



# Calgary Economy Making Its Way Back to the Top

Mario Lefebvre  
Director, Centre for Municipal Studies

Calgary, Alberta  
September 23 2010

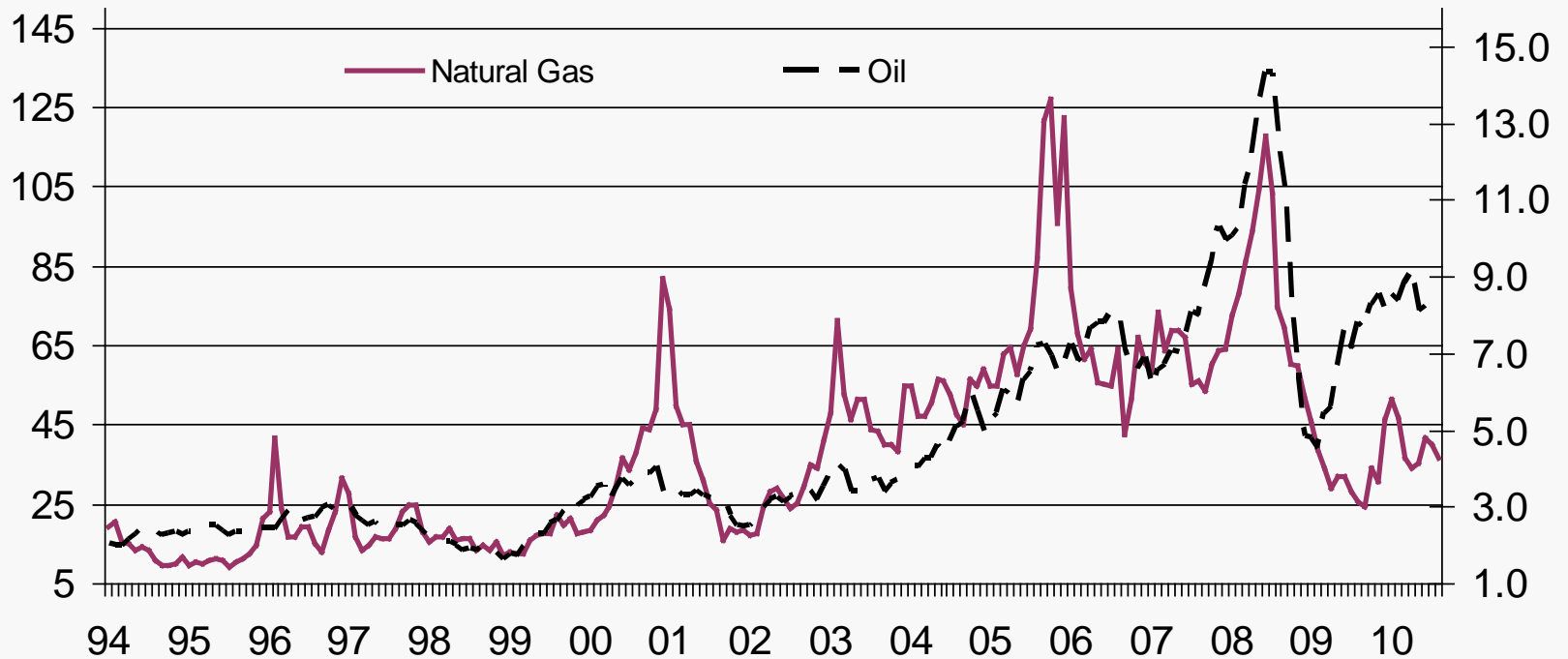
# Calgary Outlook: Highlights

- After a couple of tough years, the Calgary economy is rebounding strongly.
- Energy prices nearly doubled from their lows of 2009, which bodes well for profitability (thus investment) in the industry.
- One important fundamental remains: population growth is still healthy.
- One piece of the puzzle is missing: job creation.



# Energy Prices (US\$)

January 1994 to August 2010



Source: Statistics Canada.



# Labour Market

## Calgary (1994-2010)



Source: Statistics Canada.

# Biggest Job Gains by Sector

August 2010 – August 2009

- Retail Trade
- Other Professional Services
- Insurance Carriers
- Legal Services
- Construction
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Services
- Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing
- Wholesale Trade
- Truck Transportation



