

Rioux, Luke MUNI:EX

From: Rioux, Luke MUNI:EX
Sent: September 20, 2021 11:59 AM
To: FOI Economy Sector MUNI:EX
Cc: FOI Economy Sector MUNI:EX
Subject: Labour Force Survey - June 2021

From: Pope, Naomi AEST:EX <Naomi.Pope@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: July 9, 2021 7:39 AM
To: Pope, Naomi AEST:EX <Naomi.Pope@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Labour Force Survey - June 2021

Good Morning,

Here are the Labour Force Survey Highlights for June 2021, and the briefing is attached:

- The results released today reflect conditions during the survey reference week of June 13-19.
 - On May 25 the [BC Restart Plan](#) was announced. The labour market impact of this four-step plan for the transition between Step 1 and Step 2 are reflected in the June LFS results.
 - Step 1 went from May 25 to June 14.
 - Recreational travel within travel regions allowed.
 - Indoor and outdoor dining for groups up to 6 people (not restricted to your household or bubble).
 - Step 2 went from June 15 to June 30.
 - Recreational travel within B.C. allowed.
 - Indoor high and low intensity group exercise allowed with reduced capacity.
 - Indoor and outdoor games and practices for both adults and youth group/team sports allowed.
 - Outdoor spectators up to 50 allowed, no spectators at any indoor sport activities.
 - Step 3 began on July 1
 - Provincial State of Emergency ends.
 - Canada-wide recreational travel.
 - No limits on gatherings.
 - Step 4 earliest start date Sept 7 for return to normal social and business activities and Canada-wide recreational travel.
- Employment in B.C. rose by 42,000 (+1.6%), the first increase since March 2021, and now 17,000 (0.6%) above pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels.
 - In June, part-time work increased (50,800) while full-time work decreased (8,700).
 - Employment increased 23,400 for women and 18,600 for men.
- Youth (age 15-24) employment increased by 35,700, making up the losses from April (-26,700) and May (-6,800). The youth unemployment rate decreased by 6.3 percentage points, to 8.8% in June, as those who returned to the labour force in June were able to find work. For the first time, the youth unemployment is lower than the pre-pandemic rate in February 2020 (9.4%).
- The unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points from last month to 6.6%. The February 2020 pre-COVID-19 unemployment rate was 5.1%.
 - B.C.'s unemployment rate (6.6%) is below Canada's (7.8%).

- Statistics Canada recognizes that the COVID-19 economic shutdown has not been equally felt by all Canadians and is therefore asking survey respondents to report which population groups they belong to. StatsCan uses the Employment Equity Act definition, that visible minorities are "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."
- In June, the unemployment rate in B.C. was 8.6% for visible minorities (VM) and 4.4% for non-visible minorities. In Canada, the unemployment rate was 10.1% for visible minorities (VM) and 6.1% for non-visible minorities.
- Sectors leading the gains in June: Accommodation and food services (19,200), Health care and social assistance (10,600), Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (6,800) and Professional, scientific and technical services (5,400). Sectors leading the losses were Construction (10,100), Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (5,100), and Transportation and warehousing (2,900).
 - Cumulative employment gains since February 2020 in the sectors are led by Professional, scientific and technical services (41,900), Health care and social assistance (27,700), Public administration (18,800) and Manufacturing (8,300).
 - Cumulative employment losses since February 2020 in the sectors are led by Construction (42,600), Accommodation and food services (24,500), Wholesale and retail trade (14,000) and Other services (except public administration) (6,400).

Canada:

- In Canada, employment rose by 231,000 (+1.2%) in June, following a cumulative decline of 275,000 over the previous two months. The unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points to 7.8%. In February 2020, prior to the COVID-19 economic shutdown, the unemployment rate was 5.6%.
- Labour market conditions vary across provinces, reflecting differences in public health measures.
 - Employment increased in June in the nation's three largest provinces—Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia—and in Nova Scotia.
 - In contrast, employment declined in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island. There was little change in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Alberta.
 - Compared with the February 2020 pre-pandemic level, the employment gap was largest in Prince Edward Island (-4.9%), followed by Saskatchewan (-2.8%), Manitoba (-2.5%) and Ontario (-2.5%). In contrast, British Columbia was the lone province with employment above its pre-pandemic level.

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Pronouns: She/her

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Our mission is to advance innovative, accessible workforce information, policies and programs so all British Columbians have the skills and abilities to reach their full potential. We acknowledge and honour that our offices are located on the territories of the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC Nations.

Labour Force Survey – June 2021

REFERENCE WEEK JUNE 13 TO 19, 2021

- Employment in B.C. rose by 42,100 (+1.6%), the first increase since March 2021, and now 17,000 (0.6%) above pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels with the private sector leading the gains (46,600). The unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points to 6.6%.
- Youth (age 15-24) employment increased by 35,700, and the youth unemployment rate decreased by 6.3 percentage points, to 8.8% in June, as those who returned to the labour force in May were able to find work. For the first time, the youth unemployment is lower than the pre-pandemic rate in February 2020 (9.4%).

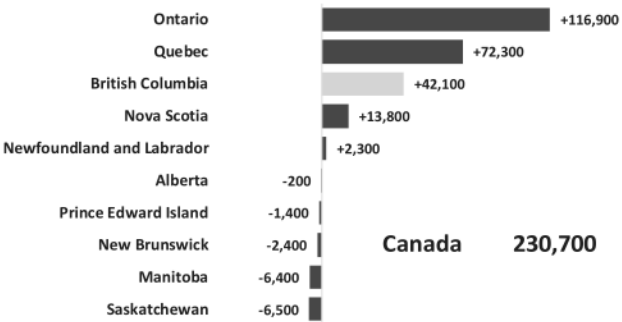
B.C. EMPLOYMENT BY TYPE OF WORK

	Jun-2021	M/M	Change from Y/Y	Change from Feb 2020	Change from Feb 2020, %
Employment	2,658,300	+42,100	+263,100	+17,000	0.6%
Full-time	2,054,500	-8,700	+162,800	-32,800	-1.6%
Part-time	603,800	+50,800	+100,300	+49,700	9.0%
Unemployment	187,300	-9,400	-181,500	+45,400	32.0%
Private	1,700,200	+46,600	+262,500	+14,400	0.9%
Public	532,100	+16,400	+39,200	+52,300	10.9%
Self-employment	426,000	-20,900	-38,700	-49,800	-10.5%

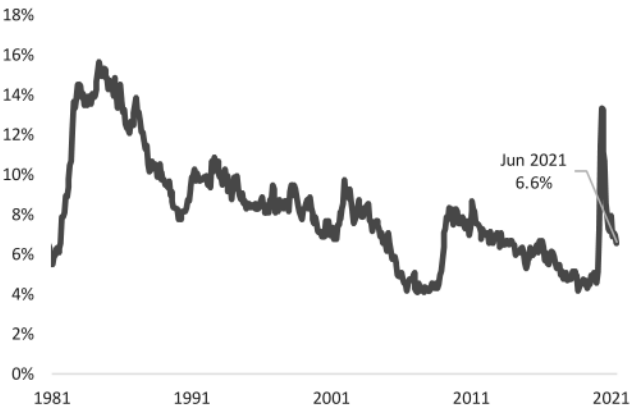
B.C. EMPLOYMENT BY AGE/SEX

	Jun-2021	M/M	Change from Y/Y	Change from Feb 2020	Change from Feb 2020, %
15 years and over	2,658,300	+42,100	+263,100	+17,000	0.6%
15 to 24 years	364,500	+35,700	+87,700	+16,700	4.8%
25 to 54 years	1,717,700	+4,400	+159,400	+20,000	1.2%
55 years and over	576,200	+2,000	+16,000	-19,600	-3.3%
Women	1,257,400	+23,400	+122,500	-4,700	-0.4%
Men	1,400,900	+18,600	+140,500	+21,700	1.6%

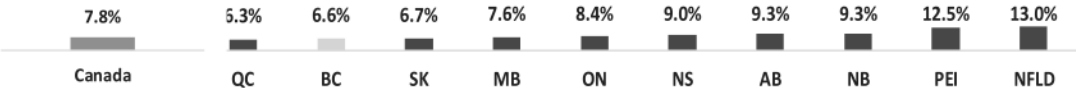
MONTH-OVER-MONTH CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT



B.C. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



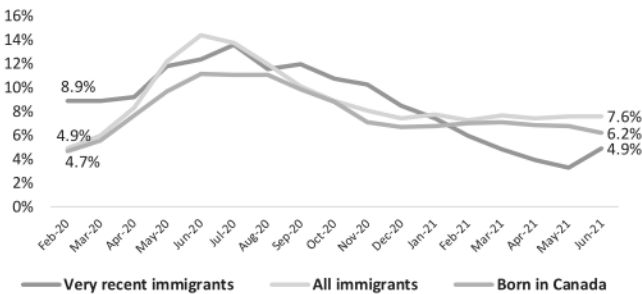
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY PROVINCE



B.C. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE/SEX

	Jun-2021	M/M	Change from Y/Y	Change from Feb 2020
15 years and over	6.6	-0.4ppts	-6.7ppts	+1.5ppts
15 to 24 years	8.8	-6.3ppts	-20.2ppts	-0.6ppts
25 to 54 years	5.1	+0.1ppts	-5.7ppts	+1.0ppts
55 years and over	9.4	+1.7ppts	-1.3ppts	+4.2ppts
Women	6.5	-0.7ppts	-7.2ppts	+1.6ppts
Men	6.6	-0.2ppts	-6.4ppts	+1.3ppts

B.C. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY IMMIGRANT STATUS



Labour Force Survey – June 2021

B.C. EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE RATE

	This month	M/M	Y/Y % change	Change from Feb 2020	Change from Feb 2020, %
Construction	207,300	-10,100	-3.7%	-42,600	-17.0%
Accommodation and food services	176,600	19,200	9.6%	-24,500	-12.2%
Wholesale and retail trade	396,800	300	11.5%	-14,000	-3.4%
Agriculture	22,300	1,200	19.8%	-6,400	-22.3%
Other services (except public administration)	114,200	2,500	21.9%	-6,400	-5.3%
Transportation and warehousing	137,200	-2,900	7.6%	-6,300	-4.4%
Business, building and other support services	109,100	5,200	33.2%	-5,500	-4.8%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	173,200	6,800	8.1%	-600	-0.3%
Educational services	185,500	3,000	4.3%	4,500	2.5%
Utilities	22,300	1,200	11.5%	6,900	44.8%
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	49,600	-5,100	12.2%	7,200	17.0%
Information, culture and recreation	132,800	3,600	40.4%	8,000	6.4%
Manufacturing	174,600	-2,100	12.4%	8,300	5.0%
Public administration	133,500	3,400	12.6%	18,800	16.4%
Health care and social assistance	358,600	10,600	11.4%	27,700	8.4%
Professional, scientific and technical services	264,900	5,400	10.6%	41,900	18.8%

Alberta	\$31.81
Ontario	\$30.55
British Columbia	\$30.40
Canada	\$29.70
Saskatchewan	\$28.80
Quebec	\$28.45
Newfoundland and Labrador	\$27.44
Manitoba	\$26.66
Nova Scotia	\$25.89
New Brunswick	\$25.05
Prince Edward Island	\$24.62
Canada	\$29.70

B.C. ECONOMIC REGION (UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY, three-month moving average)

	EMPLOYMENT							UNEMPLOYMENT RATE						
	Jun-2021	M/M	M/M, %	Y/Y	Y/Y, %	Change from	Change from	Jun-2021	M/M	Change from	Record High UR	Record Low UR		
						Feb 2020	Feb 2020, %			Feb 2020				
Cariboo	88,300	+1,300	1.5%	+10,000	12.8%	+6,200	7.6%	6.1%	-0.4ppts	-1.9ppts	Jul-2009	14.3%	Nov-2007	4.3%
Kootenay	83,700	+600	0.7%	+9,300	12.5%	+6,000	7.7%	5.6%	-0.9ppts	+1.5ppts	Jun-2020	15.8%	Jun-2008	2.6%
Lower Mainland-Southwest	1,694,500	+9,900	0.6%	+256,600	17.8%	+3,900	0.2%	7.2%	-0.1ppts	+2.8ppts	Jul-2020	13.0%	Jan-2008	3.7%
North Coast & Nechako	44,000	-700	-1.6%	+6,100	16.1%	+2,200	5.3%	7.6%	+1.1ppts	+3.0ppts	Jun-2020	14.6%	Jan-2020	3.6%
Northeast	37,500	-1,100	-2.8%	+3,700	10.9%	-1,900	-4.8%	3.9%	-0.6ppts	n/a	May-2020	11.1%	Nov-2012	3.5%
Thompson-Okanagan	280,600	+4,500	1.6%	+8,200	3.0%	-5,300	-1.9%	6.5%	-1.0ppts	+0.1ppts	Jun-2020	10.3%	Nov-2007	3.9%
Vancouver Island & Coast	410,900	+6,100	1.5%	+35,200	9.4%	+9,300	2.3%	5.6%	-1.0ppts	+0.3ppts	Jun-2020	11.8%	Nov-2007	3.4%



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (LFS) – SUPPLEMENT

August 6, 2021

Key Highlights

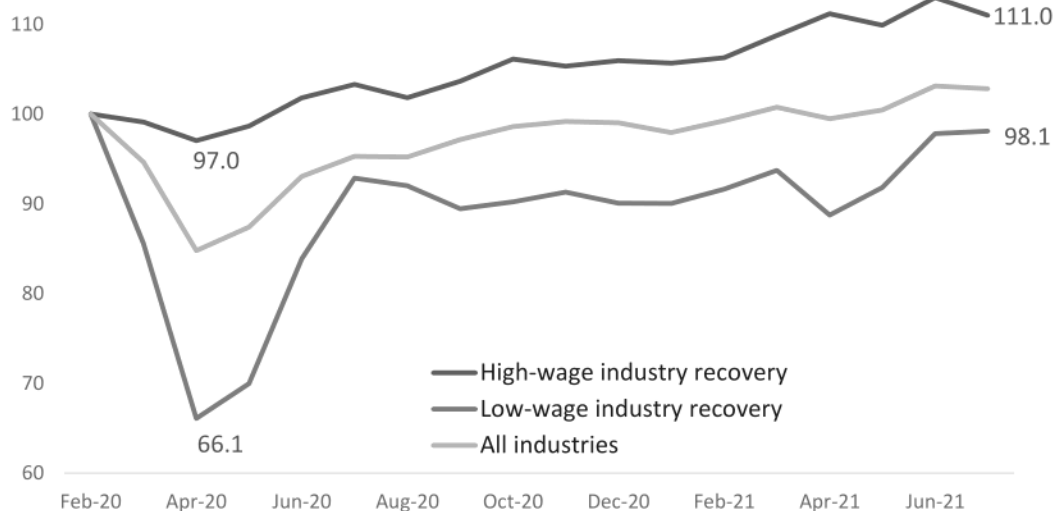
- BC's employment has recovered to 100.5% of pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels.
- Full-time employment increased slightly by 0.2% (3,300) while part-time employment fell by 1.1% (6,500).
- Gaps between unemployment rates persist for most groups:
 - Women's unemployment rate is 0.4 points below men as women's unemployment rate dropped and men's increased.
 - Visible minorities' gap with the rest of the population narrowed to 3.4 points.
 - Indigenous peoples' gap with the rest of the population increased to 6.6 points.
 - Youth's gap, at 3.9 points, increased but remains below pre-pandemic levels.
- July's Labour Force Survey captures conditions for July 11 – 17, after BC entered Step 3 of Restart on July 1.

Prepared by:
Economic and Regulatory Analysis Branch, JERI

EMPLOYMENT RECOVERY

Employment remains above pre-pandemic, at 100.5% recovery; low-wage industry recovery improved slightly while high-wage industries dipped...

Employment recovery by select high- and low-wage industries
Feb 2020 = 100



High wage:

Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying and oil & gas
Manufacturing
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing
Professional, scientific and technical services

