



# Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

April 2016



This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Ontario, including the regions of Hamilton—Niagara Peninsula, Kingston—Pembroke, Kitchener—Waterloo—Barrie, London, Muskoka—Kawarthas, Northeast, Northwest, Ottawa, Stratford—Bruce Peninsula, Toronto and Windsor—Sarnia.

## OVERVIEW

### Labour Force Trends – Ontario employment edges lower in April

- Monthly job growth in part-time (+20,800) was more than offset by a decline of full-time work (-24,200)
- The unemployment rate rose to 7.0%
- The unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 dropped to 14.8%

Ontario's employment declined by 3,300 in April 2016, continuing a volatile 2016 so far. Part-time employment gains (+20,800) were not enough to cover the losses in full-time work (-24,200). As more individuals entered the labour force, the province's participation rate inched up to 65.4% while the unemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points to 7.0%, remaining just below the national average of 7.1%.

Nationally, employment saw a slight loss of 2,100 compared to March 2016. Canada's employment decline came from a decline in full-time employment as part-time work remained unchanged. Ontario was not a significant contributor this month, while Alberta experienced a sizeable decline and B.C. had a significant gain. The unemployment rate held steady at 7.1%.

U.S. nonfarm payroll employment grew in April, adding 160,000, coming in well below the expected 202,000 and was the lowest employment growth in seven months. The U.S. unemployment rate remained steady at 5.0%. A weak first quarter GDP<sup>1</sup>, coupled with some softer than expected manufacturing and spending data, has factored into the U.S. Federal Reserve opting to hold its benchmark interest rate steady<sup>2</sup>. This latest employment figure may yet again delay expectations for another rate hike<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Trading Economics. **U.S. GDP Growth Rate**. Retrieved from: <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/usa/gdp-growth>

<sup>2</sup> WSJ News Graphics. (April 27, 2016). **Fed Statement Tracker**. *The Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from <http://projects.wsj.com/fed-statement-tracker/#>

<sup>3</sup> Kasperkevic, Jana. (May 6, 2016). **US economy adds just 160,000 jobs in April – further sign of a slowdown**. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/may/06/april-jobs-report-us-economy-unemployment-rate>

Between April 2015 and April 2016, Ontario employment grew by 95,700, with increases in both in full-time (+67,000) and part-time (+28,600) employment. While the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points over the 12 months, the labour force participation rate has improved 0.3 percentage points since April 2015, although still at relatively lower levels.

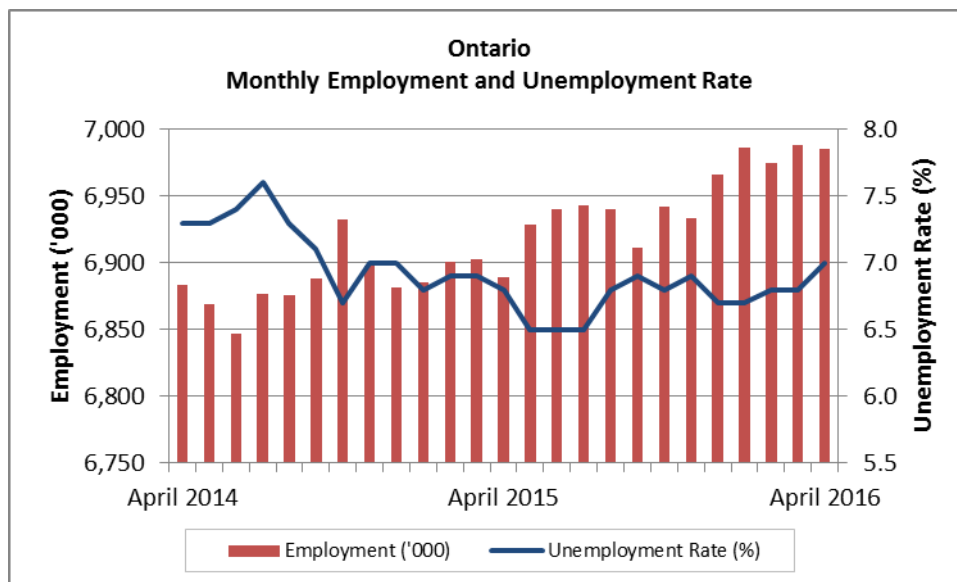
The Ontario unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 decreased a slight 0.1 percentage point to 14.8% between March and April, with a significant increase (+0.8pp) for males and a sizeable decrease (-0.9pp) for females. The provincial rate in April 2016 remained higher than the national average of 13.1%.

**Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics**

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Population 15 + ('000)</b>	11,487.5	11,477.8	11,356.6	9.7	0.1	130.9	1.2
<b>Labour Force ('000)</b>	7,510.6	7,496.9	7,392.2	13.7	0.2	118.4	1.6
<b>Employment ('000)</b>	6,985.3	6,988.6	6,889.6	-3.3	0.0	95.7	1.4
Full-Time ('000)	5,653.5	5,677.7	5,586.5	-24.2	-0.4	67.0	1.2
Part-Time ('000)	1,331.7	1,310.9	1,303.1	20.8	1.6	28.6	2.2
<b>Unemployment ('000)</b>	525.3	508.3	502.6	17.0	3.3	22.7	4.5
<b>Unemployment Rate (%)</b>	7.0	6.8	6.8	0.2	-	0.2	-
<b>Participation Rate (%)</b>	65.4	65.3	65.1	0.1	-	0.3	-
<b>Employment Rate (%)</b>	60.8	60.9	60.7	-0.1	-	0.1	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087



## Ontario Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	Monthly Variation	Yearly Variation
	%	%	%	(% points)	(% points)
<b>Total</b>	7.0	6.8	6.8	0.2	0.2
<b>25 years and over</b>	5.7	5.4	5.3	0.3	0.4
Men - 25 years and over	5.9	5.6	5.3	0.3	0.6
Women - 25 years and over	5.4	5.2	5.3	0.2	0.1
<b>15 to 24 years</b>	14.8	14.9	15.3	-0.1	-0.5
Men - 15 to 24 years	16.5	15.7	17.0	0.8	-0.5
Women - 15 to 24 years	13.2	14.1	13.5	-0.9	-0.3

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0087

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

## Employment in the goods-producing sector weakened by losses in construction, agriculture and manufacturing

Ontario's goods-producing sector shed the most positions in April since the 2008-2009 recession. Employment fell by 23,400 compared to March 2016. Losses were driven by the construction (-12,300), agriculture (-6,200) and manufacturing industries (-5,700). Gains in the sector were registered only in utilities (+1,000).

The drop in employment contrasts with news coming out of the sector in April. In **construction**, Ontario building permits rose by 14.2% in the 12 months ending March, with gains in both residential and non-residential.<sup>4</sup> Housing starts growth was strong in March compared to a year earlier, especially in single-detached homes—up 77%.<sup>5</sup> In industrial and commercial construction, Samsung Renewable Energy, Inc. and Connor, Clark & Lunn Infrastructure began the Windsor Solar project, expected to create up to 225 jobs.<sup>6</sup> Further east, Ontario Gaming East Ltd Partnership broke ground on a \$40M casino project in Belleville<sup>7</sup> and will be building another in Peterborough, with slots, gaming tables and a restaurant.<sup>8</sup>

Optimism among Ontario **manufacturers** also belied job losses in the industry. The April RBC Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for Ontario decreased from its March reading to 56.7, yet still signaled expansion.<sup>9</sup> Employer sentiment continued to be buoyed by low exchange rates, sustained U.S. demand, and slower growth in input prices.<sup>10</sup> The regionally important auto manufacturing sub-industry saw several investments put

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada. (2016, May 5). CANSIM Table 026-0003 - Building permits, values by activity sector, monthly (dollars). *Statistics Canada*. Retrieved from <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=0260003>

