



# **Alberta Manufacturing Industry Profile**

## 2021 and 2022

Jobs, Economy and Northern Development

*Alberta* 

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## Overview

The 2022 Industry Profile for the Manufacturing Industry provides statistics and trends in the labour market for the manufacturing sector in Alberta. Topics include employment, unemployment, number of businesses, occupation, wages and demographics. All statistics provided are 12-month averages for the year. The statistics are from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey and the Alberta Wage and Salary Survey.

The manufacturing<sup>1</sup> industry in Alberta includes establishments involved in:

- food manufacturing;
- beverage and tobacco product manufacturing;
- textile, textile product mills and clothing manufacturing;
- petroleum and coal products manufacturing;
- chemical, plastics and rubber manufacturing;
- computer and electronic products manufacturing; and
- other manufacturing.

For more information, please see [Statistics Canada North American Industry Classifications System \(NAICS\) Canada 2022](#) for descriptions of industries.

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<sup>1</sup> North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2017 major group 31-33.

## Section A: Business Environment

### Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics

**TABLE 1: LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS**

	Alberta		Industry	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Employment	2,259,600	2,376,100	124,600	130,500
Employment share	N/A	N/A	5.5%	5.5%
Unemployment	211,400	146,500	5,200	4,900
Unemployment rate	8.6%	5.8%	4.0%	3.6%
Labour force	2,471,000	2,522,600	129,800	135,400
Share of labour force	N/A	N/A	5.3%	5.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0023-01](#).

Note: N/A denotes not applicable. Employment share is obtained by dividing the number of employed persons in this industry by total employment in Alberta. Share of labour force is obtained by dividing the number in the labour force for this industry by the total labour force in Alberta.

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

### Facts, Trends and Outlook

According to the most recent Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts,<sup>2</sup> the manufacturing industry accounted for 7.66% of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021, a decrease from 7.76% in 2011. Between 2012 and 2022, this industry's contribution to Alberta's employment declined from 6.4% to 5.5%.

Total employment in the manufacturing industry (the total number of employees and self-employed people 15 years and over) in 2022 was 4.7% higher than its level in 2021. Over the last 10 years, employment in this industry fell by 8,800, a 6.3% decrease. There were 13,500 people employed in the industry in 2022, of whom 96.2% were full-time and 3.8% were part-time.

**TABLE 2: LABOUR MARKET CHARACTERISTICS**

Characteristic	Alberta		Industry	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Median retirement age (years)	64.5	65.2	N/A	N/A
Average number of hours worked per week	36.4	36.4	40.3	39.9
Multiple job holders (% of total employment)	5.8%	6.0%	5.2%	4.6%
Average job tenure (months)	97.2	93.3	107.5	109.4
Employees under union coverage (%)	21.6%	20.4%	17.9%	19.1%
Employees working overtime per week (%)	17.1%	16.8%	24.4%	25.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Tables: [14-10-0037-01](#); [14-10-0044-01](#); [14-10-0055-01](#); [14-10-0070-01](#); [14-10-0076-01](#); and custom tabulation (median retirement age).

Note: N/A denotes not available. The percentage of multiple jobholders is obtained by dividing the number of multiple jobholders by total employment. This calculation method also applies to the percentage of employees under union coverage and the percentage of employees working overtime per week.

<sup>2</sup> See Statistics Canada. [Table 36-10-0400-01](#) Gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices, by industry, provinces and territories, percentage share. Alberta Manufacturing Industry Profile, 2021 and 2022 | Jobs, Economy and Northern Development

## Size of Businesses by Industry

**TABLE 3: EMPLOYMENT BY ESTABLISHMENT SIZE (2021)**

Establishment Size	Businesses in Alberta		Businesses in Industry	
	Number of Employees	Share of Total*	Number of Employees	Share of Total*
Less than 20 employees	660,900	34.5%	32,300	27.4%
20 to 99 employees	683,400	35.7%	37,200	31.6%
100 to 500 employees	347,400	18.1%	36,200	30.7%
More than 500 employees	223,400	11.7%	12,100	10.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0068-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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.

**TABLE 4: EMPLOYMENT BY ESTABLISHMENT SIZE (2022)**

Establishment Size	Businesses in Alberta		Businesses in Industry	
	Number of Employees	Share of Total*	Number of Employees	Share of Total*
Less than 20 employees	670,300	33.1%	26,100	21.3%
20 to 99 employees	700,900	34.6%	42,700	34.8%
100 to 500 employees	389,500	19.2%	40,900	33.3%
More than 500 employees	264,800	13.1%	13,200	10.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0068-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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.

**TABLE 5: CANADIAN BUSINESS COUNTS, WITH EMPLOYEES (2021)**

Employee Size	Businesses in Alberta		Businesses in Industry	
	Business Counts	Share of Total*	Business Counts	Share of Total*
Less than 20 employees	150,320	88.3%	3,534	73.8%
20 to 99 employees	16,765	9.8%	991	20.7%
100 to 500 employees	2,847	1.7%	246	5.1%
More than 500 employees	334	0.2%	17	0.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [33-10-0493-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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**TABLE 6: CANADIAN BUSINESS COUNTS, WITH EMPLOYEES (2022)**

Employee Size	Businesses in Alberta		Businesses in Industry	
	Business Counts	Share of Total*	Business Counts	Share of Total*
Less than 20 employees	152,355	87.8%	3,641	73.5%
20 to 99 employees	17,735	10.2%	1,040	21.0%
100 to 500 employees	2,991	1.7%	254	5.1%
More than 500 employees	360	0.2%	18	0.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [33-10-0661-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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Employment by establishment size is based on the Labour Force Survey and provides the number of employees by establishment size. Canadian business counts are compiled from the Business Register and comprise of active business locations by employment size ranges.

