

# OPEN DOOR GROUP LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION (LMI) REVIEW

## DEC 2010 ISSUE 2

### Labour Force Highlights

- Total employment in B.C. **increased** over the last month (+4,300 jobs)
- November's participation rate decreased slightly to 65.7%
- The Kootenay region registered the highest unemployment rate in B.C. at 8.8%
- The unemployment rate in British Columbia dropped from 7.4% in Oct to **6.9%** in Nov 2010
- In 2009, the average hourly wage rate for B.C. (**\$22.21**) ranked third among the provinces, behind Alberta (\$24.70) and Ontario (\$22.75).
- Highest paid occupations in B.C. were in **Management** (\$33.30/hour), **Natural and Applied Sciences** (\$30.93/hour) and **Health occupations** (\$27.76/hour).

### Industry Highlights

- The **Goods** producing sector experienced gains for the third consecutive month, increasing by 5,600 jobs (+1.2%). Employment gains were in Other Primary (+2,900 or +7.6%), **Construction** (+2,100 or +1.1%) and **Manufacturing** (+1,600 or +0.9%).
- **Agriculture** (-1,000 or -3.1%) was the only industry in this sector to experience a loss over the last month. The Utilities industry remained unchanged. Compared to one year ago, this sector has increased by 25,500 jobs (+5.8%).
- Employment in **service-related industries** was down a further 1,300 jobs (-0.1%). Largest losses were in Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (-7,400 or -3.8%), Transport and Warehousing (-5,700 or -4.3%) and Public Administration (-3,500 or -3.1%). The
- Other Service industry had the largest increase (+7,600 or +2.5%), followed by **Accommodation, Food and Beverage** (+5,000 or +3.1%) and **Health and Social Services** (+2,300 or +0.9%). This sector has increased by 27,700 jobs (+1.5%) since November 2009.

Source: Labour Market Snap shot, December 2010  
Ministry of Social Development

Each office can make a valuable contribution to future Reviews so please provide suggestions and comments on how to improve the content: [annettek@opendoorgroup.org](mailto:annettek@opendoorgroup.org)

Alternatively you can leave anonymous suggestions at:

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e3584pm5ggpb6h33/start>

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### Upcoming Issues

- **Predictions for the Year**
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- **New Business License Update by region**



