



Department of Finance

The New Brunswick
Economy: 2015 in Review

The New Brunswick Economy: 2015 in Review

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NOTE: Unless sourced otherwise, the analysis contained in this document is based on Statistics Canada data available as of May 25, 2016; historically comparable data series are used. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Data will be updated on the Department of Finance website at: www.gnb.ca/finance

Overview

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that the global economy grew by 3.1% in 2015. Growth in emerging market and developing economies – which account for over 70% of global growth – continued to trend downward. A modest recovery was evident among advanced economies.
- The U.S. economy expanded by 2.4% in 2015, unchanged from 2014 and consistent with expectations. Consumption, the main driver of growth, has benefited from steady job creation and income growth, lower oil prices and increased consumer confidence.
- Battered by slumping prices for oil and other commodities, Canada's economy reported a disappointing year in 2015, with real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 1.2% – the slowest growth since the 2009 recession. Business investment and domestic demand also held the economy back.
- Oil prices continued to fall over the course of 2015 due to a persistent global supply glut and the inability of demand to keep pace. The resulting significant decline in investment activity was offset to some degree by increased consumer spending.
- The New Brunswick economy expanded by 1.9% in 2015, up slightly from the 1.8% projected at the time of the 2015-2016 Budget. New Brunswick's growth rate was highest among the Atlantic provinces in 2015 and fourth best of all 10 provinces. Goods-producing industries increased 4.6% in 2015 following a decline in 2014; all sectors posted growth except utilities. Service industries increased 1.0% in 2015, thanks to gains in retail and wholesale trade, banking services, food and drinking services, and computer systems design and related services.

2015 Statistical Summary

2015 Statistical Summary		
Growth Rates ¹		
	N.B. Canada (2014 to 2015)	
Output		
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *	3.3	0.6
GDP (real)	1.9	1.2
Population and Labour Force		
Total Population (July 1)	-0.1	0.9
Labour Force	-0.7	0.8
Employment	-0.6	0.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.8	6.9
Participation Rate (%)	62.7	65.8
Wages and Salaries	3.0	2.5
Indicators		
International Exports	-6.2	-2.1
Retail Trade	2.4	1.7
Farm Cash Receipts	0.3	2.7
Housing Starts	-12.3	3.3
Manufacturing Sales	-9.9	-1.5
Lumber Shipments	25.7	9.9
Mining Production	-8.8	-2.6
Consumer Price Index	0.5	1.1
<p>¹ Per cent change unless otherwise indicated. * Provincial figure is NB Finance estimate.</p> <p>Sources: Statistics Canada, Natural Resources Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.</p>		

International Economy

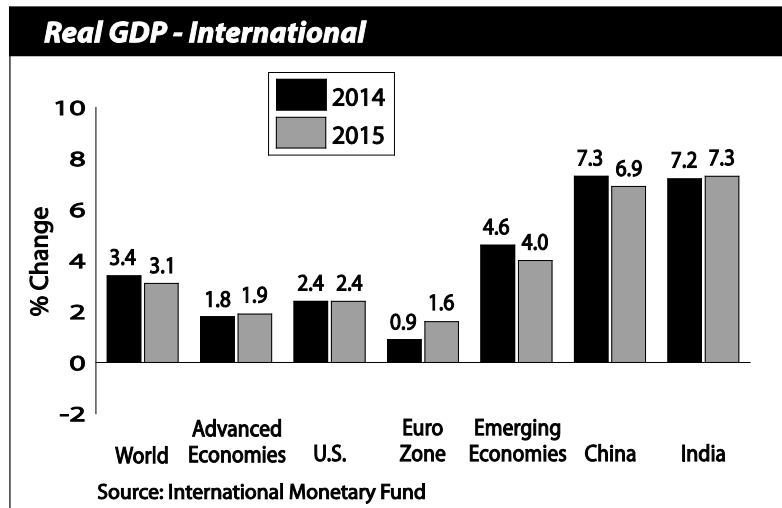
- According to the IMF, the global economy grew by 3.1% in 2015, a minor retreat from the pace observed in 2014. Advanced economies grew by 1.9%, while emerging market and developing economies grew by 4.0%.
- Growth in emerging economies slowed from 4.6% in 2014 to 4.0% in 2015, predominantly due to a slowing Chinese expansion and the repercussions of this on external economies. India and China once again led progress, accelerating by 7.3% and 6.9% respectively in 2015.
- The BRICS – an acronym for the group of five major emerging markets that at one time were considered pillars of growth – saw waning momentum as the economies of three members (Brazil, Russia and South Africa) stalled in 2015. The downturn in Brazil was deeper than expected with economic activity contracting by 3.8% in 2015.
- Advanced economies increased by 1.9% in 2015, in line with the pace of growth observed in 2014 (+1.8%). All G7 nations expanded in 2015 although performances varied across member states.
- The euro zone continued down the path to recovery. Its economy grew by 1.6% in 2015, a modest improvement over growth of 0.9% in 2014. Stronger-than-expected growth was observed in Italy (+0.8%) and Spain (+3.2%), while growth was weaker-than-expected in Germany (+1.5%), the largest economy in the zone.
- With consumption and exports falling short of expectations, a recovery in Japan is still tentative. The Japanese economy is estimated to have grown by a modest 0.5% in 2015 following no growth in 2014.
- Weak first and fourth quarters sandwiched a strong mid-year performance limiting U.S. economic growth to 2.4% in 2015. Growth reflected positive contributions from consumption, non-residential and residential investment, and state and local government spending.
- Payroll employment in the U.S. increased by more than 2.7 million in 2015 following the addition of 3.0 million jobs in 2014. The unemployment rate declined for the fifth consecutive year, falling to 5.3% in 2015.
- U.S. housing starts surpassed one million for the second year in a row, an increase of 10.8% over the 2014 level and the sixth consecutive annual increase.

Global Growth Slows

The pace of global economic expansion retracted somewhat in 2015, growing by 3.1%.

Emerging economies continued to lead growth, although the gap between emerging and advanced economies continues to tighten.

India surpassed China and has emerged as one of the key drivers of global growth.



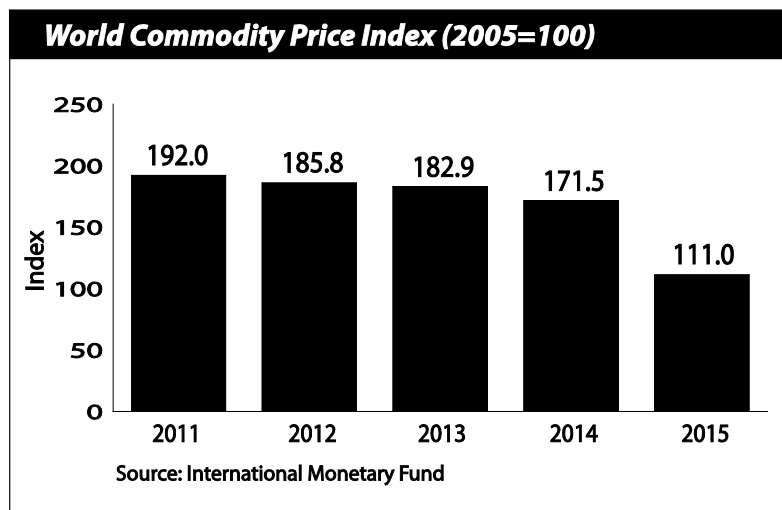
Commodity Prices Tumble

A broad-based collapse in commodity prices took hold in 2015.

Metal prices, in particular, were largely impacted by slowing demand from China and substantial increases in supply. China represents roughly half of the global demand for major base metals.

Oil prices continued to be affected by an excess of global supply, falling by nearly 50% over the 2014 level.

Despite low prices, Russia's production increased to record levels and OPEC's output continued to expand.

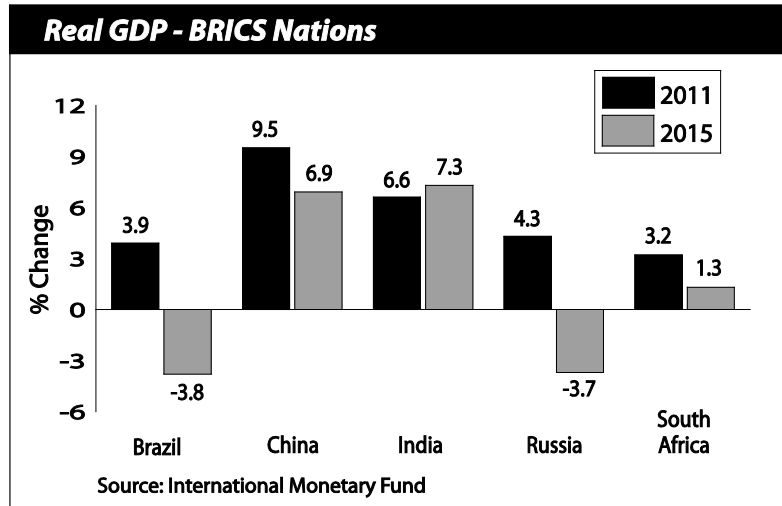


BRICS Economies Losing Momentum

The economies of the five BRICS countries, which until recently have been the major drivers of emerging economic growth, have stumbled.

Compared to 2011, growth in 2015 reversed itself in Brazil and Russia, and lost steam in China and South Africa.

Many emerging economies have been negatively impacted by the ensuing softening of demand, especially those dependent on China; this has restrained global trade.

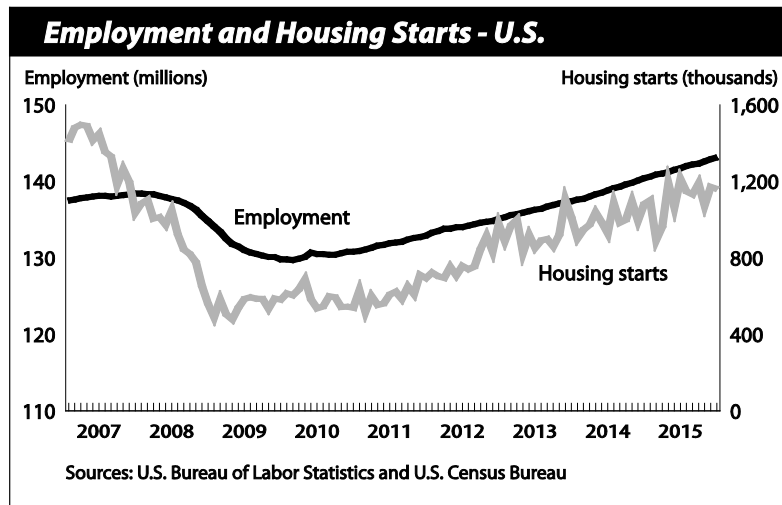


U.S. Economy Shows Signs of Recovery

The closely intertwined U.S. labour and housing markets continued on their upward trajectory in 2015.

A strong finish in the last quarter of the year saw the U.S. economy add 2.7 million jobs in 2015.

