

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@workingincanada.gc.ca

Labour Force Trends

On January 28, 2011, Statistics Canada released revised estimates for the Labour Force Survey. Some of these modifications include the adjustment of all historical Labour Force Survey estimates to reflect population counts based on the 2006 Census and updates to industry, occupation and geography classification systems. Based on the revised data, from January 2010 to January 2011, the size of the labour force in the Windsor-Sarnia economic region remained unchanged. Total employment increased by 6,400 from full-time employment gains of 7,300, partially offset by part-time employment losses. With the rise in employment, the employment rate increased by 1.4 percentage points to 56.9%. Unemployment fell by 5,500 over the past year and the unemployment rate declined 1.8 percentage points from 10.8% to 9.0%. Windsor-Sarnia has the second highest unemployment rate among all eleven economic regions in Ontario. Over the same period, the provincial unemployment rate fell from 8.6% to 7.6%.

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

Labour Market News by Industry

Agriculture

After a successful year in 2010, the Town of Amherstburg's council has approved the

Amherstburg Farmers' Market to be continued for a second year from May to October 2011.

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

United Communities Credit Union Complex, a recreational arena in Amherstburg, has opened this month after the completion of a \$24-million construction project.

The Moon Family Fun Centre, an indoor games and activities provider, has opened on Dougall Avenue in Windsor.

Construction

GreenField Ethanol Inc. is expanding its evaporators at their Chatham location starting this spring. The \$3.8-million upgrade will create 20 construction jobs and is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2011.

A new 26,000-square-foot Galaxy Cinemas on St. Clair Street in Chatham is being developed by MEDD Development Group Ltd. and Cineplex Entertainment. Construction will begin this spring and is expected to be open by fall 2011.

Southshore Greenhouses Inc., a division of Mucci Farms located on Seaclyff Drive in Kingsville, is upgrading its greenhouses. The \$1.8-million project is being built by Universal-DeCloet Greenhouse Structures and is expected to be completed by early 2011.

According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), there were 617 housing starts in Windsor between January and December 2010 compared to 391 in 2009. In Chatham-Kent, there were 103 starts during the period of January to December 2010 compared to 85 during the same period in 2009. In Sarnia, there was a decline of housing starts with 203 starts in 2010 compared to 299 in 2009.

Educational Services

As part of the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship Program initiative, Lambton College received \$595,000 in funding to provide opportunities for 40 students to earn a college diploma and a Certificate of Qualification for

industrial mechanic millwright-mechanical technicians. This initiative aims to attract more people to the skilled trades.

Health Care and Social Services

The Central Lambton Family Health Team has received \$250,000 from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term care. This first phase of funding will allow the hiring of 15 health care professionals and an office to be opened by March 2011. The office will be temporarily located on King Street in Petrolia, while a site for a permanent \$3.5-million facility is being selected.

Manufacturing

The mayor of Windsor announced that South Korean CS Wind Corporation has selected Anchor Drive in Windsor for its new wind turbine plant. The project is expected to create 300 new full-time jobs including welders, painters and machinists, and up to 400 construction and indirect service jobs. The City of Windsor will invest \$10 million to purchase land and upgrade rail infrastructure for CS Wind. Production is expected to begin in August and the facility will be open by September 2011.

Chrysler Canada's minivan assembly plant in Windsor was temporarily shutdown the week of January 28. The shutdown was due to a shortage of auto parts.

FibreX Insulations Inc., an insulation manufacturer in Sarnia, has gone into bankruptcy. About 140 workers will be laid off.

Other Services

Maaco Systems Canada Ltd. has opened a new auto repair shop on Richmond Street in Chatham, creating four jobs.

Green-Tech Building Maintenance, a cleaning company using only green products, has opened a new location on Foster Avenue in Windsor.

Public Administration

The City of Sarnia's council will reduce the number of job positions in the future. About 85 workers could retire between now and 2014, and each position will be assessed for its need to have a replacement.

The federal government has launched the Canada Summer Jobs program. The program will create more than 40,000 summer jobs

across Canada and allow students to gain work experience for the future. Employers are required to apply between February 1-28, 2011. www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Trade, Wholesale and Retail

Top Dollar Bargain Centre at Thames-Lea Plaza on Grand Avenue in Chatham has closed. Eight people have been laid off.

Five businesses were destroyed by fire on Ouellette Avenue in downtown Windsor. Damage is estimated at about \$2 million.

Transportation and Warehousing

The new maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) to be built at the Windsor International Airport will be run by Premier Aviation Overhaul Center Inc., a Trois-Rivieres, Quebec-based aeroplane maintenance company. About 200 full-time jobs will be created in the first two years, growing to 300 jobs over the next seven years of operation.

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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