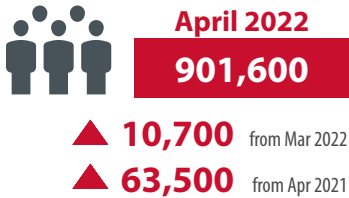


## Highlights\*:

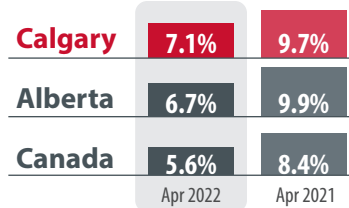
### Total Employment

Calgary Economic Region



### Unemployment Rates

Calgary Economic Region



### Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area  
April 2022, year-over-year change



### Job growth is led by the services sector

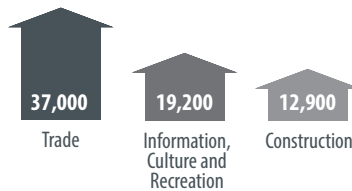
Employment growth within the Calgary Economic Region (CER) increased by 63,500 year-over-year (y-o-y) for the month of April, representing a 7.6 per cent growth rate. Month-over-month (m-o-m) employment also grew by 10,700 in the month of April, representing a 1.2 per cent growth rate. Employment growth in the month of April was primarily driven by the services sector, which continues to benefit from the lifting of provincial public health restrictions. The services sector grew by 12,800 in the month of April (relative to March), led by Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+4,100), Accommodation and Food Services (+3,900), and Retail Trade (+2,700). However, the gains in employment were offset by Manufacturing (-2,400) and Transportation and Warehousing (-1,000).

### The unemployment rate declines as job gains continue

The CER's three-month moving average unemployment rate declined by 2.6 percentage points to 7.1 per cent in April (from 9.7 per cent in April 2021), spurred by the progress in employment. Alberta's (6.7 per cent) and Canada's (5.6 per cent) unemployment rates declined by 3.2 and 2.8 percentage points y-o-y, respectively.

### The rise in both full-time and part-time employment driven by retail trade

The ability of businesses to operate at full capacity has resulted in a rise in labour market participation and hiring in the services sectors and provided a significant boost in consumer spending. The boost in consumer spending further fuels retail activity and has contributed to



### Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



the rise in both full-time (+13,300 y-o-y) and part-time (+16,700 y-o-y) retail trade employment growth.

### Job vacancy declines in close-contact sectors as participation rates improve

The removal of public health and travel restrictions has boosted the number of people entering the labour force. The labour force participation rate within the CER improved in April 2022 by 1.8 percentage points y-o-y. The higher participation rate has contributed to the decline in job vacancies within close-contact services sectors such as Accommodation and Food Services, Finance, and Arts and Entertainment.

### Growth in average hourly wages as inflation lingers

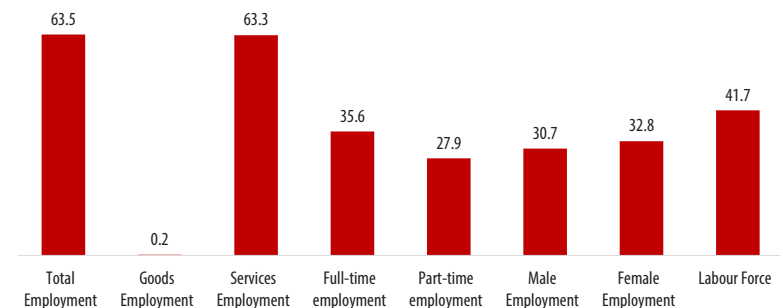
The average hourly wages rose from \$33.7 to \$34.9 in April, marking a 3.5 per cent growth rate from a year ago. The increase is partly driven by lingering labour shortage issues at the start of the year and persistent inflation. Wages will likely remain elevated at least within the short term.

### The rise in labour underutilization indicators

Despite growth in employment and increased participation rates, labour underutilization remains an issue. The number of people within the province who were not in the labour force but wanted to work increased by 11 per cent for the month of April 2022 (from March 2022). The number of part-time employees who chose part-time work because they could not find full-time jobs grew by 5 per cent for the month of April 2022. In addition, for the month of March 2022, the number of people within the province who worked less than half their usual working hours grew by 3.8 per cent<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Source: [Open Alberta Labour Market Notes](#)

Chart 1: CER Year-over-year Changes in April 2022 (thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2: Alberta Labour Force Underutilization Indicators (thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

