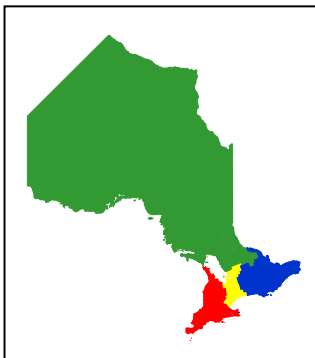


LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

**Employment Ontario Central Region
2009 Annual Labour Market Report**



Produced by: Labour Market Information and Research Unit
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The Labour Force Survey collects monthly information on the labour market activities of Canada's working age population. The data is collected from a sample of 53,500 households (15,500 in Ontario) each month. The primary objective of the survey is to provide reliable estimates of employment and unemployment for Canada and the provinces, and to provide descriptive and explanatory data for each group. Data is also available for sub-provincial geographies.

Although the LFS is a valuable source for labour market information, caution should be used in interpreting period to period changes, especially for small geographic areas or for small data cells. All survey data is subject to sampling and non-sampling type errors that may result in misleading estimates. Documentation on LFS data quality is available from Statistics Canada's website at www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/document/3701_D4_T2_V3_E.pdf.

Cette publication est disponible en français sous le nom de:

RAPPORT SUR LE MARCHÉ DU TRAVAIL EN ONTARIO

Central Region Highlights, 2009

The Central Region's labour force constituted 52% of the province's in 2009, and is a major contributor to overall provincial economic trends. This region is as vibrant and diversified economically as its people are ethnically and culturally. Consequently, it is a major draw for new immigrants from around the world.

The unemployment rate rose in 2009, to 9.4%, surpassing the previous high of 7.3% registered in 2003 and up from 6.8% in 2008. Long-term unemployment has been easing since 2004, but spiked up to 64,300 in 2009 from 32,900 in 2008. Long-term unemployment as a share of total unemployment in the Central Region also spiked up in 2009, from approximately 13.5% in both 2007 and 2008, to 18.4% in 2009. Employment in the region fell by 49,000 (1.4%) in 2009, after registering moderate growth of 1.7% in 2008. Full-time positions accounted for the entire decline. Part-time employment grew by 2.0% in 2009, a rate corresponding to the trend over the past decade. This represented a significant deceleration from the 8.4% growth in part-time employment experienced in 2008.

Several industries posted employment losses in 2009. The largest loss occurred in manufacturing, with 56,000 jobs being shed over the past year. Employment losses were partly offset by gains in several other industries. The finance, insurance real estate and leasing; other services; information, culture and recreation; health care and professional; and scientific and technical services industries all experienced moderate to strong employment gains (in absolute terms), buoying the Central Region labour market.

By occupational group, trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations and occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities were the worst performing occupations, with losses of 37,000 and 33,000 jobs, respectively. The only occupational group to register a significant increase in employment was social science, education, government service and religion, gaining 32,000 jobs.

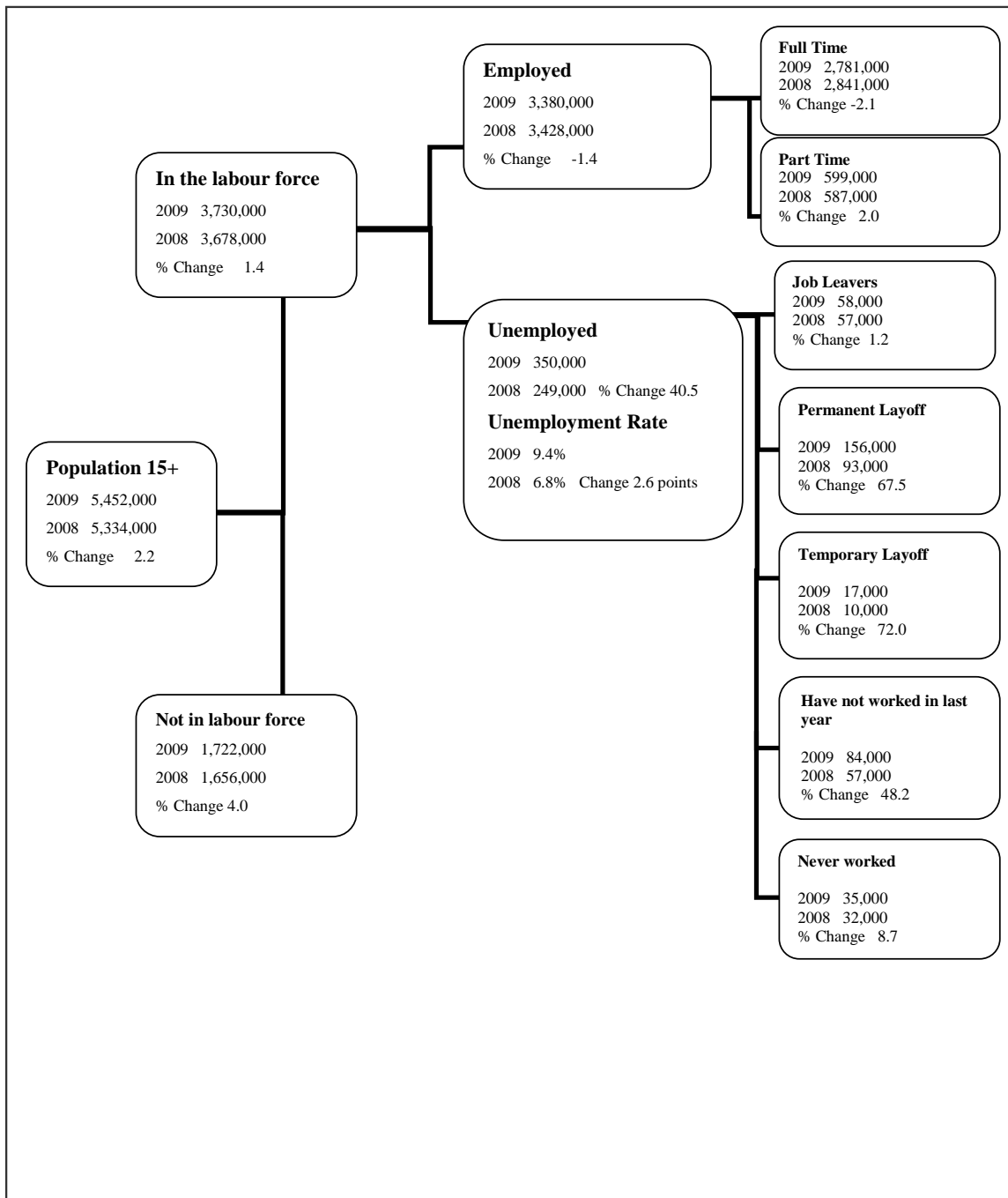
Since mid 2008 the world has been in the midst of economic turmoil and unprecedented uncertainty. So far Canada has weathered this storm relatively unscathed. While many economic indicators have improved in recent months and forecasts paint mostly a positive picture for the near term, they undoubtedly include a high degree of risk to the forecast. Consequently, it will take some time before the global, and Ontario/Central Region economies regain a secure footing. The Ontario 2009 Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review forecasts employment growth to be weak until reaching 2.3% in 2011 and the unemployment rate to remain relatively high until falling to 7.8% in 2012.

