

A slower paced job cuts in March across Canada

On a seasonally adjusted basis¹, total employment in March 2009 fell from the previous month by 5,800 in Calgary Economic Region (CER), 14,900 in Alberta and 61,300 in Canada.

- The job losses in Canada were all full-time jobs (-79,500) and concentrated in Manufacturing (-34,200), Finance, insurance, real estate & leasing (-19,800) and Construction (-18,200) industries.
- The job losses in Alberta ranked second in Canada after British Columbia (-22,600). Job cuts in Alberta last month were concentrated in Trade (-15,400), Professional, scientific and technical services (-11,900), and Construction (-9,900), as drilling and other investments scaled back and consumer confidence lingered record low.

Based on the un-adjusted data², total employment in the CER has been declining since August 2008. The full-time to total employment ratio dropped to 83 per cent last month, from the recent high of 86 per cent in July-September 2008. The disproportional loss in full-

time jobs started to dampen the region's consumer confidence, since in Alberta a full-time worker earned an average wage of \$25.86 per hour compared to \$17.24 per hour for a part-time worker in March. Over the past twelve months in CER:

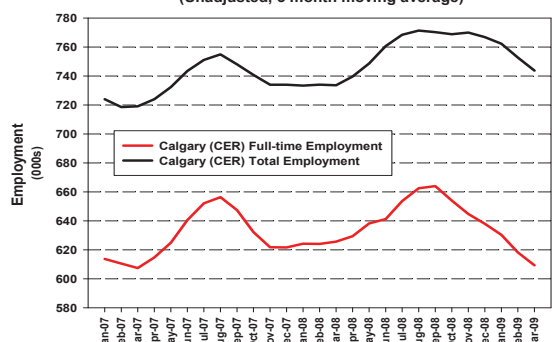
- Total employment increased 10,200, with 16,300 full-time employment losses and 26,500 part-time job gains.
- The biggest job gains occurred in Trade (+10,500), Educational services (+8,800) and Transportation & warehousing (+7,400) industries, and the main job cuts happened in Construction (-8,900), Professional (-3,800), and Health care & social assistance (-3,800) industries.
- Unemployment rates increased to 5.9%, mainly due to sharp increases in labour force (+4.4%) compared to employment (+1.4%).

Next update: May 8, 2009

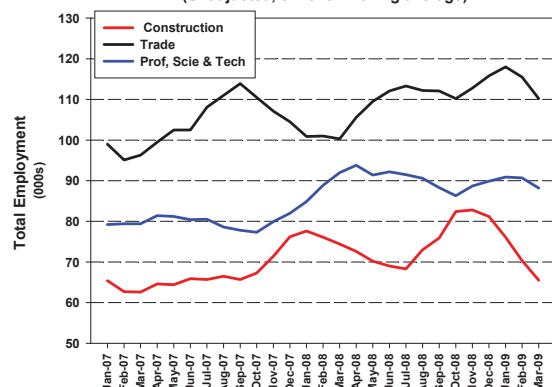
¹ **Seasonally adjustment** filters out fluctuations due to seasonal events such as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening the closing of schools. Seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 per cent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment. Thus only seasonally adjusted data is used for *month-over-month* comparisons.

² **Unadjusted data** combines seasonal factors and non-seasonal developments, such as economic activities and participation rates. To avoid the effect of seasonal factors, growth is calculated on a *year-over-year basis*.

Total and Full-time Employment, Calgary (CER)
(Unadjusted, 3 month moving average)



Calgary (CER) Total Employment by Industry
(Unadjusted, 3 month moving average)



Labour Force Statistics

Economic Regions (Unadjusted 3-Month-Moving-Average)

Region	Description	Mar-09	Feb-09	Mar-08	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,037.8	1,036.3	1,011.4	26.5
	Labour Force ('000)	789.8	792.8	756.5	33.3
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	76.1	76.5	74.8	1.3
	Employment ('000)	743.8	752.8	733.6	10.2
	Employment Rate (%)	71.7	72.6	72.5	(0.9)
	Unemployment ('000)	46.0	40.0	22.9	23.1
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	5.0	3.0	2.9
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	929.8	927.8	910.0	19.8
	Labour Force ('000)	670.4	669.9	665.2	5.2
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.1	72.2	73.1	(1.0)
	Employment ('000)	634.5	637.0	640.2	(5.7)
	Employment Rate (%)	68.1	68.7	70.4	(2.2)
	Unemployment ('000)	35.8	32.9	25.0	10.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	4.9	3.8	1.6	
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	2,834.9	2,828.2	2,776.0	58.8
	Labour Force ('000)	2,097.8	2,098.5	2,048.7	49.1
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.0	74.2	73.8	0.2
	Employment ('000)	1,979.9	1,994.4	1,977.3	2.6
	Employment Rate (%)	69.8	70.5	71.2	(1.4)
	Unemployment ('000)	117.9	104.1	71.4	46.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.6	5.0	3.5	2.1	

Statistics Canada: CANSIM, Table ID: 282-0054 | Source: Corporate Economics, Statistics Canada, April 2009

Calgary's Monthly Market Review: March 2009

Who We Are

Over the past ten years Corporate Economics has researched dozens of economic topics and developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis. Monitoring economic trends allows us to develop unique insights on how external events are impacting the local economy and the Municipal Corporation. We provide services in four areas: forecasting, information provision, consulting and policy analysis.

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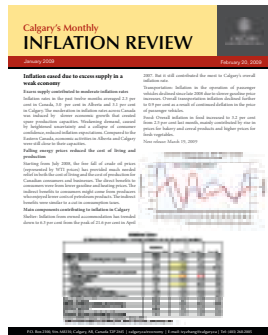
Many of our publications are available on the internet at www.calgary.ca/economy.

DMD: Jeff Brown

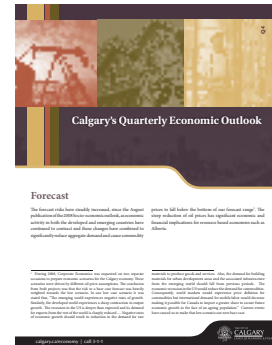
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Source: Statistics Canada

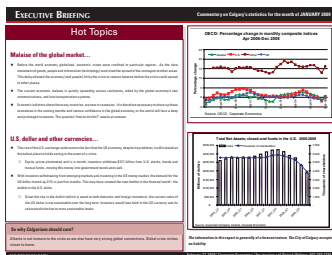
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