



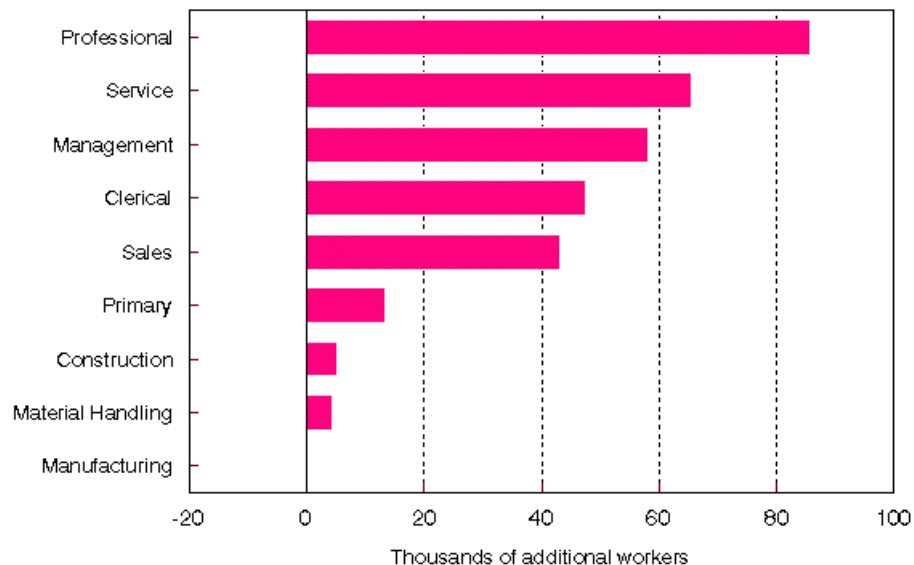
Census 91 Fast Facts

Issue 32: The Changing Occupational Mix

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- Over the ten-year period between 1980 and 1990, Census '91 shows an increase of 342,785 workers in British Columbia. This represents an overall growth rate of 23 per cent.
- Growth varied considerably among different occupational groups. Professional and managerial occupations stand out as having undergone the most change over the decade. These two major occupational groups had by far the highest growth rates: 49 per cent for managers and 40 per cent for professionals.

One out of every four new workers between
1980 and 1990 was a professional



- In terms of the number of people, 86,000 new professionals and 58,000 new managers were added to the economy. (The increase in persons working in service occupations, such as waiters, policemen, hairdressers, and so on, was the second highest at 65,000. However, because the base is large, this represents only a 33 per cent growth rate.)
- Not all professional occupations had high growth rates. As would be expected, the profession that stands out as a high growth area is the systems analysis/programming field, which saw a threefold increase. Similarly, social workers and lawyers almost doubled their numbers.
- At the other end of the scale, the teaching professions and the engineering-related occupations increased at less than half the overall rate, and as a result their relative shares of the workforce declined. The health professions, such as doctors and nurses, held their own, increasing at approximately the same rate as the economy as a whole.

- The major occupational groups that experienced minimal or no growth were the goods producing occupations such as processing, mining and construction. There were 1,100 fewer miners in 1990 than ten years earlier and 5,000 fewer wood processors (those working in sawmills, plywood mills, etc.) The number of pulp and paper workers remained unchanged.

Employment Trends in British Columbia: 1980, 1985, and 1990 by Occupation Group

C.C.D.O.	Occupation:	Number who worked					
		Total			% Change		
		1980	1985	1990	1980-1990	1985-1990	1980-1985
	All Occupations	1,463,350	1,466,125	1,806,135	23.4	23.2	0.2
11	Management	118,200	144,765	176,410	49.2	21.9	22.5
21	Science, engineering, math	44,060	43,920	60,570	37.5	37.9	-0.3
23	Social sciences	23,645	32,500	40,270	70.3	23.9	37.4
25	Religion	2,835	3,310	3,905	37.7	18.0	16.8
27	Teaching and related	57,595	58,050	74,165	28.8	27.8	0.8
31	Medicine and health	65,980	71,495	87,295	32.3	22.1	8.4
33	Art, literature, recreation	19,905	24,155	33,505	68.3	38.7	21.4
41	Clerical and related	275,475	257,275	323,075	17.3	25.6	-6.6
51	Sales	140,380	145,510	183,430	30.7	26.1	3.7
61	Services	199,385	215,500	264,855	32.8	22.9	8.1
71	Farming and related	34,465	41,260	44,090	27.9	6.9	19.7
73	Fishing and trapping	7,260	8,125	9,760	34.4	20.1	11.9
75	Forestry and logging	25,915	29,410	28,115	8.5	-4.4	13.5
77	Mining and quarrying	8,780	7,225	7,735	-11.9	7.1	-17.7
81/82	Processing	62,875	53,770	59,400	-5.5	10.5	-14.5
83	Machining and related	28,480	23,315	25,745	-9.6	10.4	-18.1
85	Product fabricating, assembly, repair	86,700	81,165	92,820	7.1	14.4	-6.4
87	Construction trades	112,750	88,045	118,040	4.7	34.1	-21.9
91	Transport equipt operating	61,435	59,265	70,085	14.1	18.3	-3.5
93	Material handling and related	38,560	31,410	32,740	-15.1	4.2	-18.5
95	Other crafts, equipt operating	14,435	12,510	16,020	11.0	28.1	-13.3
99	Occupations, nec	19,505	19,810	25,625	31.4	29.4	1.6
	Not applicable	14,725	14,345	28,480	93.4	98.5	-2.6

Source: 1981, 1986, and 1991 Census of Canada