



Highlights¹:

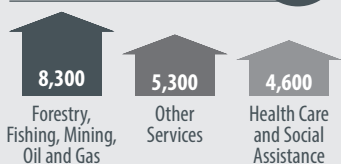
Total Employment **March 2019**
Calgary Economic Region **894,200**

↓ 1,500
from February 2019



↑ 4,700
from March 2018

Most Job Gains by Industry from March 2018

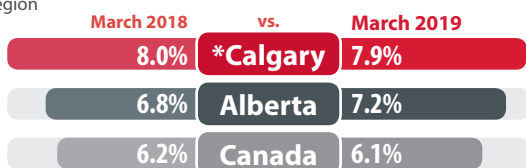


Most Job Losses by Industry from March 2018



Unemployment Rates Comparison

*Calgary Economic Region



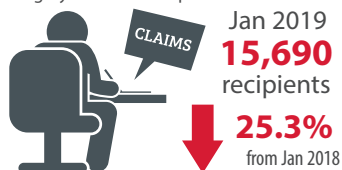
Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



In March 2019, 76,800 persons were unemployed in the CER. Of the total, 13,600 were youth (aged 15 to 24), 46,700 were prime-age workers (aged 25 to 54), and 14,200 were older workers (aged 55 to 64). Compared to a year ago the number of unemployed persons in Calgary is unchanged.

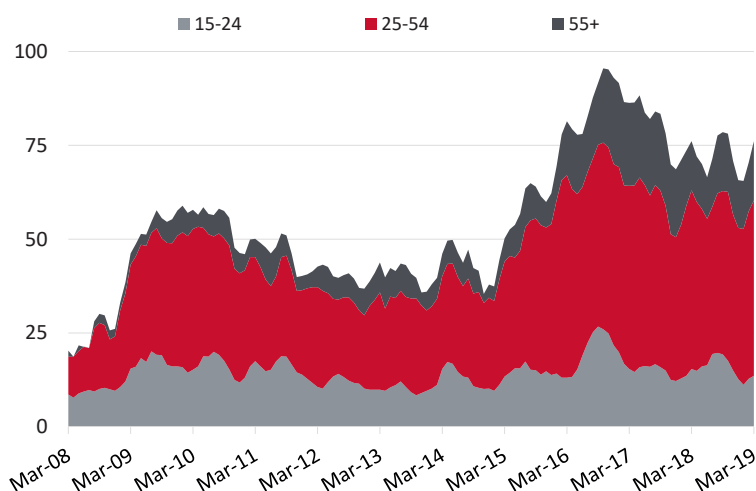
Using a long-term view, the age profile of those looking but unable to find jobs has changed. Unemployment of prime-age and older workers has increased. From 42 per cent in March 2008, the share of unemployed youth to total unemployment dropped to 18 per cent in March 2019. By contrast, over the same period, the share of unemployed prime-age workers increased from 50 to 61 per cent. The share of older workers rose from 8 to 21 per cent (Chart 1). The impact of unemployment and the conditions needed for job re-entry are often more difficult for prime-age and older workers.

A five per cent increase in the number of local EI beneficiaries occurred at the turn of the year. The number of people receiving EI benefits in Calgary increased slightly from 14,900 in December 2018 to 15,700 in January 2019.

Several years after the 2015-2016 recession, the number of EI beneficiaries remains high. Using a longer-term reference point from eleven years ago, the number of local and provincial EI beneficiaries is at a much higher level. Relative to January 2008, EI beneficiaries increased by 137 per cent in Calgary and 163 per cent in Alberta. Over the same period, the number declined by 12 per cent in Canada (Chart 2).

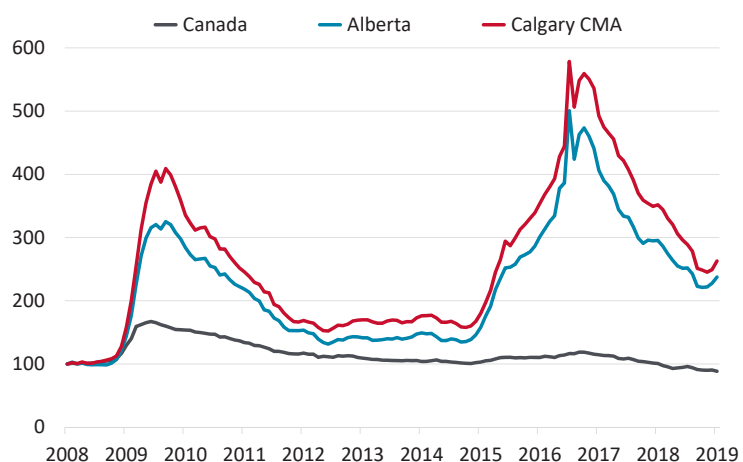
There was a massive inflow of workers to Calgary and Alberta during the economic boom of 2010 to 2014. The data appears to suggest that some prime-age and older workers affected by the recession are seeking jobs several years after. These individuals do not show up on EI data because the benefits last for a limited time.

