



Highlights¹:

Unemployment Rates Comparison October 2018

*Calgary Economic Region



Total Employment

Calgary Economic Region

no change

from September 2018



↑ 7,200

from October 2017

Most Job Gains

from October 2017

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 12,200 |
| Manufacturing | 12,000 |
| Other Services | 10,100 |

Most Job Losses

from October 2017

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Accommodation and Food Services | 9,300 |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing | 7,900 |
| Public Administration | 5,900 |

Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

INCREASE



Hourly **2.0%**
Weekly **1.0%**
from October 2017

Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

Aug 2018 **16,900** recipients



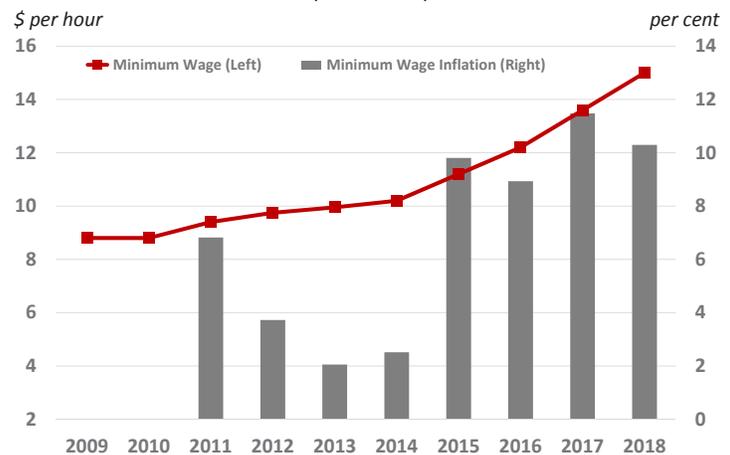
27.6%
From Aug 2017

The minimum wage in Alberta increased on October 1, 2018, from \$13.60 per hour to \$15.00 per hour. It is the fourth year in a row that the Alberta provincial government has increased the minimum wage, and the increases have been above 10 per cent year-over-year (Chart 1). Across Canada, Alberta now has the highest minimum wage rate, followed by Ontario at \$14.00 per hour. Between April 2017 and March 2018, there were 6.4 per cent or 122,400 employees in Alberta earning the minimum wage. 32.8 per cent of these minimum wage earners were in the retail trade industry, and 26.6 per cent in the accommodation and food service industry. Based on these ratios, as of October 2018, there would be about 44,800 persons in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA) earning the minimum wage. About 14,700 of the minimum wage earners would be in the retail trade industry and 11,900 of them in the food and accommodation industry.

While the minimum wage increase on October 1st benefited minimum wage earners, a few labour market observers worried that there would be job losses due to the increasing

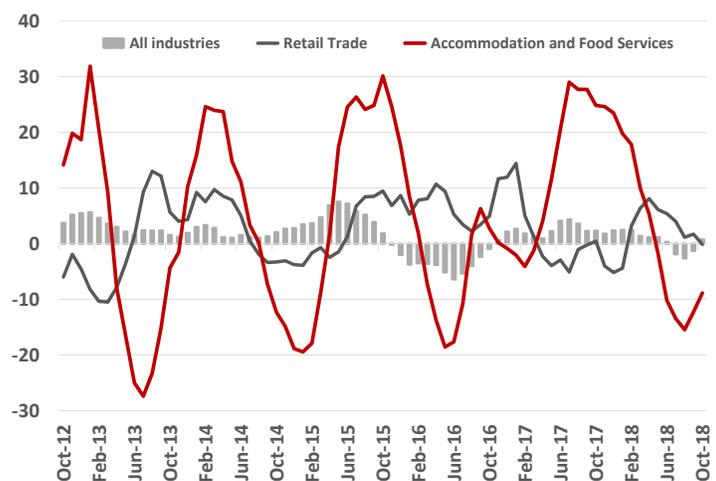
labour costs. The primary concern was with those industries with a high share of minimum wage earners. The labour market data for the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area suggest that the change is yet to have a substantial labour market impact. It is true that year-over-year total employee changes in the retail, as well as the food and accommodation industries were more volatile than in all industries, but this is a long-standing pattern independent of minimum wage increases (Chart 2). The changes in employee numbers might be driven more by a variety of events including seasonal ones, demand in the industries and the overall economy.

Chart 1. Alberta Minimum Wage Changes (2012-2018)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Calgary CMA: Total Employee Change by Selected Industries (year-over-year change, October 2012-October 2018, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Table 1 Labour Force Statistics
(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

| CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION | Description | Oct-18 | Sep-18 | Oct-17 | Annual Change | ALBERTA | Description | Oct-18 | Sep-18 | Oct-17 | Annual Change |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------|
| | Working Age Population ('000) | 1,338.3 | 1,335.9 | 1,312.4 | 25.9 | | Working Age Population ('000) | 3,482.0 | 3,477.6 | 3,436.8 | 45.2 |
| Labour Force ('000) | 969.5 | 969.2 | 961.2 | 8.3 | Labour Force ('000) | 2,517.6 | 2,522.2 | 2,484.5 | 33.1 | | |
| Labour Force Participation Rate (%) | 72.4 | 72.6 | 73.2 | (0.8) | Labour Force Participation Rate (%) | 72.3 | 72.5 | 72.3 | 0.0 | | |
| Employment ('000) | 889.8 | 889.7 | 882.6 | 7.2 | Employment ('000) | 2,347.9 | 2,348.1 | 2,298.2 | 49.7 | | |
| Employment Rate (%) | 66.5 | 66.6 | 67.3 | (0.8) | Employment Rate (%) | 67.4 | 67.5 | 66.9 | 0.5 | | |
| Unemployment ('000) | 79.6 | 79.5 | 78.5 | 1.1 | Unemployment ('000) | 169.7 | 174.1 | 186.3 | (16.6) | | |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 8.2 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 0.0 | Unemployment Rate (%) | 6.7 | 6.9 | 7.5 | (0.8) | | |

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, November 2, 2018

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

| Industry | Total employees* ('000 persons) | | | Average weekly earning (\$) | | | Total weekly bills (\$million) | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Oct-18 | Oct-17 | Change (y/y) | Oct-18 | Oct-17 | Change (y/y) | Oct-18 | Oct-17 | Change (y/y) |
| Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction | 41.9 | 45.5 | (3.6) | 1,730.91 | 2,042.77 | (311.86) | 72.5 | 92.9 | (20.4) |
| Utilities | 10.7 | 7.7 | 3.0 | 2,002.14 | 2,254.02 | (251.88) | 21.4 | 17.4 | 4.1 |
| Construction | 55.6 | 60.9 | (5.3) | 1,295.35 | 1,311.66 | (16.31) | 72.0 | 79.9 | (7.9) |
| Manufacturing | 40.6 | 32.9 | 7.7 | 1,230.58 | 1,163.72 | 66.86 | 50.0 | 38.3 | 11.7 |
| Wholesale Trade | 25.9 | 32.4 | (6.5) | 1,524.00 | 1,361.55 | 162.45 | 39.5 | 44.1 | (4.6) |
| Retail Trade | 85.2 | 85.3 | (0.1) | 704.80 | 726.95 | (22.15) | 60.0 | 62.0 | (2.0) |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 49.2 | 50.4 | (1.2) | 1,278.29 | 1,141.01 | 137.28 | 62.9 | 57.5 | 5.4 |
| Information and Cultural Industries | 9.7 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 1,190.59 | 989.35 | 201.24 | 11.5 | 9.6 | 2.0 |
| Finance and Insurance | 18.7 | 25.4 | (6.7) | 1,309.41 | 1,144.83 | 164.58 | 24.5 | 29.1 | (4.6) |
| Real Estate Rental and Leasing | 10.8 | 10.5 | 0.3 | 1,116.06 | 1,099.56 | 16.50 | 12.1 | 11.5 | 0.5 |
| Professional Scientific and Technical Services | 62.7 | 50.3 | 12.4 | 1,552.48 | 1,514.15 | 38.33 | 97.3 | 76.2 | 21.2 |
| Administrative and Support | 21.7 | 25.4 | (3.7) | 938.30 | 879.10 | 59.20 | 20.4 | 22.3 | (2.0) |
| Educational Services | 43.9 | 45.4 | (1.5) | 1,180.58 | 1,254.54 | (73.96) | 51.8 | 57.0 | (5.1) |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 81.6 | 74.3 | 7.3 | 1,047.21 | 1,096.98 | (49.77) | 85.5 | 81.5 | 3.9 |
| Arts Entertainment and Recreation | 21.2 | 19.3 | 1.9 | 774.01 | 607.73 | 166.28 | 16.4 | 11.7 | 4.7 |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 58.6 | 64.3 | (5.7) | 580.40 | 558.61 | 21.79 | 34.0 | 35.9 | (1.9) |
| Other Services(except Public Admin) | 33.8 | 23.6 | 10.2 | 971.91 | 813.97 | 157.94 | 32.9 | 19.2 | 13.6 |
| Public Administration | 25.7 | 30.2 | (4.5) | 1,546.17 | 1,517.18 | 28.99 | 39.7 | 45.8 | (6.1) |
| All Industries | 700.5 | 695.2 | 5.3 | 1,153.40 | 1,142.31 | 11.09 | 808.0 | 794.1 | 13.8 |

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, November 2, 2018

* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture

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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.