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**LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY IN THE PEEL-HALTON-DUFFERIN AREA**

Information about the local labour market is an essential resource for citizen participation in community development and public policy-making process. If citizens are going to make plans for their community, develop programs, and advocate for social and political change, they must know the state of their community: characteristics of the population, the economy, the labour market, the social infrastructure (and other factors). The Peel-Halton-Dufferin (PHD) area is one of the fastest growing areas in the country, and one of the most ethnically diverse. According to the 2001 Census, PHD has a total population of about 1,408,335. Between 1996 and 2001, PHD's population increased by 14.3%. The economy of the area is healthy and diverse. The local labour force market has experienced significant changes over the past several years with respect to technological advances, economic changes, international competition and an increase in service and knowledge-based industries.

The purpose of "Workforce Today" project is to create a new and unique level of information on the local labour market. Workforce Today is a monthly 2-page publication that highlights the key trends and issues of the Local Board Area with respect to economic development and labour force development. Each month "Workforce Today" looks at a different aspect of the local labour market. This newsletter provides information on the local labour force activity and occupation patterns of PHD by using official data from the 2001 Census, Statistics Canada.

In 2004 the Local Board embarked on its first "Trends, Opportunities and Priorities (TOP) Report". The TOP Report engaged the community in a highly interactive consultation process to identify and prioritize the key labour market challenges that the PHD area faces. The Local Board is beginning the 2005 TOP Report process and will engage the community in a consultation process. If you would like to participate in this process, please contact the Local Training Board\*.

*Highlights for the Peel-Halton-Dufferin Area*

Increase in women entering the labour force in PHD.

In 2001, a significant gender differential in the labour force occurred in the 60-64 year cohort in PHD.

Both PHD and Ontario experienced slight improvements in their employment rates and participation rates between 1996 and 2001.

PHD has a lower unemployment rate than Ontario and Canada.

Youth unemployment is almost twice that for the total labour force in PHD.

With respect to areas of employment, the three major industries are manufacturing; retail trade; and professional, scientific and technical services.

With respect to occupations the top three are middle and other management occupations (e.g. financial managers, human resources managers, bank managers etc.); clerical occupations; and intermediate sales and service occupations.

Women are over-represented (relative to the overall employed labour force in PHD) in clerical occupations.

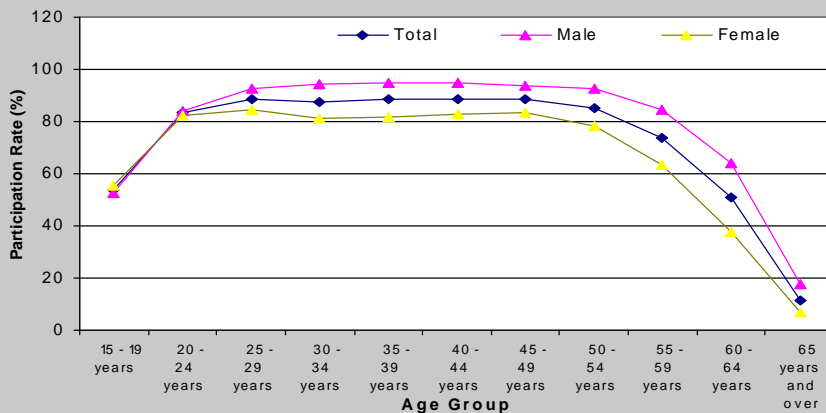
**Implications for Human Services Sector**

Increased demand for youth employment initiatives.

Increased demand for income support for the population aged 50 years and over age groups.

Increased demand for jobs and employment counselling.

**The Shape of Our Workforce  
(Labour Force Participation Rate by Age and Sex: PHD, 2001)**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2001.



\* For more information please contact The Local Training Board at: 33 City Centre Drive, Suite 545, Mississauga ON Canada L5B 2N5  
Tel : 905-306-9588, E-mail: info@phdtrain.com, Website: www.phdtrain.com

**Next Issue (September 2005):  
Immigrants & Our Workforce**

## Did you know?

### How large is the labour force in PHD?

In 2001, the labour force in PHD consisted of 805,570 persons over age 15, an increase of 16.2% over 692,995 persons in the labour force in 1996. Much of the increase in the labour force was due to the increase in women in the labour force.

### What is the labour force participation rate for PHD?

The labour force participation rate for PHD in 2001 was 73.2% compared to 73% in 1996. PHD has a higher percentage of its age 15+ population in the labour force, compared to Ontario, and Canada. Within the PHD area, Halton has the lowest labour force participation rate.

### What are some of the main differences between women and men in PHD's labour force?

In 2001, 67.4% of women aged 15 and over in PHD were in the labour force, a slight increase from the 1996 rate of 66.5%. For Ontario in 2001, the labour force participation rate for women was 61.5%. In 2001, 79.2% of men aged 15 and over in PHD were in the labour force, a slight increase from the 1996 rate of 79%. In Ontario in 2001, the rate for men was 73.4%.

