JOBS TO LABOUR FORCE BALANCE

Economy - Structure

Step 1: Understanding Yesterday and Today

Metropolitan Core Jobs & Economy Land Use Plan

Highlights

- There are about 1.25 jobs in the city for every employed Vancouver resident.
- This is the 2nd highest jobs to employed labour force ratio of all GVRD sub-areas. In addition, Vancouver has the greatest proportion of employed residents working in their home municipality (66%).
- There is at least one job for every employed Vancouverite across all types of occupations except for manufacturing and occupations in primary industries.
- The jobs to labour force ratio in the City of Vancouver dropped by 0.11 between 1981 and 2001.

WHAT IS THE "JOBS TO LABOUR FORCE BALANCE" IN THE CITY OF VANCOUVER?

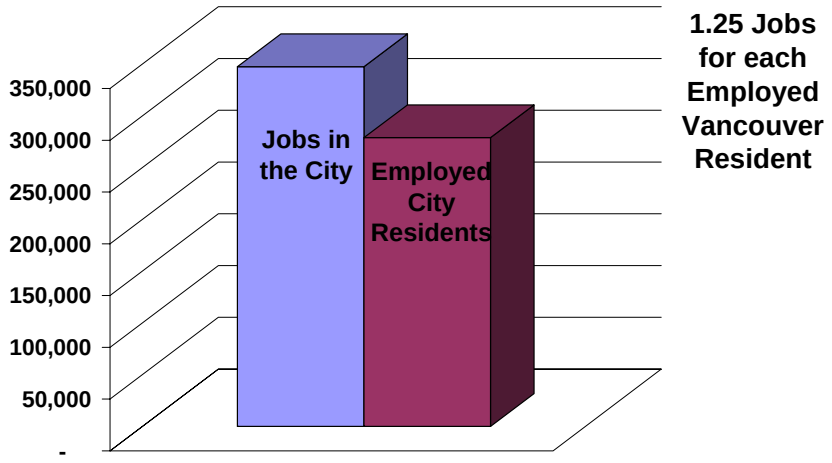
The "jobs to labour force balance" in a city is a measure of the opportunity for workers to hold a job in their home municipality.

Often referred to as the jobs to labour force ratio, this measure is calculated by dividing the total number of jobs in the city by the total number of employed city residents. In a Metropolitan region with multiple job centres, it is commonplace for residents of one city to hold jobs in a neighbouring municipality. Therefore, a city's jobs to labour force ratio only reflects the opportunity for work in the home city and not the actual number of residents working in their home municipality.

The jobs to labour force balance is one of the measures that have been used to track the development of "complete communities" where residents have the opportunity for jobs closer to home (*GVRD. 2003. 2003 Annual Report: Livable Region Strategic Plan. GVRD*).

In Vancouver, there are about 1.25 jobs for every employed city resident. This ratio reflects the role of the city and Metro Core as regional job centres for both Vancouverites and residents of other municipalities. The ratio is particularly indicative of the regional role of the Metro Core which contains over two-thirds of the city's jobs (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Jobs and employed labour force in the City of Vancouver

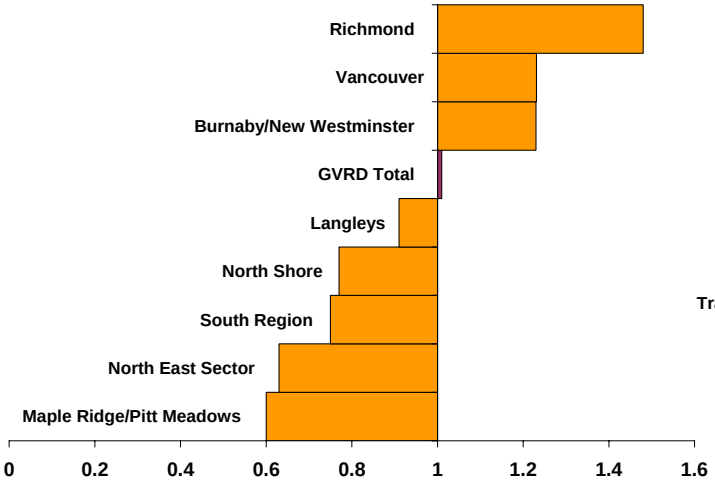


Statistics Canada 2001 Census: Jobs to Employed Labour Force.xls. Note: Job estimates include workers with no-fixed place of work. See Note 1.

HOW DOES THIS COMPARE TO OTHER MUNICIPALITIES?

Following Richmond, Vancouver has the 2nd highest jobs to employed labour force ratio of all GVRD sub-areas (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Ratio of jobs to employed labour force in GVRD municipalities



Statistics Canada 2001 Census: Jobs to Employed Labour Force.xls. Note: Job estimates include workers with no-fixed place of work. See Note 1.

