FEBRUARY 2021

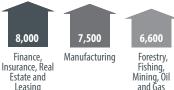
Kenneth Wyllie, Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

Highlights*:











Average Wage Rate Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

from February 2020



Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



Total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) registered its third consecutive monthly decrease. February 2021 employment decreased by 12,600 persons from a month ago and is down 17,300 persons from a year ago. The total unemployed in the CER was 98,800, up from 98,100 a month ago, and up from 68,200 a year ago. The three-month-moving-average unemployment rate rose to 10.5 per cent in the CER, compared to 10.7 per cent in Alberta and 8.8 per cent in Canada.

The February labour force survey was conducted on the week of February 14 to 20, when Alberta's state of public health emergency with some enhanced public health measures was still in place. Stage 1 of reopening, which included the return of in-person dining at commercial establishments, occurred on February 8. Further easement of restrictions was announced in March, allowing for greater retail shop capacity and additional indoor activities. Potential future steps would include further easing of in person services and activities, and will be based on hospitalization benchmarks (i.e. fewer hospitalizations will allow for fewer public health restrictions).

Month-over-month, the largest employment gains were in Educational Services (+5,500), Business Building and Other Support Services (+2,400), and Utilities (+1,200). The largest month-over-month job losses were in Trade (-5,500), Information, Culture and Recreation (-3,800), and Transportation and Warehousing (-3,300).

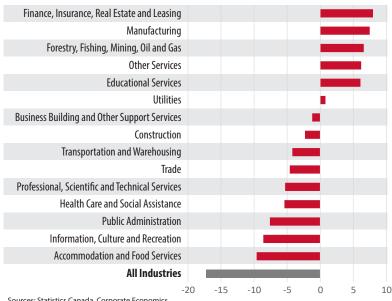
In February 2021, the average employee wage rate in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) was \$1,250 per week. From January to February 2021, the total wage bill for all employees in the Calgary CMA decreased by \$2.7 million, following last month's increase of \$3.8 million.

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There has been much talk about how the impacts of the COVID-19 recession have been uneven. Many have suggested a "K-shaped" recovery. with different sections of the economy recovering at varying speeds. One factor of this "K-shape" recovery has been that high-income persons have fared better over the past year than lower income households. Chart 1 examines how employment by industry in the CER has changed over the past year. The three industries with the most job gains have been Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing (+8,000), Manufacturing (+7,500), and Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas (+6,600). Conversely, industries with the most job losses over the past year have been Accommodation and Food Services (-9,600), Information, Culture and Recreation (-8,600), and Public Administration (-7,600).

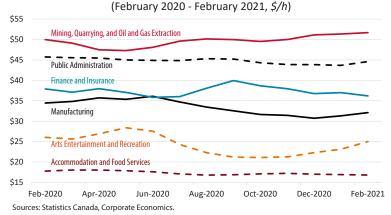
Chart 2 examines the average hourly wage trajectory for industries that have seen the largest job gains and losses over the past year in Calgary. For the three industries with the most job gains (represented by solid lines), the average hourly wage is \$40.54 per hour. The three hardest hit industries (represented by dashed lines) presently have average wages of \$29.38 per hour. The average Calgary CMA hourly wage in February 2021 was \$33.90 an hour, up 3.2 per cent from a year earlier.

Chart 1. CER: Year-over-year Employment Changes (February 2020 - February 2021, thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics

Chart 2. Calgary CMA Hourly Wages in Industries with the Most Job Gains (solid line) and Most Job Losses (dashed lines)