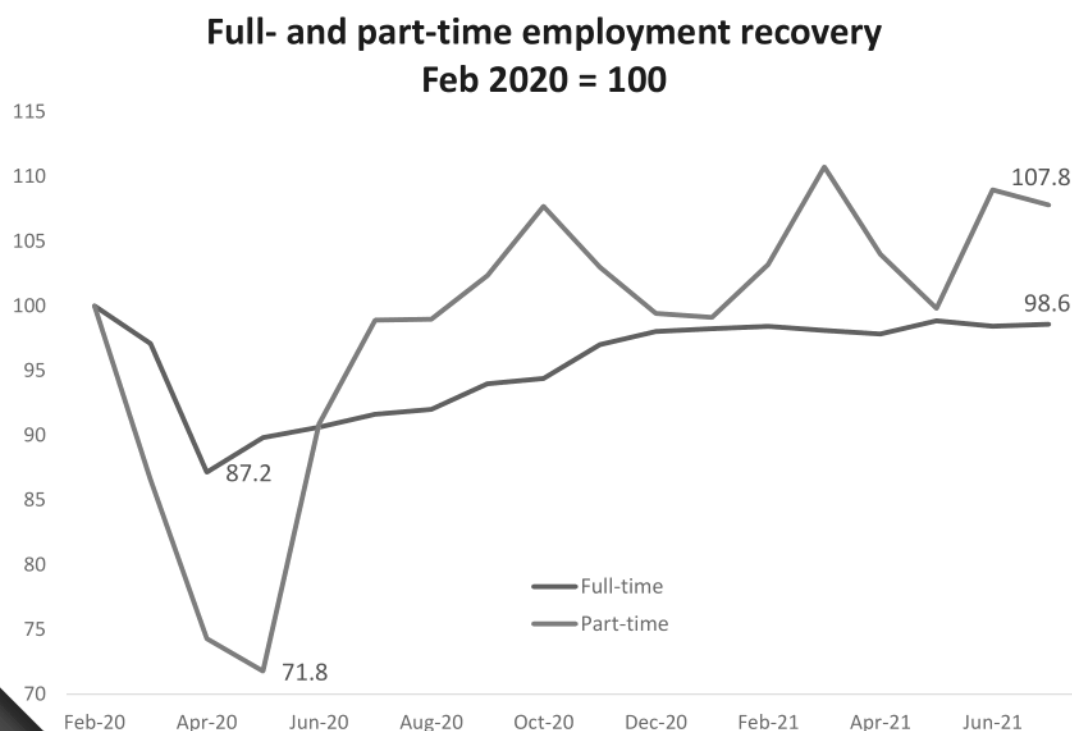
Low wage:

Retail trade
Arts, entertainment and recreation
Accommodation and food services
Other services (except public administration)

- Low-wage industry employment recovery increased by 0.3 points to 98.1% but remains below high-wage industries which have recovered to 111.0%.
- The slight increase in low-wage industries was driven mostly by recovery in Accommodation and food services.
- Hours worked across all industries is down 5.0% from June, falling to 99.2% of pre-pandemic. At 99.8%, lowest-wage industries are lagging highest-wage industries at 111.7%.
- As of April 2021, BC has recovered to 100.8% of continuing businesses compared to February 2020, the highest among provinces.

FULL- AND PART-TIME

Full-time employment recovery increased slightly with gains among women...

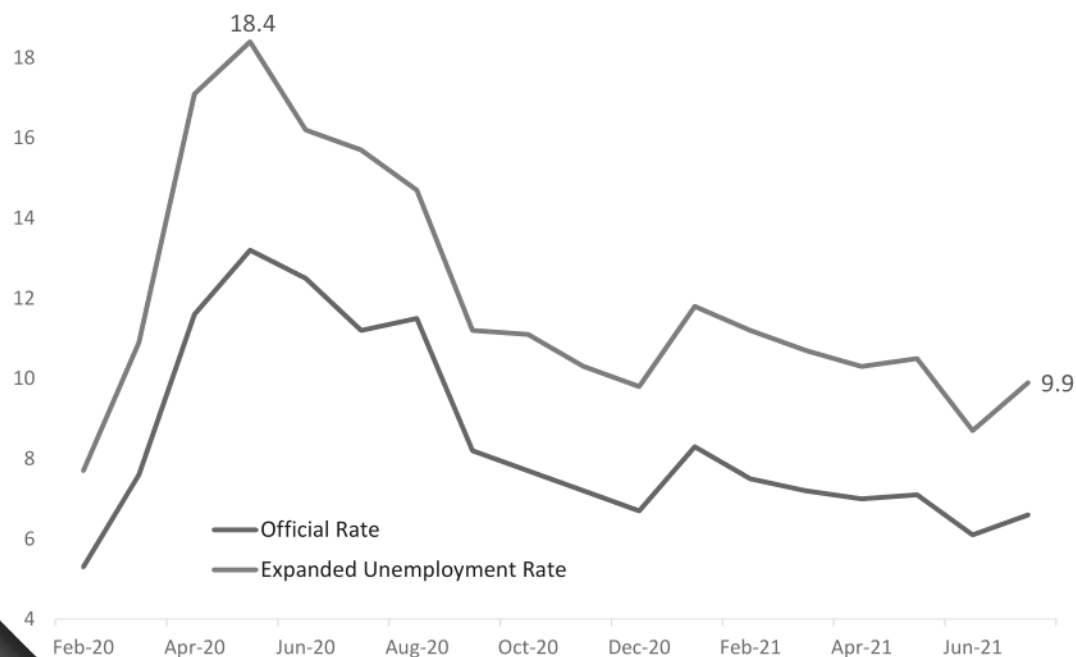


- Full-time recovery gained 0.2 points, while part-time fell 1.2 points.
- Full-time employment rose for women but dipped for men, while part-time fell for women but increased for men.
- Full-time recovery continues to be strong in Professional, scientific and technical services (123.6%) and in Natural resources (117.3%).
- The drop in part-time employment this month was driven by Information, culture and recreation.
- The share of part-time in total employment is 22.5%, above 21.0% in February 2020.

OFFICIAL AND EXPANDED UNEMPLOYMENT

The expanded unemployment rate increased in July and remains higher than pre-pandemic...

Official and expanded unemployment rates for BC



- The expanded unemployment rate is 9.9%, an increase of 1.2 points from last month.
- The official unemployment rate is 1.3 points higher than pre-pandemic, and the expanded unemployment rate is 2.2 points higher.
- The gap between the expanded unemployment rate and the official unemployment rate increased to 3.3 points.
- The expanded unemployment rate adds three groups to the official unemployment rate: 1) discouraged searchers; 2) those waiting for recall, replies, and long-term future starts; and 3) a portion of involuntary part-time workers.