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

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Apr-22	Mar-22	Apr-21	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,374.1	1,371.4	1,349.9	24.2
Labour Force ('000)	970.0	963.7	928.3	41.7	
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.6	70.3	68.8	1.8	
Employment ('000)	901.6	890.9	838.1	63.5	
Employment Rate (%)	65.6	65.0	62.1	3.5	
Unemployment ('000)	68.4	72.8	90.3	(21.9)	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	7.6	9.7	(2.6)	

ALBERTA	Description	Apr-22	Mar-22	Apr-21	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	3,586.6	3,580.2	3,533.4	53.2
Labour Force ('000)	2,468.3	2,459.4	2,434.6	33.7	
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	68.8	68.7	68.9	(0.1)	
Employment ('000)	2,303.1	2,285.0	2,193.7	109.4	
Employment Rate (%)	64.2	63.8	62.1	2.1	
Unemployment ('000)	165.2	174.3	240.8	(75.6)	
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.7	7.1	9.9	(3.2)	

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 6, 2022

**Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry**

Industry	Total employees*** ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly wage bill (\$million)			Total hours worked (hours)		
	Apr-22	Apr-21	Change (y/y)	Apr-22	Apr-21	Change (y/y)	Apr-22	Apr-21	Change (y/y)	Apr-22	Apr-21	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	50.9	50.4	0.5	2,342.85	2,089.80	253.05	119.3	105.3	13.9	42.0	40.6	1.4
Utilities	6.3	10.4	(4.1)	1,682.80	1,896.80	(214.00)	10.6	19.7	(9.1)	38.2	39.2	(1.0)
Construction	60.5	49.1	11.4	1,371.89	1,366.80	5.09	83.0	67.1	15.9	40.1	39.8	0.3
Manufacturing	30.7	35.9	(5.2)	1,456.01	1,394.20	61.81	44.7	50.1	(5.4)	38.8	40.9	(2.1)
Wholesale Trade	25.8	19.6	6.2	1,472.03	1,462.50	9.53	38.0	28.7	9.3	39.6	40.0	(0.4)
Retail Trade	111.4	78.1	33.3	809.97	808.50	1.47	90.2	63.1	27.1	33.4	34.3	(0.9)
Transportation and Warehousing	40.3	41.1	(0.8)	1,319.70	1,299.80	19.90	53.2	53.4	(0.2)	39.7	38.3	1.3
Information and Cultural Industries	12.3	12.5	(0.2)	1,375.59	1,543.50	(167.91)	16.9	19.3	(2.4)	37.2	39.3	(2.0)
Finance and Insurance	28.1	26.2	1.9	1,720.48	1,368.10	352.38	48.3	35.8	12.5	39.2	39.1	0.1
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	8.0	13.2	(5.2)	1,534.76	1,026.30	508.46	12.3	13.5	(1.3)	38.7	35.3	3.4
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	73.3	63.8	9.5	1,690.03	1,448.60	241.43	123.9	92.4	31.5	38.6	38.1	0.5
Administrative and Support	17.4	20.2	(2.8)	1,061.34	992.90	68.44	18.5	20.1	(1.6)	37.8	37.8	0.1
Educational Services	61.3	67.6	(6.3)	1,227.90	1,247.60	(19.70)	75.3	84.3	(9.1)	33.3	33.8	(0.5)
Health Care and Social Assistance	92.0	97.0	(5.0)	1,092.71	1,064.10	28.61	100.5	103.2	(2.7)	34.5	33.1	1.4
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	22.5	5.1	17.4	626.35	871.10	(244.75)	14.1	4.4	9.7	25.9	32.7	(6.9)
Accommodation and Food Services	40.3	38.2	2.1	563.08	454.00	109.08	22.7	17.3	5.3	29.1	25.5	3.6
Other Services (except Public Admin)	18.6	27.2	(8.6)	856.26	992.70	(136.44)	15.9	27.0	(11.1)	33.8	36.6	(2.8)
Public Administration	32.0	17.8	14.2	1,770.72	1,790.30	(19.58)	56.7	31.9	24.8	37.1	37.8	(0.7)
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>732.5</b>	<b>676.0</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>1,289.87</b>	<b>1,242.60</b>	<b>47.27</b>	<b>944.8</b>	<b>840.0</b>	<b>104.8</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>0.1</b>

\*\*\* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture  
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 6, 2022

Next update: June 10, 2022

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  
oyinola.shyllon@calgary.ca

**Paapa Essel**  
Corporate Economist  
paapa.essel@calgary.ca

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

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\* Labour force data used in this report is 3-month-moving-average, seasonally unadjusted.