

Labour Force Statistics ♦ November 2003

HIGHLIGHTS

All labour force statistics in this Highlights article are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated

- **Employment in B.C. was little changed from November, following a strong gain of 30,100 in October.** So far this year, as measured since December 2002, employment in B.C. has grown by 53,300 or 2.7%. This growth in employment in B.C. since December 2002 led all provinces, followed by PEI (up 2.2%) and Alberta (up 2.0%).
- **On an actual basis, average employment for the first 11 months of 2003 compared to the same period in 2002, was up in B.C. by 2.4%, compared to 2.2% for Canada overall.** On this basis, Alberta led the country with employment growth of 2.9%.
- **The unemployment rate fell to 7.6% in November, down from 7.8% in October.** This reflects a 4,500 decrease in the number of unemployed persons and no change in the number of employed. The labour force participation rate fell slightly to 65.5% from 65.8% in October.
- **The B.C. unemployment rate for youth aged 15-24 fell to 12.8% in November, down from 13.6% in October.**
- **Full-time employment in November rose in B.C. by 8,100, but this was offset by a decrease in part-time work.** Since December 2002, full-time in employment in B.C. has expanded by 79,700, while part-time employment has decreased by 26,500.
- **Canadian employment increased by 0.2% (up 54,100) in November.** Two-thirds of this gain was in full-time employment. Regionally, Canada's overall employment gains in November were concentrated in Quebec. The only provinces experiencing significant declines in employment in November were Newfoundland and Manitoba.

Selected Statistics	Nov. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2002
B.C. Unemployment Rate	7.6%	7.8%	8.5%
Canada Unemployment Rate	7.5%	7.6%	7.5%
B.C. Employment - Change from prev. mo.	0.0%	1.5%	-
B.C. Labour Force - Change from prev. mo.	-0.2%	0.1%	-
B.C. Labour Force Participation Rate	65.6%	65.8%	65.3%

Labour Force Statistics is a joint compilation and review by BC STATS of the Ministry of Management Services and the Planning and Data Management Branch of the Ministry of Advanced Education, reflecting the results of the monthly Labour Force Survey conducted by Statistics Canada. For more information, call BC STATS (250) 387-0327 or the Planning and Data Management Branch (250) 952-6111.