



2018 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review

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Employment

Employment grew by 1.9% in Alberta

In 2018, employment in Alberta was 43,800 higher than in 2017. The province's total employment rose to 2,330,700 in 2018, a 1.9% increase from the level in 2017.

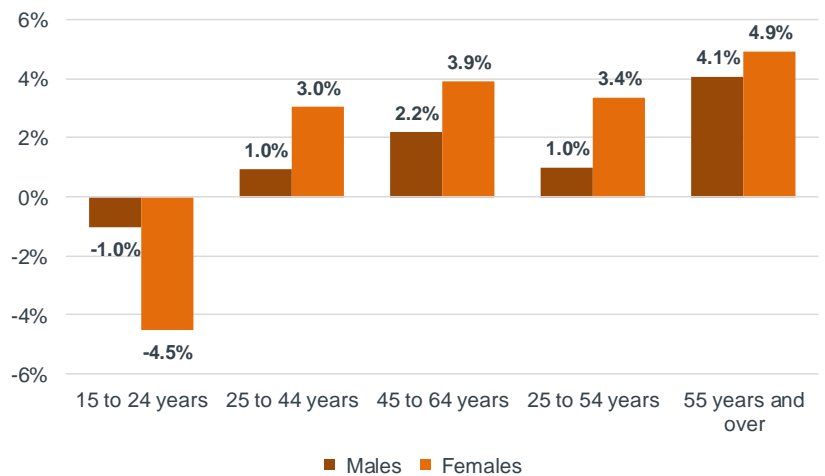
Alberta's annual growth rate of employment was above the national average at 1.3% in 2018 (See Figure 1). Nationally, employment in Canada rose by 241,100 in 2018.

Employment for men in Alberta rose by 1.4% or 17,000, and for women, it rose by 2.6% or 26,700 in 2018. The percent change in employment for those aged 55 years and over was markedly higher than all other groups (See Figure 2).

Figure 1
Provincial and National Employment, 2018

Province	Employment	Change from 2017	Per cent change
Alberta	2,330,700	43,800	1.9%
Canada	18,657,500	241,100	1.3%
Newfoundland and Labrador	225,300	1,200	0.5%
Prince Edward Island	76,000	2,300	3.1%
Nova Scotia	455,900	6,900	1.5%
New Brunswick	353,800	900	0.3%
Quebec	4,262,200	38,900	0.9%
Ontario	7,242,400	114,400	1.6%
Manitoba	647,700	3,600	0.6%
Saskatchewan	570,000	2,400	0.4%
British Columbia	2,493,600	26,800	1.1%

Figure 2
Percent Change in Employment, 2017-2018



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Employment rate in Alberta was the highest in Canada

Employment in Alberta rose for two consecutive years after falling in 2016 (See Figure 3). Annual average employment rose by 23,100 or 1.0% in 2017 and rose by 43,800 or 1.9% in 2018 to 2,330,700 (See Figure 3).

In 2018, Alberta's employment rate at 67.2% was the highest among all provinces. The Canadian employment rate was 61.6% (See Figure 4).

In 2018, Alberta's employment rate at 67.2% continued to be the higher than the national average. Alberta's rate at 67.2% was 0.5 percentage points higher than the year before (See Figure 5).

