

Labour Force Developments

December 1, 2006

November 2006

November Highlights

Alberta employment rose by 9,800 in November, bringing year-to-date job gains to over 82,000. Due to a large increase in Alberta's labour force, the unemployment rate rose slightly, to 3.1 per cent. Nationally, employment increased by 22,400, while the unemployment rate edged up to 6.3 per cent.

Alberta

In November, Alberta's economy continued to add jobs at a healthy pace, recording a monthly employment gain of 9,800.

Part-time jobs accounted for most of Alberta's employment growth last month. On a seasonally adjusted basis, part-time employment rose by 8,900, while the number of full-time jobs increased by 900. Over the past 12 months, full-time employment in Alberta has increased by 111,900, or a remarkable 7.5 per cent.

Through the first eleven months of 2006, the Alberta economy has added 82,500 jobs overall, for employment growth of 4.6 per cent. This is the highest rate of job growth of any province.

Due to a large (+13,200) increase in the labour force, Alberta's unemployment rate edged up to 3.1 per cent in November, after falling to a 30-year low of 3.0 per cent in October.

Among Canada's 27 largest cities, Calgary had the lowest unemployment rate, at 2.8 per cent (seasonally adjusted). Edmonton's 3.8 per cent unemployment rate was the third-lowest, after Calgary and Saskatoon (at 3.1 per cent)

ALBERTA NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Employment	
Monthly Net Jobs	+9,800
% Change	0.5%
Unemployment Rate (November 2006)	
Alberta	3.1%
Canada	6.3%

Canada

The Canadian economy added 22,400 jobs in November. Despite the increase in jobs, the national unemployment rate rose slightly (to 6.3 per cent), as the number of people in the labour force jumped by 46,000.

Growth in part-time employment accounted for all the net national gains in November. The number of part-time jobs increased by 40,500, while full-time employment declined by 18,100.

Ontario (+19,100) and Alberta (+9,800) experienced the largest increases in employment in November. The largest declines occurred in British Columbia (-5,500) and Quebec (-2,400).

Canada's manufacturing sector added 13,200 jobs in November. Nevertheless, employment in this sector is down by 72,000 (3.3 per cent) over the past 12 months.

United States

U.S. employment data for November are scheduled to be released on December 8, 2006. This report will be updated at that time, and will be available on the Alberta Finance website at: http://www.finance.gov.ab.ca/aboutalberta/economic_information.html

TABLE 1. ALBERTA REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Regional Employment 3 Month Moving Avg.	Edmonton Region	Calgary Region	Wood Buffalo- Cold Lake	Athabasca- Grande Prairie	Red Deer	Camrose- Drumheller	Banff- Jasper- Rocky Mt. House	Lethbridge- Medicine Hat
Oct. 2006-Nov. 2006								
Change	1000	3,700	900	-900	-600	-2,200	800	-1,600
Growth Rate	0.2%	0.5%	1.5%	-0.7%	-0.6%	-2.0%	1.6%	-1.2%
Nov. 2005-Nov. 2006								
Change	24,300	71,200	1,800	1,100	3,200	3,300	3,400	-500
Growth Rate	4.3%	11.0%	3.0%	0.9%	3.4%	3.2%	7.2%	0.4%
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	2.7%	3.8%	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	3.1%	3.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey