.4 |
| Metro | 9.9 | 9.1 | 8.8 | 9.7 | 11.7 | 12.8 | 13.1 | 12.2 | 11.2 | 11.7 | 11.0 |
| Non-metro | 11.2 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 11.3 | 12.6 | 12.7 | 13.2 | 12.3 | 11.5 | 12.1 | 12.3 |
| Ontario | 6.1 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 6.3 | 9.6 | 10.9 | 10.6 | 9.6 | 8.7 | 9.0 | 8.5 |
| Metro | 5.7 | 4.6 | 4.7 | 5.8 | 9.5 | 10.9 | 10.6 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 8.8 | 8.1 |
| Non-metro | 7.1 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 7.5 | 10.0 | 10.8 | 10.5 | 9.8 | 9.4 | 9.6 | 9.5 |
| Manitoba | 7.5 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 7.3 | 8.9 | 9.7 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 6.6 |
| Metro | 7.9 | 8.3 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 10.0 | 11.3 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 7.4 |
| Non-metro | 6.6 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.1 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 5.7 | 5.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 7.0 | 7.3 | 8.2 | 8.0 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 6.0 |
| Metro | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 7.9 | 8.6 | 9.5 | 9.1 | 8.2 | 7.9 | 7.3 | 6.6 |
| Non-metro | 6.7 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 6.0 | 6.1 | 6.0 | 5.4 |
| Alberta | 9.7 | 8.2 | 7.3 | 7.1 | 8.3 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 8.6 | 7.8 | 7.1 | 6.0 |
| Metro | 10.2 | 8.5 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 9.1 | 10.4 | 10.8 | 9.8 | 8.5 | 7.8 | 6.4 |
| Non-metro | 8.9 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6.4 | 6.9 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 5.2 |
| B.C. | 12.0 | 10.3 | 9.1 | 8.4 | 10.0 | 10.5 | 9.7 | 9.4 | 9.0 | 8.9 | 8.7 |
| Metro | 11.4 | 9.5 | 7.6 | 7.2 | 8.3 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 8.8 | 8.4 | 8.2 | 8.5 |
| Non-metro | 12.9 | 11.5 | 11.4 | 10.1 | 12.6 | 12.6 | 10.5 | 10.3 | 9.7 | 9.8 | 9.0 |

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey.

Metro refers to Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)

Non-metro refers to non-Census Metropolitan Areas (non-CMAs)

(1) In this table, the total for Prince Edward Island is the non-CMA figure (because there are no CMAs in P.E.I.) and the NSRU series for 1987 to 1996 is presented here to continue the data series presented for 1976 to 1986.

Appendix Table 4. Employment/population ratios (employment rates) in non-metro and metro areas

| | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Canada | 57.1 | 57.0 | 57.8 | 59.2 | 59.8 | 60.4 | 57.5 | 57.1 | 57.9 | 58.9 | 59.9 |
| SRU | 59.1 | 58.9 | 59.7 | 61.1 | 61.5 | 62.4 | 59.5 | 58.7 | 59.5 | 60.6 | 61.7 |
| NSRU | 52.2 | 52.5 | 53.5 | 54.7 | 55.3 | 55.4 | 52.8 | 53.4 | 54.0 | 54.1 | 55.1 |
| Newfoundland | 43.0 | 42.6 | 43.5 | 45.0 | 46.3 | 45.7 | 44.0 | 42.6 | 42.3 | 42.3 | 43.3 |
| SRU | 49.7 | 49.7 | 50.3 | 52.2 | 53.9 | 52.0 | 50.7 | 49.0 | 49.3 | 51.3 | 52.2 |
| NSRU | 34.9 | 33.7 | 34.8 | 36.4 | 37.5 | 38.1 | 36.0 | 35.0 | 34.2 | 33.4 | 34.3 |
| P.E.I. | 51.4 | 51.8 | 52.3 | 52.7 | 53.2 | 52.4 | 50.8 | 53.1 | 52.9 | 53.6 | 54.0 |
| SRU | 54.0 | 53.2 | 56.3 | 53.7 | 51.4 | 49.8 | 50.7 | 54.0 | 54.7 | 54.9 | 53.8 |
| NSRU | 50.0 | 50.9 | 50.2 | 52.1 | 54.0 | 53.5 | 50.8 | 52.8 | 52.2 | 52.9 | 54.2 |
| N.S. | 50.1 | 49.6 | 50.6 | 51.1 | 52.2 | 51.8 | 49.9 | 50.4 | 52.0 | 51.3 | 52.1 |
| SRU | 53.6 | 53.4 | 54.1 | 54.8 | 56.7 | 56.2 | 54.1 | 54.9 | 56.2 | 55.1 | 56.5 |
| NSRU | 46.4 | 45.6 | 46.9 | 47.1 | 47.5 | 47.3 | 45.6 | 45.6 | 47.4 | 46.2 | 46.2 |
| N.B. | 48.3 | 47.0 | 48.4 | 49.3 | 49.8 | 50.0 | 47.6 | 47.7 | 47.2 | 48.5 | 49.6 |
| SRU | 54.5 | 52.2 | 54 | 54.3 | 54.5 | 55.6 | 52.7 | 53.1 | 53.3 | 53.3 | 54.3 |
| NSRU | 43.3 | 42.9 | 43.6 | 44.9 | 46.2 | 45.9 | 43.7 | 43.5 | 42.4 | 43.6 | 44.9 |
| Québec | 53.7 | 53.5 | 53.7 | 54.8 | 55.5 | 55.6 | 52.3 | 52.4 | 53.8 | 55.0 | 56.0 |
| SRU | 56.0 | 55.4 | 55.8 | 56.8 | 57.5 | 57.8 | 54.8 | 54.4 | 55.6 | 57.0 | 57.7 |
| NSRU | 47.7 | 48.5 | 48.8 | 50.2 | 50.7 | 49.6 | 45.7 | 48.1 | 49.6 | 50.0 | 51.0 |
| Ontario | 60.2 | 60.2 | 61.1 | 62.7 | 62.6 | 63.7 | 61.3 | 60.7 | 62.0 | 63.1 | 64.2 |
| SRU | 61.2 | 61.2 | 62.0 | 63.7 | 63.4 | 64.8 | 62.2 | 61.5 | 62.8 | 64.1 | 65.2 |
| NSRU | 56.5 | 56.5 | 58.2 | 58.8 | 59.5 | 59.7 | 57.9 | 58.0 | 58.6 | 59.3 | 60.3 |
| Manitoba | 58.8 | 58.2 | 59.1 | 60.5 | 61.2 | 61.5 | 59.8 | 59.7 | 60.6 | 60.8 | 61.7 |
| SRU | 60.8 | 60.1 | 60.8 | 62.1 | 62.4 | 62.3 | 60.5 | 60.2 | 60.6 | 61.5 | 62.2 |
| NSRU | 54.9 | 54.4 | 55.6 | 57.3 | 58.7 | 59.8 | 58.3 | 58.7 | 60.5 | 58.9 | 60.6 |
| Saskatchewan | 58.3 | 59.1 | 59.4 | 60.2 | 60.4 | 60.9 | 60.2 | 60.6 | 60.4 | 61.2 | 61.9 |
| SRU | 61.8 | 61.1 | 60.4 | 60.8 | 60.4 | 61.9 | 61.1 | 60.8 | 60.6 | 61.2 | 61.8 |
| NSRU | 55.0 | 57.2 | 58.5 | 59.7 | 60.5 | 60.0 | 59.3 | 60.4 | 60.2 | 61.2 | 62.0 |
| Alberta | 64.5 | 64.3 | 65.5 | 67.4 | 68.6 | 69.8 | 66.4 | 64.2 | 64.3 | 65.1 | 65.4 |
| SRU | 65.5 | 65.3 | 66.7 | 68.8 | 70.3 | 71.3 | 67.1 | 64.5 | 64.5 | 65.5 | 65.9 |
| NSRU | 62.7 | 62.4 | 63.2 | 64.7 | 65.3 | 66.8 | 65.1 | 63.6 | 63.9 | 64.1 | 64.3 |
| B.C. | 56.5 | 57.0 | 58.1 | 59.0 | 60.5 | 61.5 | 57.1 | 55.8 | 55.1 | 55.9 | 57.6 |
| SRU | 57.6 | 57.9 | 59.0 | 59.9 | 61.4 | 62.6 | 58.7 | 56.9 | 56.0 | 57.1 | 59.0 |
| NSRU | 53.4 | 54.5 | 55.7 | 56.6 | 57.4 | 58.4 | 52.6 | 52.7 | 52.7 | 51.4 | 52.3 |

