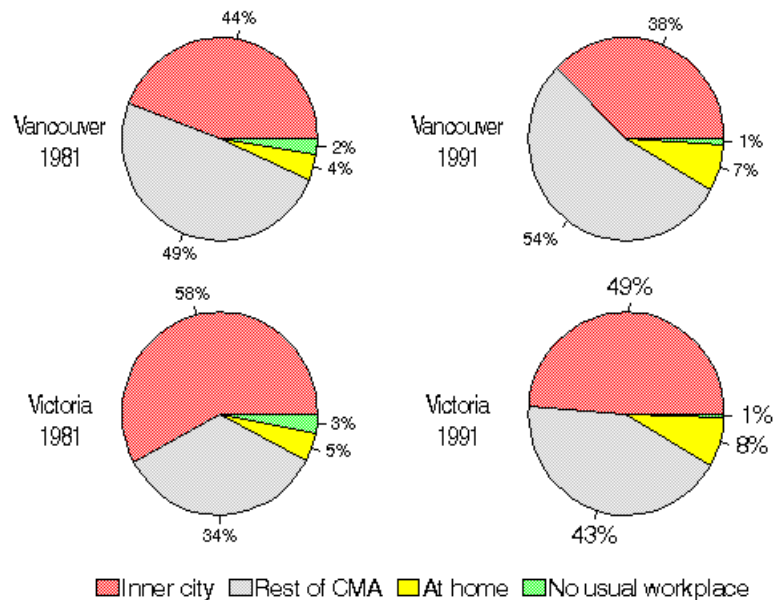


## Issue 28: Place of Work

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- 953,240 employed workers in British Columbia, almost two-thirds of the provincial total, live in the province's two Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)<sup>1</sup>: Vancouver and Victoria. Ninety-six per cent of these workers are employed within the CMAs; the remainder commute to jobs in other census subdivisions or work outside the country or in other provinces.
- The number of employed workers in the Vancouver CMA increased by 26 per cent, from 622,455 to 784,650, between 1981 and 1991. Employment in the Victoria CMA grew at a similar rate, from 105,130 to 131,710, during the same period.
- The location of jobs and workers within the CMAs is changing. A growing number of individuals now live and work in the urban and rural areas surrounding the central cores of the CMAs rather than in the inner cities.

A growing percentage of residents of the Victoria and Vancouver CMAs are employed outside the central core of the CMAs



<sup>1</sup> A CMA consists of a large urban area with a population of at least 100,000, together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of economic and social integration with the central core.

- Employment in the outlying areas of the Vancouver CMA increased by 40 per cent between 1981 and 1991, five times the growth in the urban core. In the Victoria CMA, the differential was even greater, with employment in the suburban and rural areas rising by 53 per cent between 1981 and 1991, while the number of workers with jobs in the inner city increased by only 6.5 per cent over the same period.
- If the trend toward more jobs outside the inner cities continues, it may be necessary to modify transportation systems to accommodate greater flows of rush-hour traffic in the suburbs and outlying areas as workers commute to jobs there rather than in the central cores of the urban areas.
- The inner cities continue to be important population and employment centres within the CMAs, even though proportionally fewer workers have jobs there.
- Two per cent of workers in the City of Vancouver, and four per cent of those in the City of Victoria, live outside the boundaries of the CMA. While their numbers are relatively small, the increase in long-distance commuters is significantly higher than for any other group. For example, the numbers increased by 55 per cent (from 4,780 to 7,390) in Vancouver and by 20 per cent (from 2,450 to 2,930) in Victoria between 1981 and 1991.
- The trend away from employment in the inner cities is also reflected in a growing number of people who work out of their homes. Seven per cent of the employed work force in Vancouver, and eight per cent in Victoria, worked out of their homes in 1991--in each case, an increase of three percentage points from the level in 1981. Most of these individuals (72% in Vancouver and 79% in Victoria) lived in the suburbs or rural areas of the CMAs.

## Employed Labour Force 15 Years and Over by Place of Residence, B.C.

Residence:	Place of Work:*					% Working in:		
	Inner city	Rest of CMA	At home	No usual workplace	CMA total	Inner city	Rest of CMA	At home
<b>1981</b>								
City of Vancouver	150,735	47,655	7,380	4,930	210,700	71.5	22.6	3.5
Rest of CMA	125,480	258,470	18,420	9,385	411,755	30.5	62.8	4.5
Vancouver CMA	276,215	306,125	25,800	14,315	622,455	44.4	49.2	4.1
Other areas	4,780	11,240	0	455	16,475	29.0	68.2	0.0
Total	280,995	317,365	25,800	14,770	638,930	44.0	49.7	4.0
City of Victoria	19,995	7,065	1,115	985	29,160	68.6	24.2	3.8
Rest of CMA	40,825	29,180	3,775	2,190	75,970	53.7	38.4	5.0
Victoria CMA	60,820	36,245	4,890	3,175	105,130	57.9	34.5	4.7
Other areas	2,450	1,760	0	325	4,535	54.0	38.8	0.0
Total	63,270	38,005	4,890	3,500	109,665	57.7	34.7	4.5
<b>1991</b>								
City of Vancouver	155,400	60,655	16,040	1,860	233,955	66.4	25.9	6.9
Rest of CMA	141,105	363,315	42,085	4,190	550,695	25.6	66.0	7.6
Vancouver CMA	296,505	423,970	58,125	6,050	784,650	37.8	54.0	7.4
Other areas	7,390	18,855	0	340	26,585	27.8	70.9	0.0
Total	303,895	442,825	58,125	6,390	811,235	37.5	54.6	7.2
City of Victoria	20,805	9,100	2,245	190	32,340	64.3	28.1	6.9
Rest of CMA	43,660	47,000	8,220	490	99,370	43.9	47.3	8.3
Victoria CMA	64,465	56,100	10,465	680	131,710	48.9	42.6	7.9
Other areas	2,930	2,065	0	30	5,025	58.3	41.1	0.0
Total	67,395	58,165	10,465	710	136,735	49.3	42.5	7.7
	Percentage change between 1981 and 1991							
City of Vancouver	3.1	27.3	117.3	-62.3	11.0	-7.2	14.6	95.7
Rest of CMA	12.5	40.6	128.5	-55.4	33.7	-15.9	5.1	70.8
Vancouver CMA	7.3	38.5	125.3	-57.7	26.1	-14.8	9.9	78.7
Other areas	54.6	67.7	na	-25.3	61.4	-4.2	4.0	na
Total	8.1	39.5	125.3	-56.7	27.0	-14.8	9.9	77.4
City of Victoria	4.1	28.8	101.3	-80.7	10.9	-6.2	16.1	81.5
Rest of CMA	6.9	61.1	117.7	-77.6	30.8	-18.2	23.1	66.5
Victoria CMA	6.0	54.8	114.0	-78.6	25.3	-15.4	23.5	70.8
Other areas	19.6	17.3	na	-90.8	10.8	7.9	5.9	na
Total	6.5	53.0	114.0	-79.7	24.7	-14.6	22.7	71.6

Source: 1981, 1991 Census of Canada

\* This table excludes those who live in the CMA but work in other census subdivisions, provinces, or outside Canada.