

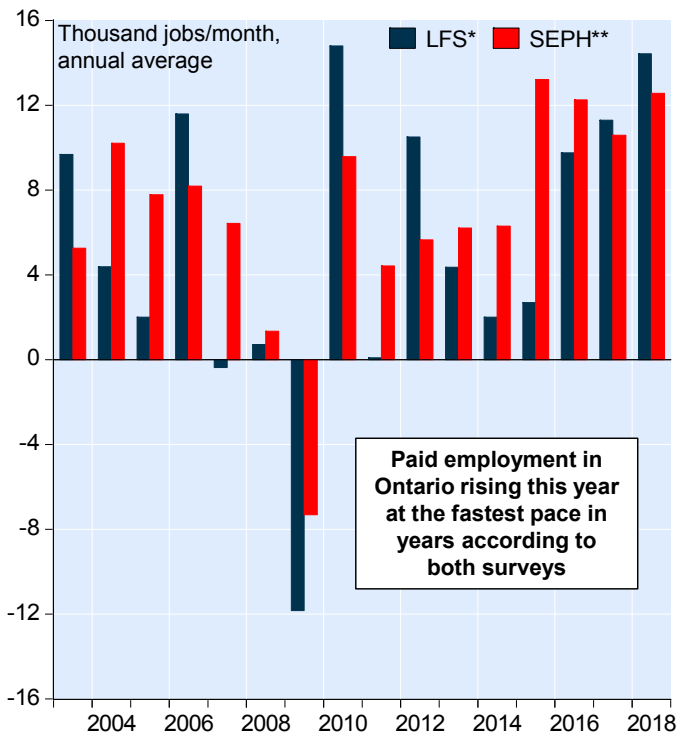
Canada Watch

While Ontario's minimum wage increase had the expected effect of lifting Canada's average wage growth this year, the advertised negative impact on employment is less apparent. According to the just-released Labour Force Survey (LFS), Ontario's paid employment has increased at a pace of 14K/month this year, the fastest since 2010. The Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) also suggests employment in the country's largest province is rising at the fastest pace in years. In fact, both of those surveys say Ontario's paid employment is growing faster than the national average. As today's *Hot Charts* show, the SEPH and LFS both put Ontario's share of paid employment in Canada at roughly 39% in 2018, an increase compared to last year. Employers seem reluctant to part with their now more expensive workers perhaps due to reported labour shortages, although the persistence of strong sales and profits could also explain the resilience of employment.

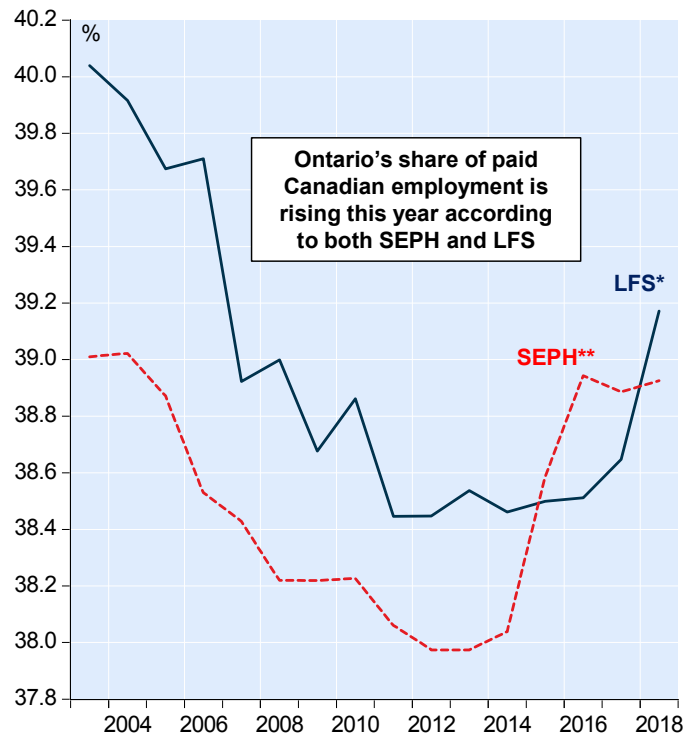
Krishen Rangasamy

Canada: Did Ontario's minimum wage hike hurt employment?

Creation of paid jobs in Ontario



Paid jobs in Ontario as a share of Canada's paid employment



*2018 estimate for LFS based on first seven months of the year **2018 estimates for SEPH based on first five months of the year
NBF Economics and Strategy (data via Statistics Canada)

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