

JANUARY EMPLOYMENT

88,000

COMPARED TO DECEMBER 2017

DECEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

5.9%

COMPARED TO DECEMBER 2017

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

65.5%

COMPARED TO DECEMBER 2017

AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE

\$26.83

UP 3.3% FROM JANUARY 2016

EMPLOYMENT DECLINES IN JANUARY, WITH 88,000 FEWER JOBS IN CANADA

- January was a rough start to the year for Canada, with a decline of 88,000 jobs and an unemployment rate that rose to 5.9%. While gains were made in full-time work (+49,000), they were offset by losses in part-time (-137,000). Year over year, however, employment has grown by 289,000 jobs – all due to full-time gains.
- Employment for women aged 25-54 declined by 45,000, while men in the same age group held steady. Employment also declined for youth aged 15-24 (-22,000) and Canadians aged 55+ (-24,000). Compared to January 2017, employment for the latter group has grown by 187,000 as a result of the aging Baby Boomer cohort.
- While declines were felt by Ontario (-51,000), Quebec (-17,000) and Manitoba (-3,600), employment has grown since January 2017 for all three provinces, with Ontario adding 104,000 jobs, Quebec increasing by 71,000 and Manitoba growing by 7,100. New Brunswick also experienced a decrease (-5,800) for the month, while there was little change for Alberta.
- Multiple industries experienced declines in January, including educational services; finance, insurance, real estate, rental & leasing; professional, scientific & technical services; construction; health care and social assistance; and natural resources – while employment increased in business, building and other support services (+11,000). Both the private and public sector experienced losses of 71,000 and 41,000, respectively. The number of self-employed Canadians held steady for the month, but has increased by 141,000 since January 2017.

