



Highlights: Statistics Canada's April Labour Force Survey¹ shows the following:

- Total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) increased by 3,300 from a month ago, and by 21,900 from a year ago. The unemployment rate was 9 per cent in the CER, compared to 8.7 per cent in Alberta and 7 per cent in Canada.
- Year-over-year, net jobs were created in both part-time (+13,900) and full-time (+8,000) positions. By occupation, job gains were concentrated in the Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (+14,700) and Business, Finance and Administration (+9,200) positions, while losses were mainly in the Natural and Applied Sciences and Related (-12,000) and Health positions (-5,500).
- The average weekly wage rate in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was \$1162, up 0.8 per cent from a year ago; the total weekly wage bill for the CMA increased by \$14 millions year-over-year.
- In February 2017, the number of employment insurance (EI) recipients in the CMA was 29,990 persons, up by 38 per cent from the same time last year.

The past energy super cycle has brought 143,000 new jobs to the CER over ten years (2006-2016) with the majority of them in the occupations serving the region's fast growing and aging population. These include occupations in Sales and Service (+37,000), Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (+26,000), and Health (+21,000). Surprisingly, however, the largest reductions in occupations were observed in those Unique to Processing, Manufacturing and Utility (-4,000), and Unique to Primary Industry (-2,000) (Chart 1). This is not only the aftermath of job cuts during the recent recession, but also the result of disruptive technologies (such as hydraulic fracturing) on jobs.

By 2016, the number of unemployed persons in the CER totalled 84,700, more than half of them (58 per cent) in the Unclassified (32,800) and Sales and Service (14,200) occupations (Chart 2). These were the people most vulnerable in the current depressed job market, as they either had no work experience or had relative low education levels ranging from occupation-specific training to formal post-secondary programs.

Chart 1 CER Employment Growth by Occupation
(2006 - 2016, thousands)

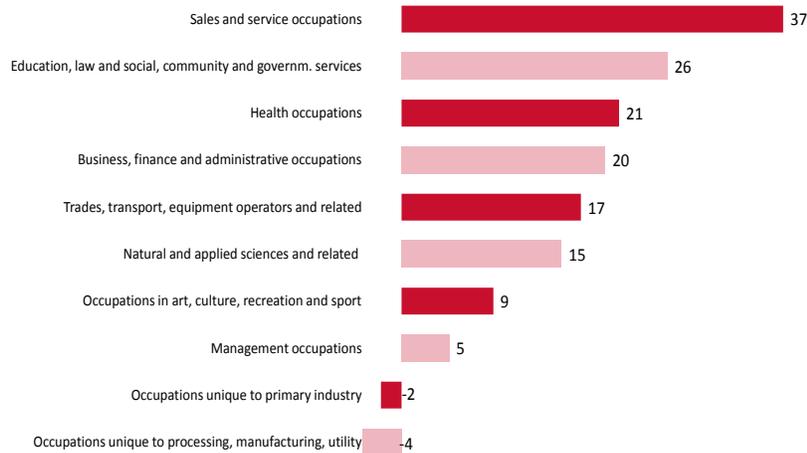
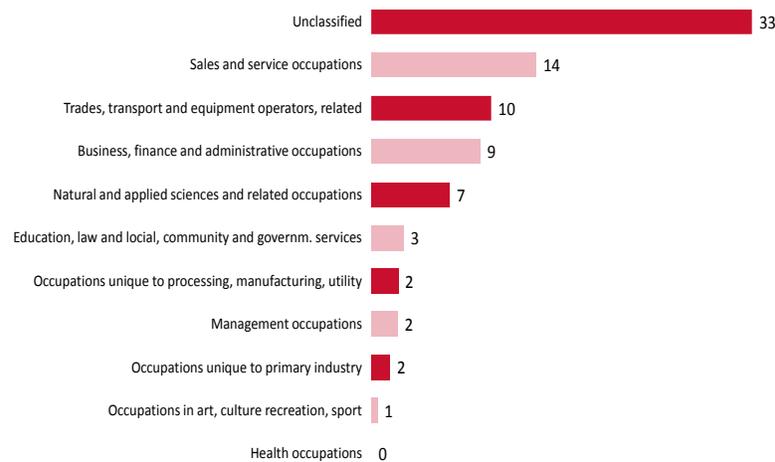


