



# Saskatoon's Economic Outlook

## Welcome to the Hub City Club

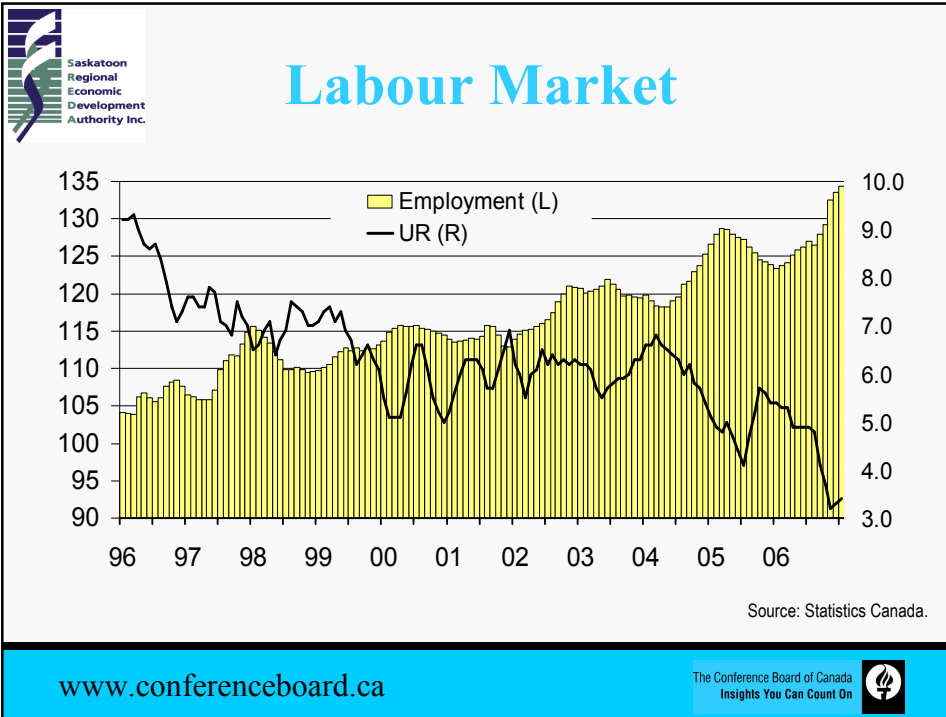
Mario Lefebvre  
Director  
Metropolitan Outlook Service

April 3, 2007

## Economic Outlook Highlights

- Economic growth has been quite vibrant over the past four years, averaging 3.8 per cent per year. The national average was 2.6 per cent per year over the same time period.
- As a result of that strong overall growth, close to 15,000 jobs have been created in the city between the first quarter of 2003 and the fourth quarter of 2006.
- This has been a blessing for personal income and, in turn, consumer spending. Retail sales growth averaged nearly 6.5 per cent per year from 2003 to 2006.
- Real GDP growth is forecast to decelerate over the next few years, limited by the expected decline in housing activity.





- 
- Industrial Movements in Employment**
- Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority Inc.
- Growing Strongly
    - Legal Services
    - Transit & Sightseeing Transportation
    - Agriculture
    - Accommodation Services
    - Machinery Manufacturing
- www.conferenceboard.ca
- The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



## Industrial Movements in Employment

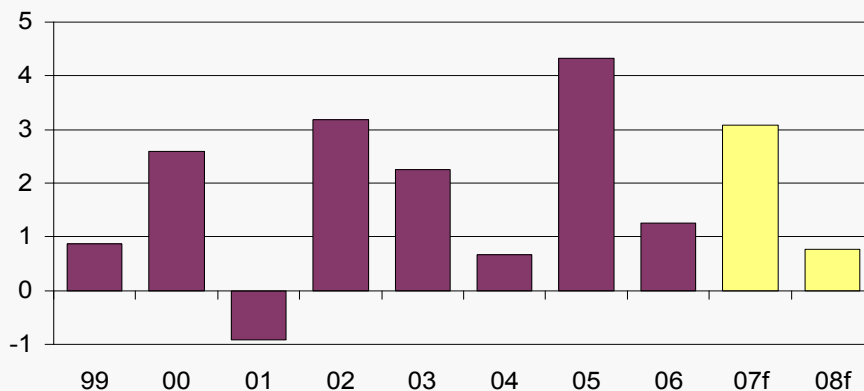
- Declining
  - Furniture Manufacturing
  - Chemical Manufacturing
  - Printing & Related Support Activities
  - Federal Government Public Admin.
  - Other Transportation & Storage

