

## Current job market proved a hard one for Calgary's Youth

Employment remained virtually unchanged in June across Canada. The seasonally adjusted data shows that from May to June 2009, total employment increased by 3,000 in the Calgary Economic Region (CER), but decreased by 7,400 in Canada and 4,000 in Alberta.

- In Canada, full-time job losses (-47,500) were partially offset by part-time job gains (+40,000). Full-time job losses in Alberta (-6,900) ranked third in Canada after Ontario (-56,200) and Quebec (-7,600).

The un-adjusted data for June 2009 indicate that the CER's unemployment rate more than doubled compared to a year ago, due to more people chasing fewer jobs in Calgary's labour market. From June 2008 to June 2009 in the CER:

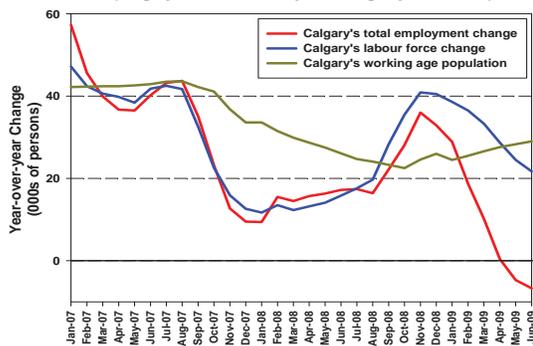
- Total employment dropped by 6,800 positions, with 15,200 cuts in full-time jobs and 8,400 gains in part-time jobs. The job cuts were mainly in Trade (-13,600), Professional, scientific and technical service (-10,300) and Mining, oil and gas extraction (-9,100).
- The unemployment rate jumped to 6.4 per cent, more than double a year ago. Wage inflation slowed to 3.4 per cent, compared to 6.4 per cent a year ago.

- In April, there were 17,330 Calgarians receiving regular employment insurance benefits, a 270 per cent increase over a year. This number should climb higher in coming months because of a larger number of unemployed persons.
- The growth in Calgary's employed labour force started to decline from November 2008, and has entered negative territory since May 2009. Growth in labour force<sup>1</sup> also slowed as jobseekers became discouraged and ceased searching for employment. However, the working age population continued to increase, driven largely by in-migration from other economically depressed regions of Canada. (See chart 1)
- In Calgary's current job market, experienced workers (age 25-64) weathered the downturn better than younger people (age 15-24) because employers are retaining their core employees. However, it's much harder for new college graduates to start their careers and for high school students to find summer employment. Various unemployment rates in the three age groups reflect the situation. (See chart 2)

Next update: August 7, 2009

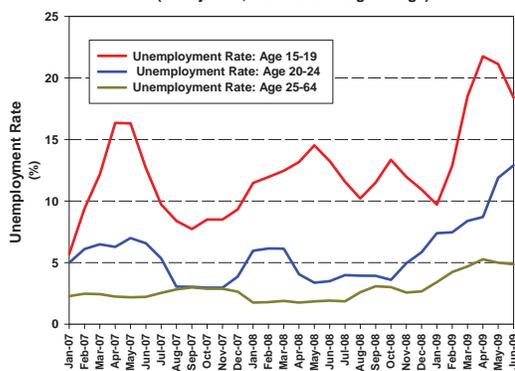
<sup>1</sup> The labour force consists of the number of people aged 15 and over who are employed (that is, those who currently have jobs) and unemployed (that is, those who do not have jobs but who are actively looking for work).

Chart 1. Change of Calgary's Labour Force and Employment (Calgary CER, Year-over-year change by thousands)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, July 2009

Chart 2. Unemployment Rate by Age Group (CER) (Unadjusted, 3 month moving average)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, July 2009

### Labour Force Statistics

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

Region	Description	Jun-09	May-09	Jun-08	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,046.6	1,043.5	1,017.1	29.5
	Labour Force ('000)	805.9	796.2	784.2	21.7
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	77.0	76.3	77.1	(0.1)
	Employment ('000)	754.0	744.0	760.8	(6.8)
	Employment Rate (%)	72.0	71.3	74.8	(2.8)
	Unemployment ('000)	51.9	52.2	23.4	28.5
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	936.7	934.9	914.6	22.0
	Labour Force ('000)	689.4	679.7	668.6	20.8
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.6	72.7	73.1	0.5
	Employment ('000)	642.1	636.6	644.1	(2.0)
	Employment Rate (%)	68.5	68.0	70.4	(2.0)
	Unemployment ('000)	47.3	44.1	24.5	22.8
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	2,853.9	2,848.7	2,790.3	63.7
	Labour Force ('000)	2,137.6	2,116.6	2,089.9	47.7
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.9	74.3	74.9	0.0
	Employment ('000)	1,997.2	1,978.4	2,021.2	(24.0)
	Employment Rate (%)	69.9	69.5	72.4	(2.5)
	Unemployment ('000)	140.4	138.2	68.7	71.7

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

## Calgary's Monthly Market Review: June 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](http://www.calgary.ca/economy).

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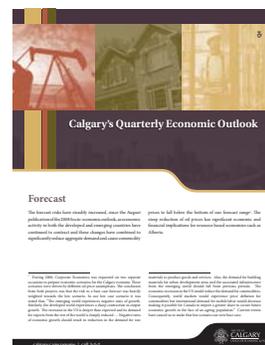
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Source: Statistics Canada

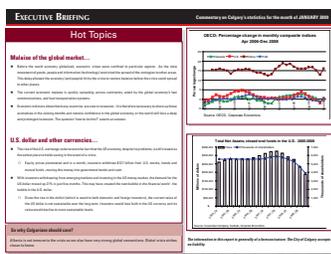
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