Calgary

AUGUST 2019

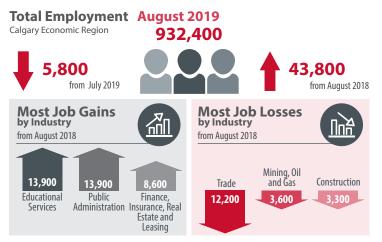
Calgary Economic Region (CER)

our Market Review

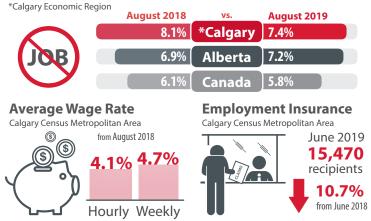
Ivy Zhang, Senior Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

September 6, 2019

Highlights*:



Unemployment Rates Comparison



The summer job market improved this year, compared to last year, for the youth in Calgary. Between May and August 2019, there were an estimated 193,900 youth aged 15-24 living in the Calgary Economic Region (CER). Of those youth, 67 per cent or 130,000 participated in the labour market. Thanks to the recent spate of job creation, the youth unemployment rate in the CER dropped to 11.8 per cent this summer, from last summer's 14.2 per cent. However, the youth unemployment rate was still higher than the 6.8 per cent for the average working-age Calgarian.

Labour market participation varied across the different categories of Alberta youth. During the summer months, data for youth employment by type of student is available at the national and provincial levels. There are three youth groups covered in the data: *returning students*¹, *other students*², and *non-students*³. In Alberta this summer, *non-students* had the highest labour market participation rate

1 *Returning students*: people who were attending school full-time in March and planned to return to school full-time in the fall.

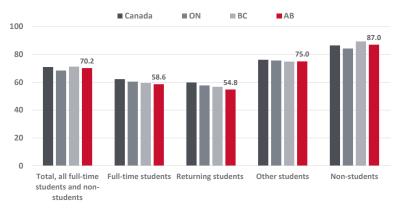
2 Other students: people who were attending school full-time in March but who were not planning on returning full-time in the fall or who were unsure if they would return.

3 Non-students: people who were not enrolled full-time in an educational institution.

(87.0 per cent) among youth groups. The *other student* youth group had the second-highest participation rate (75.0 per cent). The *returning student* youth group had the lowest participation rate (54.8 per cent) (Chart 1). Because *non-students* and *other students* receive less outside financial support (e.g. parents and government scholarships), their participation in the labour market is expected to exceed *returning students*.

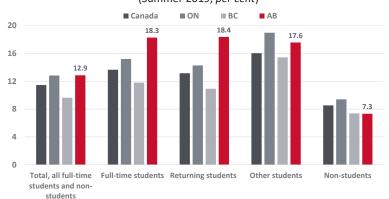
Despite the improvement from last year, the unemployment rate was higher for Alberta youth than the national average. Low unemployment rates encourage labour market participation, but high unemployment rates discourage it. Across Canada this summer, Alberta's job market proved to be most challenging for full-time students (including *returning students* and *other students*). The unemployment rate for *returning students* was the highest in Alberta (18.4 per cent). The participation rates in Alberta for those youth groups were among the lowest in the country. Nevertheless, Alberta outperformed the Canadian average for the *non-student* youth group. The *non-student* youth unemployment rate (7.3 per cent) was the lowest in Canada. Their participation rate (87.0 per cent) was also one of the highest in the country (Chart 2).

Chart 1. Youth Participation Rate by Type of Student aged 15-24 (Summer 2019, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Youth Unemployment Rate by Type of Student aged 15-24 (Summer 2019, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

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

	Description	Aug-19	Jul-19	Aug-18	Annual Change		Description	Aug-19	Jul-19	Aug-18	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,364.0	1,360.9	1,333.3	30.7		Working Age Population ('000)	3,528.2	3,522.2	3,472.8	55.4
NO	Labour Force ('000)	1,006.7	1,003.5	966.9	39.8	ERTA	Labour Force ('000)	2,551.4	2,544.1	2,525.5	25.9
CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.8	73.7	72.5	1.3		Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.3	72.2	72.7	(0.4)
MIC	Employment ('000)	932.4	938.2	888.6	43.8	ALBER	Employment ('000)	2,366.8	2,370.5	2,350.9	15.9
5 S	Employment Rate (%)	68.4	68.9	66.6	1.8	AI	Employment Rate (%)	67.1	67.3	67.7	(0.6)
N	Unemployment ('000)	74.3	65.3	78.3	(4.0)		Unemployment ('000)	184.5	173.6	174.6	9.9
	Unemployment Rate (%)	7.4	6.5	8.1	(0.7)		Unemployment Rate (%)	7.2	6.8	6.9	0.3

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, September 6, 2019

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Aug-19	Aug-18	Change (y/y)	Aug-19	Aug-18	Change (y/y)	Aug-19	Aug-18	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	45.8	43.3	2.5	1,883.91	1,783.60	100.31	86.3	77.2	9.1
Utilities	9.3	9.4	(0.1)	2,048.04	2,053.93	(5.89)	19.0	19.3	(0.3)
Construction	61.9	62.2	(0.3)	1,340.79	1,220.63	120.16	83.0	75.9	7.1
Manufacturing	46.8	36.5	10.3	1,223.51	1,252.15	(28.64)	57.3	45.7	11.6
Wholesale Trade	25.3	25.4	(0.1)	1,282.77	1,432.15	(149.38)	32.5	36.4	(3.9)
Retail Trade	77.8	86.9	(9.1)	733.71	671.86	61.85	57.1	58.4	(1.3)
Transportation and Warehousing	48.4	49.4	(1.0)	1,400.36	1,307.60	92.76	67.8	64.6	3.2
Information and Cultural Industries	9.5	9.1	0.4	1,591.70	1,082.62	509.08	15.1	9.9	5.3
Finance and Insurance	26.6	19.4	7.2	1,354.84	1,347.64	7.20	36.0	26.1	9.9
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	13.2	10.0	3.2	1,088.36	1,313.24	(224.88)	14.4	13.1	1.2
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	70.5	60.1	10.4	1,560.80	1,580.52	(19.72)	110.0	95.0	15.0
Administrative and Support	21.6	19.4	2.2	943.20	946.64	(3.44)	20.4	18.4	2.0
Educational Services	50.3	37.4	12.9	1,292.08	1,227.92	64.16	65.0	45.9	19.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	90.3	83.9	6.4	1,101.55	1,039.25	62.30	99.5	87.2	12.3
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	19.5	21.9	(2.4)	657.09	670.11	(13.02)	12.8	14.7	(1.9)
Accommodation and Food Services	59.2	55.3	3.9	543.39	592.12	(48.73)	32.2	32.7	(0.6)
Other Services(except Public Admin)	34.3	30.5	3.8	1,045.36	1,000.37	44.99	35.9	30.5	5.3
Public Administration	39.8	25.9	13.9	1,627.10	1,644.60	(17.50)	64.8	42.6	22.2
All Industries	753.3	688.5	64.8	1,210.13	1,155.71	54.42	911.6	795.7	115.9

** Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, September 6, 2019

Next update: October 11, 2019

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* 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.