[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



## Employment Growth (percentage change 1999–2008)

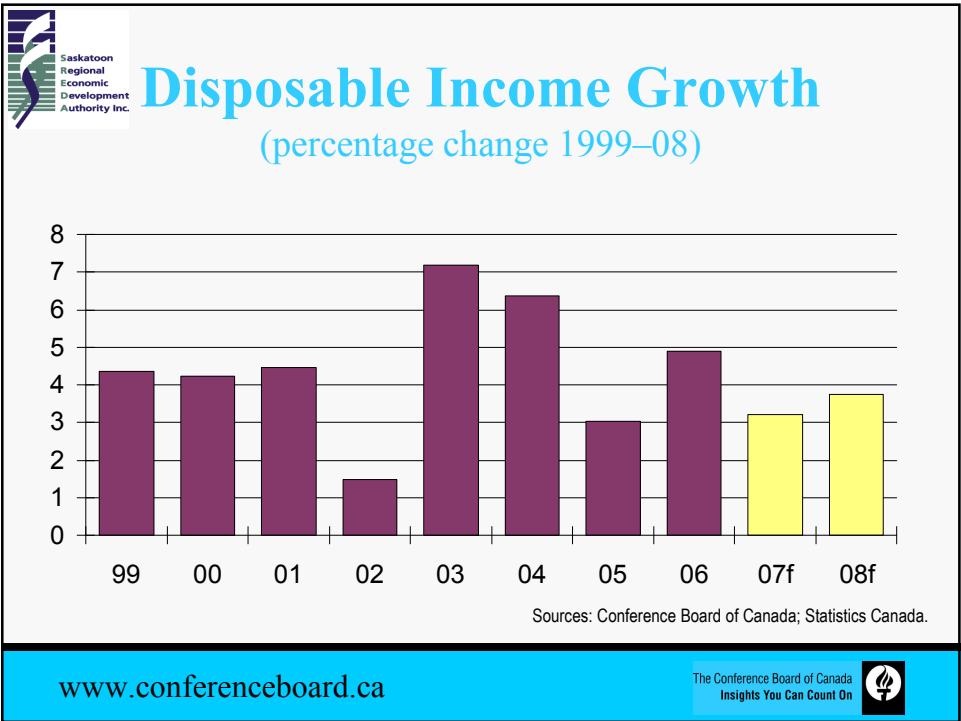
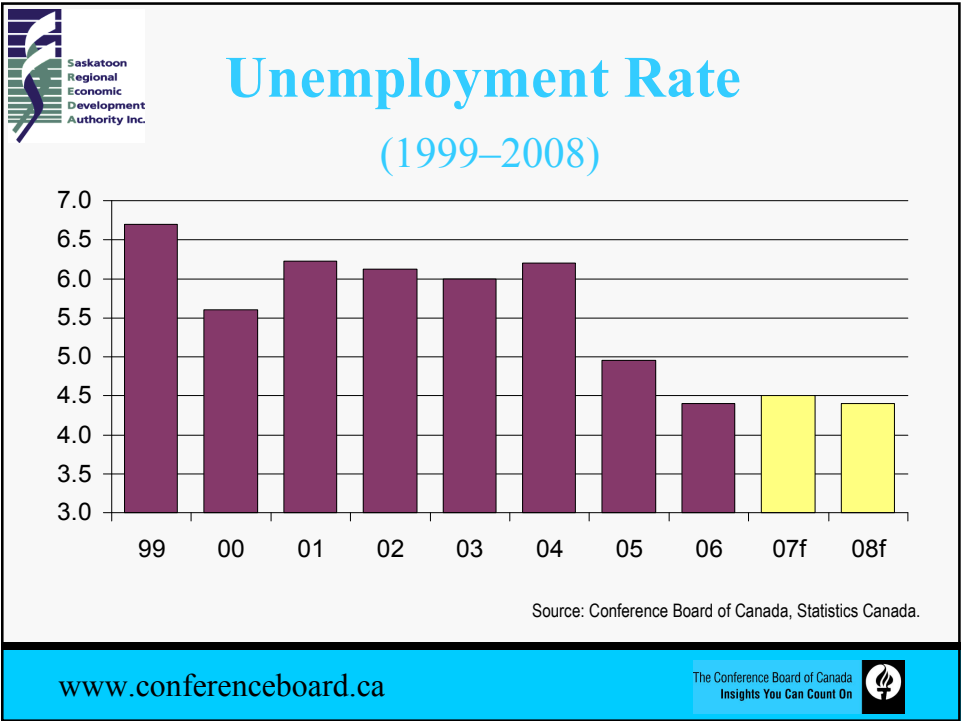


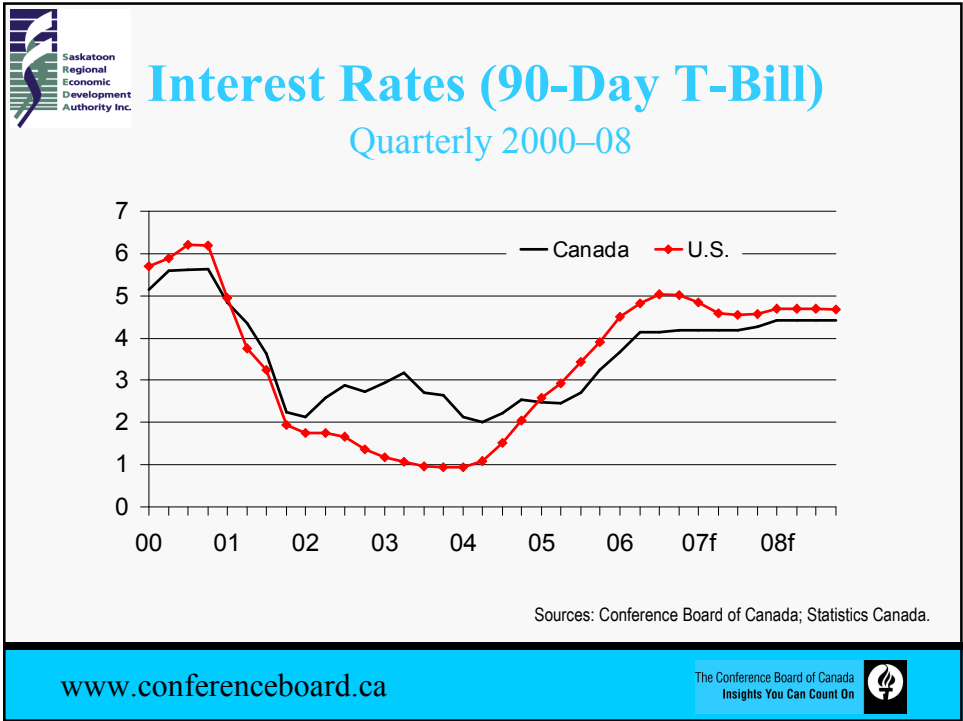
Sources: Conference Board of Canada; Statistics Canada.