Drawing on gains in purchasing power, housing starts rose by 10.8% in 2015 to a level not seen since 2007. Growth was observed in three of the four main economic regions of the U.S.



Canadian Economy

- In Canada, economic activity was driven by household consumption and net trade. The Canadian economy expanded by 1.2% in 2015, below the 2.5% average over the past five years.
- Real GDP increased in seven of 10 provinces in 2015 with the strongest growth in British Columbia (+3.0%); Alberta reported the largest decline (-4.0%).
- Following strong growth in 2014, Canadian exports declined by 2.1% in 2015 due largely to a significant decline in energy products. Exports of non-energy goods accelerated 8.9% for the year, thanks to a stronger U.S. economy and a weaker Canadian dollar.
- Manufacturing sales fell by 1.5% as gains in the durable goods industries (+2.8%) were not sufficient to offset losses in the non-durable goods industries (-6.1%). Excluding petroleum and coal products, sales grew by 2.6%.
- Housing starts rose for the second year in a row, up 3.3% in 2015. Growth in multi-unit construction (+11.9%) was sufficient to offset a decline in single-detached construction (-9.8%). Substantial declines in housing starts were observed in oil-producing provinces.
- Canada's unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.9% in 2015. Deteriorating labour conditions in energy-dependent provinces were offset by improving conditions in central Canada. Nevertheless, Saskatchewan (5.0%), Manitoba (5.6%) and Alberta (6.0%) continued to hold the lowest unemployment rates in the country.
- The Canadian labour market added more than 140,000 jobs in 2015, an improvement over the net jobs added the previous year. The 2015 employment increase was driven by gains in full-time work as part-time employment declined.
- In response to low core inflation and weak demand, the Bank of Canada cut its target for the overnight rate twice in 2015, landing at 0.5%. This policy stance balanced solid growth in the U.S. with weaker-than-expected domestic growth and continued commodity price declines.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose by 1.1% in 2015; a decline in energy prices (-9.6%) was not sufficient to offset growth in other categories. The price of goods increased by 0.3% and that of services increased by 2.0%.
- Pressured by monetary policies and sliding oil prices the Canadian dollar continued to tumble, averaging 78 cents U.S. in 2015, down from 85 cents to start the year.

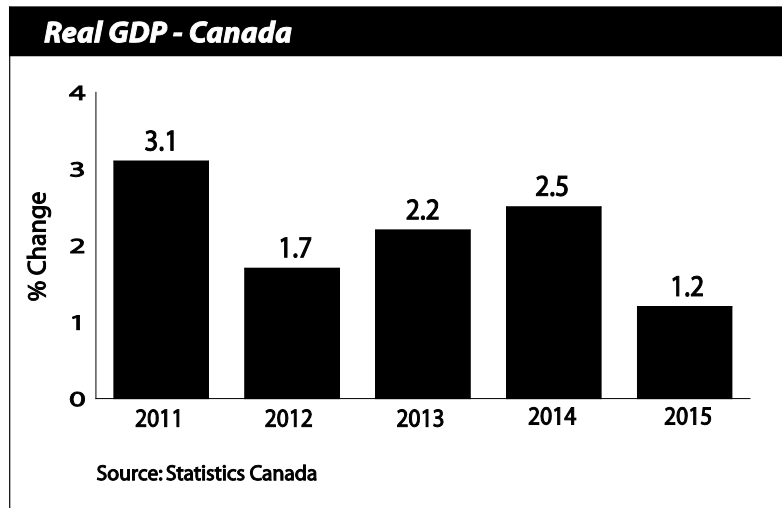
Canadian Economy (continued)

Canada Economic Indicators					
Growth Rates ¹ , 2011 to 2015					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Economic Accounts					
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	6.5	3.0	3.8	4.3	0.6
Household Final Consumption Expenditures	4.4	3.2	3.8	4.5	3.1
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	6.7	7.3	1.2	3.7	-0.8
GDP (real)	3.1	1.7	2.2	2.5	1.2
Income					
Primary Household Income	5.6	4.6	4.1	3.8	3.0
Population and Labour Force					
Total Population (July 1)	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9
Labour Force	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.8
Employment	1.5	1.3	1.5	0.6	0.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.9
Participation Rate (%)	66.7	66.5	66.5	66.0	65.8
Other					
Consumer Price Index	2.9	1.5	0.9	2.0	1.1
Housing Starts	2.1	10.8	-12.5	0.7	3.3
¹ Per cent change unless otherwise indicated.					
Source: Statistics Canada.					

Canadian Economy Softens

Real GDP in Canada grew 1.2% in 2015, about half the pace recorded in 2014.

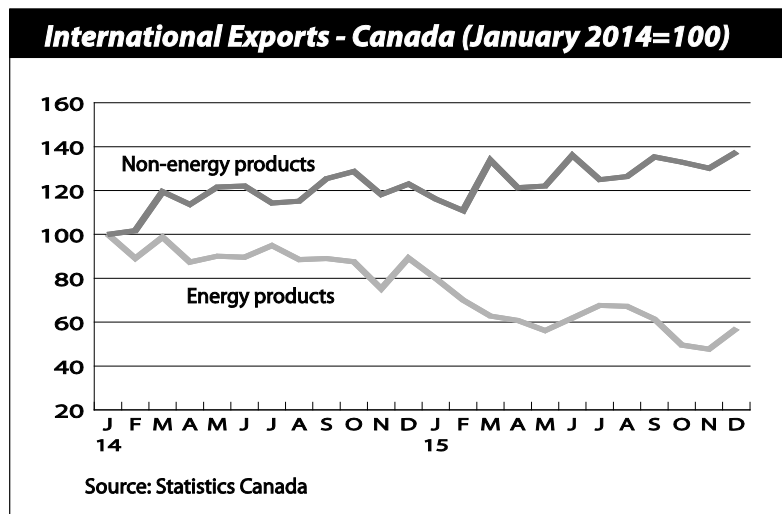
Lower business gross fixed capital formation constrained economic growth. Final domestic demand grew 0.5% after increasing 1.6% in 2014.



Exports Signal Rebalancing

Energy exports were negatively impacted by the plunge in the price of crude oil received by oil-producing provinces and declined by 31.3% in 2015.

However, weak oil prices resulted in a softening of the exchange rate and had a positive impact on non-energy exports (+8.9%), suggesting a rebalancing of economic activity towards non-energy industries and regions.

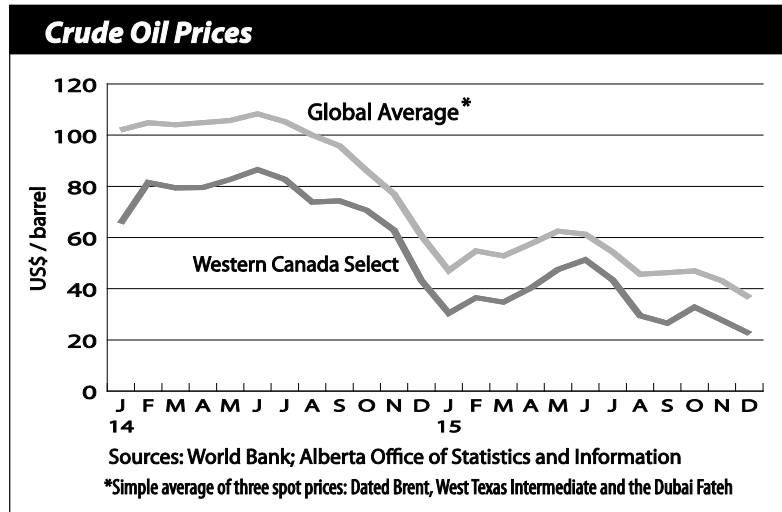


Oil Prices Continue Collapse

After plunging in 2014, the average price received for Western Canada Select (WCS) crude oil fell by 50% in 2015 as supply continued to exceed demand.

WCS fetched an average discount of approximately \$15 a barrel compared to the average of three major global hub prices.

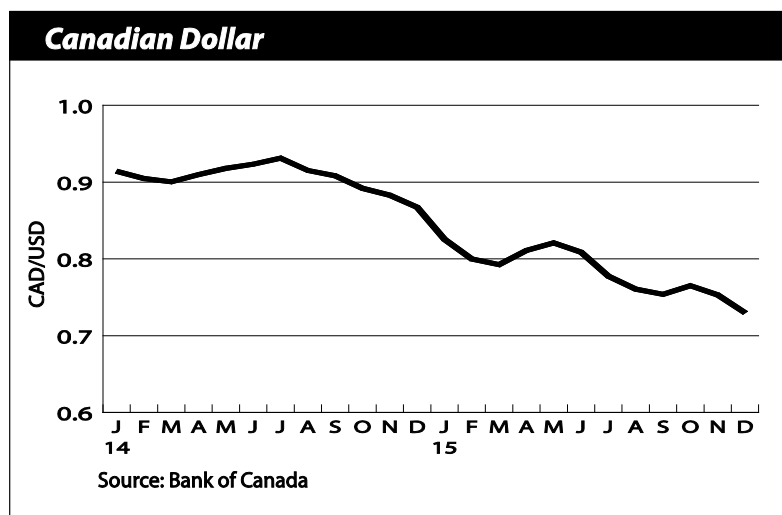
Persistent weakness has translated into a notable reduction in investment activity among energy producers.



Canadian Dollar Deteriorates Further

Declining oil prices led to a further depreciation of the Canadian dollar. Its value declined by 10 cents in 2015, falling to 73 cents U.S. by year-end.

While the energy sector has suffered, the low dollar has created a positive growth environment for non-commodity sectors and regions, making Canadian goods more affordable.



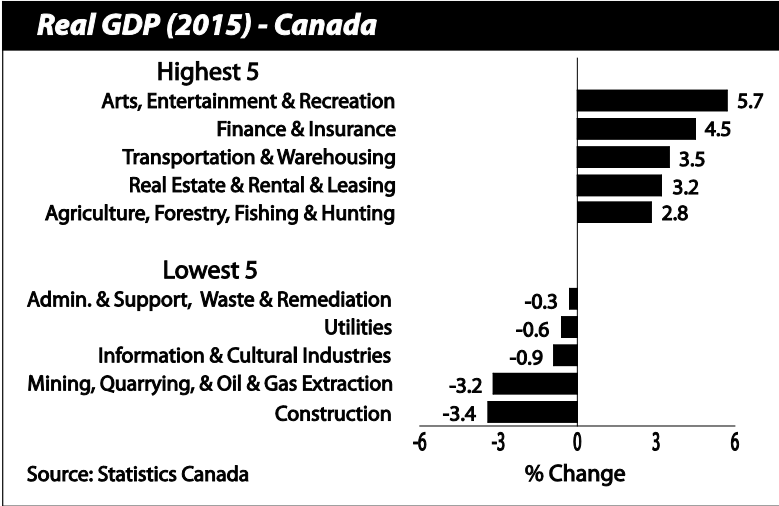
Broad-Based Growth Offsets Energy Sector Weakness

In 2015, growth in economic output in Canada was driven by service-producing industries (+2.0%), while goods-producing industries contracted (-1.5%).

