



Labour Market Bulletin

Alberta

September 2019



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Alberta, including the regions of Calgary, Edmonton, Central Alberta and Mountain Parks, Southern Alberta, and Northern Alberta.

OVERVIEW

Labour market conditions in Alberta deteriorated during the third quarter (July, August, and September) of 2019. Employment was little changed from Q2-2019 (-0.3%). Still, the result comes as a letdown following the 1.0% gain recorded in Q2-2019.

At 2.35 million, employment in the province is now 91,000 above Q2-2016, the low point for employment during the 2015 to 2016 provincial recession. Compared to the third quarter of last year, full-time employment increased by 14,300 (+0.8%), while the number of people working part-time hours declined by 3,000 (-0.7%).

Average weekly hours (for hourly paid employees) were down 3.1% in July 2019 compared to the same month the previous year (July the most recent data available). However, at 30.9 hours, working hours in Alberta remained well above the national average (29.9).¹ In Alberta, average weekly earnings were little changed compared to Q3-2018 (+\$5.33), the smallest increase of any province. Nonetheless, at \$1,155 per week, average earnings in Alberta continue to be the highest among provinces.²

Between July 2018 and July 2019 (again the most recent data available), the number of regular EI recipients in Alberta fell by 5.2% compared to a decline of 1.7% nationwide. Male beneficiaries in the province declined by 5.1%, while female beneficiaries declined by 5.3%.³

Turning to category of worker, private-sector employment was also little changed compared to Q2-2019 (-1,700). Public-sector increased marginally during the three-month period, up 1,900 (+0.4%). On the quarter, the ranks of the self-employed declined by 1.7% (-6,300).⁴

At 175,500, unemployment is down by about 40,000 from what it was in Q4-2016, the all-time high point for unemployment in Alberta. However, after falling to 162,300 last year, unemployment has since crept back up

(+13,200). Accordingly, the provincial unemployment rate, which fell to 6.5% in Q2-2018, has since risen, sitting at 7.0% in Q3-2019.

Duration of unemployment – i.e. the length of time Albertans remain out of work between jobs – has also been an issue in the province. However, in September, the average duration of unemployment was 17.7 weeks, the shortest in over a year, and not far off the national average of 15.7 weeks.

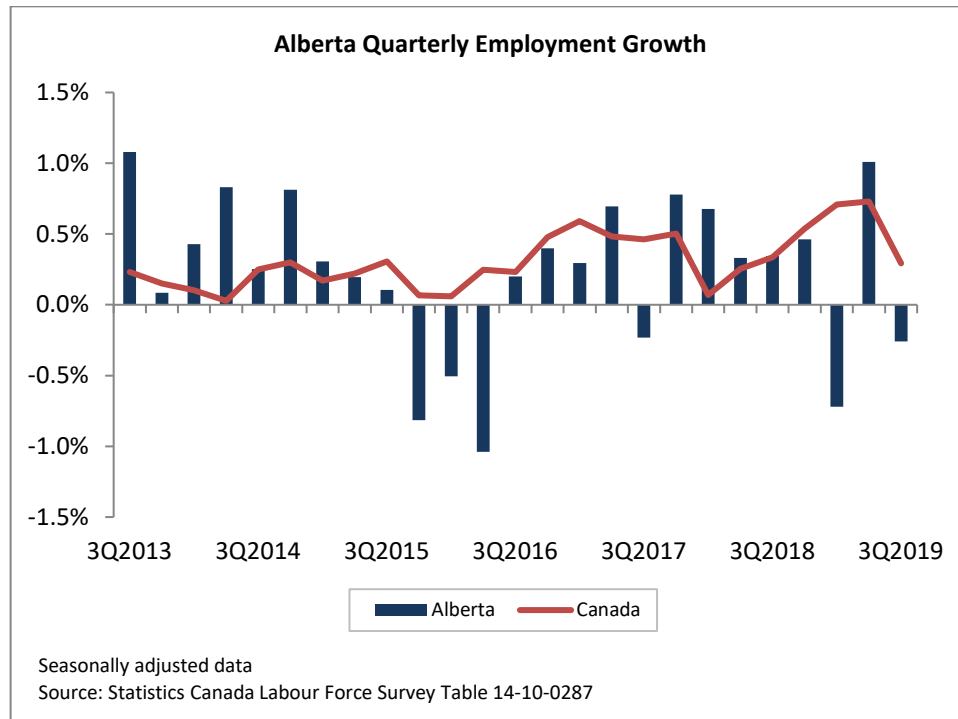
Alberta Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally adjusted data	3rd Quarter 2019	2nd Quarter 2019	3rd Quarter 2018	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	3,534.4	3,516.3	3,477.6	18.1	0.5	56.8	1.6
Labour Force ('000)	2,521.2	2,518.9	2,504.9	2.3	0.1	16.3	0.7
Employment ('000)	2,345.7	2,351.8	2,334.4	-6.1	-0.3	11.3	0.5
Full-Time ('000)	1,920.1	1,931.2	1,905.8	-11.1	-0.6	14.3	0.8
Part-Time ('000)	425.6	420.5	428.6	5.1	1.2	-3.0	-0.7
Unemployment ('000)	175.5	167.1	170.5	8.4	5.0	5.0	2.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.0	6.6	6.8	0.4	-	0.2	-
Participation Rate (%)	71.3	71.6	72.0	-0.3	-	-0.7	-
Employment Rate (%)	66.4	66.9	67.1	-0.5	-	-0.7	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087