[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On

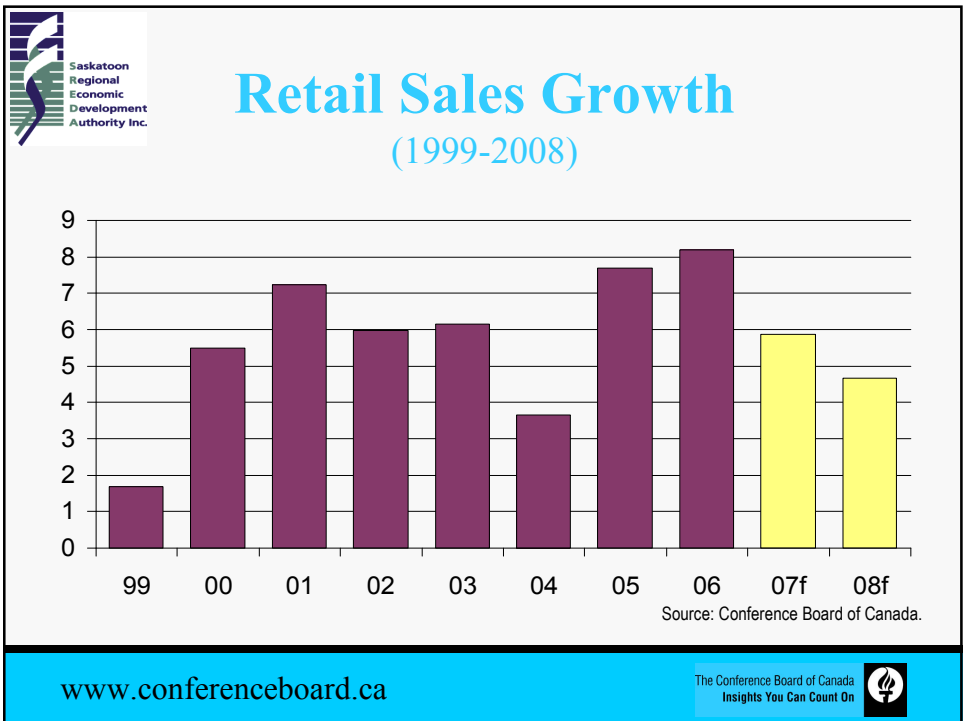






[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

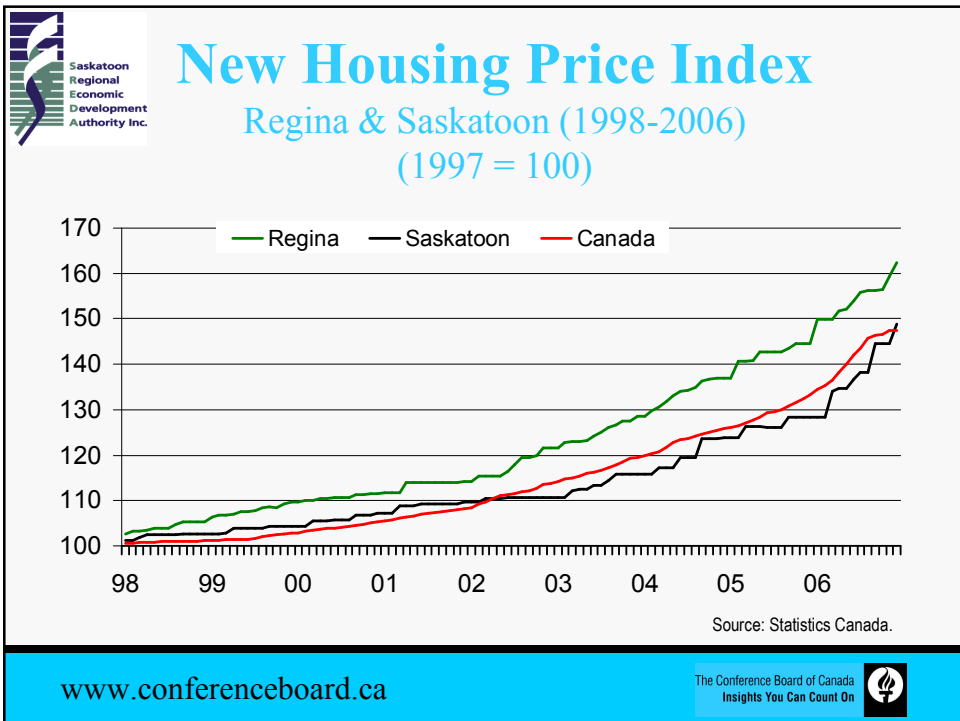
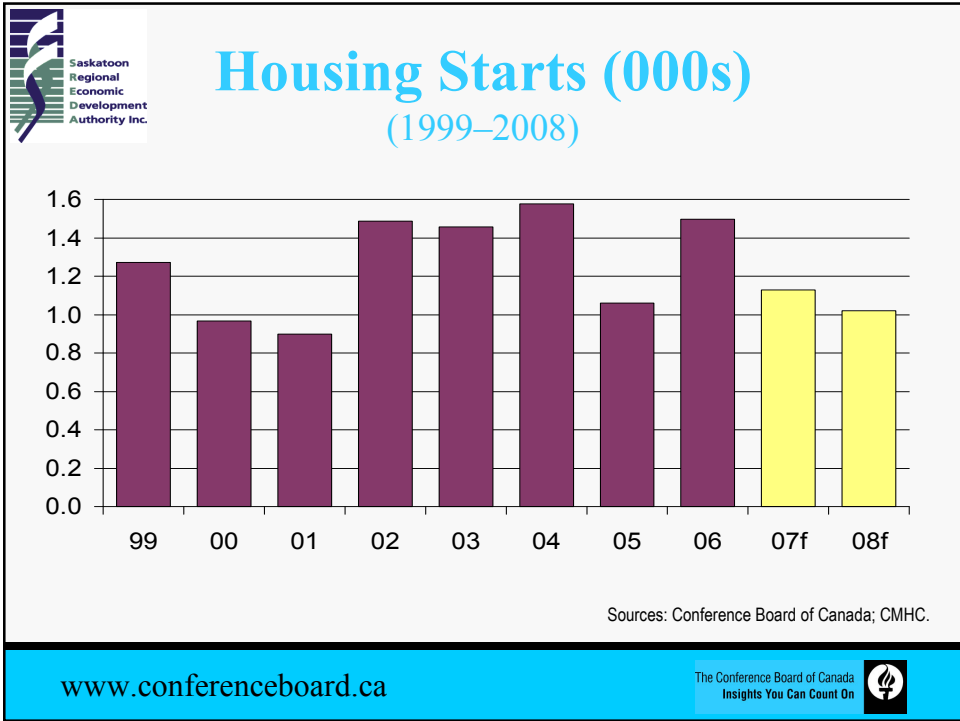
The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On

