

# Alberta Economy

## Indicators at a Glance

### NEW: Oil Prices

WTI increased US\$4.37 on the week and closed at US\$56.65 per barrel on Thursday. The WTI-WCS differential widened to close at US\$13.65 per barrel, up from US\$11.75 the previous week.

### Oil Prices

Daily prices



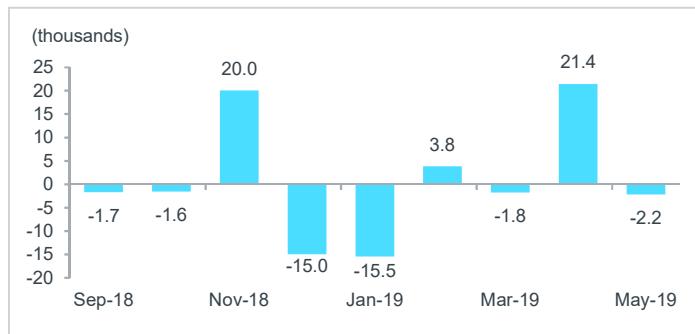
Sources: US Energy Information Administration, CME Group, Kent Group Limited

### Labour Market

Employment in Alberta fell by 2,200 in May following a surge in April. In the last 12 months, Alberta has added 20,100 jobs. The next LFS release is July 5, 2019.

### Labour Market

Monthly change in employment



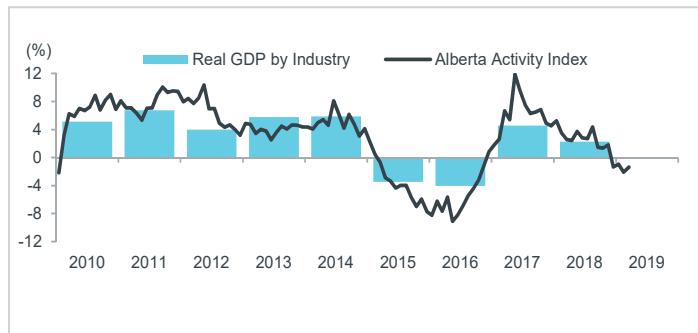
Source: Statistics Canada

### Economic Activity

The Alberta Activity Index rose 1.2% m/m in March. However, it was down 1.1% y/y. Alberta's real GDP by industry grew by 2.3% in 2018 following 4.6% growth in 2017.

### Economic Activity

Year-over-year % change

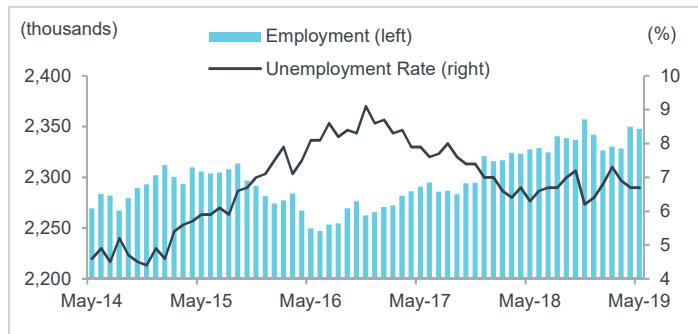


Sources: Statistics Canada, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance

Alberta's unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.7% in May and is 0.4 percentage points higher than a year ago.

### Labour Market

Employment and Unemployment Rate



Source: Statistics Canada

	June 20, 2019	Fiscal YTD
WTI - West Texas Intermediate (US\$/bbl)	56.65	60.07
WCS-WTI Differential (US\$/bbl)	13.65	11.22
Henry Hub (US\$/MMBtu)	2.19	2.54
Exchange Rate (US\$/C\$)	75.81	74.62

## NEW: Business Output

Manufacturing shipments rose 4.6% month-over-month (m/m) in April to \$6.9 billion, 18% higher than a year ago.

Alberta goods exports increased by 0.9% m/m in April, to total \$10.4 billion. On a year-over-year basis, they were up 16%.