Appendix Table 4. Employment/population ratios (employment rates) in non-metro and metro areas (concluded)

| | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Canada | 60.8 | 62.0 | 62.4 | 61.9 | 59.8 | 58.4 | 58.2 | 58.5 | 58.6 | 58.6 | 58.9 |
| Metro | 63.6 | 64.5 | 65.0 | 64.4 | 61.9 | 60.3 | 59.8 | 60.0 | 60.2 | 60.2 | 60.7 |
| Non-metro | 56.1 | 57.8 | 58.0 | 57.6 | 56.1 | 55.3 | 55.5 | 56.0 | 56.0 | 55.8 | 55.7 |
| Newfoundland | 43.9 | 45.9 | 47.2 | 46.7 | 45.5 | 43.0 | 42.5 | 42.7 | 43.4 | 41.9 | 42.6 |
| Metro | 55.5 | 58.0 | 57.1 | 58.8 | 57.3 | 53.7 | 54.9 | 56.0 | 56.6 | 54.3 | 55.4 |
| Non-metro | 39.2 | 40.9 | 43.0 | 41.5 | 40.3 | 38.3 | 36.9 | 36.5 | 37.2 | 36.1 | 36.6 |
| P.E.I..(1) | 54.7 | 55.8 | 55.8 | 56.0 | 54.0 | 54.0 | 53.5 | 54.3 | 56.0 | 56.5 | 56.4 |
| N.S.. | 52.8 | 54.8 | 55.4 | 55.8 | 54.1 | 52.1 | 51.2 | 52.4 | 52.6 | 52.3 | 52.8 |
| Metro | 64.3 | 65.0 | 66.0 | 66.6 | 64.7 | 61.2 | 61.4 | 62.4 | 62.0 | 62.2 | 61.9 |
| Non-metro | 46.8 | 49.4 | 49.7 | 49.9 | 48.3 | 47.1 | 45.5 | 46.6 | 47.1 | 46.6 | 47.5 |
| N.B. | 50.9 | 52.1 | 52.4 | 52.8 | 51.4 | 51.8 | 51.9 | 51.8 | 52.5 | 52.1 | 52.4 |
| Metro | 53.7 | 57.2 | 56.6 | 58.0 | 57.7 | 57.7 | 58.6 | 55.9 | 55.8 | 53.0 | 54.0 |
| Non-metro | 50.3 | 51.0 | 51.5 | 51.8 | 50.0 | 50.5 | 50.4 | 50.9 | 51.7 | 51.9 | 52.1 |
| Québec | 57.0 | 58.1 | 58.4 | 58.1 | 56.1 | 54.7 | 54.1 | 54.8 | 55.2 | 54.8 | 54.9 |
| Metro | 59.4 | 60.2 | 60.5 | 60.1 | 58.2 | 56.4 | 55.7 | 56.4 | 56.3 | 56.3 | 56.4 |
| Non-metro | 52.8 | 54.5 | 54.2 | 53.9 | 51.6 | 51.1 | 51.0 | 51.7 | 53.0 | 51.5 | 52.3 |
| Ontario | 65.4 | 66.5 | 66.8 | 65.4 | 62.1 | 60.4 | 60.2 | 60.1 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.3 |
| Metro | 67.1 | 68.0 | 68.3 | 67.2 | 63.2 | 61.3 | 61.0 | 60.8 | 61.2 | 61.0 | 61.8 |
| Non-metro | 61.1 | 63.0 | 63.1 | 61.2 | 59.3 | 58.0 | 58.4 | 58.4 | 57.2 | 57.6 | 56.6 |
| Manitoba | 61.8 | 61.6 | 62.1 | 62.7 | 60.9 | 59.7 | 60.6 | 60.5 | 61.4 | 61.5 | 62.5 |
| Metro | 62.5 | 62.5 | 63.4 | 63.2 | 61.0 | 59.3 | 60.1 | 59.8 | 61.7 | 61.7 | 62.6 |
| Non-metro | 60.8 | 60.1 | 59.8 | 61.7 | 60.7 | 60.5 | 61.4 | 61.7 | 60.7 | 60.9 | 62.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 61.9 | 61.8 | 61.5 | 62.2 | 62.4 | 61.2 | 61.4 | 61.3 | 61.4 | 61.3 | 62.4 |
| Metro | 64.2 | 64.1 | 64.3 | 64.5 | 64.2 | 62.7 | 63.0 | 63.1 | 62.4 | 63.1 | 64.1 |
| Non-metro | 60.3 | 60.2 | 59.4 | 60.6 | 61.1 | 60.1 | 60.2 | 59.9 | 60.6 | 59.8 | 61.0 |
| Alberta | 65.2 | 66.7 | 67.3 | 67.3 | 66.6 | 65.1 | 64.6 | 65.6 | 66.4 | 67.1 | 67.5 |
| Metro | 66.6 | 67.8 | 68.2 | 67.4 | 66.3 | 64.9 | 63.6 | 64.2 | 65.8 | 66.4 | 67.9 |
| Non-metro | 62.7 | 64.8 | 65.8 | 67.0 | 67.1 | 65.5 | 66.3 | 68.1 | 67.6 | 68.2 | 66.8 |
| B.C. | 58.3 | 59.4 | 61.3 | 61.2 | 60.5 | 60.0 | 59.9 | 60.4 | 59.8 | 59.7 | 59.3 |
| Metro | 60.1 | 60.7 | 63.1 | 63.1 | 62.6 | 62.1 | 61.0 | 61.7 | 60.7 | 60.6 | 60.0 |
| Non-metro | 55.7 | 57.6 | 58.7 | 58.4 | 57.3 | 56.9 | 58.3 | 58.6 | 58.4 | 58.3 | 58.3 |

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey.

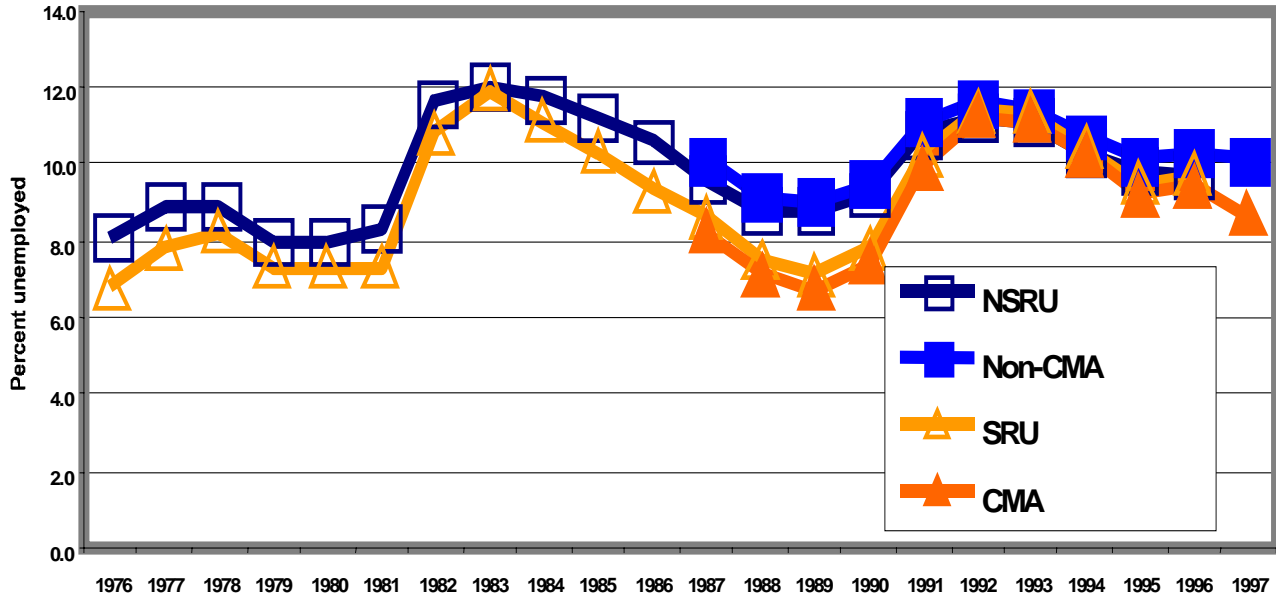
Metro refers to Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)

Non-metro refers to non-Census Metropolitan Areas (non-CMAs)

