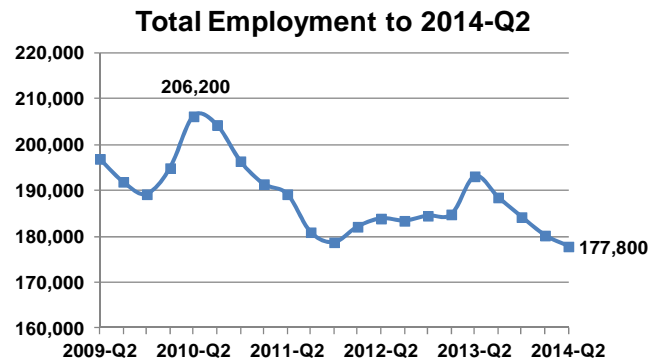


## Total Employment (Updated August 2014)

Employment in the ICET region is tracked on a quarterly basis using Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey. Like any survey, it has a margin of error and results contain some degree of random variation from month to month.

For that reason, results are best interpreted over extended periods of time rather than at a single point in time. The latest figures, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2014, show a decline in total employment for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive quarter. The quarterly average of 177,800 employed residents is the lowest quarterly employment figure in the region in over 9 years (since the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2005).



Whether the downward trend over the last year is only a temporary lull or a more permanent condition for the regional economy cannot be determined until further data becomes available. What is known is that the number of unemployed residents has hardly changed at all, meaning that people appear to be moving from employment right out of the labour force. They might be retiring, they might be moving out of the region, or perhaps the survey results are underestimating the true employment level and the figures will move back up later in the year.

One small silver lining is that 80% of the reported employment decline in the last year has been in part-time jobs. The number of regional residents employed full-time has declined by only 3,100 over the last year out of a total drop of more than 15,000 jobs. Note also that the two other rural regions of the province have both had a relatively flat employment situation in the last year.

### Total Employment by BC Region, 2009-Q2 to 2014-Q2 (000s)

Region	Total Employment (000s)						Change in Last Year	Change in Last 5 Years
	2009-Q2	2010-Q2	2011-Q2	2012-Q2	2013-Q2	2014-Q2		
ICET Region	196.9	206.2	189.2	183.9	193.1	177.8	-15.3	-19.1
Southern Interior	394.0	404.6	406.8	411.6	409.9	410.6	0.7	16.6
Northern Major Metros	150.5	158.5	161.9	164.0	158.7	157.5	-1.2	7.0
<b>BC Total</b>	<b>2,223.9</b>	<b>2,258.8</b>	<b>2,280.1</b>	<b>2,328.1</b>	<b>2,323.0</b>	<b>2,334.9</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>111.0</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Cansim 282-0054 and 282-0109. 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)

