

The BC Labour Market Report's

# Labour Market Hot Sheet

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[www.LabourMarketOnline.com](http://www.LabourMarketOnline.com)

December 4, 2020



## BC creates 335,000 new jobs over the past six months

**Data / Labour Market Research**

Statistics Canada's latest **Labour Force Survey** paints an optimistic picture for BC's employment numbers. Despite these new restrictions, employment in British Columbia grew by 24,000 (+1.0%) in November, adding to the gains over the previous six months (+335,000). Gains in full-time work were partly offset by losses in part-time employment. Several industries saw increases, including accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, wholesale and retail trade, and construction. The unemployment rate fell 0.9 percentage points to 7.1%.

Employment grew (+1.2%) in the Vancouver CMA, albeit at a slower pace than in the previous two months.

By April, the initial widespread COVID-19 economic shutdown had directly affected 5.5 million Canadian workers, including 3.0 million who had lost employment and 2.5 million who remained employed but had experienced COVID-related absences from work. By November, the equivalent figure was 1.0 million, including a 574,000 (-3.0%) drop in employment since February and a 448,000 (+55.5%) increase since February in Canadians who were employed but worked less than half their usual hours.

Full-time employment rose by 99,000 (+0.7%) in November, while part-time work was little changed. Compared with pre-COVID February levels, full-time employment was down 2.9%, compared with a decrease of 3.3% for part-time work.

Among those who worked part time in November, more than one-fifth (22.6%; 808,000) wanted full-time work (30 hours or more per week) but were unable to find it. This was up 5.2 percentage points from 12 months earlier, with above-average

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increases among men aged 25 to 54 (up 13.2 percentage points to 46.4%).

The number of Canadians working from home has increased for the second consecutive month. Among those who worked at least half of their usual hours, 4.6 million Canadians worked from home in November. This was an increase of approximately 250,000 from October and included 2.5 million who do not usually work from home. Among the same group, the number of people working at locations other than home fell by approximately 100,000 to 12.2 million.

## Job search strategies changing due to COVID

### Career Development / Employment Search

As the number of people on temporary layoff fell over the summer and early fall, the number of job searchers increased and made up an increasing share of the total unemployed. Despite a drop in the month (-39,000; -2.6%), there were 1.5 million job searchers in November, almost half a million more than in February (+448,000; +43.3%).

According to the December **Labour Force Survey**, nearly one in three job searchers in November (432,000; 29.1%) were men in the core working age group of 25 to 54. The most common occupations of job searchers who had worked in the past 12 months included sales and services occupations (36.6%), and occupations related to trades, transport and equipment operators (19.5%) (not seasonally adjusted).

Most of the increase in job searchers from February to November was among those in the core-age group of 25 to 54, with 135,000 (+45.3%) more men and 105,000 (+39.6%) more women looking for work. There were 154,000 (+56.3%) more youth searching for work in November than in February, with the increase split between male and female youth.

The large increase in job searchers observed since the summer highlights the importance of the various strategies used by the unemployed to make their way back to employment. In November, close to 8 in 10 job searchers (77.5%) looked at job advertisements, up 11.4 percentage points from 12 months earlier (not seasonally adjusted). The share of those looking for work who used public or private employment agencies fell 2.3 percentage points year over year to 19.0%, while the share who relied on friends or family to find job opportunities increased 6.6 percentage points to 32.4%.

## Long-term unemployed face increased risk of financial difficulty

### Analysis / Socio-Economic Patterns

Following increases of 79,000 (+36.2%) in September and 151,000 (+50.7%) in October, long-term unemployment held steady in November. A total of 443,000 Canadians, or one-

quarter (25.6%) of all the unemployed, had been continuously out of work for 27 weeks or more.

Workers who became unemployed as a result of previous economic downturns have experienced a range of long-term consequences, including long-term reduction in earnings. Those who entered into a prolonged period of joblessness in recent months are a direct reflection of the unprecedented job losses which resulted from the COVID-19 economic shutdown of March and April, and may face a unique set of short-term and long-term challenges.

In November, more than half (53.3%) of the long-term unemployed lived in a household reporting difficulty meeting necessary expenses (not seasonally adjusted). This was higher than the proportion of those with a shorter jobless spell (41.4%) and noticeably higher than the proportion (19.3%) of those who were employed or not in the labour force (not seasonally adjusted).

