



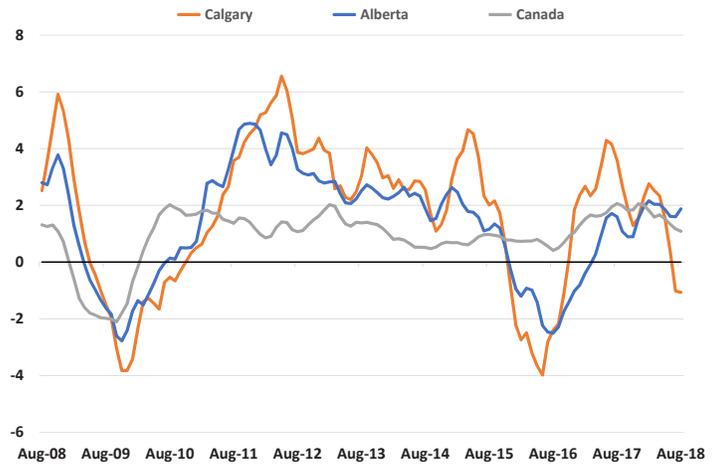
Highlights¹:

- In August 2018, total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) declined by 2,900 from a month before, and by 9,600 from August 2017. The region's unemployment rate was 8.1 per cent, compared to 6.9 per cent in Alberta and 6.1 per cent in Canada.
- Year-over-year, job gains were mainly in the Goods-producing sector (+11,400) including the Manufacturing (+8,200) and Mining, Oil and Gas (+4,200) industries. Job losses were mostly in the Service-producing sector (-21,100) including the Accommodation and Food Services (-11,500) and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing (-8,500) industries.
- In the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA), the average weekly wage rate in August 2018 was \$1,155.7, up by \$27.2 or 2.4 per cent from August 2017; the total weekly wage bill for all employees was \$795.7 million, down by \$2.3 million year-over-year.
- In June 2018, employment insurance (EI) beneficiaries in the CCMA were 17,300, down by 7,880 beneficiaries or 31 per cent from June 2017.

Job creation in the CER lost its momentum by the end of this summer; the year-over-year change of total employment turned from positive to negative territory beginning July 2018. Compared to the provincial and national economy, Calgary's labour market is more volatile (Chart 1). While Canada benefited from a more diversified economy and Alberta from additional large oil sands production capacities and activities, the CER's growth largely depended on the investments in the province's oil and gas industry. With the recent uncertainties from pipeline delays and NAFTA re-negotiations, job creation in the CER is expected to suffer from lower levels of investor confidence in Alberta.

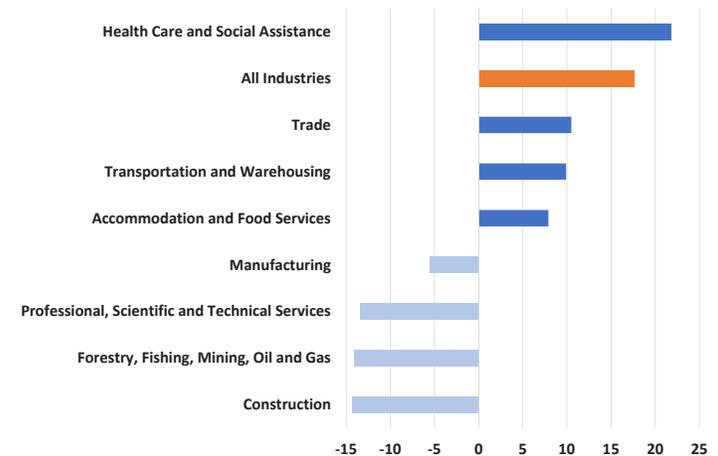
Four years after the Goods-producing sector employment peak (232,500 persons in August 2014) during the last business cycle, total employment in all industries in the CER increased by 17,600 persons from 871,000 in August 2014. From August 2014 to August 2018, industries servicing people such as the Health Care and Social Assistance (+21,800) and Trade (+10,500) expanded with increasing population. However, export and investment-related industries including the Construction (-14,300), the Mining, Oil and Gas (-14,100) and the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (-13,400) lost jobs (Chart 2).

Chart 1. Total Employment Change: Calgary, Alberta, Canada
(Year-over-Year, August 2008 - August 2018, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Calgary CER: Total Employment Change by Major Industries Over Four Years
(August 2014 - August 2018, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Table 1 Labour Force Statistics

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION					ALBERTA	ALBERTA				
	Description	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Annual Change		Description	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,333.3	1,330.7	1,309.3	24.0		Working Age Population ('000)	3,472.8	3,468.1	3,431.4	41.4
	Labour Force ('000)	966.9	963.6	982.3	(15.4)		Labour Force ('000)	2,525.5	2,513.4	2,511.4	14.1
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.5	72.4	75.0	(2.5)		Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.7	72.5	73.2	(0.5)
	Employment ('000)	888.6	891.5	898.2	(9.6)		Employment ('000)	2,350.9	2,347.8	2,307.6	43.3
	Employment Rate (%)	66.6	67.0	68.6	(2.0)		Employment Rate (%)	67.7	67.7	67.2	0.5
	Unemployment ('000)	78.3	72.2	84.1	(5.8)		Unemployment ('000)	174.6	165.5	203.8	(29.2)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	8.1	7.5	8.6	(0.5)		Unemployment Rate (%)	6.9	6.6	8.1	(1.2)

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Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Aug-18	Aug-17	Change (y/y)	Aug-18	Aug-17	Change (y/y)	Aug-18	Aug-17	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	43.3	42.3	1.0	1,783.60	2,072.95	(289.35)	77.2	87.7	(10.5)
Utilities	9.4	6.8	2.6	2,053.93	2,334.00	(280.07)	19.3	15.9	3.4
Construction	62.2	55.1	7.1	1,220.63	1,250.58	(29.95)	75.9	68.9	7.0
Manufacturing	36.5	37.3	(0.8)	1,252.15	1,316.01	(63.86)	45.7	49.1	(3.4)
Wholesale Trade	25.4	35.5	(10.1)	1,432.15	1,267.23	164.92	36.4	45.0	(8.6)
Retail Trade	86.9	85.9	1.0	671.86	727.42	(55.56)	58.4	62.5	(4.1)
Transportation and Warehousing	49.4	47.7	1.7	1,307.60	1,162.75	144.85	64.6	55.5	9.1
Information and Cultural Industries	9.1	9.1	0.0	1,082.62	907.37	175.25	9.9	8.3	1.6
Finance and Insurance	19.4	28.3	(8.9)	1,347.64	1,213.02	134.62	26.1	34.3	(8.2)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	10.0	12.0	(2.0)	1,313.24	1,117.07	196.17	13.1	13.4	(0.3)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	60.1	53.4	6.7	1,580.52	1,430.15	150.37	95.0	76.4	18.6
Administrative and Support	19.4	26.6	(7.2)	946.64	880.62	66.02	18.4	23.4	(5.1)
Educational Services	37.4	42.5	(5.1)	1,227.92	1,239.91	(11.99)	45.9	52.7	(6.8)
Health Care and Social Assistance	83.9	80.9	3.0	1,039.25	1,101.52	(62.27)	87.2	89.1	(1.9)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	21.9	21.9	0.0	670.11	637.08	33.03	14.7	14.0	0.7
Accommodation and Food Services	55.3	65.4	(10.1)	592.12	535.61	56.51	32.7	35.0	(2.3)
Other Services(except Public Admin)	30.5	25.0	5.5	1,000.37	782.87	217.50	30.5	19.6	10.9
Public Administration	25.9	29.8	(3.9)	1,644.60	1,529.29	115.31	42.6	45.6	(3.0)
All Industries	688.5	707.1	(18.6)	1,155.71	1,128.55	27.16	795.7	798.0	(2.3)

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, September 7, 2018

* Excluding self-employed

Note: lack of data for Agriculture

Next update: October 5, 2018

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 have developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis.

For media inquiry, please contact:

The Media Line at 403.828.2954 or media.relations@calgary.ca

For the technical questions, please contact:

Ivy Zhang

Senior Corporate Economist

403.268.2005

ivy.zhang@calgary.ca

Estella Scruggs

Corporate Research Analyst

403.268.5556

estella.scruggs@calgary.ca

Oyin Shyllon

City Economist & Regulatory Lead

403.268.1590

oshyllon@calgary.ca

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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).

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.