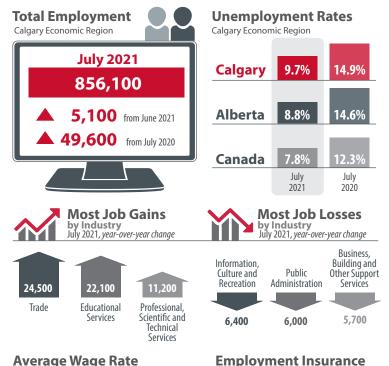


# Market Rev

Clyde Pawluk, Senior Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

## Highlights\*:



### **Average Wage Rate**

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area July 2021, year-over-year change





# 4.6%



May 2021 76*.*020 recipients **293.7**% from May 2020

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

### **Employment situation in Calgary continues to improve**

Total employment in the Calgary Economic Region (CER) increased by 5,100 persons in July 2021, the same pace as last month. Since July 2020, total employment increased by 49,600. Alberta's unemployment rate dropped slightly to 8.8 per cent in July 2021, down from 9.0 per cent in June 2021. In Canada, the unemployment rate of 7.8 per cent remained lower than in the CER and Alberta.

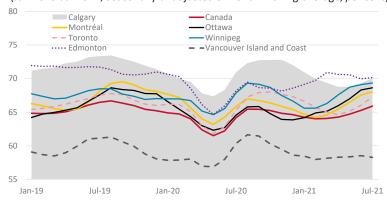
The monthly changes in the unemployment numbers reflects more normal 'back to work' transportation and warehousing activities while also showing normal seasonal fluctuation in education and the easing of health measures in Alberta. The month-over-month employment gains were led by growth in Transportation (+4,600), Accommodations and Food Services (+3,600), and Construction (+2,900) but offset by losses in Education Services (-4,400), Warehousing (-3,500), and Health Care and Social Assistance (-3,300).

### Calgary unemployment rate bumps up as people rejoin the labour force after a prolonged absence

The July Labour Force Survey was conducted at the start of Alberta's "Open for Summer" period when almost all provincial public health measures were dropped. Restaurants, indoor recreation and entertainment, as well as gyms and fitness studios were permitted to be open without restrictions. Businesses have responded as people begin poking their heads outside cautiously. Plexiglass partitions started coming down and the Calgary Stampede went ahead, with a smaller footprint and fewer attractions than previous years.

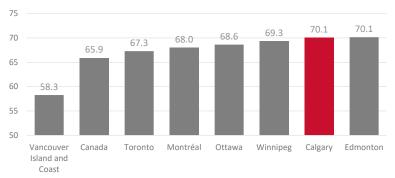
Traditionally, Calgary has an exceptionally high employment rate. Over age 15, more people tend to be employed in Calgary compared to other Canadian cities, but it's also more volatile. During prolonged recessions proportionally more people leave the labour force in Calgary than other cities and during recoveries proportionally more people jump back into the labour market in Calgary than anywhere else. Everyone hopes open for summer means open for business on a more permanent basis and hiring signs have gone up. Over the past 18 months the job market in Calgary has been volatile with many people shifting work during pandemic lockdowns. With the reopening, people are jumping back into the job market in Calgary at an accelerating pace. In Calgary, 11,000 persons rejoined the labour force in the last month, while only 5,100 new jobs were filled, causing the unemployment rate to increase from 9.1 per cent in June 2021 to 9.7 per cent in July 2021.

Chart 1. Monthly Employment Rate Comparison (Jan 2019-Jul 2021, seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2. Employment Rate Comparison (Jul 2021, seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.



# Market Re

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August 6, 2021

#### **Table 1 Labour Force Statistics**

(Seasonally unadjusted 3-month-moving-average)

	Description	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-20	Annual Change		Description	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-20	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,352.8	1,351.7	1,336.5	16.3		Working Age Population ('000)	3,538.3	3,536.4	3,505.9	32.4
NO NO	Labour Force ('000)	947.8	936.7	948.2	(0.4)		Labour Force ('000)	2,465.7	2,452.2	2,415.5	50.2
REG	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.1	69.3	70.9	(0.8)	≰	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	69.7	69.3	68.9	0.8
CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Employment ('000)	856.1	851.0	806.5	49.6	ALBERTA	Employment ('000)	2,248.4	2,232.4	2,063.0	185.4
	Employment Rate (%)	63.3	63.0	60.3	3.0	₹	Employment Rate (%)	63.5	63.1	58.8	4.7
	Unemployment ('000)	91.7	85.6	141.7	(50.0)		Unemployment ('000)	217.2	219.8	352.5	(135.3)
	Unemployment Rate (%)	9.7	9.1	14.9	(5.2)		Unemployment Rate (%)	8.8	9.0	14.6	(5.8)

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, August 6, 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)		
muusti y	Jul-21	Jul-20	Change (y/y)	Jul-21	Jul-20	Change (y/y)	Jul-21	Jul-20	Change (y/y)	Jul-21	Jul-20	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	45.6	44.6	1.0	2,180.50	2,010.75	169.75	99.4	89.7	9.8	41.4	40.5	0.9
Utilities	7.7	10.0	(2.3)	2,056.10	1,939.27	116.83	15.8	19.4	(3.6)	39.5	39.3	0.2
Construction	57.1	50.9	6.2	1,371.80	1,549.12	(177.32)	78.3	78.9	(0.5)	40.8	41.2	(0.4)
Manufacturing	42.3	39.4	2.9	1,263.20	1,382.31	(119.11)	53.4	54.5	(1.0)	39.5	39.8	(0.3)
Wholesale Trade	26.5	29.0	(2.5)	1,354.30	1,343.39	10.91	35.9	39.0	(3.1)	39.7	38.4	1.3
Retail Trade	76.6	57.9	18.7	768.00	782.20	(14.20)	58.8	45.3	13.5	34.1	34.1	0.0
Transportation and Warehousing	37.9	36.9	1.0	1,356.60	1,382.92	(26.32)	51.4	51.0	0.4	39.1	39.5	(0.4)
Information and Cultural Industries	11.7	10.7	1.0	1,587.20	1,375.99	211.21	18.6	14.7	3.8	38.8	37.7	1.1
Finance and Insurance	25.2	22.1	3.1	1,324.20	1,343.39	(19.19)	33.4	29.7	3.7	38.6	37.3	1.3
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	13.1	8.7	4.4	1,281.20	1,150.39	130.81	16.8	10.0	6.8	38.2	37.3	0.9
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	63.4	57.0	6.4	1,451.90	1,629.92	(178.02)	92.1	92.9	(0.9)	39.0	38.4	0.6
Administrative and Support	20.7	23.7	(3.0)	927.80	1,098.87	(171.07)	19.2	26.0	(6.8)	38.2	39.1	(1.0)
Educational Services	64.2	44.1	20.1	1,206.30	1,263.23	(56.93)	77.4	55.7	21.7	35.3	35.2	0.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	92.7	79.7	13.0	1,034.40	1,179.90	(145.50)	95.9	94.0	1.9	33.4	34.5	(1.1)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	9.8	14.5	(4.7)	838.00	723.55	114.45	8.2	10.5	(2.3)	35.1	29.8	5.3
Accommodation and Food Services	36.7	34.1	2.6	471.30	501.05	(29.75)	17.3	17.1	0.2	26.8	29.3	(2.6)
Other Services (except Public Admin)	29.2	25.2	4.0	1,142.90	905.70	237.20	33.4	22.8	10.5	38.5	35.0	3.5
Public Administration	21.8	28.7	(6.9)	1,747.00	1,709.98	37.02	38.1	49.1	(11.0)	37.2	38.1	(0.9)
All Industries	683.7	618.2	65.5	1,235.60	1,295.60	(60.00)	844.8	800.9	43.8	37.4	37.5	(0.0)

\*\*\* Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, August 6, 2021.

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<sup>\*</sup> 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: In February 2021, Statistics Canada revised its Labour Force Survey estimates including historical data.