# Biggest Job Losses by Sector

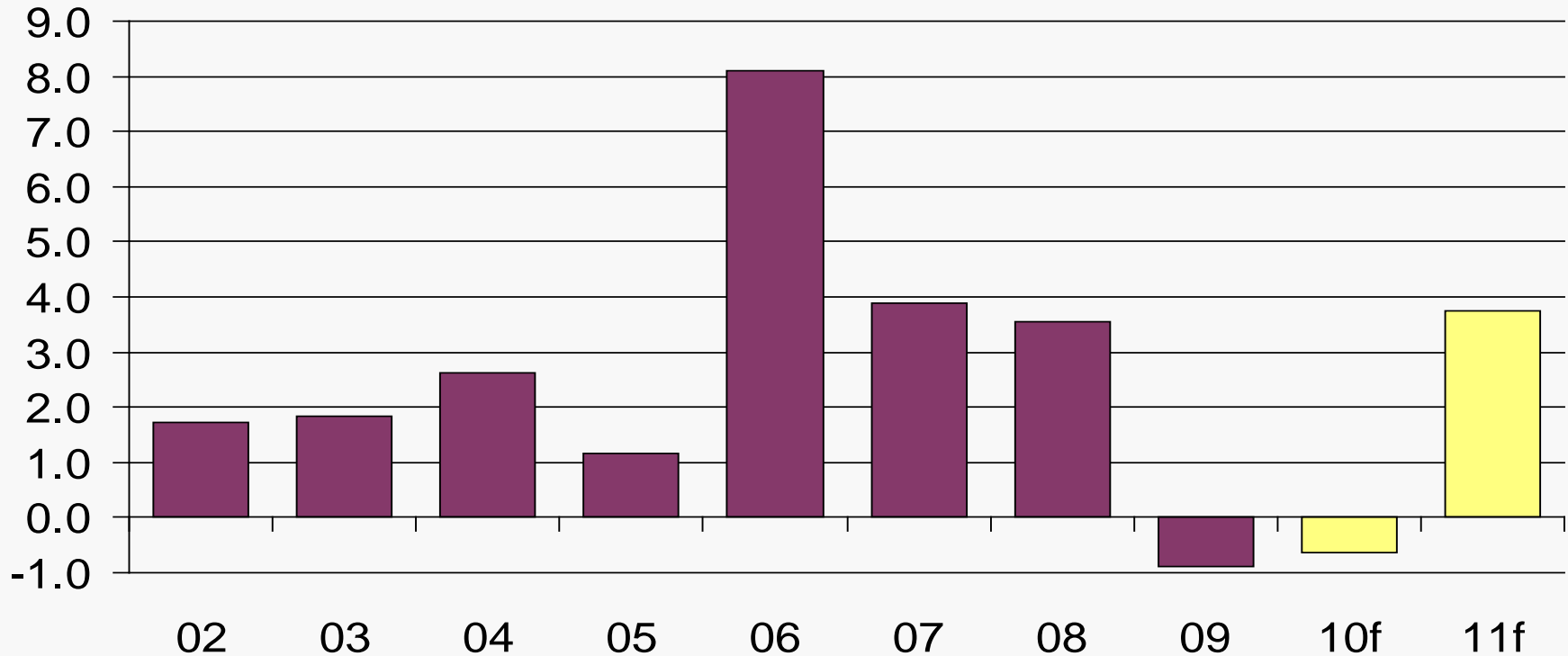
August 2010 – August 2009

- Food Services
- Other Management and Administrative Services
- Public Administration
- Computer System Design Services
- Religious, Grant-Making and Civic Organizations
- Air Transportation
- Rental and Leasing Services
- Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing
- Machinery Manufacturing



# Employment Growth

## Calgary (2002–11)

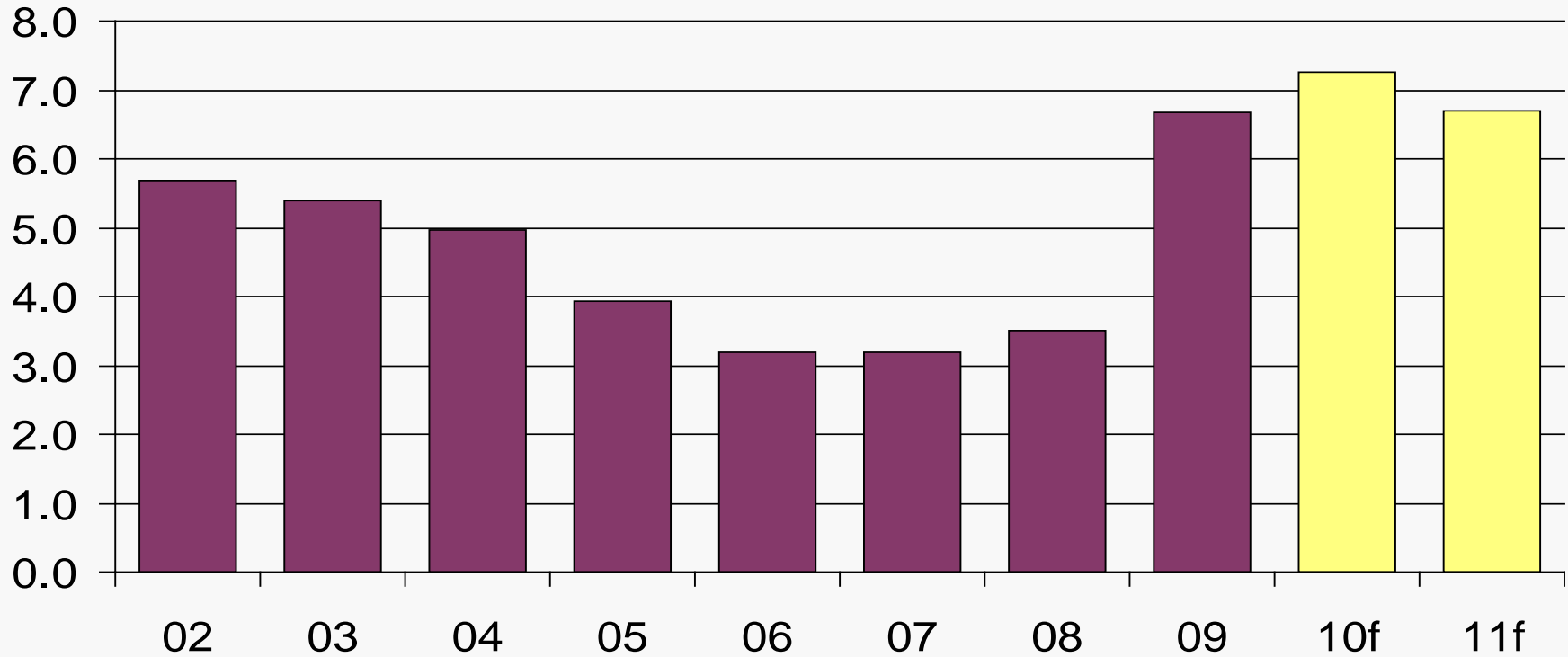


Sources: The Conference Board of Canada; Statistics Canada.



# Unemployment Rate

Calgary (2002–11)

