

Monthly Highlights*:

Total Employment December 2019
Calgary Economic Region
918,100

↓ 6,200
from November 2019



↑ 22,900
from December 2018

Most Job Gains by Industry

from December 2018



Most Job Losses by Industry

from December 2018



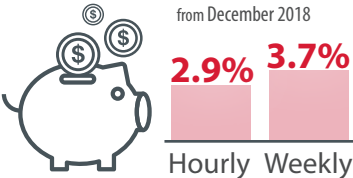
Unemployment Rates Comparison

Calgary Economic Region



Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



Yearend Review: The overall labour market condition in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) turned out to be much better in 2019 than in the previous three years. Healthy growth in the labour force and even better growth in the number of jobs returned to the region. New job opportunities absorbed most of the newly increased working-age population (+30,700 people). Many unemployed people found jobs. The increase in the number of people who were not working or looking for work was small relative to the growth of the working-age population.

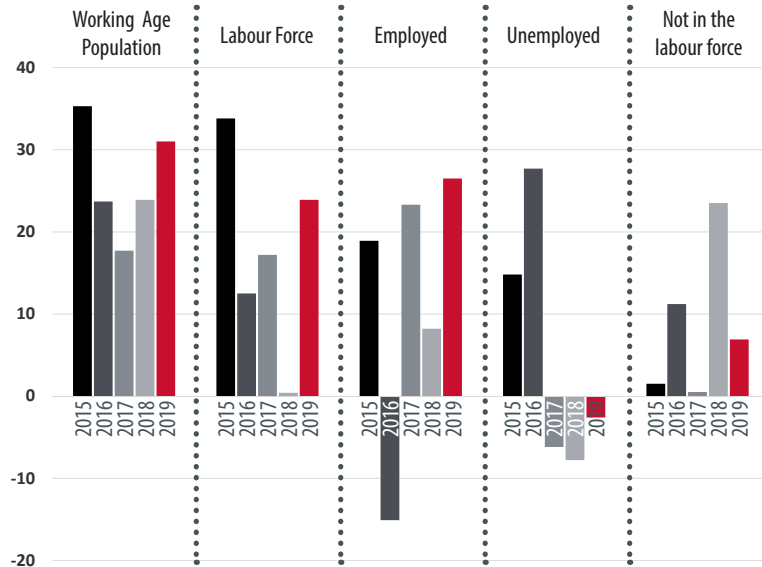
In 2019, the region's working-age population grew by 30,700 persons, from 1.332 million in 2018 to 1.363 million. Labour force increased by 23,900 persons, from 965,400 in 2018 to 989,300 in 2019. The total employment in the CER grew higher, by 26,500 persons, to 919,000 in 2019 from 892,500 in 2018. In the meantime, the number of unemployed declined further, by 2,600 persons, from 72,900 in 2018 to 70,300 in 2019. The number of persons not in the labour market was 373,400 in 2019, up slightly by 6,900 from 366,500 in 2018 (Chart 1).

In 2019, higher growth in employment than in the labour force helped to reduce the unemployment rate in the CER.

The lower unemployment rate encouraged more people to participate in the labour market. CER's employment rate increased from 67.0 per cent in 2018 to 67.4 per cent in 2019. Its unemployment rate declined from 7.6 per cent in 2018 to 7.1 per cent in 2019. Over the same time, the participation rate increased slightly to 72.6 per cent.

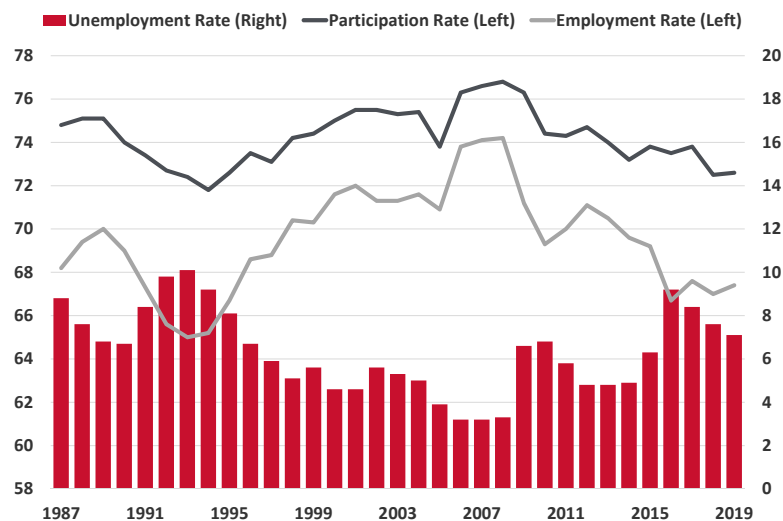
However, taking a longer-term historical view, the current labour market improvement has been slower than the recovery following the worst year in the 1990s recession in the CER (Chart 2).

