



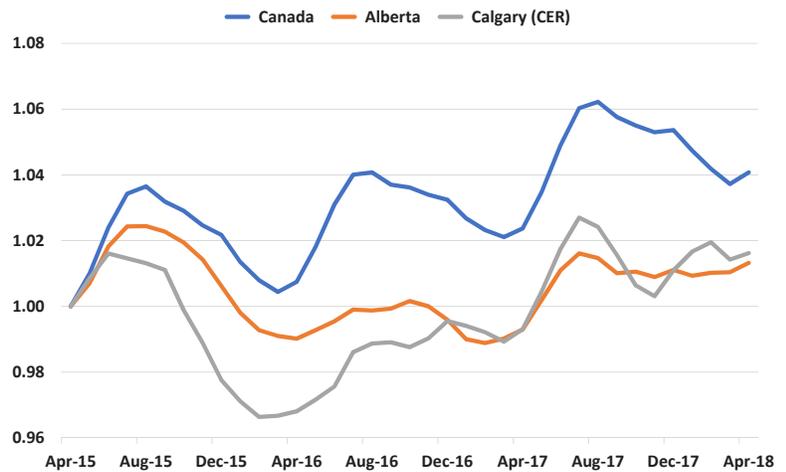
## Highlights<sup>1</sup>:

- In April 2018, total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) increased by 1,700 from a month ago, and by 20,300 from a year ago. The unemployment rate was 7.5 per cent, compared to 6.7 per cent in Alberta and 6.2 per cent across Canada.
- Compared to a year ago, job gains in the CER were mainly in the full-time positions (+26,200) and in the Goods-Producing Sector (+23,700). Job losses were concentrated in the part-time (-5,900) and the Service-Producing Sector (-3,500).
- In February 2018, there were 20,840 employment insurance (EI) beneficiaries in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), down by 28.2 per cent from a year ago.

Unemployment rate in the CER has been higher than that in Canada for more than two years. Although it declined from the peak of 10 per cent in October 2016, the gap between the CER and Canada has not been closing quickly in recent months. Part of the reason is the CER's slower than national average total employment growth, which is not great news to Calgarians. However, the other part of the reason is that the CER has a faster total unemployment growth. This is not as bad as it looks, as most of the unemployment growth came from new entrants to the labour market.

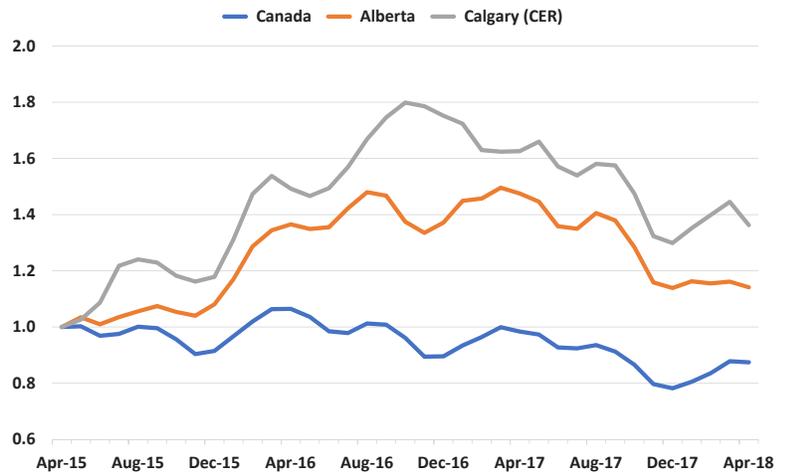
Statistics show that the CER has a younger working age population and higher labour market participation rate. From April 2015 to April 2018, working age population increased 5.3 per cent in the CER, compared to 3.3 per cent in Canada. In April 2018, 72.8 per cent of Calgarians aged fifteen and older were either working or looking for work, while on average only 64.8 per cent of the working age Canadians participated in the labour market. If the CER had the same population growth and participation rate as Canada, there would be no one unemployed in Calgary's labour market. Instead, Calgary would have a labour shortage problem with less people in the Calgary labour force than the 891,200 jobs in the region.

**Chart 1. Total Employment Growth**  
(Index: April 2015 = 1)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

**Chart 2. Total Unemployment Growth**  
(Index: April 2015=1)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

**Table 1 Labour Force Statistics**

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month moving average)

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Apr-18	Mar-18	Apr-17	Annual Change	ALBERTA	Description	Apr-18	Mar-18	Apr-17	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,323.1	1,320.8	1,301.9	21.2		Working Age Population ('000)	3,454.5	3,450.6	3,417.7	36.8
Labour Force ('000)	963.6	966.4	957.4	6.2	Labour Force ('000)	2,469.7	2,466.2	2,472.1	(2.4)		
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.8	73.2	73.5	(0.7)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.5	71.5	72.3	(0.8)		
Employment ('000)	891.2	889.5	870.9	20.3	Employment ('000)	2,304.2	2,297.8	2,258.2	46.0		
Employment Rate (%)	67.4	67.3	66.9	0.5	Employment Rate (%)	66.7	66.6	66.1	0.6		
Unemployment ('000)	72.5	76.9	86.5	(14.0)	Unemployment ('000)	165.5	168.4	213.9	(48.4)		
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.5	8.0	9.0	(1.5)	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.7	6.8	8.7	(2.0)		

**Table 2 on next page**

**Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry**

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Apr-18	Apr-17	Change (y/y)	Apr-18	Apr-17	Change (y/y)	Apr-18	Apr-17	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	45.3	40.5	4.8	2,075.4	2,112.7	(37.2)	94.0	85.6	8.5
Utilities	9.6	9.9	(0.3)	2,068.0	2,255.8	(187.8)	19.9	22.3	(2.5)
Construction	50.2	46.2	4.0	1,296.8	1,253.7	43.1	65.1	57.9	7.2
Manufacturing	39.8	38.1	1.7	1,133.2	1,240.2	(107.0)	45.1	47.3	(2.1)
Wholesale Trade	29.1	32.6	(3.5)	1,221.3	1,368.3	(147.0)	35.5	44.6	(9.1)
Retail Trade	84.1	77.8	6.3	716.8	726.0	(9.3)	60.3	56.5	3.8
Transportation and Warehousing	48.0	48.8	(0.8)	1,373.7	1,249.9	123.9	65.9	61.0	4.9
Information and Cultural Industries	12.7	11.0	1.7	1,161.6	998.4	163.2	14.8	11.0	3.8
Finance and Insurance	22.2	21.9	0.3	1,415.8	1,168.5	247.3	31.4	25.6	5.8
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	8.4	12.5	(4.1)	1,043.2	1,000.2	42.9	8.8	12.5	(3.7)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	56.7	60.5	(3.8)	1,489.9	1,445.8	44.1	84.5	87.5	(3.0)
Administrative and Support	21.4	17.0	4.4	748.1	902.9	(154.9)	16.0	15.3	0.7
Educational Services	48.9	50.7	(1.8)	1,214.5	1,223.2	(8.7)	59.4	62.0	(2.6)
Health Care and Social Assistance	83.7	83.2	0.5	1,011.1	1,065.5	(54.3)	84.6	88.6	(4.0)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	14.6	16.1	(1.5)	653.8	674.7	(20.9)	9.5	10.9	(1.3)
Accommodation and Food Services	51.6	49.0	2.6	556.3	500.7	55.6	28.7	24.5	4.2
Other Services(except Public Admin)	28.0	33.1	(5.1)	986.4	820.2	166.2	27.6	27.1	0.5
Public Administration	28.5	28.7	(0.2)	1,612.5	1,665.1	(52.6)	46.0	47.8	(1.8)
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>686.1</b>	<b>678.4</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>1,167.0</b>	<b>1,162.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>800.7</b>	<b>788.6</b>	<b>12.1</b>

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 11, 2018

\* Excluding self-employed

Note: lack of data for Agriculture

Next update: June 8, 2018

## Who We Are

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For more information, please contact:

### Ivy Zhang

Senior Corporate Economist  
403.268.2005  
ivy.zhang@calgary.ca

### Dr. Clyde Pawluk

Acting City Economist  
403.268.2643  
clyde.pawluk@calgary.ca

### Estella Scruggs

Corporate Research Analyst  
403.268.5556  
estella.scruggs@calgary.ca

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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.