

Alberta economy

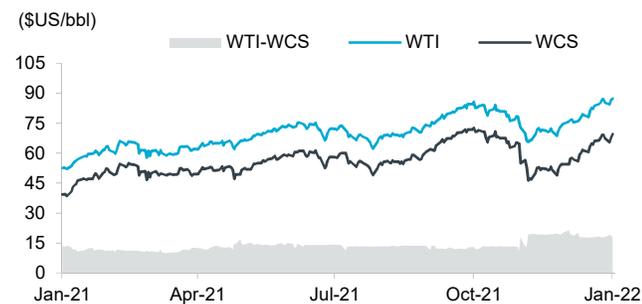
Indicators at a glance

New: Oil Prices

WTI decreased \$0.29 over the week and closed at US\$86.61 on Thursday. The WTI-WCS differential closed at US\$12.65 per barrel, narrower than US\$13.70 per barrel a week ago.

OIL PRICES

Daily prices



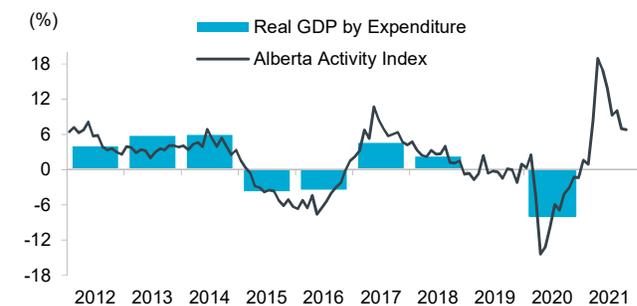
Sources: US Energy Information Administration, CME Group, Kent Group Limited, Haver Analytics

Economic Activity

The Alberta Activity Index increased 0.6% month-over-month (m/m) in October, and was up 6.8% from the weak level a year ago. Alberta's real GDP by expenditure decreased by 7.9% in 2020, following a marginal decline in 2019.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Year-over-year % change



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

Labour Market

Employment rose by 11,100 in December. Compared to a year ago, when employment was recovering from the pandemic, it was up by 129,800. The next release is on February 4, 2022.

Alberta's unemployment rate was 7.3% in November, down 0.3 percentage points from October and 3.8 percentage points below a year ago.

LABOUR MARKET

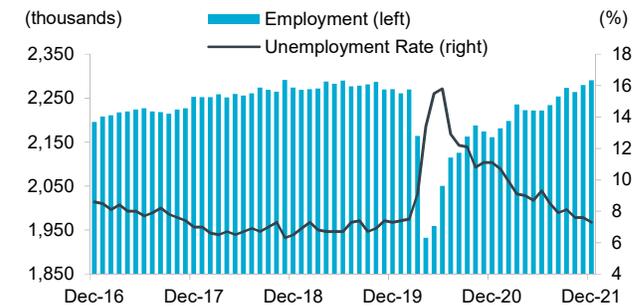
Monthly change in employment



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

LABOUR MARKET

Employment and unemployment rate



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

	WTI - West Texas Intermediate (US\$/bbl)	WTI-WCS Differential (US\$/bbl)	Henry Hub (US\$/MMBtu)	AECO-C (C\$/GJ)	Exchange Rate (US\$/C\$)
January 27, 2022	86.61	12.65	6.27	4.01	78.67
Fiscal Year-To-Date	72.25	13.54	4.06	3.62	80.00

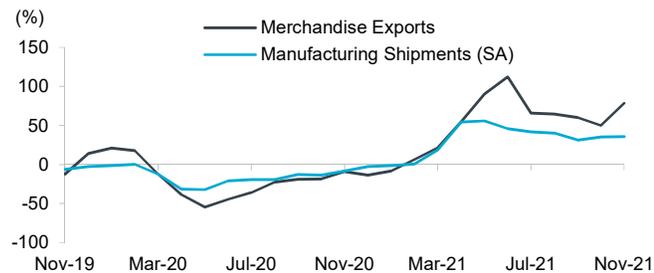
Business Output

Manufacturing shipments increased 4.2% m/m to \$7.6 billion in November. Compared to a year ago, when manufacturing shipments were recovering from depressed levels due to COVID-19, they were up 36%.

Alberta goods exports increased 16% m/m in November to \$13.8 billion. Year-over-year (y/y), they were up 78%.

MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS AND GOODS EXPORTS

Year-over-year % change



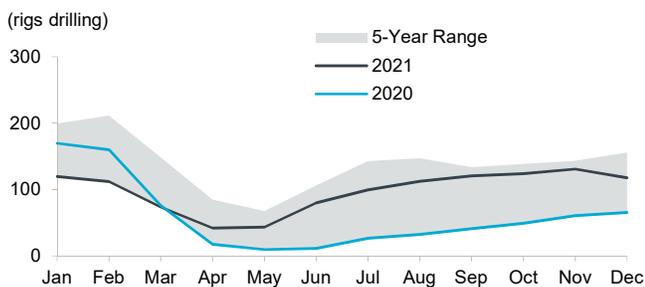
Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics; SA - Seasonally Adjusted

Rigs Drilling

The number of rigs drilling in Alberta averaged 118 in December, up 79% from the weak levels a year ago.

RIGS DRILLING

Number of rigs drilling and five-year seasonal range



Source: Canadian Association of Energy Contractors (CAOEC)

New: Average Weekly Earnings

Average weekly earnings in Alberta increased 0.7% m/m in November to \$1,232, and increased 3.0% from a year ago.

Population Growth

Alberta's population was 4,464,170 as of October 1, 2021, an increase of 0.9% from the year prior. During the last 12 months, Alberta welcomed 28,752 net international migrants and saw a net outflow of 6,480 interprovincial migrants.

Inflation

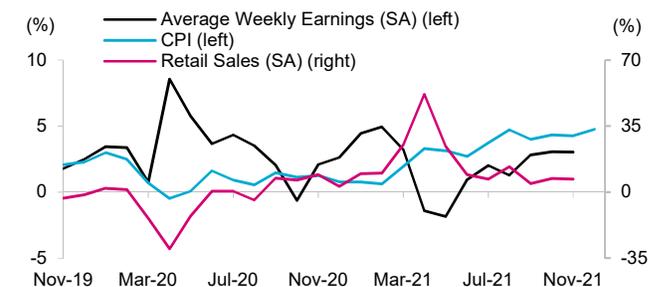
The consumer price index in Alberta increased 4.8% y/y in December, up from 4.3% y/y in November.

Retail Sales

Alberta retail sales increased 0.1% m/m to \$7.7 billion in November. Compared to a year ago, sales were up 6.9%.

RETAIL SALES, CONSUMER PRICES, AND EARNINGS

Year-over-year % change



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

Housing Market

Alberta housing starts decreased 25% m/m in December to 31,070 units (SAAR), up 1.8% from a year ago.

The number of home sales in the resale market increased 5.0% m/m to 7,832 units in December, up 30% y/y.

HOUSING STARTS AND HOME RESALES

Year-over-year % change

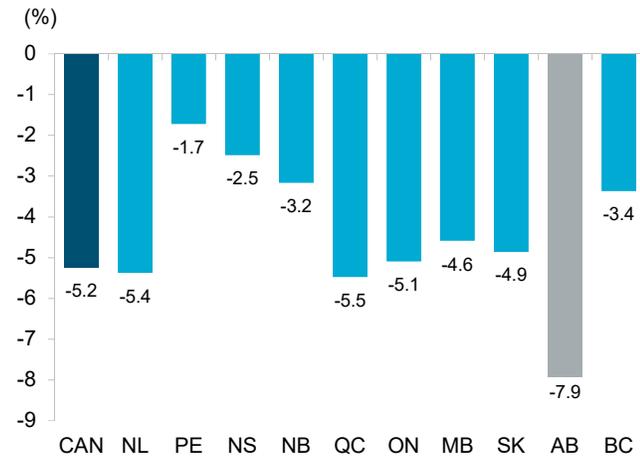


Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Real Estate Association, Haver Analytics; SAAR - Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

Contact Zoia Komirenko at TBF.ERFPublications@gov.ab.ca
For current analysis of the Alberta Economy please see the [Weekly Economic Review](#)

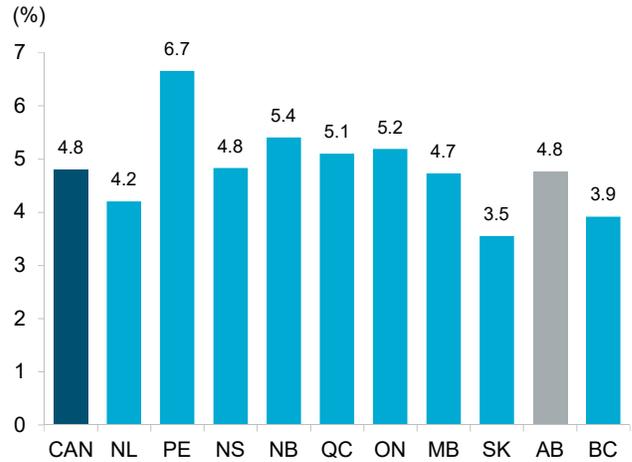
REAL GDP BY EXPENDITURE

(2020, year-over-year growth)



