

An overview of the Economic Region 570, ranging from Windsor to Sarnia, includes the census division of Chatham-Kent, and the counties of Essex and Lambton. The Labour Market Monitor is a monthly report focusing on labour market information produced by local Labour Market Information Analysts. For further information contact: lmj-imt@workingincanada.gc.ca

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), there were 79 housing starts in the first three months of 2011 compared to 71 during the same time in 2010.

According to Statistics Canada the value of seasonally adjusted building permits in the Windsor CMA totalled \$47.3 million in the first quarter of 2011. This represents a decrease of 55% over the first quarter of 2010.

Labour Force Trends

From April 2010 to April 2011, employment in the Windsor-Sarnia region rose slightly (+1,300). Fewer people looked for work and the labour force decreased (-2,500). The number of unemployed people declined (-3,900), causing the unemployment rate to fall from 11.1% in April 2010 to 10.0% in April 2011. Windsor-Sarnia has the highest unemployment rate among all eleven economic regions in Ontario. Over the same period, the provincial unemployment rate fell from 9.1% to 8.2%.

For more information, visit the Statistics Canada website at:
<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/lfss05d-eng.htm>

Education Services

The Windsor-Essex Catholic School Board, The St. Clair Catholic School Board and the Lambton Kent District School Board have all projected declining enrolment rates for September 2011. The boards have issued layoff notices to a number of teaching, library and secretarial staff.

Information and Culture

The Chatham-Kent Public Library opened a new branch in Bothwell this month.

Manufacturing

United Solar, a U.S. manufacturer of solar products, will open its first Canadian plant in LaSalle. The manufacturer plans to create 80 positions at the new facility when it opens in August 2011.

C.S. Wind, a Korean-based manufacturer, is looking to hire up to 30 new labourers and supervisors for its Windsor-based plant. The new facility will be located on Anchor Drive.

Pristine LED held a grand opening for its new production facility on Jefferson Boulevard in Windsor this month. The company is looking to immediately hire 50 employees.

Chrysler Canada cut back overtime shifts at its minivan assembly plant in Windsor this month in preparation for a possible shortage of parts from Japan.

Waterville TG, a subsidiary of Toyoda Gosei Co. Ltd., has laid off 44 employees at its Petrolia facility. The layoffs were in response to a

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Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

The Chatham Capitol Theatre entered into receivership in March 2011. Four of eight staff positions have been eliminated.

Construction

The City of Windsor has awarded Liqui-Force Services, a Kingsville-based company, the contract to perform culvert renovations at Jefferson Boulevard and Central Avenue in the city at a cost of \$793,950.

According to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in the Windsor

decrease in production from Japanese automakers.

Tokai Rika Quality Safety Systems of Tecumseh, a manufacturer of seatbelts for Toyota automobiles, has reduced production by 30%. The cutback was in preparation for a decrease in overall vehicle production from Toyota. Production is expected to return to normal in early June 2011.

Reko International Group of Oldcastle has announced the closure of seven of its local plants, eliminating 65 positions from its staff of 225.

Transportation and Warehousing

Porter Airlines began regularly scheduled flights between Toronto and Windsor this month. The airline runs three daily flights in and out of the city.

Note: In preparing this bulletin, Service Canada has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources 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 the bulletin was published. Readers are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this bulletin does not necessarily reflect official policies of Service Canada.

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