## Rigs Drilling

The number of active rigs drilling in Alberta averaged 55 in May, down 17.5% year-over-year (y/y).

## Average Weekly Earnings

Average weekly earnings (AWE) in Alberta increased \$18.00 in March to \$1,159, 0.4% higher than a year ago.

## NEW: Inflation

The consumer price growth in Alberta ticked up to 2.3% y/y in May, from 2.2% y/y in the previous month.

## NEW: Retail Sales

Alberta retail sales increased 1.6% m/m to \$7.1 billion in April. With the monthly gain, sales were 3.5% higher than a year ago.

## NEW: Housing Market

Alberta housing starts fell 13% m/m in May to 22,754 units (annualized). On a year-over-year basis, housing starts were down 37%.

The number of homes sold increased by 2.5% m/m to 4,547 units in May. Compared to a year ago, home sales were up 5.1%.

## NEW: Population Growth

Alberta's population was 4,362,503 as of April 1, 2019, an increase of 1.7% from the year prior. During the last 12 months, Alberta welcomed 34,447 net international migrants and 10,115 net interprovincial migrants.

## Manufacturing Shipments and Merchandise Exports

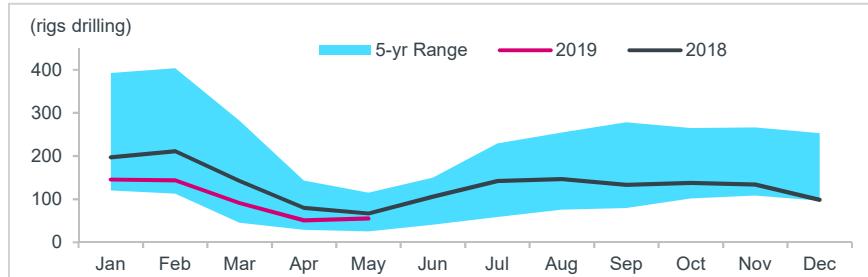
Year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada, SA - Seasonally Adjusted

## Rigs Drilling

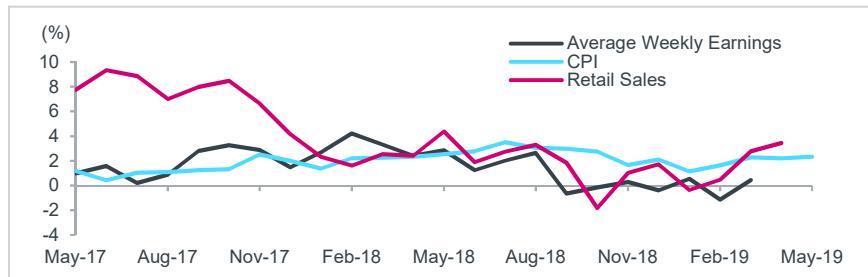
Number of rigs drilling and five-year seasonal range



Source: Canadian Association of Oil Well Drilling Contractors (CAOOC)

## Retail Sales, Consumer Prices, and Earnings

Year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada

## Housing Starts and Home Resales

Year-over-year % change



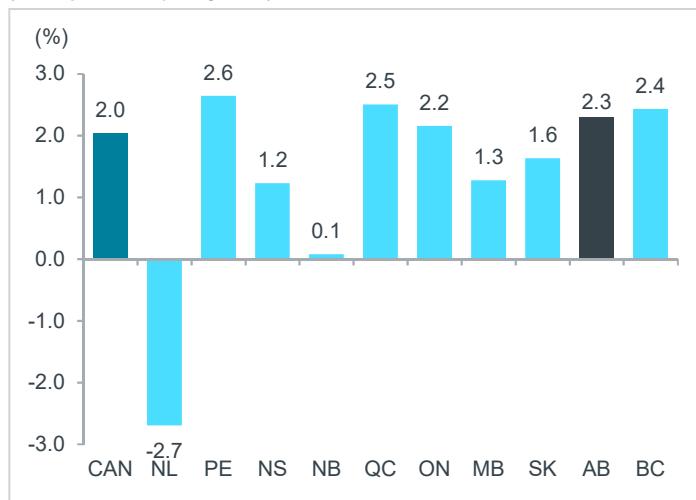
Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Real Estate Association, SAAR -Seasonally adjusted annual rate

