

It's taking longer to find a job in Saskatchewan but not as long as Alberta, Ontario and Quebec

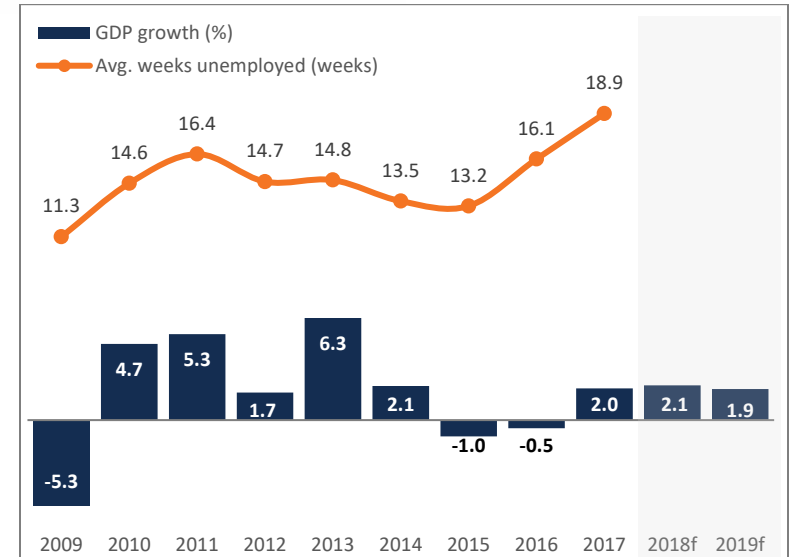
- The average number of weeks Sask. residents were unemployed last year was the highest it has been since 1999. It took job seekers an average of 18.9 weeks to find work, 40 days (5.7 weeks) longer than in 2015 (chart 1).
- Compared to other provinces, Sask. residents are landing jobs quicker than their counterparts in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. It took a month longer to find work in Alberta (23.1 weeks), 8 days longer in Quebec (20.0 weeks) and 3 days longer in Ontario (19.3 weeks) (chart 2).

“The duration of unemployment is a typical lagging indicator, which tends to peak after a recession has occurred. As the economy continues to build on last year’s gains, with several indicators supporting a consensus forecast of 2.1% in 2018, we should expect to see the duration of unemployment come down.”

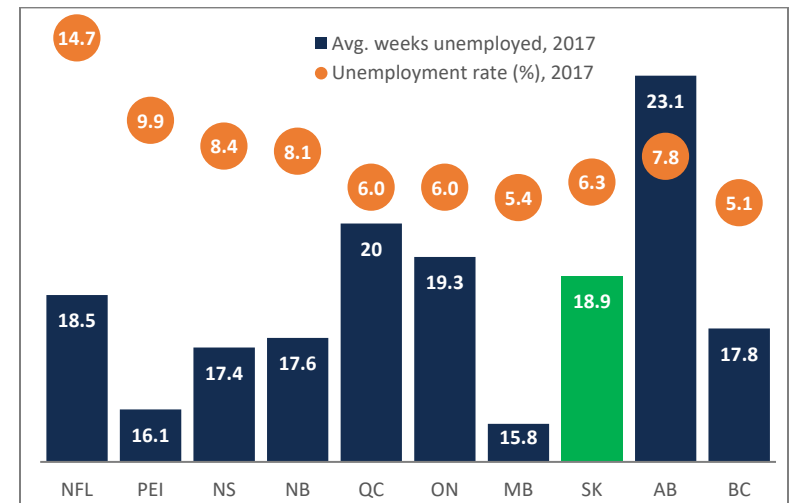
Gabriel Dzathor, Manager – Economic Forecasting and Analysis

Note: The average duration of unemployment measures the length of time it takes a laid off worker to find work. It tends to rise dramatically following a period of economic contraction, peak after the downturn, and fall as the economy improves.

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Source: StatCan Table 282-0048