

The Eye on Employment is NWPB's monthly update on Niagara's latest employment figures from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey

	February 2021	March 2021	Monthly Change	Monthly Change (%)
Full-time employment	137,500	142,500	5,000	3.6%
Part-time employment	42,400	39,100	-3,300	-7.8%
Total employment	179,900	181,600	1,700	0.9%

The Key Figures

	Feb 2020	March 2020	Feb 2021	March 2021
Labour force	217,000	211,200	206,400	208,900
Employment	204,100	192,800	179,900	181,600
Full-time employment	156,700	149,500	137,500	142,500
Part-time employment	47,400	43,300	42,400	39,100
Unemployment	12,900	18,400	26,500	27,200
Unemployment rate	5.9%	8.7%	12.8%	13.0%
Participation rate	58.6%	57.0%	55.4%	56.1%
Employment rate	55.1%	52.1%	48.3%	48.7%

The Breakdown

- ✓ March 2021 saw 1,700 more people in employment compared to February 2021. These gains were the result of 5,000 more people in full-time employment and 3,300 fewer people in part-time employment.
- ✓ Niagara's unemployment rate increased slightly from 12.8% to 13.0%, which reflects more people actively looking for work in the region.
- ✓ While these data are generally positive, Ontario's stay at home order, enacted on April 8, 2021, will likely see a reversal of these gains should the local economy follow the trend seen in the March 2020 and December 2020 lockdowns.

The Industry Update

Employment in the Goods Producing Sector

Feb 2021

44,500

Feb 2020

44,000

Mar 2021

44,500

Mar 2020

42,000

Employment in the Services Producing Sector

Feb 2021

135,500

Feb 2020

160,000

Mar 2021

137,100

Mar 2020

150,800

Industry	2020		2021	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Agriculture	5,400	5,800	2,400	2,300
Construction	14,700	14,200	16,900	16,000
Manufacturing	22,000	20,500	23,400	24,100
Wholesale and retail trade	32,700	30,300	24,300	26,100
Transportation and warehousing	9,100	7,400	6,700	7,100
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	7,600	7,400	9,600	10,500
Professional, scientific and technical services	5,700	5,600	9,800	10,700
Business, building and other support services	8,500	8,200	10,800	9,300
Educational services	17,400	17,900	15,300	16,900
Health care and social assistance	26,000	25,400	25,200	24,900
Information, culture and recreation	9,700	8,100	5,800	4,500
Accommodation and food services	26,400	23,500	11,000	10,000
Other services (except public administration)	10,900	10,900	9,800	9,600
Public administration	6,100	6,200	7,000	7,500
Total	204,100	192,800	179,900	181,600

The Breakdown

- ✓ March 2021's employment gains were concentrated in the services-producing sector. The largest services-producing sector gains were in wholesale and retail trade, gaining 1,800 people in employment, and educational services, gaining 1,600 people.
- ✓ While manufacturing saw 700 month-over-month employment gains in March, construction saw 900 employment losses. Despite construction's monthly employment decline, March 2021's employment count was 113% of that seen in March 2020.

The Youth Lens

	February 2021	March 2021	Monthly Change	Monthly Change (%)
Full-time employment	4,700	6,500	1,800	38.3%
Part-time employment	11,800	10,100	-1,700	-14.4%
Total employment	16,500	16,600	100	0.6%

The Big Figures

	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2021
Labour force	31,900	32,000	22,400	23,500
Employment	27,200	25,200	16,500	16,600
Full-time employment	12,600	12,400	4,700	6,500
Part-time employment	14,600	12,800	11,800	10,100
Unemployment	4,700	6,800	5,900	6,800
Unemployment rate	14.7%	21.3%	26.3%	28.9%
Participation rate	64.8%	61.5%	49.2%	49.4%
Employment rate	55.3%	48.5%	36.3%	34.9%

