

Alberta economy

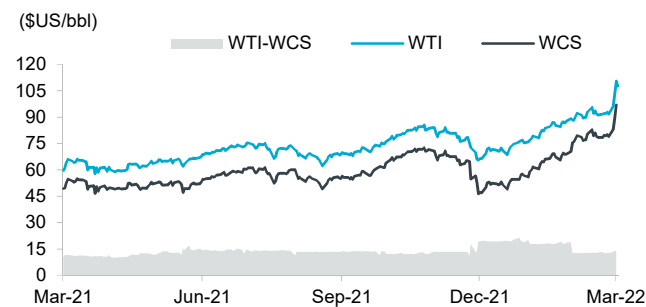
Indicators at a glance

New: Oil Prices

WTI increased \$14.86 over the week and closed at US\$107.67 on Thursday. The WTI-WCS differential closed at US\$12.50 per barrel, wider than US\$12.10 per barrel a week ago.

OIL PRICES

Daily prices



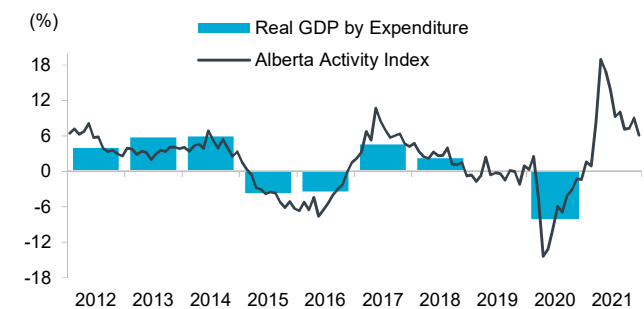
Sources: US Energy Information Administration, CME Group, Kent Group Limited, Haver Analytics

New: Economic Activity

The Alberta Activity Index decreased 1.7% month-over-month (m/m) in December, but was up 6.1% 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

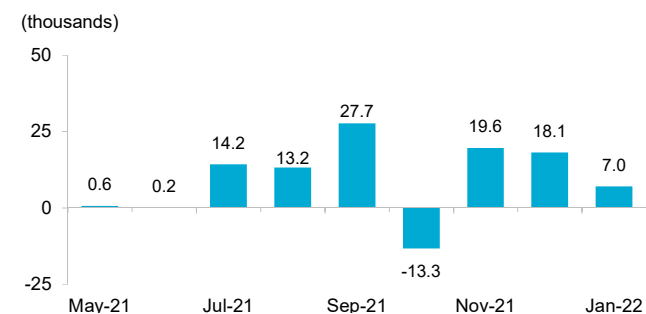
Labour Market

Employment rose by 7,000 in January. Compared to a year ago, when employment was recovering from the pandemic, it was up by 117,300. The next release is on March 11, 2022.

Alberta's unemployment rate was 7.2% in January, down 0.3 percentage points from December and 3.6 percentage points below a year ago.

LABOUR MARKET

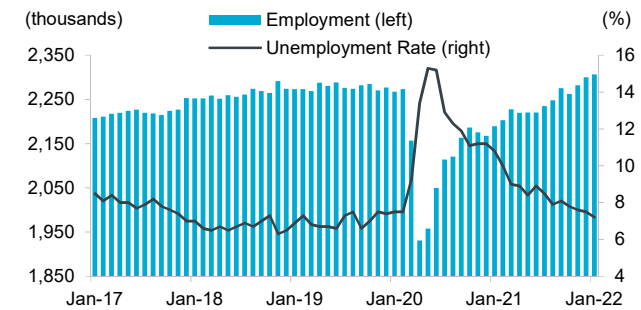
Monthly change in employment



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\$)
March 3, 2022	107.67	12.50	4.72	4.84	78.96
Fiscal Year-To-Date	74.41	11.99	4.11	3.75	79.86

Business Output

Manufacturing shipments increased 1.8% m/m to \$7.7 billion in December. Compared to a year ago, when manufacturing shipments were recovering from depressed levels due to COVID-19, they were up 32%.

Alberta goods exports increased 3.1% m/m in December to \$14.2 billion. Year-over-year (y/y), they were up 61%.

MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS AND GOODS EXPORTS

Year-over-year % change



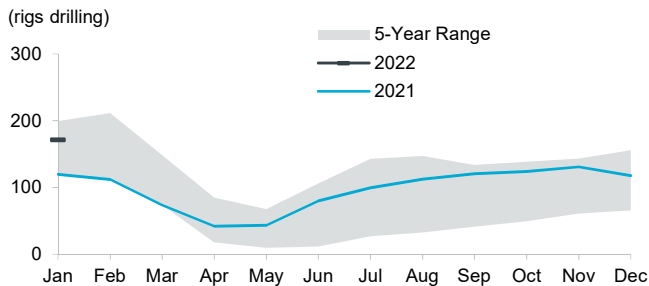
Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics; SA - Seasonally Adjusted

Rigs Drilling

The number of rigs drilling in Alberta averaged 171 in January, up 43% 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)

Average Weekly Earnings

Average weekly earnings in Alberta increased 0.8% m/m in December to \$1,238, 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

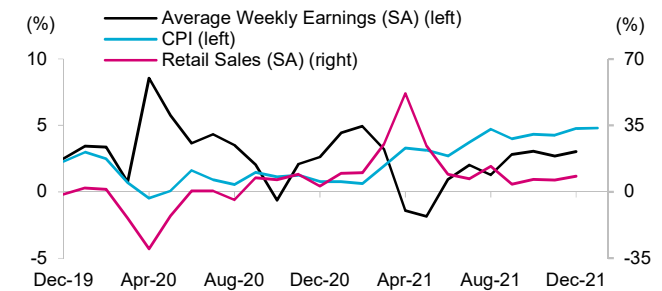
The consumer price index in Alberta increased 4.8% y/y in January, unchanged from December.

Retail Sales

Alberta retail sales decreased 2.3% m/m to \$7.5 billion in December. Compared to a year ago, sales were up 8.3%.

RETAIL SALES, CONSUMER PRICES, AND EARNINGS

Year-over-year % change



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

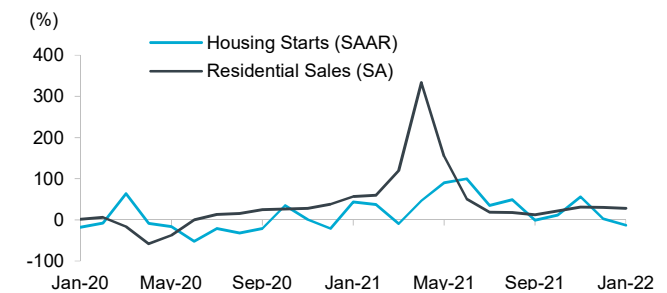
Housing Market

Alberta housing starts decreased 20% m/m in January to 25,138 units (SAAR), down 13% from a year ago.

The number of home sales in the resale market increased 7.4% m/m to 8,533 units in January, up 28% y/y.

HOUSING STARTS AND HOME RESALES

Year-over-year % change

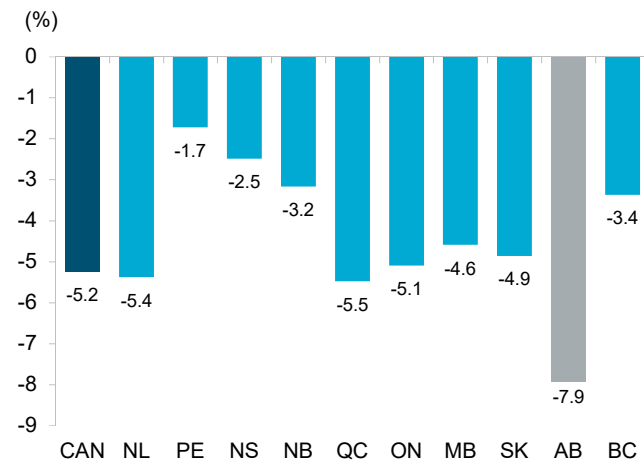


Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Real Estate Association, Haver Analytics; SAAR - Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

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

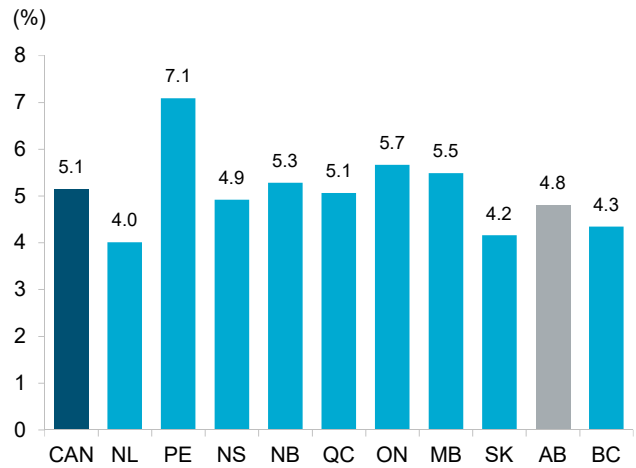
REAL GDP BY EXPENDITURE

(2020, year-over-year growth)