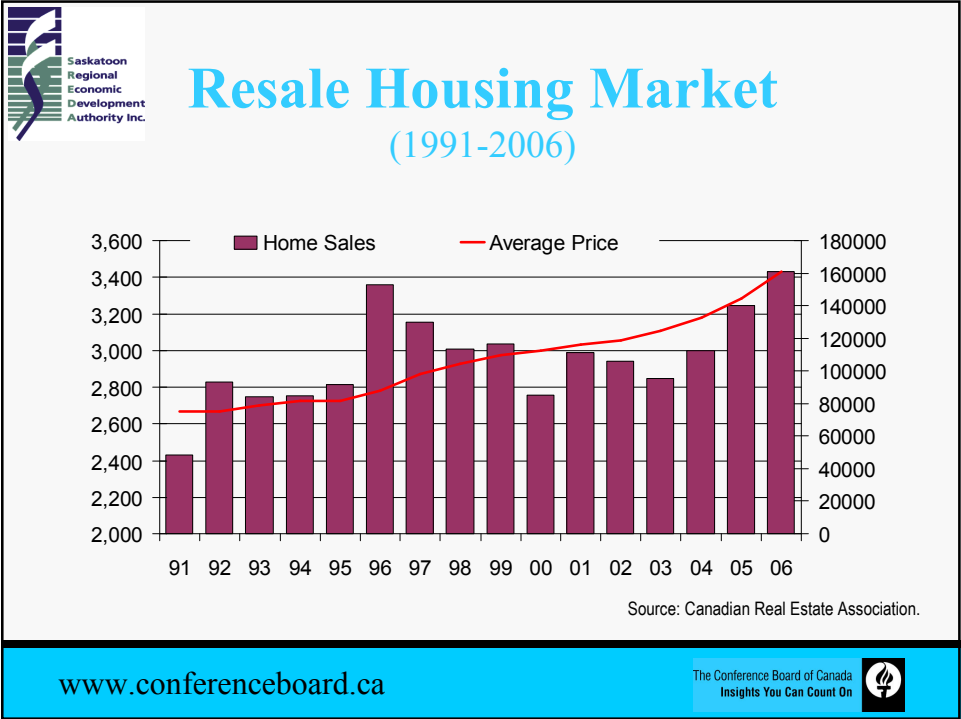


[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On

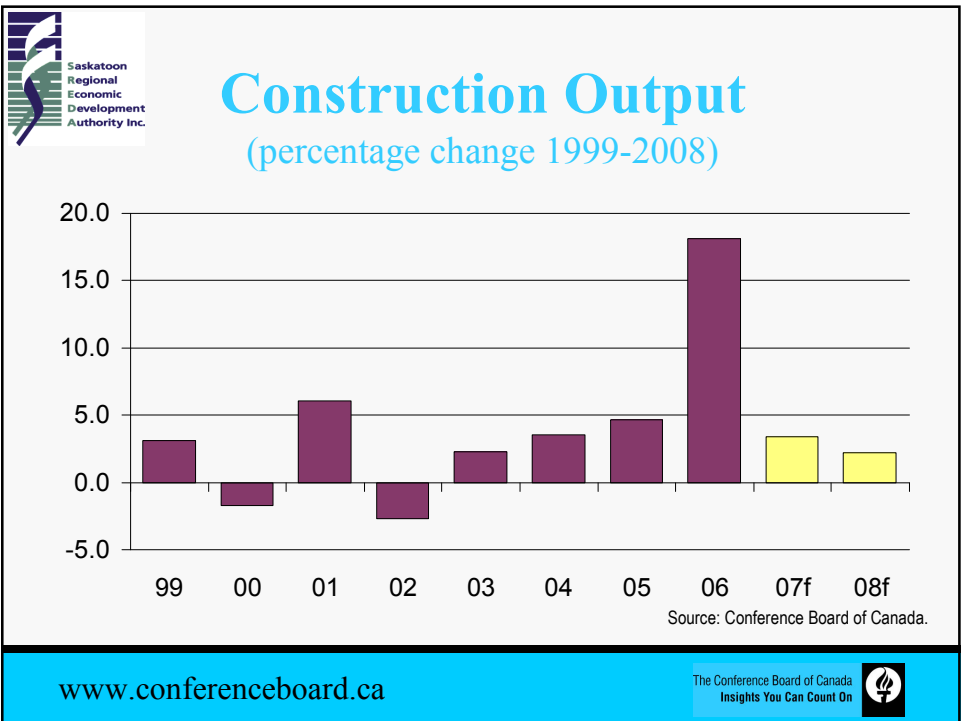






[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

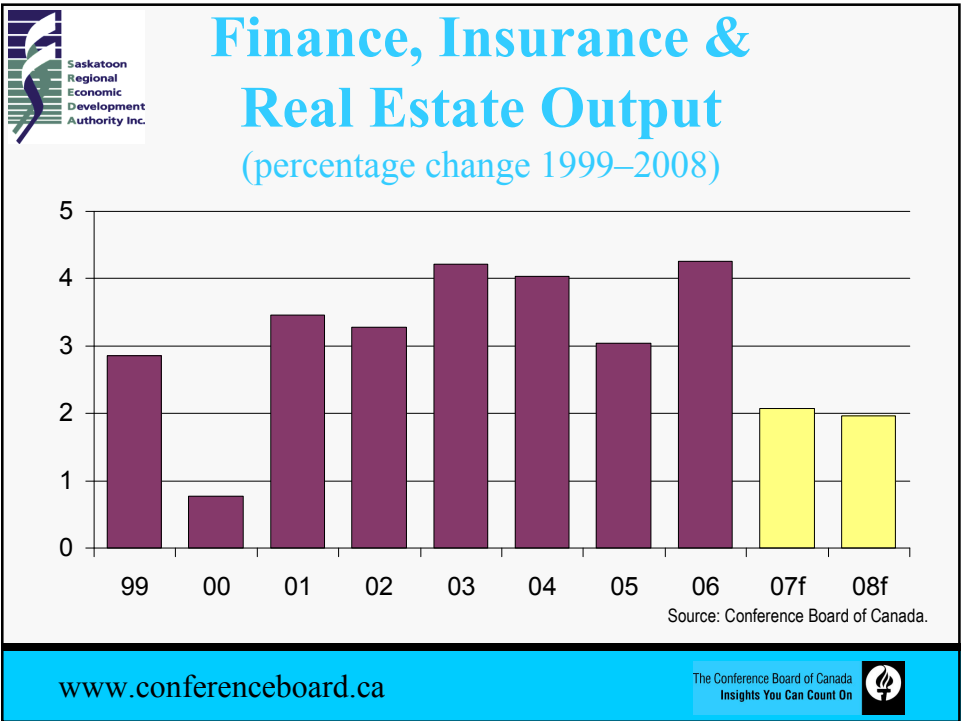
The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