These trends are of particular concern to the Central Region. The Central Region economy has permanently changed and will continue to evolve. Notably, from 1999 to 2009 115,000 jobs were lost in the manufacturing industry. This industry now accounts for 11.9% of all Central Region employment, compared to 18.7% in 1999.

Opportunities will arise, though, if the Central Region can utilize and further develop its technology base to take advantage of emerging sectors, like renewable energy, efficient transportation technology and ecologically friendly products.

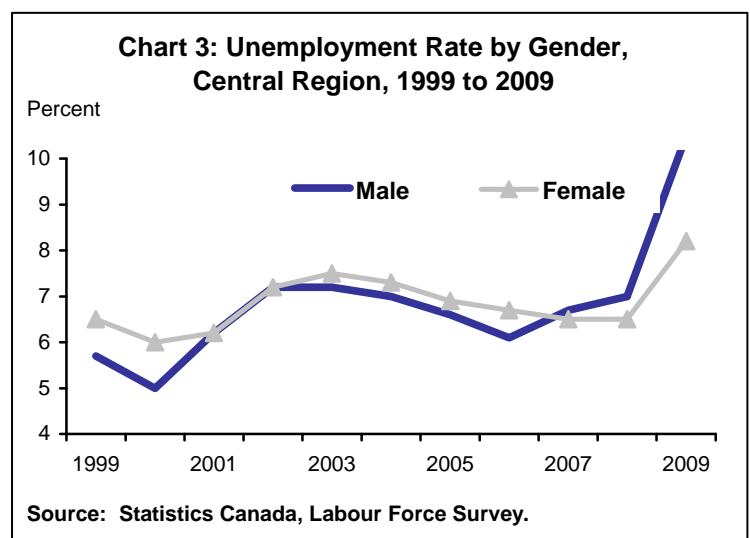
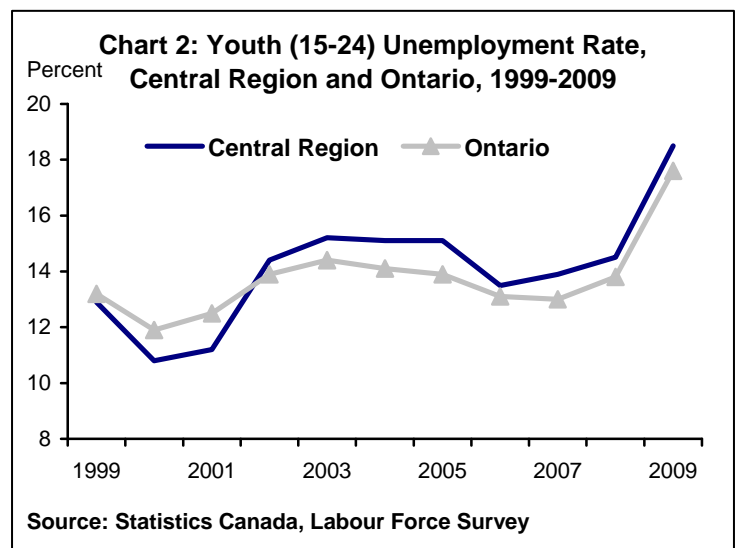
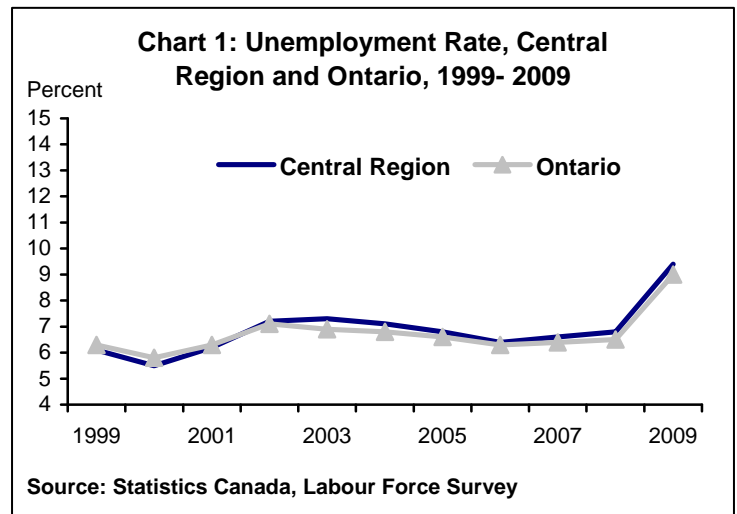
In addition, there are numerous structural and long-term challenges which the Central region will also have to contend with. These are fast approaching and intensifying. They include globalization, technological advances, new social concerns (i.e. the environment), and the aging of the population and labour force. These factors are independent of the business cycle and will be a concern for some time to come.