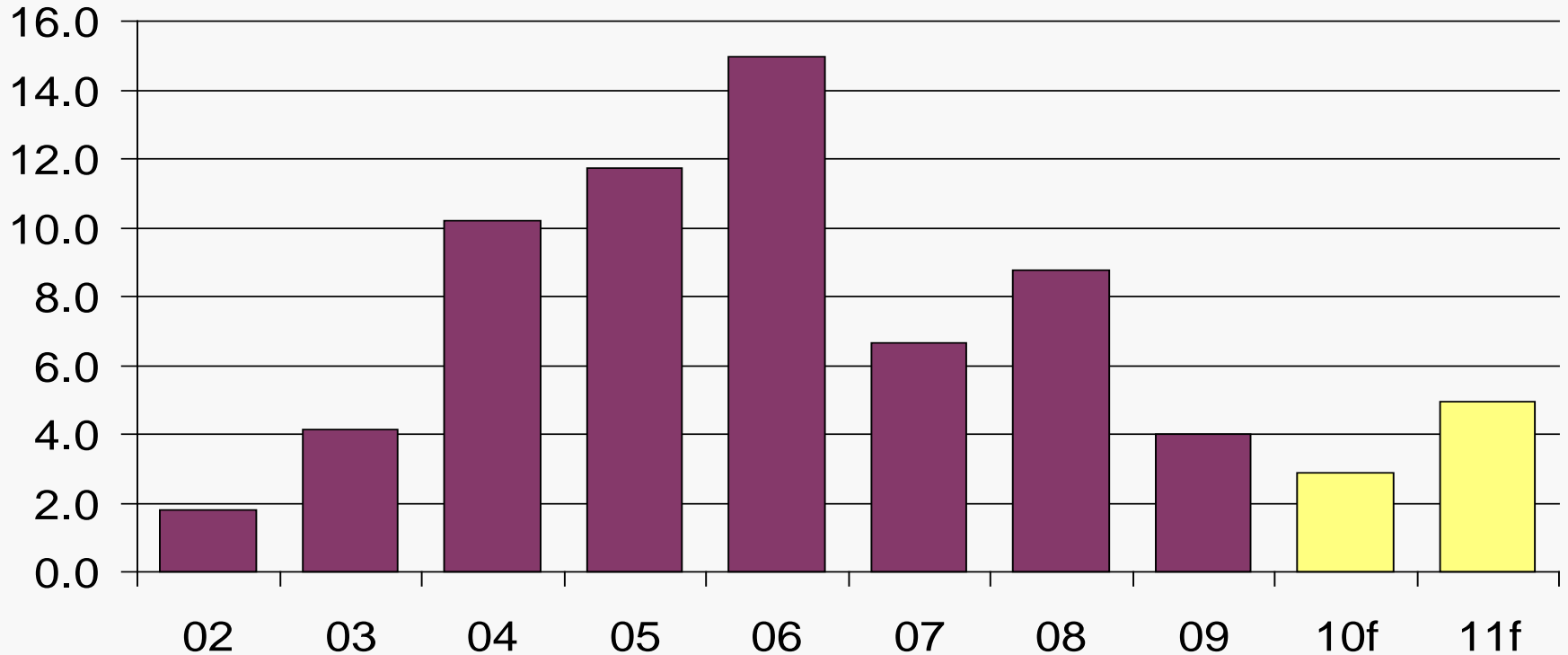


Sources: The Conference Board of Canada; Statistics Canada.



# Disposable Income Growth

Calgary (2002–11)

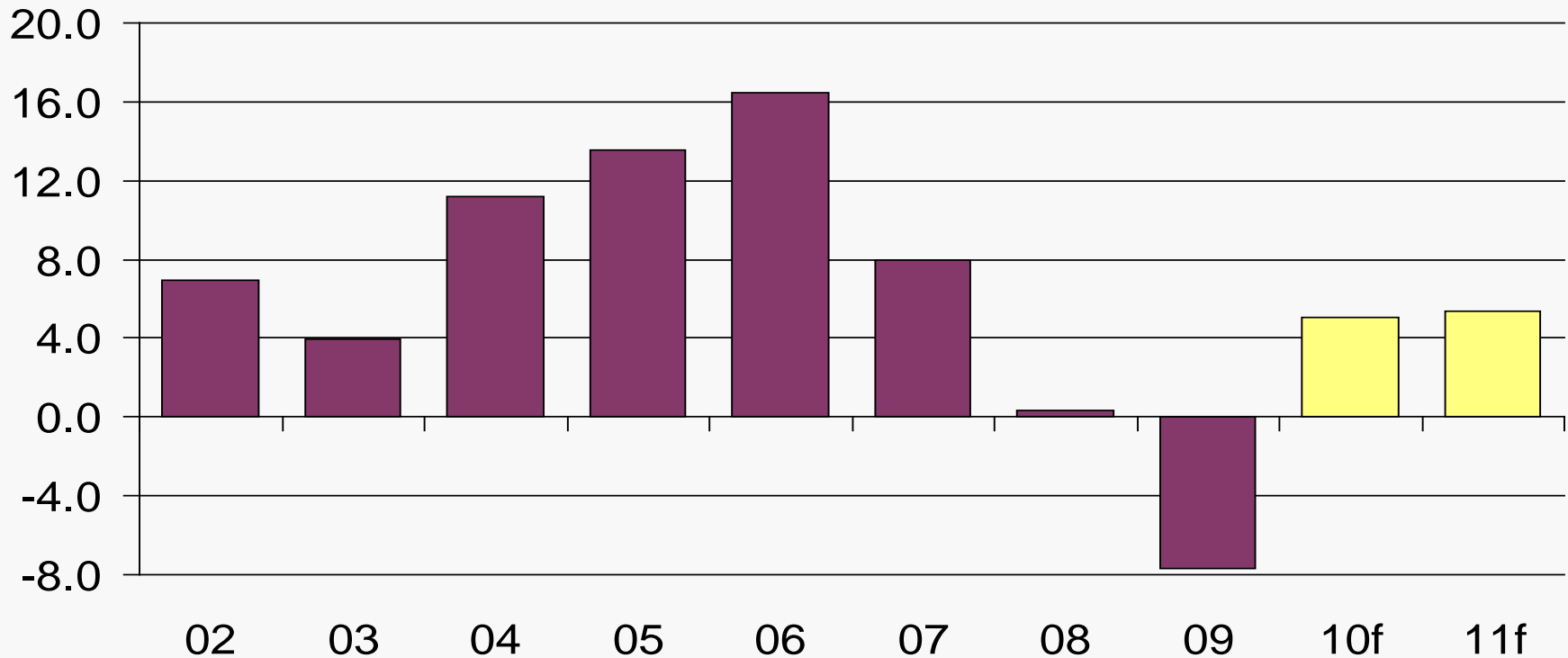


Sources: The Conference Board of Canada; Statistics Canada.



# Retail Sales Growth

Calgary (2002–11)