The energy sector weighed on overall growth, declining 2.8% due to depressed oil prices.

Growth was observed in 15 of 20 industries; the majority of losses were

concentrated in construction (-3.4%) and mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (-3.2%).

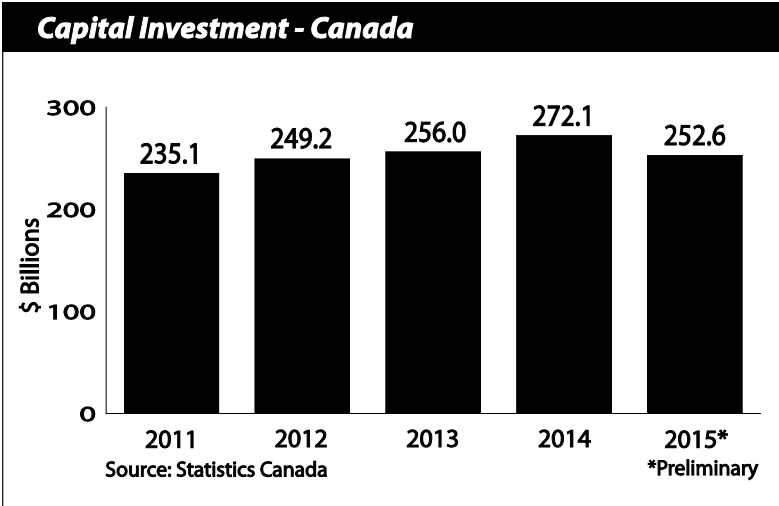


Capital Investment Decreases

Capital investment in Canada declined 7.2% to \$252.6 billion in 2015. Investment in the private sector fell 12.7% while the public sector increased 7.9%.

Investment was higher in 14 of 20 industry categories. Broad-based gains, led by higher investment in public administration and transportation and warehousing, were not sufficient to offset considerably lower investment in mining and oil and gas extraction.

Provincially, investment gains were strongest in Ontario, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.



New Brunswick Economy – 2015 Review

- Real GDP growth in New Brunswick was pushed into positive territory and rose 1.9% in 2015, the best performance since 2010. A rebound in refined petroleum products and strong growth in wood products, primary metals, paper products and food products gave manufacturing a boost. Mining and quarrying was helped with the reopening of a metal ore mine and higher potash mining. Construction increased largely because of a major oil and gas engineering project. Forestry and logging, crop production and aquaculture also increased their output.
- Retail trade advanced by 2.4% in 2015, an increase of roughly \$280 million. Ten of the eleven subsectors reported higher sales, with gasoline stations reporting the lone decrease. Excluding gasoline stations, sales grew by 5.2%.
- Employment declined for the sixth time in seven years in New Brunswick, by 0.6% in 2015. Job losses were observed in part-time employment. Although minimal, growth was focused in the services-producing sector (which increased a modest 0.5%), while the goods-producing sector declined by 4.6%. With the labour force down 0.7% and declining faster than employment, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage point to 9.8%.
- Despite weak employment conditions, average weekly earnings were up by 2.7% in 2015 compared to the 3.4% growth rate noted in 2014, but above the national result of 1.8%. Earnings growth in 2015 was more or less equally divided between goods-producing industries (+2.8%) and service-producing industries (+2.6%).
- Exports (-6.2%) and manufacturing (-9.9%) declined in 2015, influenced largely by further declines in the prices of refined oil products and commodities. Wood products manufacturing turned in a solid performance (+6.0%), posting growth for the fourth year in a row.
- Both public sector and private sector investment levels were up in the province in 2015, with the latter supported somewhat by forest sector modernization efforts and refinery maintenance activity. Overall, capital investment increased by 8.7%. Construction investment rose by 9.3%, while machinery and equipment investment was up by 7.9%.
- Housing starts in New Brunswick fell 12.3% in 2015, reflecting lower levels of both single-detached and multiple unit starts. The three major urban centres in the province (Fredericton, Moncton and Saint John) also posted declines.
- Inflation was modest in 2015 (+0.5%) as a decline in transportation costs was compensated by gains in the other product groups. Central to the decline was a drop in energy prices, particularly gasoline which plunged 18.2%.

New Brunswick Economy – 2015 Review (continued)

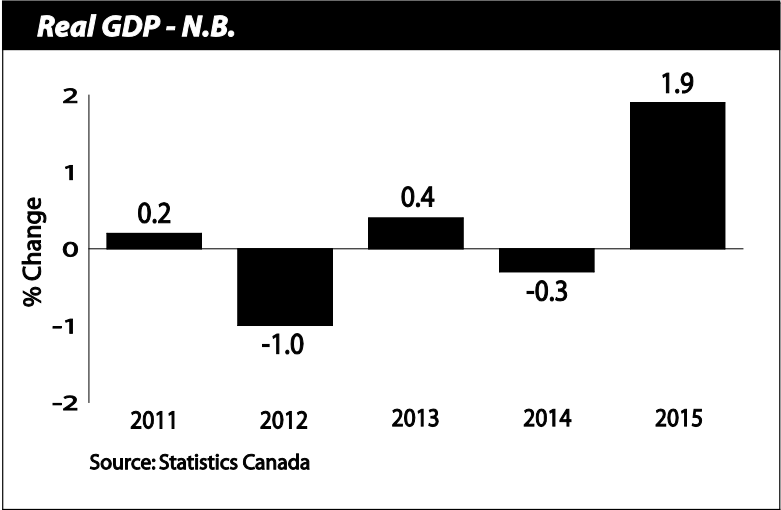
New Brunswick Economic Indicators					
Growth Rates¹, 2011 to 2015					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Economic Accounts					
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *	4.3	0.7	0.4	0.6	3.3
Household Final Consumption Expenditures *	4.8	2.4	2.9	3.5	2.0
Gross Fixed Capital Formation *	6.8	-11.9	-8.9	-3.9	1.7
GDP (real) **	0.2	-1.0	0.4	-0.3	1.9
Income					
Primary Household Income *	4.5	2.8	2.2	2.1	2.2
Population and Labour Force					
Total Population (July 1)	0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Labour Force	-0.4	0.1	0.5	-0.6	-0.7
Employment	-0.7	-0.7	0.4	-0.2	-0.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.5	10.2	10.3	9.9	9.8
Participation Rate (%)	63.3	63.2	63.5	63.2	62.7
Other					
Consumer Price Index	3.5	1.7	0.8	1.5	0.5
Housing Starts	-15.8	-4.4	-13.8	-19.9	-12.3
<p>¹ Per cent change unless otherwise indicated.</p> <p>* NB Finance estimates for 2015.</p> <p>** 2015 result on an industry accounts basis.</p>					
Sources: Statistics Canada and NB Finance.					

Provincial Economy Rebounds

Following a weak showing in 2014, real GDP in New Brunswick advanced 1.9% in 2015, the highest rate of growth since 2010.

The increase reflected strength in manufacturing, mining and quarrying, and agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Fifteen of twenty sectors showed gains in 2015. Goods-producing industries grew 4.6% while service industries increased 1.0%.



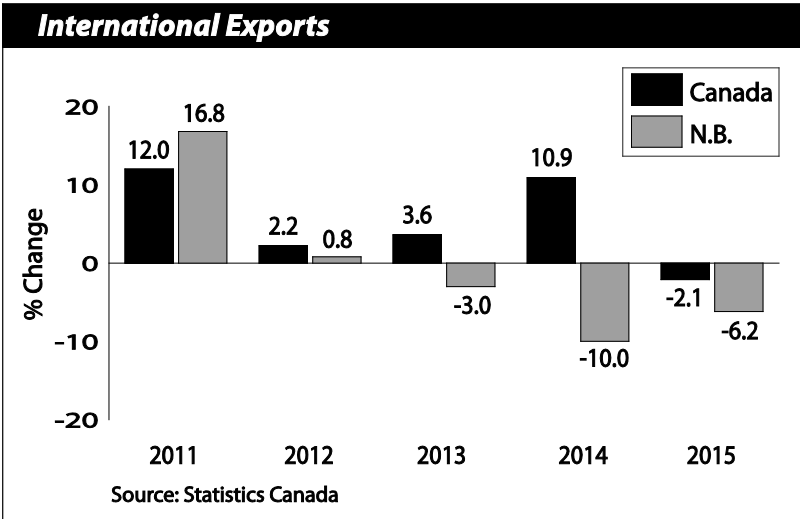
Exports Decline

Foreign exports of goods from New Brunswick declined 6.2% to \$12.2 billion in 2015, mainly due to lower prices in refined oil products.

Eight of the twelve product groups reported higher levels. The largest increases (in dollar terms) were in consumer goods; farm, fishing and intermediate food products; and forestry products and building and packaging materials. The greatest declines were in basic and industrial chemical, plastic

and rubber products; energy products; and metal and non-metallic mineral products.

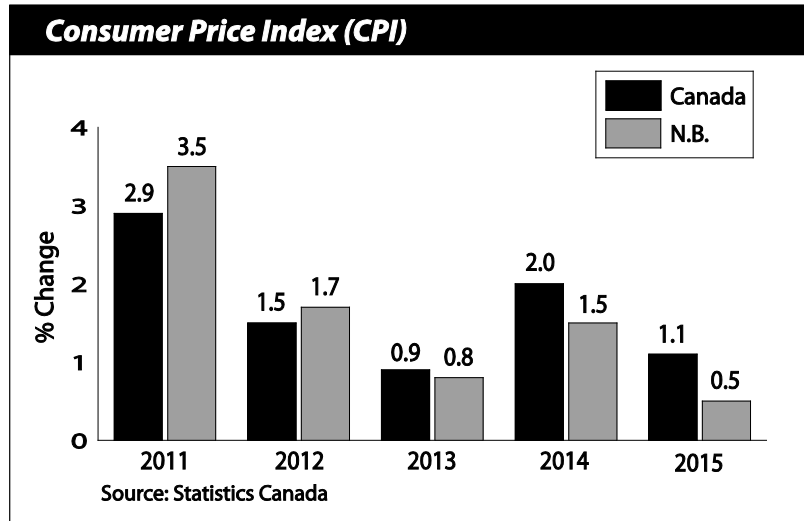
The province's largest trading partners include the U.S. (90.5%), India (0.9%) and China (0.7%).



Consumer Prices Edge Up

Consumer prices in New Brunswick edged up 0.5% in 2015, less than half of the national increase of 1.1%. It was the smallest gain since 2009 when overall prices were up 0.3%.

Seven of the eight major CPI components recorded increases, led by higher prices for food (+4.8%). Downward pressure came from lower transportation costs (-4.0%), impacted primarily by falling prices for gasoline.

