

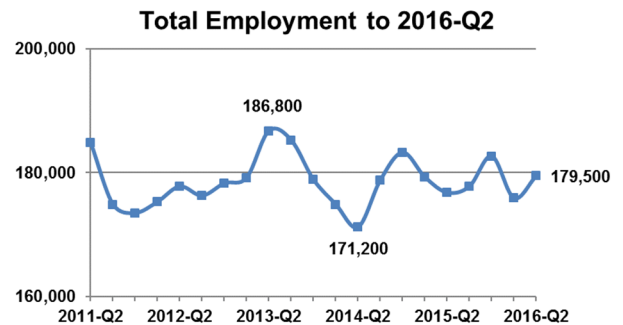


Total Employment (Updated July 2016)

Total employment in the ICET region increased in the 2nd quarter of 2016, adding 3,600 employed residents compared to the 1st quarter of the year.

Regional employment is also higher compared to the same period last year, by 2,700 employed or a modest 1.5% growth rate. This is consistent with other rural regions of BC that have also experienced a slight employment increase over the last year.

Taking a longer-term perspective, employment in the ICET region has been relatively flat over the last five years, with periodic increases and decreases within the range of about 175,000 to 185,000 employed, but without any sustained upward or downward trend that lasts more than a few quarters.



Both the Southern Interior and Northern BC have also been relatively flat in employment performance over the last five years, with the Southern Interior growing by about 2% in total and Northern BC losing 0.5%. Employment in the Major Metros of Victoria, Vancouver and the Fraser Valley has increased by about 10% over the last five years.

Total Employment by BC Regions, 2011-Q2 to 2016-Q2

Region	Total Employment						Change in Last Year	Change in Last 5 Years
	2011-Q2	2012-Q2	2013-Q2	2014-Q2	2015-Q2	2016-Q2		
ICET Region	184,900	177,800	186,800	171,200	176,800	179,500	2,700	-5,400
Southern Interior	398,000	402,500	402,400	403,500	400,500	405,300	4,800	7,300
Northern BC	161,200	164,600	159,800	160,000	159,800	160,400	600	-800
Major Metros	1,490,000	1,531,800	1,527,400	1,552,600	1,557,400	1,641,100	83,700	151,100
BC Total	2,234,000	2,276,800	2,276,400	2,287,400	2,294,500	2,386,400	91,900	152,400

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

Employment growth in the ICET region over the last year has been led by public administration and the construction sector, which added 3,700 and 3,500 jobs respectively, while the largest declines are in health care and social assistance (-3,000) and education (-2,100).

These figures should be interpreted with some caution as they are based on a limited sample of regional households, but at least in terms of construction, the employment increase is consistent with higher building permit values through the end of May in seven out of the eight regional districts in the region.

Other tourism indicators have generally been positive (such as increased airport and ferry traffic) and market conditions like the low Canadian dollar are favourable, but the accommodation and food services sector has declined in the last year. Perhaps a strong summer season will reverse this trend.

The Primary Industries and Utilities sector, which includes forestry, fishing and agriculture, has declined marginally, along with manufacturing (much of which is based on resource products).

One of the more troubling trends for the regional economy is the employment decline in professional, scientific and technical services. This sector provides knowledge-based, well-paying jobs that are not necessarily tied to metropolitan centres and will locate in rural regions (examples include engineers, architects, lawyers, accountants and consultants). Not only has this sector declined by 500 in the last year, employment has dropped by 3,900 over the last five years.

ICET Region Employment Change in Last Year, by Sector



ICET Region Employment by Sector, Change in Employment by Sector in Last 12 Months, 2014-Q2 to 2015-Q2

Sector	2016-Q2 Employment	Change in Last Year	Change in Last 5 Years
Total employed, all industries	179,500	2,700	-5,400
Goods-producing sector	43,700	2,600	2,400
Primary Industries & Utilities	10,400	-300	400
Construction	23,300	3,500	4,200
Manufacturing	10,000	-600	-2,200
Services-producing sector	135,800	100	-7,800
Retail and Wholesale Trade	25,900	-500	-5,700
Transportation and warehousing	7,400	-1,300	700
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental & leasing	9,800	2,000	3,900
Professional, scientific and technical services	10,200	-500	-3,500
Business, building and other support services	6,700	900	-100
Educational services	10,700	-2,100	700
Health care and social assistance	27,400	-3,000	-1,600
Information, culture and recreation	7,400	1,300	-1,300
Accommodation and food services	10,400	-1,700	-5,100
Other services	9,900	1,500	2,800
Public administration	10,400	3,700	1,600

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Cansim 282-0124 and 282-0130. Quarterly figures are the average of the 3 months in the quarter.

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 ICET Region or any other regional trust.

ICET Region

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)