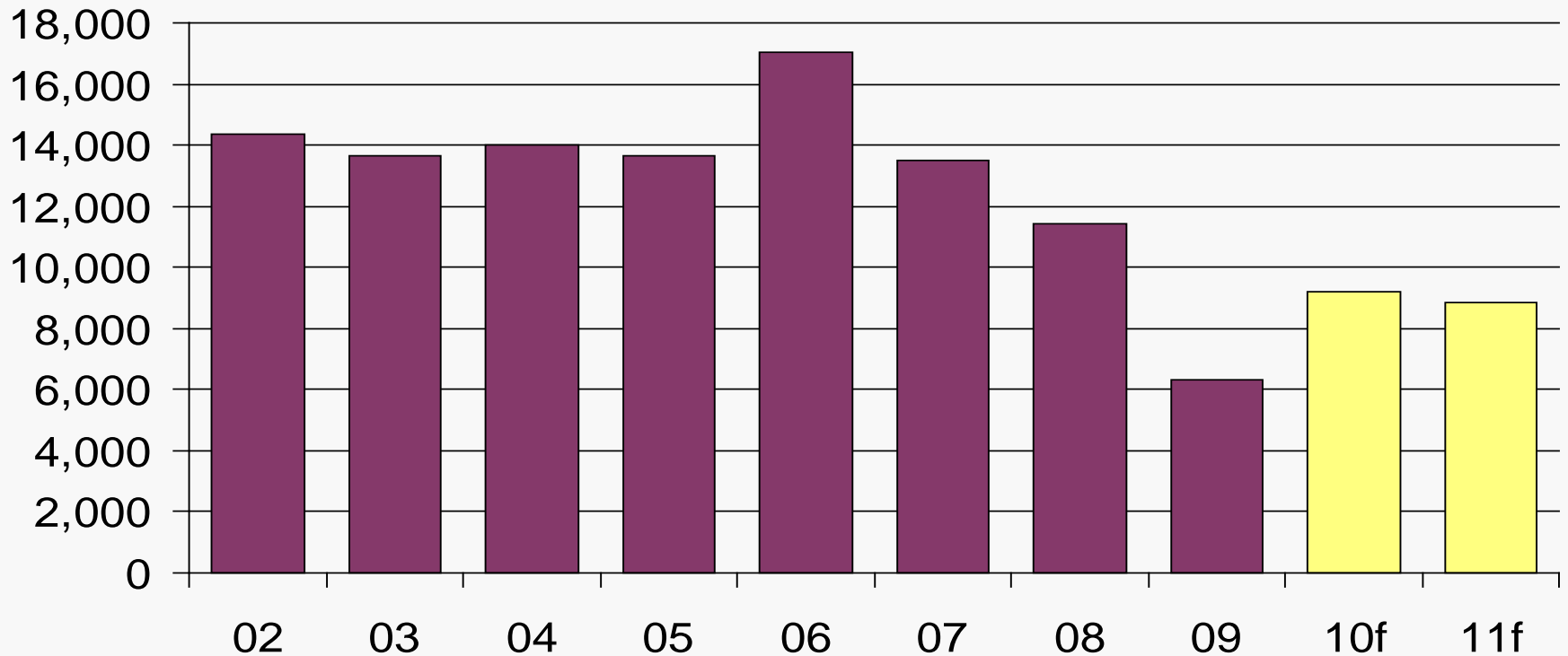


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Housing Starts

## Calgary (2002–11)

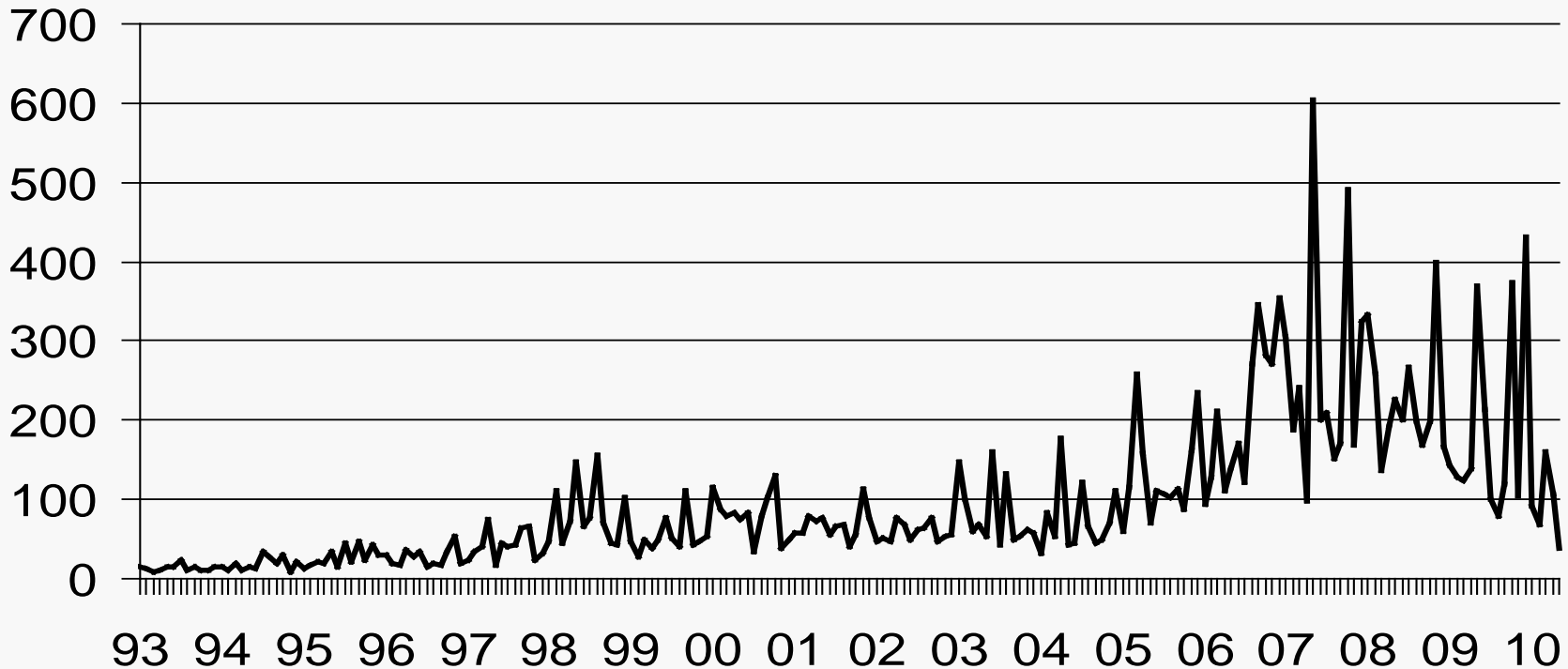


Sources: The Conference Board of Canada; CMHC.



# Non-Residential Building Permits

Calgary (millions \$)