<sup>5</sup> Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation. (2016, April). **Preliminary Housing Start Data**. *Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation*. Retrieved from [http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/odpub/esub/64695/64695\\_2016\\_M04.pdf](http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/odpub/esub/64695/64695_2016_M04.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Connor, Clark & Lunn Infrastructure. (2016, April 7). **Samsung and Connor, Clark & Lunn Infrastructure Commence Construction on Windsor Solar, Creating Jobs and Investment in Ontario**. *Canadian News Wired*. Retrieved from <http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/samsung-and-connor-clark-lunn-infrastructure-commence-construction-on-windsor-solar-creating-jobs-and-investment-in-ontario-574933201.html>

<sup>7</sup> Miller, T. (2016, April 27). **Casino breaks ground**. *The Peterborough Examiner*. Retrieved from <http://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/2016/04/27/casino-breaks-ground>

<sup>8</sup> Kovach, J. (2016, April 13). **Casino confirmed for city of Peterborough**. *The Peterborough Examiner*. Retrieved from <http://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/2016/04/12/casino-confirmed-for-city-of-peterborough>

<sup>9</sup> Markit Economics Limited. (2016, May 2). **RBC Canadian Manufacturing PMI™ Regional Report**. *RBC*. Retrieved from <http://www.rbc.com/newsroom/assets-custom/pdf/20160502-pmi-rgnl.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Markit Economics Limited. (2016, May 2). **RBC Canadian Manufacturing PMI™ Report**. *RBC*. Retrieved from <http://www.rbc.com/newsroom/assets-custom/pdf/050216-pmi-report-lite.pdf>

forward,<sup>11,12</sup> the largest coming from Formet Industries, a division of Magna Structural Systems Inc. The parts maker is spending \$23M on new production technology and adding 66 new jobs at its St. Thomas plant.<sup>13</sup>

Even in the normally quiet **agriculture** industry, Archer's Poultry Farm Ltd. announced it will erect a 30,000-sq.-ft. chick hatchery in Quinte West this spring or early summer, relocating its Brighton hatchery staff and possibly hiring more.<sup>14</sup> Meanwhile, Premier Kosher Inc. will open a chicken processing plant in Abingdon, West Lincoln in the Niagara region in 2017 and expects to employ approximately 80 people.<sup>15</sup> Good news for the struggling **mining** sector came from Alamos Gold Inc. expanding its operations near Timmins, supporting 700 jobs and adding 75 more. St. Andrews Goldfields Ltd also announced a gold mine development near Matheson by year-end.<sup>16</sup>

Over the last 12 months, employment in the goods-producing sector grew by 20,100. Gains between April 2015 and April 2016 came from the manufacturing industry (+13,300) and agriculture (+5,400). Employment growth in the sector was weakened by losses in the forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas industry (-1,600) and the utilities industry (-1,300).

### **Broad gains in the services-producing sector driven by trade and accommodation and food services**

Services-producing sector employment increased by 20,000 between April 2016 and March 2016, compensating for some of the losses in goods-production. Gains were spread across most industries with trade (+10,100) and accommodation and food services (+8,900) making the largest contributions. Losses were greatest in the business, building and other support services industry (-13,100).

**Retail** spending likely strengthened in April as Ontario consumer confidence continued to reach new highs<sup>17</sup> and Canadian auto sales capped a strong quarter with 9.3% growth in March.<sup>18</sup> Though higher food prices have eaten into household budgets, Loblaw Companies Ltd. expects price increases to slow.<sup>19</sup> The company is investing close to \$1B on building 50 new stores and renovating another 150 across Canada in 2016.<sup>20</sup> Also, IKEA Canada plans

<sup>11</sup> Stacey, M. (2016, April 10). Hino Motors Canada celebrates 10 years in Woodstock with huge expansion on the horizon. *Woodstock Sentinel Review*. Retrieved from <http://www.woodstocksentinelreview.com/2016/04/10/hino-motors-canada-celebrates-10-years-in-woodstock-with-huge-expansion-on-the-horizon>

<sup>12</sup> Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. (2016, April 13). Automotive Supplier Innovation Program. *Government of Canada Newsroom*. Retrieved from <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVI=&crtr.mnthStrtVI=&crtr.page=1&nid=1050779>

