



Sectoral Profile

Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction

NAICS 21

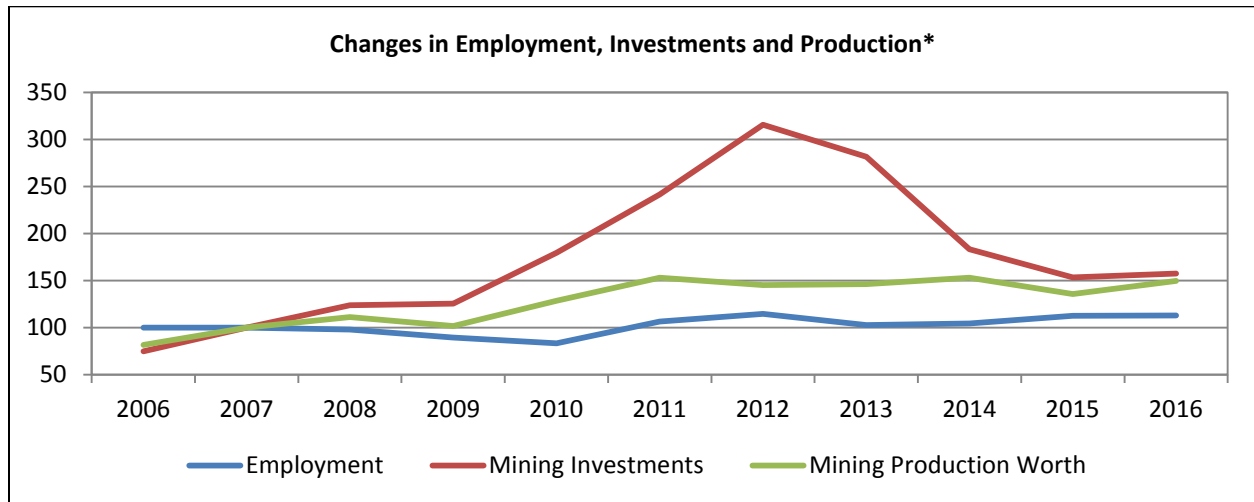
Quebec

2018-2020*



- Over 95% of all mining investments are made each year in the Nord-du-Québec, Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Côte-Nord regions
- With the recession, investments dropped by half between 2012 and 2015; investment intentions have been growing since 2016 and now stand at two thirds of the peak reached in 2012
- The largest share of exploration and development expenditures is intended for precious metals

Until the 2008-2009 recession, the global demand for raw materials was very high which led to soaring prices. This triggered an extraordinary growth in mining investments in the province. From 2004 to 2012, their value increased fivefold (in 2010 constant dollars). This exceptional cycle was supported by the demand originating from both developed and emerging economies. As the frenetic demand continued on with no end in sight, international corporations paid high prices to secure exclusive access to deposits within Quebec, the full potential of which was not always known.



* Data are expressed as indices where year 2007 = 100

Sources: Statistics Canada, Employment – LFS

Institut de la statistique du Québec, Mineral production and Investments – site consulted on Sept.18, 2017

During nine years of uninterrupted and strong growth, mining investments in Quebec grew from \$918 million (2010 constant dollars) to \$4.7 billion in 2012. Then, they dropped by over 50%, to \$2.3 billion (2015). The de-

* This document is the result of analyses performed using information available as at April 5, 2018.

cline was brutal and the main mining regions in Quebec – Côte-Nord, Nord-du-Québec and Abitibi-Témiscamingue – were significantly affected.

Since 2016, the recovery of investments is visible. At first, the environment showed a cautious confidence, but growth strengthened in 2017. Improving prices and their outlook over the next few years have led to the revival of exploration and development of sites, even the production at some mines with an uncertain future. In some cases, the Quebec Government took part in some of the project's funding. Investment intentions for 2018 show a substantial, over 20% increase in investments. This growth is mainly due to spending on the development of mining complexes.

Quebec is not a large copper, nickel and zinc producer, but it could capitalize on rising prices and on the fact that the demand for copper is expected to exceed global production, a continuous appreciation of nickel due to the electric car market, and a similar situation for zinc due to a decline of production in China whose objective is to reduce pollution.

Lithium and graphite also show good growth prospects, due to strong global demand linked to the batteries for electric cars. However, operating costs are high in Quebec and commercialization can be challenging. Despite this, an enterprise in the Lanaudière region recently announced the development of a graphite mine, with production set to begin between now and 2020.

We hear more and more about technologies, sometimes self-sustaining ones, used globally for exploration or operations. They are also attracting attention in Quebec due to productivity gains, but due to high costs, and depending on the market, their adoption might take time.