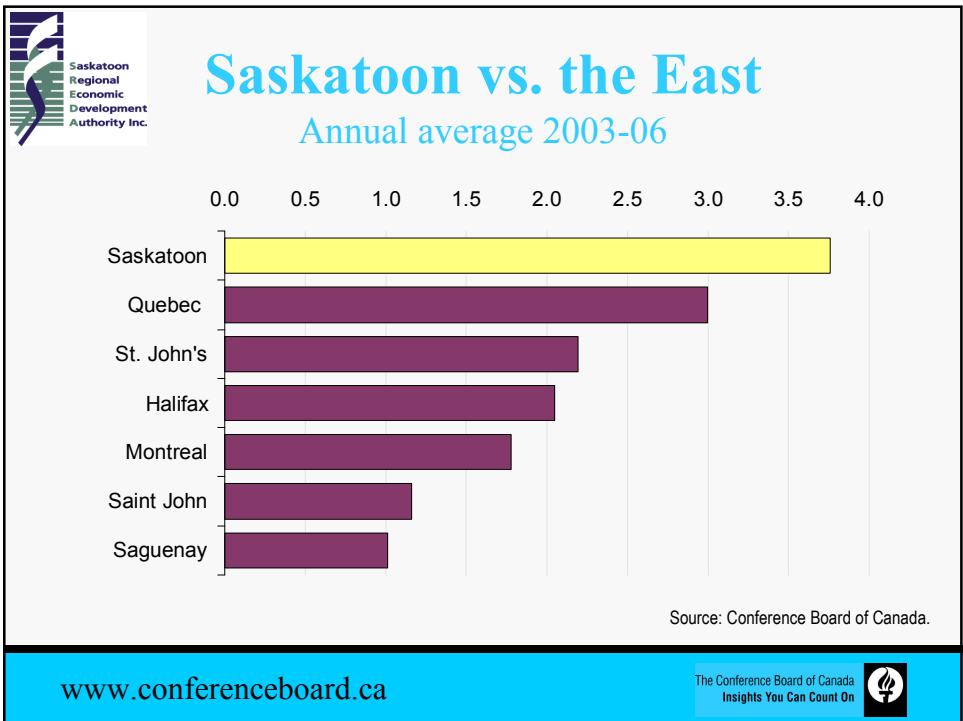
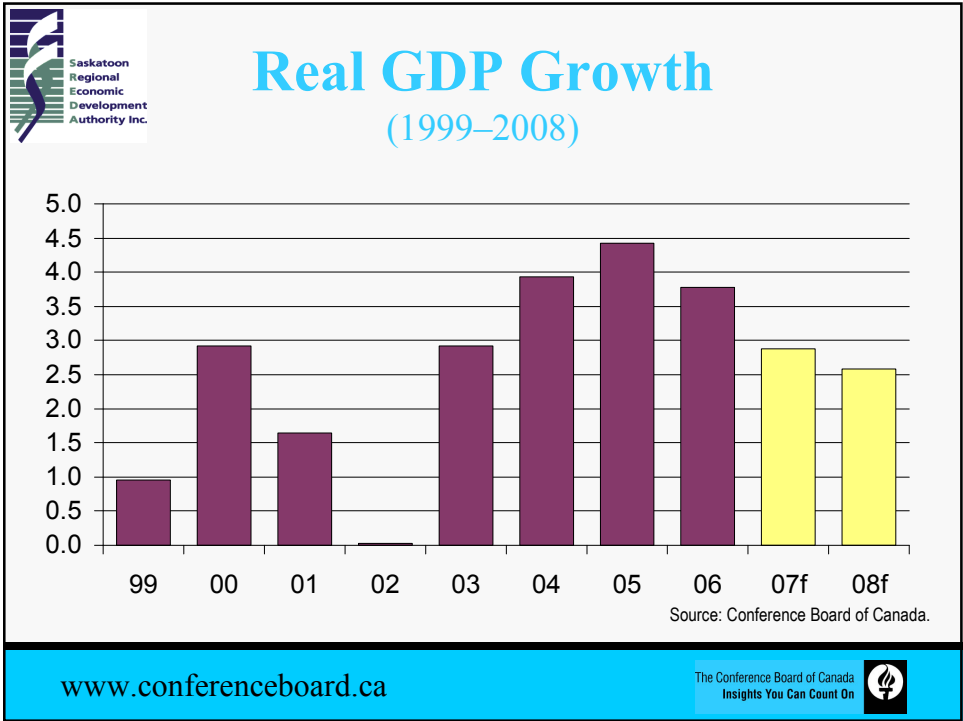
[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

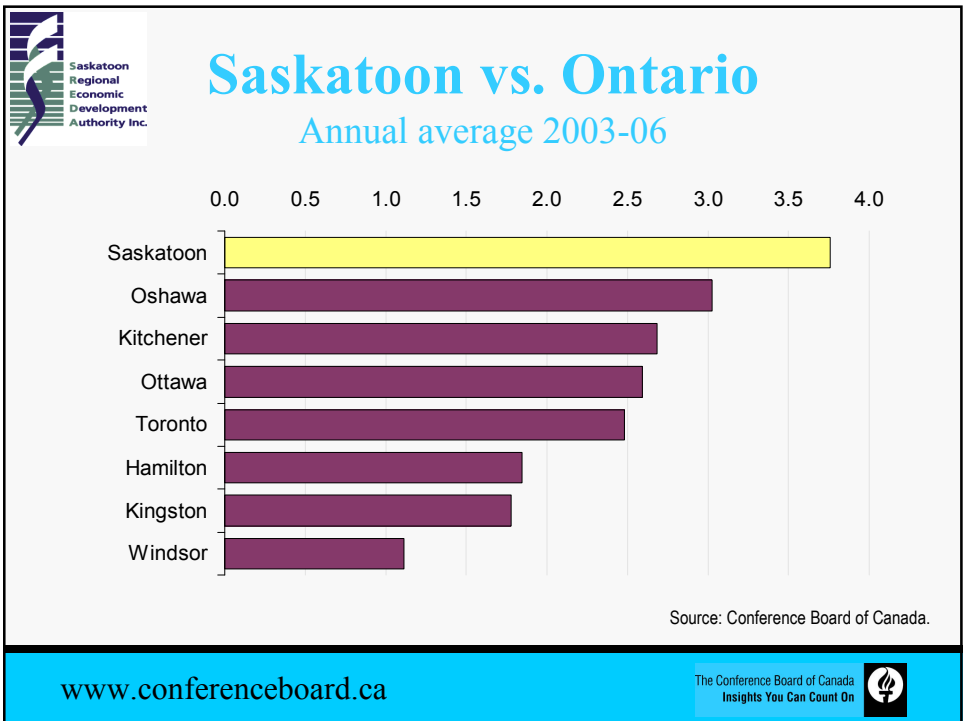
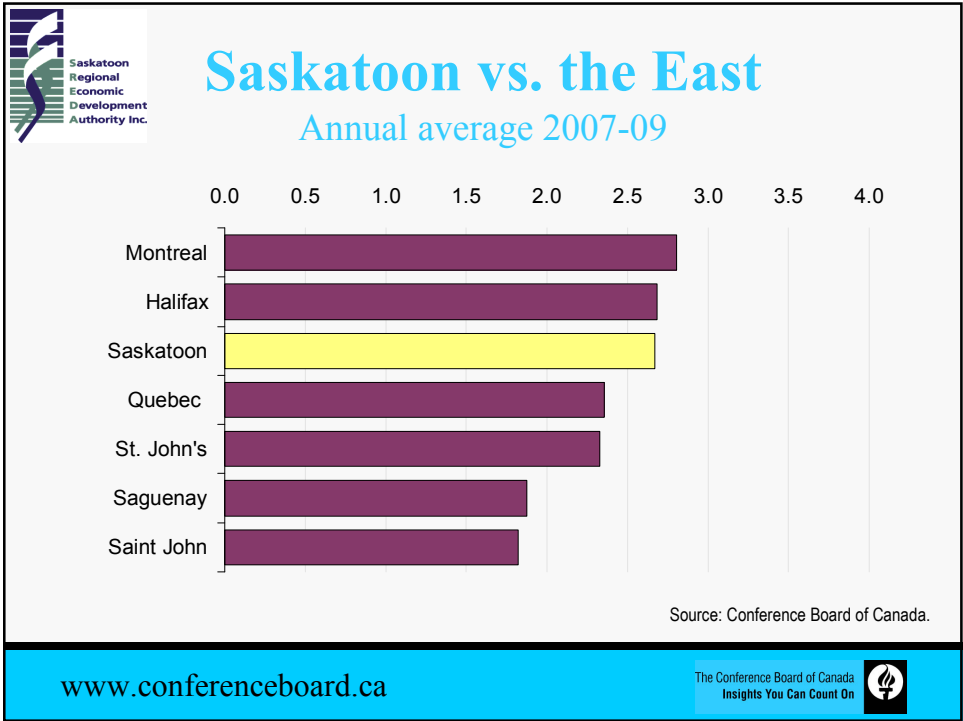
The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On

