

Labour Market Review

Patrick Walters, City Economist | Ivy Zhang, Corporate Economist

November 4, 2011



Calgary's job market as part of Calgary-Edmonton corridor

The Canadian labour market lost 54,000 jobs in October, a much worse reading than that in September, as employers faced increasing business risks triggered by the Greece's debt crisis and potential Eurozone fallout. The seasonally adjusted data for September 2011 to October 2011 showed the following:

- Total employment was unchanged in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) (+3,000), compared to changes in Alberta (+7,500) and Canada (-54,000).
- In Canada, the unemployment rate edged up 0.2 percentage point to 7.3 per cent. The number of full-time workers declined by 71,700, and most of the job losses were in the manufacturing (-48,400) and construction (-20,100) industries.
- In Alberta, the job gains were mainly in part-time positions (+8,200). The job growth was led by the trade (+11,600), and the forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (+8,800) industries.

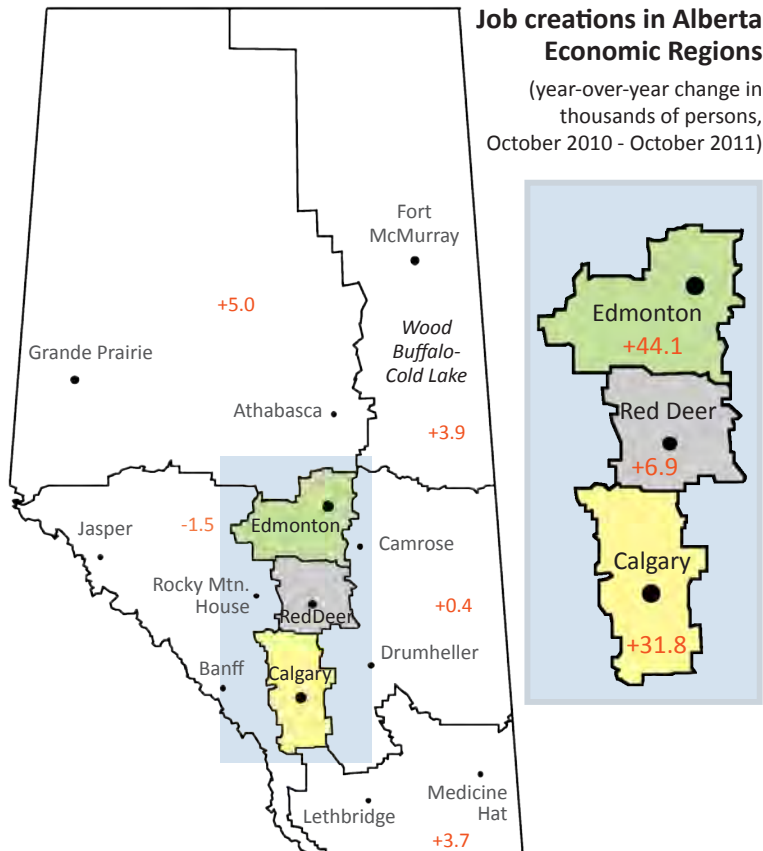
Since the recovery in 2010, there has been a geographic shift of job creation centres in Alberta. Although the CER led job creations in professional, scientific and technical services, trade and mining, oil and gas industries, the rest of Alberta added more jobs in manufacturing, information, culture and recreation, and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing industries. Over the past twelve months, Alberta created

94,300 jobs, with 31,800 (or 34 per cent) of them in the CER and 44,100 (or 47 per cent) of them in the Edmonton Economic Region (see map below). This reflected the fact that Calgary-Edmonton corridor is the center of economic activities in the province, especially energy sector related.

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

- Total employment increased by 31,800, all in full-time positions (+38,400). The largest job gains were in professional, scientific and technical services (+10,800), trade (+10,000), and manufacturing (+8,100) industries, while the major losses were in business, building and other support services (-5,400) and educational services (-5,100) industries.
- The unemployment rate was 5.6 per cent, compared to 6.9 per cent a year ago.
- The average wage inflation rate was 2.7 per cent, compared to 0.3 per cent last October.
- There were 10,580 Calgarians receiving regular employment insurance benefits in August 2011, down from 15,720 last August.

Next update: December 2, 2011



Job creations in Alberta Economic Regions
(year-over-year change in thousands of persons, October 2010 - October 2011)

Source: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, November 2011

Labour Force Statistics

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

	Description	Oct-11	Sep-11	Oct-10	Annual Change
Calgary	Working Age Population ('000)	1,116.0	1,114.2	1,094.2	21.8
	Labour Force ('000)	838.7	844.3	815.7	23.0
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	75.2	75.8	74.5	0.7
	Employment ('000)	791.6	793.2	759.8	31.8
	Employment Rate (%)	70.9	71.2	69.4	1.5
	Unemployment ('000)	47.1	51.1	55.9	(8.8)
Edmonton	Working Age Population ('000)	1,004.9	1,003.3	988.0	16.9
	Labour Force ('000)	744.2	745.8	701.3	42.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.1	74.3	71.0	3.1
	Employment ('000)	702.3	702.5	658.2	44.1
	Employment Rate (%)	69.9	70.0	66.6	3.3
	Unemployment ('000)	41.9	43.2	43.1	(1.2)
Alberta	Working Age Population ('000)	3,018.2	3,014.2	2,970.4	47.8
	Labour Force ('000)	2,245.1	2,255.2	2,164.2	80.9
	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	74.4	74.8	72.9	1.5
	Employment ('000)	2,123.1	2,125.0	2,028.8	94.3
	Employment Rate (%)	70.3	70.5	68.3	2.0
	Unemployment ('000)	122.0	130.2	135.5	(13.5)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	5.4	5.8	6.3	(0.9)

Source: Statistics Canada (Table ID: 282-0054), Corporate Economics, November 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.

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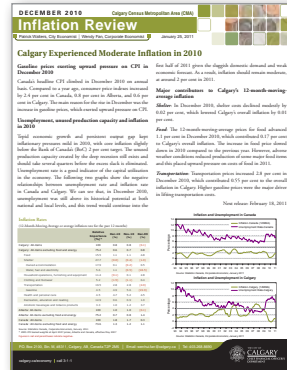
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Many of our publications are available on the internet at www.calgary.ca/economy.

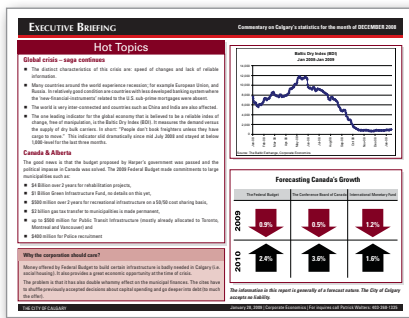
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Corporate Research Analyst: Estella Scruggs

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Source: Statistics Canada and Corporate Economics