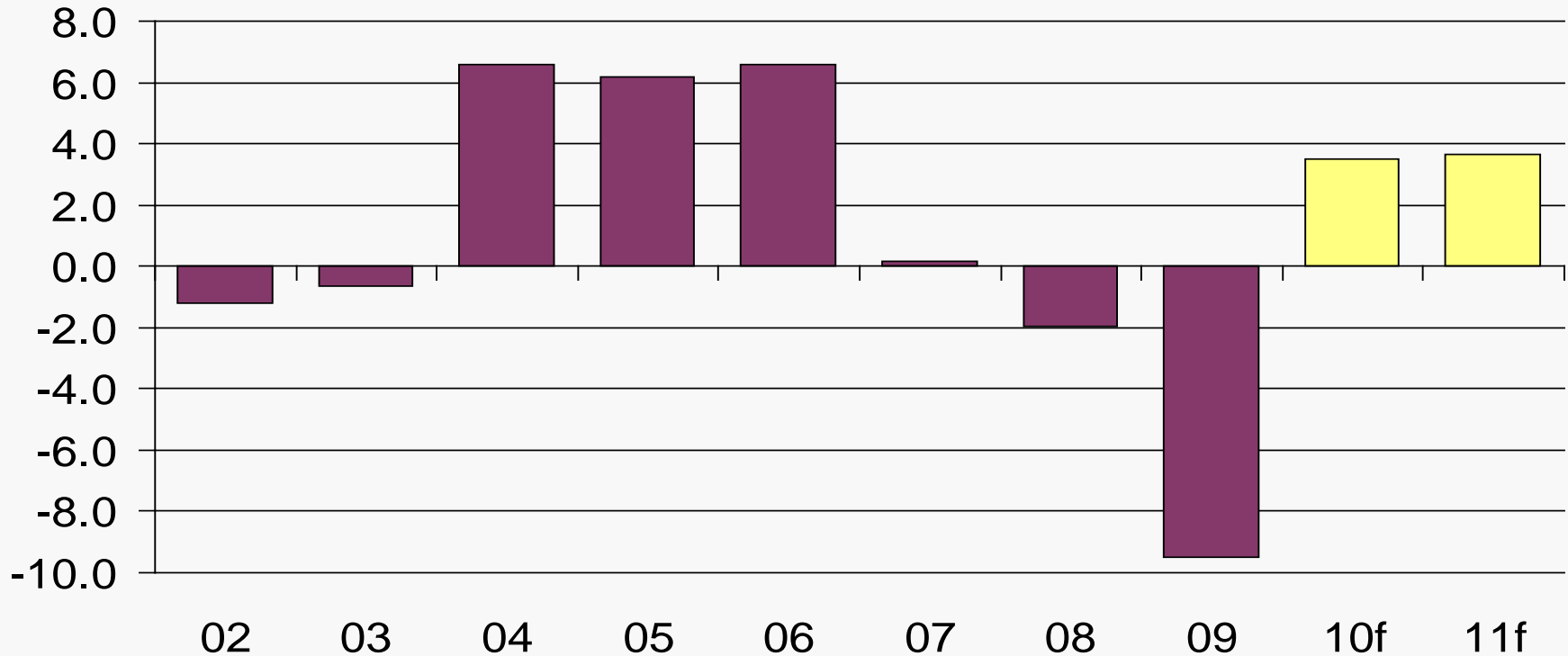


Source: The Conference Board of Canada; Statistics Canada.



# Goods Output Growth

Calgary (2002–11)

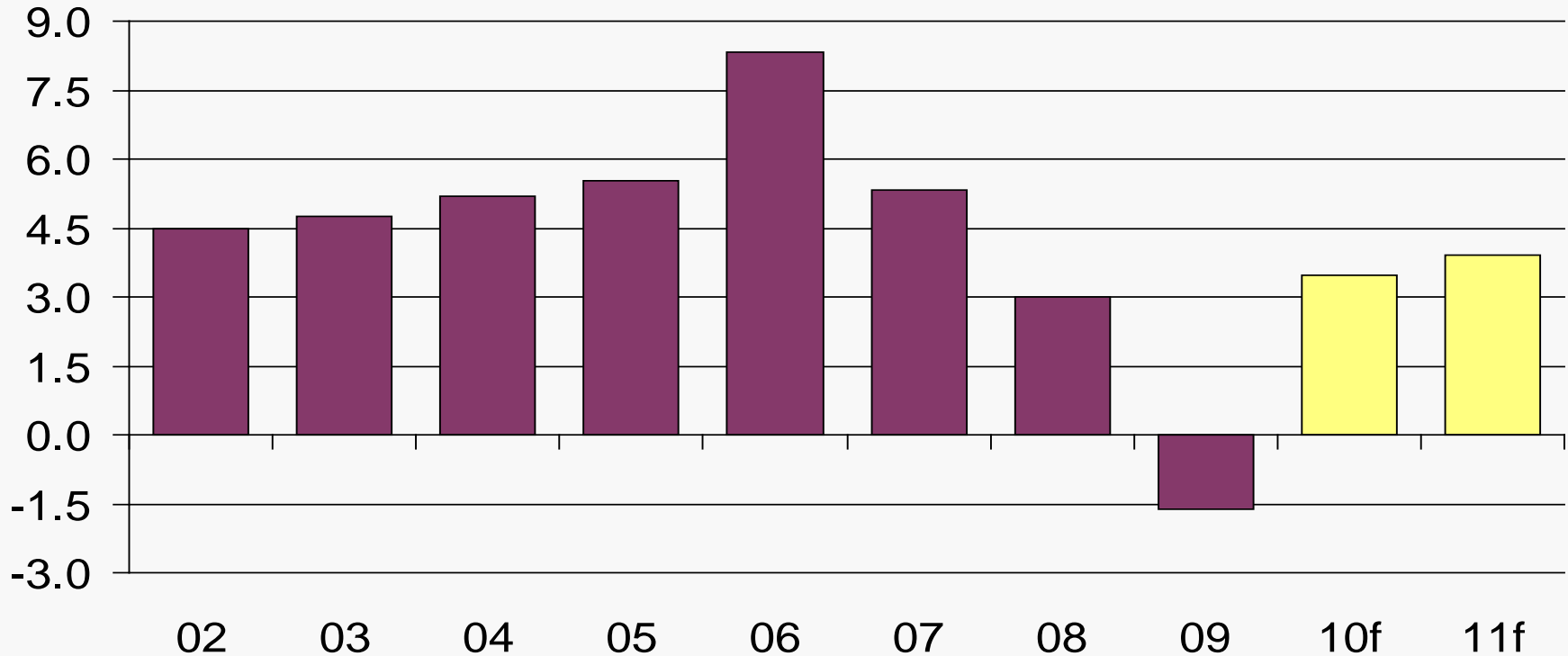


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Services Output Growth

Calgary (2002–11)

