



Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

December 2018



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 - Employment increased in Ontario in the fourth quarter of 2018, entirely in full-time work

- Employment rose by 19,200 (+0.3%) in the fourth quarter of 2018
- Job gains were entirely in full-time work (+21,300; +0.4%), while part-time employment dipped
- The unemployment rate for Q4 2018 dropped 0.2 percentage points to 5.5%

Employment increased by 19,200 (+0.3%) in Ontario in the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2018, with job levels increasing for three consecutive quarters to reach 7,282,800. Employment increases were entirely in full-time work (+21,300; +0.4%), as part-time employment (-2,200; -0.02%) waned over the quarter. In Q4 2018 Ontario experienced its 17th consecutive quarterly gain in full-time employment whereas quarterly part-time employment losses dominated over the same 4-year period.

Unemployment fell (-10,200; -2.3%) to 425,500 in Q4 2018, while the provincial unemployment rate lowered by 0.2 percentage points (pp) to 5.5%. Both the participation and employment rates in Ontario declined by 0.2 pp and 0.1 pp respectively, as the overall population of the province grew at a faster rate than the labour force over the quarter. This is the lowest quarterly unemployment rate since Q1 2018 which also registered a rate of 5.5%.

National employment expanded by 102,000 (+0.5%) in Q4 2018. British Columbia recorded the largest quarterly increase in employment among all provinces (+36,500), while Quebec (+21,200) also experienced sharp gains. Quarterly employment losses were only recorded in New Brunswick (-1,000) as the Canadian unemployment rate dropped by 0.2 pp to 5.7%.

In December 2018, the United States (U.S.) total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 312,000¹ which was the largest month-over-month increase in 10 months. Job gains were strong overall throughout the quarter, averaging 239,000 per month and December marked the country's 99th consecutive month-over-month employment gain. However, the unemployment rate moved up 0.2 pp to 3.9% in December, increasing the number of unemployed persons by 276,000 to 6.3M.

On a year-over-year basis, employment in Ontario grew by 75,400 (+1.0%) between the fourth quarters of 2017 and 2018, with losses in part-time (-1.1%) work offset by increases in full-time (+1.6%) work. Over the same period, the provincial unemployment rate dipped by 0.1 pp.

While the unemployment rate for youth, aged 15 to 24, in Ontario increased to 12.0% in Q4 2018, the national youth unemployment rate dropped 0.7 pp to 9.0%. On a yearly basis, between Q4 2017 and Q4 2018, the number of Canadian youth unemployed has been reduced by 7.5% and the unemployment rate decreased by 0.5 pp whereas, the number of Ontario youth unemployed has increased by 4.4% and the unemployment rate has increased by 1.0 pp over the year. Comparatively, both the Canadian and Ontario youth participation rates decreased between Q4 2017 and Q4 2018 (by -2.1 pp and -4.2 pp respectively) as in both cases, the number of youth in the labour force was also reduced. Ontario accounted for 38.0% of the national youth labour force in Q4 2018.

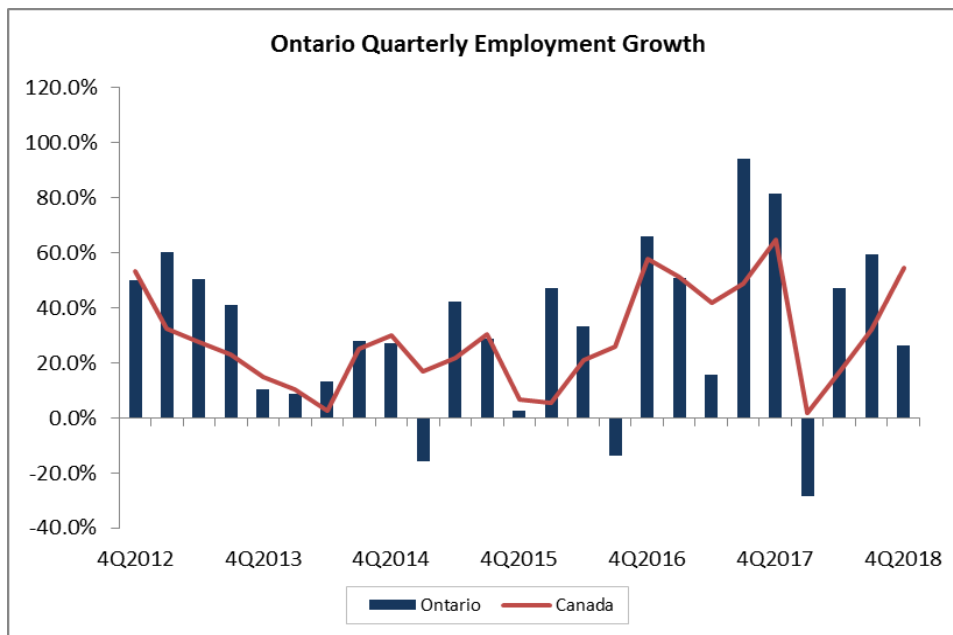
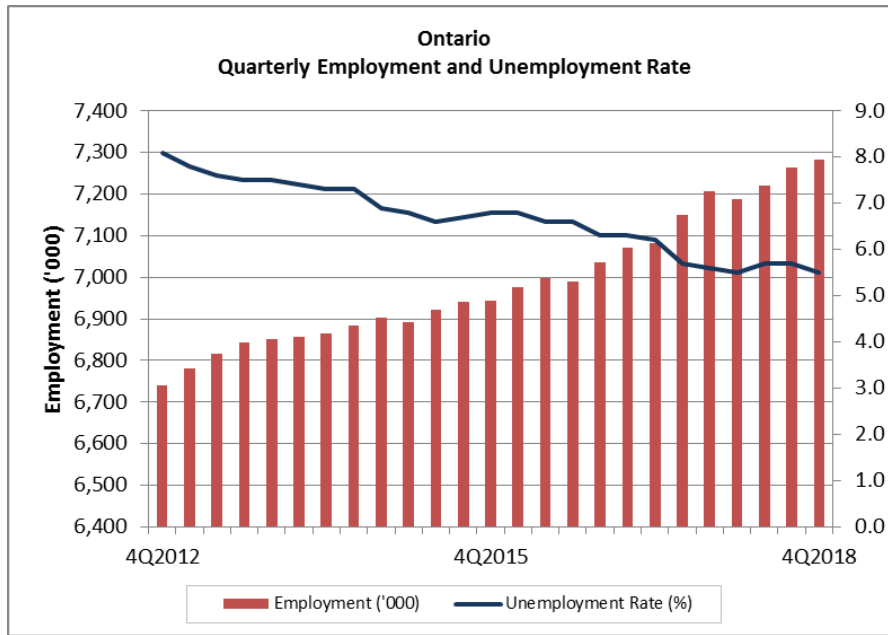
Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