## British Columbia Overview

Population: Sept 2010

**4,530,960** British Columbia

**34,108,752** Canada

Unemployment Rate: Oct 2010 Seasonally Adjusted

**6.9%** British Columbia

**7.6%** Canada

## CPI Annual Inflation:

**1.9%** October 2010

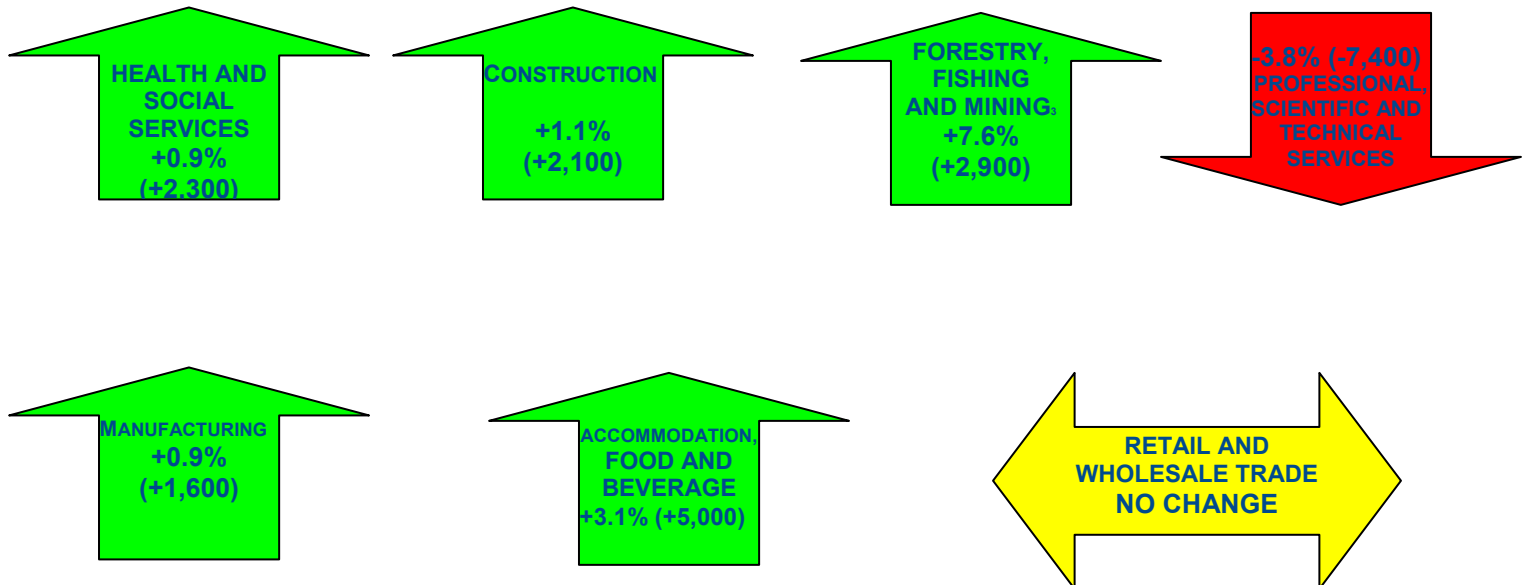
**2.4%** November 2010

*CPI Annual Inflation measures changes through time in the price level of consumer goods and services purchased by households.*

## British Columbia Employment Trends by Industry

Industry classifications are useful for examining the structure of the economy and are often used to measure and track what areas or sectors are growing in the economy.

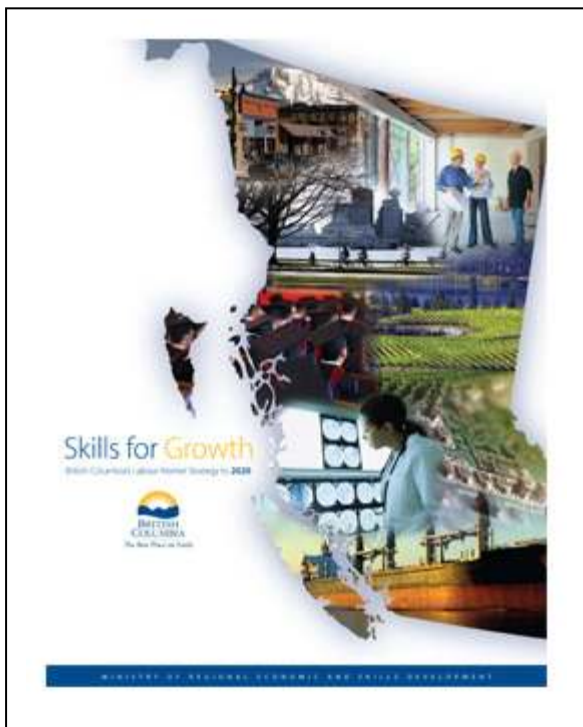
### BC Monthly Employment Industry Analysis – Oct 10 to Nov 10



## Skills for Growth Strategy

### Meeting the Challenge: The Skills for Growth Strategy

By 2019, B.C. is expected to have over a million job openings due to new job creation and retirements. Over the next decade, three-quarters of these job openings will require a college diploma, trade certificate, university degree or higher. The number of young people currently in our education system – 650,000 – means that the growth in job openings is expected to outpace the number of workers.