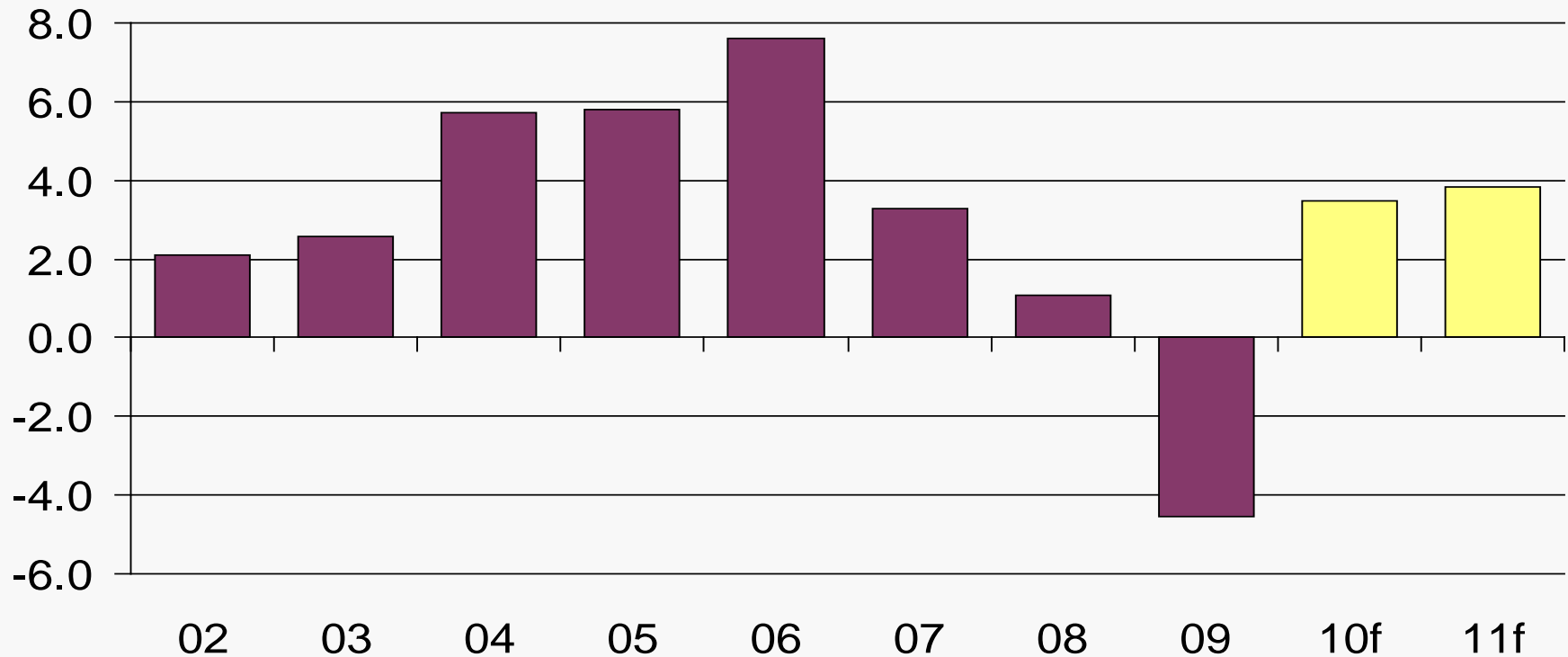


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Real GDP Growth

Calgary (2002–11)

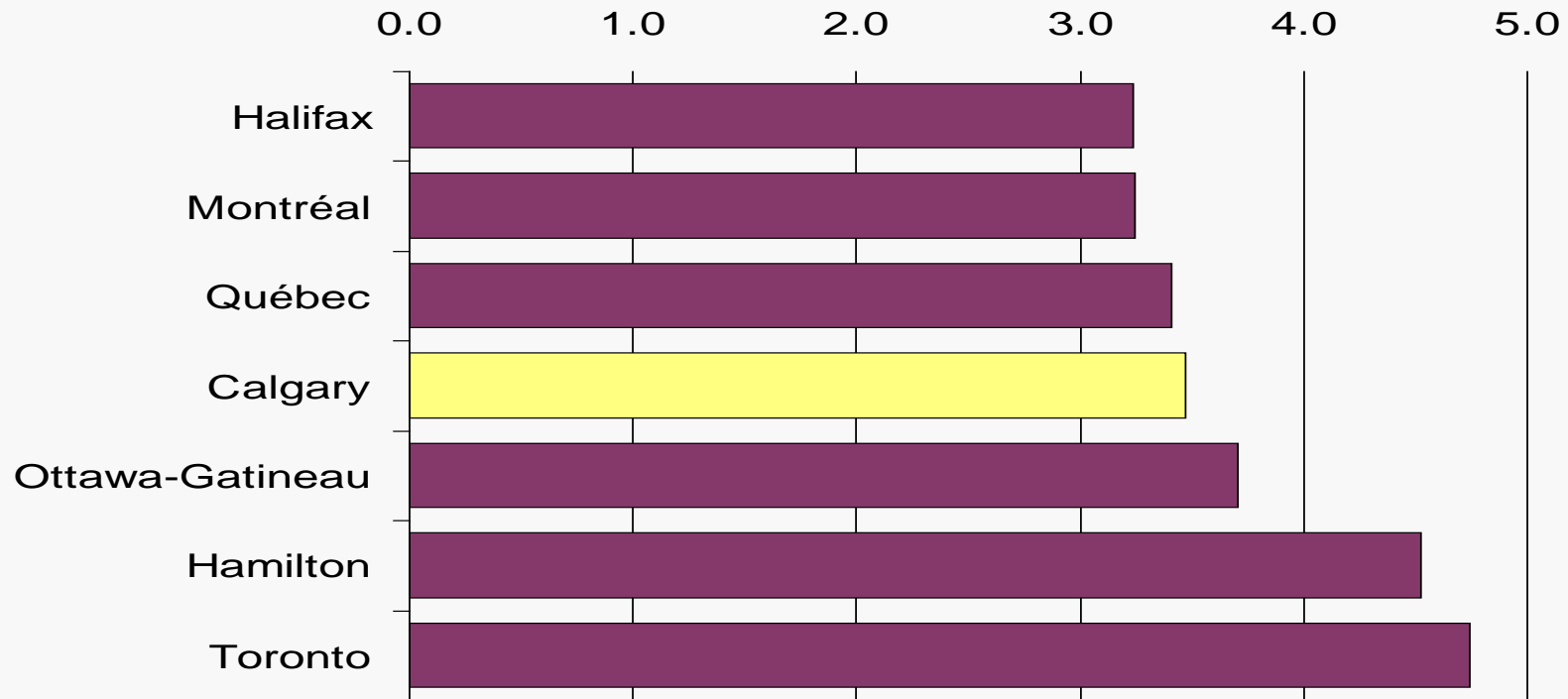


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Calgary vs. East

(Real GDP Growth, 2010)

