



**This month's highlights:** Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey<sup>1</sup> in December shows the following:

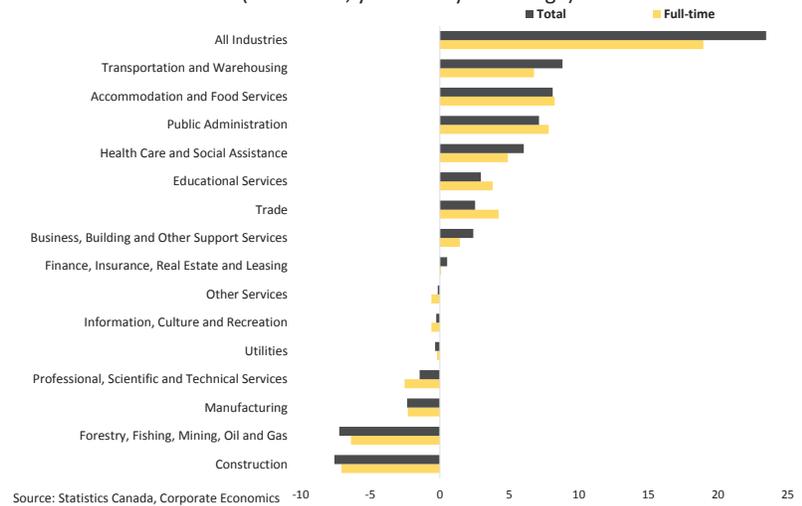
- In the Calgary Economic Region (CER), total employment increased by 6,900 from the previous month, and by 13,500 from a year ago. The region's unemployment rate was 7.2 per cent, compared to 6.7 per cent in Alberta and 5.5 per cent across Canada.

- From December 2016 to December 2017, new full-time jobs (+23,500) were partially offset by the losses in part-time positions (-10,100). New jobs were added in both the goods-producing (+7,100) and service-producing (+6,400) sectors.

- In the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA), the average weekly wage rate in December 2017 was \$1159, up by \$25 or 2 per cent from a year ago; the total weekly wage bill for the CCMA was \$809 million, up by \$36 million year-over-year.

- In October 2017, there were 21,220 employment insurance (EI) recipients in the CCMA, down by 35 per cent from a year ago.

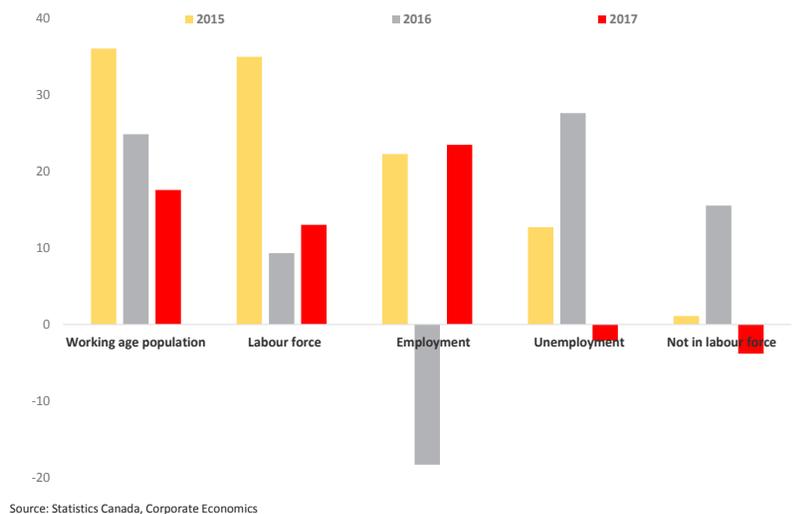
**Chart 1 CER Annual Employment Change by Industry in 2017**  
(thousands; year-over-year change)



**Year-end review:** In 2017, the CER gained back all the job losses in 2016 and added more. The region's total employment increased to 883,000 in 2017, up by 23,000 from 859,000 in 2016. Most of the job gains were in full-time positions (+19,000). Among all the industries, the biggest winners in job creation were Transportation and warehousing (+8,800), Accommodation and food services (+8,100) and Public administration (+7,100) industries. The biggest losers were Construction (-7,600) and Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (-7,200) industries (Chart 1).

