



Labour Market Bulletin

Human Resource Centre of Canada

Kingston/Pembroke Area

~ An Analysis of the Kingston/Pembroke Area Labour Market ~ January to March, 2005 ~

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An overview of the Kingston/Pembroke area, including Arnprior, Brockville, Carleton Place, Gananoque, Kingston, Pembroke, Perth, Prescott, Renfrew and Smiths Falls.

Normal seasonal factors came into play in the Kingston/Pembroke Area during the first quarter of 2005. The number of people on regular Employment Insurance claims was up over last quarter, though compared to last year there was a decrease in claimants.

In Brockville, Perth and Smiths Falls (Economic Region 510 less Ottawa) there were more people employed in retail and wholesale trade over last quarter, likely helped by new and expanded retail outlets in the area.

In Pembroke and Kingston (Economic Region 515), the number of people in the labour force contracted. Fewer people stated that they were employed than in last quarter, while more indicated that they were unemployed, causing the unemployment rate to increase. The goods-producing sector saw the greatest job loss.

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area also showed fewer jobs, with employment in the service producing sector dropping. However, employment in the goods-producing sector held its own.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Wal-Mart reopened its Brockville store in January, employing 283 people.
- ▶ Call centre On-Line Support plans to open in Pembroke in May, providing 180 jobs. The new call centre is expected to have a \$9 million economic impact on the area in its first year of operation.
- ▶ The Real Canadian Superstore, owned by Loblaw Companies Ltd. opened in Brockville in March, and planned to hire over 100 people.
- ▶ Construction continued at the new Price Chopper store in Carleton Place. The store plans to hire approximately 100 people.
- ▶ Lyreco plans to create 75 jobs when it consolidates its distribution centre in Kingston in 2007.
- ▶ The City of Kingston will receive \$1.6 million in provincial funding toward programs for the homeless.

The Kingston/Pembroke Area Labour Market Bulletin is a quarterly report produced by the area Labour Market Information Analyst. This bulletin and other LMI products may also be found on our website. (aussi disponible en français)

For further information contact:

Lorie Truemner,
Labour Market Information Analyst

Telephone: 613 545-8942

Email: lorie.truemner@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Visit our website at: <http://www.labourmarketinformation.gc.ca>

Note: In preparing this bulletin, HRSDC has taken care to provide clients with labour market information from reliable sources that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since the bulletin was published. Readers are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this bulletin does not necessarily reflect official policies of HRSDC.



LABOUR MARKET NEWS

Highlights on industry activities that have an impact on the local labour market, this information is derived from several sources including local newspapers, newsletters and various publications. Please refer to "Notes to Readers" for additional information.

Agriculture

Although Canadian beef exports to the US were slated to begin March 7, that has now been delayed by a court order from a Montana judge. The US court granted a temporary injunction to a lobby group fighting the US Department of Agriculture's decision to allow the importation of Canadian beef. R-CALF United Stockgrowers of America sued the US government to maintain the ban on Canadian beef, in place since May 2003 due to fears of mad cow disease.

Construction

Several builders have submitted plans or have received approval from the town of Arnprior to build almost 1,000 homes in the Arnprior area. Developers are interested in Arnprior with the advent of Highway 417, which has reduced the commute from Arnprior to Kanata to approximately 25 minutes.

Construction is continuing at the New Price Chopper store in Carleton Place, with a target opening date of April 6. As well as meat, produce and bakery products the new store will also feature a full service deli, unusual in discount stores. Interviewing has started for the up to 100 people required to staff the store. Price Chopper is a division of Sobey's.

Manufacturing

By early January there were no employees at NuStride in Perth. All staff were laid off late in December. The company, originally known as Canadian Orthopedic Shoe Manufacturing, is located in the factory originally occupied by Brown Shoe, which closed in early 2004. Company officials have stated that this layoff and one that took place earlier in the winter were part of restructuring by the company. No information is available on the number of people affected.

On a related note, the Brown Shoe Labour Adjustment Action Centre in Perth is remaining open until July, as it has been deemed successful in assisting former Brown Shoe employees conduct job searches, move into training or find full- or part-time work.

The Alcan plant in Kingston is now known as Novelis, Inc. In 2004 Alcan announced that it was placing its rolled products division into a separate, independent company. Employing about 300 people, the plant is one of the largest rolled

products manufacturers in North America. The plant draws much of its material from recycled goods.