<sup>13</sup> DeBono, N. (2016, April 7). St. Thomas auto parts maker plans to add 66 more workers for new bumper production. *The London Free Press*. Retrieved from <http://www.lfpress.com/2016/04/07/st-thomas-based-formet-is-investing-23-of-its-own-money>

<sup>14</sup> Kuglin, E. (2016, April 19). Chick hatchery to be constructed in Quinte West. *The Trentonian*. Retrieved from <http://www.trentonian.ca/2016/04/19/chick-hatchery-to-be-constructed-in-quinte-west>

<sup>15</sup> Moore, A. (2016, March 30). Kosher chicken processing plant to open in Abingdon. *Grimsby Lincoln News*. Retrieved from <http://www.niagarathisweek.com/news-story/6412403-kosher-chicken-processing-plant-to-open-in-abingdon/>

<sup>16</sup> TimminsToday.com Staff. (2016, April 21). Find out who's creating 75 new jobs. *Ontario Ministry of Energy via TimminsToday.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.timminstoday.com/local-news/find-out-whos-creating-75-new-jobs-284190>

<sup>17</sup> Nanos Research. (2016, April 29). Consumer confidence in Canada shows positive pressure. *Bloomberg Nanos Canadian Confidence Index (BNCCI)*. Retrieved from <http://www.nanosresearch.com/>

<sup>18</sup> DesRosiers Automotive Consultants Inc. (2016, April 15). DesRosiers Automotive Reports. Volume 30-Issue 7

<sup>19</sup> Canadian Press Staff. (2016, May 4). Loblaw forecasts grocer prices will fall, profit widens in first quarter. *The Canadian Press via CBC News*. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/loblaw-earnings-prices-1.3566677>

<sup>20</sup> Loblaw Companies Ltd. (2016, April 12). Loblaw to invest \$1.3 billion, create approximately 20,000 jobs in 2016. *Canadian News Wire*. Retrieved from <http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/loblaw-to-invest-13-billion-create-approximately-20000-jobs-in-2016-575370521.html>

to hire almost 4,000 new workers in the next ten years.<sup>21</sup> These plans offset less positive news that U.S. clothier Aéropostale will be shuttering its Canadian stores, 23 of which are in Ontario.<sup>22</sup> Beleaguered fashion retailer Le Château will also close 14 of its Canadian stores this year, affecting an unknown number in Ontario; another 40 will close over the next three years.<sup>23</sup>

Declining enrollment is limiting employment in **educational services**. This, despite more high school graduation rates<sup>24</sup> and steady levels of undergraduate applications to provincial universities.<sup>25</sup> The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board issued layoff notices to 41 teachers in April<sup>26</sup> and the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board is closing three schools in Windsor, Leamington and Amherstburg in September.<sup>27</sup> The Hamilton Public School Board will also cut 17 elementary and 53 high school teaching positions this fall.<sup>28</sup>

Services-producing sector employment recorded an increase of 75,600 in April 2016 compared to April 2015. Health care and social assistance (+35,000) and finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (+31,000) saw the strongest growth. These gains were moderated by losses in educational services (-19,200) and business, building and other support services (-11,000).

<sup>21</sup> Beach Mirror Staff. (2016, April 7). **IKEA hosts Talent Focus Week in its goal to recruit 4,000 workers and double its presence in Canada in the next decade**. *Beach Mirror via York Region*. Retrieved from <http://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/6455095-ikea-hosts-talent-focus-week-in-its-goal-to-recruit-4-000-workers-and-double-its-presence-in-canada/>

<sup>22</sup> CBC News Staff. (2016, May 4). **Aéropostale to close all 41 Canadian stores as it files for bankruptcy in U.S.** *CBC News*. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/aeropostale-canadian-closures-1.3565949>

<sup>23</sup> CBC News Staff. (2016, April 18). **Le Chateau to shut 14 stores this year, more closures to come**. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/le-chateau-earnings-1.3540573>

<sup>24</sup> Office of the Premier. (2016, April 1). **More Ontario Students Graduating High School**. *Ontario Newsroom*. Retrieved from <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2015/04/more-ontario-students-graduating-high-school-than-ever-before.html>

