

Job vacancies stabilized at 2.8%

The private sector job vacancy rate in Canada remained virtually unchanged, at 2.8% in 2026 Q2 (Figure 7). Vacancy rates showed little to no change quarter-over-quarter across most provinces and sectors. Year-over-year variations were minimal—under 0.8% for all provinces, sectors, and business sizes.

Small changes in vacancy rates across provinces

Prince Edward Island (-0.7) and Nova Scotia (-0.2) experienced the largest year-over-year decreases in vacancy rates. Saskatchewan (+0.2) and New Brunswick (+0.2) were the only provinces recording a yearly increase (Figure 7 and Table 4).

Highest vacancy rates in other services and construction

On a yearly basis, health and education (-0.5) and wholesale businesses (-0.4) saw the biggest drops in their vacancy rates. Information, arts and recreation (+0.8), professional services (+0.2) and retail (+0.2) were the only sectors posting yearly increases in vacancy rates (Figure 8 and Table 4).

Smaller businesses record the biggest yearly declines

On a yearly basis, businesses with fewer than 20 employees have shown the biggest decreases in vacancy rates, while mid-size businesses with fewer than 100 employees were recording slight increases (Figure 9 and Table 4).

Sources

(1) CFIB, Your Business Outlook Survey, January 2004-June 2026. Trended. For more details, please visit our [interactive webpage](#).
(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 7 – Job vacancy rates by province, Canada^{1,2}

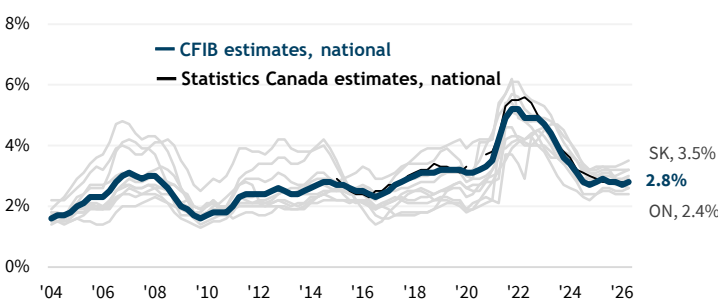


Figure 8 – Job vacancy rates by sector, Canada¹

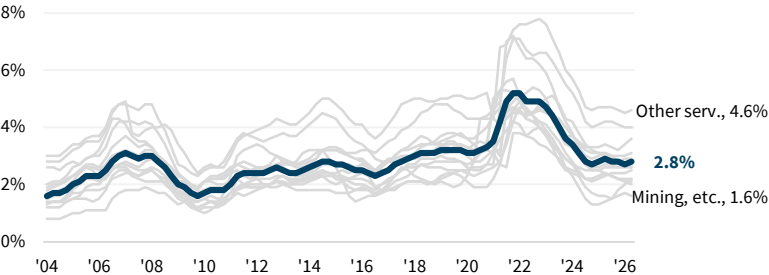


Figure 9 – Total vacancies, Canada (in thousands)¹

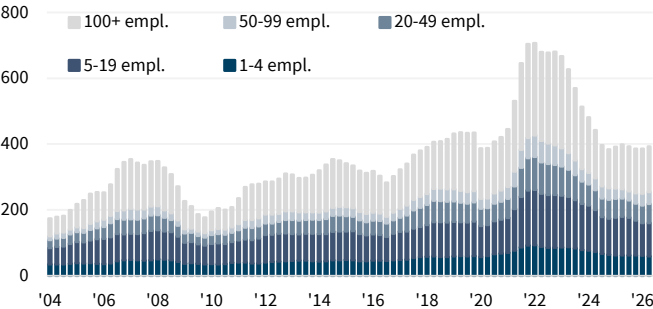


Table 4 – Private sector job vacancies, 2026 Q2

	Vacancy rate (%)	Q/Q change ³	Y/Y change ³	Total vacancies (n)
Canada	2.8	0.1	-0.1	393,000
Saskatchewan	3.5	0.1	0.2	12,700
New Brunswick	3.2	0.1	0.2	8,400
Quebec	3.2	0.0	0.0	97,700
Manitoba	3.0	0.1	-0.1	14,000
Alberta	2.9	0.1	-0.1	50,700
British Columbia	2.9	0.1	0.0	57,400
Nova Scotia	2.8	0.1	-0.2	9,300
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.6	0.1	0.0	4,000
Prince Edward Island	2.6	-0.1	-0.7	1,300
Ontario	2.4	0.0	-0.1	137,500
Other Services	4.6	0.1	-0.1	28,200
Construction	4.0	0.0	-0.2	49,700
Professional Services	3.6	0.2	0.2	46,500
Accom. and Food Services	3.1	0.1	0.0	40,800
Agriculture	2.9	0.0	-0.1	4,900
Transportation and Warehousing	2.7	0.0	0.0	20,200
Insurance, Real Estate, Finance	2.6	0.0	0.0	29,800
Health and Education	2.6	-0.1	-0.5	34,500
Retail	2.5	0.1	0.2	51,300
Info, Arts, Recreation	2.2	0.2	0.8	12,400
Enterprise Management	2.2	0.0	-0.2	21,000
Manufacturing	2.1	0.0	-0.3	33,300
Wholesale	2.0	-0.1	-0.4	16,600
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	1.6	-0.1	0.0	3,800
1-4 employees	5.4	-0.1	-0.3	59,200
5-19 employees	4.4	0.1	-0.7	100,700
20-49 employees	3.2	0.2	0.1	58,500
50-99 employees	2.5	0.0	0.5	36,000
100+ employees	1.9	0.1	0.1	138,600