

Monthly Economic Monitor – May, 2009

KEY INDICATORS

Population		
	2006	2001
Windsor-Essex	393,402	374,975

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Unemployment Rates – Windsor CMA (%)			
	April 2009	March 2009	April 2008
Windsor CMA	13.8	15.2	8.3
Ontario	8.6	8.9	6.4
Canada	9.1	8.3	6.3

Source: Statistics Canada, May 2009, figures represent an unadjusted 3 month moving average.

Labour Force Characteristics – Windsor CMA			
	April 2009	March 2009	April 2008
Labour Force	173,900	173,800	172,900
Employed	149,900	147,400	158,600

Source: Statistics Canada, April 2009, figures represent an unadjusted 3 month moving average.

The size of the labour force remained virtually unchanged since March; however, the number of people employed grew by approximately 2,500, resulting in a decline in the unemployment rate. The following two tables contain statistics for the entire Windsor-Essex region, rather than the Census Metropolitan Area, which is made up of Windsor, LaSalle, Amherstburg, Tecumseh and Lakeshore.

Labour Force Characteristics – WindsorEssex			
	2008	2007	2006
Population 15+	332,100	329,700	329,800
Labour force	213,300	213,100	222,300
Employment	194,000	193,900	202,800
Full-time	154,100	153,300	158,600
Part-time	39,900	40,600	44,100
Unemployed	19,300	19,200	19,500
Not in labour force	118,800	116,700	107,500
Unemployment rate (%)	9.0	9.0	8.8
Participation rate (%)	64.2	64.6	67.4
Employment rate (%)	58.4	58.8	61.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Market Survey

Employment by Industry - WindsorEssex		
Industry	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2008
Agriculture	2,400	3,000
Forestry Fishing, Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	0
Utilities	1,800	0
Construction	7,700	8,200
Manufacturing	43,600	44,600
Trade	29,400	29,400
Transportation and Warehousing	7,000	9,500
Finance and Insurance real estate and leasing	8,900	7,900
Professional Scientific and Technical Services	9,600	8,900
Business, building and other support services	5,000	5,400
Educational Services	15,700	16,300
Health Care and Social Assistance	23,000	25,800
Information and Cultural and Recreation	8,900	7,000
Accommodation and Food Services	15,400	13,900
Other Services(except Public Admin)	8,200	7,000
Public Administration	7,100	6,800
Total	194,600	195,000

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Market Survey

Job Gains/Losses – WindsorEssex		
	April 2009	Year-to-Date
Job Gains Announced	0	365
Job Losses Announced	25	274

Source: Service Canada; The Windsor Star

Steel Technologies of Windsor, formerly known as Kasle Steel, announced its upcoming closure at the end of June, affecting approximately 25 employees.

Housing Starts – Windsor-Essex				
	Q1 2009	Q1 2008	Year-to-date 2009	Year-to-date 2008
Amherstburg	4	6	4	6
Essex	8	1	8	1
Kingsville	8	6	8	6
Lakeshore	7	11	7	11
LaSalle	5	2	5	2
Leamington	2	4	2	4
Tecumseh	0	2	0	2
Windsor	19	18	19	18
Total	53	50	53	50

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Company (CMHC)

Housing Starts – Windsor CMA				
	April 2009	April 2008	Year-to-date 2009	Year-to-date 2008
Singles	13	32	33	61
Multi-Family	4	4	19	14
Total	17	36	52	75

Source: CMHC Press Release

According to preliminary data released by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), total housing starts in the Windsor Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) totaled 17 units down from the 36 units started in April 2008.

“The traditional spring new homebuying period has not been as robust as usual this year in Windsor” said Margot Stevenson, Market Analyst for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. “An adequate supply of listings in the resale market is hampering demand for new homes in the Windsor market,” added Stevenson.

Starts in the Windsor area included 13 single-detached units and four townhouse units last month, down 53 per cent from April 2008 figures. Year-to-date a total of 33 single-detached homes, two semi-detached and 17 townhouse units were started in the Windsor CMA, down 31 per cent from the same period in 2008.