In 2017, resumed job creations brought optimism to the CER. More people participated in the labour market, as a result the number of people not in the labour force declined from 345,000 in 2016 to 341,000. In 2017, there were 83,000 people unemployed in the region, compared to 85,000 in 2016; the unemployment rate was 8.6 per cent, compared to 9.0 per cent in 2016. As the region's labour market remained less attractive to the outside job seekers, the growth of working age population slowed in 2017 (Chart 2).

**Chart 2 CER Labour Market Annual Changes**  
(thousands; year-over-year change, 2015-2017)



**Table 1 Labour Force Statistics**

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month moving average)

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Dec-17	Nov-17	Dec-16	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,315.2	1,313.8	1,296.1	19.1
	Labour Force ('000)	955.7	950.1	966.3	(10.6)
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.7	72.3	74.6	(1.9)
	Employment ('000)	886.6	879.7	873.1	13.5
	Employment Rate (%)	67.4	67.0	67.4	0.0
	Unemployment ('000)	69.1	70.4	93.2	(24.1)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	7.2	7.4	9.6	(2.4)

**Table 2 on next page**

ALBERTA	Description	Dec-17	Nov-17	Dec-16	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	3,441.4	3,439.1	3,408.7	32.7
	Labour Force ('000)	2,464.5	2,462.5	2,463.8	0.7
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.6	71.6	72.3	(0.7)
	Employment ('000)	2,299.4	2,294.5	2,264.9	34.5
	Employment Rate (%)	66.8	66.7	66.4	0.4
	Unemployment ('000)	165.1	168.0	198.9	(33.8)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.7	6.8	8.1	(1.4)



**Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry**

Industry	Total employed* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Dec-17	Dec-16	Change (y/y)	Dec-17	Dec-16	Change (y/y)	Dec-17	Dec-16	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	45.3	49.1	(3.8)	1,914.1	1,912.1	2.0	86.7	93.9	(7.2)
Utilities	9.2	9.1	0.1	1,887.8	1,697.5	190.3	17.4	15.4	1.9
Construction	60.2	45.3	14.9	1,415.1	1,262.4	152.7	85.2	57.2	28.0
Manufacturing	36.0	40.8	(4.8)	1,125.9	1,124.3	1.6	40.5	45.9	(5.3)
Wholesale Trade	33.5	25.8	7.7	1,337.9	1,281.6	56.3	44.8	33.1	11.8
Retail Trade	82.6	87.1	(4.5)	711.2	662.3	49.0	58.7	57.7	1.1
Transportation and Warehousing	48.0	47.1	0.9	1,153.5	1,256.1	(102.6)	55.4	59.2	(3.8)
Information and Cultural Industries	13.2	11.1	2.1	985.7	1,306.6	(320.9)	13.0	14.5	(1.5)
Finance and Insurance	23.4	21.3	2.1	1,150.8	1,326.5	(175.7)	26.9	28.3	(1.3)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	8.5	9.5	(1.0)	1,126.3	1,184.1	(57.8)	9.6	11.2	(1.7)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	54.5	66.1	(11.6)	1,523.9	1,522.2	1.8	83.1	100.6	(17.6)
Administrative and Support	23.2	21.7	1.5	832.6	952.8	(120.2)	19.3	20.7	(1.4)
Educational Services	51.8	48.1	3.7	1,299.1	1,189.4	109.7	67.3	57.2	10.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	76.1	77.8	(1.7)	1,119.8	1,059.0	60.8	85.2	82.4	2.8
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	16.4	16.0	0.4	623.0	560.0	62.9	10.2	9.0	1.3
Accommodation and Food Services	58.9	47.7	11.2	538.9	498.5	40.5	31.7	23.8	8.0
Other Services(except Public Admin)	24.4	35.5	(11.1)	917.9	795.5	122.5	22.4	28.2	(5.8)
Public Administration	31.2	21.0	10.2	1,563.3	1,574.3	(11.0)	48.8	33.1	15.7
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>698.4</b>	<b>682.1</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>1,158.6</b>	<b>1,134.0</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>809.2</b>	<b>773.5</b>	<b>35.7</b>

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, January 5, 2018

\* Excluding self-employed

Note: lack of data for Agriculture

Next update: February 9, 2018

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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 have developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.