

2006 Census Analysis

Alberta Profile

Population **Labour Force** Education
Employment Unemployment **Income**

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This report, Alberta Profile, is one of three reports in the Alberta 2006 Census Analysis series that present results and analyses with findings from the 2006 Canadian Census. The Alberta 2006 Census Analysis series focuses on labour market activities in Alberta and, where available, includes analysis for the current and previous Census year(s) and makes comparisons between Alberta and the Canada's statistics.

The other two reports in the series are Aboriginal People in Alberta and Persons with Disabilities Profile.

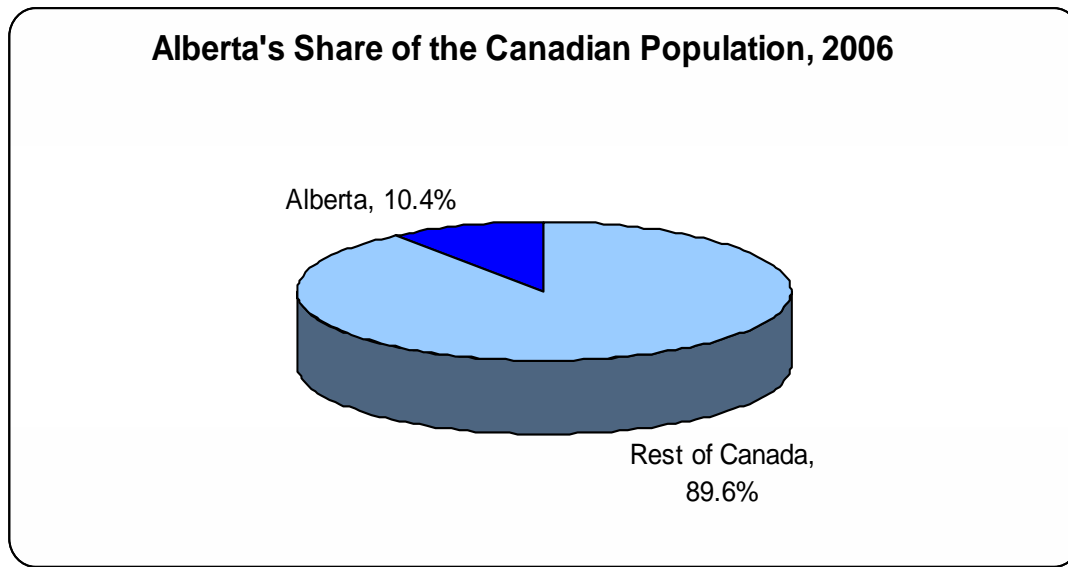
This report analyses the Alberta population, labour force, education, employment, unemployment, participation rate and income of Albertans in the province. The data analyzed in this report come from two Statistics Canada sources: the 2001 and 2006 Census.

Important definitions for key terms relating to these data sources are described in Glossary of Terms.

Alberta's share of the Canadian population

Figure 1 displays Alberta's share of Canada's population. In the 2006 Census, Alberta's share of the Canadian population increased by 0.5 percentage points to 10.4% from 9.9% in the 2001 Census. Between 2001 and 2006, Alberta's population grew by 10.6%.

Figure 1



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006
 Note: Population is based on 100% Census data

Figure 2 shows the population of Alberta by gender. In 2001 and 2006, the population for male and females in Alberta was about the same. In both years, 50.0% of the Alberta population were females and 50.0% were males.

Figure 2

Alberta Population by Gender				
	2001		2006	
Males	1,486,610	50.0%	1,646,795	50.0%
Female	1,488,225	50.0%	1,643,550	50.0%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006. Based on 100% Census data
 Note: Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth

The Population Age Structure

Figure 3 displays the population age structure for Alberta and Canada in 2006. Alberta's population was younger than the national average. Alberta population age structure shows that individuals aged 65 and over accounted for 10.7% of the total provincial population while they accounted for 13.7% of the Canada's population. The national average for the population aged 65 years and over in the same year was at 13.7%. Albertans aged 0 to 14 years represented 19.2% of the provincial population compared to 17.7% of the national average for Canadians aged 0 to 14 years in 2006

Figure 3

Canada and Alberta Population by Age Group, 2006				
	Canada	% of Total	Alberta	% of Total
0 - 4 years	1,690,540	5.3%	202,600	6.2%
5 - 9 years	1,809,375	5.7%	204,115	6.2%
10 - 14 years	2,079,925	6.6%	224,805	6.8%
15 - 19 years	2,140,490	6.8%	237,905	7.2%
20 - 24 years	2,080,385	6.6%	251,380	7.6%
25 - 29 years	1,985,580	6.3%	240,530	7.3%
30 - 34 years	2,020,225	6.4%	234,305	7.1%
35 - 39 years	2,208,270	7.0%	237,845	7.2%
40 - 44 years	2,610,460	8.3%	268,285	8.2%
45 - 49 years	2,620,600	8.3%	274,740	8.3%
50 - 54 years	2,357,305	7.5%	237,465	7.2%
55 - 59 years	2,084,625	6.6%	189,260	5.8%
60 - 64 years	1,589,870	5.0%	133,705	4.1%
65+ years	4,335,250	13.7%	353,405	10.7%
Total Population	31,612,900	100.0%	3,290,345	100.0%

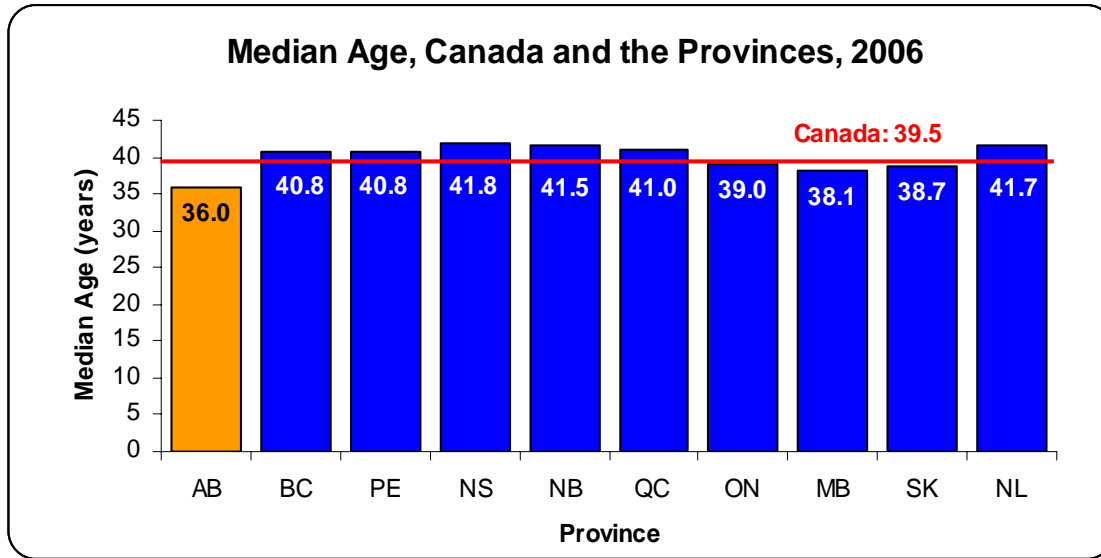
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Note: Population figures are based on 100% data

Alberta had the lowest median age in Canada

Figure 4, on the next page, displays the median age in 2006. The median age for the Alberta population in 2006 was 36 years, which is three and half years lower than the national average of 39.5 years. One half of Alberta's population was younger than 36 years and the other half was older than 36 years. Also, Alberta had the lowest median age when compared to other provinces. Between 2001 and 2006, Alberta's median age increased by one year from 35 years in 2001 while the national average increased by 1.9 years.