Sectoral Dynamics for Regions

Québec 2018-2020	In the Economic Regions	AAGR
Annual average growth: 3.2% Gain of approx.: 2 175 positions Yearly dynamics: 2018: ↗ 2019: ↗ 2020: ↗	Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec	6.2%
	Lanaudière	3.9%
	Abitibi-Témiscamingue	3.5%
	QUÉBEC	3.2%
	Bas-Saint-Laurent	1.5%
	Capitale-Nationale	1.0%
	Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	1.0%
	Chaudière-Appalaches	0.6%
	Laurentides	0.6%
	Estrie	0.0%
	Outaouais	0.0%
	Montréal	0.0%
	Gaspésie-Les-Îles	0.0%
	Mauricie	0.0%
	Centre-du-Québec	0.0%
Montréal CMA	0.0%	

n/a: not applicable

Source: 2018–2020 Sectoral Outlook annual exercise

Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada – Quebec Region, April 5, 2018.

The following occupations from mining, quarry operations and oil and gas extraction are the most likely to be affected by growth (according to the occupation by industry matrix)

- 8231 Underground production and development miners
- 7521 Heavy equipment operators (except crane)
- 8221 Supervisors, mining and quarrying
- 7312 Heavy-duty equipment mechanics
- 7311 Construction millwrights and industrial mechanics
- 2212 Geological and mineral technologists and technicians
- 7511 Transport truck drivers
- 8411 Underground mine service and support workers
- 0811 Managers in natural resources production and fishing
- 7372 Drillers and blasters - surface mining, quarrying and construction
- 2113 Geoscientists and oceanographers
- 8614 Mine labourers
- 7242 Industrial electricians
- 9411 Machine operators, mineral and metal processing
- 2143 Mining engineers
- 9611 Labourers in mineral and metal processing.

SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION OF AND CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE INDUSTRY IN QUEBEC

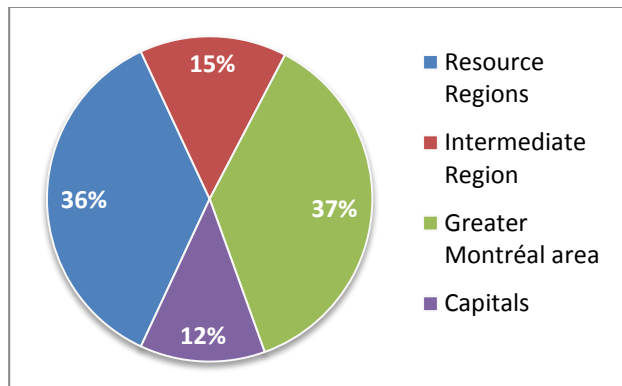
	Employment 2015–2017 Average			10-year Change in Employment	
	Employment In thousands	Provincial distribution	Regional employment share	In thousands	as a %
All of Quebec	21.3	100.0%	0.5%	3.2	17.7%
Resource Regions					
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	7.5	35.3%	10.3%	0.7	10.8%
Bas-Saint-Laurent	x	x	x	x	x
Côte-Nord / Nord-du-Québec	4.2	19.9%	8.0%	0.8	24.5%
Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	x	x	x	x	x
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	x	x	x	x	x
Intermediate Regions					
Centre-du-Québec	x	x	x	x	x
Chaudière-Appalaches	x	x	x	x	x
Estrie	x	x	x	x	x
Mauricie	x	x	x	x	x
Greater Montréal area					
Lanaudière	x	x	x	x	x
Laurentides	x	x	x	x	x
Laval	x	x	x	x	x
Montréal	2.0	9.4%	0.3%	0.6	39.5%
Montréal	x	x	x	x	x
Capitals					
Capitale-Nationale	x	x	x	x	x
Outaouais	x	x	x	x	x

x: confidential data, fewer than 1,500 people employed in this region

Source: Historical estimates based on Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey

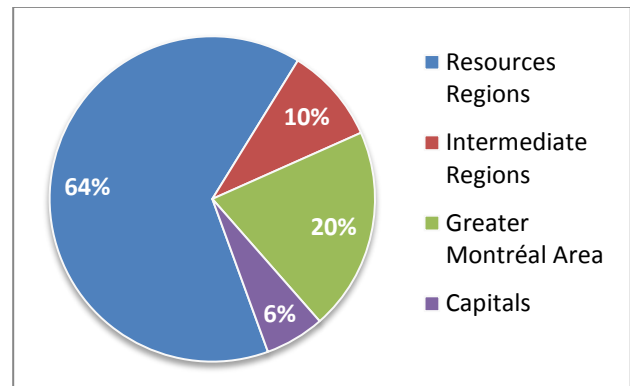
SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INDUSTRY IN QUÉBEC

Establishment distribution by Region



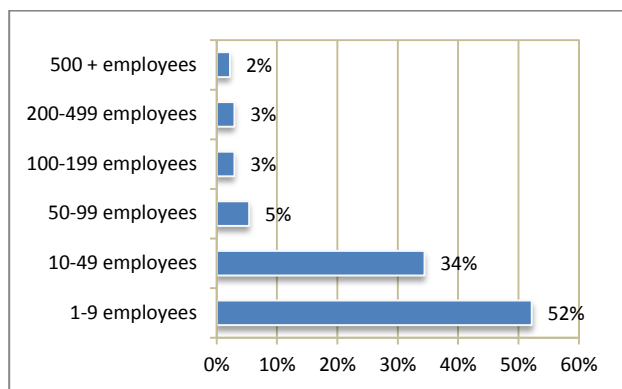
Source: Statistics Canada, Establishment Counts by Economic Region, industry, and Employee Size Ranges, December 2015

