



Labour Market Bulletin

Ontario

June 2020



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 fell in Ontario in the second quarter of 2020

- Restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 continued to affect the labour market in Q2
- Employment fell by 875,833 (-11.8%) in the second quarter of 2020
- Job losses were observed in both full-time work (-589,600; -9.7%) and part-time work (-286,200; -21.7%)
- The unemployment rate increased from 6.4% in Q1 2020 to 12.1% Q2 2020

Employment fell by 875,833 (-11.8%) in Ontario in the second quarter (Q2) of 2020 as restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 continued to affect the labour market. Quarterly employment was hit by losses in both full-time work (-589,600; -9.7%) and part-time work (-286,200; -21.7%). Unemployment increased (+443,967; +92.7%) to 923,007 in Q2 2020 while the unemployment rate soared by 6.3 percentage points to 12.4%.

Provincial employment dropped by 884,267 (-11.9%) between Q2 2019 and Q2 2020, sustained by losses in both full-time (-527,600; -8.7%) and part-time (-356,633; -25.7%) work. The unemployment rate increased by 6.9 percentage points during the period while both the participation and employment rates dropped by 4.3 and 8.3 percentage points respectively.

National employment dropped by 2,146,800 (-11.4%) in the Q2 2020 with losses observed in full-time (-1,466,500; -9.5%) and part-time work (-68,333; -20.0%). All ten provinces reported quarterly declines in employment with Ontario and Quebec registering over 60% of the country's losses. The quarter's smallest employment forfeitures were observed across the Eastern region. The national unemployment rate increased to 13.0% this quarter while both the employment and participation rates dropped significantly. Average hourly wages however, continued to rise in Canada in June 2020 by 7.3% over the year.¹

¹ Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0320-01 Average usual hours and wages by selected characteristics, monthly, unadjusted for seasonality, last 5 months (x 1,000)

The United States (U.S.) total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 4.8M in June 2020, in sharp contrast to last month's small increase.² The unemployment rate declined 2.2 percentage points to 11.0%, as the number of unemployed persons fell by 3.2M. Employment in leisure and hospitality rose sharply, while notable job gains also occurred in retail trade, education and health services, other services, manufacturing, and professional and business services.

For youth (ages 15-24) in Ontario, employment showed a large decline (-269,033; -28.4%) over the quarter. Most of these losses were observed in part-time work (-152,667; -34.6%) while full-time work registered a decreased of 116,367 (-22.7%). The unemployment rate increased by 15.9 percentage points to 28.1% in Q2 2020 as the number of unemployed youth doubled. Both the participation and employment rates dropped over the term. On a year-over-year basis, youth employment (-305,133; -30.8%), the participation rate (-10.0 percentage points) and the unemployment rate (-16.2 percentage points) dropped between Q2 2019 and Q2 2020.

Throughout the summer months, Statistics Canada collects labour market data on youth aged 15 to 24 who attended school full-time in March and who intend to return to school full-time in autumn.³ Student summer employment dropped by 264,000 in Ontario between June 2019 and June 2020. The unemployment rate for returning students climbed 22.0 percentage points to 35.7%, which was above the national rate of 33.1%. The participation and employment rates for Ontario summer students dropped to 50.6%, and 32.5% indicating issues with available work this summer. However, labour market conditions for the summer job market have improved for students as the provincial economy began reopening. Between May and June 2020, employment for students jumped by 121,600 and both participation and employment rates increased by 7.5 and 6.6 percentage points respectively.

Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

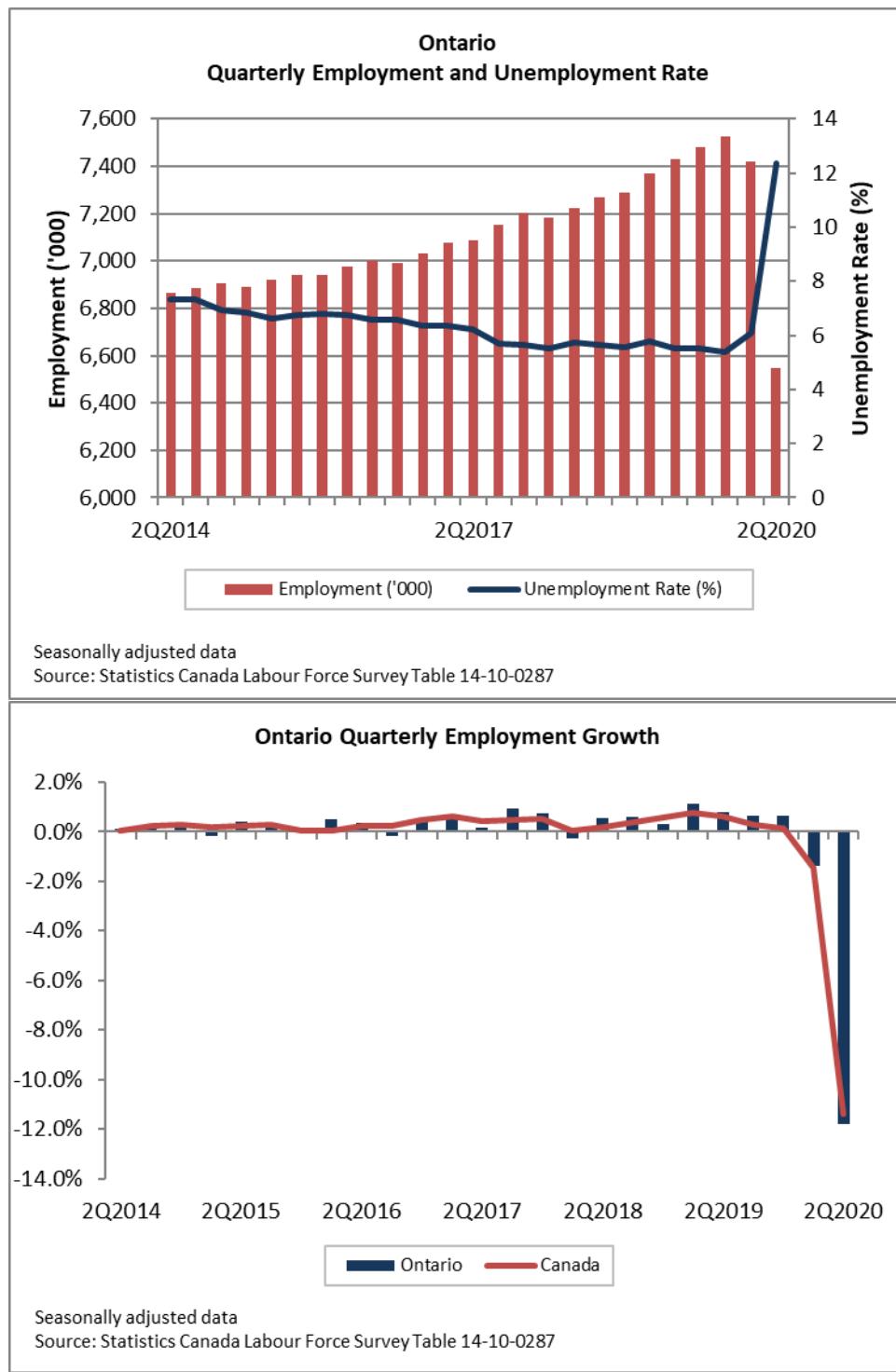
Seasonally adjusted data	2nd Quarter 2020	1st Quarter 2020	2nd Quarter 2019	Quarterly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	12,309.0	12,270.0	12,094.4	39.0	0.3	214.6	1.8
Labour Force ('000)	7,469.2	7,901.0	7,865.3	-431.8	-5.5	-396.1	-5.0
Employment ('000)	6,546.1	7,421.9	7,430.3	-875.8	-11.8	-884.3	-11.9
Full-Time ('000)	5,514.8	6,104.4	6,042.4	-589.6	-9.7	-527.6	-8.7
Part-Time ('000)	1,031.3	1,317.5	1,387.9	-286.2	-21.7	-356.6	-25.7
Unemployment ('000)	923.1	479.1	435.0	444.0	92.7	488.1	112.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	12.4	6.1	5.5	6.3	-	6.9	-
Participation Rate (%)	60.7	64.4	65.0	-3.7	-	-4.3	-
Employment Rate (%)	53.2	60.5	61.5	-7.3	-	-8.3	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

² Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2020, July 10). The Employment Situation Summary. *United States Department of Labor*. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nr0.htm>

³ Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0286-03 Labour force characteristics by province and type of student during summer months, monthly, unadjusted for seasonality



Ontario Quarterly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally adjusted data	2nd Quarter 2020 (%)	1st Quarter 2020 (%)	2nd Quarter 2019 (%)	Quarterly Variation	Yearly Variation
				(% points)	(% points)
Total	12.4	6.1	5.5	6.3	6.9
25 years and over	10.0	5.1	4.5	4.9	5.5
Men - 25 years and over	9.3	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.8
Women - 25 years and over	10.9	5.5	4.4	5.4	6.5
15 to 24 years	28.1	12.2	11.9	15.9	16.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	28.0	12.3	12.3	15.7	15.7
Women - 15 to 24 years	28.3	12.1	11.6	16.2	16.7

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment decline in the goods-producing sector attributed to weaker manufacturing and construction conditions

Employment fell in Ontario's **goods-producing** sector in Q2 2020 by 178,667 (-12.1%), fuelled by losses in manufacturing (-85,833; -11.5%) and construction (-83,367; -14.9%). Employment declined in all goods-producing sectors, including agriculture (-5,833; -7.5%); utilities (-2,800; -5.4%); and forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas (-800; -2.3%).

Indicators pointed to softer conditions in the **manufacturing** sector (-85,833; -11.5%) in Q2 2020. The Markit Canada Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index registered 47.8 in June, up from 40.6 from May, and well above the 33.0 witnessed in April.⁴ Production volumes declined by the lowest margin since the downturn began as the economy shutdown back in March, with nearly a third of the survey panel reporting a fall in output. Furthermore, business confidence improved to its highest level since the beginning of the pandemic, measured on an expected boost to client demand and production schedules spurred by gradual easing of COVID-19 measures.

The quarter has been marred by several large-scale layoffs as the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic began to unfold. The province's stay-at-home order to stop the spread of the disease had an adverse impact on the manufacturing sector. Although manufacturing was labelled an essential service, production was suppressed due to the shock from the pandemic. Bombardier permanently laid off 2,500 employees globally, including 400 at their Downsview factory in Toronto. The company placed about 10,000 Canadian employees on federal wage subsidies during the quarter – however, it is adjusting its workforce to meet an expected 30% drop in demand for aircrafts, signalling troubling times for the aerospace manufacturing industry.⁵ Also, Algoma Steel temporarily laid off 70

⁴ IHS Markit. (2020, June 2). *Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI*. IHS Markit. Retrieved from <https://www.markiteconomics.com/Public/Home/PressRelease/da069cb9b5d34fc99e01eb6d7cb4f8f1>

⁵ SooToday Staff. (2020, April 30). Algoma Steel to lay off 70 full-time employees. *Sootoday*. Retrieved from <https://www.sootoday.com/coronavirus-covid-19-sault-ste-marie-news/algoma-steel-to-layoff-70-full-time-employees-2295691>

full-time workers in Sault Ste. Marie due to repressed demand resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, Continental AG, an automotive vibration control manufacturer, is ending production at its plant in Mitchell, West Perth in March 2021, affecting more than 150 workers. The R&D centre will close by the end of 2021.⁶

The manufacturing sector welcomed some positive news with government and industry partnering to retool production towards personal protective equipment (PPE). The Government of Ontario announced an investment of \$2.8M to support production of PPE at three different manufacturers.⁷ Additionally, Oro-Medonte company Molded Precision Components (MPC) hired 75 additional workers for the production of PPE to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic,⁸ and Take Care Supply, a business making and selling masks for personal use, opened with 150 employees in the Toronto area.⁹ Additionally, Bombardier Inc. recalled about 60 employees at its Thunder Bay facility to work on ventilator production with O-Two Medical Technologies, a Brampton-based ventilator maker.¹⁰

In more positive news, there has been a gradual recall of employees and a resumption of production in the automotive manufacturing sector. Magna Autosystems in Belleville resumed production with about 250 employees. The auto parts supplier planned to recall 925 employees by the end of June.¹¹ Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd., and General Motors of Canada Company announced plans to restart operations on May 19.¹² Also, the Toyota assembly plant in Cambridge restarted operations at the beginning of May with new COVID-19 protocols.¹³

Employment declined in **construction** (-83,367; -14.9%) as the COVID-19 pandemic caused the province to shutdown all private sector industrial, commercial and institutional projects at the start of the quarter – deeming only public sector infrastructure work essential.¹⁴ The provincial order essentially put the industry at a standstill and the sector lost jobs while activity was halted. As the province began to lift restrictions, employment improved as activity increased. Several large-scale projects commenced during the tail end of the quarter. SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. and M. Sullivan & Son Ltd. commenced a \$100M construction project to rebuild the Calabogie Generating

⁶ Bader, A. (2020, May 1). Struggling autoparts plant in Mitchell closing. *The London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://www.pressreader.com/canada/the-london-free-press/20200501/281625307462766>

⁷ Taylor, D. (2020, May 29). Growth on the horizon for Sault manufacturer. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernontriobusiness.com/regional-news/sault-ste-marie/growth-on-the-horizon-for-sault-manufacturer-2395036>

⁸ Evans, T. (2020, June 3). Oro-medonte company has doubled its workforce to make PPE. *Orilliamatters.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.orilliamatters.com/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/oro-medonte-company-has-doubled-its-workforce-to-make-ppe-2404752>

⁹ De Bono, N. (2020, April 28). As many London businesses struggle, some are opening up amid pandemic. *The London Free Press*. Retrieved from <https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/pandemic-gives-rise-to-a-few-new-businesses-in-london/wcm/98d9dc6a-86e6-41f2-a1cc-e5a0bb037e49/>

¹⁰ CBC News Staff (2020, May 29). Bombardier Thunder Bay's ventilator production line fully operational. *CBC news*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/bombardier-thunder-bay-ventilators-1.5590174>

¹¹ Smith, A. (2020, May 14). Magna Autosystems starting back up. *QuinteNews*. Retrieved from <https://www.quinte-news.com/2020/05/14/magna-autosystems-starting-back-up/>

¹² CBC News. (2020, May 7). FCA's Windsor Assembly Plant, Ford looking to restart this May as union works to ensure safety. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/auto-plants-restart-may-unifor-safety-1.5560955>