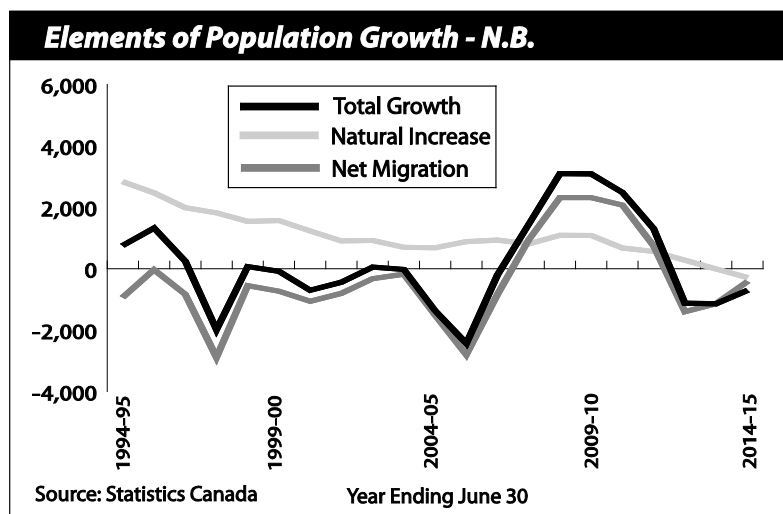


Population Growth Flat

New Brunswick's population edged down slightly to 753,871 as of July 1, 2015, a 0.1% dip from July 1, 2014. Over the same time period, Canada's population rose 0.9%.

Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, the provincial population was estimated to have decreased by 700 people, due mainly to a loss in net interprovincial migration (-2,800). While the interprovincial loss was offset by a corresponding

gain in the number of immigrants, a negative natural increase and a decline in the number of net non-permanent residents also impacted the overall drop.

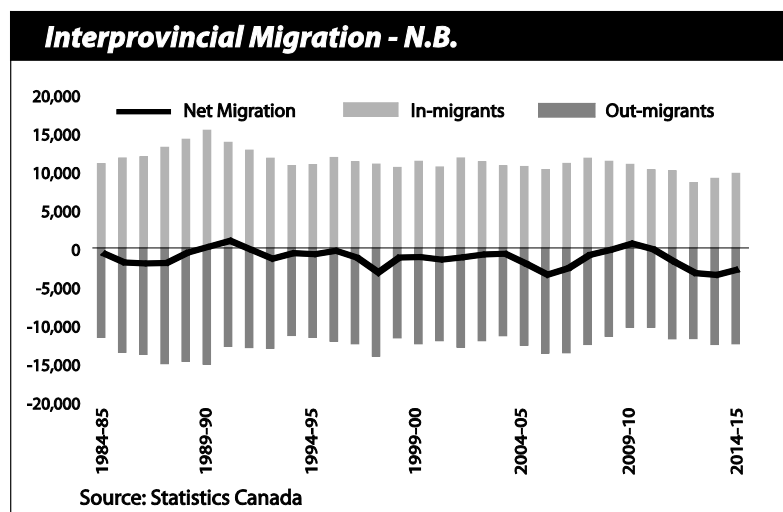


Interprovincial Migration Still Challenging

In 2014-2015, New Brunswick experienced a negative migratory balance for the fifth consecutive year, losing more people to other provinces and territories (12,500) than it gained (9,700). Nevertheless, the net outflow (-2,800) was an improvement from the net losses estimated the previous two years.

Interprovincial migration exchanges with other provinces and territories in 2014-2015 showed that

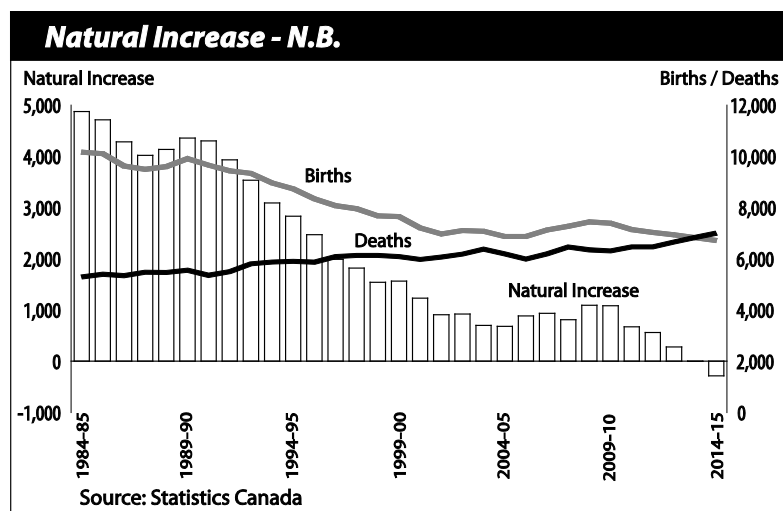
most of New Brunswick's net outflow was to Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia.



Natural Increase Negative

Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, there was a decline in the number of births (to 6,700) and a rise in the number of deaths (to 7,000) resulting in a negative natural increase in New Brunswick. Natural increase was also negative in Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia.

Similar numbers of births and deaths (roughly 6,800) were reported in New Brunswick between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014, with deaths marginally outnumbering births.

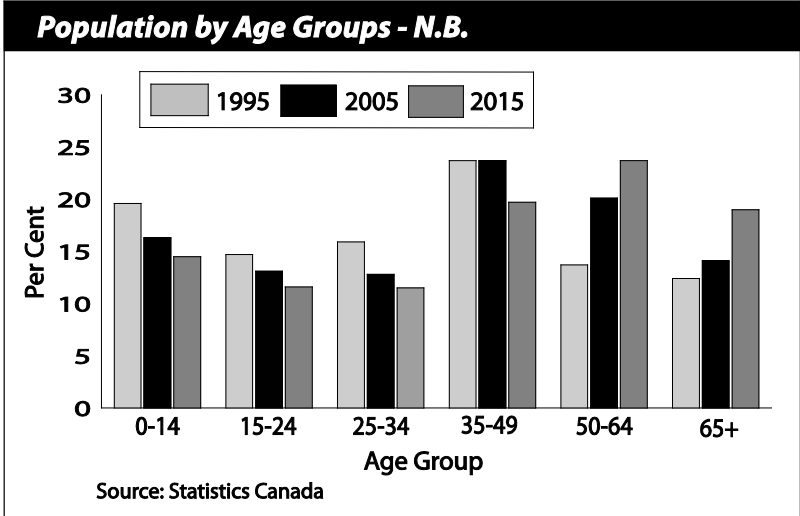


Proportion of Seniors Increases

While their absolute number is declining along with their share, baby boomers (born 1946 to 1965) still comprise a significant proportion of the population; three New Brunswickers out of ten belonged to this generation in 2015.

Seniors (65+ years) and pre-seniors (50-64 years) continued to be impacted by boomers; they accounted for 19.0% and 23.7% of the total population respectively in 2015. The share of the province's population under 50 years of age continued to diminish.

New Brunswick's median age was 44.8 years in 2015. Only Newfoundland and Labrador had an older median age (45.0 years). Nationally, the median age was 40.5 years.

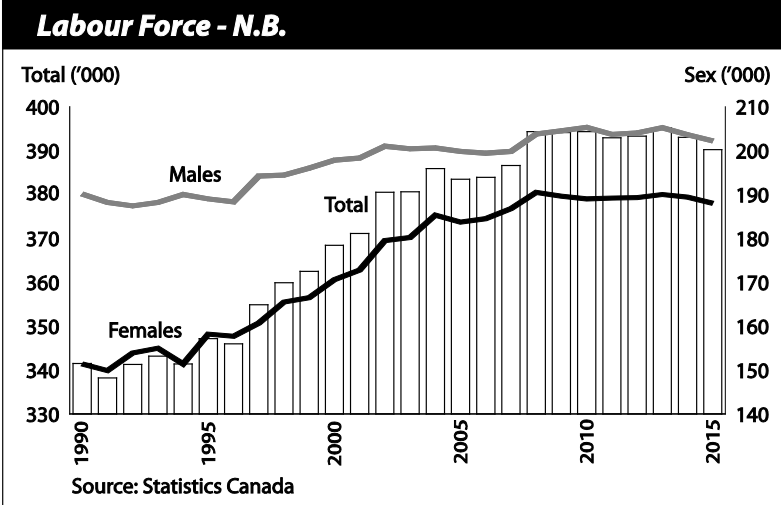


Provincial Labour Force Declines

The number of New Brunswickers in the labour force declined 0.7% to 390,200 in 2015.

Levels declined for both men and women in 2015, with each decreasing at a rate of 0.7%.

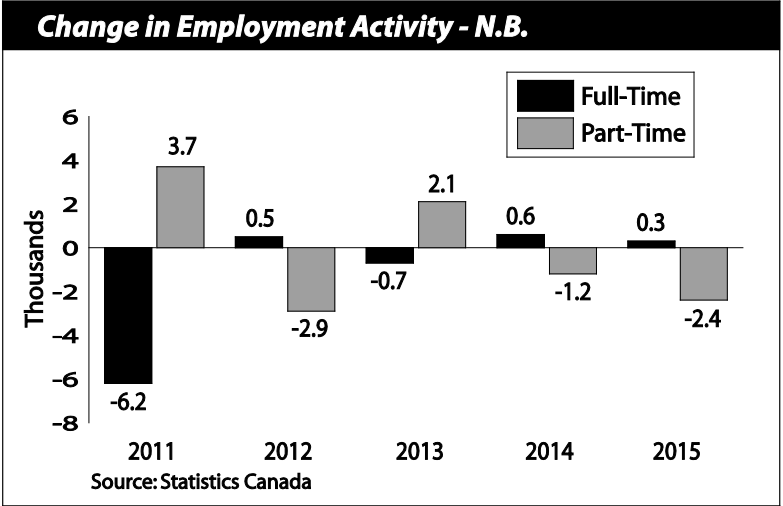
Men represented slightly more than half of the labour force compared to women (51.8% versus 48.2%) but the gap continues to narrow.



Full-Time Employment Stable

Full-time employment, representing 85% of all jobs in the province, was little changed in 2015. The level has hovered around 297,000 for the last 5 years. Losses were registered in part-time employment with the province shedding 2,400 part-time jobs.

Employment in New Brunswick declined to 351,800 in 2015, a 0.6% decrease from 2014. Nationally, the number employed rose 0.8%.

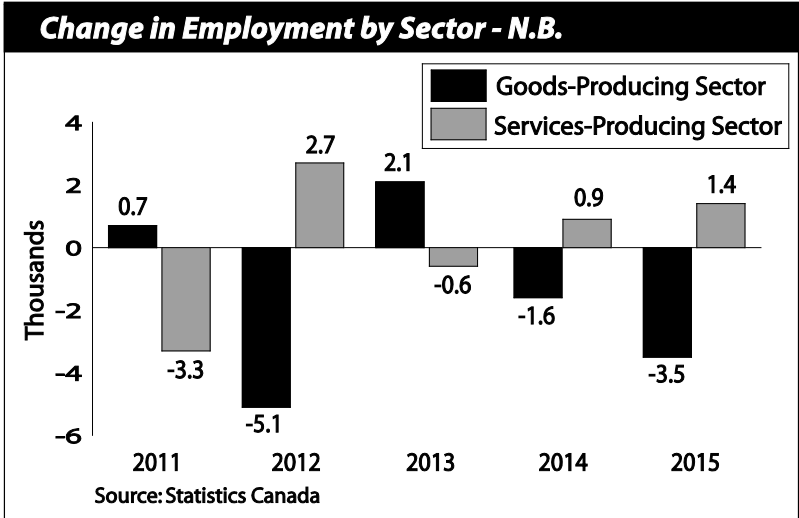


Service Sector Shows Employment Growth

Employment growth was concentrated in the service sector for the second year in a row. Job gains in 2015 were spread across several industries with the lion's share in transportation and warehousing (+2,900), educational services (+1,800) and public administration (+1,200).

The goods-producing sector lost more ground in 2015. The construction industry suffered the biggest loss with employment declining by 3,600.

Manufacturing was the only bright spot, posting gains for the first time since 2011 (+1,800).

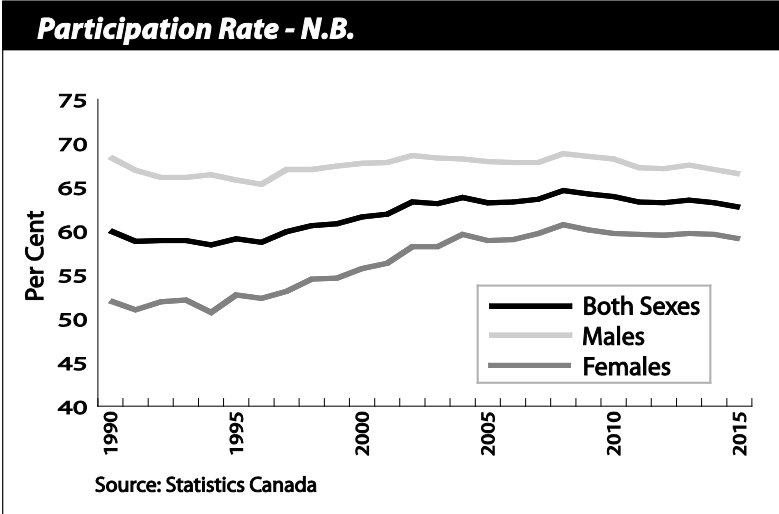


Participation Rate Declining

New Brunswick's participation rate has decreased in six of the last seven years, falling from 64.6% in 2008 to 62.7% in 2015.

A similar trend was evident nationally, with Canada's participation rate deteriorating from 67.6% to 65.8% over the same time frame.

Men and women in the province both lost some ground in 2015. The participation rate for men declined to 66.5% while that for women fell to 59.1%.

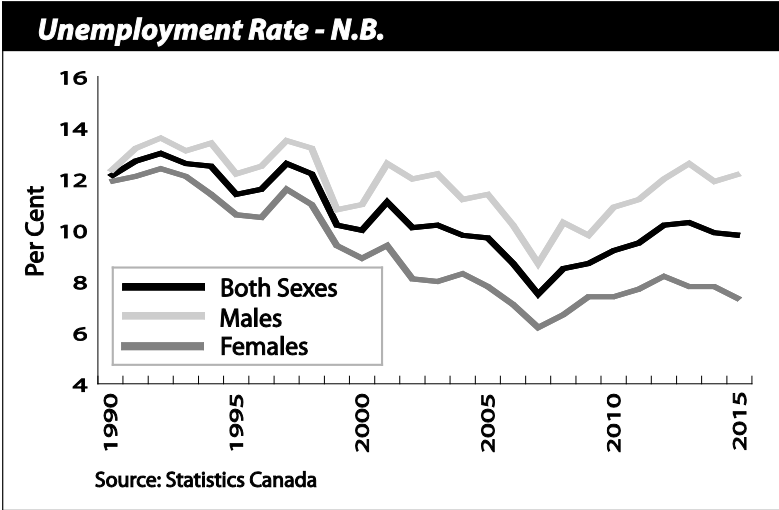


Unemployment Rate Remains Below 10%

New Brunswick's jobless rate in 2015 eased to 9.8% from 9.9% the previous year.

The unemployment rate for women dropped 0.5 percentage points in 2015 to 7.3%, while that for men was pushed up 0.3 percentage points to 12.2%.

Canada's unemployment rate held steady at 6.9% for the second year in a row.

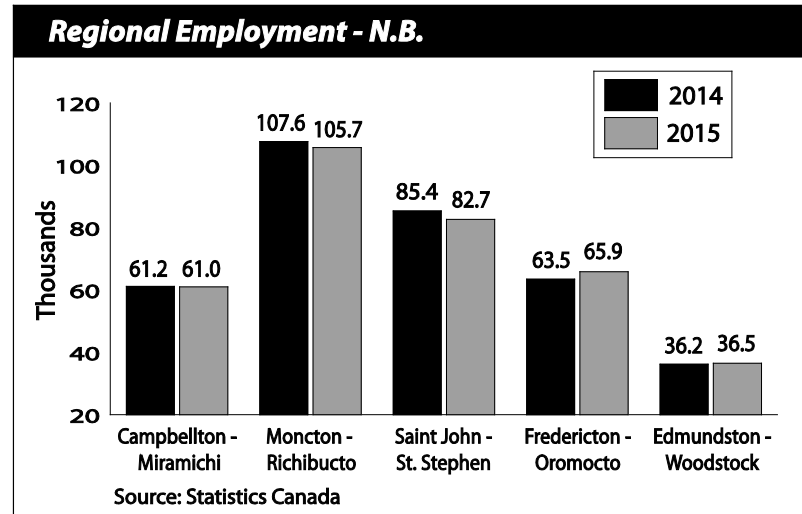


Capital Region Posts Highest Job Gains

Employment growth in 2015 was evident in two of the five regions in the province. The Fredericton-Oromocto area boasted the biggest increase with solid gains of 2,400.

A shrinking labour force and stagnant employment triggered a notable decrease in Campbellton-Miramichi's unemployment rate in 2015, the only region to experience a drop (down 1.9 percentage points). Nevertheless, their rate

remained highest in the province at 15.2%. Moncton-Richibucto and Fredericton-Oromocto were tied with the lowest rate of 8.5%.

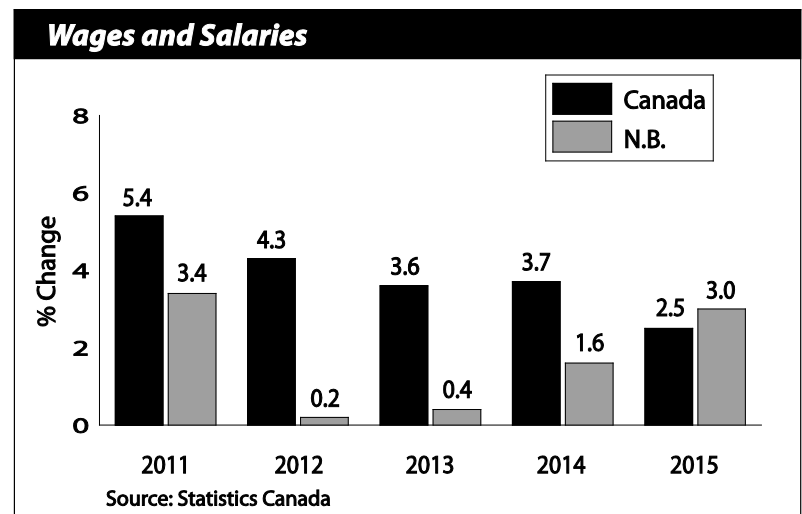


Wages and Salaries Growth Stronger

In 2015, provincial wages and salaries increased 3.0% after exhibiting growth below 2% for three years in a row. The national increase was lower at 2.5%.

Increases were reported in 12 of the 15 major industries in New Brunswick with the strongest impact (in dollar terms) from manufacturing, health care and social assistance, and finance, real estate and company management.

Declines were noted in utilities, federal government public administration and local government public administration.



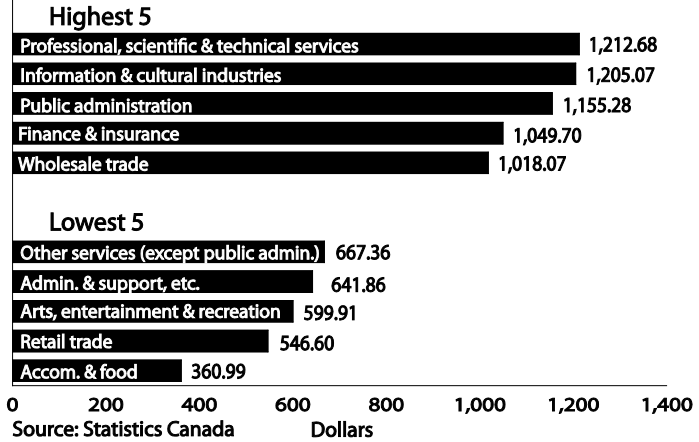
Average Weekly Earnings Growth Continues

New Brunswick's average weekly earnings rose for the second year in a row, up 2.7% in 2015. This was above the national increase of 1.8%.

At \$855.21, the province's weekly earnings represented 89.8% of the Canadian average of \$952.11.

Provincial weekly earnings ranged from \$360.99 in accommodation and food services to \$1,212.68 in professional, scientific and technical services.

Average Weekly Earnings (2015) - N.B.



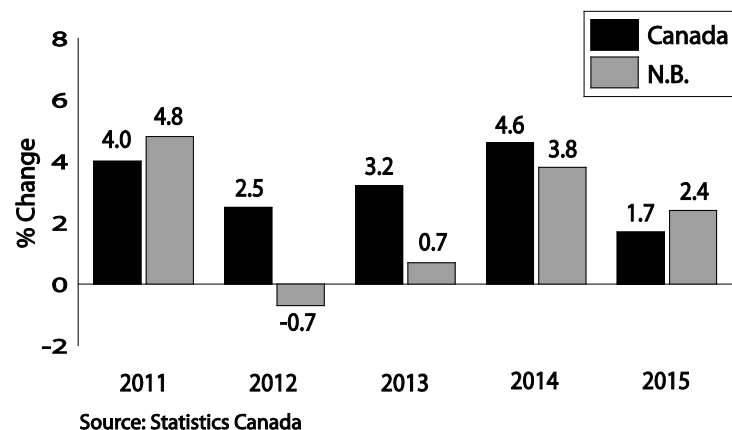
Retail Trade Growth Higher Than National Average

Retail trade in New Brunswick climbed 2.4% to \$11.8 billion in 2015, above the national increase of 1.7%.

Higher provincial sales (in dollar terms) were reported in 10 of 11 subsectors, led by gains in motor vehicle and parts dealers, health and personal care stores, and food and beverage stores. Gasoline stations reported the only decline (-11.3%).