<sup>25</sup> Ontario Universities' Application Centre. (2016, March 3). **Undergraduate Application Statistics — March 2016**. *Statistics – Secondary School Stream*. Retrieved from [http://www.ouac.on.ca/statistics/ugrad-app-stats/uapp\\_mar/](http://www.ouac.on.ca/statistics/ugrad-app-stats/uapp_mar/)

<sup>26</sup> Deeth, S. (2016, April 14). **Dozens of secondary school teachers laid off at KPR**. *CHEXTV*. Retrieved from <http://www.chextv.com/2016/04/14/58983/>

<sup>27</sup> Thomson, R. (2016, April 6). **Catholic board votes to close three schools**. *AM800 News*. Retrieved from <http://www.am800cklw.com/News/Headlines/Catholic-board-votes-to-close-three-schools>

<sup>28</sup> Leitner, R. (2016, April 22). **Declining school enrolment in Hamilton to cost another 70 teacher jobs**. *The Hamilton Spectator*. Retrieved from <http://www.thespec.com/news-story/6510620-declining-school-enrolment-in-hamilton-to-cost-another-70-teacher-jobs/>

## Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	April 2016	March 2016	April 2015	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total employed, all industries</b>	6,985.3	6,988.6	6,889.6	-3.3	0.0	95.7	1.4
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	1,405.9	1,429.3	1,385.8	-23.4	-1.6	20.1	1.5
Agriculture	80.3	86.5	74.9	-6.2	-7.2	5.4	7.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	40.2	40.6	41.8	-0.4	-1.0	-1.6	-3.8
Utilities	50.1	49.1	51.4	1.0	2.0	-1.3	-2.5
Construction	485.9	498.2	481.6	-12.3	-2.5	4.3	0.9
Manufacturing	749.3	755.0	736.0	-5.7	-0.8	13.3	1.8
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	5,579.4	5,559.4	5,503.8	20.0	0.4	75.6	1.4
Trade	1,043.4	1,033.3	1,047.0	10.1	1.0	-3.6	-0.3
Transportation and warehousing	332.2	327.2	318.5	5.0	1.5	13.7	4.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	556.1	553.1	525.1	3.0	0.5	31.0	5.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	600.6	600.2	571.4	0.4	0.1	29.2	5.1
Business, building and other support services	323.9	337.0	334.9	-13.1	-3.9	-11.0	-3.3
Educational services	501.7	505.1	520.9	-3.4	-0.7	-19.2	-3.7
Health care and social assistance	834.5	832.9	799.5	1.6	0.2	35.0	4.4
Information, culture and recreation	305.5	303.1	312.2	2.4	0.8	-6.7	-2.1
Accommodation and food services	459.6	450.7	459.0	8.9	2.0	0.6	0.1
Other services	270.7	271.5	271.8	-0.8	-0.3	-1.1	-0.4
Public administration	351.0	345.3	343.5	5.7	1.7	7.5	2.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0088

## REGIONAL ANALYSIS

## Employment growth in Toronto mainly influenced by gains in full-time jobs

Employment in the **Toronto economic region** grew by 96,700 (+3.0%) between April 2015 and April 2016 (measured on a year-over-year, seasonally unadjusted basis), driven by gains in full-time positions. However, this was the weakest year-over-year employment growth reported in Toronto since June 2015. The unemployment rate edged up by 0.1 percentage point to 7.2% in April 2016, as more people participated in the labour force.

Although regional manufacturing employment was a bit sluggish over the period, some investments were announced that will boost job creation in the sector. Notably, the plan to expand research and development in medical devices at Baylis Medical Company in Mississauga, creating 84 new jobs;<sup>29</sup> while Quality Cheese Inc. in Orangeville is expanding its production capabilities.<sup>30</sup> Also, several retailers are expanding as the Yorkdale Shopping Centre will open a new wing anchored by fashion retailer Nordstrom, Inc. along with 30 additional retail-

<sup>29</sup> Ontario Newsroom Staff. (2016, March 17). **Ontario Investing Over \$4 Million to Expand R&D in Medical Devices**. *Newsroom Ontario*. Retrieved from: <https://news.ontario.ca/medt/en/2016/03/ontario-investing-over-4-million-to-expand-rd-in-medical-devices.html>

