



News Release

For more information, contact:
Mark Skeffington 519-756-1116, x228
mark@workforceplanningboard.org

BRANTFORD JOBLESS RATE BACK ABOVE 6%

BRANTFORD (July 10, 2015) - Brantford's unemployment rate climbed for the second straight month in June, but remains below the provincial and national averages.

June's local seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 6.1%, up from 5.7% in May, according to Statistics Canada figures released Friday. This is the highest Brantford's unemployment rate this year, but is below the national rate of 6.8% and Ontario's 6.6%.

"Year over year, June's unemployment rate is in line with Brantford's employment picture," said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie. "Last June the unemployment rate was 6.5% and remained above 6% until this past spring, when it dipped. So, it's not surprising to see the rate climb back over 6%."

Halyk said there continues to be good news on the job front in Brantford-Brant, pointing to a recent job fair at BGI Graphics, Tigercat's expansion and Adidas's new facility opening. Meanwhile, employment in manufacturing – our area's largest employer – remains strong.

Across Canada, youth employment fell, showing that this group remains the most vulnerable to changes in the economy, Halyk said. "This group is vulnerable to higher unemployment, and it's important to support new graduates to get their foot in the door and build a career."

Statistics Canada figures show a drop in the number of Brantford area residents working in sales and service, trades outside of construction, and administrative occupations. People working in jobs such as early childhood educators and teaching assistants also face layoff in the summer.

BrantJobs posted 483 paid jobs last month, up 10% from the same period last year. The top job posting category for the last 12 months has been consistent: Manufacturing, Processing and Utilities, pointing to the importance of manufacturing in our area.

[BrantJobs](#) is a service of the City of Brantford and County of Brant, providing a broad range of employment solutions to local employers and jobseekers. The [Workforce Planning Board](#) is one of 26 non-profit organizations in Ontario that play a leadership role in labour force planning.

- 30 -

Note: Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment, based on a sampling of households in communities.