Unemployment by major demographic groupings

Looking at unemployment rates by sex and age group, adult workers in the 25 years plus age bracket saw small declines on both the year and quarter, with lower rates for women outweighing higher rates for men. For younger workers, rates increased for both men and women. However, in both age brackets unemployment rates in Q3-2019 were significantly lower for women than for men. These results are consistent with a labour market in which services producing industries (e.g. health care) are outperforming goods-producing industries (e.g. construction).

Alberta Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally adjusted data	3rd Quarter 2019 (%)	2nd Quarter 2019 (%)	3rd Quarter 2018 (%)	Quarterly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	7.0	6.6	6.8	0.4	0.2
25 years and over	5.9	6.1	6.0	-0.2	-0.1
Men - 25 years and over	6.6	6.4	6.1	0.2	0.5
Women - 25 years and over	5.0	5.7	5.8	-0.7	-0.8
15 to 24 years	14.0	10.5	12.4	3.5	1.6
Men - 15 to 24 years	16.4	12.0	14.3	4.4	2.1
Women - 15 to 24 years	11.4	9.0	10.2	2.4	1.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

In the third quarter (Q3) of 2019, the total population aged 15+ in Alberta was 3.5 million. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 4.9% of that, or 172,900 people. Employment among Indigenous people in Alberta stood at 110,800, representing an increase of +10,500 (+10.5%) from a year earlier (Q3 2018). The increase was driven by a growth in both, full-time positions (+6,300 or +7.3%) and part-time positions (+4,100 or +28.7%).

The unemployment rate among the Indigenous population was 10.1% in Q3 2019, representing a decrease of -1.9 percentage points (pp) from the previous year. The unemployment rate for the non-Indigenous population stood at 7.0%, up +0.3pp from the year prior. Between Q3 2018 and Q3 2019, the participation rate among the Indigenous population increased to 71.3% (+4.7pp), while among the non-Indigenous population it edged down to 71.9% (-0.9pp). The employment rate of the Indigenous population increased year-over-year to 64.0% (+5.4pp) while that of the non-Indigenous population fell to 66.8% (-1.1pp).