Ontario Central Region Labour Market, 2009



Unemployment Rate

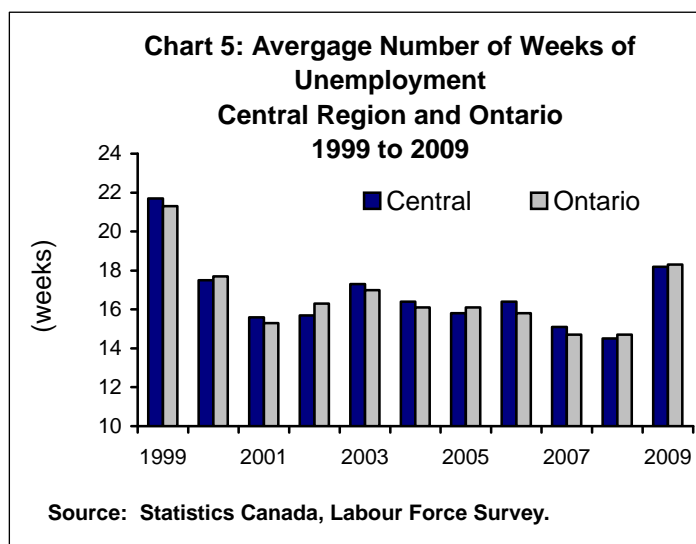
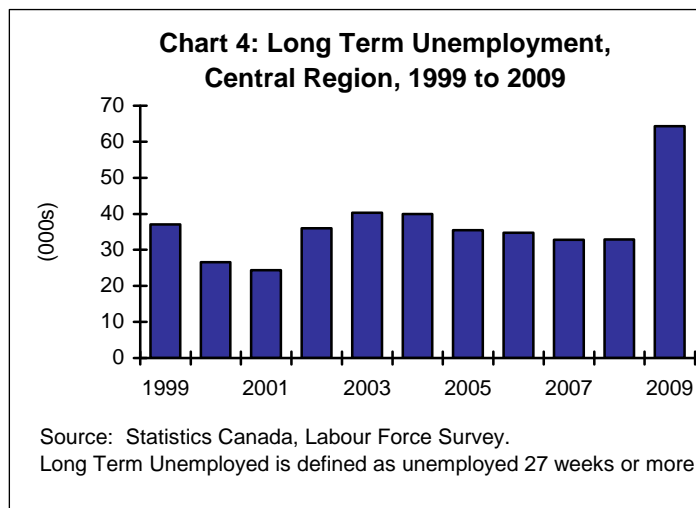
- The unemployment rate for the Central Region has been somewhat above the Ontario unemployment rate since 2002, with the Region's share of the unemployed rising from 47% in 1999 to 54% in 2009.
- In 2009, the unemployment rate of the Central Region rose to 9.4% from 6.8% in 2008. The Ontario unemployment rate also increased, to 9.0%.
- Over the past decade, average yearly growth in unemployment has been substantially higher in the Central Region (7.8%), compared to Ontario as a whole (6.1%).
- Unemployment has been rising in the Central Region since 2007. In 2009 unemployment registered 350,000, representing an increase of 101,000 (40.5%) from the 2008 level. Ontario unemployment increased by 182,000 (38.9%) in 2009, to 649,000.
- Prior to 2002, youth (15-24 years) in the Central Region generally had lower unemployment rates than youth in Ontario. Since then, the youth unemployment rate in the Central Region has risen above the provincial average. In 2009, the youth unemployment rate in the Central Region spiked up to 18.5% from 14.5% in 2008.
- Since 1999 men's unemployment rate has been generally lower than women's. This trend reversed in 2007, when men's unemployment rate edged up above women's. In 2009 it moved



sharply higher, to 10.5%, compared to 8.2% for women.

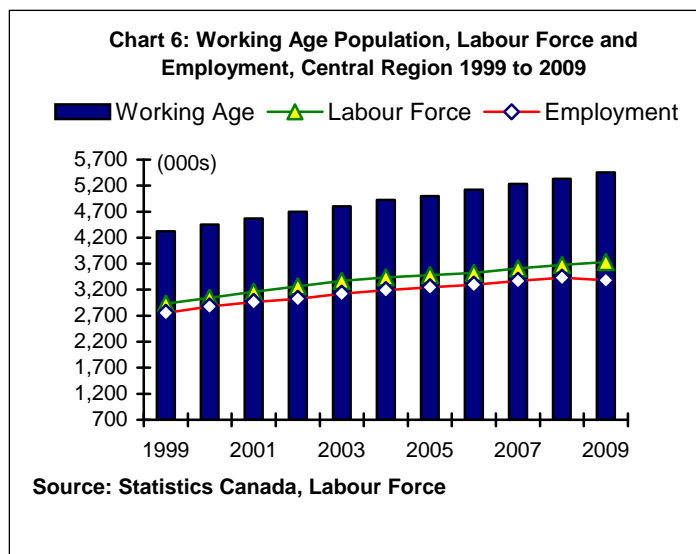
Duration of Unemployment

- The number of long-term unemployed jumped up to 64,000 in 2009, almost doubling the number of long-term unemployed in 2008 (33,000). The Central Region experienced a declining trend in the number of long-term unemployed (those unemployed for 27 weeks plus) from 2005 to 2008.
- Long-term unemployment as a share of total unemployment in the Central Region also spiked up in 2009, from approximately 13.5% in both 2007 and 2008, to 18.4% in 2009.
- In 2009, the average duration of unemployment in the Central Region was 18.2 weeks, only marginally lower than that for the province. The average duration of unemployment fell significantly during the late 1990s and early 2000s. After reaching a new low in 2008, the 2009 average duration of unemployment increased to the second highest level of the survey period.