Building Permits – Windsor Essex				
	April 2009	April 2008	Year-to-date 2009	Year-to-date 2008
Industrial	\$883,000	\$8,882,800	\$1,858,950	\$11,133,800
Commercial	\$3,021,000	\$10,730,750	\$7,692,750	\$23,831,050
Institutional	\$335,000	\$1,145,000	\$21,330,000	\$18,132,000
Total	\$4,239,000	\$20,758,550	\$30,881,700	\$53,096,850

Source: Municipal Building Departments

Note: Figures are preliminary and are subject to change. March and April figures do not include Lakeshore or Leamington.

In April 2009 there were no industrial, commercial or institutional building permits valued at more than \$500,000. It should be noted that the April 2008 industrial building permits included a \$7.5 million expansion at the VistaPrint facility in Lakeshore.

Regional GDP by Sector – Windsor CMA		
	2008* (Mil. \$ 2002)	2007 (Mil. \$ 2002)
Total	11617	11748
Goods Sector	4113	4578
Primary Industries and Utilities	230	251
Manufacturing	3437	3871
Construction	446	457
Services Sector	7504	7169
Transportation and Communication	627	601
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1168	1095
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2074	1991
Commercial Services	1692	1635
Non-Commercial Services	1530	1450
Public Administration and Defence	413	397

* Forecast data

Source: Conference Board of Canada, December 3, 2008

Ranking of Windsor CMA's GDP Growth Compared to Other CMAs		
Year	Growth Rate	Rank
2008	-1.1	26 th
2009*	-0.6	27 th
2010*-2013*	2.3	20 th

* Forecast data

Source: Conference Board of Canada, Metropolitan Outlook Report Winter 2009

Retail Sales – Windsor CMA			
	2009*	2008	2007
Total Sales (\$ millions)	3,666	3,593	3,480
Percentage Change	2.0	3.2	-0.4

* Forecast data

Source: Conference Board of Canada, Metropolitan Outlook Report Winter 2009

Employment – Windsor CMA			
	2009*	2008	2007
Total Employment	157,000	160,000	158,000
Unemployment Rate	9.3	9.1	9.4

* Forecast data

Source: Conference Board of Canada, Metropolitan Outlook Report Winter 2009 (produced semi-annually)

Bankruptcies – Windsor CMA			
	2007	2006	% Change
Consumer	1,525	1,303	+17.0%
Business	78	84	-7.1%

Source: Conference Board of Canada Metropolitan Outlook Report Winter 2009

Regional Employment by Sector – Windsor CMA (000s)			
Sector	2009*	2008	2007
Total	157.0	160.0	158.0
Goods Sector	42.0	45.0	46.0
Manufacturing	32.8	35.2	36.0
Construction	7.0	7.4	7.3
Primary Industries and Utilities	2.2	2.1	2.2
Services Sector	115.0	115.0	113.0
Transportation and Communication	8.0	7.9	8.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	23.6	23.8	21.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	6.9	6.8	6.5
Commercial Services	38.0	38.0	39.3
Non-Commercial Services	32.9	33.0	31.8
Public Administration and Defence	5.7	5.7	5.4

* Forecast data

Source: Conference Board of Canada Metropolitan Outlook Report Winter 2009

Number of Businesses by Sector – WindsorEssex			
Sector	June 2008	June 2005	% Change
Total	21,381	20880	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,078	1204	(10.5%)
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	17	17	.0%
Utilities	17	18	(5.6%)
Construction	2,553	2849	(10.4%)
Manufacturing	1,152	1197	(3.8%)
Wholesale Trade	876	853	2.7%
Retail Trade	2,356	2487	(5.3%)
Transportation and Warehousing	1,605	1136	41.3%
Information and Cultural Industries	129	135	(4.4%)
Finance and Insurance	1,239	836	48.2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,020	1957	3.2%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2,032	1993	2.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	982	940	4.5%
Admin. & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation Serv.	940	969	(3.0%)
Educational Services	180	180	0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,102	962	14.6%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	301	369	(18.4%)
Accommodation and Food Services	1,094	1160	(5.7%)
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1,692	1606	5.4%
Public Administration	16	12	33.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns Product, June 2005 and June 2008