

Pilot BC Precarity Survey Questionnaire – Nov. 2019

S. SCREENING

S1. First, do you identify as...?

Choose one.

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Other

S2. How old are you?

Choose a number.

[IF 24 OR LESS OR 66 OR MORE, THANK AND TERMINATE]

S3. Which of the following best describes where you live?

Choose one.

City of Vancouver

Other areas of Metro Vancouver (e.g., Burnaby, Coquitlam, Delta, Langley, Ladner, Maple Ridge, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Pitt Meadows, Port Coquitlam, Richmond, Surrey, West Vancouver, White Rock, etc.)

Fraser Valley (e.g., Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Hope, Kent, Mission, etc.)

Vancouver Island

Whistler/Squamish/Sunshine Coast/South Coast (e.g., Gibsons, Powell River, Sechelt, Squamish, Whistler, etc.)

Okanagan-Similkameen/Thompson-Nicola (e.g., Armstrong, Cache Creek, Chase, Enderby, Kamloops, Kelowna, Keremeos, Lumby, Merritt, Osoyoos, Oliver, Peachland, Penticton, Princeton, Salmon Arm, Sicamous, Summerland, Vernon, etc.)

Kootenays (e.g., Castlegar, Cranbrook, Creston, Fernie, Fruitvale, Golden, Grand Forks, Invermere, Kaslo, Kimberley, Nakusp, Nelson, New Denver, Radium Hot Springs, Revelstoke, Rossland, Salmo, Sparwood, Trail, etc.)

Northern BC (e.g., 100 Mile House, Burns Lake, Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, Fort St. James, Fort St. John, Kitimat, Haida Gwaii, Houston, McBride, MacKenzie, New Hazelton, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Smithers, Stewart, Tumbler Ridge, Terrace, Valemount, Vanderhoof, Williams Lake, etc.)

Area outside of BC

[IF AREA OUTSIDE BC, THANK AND TERMINATE]

S4. Are you...?

Choose all that apply.

[DO NOT RANDOMIZE]

White

Chinese

South Asian (e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)

Black

Filipino

Latin American

Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.)

Arab, West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.)

Korean, Japanese

Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuk (Inuit))

Other

Prefer not to answer [EXCLUSIVE]

S5. In which of the following **countries or regions** were you born?

Choose one.

Canada

United States

Latin America (Mexico, Central America, South America)

Caribbean/Bermuda

Europe (Western Europe, Eastern Europe and UK/Ireland/Scotland)

Africa

China

Hong Kong

Japan

Korea

Taiwan

Philippines

Middle East and West Central Asia (Russia, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Iran etc.)

Other countries in East or Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore etc.)

India

Pakistan

Other countries in Southwest Asia (Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan etc.)

Australia/New Zealand

Prefer not to answer

[IF ANY COUNTRY OTHER THAN CANADA CHOSEN IN S5, ASK S6. IF CANADA IN S5, SKIP TO S7]

S6. How many years have you lived in Canada?

Choose one.

[DROP DOWN LESS THAN ONE YEAR 1....79, 80 OR MORE, PREFER NOT TO ANSWER]

S7. Have you worked for pay or profit at any time in the **last 3 months**?

Choose one.

Yes

No

[IF NO, THANK AND TERMINATE]

A. NUMBER JOBS/CONTRACT / JOB PAID THE MOST

A1. Did you work for pay at **more than one** job or business at the same time in the last three months?

Choose one.

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

A2. How many jobs/contracts are you **currently** working?

Choose one.

None

1

2

3

4

5 or more

Prefer not to answer

A3. Where do you normally work?

Choose one for each job.

[HEADERS – SHOW ONLY THE NUMBERS OF JOBS CHOSEN IN A2. IF 5 OR MORE IN A2, SHOW 5. IF NONE OR PREFER NOT TO ANSWER IN A2, SHOW ONLY JOB #1]

Job #1

Job #2

Job #3
Job #4
Job #5

[ROWS – DO NOT RANDOMIZE]

At home
Employer's office or worksite
Public space (e.g., library, coffee shop etc.)
Shared workspace
Prefer not to answer/not sure

[IF NONE, 1 OR PREFER NOT TO ANSWER IN A2, SKIP TO A5]

A4. How easy or difficult is it to schedule your work time across the multiple jobs/contracts that you work?

Choose one.

Very easy
Somewhat easy
Somewhat difficult
Very difficult
Prefer not to answer/not sure

A5. People may experience a variety of types of jobs or contracts. They may also work at more than one type of job or several different jobs over a short period of time. In the next few questions, we would like you to think about your **specific employment situation on the job/contract that paid you the most in the last 3 months.**

Which of the following best describes the job/contract that **paid you the most** in the last 3 months?

Choose one.

Casual (on-call, day labour)
Temporary/short term contract (less than a year)
Fixed term contract, one year or more
Self-employed, no employees
Self-employed, others work for me
Permanent part-time, less than 30 hour per week
Permanent full-time, hours vary from week to week and could sometimes be less than 30
Permanent full time, 30 hours or more per week
Prefer not to answer/not sure

[ASK ONLY IF THE NUMBERS OF JOBS CHOSEN IN A2 IS 2, 3, 4, OR 5 OR MORE.]

A6. Please answer this question for the jobs/contracts you worked over the last 3 months **except for** the job/contract that **paid you the most**.

Which of the following best describes the other jobs/contracts you have worked over the last 3 months (other than the job/contract that **paid you the most**)?

Choose one for each job.

[HEADER – SHOW ONLY THE NUMBERS OF JOBS CHOSEN IN A2. IF 5 OR MORE IN A2, SHOW 5.]

Job #2

Job #3

Job #4

Job #5

[ROWS – DO NOT RANDOMIZE]

Casual (on-call, day labour)

Temporary/short term contract (less than a year)

Fixed term contract, one year or more

Self-employed, no employees

Self-employed, others work for me

Permanent part-time, less than 30 hour per week

Permanent full-time, hours vary from week to week and could sometimes be less than 30

Permanent full time, 30 hours or more per week

Prefer not to answer/not sure

A7. Thinking of the job/contract that paid you most in the last 3 months, is this a **unionized** position?

Choose one.

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer/not sure

A8. Which of the following best describes your work in the job/contract that paid you the most in the last 3 months?

Choose one.

Knowledge/creative work

Service sector work

Manufacturing, construction, trades and transport work

Primary sector work (fishing, farming, natural resources)

Other

Prefer not to answer/not sure

A9. Which of the following best describes your work in the job/contract that paid you the most in the last 3 months?

Choose one.

- A job that usually requires a university education
- A job that usually requires a college education or apprenticeship training
- A job that usually requires secondary school and/or occupation specific training
- A job that only requires some on-the-job training
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

A10. Was the job/contract that paid you the most in the last 3 months in the public sector, private sector or non-profit sector?

Choose one.

- Public sector (includes all levels of government, public schools, colleges, universities, hospitals and other facilities, crown corporations, etc.)
- Private sector
- Non-profit sector
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

A11. Does the following describe your current employment relationship when it comes to the job/contract that paid you the most in last 3 months?

Choose one.

“I have one employer, who I expect to be working for a year from now, who provides at least 30 hours of work a week, and who pays benefits.”

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

A12. When you are/were working, how often are/were you usually **paid**?

Choose one for each job.

[HEADERS – SHOW ONLY THE NUMBERS OF JOBS CHOSEN IN A2. IF 5 OR MORE IN A2, SHOW 5. IF ONE, NONE OR PREFER NOT TO ANSWER IN A2, SHOW ONLY JOB #1]

- Job #1
- Job #2
- Job #3
- Job #4
- Job #5

[ROWS]

- Every day worked
- Once a week or more
- Twice a month or every two weeks
- Once a month
- Less often than once a month
- Other
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

B. GENERAL EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONS

In the next few questions, please think about your **overall employment situation** (not just the job/contract that paid you the most in the past 3 months), which may involve more than one job/contract.

B1. In the last 3 months, how often did you work on an **on-call** basis? (That is, you have no set schedule, and your employer calls you in only when there is work.)

Choose one.

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Half of the time
- Some of the time
- Never
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

B2. In the last 3 months, what portion of your paid hours came **from temporary employment agencies**?

Choose one.

- All
- Most
- About half
- Some
- None
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

B3. In the last 3 months, what portion of your employment income was received in **cash**?

Choose one.

- Most
- About half
- Less than half
- None

Prefer not to answer/not sure

B4. Do you usually get paid if you miss a day's work?

Choose one.