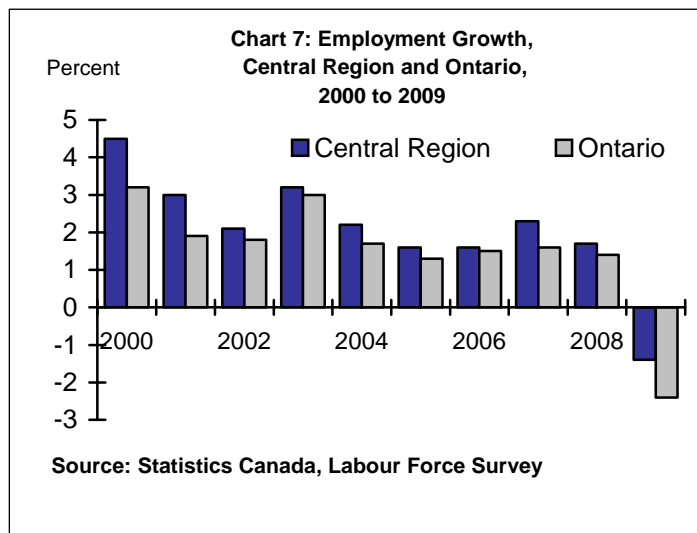
Employment

- Central Region employment growth has been trending downward since registering 4.5% in 2000. The latest year, 2009, marks the only year of the past decade that employment actually fell, registering a loss of 49,000 jobs or 1.4%, to 3,380,000.
- With the exception of 2009, the Central Ontario Region has experienced positive employment growth in every year of the survey period. The average annual rate

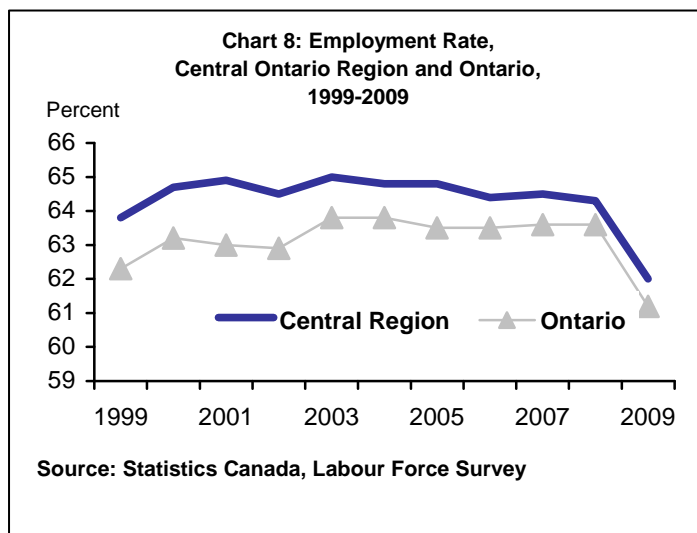


of employment growth was 2.8%.

- Between 1999 and 2009, the employment level in the Central Region increased by 625,000 or 22.7%.
- In the past decade the Central Region's employment growth has been stronger than Ontario's in every year. Even in 2009, when both regions experienced a loss of jobs, the Central Region's loss was less than that of the province.
- Historically, employment rates in the Central Region have been higher than Ontario's. In 2009, 62.0% of the Central Region's working-age population (15 years and over) were employed, compared to 61.2% of the Ontario working-age population.

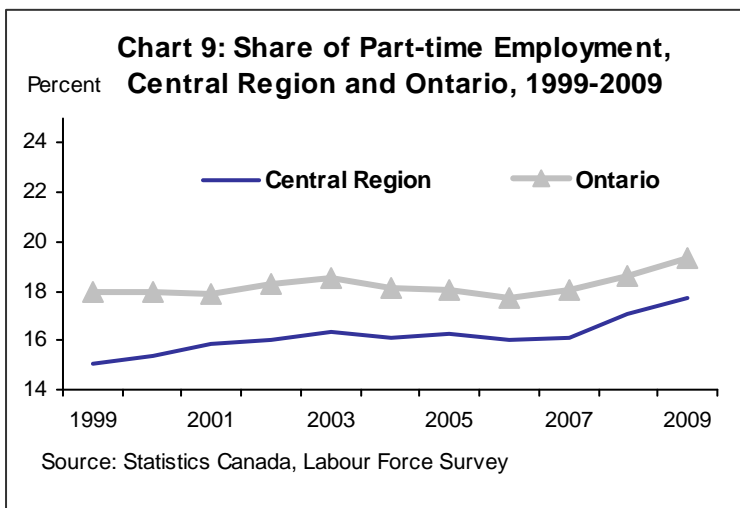


- The gap in employment rates between the Central Region and Ontario narrowed from 1.5 percentage points in 1999 to 0.8 percentage points in 2009.
- The Central Region's working-age population numbered 5,452,000 in 2009 and accounted for 51.1% of the province's working-age population.
- Since 1999, the Central Region's working-age population has been growing at an annual average growth rate of 2.4%, considerably higher than the provincial growth rate of 1.7%.
- In 2009, growth in the Central Region's working-age population (2.2%) outpaced that of Ontario's (1.4%).