Employment distribution by Region



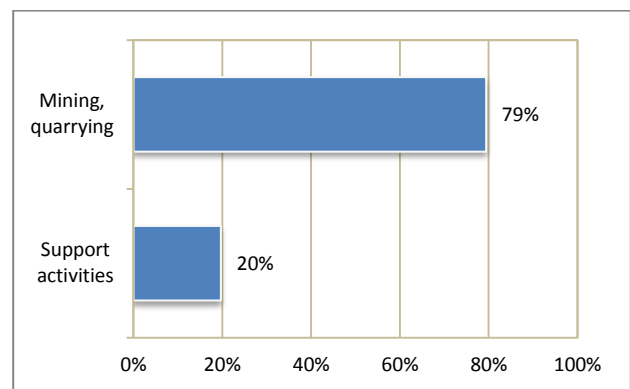
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey; based on average employment in 2014-2016

Size of establishment



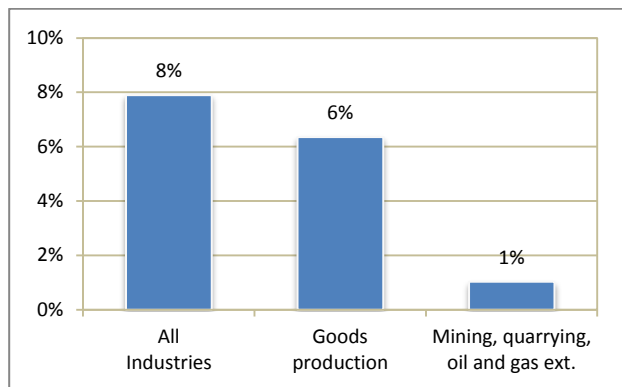
Source: Statistics Canada, Establishment Counts by Economic Region, industry, and Employee Size Ranges, December 2015

Employment by industry subsectors



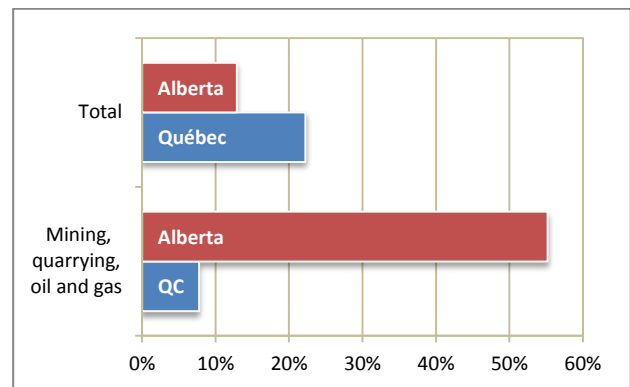
Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours; based on average employment in 2014-2016

Self-employed jobs compared to Total employment



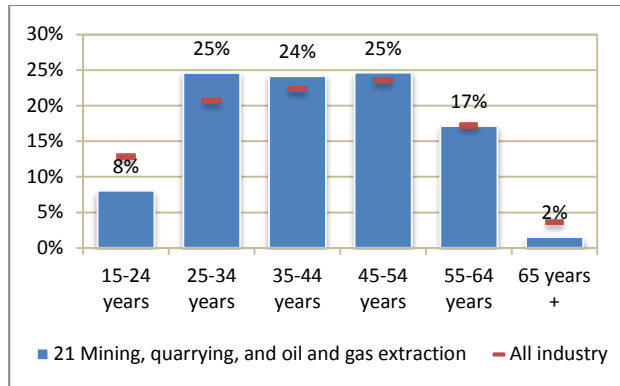
Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM 383-0031 Labour statistics, based on average employment in 2014-2016

Share of total employment and industry in Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours; based on average employment in 2014-2016

Employed Labour Force Aged 15 Years and Over



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, special tabulation for ESDC

Employment distribution by skill type

National Occupational Classification	
0. Management	6%
1. Business, finance and administration	10%
2. Natural and applied sciences and related	13%
3. Health	0%
4. Education, law and social, community and government services	1%
5. Art, culture, recreation and sport	0%
6. Sales and service	4%
7. Trades, transport and equipment operators	32%
8. Natural resources, agriculture and related production	28%
9. Manufacturing and utilities	6%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, special tabulation for ESDC

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Job Bank (Canada) – [Job Market Trends and News](#): Information on job, skills and local labour market trends is important for making career decisions. In addition, information on wages, labour supply, labour demand and other factors helps employers recruit, train and retain workers and make business and investment decisions.
- North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Canada 2012: Mining [NAICS 21](#)

Note: In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

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For further information, please contact the LMI team at:

http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cqi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi

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