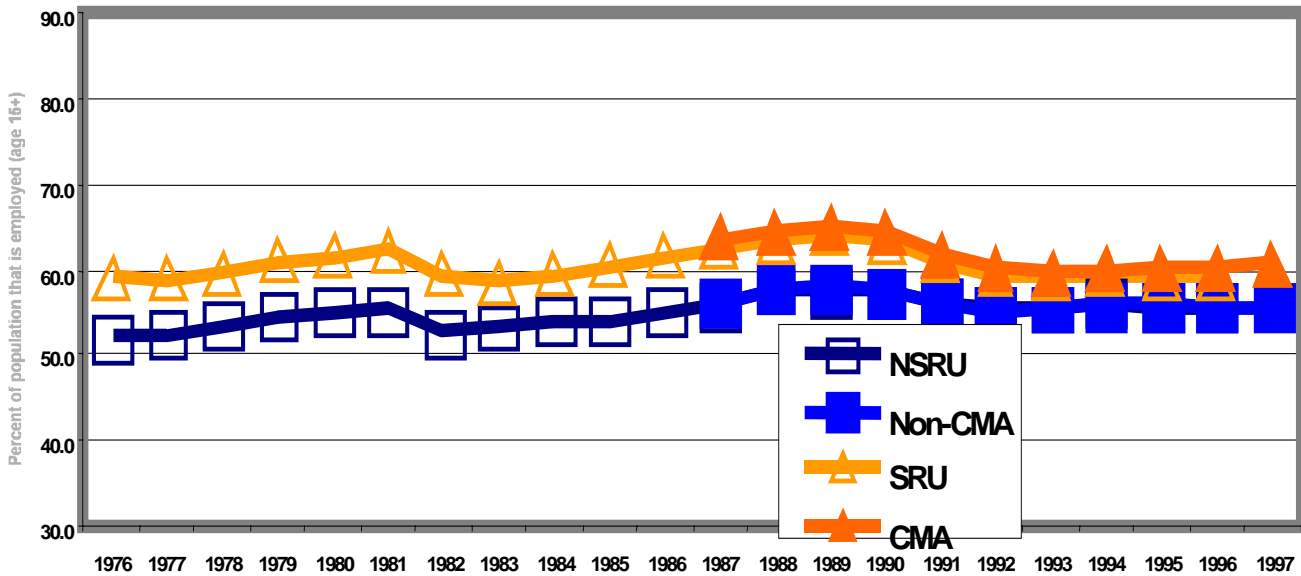
(1) In this table, the total for Prince Edward Island is the non-CMA figure (because there are no CMAs in P.E.I.) and the NSRU series for 1987 to 1996 is presented here to continue the data series presented for 1976 to 1986.

