

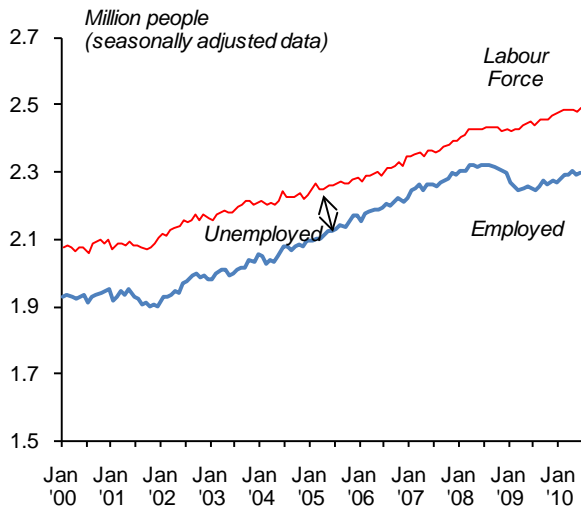
Labour Force Statistics ♦ June 2010

(All labour force statistics are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Unemployment rate rises to 7.8% in June

British Columbia's jobless rate rose for the second time in as many months, inching ahead 0.3 percentage points to 7.8% in June.

BC's unemployment rate increased in June as the labour force grew more rapidly than employment



BC Stats

The increase in the unemployment rate was the result of more people looking for work than in the previous month. The expansion of the province's labour force (+0.6%) outpaced growth in employment (+0.3%).

While the province's unemployment rate remains slightly below the national average (7.9%), other Western Canadian provinces such as Manitoba (5.3%), Saskatchewan (5.8%) and Alberta (6.7%) continued to post significantly lower jobless rates than BC.

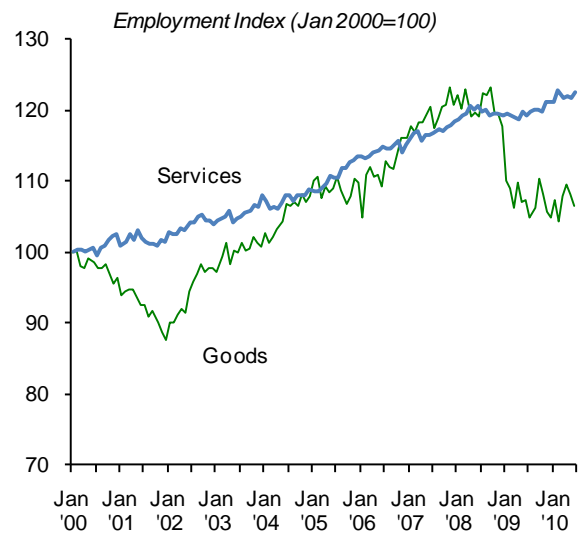
Employment gains in services sector offset losses in goods sector

Net employment gains in the service sector (+13,200 jobs) was mitigated by the losses in the good-producing sector (-6,800 jobs).

An increase in the number of workers in forestry, fishing and mining (+2.9%) was overshadowed by workforce contractions in both construction (-2.7%) and manufacturing (-1.9%). The net result of which was a 1.5% drop in goods sector employment.

On the services side (+0.7%), employment increases in finance, insurance & real estate (+7.8%) and health care & social assistance (+4.5%) offset declines in transportation & warehousing (-4.5%), business, building & other support services (-4.1%). Employment was also off in wholesale & retail trade (-1.2%).

Higher number of workers in service sector buoys employment for BC despite a slide in goods sector



BC Stats

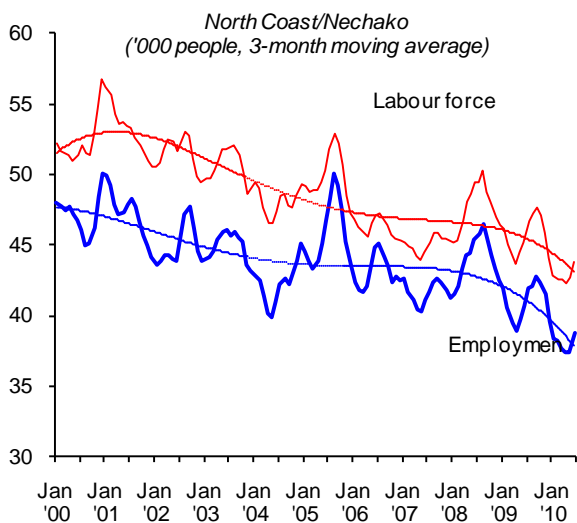
Employee growth centred in public sector

During the economic downturn, the number of employees (not including the self-employed), fell steadily until July 2009. In the twelve months since, the number of employees in BC has increased 53,400. However, of that increase, nearly two-thirds of those jobs (+34,800) were in the public sector, an increase of 8.6%. Meanwhile, the private sector, which accounts for roughly three-quarters of all employees in the province, has only experienced a 2.0% (+18,600) increase over that time.

The Regions

At the regional level, unemployment rates (3-month moving average, unadjusted) ranged from a low of 5.5% in Vancouver Island/Coast to a high of 11.4% in North Coast/Nechako.

Employment levels in North Coast/Nechako have trended lower throughout much of the past decade



BC Stats

Compared to the same time last year, both North Coast/Nechako (-4.7%), and Kootenay (-1.7%) posted lower levels of employment, while Thompson/Okanagan (+6.0%), Cariboo (+9.3%) and Northeast (+13.2%) registered the largest increases.

While Vancouver’s unemployment rate remained unchanged in June, employment did expand 0.5%. Conversely, a dip in Victoria’s jobless rate to 5.4% was entirely the result of a contraction in the city’s labour force.

The Nation

Nationally, employment gains (+93,000), largely concentrated in Ontario (+60,300) and Quebec (+30,400), pushed the country’s jobless rate down to 7.9%. Job growth in June was more or less evenly divided between full-time (+0.4%) and part-time (+1.4%) work with notable increases registered in business, building & other support services (+2.9%) and wholesale & retail trade (+0.8%).

Off-reserve Aboriginal Population

In 2009, 2.7% of B.C.’s total labour force was comprised of off-reserve Aboriginal persons. In the northern regions of the province (North Coast/Nechako, 13.2%; Cariboo, 8.1%; and Northeast, 6.6%), Aboriginal persons make up larger proportions of the labour force.

Immigrant Population

Immigrants represent an important source of labour in B.C., accounting for 29% of the province’s total labour force in 2009. This rate is significantly above that of all other provinces except Ontario (31%).

Selected Statistics	June-10	May-10	June-09
BC Unemployment Rate (%)	7.8	7.5	8.1
Canadian Unemployment Rate (%)	7.9	8.1	8.6
BC Employment ('000)	2,299	2,293	2,253
BC Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	66.0	65.8	66.2
June % change in employment relative to:	-	0.3	2.0
June % change in labour force relative to:	-	0.6	1.7