Chart 1. Unemployed Persons in the CER by Age Cohort
(March 2008 - March 2019, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Growth of EI Beneficiaries: Calgary, Alberta and Canada
(January 2008 - January 2019, Index: Jan 2008 = 100)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.



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

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Mar-19	Feb-19	Mar-18	Annual Change	ALBERTA	Description	Mar-19	Feb-19	Mar-18	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,349.9	1,347.6	1,320.8	29.1		Working Age Population ('000)	3,501.9	3,498.1	3,450.6	51.3
Labour Force ('000)	971.1	967.6	966.4	4.7	Labour Force ('000)	2,485.4	2,481.3	2,466.2	19.2		
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.9	71.8	73.2	(1.3)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.0	70.9	71.5	(0.5)		
Employment ('000)	894.2	895.7	889.5	4.7	Employment ('000)	2,306.8	2,311.4	2,297.8	9.0		
Employment Rate (%)	66.2	66.5	67.3	(1.1)	Employment Rate (%)	65.9	66.1	66.6	(0.7)		
Unemployment ('000)	76.8	71.9	76.9	(0.1)	Unemployment ('000)	178.6	170.0	168.4	10.2		
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.9	7.4	8.0	(0.1)	Unemployment Rate (%)	7.2	6.9	6.8	0.4		

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, April 5, 2019

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Mar-19	Mar-18	Change (y/y)	Mar-19	Mar-18	Change (y/y)	Mar-19	Mar-18	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	52.7	46.9	5.8	2,049.85	2,030.26	19.59	108.0	95.2	12.8
Utilities	8.9	11.0	(2.1)	2,164.83	1,904.14	260.69	19.3	20.9	(1.7)
Construction	49.1	50.4	(1.3)	1,309.40	1,354.52	(45.12)	64.3	68.3	(4.0)
Manufacturing	49.0	38.9	10.1	1,166.03	1,112.33	53.70	57.1	43.3	13.9
Wholesale Trade	26.3	29.1	(2.8)	1,440.09	1,166.37	273.72	37.9	33.9	3.9
Retail Trade	87.7	83.5	4.2	720.67	709.85	10.82	63.2	59.3	3.9
Transportation and Warehousing	46.3	48.9	(2.6)	1,366.02	1,295.06	70.96	63.2	63.3	(0.1)
Information and Cultural Industries	12.8	12.9	(0.1)	1,298.86	1,115.18	183.68	16.6	14.4	2.2
Finance and Insurance	23.6	23.3	0.3	1,332.36	1,417.98	(85.62)	31.4	33.0	(1.6)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	11.8	8.0	3.8	987.75	1,048.22	(60.47)	11.7	8.4	3.3
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	65.3	52.9	12.4	1,510.29	1,496.11	14.18	98.6	79.1	19.5
Administrative and Support	23.8	20.3	3.5	903.72	737.76	165.96	21.5	15.0	6.5
Educational Services	45.6	50.1	(4.5)	1,110.59	1,239.88	(129.29)	50.6	62.1	(11.5)
Health Care and Social Assistance	82.5	80.7	1.8	1,038.85	1,035.16	3.69	85.7	83.5	2.2
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	18.2	15.3	2.9	815.90	580.54	235.36	14.8	8.9	6.0
Accommodation and Food Services	55.7	52.8	2.9	566.16	554.49	11.67	31.5	29.3	2.3
Other Services(except Public Admin)	31.8	26.9	4.9	903.17	1,002.10	(98.93)	28.7	27.0	1.8
Public Administration	30.4	30.9	(0.5)	1,604.85	1,604.87	(0.02)	48.8	49.6	(0.8)
All Industries	723.3	686.0	37.3	1,181.49	1,163.54	17.95	854.6	798.2	56.4

* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, April 5, 2019

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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.