Yes

No

Prefer not to answer/not sure

B5. How often do you know your work schedule **at least one week** in advance?

Choose one.

Always

Most of the time

Half the time

Some of the time

Never

Prefer not to answer/not sure

B6. How often does your work schedule change unexpectedly?

Choose one.

Often

Sometimes

Rarely

Never

Prefer not to answer/not sure

B7. How likely is it that your current employment be negatively affected if you raised a health and safety concern or raised an employment rights concern with your employer(s)?

Choose one.

Very likely

Likely

Somewhat likely

Not likely

Not likely at all

Prefer not to answer/not sure

B8. How likely is it that your total hours of paid employment will be **reduced by your employer(s)** in the next 6 months?

Choose one.

Very likely

- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not likely
- Not likely at all
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

B9. Which of the following non-wage benefits do you receive from **your current employer(s)**?
Choose all that apply.

- I do not receive any benefits from my employer(s) [EXCLUSIVE]
- Prescriptions
- Vision care
- Dental care
- Extended health benefits (physiotherapy, etc.)
- Life insurance
- Long-term disability insurance
- Paid sick leave
- Schedule flexibility
- Paid training
- Profit sharing
- Regular pay increases
- Parental leave top-up
- A company pension plan (other than your Canada Pension Plan contributions)
- Employer contributions to your RRSP
- Other
- Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

B10. Do you receive any of the following benefits as a result of the employer(s) of **someone else** in your household?
Choose as many as apply.

- No, none [EXCLUSIVE]
- Does not apply [EXCLUSIVE]
- Prescriptions
- Vision care
- Dental care
- Extended health benefits (physiotherapy, etc.)
- Life insurance (for you or for your spouse with you as beneficiary)
- Long-term disability insurance (for you or for your spouse with you as beneficiary)
- A company pension plan (other than your Canada Pension Plan contributions, for you or for your spouse with you as beneficiary)
- Employer contributions to your RRSP or to your spouse's RRSP with you as beneficiary
- Other
- Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

B11. In the last 12 months, how much did your **income** vary from week to week?
Choose one.

- A great deal
- A lot
- Some
- A little
- Not at all
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

B12. Following are a number of statements about work. Please indicate how often, if ever, you feel this way for each.
Choose one for each row.

[COLUMNS]

- Every day
- A few times a week
- About once a week
- A few times a month
- About once a month
- A few times a year
- Never
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

- I feel emotionally drained from my work
- I feel used up at the end of the workday
- I dread getting up in the morning and having to face another day on the job
- I feel burned out from my work
- I feel frustrated by my job
- I feel I'm working too hard on my job

B13. Following are a number of statements and work and family life balance. Please indicate how often, if ever, you feel this way for each.
Choose one for each row.

[COLUMNS]

- A few times a week
- About once a week
- A few times a month
- About once a month
- A few times a year
- Never

Prefer not to answer/not sure

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

The demands of my work interfere with my home and family life

The amount of time my job(s) takes up makes it difficult to fulfill family responsibilities.

Things I want to do at home do not get done because of the demands my job(s) puts on me

My job(s) produces strain that makes it difficult to fulfill family duties

Due to work-related duties, I have to make changes to my plans for family activities

C. HOUSEHOLD AND PROFILING

Thanks for your participation so far, we really appreciate it! The last questions are about you and your household.

[ASK ONLY IF NOT BORN IN CANADA IN S5]

C1. What is your current citizenship/residency status in Canada?

Choose one.

Canadian citizen

Landed immigrant (permanent resident)

Temporary visa with work authorization

Refugee claimant

Other

Prefer not to answer/not sure

C2. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

Choose one.

Yes, full-time

Yes, part-time

No

Prefer not to answer/not sure

C3. What degrees, certificates or diplomas (or equivalents) have you obtained?

Choose all that apply.

Secondary school graduation diploma

Trade certificate or diploma from a vocational school or apprenticeship training

Non-university certificate or diploma from a community college

University certificate below bachelor's degree

Bachelor's degree

University degree or certificate above bachelor's degree

None of the above [EXCLUSIVE]
Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

C4. Where **health** means not only the absence of disease or injury but also physical, mental and social well-being, would you say your health is...?

Choose one.

Excellent
Very good
Good
Fair
Poor
Very poor
Prefer not to answer/not sure

C5. In general, would you say your **mental** health is...?

Choose one.