Figure 4



Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006

Alberta had a higher increase in working age population than the national average

The working age population is defined as persons aged 15 years of age and over, except for inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Figure 5 shows that the working age population for Alberta in 2001 was 2,322,020 individuals, and by 2006, the working age population for the province had increased to 2,625,140 individuals.

Between 2001 and 2006, the Alberta working age population increased by 13.1% which was 5.7 percentage points higher than the national average.

Figure 5

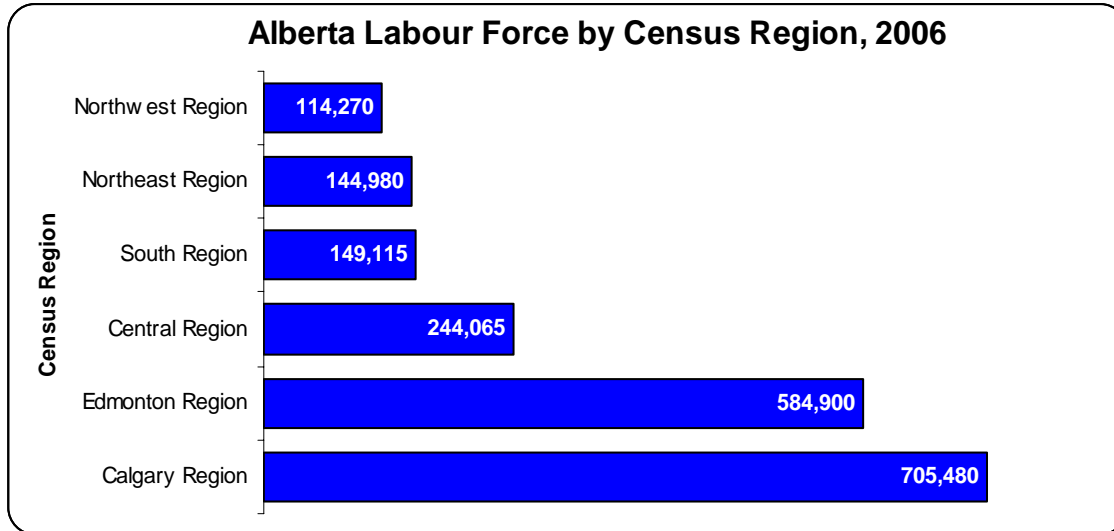
	2001	2006	2001- 2006 change	2001- 2006 % change
Canada	23,901,360	25,664,220	1,762,860	7.4%
Alberta	2,322,020	2,625,140	303,120	13.1%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006
Based on 20% sample data

Calgary region had the highest number of Albertans in the labour force

Figure shows Alberta's labour force by the province's six census regions. More than half or 66.4% of the Alberta's labour force in 2006 lived in Calgary and Edmonton census regions. In 2006, 36.3% or 705,480 Albertans in the labour force lived in the Calgary census region, the highest number in the province. The Edmonton census region had the second at 30.1% or 584,900. The Northwest census region had the lowest number of Albertans in the labour force at 5.9% or 114,270 persons.

Figure 6



Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2006

More Albertans were employed in 2006 than in 2001

Figure 7, on the next page, shows the labour force statistics of Albertans in both 2001 and 2006. Between 2001 and 2006, the number of employed Albertans increased by 15.6% and the number of unemployed people in the province decreased by 5.8%. Alberta's working age population and the provincial labour force increased by 13.1% and 14.5% respectively between 2001 and 2006.

Figure 7

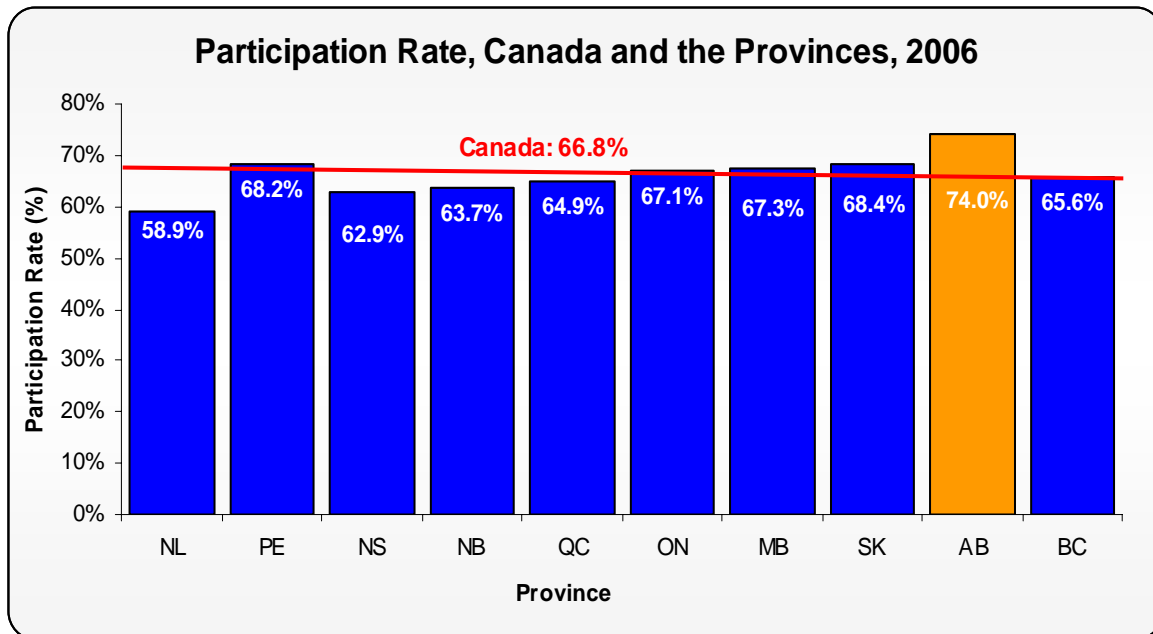
Alberta Labour Force Statistics, 2001 and 2006			
	2001	2006	% change
Working Age Population	2,322,020	2,625,140	13.1%
Employed	1,608,840	1,859,960	15.6%
Unemployed	87,920	82,860	-5.8%
In the Labour Force	1,696,760	1,942,820	14.5%
Not in the labour force	625,260	682,320	9.1%

Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006
Based on 20% sample data

Alberta's participation rate was the highest in Canada

Figure 8 displays the participation rate for Canada and the provinces. In 2006, Alberta's participation rate of 74.0% was the highest in Canada, 7.2 percentage points higher than the national average rate of 66.8%. Saskatchewan's participation rate of 68.4% was the second highest in Canada and was 5.6 percentage points lower than Alberta's participation rate in 2006.

Figure 8

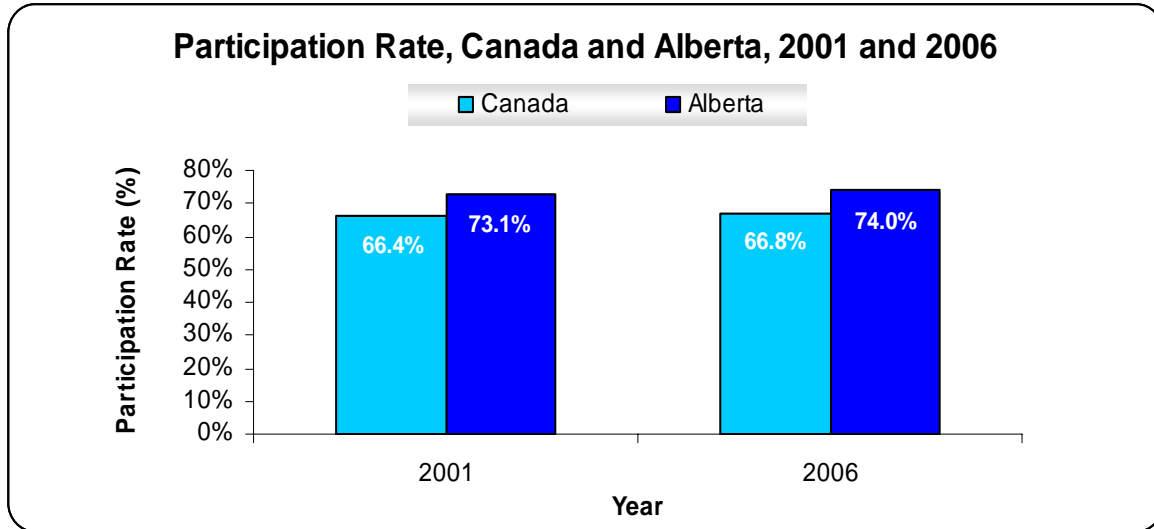


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

The participation rate in Alberta increased more than Canada's participation rate

Figure 9 displays the participation rate for Albertans and Canadians. Between 2001 and 2006, Albertans' participation rate increased by 0.9 percentage points, more than double the national average participation rate increase of 0.4 percentage points.

Figure 9

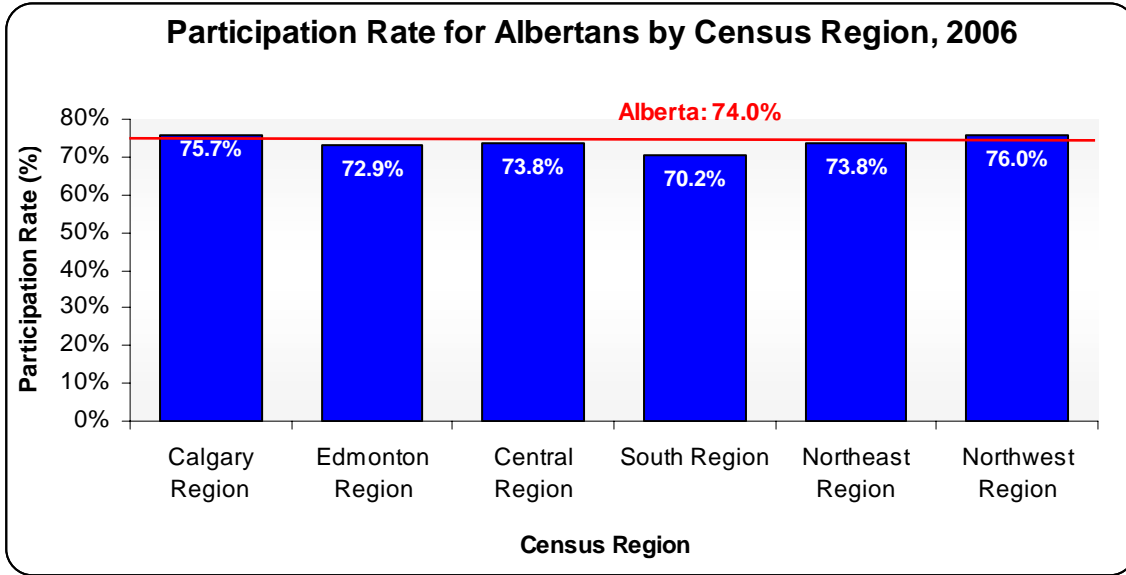


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

The Northwest region had the highest participation rate in the province

Figure 10, on the next page, shows the participation rate for Albertans by census region in 2006. The Northwest region had the highest participation rate in the province at 76.0% followed by Calgary region at 75.7%. The Edmonton region had the second lowest rate at 72.9%, below the provincial average of 74.0%. The South region had the lowest participation rate in the province at 70.2%.

Figure 10

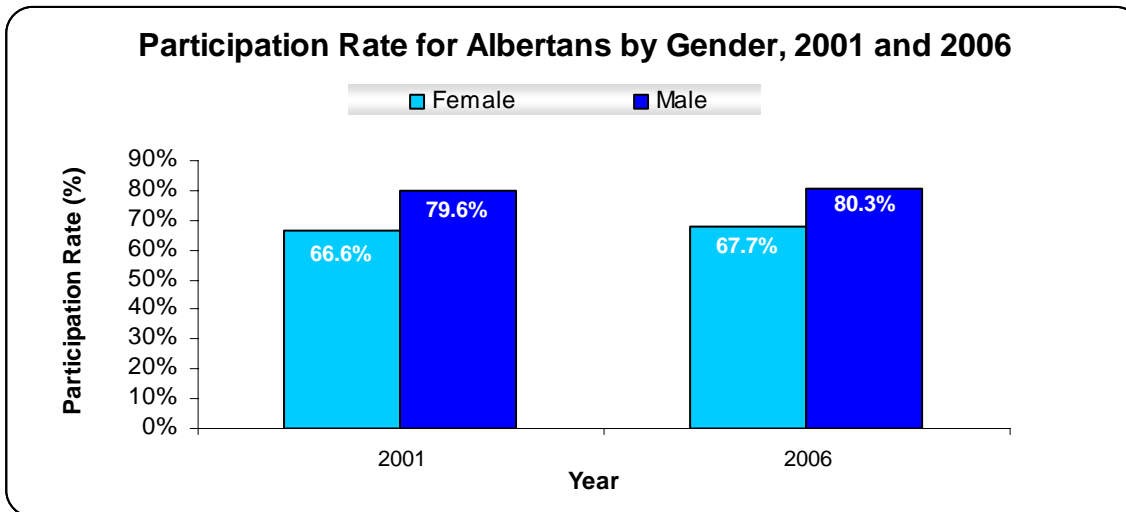


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Males in Alberta had a higher participation rate than the females in the province

Figure 11 displays Alberta's participation rate by gender. In 2001 and 2006, male participation rate was higher than female participation rate by 13 percentage points and 12.6 percentage points respectively. The female participation rate in both years was also below the provincial rate of 73.1% in 2001 and 74% in 2006. Between 2001 and 2006, Alberta's male and female participation rates increased by 0.7 percentage points and 1.1 percentage points respectively.