¹³ Paula Duhatschek. (2020, May 11). Toyota Canada workers return to work following shutdown. *CBC News* Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/toyota-canada-back-to-work-covid-19-1.5562212>

¹⁴ CBC News. (2020, April 3). Ontario to shut down some construction sectors amid COVID-19 outbreak, premier says. *CBC News* Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/covid-19-coronavirus-friday-models-tests-1.5520192>

Station, a hydroelectric dam, on the Madawaska River.¹⁵ Also, joint government funding was announced for multiple building projects – \$21.9M was announced for road and bike lane construction in Belleville and Quinte West¹⁶ and \$19.4M was announced for two transportation projects in Guelph.¹⁷ Additionally, joint federal, provincial, municipal and First Nations funding valued at \$40M was announced for 12 road, airport and bridge projects in Northern Ontario.¹⁸ Furthermore, total building permit construction value increased by 64.3% from April to May 2020 and by 0.6% from May 2019 to May 2020.¹⁹

In other non-residential developments, the Government of Ontario announced that it's moving forward with 37 major infrastructure projects across the province valued at over \$60B²⁰ – signalling commitment to the sector.

On the residential front, Guy Saumure & Sons Construction Ltd. began construction on Settlers Square residential complex in Smiths Falls²¹ and MennoHomes broke ground on a \$15M affordable housing project in Kitchener.²² Housing starts rebounded month-over-month from April to May 2020, increasing by 35.4%. On a yearly basis, new housing starts declined by 5.5% from May 2019 to May 2020.²³

Between Q2 2019 and Q2 2020, employment declined in the goods-producing sector by 182,700 (-12.4%). The largest declines were in manufacturing (-111,033; -14.4%), construction (-64,100; -11.8%) and utilities (-7,033; -12.5%). Agriculture witnessed a moderate decline (-1,333; -1.8%). The forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas sector witnessed a modest increase (+767; 2.3%).

Employment declined in the services-producing sector led by losses in wholesale and retail trade and accommodation and food services

In Q2 2020, employment declined in the services-producing sector by 697,167 (-11.7%) compared with the previous quarter. The largest decreases were in wholesale and retail trade (-162,867; -15.0%) accommodation and food services (-159,433; -38.6%), and health care and social assistance (-73,700; -8.1%). Employment losses were witnessed across all sub-sectors, with finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing (FIRE) contracting the least (-967; -0.2%).

¹⁵ White, J. (2020, June 22). Calabogie power dam to be rebuilt after damage done in 2018 tornado. *Ottawa Matters*. Retrieved from <https://www.ottawamatters.com/local-news/calabogie-power-dam-to-be-rebuilt-after-damage-done-in-2018-tornado-2452874>

¹⁶ Infrastructure Canada Staff. (2020, June 23). Canada and Ontario invest in roads for rural communities in Belleville and quinte west. *Government of Canada* Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2020/06/canada-and-ontario-invest-in-roads-for-rural-communities-in-belleville-and-quinte-west.html>

¹⁷ Duncan, J. (2020, June 23). \$11.46M in funding announced for 13 km of 'dedicated, separated' bike lanes in Guelph. *Guelph Mercury Tribune*. Retrieved from <https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/10039985--11-46m-in-funding-announced-for-13-km-of-dedicated-separated-bike-lanes-in-guelph/>

¹⁸ Newsroom Ontario. (2020, June 25). Canada and Ontario invest in roads and bridges for rural communities in northern Ontario. *news.ontario.ca*. Retrieved from <https://news.ontario.ca/moi/en/2020/06/canada-and-ontario-invest-in-roads-and-bridges-for-rural-communities-in-northern-ontario.html>

¹⁹ Statistics Canada. Table 34-10-0066-01 Building permits, by type of structure and type of work (x 1,000)

²⁰ Ministry of Infrastructure Staff. (2020, June 18). Market update spring 2020. *Government of Ontario*. Retrieved from <https://www.infrastructureontario.ca/Market-Update-Spring-2020/>

²¹ Hometownnews. (2020, May 21). Apartment complex, affordable housing coming to Brockville Street. *Hometownnews*. Retrieved from <https://www.hometownnews.ca/apartment-complex-affordable-housing-brockville-street/>

²² Blair, A. (2020, May 27). Construction begins on affordable housing project. *Kitchener Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.kitchenertoday.com/local-news/construction-begins-on-affordable-housing-project-2389476>

²³ Statistics Canada. Table 34-10-0152-01 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, housing starts, by type of dwelling unit and market type in all centres of 50,000 and over for Canada and provinces

The **finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing** sector remained resilient throughout the quarter (-967; -0.2%), as large Canadian banks vowed not to cut jobs in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁴ Financial services firm Morgan Stanley announced expansion plans to launch a new wealth management division in Canada, creating jobs in Toronto including executive and financial advisor positions.²⁵ On the downside, smaller banks have struggled, with Meridian Credit Union laying off 109 employees, 25 of which are permanent, across their 92 Ontario locations.²⁶

Employment declined in **professional, scientific and technical** services (-50,667; -7.3%). Although the sector sustained year-over-year losses, it contracted as at a slower pace than the services sector as a whole partly due to the ability for many employees to continue to work from home. However, many firms in the sector have implemented mandatory hours and salary reductions due to the pandemic. SNC Lavalin required all employees to take a 10% to 20% pay cut for three months.²⁷ Additionally, major Canadian law firms Borden Ladner Gervais and Norton Rose Fulbright have cut partner salaries to reduce cost during the pandemic.²⁸

The **wholesale and retail trade** sector experienced large employment declines in Q2 2020, compared to Q1 2020 (-162,867; -15.0%). The mandatory shutdown enacted by the provincial government impacted all non-essential retailers, only limiting few to curbside pickup. This had wide-reaching effects on employment within the retail sector. Several retailers across the province were forced to permanently shutdown due to the financial strain from the COVID-19 pandemic. Solutions Your Organized Living Stores permanently closed nine out of 12 stores in Ontario, affecting 150 employees.²⁹ Also, Reitmans, announced it will close all Addition Elle and Thyme Maternity stores across Ontario, including their Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga locations.³⁰ Additionally, L Brands permanently closed 13 Victoria's Secret locations and one Bath & Body Works store in Canada due to the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹ Retail trade sales struggled throughout the quarter with sales down 32.5% from March to April 2020.³²

The grocery stores sub-sector (4451) of retail trade, deemed an essential service, fared far better during the COVID-19 pandemic. Various firms within the sector expanded their labour force to meet surging demand. Fresh

²⁴ Reuters. (2020, March 30). Royal Bank of Canada CEO pledges no cut jobs in 2020 due to COVID-19. *Financial Post*. Retrieved from <https://financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/royal-bank-of-canada-ceo-pledges-no-cut-jobs-in-2020-due-to-covid-19>

²⁵ Bakx, K. (2020, May 20). Morgan Stanley expanding further into Canada with new wealth management service. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/solium-morgan-stanley-shareworks-1.5576158>

²⁶ Benner, A. (2020, May 22). Meridian Credit Union cuts 109 jobs. *St Catharines Standard*. Retrieved from <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/business/2020/05/22/meridian-credit-union-cuts-109-jobs.html>

²⁷ Van Praet, N. (2020, April 1). SNC-Lavalin asking working to take pay cut for next three months. *Globe and Mail* Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-snc-lavalin-asking-workers-to-take-pay-cut-for-next-three-months/>

