

## Calgary gains jobs in March 2012

**The labour market in Canada strengthened in March 2012, according to the seasonally adjusted data for February 2012 to March 2012:**

- Total employment increased by 82,300 in Canada, 4,400 in Alberta, and 4,600 in the Calgary Economic Region (CER).
- In Canada, most of the employment growth was in full-time employment, with an increase of 70,000 positions, while 12,400 part-time positions were added. The biggest job gains were in health care and social assistance (31,500) and information, culture and recreation (28,300).
- In Alberta, most new jobs were created in professional, scientific and technical services (8,400), construction (4,600), and business, building and other support services (3,900). The biggest job losses were in accommodation and food services (9,800) and agriculture (3,500).

**According to the seasonally adjusted data between March 2011 and March 2012:**

- In Canada, total employment grew by 197,000 between March 2012 and March 2011. Full-time employment accounted for 181,000 of the total increase.
- The Alberta economy expanded by 64,000 positions between March 2012 and the same period 2011. Full-time employment grew by 79,200 and part-time contracted by 14,300 during this period; the total employment gains were split equally between males (32,200) and females (32,700).
- Employment increased by 28,600 in the goods producing sector. The growth leaders in this sector were forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (23,200) and construction (20,100). Employment increased by 36,300 in

the service producing sector. The growth leaders in this sector were health care and social assistance (20,400) and transportation and warehousing (10,000).

**According to the unadjusted 3-month-moving-average data, the following year-over-year changes were recorded in the CER in March 2012:**

- The unemployment rate was 5.1 per cent, compared to 6.1 per cent a year ago.
- The average hourly wage inflation rate was 3.2 per cent, compared to -0.2 per cent last March.
- There were 9,700 people in the Calgary Metropolitan Area (CMA) receiving employment insurance benefits in January 2012, down from 14,720 in January 2011.

**Data for the first quarter of 2012 (seasonally adjusted)**

The working age population was estimated at 1,122,800 for the first quarter 2012 (Q1 2012), up from 1,100,800 in Q1 2011. In Q1 2012, the labour force was estimated at 844,7000, up by 33,600 for the same period 2011. Consequently, the labour force participation rate (which is a ratio of the labour force to the working age population) increased by 1.5 percentage points between Q1 2011 and Q1 2012. The increase in the labour force participation rate came mainly from an improvement in the job market. For example, total employment averaged 803,700 in Q1 2012, up from 762,900 in Q1 2011 or by 40,800. Also, the employment rate (which is the ratio of total employment to the working age population) increased to 71.5 per cent in Q1 2012, up from 69.3 per cent in Q1 2011.

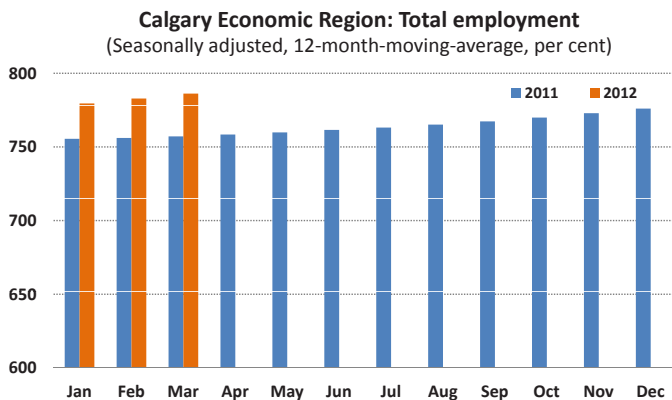
*Next update: May 11, 2012*

## Labour Force Statistics

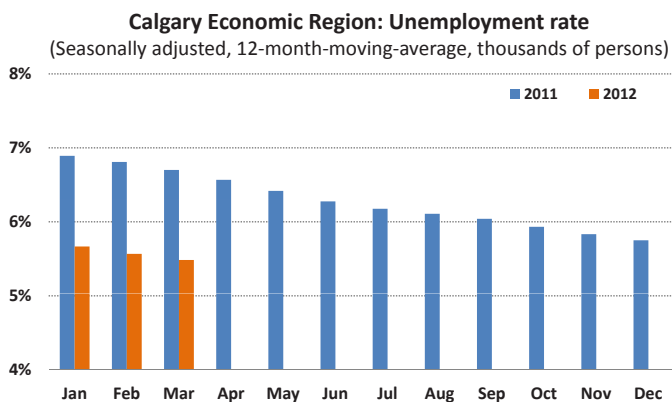
**Economic Regions (Seasonally Adjusted 3-Month-Moving-Average)**

	Description	Mar-12	Feb-12	Mar-11	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,124.7	1,122.8	1,102.5	22.2
	Labour Force ('000)	848.1	843.4	814.5	33.6
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	75.3	75.1	73.8	1.5
	Employment ('000)	807.5	802.8	767.2	40.3
	Employment Rate (%)	71.7	71.5	69.6	2.1
	Unemployment ('000)	43.0	42.6	49.4	(6.4)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	4.9	5.9	(1.0)
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	1,013.3	1,011.2	994.0	19.3
	Labour Force ('000)	738.9	741.2	730.0	8.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.9	73.1	73.4	(0.5)
	Employment ('000)	699.5	705.2	688.1	11.4
	Employment Rate (%)	68.8	69.4	69.0	(0.2)
	Unemployment ('000)	40.5	37.1	42.9	(2.4)
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	3,038.8	3,034.1	2,988.2	50.6
	Labour Force ('000)	2,245.5	2,243.6	2,193.1	52.4
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.8	74.0	73.4	0.4
	Employment ('000)	2,134.3	2,133.3	2,067.1	67.2
	Employment Rate (%)	70.2	70.3	69.2	1.0
	Unemployment ('000)	111.1	108.8	125.4	(14.4)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	4.9	5.8	(0.8)

Source: Statistics Canada, seasonally adjusted by Corporate Economics, April 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, April 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, April 2012



## Who We Are

Corporate Economics provides services in four areas: forecasting, information provision, policy analysis and consulting. We also monitor the current economic trends which allows us to develop unique insights on how external events are impacting the local economy and the Municipal government. We are experienced at researching different economic topics and developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis.

For more information, please contact:

Patrick Walters  
403.268.1335 or [patrick.walters@calgary.ca](mailto:patrick.walters@calgary.ca)

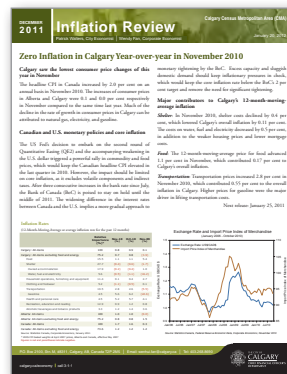
Many of our publications are available on the internet at [www.calgary.ca/economy](http://www.calgary.ca/economy).

## Forecasting



- ▶ Calgary & Region Economic Outlook
- ▶ Energy Reports on Natural Gas and Crude Oil

## Information Provision



- ▶ Labour Market Review
- ▶ Inflation Review
- ▶ Current Economic Analysis
- ▶ Construction Inflation

## Policy Analysis



- ▶ A Case of Fiscal Imbalance: The Calgary Experience
- ▶ Diesel Fuel Price Pass-Through in Calgary
- ▶ Calgary Residential and Commercial Real Estate Markets

Corporate Research Analyst: Estella Scruggs

The City of Calgary provides this information in good faith. However, the aforementioned organization makes no representation, warranty or condition, statutory express or implied, takes no responsibility for any errors and omissions which may be contained herein and accepts no liability for any loss arising from any use or reliance on this report.

Source: Statistics Canada and Corporate Economics