| Seasonally Adjusted Data | 4th Quarter 2018 | 3rd Quarter 2018 | 4th Quarter 2017 | Quarterly Variation | | Yearly Variation | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------|------------------|------|
| | | | | Number | % | Number | % |
| Population 15 + ('000) | 11,982.0 | 11,929.7 | 11,756.7 | 52.3 | 0.4 | 225.3 | 1.9 |
| Labour Force ('000) | 7,708.3 | 7,699.3 | 7,637.4 | 9.0 | 0.1 | 70.9 | 0.9 |
| Employment ('000) | 7,282.8 | 7,263.6 | 7,207.4 | 19.2 | 0.3 | 75.4 | 1.0 |
| Full-Time ('000) | 5,937.6 | 5,916.3 | 5,846.8 | 21.3 | 0.4 | 90.8 | 1.6 |
| Part-Time ('000) | 1,345.2 | 1,347.4 | 1,360.5 | -2.2 | -0.2 | -15.3 | -1.1 |
| Unemployment ('000) | 425.5 | 435.7 | 430.0 | -10.3 | -2.3 | -4.5 | -1.0 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.6 | -0.2 | - | -0.1 | - |
| Participation Rate (%) | 64.3 | 64.5 | 65.0 | -0.2 | - | -0.7 | - |
| Employment Rate (%) | 60.8 | 60.9 | 61.3 | -0.1 | - | -0.5 | - |

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

¹ Bureau of Labour Statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/>



Ontario Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

| Seasonally Adjusted Data | 4th Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter | Quarterly Variation (% points) | Yearly Variation (% points) |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2018 (%) | 2018 (%) | 2017 (%) | | |
| Total | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.6 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| 25 years and over | 4.5 | 4.7 | 4.7 | -0.2 | -0.2 |
| Men - 25 years and over | 4.6 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 0.1 | -0.4 |
| Women - 25 years and over | 4.4 | 4.9 | 4.4 | -0.5 | 0 |
| 15 to 24 years | 12.0 | 11.6 | 11.0 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Men - 15 to 24 years | 13.3 | 12.0 | 12.6 | 1.3 | 0.7 |
| Women - 15 to 24 years | 10.3 | 11.1 | 9.3 | -0.8 | 1.0 |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287, formerly CANSIM 282-0087

A look at labour market conditions for Ontario's Indigenous Peoples

In Q4 2018, the total population aged 15+ in Ontario was almost 12 million people. The Indigenous population living off-reserve accounted for 2.2% of that, or 258,200 people. Employment among Indigenous people off-reserve in Ontario was 144,500, representing a decrease of -300 (-0.2%) from a year earlier (Q4 2017). The decrease was due entirely to a decrease in part-time positions (-9,100; -22.3%), but there was also a slight gain in the number of full-time (+8,800; +8.5%) positions.

In Q4 2018, the unemployment rate among the Indigenous population off-reserve was 7.2%, a decrease of -2.2 pp from a year earlier. The unemployment rate for the non-Indigenous population was 4.9% (-0.1 pp). Between Q4 2017 and Q4 2018, the participation rate of Indigenous people off-reserve decreased to 60.3% (-3.8 pp) as well as for the non-Indigenous population, now standing at 64.2% (-0.4 pp). The employment rate for Indigenous people off-reserve decreased to 55.9% (-2.1 pp) from the year earlier; for the non-Indigenous population, it decreased slightly to 61.0% (-0.4 pp).

Ontario - Labour Market Indicators for Indigenous People

| 3-month moving averages Seasonally unadjusted data | Indigenous | | Yearly variation (Indigenous) | | Non-Indigenous | | Yearly variation (non-Indigenous) | |
|---|------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------|----------------|----------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | Q4 2018 | Q4 2017 | Number | % | Q4 2018 | Q4 2017 | Number | % |
| Population 15 + ('000) | 258.2 | 249.5 | 8.7 | 3.5% | 11,723.8 | 11,507.2 | 216.6 | 1.9% |
| Labour Force ('000) | 155.7 | 159.9 | -4.2 | -2.6% | 7,523.1 | 7,437.5 | 85.6 | 1.2% |
| Employment ('000) | 144.5 | 144.8 | -0.3 | -0.2% | 7,154.9 | 7,065.5 | 89.4 | 1.3% |
| Full-Time ('000) | 112.8 | 104.0 | 8.8 | 8.5% | 5,793.0 | 5,712.1 | 80.9 | 1.4% |
| Part-Time ('000) | 31.7 | 40.8 | -9.1 | -22.3% | 1,361.9 | 1,353.5 | 8.4 | 0.6% |
| Unemployment ('000) | 11.2 | 15.1 | -3.9 | -25.8% | 368.2 | 372.0 | -3.8 | -1.0% |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 7.2 | 9.4 | -2.2 | - | 4.9 | 5.0 | -0.1 | - |
| Participation Rate (%) | 60.3 | 64.1 | -3.8 | - | 64.2 | 64.6 | -0.4 | - |
| Employment Rate (%) | 55.9 | 58.0 | -2.1 | - | 61.0 | 61.4 | -0.4 | - |

Notes: The Labour Force Survey excludes those living on-reserve.

Estimates are based on three-month moving averages.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Totals may be different from other tables due to adjustments done to indigenous statistics in the Labour Force Survey.

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - ESDC custom table.

Quarterly employment growth in goods-producing sector influenced by manufacturing and construction

Employment grew in Ontario's goods-producing sector by 7,300 (+0.5%) in Q4 2018 compared to the third quarter (Q3) of 2018. The manufacturing industry posted the largest gain (+6,900), followed by construction (+4,600) and a small gain in utilities (+900). Forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying was the only industry to report an employment loss (-5,100), as employment remained flat in agriculture.

Employment rose in **manufacturing** by 0.9%, which is an improvement from the previous quarterly loss. Although the Markit Canada Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index remained in expansion territory above the 50.0 benchmark, the level in December (53.6) was the weakest change in business conditions since January 2017. Slower growth in output and new orders could be partly attributed to the effects of global trade tensions on export sales. Hiring activities were also less robust in this month compared with November as business outlook moderated.^{2,3}

There were several mass layoff announcements in the manufacturing sector across Ontario, and particularly in the motor vehicle and parts cluster. Near the end of November, General Motors announced plans to end production at five North American facilities in 2019, including at the Oshawa Assembly Plant, directly affecting about 2,900 local workers. The company is in the midst of a transformation with a focus on new technologies, including those related to electric and autonomous vehicles. This move is expected to have extensive ripple effects across the supply chain as automotive production is highly integrated.^{4,5} Unifor estimates that every job at this local plant supports seven spin-off jobs in the local economy.⁶ Martinrea International Inc., a supplier to GM, announced it will shutter its auto parts plant in Ajax in 2020, and offering relocation to the 77 workers.⁷ Meanwhile in October, Tenneco Inc. announced the closure of its original equipment ride control parts production facility in Owen Sound by the end of June 2020, affecting nearly 500 workers due to a restructuring. The work done at this plant and another location in the U.S. will be transferred primarily to Ohio later in 2019. A report mentioned that the closures were not caused by any loss of auto maker contracts.^{8,9} Also, HOERBIGER Fine Stamping Inc. in Waterloo notified its nearly 200 employees that the plant will cease operating in 2019. It is reported that the decision was unrelated to the impending closure of GM's assembly operation.¹⁰