Excellent
Very good
Good
Fair
Poor
Very poor
Prefer not to answer/not sure

C6. Thinking about the amount of stress in your life, would you say most days are...?

Choose one.

Not at all stressful
Not very stressful
A bit stressful
Quite a bit stressful
Extremely stressful
Prefer not to answer/not sure

C7. In the last 12 months, have you had any training to upgrade your skills and improve your employability?

Choose all that apply.

Paid for by your employer
Paid for by you
Paid for by a government program
Have not had any training

Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

C8. Are you...?

Choose one.

- Single/never married
- Married/common law (and not separated)
- Separated/divorced
- Widowed
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C9. Who do you live with?

Choose all that apply

- No one, live alone
- Spouse/partner
- Parents or in-laws
- Siblings
- Other extended family
- Your children
- Other children
- Other adults (roommates, friends, etc.)
- Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

C10. Has your spouse/partner worked for pay or profit at any time in the past 3 months?

Choose one.

- Not applicable, no spouse/partner
- No
- Yes
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C11. Which of the following best describes your spouse's/partner's paid employment?

Choose one.

- Not applicable, no spouse/partner
- Casual (on-call, day labour)
- Temporary/short term contract (less than a year)
- Fixed term contract, one year or more
- Self-employed, no employees
- Self-employed, others work for me
- Permanent part-time, less than 30 hour per week
- Permanent full-time, hours vary from week to week and could sometimes be less than 30

Permanent full time, 30 hours or more per week
Prefer not to answer/not sure

C12. What are the ages of any children under your care?
Choose all that apply.

No children under my care [EXCLUSIVE]
Under five years
Five to twelve years
Thirteen to eighteen years
Eighteen to twenty-five years
Over twenty-five years
Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

[IF NO CHILDREN UNDER MY CARE OR PREFER NOT TO ANSWER IN C12, SKIP TO C15]

C13. Does a lack of access to childcare negatively affect your or your spouse's/partner's ability to work?
Choose one.

Yes, it affects my ability to work
Yes, it affects my spouse's/partner's ability to work
Yes, it affects both of our ability to work
No
Prefer not to answer/not sure

C14. In the last 12 months, for children under your care, how often did you **want** to do each of the following but were **not** able to due to your employment situation or income?
Choose one for each row.

[COLUMNS]
Always
Often
Sometimes
Rarely
No children under my care
Not applicable
Prefer not to answer/not sure

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]
Buy school supplies and clothing
Pay for school trips
Pay for activities outside of school
Attend or volunteer at school related meetings and activities

Volunteer at activities outside of school (sports, arts, etc.)

C15. Does caring for an **adult** negatively affect your or your spouse's/partner's ability to work?

Choose one.

- Yes, it affects my ability to work
- Yes, it affects my spouse's/partner's ability to work
- Yes, it affects both of our ability to work
- No
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C16. Is your current home...?

Choose one.

- Owned by you or a member of your household (even if you have an outstanding mortgage)
- Rented
- Other
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C17. Have you delayed having children as a result of uncertainty regarding your employment situation?

Choose one.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C18. What was the total income from **all sources** (before taxes and other deductions) of **all family members** living in your household including yourself for the past 12 months? (Include wages, profits, pensions, investment incomes, rental income, and any other governmental transfers in your calculations.)

Choose one.

- Less than \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$59,999
- \$60,000 to \$79,999
- \$80,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$144,999
- \$150,000+
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C19. What was **your** total employment income (before taxes and deductions) from the work you did over the past 12 months?

Choose one.

- Less than \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$59,999
- \$60,000 to \$79,999
- \$80,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000+
- Prefer not to answer/not sure

C20. In the last 12 months, have you had to do any of the following to keep up with bills and other financial commitments?

Choose all that apply.

- Work more
- Cut back/prioritize expenses
- Dip into savings
- Put essential bills on a credit card
- Take out a bank loan/borrow from a line of credit
- Take out a pay-day loan
- Borrow money from a relative or a friend
- Other
- None of these
- Prefer not to answer/not sure [EXCLUSIVE]

The pilot BC Precarity Survey was undertaken as part of the creation of the Understanding Precarity in BC (UP-BC) partnership. The survey will be repeated several times over the coming years, allowing us to study changes over time, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as public policy changes.

For more information visit understandingprecarity.ca/but-is-it-a-good-job.