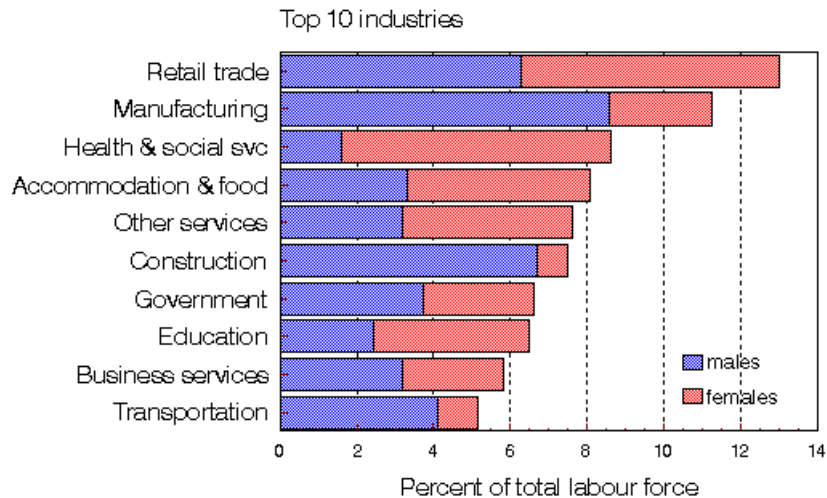


Issue 20: Labour Force by Industry

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- In 1991, British Columbia's labour force¹ was 1.7 million people, up from 1.4 million in 1986.
- Three out of every four labour force participants in British Columbia either were or had recently been employed² in service-producing industries.³ Industries are classified using the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System.
- As the following figure indicates, the retail trade industry accounted for the largest share (13 per cent) of the work force in 1991.

Retail trade, manufacturing and health and social service industries utilize the largest shares of British Columbia's experienced labour force



- Manufacturing was ranked second, with 193,520 labour force participants, or 11 per cent of the work force.
- In 1991, 1 in 25 participants in the labour force was or had been engaged in the logging, mining and fishing industries, down from 1 in 20 in 1986.

¹ The labour force is defined to include those who were either employed or unemployed (but looking for work) during the week prior to enumeration. The *experienced labour force* excludes labour force participants who have never worked or have been unemployed since January 1, 1990 (about two per cent of the total labour force in 1991).

² Individuals who were not employed during the week prior to enumeration were assigned to the industry in which they had worked for the longest duration since January 1990.

³ See the table for a complete list of service-producing industries. Industries are classified using the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification System.

- Men were much more likely than women to be employed in goods-producing industries. While one in four males either was or had recently been employed in the goods-producing sector, the comparable figure for females was one in nine.
- Eight in ten members of the work force in industries such as construction, mining, logging, transportation and fishing were male.
- Females comprised over sixty per cent of the labour force in the health, social service, finance, insurance and education industries.

B.C.'s Experience Labour Force by Industry Ranked on Basis of Number of Participants in 1991

	1986		1991	
	Number	% of total labour force	Number	% of total labour force
All industries	1,435,985	100.0	1,721,685	100.0
Total services	1,058,840	73.7	1,288,850	74.9
Total goods (*)	377,145	26.3	432,835	25.1
Retail trade	186,845	13.0	223,730	13.0
Manufacturing	178,825	12.5	193,520	11.2
Health & social services	114,705	8.0	148,230	8.6
Accommodation & food	118,650	8.3	139,080	8.1
Other services	110,225	7.7	131,085	7.6
Construction	89,890	6.3	129,295	7.5
Government	98,825	6.9	113,575	6.6
Education	85,545	6.0	111,420	6.5
Business services	70,995	4.9	100,290	5.8
Transportation & storage	82,510	5.7	88,595	5.1
Wholesale trade	63,430	4.4	79,730	4.6
Finance & insurance	49,850	3.5	61,110	3.5
Communication & utilities	45,410	3.2	52,955	3.1
Agriculture	39,555	2.8	41,290	2.4
Logging & forestry	40,815	2.8	39,280	2.3
Real estate & insurance agents	31,850	2.2	39,050	2.3
Mining	19,355	1.3	19,550	1.1
Fishing & trapping	8,705	0.6	9,900	0.6

* Goods-producing industries include: agriculture, fishing and trapping, logging & forestry, mining, manufacturing and construction. All other industries are considered part of the service sector.

Source: 1991 Census of Canada

B.C.'s Experience Female Labour Force by Industry Ranked on Basis of Number of Participants in 1991

	1986			1991		
	Number	% of female labour force	% of workers in industry	Number	% of female labour force	% of workers in industry
All industries	613,070	100.0	42.7	770,325	100.0	44.7
Total services	541,000	88.2	51.1	681,605	88.5	52.9
Health & social services	92,980	15.2	81.1	120,845	15.7	81.5
Retail trade	96,990	15.8	51.9	115,965	15.1	51.8
Total goods (*)	72,070	11.8	19.1	88,720	11.5	20.5
Accommodation & food	70,055	11.4	59.0	81,945	10.6	58.9
Other services	62,105	10.1	56.3	76,310	9.9	58.2
Education	49,130	8.0	57.4	69,520	9.0	62.4
Government	39,590	6.5	40.1	49,315	6.4	43.4
Business service	31,965	5.2	45.0	45,810	5.9	45.7
Manufacturing	38,445	6.3	21.5	45,485	5.9	23.5
Finance & insurance	34,505	5.6	69.2	41,875	5.4	68.5
Wholesale trade	18,215	3.0	28.7	23,860	3.1	29.9
Communication & utilities	15,910	2.6	35.0	19,265	2.5	36.4
Real estate & insurance agents	14,770	2.4	46.4	19,140	2.5	49.0
Agriculture	15,550	2.5	39.3	18,115	2.4	43.9
Transportation & storage	14,785	2.4	17.9	17,755	2.3	20.0
Construction	8,945	1.5	10.0	14,085	1.8	10.9
Logging & forestry	5,100	0.8	12.5	6,150	0.8	15.7
Mining	2,305	0.4	11.9	2,735	0.4	14.0
Fishing & trapping	1,725	0.3	19.8	2,150	0.3	21.7

B.C.'s Experience Male Labour Force by Industry Ranked on Basis of Number of Participants in 1991

	1986			1991		
	Number	% of male labour force	% of workers in industry	Number	% of male labour force	% of workers in industry
All industries	822,915	100.0	57.3	951,375	100.0	55.3
Total services	517,855	62.9	48.9	607,255	63.8	47.1
Total goods (*)	305,060	37.1	80.9	344,120	36.2	79.5
Manufacturing	140,380	17.1	78.5	148,040	15.6	76.5
Construction	80,945	9.8	90.0	115,210	12.1	89.1
Retail trade	89,855	10.9	48.1	107,765	11.3	48.2
Transportation & storage	67,725	8.2	82.1	70,845	7.4	80.0
Government	59,235	7.2	59.9	64,255	6.8	56.6
Accommodation & food	48,595	5.9	41.0	57,140	6.0	41.1
Wholesale trade	45,215	5.5	71.3	55,865	5.9	70.1
Other services	48,125	5.8	43.7	54,775	5.8	41.8
Business services	39,035	4.7	55.0	54,480	5.7	54.3
Education	36,415	4.4	42.6	41,900	4.4	37.6
Communication & utilities	29,500	3.6	65.0	33,690	3.5	63.6
Logging & forestry	35,710	4.3	87.5	33,125	3.5	84.3
Health & social services	21,725	2.6	18.9	27,395	2.9	18.5
Agriculture	24,005	2.9	60.7	23,180	2.4	56.1
Real estate & insurance agents	17,080	2.1	53.6	19,910	2.1	51.0
Finance & insurance	15,350	1.9	30.8	19,235	2.0	31.5
Mining	17,045	2.1	88.1	16,815	1.8	86.0
Fishing & trapping	6,975	0.8	80.1	7,750	0.8	78.3

* Goods-producing industries include: agriculture, fishing and trapping, logging & forestry, mining, manufacturing and construction. All other industries are considered part of the service sector.

Source: 1991 Census of Canada