Alberta - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data	Indigenous		Yearly variation (Indigenous)		Non-Indigenous		Yearly variation (non-Indigenous)	
	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	number	%	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	172.9	171.4	1.5	0.9%	3,361.4	3,306.2	55.2	1.7%
Labour Force ('000)	123.2	114.0	9.2	8.1%	2,415.6	2,405.5	10.1	0.4%
Employment ('000)	110.8	100.3	10.5	10.5%	2,245.4	2,243.7	1.7	0.1%
Full-Time ('000)	92.3	86.0	6.3	7.3%	1,857.4	1,855.6	1.8	0.1%
Part-Time ('000)	18.4	14.3	4.1	28.7%	388.1	388.2	-0.1	0.0%
Unemployment ('000)	12.5	13.7	-1.2	-8.8%	170.2	161.7	8.5	5.3%
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.1	12.0	-1.9	-	7.0	6.7	0.3	-
Participation Rate (%)	71.3	66.6	4.7	-	71.9	72.8	-0.9	-
Employment Rate (%)	64.0	58.6	5.4	-	66.8	67.9	-1.1	-

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - ESDC custom table.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

While overall employment in Q3-2019 was little changed, at an industry level things were a little more complicated. At the broadest grouping, Alberta's goods-producing sector suffered job losses while the province's services-producing sector achieved modest gains.

Notably, Alberta's goods-producing sector represents a far larger share of the economy and labour market than it does in other major provinces. Despite on-going job losses, the goods-producing sector's outsized share still accounted for more than one-quarter of total employment in the province, 4.4 percentage points above the national average.

Alberta Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally adjusted data ('000)	3rd Quarter 2019	2nd Quarter 2019	3rd Quarter 2018	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	2,345.7	2,351.8	2,334.4	-6.1	-0.3	11.3	0.5
Goods-producing sector	590.8	597.4	602.7	-6.6	-1.1	-11.9	-2.0
Agriculture	50.8	49.3	48.1	1.5	3.0	2.7	5.6
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	140.4	152.5	154.8	-12.1	-7.9	-14.4	-9.3
Utilities	24.3	23.5	23.9	0.8	3.4	0.4	1.7
Construction	240.1	234.9	246.1	5.2	2.2	-6.0	-2.4
Manufacturing	135.2	137.2	129.8	-2.0	-1.5	5.4	4.2
Services-producing sector	1,755.0	1,754.4	1,731.8	0.6	0.0	23.2	1.3
Trade	337.7	342.4	335.0	-4.7	-1.4	2.7	0.8
Transportation and warehousing	139.2	139.9	138.7	-0.7	-0.5	0.5	0.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	106.0	104.6	103.4	1.4	1.3	2.6	2.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	186.6	181.2	180.9	5.4	3.0	5.7	3.2
Business, building and other support services	82.1	86.7	86.3	-4.6	-5.3	-4.2	-4.9
Educational services	158.9	153.7	157.6	5.2	3.4	1.3	0.8
Health care and social assistance	294.0	289.9	278.2	4.1	1.4	15.8	5.7
Information, culture and recreation	76.5	73.0	78.8	3.5	4.8	-2.3	-2.9
Accommodation and food services	141.2	144.4	146.8	-3.2	-2.2	-5.6	-3.8
Other services	117.4	120.8	115.7	-3.4	-2.8	1.7	1.5
Public administration	115.4	117.7	110.4	-2.3	-2.0	5.0	4.5

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table T14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

Alberta's resource extraction industry (forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas) lost an estimated 12,100 positions on the quarter, the majority of which occurred in oil and gas extraction. Employment in the overall industry, which peaked at 182,000 in Q3-2014, remains about 20% below that mark.

Oil and gas

Increasingly, Alberta's oil and gas firms struggle to remain competitive with their U.S. counterparts, particularly with respect to attracting investment capital.⁵ However, recent reports suggest that investors are also losing patience with U.S. shale firms, many of which generate enough income to keep drilling, but seldom turn a profit.⁶

Oil production in Alberta expanded sharply last year, due in large part to the completion of Suncor Energy's huge new Fort Hills oilsands mine. As a result, 2018 was officially the year in which oil production in the province exceeded pipeline take away capacity. While oil extraction takes place in every corner of Alberta, the oilsands region produces by far the largest provincial share. In August 2019, oilsands operations accounted for almost 85% of total provincial production.⁷ Oilsands projects are large, capital-intensive operations that require relatively few workers once they are up and running. Because of this, oil production has continued to expand in Alberta, even as direct employment declines.