²⁸ Balakrishnan, A. (2020, April 17). Job market worries ripple through legal sector after law firm layoffs and pay cuts on Bay Street. *Canadian Lawyer Mag*. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianlawyermag.com/resources/practice-management/job-market-worries-ripple-through-legal-sector-after-law-firm-layoffs-and-pay-cuts-on-bay-street/328810>

²⁹ Marychuk, M. (2020, May 13). Mississauga-based Solutions Your Organized Living Store lays off 150 workers. *Mississauga.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.mississauga.com/news-story/9986404-mississauga-based-solutions-your-organized-living-store-lays-off-150-workers/>

³⁰ Marychuk, M. (2020, June 3). 1,400 jobs axed as Reitmans shutters all addition Elle and thyme maternity stores. *Mississauga.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.mississauga.com/news-story/10002655-1-400-jobs-axed-as-reitmans-shutters-all-addition-elle-and-thyme-maternity-stores/>

³¹ Dunham, J. (2020, May 21). Victoria's Secret, Bath & Body Works closing stores in Canada, U.S. as retailers struggle. *CTVnews*. Retrieved From <https://www.ctvnews.ca/business/victoria-s-secret-bath-body-works-closing-stores-in-canada-u-s-as-retailers-struggle-1.4948122>

³² Statistics Canada. Table 20-10-0008-01 Retail trade sales by province and territory (x 1,000)

City Farms, Inc., a Toronto based organic food provider, opened a new store in downtown Toronto³³ and Metro Inc. hired both part-time and full-time positions in its Metro and Food Basic locations across Ontario.³⁴

Employment in the Ontario **accommodation and food services** industry suffered steep losses in Q2 2020 (-159,433; -38.6%). Many firms struggled during the pandemic and were forced to shutter their doors. The provincial order closing dining rooms left many restaurants relying on takeout and delivery sales. Near the end of the quarter, the province lifted some restrictions allowing patios to reopen with social distancing protocols – which was met with some optimism as a stopgap to losses in revenue. However, many businesses within the sector shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic or had to remodel their businesses. OCCO Kitchen and Bar closed dine-in services at its locations in Orleans and Ottawa, and laid off 99 employees due to the COVID-19 pandemic,³⁵ Bight, El Tres, and Giorg Cucina e Barra, restaurants in Thunder Bay, closed dine-in services and laid off 100 staff due to the COVID-19 pandemic,³⁶ and Starbucks Coffee Company announced it plans to close as many as 200 coffee shops across Canada over the next two years.³⁷

On a year-over-year quarterly basis, employment decreased in the **services-producing** sector by 701,533 (-11.8%). The largest loses were reported in the accommodation and food services (-203,433; -44.5%), wholesale and retail trade (-175,900; -16.0%), and health care and social assistance (-63,700; -7.1%) sectors. Employment in the finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing increased by 17,367 (+3.0%), making it the only sub-sector to expand over the period.

Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally adjusted data ('000)	2nd Quarter 2020	1st Quarter 2020	2nd Quarter 2019	Quarterly Varia- tion		Yearly Variation	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Total employed, all industries	6,546.1	7,421.9	7,430.3	-875.8	-11.8	-884.3	-11.9
Goods-producing sector	1,292.8	1,471.4	1,475.5	-178.7	-12.1	-182.7	-12.4
Agriculture	71.8	77.7	73.2	-5.8	-7.5	-1.3	-1.8
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	33.7	34.5	32.9	-0.8	-2.3	0.8	2.3
Utilities	49.3	52.1	56.4	-2.8	-5.4	-7.0	-12.5
Construction	477.8	561.2	541.9	-83.4	-14.9	-64.1	-11.8
Manufacturing	660.1	745.9	771.1	-85.8	-11.5	-111.0	-14.4
Services-producing sector	5,253.3	5,950.5	5,954.8	-697.2	-11.7	-701.5	-11.8
Trade	923.3	1,086.2	1,099.2	-162.9	-15.0	-175.9	-16.0
Transportation and warehousing	349.4	398.2	403.1	-48.8	-12.3	-53.7	-13.3

³³ Toneguzzi, M. (2020, April 14). Fresh city farms grocery concept opens 2nd store amid pandemic [Photos]. *Retail Insider*. Retrieved from <https://www.retail-insider.com/retail-insider/2020/4/fresh-city-farms-grocery-concept-opens-2nd-store-amid-pandemic-photos>

³⁴ Kundacina, A. (2020, April 13). Metro is hiring all over Ontario & they're giving hourly bonuses. *Narcity*. Retrieved from <https://www.narcity.com/money/ca/on/metro-ontario-is-hiring-right-now-and-they-are-paying-workers-extra>

³⁵ The Canadian Press Staff. (2020, April 26). How restaurants are adapting to stay open amid mass job losses and closures. *The Loop*. Retrieved from <https://www.theloop.ca/ctvnews/how-restaurants-are-adapting-to-stay-open-amid-mass-job-losses-and-closures/>

³⁶ Cathy, A. (2020, April 5). 'What if your favourite restaurant wasn't there anymore?' Thunder Bay businesses join Save-HospitalityCA. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/thunder-bay-restaurants-save-hospitalityca-1.5520598>

³⁷ Evans, P. (2020, June 10). Starbucks to close as many as 200 stores in Canada even after COVID-19. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/starbucks-earnings-canada-1.5605902>

Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	600.4	601.3	583.0	-1.0	-0.2	17.4	3.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	642.4	693.1	674.0	-50.7	-7.3	-31.6	-4.7
Business, building and other support services	289.2	326.5	308.3	-37.3	-11.4	-19.1	-6.2
Educational services	484.8	541.1	544.1	-56.3	-10.4	-59.3	-10.9
Health care and social assistance	831.5	905.2	895.2	-73.7	-8.1	-63.7	-7.1
Information, culture and recreation	247.6	298.6	311.0	-51.0	-17.1	-63.4	-20.4
Accommodation and food services	253.4	412.8	456.8	-159.4	-38.6	-203.4	-44.5
Other services	246.4	295.3	304.0	-48.9	-16.6	-57.7	-19.0
Public administration	385.0	392.0	376.0	-7.1	-1.8	9.0	2.4

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table T14-10-0355, formerly CANSIM 282-0088

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

Employment losses across all regions continue in June

Employment fell by 453,400 (-12.4%) in the **Toronto** economic region between Q2 2019 and Q2 2020 (measured on a year-over-year, seasonally unadjusted basis). These losses were split between full-time employment (-293,900) and part-time employment (-159,600). The regional unemployment rate grew by 7.7 percentage points to 13.6%, the second highest regional unemployment rate in Ontario, and the largest increase in the unemployment rate of any region in Ontario.

