

Immigrants and the Manufacturing Technology Sector



BURNABY
INTERCULTURAL
PLANNING TABLE



The Manufacturing Sector in Burnaby

The City of Burnaby's strategic study shows that Burnaby has above-average strength in manufacturing (along with wholesale trade, retail trade, utilities, information/culture/recreation, construction and education services). The City expects modest growth of light industry, including light manufacturing and warehousing and distribution sectors.

Burnaby is home to a number of large light industrial companies as well as a range of smaller, more specialized companies⁴. Burnaby's large, heavy industries are the petrochemical refinery and storage facilities on Burrard Inlet and the south slope of Burnaby Mountain⁵.

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The Manufacturing Sector in BC and Metro Vancouver

The Manufacturing industry is made up of businesses that are typically engaged in the physical or chemical transformation of materials or substances into new products. These products can be ready for use or put into the creation of another product¹.

The manufacturing sector is a significant part of BC's diverse economy, the fourth largest sector in the province, and a primary generator of growing B.C. exports, comprising 67 per cent of goods shipped². While a wide range of high-value products and components are produced for international and domestic markets, the sector continues to be reliant on natural resources with food and wood products as its biggest exports.

In Census 2011, B.C.'s manufacturing sector recorded an expansion since 2006 of 3.1%, with most key industries experiencing growth. However, employment growth is forecast to be flat, with

only a 0.1% increase between 2015 and 2025³. The sector will provide 174,700 jobs by 2025, with approximately 65%

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MANUFACTURING SUB-SECTORS

Food, beverage and tobacco
Fabricated metal product
Machinery
Paper
Primary metal
Transportation equipment
Wood product
Other manufacturing

¹ Industry definition is adopted from WorkBC.

² <https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Industry/Industry-Information/Industry-Outlooks/Manufacturing.aspx>

³ <https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Information/Industry-Profiles/11#section-overview>

⁴ <https://www.burnaby.ca/Assets/multiple+locations/EDS+--+Burnaby+EDS+2020.pdf>

⁵ [https://www.divisionsbc.ca/CMSMedia/Web-PageRevisions/PageRev-9426/City%20of%20Burnaby%20Information%20\(13%20pages\).pdf](https://www.divisionsbc.ca/CMSMedia/Web-PageRevisions/PageRev-9426/City%20of%20Burnaby%20Information%20(13%20pages).pdf)



(The Manufacturing Sector in BC and Metro Vancouver continued from p. 1)

of these in the Lower Mainland and Southwest region (effectively Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley and Sunshine Coast). Manufacturing provides a high proportion of full-time jobs. In 2014, only 6.8% of jobs were part-time, compared to 21.8% overall.

Manufacturing tends to be a relatively high productivity/high wage sector. Average weekly earnings in 2011 stood at \$963, significantly higher than the economy-wide benchmark of \$842. Within the sector wage rates vary considerably, ranging from \$1,471 in primary metal manufacturing to \$707 for food products⁶.



(The Manufacturing Sector in Burnaby continued from p. 1)

Notable Manufacturing Employers in Burnaby

Organization	Website
Alpha Technologies	http://www.alpha.ca/web2
Ballard Power Systems Inc	http://ballard.com/
Burnaby Refinery Chevron Canada	http://www.chevron.ca/our-businesses/burnaby-refinery
Creative At Home	www.creativeathome.com
Creation Technologies Inc	http://www.creationtech.com/
Everland Natural Foods	www.everland.ca
Eneready Products	www.enereadyproducts.com/
Golden Boy Foods Ltd	http://goldenboyfoods.com/main/default.aspx
Garibaldi Glass	www.garibaldiglass.com/
Horizon Distributors	www.horizondistributors.com
Hemlock Printing	http://www.hemlock.com/
Haida Forest Products	www.haidaforest.com/
Kinder Morgan Canada	http://www.kindermorgan.com/business/canada/transmountain.aspx
Spartan Controls	www.spartancontrols.com
Taiga Building Products	http://www.taigabuilding.com/
Saputo (formerly Dairyworld)	http://www.saputo.com/
Swiss Water Decaffeinated Coffee	https://www.swisswater.com/
Williams & White	http://www.williamsandwhite.com/

⁶ <http://www.bcbc.com/content/209/PPv19n1.pdf>



Immigrants and the Manufacturing Sector

Immigrants are an important source of labour for the sector.

Numerous research projects have reported that immigrants, especially new immigrants, face tremendous challenges in finding jobs in their professional areas because of foreign credential recognition, along with other barriers. However, jobs in manufacturing sectors are less likely to require Canadian certification and experience. Census 2011 shows immigrant workers accounted for 64.3% of the labour force in the manufacturing sector, significantly higher than the all-sector average of 53.8%. Recent immigrants accounted for 8% of jobs versus the all-sectors average of 8.4%.