Figure 11



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

Alberta had more high school, college, and trade graduates than the national average

Figure 12 shows the education attainment in Alberta. More Albertans had high school graduate certificates, college diplomas or trade certificates than the national average in 2006. However, the number of Albertans with a university certificate, diploma or degree was lower than the national average.

Figure 12

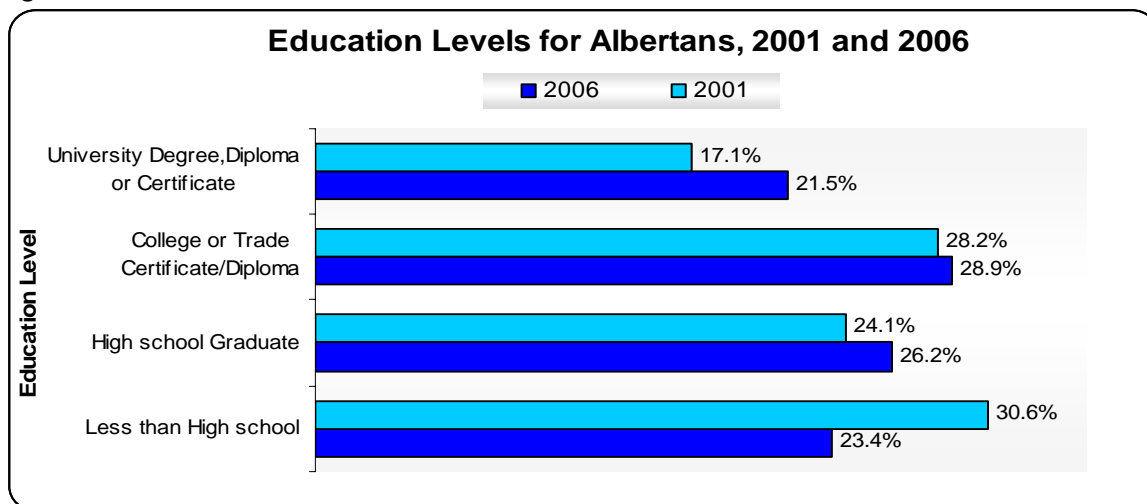
Education Levels, Canada and Alberta, 2006				
	Canada	% of Total	Albertans	% of Total
Less than High School	6,098,325	23.8%	614,865	23.4%
High School Graduate	6,553,425	25.5%	688,140	26.2%
College or Trade Certificate/Diploma	7,220,555	28.1%	758,025	28.9%
University Degree, Diploma or Certificate	5,791,915	22.6%	564,105	21.5%

Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006
Based on 20% sample data

More Albertans attained post-secondary education in 2006 than in 2001

Figure 13 shows that in 2006, over half or 50.4% of Albertans had post-secondary certificates, diplomas or university degrees. In 2006, the number of Albertans with less than high school education decreased by 7.2 percentage points from 30.6% in 2001 census to 23.4% in 2006. Between 2001 and 2006, the number of Albertans with a university degree, diploma or certificate increased by 4.4 percentage points from 17.1% to 21.5%.

Figure 13

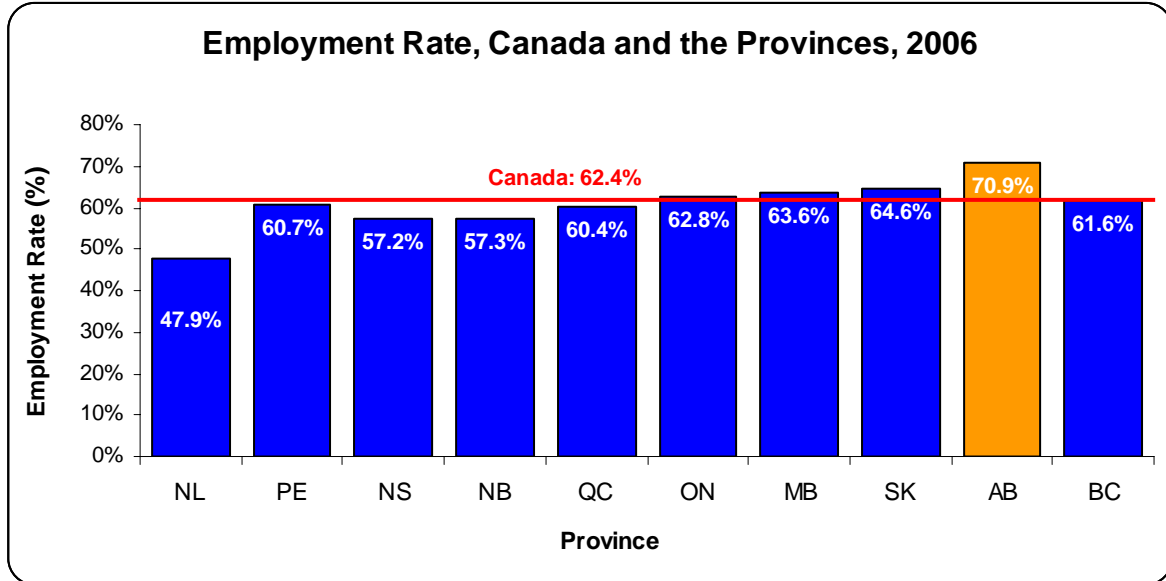


Source: Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006

Alberta had the highest employment rate in Canada

Figure 14 displays employment rates for Canada and the provinces. In 2006, Alberta's employment rate of 70.9% was the highest in Canada and was 8.5 percentage points higher than the national average rate of 62.4%.

