

## Monthly Highlights\*:

### Total Employment

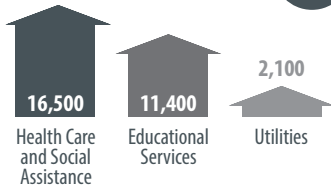
Calgary Economic Region



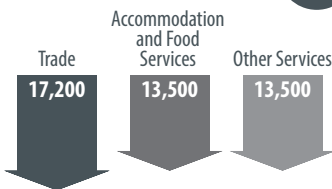
**April 2020**  
**838,000**

▼ **40,500** ▼ **69,600**  
from March 2020 from April 2019

### Most Job Gains by Industry from April 2019



### Most Job Losses by Industry from April 2019



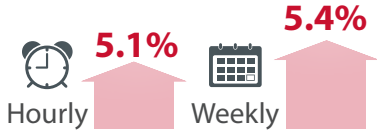
## Unemployment Rates Comparison

Calgary Economic Region



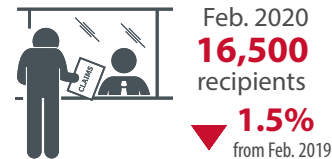
## Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area from April 2019



## Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



Total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) fell significantly in April 2020. It was down by 40,500 persons from a month ago and by 69,600 persons from a year ago. The total unemployed in the CER was 101,500, up from 84,000 a month ago, and 74,000 a year ago. The three-month-moving-average unemployment rate rose to 10.8 per cent in the CER, compared to 10.1 per cent in Alberta and 9.2 per cent in Canada. Overall, the labour markets of Calgary and Alberta have deteriorated significantly month-over-month, as the economy continued to grapple with the dual concurrent impact of COVID-19 pandemic related business shutdowns and demand destruction for crude oil, which traded at multi-decade lows last month.

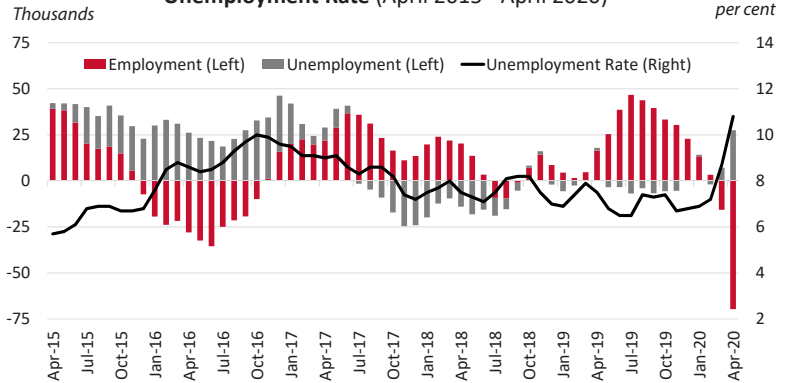
Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates for April 2020 are for the week of April 12-18. By mid-April, crude oil prices were down 74 per cent from a year earlier, and an intentional shutdown of non-essential businesses across Canada to protect public health and contain COVID-19 continued to depress the Canadian labour market. The April LFS is the first one that captures a full month impact of COVID-19 related shutdowns on the CER's job market.

Physical distancing to combat COVID-19 affected all industries, with the services-producing sector being the hardest hit. Between March and April 2020, a total of 36,500 jobs were lost in this sector, the worst seasonal decline on record, far surpassing last month's record drop of 22,900 jobs lost. In one month, Accommodation and food services lost 9,800 jobs, and Trade lost 7,100 jobs.

Many workers who lost employment or hours of work due to the COVID-19 lockdown measures were low-income earners. In April 2020, the average employee wage rate in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was \$1,225 per week, but only \$583 per week for employees in the Accommodation and food services industries. From March 2020 to April 2020, the total wage bill for all employees in Calgary CMA shrank by \$29.5 million, following last month's decline of \$13 million.

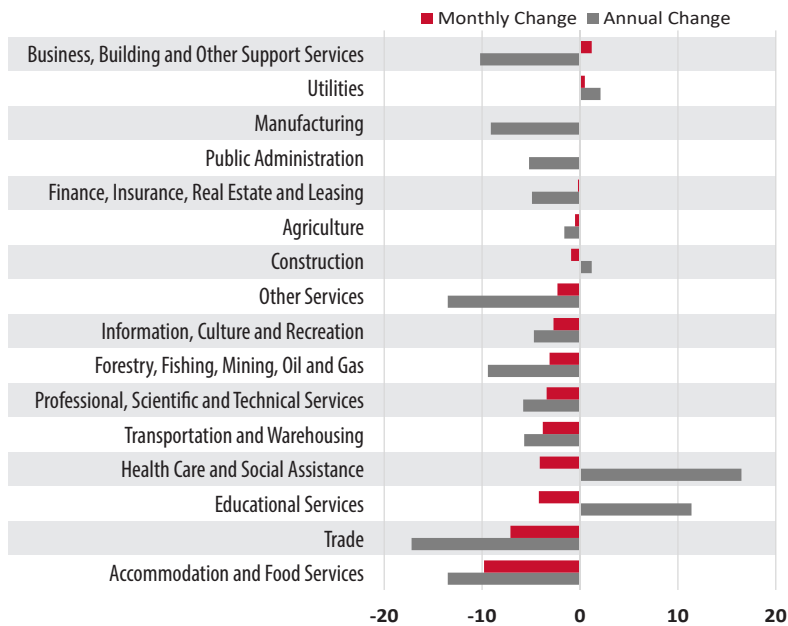
All three levels of government have swiftly responded to the COVID-19 driven economic crisis with fiscal packages including financial aid and tax deferral measures for both households and businesses. These government initiatives should at least temporarily help cover the basic financial needs of workers who have lost income during this economic shutdown. In response to the April jobs report, the federal government has announced that the emergency wage subsidy program will now be extended beyond June.