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Please see the [Weekly Economic Review](#) for current analysis on the Alberta economy

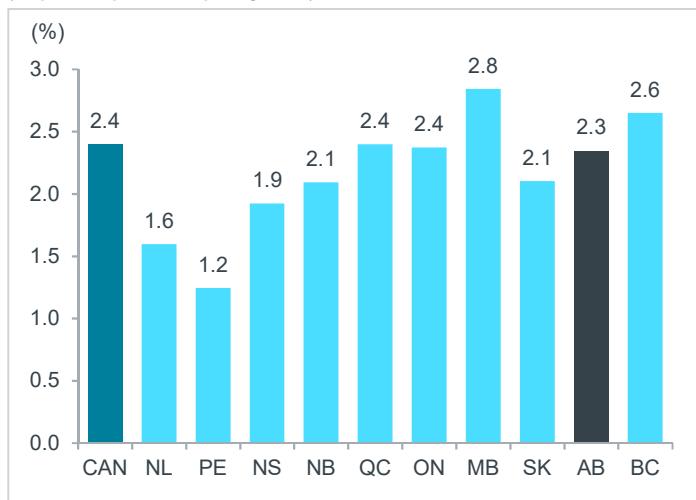
### Real GDP by Industry

(2018, year-over-year growth)



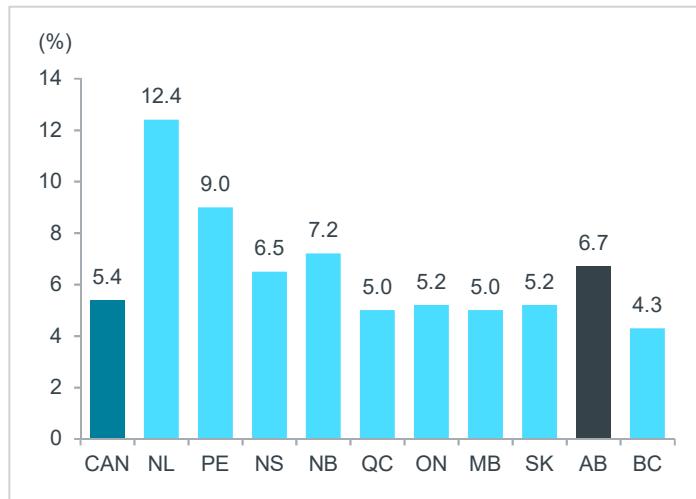
### CPI Inflation

(May 2019, year-over-year growth)



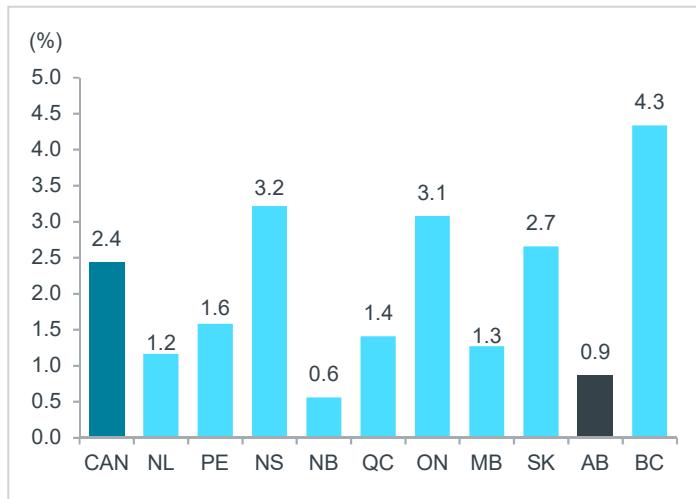
### Unemployment Rate

(May 2019)



