



Total Employment (Updated August 2017)

Employment in the Island Coastal region continued its upward surge in the 2nd quarter of 2017, adding 6,800 jobs compared to the first quarter of the year.

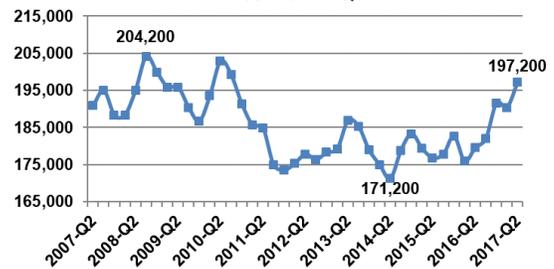
Employment is up by 17,700 compared to the 2nd quarter of last year, which is the largest year-over-year employment growth since 2006.

Since bottoming out at 171,200 jobs in the 2nd quarter of 2014 (exactly three years ago), regional employment has grown by 26,000 jobs. It is now within range of the all-time high of 204,200 jobs in the summer of 2008.

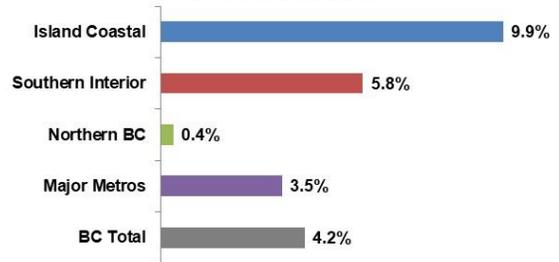
On a percentage basis, regional employment growth in the last year is 9.9%, more than double the BC growth rate of 4.2%, and easily leading all BC regions.

Tourism, manufacturing, health care and the resource sector are driving the recent job growth in the region. See the next page for further details.

Total Employment Over 10 Years, to 2017-Q2



Employment Growth in Last 12 Months

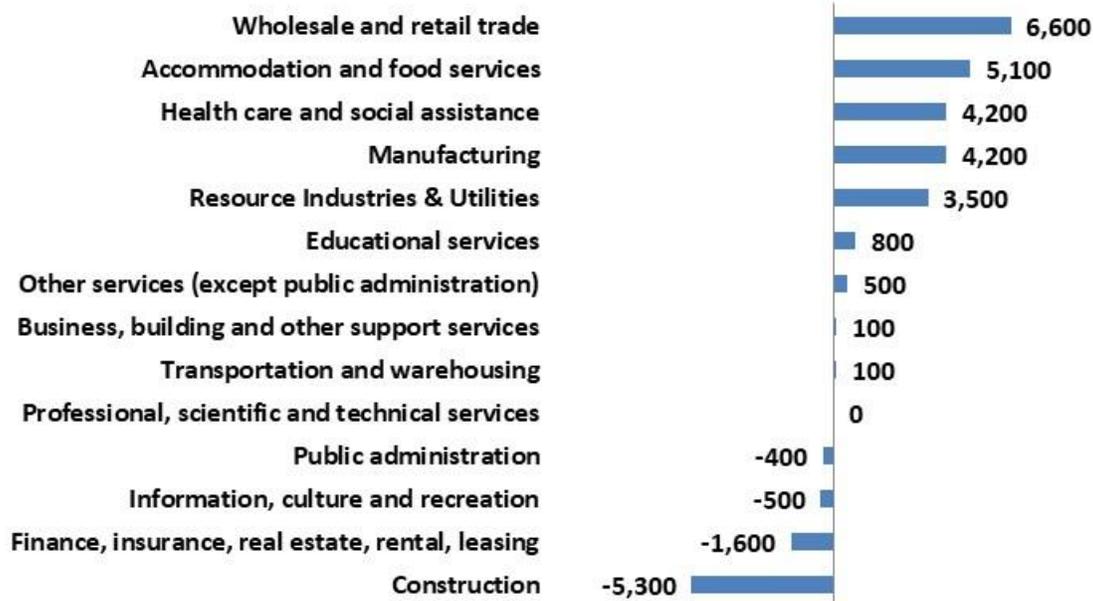


Total Employment and Growth Trends, by BC Region, to 2nd Quarter of 2016

Region	2017-Q2	Growth in Last Year	Average Growth, Last 5 Years	Average Growth, Last 10 Years
Island Coastal	197,200	9.9%	2.1%	0.3%
Southern Interior	428,900	5.8%	1.3%	0.4%
Northern BC	161,000	0.4%	-0.4%	0.1%
Major Metros	1,698,400	3.5%	2.1%	1.7%
BC Total	2,485,600	4.2%	1.8%	1.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Cansim 282-0122 and 282-0128. Quarterly figures are the average of the 3 months in the quarter.

Island Coastal Employment Growth by Sector, 2016-Q2 to 2017-Q2



Highlights of the Island Coastal region's employment growth over the last year:

- Tourism has bounced back quickly from a low point in the 2nd quarter of last year, represented by the increase of 5,100 jobs in accommodation and food services.
- Resource industries – especially forestry but also fishing – are closely linked to manufacturing employment and both have shown strong growth. Resource industries and utilities, which unfortunately cannot be broken down to more detail, are up by 3,500 jobs and manufacturing is up by 4,200.
- Population growth and the aging of the population are continuing to support strong growth in the health care sector (+4,200 jobs).
- Wholesale and retail trade has experienced the largest increase (+6,600 jobs) and benefits from a combination of factors, including more tourists, general population growth, and a stronger economy that gives households more income to spend.
- The construction and real estate sectors, which naturally tend to move together, have the only significant job losses over the last year.

Appendix: Geographic Areas

The four BC regions shown in this report are calculated based on Labour Force Survey releases for Economic Regions (also called Development Regions) and Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) and do not exactly match the boundaries of the Island Coastal Economic Trust region or any other regional trust.

Island Coastal

Vancouver Island/Coast Economic Region LESS Victoria CMA

Note: This definition of the ICET region does not include the Sunshine Coast Regional District (RD) because it is part of the Mainland/Southwest Economic Region.

Southern Interior

Thompson-Okanagan and Kootenay Economic Regions, PLUS the non-metro portion of the Mainland/Southwest Economic Region (including the Sunshine Coast RD, the Squamish-Lillooet RD, and the eastern portion of the Fraser Valley RD, including Chilliwack)

Northern BC

Cariboo, North Coast, Nechako and Northeast Economic Regions

Major Metros

Victoria, Vancouver and Abbotsford-Mission CMAs (not shown on the map below)