Figure 3
Alberta Annual Average Employment and Growth Rate, 2014-2018

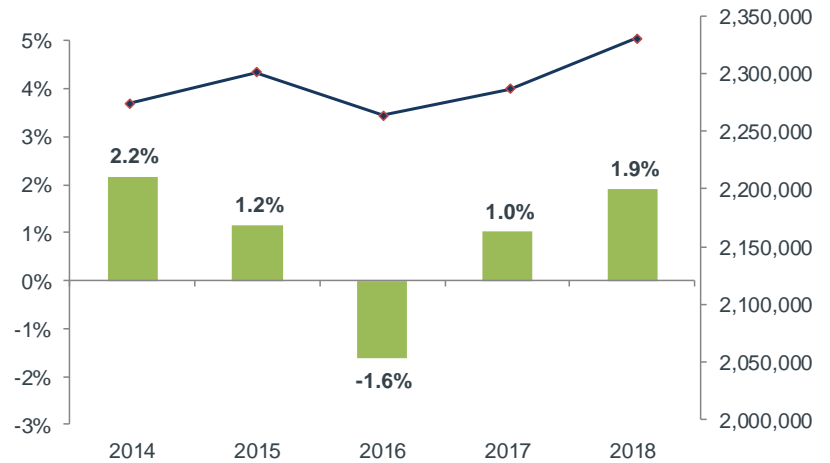


Figure 4
Alberta Annual Average Growth in Employment, 2014-2018

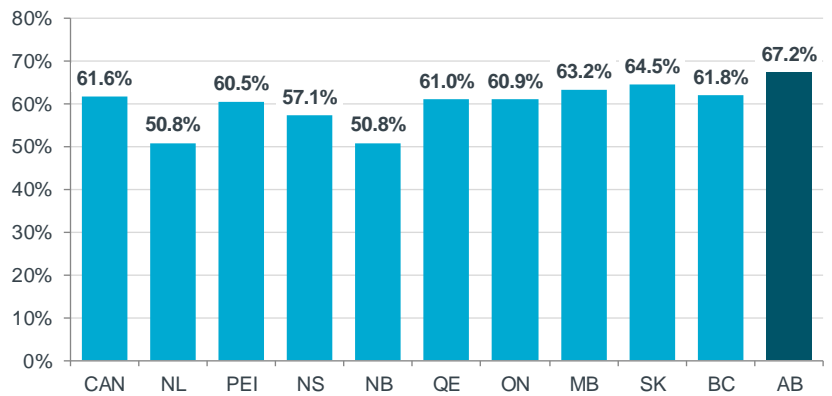
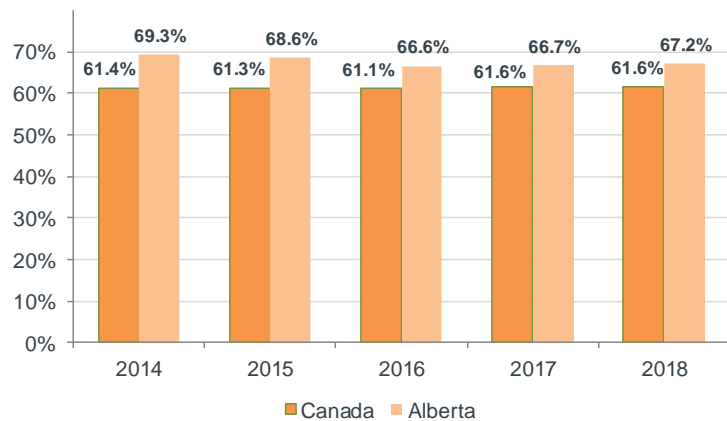


Figure 5
Alberta and Canada Employment Rates, 2014-2018



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Unemployment

Alberta had the sixth lowest unemployment rate in the country

Alberta's unemployment rate fell 1.2 percentage points to 6.6%, from 7.8% in 2018 (See Figure 6). This was the sixth lowest among the 10 provinces (See Figure 7).

The number of unemployed people in Alberta decreased by 30,600 between 2017 and 2018 to 164,100 (Figure 7).

At 6.6%, Alberta had the sixth lowest unemployment rate among the ten provinces. The national rate was 5.8% (Figure 8).