Chart 1. Annual Changes in the Calgary Economic Region's Labour Market (2015-2019, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Labour Market Conditions in the Calgary Economic Region (1987-2019, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

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

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Dec-19	Nov-19	Dec-18	Annual Change	ALBERTA	Description	Dec-19	Nov-19	Dec-18	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,375.7	1,373.1	1,342.9	32.8		Working Age Population ('000)	3,550.4	3,545.8	3,490.1	60.3
Labour Force ('000)	985.1	991.2	962.3	22.8	Labour Force ('000)	2,509.7	2,514.5	2,492.1	17.6		
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	71.6	72.2	71.7	(0.1)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.7	70.9	71.4	(0.7)		
Employment ('000)	918.1	924.3	895.2	22.9	Employment ('000)	2,345.2	2,352.8	2,340.8	4.4		
Employment Rate (%)	66.7	67.3	66.7	0.0	Employment Rate (%)	66.1	66.4	67.1	(1.0)		
Unemployment ('000)	67.0	66.9	67.1	(0.1)	Unemployment ('000)	164.5	161.7	151.2	13.3		
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	6.7	7.0	(0.2)	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.6	6.4	6.1	0.5		

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, January 10, 2020

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Dec-19	Dec-18	Change (y/y)	Dec-19	Dec-18	Change (y/y)	Dec-19	Dec-18	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	46.2	43.3	2.9	2,024.08	1,927.40	96.68	93.5	83.5	10.1
Utilities	10.7	10.3	0.4	1,930.80	1,879.70	51.10	20.7	19.4	1.3
Construction	55.8	53.5	2.3	1,270.70	1,281.59	(10.89)	70.9	68.6	2.3
Manufacturing	35.9	42.1	(6.2)	1,280.28	1,199.46	80.82	46.0	50.5	(4.5)
Wholesale Trade	21.8	26.8	(5.0)	1,522.46	1,595.44	(72.98)	33.2	42.8	(9.6)
Retail Trade	85.9	85.3	0.6	746.23	701.95	44.28	64.1	59.9	4.2
Transportation and Warehousing	48.0	49.0	(1.0)	1,247.80	1,309.70	(61.90)	59.9	64.2	(4.3)
Information and Cultural Industries	10.0	13.2	(3.2)	1,265.89	1,218.82	47.07	12.7	16.1	(3.4)
Finance and Insurance	20.4	19.6	0.8	1,483.87	1,316.76	167.11	30.3	25.8	4.5
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	9.3	11.9	(2.6)	1,217.69	992.60	225.09	11.3	11.8	(0.5)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	67.6	60.4	7.2	1,536.52	1,499.07	37.45	103.9	90.5	13.3
Administrative and Support	21.9	22.7	(0.8)	991.32	932.26	59.06	21.7	21.2	0.5
Educational Services	63.1	50.6	12.5	1,217.16	1,155.24	61.92	76.8	58.5	18.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	98.2	84.8	13.4	1,163.33	1,042.67	120.66	114.2	88.4	25.8
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	16.0	22.4	(6.4)	732.04	757.28	(25.24)	11.7	17.0	(5.3)
Accommodation and Food Services	58.6	53.9	4.7	481.00	571.16	(90.16)	28.2	30.8	(2.6)
Other Services(except Public Admin)	26.0	31.3	(5.3)	903.43	977.80	(74.37)	23.5	30.6	(7.1)
Public Administration	29.4	25.7	3.7	1,728.89	1,631.89	97.00	50.8	41.9	8.9
All Industries	729.3	708.8	20.5	1,204.21	1,161.58	42.63	878.2	823.3	54.9

** Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, January 10, 2020

Next update: February 7, 2020

For media inquiry, please contact:
The Media Line at 403.828.2954 or media.relations@calgary.ca

For the technical questions, please contact:

Oyin Shyllon
City Economist & Regulatory Lead
403.268.1590
oshyllon@calgary.ca

Ivy Zhang
Senior Corporate Economist
403.268.2005
ivy.zhang@calgary.ca

Estella Scruggs
Corporate Research Analyst
403.268.5556
estella.scruggs@calgary.ca

Many of our publications are available on the internet at www.calgary.ca/economy.

The City of Calgary provides this information in good faith. However, the aforementioned organization makes no representation, warranty or condition, statutory express or implied, takes no responsibility for any errors and omissions which may contained herein and accepts no liability for any loss arising from any use or reliance on this report.

* 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.