While core-aged people comprised the greatest share (53.9%) of long-term unemployment in November, their contribution was down 4.7 percentage points compared with 12 months earlier. People aged 55 and older, on the other hand, made up a larger share of the long-term unemployed than a year ago—26.2%, up 5.3 percentage points—suggesting that some older workers may be experiencing particular challenges in returning to employment. Youth accounted for one-fifth (20.0%) of the long-term unemployed, down 0.7 percentage points from 12 months earlier.

## This Week in Social Media

**Please take the time to 'like' or follow:**

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

- Feds publish new employment equity regulations ([Click Here](#)).
- Have job, but no hours: Some employed Canadians not working at all ([Click Here](#)).
- Canada Post calls in reinforcements to meet historic demand ([Click Here](#)).
- Survey shows two-thirds of energy company employers cut labour costs due to COVID-19 ([Click Here](#)).

On our social media feeds we only post labour market and job search information, research and the occasional ironic observation. You can trust our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds. We carefully evaluate social media posts to see if they would be valuable to you.

For instance, we're not going to post articles like '[Czech Hunter Reports Rifle-Stealing Deer To Police](#)'. After (spoiler alert) killing his mom and chasing him into the forest, Bambi is back for revenge. A new holiday classic is born: 'Deer Hard: This time it's personal!'; streaming on a platform near you, obviously because we're all still stuck inside!

Your time is valuable and we wouldn't want to waste it, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [Facebook](#) today :-)

## Community Calendar

### Career Development Events

**2020: The Labour Market Year-in-Review Workshops**

**Virtual One-Day Workshops | 10am-3pm**

- **Northwest Region;** Tues. Dec. 8, 2020
- **Northeast Region;** Wed. Dec. 9, 2020
- **Vancouver Island;** Thurs. Dec. 10, 2020
- **Cariboo Region;** Fri. Dec. 11, 2020

**Workshop Details:** [www.LabourMarketOnline.com/LMIWorkshops/](http://www.LabourMarketOnline.com/LMIWorkshops/)

**BMO is Holding a Virtual Job Fair**

Bank of Montreal is looking for amazing First Nations, Metis or Inuit talent to join their company across the country. Positions within the bank include customer service, office and administration, branch positions, technology, human resources and more!

Process: By completing this application you'll be added to BMO's Talent Pool, and qualified candidates will be INTERVIEWED on DECEMBER 9, 2020 at BMO's Virtual Job Fair!

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

**CANNEXUS21**

**January 25 & 27, February 1 & 3, 2021**

Virtual Conference

Details: [cannexus.ceric.ca](http://cannexus.ceric.ca)

**BC Career Development Conference 2021**

**April 29 and 30, 2021**

SFU Harbourside

Details: [Click Here](#)

**Job Postings****Career Development Employment**

To post a job here, please email: [bclmr@outlook.com](mailto:bclmr@outlook.com)

*(When you write your cover letter, please mention you saw this advertisement in the BC Labour Market Report)*

**Employer Relations Specialist \*NEW\***

Immigrant Services Society of BC

Vancouver, British Columbia

Closes: December 11, 2020

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

**Job Developer and Employment Specialist \*NEW\***

WorkSafeBC

Courtenay, British Columbia

Closes: December 11, 2020

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

**Job Developer/ Marketer \*NEW\***

KCR - Community Resources

Kelowna, British Columbia

Closes December 13, 2020

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

**Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist \*NEW\***

Buxton Consulting

Fraser Valley, BC

Closes: Dec. 31, 2020

Details: [admin.headoffice@buxtonconsulting.org](mailto:admin.headoffice@buxtonconsulting.org)

**Manager, Jobs West**

Developmental Disabilities Association

Vancouver, British Columbia

Closes: December 31, 2020

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

## Did you know?

### Fascinating Facts

About one-quarter (26.6%) of people on temporary layoff in November last worked in the accommodation and food services industry (not seasonally adjusted), reflecting the continuing challenges faced by this sector in adjusting to new and continuing public health measures. The wholesale and retail trade (11.8%) and manufacturing (11.6%) industries also accounted for a sizable share of those on temporary layoff. Across all industries, men in the core working age group of 25 to 54 accounted for almost 3 in 10 (28.0%; 71,000) of those on temporary layoff.

- Statistics Canada

## Quote of the Week

### Career Inspiration

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do."

- Pele

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