

Private sector job vacancies



The job vacancy rate continues to decline

The job vacancy rate in Canada's private sector in 2024 Q2 dropped to 3.3% (Figure 1), similar to the pre-pandemic level.

Most provinces experienced a drop or remained stable

Almost all provinces experienced a decrease or remained stable, with the exception of New Brunswick, which recorded an increase in its quarterly vacancy rate (Figure 1 and Table 2). Quebec, Manitoba, and Ontario had the largest quarterly change (-0.2%).

Most sectors saw a decline or remained unchanged

Most sectors recorded a quarterly decline in their vacancy rates, except enterprise management (+0.1), natural resources (+0.1), and finance, insurance, and real estate (0.0). Despite having the current highest vacancy rate, the personal services sector recorded one of the most significant yearly declines (-1.8). The hospitality sector recorded both the largest quarterly (-0.4) and yearly (-2.1) drops (Figure 2 and Table 2).

The vacancy rate saw little change across businesses of all sizes

Vacancy rates remained stable among small businesses (less than 100 employees), with smaller businesses (fewer than 5 employees) continuing to experience higher rates. Vacancy rates in businesses with 5 to 19 employees recorded a small quarterly increase (Table 2). Most of the national job vacancies are recorded in medium to large-sized businesses (more than 100 employees) (Figure 3).

Sources

- (1) CFIB, Your Business Outlook Survey, January 2004-June 2024. Trended.
- (2) Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0398-01. Adjusted for seasonality.
- (3) Q/Q (3-month) and Y/Y (12-month) changes are in percentage points.

Figure 1 – Job vacancy rates by province, Canada^{1,2}

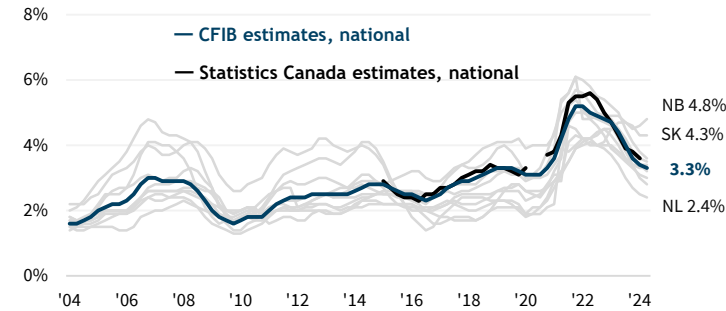


Figure 2 – Job vacancy rates by sector, Canada¹

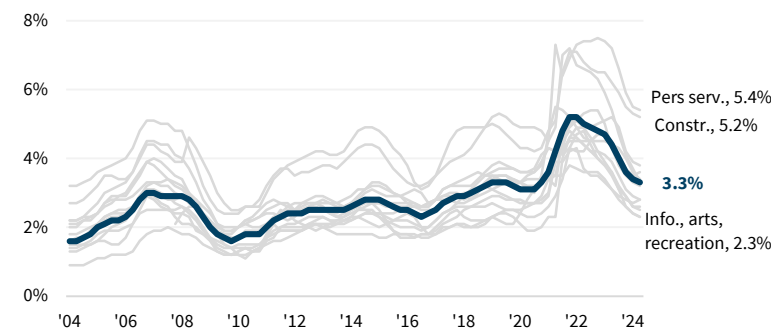


Figure 3 – Total vacancies (in thousands)¹

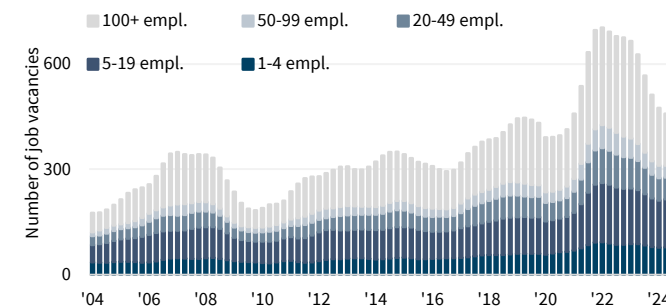


Table 2 – Private sector job vacancies, 2024 Q2²

	Vacancy rate (%)	Q/Q Change ³	Y/Y change ³	Total vacancies (n)
Canada	3.3	-0.1	-1.1	458,000
New Brunswick	4.8	0.2	-0.1	12,200
Saskatchewan	4.3	0.0	-0.4	15,600
Quebec	3.6	-0.2	-1.4	112,400
British Columbia	3.5	-0.1	-1.0	69,200
Alberta	3.4	0.0	-0.6	59,000
Nova Scotia	3.3	0.0	-0.5	10,900
Manitoba	3.2	-0.2	-1.3	14,700
Prince Edward Island	3.0	-0.1	-0.7	1,500
Ontario	2.8	-0.2	-1.4	158,700
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.4	-0.1	-1.0	3,800
Personal services	5.4	-0.1	-1.8	33,300
Construction	5.2	-0.1	-1.0	64,200
Agriculture	3.8	-0.1	-1.4	6,300
Enterprise management	3.6	0.1	-0.7	35,200
Professional services	3.4	-0.1	-1.1	43,400
Health, education	3.4	-0.2	-1.0	42,800
Hospitality	3.3	-0.4	-2.1	44,200
Transportation	3.2	-0.1	-1.1	22,300
Natural resources	2.8	0.1	-0.3	6,100
Retail	2.8	-0.1	-1.1	58,000
Finance, insurance, real estate	2.6	0.0	-0.9	29,300
Manufacturing	2.5	-0.1	-1.1	40,300
Wholesale	2.3	-0.1	-0.8	20,100
Information, arts, recreation	2.3	-0.1	-1.3	12,400
1-4 employees	6.8	0.0	-0.9	77,900
5-19 employees	5.9	0.1	-0.7	137,000
20-49 employees	3.5	0.0	-1.0	61,800
50-99 employees	2.4	-0.1	-1.0	33,800
100+ employees	2.0	-0.2	-1.5	147,500