

Labour Force Statistics ♦ September 2004

HIGHLIGHTS

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

- **BC employment in September rose by 12,900, countering the decrease of 14,500 seen in August.** All of the overall employment gains in September were seen in full-time employment (up 25,300), which more than offset a decrease in part-time employment.
- **The labour force participation rate fell to 65.3 per cent in September, down slightly from August.** With employment growing but the overall labour force contracting slightly, this pulled down the BC unemployment rate to 7.1 per cent, down from 7.7 per cent in August. The unemployment rate for men fell to 7.4 per cent, and for women it fell to 6.7 per cent.
- **Both the overall BC goods and services sectors saw employment increases in September.** Most industries in the service sector saw gains, led by education services, and health and social services. Goods sector employment saw notable gains in construction, which grew by 8,900 in September, and now stands at 44,200 above its level seen a year ago in September, 2003.
- **Employment for Canada overall in September was up by 43,200, with the strongest gains seen in BC, Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec.** Only PEI and Newfoundland saw declines, with all other provinces seeing little change in employment.

Selected Statistics	Sept. 2004	August 2004	Sept. 2003
BC Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.7%	8.9%
Canada Unemployment Rate	7.1%	7.2%	7.9%
BC Employment - Change from prev. mo.	0.6%	-0.7%	-
BC Labour Force - Change from prev. mo.	-0.1%	-0.3%	-
BC Labour Force Participation Rate	65.3%	65.4%	65.9%

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.