² IHS Markit. (2018, March 1). Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI. IHS Markit. Retrieved from

<https://www.markiteconomics.com/Survey/PressRelease.mvc/33a0af57127c49ddb7b9cff7e06d6c96>

³ Trading Economics. Canada Manufacturing PMI. Retrieved from <https://tradingeconomics.com/canada/manufacturing-pmi>

⁴ Wayland, M. (2018, November 26). GM targets 5 N.A. plants for closure, will slash 15% of salaried jobs. *Automotive News*. Retrieved from <https://www.autonews.com/article/20181126/OEM01/181129806/gm-targets-5-n-a-plants-for-closure-will-slash-15-of-salaried-jobs>

⁵ CNW Group Ltd. (2018, November 26). General Motors Accelerates Transformation. Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/general-motors-accelerates-transformation-701252551.html>

⁶ Unifor Staff. (2018, November). Save Oshawa GM. *Unifor*. Retrieved from <https://www.unifor.org/en/take-action/campaigns/save-oshawa-gm>

⁷ Bicks, I. (2018, November 28). Martinrea to shut plant when GM closes Oshawa as suppliers weigh impacts. *Toronto Star*. Retrieved from <https://www.thestar.com/business/2018/11/28/martinrea-to-shut-ajax-automotive-plant-when-gm-ends-oshawa-production.html>

⁸ Dunn, S. (2018, October 26). Updated: Owen Sound's Tenneco plant to close in 2020. *Owen Sound Sun Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/owen-sounds-tenneco-plant-to-close-in-2020>

⁹ Rubber and Plastics News. (2018, October 29). Tenneco to close two plants amid ride control restructuring. Retrieved from <https://www.rubbernews.com/article/20181029/NEWS/181029951/tenneco-to-close-two-plants-amid-ride-control-restructuring>

¹⁰ CTV News Kitchener. (2018, November 28). Almost 200 to lose jobs as auto parts manufacturer plans closure. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/almost-200-to-lose-jobs-as-auto-parts-manufacturer-plans-closure-1.4196573>

Adding to this news, is the plan by Maple Leaf Foods Inc. to close its Toronto, Brampton and St. Mary's facilities by 2022, and consolidate operations at a new \$660M facility in London with expected completion in 2021. While the new location will create 1,450 jobs in food manufacturing, the consolidation is expected to have a net loss of 300 jobs.¹¹ However, major investment announcements in the industry may offset some of these upcoming losses. More specifically, in the Windsor automotive hub, APAG Elektronik Corp. announced that it would open a motor vehicle parts plant,¹² and Kauth opened an office with plans to expand its manufacturing footprint in the near term.¹³ There will also be expansions by Starlim North America Corporation, a silicone products producer in London.¹⁴

The employment gain in **construction** was an improvement from the previous quarterly period. Activities in the sector remain buoyant and in addition to new residential developments, several large-scale non-residential construction projects got underway or were announced. These include the start of work on the \$5.7B Gordie Howe International Bridge that will connect Windsor, Ontario, to Detroit, Michigan,¹⁵ excavation at the Toronto Port Lands flood protection project (\$1.2B),¹⁶ and the expansion of Coca-Cola Canada's Peterborough-based Minute Maid facility.¹⁷ Construction of The Rec Room, a large Cineplex Inc. entertainment complex, will begin early next year in Barrie with plans to open in summer of 2020.¹⁸ Meanwhile, in transportation infrastructure, EllisDon Corporation was awarded a contract valued at \$239M to overhaul the Rutherford GO station in Vaughan. Construction will start this spring and be complete by 2023.¹⁹

Although employment in the **utilities** industry rose slightly in Q4 2018 (+900), this was much weaker than the quarterly gain reported in Q3 2018 (+3,600). There were quite a few industry-related announcements, particularly in northern Ontario. Certarus Ltd. announced that it would invest \$54M to build a compressed natural gas service hub in Timmins and in Red Rock to supply local mines and mills.²⁰ PUC Services Inc. will partner with Fluence to build a 45-megawatt energy storage facility in Sault Ste. Marie as part of PUC's Customer Energy Management

¹¹ The Canadian Press Staff. (2018, November 26). Maple Leaf Foods to build new London plant, close three others in Ontario. *CP24*. Retrieved from <https://www.cp24.com/news/maple-leaf-foods-to-build-new-london-plant-close-three-others-in-ontario-1.4193496>

¹² Cross, B. (2018, October 02). Electronics firm sets up in Windsor with promise of 148 jobs. *Windsor Star*. Retrieved from <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/electronics-firm-sets-up-in-windsor-with-promise-of-148-jobs>

¹³ Cross, B. (2018, October 04). German auto parts firm Kauth to build plant, start production by 2020. *Windsor Star*. Retrieved from <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/german-auto-parts-firm-kauth-to-build-plant-start-production-by-2020>

¹⁴ Bieman, J. (2018, October 26). Starlim ramps up production, hiring with major expansion. *London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/business/local-business/starlim-ramps-up-production-hiring-with-major-expansion>

¹⁵ Waddell, D. (2018, October 05). Trudeau hopes to accelerate opening of Gordie Howe International Bridge. *Windsor Star*. Retrieved from <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/trudeau-and-snyder-mark-official-start-to-gordie-howe-international-bridge>

¹⁶ Shum, D. (2018, November 28). Groundbreaking ceremony marks start of Toronto Port Lands flood protection project. *Global News*. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/4706636/groundbreaking-toronto-port-lands-flood-protection-project/>

¹⁷ Clysdale, T. (2018, November 8). Ground breaks at new Minute Maid expansion in Peterborough. *My Kawartha*. Retrieved from <https://www.mykawartha.com/news-story/9023125-ground-breaks-at-new-minute-maid-expansion-in-peterborough/>

¹⁸ CNW Group. (2018, November 1). Ready to Get Your Game On? The Rec Room Coming Soon to Barrie Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/ready-to-get-your-game-on-the-rec-room-coming-soon-to-barrie-699265901.html>

¹⁹ Al-Shibeeb, D. (2018, December 18). EllisDon awarded \$239M contract to overhaul Vaughan's Rutherford GO station. *York Region News*. Retrieved from <https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/9088168-ellisdon-awarded-239m-contract-to-overhaul-vaughan-s-rutherford-go-station/>

²⁰ Northern Ontario Business Staff. (2018, October 11). Compressed natural gas supplier coming to Northern Ontario. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/industry-news/green/compressed-natural-gas-supplier-coming-to-northern-ontario-1080667>

program geared to lower costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.²¹ Hydro One Networks Inc. will also start development work on a new electricity transmission line that will run between Thunder Bay and Atikokan after a request from the Independent Electricity System Operator to support future mining sites in the region.²²

Between the fourth quarters of 2017 and 2018, employment decreased in the goods-producing sector by 4,000 (-0.3%). The employment loss in manufacturing (-16,600) outweighed the sizeable gain in construction (+12,500).

