



Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo Wellington Dufferin

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Labour Market February 2009

Employment Kitchener CMA (adjusted)

- February 2009 – 9.1%
- Total Employed – 253,400
- # unemployed increased by 12,000
- Manufacturing – 53,000

In February 2009, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 9.1% from 5% in February 2008.

There was a decrease of almost 2000 people employed from January 2009 however, only 900 fewer people were working than a year ago. Also, the number of people actively looking for work has risen by 11,000 in that same period.

Manufacturing employment has actually increased from 52,000 in December 2008 and is up from 51,000 in July 2008.

If we look at the breakdown of employment by industry, we have to use seasonally unadjusted figures. Approximate increases/decreases from January are as follows: (K = 1,000)

Construction down 1K
Trade & Retail down 2K
Transportation down 1K
Finance – down 1K
Education up 1K
Info down 1K
Acomm – down 2K
Other services down 1K
Public Admin down 1K

Employment by Industry Kitchener CMA	
Construction 17,000	Information, Culture & Rec 7,000
Accommodation & Food 14,000	Other Services 10,000
Public Administration 9,000	Trade & Retail 37,000
Transportation 9,000	Finance 21,000
Education 30,000	Health 21,000

Manufacturing Enterprises Waterloo Region

Increases

- Primary Metal
- Electrical Equipment
- Beverage & Tobacco

Constant

- Paper
- Computer & Electronic

An increase or decrease in the number of business can indicate growth or decline in an industry.

From December 2007 to December 2008 it's not surprising that the largest decline in Waterloo Region was seen in the Fabricated Metal Product sector which was down 24 businesses. Many automotive sector employers are covered by this manufacturing category.

Ontario reported the largest decrease in manufacturing sales, with sales falling by 11.3% or \$2.3 billion dollars from December to January. Most of this being attributed to lower sales by motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts manufacturers (almost \$1.9 billion dollars).

Manufacturing Sales

- -11.3%
- \$2.3 billion
- Canada -0.3%

If however, we look at manufacturing sales in Canada, without including Ontario's numbers, they were down only slightly from December at 0.3%. In the Atlantic Provinces, e.g., sales were up by 2.3% compared to December and Alberta also posted a slight gain due to a slight rebound in the chemical and petroleum product industries. Another sector experiencing sales increases was Canada's food manufacturing sector.

Here is the breakdown of employment by industry, again using seasonally unadjusted figures. Approximate increases/decreases from January are as follows: (K = 1,000)

Employment by Industry ER 540	
Construction 42,000	Information, Culture & Rec 18,000
Accommodation & Food 40,000	Other Services 28,000
Public Administration 32,000	Trade & Retail 94,000
Transportation 30,000	Finance 39,000
Education 57,000	Health 65,000

Construction down 9K
 Trade & Retail down 1K
 Transportation down 1K
 Education up 1K
 Info down 3K
 Other services down 2K
 Health down 1K

From December 2007 to December 2008 the number of employers in the following manufacturing sectors remained constant:

- Textile
- Leather
- Paper
- Petroleum
- Non-Metallic Mineral
- Primary Metal

The largest decline was in Miscellaneous & Transportation equipment

Manufacturing Enterprises Wellington County
<p>Increases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood Product • Fabricated Metal • Furniture • Food • Clothing • Printing • Plastics

Dufferin County Top 4 growth industries (new businesses)			
NAICS	Total # of employers Dec 2008	Total # of employers Dec 2007	Absolute Change
541 – Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	482	446	36
531 – Real Estate	295	277	18
238 – Specialty Trade Contractors	401	385	16
621 – Ambulatory Health Care Services	116	101	15

From December 2007 to December 2008, the highest growth in the number of new businesses were seen in the industry classifications listed in the chart opposite. All manufacturing sub sectors, with the exception of Miscellaneous Manufacturing, either remained constant or lost between 1-3 businesses.

The Workforce Planning Board (WPB) is a community directed, non-profit corporation leading Waterloo Region, Wellington and Dufferin County in their approach to workforce development and labour market planning. WPB functions as a neutral broker of research, disseminator of information, and facilitator of collaborative partnership development. The WPB mandate is to provide guidance regarding important workforce and employment challenges facing Waterloo, Wellington and Dufferin.

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