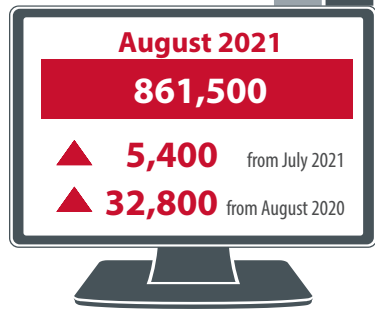


Highlights*:

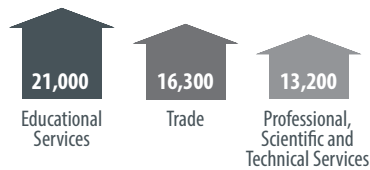
Total Employment

Calgary Economic Region



Most Job Gains by Industry

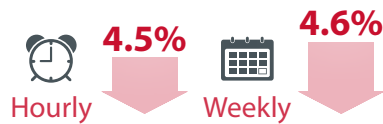
August 2021, year-over-year change



Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

August 2021, year-over-year change



Employment in the Calgary Region continues to grow, but outpaced by resurgent labour force

By the week of August 15-21, when the August Labour Force Survey was conducted by Statistics Canada, public health restrictions in Alberta had been lifted for well over a month. On August 9, Canada opened its border to non-essential travel for fully vaccinated Americans. These increasingly favourable conditions resulted in continued employment growth in the Calgary Economic Region (CER).

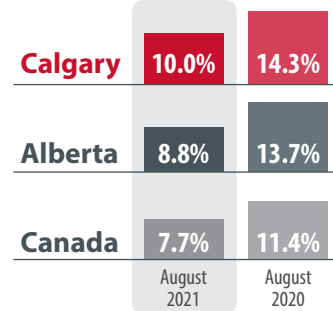
In August 2021, the three-month-average total employment in the CER had increased by 5,400 persons since July, and by 32,800 since August 2020, bringing total employment up to 861,500. However, the monthly increase in employment was outpaced by growth in the labour force. Workers who had been discouraged from seeking work during the pandemic stepped back into the market in August, as optimism soared amid a backdrop of vaccine distribution and a provincial energy industry bolstered by strengthened oil prices. With the labour force growing by 9,900 persons since the previous month, the unemployment rate also grew, rising to 10.0 per cent in August 2021. The August unemployment rate in Alberta was more favourable, remaining steady at 8.8 per cent, while the unemployment rate in Canada dropped slightly to 7.7 per cent.

Employment growth led by service-producing industries hit hard during the pandemic

The month-over-month employment gains in the CER were led by growth in Accommodation and Food Services (+5,000), Transportation and Warehousing (+4,400), and Information, Culture and Recreation (+3,400). It comes as no surprise that these three service-based industries,

Unemployment Rates

Calgary Economic Region



Most Job Losses by Industry

August 2021, year-over-year change



Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

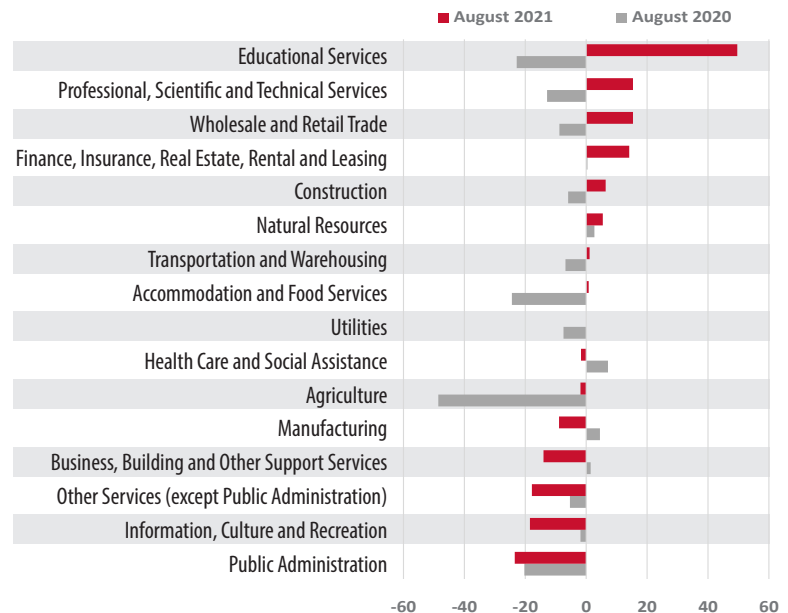


tries, which include within them tourism and hospitality activities, grew substantially. These industries suffered greatly from pandemic-related restrictions and had much to gain when restrictions were lifted.

Examining employment growth on a year-over-year basis, as seen in Chart 1, shows a different set of service-producing industries leading employment growth in the CER. The strongest year-over-year growth in August 2021 was seen in Educational Services (+49.6 per cent), Professional, Scientific, and Professional Services (+15.4 per cent), and Wholesale and Retail Trade (+15.4 per cent). These industries, which were also heavily impacted by the pandemic, have shown the greatest recovery since August 2020.