Figure 14

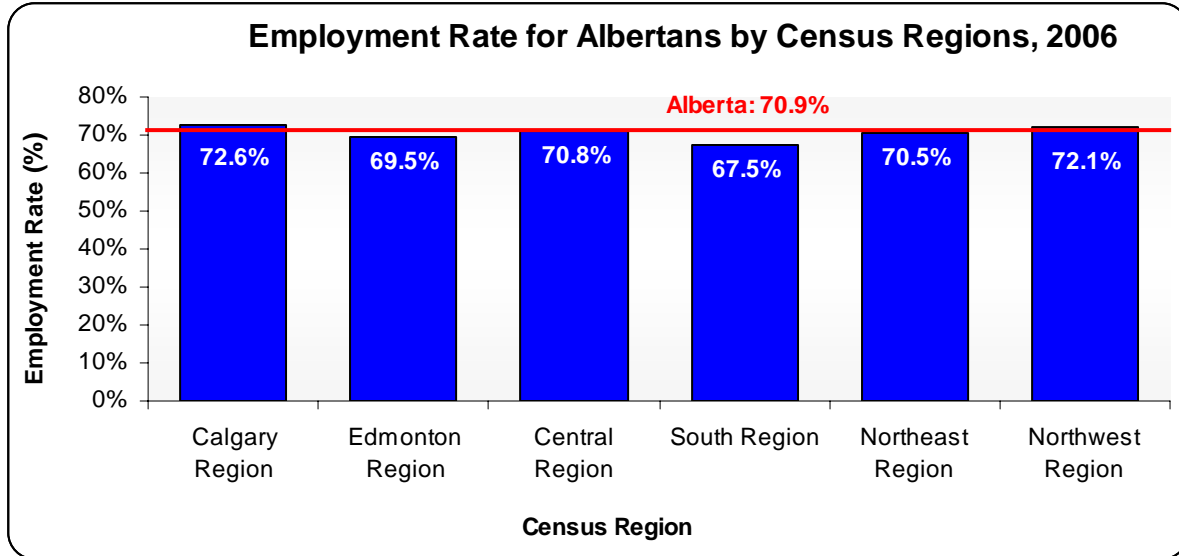


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Calgary region had the highest employment rate in Alberta

Alberta's employment rate by region is displayed in Figure 15 on the next page. In 2006, Calgary region had the highest employment rate at 72.6% and the South region had the lowest rate in the province at 67.5%. The employment rate of 69.5% for Edmonton region was the second lowest in the province and was 1.4 percentage points lower than the provincial rate of 70.9%.

Figure 15

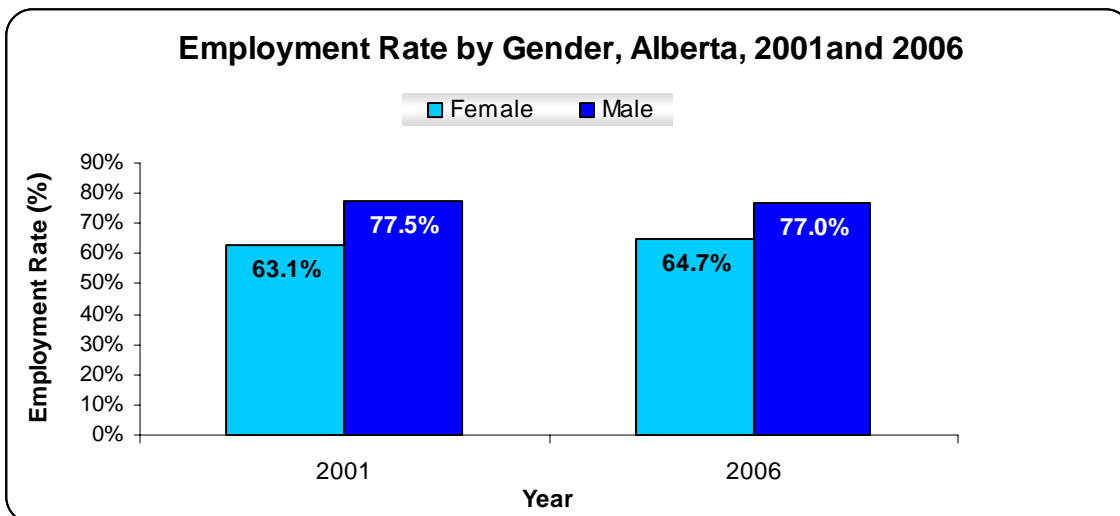


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

The male employment rate was higher than that of females in Alberta

Figure 16 displays Alberta's employment rate by gender. In 2001 and 2006, the employment rate for males in Alberta was higher than the rate for females by 14.4 and 12.3 percentage points respectively. The female employment rate in Alberta was 7.8 percentage points lower than the provincial rate of 70.3% in 2001 and 6.2 percentage points lower than Alberta's rate of 77.0% in 2006. Between 2001 and 2006, the employment rate for females in Alberta increased by 1.6 percentage points while the employment rate for males in the province decreased by 0.5 percentage points.

Figure 16



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

More Albertans were employed in the Service-Producing Sector

Figure 17 displays the employment by industry for Alberta. In 2006, 27.8% of employed Albertans were in Goods-Producing sector and 72.2% were employed in the Services-Producing Sector.

Figure 17

Employment by Industry, Alberta, 2006		
	Employment	% of Total
Total: Goods-Producing Sector	536,300	27.8%
Agriculture and Other Resource Industries	228,515	11.8%
Construction	169,420	8.8%
Manufacturing	138,365	7.2%
Total: Services-Producing Sector	1,392,335	72.2%
Wholesale Trade	85,510	4.4%
Retail Trade	206,660	10.7%
Finance and Real Estate	97,470	5.1%
Health Care and Social Services	175,200	9.1%
Educational Services	120,465	6.2%
Business Services	354,270	18.4%
Other Service	352,760	18.3%
Total Employment	1,928,635	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006
Based on 20% sample data

More Albertans were employed in Sales and service occupations

Figure 18, on the next page, shows the number of Albertans employed by occupation. In 2006, more than half or 58.5% of employed Albertans were in three occupational groups: 22.7% worked in Sales and service occupations, 18.2% worked in Trades, transport and equipment operator occupations, and 17.7% in Business, finance and administration occupations.

Figure 18



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Alberta's Employment by gender and occupation

Figure 19, on the next page, displays employment in Alberta by gender and occupation. In 2006, there were more males than females in Alberta employed in Management, Natural and applied sciences occupations, Processing, manufacturing and utilities occupations, Trades, transport and equipment operator occupations. There were also more female workers than males in the province employed in Health occupations, Business, finance, and administration occupations, Social sciences, education, government and religion, and Sales and service occupations.