<sup>30</sup> Government of Canada Staff. (2016, April 28). **FedDev Ontario Supports Innovative Productivity Improvements for Orangeville Manufacturer**. *Government of Canada*. Retrieved at: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=index&ctr.page=1&nid=1057949>



ers.<sup>31</sup> The region also benefitted from the strong relationship between general retail and warehousing activities, as seen by the establishment of a new distribution centre in Mississauga by IKEA Canada.<sup>32</sup>

Employment grew by 9,800 (+1.4%), all in part-time positions, in the **Kitchener-Waterloo-Barrie** economic region. The strong showing by the region's manufacturing sector was the main reason for the increase. Simcoe Parts Service Inc. in Alliston will manufacture and assemble headliners for the 2017 Honda CR-V<sup>33</sup> and General Mills Canada Corp announced an extension of the closing date of its Midland's Pillsbury plant.<sup>34</sup> Also, Guelph's Hammond Manufacturing Company Ltd., New Hamburg's Ontario Drive & Gear Ltd,<sup>35</sup> and Waterloo's Sandvine Inc.<sup>36</sup> each received government investments to support expansion and new technologies. Finally, funding from private and public sector partnerships will assist early stage companies in the Guelph-Wellington area and create 230 full-time jobs in the local technology cluster.<sup>37</sup>

Between April 2015 and April 2016, employment gains were also reported in **Kingston-Pembroke, Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula, London** and **Northwest** economic regions.

### Employment losses were reported in five economic regions

Employment declined by 2,300 (-0.3%) in the **Ottawa** economic region between April 2015 and April 2016. The losses were realized entirely in part-time positions. After a slight increase in March, following 12 consecutive months of year-over-year declines, this month's employment loss represents a setback for the region.

Ottawa's manufacturing sector was a significant contributor to the region's losses over this period. The sector faces further weakening as Saputo Inc. plans to close its Ottawa operation by December 2017, impacting 126 local jobs.<sup>38</sup> News coming from the region's retail sector has been mixed. The closure of two grocery stores: Valu-Mart in Brockville earlier this year,<sup>39</sup> and Metro Inc. in Cornwall this spring<sup>40</sup> will result in a total loss of

<sup>31</sup> Retail Insider staff. **Yorkdale Reveals List of 'Nordstrom Wing' Retail Tenants**. Retrieved at: <http://www.retail-insider.com/retail-insider/2016/4/yorkdale-expansion>.

<sup>32</sup> Newswire Staff. (2016, March 21). **IKEA Continues to Expand Operations in Canada**. Newswire. Retrieved at: <http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/ikea-continues-to-expand-operations-in-canada-572930061.html>

<sup>33</sup> Pritchard, B. (2016, March 29). **Auto parts manufacturer bringing new jobs to Alliston**. *Alliston Herald*. Retrieved at: <http://www.simcoe.com/news-story/6409853-auto-parts-manufacturer-bringing-new-jobs-to-alliston>.

<sup>34</sup> Burns, A. (2016, March 9). **Closure of Midland's Pillsbury plant postponed until January 2017**. *Midland Mirror*. Retrieved at: <http://www.simcoe.com/news-story/6381945-closure-of-midland-s-pillsbury-plant-postponed-until-january-2017>

<sup>35</sup> Government of Canada Staff. (2016, March 15). **FedDev Ontario Announces Funding for Innovative Manufacturers in Guelph and New Hamburg**. Government of Canada. Retrieved at: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do;jsessionid=c6690341d78dc7d654e713b1b3769ef0cdaf701703b782bf1cf66bd81f786053.e38Rbhalb3qNe3aQbh50?mt=tp&crtr.page=1&nid=1040199&crtr.tp1D=1>.

<sup>36</sup> Newsroom Ontario. (2016, March 18). **Ontario Partners With Next-Generation Tech Leader**. *Newsroom Ontario*. Retrieved at: <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2016/03/ontario-partners-with-next-generation-tech-leader.html>.