How many Vancouver residents actually work in the city?

It is important to point out the difference between the opportunity for work in the home sub-area (the jobs to labour force ratio) and the actual percentage of residents working in the home sub-area. There are many cities in the GVRD where a substantial proportion of jobs are held by residents of other municipalities. Similarly, there are several cities where the majority of employed residents hold jobs in other parts of the region.

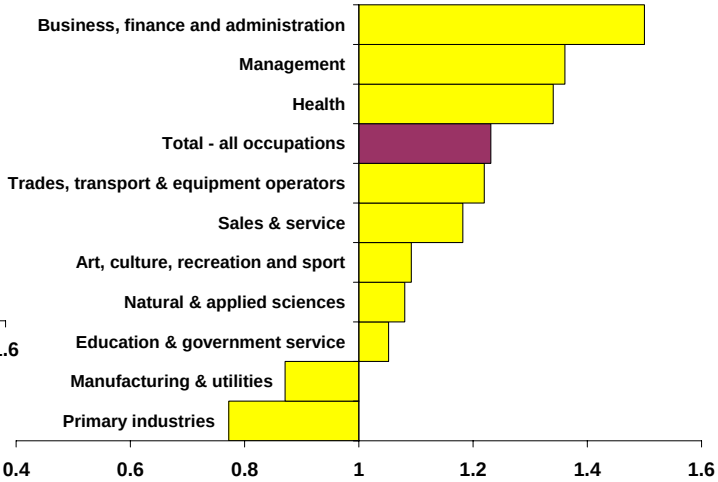
In Vancouver, 66% of employed residents work in the city compared to 54% in Richmond, and 39% in Burnaby/New Westminster (*GVRD. 2003. 2003 Annual Report: Livable Region Strategic Plan. Burnaby: GVRD*).

For more information, please refer to the "Where Core Workers Live" information sheet created for this study.

HOW IS THE JOBS TO LABOUR FORCE RATIO DISTRIBUTED ACROSS OCCUPATIONS?

In nearly every occupational category, there is at least one job for every Vancouverite working in that category. Occupations that offer less than one job per resident worker are in industrial activities such as manufacturing and primary industries (Figure 3).

Figure 3: City of Vancouver jobs to employed labour force ratio by occupation

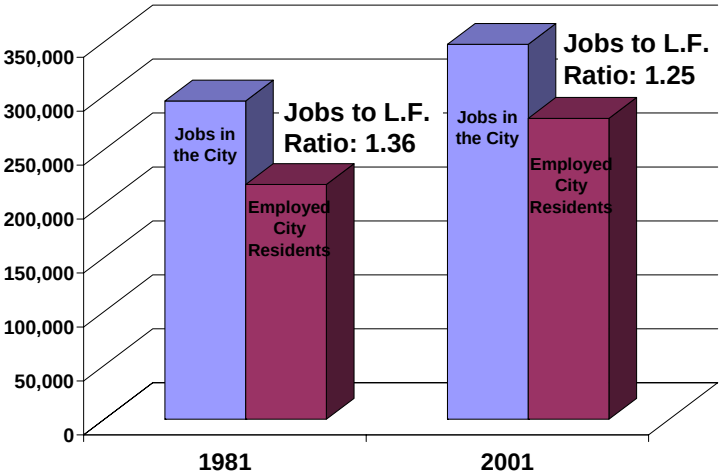


Statistics Canada 2001 Census: Jobs to Employed Labour Force.xls. Note: Job estimates include workers with no-fixed place of work. See Note 1.

HOW HAS THE JOBS TO LABOUR FORCE RATIO CHANGED OVER TIME?

The jobs to labour force ratio dropped by 0.11 between 1981 and 2001 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Jobs to employed labour force: City of Vancouver – 1981 & 2001



Statistics Canada 2001 Census: Jobs to Employed Labour Force.xls. Note: Job estimates include workers with no-fixed place of work. See Note 1.

Sources / Contacts

Sources of information are provided throughout this information sheet. Additional sources are provided here:

1) Re: inclusion of workers with no fixed place of work. To make comparisons over time, these workers must be included because they were not separated out in past data. The estimate is reached by assigning to the City and Metro Core a share of the workers with no fixed place of work. The share is determined on a sector by sector basis and is based on the number of workers with a known place of work.

This Information Sheet was published by the City of Vancouver. It is one in a series of Information Sheets produced for the Metropolitan Core Jobs and Economy Land Use Plan. The purpose of this initiative is to develop a long term land use policy plan to accommodate future economic activity and jobs in the Metro Core. For further information, please e-mail corejobs@vancouver.ca or visit the website www.vancouver.ca/corejobs