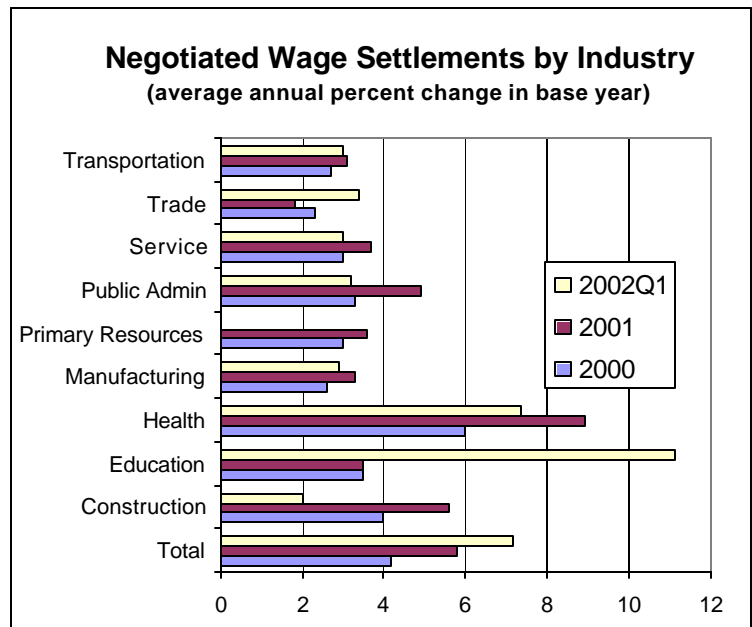


NEGOTIATED WAGE SETTLEMENTS UPDATE

Wage Settlements in the First Quarter 2002

In the first quarter of 2002, total wage settlements increased by 7.2%, up from 5.8% in 2001. Since the number of employees in the education sector accounted for 43% of all employees covered in total wage settlements, the 11.1% increase in the sector had a major impact on the overall growth in wage settlements. Wage settlements averaged 7.4% in the healthcare industry, down somewhat from an average growth of 8.9% in 2001.

With the exception of education and trade, growth in wage settlements slowed in all other industries in the first quarter of this year from the 2001 average. Compared to a 7.8% increase in the public sector, negotiated wages rose by 2.7% in the private sector in the first quarter of 2002.



AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

In January 2002, Alberta average weekly earnings (AWE) increased 2.8% over January 2001. That was the highest increase in AWE among provinces. All provinces recorded increases in AWE with the exception of British Columbia where AWE remained flat. Newfoundland had the second largest increase in AWE at 2.7%, followed by Prince Edward Island (2.6%), Nova Scotia (2.4%), Quebec (2%) and Ontario (1.9%).

In January 2002, the highest AWE levels among provinces were in Ontario (\$717.31) and Alberta (694.56), noticeably above Canada's average of \$671.88. The lowest AWE levels were observed in Prince Edward Island (\$534.31) and Nova Scotia (\$578.88).

Negotiated Wage Settlements
(average annual per cent change in base rates)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002,Q1
Alberta^a								
All Industries								
Number of Employees	69,919	58,780	131,203	107,028	121,773	87,673	132,814	4,384
Wage Settlement (percent)	-0.2	0.9	2.8	2.9	3.7	4.2	5.8	7.2
Public Sector								
Number of Employees	44,901	40,692	83,892	89,755	84,730	71,625	85,424	3,898
Wage Settlement (percent)	-0.5	0.6	2.8	2.9	3.7	4.4	6.4	7.8
Private Sector								
Number of Employees	25,018	18,088	47,311	17,273	37,043	16,048	47,390	486
Wage Settlement (percent)	0.4	1.4	2.7	2.7	3.9	3.1	4.8	2.7
Inflation (percent)^b								
Alberta	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.1	2.5	3.5	2.3	2.3
Canada	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.7	2.7	2.5	1.6
Average Weekly Earnings Growth^b (including overtime)								
Alberta	0.1	4.2	4.0	2.4	1.1	3.0	2.9	2.8 ^c
Canada	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.4	1.0	2.3	1.8	1.8
Wages, Salaries, and Supplementary^b Labour Income								
Alberta	-0.7	2.1	9.5	4.6	3.8	7.7	7.9	
Canada	1.1	1.7	3.5	2.6	2.5	6.8	4.2	

^a Source: Alberta Human Resources and Employment – Data is prone to future revisions.

^b Source: Statistics Canada

^c January 2002