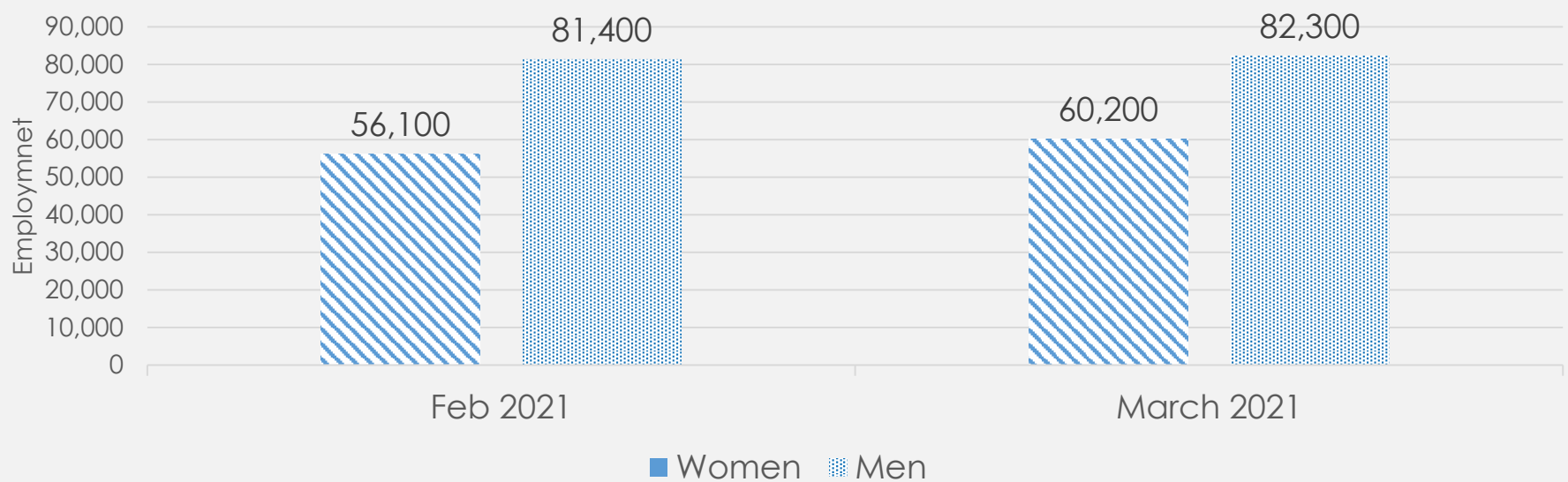
The Breakdown

- ✓ *March 2021 saw 100 more youth employed in Niagara. This change reflects 1,800 more youth working in a full-time capacity and 1,700 fewer working in a part-time capacity.*
- ✓ *A monthly increase in the youth unemployment rate combined with a decrease in the employment rate reflects more job seekers, a larger youth population and labour force, but a considerably smaller increase in youth employment levels.*
- ✓ *Niagara's youth workforce in March 2021 was 27% smaller than it was in March 2020.*

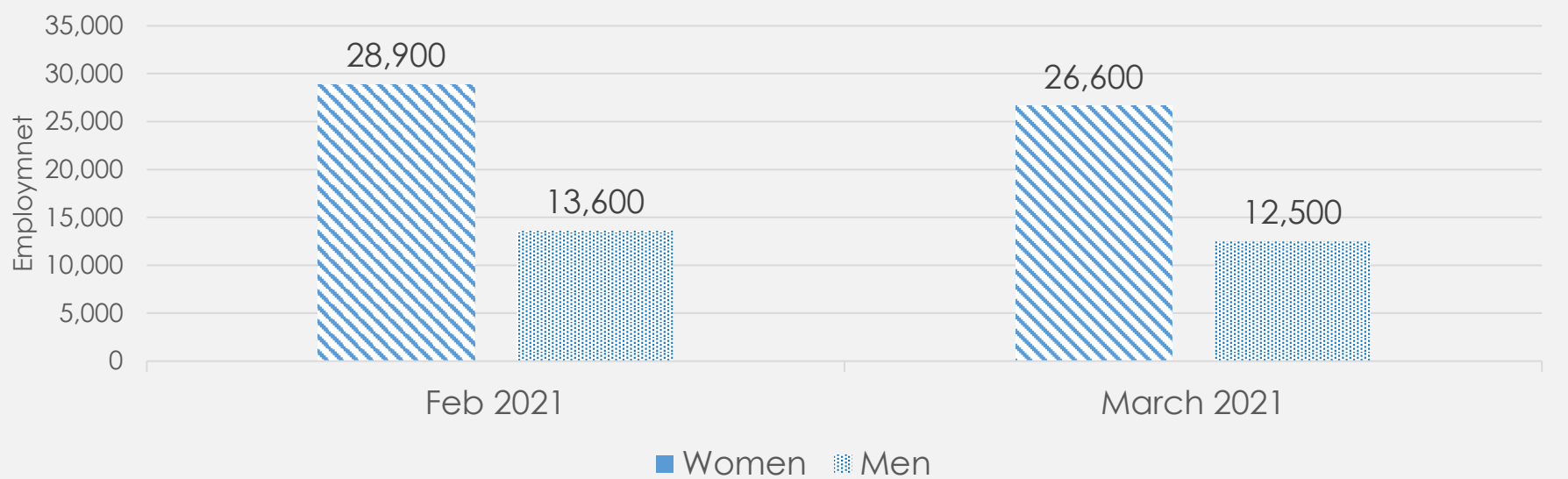
A few words on definitions: Monthly labour force survey data defines a youth as an individual age 15 to 24. An individual who is "not in the labour force" is an individual who is neither working nor looking for work. Full-time students are generally considered to be not in the labour force, even if they maintain part-time employment while in education and training.

Employment and Gender

Full-time Employment



Part-time Employment



The Breakdown

- ✓ Month-over-month, March 2021 saw 1,900 more women in employment and 200 fewer men in employment.
- ✓ Year-over-year, March 2021 saw 6,600 fewer employed women and 4,600 fewer employed men compared to March 2020.
- ✓ Women represented 42.2% of full-time employment and 68.0% of part-time work in March 2021.

Would you like to know more?

The Eye on Employment draws on data from Labour Force Survey Table 14-10-0379-01 and Table 14-10-0378-01. All data are seasonally unadjusted. Click our logo for more reports and to access our interactive job board.

