



ALBERTA LABOUR FORCE PROFILES

Aged 45 and Older

2013

Alberta 

Highlights

1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- At 45.4%, Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in Canada in 2013.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 39.3% between 2003 and 2013.

2. Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- In 2013, 39.0% of Alberta's labour force was aged 45 and older.
- At 62.9%, Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest labour force participation rate among the provinces.
- The employment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older at 60.2% was the highest in the country.
- The unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older at 4.2% was lower than the provincial rate, 4.6%.

3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

- In 2013, 71.9% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector.
- Of all Albertans employed in the Agricultural industry, 58.6% were aged 45 and older.

4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

- Business, finance and administration; Sales and service; Trades, transport and equipment operators; and Management occupations employed 65.9% of Albertans aged 45 and older.
- Higher proportions of Albertans aged 45 and older than Alberta's working age population were employed in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administration; Unique to primary industry; and Social Science, Education, Government and Religion.

5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

- The percentage of Alberta's labour force aged 45 and older with a university degree was 23.9% in 2013.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force with a Postsecondary education increased by 206,200, or 58.9% during the past decade.

1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

For the purpose of this profile, working age population (WAP) refers to people who are 15 years and older (please refer to the [Appendix](#) for definitions of labour force terms).

Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in 2013 at 45.4%, up from 41.6% in 2003 (Figure 1). Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest proportion at 57.8%.

Figure 1

People Aged 45 and Older, Canada and Provinces, 2003 and 2013						
	2003			2013		
	15+ years	45+ years	% 45+ years	15+ years	45+ years	% 45+ years
Canada	25,098,500	11,595,700	46.2%	28,673,200	14,844,000	51.8%
Newfoundland and Labrador	427,400	205,600	48.1%	429,500	248,300	57.8%
Prince Edward Island	109,500	52,900	48.3%	120,800	67,600	56.0%
Nova Scotia	753,300	370,000	49.1%	781,400	443,900	56.8%
New Brunswick	603,400	293,300	48.6%	620,000	353,400	57.0%
Quebec	6,040,300	2,899,900	48.0%	6,691,400	3,593,200	53.7%
Ontario	9,745,700	4,395,600	45.1%	11,203,800	5,743,900	51.3%
Manitoba	875,200	413,000	47.2%	973,500	493,500	50.7%
Saskatchewan	746,200	357,400	47.9%	826,100	417,900	50.6%
Alberta	2,482,600	1,032,900	41.6%	3,172,400	1,438,900	45.4%
British Columbia	3,315,000	1,575,000	47.5%	3,854,500	2,043,300	53.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Albertans aged 45 to 54 accounted for 17.6% of the working age population in 2013, down from 18.4% in 2003 (Figure 2). Those aged 55 to 64 years were 14.3% of Alberta's working age population in 2013 compared to 11.0% in 2003. Albertans aged 65 years and over accounted for 13.5% of working age population in 2013 compared to 12.2% in 2003.

Figure 2

Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2003 and 2013				
	2003		2013	
	Number	% of WAP	Number	% of WAP
45 years and over	1,032,900	41.6%	1,438,900	45.4%
45-54 years	456,600	18.4%	558,000	17.6%
55-64 years	273,700	11.0%	453,000	14.3%
65+ years	302,600	12.2%	428,000	13.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2003, the working age population in Alberta was over 2.4 million (Figure 3). By 2013, it had increased by 27.8% to over 3.1 million. In the last 10 years, Canadians aged 45 and older increased by 28.0%, or approximately 3.2 million people. Albertans aged 45 years and over accounted for 12.5% of the total Canadian increase within this age group.

The growth rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 11.3 percentage points higher than the growth rate of Canadians aged 45 and older. During the past 10 years, Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 39.3%, compared to Canada's 28.0%. However, Alberta's working age population increased by 27.8% over this period compared to the increase of 14.2% for Canada's working age population over the same period.

Figure 3

Working Age Population (15+ years), Canada and Alberta, 2003 and 2013				
	2003	2013	Growth	% Growth
Canadians	25,098,500	28,673,200	3,574,700	14.2%
Canadians Aged 45 and Older	11,595,700	14,844,000	3,248,300	28.0%
Albertans	2,482,600	3,172,400	689,800	27.8%
Albertans Aged 45 and Older	1,032,900	1,438,900	406,000	39.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The population of Alberta aged 55-64 increased by 65.5% over the ten-year period compared to 22.2% for the 45-54 year olds and 41.4% for those aged 65 and over (Figure 4).