WOMEN AND MEN

Women's unemployment rates dropped slightly in July but women's participation rates remain below pre-pandemic...

Unemployment rate for men and women

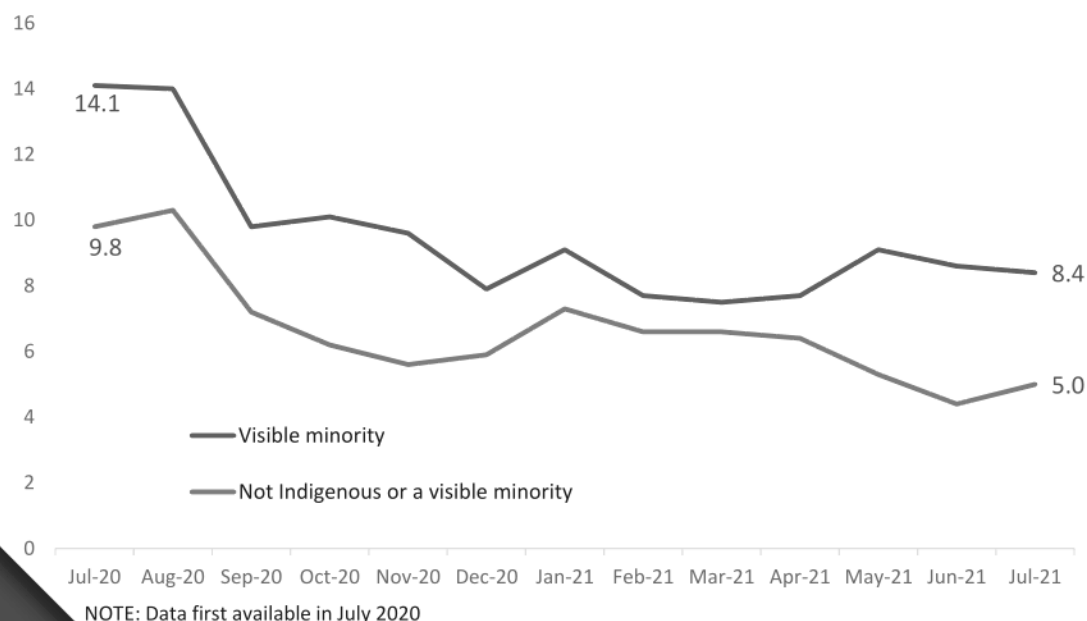


- Women's unemployment rate fell 0.1 points to 6.4%; it is now 0.4 points below men's rate.
- Women's participation rate is 60.5%, now 10.0 points below men; men are slightly above, and women are slightly below pre-pandemic levels.
- Women's employment recovery is at 99.3%, down slightly from last month and 2.3 points below men.
- Women continue to lead full-time recovery at 99.0% with men at 98.3%.

VISIBLE MINORITIES

Visible minorities continue to have a higher unemployment rate than the rest of the population, but the gap narrowed in July...

Unemployment rates by visible minority and not Indigenous or visible minority people



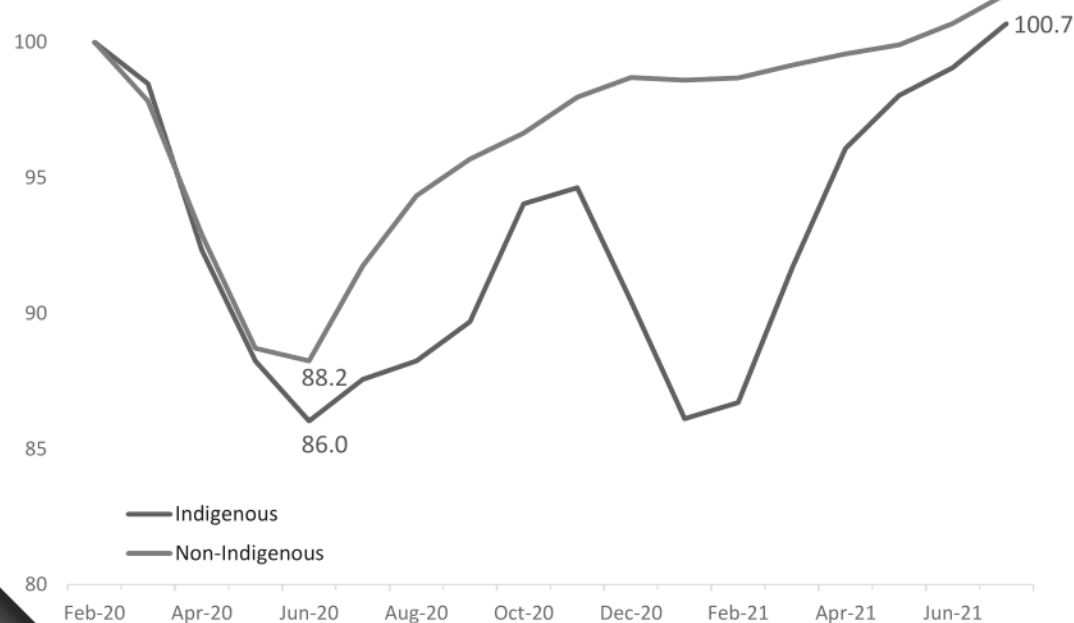
- Visible minorities' unemployment rate fell to 8.4% and is now 3.4 points above the rest of the population.
- Visible minorities' participation rate increased again to 78.7%. It remains above the rest of the population's rate of 75.4%.
- Visible minorities' employment rate is down to 70.3% and is still below the rest of the population at 70.8%
- Compared to Canada, visible minorities in BC continue to have higher participation and employment rates and a lower unemployment rate.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Employment recovery for Indigenous peoples improved again in July, but continues to lag non-Indigenous recovery...

