



What is labour market information? Do I need it?

Labour market information helps determine where the jobs are, and which occupations have the best prospects. It also helps people determine what are the most appropriate training and educational resources for them.

Labour market information tells you about:

- Jobs and salaries
- Industry sectors
- Cities and communities
- Future trends and conditions
- Statistics

These things will affect your job search

Labour market information can be overwhelming and confusing. Learning what it is and how to use it can help you find a job.

Labour market information tells you:

- What jobs and skills employers are looking for
- Which industries are hiring
- Where to find employers who are hiring
- What working conditions are like for specific industries
- What education and training you need for specific jobs
- What factors can stop you from getting a job
- Which job areas are growing in the future

Why do I need this information?

Labour market information can help you make a good decision when you want to change jobs or move to a new place. It can help you find out what the labour market is like for that job or that city. For example, if you are a machinist and you move to a town with no factories, you will have a hard time finding a job. Looking at labour market information before you move can help you make an informed decision.

Labour Market Definitions

Labour market information covers the **principal elements** of the labour market and its **operations**. The principal elements are the **demand** for labour and the supply of labour. Demand means the number of jobs available. **Supply** tells you the number of people who are able work.

This information is organized by:

- Time periods
- Sector
- Industries
- Geographic areas

The **labour force** is the number of people available to work.

These numbers are broken down by:

- Age
- Gender
- Ethnic background
- Education level and skills

Unemployment happens when there are more people (who want to work) than jobs.

The **operations** of the labour market include:

- Labour exchange –searching for workers, offering people jobs, hiring activities, and separations (layoffs, firings, quitting)
- Government policies and activities - created to help reduce the number of people who do not have jobs.

Statistics Canada and **Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)** are the major sources of government labour market information. Both departments have labour information at the national, regional and local levels.

Statistics Canada watches **unemployment** numbers by:

- Region
- Age
- Gender
- Education level
- Unemployment rates by job type

ESDC runs a **labour market information** service. It has information on local labour markets across Canada.

Reference:

[Labour Market](#)

For more information, please visit [Settlement.Org](#)

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