<sup>37</sup> Government of Canada Staff. (2016, March 1). **FedDev Ontario Announces Support for Entrepreneurs and Early-stage Businesses in Southern Ontario**. *Government of Canada*. Retrieved at: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=tp&crtr.page=2&nid=1037009&crtr.tp1D=1>

<sup>38</sup> CBC News staff. (2016, March 22). **Saputo to close 3 plants with loss of 230 jobs**. *CBC News*. Retrieved from: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/saputo-plants-close-1.3502612>

<sup>39</sup> Zajac, R. (2015, October 1). **Brockville's Valu-Mart closing**. *Brockville Recorder*. Retrieved from: <http://www.recorder.ca/2015/10/01/brockvilles-valu-mart-closing>.

<sup>40</sup> Baker, L. (2016, March 29). **Metro closing Cornwall store**. *Cornwall Standard Freeholder*. Retrieved from: <http://www.standard-freeholder.com/2016/03/29/metro-closing-cornwall-store>.

nearly 120 jobs. However, the region should benefit from the opening of a Lowe's location this May,<sup>41</sup> and a Cabela's outdoor store later this year,<sup>42</sup> together creating over 300 jobs.

Despite the job losses sustained in the **Windsor-Sarnia** economic region, good news came as Sellick Equipment Ltd. started construction on its new forklift production facility in Harrow.<sup>43</sup> Also, Wolfhead Distillery in Amherstburg is hiring 30 workers for its upcoming store opening at the end of May.<sup>44</sup>

Between April 2015 and April 2016, employment losses were also reported in **Muskoka-Kawarthas**, **Stratford-Bruce Peninsula** and the **Northeast** economic regions.

### Ontario Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	April 2016 ('000)	April 2015 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	April 2016 (%)	April 2015 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
<b>Ontario</b>	6,890.3	6,805.6	1.2	7.0	7.0	0.0
<b>Economic Regions</b>						
Ottawa	681.4	683.7	-0.3	7.3	6.6	0.7
Kingston—Pembroke	200.5	200.4	0.0	7.7	8.7	-1.0
Muskoka—Kawarthas	162.7	182.1	-10.7	5.7	9.7	-4.0
Toronto	3,329.5	3,232.8	3.0	7.2	7.1	0.1
Kitchener—Waterloo—Barrie	707.4	697.6	1.4	6.0	6.3	-0.3
Hamilton—Niagara Peninsula	709.8	700.3	1.4	6.5	6.0	0.5
London	326.8	315.6	3.5	6.9	6.3	0.6
Windsor—Sarnia	292.1	299.4	-2.4	7.3	9.6	-2.3
Stratford—Bruce Peninsula	140.0	153.6	-8.9	6.2	5.8	0.4
Northeast	241.8	245.1	-1.3	8.5	8.1	0.4
Northwest	98.3	95.1	3.4	8.1	6.0	2.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – CANSIM Table 282-0122

<sup>41</sup> Standard Freeholder Staff. (2015, September 30). **Lowe's moving into former Walmart location in Brookdale Plaza in Cornwall**. *Standard Freeholder*. Retrieved from <http://www.standard-freeholder.com/2015/09/30/lowes-moving-into-former-walmart-location-in-brookdale-plaza-in-cornwall>

<sup>42</sup> Kveton, A. (2016, January 16). **Cabela's to open in September**. *Kanata-Kourier Standard*. Retrieved from: <http://www.ottawacommunitynews.com/news-story/6230131-cabela-s-to-open-in-september>.

<sup>43</sup> CBC News staff. (2016, April 20). **Sellick forklift manufacturer begins expansion in Harrow**. *CBC News, Windsor*. Retrieved from: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/windsor-sellick-forklift-expansion-1.3544673>.

<sup>44</sup> Loiselle, A. (2016, April 23). **Wolfhead Distillery Seeking Workers At Job Fair**. *Blackburn News*. Retrieved from: <https://blackburnnews.com/windsor/windsor-news/2016/04/23/wolfhead-distillery-seeking-workers-at-job-fair/>



**Note:** In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.

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**For information on the Labour Force Survey,** please visit the Statistics Canada Web site at: [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

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