Employment

Figure 19

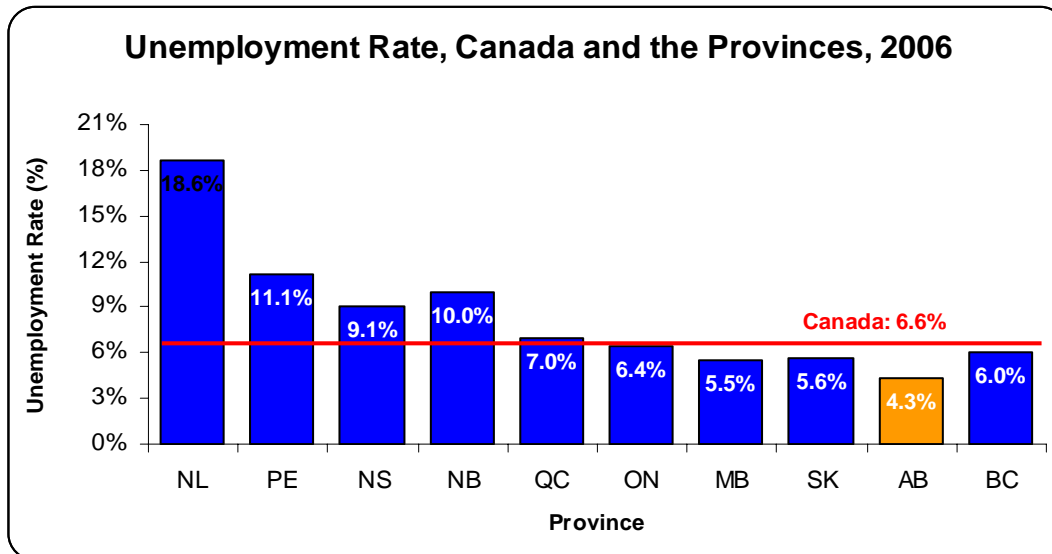
Employment by Gender and Occupation, Alberta, 2006					
	Total	Female	% of Total	Male	% of Total
Management	187,240	66,195	35.4%	121,045	64.6%
Business, Finance and Administration	340,430	253,755	74.5%	86,675	25.5%
Natural and Applied Sciences	144,240	29,955	20.8%	114,280	79.2%
Health	103,620	84,475	81.5%	19,140	18.5%
Social Sciences, Education, Government and Religion	136,610	92,990	68.1%	43,620	31.9%
Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport	45,160	26,630	59.0%	18,530	41.0%
Sales and Service	438,105	262,185	59.8%	175,920	40.2%
Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators	350,360	26,635	7.6%	323,725	92.4%
Unique to Primary Industry	117,500	25,355	21.6%	92,145	78.4%
Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities	65,370	16,665	25.5%	48,705	74.5%
Total	1,928,635	884,840	45.9%	1,043,785	54.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006
Based on 20% sample data

Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate in Canada

The unemployment rates for Canada and the provinces are displayed in Figure 20. In 2006, Alberta's unemployment rate of 4.3%, the lowest in Canada, was 2.3 percentage points lower than the national rate of 6.6%.

Figure 20



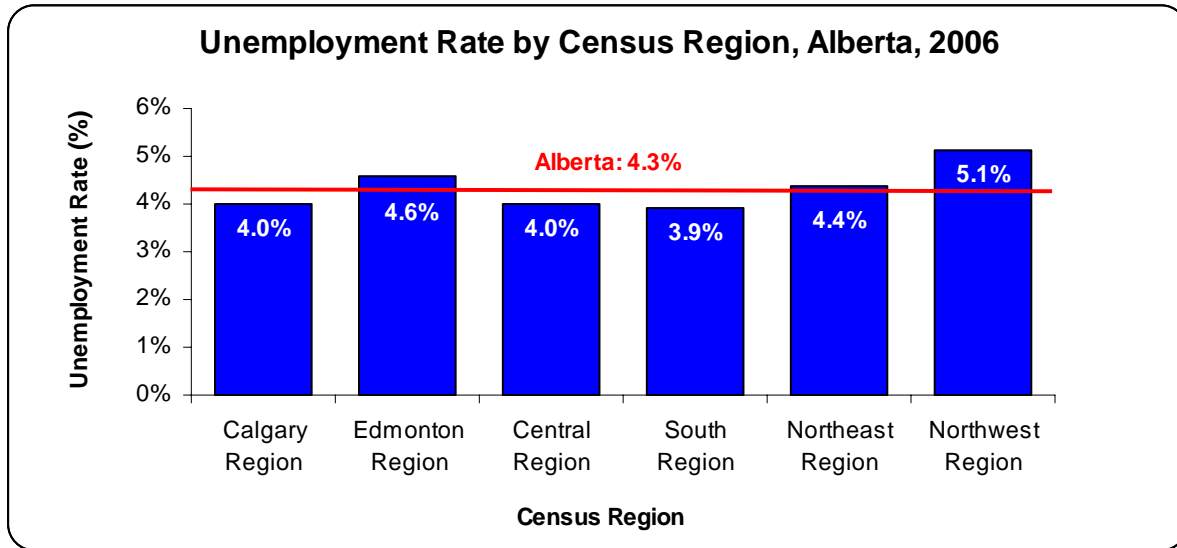
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

The South region had the lowest unemployment rate in Alberta

Figure 21, on the next page, shows the unemployment rate for Alberta by census region. In 2006, Calgary, Central and South regions had unemployment rates that were lower than the provincial rate of 4.3% while Edmonton, Northwest, and Northeast regions had unemployment rates that were higher than the provincial rate.

In 2006, the South region had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.9%. The Central and Calgary regions had the second lowest unemployment rates in the province with each at 4.0%. The unemployment of 5.1% for the Northwest region was the highest in Alberta. The Edmonton region had the second highest unemployment rate at 4.6% and was 0.3 percentage points higher than the provincial rate of 4.3%.

Figure 21



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

There were more unemployed males than females

The number of unemployed Albertans by gender is displayed in Figure 22. In 2006, 52.3% of unemployed Albertans were male and 47.7% were females.

Figure 22

	Unemployed	% of Total
Total	82,860	100%
Male	43,310	52.3%
Female	39,550	47.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006
Based on 20% sample data

The unemployment rate for males was lower than the rate for females in 2001 and 2006

Figure 23, on the next page, shows the unemployment rate by gender for Canada and Alberta in 2001 and 2006. The male unemployment rate in Alberta was 0.3 percentage points lower than the female rate in 2006. However, in 2001, the male unemployment rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than the rate for females. Between 2001 and 2006, the unemployment rates for males and females in Alberta decreased by 1.0 and 0.9 percentage points respectively.

Alberta's female unemployment rate of 5.2% was the same as the provincial rate in 2001, and was 0.1 percentage point higher than the provincial rate of 4.3% in 2006.

In 2001, the male unemployment rate of 5.1% was 0.1 percentage point lower than the provincial rate of 5.2% while in 2006, the rate was 0.2 percentage points lower than the provincial rate of 4.3%.

The unemployment rates for females and males in Alberta in 2001 and 2006 were lower than the national rates for their counterparts. Between 2001 and 2006, the unemployment rate for Albertans decreased by 0.9 percentage points while the national rate decreased by 0.8 percentage points.