Figure 4

Growth of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2003 and 2013				
	2003	2013	Growth	% Growth
45+ years	1,032,900	1,438,900	406,000	39.3%
45-54 years	456,600	558,000	101,400	22.2%
55-64 years	273,700	453,000	179,300	65.5%
65+ years	302,600	428,000	125,400	41.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

2. Labour Force Statistics for Albertans Aged 45 and Older

In 2013, Albertans aged 45 years and older accounted for 39.0% of the provincial labour force and 35.4% of those who were unemployed (Figure 5).

Figure 5

Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older, 2013			
	Albertans (15+ Years)	Albertans (45+ years)	Proportion of Albertans Aged 45 and Older
Working Age Population	3,172,400	1,438,900	45.4%
Labour Force	2,318,200	904,700	39.0%
Employment	2,211,000	866,800	39.2%
Unemployment	107,200	37,900	35.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.2%	---
Participation Rate	73.1%	62.9%	---
Employment Rate	69.7%	60.2%	---

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, Albertans aged 65 years and over had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.4% (Figure 6). However, they had the lowest participation and employment rates when compared to those aged 45-54 years and 55-64 years.

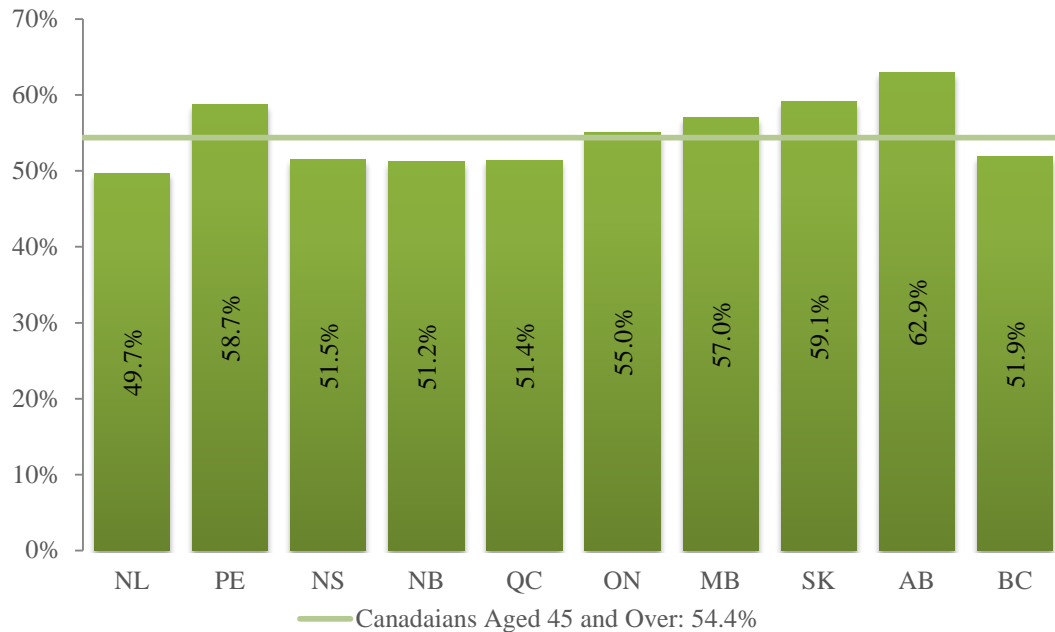
Figure 6

Labour Force Characteristics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2013				
	45+ years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65+ years
Working Age Population	1,438,900	558,000	453,000	428,000
Labour Force	904,700	489,100	332,400	83,200
Employment	866,800	469,500	316,900	80,300
Unemployment	37,900	19,600	15,500	2,800
Unemployment rate	4.2%	4.0%	4.7%	3.4%
Participation rate	62.9%	87.7%	73.4%	19.4%
Employment rate	60.2%	84.1%	70.0%	18.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest participation rate in Canada at 62.9% (Figure 7). This was 8.5 percentage points higher than the national average.