Retail trade accounts for over 6% of provincial GDP and in 2015 employed 45,600.

Retail Trade

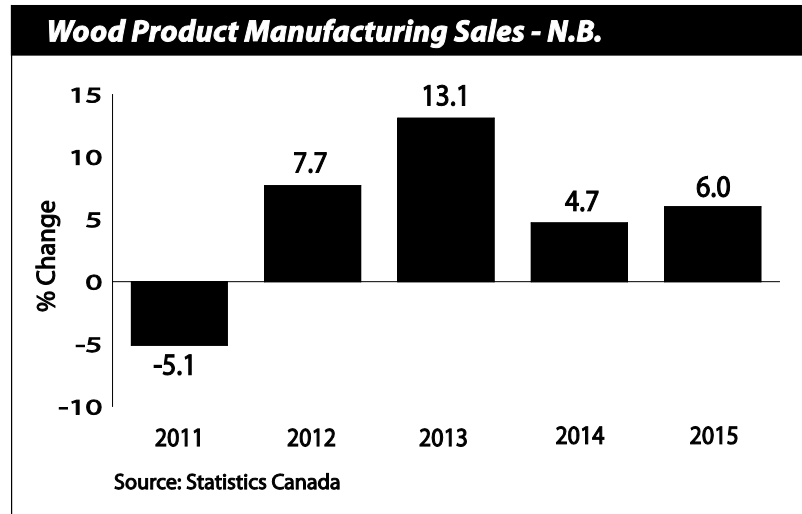


Wood Product Sales Maintain Growth

New Brunswick's wood product manufacturers saw sales increase for the fourth consecutive year, rising by 6.0% in 2015, and averaging growth of 7.9% over the four-year period.

Sales surpassed \$1.1 billion in 2015 and – though still below the pre-recession peak – are now at their highest level since 2006 and well above the 2009 low of \$775.2 million.

Wood product manufacturing represents just over 1% of New Brunswick's GDP.



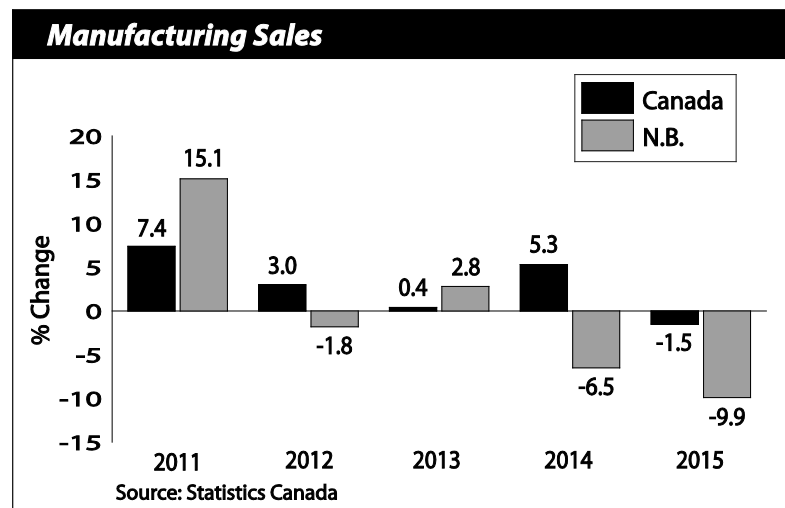
Manufacturing Sales Decrease

Influenced by weak energy prices, manufacturing sales in New Brunswick decreased 9.9% to \$16.9 billion in 2015, the third decline in four years.

Across Canada, sales fell 1.5% after increasing 5.3% in 2014.

Provincial sales of non-durable goods, which represent 81.4% of the total, dropped 12.8% while durable goods rose 5.8%.

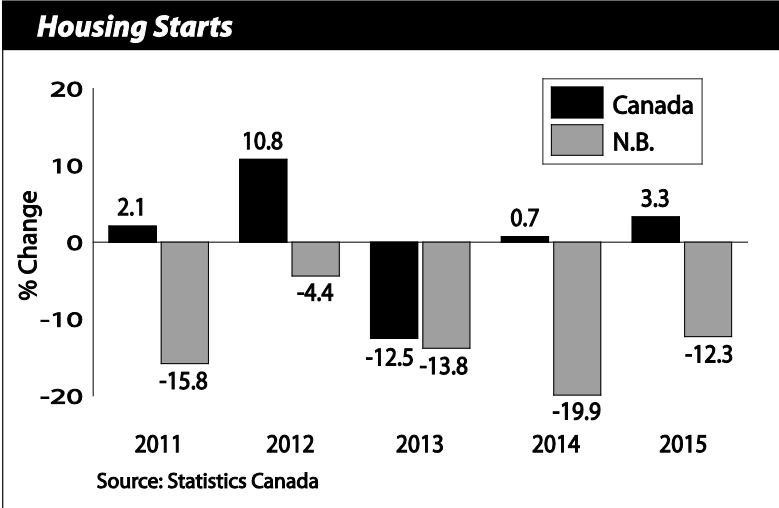
The manufacturing sector represents 11% of provincial GDP and in 2015 had 29,800 employees, an increase of 6.4% compared to 2014.



Housing Sector Experiences Difficulty

Housing starts in New Brunswick have decreased over the past five years. While not as pronounced as the drop in 2014, the number of starts in 2015 fell 12.3% to just under 2,000 units.

2015 was a solid year for the Canadian housing market as momentum picked up in the second half of the year, pushing housing starts up 3.3%.

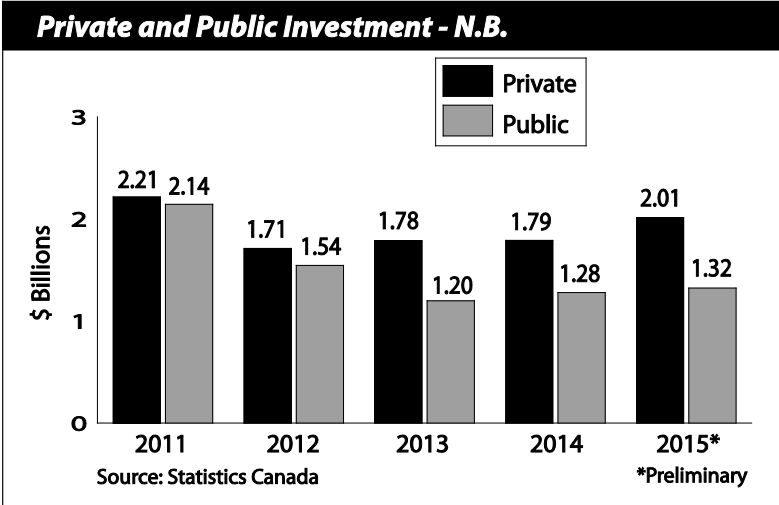


Capital Investment Increases

Capital investment in New Brunswick increased for the second year in a row, to \$3.3 billion (+8.7%) in 2015. Investment in the private sector climbed 12.3% while the public sector rose 3.6%.

Manufacturing had the largest impact with an increase of \$226.6 million (+59.8%).

Nationally, capital investment decreased 7.2%.

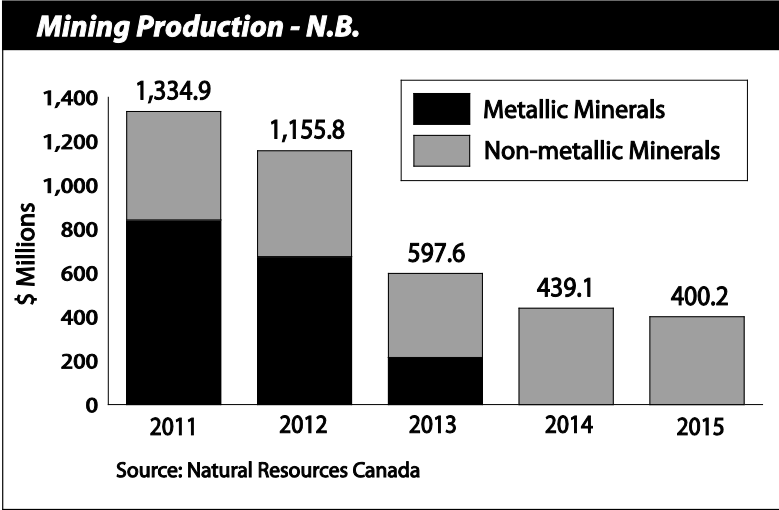


Mineral Production Drops

Mineral production in New Brunswick dropped 8.8% to \$400.2 million in 2015, mainly due to weak potash and salt prices.

This was the fourth consecutive overall decline and the second year in a row that no metallic minerals production was reported.

The mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industry represents less than 2% of provincial GDP and in 2015 employed 5,600.

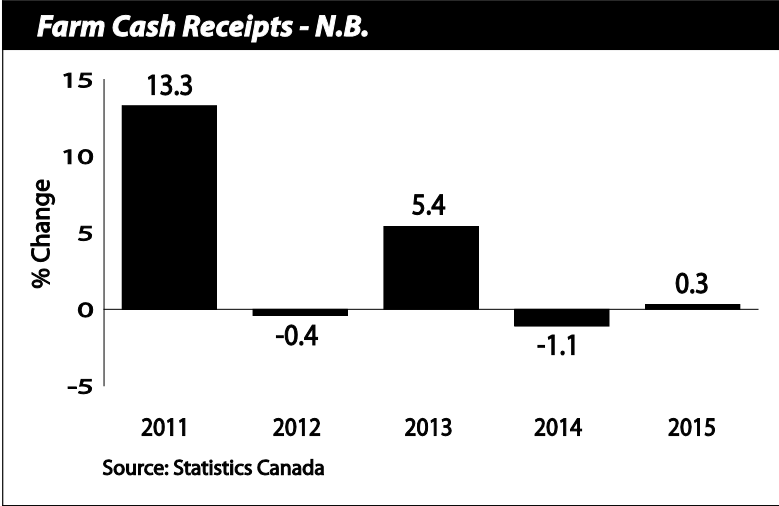


Farm Cash Receipts Improve

New Brunswick's farm cash receipts for 2015 rose to \$563.0 million. Increases were recorded in receipts for crops (+0.9%) and livestock (+2.9%). Direct payments continue to decline – over 30% annually since 2013.

Nationally, cash receipts rose 2.7% in 2015.

The agriculture industry represents less than 2% of provincial GDP and in 2015 employment was stable at 4,100.