Figure 23

Unemployment Rate by Gender, Canada and Alberta, 2001 and 2006						
	2001			2006		
	Male	Female	Average Total	Male	Female	Average Total
Canada	7.6%	7.2%	7.4%	6.5%	6.6%	6.6%
Alberta	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	4.1%	4.4%	4.3%

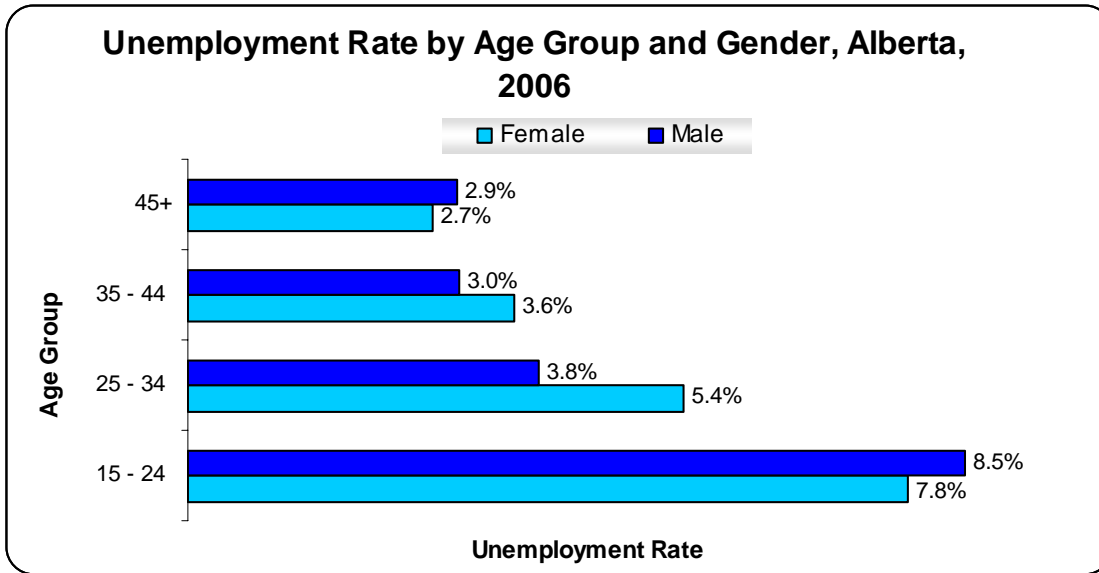
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

The unemployment rate for females aged 45 years and over was the lowest in Alberta

Figure 24, on the next page, shows Alberta's unemployment rate by age group. In 2006, the unemployment rate of 8.5% for males aged 15 to 24 was the highest among all male and female age groups in the province. Females in Alberta aged 15 to 24 had the second highest unemployment rate in the province at 7.8%.

The unemployment rate of 2.7% for females and 2.9% for males aged 45 years and over, was the lowest among all male and female age groups in Alberta. Males aged 15 to 24 and 45 years and over had higher unemployment rates than females in the same age groups. However, males aged 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 had lower unemployment rates than females in the same age groups.

Figure 24

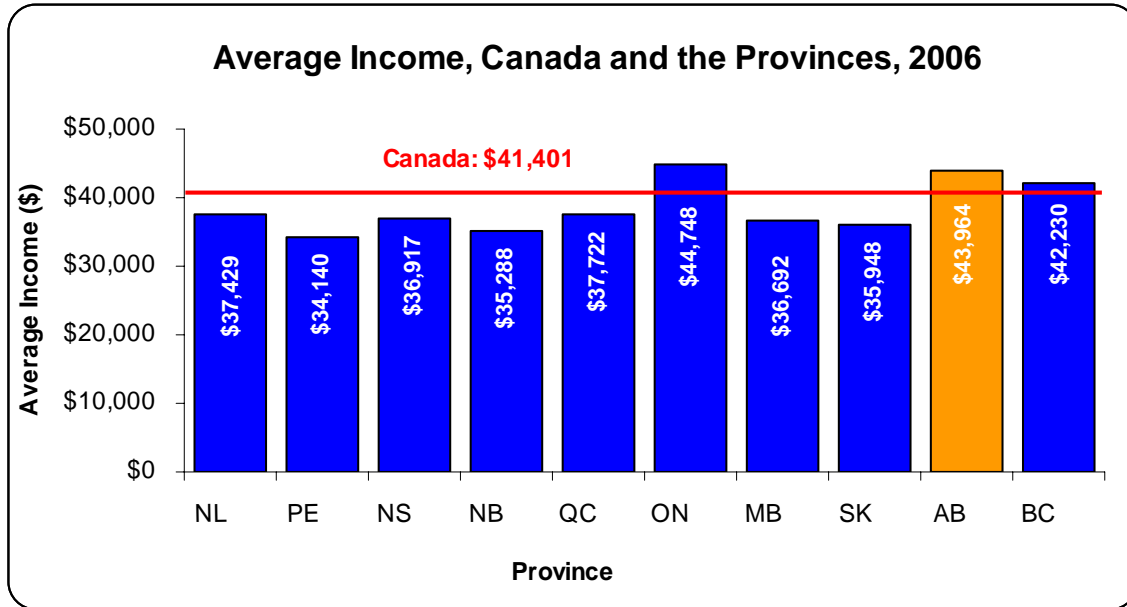


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Alberta's average income was higher than the national average

Figure 25 displays the average income excluding any transfer payments for the full-year and full-time workers in Canada and the provinces. In 2006, Alberta's average income of \$43,964 for full-year and full-time workers was the second highest in Canada and was \$2,563 higher than the national average. However, when full-time and part-time workers are combined, Alberta's average income was \$2,888 higher than the national average income of \$26,850.

Figure 25



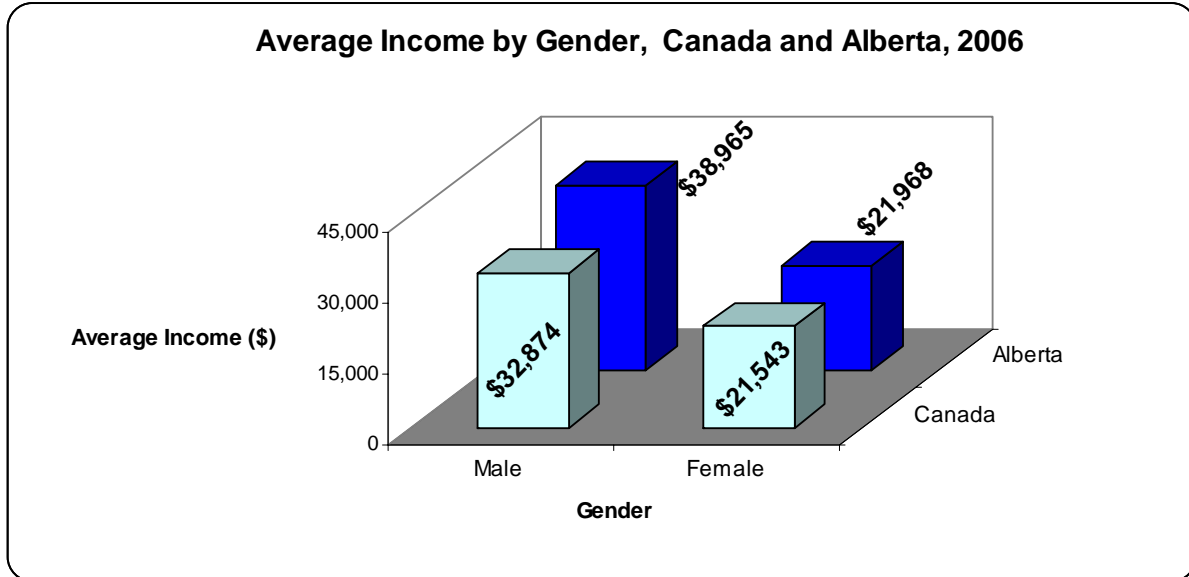
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

The average income of females and males in Alberta was higher than the national average for their female and male counterparts

Figure 26, on the next page, displays the average income for Alberta and Canada by gender. The average income in Figure 26 includes full-time and part-time workers. In 2006, the average income of \$38,965 for males in Alberta was \$6,091 higher than the national average for males. The average income for females in Alberta was \$425 higher than the national average for females while males in Alberta, on average earned \$16,997 more than females in the province.

