

The BC Labour Market Report's

Labour Market Hot Sheet

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www.LabourMarketOnline.com ----- July 17, 2020



BC Labour Market Briefing | Thurs. July 30, 2020 at 3pm

For more info or to register, please visit: www.LabourMarketOnline.com

*** Webinar designed as a staff development event with 'beach party' theme. ***



Business Council describes the labour market uncertainty we can expect in the months to come

Forecast / Hiring Expectations

The 118,000 jobs added to the B.C. economy in June were slightly more than the **Business Council of B.C.** had been expecting, but the organization cautions that such dramatic gains are unlikely to be repeated.

Council executive vice-president Jock Finlayson described the monthly employment increase as a “one-time surge” with the reopening of many businesses after months of being closed.

Almost half of the total 118,000 jobs created in June were in the accommodation and food services industries, “so that really speaks to the effect of the reopening,” said Finlayson.

Statistics Canada’s labour force survey for June showed the unemployment rate in B.C. fell slightly to 13 per cent after

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Occupation
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having risen for three straight months.

Finance Minister Carole James said the latest numbers paint a picture of cautious optimism with a long road ahead on B.C.'s path to recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

She said employment gains in May and June have brought back about 40 per cent of the total number of jobs lost since February.

Even with the recent gains, net job losses since the start of the pandemic stand at 235,000.

"This is kind of a one-time burst in employment, and I think we'll see some job growth going forward," said Finlayson.

However, he emphasized "there's more layoffs coming because many business that are still operating are discovering that they are not viable because of social distancing restrictions and changes to consumer shopping habits, the closure of the border, the collapse of tourism, you name it."

He estimates 10 per cent of all businesses with paid employees in B.C. at the start of this year will be gone by the end of next year. "It takes time for companies to discover if they can make it work."

"We're going to see quite a bit of job destruction associated with business disruption in the coming months."

Finlayson said double-digit unemployment rates will continue well into next year, and maybe longer.

A lot of businesses that are marginal, even at the best of times, are now hanging on by their fingertips, said Finlayson.

"I have a friend who owns three or four restaurants. He has reopened in-person dining, but it's not clear that he's going to be able to make that work," he said, adding that surviving under the "new normal" means cutting capacity, but also spending more on cleaning and sanitizing to keep employees and customers safe.

Another caveat for Finlayson is that 102,000 of the jobs added in June are part-time, and only 16,000 are full-time.

"I think it speaks to the underlying weakness of the economy and the labour market. Full-time jobs are different from part-time because they obviously translate into more income per employee," said Finlayson.

B.C. Liberal jobs critic Jordan Sturdy said, "while it's good news to see more British Columbians back working, far too many remain out of work and, with over 100,000 of the jobs being part-time, a long-term recovery plan is needed immediately."

One of the unknowns that could impact the 13-per-cent unemployment rate is the take-up of post-secondary education in the fall and into 2021, said Finlayson.

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Report**

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The June unemployment rate among young people (15 to 24 years old) continues to be much more worrisome at 29.1 per cent, slightly higher than in May at 28.9 per cent, and almost 20 points higher than in 2019.

If a significant number of young people decide to work rather than go back to school, it could actually push up the unemployment rate, said Finlayson.

On the other hand, recessions have typically sparked rising post-secondary enrolment numbers.

“There’s a real push and pull here on the education side that I think it’s too early to say how that’s going to play out.”

Province releases a framework to ensure renters and landlords can move past COVID

Real Estate / Property Management

The **Province of B.C.** has laid out the details of a repayment framework to be put in place later this summer, helping renters and landlords to transition and tenants in arrears to maintain their housing when the ban on evictions for non-payment of rent is lifted ahead of Sept. 1, 2020.

To ensure renters have a reasonable timeframe to pay back any rent they owe from the emergency, the Province is putting in place a repayment framework. The framework will apply once the ban on issuing evictions for non-payment of rent is lifted. It requires the landlord to give the tenant until July 2021 to repay any outstanding rent, as long as monthly instalments are paid.

The Province plans to lift the ban on issuing evictions for non-payment of rent ahead of Sept. 1, meaning renters will need to pay their monthly rent in full beginning in September. However, the repayment framework is designed so renters will not have to make their first payment until the first rent due date following 30 days of notice from the date of the repayment plan. This will be Oct. 1 for most renters, assuming their landlord provides them with a repayment plan before the end of August.

For example, a renter owing \$2,000 in unpaid rent will receive a repayment framework that sets out:

- *the total amount of rent still owed (\$2,000);*
- *the amount the renter is expected to pay each month, with the total owing split into instalments (e.g., \$200 each month from October 2020 to July 2021);*
- *the date of the first payment is due (Oct. 1, 2020).*

Recognizing that many renters and landlords worked together to make arrangements during this crisis, the framework will also leave some flexibility for landlords to work with renters to further adjust the payment amounts. For example, allowing lower payments in the beginning of the agreement and gradually increasing the payment amounts over time or

extending the duration of the repayment process past July 2021.