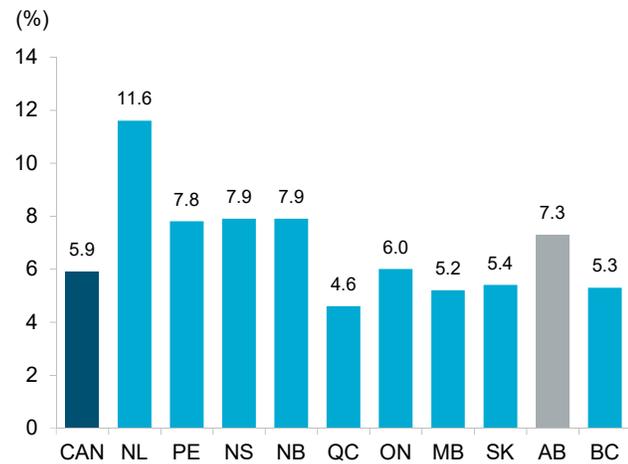
CPI INFLATION

(December 2021, year-over-year growth)



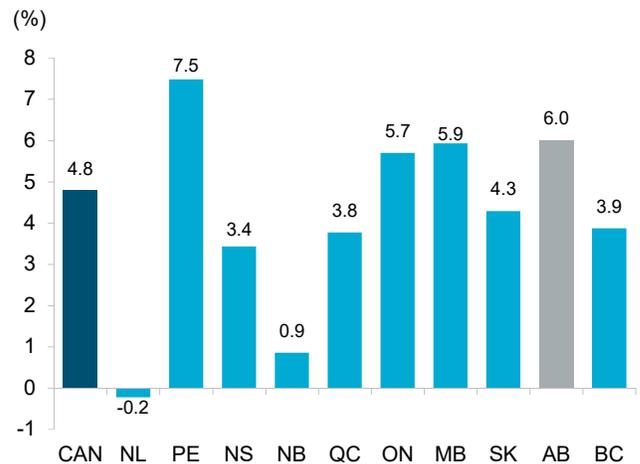
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(December 2021)



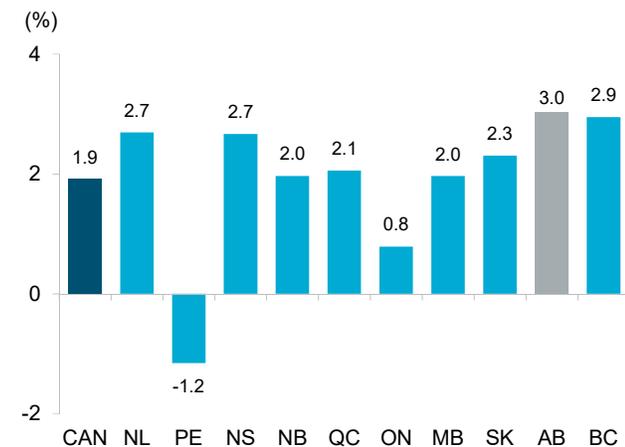
EMPLOYMENT

(December 2021, year-over-year growth)



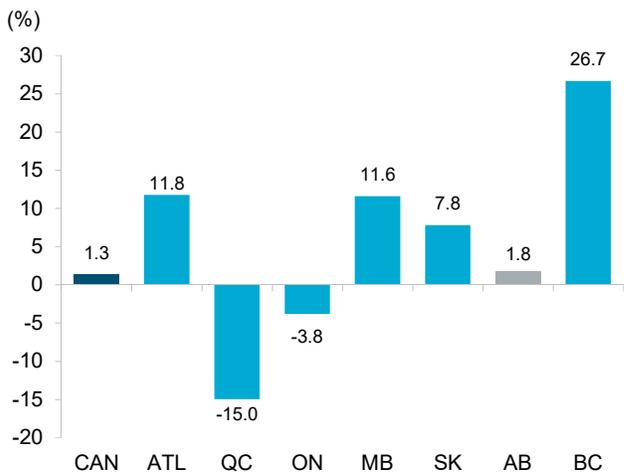
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

(November 2021, year-over-year growth)



HOUSING STARTS

(December 2021, SAAR, year-over-year growth)