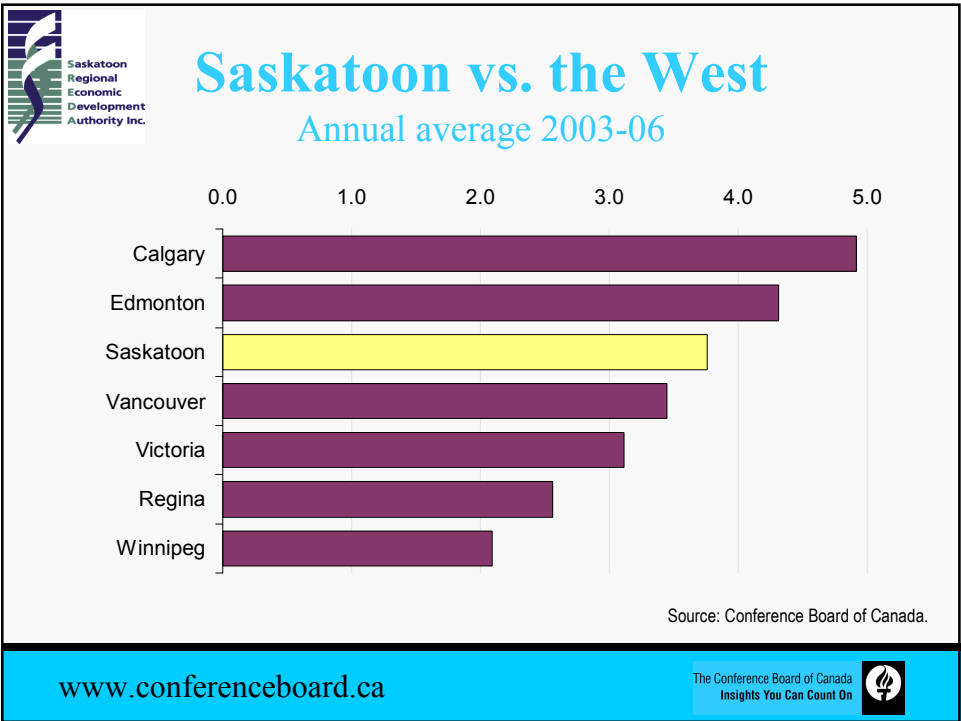
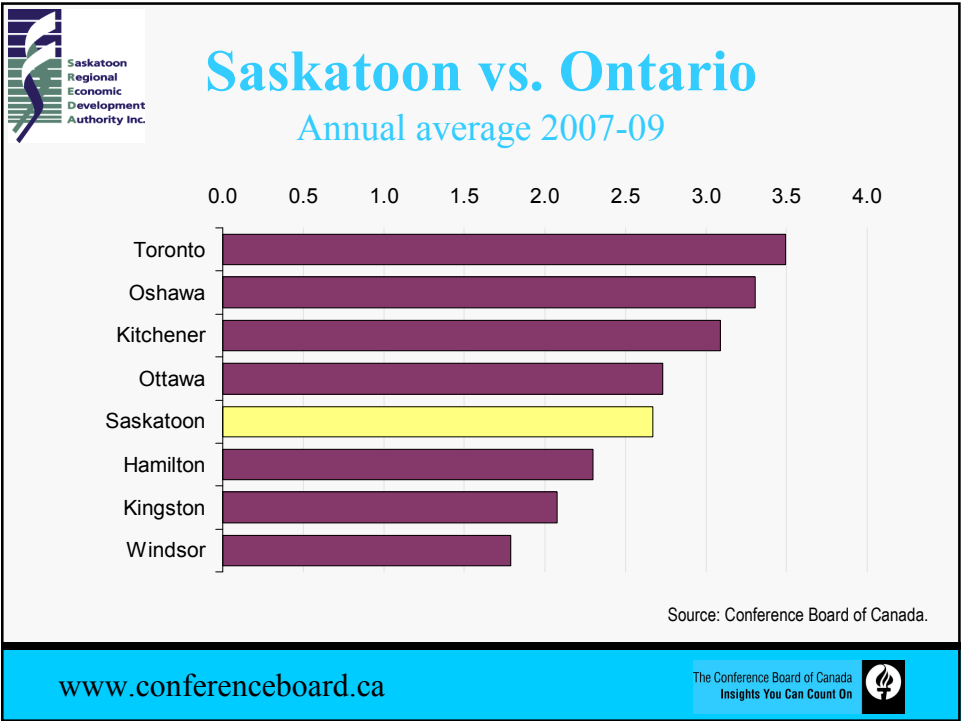


