

**2016–2025
Key Highlights**

New Brunswick

Proposed resource projects carry construction employment in New Brunswick higher from 2017 to 2019, rebuilding the non-residential workforce to the record high levels achieved in 2011.

Moderate growth in residential building activity that starts in 2017 restores some jobs lost during a decline in housing activity that ran from 2011 to 2015. Together, labour requirements arising in both sectors deplete the limited provincial workforce and create recruiting challenges.

Meeting labour market needs may depend on the mobility of the workforce across provinces and markets, as well as from outside of Canada.

Proposed pipeline, marine terminal and resource development projects bring new opportunities at a time when demographic forces are limiting labour force growth and a portion of the local construction workforce has been drawn to work in other provinces.

The ebb and flow of specialized trades working on the big engineering projects exceeds the normal level of unemployment, and balancing markets depend on the movement of workers from other markets. Employment levels in New Brunswick are sustained at a high level even after the engineering projects have peaked in 2019.

At the end of the 2016–2025 forecast scenario, New Brunswick construction employment is expected to grow by more than 1,900 workers, with net in-mobility estimated at 2,500 to meet industry needs. Replacement demands continue to add to long-term market challenges as 8,000 workers are expected to retire, amounting to 27 percent of the current labour force.