In late 2018, a combination of pipeline constraints, refinery closures, and falling international oil prices threatened the viability of the provincial energy sector. In November, the price of Western Canada Select (WCS), Alberta's benchmark bitumen crude, averaged just \$18 USD per barrel for the entire month.

In response, the Government of Alberta placed an overall cap (curtailment) on oil production, effective January 2019. The curtailment successfully raised the price of WCS, which averaged \$46.50 USD per barrel through the first five months of the year. However, prices worldwide have since fallen, with WCS trading at under \$40 USD through the first half of October 2019.

Despite the initial price hike, the curtailment policy remains deeply unpopular with three of the province's largest oil producers. That is because large integrated firms with their own refineries can still make money when crude prices are low.

While oil-by-rail continues to ramp up, ending curtailment will almost certainly require additional pipeline capacity. In this regard, industry is pinning its hopes on the completion of any two of the three major export pipeline projects: Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX), Keystone XL, and the Line 3 replacement project. Of these, Line 3 is will likely be the first to come on stream, although further delays are still possible in Minnesota. While both industry and government had been expecting Line 3 to be operational by the end of 2019, the Government of Minnesota appealed the project, delaying the pipeline's in-service date to late 2020 at best.

In June, the federal cabinet re-approved the Trans Mountain Expansion project, following an earlier green light from the National Energy Board. The project twins an aging pipeline from Alberta to tidewater in Burnaby B.C., almost tripling capacity from 300,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 890,000 bpd.⁸

Other goods-producing industries

Looking at Alberta's other goods-producing industries, employment losses were also seen in **construction**, down 6,000 jobs on the year. In August, municipalities in Alberta issued \$1.03 billion worth of building permits, down 11% compared to August 2018. Residential permit values were down 3%; non-residential values dropped by over 20%.⁹ While less dire, the decline in housing investment was hardly surprising given the strong evidence of residential overbuilding. In August, recently completed but unsold (*unabsorbed*) new housing units in Alberta's

two major centres of Calgary and Edmonton accounted for more than one-third (35%) of Canada's entire stock of unabsorbed housing.¹⁰

After a poor 2018, Alberta's **agriculture** industry had hoped for a recovery year in 2019. However, starting in March, China systematically revoked all licences to ship Canadian canola into that country.¹¹ More recently, China halted the importation of Canadian meat products, following the one-time discovery of counterfeit Canadian veterinary certificates.¹² At the time of writing, most Canadian agricultural exports to China have stalled, with the notable exception of wheat. According to Industry Canada's Trade Data Online, Canadian wheat exports to China are up 37% year to date, with shipments from Alberta accounting for about one-third of the gain.¹³

While low energy prices are a huge negative for the resource extraction sector, they are a significant plus for Alberta's expanding petrochemical **manufacturing** industry. Inter Pipeline is currently building a \$3.5 billion petrochemical complex in Alberta's Industrial Heartland, just outside the Edmonton city limits. Earlier this year, Calgary's Pembina Pipeline Corporation announced that its \$4.5 billion joint venture with Kuwait's national petrochemical company is to be located nearby.

Services-producing industries

Turning to the services-producing sector, at 1.755 million, overall employment was up 1.3% on the year and 0.6% on the quarter. After a very strong Q2-2019, employment in **wholesale and retail trade** pulled back 1.4% in the third quarter, while still maintaining growth on the year (+0.8%). As in five other provinces, wholesale and retail trade is Alberta's largest industry by employee count.

In July (the latest available data), seasonally adjusted retail sales in Alberta decreased by 0.5% on the year, compared to a 1.2% gain nationwide.¹⁴ Wholesale sales rose for the second straight month (+5.9%).¹⁵

Still, wholesale and retail trade has been one of the service industries deeply hurt by the prolonged slump in the provincial energy sector. For example, over the five-year period from July 2014 to July 2019, the total value of retail sales in Alberta increased by just 3% – compared to 19% Canada-wide.¹⁶ Wholesale trade fared even worse, down 4.4% after five years, compared to a national gain of almost one-quarter (+24%).¹⁷

Health care and social assistance, Alberta's second largest industry by employee count, posted good job growth on the quarter (+1.4%) – and very good job growth on the year (+5.7%). Health care, along with educational services, and public administration, are **public sector** industries, which tend to be driven more by population growth, and somewhat independent of economic conditions. As such, these industries have been less affected by the oil and gas downturn than have private sector industries such as wholesale and retail trade.

Employment in **public administration** retreated compared to the previous quarter (-2.0%), while still up compared to Q3-2018.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Compared to Q3-2018, year over year employment increased in two economic regions while declining in the remaining five. Realistically, job gains were limited to the Calgary Economic Region (+4.5%), as Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake, the only other region in which employment did not decline, posted job-growth of just 0.1%.

Alberta Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally unadjusted data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	3rd Quarter 2019 ('000)	3rd Quarter 2018 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	3rd Quarter 2019 (%)	3rd Quarter 2018 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Alberta	2,356.4	2,348.1	0.4	7.2	6.9	0.3
Economic Regions						
Lethbridge - Medicine Hat	146.0	147.0	-0.7	7.6	4.8	2.8
Camrose - Drumheller	97.1	102.3	-5.1	5.1	5.2	-0.1
Calgary	929.3	889.7	4.5	7.3	8.2	-0.9
Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca-Grand Prairie-Peace River	188.3	191.8	-1.8	5.9	5.2	0.7
Red Deer	115.3	121.5	-5.1	8.0	7.2	0.8
Edmonton	797.5	812.9	-1.9	7.6	6.5	1.1
Wood Buffalo - Cold Lake	82.9	82.8	0.1	6.2	5.9	0.3

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293, formerly CANSIM 282-0122

In **Lethbridge-Medicine Hat**, employment dropped by 0.7% compared to Q3-2018, while the area unemployment rate climbed to 7.6%. On an industry basis, job losses were roughly evenly split between the goods-producing and services-producing sectors. In September, the City of Medicine Hat began permanently shuttering 2,000 of its active natural gas wells due to unsustainable low prices. As a result, about 100 people will be in laid off over the next three years.

Renewable energy projects, particularly wind projects, continue to figure prominently in the region. TransAlta's \$175 million Windrise project in Fort Macleod is expected to support 300 jobs when it begins construction in June next year. Nearby, Suncor Energy is going ahead with its plan to erect 115 wind turbines at its Forty Mile Granlea Wind Project near Bow Island. A third major installation, Cypress Wind Project, is to be located southeast of Dunmore. That 48-turbine project will employ 250 workers during its construction phase, also slated to begin in 2020. The three projects will join Capital Power's 56-turbine Whitley Wind Farm near Bow Island, which is on schedule for completion by December.

Year over year, employment in **Camrose-Drumheller** plunged by 5.1% as job losses occurred in both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors. At 5.1%, the region had the lowest unemployment rate in the province as the number of people exiting the labour market exceeded the number of unemployed.

Major projects in the area include AltaLink's \$41 million project to upgrade an electrical substation near Provost and to construct 32 km of new transmission lines and related infrastructure. The company has identified May 1, 2020 as their in-service target date.¹⁸ Construction is also underway on Pembina Pipeline's \$120 million Natural Gas Liquids Extraction facility near Empress. To the north, a \$10.5M clean technology demonstration project near Forestburg will use municipal organic waste to replenish the land around the Paintearth coal mine. A willow crop grown on the land will then be used as a biomass feedstock for renewable energy.¹⁹

Employment eased slightly in **Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca-Grand Prairie-Peace River** on the year (-1.8%). Job losses occurred in both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors, while construction continues to be a bright spot in the region. To the north, projects include: Tolko Industries Ltd.'s partnership with Pinnacle Renewable Energy to build a \$53 million pellet plant and \$33 million thermal energy plant in High Level; Pembina Pipeline's partnership with Veresen Midstream on its \$380 million Hythe Brainard Gas Plant expansion and pipeline project; and Razor Energy's \$15-\$20 million geothermal project near Swan Hills.

On the downside, Teck Coal Ltd has confirmed that it will end operations at its Cardinal River Mine site near Hinton. The closure, expected during the second half of next year, will affect roughly 400 employees.²⁰ To the south, the tourism and hospitality sectors of Banff and Jasper are ramping up in anticipation of a busy winter season.

In **Red Deer**, employment pulled back 5.1% compared to Q2-2018. At 8.0%, the area's unemployment rate was the highest in the province. The Red Deer region continues to be challenged by trade uncertainties, including China's on-going bans of Canadian meat and canola seed imports and the growing use of agricultural non-tariff barriers worldwide. On a positive note, Athabasca Minerals Inc. has signed a 10-year agreement with Montana First Nation to process and sell sand and gravel materials from the Nation's Colchester property near Ponoka. The company is committed to providing meaningful employment to members of the First Nation.²¹

To the northeast, **Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake's** Fort McMurray functions as the services hub for Alberta's oilsands region. In Q3-2019, employment in the region stood at 82,900, virtually unchanged from Q3-2018. At 6.2%, the region's unemployment rate was third lowest provincially. The Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake region is home to almost 85% of all oil production in Alberta, making it highly vulnerable to the difficulties in the oil and gas industry.

Looking forward, Teck Resources' \$20.6 billion Frontier Oil Sands Mine received approval by a joint review panel of the Alberta Energy Regulator and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. While the project still requires a green light from the federal cabinet, should it go ahead, up to 7,000 workers will be required during the construction phase. Teck estimates that as many as 2,500 workers will be needed once operational.

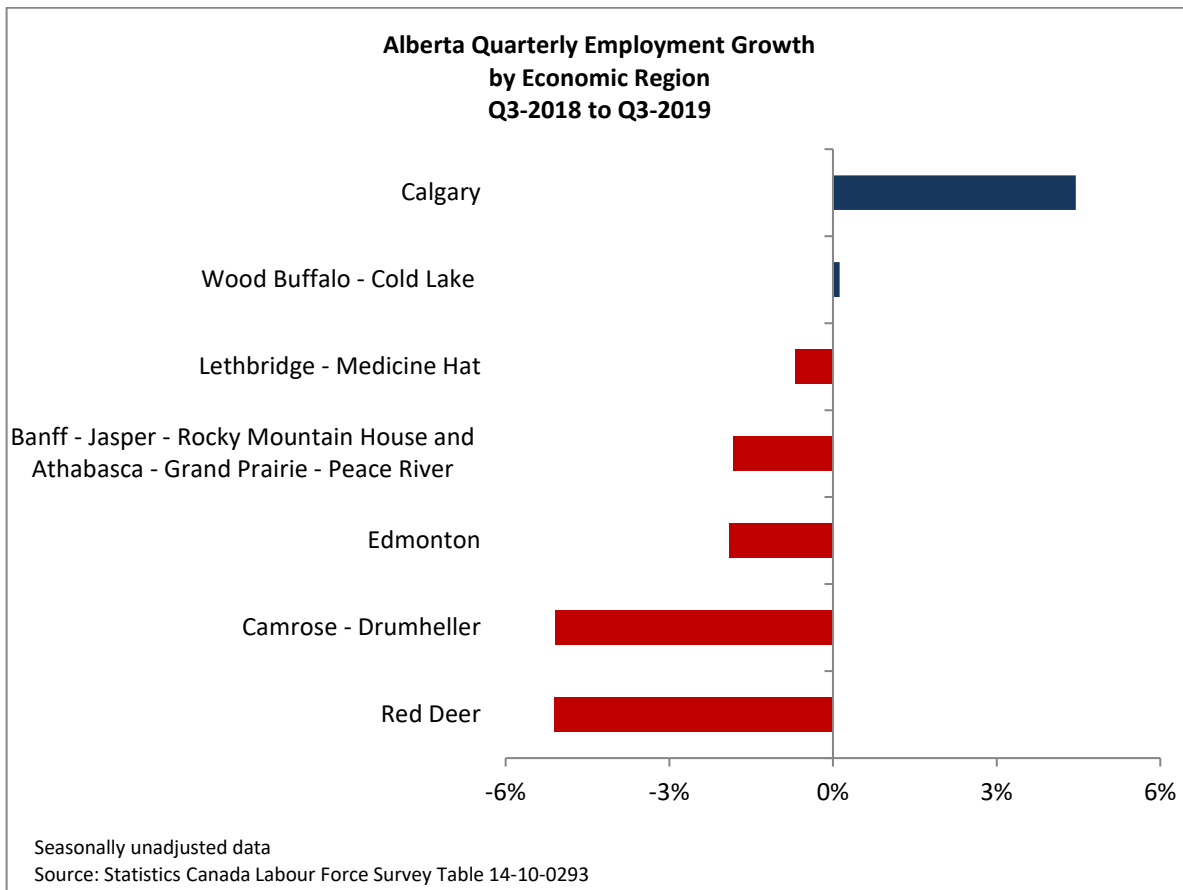
Year over year, employment increased sharply in **Calgary**, as job gains in the services-producing sector more than offset weakness in the goods-producing sector. Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing, educational services, and public administration all posted double-digit job growth. At 7.3%, the regional unemployment rate was slightly above the seasonally unadjusted provincial rate (7.2%).