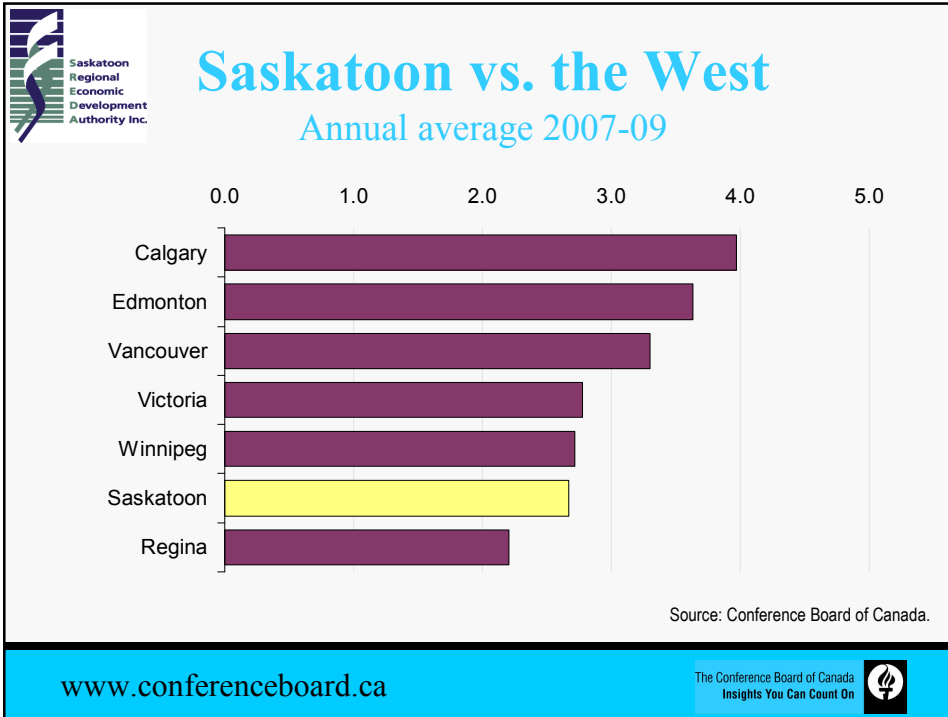












**Hub City Report: Summary**

- For years now, the CBoC has documented that Canada’s cities are underfunded.
- Hurray! Hurray! The message has been heard and additional money (though not enough of it) is coming.
- This study shows that the politically appealing per capita method of distributing this new money is not, in many cases, optimal.
- Given their role as economic engines in their respective provinces, new funding should be allocated strategically so as to meet the needs of the country’s nine hub cities. This would be a win-win strategy for every citizen.

[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On

## Economic Importance of Cities

Province	CMA(s)	Share of Prov. GDP
Nova Scotia	Halifax	46.3
Quebec	Montreal	49.0
Ontario	Toronto	43.8
Manitoba	Winnipeg	65.0



[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



## Economic Importance of Cities

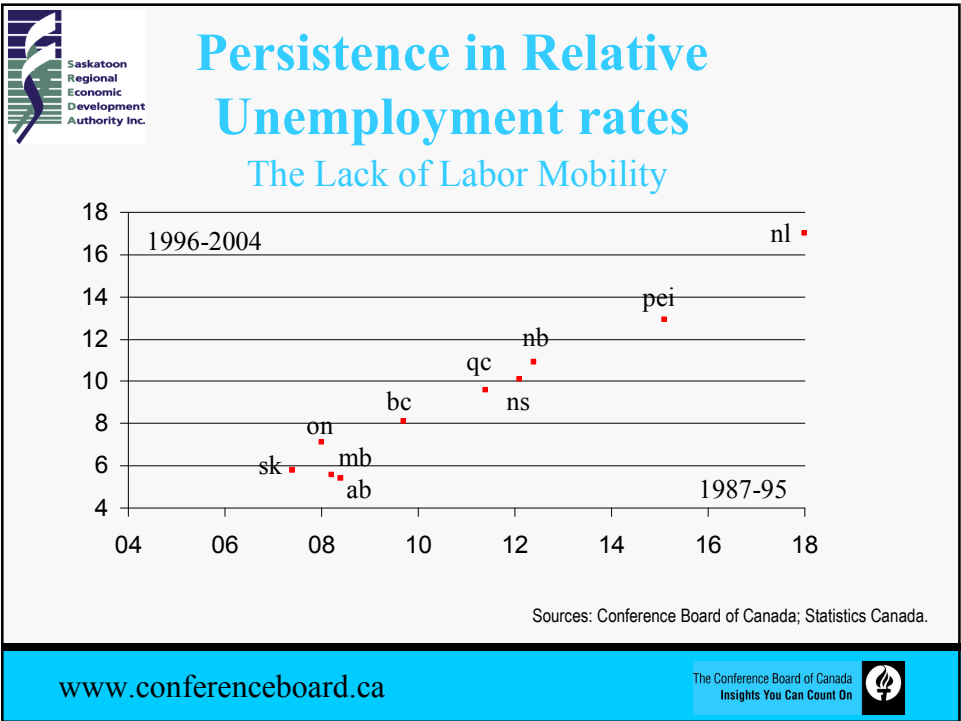
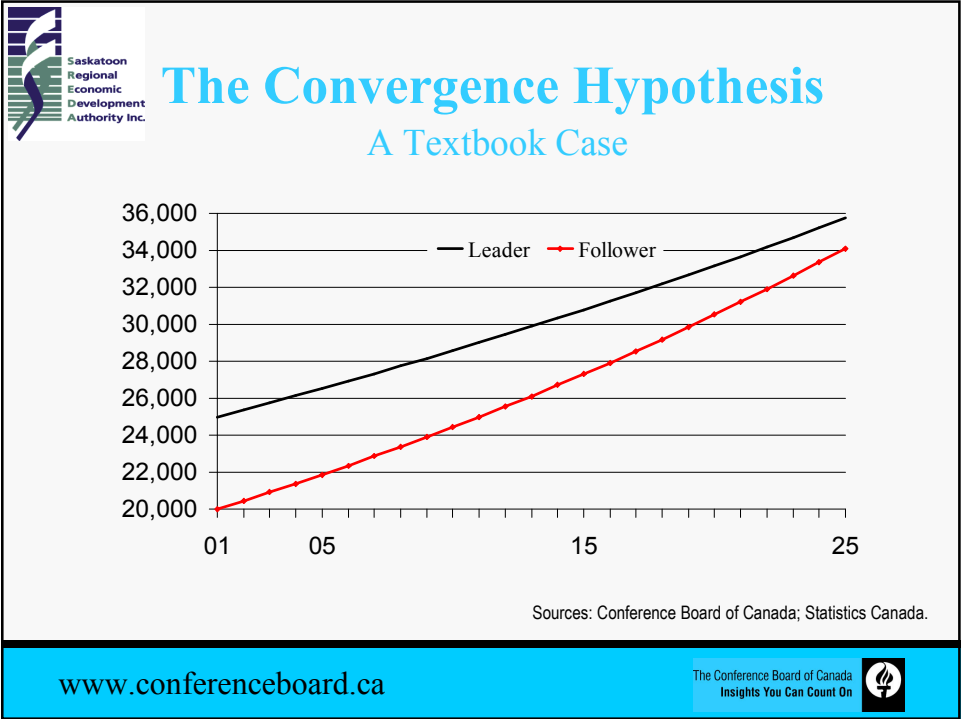
Province	CMA(s)	Share of Prov. GDP
Saskatchewan	Saskatoon & Regina	44.7
Alberta	Edmonton & Calgary	64.8
B.C.	Vancouver	53.2

