

## Job Losses Continued in Calgary

The seasonally adjusted data<sup>1</sup> show that from March to April 2009, total employment dropped by 5,200 in the Calgary Economic Region (CER). However, Alberta and Canada gained 5,700 and 35,900 jobs, respectively.

- In Canada, full-time jobs increased unexpectedly (+39,400) while job losses happened in part-time (-3,600). The job gains were mainly in information, culture & recreation (+17,100), business, building & other services (+14,600) and manufacturing (+6,700).

- Alberta ranked third in Canada in the number of job gains after Quebec (+22,400) and B.C. (+17,300). Job gains in service-producing sector (+8,800) were offset partly by job losses in goods-producing sector (-3,100)

Based on the un-adjusted data<sup>2</sup>, labour market conditions in the CER continued to deteriorate in April compared to a year ago:

- The unemployment rate jumped from 2.9% to 6.4%, trending back to the pre-1997 level. The gap between the CER and Canadian unemployment rates has narrowed in recent months, reflecting the recession's impacts on Calgary's economy.

- Total employment increased slightly by 400 positions, with 21,800 full-time employment losses and 22,100 part-time job gains. This is in a sharp contrast to the market conditions before mid-2008 when most new jobs were full-time positions and some of them had to be filled by people quit their part-time jobs.

- The biggest full-time job losses were in construction (-10,400), health care & social assistance (-8,000) and professional, scientific and technical services industries (-7,500). Major part-time job gains occurred in service-producing sector (+20,700) including accommodation and food services (+7,700) and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (+4,000) industries.

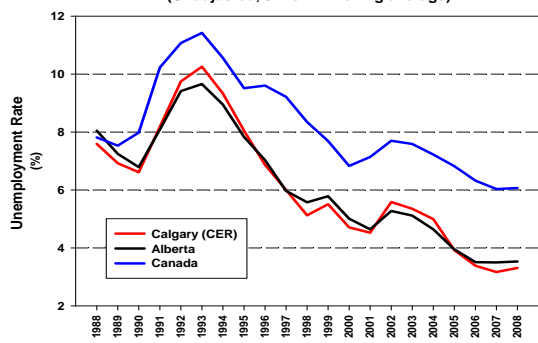
- In April 2009, working Calgarians enjoyed the second highest average wages (\$26/hr) in Canada.

- However, with several months' layoffs in highly paid full-time jobs, the number of Calgarians receiving regular employment insurance benefit jumped by 6,200 persons to a total of 11,700 persons in February 2009 from a year ago.

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjustment filters out fluctuations due to seasonal events such as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. Seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 per cent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment. Thus only seasonally adjusted data is used for month-over-month comparisons.

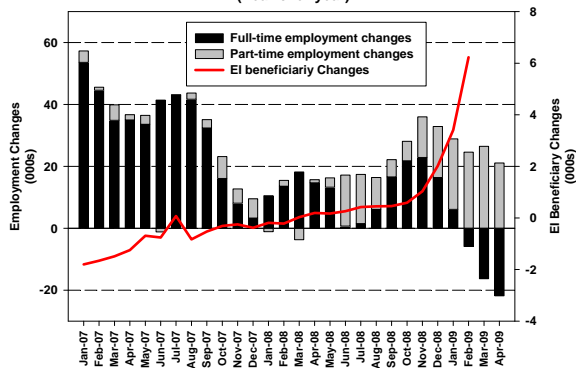
<sup>2</sup> Unadjusted data combines seasonal factors and non-seasonal developments, such as economic activities and participation rates. To avoid the effect of seasonal factors, growth is calculated on a year-over-year basis.

Unemployment Rate: Canada, Alberta, Calgary (CER)  
(Unadjusted, 3 month moving average)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, April 2009

Calgary (CER) Employment & EI Beneficiary Changes  
(Year-over-year)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 2009

### Labour Force Statistics

Economic Regions (Unadjusted 3-Month-Moving-Average)

Region	Description	Apr-09	Mar-09	Apr-08	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,041.1	1,037.8	1,012.6	28.5
	Labour Force ('000)	790.2	789.8	761.5	28.7
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	75.9	76.1	75.2	0.7
	Employment ('000)	740.1	743.8	739.7	0.4
	Employment Rate (%)	71.1	71.7	73.0	(2.0)
	Unemployment ('000)	50.1	46.0	21.8	28.3
	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	5.8	2.9	3.5
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	932.8	929.8	911.3	21.5
	Labour Force ('000)	671.6	670.4	662.5	9.1
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	72.0	72.1	72.7	(0.7)
	Employment ('000)	632.8	634.5	637.7	(4.9)
	Employment Rate (%)	67.7	68.2	70.0	(2.2)
	Unemployment ('000)	38.7	35.9	24.8	13.9
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.8	5.4	3.7	2.1
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	2,841.5	2,834.9	2,780.4	61.2
	Labour Force ('000)	2,099.9	2,097.8	2,051.9	48.0
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.9	74.0	73.8	0.1
	Employment ('000)	1,970.8	1,979.9	1,982.1	(11.3)
	Employment Rate (%)	69.4	69.8	71.3	(1.9)
	Unemployment ('000)	129.1	117.9	69.8	59.3
	Unemployment Rate (%)	6.1	5.6	3.4	2.7

Statistics Canada: CANSIM, Table ID: 282-0054

Source: Corporate Economics, Statistics Canada, May 2009

## Calgary's Monthly Market Review: April 2009

### Who We Are

Over the past ten years Corporate Economics has researched dozens of economic topics and developed reliable methods of forecasting and analysis. Monitoring economic trends allows us to develop unique insights on how external events are impacting the local economy and the Municipal Corporation. We provide services in four areas: forecasting, information provision, consulting and policy analysis.

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Many of our publications are available on the internet at [www.calgary.ca/economy](http://www.calgary.ca/economy).

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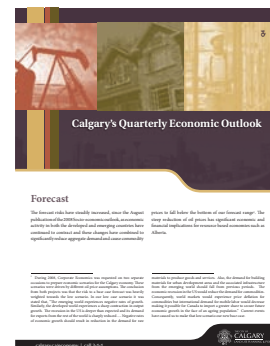
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Source: Statistics Canada

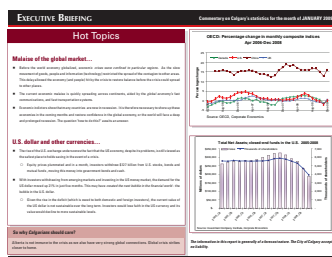
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