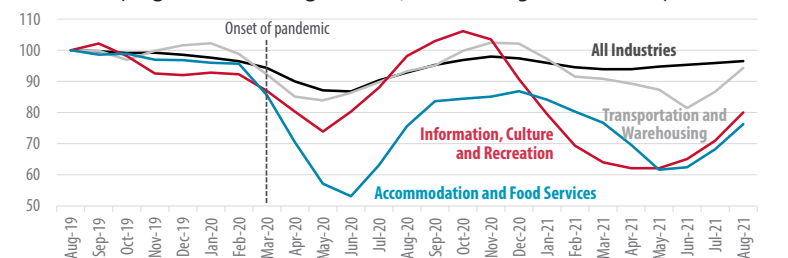
The tourism and hospitality-related industries of Accommodation and Food Services, Transportation and Warehousing, and Information, Culture and Recreation have not shown such strength on a year-over-year basis, despite showing the strongest month-over-month growth. Chart 2 sheds some light onto why this is the case. These industries, like most others, were severely impacted by the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020. Once the first wave had passed and many restrictions were lifted in the summer and fall of 2020, tourism and hospitality industries fared relatively well, with some subsectors even exceeding pre-pandemic levels of employment. However, while many industries showed more resilience in the face of the second and third waves of the pandemic in late 2020 and early 2021, employment in tourism and hospitality plummeted again. While a second recovery is now underway, employment in these hard-hit industries remains well below the brief peak seen in late 2020.

Chart 1: CER Month-over-year Employment Growth by Industry (August 2020 vs. August 2021, per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2: CER Monthly Employment for Selected Industries (August 2019 to August 2021, indexed August 2019=100)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

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

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION	Description	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-20	Annual Change	ALBERTA	Description	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-20	Annual Change
	Working Age Population ('000)	1,354.3	1,352.8	1,338.0	16.3		Working Age Population ('000)	3,541.3	3,538.3	3,509.1	32.2
Labour Force ('000)	957.7	947.8	967.3	(9.6)	Labour Force ('000)	2,475.1	2,465.7	2,451.2	23.9		
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.7	70.1	72.3	(1.6)	Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	69.9	69.7	69.9	0.0		
Employment ('000)	861.5	856.1	828.7	32.8	Employment ('000)	2,258.0	2,248.4	2,116.5	141.5		
Employment Rate (%)	63.6	63.3	61.9	1.7	Employment Rate (%)	63.8	63.5	60.3	3.5		
Unemployment ('000)	96.2	91.7	138.7	(42.5)	Unemployment ('000)	217.1	217.2	334.7	(117.6)		
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.0	9.7	14.3	(4.3)	Unemployment Rate (%)	8.8	8.8	13.7	(4.9)		

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, September 10, 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)		
	Aug-21	Aug-20	Change (y/y)	Aug-21	Aug-20	Change (y/y)	Aug-21	Aug-20	Change (y/y)	Aug-21	Aug-20	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	46.8	43.2	3.6	2,150.30	2,073.08	77.22	100.6	89.6	11.1	40.3	41.3	(1.0)
Utilities	7.6	8.5	(0.9)	2,217.00	2,010.28	206.72	16.8	17.1	(0.2)	39.3	39.6	(0.3)
Construction	56.4	54.0	2.4	1,365.70	1,549.01	(183.31)	77.0	83.6	(6.6)	41.3	41.5	(0.2)
Manufacturing	41.3	41.9	(0.6)	1,269.30	1,328.65	(59.35)	52.4	55.7	(3.2)	39.5	39.7	(0.2)
Wholesale Trade	28.4	33.7	(5.3)	1,304.80	1,350.70	(45.90)	37.1	45.5	(8.5)	39.7	38.8	0.8
Retail Trade	74.5	60.9	13.6	728.60	773.86	(45.26)	54.3	47.1	7.2	33.1	33.9	(0.8)
Transportation and Warehousing	41.8	39.4	2.4	1,378.90	1,331.53	47.37	57.6	52.5	5.2	39.5	38.6	0.9
Information and Cultural Industries	11.8	11.1	0.7	1,560.30	1,461.53	98.77	18.4	16.2	2.2	38.7	38.2	0.5
Finance and Insurance	25.4	24.9	0.5	1,264.90	1,428.28	(163.38)	32.1	35.6	(3.4)	38.6	37.5	1.1
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	12.5	8.4	4.1	1,320.70	1,067.16	253.54	16.5	9.0	7.5	37.4	35.7	1.7
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	63.5	57.4	6.1	1,484.20	1,699.23	(215.03)	94.2	97.5	(3.3)	39.0	38.6	0.3
Administrative and Support	21.4	25.2	(3.8)	945.90	1,054.04	(108.14)	20.2	26.6	(6.3)	38.0	39.0	(1.0)
Educational Services	57.3	39.3	18.0	1,224.30	1,287.36	(63.06)	70.2	50.6	19.6	35.4	35.9	(0.5)
Health Care and Social Assistance	87.0	81.9	5.1	1,022.00	1,117.53	(95.53)	88.9	91.5	(2.6)	33.2	34.2	(1.1)
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	13.2	16.8	(3.6)	774.30	607.55	166.75	10.2	10.2	0.0	36.4	27.3	9.1
Accommodation and Food Services	42.3	41.7	0.6	499.60	488.50	11.10	21.1	20.4	0.8	28.1	29.1	(1.0)
Other Services (except Public Admin)	27.2	25.2	2.0	1,152.80	832.67	320.13	31.4	21.0	10.4	38.2	33.6	4.6
Public Administration	22.0	30.1	(8.1)	1,762.10	1,735.31	26.79	38.8	52.2	(13.5)	36.9	38.3	(1.4)
All Industries	681.0	644.3	36.7	1,231.50	1,276.35	(44.85)	838.7	822.4	16.3	37.3	37.5	(0.2)

*** Excluding self-employed *Note: lack of data for Agriculture*
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, September 10, 2021

Next update: October 8, 2021

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* Labour force data used in this report is 3-month moving average, not seasonally adjusted.
Note: In February 2021, Statistics Canada revised its Labour Force Survey estimates including historical data.