Figure 6
Alberta and Canada Unemployment Rates, 2014-2018

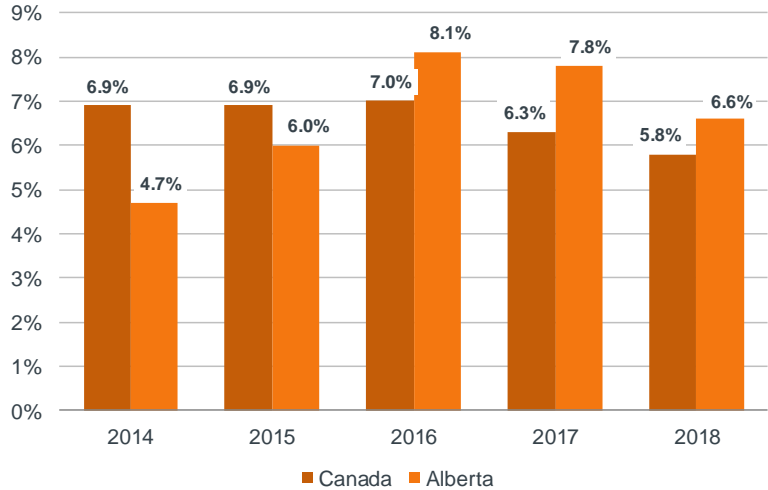


Figure 7
Alberta Annual Average Unemployment, 2014-2018

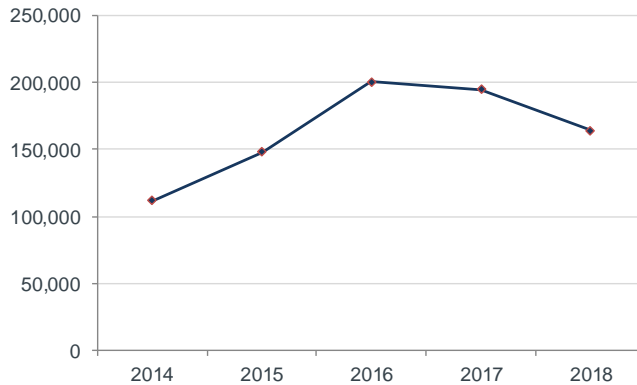
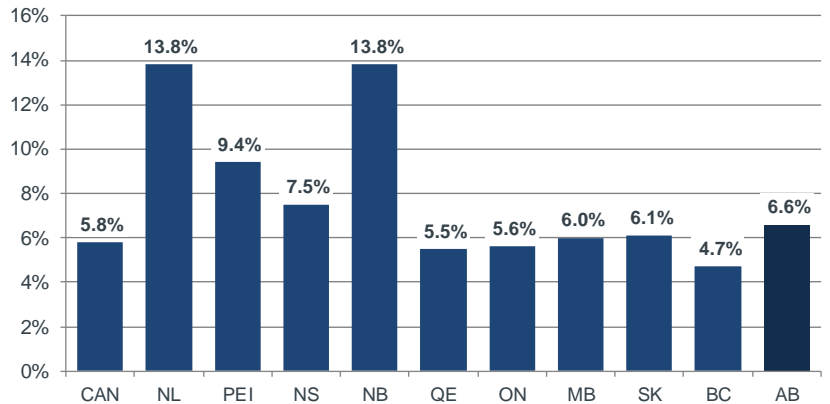


Figure 8
Provincial and National Unemployment Rates, 2018



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Economic Regions

The unemployment rate fell in all seven economic regions

The unemployment rate fell in Camrose-Drumheller economic region by 2.9 percentage points, the largest decrease of the seven regions (See Figure 9, 10).

At 5.1%, the unemployment rate in the Camrose-Drumheller and Lethbridge-Medicine Hat regions were the lowest among the seven regions in 2018 (See Figure 9, 10). In 2018, the Calgary region had the highest unemployment rate at 7.6%, followed by the Edmonton region at 6.4%.

Figure 9
Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary Economic Regions, Unemployment Rates in 2014-2018