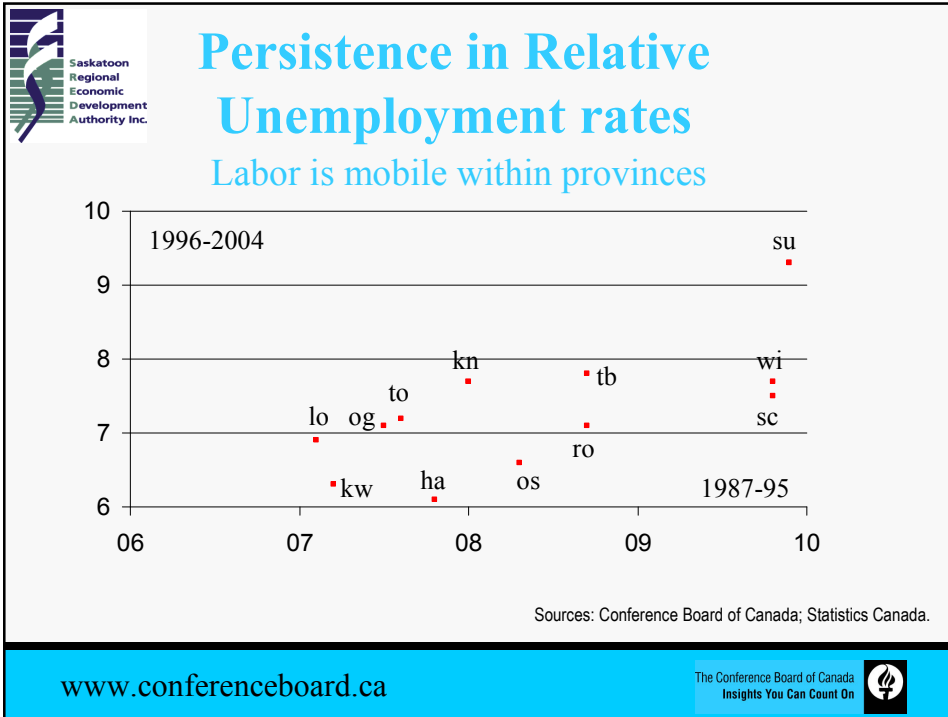


[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On







[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



## Conclusive Convergence Results

- To Halifax: rest of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, the other CMAs of the Atlantic provinces and the non-CMA communities of the Atlantic provinces
- To Montreal: other CMAs of the province of Quebec and the non-CMA communities of the province
- To Toronto: other CMAs of the province of Ontario and the non-CMA communities of the province



[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



## Conclusive Convergence Results

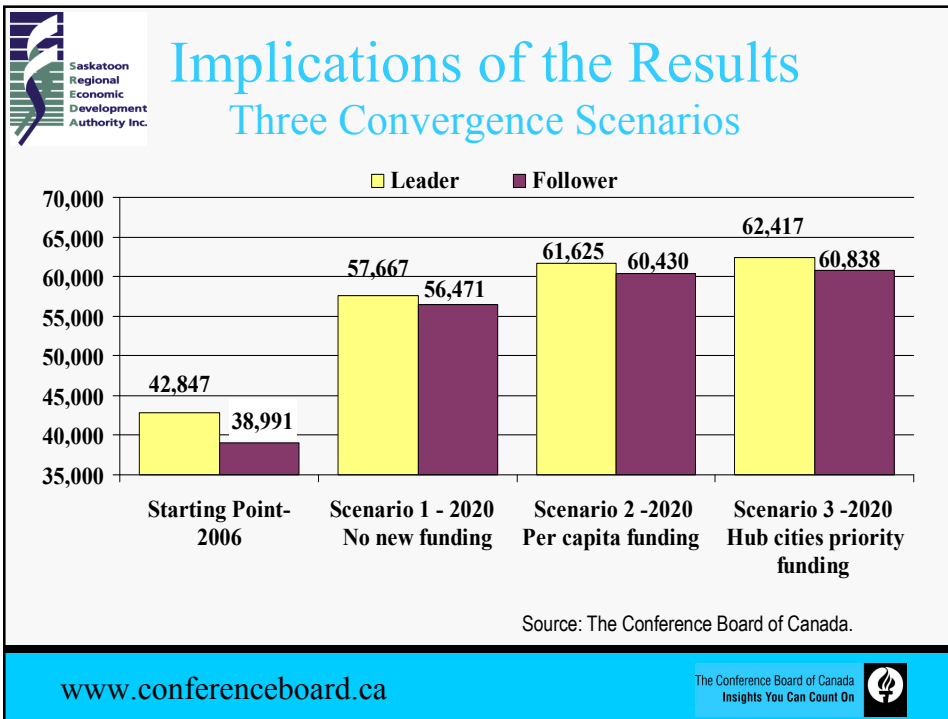
- To Regina/Saskatoon: rest of Saskatchewan
- To Calgary/Edmonton: rest of Alberta
- To Vancouver: other CMAs of British Columbia and the non-CMA communities of the province

Note: **NO** convergence between the rest of Manitoba and Winnipeg



[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On







## Policy Conclusions

- Helping hub cities fulfill their economic potential has to be a funding priority
- New funding should address the full spectrum of assets that support thriving urban economies, particularly infrastructure
- This study does NOT suggest that a grossly disproportionate allocation of funding should go to the nine hub cities—just an amount reflecting their distinctive needs and potential as drivers of the Canadian economy
- Let's be candid, not all communities will benefit, but the country as a whole will be best off.

[www.conferenceboard.ca](http://www.conferenceboard.ca)

The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



The Conference Board of Canada  
Insights You Can Count On



The Conference Board  
of Canada