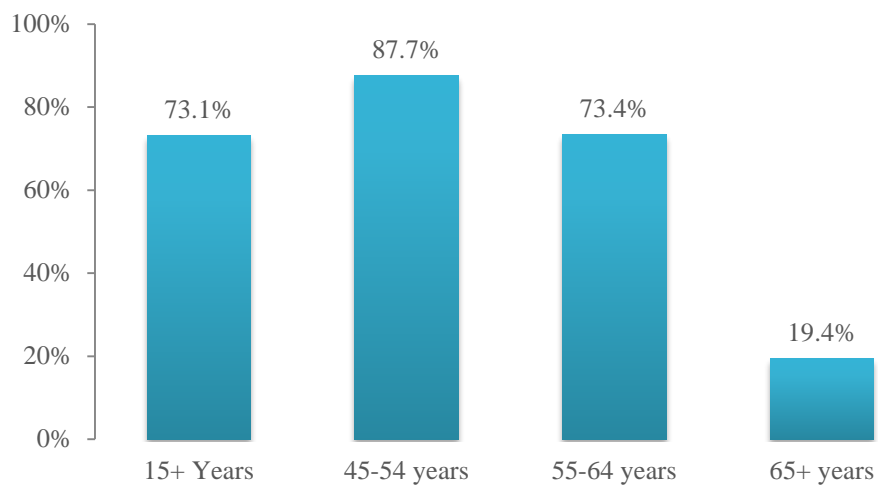
Figure 7
Participation Rate of People Aged 45 and Older by Province, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

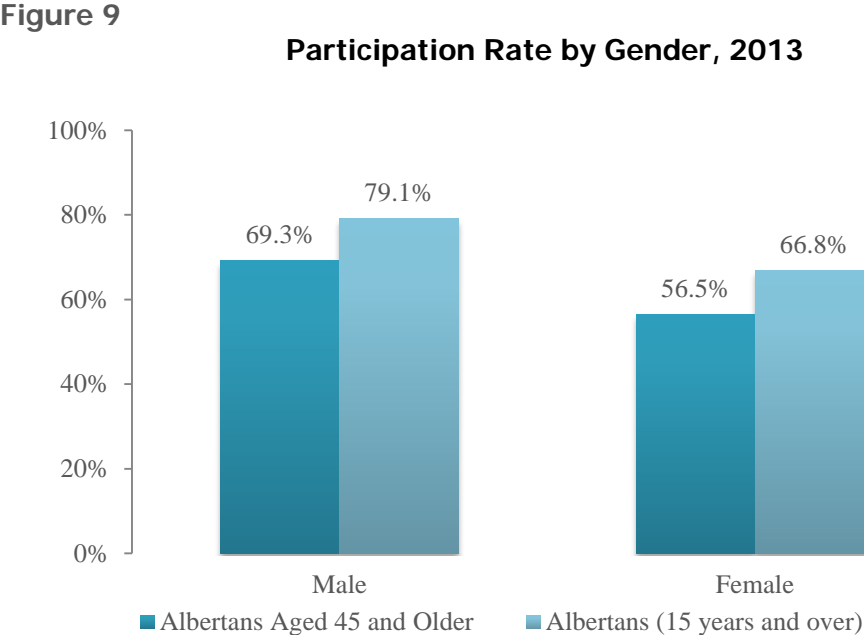
The participation rate of Albertans aged 45-54, at 87.7%, was the highest among the three age groups and was 14.6 percentage points higher than the provincial rate, 73.1% (Figure 8).

Figure 8
Participation Rate by Age Group in Alberta, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

For both genders, Albertans aged 45 and older had a lower participation rate than the provincial counterparts' average (Figure 9). Females aged 45 and older had a participation rate of 56.5%, which was 12.8 percentage points below the rate for males aged 45 and older.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, Albertans aged 45 years and older had the highest employment rate among all provinces at 60.2% (Figure 10). This was 9.0 percentage points higher than the Canadian average for people aged 45 and older.

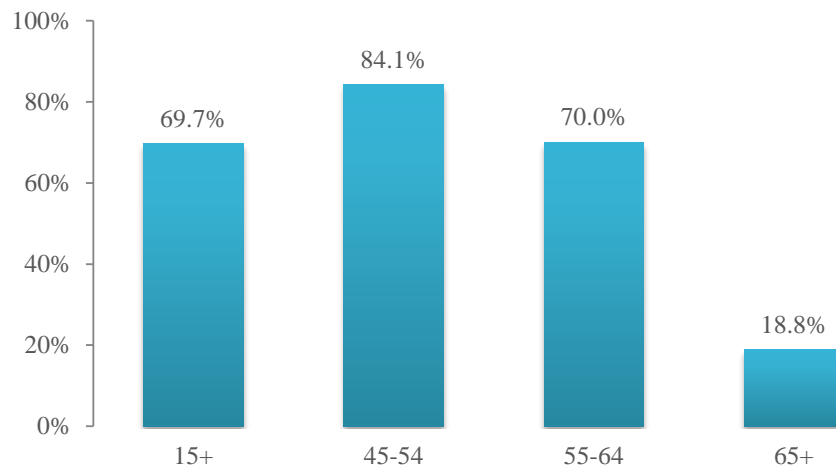
Figure 10
Employment Rate of People Aged 45 and Older by Province, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, the employment rate of Albertans aged 45-54 years was the highest among the three age groups and was 14.4 percentage points higher than the provincial rate 69.7% (Figure 11).