Employment by Indigenous and non-Indigenous people

Feb 2020 = 100

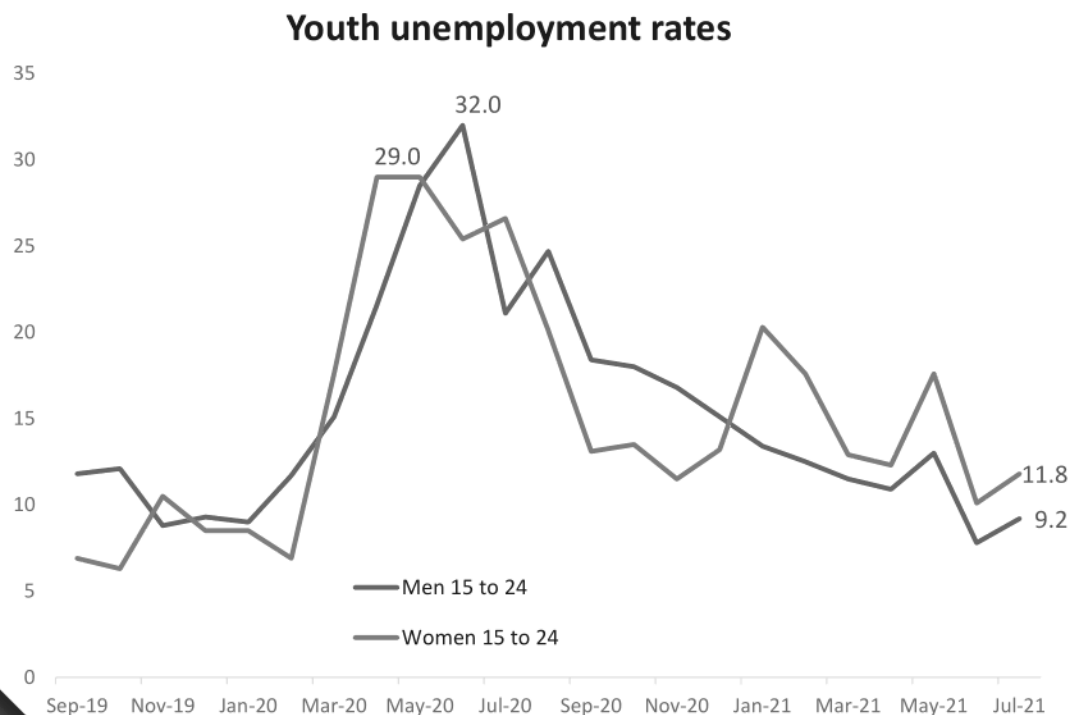


NOTE: Data are for the off-reserve Indigenous population

- Indigenous peoples recovered to 100.7% in July – now the highest point since the pandemic began but 1.1 points behind non-Indigenous recovery.
- Indigenous men's employment recovery is 105.6% which remains above women at 95.7%. Both saw gains in July.
- Indigenous peoples' unemployment rate of 13.0% remains higher than non-Indigenous peoples at 6.4% and the gap grew again in July.
- Indigenous peoples' participation rate rose in July to 66.6% and is now higher than non-Indigenous people.

YOUTH (15-24)

Youth unemployment rate rose but youth employment remains above its pre-pandemic level...



- Youth unemployment is 10.5% compared to 6.6% for all BC workers. This continues to be a smaller gap than pre-pandemic.
- The youth participation rate fell 0.2 points to 66.5%. Youth continue to be more active in the labour market than pre-pandemic.
- Youth employment recovery is 102.5%, down 2.3 points from June.
- At 95.7%, young women are lagging employment recovery compared to young men at 109.3%, but the gap narrowed compared to last month.

APPENDIX – LFS DATA SUMMARY

Estimates by group: Employment, unemployment rate, and participation rate

August 2021	Employment Recovery Rate (compared to Feb 2020)	Unemployment Rate (+/- percentage points Feb 2020)	Participation Rate (+/- percentage points Feb 2020)
BC	100.5%	6.6% (+1.5)	65.4% (+0.4)
Men	101.6%	6.8% (+1.5)	70.5% (+1.2)
Women	99.3%	6.4% (+1.5)	60.5% (-0.4)
Youth	102.5%	11.8% (+2.4)	66.5% (+3.2)
Visible minority	n.a.	8.4% (n.a.)	78.7% (n.a.)
Indigenous peoples	100.7%	13.0% (+3.9)	66.6% (+0.6)
NOT Indigenous or a visible minority	n.a.	5.0% (n.a.)	75.4% (n.a.)