Appendix 5

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+) Canada

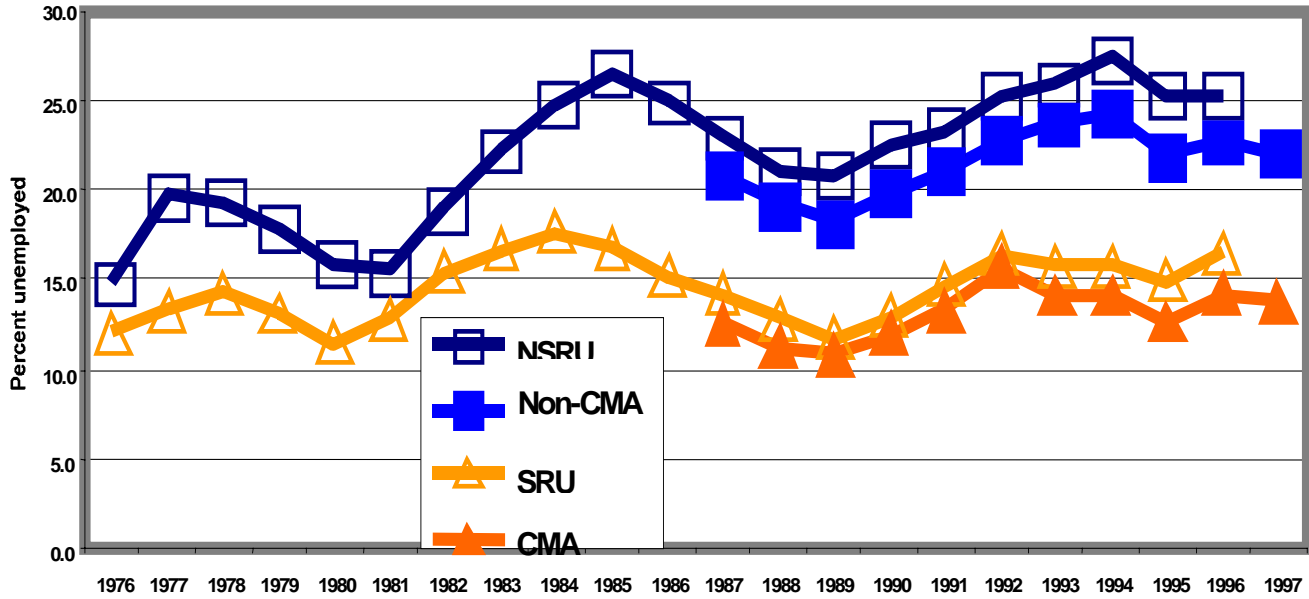


Employment Rate (Both Genders, All Ages) Canada

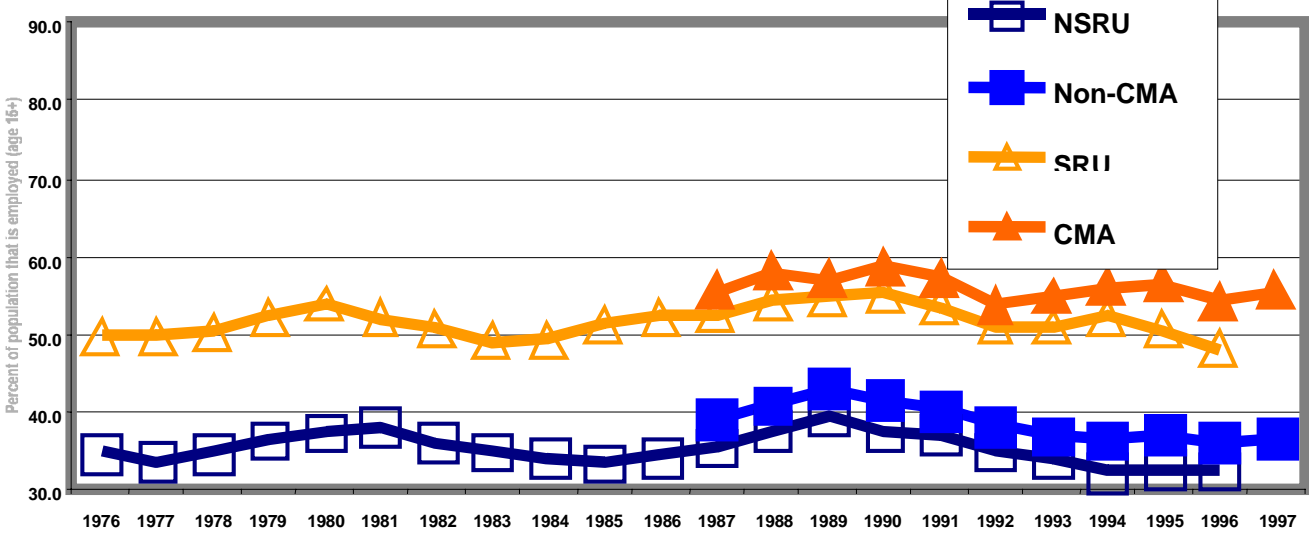


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+) Newfoundland

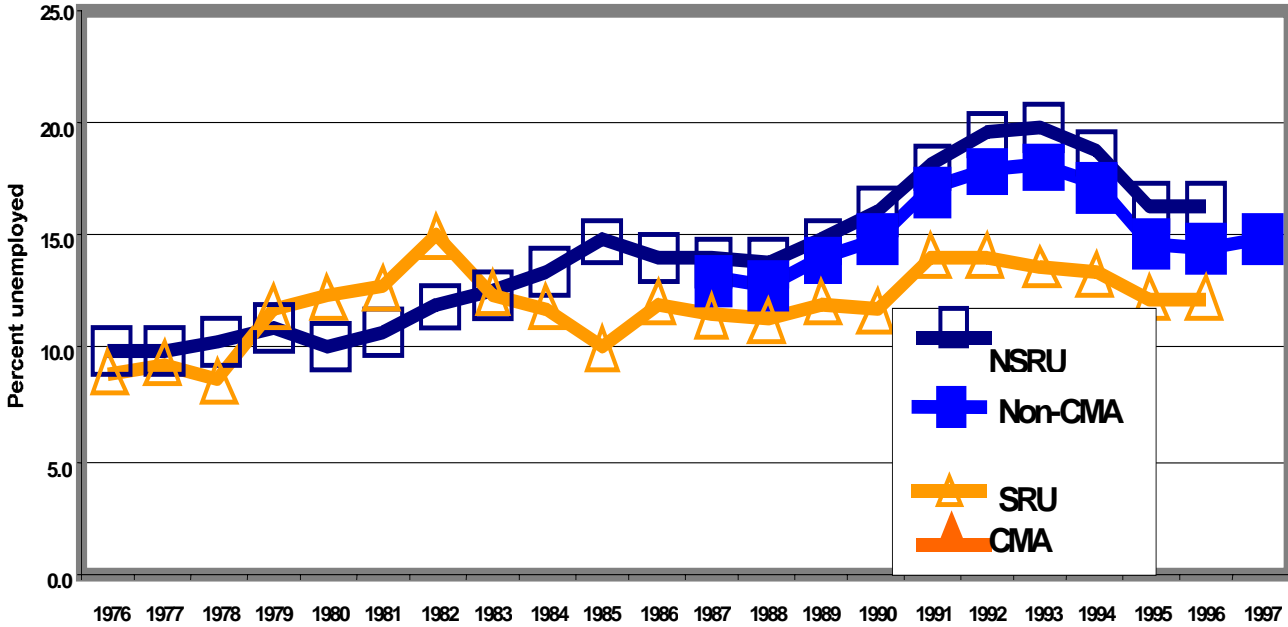


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+) Newfoundland

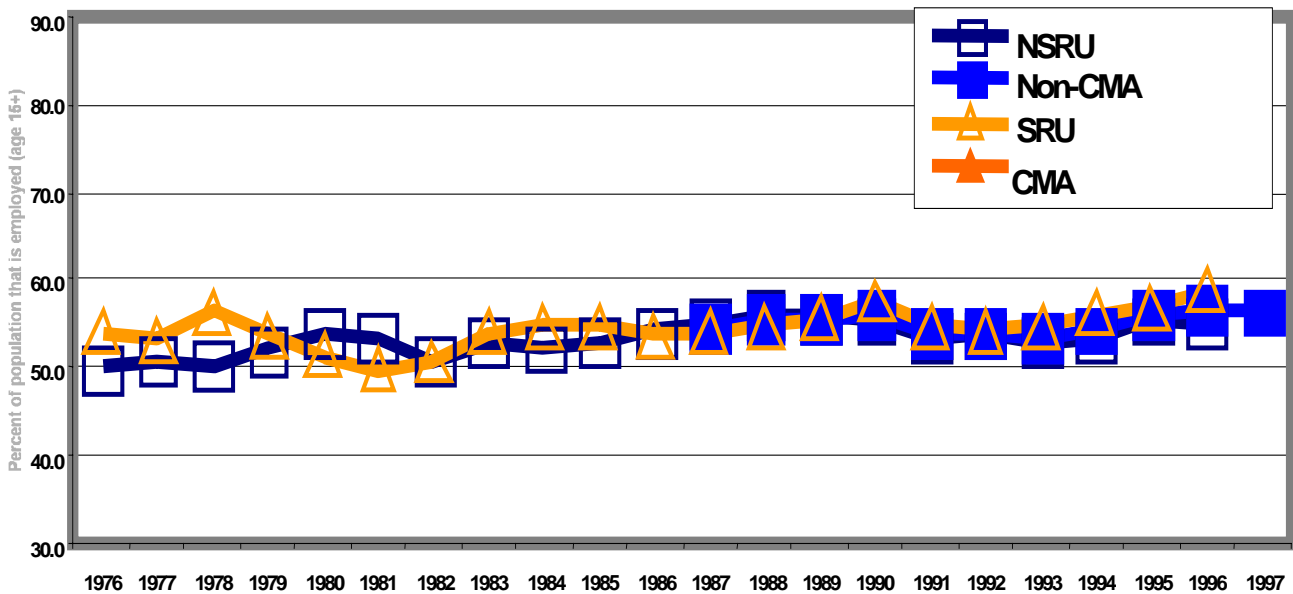


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+) Prince Edward Island

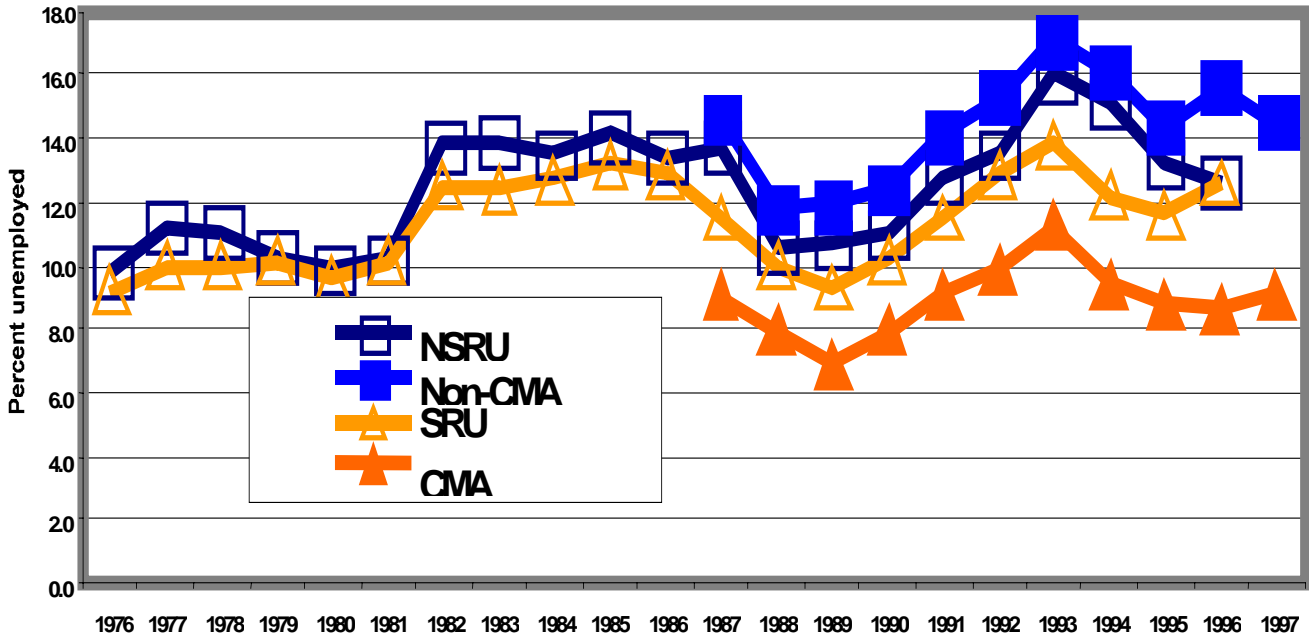


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+) Prince Edward Island

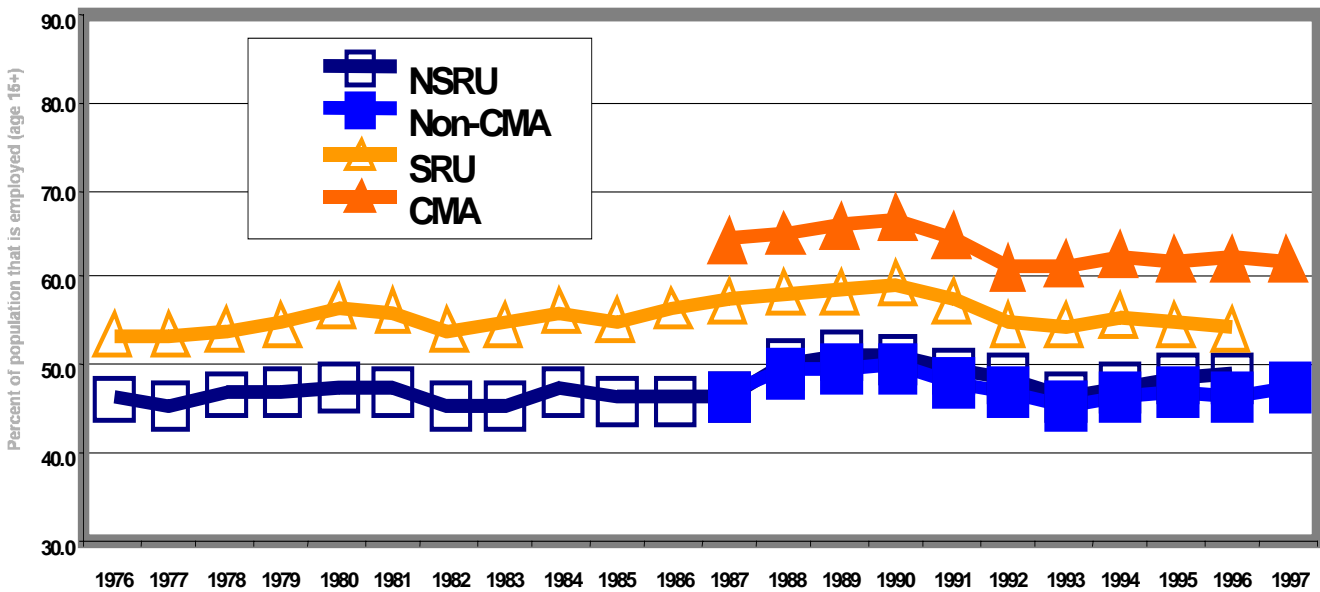


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Nova Scotia

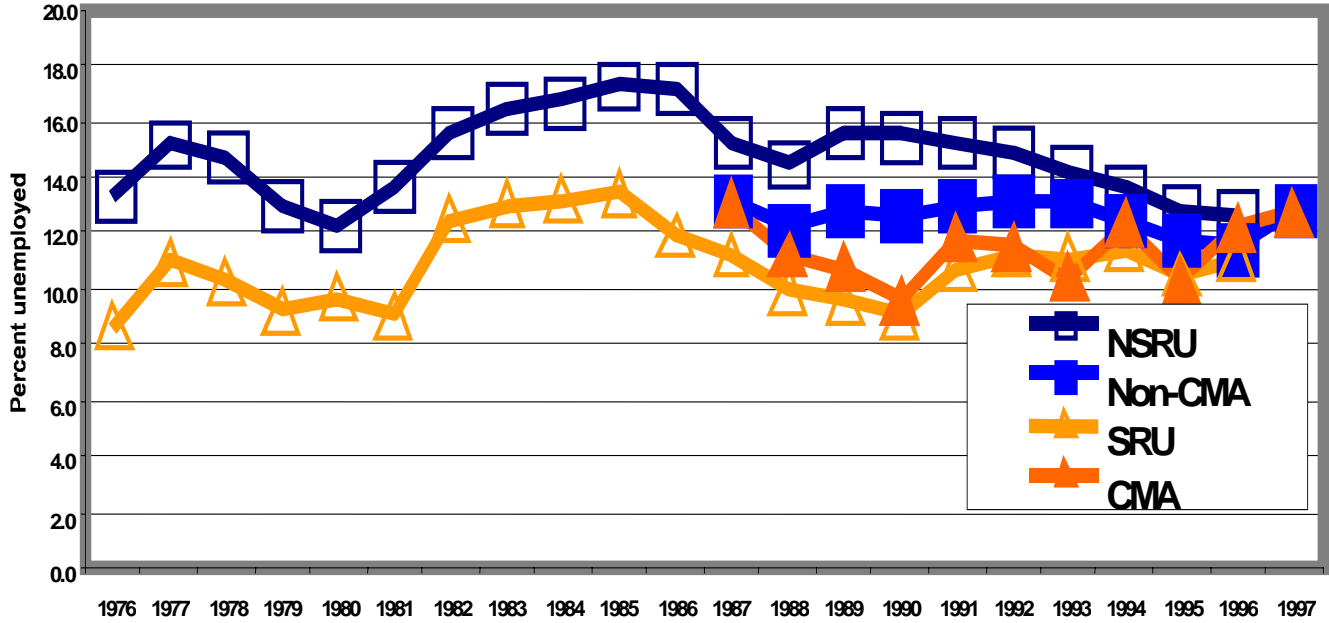


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Nova Scotia

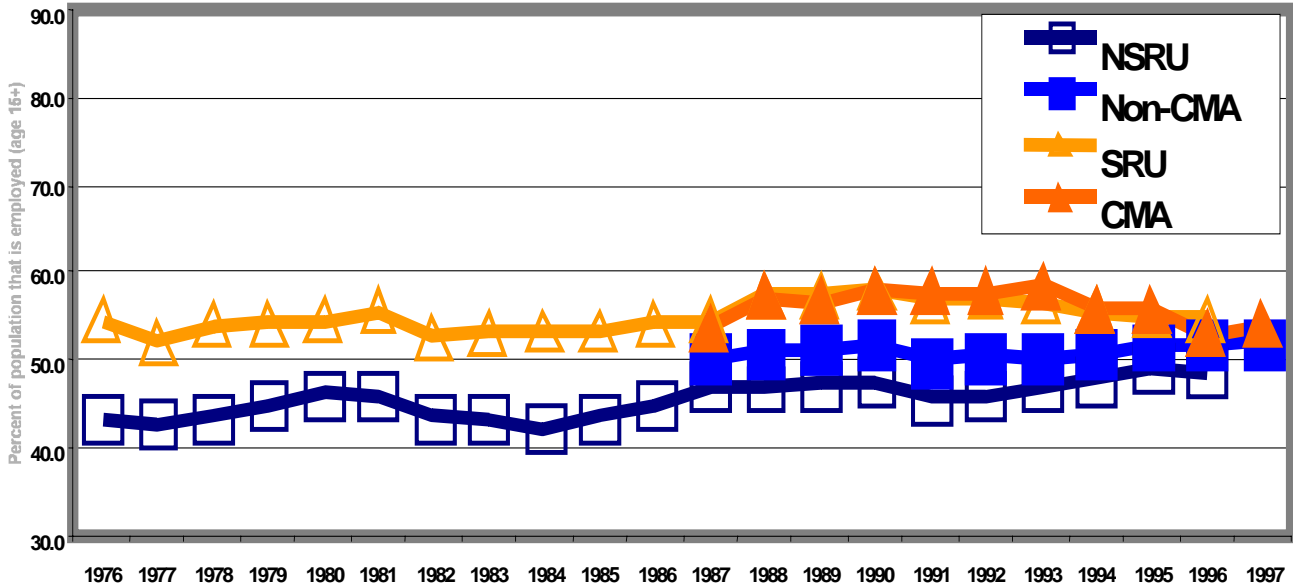


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
New Brunswick

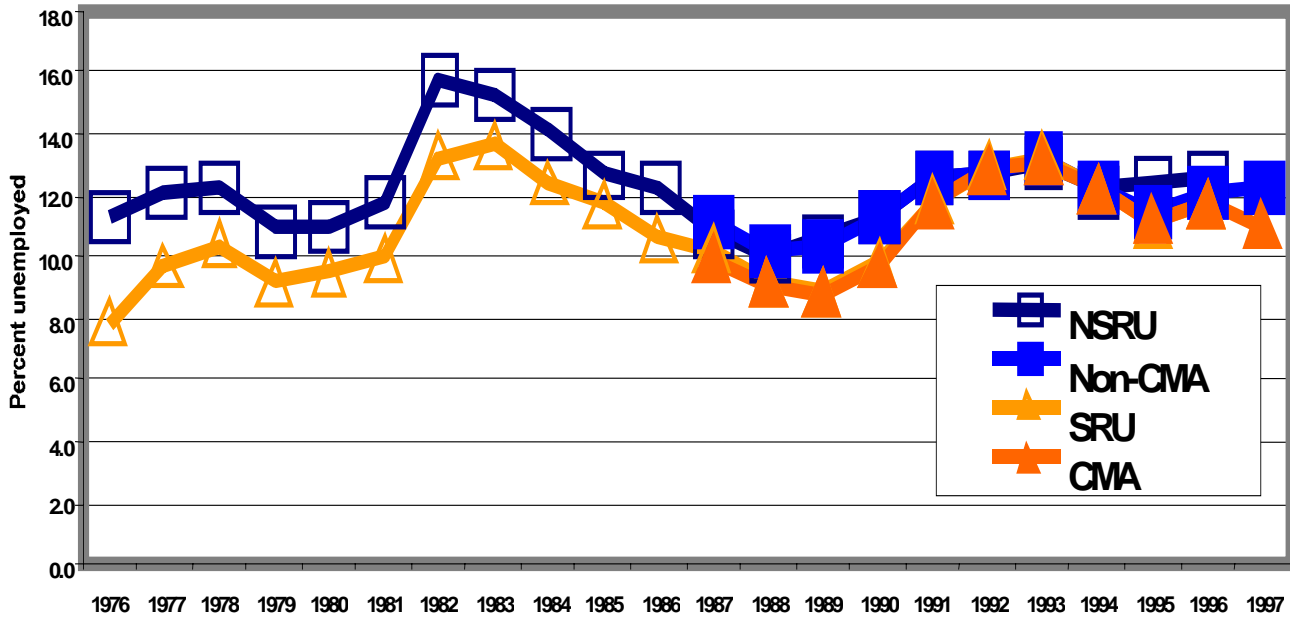


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
New Brunswick

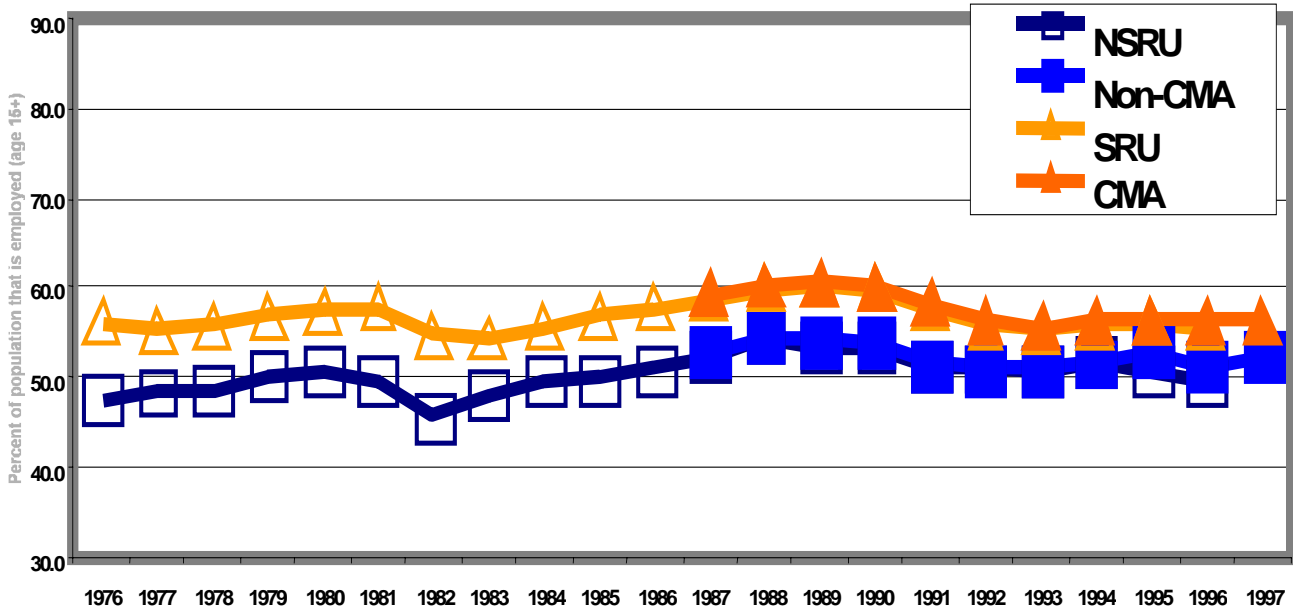


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Quebec

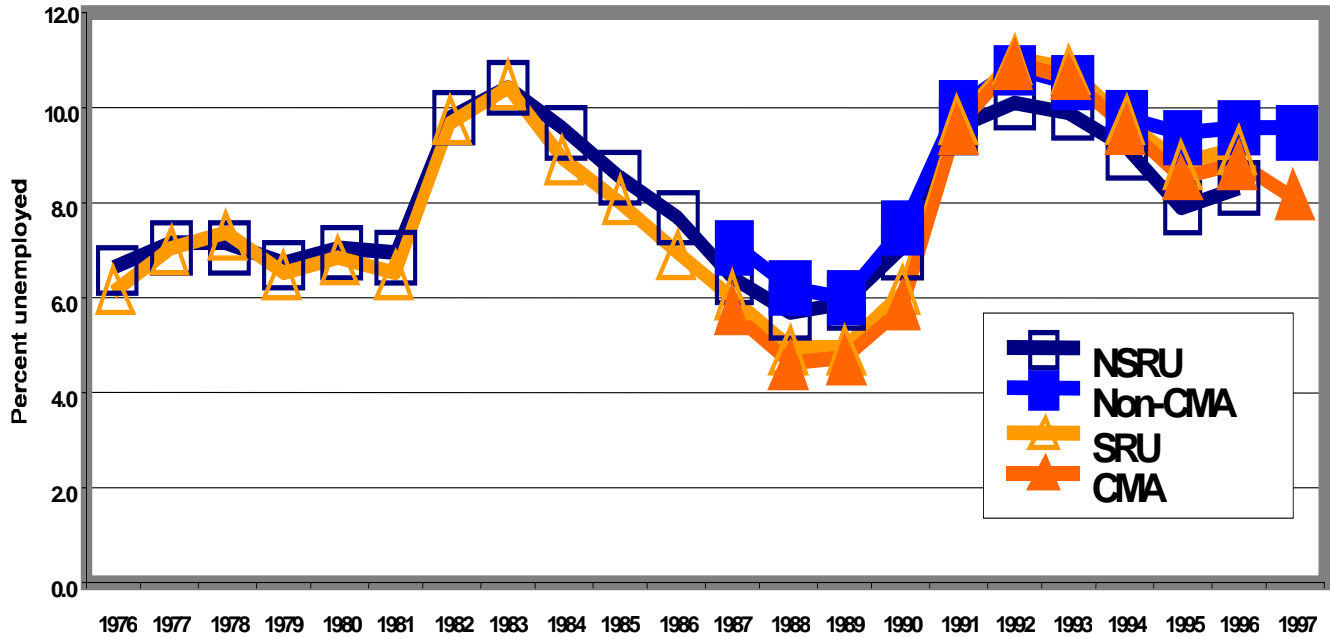


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Quebec

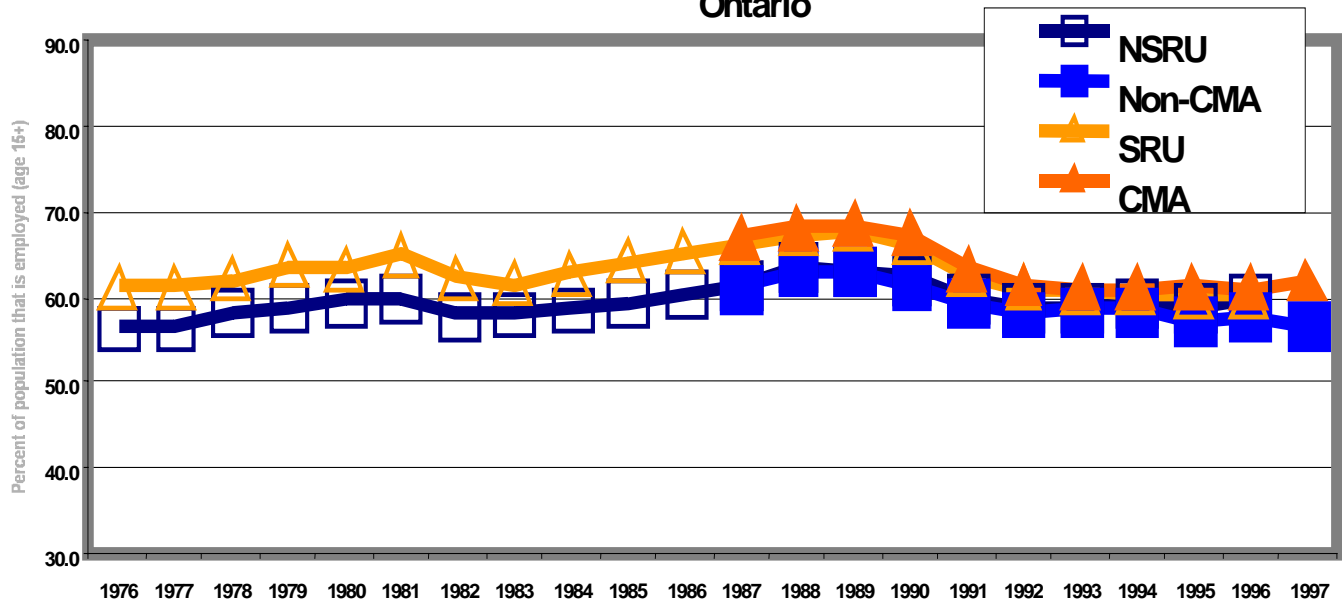


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Ontario

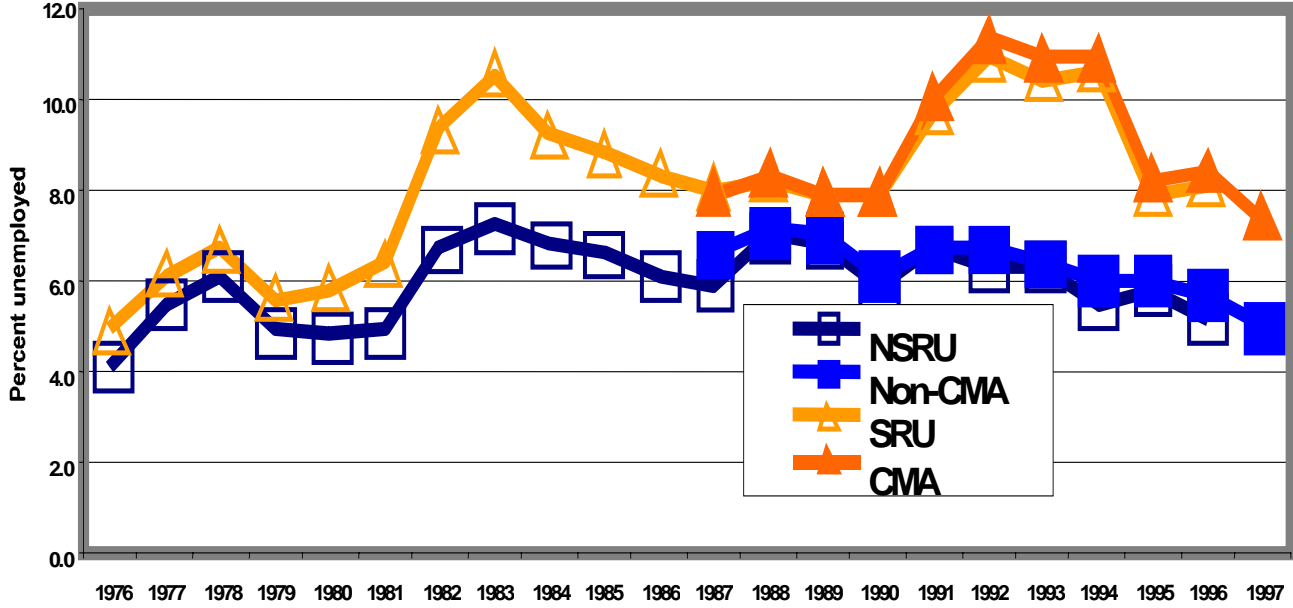


