

Alberta Economy

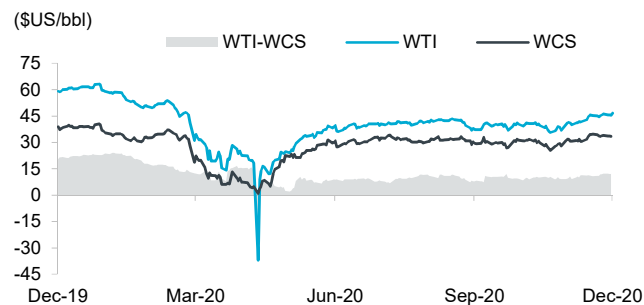
Indicators at a Glance

New: Oil Prices

WTI increased US\$1.14 per barrel on the week and closed at US\$46.78 on Thursday. The WTI-WCS differential closed at US\$12.50 per barrel, wider than US\$12.10 a week ago.

OIL PRICES

Daily prices



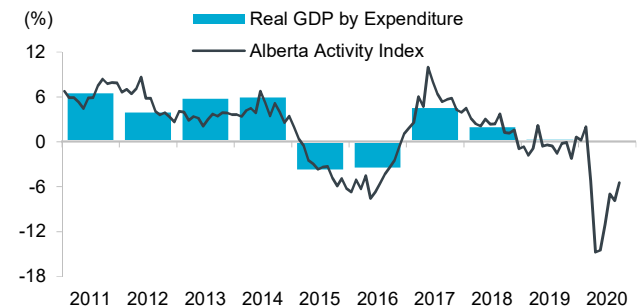
Sources: US Energy Information Administration, CME Group, Kent Group Limited, Haver Analytics

Economic Activity

The Alberta Activity Index increased 2.4% month-over-month (m/m) in September, and remained down 5.5% from a year ago. Alberta's real GDP by expenditure increased by 0.1% in 2019, following 1.9% growth in 2018.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Year-over-year % change



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

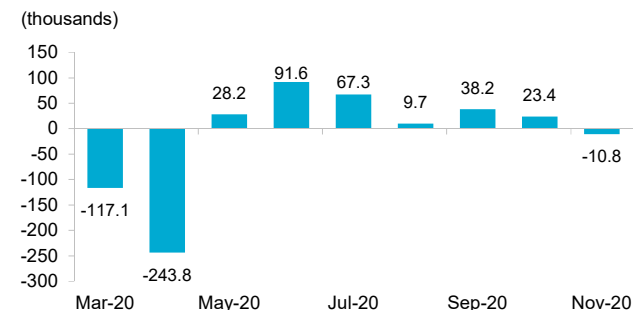
Labour Market

Employment fell by 10,800 in November. Compared to a year ago, employment was down by 122,500. The next release is on January 8, 2021.

Alberta's unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage points to 11.1% in November. It was up 3.9 percentage points from a year ago.

LABOUR MARKET

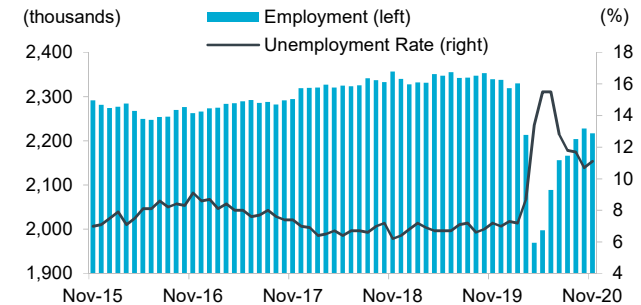
Monthly change in employment



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\$)
December 10, 2020	46.78	12.50	2.55	2.44	78.53
Fiscal Year-To-Date	36.42	10.16	2.19	2.17	74.41

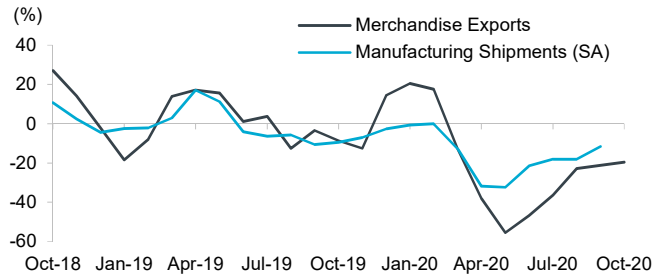
Business Output

Manufacturing shipments increased 3.9% m/m to \$5.4 billion in September. Compared to a year ago, they were down 12%.

Alberta goods exports increased 6.2% m/m in October, to \$7.8 billion. Year-over-year (y/y), they were 20% lower.

MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS AND GOODS EXPORTS

Year-over-year % change



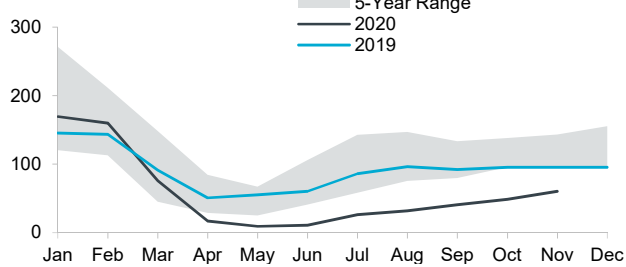
Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics; SA - Seasonally Adjusted

New: Rigs Drilling

The number of rigs drilling in Alberta averaged 60 in November, 37% lower than a year ago.

RIGS DRILLING

Number of rigs drilling and five-year seasonal range (rigs drilling)



Source: Canadian Association of Oil Well Drilling Contractors (CAODC)

Average Weekly Earnings

Average weekly earnings in Alberta decreased 0.1% m/m in September to \$1,204, and remained up 2.5% from a year ago.

Population Growth

Alberta's population was 4,421,876 as of July 1, 2020, an increase of 1.4% from the year prior. During the last 12 months, Alberta welcomed 33,229 net international migrants and 2,183 net interprovincial migrants.

Inflation

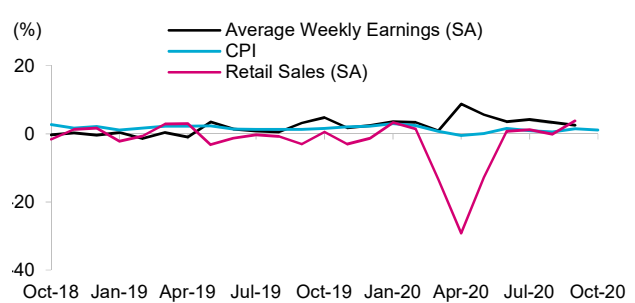
The consumer price index in Alberta increased 1.1% y/y in October, down from 1.5% y/y in the previous month.

Retail Sales

Alberta retail sales increased 2.5% m/m to \$6.9 billion in September. Compared to a year ago, sales were up 3.8%.

RETAIL SALES, CONSUMER PRICES, AND EARNINGS

Year-over-year % change



Sources: Statistics Canada, Haver Analytics

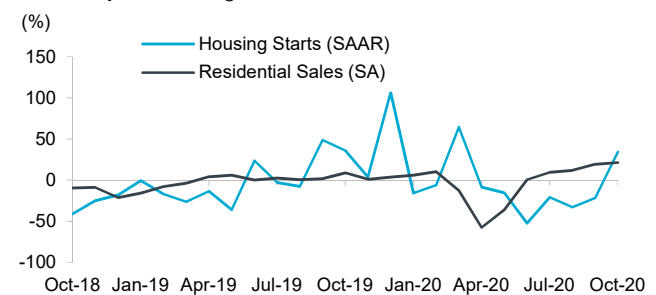
Housing Market

Alberta housing starts increased 27% m/m in October to 32,610 units (SAAR). They were up 34% y/y.

The number of home sales in the resale market rose 2.9% m/m to 5,544 units in October, and they were up 21% y/y.

HOUSING STARTS AND HOME RESALES

Year-over-year % change



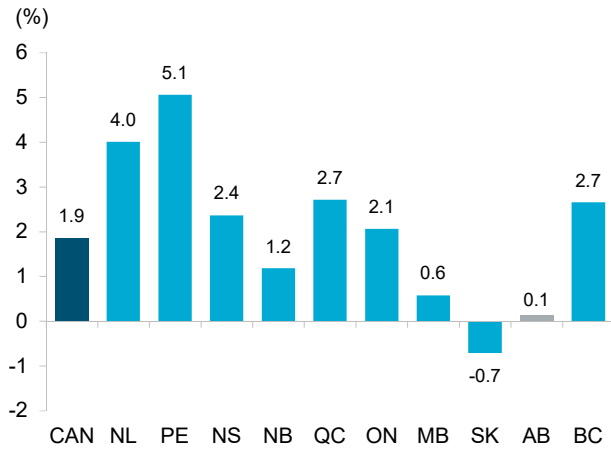
Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Real Estate Association, Haver Analytics; SAAR - Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

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For current analysis of the Alberta Economy please see the [Weekly Economic Review](#)

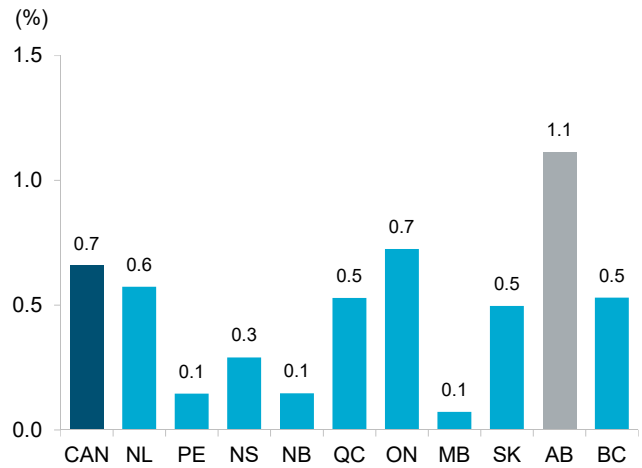
REAL GDP BY EXPENDITURE

(2019, year-over-year growth)



