

Highlights*:

Total Employment

Calgary Economic Region

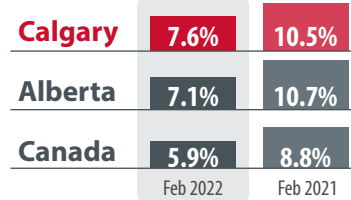


▲ **8,500** from Jan 2022

▲ **43,200** from Feb 2021

Unemployment Rates

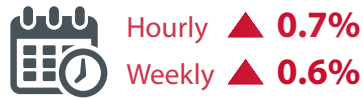
Calgary Economic Region



Average Wage Rate

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area

February 2022, year-over-year change



Alberta announces a three-step plan to remove COVID-19-related restrictions.

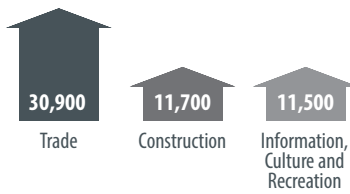
On February 9, 2022, Alberta Premier Jason Kenney announced the province's COVID-19 vaccine passport programme had ended. The reasoning for this decision was the province had moved past its peak of Omicron infections. The number of total active cases peaked at 71,640 on January 16, 2022, and had declined to 30,020 since then (February 6, 2022). The province also cited the threat of COVID-19 no longer outweighing the negative impact of health restrictions on our society. As a result, the provincial vaccine passport and face mask mandates will no longer be in effect. The second phase of the province's plan took effect on March 1, where restrictions including capacity limits, work-from-home requirements, indoor mask mandates, and screening for youth activities ended.

The Calgary Economic Region (CER) registered total employment gains of 8,500 from the previous month and year-over-year gains of 43,200, marking a 5.1 per cent y-o-y growth rate. The year-over-year gains in 2022 have been primarily driven by full employment (28,000 y-o-y gains in February 2022) relative to part-time employment (15,100 y-o-y gains in February 2022). The services sector, despite the y-o-y employment decline in February 2021, experienced a significant recovery in 2022 (45,800 y-o-y gains). The CER three-month-moving-average unemployment rate declined to 7.6 per cent in the month of February 2022, marking a 0.2 percentage point decline.

The month-over-month employment gains were led by Retail Trade (+3,900), Arts, Entertainment and Recreation (+3,100) and Public Administration (+1,700). However, these gains were offset by Construction (-1,800), and Transportation and Warehousing (-1,500).

Most Job Gains by Industry

Feb 2022, year-over-year change



Most Job Losses by Industry

Feb 2022, year-over-year change



Employment Insurance

Calgary Census Metropolitan Area



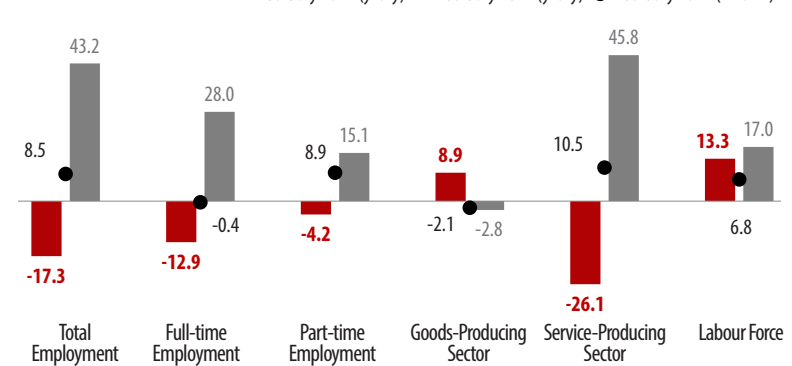
The removal of COVID-19-related restrictions is expected to provide an employment boost, particularly within close-contact services industries.

Retail trade has been the biggest driver of the y-o-y gains within the services sector. Retail trade grew by 25,400 between February 2021 and February 2022 as pent-up household demand unwound. The construction sector also recorded y-o-y gains of 11,700 for February.

Despite the gains recorded within the services sector, the accommodation and food services sector and the health care sector are yet to recover to pre-pandemic levels. The accommodation and food sector contracted by 9,600 in February 2021 and further by 5,800 in February 2022.

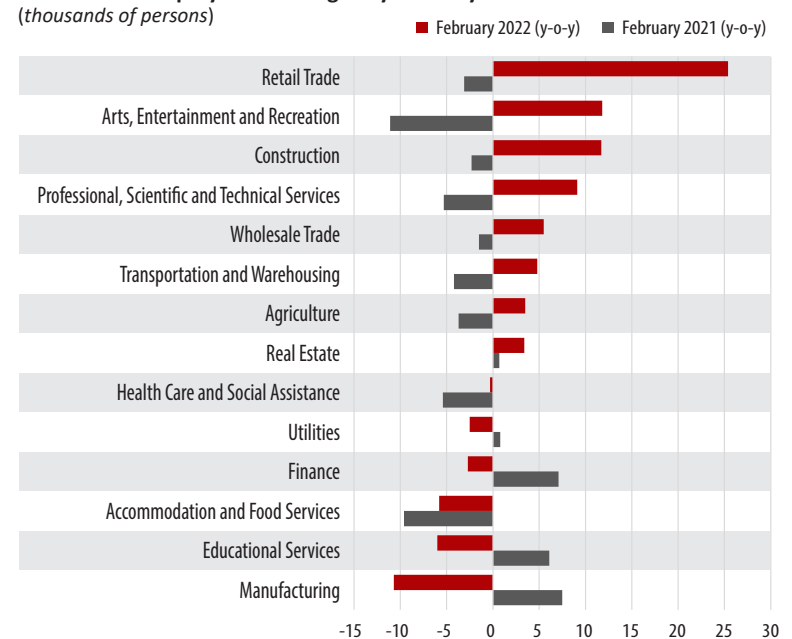
However, the combination of vaccination programs, easing of health restrictions, and a gradual increase in the reopening of businesses provide the catalyst for increases in employment within the accommodation and food services sector. The province is also working on a mandate to ensure people who test positive for COVID-19 will no longer have to isolate. With the removal of most health restrictions, the services sector is set to continue its recovery, with significant gains in employment within these close-contact sectors.