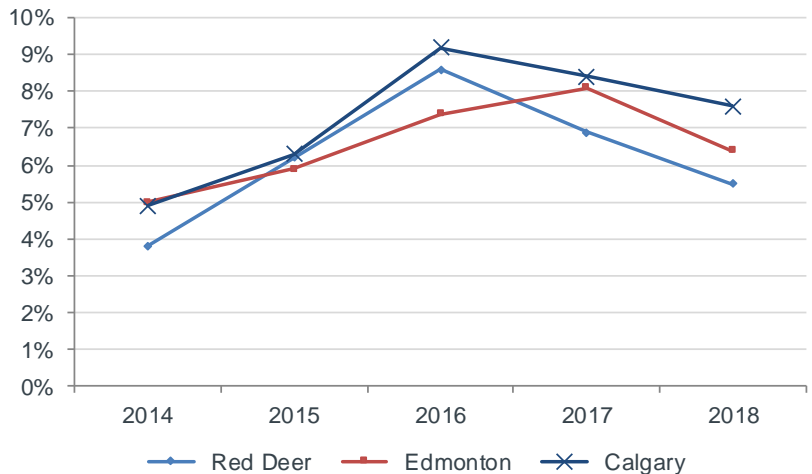
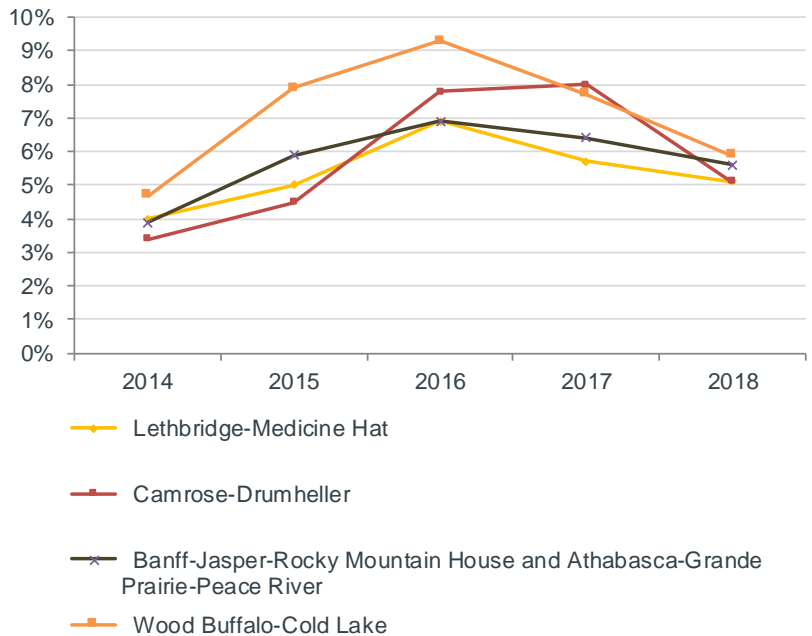


Figure 10
Economic Regions for the Rest of Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2014-2018



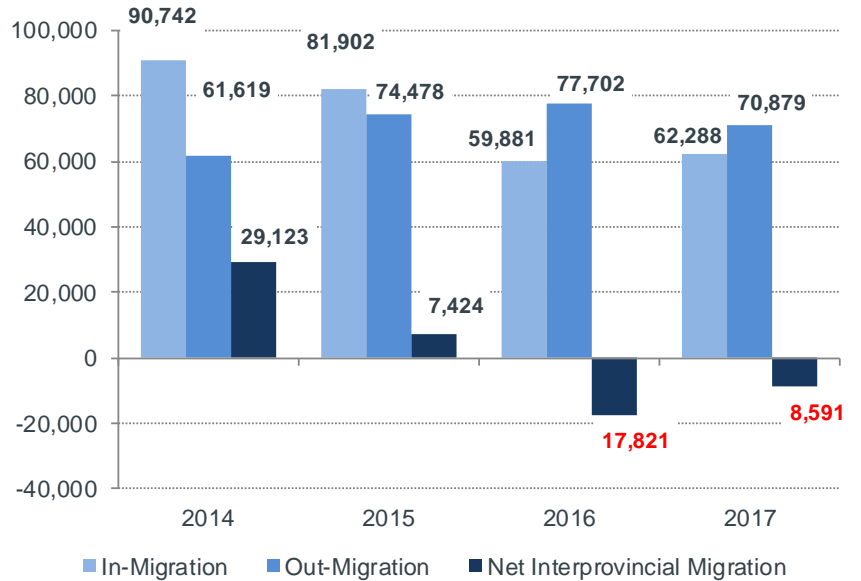
Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Migration

Out-migration from Alberta outnumbered in-migration in 2017

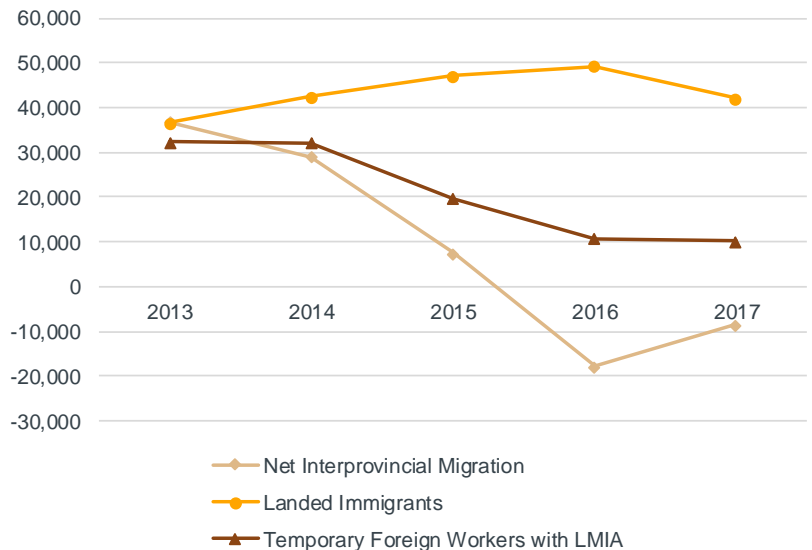
In 2017, Alberta saw a rise in the number of interprovincial in-migrants at 62,288 compared to 59,881 in 2016 (See Figure 11). Out-migration decreased from 77,702 in 2016 to 70,879 in 2017. In total, there was negative 8,581 net interprovincial migration to Alberta in 2017.

