



Public Interest Alberta

www.pialberta.org/LowWage2016

2016 Low Wage Fact Sheet – Wood Buffalo - Cold Lake

Public Interest Alberta obtained the following information from Statistics Canada. It indicates the number of employed Albertans in each category for the average of the year ending June 30, 2016.ⁱ This document defines “low-wage workers” as those earning \$15 per hour or less. The minimum wage will increase from \$11.20 per hour (\$10.70 per hour for liquor servers) to \$12.20 per hour on October 1, 2016.

Wood Buffalo – Cold Lake

More than one in ten employed people in the region are low-wage workers.

- 8,800 of 72,600 employed people in the region earn \$15 per hour or less (12.1%).
- 10,000 earn \$16 per hour or less (13.8%).
- 3,600 earn the new minimum wage (\$12.20 per hour) or less (5.0%).

Two-thirds of workers in the region earning the new minimum wage or less are women.

- 2,400 workers earning the new minimum wage (\$12.20 per hour) or less are women (66.7%).

Nearly three-quarters of low-wage workers in the region are 20 years of age or older.

- 6,400 (72.7%) are 20 years of age or older.
 - 1,500 (17.0%) are between 20 and 24 years old.
 - 3,100 (35.2%) are between 25 and 44 years old.
 - 1,800 (20.5%) are 45 years of age or older.

Alberta

Nearly one in five employed Albertans are low-wage workers.

- 354,700 of 1,906,700 employed Albertans earn \$15 per hour or less (18.6%).
- 403,400 earn \$16 per hour or less (21.2%).
- 158,600 earn the new minimum wage (\$12.20 per hour) or less (8.3%).

The majority of low-wage workers are women.

- 213,500 low-wage workers are women (60.2%).
- 100,200 workers earning the new minimum wage (\$12.20 per hour) or less are women (63.2%).

More than three-quarters of low-wage workers are 20 years of age or older.

- 273,500 (77.1%) are 20 years of age or older.
 - 77,900 (22.0%) are between 20 and 24 years old.
 - 115,800 (32.6%) are between 25 and 44 years old.
 - 79,800 (22.5%) are 45 years of age or older.

ⁱ Regional data for Wood Buffalo – Cold Lake is based on ten-month averages from July 2015 to April 2016. Labour Force Survey data was not collected by Statistics Canada in May or June 2016 due to the wildfires.