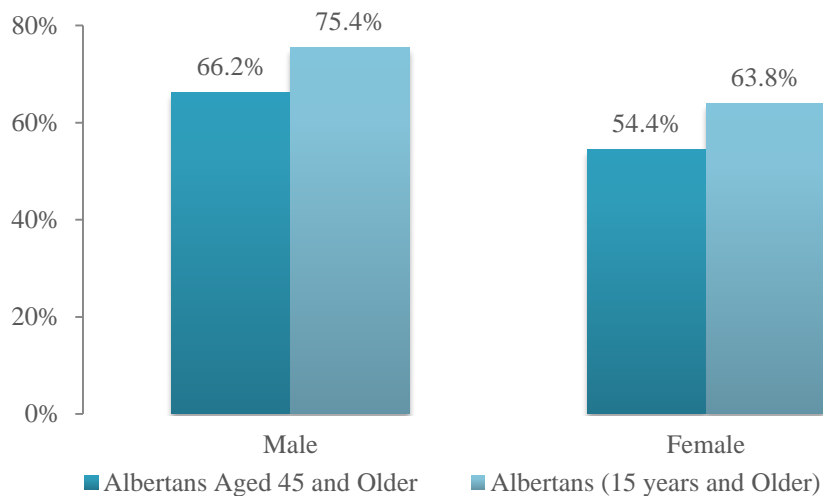
Figure 11
Employment Rate by Age Group, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The employment rate of females aged 45 and older was 11.8 percentage points lower than their male counterparts and 15.3 percentage points lower than the provincial rate 69.7% (Figure 12).

Figure 12
Employment Rate by Gender, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, the proportion of employment that is full-time was highest among those aged 45-54. The proportion of employment that is part-time among those aged 65 years and older was more than double the provincial level of 15.9% (Figure 13).

Approximately one in ten employed workers aged 45-54 worked part-time compared to four in ten for employed workers aged 65 years and over.

Figure 13
Full-time/Part-time Employment by Age Group in Alberta, 2013

	Total Employment	Full-time		Part-time	
		Number	%	Number	%
15+	2,211,000	1,859,900	84.1%	351,000	15.9%
45+ years	866,800	732,000	84.4%	134,800	15.6%
45-54 years	469,500	418,100	89.1%	51,500	11.0%
55-64 years	316,900	262,700	82.9%	54,200	17.1%
65+ years	80,300	51,200	63.8%	29,200	36.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013
Note: Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

Albertans aged 45 and older had a higher proportion of full-time employment than Albertans aged 15 years and over (Figure 14). The share of Alberta males aged 45 and older in full-time employment was 91.4% compared to 76.2% for females aged 45 and older.