Chart 2 CER Unemployment by Occupation
(2016, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 2017

Table 1 Labour Force Statistics

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month moving average)

Description	Apr-17	Mar-17	Apr-16	Annual Change
Working Age Population ('000)	1,301.9	1,300.1	1,285.0	16.9
Labour Force ('000)	957.4	954.0	928.5	28.9
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.5	73.4	72.3	1.2
Employment ('000)	870.9	867.6	849.0	21.9
Employment Rate (%)	66.9	66.7	66.1	0.8
Unemployment ('000)	86.5	86.4	79.4	7.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.0	9.1	8.6	0.4

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Description	Apr-17	Mar-17	Apr-16	Annual Change
Working Age Population ('000)	3,417.7	3,414.4	3,389.2	28.5
Labour Force ('000)	2,472.1	2,468.9	2,449.8	22.3
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.3	72.3	72.3	0.0
Employment ('000)	2,258.2	2,251.9	2,251.8	6.4
Employment Rate (%)	66.1	66.0	66.4	(0.3)
Unemployment ('000)	213.9	216.9	198.0	15.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.7	8.8	8.1	0.6



Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employment ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Apr-17	Apr-16	Change (y/y)	Apr-17	Apr-16	Change (y/y)	Apr-17	Apr-16	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	40.5	48.5	(8.0)	2,112.7	1,963.3	149.4	85.6	95.2	(9.7)
Utilities	9.9	8.1	1.8	2,255.8	1,827.7	428.1	22.3	14.8	7.5
Construction	46.2	56.1	(9.9)	1,253.7	1,332.0	(78.3)	57.9	74.7	(16.8)
Manufacturing	38.1	37.7	0.4	1,240.2	1,231.6	8.6	47.3	46.4	0.8
Wholesale Trade	32.6	24.1	8.5	1,368.3	1,388.5	(20.2)	44.6	33.5	11.1
Retail Trade	77.8	79.6	(1.8)	726.0	653.3	72.7	56.5	52.0	4.5
Transportation and Warehousing	48.8	37.5	11.3	1,249.9	1,094.0	155.9	61.0	41.0	20.0
Information and Cultural Industries	11.0	10.8	0.2	998.4	1,421.5	(423.1)	11.0	15.4	(4.4)
Finance and Insurance	21.9	31.4	(9.5)	1,168.5	1,261.3	(92.9)	25.6	39.6	(14.0)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	12.5	7.7	4.8	1,000.2	1,217.6	(217.3)	12.5	9.4	3.1
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	60.5	65.8	(5.3)	1,445.8	1,507.9	(62.2)	87.5	99.2	(11.8)
Administrative and Support	17.0	22.3	(5.3)	902.9	884.2	18.7	15.3	19.7	(4.4)
Educational Services	50.7	46.1	4.6	1,223.2	1,119.3	103.9	62.0	51.6	10.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	83.2	78.8	4.4	1,065.5	1,085.0	(19.6)	88.6	85.5	3.1
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	16.1	18.8	(2.7)	674.7	715.9	(41.2)	10.9	13.5	(2.6)
Accommodation and Food Services	49.0	47.1	1.9	500.7	483.1	17.5	24.5	22.8	1.8
Other Services(except Public Admin)	33.1	24.6	8.5	820.2	842.6	(22.4)	27.1	20.7	6.4
Public Administration	28.7	26.8	1.9	1,665.1	1,476.9	188.3	47.8	39.6	8.2
All Industries	678.4	672.1	6.3	1,162.4	1,152.7	9.8	788.6	774.7	13.9

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 2017
 Note: lack of data for Agriculture

Next update: June 9, 2017

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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.