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Ontario

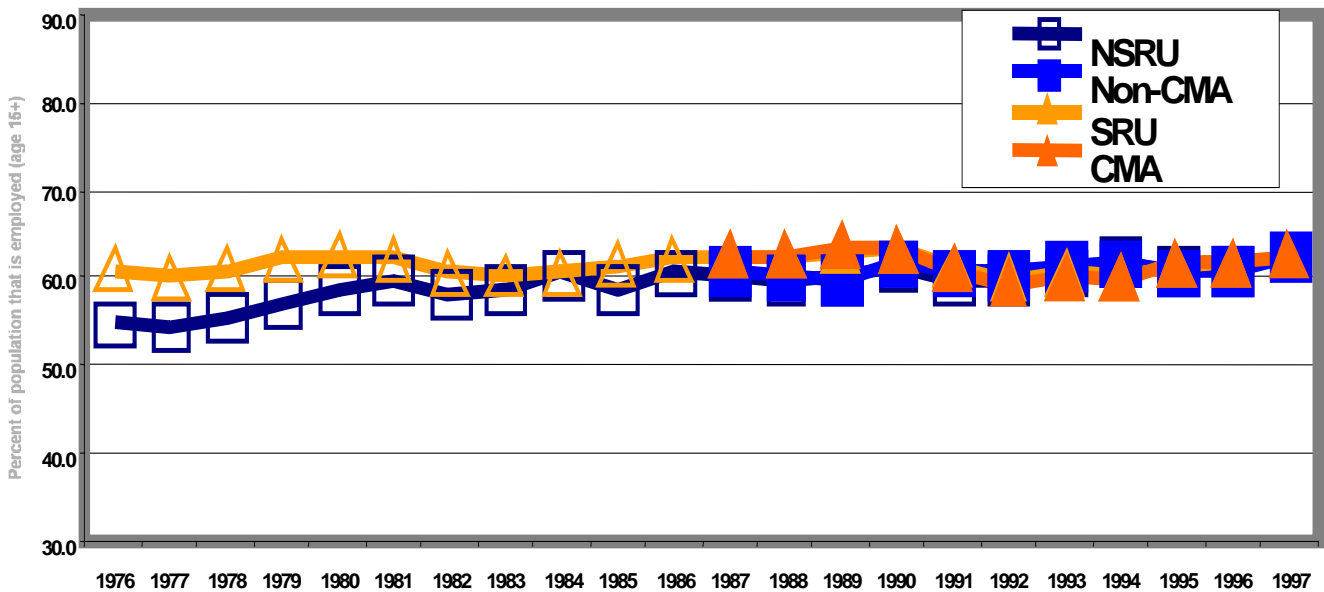


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Manitoba

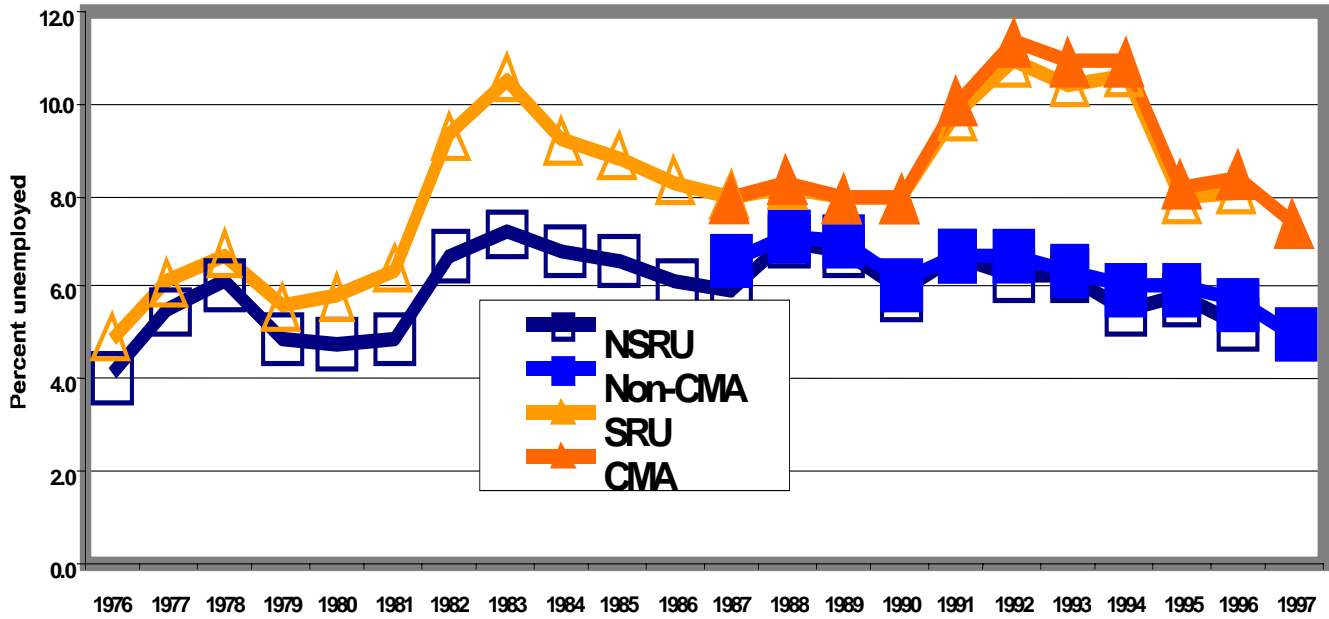


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Manitoba

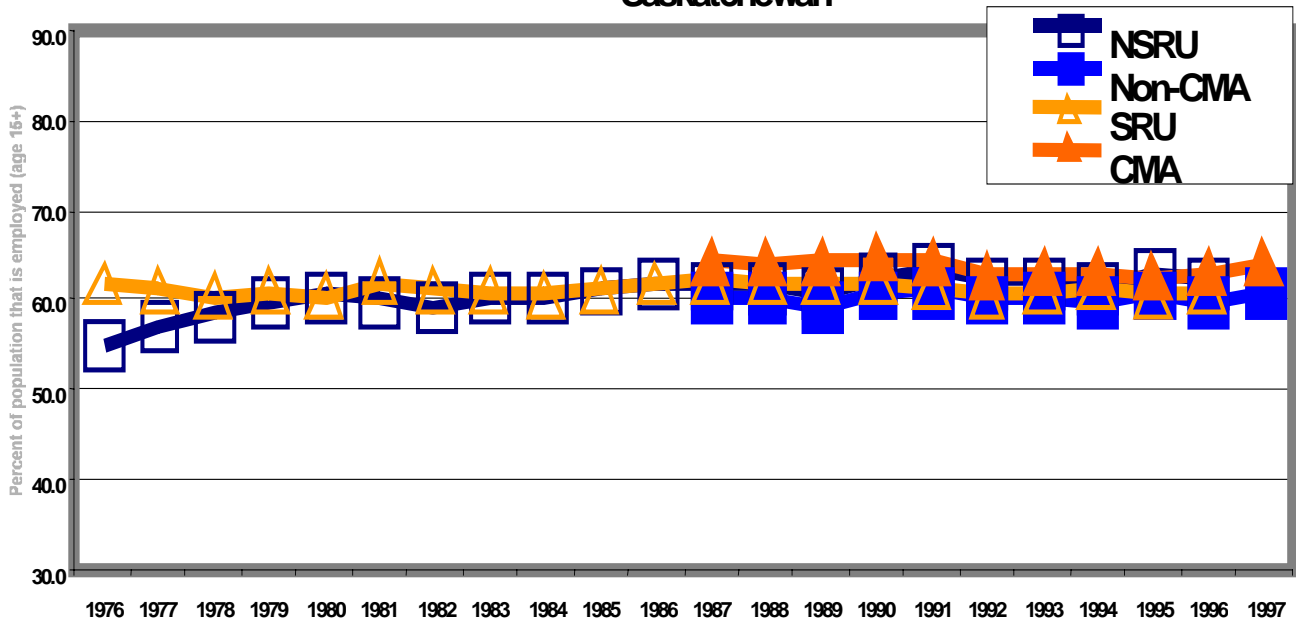


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Saskatchewan

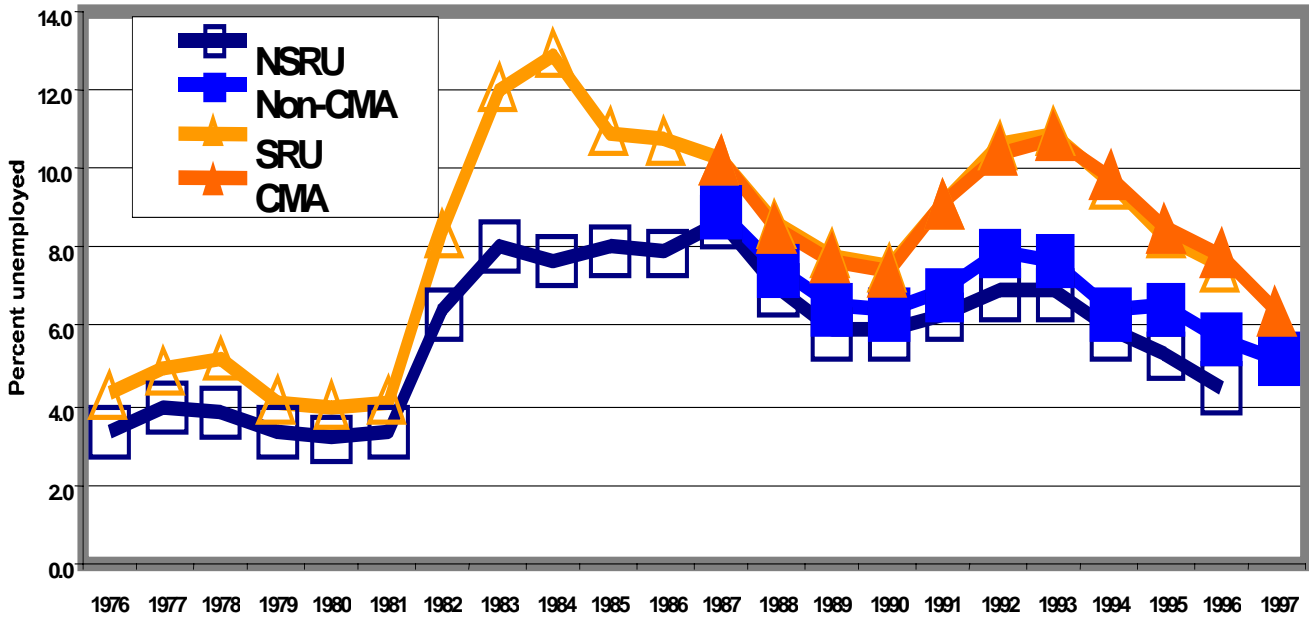


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Saskatchewan