### How many people in PHD were employed at the time of the 2001 Census of Canada?

In 2001, there were 767,070 people employed in PHD, an increase of 19.4% over the 642,635 employed people in 1996. Of those employed, there were 359,660 women, an increase of 21.2% over the 296,790 employed women in PHD in 1996. There were 407,410 employed men in PHD in 2001, an increase of 17.8% over the 345,850 employed men in 1996.

### What is PHD's unemployment rate?

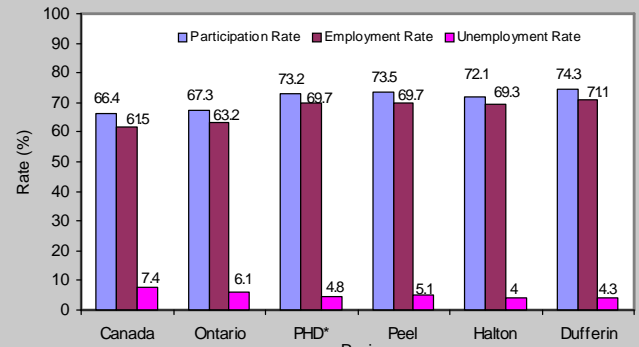
PHD's unemployment rate in 2001 for people aged 15 and over was 4.8%, down from the 1996 rate of 7.3%. PHD has a lower unemployment rate than Ontario and Canada. Within the PHD area, the highest unemployment rate was in Peel (5.1%), while the lowest was in Halton (4.3%).

The unemployment rate in 2001 for women aged 15 and over was 5.4%, down from the 1996 rate of 8.4%. By comparison, in Ontario in 2001, the rate for women aged 15 and over was 6.5%. PHD's 2001 unemployment rate for males aged 15 and over was 4.3%, down from the 1996 rate of 6.3%. The Ontario 2001 unemployment rate for males aged 15 and over was 5.8%.

### What is the unemployment rate of youth in PHD and how does it compare with that for non-youth?

PHD's unemployment rate in 2001 for people aged 15-24 was 10.6%. In contrast, the 2001 unemployment rate for people aged 25 and over was 3.7%. The 2001 unemployment rate for PHD women aged 15 to 24 was 10.2%. In contrast, the 2001 unemployment rate for women aged 25 and over was 4.4%. PHD's unemployment rate in 2001 for men aged 15-24 was 10.9%. In contrast, the 2001 unemployment rate for men aged 25 and over was 3.1%.

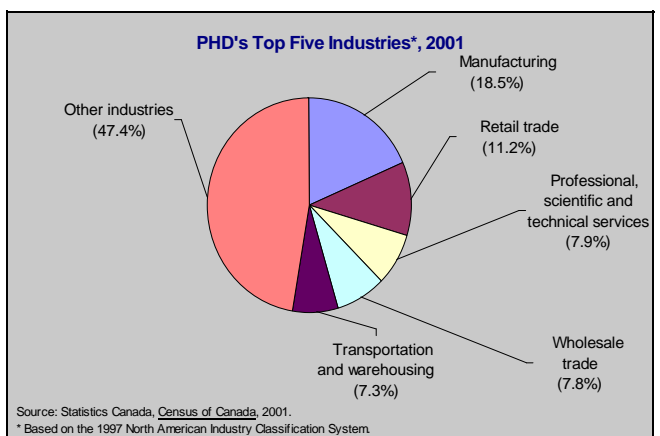
**Labour Force Activity (15 Years and Over):  
Canada, Ontario, PHD, Peel, Halton & Dufferin, 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2001.

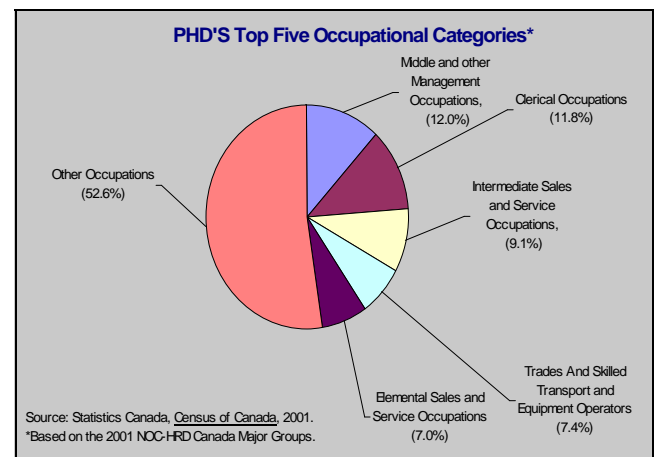
Note: Labour and Employment rates are expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years and over; Unemployment rates are expressed as a percentage of the labour force population.

### What are the major industries in which people in PHD are employed?



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2001.  
\* Based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System.

### What kinds of occupations are the people of PHD employed in?



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2001.  
\*Based on the 2001 NOC-HRD Canada Major Groups.

Canada

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