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Workforce Focus

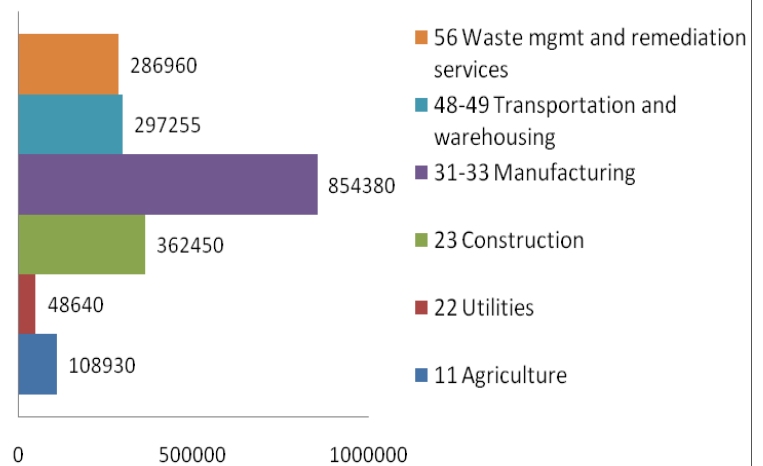
Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie

Green Economy in Ontario

The green economy is a rapidly growing sector affecting a wide array of industries and occupations. The introduction of Ontario's Green Energy Act (GEA), 2009, has served as a catalyst for building a stronger, more sustainable economy. In its first three years, the GEA is expected to create 50,000 clean energy jobs across the province. As the province transitions to a greener economy, one of the most critical issues facing "green" industries is the shortage of skilled labour.

According to Statistics Canada the environmental industry consists of activities undertaken by firms in measuring, preventing, limiting or correcting environmental damage, as well as those that engage in clean or resource-efficient technologies, that reduce emissions and/or that minimize waste disposal problems. With a wide range of activities included in this definition, the green economy can be best understood as a cluster of industries. The principal industries include: agriculture, administration and support, waste management and remediation services, construction, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing and utilities.

Total Employment in Green Industries Ontario



There are a total of 1,958,615 people employed in the principal green industries in Ontario. This represents 31.77% of the total workforce in Ontario.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

What makes an industry "green"?

Number of Businesses Ontario



- 11 Agriculture
- 22 Utilities
- 23 Construction
- 31-33 - Manufacturing
- 48-49 - Transportation and Warehousing
- 56 - Waste Mgmt and Remediation Services
- All other industries

While the six industries identified above represent a large portion of the green economy, there are still many other industries across Canada taking part in the transition to a greener economy. Many of the green initiatives presently underway are focused on increasing efficiency, reducing environmental footprint, and internal skills development programs. Additional examples of green initiatives are provided below.

Examples of Green Initiatives

Examples of Green Initiatives	
Site remediation	Energy efficiency
Air quality assessment	Light weighting initiatives (automotive)
Internal training/education courses	Energy auditing / energy efficient buildings
Sustainable packaging	Alternate fuel / bio fuels research and development
Reducing energy consumption	Integrated training / interdisciplinary
Water usage reduction	Fuel usage reduction
Emission reduction	

Source: Environmental Careers Organization Canada

As of June 2010, there were a total of 255,540 businesses operating in industries that were classified as green, representing 29.03% of all businesses in Ontario.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns, June 2010

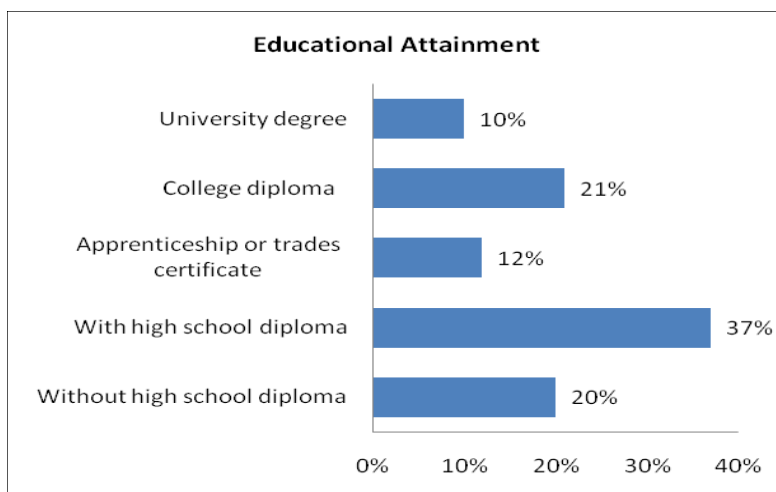
Priority Occupations in the Green Economy

Research conducted by sector council Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) Canada has examined labour shortages expected to impact the environmental industry in the near future. Priority occupations are defined as those that are in short supply in the environmental sector. ECO Canada identified 10 occupations which are included in the following table.

Brant and Haldimand/Norfolk					
NOC	Occupation	# Employed in Workforce	% of Total Employed	Top Industry of Employment	% Employed in Top Industry
0212	Architecture and science managers	35	0.04%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	85.71%
2113	Geologists, geochemists and geophysicists	0	0.00%	N/A	
2121	Biologists and related scientists	15	0.02%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	66.67%
2122	Forestry professionals	10	0.01%	31-33 Manufacturing	100.00%
2123	Agricultural representatives, consultants and specialists	20	0.02%	11 Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	75.00%
2131	Civil engineers	90	0.10%	23 Construction	27.78%
2153	Urban and land use planners	30	0.03%	91 Public administration	83.33%
2231	Civil engineering technologists and technicians	60	0.07%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	50.00%
2263	Inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety	120	0.13%	31-33 Manufacturing	45.83%
4161	Natural and applied science policy researchers, consultants and program officers	35	0.04%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	28.57%

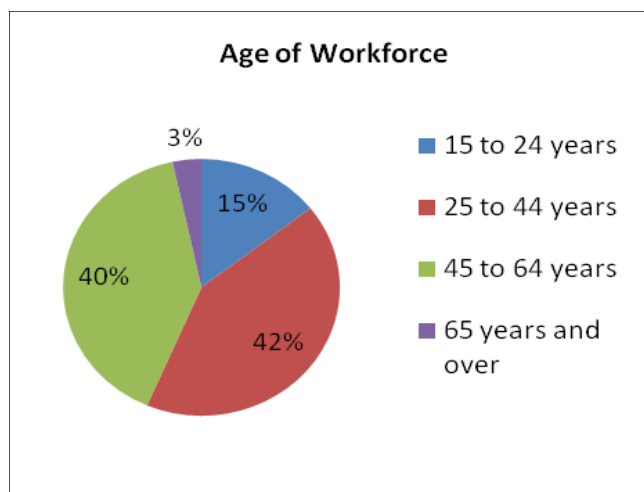
Source: Environmental Careers Organization Canada; Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Green Economy in Brant and Haldimand/Norfolk



Across this region, 39% of people employed in green industries have attained post secondary education; the majority of which have completed a college diploma. As more industries begin to integrate green practices into daily operations, research suggests the demand for specialized knowledge attained through higher education will also increase.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006



The majority of people employed in green industries are over 45 years of age in this region. This suggests an increased need to replace retiring workers over the next 10 years.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

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