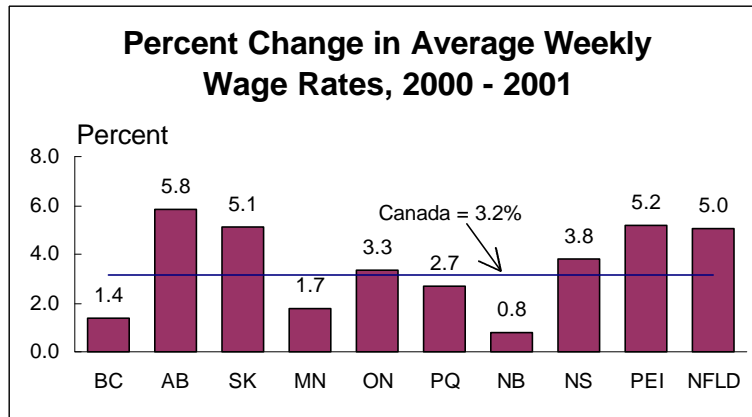
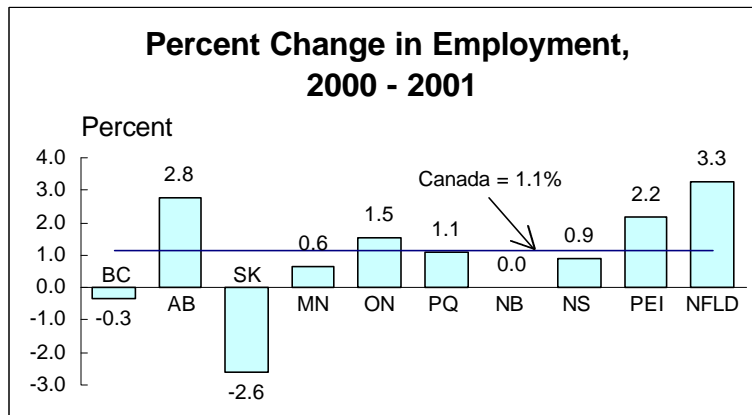


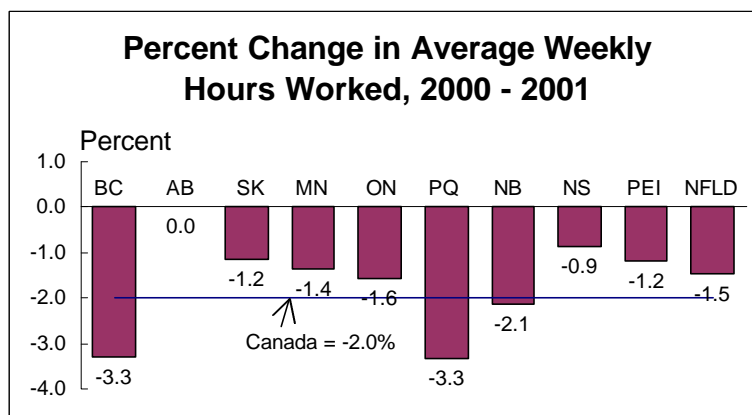
Earnings and Employment Trends ♦ December 2001



- In 1999 and 2000, BC's average weekly wage rates increases were the lowest in Canada. In 2001, BC was in second lowest position.
- Retail & wholesale trade wage rates have declined the last two years by 2.4% and 0.7% respectively.
- The largest increase in 2001 was seen in the construction industry at 7.5%.



- Pulp & paper manufacturing has suffered four successive years of employment declines, dropping 20.6% in 2000 and a further 15.1% in 2001.
- Primary forest employment, after increasing 22.8% in 2000, lost 29.7% of its workforce in 2001.



- After recording the largest increase (+2.5%) among the provinces in average weekly hours worked in 2000, BC shared with the Quebec, the largest decline in 2001.
- The only increases in average hours reported in 2001 were in the primary sectors of agriculture, and logging, fishing and mining.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey