



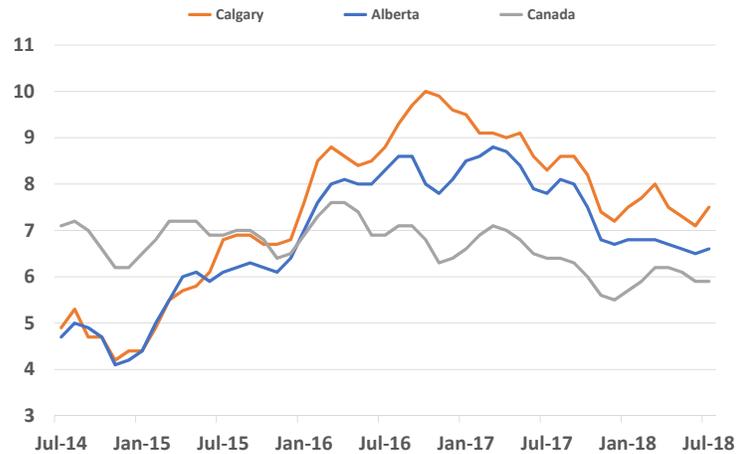
Highlights¹:

- In July 2018, total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) declined by 4,200 from a month before, and by 9,200 from July 2017. The region's unemployment rate was 7.5 per cent, compared to 6.6 per cent in Alberta and 5.9 per cent in Canada.
- Year-over-year, job gains were mainly in the Goods-producing sector (+16,500) including the Mining, Oil and Gas industry (+8,100). Full-time positions (-8,100) and the Service-producing sector (-25,700) including the Accommodation and Food Services industry (-8,800) had the worst job losses.
- In the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA), the average weekly wage rate in July 2018 was \$1,170.5, up by \$35.9 or 3.2 per cent from July 2017; the total weekly wage bill for all employees was \$810.9 million, up by \$9.6 million year-over-year.
- In May 2018, employment insurance (EI) beneficiaries in the CMA were 17,700. This is down by 7,940 beneficiaries or 31 per cent from May 2017.

The newly released 2018 Calgary Civic Census revealed that net-migration to the city increased to 11,588 persons this census year², from 974 persons in 2017 census year. The increased net-migration was a result of people becoming more optimistic about the ongoing improvement in Calgary's labour market. During the 2018 census year, the unemployment rate in the CER declined by 1.5 percentage points, from 9 per cent in April 2017 to 7.5 per cent in April 2018. With the gap between the unemployment rate in the CER relative to the rest of the country narrowing (from 2 percentage points in April 2017 to 1.3 percentage points in April 2018), more people came to Calgary for job opportunities (Chart 1).

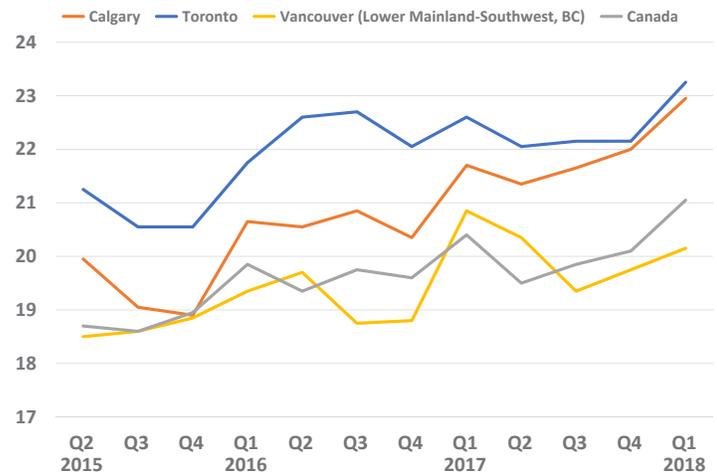
Higher wage rates also provided incentives for people from outside the CER to come and seek job opportunities in Calgary's labour market. Data from Statistics Canada's Job Vacancy and Wage Survey (JVWS)³ show that CER's average offered hourly wage of \$22.95 was higher than the Canadian average (\$21.05) and that for most economic regions including Vancouver economic region (Lower Mainland-Southwest, BC) (\$20.15) (Chart 2).

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate Comparison: Calgary, Alberta, Canada
(July 2014 - July 2018, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Average Offered Hourly Wage in Canada
(Q2 2015 - Q1 2018, \$ per hour)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Table 1 Labour Force Statistics

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Jul-18	Jun-18	Jul-17	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,330.7	1,328.1	1,307.6	23.1
	Labour Force ('000)	963.6	963.7	982.6	(19.0)
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.4	72.6	75.1	(2.7)
	Employment ('000)	891.5	895.7	900.7	(9.2)
	Employment Rate (%)	67.0	67.4	68.9	(1.9)
	Unemployment ('000)	72.2	68.0	81.9	(9.7)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	7.5	7.1	8.3	(0.8)

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ALBERTA	Description	Jul-18	Jun-18	Jul-17	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	3,468.1	3,463.4	3,428.4	39.7
	Labour Force ('000)	2,513.4	2,498.9	2,506.6	6.8
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.5	72.2	73.1	(0.6)
	Employment ('000)	2,347.8	2,336.1	2,310.9	36.9
	Employment Rate (%)	67.7	67.5	67.4	0.3
	Unemployment ('000)	165.5	162.7	195.7	(30.2)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.6	6.5	7.8	(1.2)

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Jul-18	Jul-17	Change (y/y)	Jul-18	Jul-17	Change (y/y)	Jul-18	Jul-17	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	45.6	40.5	5.1	1,907.40	2,100.37	(192.97)	87.0	85.1	1.9
Utilities	10.0	7.4	2.6	2,098.39	2,135.31	(36.92)	21.0	15.8	5.2
Construction	62.9	53.9	9.0	1,198.92	1,209.20	(10.28)	75.4	65.2	10.2
Manufacturing	35.4	37.6	(2.2)	1,298.09	1,345.08	(46.99)	46.0	50.6	(4.6)
Wholesale Trade	27.1	37.7	(10.6)	1,425.42	1,276.14	149.28	38.6	48.1	(9.5)
Retail Trade	85.3	82.0	3.3	678.05	747.12	(69.07)	57.8	61.3	(3.4)
Transportation and Warehousing	50.5	46.9	3.6	1,320.18	1,168.98	151.20	66.7	54.8	11.8
Information and Cultural Industries	8.8	9.7	(0.9)	1,089.25	868.54	220.71	9.6	8.4	1.2
Finance and Insurance	18.9	27.6	(8.7)	1,369.40	1,229.07	140.33	25.9	33.9	(8.0)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	8.7	11.3	(2.6)	1,294.65	1,096.38	198.27	11.3	12.4	(1.1)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	58.4	55.1	3.3	1,563.04	1,399.56	163.48	91.3	77.1	14.2
Administrative and Support	20.6	24.4	(3.8)	901.94	877.81	24.13	18.6	21.4	(2.8)
Educational Services	40.8	46.6	(5.8)	1,214.86	1,231.37	(16.51)	49.6	57.4	(7.8)
Health Care and Social Assistance	84.9	84.8	0.1	1,045.47	1,105.81	(60.34)	88.8	93.8	(5.0)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	22.9	23.0	(0.1)	655.57	641.65	13.92	15.0	14.8	0.3
Accommodation and Food Services	53.5	61.8	(8.3)	607.29	534.66	72.63	32.5	33.0	(0.6)
Other Services(except Public Admin)	28.5	24.4	4.1	998.37	782.13	216.24	28.5	19.1	9.4
Public Administration	26.9	30.1	(3.2)	1,684.88	1,585.00	99.88	45.3	47.7	(2.4)
All Industries	692.8	706.3	(13.5)	1,170.47	1,134.54	35.93	810.9	801.3	9.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, August 10, 2018

* Excluding self-employed

Note: lack of data for Agriculture

Next update: September 7, 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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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.

² City of Calgary's census year is from previous year's April to current year's April.

³ In addition to Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada also tracks job vacancy and averaged offered hourly wage at economic region level by quarterly Job Vacancy and Wage Survey (JVWS).