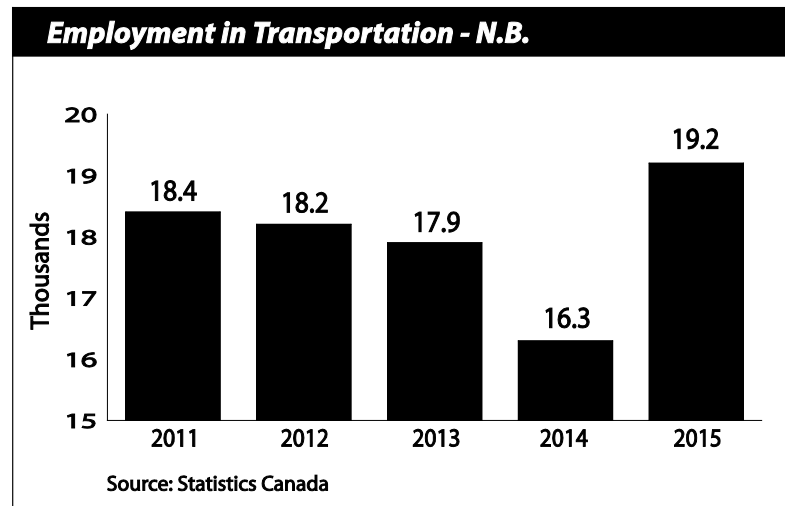
Transportation Results Impressive

Transportation and warehousing employment reached 19,200 in 2015, up 17.8% from 2014, mainly due to growth in truck transportation (+2,000).

This sector represents over 4% of provincial GDP.

In 2015, total tonnage at the port of Saint John rose 10.5% due to growth in containerized cargo and liquid bulk. The number of cruise ship passengers increased 11.9% to 119,172 as calls were up 20.4%.

The airports serving the three largest centres each reported increased aircraft movements in 2015.

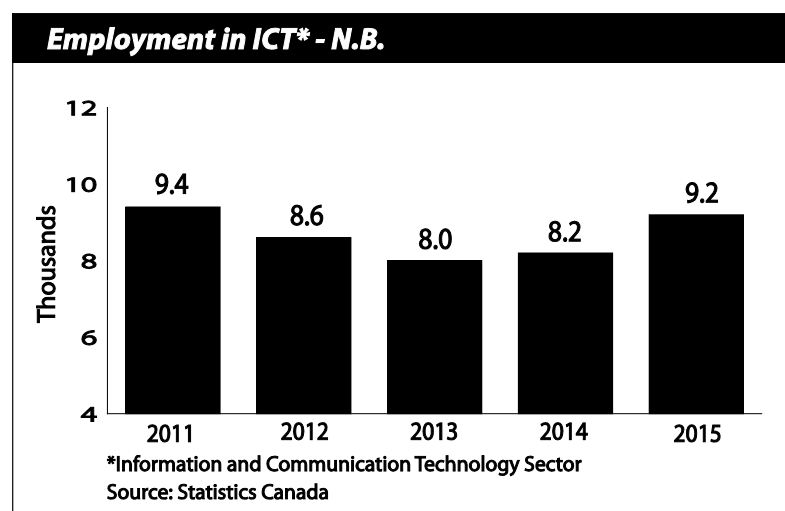


ICT Sector Strengthening

Employment in the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector increased 12.2% in 2015.

Computer systems design services employment stood at 4,600 in 2015, up 700 from 2014. In January 2015, average weekly earnings for this sector were \$1,654.29, an increase of 10.7% over the same month in 2014.

The ICT sector accounts for over 3% of provincial GDP.



New Brunswick Annual Indicators

New Brunswick Annual Indicators (as of May 25, 2016)							
Indicators	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change		
					2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Labour							
Population 15 Years and Over ('000)	622.4	622.4	621.7	622.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Labour Force ('000)	393.3	395.2	393.0	390.2	0.5	-0.6	-0.7
Employment ('000)	353.1	354.5	353.9	351.8	0.4	-0.2	-0.6
Full-time ('000)	297.7	297.0	297.6	297.9	-0.2	0.2	0.1
Part-time ('000)	55.4	57.5	56.3	53.9	3.8	-2.1	-4.3
Goods-producing Sector ('000)	75.7	77.8	76.2	72.7	2.8	-2.1	-4.6
Services-producing Sector ('000)	277.4	276.8	277.7	279.1	-0.2	0.3	0.5
Unemployment ('000)	40.1	40.6	39.1	38.4	1.2	-3.7	-1.8
Participation Rate (%)	63.2	63.5	63.2	62.7	...	...	...
Employment Rate (%)	56.7	57.0	56.9	56.6	...	...	...
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.2	10.3	9.9	9.8	...	...	...
Average Weekly Earnings (\$)	806.94	804.78	832.44	855.21	-0.3	3.4	2.7
Wages and Salaries (\$M)	13,907.7	13,962.7	14,187.8	14,609.8	0.4	1.6	3.0
Employment Insurance Beneficiaries	44,648	42,000	40,500	41,223	-5.9	-3.6	1.8
Consumers							
Retail Trade (\$M)	11,027.6	11,107.4	11,528.0	11,808.1	0.7	3.8	2.4
New Motor Vehicle Sales (units)	39,895	41,512	42,656	44,727	4.1	2.8	4.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$M)	1,215.0	1,310.5	1,367.1	1,507.3	7.9	4.3	10.3
Food Services and Drinking Places (\$M)	973.6	973.2	1,006.1	1,069.7	0.0	3.4	6.3
Consumer Price Index (2002=100)	122.0	123.0	124.8	125.4	0.8	1.5	0.5
Housing							
Housing Starts (units)	3,299	2,843	2,276	1,995	-13.8	-19.9	-12.3
Residential Building Permits (\$M)	551.9	480.5	456.5	419.4	-12.9	-5.0	-8.1
MLS® Residential Sales (units)	6,403	6,282	6,273	6,682	-1.9	-0.1	6.5
Business							
Manufacturing Sales (\$M)	19,526.6	20,072.0	18,774.0	16,923.4	2.8	-6.5	-9.9
International Exports (\$M)	14,902.6	14,459.7	13,015.2	12,208.7	-3.0	-10.0	-6.2
Non-residential Building Permits (\$M)	416.6	524.5	374.5	402.6	25.9	-28.6	7.5
Industrial and Commercial (\$M)	253.9	250.2	250.6	250.8	-1.4	0.2	0.1
Institutional and Government (\$M)	162.7	274.2	123.8	151.7	68.5	-54.8	22.5
Wholesale Trade (\$M)	5,945.5	5,941.9	6,162.2	6,248.4	-0.1	3.7	1.4
Mining Production (\$M)	1,155.8	597.6	439.1	400.2	-48.3	-26.5	-8.8
Farm Cash Receipts (\$M)	538.7	568.0	561.5	563.0	5.4	-1.1	0.3
Lumber Shipments ('000 m ³)	2,373.7	2,546.0	2,761.2	3,469.9	7.3	8.5	25.7
Demographics							
Population (July 1)	756,836	755,718	754,578	753,871	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Natural Increase (July 1-June 30)	280	-5	-287		...	...	...
Net Migration (July 1-June 30)	-1,398	-1,135	-420		...	...	...
.. Not available		... Not applicable					
x Suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>							
MLS® is a registered trademark of the Canadian Real Estate Association.							
Sources: Statistics Canada, Natural Resources Canada and New Brunswick Real Estate Association.							

Major Investment Projects

Projects valued at \$19 million or more that have been announced, are underway or have been completed.

Disclaimer: Project details are obtained from public sources. Every effort has been made to ensure a comprehensive and accurate listing.

Major Investment Projects for New Brunswick					
Industry	Project	Location	Value (\$M)	Start	End
Transportation	Energy East Pipeline	New Brunswick	2,156	2013	2020
Mining	Sisson Project – Northcliff Resources	Stanley area	579	2013	2018
Manufacturing	Irving Pulp and Paper – modernization	Saint John	450	2014	2017
Health	Chaleur Regional Hospital	Bathurst	217	2015	2023
Transportation	Port Saint John – modernization	Saint John	205	2015	2022
Manufacturing	Irving Oil refinery – turnaround	Saint John	200	2015	2015
Health	Restigouche Hospital Centre	Campbellton	157	2011	2015
Health	Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre	Moncton	101	2014	2019
Manufacturing	J.D. Irving – sawmills and woodlands	Chipman, Doaktown, Saint-Léonard and Kedgwick	91	2014	2016
Public Administration	Public Service Pay Centre	Miramichi	85	2015	2018
Transportation	Centennial Bridge – refurbishment	Miramichi	83	2015	2024
Mining	Mine – demolition and re-vegetation of Brunswick Mine	Bathurst area	80	2013	2018
Transportation	Small craft harbour improvements	39 harbours throughout NB	74	2015	2016
Recreation	Fundy Trail Parkway	Albert and Saint John Counties	73	2015	2017
Transportation	Route 11 – twinning	Eastern NB	60	2015	2018
Health	Loch Lomond Villa	Saint John	52	2011	2015
Agriculture	Acadian Wild Blueberry Company Ltd.	Saint-Isidore	50	2014	2016
Education	New schools (K-5 and K-8) and expansion of Gretna Green School (K-8)	Miramichi	48	2015	2017
Transportation	Route 11 – Caraquet bypass	Caraquet	45	2013	2017
Education	Schools	Fredericton, Geary and Quispamsis	44	2013	2015
Accommodation / Recreation	Kingswood Ventures – hotel and indoor water park	Fredericton area	42	2015	2017
Education	Schools – Meduxnekeag Consolidated and Townsview (K-8)	Woodstock	39	2013	2015

Major Investment Projects (continued)