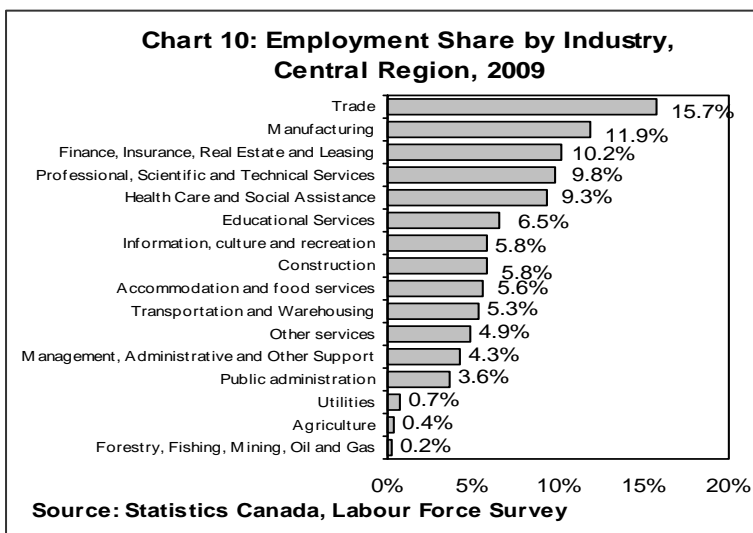
Part-time Employment

- Historically, part-time employment constitutes a smaller share of employment in the Central Region than in Ontario. In 2009, part-time employment represented 17.7% of total employment in the Central Region, compared to 19.3% for Ontario. These were the highest levels of the survey period in both the Region and the province.
- From 1999 to 2009, part-time employment as a share of total employment in the Central Region has fluctuated in response to changing economic conditions and generally trended upward. It was at its lowest level (15.1%) in 1999. In 2008 and 2009 it spiked up sharply.

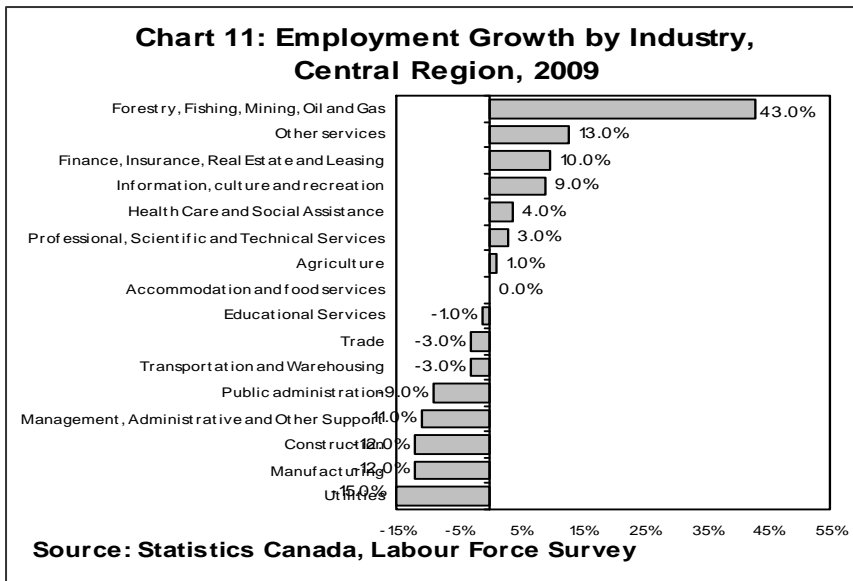


Employment by Industry

- In terms of employment, in 2009 the major industries in Central Ontario were: trade (15.7%); manufacturing (11.9%); finance, insurance, real estate and leasing (10.2%); professional, scientific, and technical services (9.8%); and health care and social assistance (9.3%). These five industries employed 56.9% of the labour force in the Central Region.



- In absolute terms, employment growth in 2009 was strongest in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing, and other services, with gains of 30,300 and 19,400 respectively. Alternately, manufacturing experienced the largest loss of any industry, down 56,200.
- In relative terms (percentage terms), employment growth was highest in forestry, fishing mining, oil and gas, although this industry represents a small portion of total employment in the Central Region.

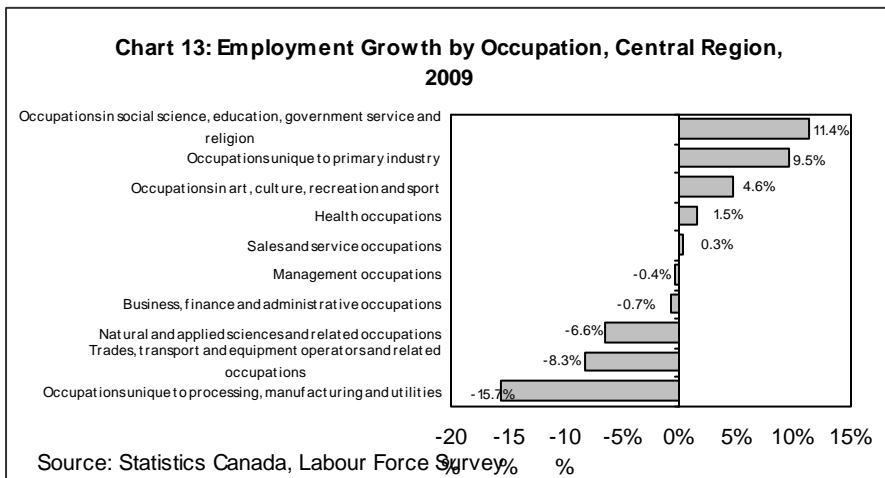


Employment by Occupation

- In 2009, the largest occupational groups in the Central Region were: sales and service (23.2%); business, finance and administration (21.2%); and trades, transport and equipment operators (12.0%). These three major occupational groups employed 56.4% of all the employed in the Central Region.