In July, the City of Calgary reached an agreement with the Calgary Flames to build a new \$550 million, 19,000 seat arena to replace the aging Saddledome. Construction is set to begin in 2021 and take at least three years to complete. In contrast, the council also announced it would be cutting 115 positions across 48 different service lines due to a \$60 million budget shortfall. The cuts will affect services ranging from public transit to fire hall

staffing.²² More recently, all levels of government jointly addressed the city’s housing affordability issues by committing \$28.4 million towards 665 new affordable housing units. The federal government is providing an additional \$1.48 million to assist local organizations in addressing the housing and employment needs of veterans.

In Q3-2019, employment in the **Edmonton** region fell 1.9% year over year (-15,400) as both the services-producing and goods-producing sectors posted net job losses. Noteworthy in the provincial capital, combined employment in the public sector industries of health care, education and public administration fell by about 10,00 compared to one year earlier.

Looking ahead, prospects may improve for the local construction industry as Trans Mountain Corporation has resumed work on its right of way for the pipeline between Edson and at its Edmonton Terminal. North of the city, Pembina Pipeline Corporation is moving ahead with its \$4.5 billion polypropylene joint-venture plant. The provincial government is also improving regional infrastructure by twinning and upgrading Highway 15 and building a second bridge. In other news, Amazon is increasing its construction workforce from 100 to 250 workers as its new fulfillment centre in Leduc County enters its final construction phase. The company anticipates employing 600 workers when the centre opens in spring 2020.



Note: In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

Prepared by: Labour Market Information (LMI) Directorate, Service Canada, Alberta

For further information, please contact the LMI team at: NC-LMI-IMT-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

For information on the Labour Force Survey, please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: www.statcan.gc.ca

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¹Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0222-01 Employment, average hourly and weekly earnings (including overtime), and average weekly hours for the industrial aggregate excluding unclassified businesses, monthly, seasonally adjusted. Accessed October 14, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410022201>

² Ibid

³ Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0011-01 Employment insurance beneficiaries (regular benefits) by province and territory, monthly, seasonally adjusted; Accessed Oct 14, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410001101>

⁴ Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0288-01 Employment by class of worker, monthly, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, last 5 months (x 1,000); Accessed Oct 14, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1410028801>