Figure 11
Alberta Interprovincial Migration, 2014-2017



The number of immigrants who landed in Alberta in 2017 was 7,115 lower than the year before at 42,102 (See Figure 12). In 2017 there were negative 8,591 net provincial migrants and 42,102 landed immigrants and 10,100 temporary foreign workers who came to Alberta.

Figure 12
Alberta Landed Immigrants, Net Interprovincial Migrants and Temporary Foreign Workers, 2013-2017



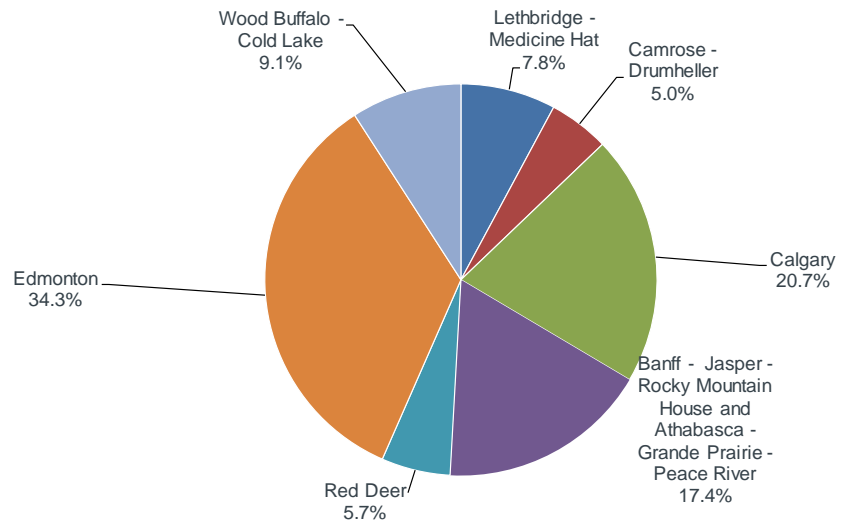
Source: Statistics Canada; Citizenship and Immigration Canada
LMIA denotes Labour Market Impact Assessment

Indigenous People

Alberta's Indigenous people living off-reserve employment rate decreased in 2018

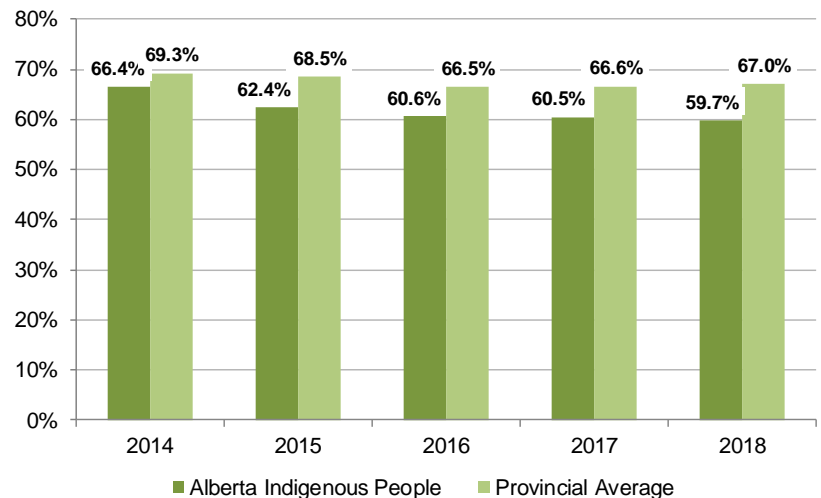
More than 72.4% of all employed off-reserve Indigenous people worked in three economic regions in Alberta: 55.0% in Calgary and Edmonton, and 17.4% in the Banff, Jasper, Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca, Grande Prairie, Peace River region (See Figure 13).