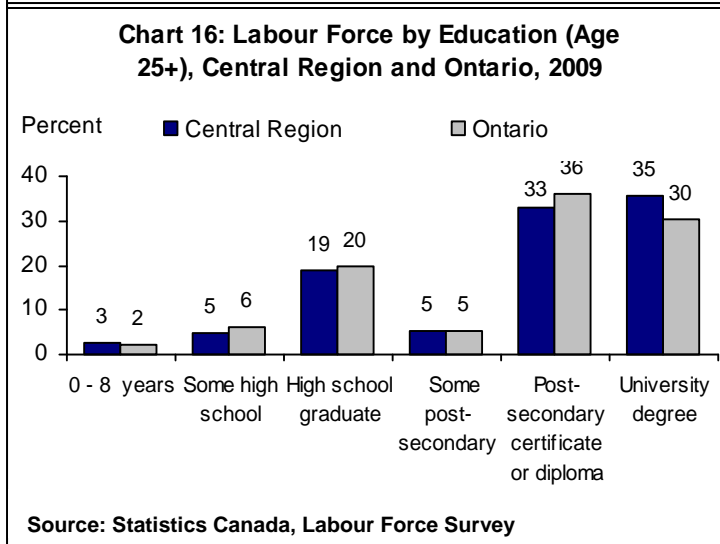
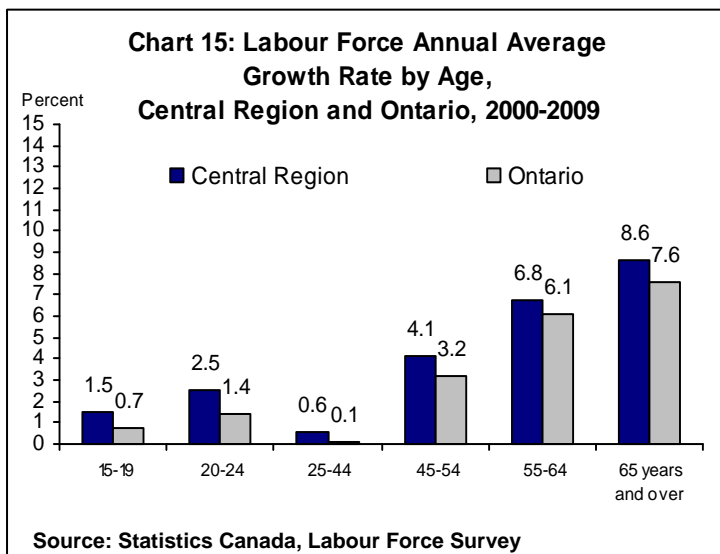
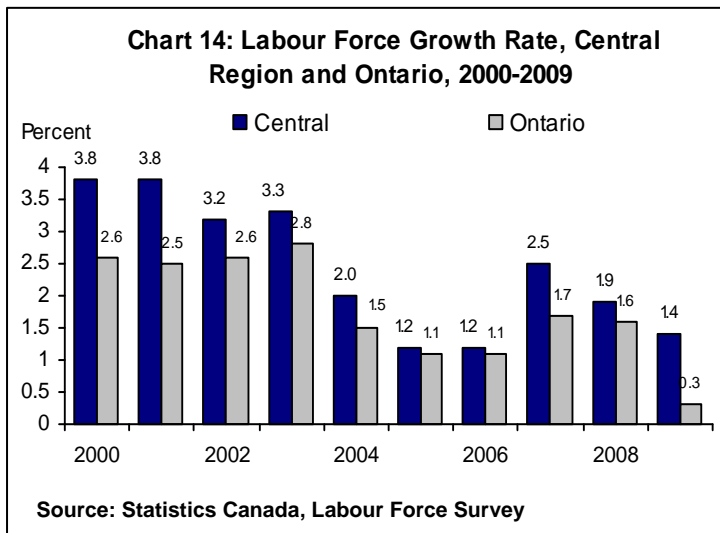
- Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion registered the strongest employment growth in 2009 at 11.4% (32,000 jobs), followed by occupations unique to the primary industry with growth of about 9.5% (2,600 jobs).
- Employment fell in five



occupational groups. The largest decline (15.7% or 33,000 jobs) was registered in occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities.

Labour Force

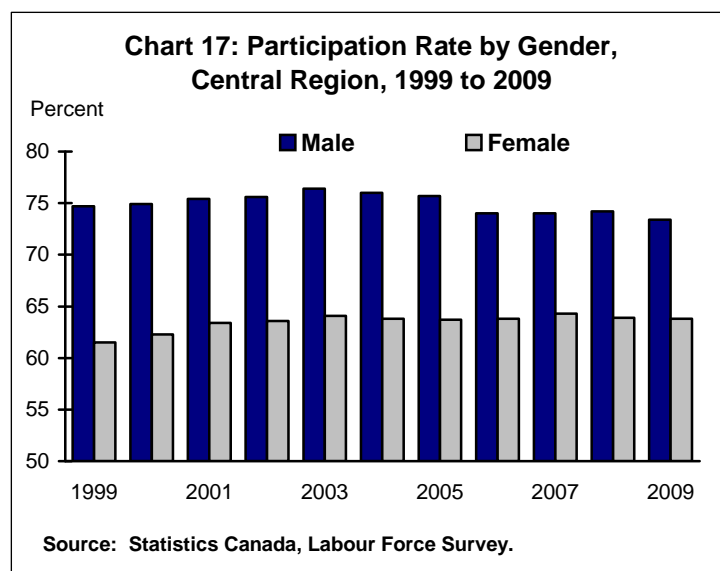
- Over the past decade the Central Region’s labour force grew faster than Ontario’s labour force in every year.
- Labour force growth in the Central Region has slowed considerably since 2004. In 2009 it grew by 1.4%, after growing by 1.9% in 2008.
- In recent years the strongest labour force growth in the Central Region was registered in 2000 and 2001, when the labour force grew by 3.8% each year.
- From 1999 to 2009, the annual average labour force growth in Central Ontario was higher than the provincial average for all age groups. Those aged 65+ had the highest average yearly labour force growth rate in the Central Region (8.6%).
- In 2009, the Central Region’s labour force numbered 3,730,000. Adults aged 25-44 years accounted for 44.7% of the region’s total labour force.
- In 2009, those aged 65+ years had the highest labour force growth rate (8.6%) of all Central Region age groups, followed by those aged 45-54 (7.4%). The youth (15-24 years) and 25 to 44 years cohorts both registered falling labour force levels. Although the number of those aged 65 and over in the labour force is currently small, the aging of the population and long-term changes to the labour market are likely to lead to continued growth in this cohort over the coming years.