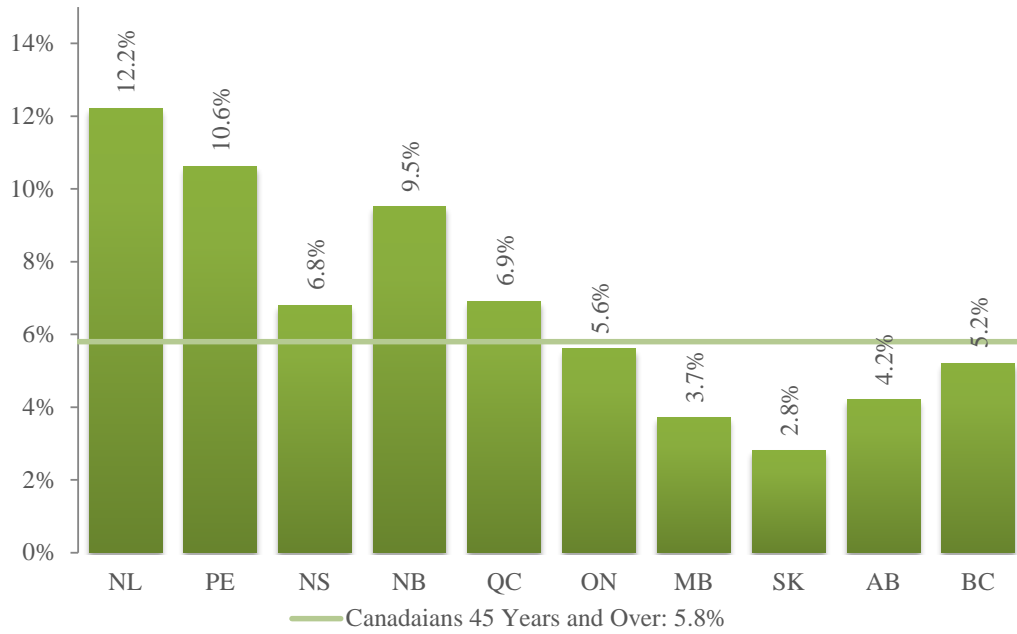
Figure 14

Full-time/Part-time Employment by Gender, Alberta, 2013				
	Albertans (45+ years)		Albertans (15+ Years)	
	Employment	Proportion	Employment	Proportion
Both Genders	866,800	100.0%	2,211,000	100.0%
Full-time	732,000	84.4%	1,859,900	84.1%
Part-time	134,800	15.6%	351,000	15.9%
Male	472,400	100.0%	1,216,800	100.0%
Full-time	431,600	91.4%	1,107,800	91.0%
Part-time	40,800	8.6%	109,000	9.0%
Female	394,400	100.0%	994,100	100.0%
Full-time	300,400	76.2%	752,100	75.7%
Part-time	94,000	23.8%	242,000	24.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The unemployment rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 4.2% in 2013, the third lowest in the country behind Saskatchewan's 2.8% and Manitoba's 3.7% (Figure 15).

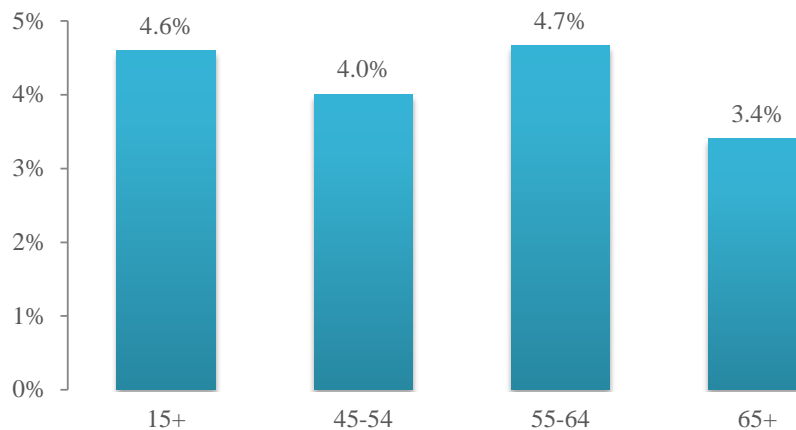
Figure 15
Unemployment Rate of People Aged 45 and Older by Province, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

The unemployment rates for Albertans aged 45-54 and 65 years were lower than the provincial rate at 4.6%, in 2013 (Figure 16).