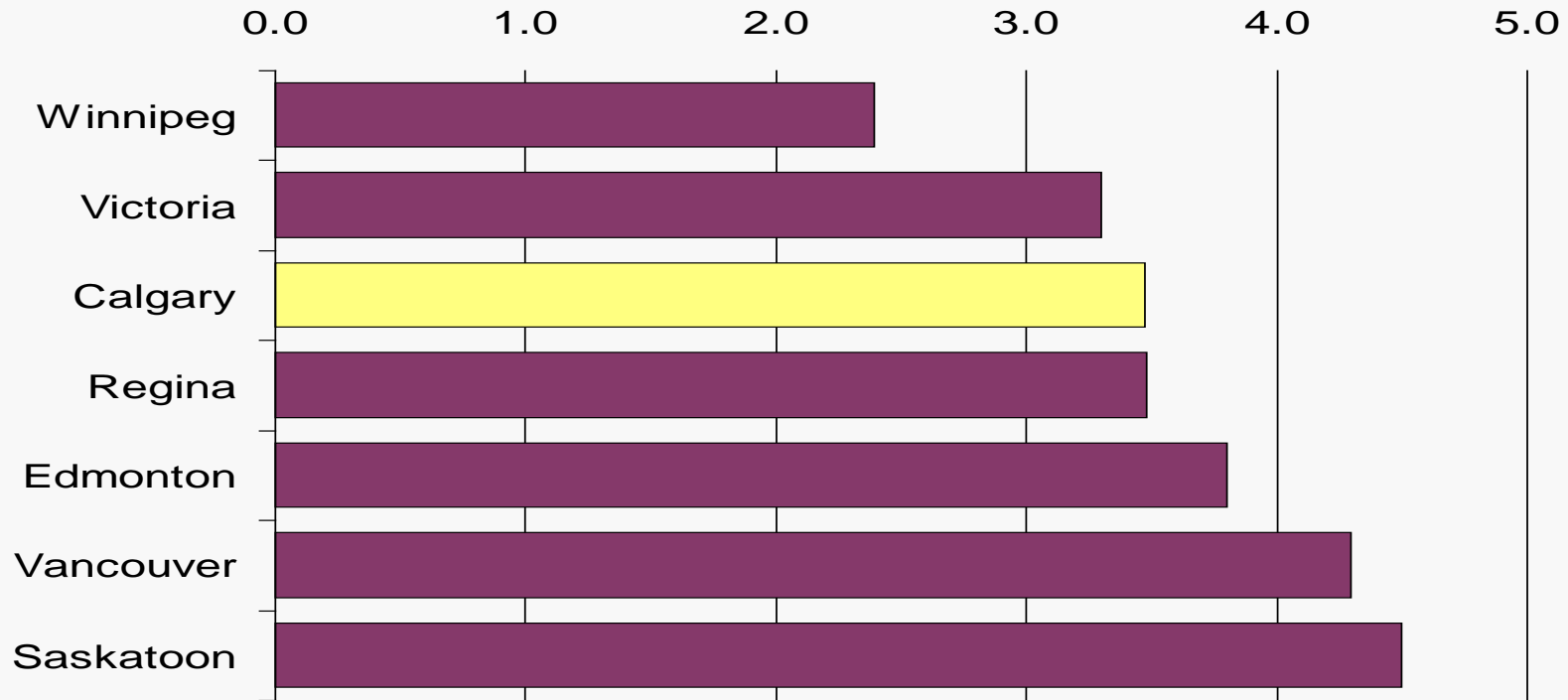


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Calgary vs. the West

(Real GDP Growth, 2010)

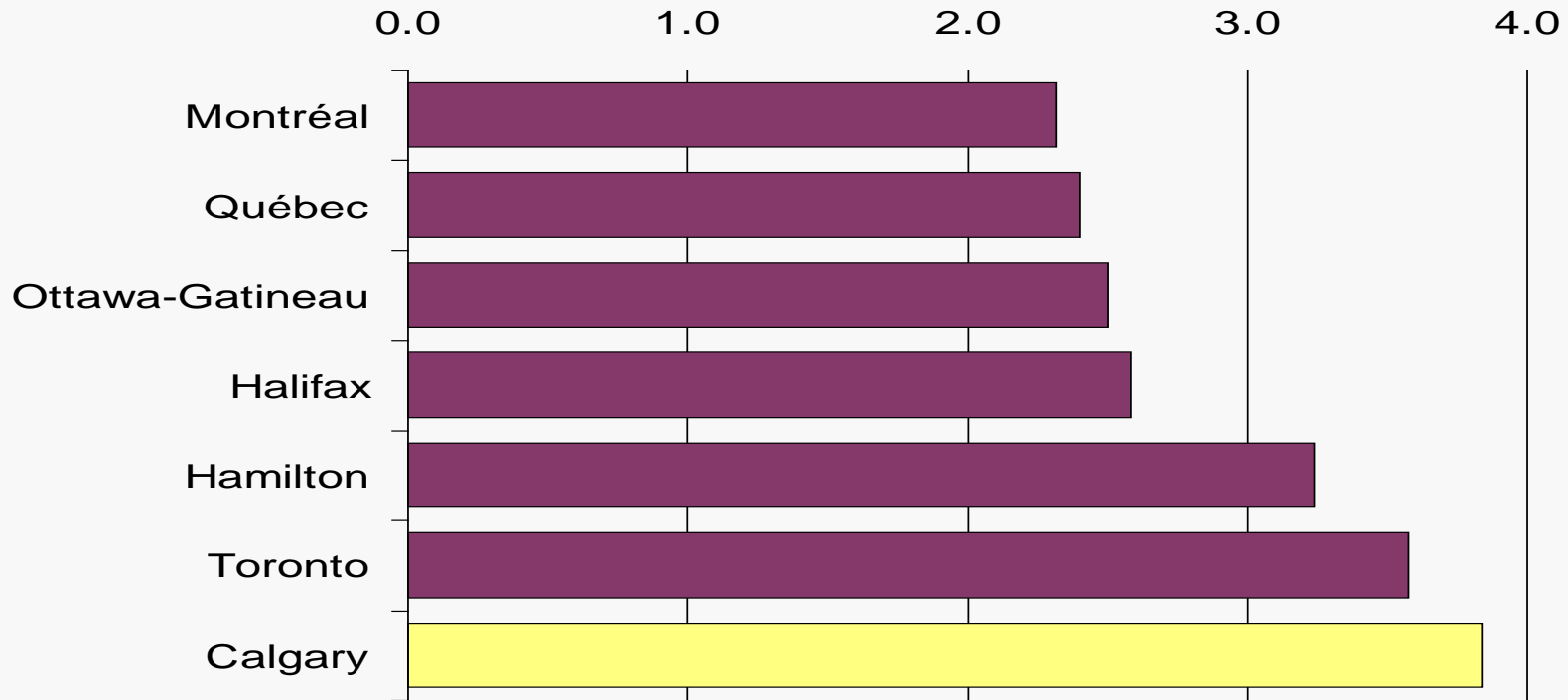


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Calgary vs. the East

(Real GDP Growth, 2011)