Losses in five services-producing sectors in Q4 2018

The **services-producing** sector experienced a tepid employment increase (+11,900; +0.2%) between Q3 and Q4 2018. The most significant gains were in healthcare and social assistance (+16,400), business, building and other support services (+14,300) and transportation and warehousing (+9,500). Among the five sectors with losses, the largest were reported in information, culture and recreation (-21,200), finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (-8,700) and accommodation and food services (-6,000).

There were a few positive announcements in the **health care and social assistance** industry in the province in Q4 2018. Notably, Canadian Shield Health Care Services Inc., in partnership with Canadore College, will create 60 new personal support worker and nursing jobs in North Bay,²³ while Quinte Health Care Corporation is seeking to fill nearly 40 part-time and full-time positions for registered nurses and registered practical nurses.²⁴ Healthcare facilities also opened in various areas across the province.^{25,26,27}

Employment in the province's **transportation and warehousing** industry continues to be influenced by the significant rise in e-commerce sales which is spurring growth in logistics facilities. A few expansion plans have previously been announced,²⁸ and in this quarter, UPS Canada Ltd. opened a new 40,000-sq.-ft. facility in Ottawa due to increased demand and to expand its service areas.²⁹

²¹ Kelly, L. (2018, October 29). Sault advancing energy storage innovation. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/regional-news/sault-ste-marie/sault-advancing-energy-storage-innovation-1095249>

²² Independent Electricity System Operator. (2018, October 24). New Transmission Line Will Support Growth in Northwestern Ontario. *CNW Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/new-transmission-line-will-support-growth-in-northwestern-ontario-698449951.html>

²³ BayToday Staff. (2018, November) 60 new jobs coming to North Bay thanks to Village Project. Retrieved from <https://www.baytoday.ca/local-news/60-new-jobs-coming-to-north-bay-thanks-to-village-project-1117016>

²⁴ Bramburger, A. (2018, November 1). QHC looking across the province to meet its increased need to recruit nurses. *The Picton Gazette*. Retrieved from <http://www.pictongazette.ca/2018/11/01/qhc-looking-across-the-province-to-meet-its-increased-need-to-recruit-nurses/>

²⁵ Edwards, J. (2018, November 23). County of Simcoe opens \$4.2-million ambulance station in Collingwood. *Collingwood Connection*. Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9047625-county-of-simcoe-opens-4-2-million-ambulance-station-in-collingwood/>

²⁶ Lyle, C. (2018, November 6). Hoshizaki House opens new facility. *The Dryden Observer*. Retrieved from <http://thedrydenobserver.ca/2018/11/06/hoshizaki-house-opens-new-facility/>

²⁷ Durnan, M. (2018, October 29). Northern Ontario's only fertility clinic up and running in Sudbury. *Soo Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.sootoday.com/local-news/northern-ontarios-only-fertility-clinic-up-and-running-in-sudbury-1101933>

²⁸ Canadian Press Staff. (2018, July 25). Amazon to open fulfillment centre in Caledon, Ont., creating 800 full-time jobs. *Canadian Press*. Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-amazon-to-open-fulfillment-centre-in-caledon-ont-creating-800-full/>

²⁹ CNW Group Press Release. (2018, November 2). UPS Canada Opens New Facility in Kanata, Ontario. Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/ups-canada-opens-new-facility-in-kanata-ontario-699443771.html>

Employment rose in **trade** by 5,600. On the retail side, numerous stores opened,³⁰ including 40 at the Toronto Premium Outlets mall in Halton Hills.³¹ However, the sector is expected to have a shaky start to the New Year with announcements of major closures slated for early 2019, including 31 Lowe's Companies Inc. stores across Canada with nine and a regional support centre in Ontario,³² and 24 Jean Machine Clothing Inc. locations in Ontario.³³ Crabtree & Evelyn, a beauty and home products retailer is also closing.³⁴ The company website lists 10 locations in the province.

The **professional, scientific and technical services** sector reported a marginal employment gain of 1,800 (+0.3%). However, employment news was robust in various segments of this sector. Amazon.com Inc. intends to hire 600 new technology workers in fields including software development, machine learning, cloud computing, digital advertising, and artificial intelligence, as the company expands its Toronto Tech Hub.^{35,36} Accenture also opened an innovation hub with 300 employees in Toronto and plans to add several hundreds more jobs across Canada by 2020. The company further expects to expand its apprenticeship program to provide job opportunities for underrepresented communities.³⁷ Meanwhile, Framatome Canada Ltd. was awarded a \$18.7M contract for the Bruce Power Life-Extension Program in Kincardine.³⁸ The opening of a Manufacturing and Automotive Innovation Lab by London's National Research Council will support technological advancement in the region's large industrial base.³⁹

On a year-over-year quarterly basis, employment increased by 79,400 (+1.4%) in the services-producing sector. The largest gains were reported in transportation and warehousing (+41,600) and educational services (+34,000). Meanwhile, the most significant employment declines were in information, culture and recreation (-21,400) and wholesale and retail trade (-15,500).

³⁰ Business Wire. (2018, November 21). The Brick Opens Three New Commercial Design Centres with More Coming in 2019. *Financial Post*. Retrieved from <https://business.financialpost.com/pmnp/press-releases-pmn/business-wire-news-releases-pmn/the-brick-opens-three-new-commercial-design-centres-with-more-coming-in-2019>

³¹Newport, A. (2018, October 30). Massive New Shopping Mall Expansion Set to Open Very Soon. *InSauga*. Retrieved from <https://www.insauga.com/massive-new-shopping-mall-expansion-set-to-open-very-soon>

³² Evans, P. (2018, November 5). Lowe's closing 31 locations in Canada, mainly Rona stores. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/lowes-rona-closures-1.4892055>

³³ The Canadian Press. (2018, November 2). Jean Machine going out of business, will close all stores by February. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/jean-machine-closing-1.4889529>

³⁴ CBC News. (2018, December 3). Retailer Crabtree & Evelyn files for bankruptcy. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/crabtree-evelyn-1.4930786>

³⁵ Amazon.com, Inc Press Release. (2018, December 18). Amazon Expands Toronto Tech Hub and Announces Plans to Create 600 New Tech Jobs. Retrieved from <https://press.aboutamazon.com/news-releases/news-release-details/amazon-expands-toronto-tech-hub-and-announces-plans-create-600>