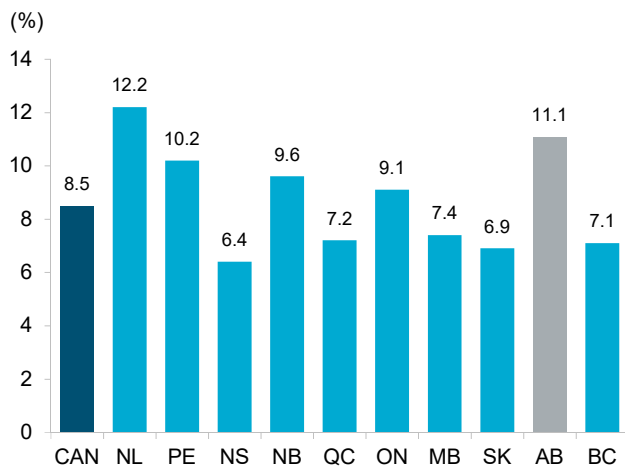
CPI INFLATION

(October 2020, year-over-year growth)



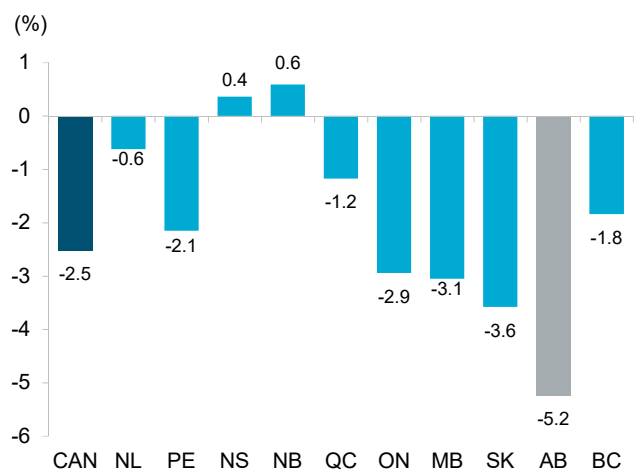
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(November 2020)



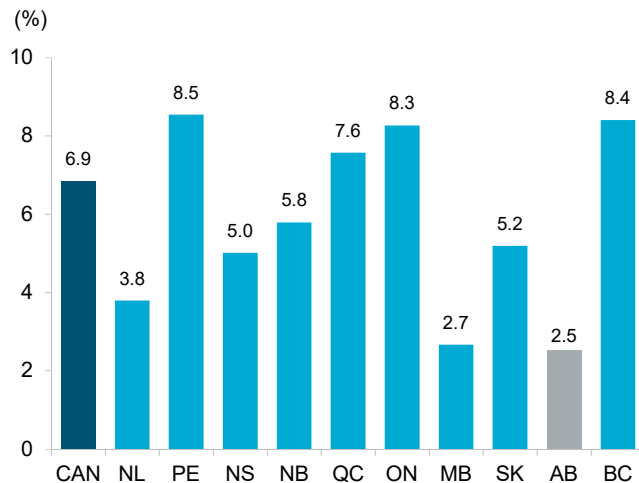
EMPLOYMENT

(November 2020, year-over-year growth)



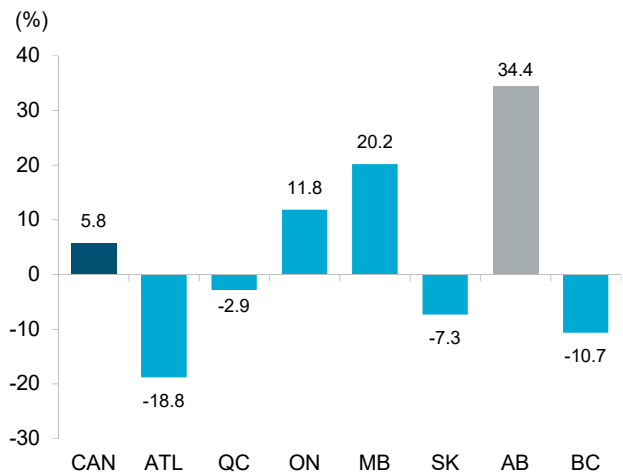
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

(September 2020, year-over-year growth)



HOUSING STARTS

(October 2020, SAAR, year-over-year growth)



