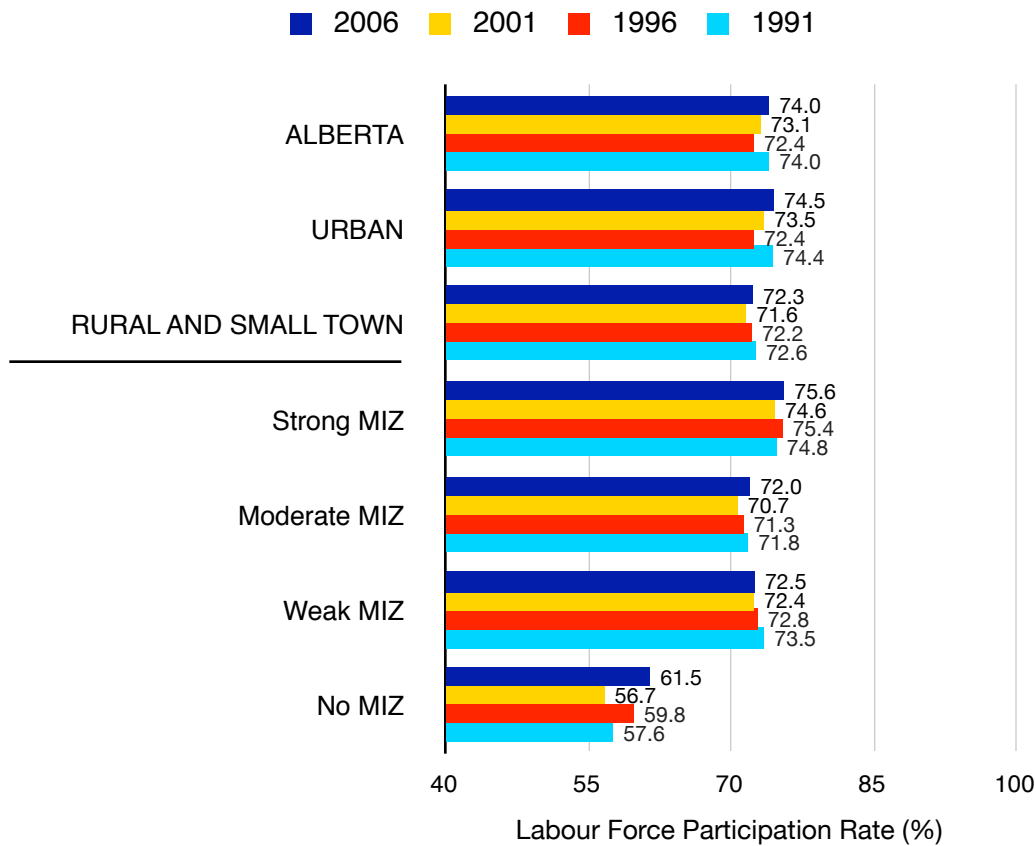


Rural and Small Town Alberta¹: Labour Force Participation Rate



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006, 2001, 1996, and 1991

- The labour force participation rate is the number of labour force participants expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.
- The rural and small town labour force participation rate is lower than the urban rate in all but Strong MIZ (communities that are strongly integrated with urban economies). Rural communities with no integration with urban economies (No MIZ) consistently had by far the lowest rate.

¹ **Rural and Small Town:** Includes rural communities that have a population of less than 10,000 and where less than 50% of employed individuals commute to a Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration.
MIZ stands for "Metropolitan Influence Zone" and denotes the level of integration of rural communities with urban economies, as measured by work commuting flows. The larger the proportion of the working population commuting to an urban centre, the stronger the level of integration with the urban economy. The level of commuting defining each MIZ is as follows:
Strong MIZ: 30% to 49%; **Moderate MIZ:** 5% to 29%; **Weak MIZ:** 1% to 4% ; **No MIZ:** 0%.