³⁶CBC News. (2018, December 18). Amazon says it plans to create 600 new tech jobs in Toronto. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/amazon-hiring-in-toronto-1.4950541>

³⁷ Accenture Newsroom. (2018, November 27). Accenture Opens Canada Innovation Hub in Toronto to Help Clients Reimagine Their Businesses for the Digital Economy. *Accenture*. Retrieved from <https://newsroom.accenture.com/news/accenture-opens-canada-innovation-hub-in-toronto-to-help-clients-reimagine-their-businesses-for-the-digital-economy.htm>

³⁸ Bruce Power Press Release. (2018, November 30). Bruce Power, Framatome sign MOU for safety-related Life-Extension Program updates. Retrieved from <https://www.brucepower.com/bruce-power-framatome-sign-mou-for-safety-related-life-extension-program-updates/>

³⁹ De Bono, N. (2018, November 30). London research paces change on factory floor. *London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/business/local-business/london-research-paces-change-on-factory-floor>

Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

| Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000) | 4th Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter | Quarterly Variation | | Yearly Variation | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-------|------------------|------|
| | 2018 | 2018 | 2017 | Number | % | Number | % |
| Total employed, all industries | 7,282.8 | 7,263.6 | 7,207.4 | 19.2 | 0.3 | 75.4 | 1.0 |
| Goods-producing sector | 1,458.8 | 1,451.5 | 1,462.8 | 7.3 | 0.5 | -4.0 | -0.3 |
| Agriculture | 68.5 | 68.5 | 68.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas | 32.2 | 37.3 | 34.8 | -5.1 | -13.7 | -2.6 | -7.5 |
| Utilities | 59.8 | 58.9 | 47.3 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 12.5 | 26.4 |
| Construction | 530.8 | 526.2 | 528.3 | 4.6 | 0.9 | 2.5 | 0.5 |
| Manufacturing | 767.5 | 760.6 | 784.1 | 6.9 | 0.9 | -16.6 | -2.1 |
| Services-producing sector | 5,824.0 | 5,812.1 | 5,744.6 | 11.9 | 0.2 | 79.4 | 1.4 |
| Trade | 1,077.2 | 1,071.6 | 1,092.7 | 5.6 | 0.5 | -15.5 | -1.4 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 392.4 | 382.9 | 350.8 | 9.5 | 2.5 | 41.6 | 11.9 |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing | 562.0 | 570.7 | 558.0 | -8.7 | -1.5 | 4.0 | 0.7 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 637.9 | 636.1 | 641.5 | 1.8 | 0.3 | -3.6 | -0.6 |
| Business, building and other support services | 332.3 | 318.0 | 303.4 | 14.3 | 4.5 | 28.9 | 9.5 |
| Educational services | 535.9 | 530.4 | 501.9 | 5.5 | 1.0 | 34.0 | 6.8 |
| Health care and social assistance | 868.1 | 851.7 | 861.0 | 16.4 | 1.9 | 7.1 | 0.8 |
| Information, culture and recreation | 300.6 | 321.8 | 322.0 | -21.2 | -6.6 | -21.4 | -6.6 |
| Accommodation and food services | 464.7 | 470.7 | 463.2 | -6.0 | -1.3 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Other services | 290.3 | 294.0 | 281.0 | -3.7 | -1.3 | 9.3 | 3.3 |
| Public administration | 362.5 | 364.4 | 369.2 | -1.9 | -0.5 | -6.7 | -1.8 |

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Toronto leads employment growth in Ontario in the fourth quarter of 2018

Employment grew by 35,500 (+1.0%) in the **Toronto** economic region between the fourth quarters of 2017 and 2018 (measured on a year-over-year, seasonally unadjusted basis). The regional unemployment rate inched up 0.1 pp to 5.5%, as the labour force participation and employment rate both fell slightly (-0.8%).

The Greater Toronto Area saw significant building projects announced. Minto Communities Canada started construction on 53 single-family homes in Etobicoke,⁴⁰ the Holiday Inn Express and Suites hotel commenced in Aurora⁴¹, and the new \$200M United Parcel Service (UPS) facility began operations in Caledon.⁴² As well,

⁴⁰ Toronto.com. (2018, December 13). New community of luxury single homes under construction in Etobicoke. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.toronto.com/news-story/9047683-new-community-of-luxury-single-homes-under-construction-in-etobicoke/>

⁴¹ Weir, B. (2018, December 12). Ground officially broken on Holiday Inn Express & Suites. *The Auroran*. Retrieved from <http://www.newspapers-online.com/auroran/?p=22481>

⁴² UPS Canada Ltd. (2018, November 20). UPS Canada building largest Canadian operations facility in Caledon, Ontario to service the Greater Toronto Area. *CNW Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/ups-canada-building-largest-canadian-operations-facility-in-caledon-ontario-to-service-the-greater-toronto-area-700925811.html>

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Canada Aerospace is expanding their Mississauga facility,⁴³ the \$253M York University's Markham Centre Campus construction is moving forward⁴⁴, and work started on Scarborough's new GO stations.⁴⁵ General Motors of Canada Ltd. will build a new Urban Mobility Research and Development centre and car dealership complex in Toronto.⁴⁶ To support future advanced manufacturing, the Government of Canada invested \$230M into Oakville's Next Generation Manufacturing Supercluster, which was matched by the private sector.⁴⁷

However, there were several high-profile manufacturing layoffs announced this quarter, including those mentioned at General Motors of Canada in Oshawa⁴⁸ at the end of 2019 and Martinrea International Inc. in Ajax in 2020.⁴⁹ In addition, Nestlé Canada Inc. will close their pet food facility in Mississauga in 2019, affecting 87 employees.⁵⁰

In transportation and warehousing, Radial, an e-commerce fulfillment company, hired 350 workers for their Mississauga fulfillment centre to meet holiday demand.⁵¹ Amazon.com Inc. hired hundreds of workers at its customer fulfillment centres and delivery facilities in Mississauga, Milton and Brampton.^{52,53} Toronto professional services saw robust growth over the quarter as Amazon Canada⁵⁴ and Accenture, added tech workers.⁵⁵

⁴³ Newport, A. (2018, October 16). Massive Company Expanding in Mississauga. *Quickbite News*. Retrieved from <https://www.insauga.com/massive-company-expanding-in-mississauga>

⁴⁴ Kelly, T. (2018, October 29). Down but not out: York U Markham partners vow to fight to 'successful completion'. *Markham Economist & Sun*. Retrieved from <https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/8994468-down-but-not-out-york-u-markham-partners-vow-to-fight-to-successful-completion/>

⁴⁵ Toronto.com. (2018, October 29). Work starting on Scarborough's new Milliken and Agincourt GO stations. *Metroland Media Group Ltd*. Retrieved from <https://www.toronto.com/news-story/8995084-work-starting-on-scarborough-s-new-milliken-and-agincourt-go-stations/>