# Section B: Human Resources Profile

## Occupational Information

Some examples of occupations in the manufacturing industry include:

- meat cutter;
- machinist;
- manufacturing engineer;
- sawmill machine operator; and
- instrument technician.

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 Profiles webpage](#).

## Occupational Growth

Some occupations in the manufacturing industry with above average forecasted growth<sup>3</sup> between 2023 and 2025 include:

- industrial and manufacturing engineers;
- mechanical engineering technologists and technicians; and
- inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety.

## Demographics: Gender and Age

In 2022, workers in the manufacturing industry are:

- more likely to be male than the general workforce; and
- older than the workforce as a whole.

TABLE 7: EMPLOYMENT BY GENDER, 2021

Gender	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Industry	
	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total*
Males	1,209,200	53.5%	94,600	75.9%
Females	1,050,400	46.5%	30,000	24.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0023-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

TABLE 8: EMPLOYMENT BY GENDER, 2022

Gender	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Industry	
	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total*
Males	1,258,000	52.9%	96,300	73.8%
Females	1,118,100	47.1%	34,200	26.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0023-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/albertas-occupational-outlook>



**TABLE 9: EMPLOYMENT BY AGE GROUP, 2021**

Age Characteristics	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Industry	
	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total*
15 to 24 years	280,800	12.4%	7,900	6.3%
25 to 54 years	1,525,500	67.5%	91,500	73.4%
55 years and over	453,400	20.1%	25,200	20.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0023-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

**TABLE 10: EMPLOYMENT BY AGE GROUP, 2022**

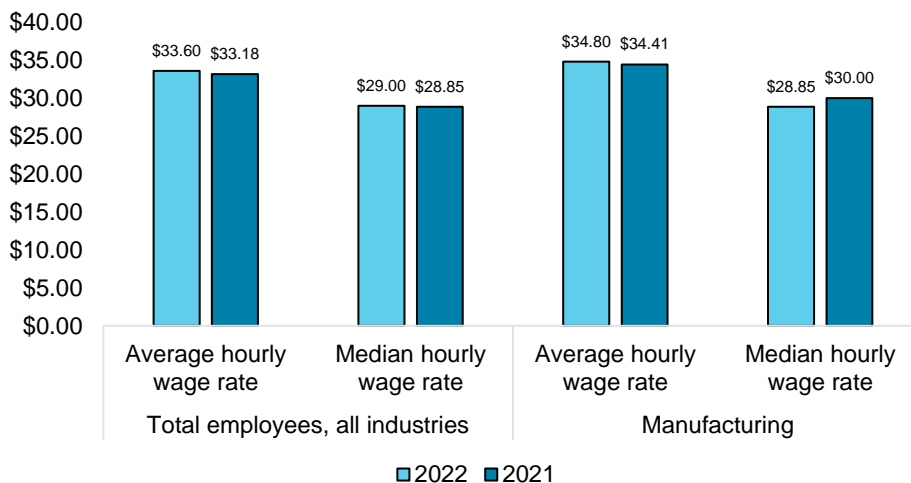
Age Characteristics	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Industry	
	Number	Share of Total	Number	Share of Total*
15 to 24 years	310,200	13.1%	12,000	9.2%
25 to 54 years	1,611,400	67.8%	88,500	67.8%
55 years and over	454,600	19.1%	30,000	23.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0023-01](#).

\* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

## Wages and Salaries

Alberta Hourly Wage Rate Comparison 2021 - 2022



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Table: [14-10-0064-01](#).

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 the wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

## Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

TABLE 11: WAGE AND SALARY BY OCCUPATION, 2021

Occupation	Employment in Alberta			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	Overall	Top	
Manufacturing managers	\$41.00	\$49.52	\$60.10	\$112,925
Machinists and machining and tooling inspectors	\$26.20	\$32.50	\$40.00	\$68,373
Supervisors, mineral and metal processing	\$34.88	\$44.23	\$66.73	\$91,438
Machine operators, mineral and metal processing	\$34.52	\$34.52	\$35.63	\$69,071
Mechanical assemblers and inspectors	\$20.00	\$34.00	\$40.00	\$66,056

Source: 2021 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey (AWSS). The AWSS is conducted once every two years.

More information on wages and salaries is available [online](#). For job descriptions, duties, skills and educational requirements of specific occupations in the manufacturing industry, visit the [ALIS website](#).

## Section C: Additional Information

### Links to Industry Associations

- [Alberta Forestry Products Association](#)
- [Beer Canada](#)
- [Canadian Poultry and Egg Processors Council](#)
- [Canadian Fuels Association](#)
- [Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters](#)
- [Chemistry Industry Association of Canada](#)