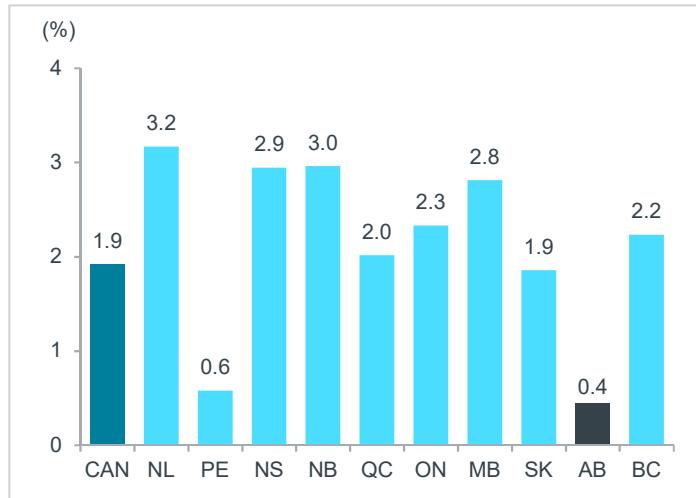
### Employment

(May 2019, year-over-year growth)



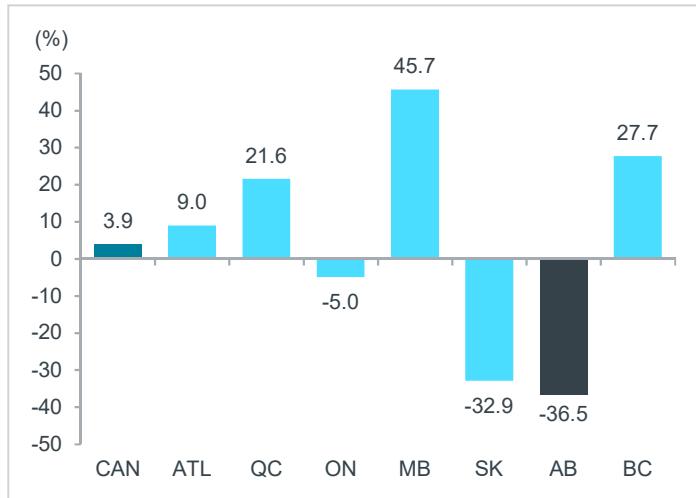
### Average Weekly Earnings

(March 2019, year-over-year growth)



### Housing Starts

(May 2019, SAAR, year-over-year growth)



