Calgary Economic Region (CER)

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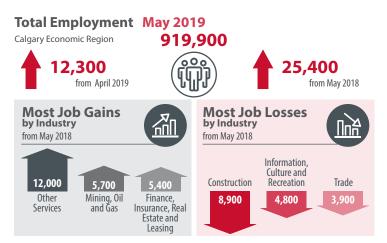
Calgary

MAY 2019

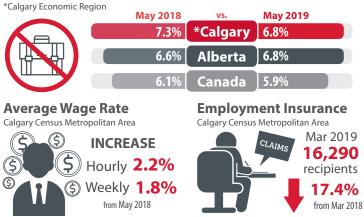
Ivy Zhang, Senior Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

June 7, 2019

Highlights¹:



Unemployment Rates Comparison



Summer months (May to August each year) are an important time for full-time high-school or post-secondary students to gain work experience. They join other youth (aged 15-24 years old) in the labour market to prepare for their future careers. Compared to other working-age groups, the unemployment rate for youth is higher. For May 2019 in the Calgary Economic Region (CER), the unemployment rate was 9.6 per cent for those 15-24 years old; it was 6.8 per cent for the entire working-age population (aged 15 years and older).

The high unemployment rate for youth is partly due to their lack of education and work experience. Many of the individuals aged 15-24 years old are yet to finish high school or post-secondary education. They either have never worked or have only worked for short periods. It is evident that people who have not completed their secondary education have greater difficulty competing in the labour market.

The employment rate measures the number of people employed in a group as a percentage of the population for that group. At the lowest level of educational attainment for those with zero to eight years of education, the May 2019 employment rate was 28.1 per cent in Alberta. It was higher than the 18.6 per cent in Ontario and 20.4 per cent in British Columbia (Chart 1). For those people with the highest level of educational attainment with university degrees, employment rates were 76.7 per cent in Alberta, 73.6 per cent in Ontario and 72.9 per cent in British Columbia (Chart 2).

Despite the often-mentioned high unemployment rate, the CER has one of the highest employment rates in Canada. By this measure, the job market is healthier in Calgary and Alberta than in other Canadian provinces. The CER's high employment rate shows that the region's working-age population participated actively in the labour market. The job market is healthy from the perspective of prospective employers that have a competitive pool of job seekers exploring job opportunities.

Chart 1. Employment Rate for 15 Years and Older with 0 to 8 Years Education

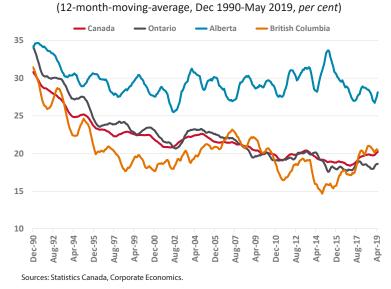
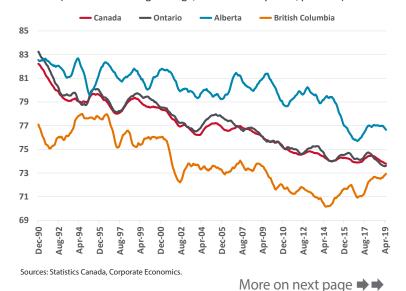


Chart 2. Employment Rate for 15 Years and Older with University Degrees (12-month-moving-average, Dec 1990-May 2019, *per cent*)



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Table 1 Labour Force Statistics (Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

	Description	May-19	Apr-19	May-18	Annual Change		Description	May-19	Apr-19	May-18	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,354.9	1,352.2	1,325.5	29.4		Working Age Population ('000)	3,510.8	3,505.9	3,458.8	52.0
NO	Labour Force ('000)	986.7	981.5	964.7	22.0	¥	Labour Force ('000)	2,511.3	2,497.0	2,485.0	26.3
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.8	72.6	72.8	0.0		Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.5	71.2	71.8	(0.3)
ECONOMIC REGION	Employment ('000)	919.9	907.6	894.5	25.4	ALBERTA	Employment ('000)	2,339.8	2,320.1	2,320.7	19.1
S N	Employment Rate (%)	67.9	67.1	67.5	0.4	AI	Employment Rate (%)	66.6	66.2	67.1	(0.5)
Ĕ	Unemployment ('000)	66.8	74.0	70.2	(3.4)		Unemployment ('000)	171.5	176.9	164.3	7.2
	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	7.5	7.3	(0.5)		Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	7.1	6.6	0.2

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, June 7, 2019

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	т	otal employe ('000 person		Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	May-19	May-18	Change (y/y)	May-19	May-18	Change (y/y)	May-19	May-18	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	50.6	45.5	5.1	2,012.52	2,057.96	(45.44)	101.8	93.6	8.2
Utilities	7.6	9.8	(2.2)	2,187.78	2,117.48	70.30	16.6	20.8	(4.1)
Construction	55.3	54.1	1.2	1,358.43	1,267.49	90.94	75.1	68.6	6.5
Manufacturing	50.6	40.2	10.4	1,153.30	1,190.74	(37.44)	58.4	47.9	10.5
Wholesale Trade	26.4	29.0	(2.6)	1,293.66	1,304.37	(10.71)	34.2	37.8	(3.7)
Retail Trade	85.7	82.9	2.8	743.74	714.84	28.90	63.7	59.3	4.5
Transportation and Warehousing	47.2	48.3	(1.1)	1,458.45	1,339.97	118.48	68.8	64.7	4.1
Information and Cultural Industries	10.0	10.1	(0.1)	1,371.33	1,161.39	209.94	13.7	11.7	2.0
Finance and Insurance	27.8	20.9	6.9	1,292.41	1,396.69	(104.28)	35.9	29.2	6.7
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	11.8	7.6	4.2	1,028.67	1,053.70	(25.03)	12.1	8.0	4.1
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	71.2	59.8	11.4	1,531.97	1,492.48	39.49	109.1	89.3	19.8
Administrative and Support	25.0	22.4	2.6	907.83	801.18	106.65	22.7	17.9	4.7
Educational Services	45.6	46.4	(0.8)	1,128.37	1,222.07	(93.70)	51.5	56.7	(5.3)
Health Care and Social Assistance	85.9	85.6	0.3	1,051.10	1,021.26	29.84	90.3	87.4	2.9
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	16.4	17.7	(1.3)	798.25	677.45	120.80	13.1	12.0	1.1
Accommodation and Food Services	56.0	52.0	4.0	549.83	589.27	(39.44)	30.8	30.6	0.1
Other Services(except Public Admin)	38.3	29.0	9.3	999.73	976.84	22.89	38.3	28.3	10.0
Public Administration	36.2	28.8	7.4	1,580.95	1,622.45	(41.50)	57.2	46.7	10.5
All Industries	750.0	693.8	56.2	1,194.34	1,173.42	20.92	895.8	814.1	81.6

* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, June 7, 2019

Next update: July 5, 2019

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¹ Data used in this report for the Calgary Economic Region (CER) and Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA) is 3-month moving average, not seasonally adjusted.