Figure 13
Alberta Indigenous People Living Off-Reserve, Employment by Economic Region, 2018



In 2018, the employment rate for Alberta Indigenous people living off-reserve was 59.7% down from 60.5% in 2017. The 2018 employment rate for Alberta Indigenous people living off-reserve was 7.3 point below the provincial average at 67.0% (See Figure 14).

Figure 14
Alberta Indigenous People Living Off-Reserve, Employment Rates, 2014-2018



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Industries

Manufacturing Industry had the largest gain in employment

The Manufacturing industry had the largest increase in employment in 2018, rising by 10,600. Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas had the second largest employment increase of 8,400 (See Figure 15).

The three Industries with the largest decreases were: Wholesale Trade, down 7,100; Agriculture, down 2,800; and Other Services⁴, down 1,400

The three industries with the lowest unemployment rate in 2018 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 1.9%; Wholesale Trade, 2.0%; and Public Administration, 2.6%.

Figure 15
Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Industry, 2018

Industry Group	2018 Employment	Change From 2017	Unemployment Rate
Health Care and Social Assistance	278,600	4,500	1.9%
Retail Trade	247,100	5,500	4.5%
Construction	245,400	4,400	7.8%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	180,800	2,100	3.1%
Educational Services	157,300	4,200	3.7%
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas	153,200	8,400	4.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	147,500	-600	4.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	138,800	-1,300	2.9%
Manufacturing	129,800	10,600	4.1%
Other Services ⁴	113,800	-1,400	3.0%
Public Administration	109,600	7,200	2.6%
Wholesale Trade	86,300	-7,100	2.0%
Business, Building and Other Support Services	86,100	5,200	6.8%
Information, Culture and Recreation	78,000	4,400	4.5%
Finance and Insurance	63,500	-1,200	3.2%
Agriculture	49,300	-2,800	*
Real Estate and Leasing	42,200	-600	*
Utilities	23,400	2,400	*

**Insufficient data*

⁴This sector comprises establishments not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services, and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Occupations

Business, finance and administration occupations had the largest employment gain

In 2018, employment rose for eight of the 10 occupational groups in Alberta. Business, finance and administration occupations had the largest increase at 10,700, followed by Health occupations with an increase of 9,400 (See Figure 16).

The two occupational groups with decline in employment in 2018 were: Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations, down 3,800; and Sales and service occupations, down 2,800.

Three occupational groups had unemployment rates below 3.0%: occupations in Health, 1.3%; Management occupations, at 1.9%; and Education, law and social, community and government services occupations, at 2.7%.

Figure 16
Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Occupation, 2018

Occupations	2018 Employment	Change from 2017	Unemployment Rate
Management	218,100	400	1.9%
Business, finance and administration	376,300	10,700	3.4%
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	190,400	6,700	3.3%
Health	170,200	9,400	1.3%
Education, law and social, community and government services	244,700	8,000	2.7%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	51,900	4,100	4.1%
Sales and service	512,700	-2,800	4.5%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	399,700	-3,800	6.4%
Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	91,700	3,000	7.1%
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	75,100	8,100	3.5%

**Insufficient data*

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Education

The proportion of Alberta's labour force with diplomas or degrees continues to rise

The proportion of Alberta's labour force who have attained a diploma, certificate or degree as highest level of education went up from 88.3% in 2014 to 90.6% in 2018 (See Figure 17).

Between 2014 and 2018, those in Alberta's labour force who had attained a high school diploma as the highest level of education decreased by 4.0% or 22,800. This group comprised just under a quarter or 21.8% of Alberta's labour force in 2018.

Those in Alberta's labour force who had attained a post-secondary certificate, trade certificate, or College diploma as their highest level of education rose by 68,200 or by 8.5% between 2014 and 2018. In 2018, this group made up 34.8% of Alberta's labour force. Alberta's labour force that had some post-secondary and a high school diploma as the highest level of education fell by 8,900 or 6.6% over the 2014 to 2018 period. This group made up 5.6% of the Alberta labour force in 2014, and by 2018, it was 5.0%.