ALBERTA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2019	2020	2021YTD	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Alberta Activity Index (y/y % change)	-0.4	-5.2	9.1	9.2	10.0	6.9	6.8		
Population¹									
Population (thousands)	4,363	4,420	4,443	4,443			4,464		
y/y % change	1.5	1.3	0.5	0.5			0.9		
Net Interprovincial Migration	-2,032	-2,377	-11,831	-5,447			4,489		
Net International Migration	39,761	36,264	16,199	4,267			12,201		
Labour Market									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,279	2,130	2,239	2,235	2,248	2,275	2,262	2,282	2,300
m/m change (thousands)				14.2	13.2	27.7	-13.3	19.6	18.1
y/y % change	0.7	-6.6	5.1	5.7	6.0	5.2	3.5	4.9	6.1
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	7.0	11.4	8.7	8.5	7.9	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.5
Participation Rate (% , SA)	70.9	68.6	69.2	69.0	68.9	69.7	69.0	69.3	69.7
New: Average Weekly Earnings (\$, SA)	1,164	1,201	1,226	1,232	1,220	1,231	1,224	1,232	
y/y % change	1.4	3.2	2.0	2.0	1.3	2.8	3.1	3.0	
Household Sector									
Retail Sales (\$ millions, SA)	81,091	78,894	82,026	7,354	7,373	7,469	7,725	7,733	
y/y % change	-0.8	-2.7	14.0	6.8	13.4	4.5	7.2	6.9	
New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	223	184	183	17	16	16	16	14	
y/y % change	-6.0	-17.4	7.4	-8.5	-14.3	-19.6	-11.9	-4.7	
Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	1.8	1.1	3.2	3.7	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.8
Excluding Food & Energy	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.8	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.8	2.3
Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands)	27.3	24.0	31.9	31.6	31.0	26.3	36.4	41.6	31.1
y/y % change	4.8	-12.2	33.1	35.0	48.6	-0.9	11.7	56.3	1.8
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	-1.5	-0.9	6.8	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.2	8.8	9.3
Resale Home Sales (units, SA)	53,068	55,086	84,568	6,156	6,314	6,386	7,019	7,457	7,832
y/y % change	0.1	3.8	53.5	18.4	17.9	12.3	21.8	30.9	30.3
Sales to New Listing Ratio (SA)	0.49	0.56	0.70	0.64	0.67	0.68	0.72	0.78	0.82
MLS Average Resale Prices (\$ thousands, SA)	387	392	428	425	418	418	424	431	429
y/y % change	-2.7	1.4	9.1	6.9	4.1	3.6	3.5	6.2	7.5
Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	5,589	3,602	2,540	210	169	198	199	242	
y/y % change	13.5	-35.6	-23.6	-27.1	-29.3	-26.1	-37.6	-8.7	
Business Sector									
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ millions)	117,202	91,990	123,677	11,681	12,346	12,145	11,893	13,821	
y/y % change	-0.4	-21.5	48.7	65.8	64.8	60.1	50.0	78.5	
Energy Products (\$ millions)	84,525	60,190	88,090	8,437	9,165	8,989	8,509	10,567	
y/y % change	1.3	-28.8	62.4	85.0	83.2	84.3	71.2	109.6	
Agricultural Products (\$ millions)	7,705	9,002	8,215	671	570	644	792	735	
y/y % change	-7.2	16.8	0.1	-8.6	-15.3	-18.0	-9.7	-2.8	
Rigs Drilling	92	60	98	100	112	121	124	131	118
y/y % change	-30.6	-35.3	63.7	275.5	250.6	195.7	153.1	116.2	79.4
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions, SA)	76,088	64,738	77,090	7,223	7,186	7,003	7,306	7,614	
y/y % change	-1.6	-14.9	30.9	42.0	40.4	31.0	35.2	35.9	
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions, SA)	80,916	76,819	80,287	7,181	7,269	7,297	7,369	8,260	
y/y % change	-1.5	-5.1	14.3	9.8	14.0	14.2	13.9	24.5	
Building Permits (\$ millions, SA)	11,647	10,723	13,129	1,028	1,124	1,327	1,097	1,323	
y/y % change	-13.5	-7.9	33.8	11.3	21.0	54.5	13.6	26.9	
Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	6,999	6,824	8,665	764	714	747	806	753	
y/y % change	-10.0	-2.5	40.2	47.1	26.9	27.4	29.2	8.0	
Non-Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	4,648	3,899	4,464	264	410	579	291	570	
y/y % change	-18.2	-16.1	23.0	-34.7	12.1	112.9	-14.8	65.0	
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index ² (y/y % change)	2.3	0.4	4.1			7.0			

¹ Population data presented on a census year basis (July 1 – June 30).

² Quarterly, average of Calgary and Edmonton.

YTD (year-to-date).

“SA” denotes seasonally adjusted. “SAAR” denotes seasonally adjusted at annual rate.

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.