

# Labour Market Notes

## Employment recovery continues

### Alberta

- **Employment continues to advance.** Alberta added 67,300 jobs in July, following gains in May and June. In the past three months, Alberta has recovered 187,100 or 52% of the 360,900 jobs lost between February and April.
- **Broad-based employment gains.** Both the services (+49,200 or +3.1%) and goods (+18,200 or +3.5%) sectors posted strong gains in the month, with employment increasing in 13 of 16 industries.
- **Recovery continues to be led by hard-hit industries.** The largest gains continued to be in the industries which were hardest hit by the public health measures, such as retail and wholesale trade (+14,600), food and accommodation (+14,300), health care and social assistance (+5,500), and other services (+5,100).
- **Private sector regains more ground.** The private sector has accounted for the majority of job losses and gains related to the pandemic. The private sector added 57,300 jobs in July, and over the last three months it has recouped 178,300 of the 333,000 jobs lost in March and April.
- **Part-time positions almost fully recovered.** Part-time employment increased by 36,900 in July and has increased by 111,500, or 38%, in the past three months to regain 83% of the losses between February and April.
- **Unemployment rate falls.** With the jump in employment, the unemployment rate declined for the first time since February. It fell 2.7 percentage points to 12.8%, as the labour force participation rate was unchanged after rebounding in the previous two months.
- **Employment remains below pre-COVID-19 levels.** Despite the gains over the past three months, employment in 14 of 16 industries remains below February levels. In percentage terms, employment in the accommodation and food services sector (-29%) has been the hardest hit.
- **Manufacturing weighs on goods sector recovery.** While the goods sector added jobs for the second month in a row, employment was 34,700 (or -9.3%) lower than in February. The weakness continued to be concentrated in manufacturing, while construction managed to recover much of its decline over the past two months.
- **Fewer Albertans are missing work.** In June, there were 152,400 Albertans who were employed but did not work during the reference week. This was down from the high of 248,800 in April, but still 73,500 more than a year ago.
- **Many are still reluctant to look for work.** In June, 84,400 Albertans wanted a job but did not search for work. While this was down from over 220,000 in April, it is significantly more than the 48,100 last July.

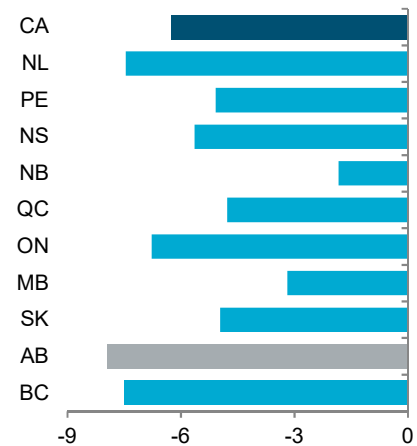
### Canada

- **Employment recovery slows.** After adding nearly 1 million jobs in June, employment in Canada rose by 418,500 in July. Employment increased in nine of the ten provinces, with the largest gains in the most populous provinces.
- **Unemployment rate falls.** The national unemployment rate fell 1.4 percentage points for the second consecutive month to 10.9% in July.

### EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY PROVINCE

July 2020 vs. July 2019

(year-over-year % change)



Source: Statistics Canada

### ALBERTA LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

Indicator	Latest*
Employment	2,156,100
month-over-month change	67,300
year-over-year % change	-7.9%
Alberta Unemployment Rate (UR)	12.8%
Edmonton UR**	15.0%
Calgary UR**	15.5%
Participation Rate	69.1%
Average Weekly Earnings (AWE)	\$1,256.02
year-over-year % change	6.1%
Average Hourly Wage	\$32.98
year-over-year % change	5.5%
Job Vacancy Rate***	2.6%

Source: Statistics Canada

\* All data is from the July 2020 Labour Force Survey, except AWE which is the May 2020 Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours, and the Job Vacancy Rate which is the third quarter 2019 Job Vacancy and Wage Survey.

\*\* This indicator is calculated as a three month moving average and is seasonally adjusted.

\*\*\* This indicator is reported quarterly.