- The educational attainment of the adult (aged 25 and over) labour force of Central Ontario is very similar to that of the province. Thirty-three percent had a post secondary certificate or diploma, while nearly three-quarters (73%) of Central Region adults in the labour force had some post-secondary education or higher in 2009.
- The educational attainment of the labour force aged 25 to 64 years is similar for the Central Region and the province, with the exception of the two highest educational categories. The Central Region's labour force has a relatively higher proportion with a university degree (35% vs. 30%) and a lower proportion with post-secondary certificate or diploma (33% vs. 36%).
- The educational attainment of the adult population is lower than that of the adult labour force in both the Central Region and Ontario overall. Post-secondary educational attainment for the population aged 25 to 64 was 65.1% in the Central Region and 63.0% in all of Ontario in 2009.

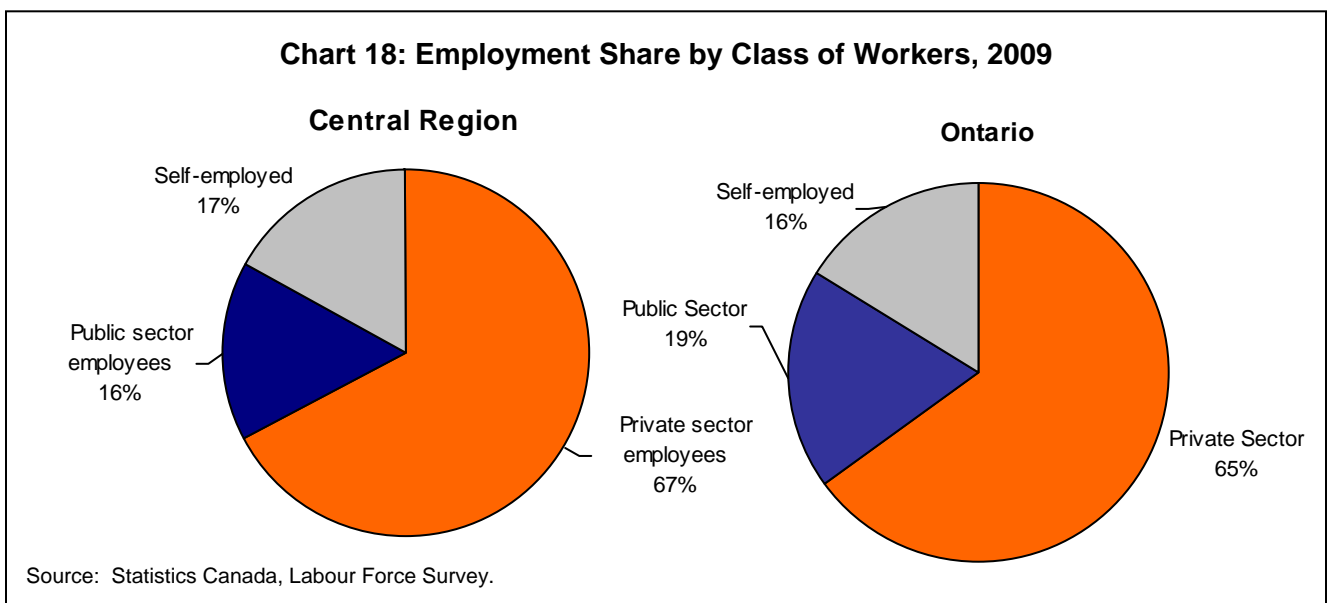
Labour Force Participation Rates

- Compared to Ontario as a whole, the labour force participation rate in the Central Region is generally higher. In 2009, the labour force participation rate of the working age population was 68.4% in Central Ontario, compared to 67.3% in Ontario.
- Historically, the labour force participation rate of males in the Central Region has been much higher than that of females. In 2009 men registered a rate of 73.4%, compared to 63.8% for women.
- In the past decade, the labour force participation rate in the Central Region peaked in 2003 at 76.4% for men and 64.1% for women. However, the labour force participation rate of males declined to its lowest level in ten years, to 73.4% in 2009. The labour force participation rate of females in the Central Region has hovered around the 64% mark since 2002.
- Adult labour force participation rates tend to decline with age. In 2009, the 25-54 years group had the highest participation rate (86.5%), while the 55+ years group had a rate of 38.9%. The youth cohort (15-24 years) had a rate of 58.9%. The 65+ years cohort has seen its participation rate increase from 6.9% in 1996 to 11.9% in 2009.



Class of Worker

- The Central Region's distribution of employment differs from that of the province. While self-employment accounts for approximately the same share of employment in the Central Region and Ontario (17% vs. 16%), the Central Region has a higher concentration of employment in the private sector (68% vs. 65%) and a lower concentration in public sector employment (16% vs. 19%).
- Self-employment in the Central Ontario Region grew by 30.9% from 1999 to 2009, increasing from 428,000 in 1999 to its highest level, 560,000, in 2009. In contrast, self-employment for all of Ontario grew by 14.7%.
- Paid employment (public and private) also enjoyed strong growth, increasing by 21.2% since 1999. In 2009 paid employment fell by 2.1%, while self-employment grew by 2.1%.
- After being relatively flat in 2000 and 2001, public sector employment growth in the Central Region grew at a relatively strong pace following 2002. In 2009, public sector employment growth again was weak, declining by a modest 0.4%, to 525,000.
- Employment growth in the private sector was relatively strong in 2000 and 2001, but grew more slowly from 2002 to 2008. In 2009, private sector employment in the Central Region fell substantially, by 2.5%. This was the first decline of the decade.