Restaurant closures created significant layoffs in the accommodation and food services sector, with Wexford Restaurant,³⁸ Carmen,³⁹ and Tucker's Marketplace⁴⁰ all permanently shuttering their doors in June. However, as COVID-19 restrictions eased on restaurant patios, Toronto's largest patio, Cabana Waterfront Patio, reopened.⁴¹ The retail industry in Toronto continued to face hardship, as major retailers closed large numbers of stores. In the

³⁸ D'Andrea, A. (2020, May 31). Scarborough's Wexford restaurant closing amid COVID-19 pandemic. *Toronto.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.toronto.com/news-story/10001210-scarborough-s-wexford-restaurant-closing-amid-covid-19-pandemic/>

³⁹ Miller, M. (2020, June 22). Popular Spanish restaurant in Toronto shuts down after walking away from lease. *blogTO*. Retrieved from https://www.blogto.com/eat_drink/2020/06/spanish-restaurant-toronto-shuts-down/

⁴⁰ Dunham, J. (2020, June 26). Following Tucker's Marketplace permanent closure, are buffets off the table for good? *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/business/following-tucker-s-marketplace-permanent-closure-are-buffets-off-the-table-for-good-1.5001359>

⁴¹ Shea, C. (2020, June 25). "We got 4,100 reservation requests in less than five hours": Toronto's nightclub King, Charles Khabouth, on re-opening the city's biggest patio. *Toronto Life*. Retrieved from <https://torontolife.com/food/we-got-4100-reservation-requests-in-less-than-five-hours-torontos-nightclub-king-charles-khabouth-on-re-opening-the-citys-biggest-patio/>

Toronto region, closures included three Microsoft stores,⁴² three Reitmans stores,⁴³ and two SAIL stores,⁴⁴ all of which are permanent. Additionally, Toronto's large retail base means the region will likely be affected by other mass retail closures. Some examples include the Children's Place,⁴⁵ Victoria's Secret,⁴⁶ GNC,⁴⁷ Zara,⁴⁸ and Solutions Your Organized Living Stores.⁴⁹

In the manufacturing and transportation sectors, Bombardier laid off 400 aviation workers at its Downsview aerospace factory,⁵⁰ in addition to 196 temporary layoffs at GO Transit and the Union Pearson Express.⁵¹ However, in positive news, some companies have hired new employees by pivoting to production of COVID-19 related goods, including Superior Glove Works Ltd.,⁵² Virox Technologies,⁵³ and Sterling Industries.⁵⁴ These companies joined other several other manufacturers that pivoted to PPE production earlier in the quarter.

⁴² Kounakis, A. (2020, June 26). Microsoft Stores are closing as services move online. *Insauga.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.insauga.com/microsoft-stores-are-closing-as-services-move-online>

⁴³ Marychuk, M. (2020, June 3). 1,400 jobs axed as Reitmans shutters all addition Elle and thyme maternity stores. *Mississauga.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.mississauga.com/news-story/10002655-1-400-jobs-axed-as-reitmans-shutters-all-addition-elle-and-thyme-maternity-stores/>

⁴⁴ The Canadian Press. (2020, June 04). Sail to close six stores in Ontario and Quebec, affecting 500 employees. *CP24*. Retrieved from <https://www.cp24.com/news/sail-to-close-six-stores-in-ontario-and-quebec-affecting-500-employees-1.4970501>

⁴⁵ Stych, A. (2020, June 12). The Children's Place closing one-third of stores. *American City Business Journals*. Retrieved from <https://www.bizjournals.com/bizwomen/news/latest-news/2020/06/the-childrens-place-closing-300-stores.html?page=all>

⁴⁶ Dunham, J. (2020, May 21). Victoria's Secret, Bath & Body Works closing stores in Canada, U.S. as retailers struggle. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/business/victoria-s-secret-bath-body-works-closing-stores-in-canada-u-s-as-retailers-struggle-1.4948122>

⁴⁷ Flanagan, R. (2020, June 24). Health retailer GNC files for bankruptcy; 29 Canadian stores to close. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/health-retailer-gnc-files-for-bankruptcy-29-canadian-stores-to-close-1.4997658>

⁴⁸ Hanbury, M. (2020, June 10). Zara's owner says it will close as many as 1,200 stores as it doubles down on online shopping. *Business Insider*. Retrieved from <https://www.businessinsider.com/zara-inditex-invests-in-online-shopping-post-pandemic-2020-6>

⁴⁹ Marychuk, M. (2020, May 13). Mississauga-based Solutions Your Organized Living Store lays off 150 workers. *Mississauga.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.mississauga.com/news-story/9986404-mississauga-based-solutions-your-organized-living-store-lays-off-150-workers/>

⁵⁰ Atkins, E. (2020, June 05). Bombardier cuts 2,500 aviation jobs as pandemic hammers business-jet market. *The Globe and Mail*. Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-bombardier-cutting-2500-aviation-jobs-as-covid-19-hits-jet-demand/>

⁵¹ Canadian Press. (2020, June 04). Bombardier temporarily laying off 196 GO Transit, UP Express employees. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://toronto.citynews.ca/2020/06/04/bombardier-temporarily-laying-off-196-go-transit-up-express-employees/>

⁵² Vander Wier, M. (2020, June 1). Shifting gears through COVID-19. *OHS Magazine*. Retrieved from <https://www.ohscanada.com/features/shifting-gears-through-covid-19/>

⁵³ Lea, D. (2020, May 30). 'Ramping up production': Province invests \$850,000 in Oakville manufacturer to help fight coronavirus. *InsideHalton.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.insidehalton.com/news-story/10000549--ramping-up-production-province-invests-850-000-in-oakville-manufacturer-to-help-fight-coronavirus/>

⁵⁴ Tsekouras, P. (2020, June 2). Ontario pledges \$2.8 million to local personal protective equipment producers. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-pledges-2-8-million-to-local-personal-protective-equipment-producers-1.4964924>

Additionally, both Peel and Toronto moved into Stage 2 of Ontario's Reopening Plan in late June, allowing for further reopenings, including Ripley's Aquarium, the Toronto Zoo, Casa Loma, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Aga Khan museum.^{55,56}

The **Ottawa** economic region realized labour market losses in Q2 2020. Employment decreased by 64,200 (-8.7%) between Q2 2019 and Q2 2020, and the regional unemployment rate climbed to 9.4%, a 4.1 percentage point increase year-over-year. Losses were split almost evenly between full-time and part-time employment, with losses of 32,800 and 31,400, respectively. The region's participation rate stood at 62.9%, down from 67.0% last year.

The region's accommodation and food services industry saw some losses, with The Fish Market Group closing their three restaurants in ByWard Market⁵⁷ and the Highlander Pub closing.⁵⁸ These restaurants join two Stoneface Dollys⁵⁹ locations that permanently closed earlier in the quarter.

However, the region also saw substantial employment opportunities. Amazon announced it is building a second distribution centre in the region that will create 1,000 full-time jobs once complete⁶⁰ and work began on the \$100M reconstruction of the Calabogie Generating Station.⁶¹ As well, GoFor Industries, an online delivery platform for construction materials, and Kinaxis Inc., a software provider, both hired staff.^{62,63}

Employment declined year-over-year by 94,700 (-12.4%) in the **Kitchener–Waterloo–Barrie** economic region in Q2 2020. The unemployment rate grew by 6.7 percentage points to 12.0%. The participation rate declined by 5.4 percentage points to 64.4%, likely due to large exits from the labour force.

⁵⁵ CP24 Staff. (2020, June 24). GTA attractions and landmarks announce plans for reopening. *CP24*. Retrieved from <https://www.cp24.com/news/gta-attractions-and-landmarks-announce-plans-for-reopening-1.4997994>

⁵⁶ Vyas, K. (2020, June 23). The AGO is reopening in Toronto and here's what to expect. (2020, June 13). *blogTO*. Retrieved from <https://www.blogto.com/arts/2020/06/ago-reopening-toronto/>

⁵⁷ Goodwin, N. (2020, June 17). ByWard market restaurants close after 41 years due to COVID-19. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/fish-market-restaurant-group-closes-covid-19-1.5616094>

⁵⁸ Ottawa Business Journal Staff. (2020, June 11). Highlander pub closing Rideau street location. Ottawa Business Journal. Retrieved from <https://www.obj.ca/article/highlander-pub-closing-rideau-street-location>

⁵⁹ Hum, P. (2020, May 18). COVID-19 helps to shut down Ottawa's two Stoneface Dolly's restaurants. The Ottawa Citizen. Retrieved from <https://ottawacitizen.com/business/covid-19-helps-to-shut-down-ottawas-two-stone-face-dollys-restaurants/wcm/662b345b-4a5e-410c-8f13-76465d01200c/>

⁶⁰ Raymond, T. (2020, June 30). Amazon building second distribution centre in Ottawa. CTV News. Retrieved from <https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/amazon-building-second-distribution-centre-in-ottawa-1.5005646>

⁶¹ White, J. (2020, June 22). Calabogie power dam to be rebuilt after damage done in 2018 tornado. Ottawa Matters. Retrieved from <https://www.ottawamatters.com/local-news/calabogie-power-dam-to-be-rebuilt-after-damage-done-in-2018-tornado-2452874>

⁶² Sali, D. (2020, June 17). Ottawa's GoFor aims to deliver on growth forecast thanks to \$9.8M seed round. Ottawa Business Journal. Retrieved from <https://www.obj.ca/article/techopia-ottawas-gofor-aims-deliver-growth-forecast-thanks-98m-seed-round>

⁶³ Silcoff, S. (2020, June 16). Ottawa's Kinaxis beefs up AI power with purchase of Toronto-based Rubikloud. The Globe and Mail. Retrieved from <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/article-ottawas-kinaxis-beefs-up-ai-power-with-purchase-of-toronto-based/>

The region's transportation and construction sectors both received boosts with \$19.4M in funding announced for Guelph transportation projects and \$24M in funding announced for transit and transportation projects in Waterloo Region.⁶⁴ As well, multiple manufacturing companies expanded their businesses this quarter: InkSmith in Kitchener,⁶⁵ Baytech Plastics in Midland,⁶⁶ Waterloo Brewing Ltd.,⁶⁷ Molded Precision Components in Oro-Medonte,⁶⁸ Clearpath Robotics in Waterloo,⁶⁹ and Trusscore in Palmerston.⁷⁰ These announcements come on the heels of 120 layoffs at Grand River Transit.

In the accommodation and food services sector, East Side Mario's in Waterloo permanently closed.⁷¹ This announcement follows the permanent closures of many other restaurants over the quarter in the region, including Burger Royale Oro,⁷² Ledger's Tap & Grill,⁷³ At The Crossroads Family Restaurant,⁷⁴ Chainsaw,⁷⁵ and Pie Wood Fired Pizza.⁷⁶ On a positive note, the retail cannabis industry experience substantial growth this quarter, with Spiritleaf opening in Guelph,⁷⁷ Sessions Cannabis opening in Kitchener,⁷⁸ and Starbuds Cannabis Company opening stores in Alliston, Bradford and three in Barrie.⁷⁹

⁶⁴ Thompson, C. (2020, May 29). Pandemic has slashed Grand River transit ridership, revenues. *The Record*. Retrieved from <https://www.therecord.com/news/waterloo-region/2020/05/28/pandemic-has-slashed-grand-river-transit-ridership-revenues.html>

⁶⁵ Thompson, C. (2020, April 9). Kitchener PPE manufacturer to hire hundreds of employees after opening new facility. *Kitchener*. <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/kitchener-ppe-manufacturer-to-hire-hundreds-of-employees-after-opening-new-facility-1.4890451>

⁶⁶ Simcoe.com Staff. (2020, June 17). Midland's Baytech Plastics hiring to meet COVID product demand. *Simcoe.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/10019733-midland-s-baytech-plastics-hiring-to-meet-covid-product-demand/>

⁶⁷ Exchange Magazine Staff. (2020, June 4). Waterloo Brewing to Double Can Line Capacity to Deliver Continued Growth. *Exchange Magazine*. Retrieved from <https://www.exchangemagazine.com/2020/week23/Thursday/20060417.htm>

⁶⁸ Evans, T. (2020, June 3). Oro-medonte company has doubled its workforce to make PPE. *Orilliamatters.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.orilliamatters.com/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/oro-medonte-company-has-doubled-its-workforce-to-make-ppe-2404752>

⁶⁹ Simpson, M. (2020, June 01). Clearpath Robotics raises \$40 million CAD Series C for industrial robot division. *Betakit*. Retrieved from <https://bekatik.com/clearpath-robotics-raises-40-million-cad-series-c-for-industrial-robot-division/>

⁷⁰ Simpson, M. (2020, June 01). Material science company Trusscore raises \$5.33 million seed round. *Betakit*. Retrieved from <https://bekatik.com/material-science-company-trusscore-raises-5-33-million-seed-round/>

⁷¹ Ethier, M. (2020, May 29). Popular Waterloo restaurant closes its doors permanently. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/popular-waterloo-restaurant-closes-its-doors-permanently-1.4960605>

⁷² Matys, F. (2020, May 8). Burger Royale Oro shutting down due to COVID-19 impacts. *Simcoe.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9972903-burger-royale-oro-shutting-down-due-to-covid-19-impacts/>

⁷³ Guelph Mercury Staff. (2020, May 8). Guelph bar and restaurant closes doors during coronavirus pandemic. *Guelph Mercury Tribune*. Retrieved from <https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/9972818-guelph-bar-and-restaurant-closes-doors-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

⁷⁴ Banger, C. (2020, April 17). At the crossroads family restaurant closing after 24 years. *CTV News Kitchener*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/at-the-crossroads-family-restaurant-closing-after-24-years-1.4901015>

⁷⁵ Pickel, J. (2020, April 21). Popular uptown bar chainsaw closed for good. *CTV News Kitchener*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/popular-uptown-bar-chainsaw-closed-for-good-1.4904892>

⁷⁶ Edwards, J. (2020, May 27). COVID-19 forces Pie Wood Fired Pizza Joint to close Collingwood location. *Simcoe.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9997544-covid-19-forces-pie-wood-fired-pizza-joint-to-close-collingwood-location/>

⁷⁷ McNaughton, G. (2020, June 15). Guelph's first legal cannabis shop is a family affair. *Guelph Mercury Tribune*. Retrieved from <https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/10021720-guelph-s-first-legal-cannabis-shop-is-a-family-affair/>

⁷⁸ Adams, B. (2020, May 19). Kitchener getting second pot shop. *Kitchener Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.kitchenertoday.com/local-news/kitchener-getting-second-pot-shop-2360361>

⁷⁹ Pritchard, B. (2020, May 12). Here's what we know about Alliston's first cannabis stores. *Simcoe.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9972518-here-s-what-we-know-about-alliston-s-first-cannabis-stores/>

Comparatively, educational services and public administration in the region were hard hit this quarter, though many of the layoffs are temporary. Conestoga College laid off 119 part-time employees⁸⁰ and 60 full-time support staff.⁸¹ The cities of Guelph,^{82,83} Cambridge,⁸⁴ Waterloo,⁸⁵ the Township of Clearview,⁸⁶ and the towns of Wasaga Beach⁸⁷ and Orangerville⁸⁸ temporarily laid off a combined total of over 1,300 employees.

The **Hamilton–Niagara Peninsula** economic region saw employment losses of 95,900 (-12.6%) in the second quarter of 2020. The unemployment rate increased in the region, climbing 7.6 percentage points from 4.8% to 12.4% year-over-year. This increase was the second largest in Ontario, after Toronto, where the unemployment rate increased 7.7 percentage points.

While there were large employment declines in the region, some positive news for June included the opening of a McDonald's in Welland⁸⁹ and The Hunny Pot, a cannabis retail store, in Hamilton.⁹⁰ Throughout the quarter, administrative and support services saw increased employment including Sitel Group hiring over 400 employees for their St. Catharines call centre.⁹¹

⁸⁰ Banger, C. (2020, April 20). Conestoga college lays off 119 part-time employees as it deals with financial pressures of COVID-19. *CTV News Kitchener*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/conestoga-college-lays-off-119-part-time-employees-as-it-deals-with-financial-pressure-of-covid-19-1.4904019>

⁸¹ Banger, C. (2020, June 3). Conestoga college issues layoff notices to 60 full-time staff members. *CTV News*. Retrieved from <https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/conestoga-college-issues-layoff-notices-to-60-full-time-staff-members-1.4967905>

⁸² City Hall. (2020, April 17). COVID-19 forces city to place 127 full-time employees on declared emergency leave. *City of Guelph*. <https://guelph.ca/2020/04/covid-19-forces-city-to-place-127-full-time-employees-on-declared-emergency-leave/>

⁸³ City of Guelph. (2020, April 2). City temporarily lays off 601 employees. Retrieved from <https://guelph.ca/2020/04/city-temporarily-lays-off-601-employees/>

⁸⁴ KitchenerToday.com Staff. (2020, April 3). City of Waterloo, Cambridge laying off part-time employees (update). *Kitchener Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.kitchenertoday.com/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/city-of-waterloo-laying-off-over-400-part-time-employees-2224499>

⁸⁵ KitchenerToday.com Staff. (2020, April 3). City of Waterloo, Cambridge laying off part-time employees (update). *Kitchener Today*. Retrieved from <https://www.kitchenertoday.com/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/city-of-waterloo-laying-off-over-400-part-time-employees-2224499>

⁸⁶ CollingwoodToday Staff. (2020, April 30). Clearview Township announces 21 layoffs. *collingwoodtoday.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.collingwoodtoday.ca/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/clearview-township-announces-21-layoffs-2314287>

⁸⁷ Town of Wasaga Beach. (2020, April 24). Wasaga beach announces staff layoffs. *CollingwoodToday.ca*. Retrieved from <https://www.collingwoodtoday.ca/coronavirus-covid-19-local-news/wasaga-beach-announces-staff-layoffs-2281394>

⁸⁸ Halliday, C. (2020, April 4). ‘Unprecedented decision’: Town of Orangerville lays off 143 employees due to COVID-19 outbreak. *Orangeville.com*. <https://www.orangeville.com/news-story/9924103--unprecedented-decision-town-of-orangeville-lays-off-143-employees-due-to-covid-19-outbreak/>

⁸⁹ St. Catharines Standard Staff. (2020, June 19). Photo: New Welland McDonald's planned to open in fall. *The St. Catharines Standard*. Retrieved from <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/business/2020/06/19/photo-new-welland-mcdonald-s-planned-to-open-in-fall.html>

⁹⁰ Zamperin, R. (2020, June 15). New cannabis store opens in Hamilton, says COVID-19 has been ‘an interesting ride’. *Global News*. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/7064639/retail-cannabis-hamilton-coronavirus/>

⁹¹ Niagara Falls Review Staff. (2020, May 13). Sitel hiring 400+ at St. Catharines call centre. *Niagara Falls Review*. Retrieved from <https://www.niagarafallsreview.ca/news-story/9987221-sitel-hiring-400-at-st-catharines-call-centre/>

The arts, entertainment and recreation industry continued to suffer, with multiple fairs and festivals cancelled^{92, 93, 94} and the Oh Canada Eh dinner theatre in Niagara Falls closing, affecting 48 workers.⁹⁵ The industry decline is reflected in the region's labour market throughout the entire quarter.

Employment in the **Windsor-Sarnia** economic region dropped by 63,500 (-20.8%). This was the largest percent decrease across any region in Ontario. Moreover, the unemployment rate in the region was the highest in Ontario at 14.7%, representing a 9.0 percentage point increase from last year. The region saw substantial exits from the labour market, bringing the participation rate down to 52.3%, the lowest in Ontario.

Some negative news in the region included the permanently closure of the Addition Elle and Thyme Maternity Windsor locations⁹⁶ and the shutdown of Unconquered Sun Solar Technologies Inc.'s facility in Tecumseh.⁹⁷ These closures compound major layoffs earlier in the quarter at Cruise, the self-driving unit owned by General Motors, and two cannabis companies in Leamington, Tilray⁹⁸ and Aphria Inc.⁹⁹ In positive news, two new cannabis stores opened in Windsor: Shiny Bud Cannabis Co. and Greentown Ontario.¹⁰⁰ As well, Harbour Technologies Ltd. is opening a plant producing PPE by the end of July and hiring up to 50 more workers.¹⁰¹

Employment declined by 17,900 (-17.1%) in the **Northwest** economic region in the second quarter of 2020, which was the second largest percent decrease across regions in Ontario. The regional unemployment rate climbed to 10.7%, and the participation rate decreased to 56.8% from 64.8% a year ago.

While overall employment declined, multiple companies in the mining and quarrying industries resumed work and expanded exploration efforts, bolstering employment in this sector. Kirkland Lake Gold,¹⁰² First Mining Gold,¹⁰³

⁹² Lawson, A. (2020, June 30). Hamilton's festival of friends cancelled for 2020 - CHCH. *CHCH TV*. Retrieved from <https://www.chch.com/hamiltons-festival-of-friends-cancelled-for-2020/>

⁹³ Polewski, L. (2020, June 17). Supercrawl 2020 cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic. *Global News*. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/7074979/supercrawl-2020-cancelled-coronavirus/>

⁹⁴ Werner, K. (2020, June 12). Ancaster fair's 170th edition cancelled because of COVID-19. *Ancaster News*. Retrieved from <https://www.hamiltonnews.com/news-story/10021536-ancaster-fair-s-170th-edition-cancelled-because-of-covid-19/>

⁹⁵ Law, J. (2020, June 04). Oh Canada eh dinner theatre closing for good. *The Standard*. Retrieved from <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/whatson-story/10014628-oh-canada-eh-dinner-theatre-closing-for-good/>

⁹⁶ Windsorite.ca News staff. (2020, June 01). Thyme Maternity And Addition Elle Stores To Close. *WindsoriteDOT.ca News*. Retrieved from <https://windsorite.ca/2020/06/thyme-maternity-and-addition-elle-stores-to-close/>

⁹⁷ Moinar, D. (2020, May 28). Unconquered Sun closing down, citing decreased demand for solar panels. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/unconquered-sun-solar-technologies-closing-down-1.5587563>

⁹⁸ David George-Cosh (2020, May 26). Tilray to save \$7.5M, layoffs expected from greenhouse closure. *BNN Bloomberg*. Retrieved from: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/tilray-to-save-7-5m-layoffs-expected-from-greenhouse-closure-1.1441343>

⁹⁹ David George_Cosh. (2020, May 08). Aphria sheds staff, including marketing boss, amid strategic shift. *BNN Bloomberg*. Retrieved from <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/aphria-sheds-staff-including-marketing-boss-amid-strategic-shift-1.1433586>

¹⁰⁰ Schmidt D. (2020, June 25). 'Extremely pumped' -more pot shops sprout up in Windsor. *Windsor Star*. Retrieved from; <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/extremely-pumped-more-pot-shops-sprout-up-in-windsor/wcm/9897956c-3ec7-4314-94fa-ddab7cc89231/>

¹⁰¹ Waddell, D. (2020, June 05). Harbour Technologies to open local PPE plant. *Windsor Star*. Retrieved from <https://windsorstar.com/news/habour-technologies-to-open-local-ppe-production-plant/wcm/ebd67553-c5d7-4464-aa95-440826ad0289/>

¹⁰² Northern Ontario Business Staff (2020, May 06). Kirkland Lake Gold begins workforce recall. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernoniobusiness.com/industry-news/mining/kirkland-lake-gold-begins-workforce-recall-2329948>

¹⁰³ Northern Ontario Business Staff (2020, May 28). Back to the Bush for these northwest gold explorers. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernoniobusiness.com/industry-news/mining/back-to-the-bush-for-these-northwest-gold-explorers-2391706>

Auteco Minerals,¹⁰⁴ and Impala¹⁰⁵ all resumed work over the quarter, recalling employees. PureGold Mining also began exploration. The company hired 89 employees at their Red Lake mine, with goals to hire another 100 works by September 2020.¹⁰⁶ Manufacturing received a similar boost, with Bombardier recalling over 480 employees to their plants during the quarter.^{107,108}

However, as in the other regions, the food services industry was particularly hard hit in the Northwest. Vanderwees, a café in Thunder Bay, laid off 30 employees,¹⁰⁹ Moxie's Grill & Bar in Thunder Bay permanently closed¹¹⁰ and Clark's Resorts and Outposts in Vermilion Bay will not open for the season, affecting 30 employees.

Ontario Quarterly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

Seasonally unadjusted data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	2nd Quarter 2020 ('000)	2nd Quarter 2019 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	2nd Quarter 2020 (%)	2nd Quarter 2019 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Ontario	6,583.0	7,472.1	-11.9	12.5	5.6	6.9
Economic Regions						
Ottawa	671.2	735.4	-8.7	9.4	5.3	4.1
Kingston - Pembroke	193.4	227.4	-15.0	11.8	4.9	6.9
Muskoka - Kawarthas	161.6	177.3	-8.9	10.6	5.4	5.2
Toronto	3,205.7	3,659.1	-12.4	13.6	5.9	7.7
Kitchener - Waterloo - Barrie	667.6	762.3	-12.4	12.0	5.3	6.7
Hamilton - Niagara Peninsula	663.9	759.8	-12.6	12.4	4.8	7.6
London	311.8	331.6	-6.0	11.6	4.7	6.9
Windsor - Sarnia	242.2	305.7	-20.8	14.7	5.7	9.0
Stratford - Bruce Peninsula	143.8	159.7	-10.0	9.6	3.4	6.2
Northeast	235.0	248.9	-5.6	10.1	7.2	2.9
Northwest	87.0	104.9	-17.1	10.7	5.8	4.9

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

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

¹⁰⁴ Northern Ontario Business Staff (2020, May 28). Back to the Bush for these northwest gold explorers. *Northern Ontario Business*. Retrieved from <https://www.northernoniobusiness.com/industry-news/mining/back-to-the-bush-for-these-northwest-gold-explorers-2391706>

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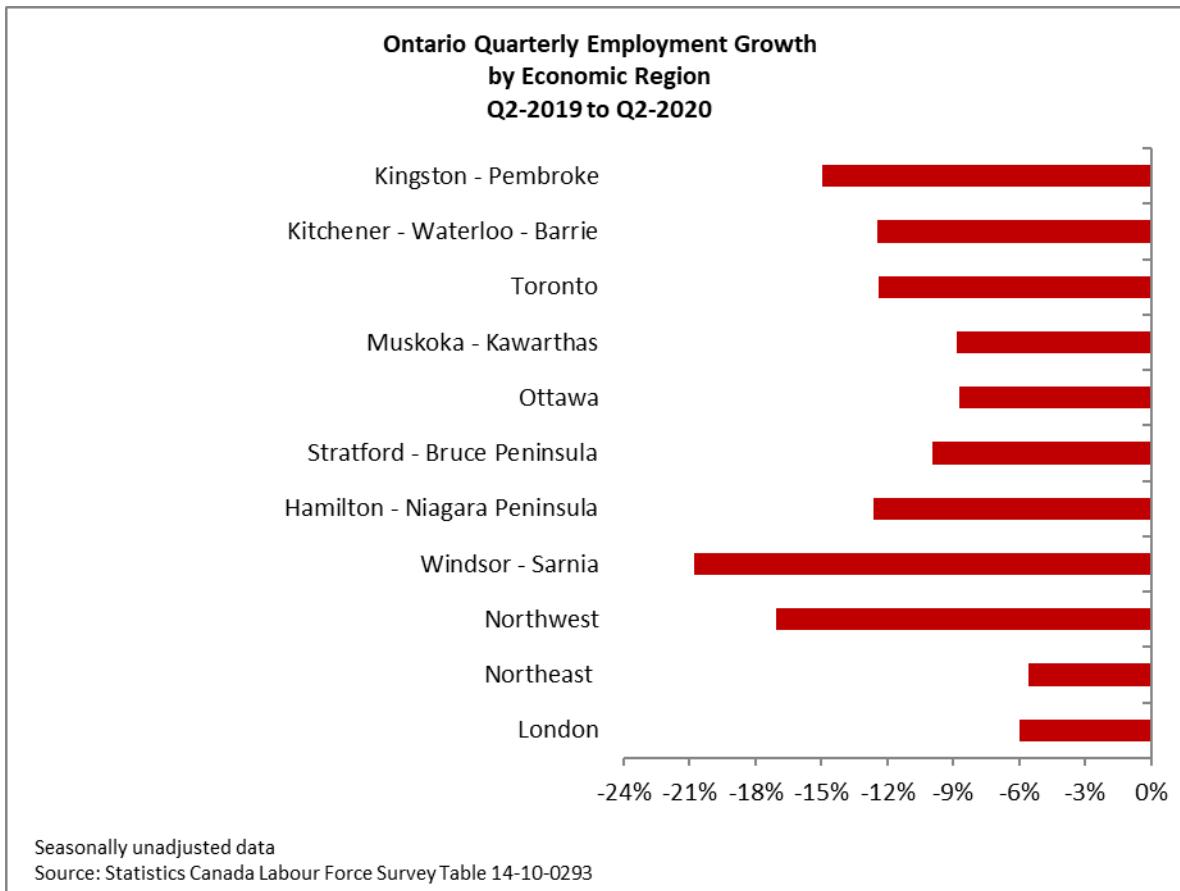
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Note: In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here 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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