In 2018, 29.1% of Alberta's labour force had a bachelor's or graduate degree as highest level of education, which is higher than in 2014 at 25.6%.

Figure 17
Alberta Labour Force Educational Attainment Trends, 2014-2018

Educational Level	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No degree, certificate or diploma	11.7%	11.4%	10.2%	9.9%	9.4%
High school diploma	23.7%	23.1%	22.4%	21.9%	21.8%
High school diploma, with some post-secondary	5.6%	4.9%	5.0%	5.7%	5.0%
Trade certificate	13.4%	12.9%	13.2%	13.4%	12.8%
College diploma	17.6%	17.9%	18.6%	18.1%	19.5%
Certificate or diploma below bachelor's degree	2.4%	3.0%	2.7%	2.5%	2.5%
Bachelor's degree	18.0%	18.9%	20.0%	20.8%	21.2%
Graduate degree	7.6%	7.8%	7.9%	7.7%	7.9%

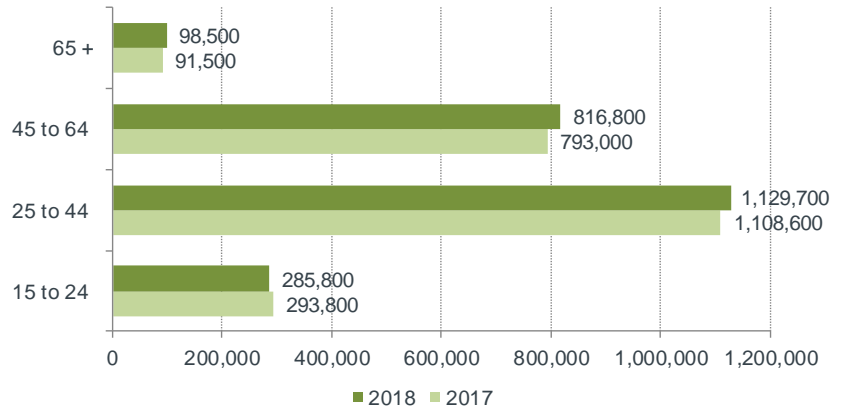
Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Demographics

Employment rose for Albertans aged 25 to 44

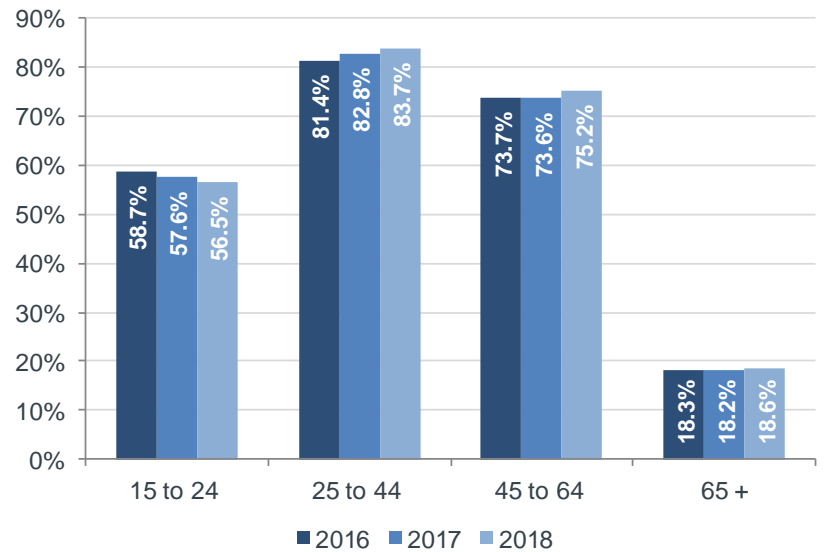
Employment in 2018, compared to 2017, was lower for Albertans aged 15 to 24, which fell by 8,000 or 2.7% (See Figure 18). Employment rose by 21,100 or 1.9% for Albertans 25 to 44 years old and by 23,800 or 3.0% for Albertans 45 to 64.

Figure 18
Alberta Employment by Age Groups, 2017-2018



The employment rate for youth 15 to 24 years of age fell 1.1 percentage points in 2018 compared to 2017 (See Figure 19). For Albertans aged 25 to 44, the employment rate has increased two years in a row to 83.7% in 2018.

Figure 19
Alberta Employment Rates by Age Groups, 2016-2018



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

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