ALBERTA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2018	2019	2020YTD	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20
Alberta Activity Index (y/y % change)	2.2	-0.5	-7.1	-11.1	-7.0	-7.9	-5.5		
Population¹									
Population (thousands)	4,298	4,362	4,422		4,422				
y/y % change	1.3	1.5	1.4		1.4				
Net Interprovincial Migration	-3,247	-2,032	2,183		-2,733				
Net International Migration	33,543	39,603	33,229		897				
Labour Market									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,331	2,343	2,171	2,089	2,156	2,166	2,204	2,227	2,217
m/m change (thousands)				91.6	67.3	9.7	38.2	23.4	-10.8
y/y % change	1.9	0.5	-7.3	-11.3	-7.9	-7.6	-6.1	-5.3	-5.2
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	6.6	6.9	11.4	15.5	12.8	11.8	11.7	10.7	11.1
Participation Rate (% , SA)	71.9	71.4	68.6	69.1	69.1	68.6	69.7	69.6	69.5
Average Weekly Earnings (\$, SA)	1,149	1,165	1,206	1,206	1,210	1,206	1,204		
y/y % change	1.7	1.4	4.0	3.6	4.2	3.4	2.5		
Household Sector									
Retail Sales (\$ millions, SA)	81,737	81,091	57,765	6,781	6,876	6,775	6,944		
y/y % change	1.8	-0.8	-5.1	0.7	1.2	-0.1	3.8		
New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	237	222	135	15	19	19	20		
y/y % change	-4.8	-6.1	-23.0	-29.4	-3.6	-8.2	3.5		
Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.6	0.9	0.6	1.5	1.1	
Excluding Food & Energy	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.9	
Housing Starts (SAAR, thousands)	26.1	27.3	23.2	15.0	23.1	20.3	25.8	32.6	
y/y % change	-11.4	4.8	-11.2	-52.4	-20.9	-33.0	-21.7	34.4	
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	-0.4	-1.5	-1.2	-0.9	-0.9	-1.0	-0.6	-0.1	
Resale Home Sales (units, SA)	52,145	52,192	43,121	4,509	4,995	5,098	5,386	5,544	
y/y % change	-7.4	0.1	-2.7	0.6	9.4	11.7	19.3	21.3	
Sales to New Listing Ratio (SA)	0.45	0.49	0.54	0.51	0.54	0.58	0.60	0.61	
MLS Average Resale Prices (\$ thousands, SA)	400	389	384	380	399	399	404	412	
y/y % change	-2.2	-2.8	2.1	1.1	6.2	5.3	7.4	8.5	
Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	4,925	5,589	3,061	250	288	239	268	319	
y/y % change	-1.7	13.5	-35.0	-43.2	-39.5	-47.9	-41.9	-34.4	
Business Sector									
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ millions)	117,685	117,552	74,905	5,508	7,021	7,479	7,378	7,838	
y/y % change	17.1	-0.1	-24.2	-46.9	-36.4	-22.9	-21.3	-19.5	
Energy Products (\$ millions)	83,454	84,879	49,132	3,050	4,561	5,000	4,840	4,955	
y/y % change	19.9	1.7	-31.0	-59.7	-45.7	-29.0	-28.9	-29.5	
Agricultural Products (\$ millions)	8,304	7,696	6,985	663	712	666	624	811	
y/y % change	-0.8	-7.3	8.5	-1.2	20.0	16.1	19.6	16.7	
New: Rigs Drilling	133	92	59	11	27	32	41	49	60
y/y % change	1.6	-30.6	-35.7	-81.6	-69.2	-66.8	-55.8	-48.7	-36.9
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions, SA)	77,901	76,406	48,475	5,069	5,268	5,228	5,434		
y/y % change	7.3	-1.9	-16.7	-21.6	-18.0	-18.2	-11.6		
Wholesale Trade (\$ millions, SA)	82,141	80,916	58,091	6,441	6,604	6,490	6,492		
y/y % change	5.1	-1.5	-5.1	-6.1	-1.6	-2.4	-4.9		
Building Permits (\$ millions, SA)	13,459	11,647	8,678	672	904	903	839	924	
y/y % change	-5.5	-13.5	-9.9	-25.7	-6.6	-6.7	-19.8	-5.2	
Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	7,776	6,999	5,436	445	521	553	572	597	
y/y % change	-7.4	-10.0	-5.7	-18.0	-7.4	-5.2	-11.0	-1.2	
Non-Residential Permits (\$ millions, SA)	5,683	4,648	3,242	226	384	350	267	328	
y/y % change	-2.8	-18.2	-16.0	-37.2	-5.5	-9.0	-33.8	-11.6	
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index ² (y/y % change)	2.3	2.3	0.5	0.4			0.2		

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 Oilwell Drilling Contractors) and Bankruptcies (Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada). All historical data are subject to revision.