

# 2009 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey Overview



The results of the 2009 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey are now available at [www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo)

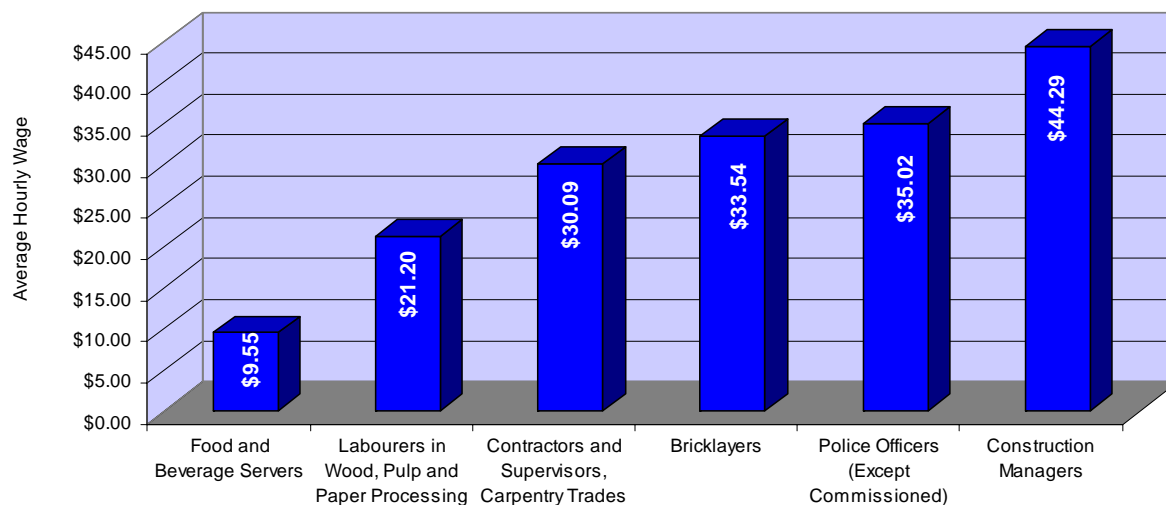
The survey is commissioned by the governments of Alberta and Canada and Workers' Compensation Board - Alberta to provide information on wages and salaries for full and part-time employees by occupation, region and industry. The survey helps individuals make career and education choices and organizations determine pay scales. Nearly 6,300 employers employing more than 344,000 Albertans participated in the survey.

## Summary

- Alberta's average wage rate was \$23.80 per hour.
- 48 per cent of recruiting employers reported they had difficulty in hiring for one or more occupational groups.

## Survey Results

### Average Hourly Wages Paid in Alberta for Selected Occupations



Note: Data for more than 440 occupations can be found at: [www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo).

2009 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey Commissioned by Alberta Employment and Immigration, Service Canada and Workers' Compensation Board-Alberta.

## Skill Shortages

- 48 per cent of employers who recruited over the previous two years indicated they experienced hiring difficulties in one or more occupational groups.
- The top vacancy rate of 21 per cent was in the Landscape and Horticulture Technicians and Specialists occupation. This group includes those who survey and assess landscapes; draw sketches and build models of landscape designs; construct and maintain gardens, parks, golf courses and other landscaped environments; advise clients on issues related to horticulture; breed, cultivate and study plants; and/or treat injured and diseased trees and plants. They are employed by landscape designers and contractors, lawn service and tree care establishments, golf courses, nurseries and greenhouses, and municipal, provincial and national parks, or they may be self-employed.

#	Occupations	Job Vacancy Rate <sup>1</sup>	Overall Average Hourly Wage
1	Landscape and Horticulture Technicians and Specialists	21.4%	\$20.04
2	Medical Sonographers	20.0%	\$37.49
3	Tailors, Dressmakers, Furriers and Milliners	19.2%	\$12.74
4	Weavers, Knitters and Other Fabric-Making Occupations	16.1%	\$15.15
5	Desktop Publishing Operators and Related Occupations	15.9%	\$21.43
6	Nursery and Greenhouse Workers	14.8%	\$12.41
7	Other Products Machine Operators	14.8%	\$16.61
8	Chemical Plant Machine Operators	14.6%	\$20.63
9	Licensed Practical Nurses	14.4%	\$24.25
10	Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Labourers	13.5%	\$15.94

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<sup>1</sup> The percentage of total positions in this occupational group reported as unfilled for over four months.  
 Job Vacancy Rate = Vacant positions/ (Reported Employment+ Vacant Positions)

## Regional Data

The survey provides wage information for the eight economic regions in Alberta. The following tables show the average hourly wages paid in each region along with the percentage of employers who indicated they had difficulty hiring within the past two years, for selected occupations.

To illustrate the type and range of regional information presented in the survey, wages and hiring difficulties for Cashiers, Shippers and Receivers and Retail Trade Managers were selected as examples. Data for more than 440 occupations can be found at [www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo)

Average Hourly Wages paid for Selected Occupations by Economic Regions			
Region	Cashiers	Shippers and Receivers	Retail Trade Managers
Athabasca-Grande Prairie	\$11.81	\$16.51	\$27.75
Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House	\$11.36	\$15.41	\$21.91
Calgary	\$12.20	\$16.96	\$28.65
Camrose-Drumheller	\$11.91	\$18.26	\$26.33
Edmonton	\$11.77	\$17.45	\$29.49
Lethbridge-Medicine Hat	\$11.59	\$17.88	\$24.13
Red Deer	\$11.23	\$16.22	\$27.79
Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake	\$13.66	\$19.11	\$26.65
<b>Alberta Total</b>	<b>\$11.86</b>	<b>\$17.25</b>	<b>\$27.71</b>

Percent of Employers with Hiring Difficulties for Selected Occupations by Economic Regions			
Region	Cashiers	Shippers and Receivers	Retail Trade Managers
Athabasca-Grande Prairie	66.3%	29.7%	49.8%
Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House	34.4%	28.5%	46.9%
Calgary	51.0%	42.3%	44.5%
Camrose-Drumheller	76.6%	34.5%	61.3%
Edmonton	54.4%	46.2%	48.3%
Lethbridge-Medicine Hat	47.0%	24.5%	33.7%
Red Deer	54.2%	51.2%	48.7%
Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake	68.9%	68.9%	28.4%
<b>Alberta Total</b>	<b>55.1%</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>44.9%</b>