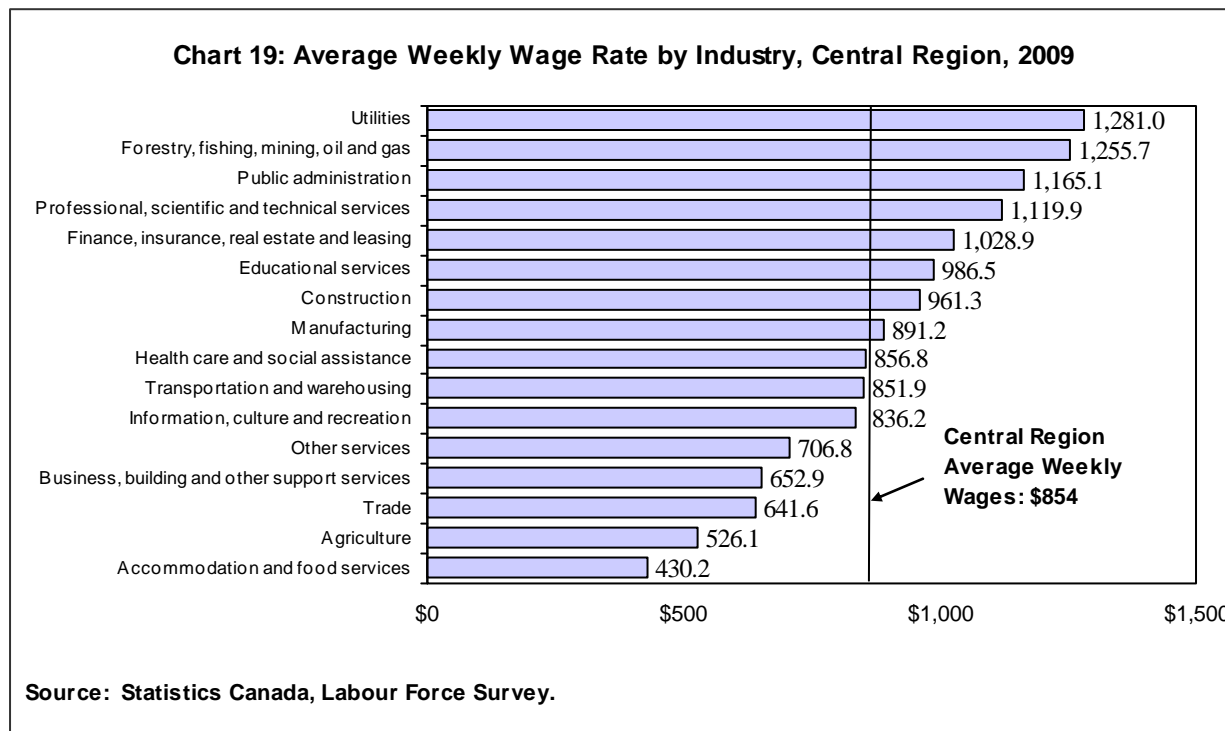


Wages by Industry

- In 2009, the average weekly wage for all workers in the Central Region was \$854, which was slightly higher than the average of \$833 for workers in Ontario as a whole. These wages represented gains of 1.8% and 2.0% respectively, compared to 2008.
- Since 1999, weekly wages increased by 29.8% in the Central Region, compared to 31.4% for the province.
- In 2009 average weekly wages were higher in the Central Region than in Ontario in all but three of the sixteen industries. These lower paying industries were: public administration; manufacturing; and agriculture.

Top Paying Industries in the Central Region	Average Weekly Wage, Central Region (\$), 2009	Average Weekly Wage, Ontario (\$), 2009
Utilities	1,281	1,268
Forestry, fishing, oil and gas	1,256	1,160
Public Administration	1,165	1,167
Prof., scientific and tech. services	1,120	1,107
Total employees	854	833

- The highest paying jobs in the Central Region were in utilities, which had an average weekly wage rate of \$1,281 in 2009. The lowest paying jobs were in the accommodation and food services sector, which had an average weekly wage rate of \$430.
- There was an earnings gap of \$851 in 2009 between jobs in the highest paying industry (utilities) and the lowest paying industry (accommodation and food services) in the Central Region. For Ontario as a whole, the earnings gap was even larger (\$888), with utilities posting the highest wages and accommodations and food services registering the lowest.



Wages by Occupation

- The highest paying jobs in the Central Region in 2009 were in management occupations (\$1,450 per week), natural and applied sciences occupations (\$1,198 per week), and in social sciences, education, government and religion (\$1,038 per week). The lowest paying jobs in Central Ontario were in sales and service occupations (\$514 per week) and occupations unique to the primary industry (\$569 per week).
- Most occupational groups in the Central Region had average weekly earnings that were higher than those at the Ontario level in 2009. Four occupations had wages that were lower at the regional level, including: natural and applied sciences; trades, transport and equipment operators; occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities; and occupations unique to the primary industry.

Top Paying Occupations in the Central Region	Average Weekly Wage, Central Region (\$), 2009	Average Weekly Wage, Ontario (\$), 2009
Management occupations	1,450	1,413
Natural and applied sciences	1,198	1,215
Social science, education, government and	1,038	1,016
Health occupations	936	899
Total employees	854	833

- In 2009, there was a relatively large earnings gap (\$936) between the highest paying management occupations and the lowest paying sales and service occupations in the Central Region. For Ontario as a whole, the earnings gap was smaller (\$919), with management occupations posting the highest wages and sales and services registering the lowest.