⁴⁶ Lee-Shanok, P. (2018, October 19). GM Canada breaks ground for new 7-acre Leslieville mobility campus. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/construction-begins-on-gm-leslieville-dealership-complex-1.4869512>

⁴⁷ Oakville Beaver. (2018, November 19). Economic development minister announces \$230 million investment in manufacturing supercluster during Oakville visit. *Metroland Media Group Ltd*. Retrieved from <https://www.insidehalton.com/news-story/9039866-economic-development-minister-announces-230-million-investment-in-manufacturing-supercluster-during-oakville-visit/>

⁴⁸ Alini, E. (2018, November 26). GM Oshawa plant closing could affect nearly 15 per cent of auto industry jobs. *Global News*. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/4698395/gm-oshawa-plant-closing-job-losses/>

⁴⁹ The Canadian Press. (2018, October 19). Martinrea to close Ajax car part factory in wake of GM Oshawa news. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/martinrea-ajax-gm-1.4924416>

⁵⁰ Newport, A. (2018, November 12). Major Facility Closing and Cutting Jobs in Mississauga. *Quickbite News*. Retrieved from <https://www.insauga.com/major-facility-closing-and-cutting-jobs-in-mississauga>

⁵¹ Mississauga News. (2018, September 24). Mississauga's Radial fulfilment centre hiring 350 seasonal workers. *Metroland Media Group Ltd*. Retrieved from <https://www.mississauga.com/news-story/8914912-mississauga-s-radial-fulfilment-centre-hiring-350-seasonal-workers/>

⁵² Sharma, C. (2018, September 20). Amazon Bringing Hundreds of New Jobs to Brampton. *Quickbite News*. Retrieved from <https://www.inbrampton.com/amazon-bringing-hundreds-of-new-jobs-to-brampton>

⁵³ Newport, A. (2018, October 12). Amazon Set to Hire Over 4,000 Workers in Milton and Surrounding Cities. *Quickbite News*. Retrieved from <https://www.inhalton.com/amazon-set-to-hire-over-4000-workers-in-milton-and-surrounding-cities>

⁵⁴ Ontario Newsroom. (2018, December 18). Amazon Creating 600 New Highly Skilled Jobs in Toronto. *Ontario Newsroom*. Retrieved from <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2018/12/amazon-creating-600-new-highly-skilled-jobs-in-toronto.html>

⁵⁵ Accenture. (2018, November 27). Accenture Opens Canada Innovation Hub in Toronto. *Accenture.com*. Retrieved from <https://newsroom.accenture.com/news/accenture-opens-canada-innovation-hub-in-toronto-to-help-clients-reimagine-their-businesses-for-the-digital-economy.htm>

Think Research Corp., a digital health care provider, is expanding and will increase staff from 220 to over 500.⁵⁶ Shopify Inc., an e-commerce company, will invest up to \$500M and hire hundreds of employees.⁵⁷ Instacart, a grocery-delivery company, plans to expand by 200 employees over the next several years.⁵⁸

Other significant events included, the opening of a McDonald's in Scarborough, employing 150 staff⁵⁹ and the Toronto Police Service announced the hiring of 175 new officers.⁶⁰ In education, Durham College unveiled its Centre for Collaborative Education in Oshawa⁶¹ and Seneca College's King Campus expanded by 200,000-sqft. in King City.⁶²

Employment in the **Kitchener–Waterloo–Barrie** region showed strong growth in Q4 2018 on a year-over-year basis (+34,500; +4.8%). This increase was accompanied by a higher participation rate (68.1%) and employment rate (65.8%), both the highest among the economic regions (ERs). Since more than 30,000 persons rejoined the labour force, the unemployment rate edged down to 3.4%, the lowest in Ontario in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Supporting robust employment growth is many new announcements. In construction, IN8 Development began work on a \$100M, 33-storey condominium building in Kitchener⁶³ and a new 160-hectare industrial park is planned for Cambridge.^{64,65} The region continues to benefit from cannabis legalization. The Cronos Group, a Canadian cannabis company in Stayner, hired 137 new employees since January and expects to hire an additional 150 in 2019.⁶⁶ Georgian Bay Biomed expects to hire 80 people once the construction of its 120,000-sqft. facility in Collingwood is complete in early 2019.⁶⁷ In advanced manufacturing, Decast Ltd. is expanding and

⁵⁶ Think Research. (2018, October 25). Think Research Expands Footprint in Toronto. *CNW Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/think-research-expands-footprint-in-toronto-698531301.html>

⁵⁷ O'Kane, J. (2018, September 28). Shopify will invest up to \$500-million in new Toronto office. *The Globe and Mail Inc.* Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/technology/article-shopify-will-invest-up-to-500-million-in-new-toronto-office/>

⁵⁸ The Canadian Press. (2018, September 25). Instacart to expand Toronto office, hire 200. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/8924232-instacart-to-expand-toronto-office-hire-200/>

⁵⁹ Toronto.com. (2018, November 9). Scarborough's newest McDonald's at Kennedy Commons is built for speed. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.toronto.com/news-story/8991107-scarborough-s-newest-mcdonald-s-at-kennedy-commons-is-built-for-speed/>

⁶⁰ Brown, D. (2018, October 27). 'We're hiring': Toronto police to hire 175 officers by year's end. *CBC News.* Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/toronto-police-service-recruitment-drive-1.4881328>

⁶¹ Jones, C. (2018, October 9). Centre for Collaborative Education officially open. *Oshawa Express.* Retrieved from <https://oshawaexpress.ca/centre-for-collaborative-education-officially-open/>

⁶² BradfordToday Staff. (2018, October 7). Seneca celebrates grand opening of Magna Hall. *BradfordToday.* Retrieved from <https://www.bradfordtoday.ca/local-news/seneca-celebrates-grand-opening-of-magna-hall-1074483>

⁶³ Jackson, A. (2018, November 14). Church demolition makes way for condos in downtown Kitchener. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.waterloochronicle.ca/news-story/9032992-what-s-going-on-here-church-demolition-makes-way-for-condos-in-downtown-kitchener/>

⁶⁴ Pavia, J. (2018, September 25). 160 hectare industrial park planned for Cambridge. *CBC News.* Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/ip-park-industrial-cambridge-kitchener-1.4837734>

⁶⁵ Williams, P. (2018, December 20). 39-storey tower to be Kitchener's tallest building. *Daily Commercial News.* Retrieved from <https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/projects/2018/12/39-storey-tower-kitcheners-tallest-building>

⁶⁶ Carson, S. (2018, December 27). Newsmaker of the Year: cannabis legalization. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9079869-newsmaker-of-the-year-cannabis-legalization/>