However, in 2006, the average income for the full-year and full-time workers for Alberta males and females was \$51,280 and \$35,848 respectively. Males in Alberta on average earned \$4,502 more than the national average for their male counterparts while females in Alberta on average earned \$18 more than the national average for their female counterparts.

Figure 26

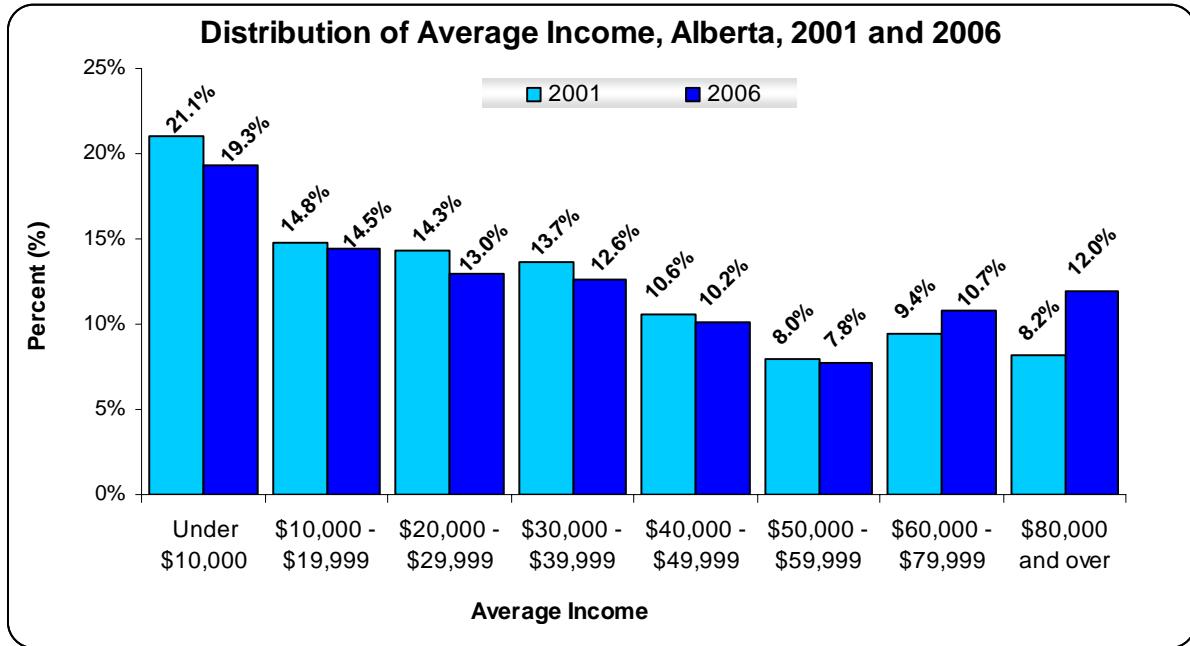


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

The number of Albertans with an average income less than \$10,000 decreased in 2006

Figure 27, on the next page, shows the average total income distribution for Albertans. Between 2001 and 2006, the number of Albertans with an average income of less than \$10,000 decreased by 1.8 percentage points while the number of Albertans earning \$60,000 to \$79,999, \$80,000 and over increased by 1.3% and 3.8% respectively. The number of Albertans with an average income of less than \$40,000 decreased by 4.5 percentage points from 63.9% in 2001 to 59.4% in 2006. However, the number of Albertans with an average income of \$40,000 and over increased 4.4 percentage points to 40.6% in 2006 from 36.2% in 2001.

Figure 27



Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006

Summary

In 2006, Alberta's population as a share of the Canadian population increased by 0.5 percentage points from 9.9 % in 2001. The population in Alberta was younger, with a median age of 36 years compared to the national population with a median age of 39.5 years. Between 2001 and 2006, the Alberta working age population increase of 13.1% was much higher than the national increase of 7.4%.

In 2006, the number of Albertans with a university degree, diploma, or certificate increased by 4.4 percentage points from 17.1% in 2001 to 21.5% in 2006. There were more Albertans with a college diploma, trade certificate, and a high school certificate in 2006 than in 2001. The number of Albertans with less than high school education decreased from 30.6% in 2001 to 23.4% in 2006.

Between 2001 and 2006, Alberta's labour force increased by 14.5% and the number of employed Albertans increased by 15.6%. In 2006, Alberta's employment rate of 70.9% was the highest in Canada and the provincial male employment rate of 77.0% was 12.3 percentage points higher than the female rate of 64.7%. In 2006, 72.2% of working Albertans were employed in the Services-Producing Sector and 27.8% were employed in the Goods-Producing sector. The employment rate for Calgary region was the highest in Alberta at 72.6% while the South region had the lowest rate at 67.5%.

The provincial unemployment rate of 4.3% in 2006 was the lowest in Canada and was 2.3 percentage points lower than the national rate of 6.6%. In 2006, Alberta's female unemployment rate of 4.4% was higher than the male rate of 4.1%. The Northwest region in Alberta had the highest unemployment rate at 5.1% and the South region had the lowest unemployment rate in the province at 3.9%. Males aged 15-24 years had the highest unemployment rate in Alberta at 8.5% and females aged 45 years and over had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.7%.

In 2006, Alberta's average income of \$43,964 for full-year and full-time workers was \$2,563 higher than the national average income. However, the average income for Albertans of \$29,738 for the full-time and part-time workers was \$2,888 higher than national average income of \$26,850. The number of Albertans with an average income of less than \$10,000 decreased from 21.1% in 2001 to 19.3% in 2006.

All definitions are from Statistics Canada, [Census dictionary-2006](#), Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE.

Working Age Population: Refers to persons aged 15 years of age and over, except for inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Labour Force Activity: Refers to the labour market activity of the population 15 years and in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006).

Labour Force: Refers to persons who were either employed or unemployed during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006). In the past censuses, this was called total labour force.

Industry: Refers to the general nature of the business carried out in the establishment where the person worked.

Occupation: Refers to the kind of work persons were doing during the reference week, as determined by their kind of work and the description of the main activities in their job.

Employed: Refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006) did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice; were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.

Unemployed: Refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either: had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Participation Rate: Refers to the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years and over excluding institutional residents.

Employment rate: Refers to the number of persons employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years and over excluding institutional residents.

Unemployment rate: Refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006).

Average income: Refers to the weighted mean total income received by persons 15 years of age and over during the calendar year 2005 as wages and salaries, net income from a non-farm unincorporated business and/or professional practice, and/or net farm self-employment income.