Two other emergency measures related to rentals will also be extended. In the early stages of the pandemic response, landlords were temporarily prohibited from charging rent increases as part of government's efforts to help people financially impacted by COVID-19. These rent increases will continue to be restricted until December 2020. In addition, in order to protect the health of building residents, landlords will continue to have the ability to restrict access to common spaces when required for COVID-19 related health reasons.

Quick Facts:

- *As of July 9, nearly 85,000 British Columbians are benefitting from the TRS. Eligible renters can continue to apply for support through the end of August.*
- *The TRS program provides \$500 per month for eligible households with dependents and \$300 per month for eligible households with no dependents.*
- *Based on eligible applications to date, the TRS program is expected to provide more than \$150 million in financial support for renters and landlords between April and August.*

Click here to download: ['Information about changes to B.C.'s tenancy laws during COVID-19'](#)

Major labour market stories from the past week

For all of the major stories from last week, please login to Labour Market Online and visit the 'Breaking News Section'

- \$5 billion Abbotsford Tech District looks to become the region's agritech hub ([Click Here](#))
- Movie shooting in Oak Bay signals restart for BC film industry ([Click Here](#))
- Canada added almost 1 million jobs in June but still almost 2 million down from pre-COVID-19 level ([Click Here](#))
- Five overlooked benefits of learning a new language ([Click Here](#))
- Lyft expands ride-hailing services throughout Metro Vancouver ([Click Here](#))
- Has Canada's labour market recovery hit a standstill? ([Click Here](#))
- Opinion: 'Gig' workers deserve a living wage, not insecurity ([Click Here](#))
- Almost 30% of Lower Mainland residents were unable to pay their full rent last month: poll ([Click Here](#))
- More than 3 million workers still affected by shutdowns: StatsCan ([Click Here](#))
- Should I apply for EI or CERB: Ask BNN Bloomberg ([Click Here](#))
- Province supports innovation, jobs in electric vehicle sector ([Click Here](#))
- Workers continued to return to construction sites in June, but labour market still well off highs ([Click Here](#))
- Working On BC Farms Can Earn You +3K A Month With No Experience ([Click Here](#))
- How manufacturers can receive funding from the government ([Click Here](#))
- Pregnant Canadians worry they won't get parental leave benefits because work hours affected by COVID-19 ([Click Here](#))

This Week in Social Media

Please take the time to 'like' or follow:

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

- Pandemic pay can be delayed by companies facing bankruptcy, Feds ([Click Here](#))
- The pandemic is widening Canada's workplace gender gap ([Click Here](#))
- Employment at Site C increases during month of May ([Click Here](#))
- Companies are increasingly turning to social media to screen potential employees ([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: '[Burger King's latest sustainability effort: reduce cow farts](#)'. *That's right, Burger King is doing everything it can to produce fewer cow farts other than having fewer cows.*

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

BC's Labour Market Briefing for August 2020

Thurs July 30th | 3-4pm

Online Webinar

Details: www.LabourMarketOnline.com

ASPECT 2020

November 5 & 6, 2020

Virtual Conference

Details: aspect.bc.ca/ASPECT-Conference

Career Education Society Annual Conference

November 23 and 24, 2020

Virtual Conference

Details: [Click Here](#)

CANNEXUS21

January 25 & 27, February 1 & 3, 2021

Virtual Conference

Details: 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

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

Employment Counsellor/Customized Employment Counsellor

Kootenay Employment Services

Creston, British Columbia

Closes: July 23, 2020

Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Job Developer and Work Experience Coach ***NEW***

Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society
Vancouver, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Employment Counsellor *NEW*

JVS Toronto
Vancouver, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Job Developer and Work Experience Coach *NEW*

Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society
Vancouver, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Employment Specialist for Young Adults at Risk Program

Buxton Consulting Ltd.
Abbotsford, British Columbia
Closes: Open until filled
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Outreach Worker/Specialized Facilitator

Sources Community Resources Society –
Surrey, British Columbia
Closes: Open Until Filled
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Employment Counsellor

Coast Mental Health
Vancouver, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Job Developer (Employment Recruiter/Job Coaching)

Interval House
Metro Vancouver, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Employment Counsellor

WCG Services
West Kelowna, British Columbia
Closes: Unknown
Link: [Please Click Here](#)

Did you know?

Fascinating Facts

During the state of emergency, 97% of renters continued to pay rent – with 85% of renters paying in full and another 12% making partial payments.

- Province of BC

Quote of the Week

Career Inspiration

"Stop chasing the money and start chasing the passion."

- Tony Hsieh

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