⁶⁷ Edwards, J. (2018, November 26). What's going on here? Georgian Bay Biomed. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9046286-what-s-going-on-here-georgian-bay-biomed/>

creating 70 new jobs in Essa Township into until mid-2019.⁶⁸ ATS Automation Tooling Systems Inc. and Bruce Power opened a testing facility in Cambridge, creating 60 jobs.⁶⁹

In technology, FedDev Ontario invested \$2.3M in the Bioenterprise Corporation, an agri-tech accelerator, supporting over 160 businesses and creating up to 290 jobs in southern Ontario.⁷⁰ The Government of Canada announced additional funding of up to \$5.5M for the Accelerator Centre in Waterloo region.⁷¹ FleetCarma, a company specializing in electric vehicle telematics, is looking to hire about 100 workers at its new Kitchener location.⁷² North Inc., a Waterloo based technology company, will create 230 new jobs in Kitchener.⁷³ The University of Waterloo opened their newest engineering building, an \$88M project featuring artificial intelligence⁷⁴ and Conestoga College opened the \$58M expansion of their Waterloo campus.⁷⁵

The **London** economic region realized solid labour market gains in Q4 2018. Employment increased by 10,000 (+3.1%) in the fourth quarter of 2018 compared to the fourth quarter of 2017. Both the participation rate (60.6%) and the employment rate (57.8%) recorded gains over the year. The labour market strengthened as the unemployment rate decreased 1.0 pp to 4.7%, and 5,600 full-time jobs were created.

In the local cannabis industry, GreenLeaf Productions, Inc., is opening a 12,000-sqft. facility in St. Thomas⁷⁶ and WeedMD Inc. and Natural MedCo Ltd. in Strathroy, and Indiva Corp. in London are expanding.⁷⁷ In the technology scene, Info-Tech Research Group, a research and advisory firm opened a new 70,000-sqft. headquarters and plans to hire about 140 additional staff,⁷⁸ and Vehikl, a software developer, plans to grow its current workforce to over 30 employees.⁷⁹ In negative news, General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada, a London-based defence manufacturing company, laid off over 50 workers in Q4 2018.⁸⁰

⁶⁸ Cooper, R. (2018, November 6). \$12M expansion planned for local company, creating new jobs. *CTV News Barrie*. Retrieved from <https://barrie.ctvnews.ca/12m-expansion-planned-for-local-company-creating-new-jobs-1.4165919>

⁶⁹ Martin, R. (2018, September 12). ATS, Bruce Power open new Cambridge testing facility. *Metroland Media Group Ltd.* Retrieved from <https://www.cambridgetimes.ca/news-story/8896462-ats-bruce-power-open-new-cambridge-testing-facility/>

⁷⁰ Hotchkiss, C. (2018, November 21). Federal Government invests \$2.28 million in Bioenterprise Corporation. *BetaKit*. Retrieved from <https://betakit.com/federal-government-invests-2-28-million-in-bioenterprise-corporation/>

⁷¹ FedDev Ontario. (2018, November 30). FedDev Ontario Bolsters Support for Start-Ups. *Government of Canada*. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2018/11/feddev-ontario-bolsters-support-for-start-ups.html>

⁷² Schmidt, E. (2018, December 12). FleetCarma Gets Room To Grow With New Home At Catalyst137. *FleetCarma*. Retrieved from <https://www.fleetcarma.com/fleetcarma-gets-room-to-grow-with-new-home-at-catalyst137/>

⁷³ CBC News. (2018, November 14). Kitchener's North Inc. gets \$24M from federal government for job creation. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/north-inc-federal-funding-jobs-1.4904624>

⁷⁴ CTV Kitchener. (2018, October 29). UW looks to the future of engineering. *CTV Kitchener*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/uw-looks-to-the-future-of-engineering-1.4154467>

⁷⁵ Exchange Magazine. (2018, October 23). Conestoga celebrates grand opening of new campus in Waterloo. *Exchange Business Communication Inc.* Retrieved from <http://www.exchangemagazine.com/2018/week43/Tuesday/18102318.htm>

⁷⁶ Carruthers, D. (2018, November 05). Londoner eyes opportunities with hemp compound CBD. *London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/londoner-eyes-opportunities-with-hemp-compound-cbd>

⁷⁷ Carruthers, D. (2018, December 23). Southwestern Ontario pot producers expanding to meet demand. *Strathroy Age Dispatch*. Retrieved from <https://www.strathroyagedispatch.com/news/local-news/southwestern-ontario-pot-producers-expanding-to-meet-demand/wcm/5f74b398-ba01-4152-99ab-64095625e3c7>

⁷⁸ De Bono, N. (2018, December 19). Info-Tech unwraps new \$17.5M home with call for 144 workers. *London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/business/local-business/info-tech-unwraps-new-17-5m-home-with-call-for-144-workers>

⁷⁹ De Bono, N. (2018, November 15). Waterloo tech business expands into London. *London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/business/local-business/waterloo-tech-business-expands-into-london>

⁸⁰ LeBel, J. (2018, October 25). London, Ont. company that makes LAVs for Saudi Arabia lays off 37 workers. *Global News*. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/4595470/general-dynamics-lavs-layoffs/>

Employment increased in 5 additional economic regions in Q4 2018 including: **Northeast, Musko-ka-Kawarthas, Ottawa, Kingston–Pembroke** and **Windsor–Sarnia**. Employment remained flat in the **Hamilton–Niagara Peninsula** economic region between quarters.

Employment fell in two regions in the fourth quarter of 2018

Labour market conditions weakened in the **Stratford–Bruce Peninsula** economic region, which saw employment losses of 10,600 (-6.6%) between the fourth quarters of 2017 and 2018. The unemployment rate dropped to 3.7%, the second lowest in Ontario, as 11,500 workers left the labour force. Despite the weaker labour market data, the region did see some promising news heading into 2019.

In construction, Graham Construction is building a 19-unit townhouse development in Owen Sound in 2019,⁸¹ the new \$20M Huron Central Ontario Provincial Police detachment commenced in Clinton⁸² and a 79-unit townhouse development began in Markdale.⁸³ As well, Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Limited is investing \$18M into renovations and expansions into the Playtime Casino Hanover, creating up to 70 jobs.⁸⁴ The region's cannabis industry continues to expand with Coulson's Cannabis recruiting for their Port Elgin extraction facility in 2019⁸⁵ and MPX Biocetual Corporation planning a \$6M renovation to transform the former PPG factory in Owen Sound into a medical marijuana production facility.⁸⁶ The Bruce Power Limited Partnership will create many skilled trade jobs by January 2020 as the Unit 6 Major Component Replacement project begins. The project value is over \$2B and is expected to last 46 months.⁸⁷

Employment dipped slightly in the **Northwest** economic region between Q4 2017 and Q4 2018. However, the region saw promising news in the forestry industry. Resolute Forest Products is investing \$53.5M to upgrade and improve operations in Thunder Bay.⁸⁸ Two sawmills recently expanded with Kenora Forest Products hiring

