# Alberta economy

# Indicators at a glance

### **New: Oil Prices**

WTI increased \$2.78 over the week and closed at US\$116.87 on Thursday. The WTI-WCS differential closed at US\$19.30 per barrel, wider than US\$18.00 from a week ago.

#### **OIL PRICES** Daily prices (\$US/bbI) WTI-WCS 135 120 105 90 75 60 45 30 15 0 Sep-21 Dec-21 Mar-22 Jun-22

Sources: US Energy Information Administration, CME Group, Kent Group Limited, Haver Analytics

## **Labour Market**

Employment rose by 15,900 in April. Compared to a year ago, when employment was recovering from the pandemic, it was up by 118,600. The next release is on June 10, 2022.

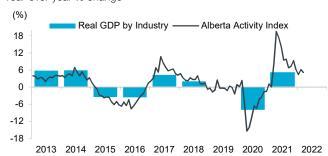
#### **LABOUR MARKET** Monthly change in employment (thousands) 30 19.6 20 18.1 15.9 13.2 10 0 -10 Aug-21 Feb-22 Apr-22 Oct-21 Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

# **New:** Economic Activity

The Alberta Activity Index increased 0.4% month-over-month (m/m) in March, and was up 5.1% from a year ago. Alberta's real GDP by industry increased by 5.1% in 2021, following a large decline in 2020.

### **ECONOMIC ACTIVITY**

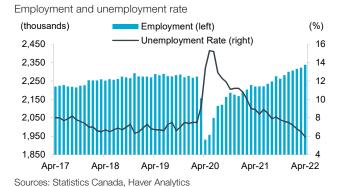
Year-over-year % change



Sources: Statistics Canada, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance, Haver Analytics

Alberta's unemployment rate was 5.9% in April, down 0.6 percentage points from March and 3.0 percentage points below a year ago.

### **LABOUR MARKET**



	WTI - West Texas Intermediate (US\$/bbl)	WTI-WCS Differential (US\$/bbl)	Henry Hub (US\$/MMBtu)	AECO-C (C\$/GJ)	Exchange Rate (US¢/C\$)
June 02, 2022	116.87	19.30	8.49	7.40	79.38
Fiscal Year-To-Date	106.03	14.20	7.50	6.81	78.52



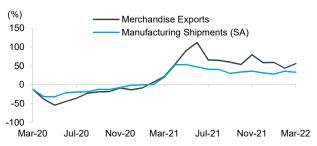
# **Business Output**

Manufacturing shipments increased 4.1% m/m to \$8.8 billion in March. Compared to a year ago, they were up 33%.

Alberta goods exports surged 28% m/m in March to \$17.5 billion. Year-over-year (y/y), they were up 56%.

#### MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS AND GOODS EXPORTS

Year-over-year % change



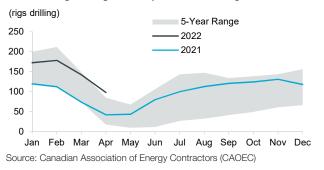
Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics; SA - Seasonally Adjusted

# **Rigs Drilling**

The number of rigs drilling in Alberta averaged 98 in April, up 134% from the weak levels a year ago.

### **RIGS DRILLING**

Number of rigs drilling and five-year seasonal range



## **Average Weekly Earnings**

Average weekly earnings in Alberta increased 1.2% m/m in March to \$1,259, and also increased 4.2% from a year ago.

# **Population Growth**

Alberta's population was 4,480,486 as of January 1, 2022, an increase of 1.1% from the year prior. During the last 12 months, Alberta welcomed 32,608 net international migrants and saw a net outflow of 1,239 interprovincial migrants.

#### Inflation

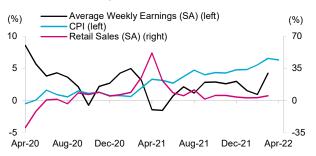
The consumer price index in Alberta increased 6.3% y/y in April, down from 6.5% y/y in March.

## **Retail Sales**

Alberta retail sales increased 1.8% m/m to \$7.8 billion in March. Compared to a year ago, sales were up 5.2%.

### **RETAIL SALES, CONSUMER PRICES, AND EARNINGS**

Year-over-year % change



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

# **Housing Market**

Alberta housing starts increased 24.6% m/m in April to 40,371 units (SAAR), up 17.1% from a year ago.