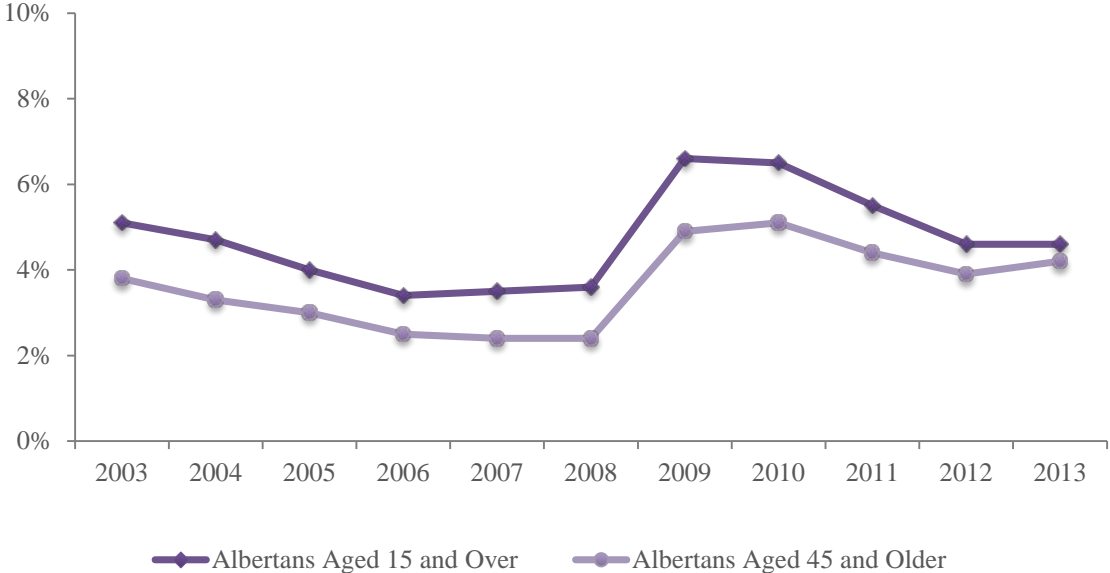
Figure 16
Unemployment Rate by Age Group, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Alberta's unemployment rate at 4.6% in 2013 was unchanged from the previous year (Figure 17). The rate for Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 0.3 percentage points to 4.2% in 2013 from 2012. Over the last ten years, unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older was consistently lower than the provincial rate.

Figure 17
Unemployment Rates, 2003-2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

In 2013, 71.9% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector while the rest were employed in the Goods-Producing sector (Figure 18). Males accounted for 76.7% of Albertans aged 45 and older who were employed in the Goods-Producing sector and females accounted for 23.3%. In the Services-Producing sector, the male share of employed aged 45 and older was 45.8% and 54.2% were female.

Of the 394,400 employed female Albertans aged 45 and older, 58.5% were employed in the following five main industries: Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Educational Services, Professional, scientific and technical services and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing.

The following five industries employed 51.0% of male Albertans aged 45 and older: Construction; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Manufacturing; Transportation and Warehousing; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

Figure 18

Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry and Gender, 2013			
	Albertans (45+ years)	Male (45+ years)	Female (45+ years)
Goods-producing sector	243,600	76.7%	23.3%
Agriculture	37,100	69.2%	30.8%
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	65,500	74.3%	25.7%
Utilities	6,400	76.1%	23.9%
Construction	76,800	83.2%	16.8%
Manufacturing	57,800	75.7%	24.3%
Services-producing sector	623,200	45.8%	54.2%
Wholesale trade	33,800	75.5%	24.5%
Retail trade	81,300	40.7%	59.3%
Transportation and warehousing	54,500	77.9%	22.1%
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	49,000	43.8%	56.2%
Professional, scientific and technical services	73,000	57.6%	42.4%
Business, building and other support services	31,800	52.5%	47.5%
Educational services	62,400	33.9%	66.1%
Health care and social assistance	99,300	16.8%	83.2%
Information, culture and recreation	28,900	46.9%	53.1%
Accommodation and food services	26,300	39.2%	60.8%
Other services	37,500	52.3%	47.7%
Public administration	45,400	50.6%	49.4%
Total	866,800	54.5%	45.5%

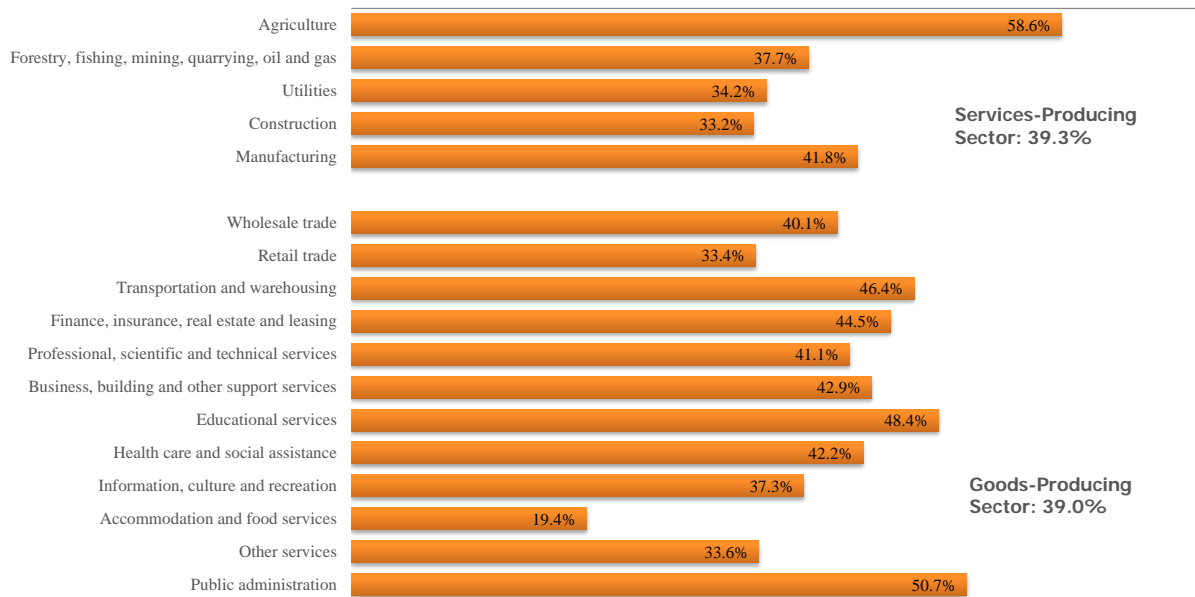
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Note: Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

