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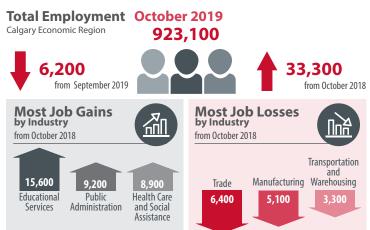


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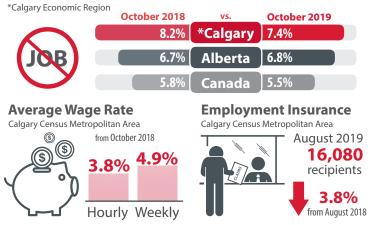
Ivy Zhang, Senior Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

November 8, 2019

## **Highlights\*:**



## **Unemployment Rates Comparison**



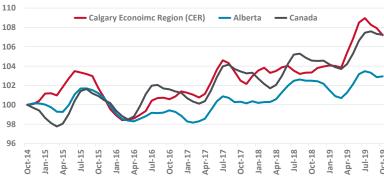
The long-term history of the Calgary Economic Region (CER) labour market is that it has out-performed the Canadian average. Over the past five years, the working-age population in the CER experienced a roller coaster ride in the local labour market. Total employment in the CER reached new highs in 2015. Recession-related job cuts in energy and related industries reduced the region's total employment for the next two years. After the recession, job growth in the CER fell behind the Canadian average in 2017-18. It was not until early 2019 that job creation finally picked up in the CER. By October 2019, the region's total employment increased by 7.2 per cent, to 923,100 from 861,100 in October 2014. Over the same period, total employment grew by 2.9 per cent in Alberta and by 7.2 per cent in Canada (Chart 1).

Over the past five years, the CER labour market was also more resilient than the rest of Alberta to changes in global demand for Alberta's natural resources. There are a few potential drivers for the level of resilience observed. It may be due to the region's efforts in seeking new growth engines in other industries. Also, the CER labour force likely has more transferable skills to adapt to and switch jobs across industries.

There is evidence of job growth switching from traditional sectors to other areas with significant job declines or gains in many industries. Job cuts over the past five years were mainly in the energy and related industries. There were job losses in the Mining, Oil and Gas (-15,700), Manufacturing (-10,500), and Construction (-6,300) industries. Industries serving the fast-growing and ageing local population as well as leisure travelers experienced job growth. They include Health Care and Social Assistance (+24,700), Educational Services (+16,900), and Accommodation and Food Services (+14,200).

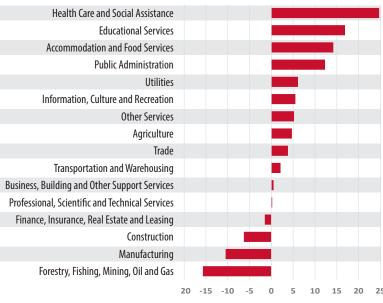
Total employment in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services was resilient and stable at 105,200 persons. There were fewer jobs in the Architectural, Engineering and Design Services (-7,400) and Management, Scientific and Technical Services (-5,800) sub-industries. However, more people worked in the Other Professional Services (+8,500) and the Computer System Design Services (+3,400) sub-industries.

Chart 1. Total Employment Growth: CER, Alberta, and Canada (October 2014 - October 2019, index October 2014=100)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. CER Total Employment Change by Industry in the Past Five Years (October 2014 - October 2019, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics



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## **Table 1 Labour Force Statistics**

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

	Description	Oct-19	Sep-19	Oct-18	Annual Change		Description	Oct-19	Sep-19	Oct-18	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,370.2	1,367.2	1,338.3	31.9		Working Age Population ('000)	3,540.1	3,534.4	3,482.0	58.1
NO NO	Labour Force ('000)	997.2	1,002.1	969.5	27.7		Labour Force ('000)	2,531.4	2,538.9	2,517.6	13.8
CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.8	73.3	72.4	0.4	<b>ĕ</b>	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.5	71.8	72.3	(0.8)
MIC	Employment ('000)	923.1	929.3	889.8	33.3	ALBERTA	Employment ('000)	2,358.2	2,356.4	2,347.9	10.3
2 S	Employment Rate (%)	67.4	68.0	66.5	0.9	Ā	Employment Rate (%)	66.6	66.7	67.4	(0.8)
)	Unemployment ('000)	74.0	72.8	79.6	(5.6)		Unemployment ('000)	173.2	182.5	169.7	3.5
	Unemployment Rate (%)	7.4	7.3	8.2	(0.8)		Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	7.2	6.7	0.1

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, November 8, 2019

## **Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry**

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)			
	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change (y/y)	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change (y/y)	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change (y/y)	
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	44.4	41.9	2.5	1,954.17	1,730.91	223.26	86.8	72.5	14.2	
Utilities	10.7	10.7	0.0	2,054.75	2,002.14	52.61	22.0	21.4	0.6	
Construction	56.1	55.6	0.5	1,331.61	1,295.35	36.26	74.7	72.0	2.7	
Manufacturing	42.1	40.6	1.5	1,240.43	1,230.58	9.85	52.2	50.0	2.3	
Wholesale Trade	23.6	25.9	(2.3)	1,360.33	1,524.00	(163.67)	32.1	39.5	(7.4)	
Retail Trade	80.6	85.2	(4.6)	746.60	704.80	41.80	60.2	60.0	0.1	
Transportation and Warehousing	47.2	49.2	(2.0)	1,275.62	1,278.29	(2.67)	60.2	62.9	(2.7)	
Information and Cultural Industries	10.7	9.7	1.0	1,362.00	1,190.59	171.41	14.6	11.5	3.0	
Finance and Insurance	21.3	18.7	2.6	1,400.80	1,309.41	91.39	29.8	24.5	5.4	
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	12.3	10.8	1.5	1,135.54	1,116.06	19.48	14.0	12.1	1.9	
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	69.2	62.7	6.5	1,550.09	1,552.48	(2.39)	107.3	97.3	9.9	
Administrative and Support	22.2	21.7	0.5	946.76	938.30	8.46	21.0	20.4	0.7	
Educational Services	57.7	43.9	13.8	1,331.75	1,180.58	151.17	76.8	51.8	25.0	
Health Care and Social Assistance	93.6	81.6	12.0	1,124.06	1,047.21	76.85	105.2	85.5	19.8	
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	17.7	21.2	(3.5)	655.78	774.01	(118.23)	11.6	16.4	(4.8)	
Accommodation and Food Services	60.0	58.6	1.4	526.97	580.40	(53.43)	31.6	34.0	(2.4)	
Other Services(except Public Admin)	31.2	33.8	(2.6)	1,032.59	971.91	60.68	32.2	32.9	(0.6)	
Public Administration	33.7	25.7	8.0	1,675.87	1,546.17	129.70	56.5	39.7	16.7	
All Industries	737.5	700.5	37.0	1,209.65	1,153.40	56.25	892.1	808.0	84.2	

\*\* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, November 8, 2019

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<sup>\*</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.