The number of home sales in the resale market decreased 10.0% m/m to 8,341 units in April, but were up 4.5% y/y.

#### **HOUSING STARTS AND HOME RESALES**

Year-over-year % change



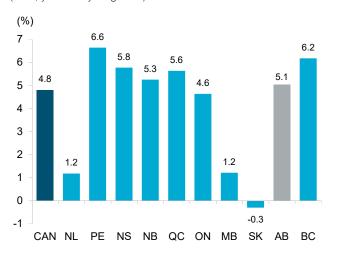
Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Real Estate Association, Haver Analytics; SAAR - Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

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For current analysis of the Alberta Economy please see the <a href="https://www.weekly.economic.Review">Weekly Economic Review</a>



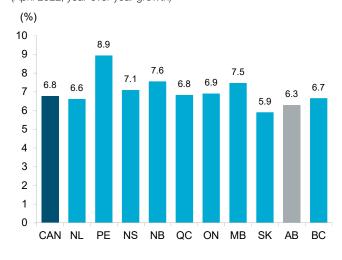
#### **REAL GDP BY INDUSTRY**

(2021, year-over-year growth)



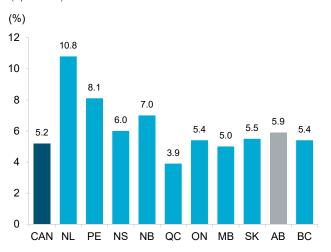
### **CPI INFLATION**

(April 2022, year-over-year growth)



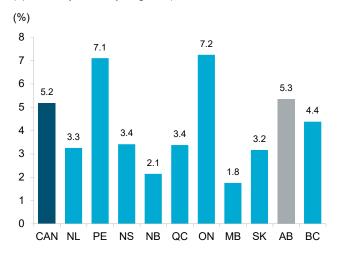
#### **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

(April 2022)



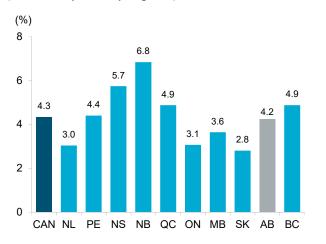
### **EMPLOYMENT**

(April 2022, year-over-year growth)



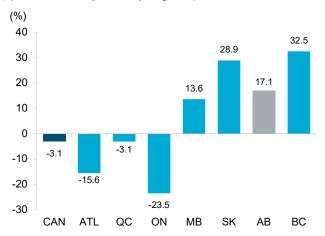
# **AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS**

(March 2022, year-over-year growth)



### **HOUSING STARTS**

(April 2022, SAAR, year-over-year growth)