In 2013, the Agricultural industry had the highest proportion of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 58.6%, followed by Public Administration, at 50.7% (Figure 19). Accommodation and Food Services had the lowest percentage of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 19.4%, followed by Construction, at 33.2%.

Figure 19

Share of Total Employment by Industry, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

The proportions of employed Albertans aged 45 and older were higher than the overall provincial shares in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administrative; Unique to primary industry; and Social Science, Education, Government and Religion (Figure 20).

Figure 20

Distribution of Employed Albertans and Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation, 2013

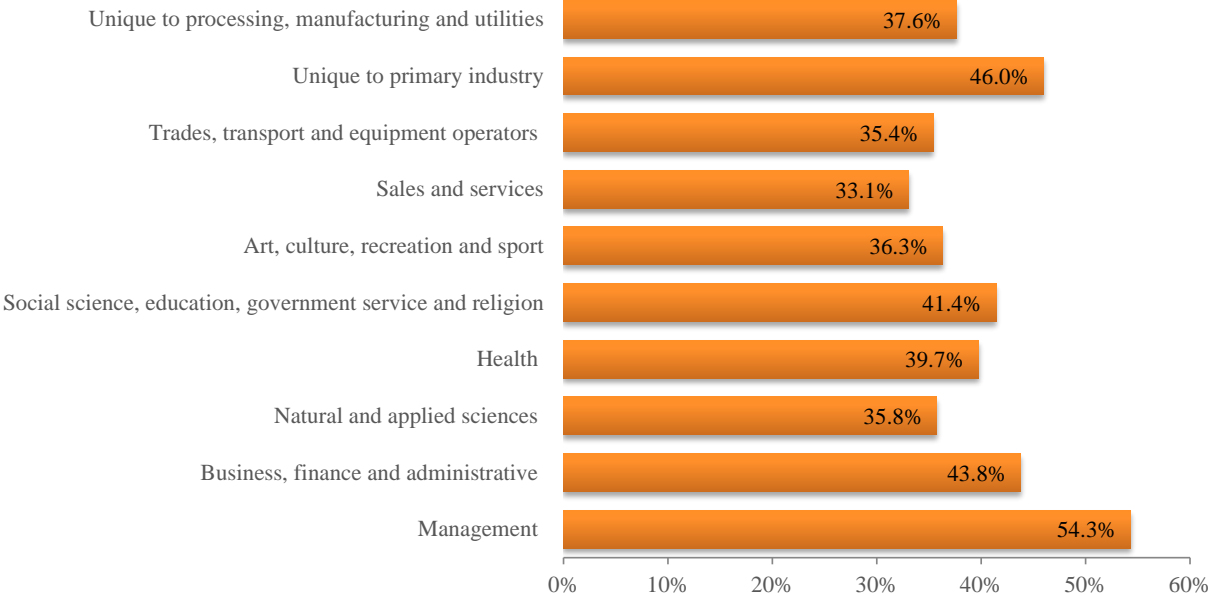
Occupation	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)
Management	7.5%	10.3%
Business, finance and administration	17.3%	19.3%
Natural and applied sciences	8.7%	8.0%
Health	6.1%	6.1%
Social science, education, government and religion	7.3%	7.8%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	2.5%	2.3%
Sales and services	22.8%	19.3%
Trades, transportation and equipment operators	18.8%	17.0%
Unique to primary industry	6.1%	7.1%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	2.9%	2.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

In 2013, Management had the highest percentage of employed people aged 45 and older, at 54.3%. Sales and service had the lowest share, at 33.1% (Figure 21).