Chart 1: CER Employment and Labour Force Changes Since the Pre-Pandemic (thousands of persons)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

Chart 2: CER Employment Changes By Industry (thousands of persons)



Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics.

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

Description	Feb-22	Jan-22	Feb-21	Annual Change
Working Age Population ('000)	1,368.7	1,366.0	1,347.2	21.5
Labour Force ('000)	959.6	952.8	942.6	17.0
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	70.1	69.8	70.0	0.1
Employment ('000)	887.0	878.5	843.8	43.2
Employment Rate (%)	64.8	64.3	62.6	2.2
Unemployment ('000)	72.7	74.3	98.8	(26.1)
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.6	7.8	10.5	(2.9)

Description	Feb-22	Jan-22	Feb-21	Annual Change
Working Age Population ('000)	3,574.1	3,568.0	3,528.0	46.1
Labour Force ('000)	2,451.7	2,449.5	2,418.4	33.3
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	68.6	68.7	68.5	0.1
Employment ('000)	2,278.3	2,277.0	2,159.3	119.0
Employment Rate (%)	63.7	63.8	61.2	2.5
Unemployment ('000)	173.4	172.6	259.1	(85.7)
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	7.0	10.7	(3.6)

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, March 11, 2022

Table 2 Calgary CMA Wage by Industry

Industry	Total employees*** ('000 persons)			Average weekly earning (\$)			Total weekly wage bill (\$million)			Total hours worked (hours)		
	Feb-22	Feb-21	Change (y/y)	Feb-22	Feb-21	Change (y/y)	Feb-22	Feb-21	Change (y/y)	Feb-22	Feb-21	Change (y/y)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	50.7	52.5	(1.8)	2,135.07	2,078.10	56.97	108.2	109.1	(0.9)	40.3	40.2	0.1
Utilities	7.4	8.8	(1.4)	1,931.47	1,797.00	134.47	14.3	15.8	(1.5)	38.4	38.5	(0.1)
Construction	55.0	49.8	5.2	1,369.81	1,442.10	(72.29)	75.3	71.8	3.5	39.6	40.1	(0.4)
Manufacturing	32.1	40.2	(8.1)	1,531.74	1,282.70	249.04	49.2	51.6	(2.4)	39.8	40.0	(0.1)
Wholesale Trade	23.9	20.7	3.2	1,387.17	1,415.10	(27.93)	33.2	29.3	3.9	39.8	39.8	0.1
Retail Trade	102.8	74.2	28.6	762.48	791.50	(29.02)	78.4	58.7	19.7	32.9	33.8	(1.0)
Transportation and Warehousing	45.3	41.0	4.3	1,205.31	1,172.20	33.11	54.6	48.1	6.5	38.5	37.3	1.2
Information and Cultural Industries	12.0	13.5	(1.5)	1,321.01	1,503.70	(182.69)	15.9	20.3	(4.4)	38.4	39.1	(0.6)
Finance and Insurance	25.7	30.4	(4.7)	1,490.27	1,428.80	61.47	38.3	43.4	(5.1)	37.6	39.5	(1.9)
Real Estate Rental and Leasing	9.5	6.0	3.5	1,257.10	1,374.60	(117.50)	11.9	8.2	3.7	33.1	39.8	(6.7)
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	73.3	64.0	9.3	1,691.19	1,503.50	187.69	124.0	96.2	27.7	39.3	37.9	1.4
Administrative and Support	17.8	22.2	(4.4)	985.56	997.80	(12.24)	17.5	22.2	(4.6)	36.7	35.1	1.5
Educational Services	59.9	64.7	(4.8)	1,313.08	1,315.20	(2.12)	78.7	85.1	(6.4)	35.0	34.3	0.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	96.9	92.9	4.0	1,039.45	1,073.80	(34.35)	100.7	99.8	1.0	34.6	33.7	0.9
Arts Entertainment and Recreation	18.2	7.4	10.8	665.98	782.20	(116.22)	12.1	5.8	6.3	27.3	31.3	(4.0)
Accommodation and Food Services	36.0	43.8	(7.8)	476.22	451.20	25.02	17.1	19.8	(2.6)	26.7	26.9	(0.1)
Other Services (except Public Admin)	19.8	23.8	(4.0)	981.89	1,138.60	(156.71)	19.4	27.1	(7.7)	35.8	36.6	(0.8)
Public Administration	27.8	18.7	9.1	1,786.71	1,672.10	114.61	49.7	31.3	18.4	36.7	37.5	(0.8)
All Industries	715.3	677.0	38.3	1,257.71	1,250.10	7.61	899.6	846.3	53.3	36.8	36.9	(0.0)

*** Excluding self-employed Note: lack of data for Agriculture
Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, March 11, 2022

Next update: April 8, 2022

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* Labour force data used in this report is 3-month-moving-average, seasonally unadjusted.

Note: In February 2021, Statistics Canada revised its Labour Force Survey estimates including historical data.