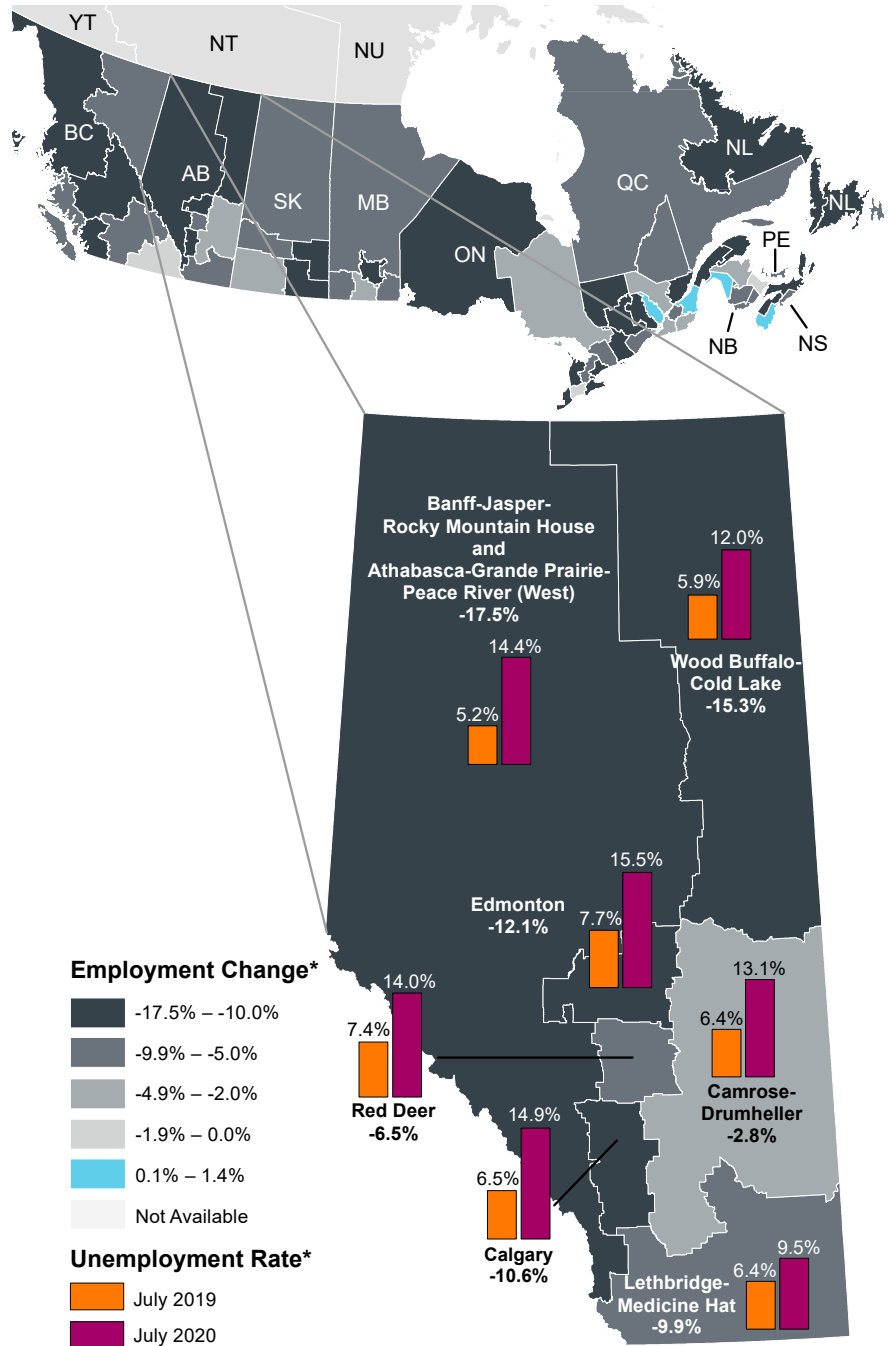
# Regional labour market indicators

	2017	2019	2020 YTD
<b>Alberta</b>			
Population	1.2	1.6	1.7
Labour Force	0.5	0.9	-2.9
Employment	1.9	0.5	-6.9
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.9	10.7
<b>Calgary</b>			
Population	1.8	2.3	2.4
Labour Force	0.0	2.5	-2.3
Employment	0.9	3.0	-6.4
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.1	11.0
<b>Edmonton</b>			
Population	1.8	2.1	2.2
Labour Force	0.7	1.7	-4.1
Employment	2.6	0.7	-8.4
Unemployment Rate	6.4	7.3	11.3
<b>West</b>			
Population	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Labour Force	2.9	-1.2	-4.4
Employment	3.9	-1.1	-9.9
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.5	10.8
<b>Lethbridge - Medicine Hat</b>			
Population	0.4	1.0	0.9
Labour Force	-0.6	0.1	-2.7
Employment	0.0	-0.8	-3.7
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.0	7.1
<b>Red Deer</b>			
Population	0.6	0.9	0.9
Labour Force	3.1	-4.8	-1.7
Employment	4.8	-6.2	-6.9
Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.7	11.1
<b>Camrose - Drumheller</b>			
Population	-0.6	-0.3	-0.2
Labour Force	-0.2	-7.1	8.4
Employment	2.8	-8.4	7.3
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.5	9.2
<b>Wood Buffalo - Cold Lake</b>			
Population	-2.1	-2.3	-2.3
Labour Force	-2.0	-0.9	-8.3
Employment	-0.2	-0.6	-10.7
Unemployment Rate	5.9	5.6	8.4

Source: Statistics Canada  
 All number are percent growth, except unemployment rates.

## EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY ECONOMIC REGION

Per cent change in year-over-year employment



\*Based on three-month moving averages.

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