⁵ Arc Energy Research Institute, Issues That Are Weighing on Oil and Gas Investment; March 5, 2019. Accessed June 11, 2019 <https://www.arcenergyinstitute.com/issues-that-are-weighing-on-oil-and-gas-investment/>

⁶ Bloomberg, Cracks show in the Permian's promise as shale producers retrench; July 12, 2019. Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://www.jwnenergy.com/article/2019/7/cracks-show-permians-promise-shale-producers-retrench/> See also <https://www.jwnenergy.com/article/2019/10/shale-wells-are-riding-edge-profitability-current-prices/>

⁷ The Government of Alberta's Economic Dashboard, Oil production, August 2019. Published October 4, 2019. Accessed October 15, 2019. <https://economicdashboard.alberta.ca/OilProduction>

⁸ Edmonton Journal, Delay to Line 3 will keep oilpatch spending stagnant; March 7, 2019. Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://edmontonjournal.com/business/energy/varcoe-line-3-delay-will-keep-oilpatch-spending-stagnant/wcm/15bcf3b3-0feb-4194-a156-f205abbdec6d>

⁹ Statistics Canada, Table 34-10-0066-01 Building permits, by type of structure and type of work; Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3410006601>

¹⁰ Statistics Canada, Table 34-10-0149-01 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, absorptions and unabsorbed inventory, newly completed dwellings, by type of dwelling unit in census metropolitan areas. Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3410014901>

¹¹ Canola Council of Canada, Statement on trade with China; March 6, 2019. Accessed October 15, 2019. <https://www.canolacouncil.org/news/canola-council-of-canada-statement-on-trade-with-china/>

¹² Financial Post, Someone is using fake Canadian certificates to smuggle meat into China, Jim Carr says. Published June 26, 2019. Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/carr-says-someone-is-using-fake-canadian-certificates-to-smuggle-meat-into-china>

¹³ Industry Canada, Trade Data Online. Accessed October 15, 2019 https://www.ic.gc.ca/app/scr/tdst/tdo/crtr.html?timePeriod=2%7CYear+To+Date&reportType=TE&hSelectedCodes=%7C1001&searchType=KS_CS&productType=HS6¤cy=CDN&countryList=specific&runReport=true&grouped=GROUPED&toFromCountry=CDN&areaCodes=553&naArea=9998

¹⁴ Statistics Canada. Table 20-10-0008-01 Retail trade sales by province and territory (x 1,000) Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/190621/dq190621a-eng.htm>

¹⁵ Statistics Canada. Table 20-10-0074-01 Wholesale trade, sales (x 1,000). Accessed October 15, 2019 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=2010007401>

¹⁶ Statistics Canada, Table 20-10-0008-01 Retail trade sales by province and territory (x 1,000) Ibid

¹⁷ Statistics Canada, Table 20-10-0074-01 Wholesale trade, sales (x 1,000) Ibid

¹⁸ Provost News, Construction for Provost Substation Upgrade Underway; Part of Project Estimated at \$41 Million in 2017, among Hayter, Killarney Upgrades and New Line, May 1, 2019.

¹⁹ EnergyNow.ca, “Alberta coal mine reclamation project to provide green energy source”; September 3, 2019. <https://energynow.ca/2019/09/alberta-coal-mine-reclamation-project-to-provide-green-energy-source/>

²⁰ The Hinton Parklander, Teck responds to questions over Cardinal River Mine, June 19, 2019. <https://www.hintonparklander.com/news/local-news/teck-responds-to-questions-over-cardinal-river-mine>

²¹ Athabasca Minerals Inc., Athabasca Minerals Inc. Signs Aggregates Management Agreement with Montana First Nation, June 19, 2019. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2019/06/19/1871055/0/en/Athabasca-Minerals-Inc-Signs-Aggregates-Management-Agreement-with-Montana-First-Nation.html>

²² Calgary Herald, “Public money is being used for public good”: Council votes to spend \$275 million on new Flames arena; July 31, 2019. Accessed on August 9, 2019. <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/live-council-could-decide-fate-of-arena-deal-today>