Metro Vancouver's manufacturing sector consists primarily of smaller and mid-sized firms rather than a few big companies. Of the 4,700 manufacturing operations located in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley, three-quarters have fewer than 20 workers, another 14% employ between 20 and 49 people, while 8% are in the mid-sized category with 50-199 workers. There are just 76 manufacturers with more than 200 paid employees⁷.

Manufacturing employment in select segments in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley Region (2011)⁸ in thousands

	# OF JOBS	% OF JOBS IN THIS SECTOR
ALL MANUFACTURING	103.0	100%
Food, Beverage Product Mfg.	22.5	21.8%
Wood Product Mfg.	9.5	9.2%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	8.2	8.0%
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	7.8	7.6%
Machinery Manufacturing	7.7	7.5%
Printing and Related Activities	6.6	6.4%
Furniture and Related Product Mfg.	5.7	5.5%

Labour Force and Jobs in Selected Municipalities and Industry Sectors, 2011 NHS^{9,10}

REGION <i>(Five municipalities with greatest labour force)</i>	LABOUR FORCE (WORKERS)		JOBS (EMPLOYMENTS)				JOB TO WORKERS RATIO
	TOTAL LABOUR FORCE POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER	% MUNICIPAL SHARE OF LABOUR FORCE	MANUFACTURING	TOTAL JOBS	% MUNICIPAL SHARE OF JOB	JOBS MANUFACTURING	MANUFACTURING
Metro Vancouver	1,273,335	100.0%	81,645	1,030,125	100.0%	74,240	0.9
Vancouver	349,145	27.5%	17,515	352,385	34.21%	12,165	0.7
Surrey	245,640	19.2%	22,260	139,150	13.51%	11,735	0.5
Burnaby	120,285	9.4%	7,250	120,890	11.74%	10,160	1.4
Richmond	99,910	7.8%	6,340	109,945	10.67%	12,135	1.9
Coquitlam	69,720	5.5%	4,560	38,885	3.77%	2,530	0.5

⁷ <http://www.bcbc.com/content/209/PPv19n1.pdf>

⁸ <http://www.bcbc.com/content/209/PPv19n1.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/PlanningPublications/LabourForcebyIndustryNHS2011.pdf>

¹⁰ http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/PlanningPublications/2011_NHS_Bulletin_Jobs.pdf



Common Occupations in the Manufacturing Sector

Manufacturing employment includes a wide range of skills and occupations¹¹:

- The range of occupations is so broad that the most prevalent occupation, manufacturing managers, accounts for only four percent of the industry's total employment.
- Unskilled labour occupations are common, as are skilled trade occupations, such as millwrights, mechanics, and welders and related machine operators.
- The top five occupations in the industry account for only 16 percent of the industry's total employment.

Occupations and Forecasted Job Opening to 2025		
OCCUPATION	JOB OPENINGS IN BC (2015-2025)	PROVINCIAL MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE
Manufacturing managers	4,790	\$37.02/hr
Shippers and receivers	4,570	\$17.00/hr
Facility operation and maintenance managers	3,890	\$30.00/hr
Welders and related machine operators	2,960	\$28.00/hr
Retail and Wholesale Buyers	2,010	\$20.00/hr
Machinists and machining and tooling inspectors	1,440	\$31.70/hr
Process control and machine operators, food, beverage and associated products processing	1,240	\$18.00/hr
Butchers, meat cutters and fishmongers - retail and wholesale	980	\$12.00/hr
Supervisors, food, beverage and associated products processing	670	\$25.61/hr
Industrial designers	190	\$31.22/hr
Machining tool operators	100	\$19.95/hr

Useful Links and Resources

Burnaby Immigrant Programs and Services

Burnaby has numerous employment programs and services for immigrants and refugees. A complete listing of currently available and free programs and services can be found on BIPT's Inventory of Resources for Immigrants (bipt.ca). Select Employment under categories and browse through the various programs to find one that meets your needs.

Occupational Guides and Profiles	
Organization	Website
WelcomeBC Job Profiles for Immigrants	https://www.welcomebc.ca/Work-or-Study-in-B-C/Job-profiles-for-immigrants
WorkBC Career Profile	https://www.workbc.ca/careers/
Skilled Immigrants InfoCentre – Vancouver Public Library	http://pwp.vpl.ca/siic/
National Occupational Classification 2016	http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/noc/welcome.aspx?ver=16

Regulatory Bodies and Professional Associations	
Organization	Website
AWMAC BC	http://bc.awmac.com/about
Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia	https://asttbc.org/
BC Alliance for Manufacturing	http://www.manufacturingbc.org/
British Columbia Technology Industry Association	http://www.wearebctech.com/
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	https://www.cme-mec.ca/

¹¹ WorkBC <https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Information/Industry-Profiles/11#section-overview>