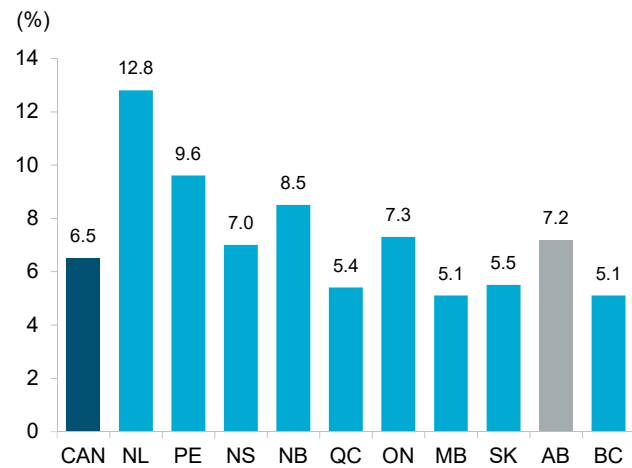
CPI INFLATION

(January 2022, year-over-year growth)



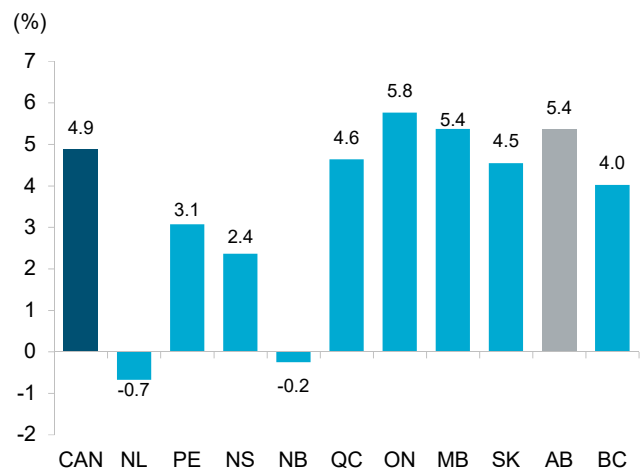
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(January 2022)



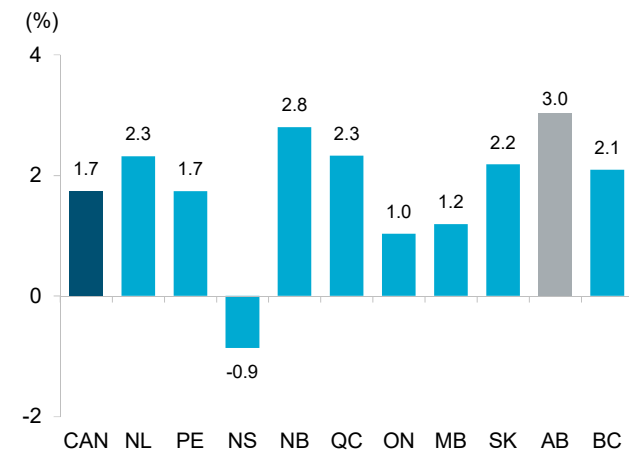
EMPLOYMENT

(January 2022, year-over-year growth)



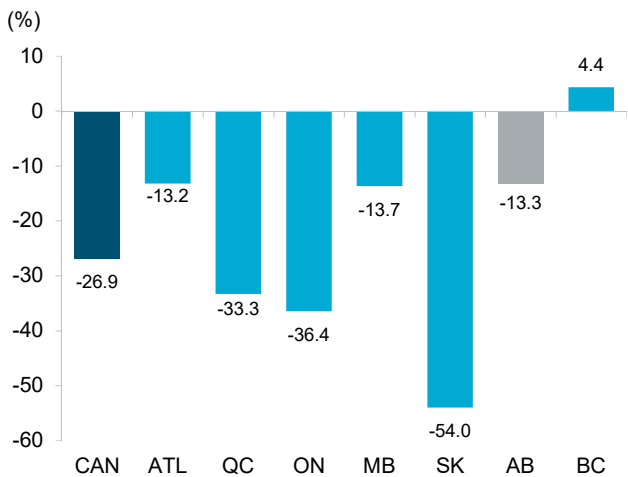
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

(December 2021, year-over-year growth)



