

# COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BULLETIN



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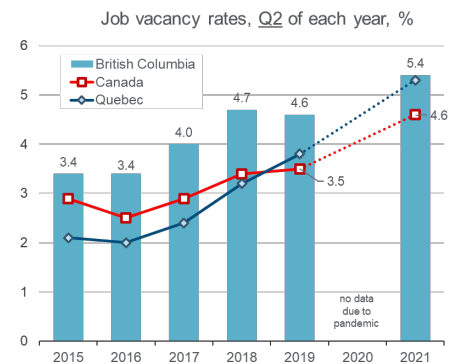
## B.C.'S AVERAGE JOB VACANCY RATE HIGHEST IN CANADA

Amid increasing reports of hiring challenges, recent data from Statistics Canada confirms high and rising job vacancy rates in the province.

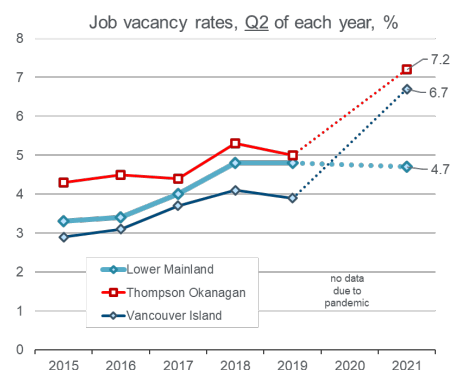
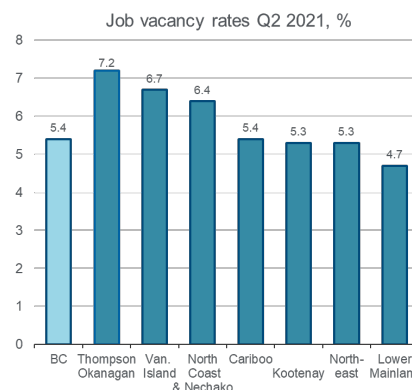
According to the most recent Job Vacancy Survey, 5.4% of all employment positions were unfilled in the second quarter of the year. As businesses continue to realign resources and in some instances expand, B.C. stands out as having the highest job vacancy rate of any province (although Quebec's rate is just a tick lower).

Other noteworthy results from the Survey include:

- B.C.'s job vacancy rate is the highest since the Survey was initiated in 2015. (It is probably the highest rate ever seen in B.C., except perhaps for the 2005-2008 expansion period.)
- Within B.C., the Thompson-Okanagan (7.2%) and Vancouver Island (6.7%) regions have the highest job vacancy rates.



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0325-01.



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- Hiring challenges are much more significant in these regions than in the Lower Mainland, where the vacancy rate is a comparatively low 4.7%, and unchanged from the second quarters of 2018 and 2019 (data were not collected in 2020 because of the pandemic).

- In contrast, vacancy rates have surged in the interior and on the island.
- Across industries, the highest job vacancy rate is in the accommodation sector (11.6%) followed by support activities for mining and oil and gas (drilling, exploration, etc.), and then food services (9.5%).