**Chart 1. Year-over-year changes in Employment and Unemployment, and Unemployment Rate (April 2015 - April 2020)**



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

**Chart 2. CER Monthly and Annual Employment Change by Industry (Monthly: March - April 2020, Annual: April 2019 - April 2020, thousands)**



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.



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

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Apr-20	Mar-20	Apr-19	Annual Change	ALBERTA	Description	Apr-20	Mar-20	Apr-19	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,385.3	1,382.9	1,352.2	33.1		Working Age Population ('000)	3,565.9	3,561.9	3,505.9	60.0
Labour Force ('000)	939.5	962.5	981.5	(42.0)	Labour Force ('000)	2,389.9	2,457.2	2,497.0	(107.1)		
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	67.8	69.6	72.6	(4.8)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	67.0	69.0	71.2	(4.2)		
Employment ('000)	838.0	878.5	907.6	(69.6)	Employment ('000)	2,148.0	2,257.5	2,320.1	(172.1)		
Employment Rate (%)	60.5	63.5	67.1	(6.6)	Employment Rate (%)	60.2	63.4	66.2	(6.0)		
Unemployment ('000)	101.5	84.0	74.0	27.5	Unemployment ('000)	241.9	199.7	176.9	65.0		
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.8	8.7	7.5	3.3	Unemployment Rate (%)	10.1	8.1	7.1	3.0		

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 8, 2020

**Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry**

Industry	Total employees* ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly bills (\$million)		
	Apr-20	Apr-19	Change (y/y)	Apr-20	Apr-19	Change (y/y)	Apr-20	Apr-19	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	46.0	52.0	(6.0)	1,882.23	2,050.41	(168.18)	86.6	106.6	(20.0)
Utilities	9.1	8.0	1.1	1,992.09	2,228.16	(236.07)	18.1	17.8	0.3
Construction	53.2	50.8	2.4	1,345.50	1,370.05	(24.55)	71.6	69.6	2.0
Manufacturing	34.4	50.0	(15.6)	1,432.95	1,165.63	267.32	49.3	58.3	(9.0)
Wholesale Trade	25.1	25.7	(0.6)	1,398.53	1,387.05	11.48	35.1	35.6	(0.5)
Retail Trade	72.3	88.3	(16.0)	709.16	735.21	(26.05)	51.3	64.9	(13.6)
Transportation and Warehousing	38.6	46.4	(7.8)	1,421.48	1,417.59	3.89	54.9	65.8	(10.9)
Information and Cultural Industries	10.7	11.5	(0.8)	1,203.40	1,275.97	(72.57)	12.9	14.7	(1.8)
Finance and Insurance	18.5	26.4	(7.9)	1,486.20	1,304.73	181.47	27.5	34.4	(7.0)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	8.5	11.5	(3.0)	1,171.66	995.39	176.27	10.0	11.4	(1.5)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	56.2	67.8	(11.6)	1,582.41	1,537.09	45.32	88.9	104.2	(15.3)
Administrative and Support	21.8	23.6	(1.8)	1,033.47	899.36	134.11	22.5	21.2	1.3
Educational Services	57.8	45.1	12.7	1,246.41	1,116.11	130.30	72.0	50.3	21.7
Health Care and Social Assistance	87.8	84.9	2.9	1,190.11	1,048.29	141.82	104.5	89.0	15.5
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	12.9	17.2	(4.3)	917.08	837.22	79.86	11.8	14.4	(2.6)
Accommodation and Food Services	40.0	57.0	(17.0)	583.10	551.04	32.06	23.3	31.4	(8.1)
Other Services(except Public Admin)	25.9	35.0	(9.1)	962.54	945.74	16.80	24.9	33.1	(8.2)
Public Administration	28.0	34.6	(6.6)	1,694.31	1,569.15	125.16	47.4	54.3	(6.9)
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>648.7</b>	<b>737.3</b>	<b>(88.6)</b>	<b>1,255.64</b>	<b>1,191.53</b>	<b>64.11</b>	<b>814.5</b>	<b>878.5</b>	<b>(64.0)</b>

\*\* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture  
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, May 8, 2020

Next update: June 5, 2020

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\* Data used in this report for the Calgary Economic Region (CER) and Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CCMA) is 3-month moving average, not seasonally adjusted.