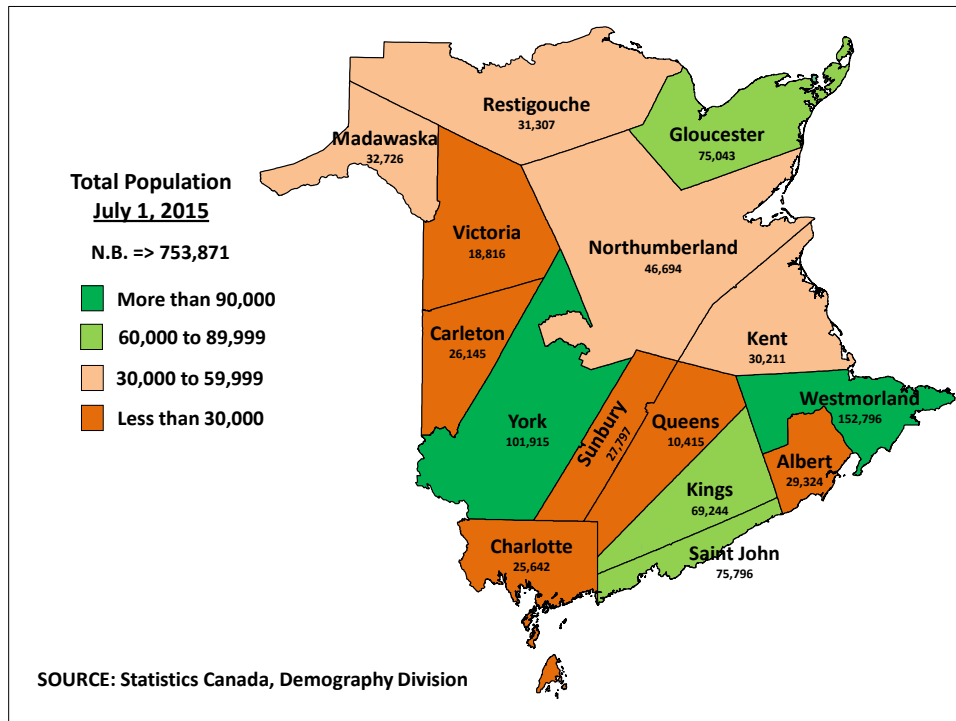
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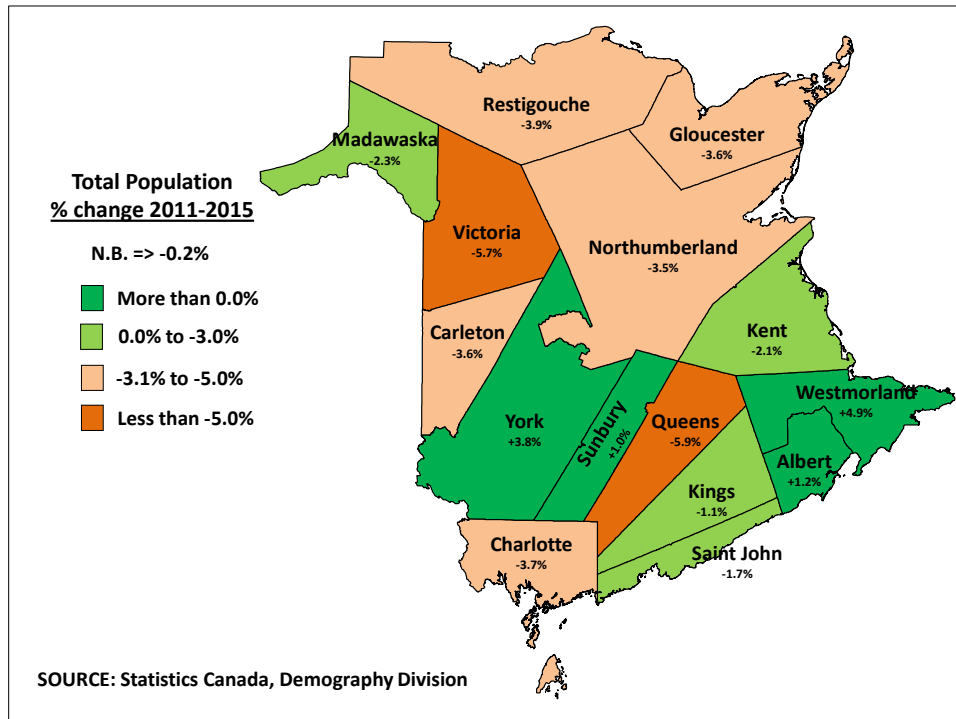
Major Investment Projects for New Brunswick					
Industry	Project	Location	Value (\$M)	Start	End
Education	High School upgrades	Fredericton, Moncton and Tracadie	32	2015	2019
Health	Parkland Saint John – specialized care	Saint John	30	2013	2016
Recreation	Kouchibouguac National Park	Kent County	30	2015	2016
Manufacturing	OrganiGram – medicinal marijuana	Moncton	30	2015	2016
Manufacturing	Twin Rivers Paper Company	Plaster Rock and Edmundston	25	2013	2015
Information	Bell Aliant – data centre	Saint John	25	2014	2015
Education	École Champlain (K-8)	Moncton	25	2015	2017
Education	School (K-8)	Campbellton	25	2015	2017
Health	Nursing home	Dalhousie	23	2014	2016
Recreation	YMCA	Saint John	21	2014	2015
Health	Parkland Fredericton – specialized care	Fredericton	20	2013	2015
Transportation	Maritime-Ontario Freight Lines Ltd.	Moncton	20	2014	2015
Health	Nursing homes	Sussex and Woodstock	20	2014	2016
Manufacturing	Lake Utopia Paper – maintenance and modernization	St. George	20	2015	2015
Health	Nursing homes	Boiestown and Neguac	19	2014	2015

Maps of New Brunswick

Population Distribution, N.B. Counties

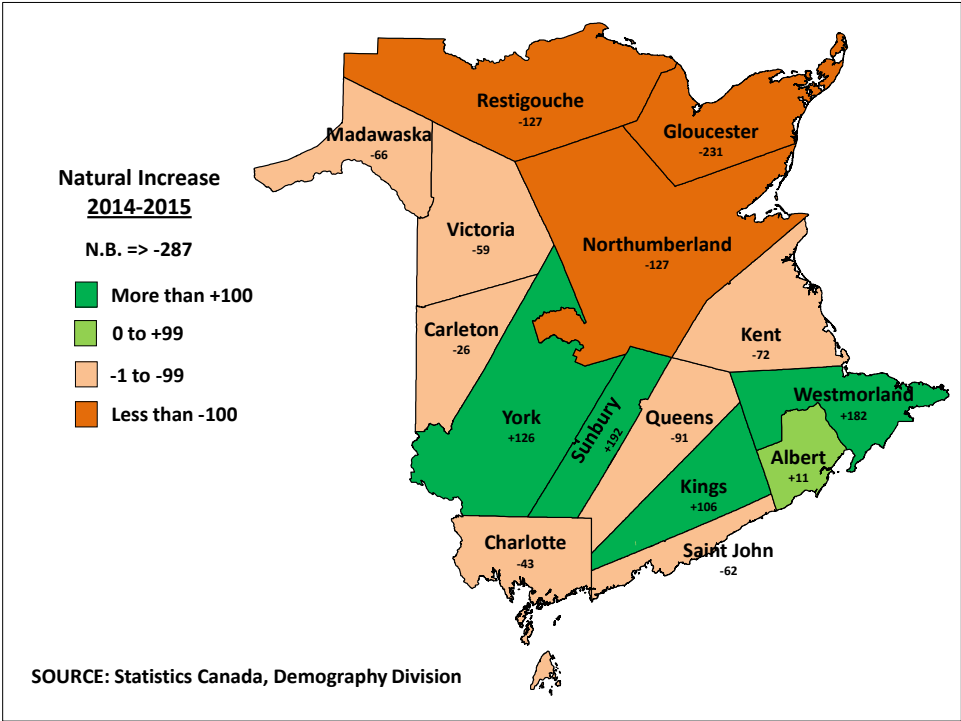


Population Change, N.B. Counties

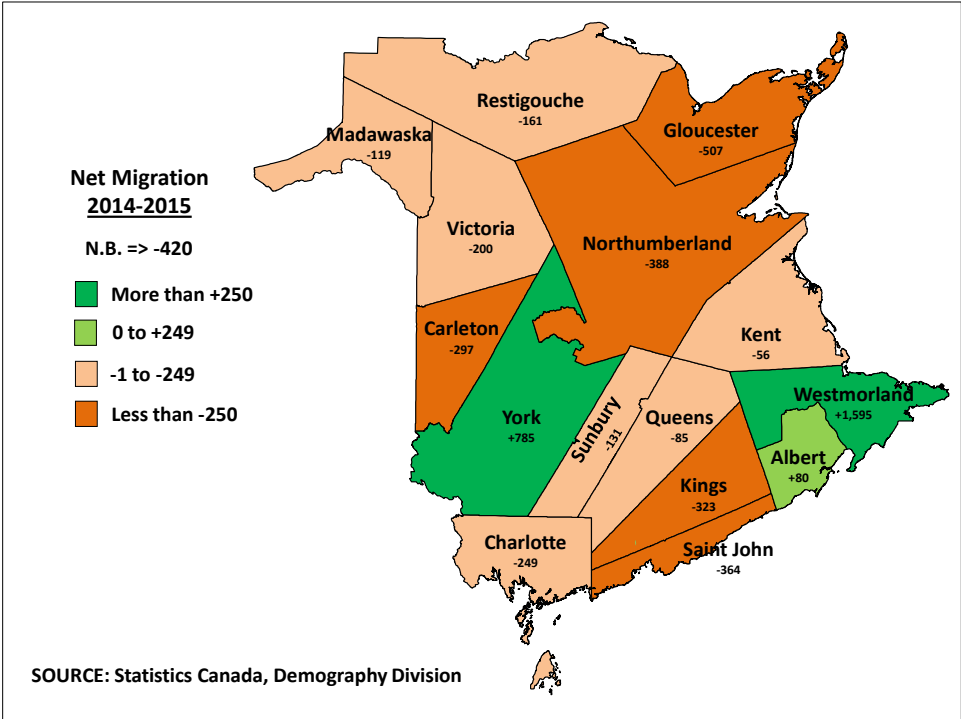


Maps of New Brunswick

Natural Increase, N.B. Counties

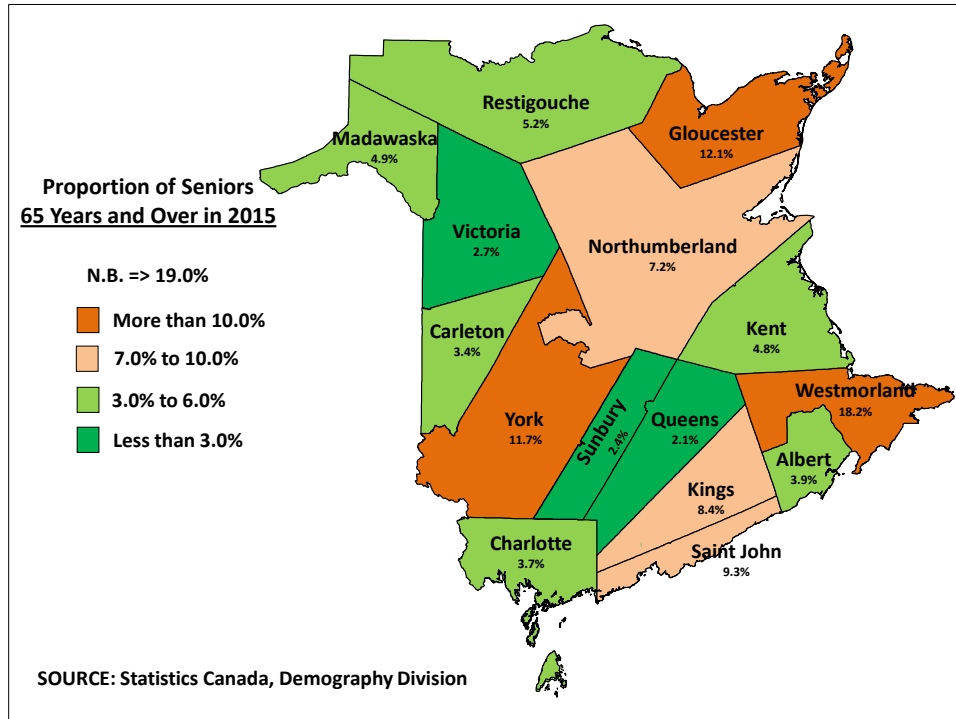


Net Migration, N.B. Counties



Maps of New Brunswick

Distribution of Seniors, N.B. Counties



Unemployment Rate, N.B. Economic Regions and Urban Areas

