

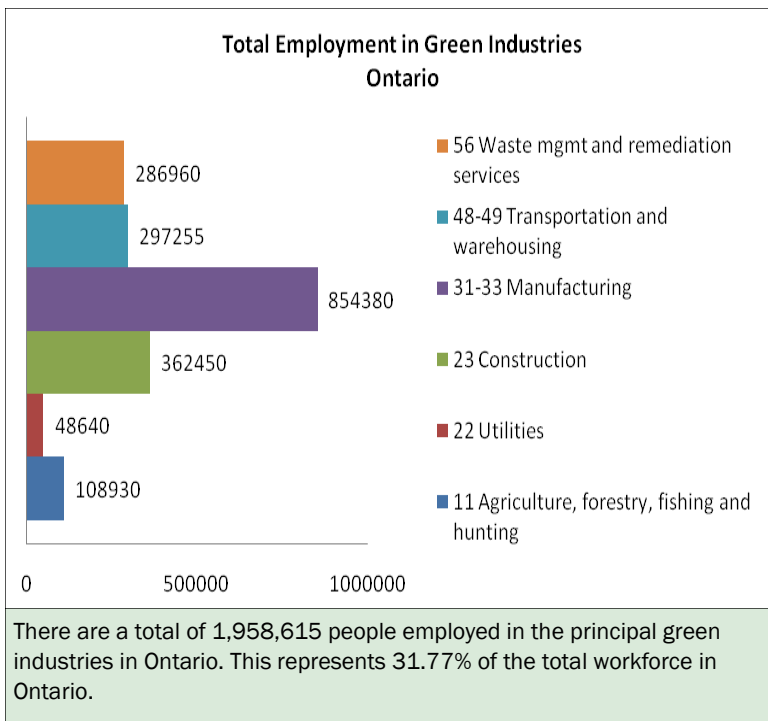
# Workforce Focus

Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin

## Green Economy in Ontario

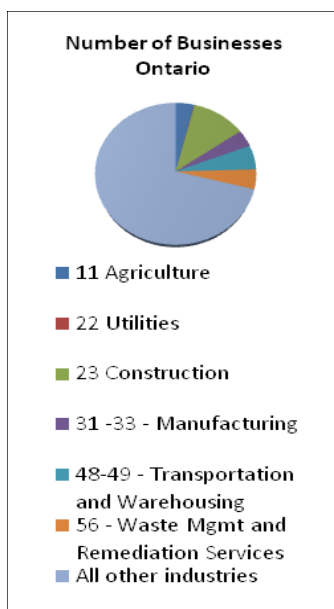
The green economy is a rapidly growing sector affecting a wide array of industries and occupations. The introduction of Ontario's Green Energy Act (GEA), 2009, has served as a catalyst for building a stronger, more sustainable economy. In its first three years, the GEA is expected to create 50,000 clean 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 green industries include: agriculture, waste management and remediation services, construction, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing and utilities.



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

## What makes an industry "green"?



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	
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 40.90% of all businesses in Ontario.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns, June 2010



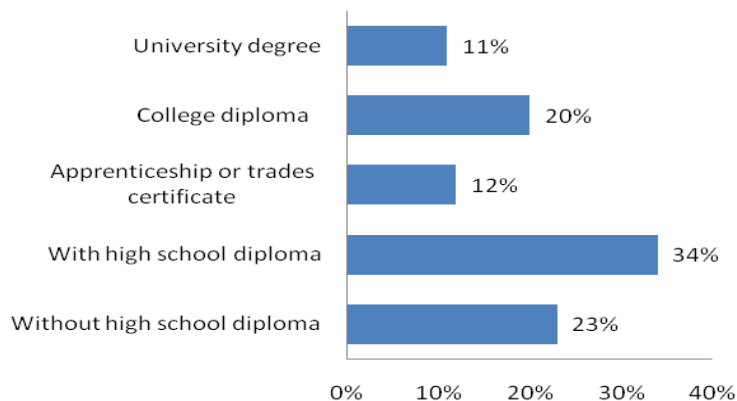
Research conducted by sector council ECO Canada has examined labour shortages expected to impact the environmental industry in the near future. Priority occupations are defined as those that are in short supply in the environmental sector. ECO Canada identified 10 occupations which are included in the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

Priority Occupations in Green Economy Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin					
NOC	Occupation	Waterloo Wellington Dufferin	% of Total Employment	Top Industry of Employment	% Employed in Top Industry
0212	Architecture and science managers	155	0.04%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	54.84%
2113	Geologists, geochemists and geophysicists	135	0.04%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	88.89%
2121	Biologists and related scientists	480	0.14%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	50.00%
2122	Forestry professionals	30	0.01%	91 Public administration	83.33%
2123	Agricultural representatives, consultants and specialists	100	0.03%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	35.00%
2131	Civil engineers	835	0.24%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	58.68%
2153	Urban and land use planners	295	0.08%	91 Public administration	55.93%
2231	Civil engineering technologists and technicians	185	0.05%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	35.14%
2263	Inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety	495	0.14%	31-33 Manufacturing	33.33%
4161	Natural and applied science policy researchers, consultants and program officers	360	0.10%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	55.56%

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

## Green Economy in Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin

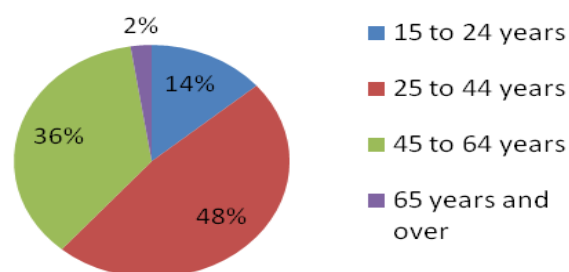
### Educational Attainment



Across this region, 43% 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

### Age of Workforce



The majority of people employed in green industries in this region are considered to be prime working age individuals, that is, between 25 to 44 years of age. This suggests the training needs are relatively high for workers in these industries.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

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