HOUSING STARTS

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



ALBERTA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2020	2021	2022YTD	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
New: Alberta Activity Index (y/y % change)	-5.2	8.9		10.0	7.1	7.3	9.0	6.1	
Population¹									
Population (thousands)	4,420	4,443	4,464			4,464			
y/y % change	1.3	0.5	0.9			0.9			
Net Interprovincial Migration	-2,377	-11,831	4,489			4,489			
Net International Migration	36,264	16,199	12,201			12,201			
Labour Market									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,130	2,239	2,307	2,248	2,275	2,262	2,282	2,300	2,307
m/m change (thousands)				13.2	27.7	-13.3	19.6	18.1	7.0
y/y % change	-6.6	5.1	5.4	6.0	5.2	3.5	4.9	6.1	5.4
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	11.4	8.7	7.2	7.9	8.1	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.2
Participation Rate (% , SA)	68.6	69.2	69.6	68.9	69.7	69.0	69.3	69.7	69.6
Average Weekly Earnings (\$, SA)	1,201	1,227		1,220	1,231	1,224	1,228	1,238	
y/y % change	3.2	2.1		1.3	2.8	3.1	2.7	3.0	
Household Sector									
Retail Sales (\$ millions, SA)	78,894	89,230		7,373	7,426	7,675	7,688	7,512	
y/y % change	-2.7	13.1		13.4	3.9	6.5	6.3	8.3	
New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	184	196		16	16	16	14	13	
y/y % change	-17.4	6.3		-14.3	-19.6	-11.9	-4.3	-6.7	
Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	1.1	3.2	4.8	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.8	4.8
Excluding Food & Energy	1.2	1.3	2.3	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.8	2.3	2.3
Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands)	24.0	31.9	25.1	31.0	26.3	36.3	41.4	31.3	25.1
y/y % change	-12.2	33.1	-13.3	48.6	-0.9	11.4	55.7	2.4	-13.3
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	-0.9	6.8	10.8	10.1	9.6	9.2	8.8	9.3	10.8
Resale Home Sales (units, SA)	55,086	84,558	8,533	6,325	6,422	7,075	7,557	7,947	8,533
y/y % change	3.8	53.5	27.8	18.1	12.5	22.1	31.4	30.6	27.8
Sales to New Listing Ratio (SA)	0.56	0.70	0.93	0.67	0.68	0.73	0.80	0.84	0.93
MLS Average Resale Prices (\$ thousands, SA)	392	428	450	418	419	426	434	431	450
y/y % change	1.4	9.1	9.8	4.2	3.6	3.5	6.3	7.6	9.8
New: Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	3,602	2,731	181	169	198	199	242	191	181
y/y % change	-35.6	-24.2	-28.7	-29.3	-26.1	-37.6	-8.7	-30.8	-28.7
Business Sector									
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ millions)	91,998	138,090		12,346	12,145	12,151	13,773	14,194	
y/y % change	-21.5	50.1		64.8	60.1	53.2	77.7	61.3	
Energy Products (\$ millions)	60,191	99,573		9,165	8,989	8,801	10,563	11,190	
y/y % change	-28.8	65.4		83.2	84.3	76.9	109.5	87.8	
Agricultural Products (\$ millions)	9,005	8,868		570	644	792	712	671	
y/y % change	16.9	-1.5		-15.3	-18.0	-9.7	-6.1	-16.0	
Rigs Drilling	60	98	171	112	121	124	131	118	171
y/y % change	-35.3	63.7	43.4	250.6	195.7	153.1	116.2	79.4	43.4
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions, SA)	64,738	84,528		7,186	6,992	7,274	7,557	7,693	
y/y % change	-14.9	30.6		40.4	30.8	34.6	34.9	31.6	
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions, SA)	76,819	87,856		7,269	7,312	7,397	8,181	7,712	
y/y % change	-5.1	14.4		14.0	14.4	14.4	23.3	17.2	
New: Building Permits (\$ millions, SA)	10,723	14,446	1,221	1,124	1,327	1,104	1,314	1,196	1,221
y/y % change	-7.9	34.7	7.3	21.0	54.5	14.4	26.0	30.9	7.3
New: Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	6,824	9,511	753	714	747	812	754	853	753
y/y % change	-2.5	39.4	-9.1	26.9	27.4	30.2	8.2	32.9	-9.1
New: Non-Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	3,899	4,935	468	410	579	292	559	342	468
y/y % change	-16.1	26.6	51.0	12.1	112.9	-14.5	62.0	26.0	51.0
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index ² (y/y % change)	0.4	5.6	5.6		7.1			10.0	

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.