

# Workforce Today

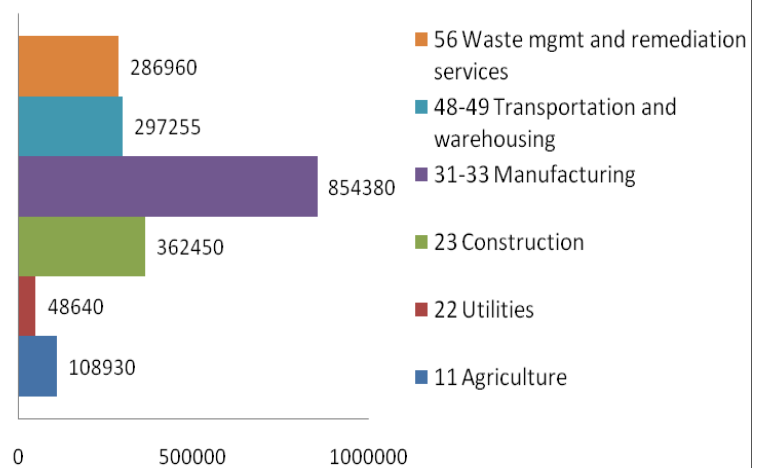
Peel Halton Workforce Development Group

## 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**

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

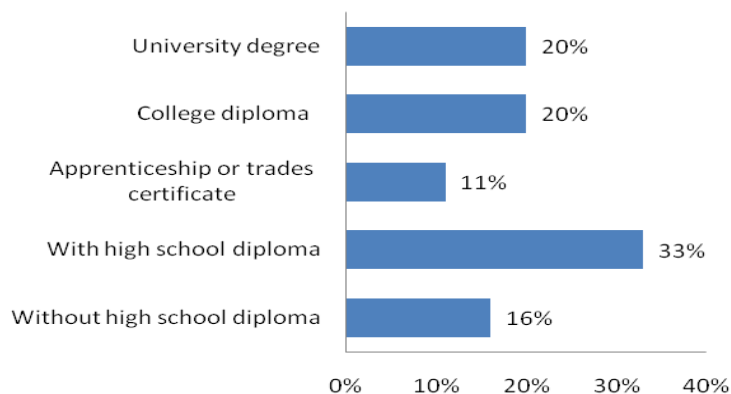
Research conducted by sector council Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) Canada has examined labour shortages expected to impact the environmental industry in the near future. Priority occupations are defined as those that are in short supply in the environmental sector. ECO Canada identified 10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

Peel-Halton					
NOC	Occupation	# Employed in Workforce	% of Total Employed	Top Industry of Employment	% Employed in Top Industry
0212	Architecture and science managers	505	0.07%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	47.52%
2113	Geologists, geochemists and geophysicists	235	0.03%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	53.19%
2121	Biologists and related scientists	605	0.08%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	39.67%
2122	Forestry professionals	30	0.00%	91 Public administration	50.00%
2123	Agricultural representatives, consultants and specialists	55	0.01%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	36.36%
2131	Civil engineers	2105	0.29%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	60.81%
2153	Urban and land use planners	485	0.07%	91 Public administration	74.23%
2231	Civil engineering technologists and technicians	380	0.05%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	53.95%
2263	Inspectors in public and environmental health and occupational health and safety	840	0.11%	31-33 Manufacturing	29.76%
4161	Natural and applied science policy researchers, consultants and program officers	610	0.08%	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	54.10%

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

## Green Economy in Peel-Halton

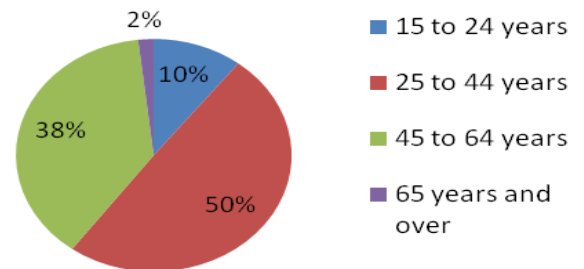
### Educational Attainment



Over 50% of people employed in green industries have attained post secondary education in the Peel Halton region. More specifically, 40% of this workforce has completed either a college diploma or university degree. 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



In the Peel-Halton region 40% of people working in green industries are over 45 years of age. This suggests there will be an increased need to replace retiring workers over the next 10 years.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

**EMPLOYMENT  
ONTARIO**

FOR MORE LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

VISIT [WWW.PEELHALTONWORKFORCE.COM](http://WWW.PEELHALTONWORKFORCE.COM)

Workforce Planning  
Ontario  
www.workforceplanningontario.ca