Key Economic Recovery Indicators British Columbia

UPDATE: July 9, 2021

INDICATOR	Ref. Period	Estimate	Compared to previous month		Compared to 12 months ago		Year-to-date compared to period 12 months ago		Next Release
			# Chg	% Chg	# Chg	% Chg	# Chg	% Chg	
OVERALL ECONOMY									
International Merchandise Exports (\$Thousands, SA)	May	4,430,600	415,992	10.4%	1,269,452	40.2%	4,441,865	27.7%	Aug 5
Non-Residential Building Permits (\$Thousands, SA)	May	466,045	24,744	5.6%	181,784	63.9%	128,005	6.4%	Aug 4
US Housing Starts (Thousands, SAAR)	May	1,572	55	3.6%	526	50.3%	290	22.5%	Jul 20
Consumer Price Index (All Items, NSA)	May	135.1	-0.1	-0.1%	3.6	2.7%	2.6	2.0%	Jul 28
BRITISH COLUMBIANS									
Employment (SA)	Jun	2,658,300	42,100	1.6%	263,100	11.0%	181,583	7.4%	Aug 6
Participation Rate (% , SA)	Jun	65.6%	0.7	n.a.	1.3	n.a.	2.6	n.a.	Aug 6
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	Jun	6.6%	-0.4	n.a.	-6.7	n.a.	-2.1	n.a.	Aug 6
Expanded Unemployment Rate (% , NSA)	Jun	8.7%	-1.8	n.a.	-7.5	n.a.	-2.4	n.a.	Aug 6
Average Hourly Earnings (\$, NSA)	Apr	27.97	-0.10	-0.4%	-0.03	-0.1%	0.85	3.1%	Jul 29
Employment Insurance Applicants (NSA)	Jun 27	14,910	7,571	103.2%	571	4.0%	-513,405	-80.2%	Tuesdays
BUSINESSES									
Manufacturing Sales (\$Thousands, SA)	Apr	5,336,472	-86,387	-1.6%	1,678,841	45.9%	4,601,743	28.1%	Jul 14
Retail Trade (\$Thousands, SA)	Apr	8,179,402	-14,439	-0.2%	2,550,208	45.3%	5,842,274	21.6%	Jul 23
Canada Retail E-Commerce Sales (\$Thousands, SA)	Apr	4,111,641	-15,934	-0.4%	236,888	6.1%	5,960,014	57.7%	Jul 23
Food Services and Drinking Places (\$Thousands, SA)	Apr	798,221	-134,075	-14.4%	367,845	85.5%	118,377	3.5%	Jul 27
Visitor Entries (Persons, SA)	Apr	36,084	1,021	2.9%	21,032	139.7%	-988,293	-87.0%	Jul 21
Hotel Occupancy Rate (% , NSA)	Apr	35.8%	-6.9	n.a.	19.3	n.a.	-8.1	n.a.	Late Jul
BC Ferries Passenger Counts (NSA)	May	854,513	-57,644	-6.3%	161,317	23.3%	-212,129	-4.8%	Mid Jul
Transit Visits (# Visits to transit stations in Vancouver, NSA)	Jul 4	4,522,457	-145,886	-3.1%	48,629	1.1%	-1,531,800	-2.0%	Mondays
KEY COMMODITIES									
Lumber Prices (\$Canadian, \$/1000 board ft, SPF 2x4 #2&BTR)	Jun	1,470.19	-494.11	-25.2%	933.92	174.2%	887.94	157.0%	Aug 6
Pulp Prices (\$Canadian, \$/tonne, NBSK Pulp)	Jun	1,183.71	-10.90	-0.9%	416.46	54.3%	338.35	43.2%	Aug 6
Copper Prices (\$Canadian, London \$/lb)	Jun	5.33	-0.28	-5.0%	1.80	51.0%	1.75	51.4%	Aug 5
Coal Prices (\$Canadian, \$/mt)	Jun	212.63	66.34	45.3%	62.25	41.4%	-21.70	-11.7%	Aug 5
Natural Gas Prices (\$Canadian, Henry Hub \$/MMBtu)	Jun	3.97	0.44	12.5%	1.77	80.5%	1.60	64.9%	Aug 4

NOTES:

- Indicators with bolded reference periods have been updated since the last release.
- Reference Period: Indicators are monthly, except Employment Insurance Applicants and Transit Visits.
- Seasonal Adjustment: SA = Seasonally Adjusted; SAAR = Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate; NSA = Not Seasonally Adjusted.
- Expanded Unemployment Rate: Expanding on the official unemployment rate, this rate (R8) includes discouraged searchers, those waiting for recall, replies, long-term future starts, and, the underutilized portion of involuntary part-timers.
- EI Applicants & Transit Visits: Due to data availability the 'Year-to-Date' comparison is for the year starting the week ending Mar 8, 2020, the period immediately prior to the onset of the pandemic.
- The increase in EI applicants compared to the previous month is driven by the end of the K-12 school year. Over half of the increase is among kindergarten, elementary and secondary school teachers and teacher assistants.
- Canada Retail Ecommerce Sales: Includes sales for store and non-store retailers, and only sales at Canadian retailers. These data are not available at the provincial level.
- Transit Visits: Temporary replacement for Translink Passenger Counts while data continue to be unavailable due to technical issues at Translink. Transit visits is based on Google's mobility (location history) data on transit station visits in Metro Vancouver.
- Lumber Prices: SPF (Spruce Pine Fir) 2x4 #2 is the most common grade 2x4 for home and commercial construction with BTR indicating better quality within the same grade.
- Pulp Prices: NBSK Pulp or Northern bleached softwood kraft is the industry benchmark grade of pulp.
- Pulp Prices: FLNR changed its reporting for Pulp Prices from Northern Europe delivery to China delivery as of mid-January, reflecting China's position as BC's largest pulp export market. In this report, Pulp Prices data and comparisons are updated to China delivery prices.
- The Henry Hub is the primary price indicator for natural gas in North America, MMBtu means Million British thermal unit.
- Commodity prices YTD compared to 12 months ago are calculated using the average price over the elapsed time period.
- Next update of the Economic Recovery Indicators report is **July 23, 2021**.