Figure 21

Share of Total Employment by Occupation, 2013



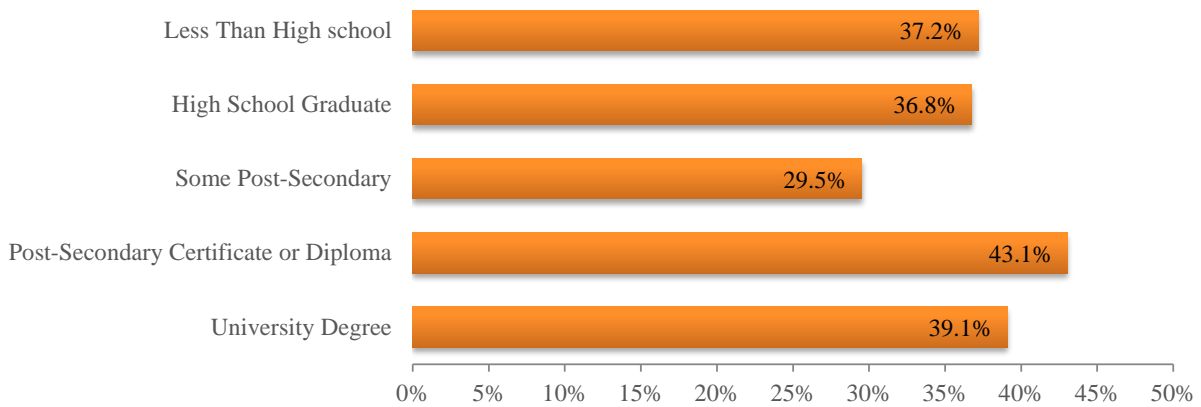
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

In 2013, Albertans aged 45 and older accounted for 37.2% of Albertans in the labour force who had less than high school as their highest educational attainment (Figure 22). They also accounted for 43.1% and 39.1% of Albertans in the labour force with a post-secondary certificate or diploma and university degree, respectively.

Overall, 23.9% of Albertans aged 45 and older had a university degree, the same as the provincial share.

Figure 22
Percentage of Albertans in the Labour Force by Education Level, 2013



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Between 2003 and 2013, the number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force that had completed high school as their highest level of education attained increased by 57.1% compared to 36.8% for Albertans 15 and older (Figure 23). Similarly, the number of people aged 45 and older in the labour force that have a university degree increased by 75.5% compared to an increase of 69.8% for Albertans 15 and older. Albertans aged 45 and over who had attained a post-secondary certificate or diploma as their highest level of education increased by 49.9% compared to the overall provincial increase of 29.7% over the same period.

Figure 23

Albertans in the Labour Force by Educational Level, 2003 and 2013						
Educational level	Albertans (15+ years)			Albertans (45+ years)		
	2003	2013	Change	2003	2013	Change
Less Than High school	296,000	266,000	-30,000	91,300	98,900	7,600
High School Graduate	406,800	556,300	149,500	130,200	204,500	74,300
Some Post-Secondary	188,800	153,400	-35,400	47,400	45,300	-2,100
Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma	607,700	788,300	180,600	226,400	339,400	113,000
University Degree	326,400	554,200	227,800	123,400	216,600	93,200

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

Among Albertans 45 years and over, those with a post-secondary certificate or diploma had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.9%, followed by those with a university degree at 4.1% in 2013 (Figure 24).

Figure 24

Educational Level	2003		2013	
	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)
Less Than High school	9.7%	N/A	8.6%	5.0%
High School Graduate	4.7%	3.6%	5.1%	4.2%
Some Post-Secondary	5.4%	4.6%	5.7%	5.1%
Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma	3.9%	3.8%	3.6%	3.9%
University Degree	3.5%	2.7%	3.4%	4.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2013

N/A: Insufficient data

Appendix

All definitions are from the [Guide to the Labour Force Survey 2013.pdf](#), Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

Employment Rate: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of working age population (WAP).

Full-time Employment: Those persons who usually work 30 hours or more per week at their main or only job.

Industry: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

Labour Force: The labour force is composed of the portion of the WAP who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. The reference week is defined as the week containing the 15th day of the month in which information is collected for the Labour Force Survey.

Occupation: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

Part-time Employment: Consists of all other persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week.

Participation Rate: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Working Age Population: Those persons 15+ years, except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

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