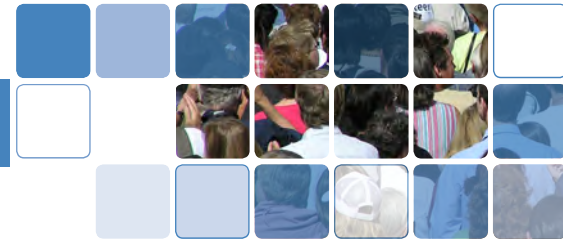


Labour Market Review

Patrick Walters, City Economist | Ivy Zhang, Corporate Economist

August 5, 2011



Local labour market in a better condition

Job growth stalled in Canada in July, amidst mounting uncertainties in the US and Euro zone economies. Within Canada, Alberta outperformed the other provinces, with a year-over-year growth of 3.8 per cent in total employment (compared to 1.5 per cent in Canada). The seasonally adjusted data for June 2011 to July 2011 (month-over-month) showed the following:

- Total employment increased in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) (+8,200) and Alberta (+12,400), but was little changed in Canada (+7,100).
- In Canada, jobs created in the private sector (+94,500) were largely offset by jobs lost in the public sector (-71,500). Most job gains in Canada were from the construction (+30,800), trade (+27,500), and transportation and warehousing (+27,700) industries. And major job losses were in the health care and social assistance (-39,400) and educational services (-30,000) industries.
- In Alberta, more people participated in the labour market. While more new jobs than the increased labour force (+11,800) drove down unemployment rate by 0.1 per cent.

The labour market in the CER continued to recover in July 2011, thanks to firming natural gas and crude oil prices (chart 1). Among the

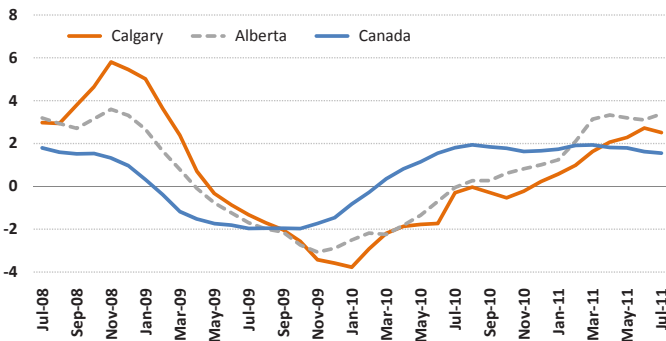
major industries, accommodation and food services led the growth of jobs, reflecting the increases in business travel due to higher investment interests in the energy sector. For the first time in months, the mining, and oil and gas extraction industry started to add jobs, another sign of improving local job market. However, further improvement in the local market will be impacted by the development in the world economy.

According to the unadjusted 3-month-moving-average data, the following year-over-year changes were recorded in the CER in July 2011:

- Total employment increased by 19,300. The largest gains were in the accommodation and food services (+10,900) industries, while the major losses were in the finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (-7,000) (chart 2).
- The total number of unemployed was 48,100 persons, with the unemployment rate declined to 5.7 per cent from 6.9 per cent a year ago.
- The average wage inflation rate was 0.5 per cent, compared to 1.0 in last July.
- There were 10,130 Calgarians receiving regular employment insurance benefits in May 2011, down 36 per cent or 5,760 from last year.

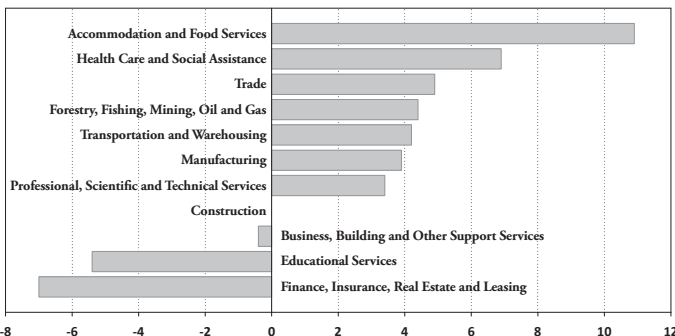
Next update: September 9, 2011

Chart 1. Total employment changes (year-over-year, per cent)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, August 2011

Chart 2. CER total employment change by industry (year-over-year, thousands of persons, in July 2011)



Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, August 2011

Labour Force Statistics

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

	Description	Jul-11	Jun-11	Jul-10	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,110.2	1,107.9	1,089.6	20.6
	Labour Force ('000)	836.8	820.8	825.9	10.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	75.4	74.1	75.8	(0.4)
	Employment ('000)	788.6	774.0	769.3	19.3
	Employment Rate (%)	71.0	69.9	70.6	0.4
	Unemployment ('000)	48.1	46.8	56.6	(8.5)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.7	5.7	6.9	(1.2)
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	1,000.0	998.1	984.7	15.3
	Labour Force ('000)	736.8	726.9	710.2	26.6
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	73.7	72.8	72.1	1.6
	Employment ('000)	697.3	687.5	660.1	37.2
	Employment Rate (%)	69.7	68.9	67.0	2.7
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	3,005.0	2,999.7	2,960.8	44.2
	Labour Force ('000)	2,235.5	2,205.1	2,189.1	46.4
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.4	73.5	73.9	0.5
	Employment ('000)	2,114.2	2,083.6	2,045.0	69.2
	Employment Rate (%)	70.4	69.5	69.1	1.3
	Unemployment ('000)	121.3	121.5	144.1	(22.8)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.4	5.5	6.6	(1.2)

Statistics Canada: CANSIM, Table ID: 282-0054

Source: Corporate Economics, Statistics Canada, August 2011

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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.

For more information, please contact:

Patrick Walters
403.268.1335 or patrick.walters@calgary.ca

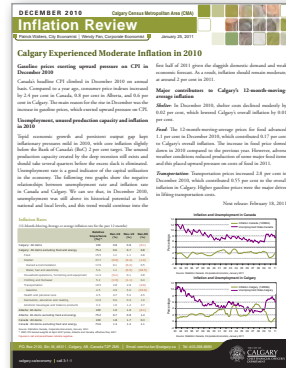
Ivy Zhang
403.268.2005 or ivy.zhang@calgary.ca

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

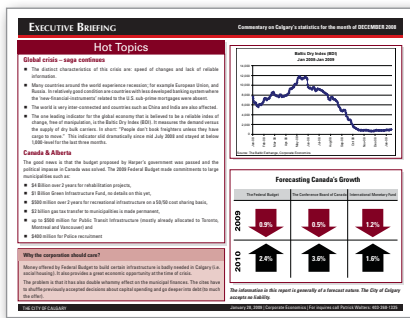
Monthly
Energy Markets and
the Economy



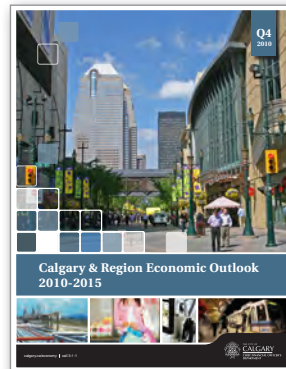
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Corporate Research Analyst: Estella Scruggs

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Source: Statistics Canada