#### **ALBERTA ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

	2020	2021	2022YTD	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22
New: Alberta Activity Index (y/y % change)	-5.7	8.9	5.2	9.3	6.1	4.4	6.1	5.1	
Population <sup>1</sup>									
Population (thousands)	4,420	4,443	4,480			4,480			
y/y % change	1.3	0.5	1.1			1.1			
Net Interprovincial Migration	-2,377	-11,831	7,940			3,451			
Net International Migration	36,264	16,199	21,690			9,489			
Labour Market									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,130	2,239	2,321	2,282	2,300	2,307	2,315	2,322	2,338
m/m change (thousands)				19.6	18.1	7.0	8.2	7.2	15.9
y/y % change	-6.6	5.1	5.0	4.9	6.1	5.4	5.1	4.3	5.3
Unemployment Rate (%, SA)	11.4	8.7	6.6	7.6	7.5	7.2	6.8	6.5	5.9
Participation Rate (%, SA)	68.6	69.2	69.4	69.3	69.7	69.6	69.4	69.3	69.2
Average Weekly Earnings (\$, SA)	1,201	1,226	1,250	1,230	1,240	1,248	1,244	1,259	
y/y % change	3.2	2.1	2.2	2.6	3.0	1.5	0.9	4.2	
Household Sector	=======================================						= 0.10		
Retail Sales (\$ millions, SA)	79,911	89,124	22,925	7,597	7,485	7,555	7,618	7,752	
y/y % change	-2.1	11.5	3.7	5.5	3.8	2.9	3.0	5.2	
New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	184	196	42	14	13	12	13	17	
y/y % change	-17.3	6.5	-14.5	-4.3	-6.7	-9.8	-12.2	-19.0	
Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	1.1	3.2	5.8	4.3	4.8	4.8	5.5	6.5	6.3
Excluding Food & Energy	1.2	1.3	3.5	1.8	2.3	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.3
Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands)	24.0	31.9	32.2	42.0	32.0	24.7	31.4	32.4	40.4
y/y % change	-12.2	33.1	8.7	57.9	4.8	-15.0	20.8	11.4	17.1
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	-0.9	6.8	14.0	8.8	9.3	10.8	13.6	16.1	15.5
Resale Home Sales (units, SA)	55,086	84,547	35,956	7,545	7,908	8,464	9,880	9,271	8,341
y/y % change	3.8	53.5	24.9	31.2	30.0	27.2	43.8	27.3	4.5
Sales to New Listing Ratio (SA)	0.56	0.70	0.82	0.78	0.81	0.90	0.79	0.81	0.77
MLS Average Resale Prices	392	428	463	434	432	452	479	460	463
(\$ thousands, SA)									
y/y % change	1.4	9.1	9.4	6.4	7.8	9.9	15.3	7.0	5.5
Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	3,602	2,731	587	242	191	181	184	222	
y/y % change	-35.6	-24.2	-24.8	-8.7	-30.8	-28.7	-16.4	-27.7	
Business Sector	01.000		45.405						
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ millions)	91,998	138,055	45,427	13,923	13,951	14,384	13,587	17,457	
y/y % change	-21.5	50.1	53.1	79.6	58.5	58.9	43.9	56.1	
Energy Products (\$ millions)	60,191	99,495	35,335	10,707	10,967	11,286	10,446	13,604	
y/y % change	-28.8	65.3	72.4	112.4	84.0	85.2	53.5	79.1	
Agricultural Products (\$ millions)	9,005	8,880	1,984	713	668	622	616	746	
y/y % change	16.9	-1.4	-16.9	-6.0	-16.4	-19.4	-8.7	-20.8	00
Rigs Drilling	60	98	147	131	118	172	178	142	98
y/y % change	-35.3	63.7	70.0	116.2	79.4	44.1	58.7	93.5	133.5
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions, SA) y/y % change	64,800 -14.7	84,592 30.5	25,240 32.3	7,649 35.9	7,822 31.6	7,914 27.8	8,488 35.8	8,838 33.1	
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions, SA)	76,819	88,130	25,206	8,369	7,883	27.0 8,447	8,334	8,425	
y/y % change	-5.1	14.7	23,200	26.1	19.7	24.5	27.0	19.3	
	10,723								1,213
New: Building Permits (\$ millions, SA) y/y % change	-7.9	14,473 35.0	4,847 2.2	1,368 28.3	1,184 27.5	1,224 5.6	1,218 6.0	1,191 2.0	-4.1
New: Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	6,824	9,512	3,126	756	839	760	783	781	802
y/y % change	-2.5	39.4	-2.1	5.7	32.3	-10.4	15.3	-1.3	-8.1
New: Non-Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	3,899	4,961	-2.1 1,721	612	345	-10.4 464	435	-1.3 411	-o. i 411
y/y % change	-16.1	27.2	11.0	74.5	17.1	49.1	-7.4	8.8	4.8
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index <sup>2</sup>	0.4	5.7	11.6	14.0	10.2	43.1	-1.4	11.6	4.0
(y/y % change)	0.4	0.7	11.0		10.2			11.0	

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\tiny 1}}$  Population data presented on a census year basis (July 1– June 30).

All annual data are unadjusted.

Sources: All data are from Statistics Canada except the Alberta Activity Index (Alberta Treasury Board and Finance), Housing Starts (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation), MLS Average Resale Prices (Canadian Real Estate Association), Rigs Drilling (Canadian Association of Energy Contractors) and Bankruptcies (Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada). All historical data are subject to revision.



 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 2}\,\mbox{Quarterly, average of Calgary and Edmonton.}$ 

YTD (year-to-date).

<sup>&</sup>quot;SA" denotes seasonally adjusted. "SAAR" denotes seasonally adjusted at annual rate.