Key Economic Recovery Indicators British Columbia

UPDATE: August 6, 2021

Indicator	Ref. Period	Estimate	Compared to previous month		Compared to 12 months ago		Year-to-date compared to period 12 months ago		Next Release
			# Chg	% Chg	# Chg	% Chg	# Chg	% Chg	
OVERALL ECONOMY									
International Merchandise Exports (\$Thousands, SA)	Jun	4,874,644	444,710	10.0%	1,860,129	61.7%	6,423,707	33.7%	Sep 2
Non-Residential Building Permits (\$Thousands, SA)	Jun	390,074	-74,511	-16.0%	-164,948	-29.7%	-42,235	-1.7%	Sep 2
US Housing Starts (Thousands, SAAR)	Jun	1,643	97	6.3%	370	29.1%	298	23.2%	Aug 18
Consumer Price Index (All Items, NSA)	Jun	135.8	0.7	0.5%	3.2	2.4%	2.7	2.0%	Aug 18
BRITISH COLUMBIANS									
Employment (SA)	Jul	2,655,200	-3,100	-0.1%	194,600	7.9%	183,443	7.5%	Sep 10
Participation Rate (% , SA)	Jul	65.4%	-0.2	n.a.	1.0	n.a.	2.3	n.a.	Sep 10
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	Jul	6.6%	0.0	n.a.	-4.6	n.a.	-2.5	n.a.	Sep 10
Expanded Unemployment Rate (% , NSA)	Jul	9.9%	1.2	n.a.	-5.8	n.a.	-2.9	n.a.	Sep 10
Average Hourly Wage (\$, NSA)	Jul	30.04	-0.36	-1.2%	1.19	4.1%	0.68	2.3%	Sep 10
Employment Insurance Applicants (NSA)	Jul 25	5,450	-544	-9.1%	-558	-9.3%	-514,131	-76.6%	Tuesdays
BUSINESSES									
Manufacturing Sales (\$Thousands, SA)	May	5,524,860	63,801	1.2%	1,682,248	43.8%	5,969,964	28.7%	Aug 16
Retail Trade (\$Thousands, SA)	May	8,187,317	-118,720	-1.4%	1,726,540	26.7%	7,709,491	23.0%	Aug 20
Canada Retail E-Commerce Sales (\$Thousands, SA)	May	4,199,576	85,181	2.1%	73,821	1.8%	6,047,530	41.8%	Aug 20
Food Services and Drinking Places (\$Thousands, SA)	May	858,825	61,079	7.7%	299,330	53.5%	444,091	11.4%	Aug 31
Visitor Entries (Persons, SA)	May	27,772	-8,202	-22.8%	13,390	93.1%	-975,087	-84.7%	Aug 20
Hotel Occupancy Rate (% , NSA)	May	31.9%	-2.6	n.a.	10.5	n.a.	-4.4	n.a.	Late Aug
BC Ferries Passenger Counts (NSA)	Jun	1,364,230	509,717	59.6%	212,031	18.4%	-98	0.0%	Mid Aug
Transit Visits (# Visits to transit stations in Vancouver, NSA)	Aug 1	5,203,257	24,314	0.5%	340,400	7.0%	-401,186	-0.4%	Mondays
KEY COMMODITIES									
Lumber Prices (\$Canadian, \$/1000 board ft, SPF 2x4 #2&BTR)	Jun	1,470.19	-494.11	-25.2%	933.92	174.2%	887.94	157.0%	Aug 6
Pulp Prices (\$Canadian, \$/tonne, NBSK Pulp)	Jun	1,183.71	-10.90	-0.9%	416.46	54.3%	338.35	43.2%	Aug 6
Copper Prices (\$Canadian, London \$/lb)	Jul	5.36	0.03	0.6%	1.46	37.4%	1.70	49.2%	Sep 7
Coal Prices (\$Canadian, \$/mt)	Jul	262.24	49.61	23.3%	110.77	73.1%	-2.77	-1.5%	Sep 7
Natural Gas Prices (\$Canadian, Henry Hub \$/MMBtu)	Jul	4.81	0.84	21.1%	2.42	101.1%	1.72	70.0%	Sep 8

NOTES:

- Indicators with bolded reference periods have been updated since the last release.
- Reference Period: Indicators are monthly, except Employment Insurance Applicants and Transit Visits.
- Seasonal Adjustment: SA = Seasonally Adjusted; SAAR = Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate; NSA = Not Seasonally Adjusted.
- Expanded Unemployment Rate: Expanding on the official unemployment rate, this rate (R8) includes discouraged searchers, those waiting for recall, replies, long-term future starts, and, the underutilized portion of involuntary part-timers.
- Average Hourly Wage from the Labour Force Survey has replaced Average Hourly Earnings from the Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours. This change provides more timely data and incorporates both hourly and salaried earnings.
- EI Applicants & Transit Visits: Due to data availability the 'Year-to-Date' comparison is for the year starting the week ending Mar 8, 2020, the period immediately prior to the onset of the pandemic.
- Canada Retail Ecommerce Sales: Includes sales for store and non-store retailers, and only sales at Canadian retailers. These data are not available at the provincial level.
- The Hotel Occupancy Rate source is changed to STR, as reported by Destination BC, as it provides more timely data that covers more communities across BC.
- Transit Visits: Temporary replacement for Translink Passenger Counts while data continue to be unavailable due to technical issues at Translink. Transit visits is based on Google's mobility (location history) data on transit station visits in Metro Vancouver.
- Lumber Prices: SPF (Spruce Pine Fir) 2x4 #2 is the most common grade 2x4 for home and commercial construction with BTR indicating better quality within the same grade.
- Pulp Prices: NBSK Pulp or Northern bleached softwood kraft is the industry benchmark grade of pulp.
- Due to processing delays at data source, planned updates for Lumber Prices and Pulp Prices are not available for this update.
- The Henry Hub is the primary price indicator for natural gas in North America, MMBtu means Million British thermal unit.
- Commodity prices YTD compared to 12 months ago are calculated using the average price over the elapsed time period.
- Next update of the Economic Recovery Indicators report is **August 20, 2021**.