

Workforce Focus

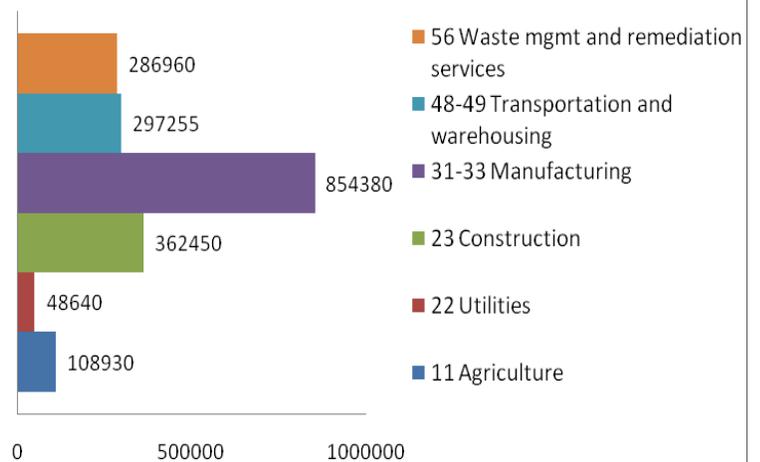
Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford Workforce
Planning and Development Board

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**

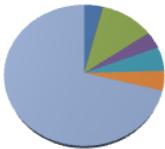


There are a total of 1,958,615 people employed in the principal green industries in Ontario. This represents 31.77% of the total workforce in Ontario.

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 the principal green industries, representing 29.03% of all businesses in Ontario.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns, June 2010

Priority Occupations in the Green Economy

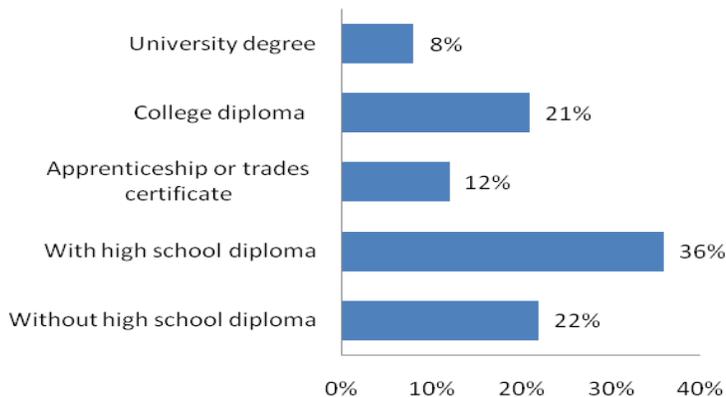
Research conducted by sector council Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) Canada has examined labour shortages expected to impact the environmental industry in the near future. Priority occupations are defined as those that are in short supply in the environmental sector. ECO Canada identified 10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

Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford					
NOC	Occupation	# Employed in Workforce	% of Total Employed	Top Industry of Employment	% Employed in Top Industry
0212	Architecture and science managers	135	0.05%	62 Health care and social assistance	25.93%
2113	Geologists, geochemists and geophysicists	65	0.02%	91 Public administration	61.54%
2121	Biologists and related scientists	290	0.10%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	36.21%
2122	Forestry professionals	15	0.01%	11 Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	66.67%
2123	Agricultural representatives, consultants and specialists	105	0.04%	11 Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	38.10%
2131	Civil engineers	495	0.17%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	46.46%
2153	Urban and land use planners	135	0.05%	91 Public administration	66.67%
2231	Civil engineering technologists and technicians	255	0.09%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	49.02%
2263	Inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety	235	0.08%	91 Public administration	31.91%
4161	Natural and applied science policy researchers, consultants and program officers	120	0.04%	91 Public administration	37.50%

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

Green Economy in Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford

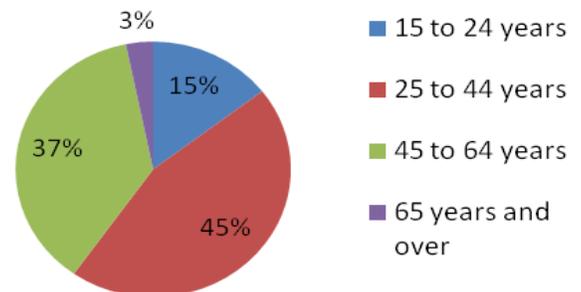
Educational Attainment



In this region 42% of workers employed in the green industries have completed some form of post-secondary education. As more industries begin to integrate green practices into daily operations, research suggests the demand for specialized knowledge attained through post-secondary education will also increase.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Age of Workforce



Across the Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford region, the majority of workers employed in the green industries are considered to be prime working age individuals. This means 45% of workers are between 25 to 44 years of age.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

**EMPLOYMENT
ONTARIO**

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