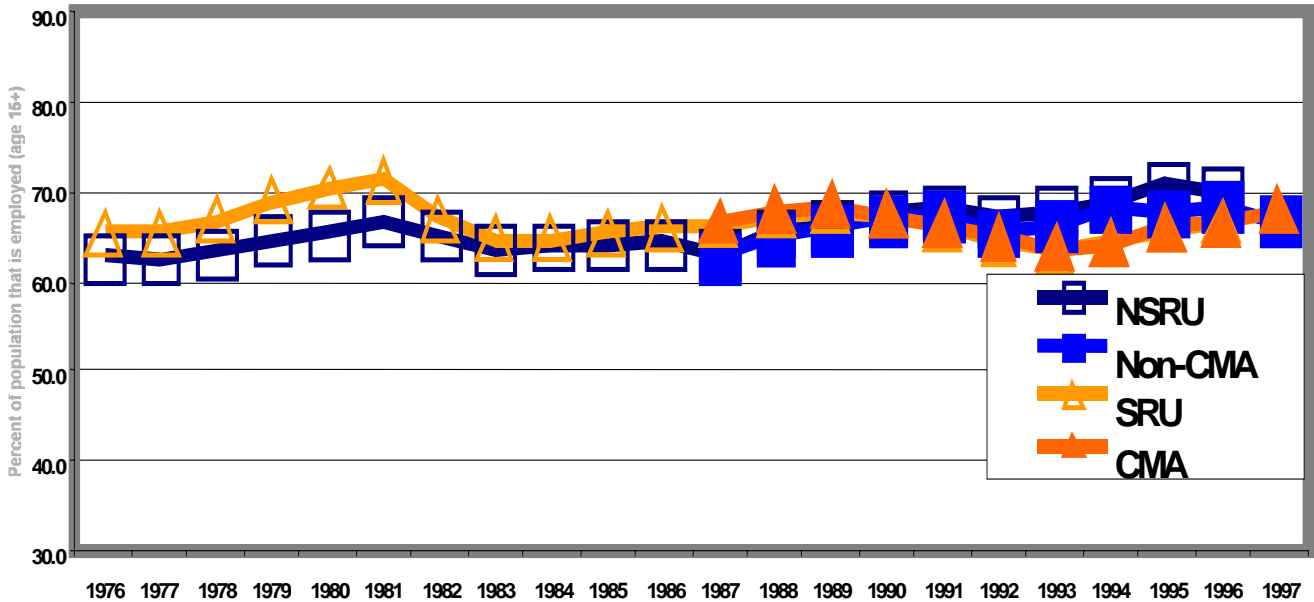


Appendix 5 (continued)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
Alberta

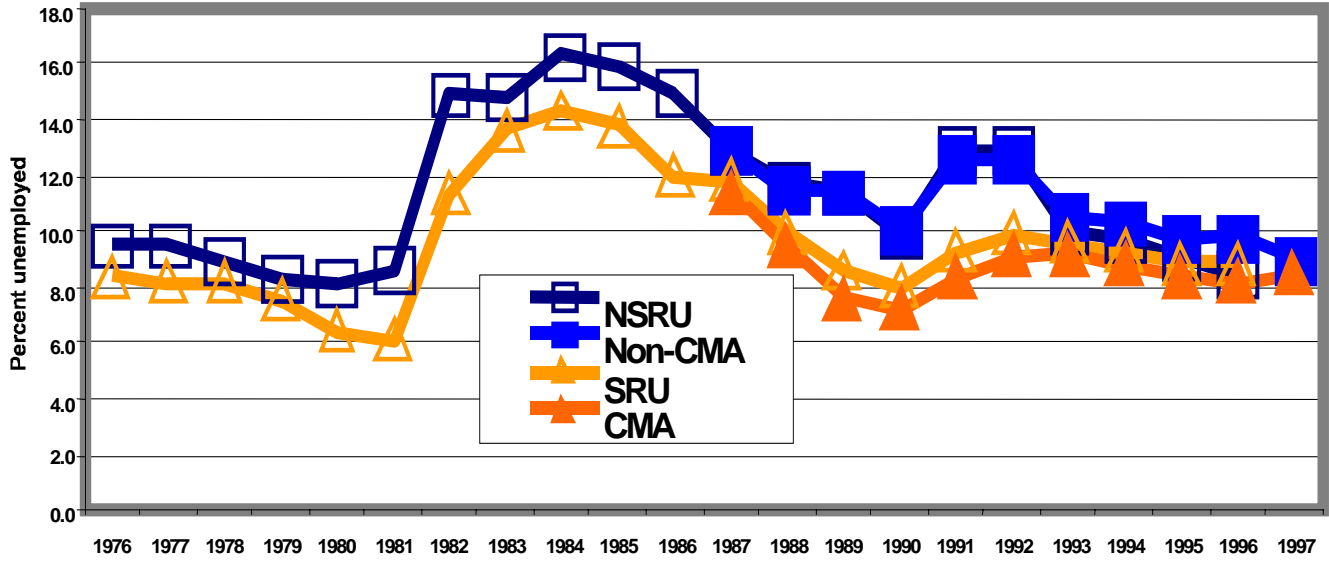


Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
Alberta

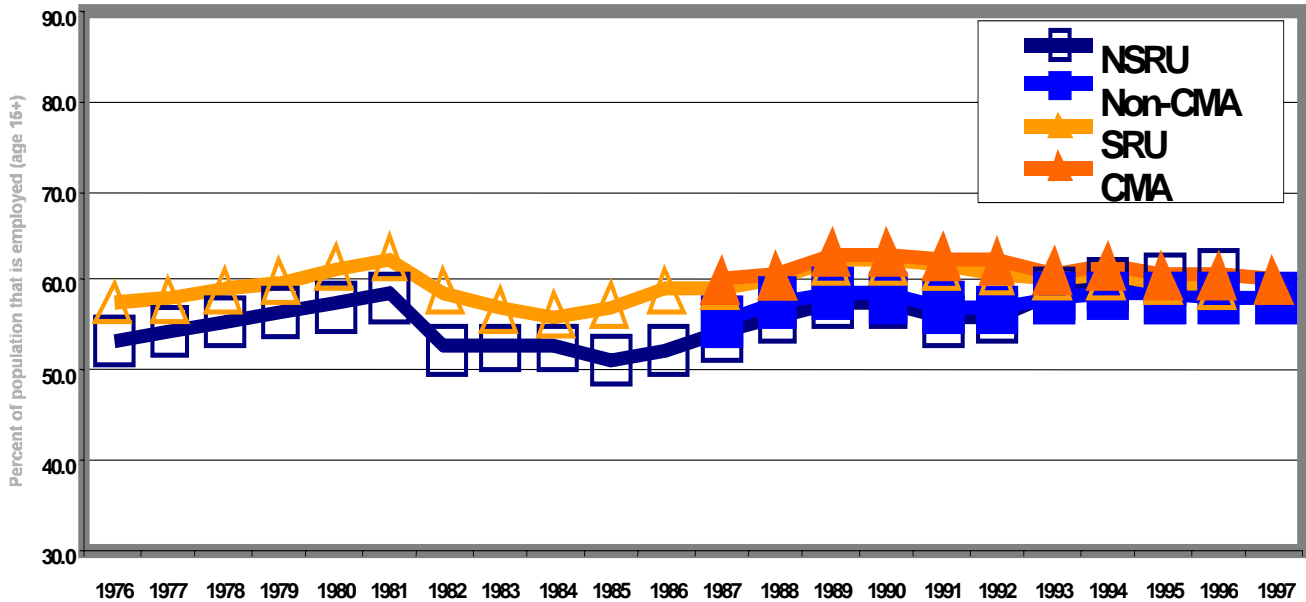


Appendix 5 (concluded)

Unemployment Rate (Both genders, age 15+)
British Columbia



Employment Rate (Both Genders, Age 15+)
British Columbia





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