

The Employment Journey

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PEI Food Processing Sector- 2010

Definition of Food Processing:

A variety of operations by which raw food is made suitable for consumption, cooking or storage.

People employed:

According to Service Canada, the number of employees in 2007 was **3,724**.

Number of food processing companies:

According to the PEI Agriculture Awareness Committee, PEI has about **49 agriculture food** companies creating a strong agri-food processing industry.

<http://peiagawareness.ca/industry>

Sample Island Employers and number of workers:

Cavendish Farms, New Annan: about **700** employees www.cavendishfarms.com

Agrawest Foods Inc., Souris: about **80 to 90** employees www.agrawest.com

Amalgamated Dairies Ltd., Summerside: about **293** employees www.adl.com

McCain Foods, Borden: about **210** employees www.mccain.com

Waddell=s Poultry & Cannery, Crapaud: about **14** employees

Wyman Jasper & Son Canada, St. Peters West: **20** full-time, year-round and **60 to 70** seasonally www.wymans.com

(Jasper Wyman & Son is the leading US grower, packer, and marketer of wild blueberries and berry fruits flash-frozen, canned, and in juices.)

Research and Development provides more job choices:

Canada Smartest Kitchen - Holland College

This is a new \$4 million facility at the Culinary Institute of Canada in Charlottetown. They develop innovative ways to add value to foods like potatoes and oysters. The kitchen is used for researching, developing, and for testing food products.

Food Technology Centre: Charlottetown

The Prince Edward Island Food Technology Centre is unique in Atlantic Canada. It can manufacture any type of food product to the highest standards in its federally-registered pilot plant. The FTC has a team of analytical chemists, microbiologists, food sensory analysts and engineering and food technologists. The FTC conducts product development for nutraceuticals and functional foods, sensory analysis, industrial product development and troubleshooting.

Sample Jobs and Wages:

Supervisors Food Processing: \$12.50 to \$28.45 per hour - 2009 wages report

Duties: Supervise and co-ordinate the activities of workers who operate processing machines and package or grade food. They are employed in fruit and vegetable processing plants, dairies, flour mills, bakeries, sugar refineries, fish plants, meat plants, breweries and other food processing establishments.

Manufacturing Managers: \$15.95 to 37.35 per hour - 2009 wages report

Duties: plan, organize, direct, control and evaluate the operations of a manufacturing establishment or of a production department within a manufacturing establishment, under the direction of a general manager or other senior manager. They are employed by manufacturing companies.

Sales and marketing managers: Annual average income, full-time, 2006 Census: **\$53,951** This position requires a university degree or college diploma in Business Administration or in a related field with a specialization in sales or marketing. It also requires several years of experience as a sales or marketing representative.

Process Control and Machine Operators: \$9.85 to \$16.40 per hour - 2009 wage report

Duties: Operate multi-function process control machinery through control panels, computer terminals or other control systems to grind, extract, mix, blend, cook or otherwise process food products and to bag, box, or otherwise package food products.

Forklift Operators: \$10 to \$12 an hour.

JVI Provincial Transportation and Safety Academy periodically offers training.

Labourers in food processing: \$9.30 to \$13.25 - 2009 wage report

Duties: Perform material handling, clean-up, packaging and other elemental activities related to food processing.

Chemical Technologists & Technicians:

Annual Average Income, full time - 2006 Census: **\$46,220**

Duties: Provide technical support and services or may work independently in a variety of manufacturing and processing industries. On PEI, many people employed in this occupation may be referred to as "quality control technologists".

Industrial and Manufacturing Engineers:

Annual Average Income, full time, 2006 Census: **\$44,428**

Duties: Conduct studies and develop and supervise programs to achieve the best use of equipment, human resources, technology, materials and procedures to enhance efficiency and productivity. Industrial and manufacturing engineers are employed in consulting firms, manufacturing and processing companies, and in government, financial, health care and other institutions, or they may be self-employed.

Links:

To explore careers further, visit www.pei.jobfutures.org and www.labourmarketinformation.ca