



INDUSTRY PROFILES

Public Administration Industry

June 2012

Alberta 

Overview:

The [Public Administration industry](#)¹ in Alberta includes federal, provincial and local government services such as:

- defence services;
- police, judicial, correctional and other protective services;
- labour, employment and immigration services;
- foreign affairs and international assistance;
- fire-fighting services; and
- regulatory services.

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¹ North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) major group 91

Section A: Business Environment

1. 2011 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates:

| | Alberta | Public Administration Industry |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Number of employed | 2,094,100 | 84,800 |
| Percent employed in the industry | | 4.0% |
| Number of unemployed | 121,000 | 2,200 |
| Unemployment rate | 5.5% | 2.5% |

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2012

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, please go to the [Labour Force Statistics](#)² or [Statistics Canada](#)³ websites.

2. Industry's Growth:

- This industry accounted for 4.0% of total employment in Alberta in 2011.
- Employment in the Public Administration industry is expected to grow at an average rate of 1.3% from 2011 to 2015.
- This industry is expected to account for 4.1% of total employment in Alberta in 2015.

For more information, see the *Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) Outlook 2011 – 2015, Industry Employment Outlook*⁴ online and the *Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)*⁵ website for descriptions of industries.

² See <http://www.employment.alberta.ca/BI/67.html>

³ See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>

⁴ See <http://www.employment.alberta.ca/documents/cops-outlook-2011-2015.pdf>

⁵ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

3. Facts, Trends and Outlook:

According to Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts, the Public Administration industry accounted for 3.9% of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product in 2011, up from 3.8% in 2001. The industry's share of Alberta's total employment was 4.0% in 2011, the same as in 2001.

Employment in 2011 was 2.4% lower than its level in 2010. Over the last ten years, employment has increased from 64,600 people in 2001 to 84,800 people in 2011. There were 84,800 employees in the industry in 2011 of who 87.6% were permanent and 12.4% were temporary. There were no self-employed people in this industry.

| Characteristic | Alberta | Public Administration |
|---|---------|-----------------------|
| Median Retirement Age (years) | 64.7 | 62.3 |
| Average Number of Hours Worked per Week | 37.6 | 36.8 |
| Multiple Jobholders (% of total employment) | 6.0% | 6.4% |
| Average Job Tenure (months) | 87.9 | 131.8 |
| Employees Under Union Coverage (%) | 23.2% | 61.8% |
| Employees Working Overtime per Week (%) | 25.8% | 25.3% |

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Tables 282-0022, 282-0031, 282-0042, 282-0078 and 282-0084, 2012, and custom tabulation (median retirement age)

According to *Alberta Occupational Demand Outlook 2011-2015*, employment growth in the following occupations is expected to equal or exceed 2.7%, the average for all occupations: Managers in public administration; Police officers and firefighters; Other protective services; Judges, lawyers and Quebec notaries; and Policy and program officers, researchers and consultants.

4. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry:

| Establishment Size | Businesses in Alberta | | Establishments in Public Administration | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|---|-------|
| | Number of Employees | % | Number of Employees | % |
| Less than 20 employees | 637,400 | 36.6% | 21,700 | 25.6% |
| 20 to 99 employees | 594,400 | 34.1% | 25,900 | 30.5% |
| 100 to 500 employees | 326,300 | 18.7% | 21,800 | 25.7% |
| Over 500 employees | 184,200 | 10.6% | 15,400 | 18.2% |

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0076, 2012

Note: Statistics Canada's survey methodology for determining establishment size differs from the one it uses in the Labour Force Survey to determine total employment. As a result, the total number of employees by establishment size will not be the same as total employment in the industry, except by coincidence.

Section B: Human Resources Profile

1. Occupational Information:

Some examples of occupations in the Public Administration industry include:

- correctional officer;
- firefighter;
- occupational health and safety inspector;
- customs inspector; and
- judge.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the [Alberta Occupational Profiles⁶](#) website.

2. Demographics: Gender and Age:

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender breakdown in the Public Administration industry in 2011 was as follows:

- women employed: 44,600 people, or 52.6%
- men employed: 40,200 people, or 47.4%

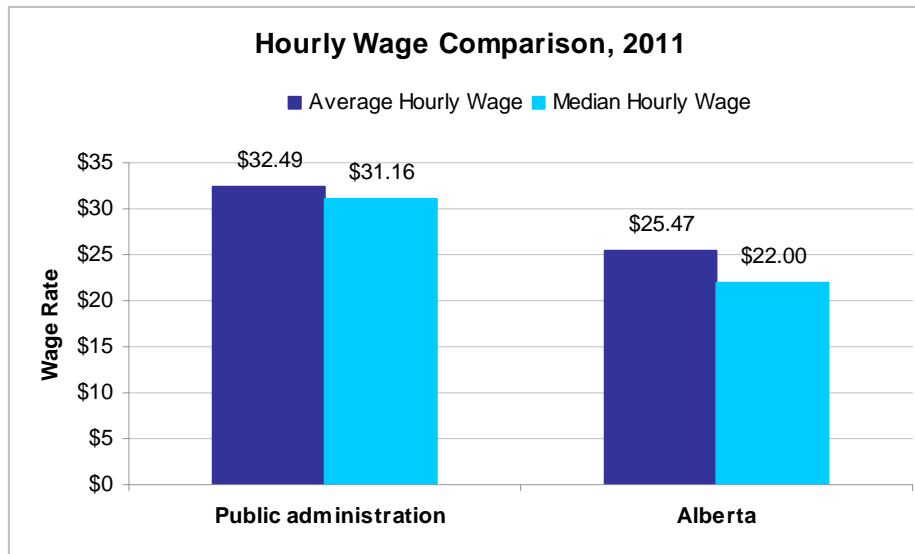
In Alberta, women accounted for 44.9% and men made up 55.1% of total employment.

| Age Characteristics | Employment in Alberta | | Employment in Public Administration | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | Number | % | Number | % |
| 15-24 years | 318,900 | 15.2% | 5,100 | 6.0% |
| 25-54 years | 1,423,000 | 68.0% | 63,800 | 75.2% |
| 55 years and over | 352,300 | 16.8% | 15,900 | 18.8% |

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2012

⁶ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo>

3. Wages:



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0072, 2012

Note: The average hourly wage is obtained by dividing the sum of the wages of all the employees by the total number of employees. The median hourly wage is that wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

| Occupation | Average Hourly Wage | | | Average Annual Salary |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| | Starting Average | Overall Average | Top Average | |
| Economist and economic policy researcher and analyst | \$ 31.63 | \$ 37.56 | \$ 40.61 | \$ 71,113 |
| Firefighter | \$ 32.79 | \$ 33.69 | \$ 34.27 | \$ 68,827 |
| Correctional service officer | \$ 25.98 | \$ 31.00 | \$ 32.46 | \$ 63,420 |
| Personnel and recruitment officer | \$ 27.02 | \$ 30.29 | \$ 33.43 | \$ 56,217 |

Data Source: 2011 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on the 2011 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey, refer to the [WAGEinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo)⁷ webpage. For job descriptions, duties, required skills and education for specific occupations in the Public Administration industry, visit the [ALIS](http://www.alis.alberta.ca)⁸ website.

⁷ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo>

⁸ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

Section C: Additional Information

Links to Selected Associations in Industry:

- Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
(<http://www.aupe.org>)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees – Alberta
<http://cupe.ca/alberta>
- Calgary Police Association
(<http://www.backtheblue.ca>)
- Edmonton Police Association
(<http://www.edmontonpoliceassociation.ca>)
- Alberta Firefighters Association
(<http://www.albertafirefighters.com>)