

## Activity: Assessing the Labour Market

In this activity you will examine the labour market statistics for your business using the data tables found on the BCStats web site: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/LabourIncome/EmploymentUnemployment/LabourForceStatisticsAnnual.aspx>.

1. Open the spreadsheet "Employment and Unemployment Rates by Industry and Development Region." Click the tab at the bottom of the spreadsheet for the region you are interested in. Then, in the left-most column, find the industry that your business fits into. Employment figures are arranged by year, increasing as you move to the right in the spreadsheet.

For example, the figure below shows the employment statistics for the Construction industry in the Thompson-Okanagan region for 2012-2104.

	2012		2013		2014	
	Employment	Unempl rate (%)	Employment	Unempl rate (%)	Employment	Unempl rate (%)
<b>Thompson/Okanagan</b>						
<b>(an Economic Region in the Province of British Columbia)</b>						
<b>All Industries (NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System)</b>	252.7	7.1	246.6	7.0	249.0	6.3
<b>Goods-Producing Sector</b>	54.6	7.0	60.6	6.6	60.3	7.7
Agriculture	5.0	-	6.1	-	5.0	-
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	6.7	-	8.0	-	8.6	-
Forestry and Logging with support activities	2.2	-	3.8	-	3.1	-
Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	4.4	-	4.0	-	5.4	-
Utilities	-	-	1.7	-	1.5	-
<b>14 Construction</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>9.8</b>
Manufacturing	16.7	-	18.6	7.5	20.5	-
Food, Beverage and Tobacco Product Mfg.	2.1	-	2.0	-	2.5	-
Textile Mills & Textile Product Mills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clothing Mfg & Leather & Allied Product Mfg.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Product Manufacturing	7.0	-	7.8	-	9.2	-
Paper Manufacturing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and Related Support Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-

Explore the employment figures related to the business you are considering buying. What trends do you see? Do these trends have any implications for the labour market for your business?

# SHIFT

2. Open the document “B.C. Labour Market Outlook 2012-2022”. This document forecasts the BC labour market supply and demand trends to the year 2022.

The document is organized by geographical region, and provides a summary and a list of occupations with the highest numbers of job openings.

Read the page for your region. Does this outlook have any implications for the labour market for your business?