# Alberta Economic Indicators

	2017	2018	2019YTD	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19
Alberta Activity Index (y/y % change)	5.1	2.1	-1.2	-1.1	-0.8	-1.7	-1.1		
<b>Population<sup>1</sup></b>									
<b>NEW</b> Population (thousands)	4,244	4,307	4,363		4,346			4,363	
y/y % change	1.1	1.5	1.7		1.7			1.7	
<b>NEW</b> Net Interprovincial Migration	-15,559	1,438	9,273		2,623			3,428	
<b>NEW</b> Net International Migration	32,324	31,098	24,911		6,573			7,046	
<b>Labour Market</b>									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,287	2,331	2,336	2,342	2,326	2,330	2,328	2,350	2,348
m/m change (thousands)				-15.0	-15.5	3.8	-1.8	21.4	-2.2
y/y % change	1.0	1.9	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.1	0.9
Unemployment Rate (% , SA)	7.8	6.6	6.9	6.4	6.8	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.7
Participation Rate (% , SA)	72.4	71.9	71.5	71.6	71.3	71.8	71.3	71.7	71.5
Average Weekly Earnings (\$, SA)	1,129	1,148	1,149	1,142	1,148	1,141	1,159		
y/y % change	1.0	1.7	-0.0	-0.4	0.6	-1.1	0.4		
<b>Household Sector</b>									
<b>NEW</b> Retail Sales (\$ million, SA)	80,318	81,911	27,589	6,825	6,745	6,792	6,970	7,081	
y/y % change	7.1	2.0	1.6	1.7	-0.3	0.5	2.8	3.5	
<b>NEW</b> New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	249	237	71	15	14	14	21	21	
y/y % change	11.3	-4.8	-5.6	-11.7	-13.1	-4.9	-0.7	-5.2	
<b>NEW</b> Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	1.6	2.4	1.9	2.1	1.2	1.6	2.3	2.2	2.3
Excluding Food & Energy	1.1	1.6	1.7	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.0
Housing Starts (SAAR, 000's)	29.5	26.1	22.8	19.2	25.0	20.2	19.9	26.0	22.8
y/y % change	20.1	-11.4	-19.4	-17.7	-1.1	-15.0	-26.2	-11.5	-36.5
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	-0.2	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.8	
Resale Home Sales	57,441	53,290	21,455	4,246	4,159	4,121	4,194	4,434	4,547
y/y % change	4.3	-7.2	-4.2	-21.4	-16.4	-8.7	-2.5	3.8	5.1
Sales to New Listing Ratio	0.50	0.45	0.47	0.44	0.44	0.46	0.46	0.48	0.52
MLS Average Resale Prices (\$ thousands)	398	387	376	377	374	374	378	377	378
y/y % change	0.5	-2.6	-3.3	-1.9	-5.1	-5.1	-2.3	-2.2	-1.8
Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	5,008	4,925	1,902	342	450	462	473	517	
y/y % change	-7.7	-1.7	18.8	-2.3	17.5	20.3	10.3	27.7	
<b>Business Sector</b>									
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ million)	101,200	117,597	36,608	8,902	8,215	7,607	10,348	10,437	
y/y % change	27.6	16.2	0.6	-1.4	-17.8	-6.8	12.2	15.7	
Energy Products (\$ million)	70,811	83,617	25,312	6,068	5,349	5,224	7,256	7,483	
y/y % change	36.0	18.1	-1.4	-6.3	-28.0	-10.0	14.9	22.3	
Agricultural Products (\$ million)	7,881	8,012	2,672	674	634	577	703	758	
y/y % change	17.5	1.7	2.2	4.4	-9.1	12.7	2.0	5.9	
Rigs Drilling	131	133	97	98	146	144	91	51	55
y/y % change	66.0	1.6	-30.3	-36.7	-26.3	-32.1	-35.9	-36.3	-17.5
<b>NEW</b> Manufacturing Shipments (\$ million, SA)	71,651	76,833	26,023	6,062	6,307	6,291	6,561	6,864	
y/y % change	13.7	7.2	6.0	-3.5	0.6	1.6	4.5	18.2	
Wholesale Trade (\$ million, SA)	78,155	82,151	19,865	6,750	6,726	6,421	6,718		
y/y % change	10.2	5.1	-1.9	1.9	0.4	-5.7	-0.3		
Building Permits (\$ million, SA)	14,245	13,459	3,745	1,116	943	889	928	986	
y/y % change	0.3	-5.5	-22.6	-1.5	-25.6	-33.2	-22.6	-5.3	
Residential Permits (\$ million, SA)	8,400	7,776	2,263	595	563	559	577	564	
y/y % change	5.9	-7.4	-23.3	-20.9	-27.1	-31.1	-21.8	-10.6	
Non-Residential Permits (\$ million, SA)	5,845	5,683	1,482	521	380	329	351	421	
y/y % change	-6.8	-2.8	-21.3	36.8	-23.2	-36.4	-23.9	3.0	
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index <sup>2</sup> (y/y % change)	1.0	2.3	3.5	3.2			3.5		

<sup>1</sup> Population data presented on a census year basis (July 1–June 30).

<sup>2</sup> Quarterly, average of Calgary and Edmonton

YTD (year-to-date).

"SA" denotes seasonally adjusted. "SAAR" denotes seasonally adjusted at annual rate.

All annual data is unadjusted.

Sources: All data is from Statistics Canada except the Alberta Activity Index (Alberta Treasury Board and Finance), Housing Starts (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation), MLS Average Resale Prices (Canadian Real Estate Association), Rigs Drilling (Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors) and Bankruptcies (Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada). All historical data are subject to revision