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FEBRUARY 2021

Kenneth Wyllie, Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

March 12, 2021

Next update: April 9, 2021

Table 1 Labour Force Statistics

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

	Description	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Annual Change		Description	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,347.2	1,345.7	1,327.5	19.7		Working Age Population ('000)	3,528.0	3,524.9	3,486.7	41.3
NO NO	Labour Force ('000)	942.6	954.5	929.3	13.3		Labour Force ('000)	2,418.4	2,417.6	2,425.6	(7.2)
REG	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.0	70.9	70.0	0.0	ĕ	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	68.5	68.6	69.6	(1.1)
CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Employment ('000)	843.8	856.4	861.1	(17.3)	ALBERTA	Employment ('000)	2,159.3	2,160.4	2,247.4	(88.1)
	Employment Rate (%)	62.6	63.6	64.9	(2.3)	¥	Employment Rate (%)	61.2	61.3	64.5	(3.3)
	Unemployment ('000)	98.8	98.1	68.2	30.6		Unemployment ('000)	259.1	257.2	178.2	80.9
	Unemployment Rate (%)	10.5	10.3	7.3	3.2		Unemployment Rate (%)	10.7	10.6	7.3	3.4

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, March 12, 2021

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees*** ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly wage bill (\$million)			Total hours worked (hours)		
aasa.y	Feb-21	Feb-20	Change (y/y)	Feb-21	Feb-20	Change (y/y)	Feb-21	Feb-20	Change (y/y)	Feb-21	Feb-20	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	52.5	44.9	7.6	2,078.10	1,990.88	87.22	109.1	89.4	19.7	40.2	39.8	0.4
Utilities	8.8	8.7	0.1	1,797.00	1,914.52	(117.52)	15.8	16.7	(0.8)	38.5	39.3	(0.8)
Construction	49.8	54.1	(4.3)	1,442.10	1,284.94	157.16	71.8	69.5	2.3	40.1	39.8	0.3
Manufacturing	40.2	31.5	8.7	1,282.70	1,385.96	(103.26)	51.6	43.7	7.9	40.0	40.2	(0.3)
Wholesale Trade	20.7	21.2	(0.5)	1,415.10	1,330.63	84.47	29.3	28.2	1.1	39.8	39.4	0.4
Retail Trade	74.2	80.9	(6.7)	791.50	727.20	64.30	58.7	58.8	(0.1)	33.8	33.8	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	41.0	43.8	(2.8)	1,172.20	1,283.99	(111.79)	48.1	56.2	(8.2)	37.3	38.2	(0.9)
Information and Cultural Industries	13.5	8.6	4.9	1,503.70	1,141.23	362.47	20.3	9.8	10.5	39.1	37.3	1.7
Finance and Insurance	30.4	19.1	11.3	1,428.80	1,491.79	(62.99)	43.4	28.5	14.9	39.5	39.4	0.1
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	6.0	7.0	(1.0)	1,374.60	1,296.28	78.32	8.2	9.1	(0.8)	39.8	38.7	1.1
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	64.0	60.7	3.3	1,503.50	1,517.44	(13.94)	96.2	92.1	4.1	37.9	38.6	(0.7)
Administrative and Support	22.2	20.6	1.6	997.80	988.13	9.67	22.2	20.4	1.8	35.1	38.3	(3.2)
Educational Services	64.7	61.0	3.7	1,315.20	1,200.02	115.18	85.1	73.2	11.9	34.3	33.7	0.6
Health Care and Social Assistance	92.9	96.1	(3.2)	1,073.80	1,171.42	(97.62)	99.8	112.6	(12.8)	33.7	33.9	(0.3)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	7.4	16.5	(9.1)	782.20	770.40	11.80	5.8	12.7	(6.9)	31.3	29.6	1.7
Accommodation and Food Services	43.8	52.7	(8.9)	451.20	526.57	(75.37)	19.8	27.8	(8.0)	26.9	29.6	(2.8)
Other Services (except Public Admin)	23.8	26.3	(2.5)	1,138.60	959.99	178.61	27.1	25.2	1.9	36.6	35.4	1.2
Public Administration	18.7	27.0	(8.3)	1,672.10	1,727.77	(55.67)	31.3	46.6	(15.4)	37.5	37.8	(0.3)
All Industries	677.0	683.3	(6.3)	1,250.10	1,204.49	45.61	846.3	823.0	23.3	36.9	36.7	0.2

*** Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, March 12, 2021

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^{*} Data used in this report for the Calgary Economic Region (CER) and Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) is 3-month moving average, not seasonally adjusted. Note: Since our last Labour Market Review, Statistics Canada has revised its Labour Force Survey estimates including historical data.