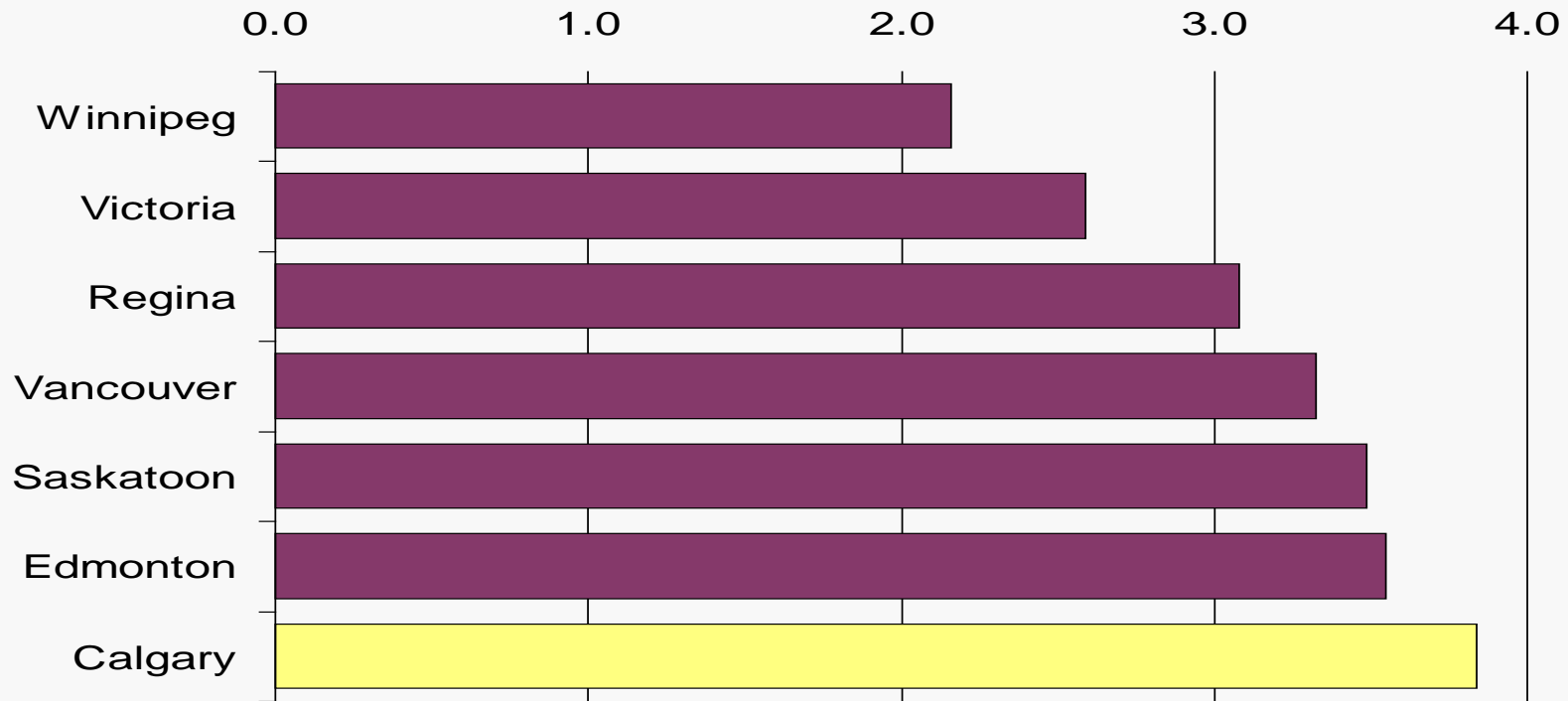


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Calgary vs. the West

(Real GDP Growth, 2011)

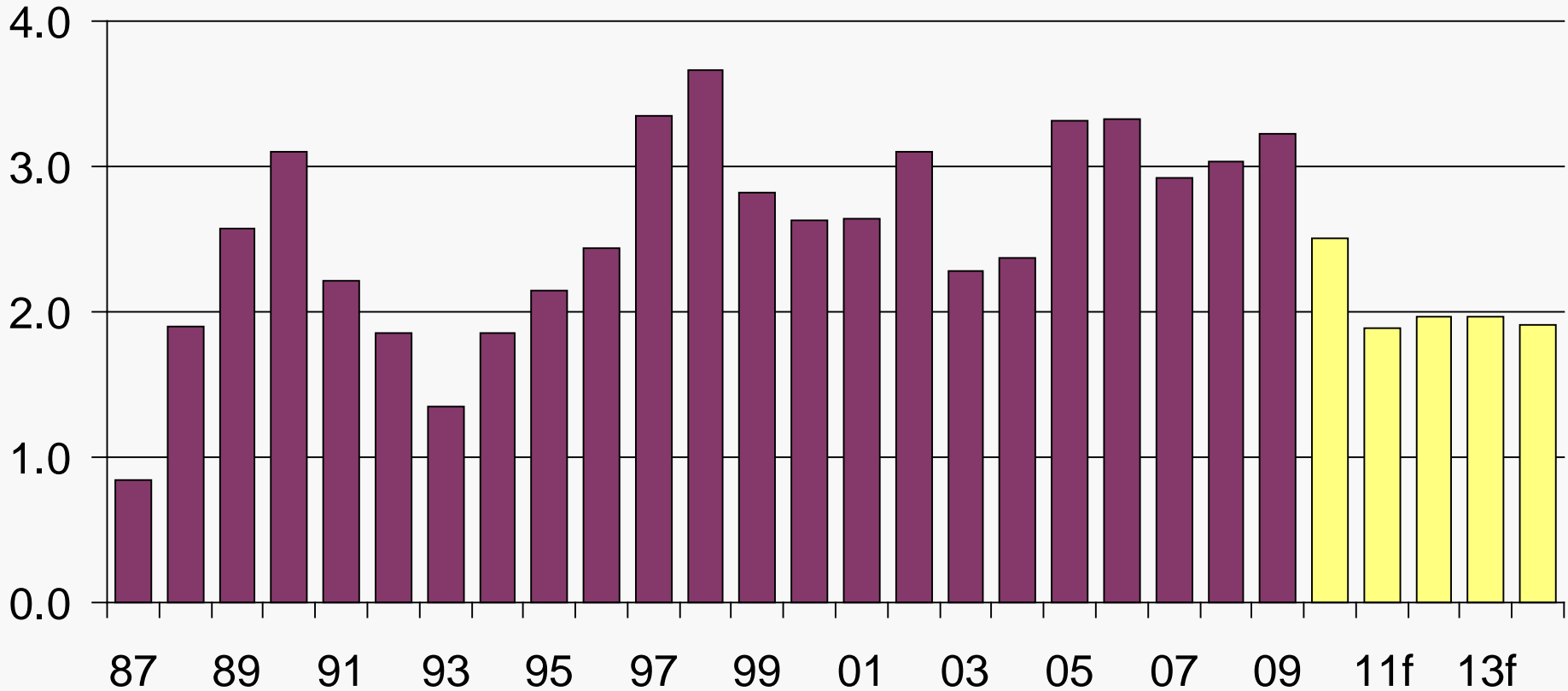


Source: The Conference Board of Canada.



# Population Growth

Calgary (1987–2014)



Source: The Conference Board of Canada.





# The Conference Board of Canada

Mario Lefebvre  
Director, Centre for Municipal Studies  
514-226-1113  
[lefebvre@conferenceboard.ca](mailto:lefebvre@conferenceboard.ca)