Ensuring that B.C. has the skilled workers in place to fill these jobs and flourish economically is the key goal of a new provincial strategy. [Skills for Growth: British Columbia's Labour Market Strategy to 2020](#) was developed in consultation with employers, post-secondary institutions, labour, industry associations, government and other stakeholders. The plan aims to drive economic and social prosperity for communities and families in all regions of the province.

The three priorities of the Skills for Growth plan include increasing the skill level and success of people currently in B.C., attracting and retaining

top talent from across Canada and around the world, and improving productivity in the workplace.

For more information on B.C.'s labour market, go to [WorkBC.ca](http://WorkBC.ca), an easy-to-use gateway that connects users to a wide range of resources. It's an exciting tool for students, job seekers, employers, researchers and those who provide employment, skills training and settlement services.

## Top 50 Fast Growing Employers in British Columbia in 2010

Source: Vancouver Sun.

The Fastest list is all about balanced growth, not just success in one category of financial performance. Where other ranking efforts look solely at revenue change, Business BC's sophisticated analysis is based on formulas developed by James Brander of the Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia. It takes into account employee growth, revenue growth, stock performance, and earnings. The Strongest 50 concentrates on total assets, market capitalization and how the company performs based on those fundamentals (more below).

Rank	Company Name	Number of Staff in 2010	Staff Change in 2010	Revenue 09
1	Cardiome Pharma Corp.	84	-26	55
2	SouthGobi Resources Limited		-100	38
3	Aura Minerals Inc.	1162	724	28
4	New Gold, Inc.	1053	2909	344
5	Taiga Building Products Ltd.		-100	932
6	Fortuna Silver Mines Inc.	1229	64	55
7	B2gold Corporation	925	2703	22
8	TAG Oil Ltd.	9	200	5
9	China Gold International Resources Corp Ltd	350	41	86
10	Eldorado Gold Corp.	2636	90	384
11	Coastal Contacts Inc.	345	256	140
12	Madison Pacific Properties Inc.		-100	17
13	First Quantum Minerals Ltd.	6740	-9	2023
14	Aurizon Mines Ltd.	104	17	176
15	Gold Wheaton Gold Corp.	15	50	67
16	Silvercorp Metals Inc.	850	70	114
17	Terra Nova Royalty Corporation	772	-37	613
18	Silver Wheaton Corp.	24	33	254
19	Lululemon Athletica Inc.	3121	16	482
20	Capstone Mining Corp.	1054	131	233
21	Canfor Pulp Limited Partnership	1194	-1	814
22	Great Basin Gold Ltd.	2799	1096	34
23	Quadra FNX Mining Ltd.	1750	158	489
24	Callinan Mines, Ltd.	9		13
25	First Majestic Silver Corp.	1512	18	60
26	Fortress Paper Ltd.	627	69	198
27	Zongshen PEM Power Systems Inc.	230	-37	21
28	Western Coal Corp.	1156	95	439
29	IMPACT Silver Corp.	188	29	12
30	Pure Industrial Real Estate Trust	8	14	7
31	Imperial Metals Corp.	610	21	201
32	Mercator Minerals Ltd.	290	116	94
33	LML Payment Systems Inc.	54	6	16
34	Taseko Mines Ltd.	418	13	189
35	Absolute Software Corporation	356	111	53
36	Canlan Ice Sports Corp.	620	-7	67
37	Westport Innovations Inc.	205	34	131
38	Glentel Inc.	1404	8	308
39	Seacliff Construction Corp.	1359	21	578
40	Pan American Silver Corp.	4600	18	484
41	Teck Resources Limited	10411	1	7674
42	Endeavour Silver Corp.	800	45	54
43	Peer 1 Network Enterprises, Inc.	388	40	98
44	CounterPath Corporation	88		9
45	Village Farms International, Inc.	1200		139
46	Goldcorp Inc.	14000	36	2896
47	QLT Inc.	149	-25	45
48	Mercer International Inc.	1475	-1	927
49	Energold Drilling Corp.	542	33	24
50	Westshore Terminals Income Fund	206	1	208