⁸¹ Langlois, D. (2018, December 19). Local company planning to build 19-unit life-lease development in Owen Sound. *Owen Sound Sun Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/local-company-planning-to-build-19-unit-life-lease-development-in-owen-sound>

⁸² Caudle, D. (2018, November 30). Ground broke for new Huron Central OPP detachment building. *Clinton News Record*. Retrieved from <https://www.clintonnewsrecord.com/news/local-news/ground-broke-for-new-huron-central-opp-detachment-building>

⁸³ Chippa, J. (2018, November 8). Ground broken for 79 unit townhouse development in Markdale. *Blackburn News*. Retrieved from <https://blackburnnews.com/midwestern-ontario/2018/11/08/ground-broken-79-unit-townhouse-development-markdale/>

⁸⁴ Lester, D. (2018, September 27). Hanover casino expansion to include new dining and entertainment options. *Hanover Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.thepost.on.ca/news/local-news/hanover-casino-expansion-to-include-new-dining-and-entertainment-options>

⁸⁵ Dunn, S. (2018, November 20). Job fair to recruit for cannabis extraction plant near Port Elgin. *Owen Sound Sun Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/job-fair-to-recruit-for-cannabis-extraction-plant-near-port-elgin>

⁸⁶ Langlois, D. (2018, October 1). Plan for medical marijuana production facility in Owen Sound clears hurdle. *Owen Sound Sun Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/plan-for-medical-marijuana-production-facility-in-owen-sound-clears-hurdle>

⁸⁷ Dunn, S. (2018, November 23). Bruce Power's Unit 6 refurbishment to start in 2020. *Owen Sound Sun Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/news/local-news/bruce-powers-unit-6-refurbishment-to-start-in-2020>

⁸⁸ Northern Ontario Business Staff. (2018, October 25). Resolute spending \$53.5 million on northwestern mill operations. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/industry-news/forestry/resolute-spending-535-million-on-northwestern-mill-operations-1098810>

over 15 new employees in November and Ear Falls' Eacom Timber adding 12 workers in August.⁸⁹ Lakehead University opened their new Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering and Sciences, which created 67 jobs.⁹⁰

Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

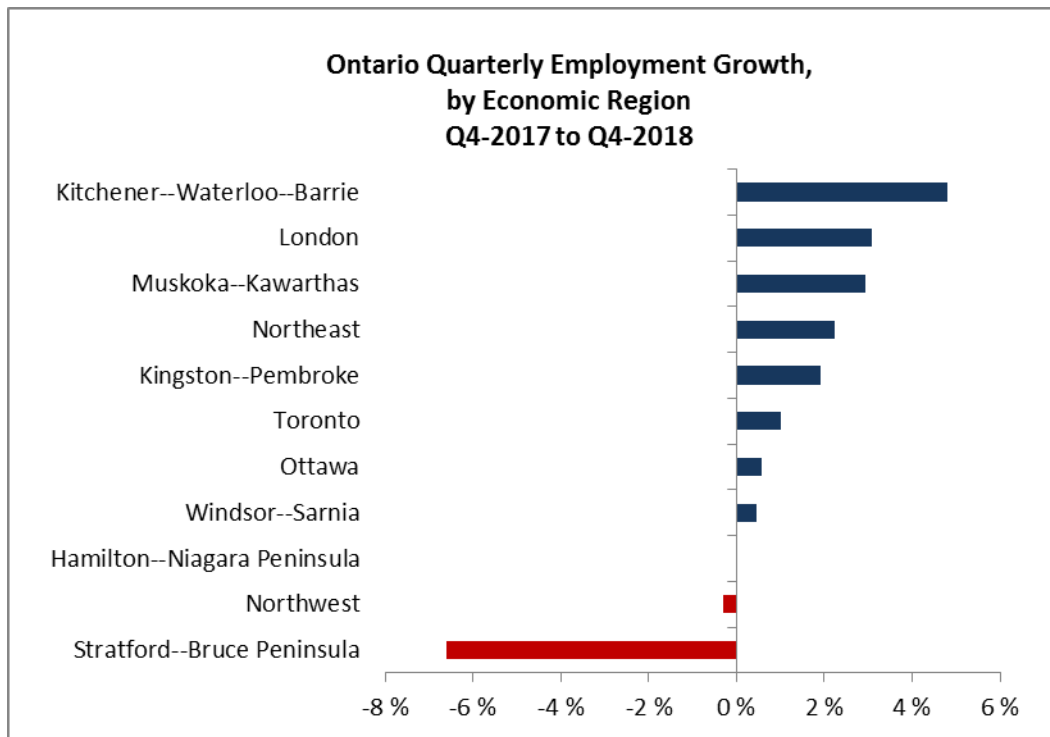
| Seasonally Unadjusted Data | Employment | | | Unemployment Rate | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | 4th Quarter 2018 ('000) | 4th Quarter 2017 ('000) | Yearly Variation (%) | 4th Quarter 2018 (%) | 4th Quarter 2017 (%) | Yearly Variation (% points) |
| Ontario | 7,302.7 | 7,213.4 | 1.2 | 4.9 | 5.1 | -0.2 |
| Economic Regions | | | | | | |
| Ottawa | 707.2 | 703.2 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 4.8 | -0.4 |
| Kingston--Pembroke | 208.9 | 205.0 | 1.9 | 5.2 | 4.6 | 0.6 |
| Muskoka--Kawarthas | 186.0 | 180.7 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 5.0 | -1.2 |
| Toronto | 3,545.4 | 3,509.9 | 1.0 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 0.1 |
| Kitchener--Waterloo--Barrie | 751.0 | 716.5 | 4.8 | 3.4 | 4.0 | -0.6 |
| Hamilton--Niagara Peninsula | 759.3 | 759.2 | 0.0 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 0.0 |
| London | 333.6 | 323.6 | 3.1 | 4.7 | 5.7 | -1.0 |
| Windsor--Sarnia | 306.7 | 305.3 | 0.5 | 4.5 | 5.0 | -0.5 |
| Stratford--Bruce Peninsula | 150.0 | 160.6 | -6.6 | 3.7 | 4.1 | -0.4 |
| Northeast | 252.2 | 246.7 | 2.2 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 0.4 |
| Northwest | 102.3 | 102.6 | -0.3 | 4.8 | 5.3 | -0.5 |

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293, formerly CANSIM 282-0122

⁸⁹ TBNewsWatch Staff. (2018, October 18). Two sawmills expand production. *TBNewsWatch*. Retrieved from <https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/two-sawmills-expand-production-1088715>

⁹⁰ CBC News. (2018, November 30). Lakehead University's new engineering, sciences facility to 'support university's advanced research'. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/lakehead-university-new-facility-1.4927723>



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

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