A woodworking company has purchased property formerly occupied by a car dealership in Pembroke and plans to expand its business, known as M Moss and Son Manufacturing Inc. The company plans to operate with up to 15 employees and create an apprenticeship program. The business manufactures components for office furniture and kitchen cabinets.

Trade

Brockville's new Wal-Mart re-opened late in January at its new location in the north end of the city. At 121,000 square feet it possesses an additional 36,000 square feet than it did at the old location in the 1000 Islands Mall. The new store employs 283 people, and sports a vision centre, hair salon, frozen food and an expanded pantry section. As well, the Brockville location joins the Kingston store in offering Wal-Mart's only self-serve checkouts in Canada.

Home Depot is coming to Brockville and expects to provide employment for up to 125 people. Most of the positions will be new hires, though some people may wish to transfer from stores in Kingston, Cornwall or Ottawa if the Brockville location is closer to their homes. With a target completion date of mid-fall, the 85,000 square foot store will be the third big-box store in Brockville's retail power centre, also home to Wal-Mart and Loblaws.

Liquidation World plans to move into the Renfrew Mall in March, occupying the premises vacated by Sterling's grocery store. A Liquidation World operation of its size normally hires six full-time and 10 -15 part-time employees.

The Real Canadian Superstore, owned by Loblaw Companies Ltd. opened in Brockville in early March. It joins Wal-Mart at Brockville's new retail centre on Parkedale Avenue in Brockville's north end. Along with groceries, the store will feature home electronics, toys, photo-finishing, office supplies and a Goodlife fitness centre on the second floor. Early in January Loblaw held a job fair in Brockville for the store. The company hired over 100 people, in addition to the 75 employees who transferred from Your Independent Grocer in the 1000 Islands Mall.



Thirteen people at the Arnprior SAAN store were laid off when it closed in mid-March. The closure is due to the Winnipeg based company closing approximately 100 stores across Canada. SAAN officials gave no reason why they decided against keeping the Arnprior location open, but the store manager suggested that it might be due to competition from stores such as Wal-Mart and Giant Tiger.

Sears in Brockville has taken possession of the former Wal-Mart location in the Thousand Islands Mall and plans to open in its new location in September. The new store will have 83,700 square feet of retail space, nearly three times the size of the present store. It will carry a wide range of products, including electronics, hardware, bed and bath products and children's furniture. Once Sears moves from its current location construction will start on the new six-screen movie theatre planned for the Mall.

Lyreco, an international office supplies company, plans to create 75 jobs once it builds a distribution centre in Kingston. Based in France, the company intends to consolidate its distribution centres in Toronto and Montreal. Currently the company is in negotiations to buy 10 acres of land in the St. Lawrence Business park, which is largely empty except for Star-Tek. The distribution centre is to open in 2007.

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing

Ottawa-based Your Credit Union opened a branch in Cardinal (near Prescott), providing banking services to the community which were to be withdrawn when the TD bank left the village in March. The new facility will employ one manager and three customer service representatives, and is likely to provide an ATM along with mortgage and loan services.

The shrinking rental vacancy rate in Brockville differs from the general trend in Ontario. In Ontario the vacancy rate expanded to 4.1% in 2004, while in Brockville it contracted to 2.5% from 4% the year before. A CMHC spokesperson stated that smaller markets often have lower vacancy rates than large cities as rents are less expensive. As well, there may be fewer rental properties in existence as home ownership is more affordable in smaller communities like Brockville.

Business, Building and Other Support Services

Armoured truck staff employed by Securicor Canada in Kingston stated that they were locked out as they rejected contract changes that would reduce the number of staff on an armoured vehicle from three to two people. The security crews pick up money from retailers and financial services.

Call centre On-Line Support is opening in Pembroke in May. Construction has already begun at the West End Mall, and the company anticipates that there will be at least 180 jobs available, with 90 people due to be hired by March 11. Once those employees are manning the phones in early May another

90 people will be hired and trained. The call centre should be fully operational in June. The company has already held a job fair to recruit employees for the entry level jobs, which will pay a starting wage of \$9 to \$10 per hour. Based in Charlottetown, the company operates four call centres in Atlantic Canada. It is expected to have a \$9 million economic impact on the area in its first year of operation. The company is purchasing most of its supplies locally.

Educational Services

The Renfrew County School Board has received renewed Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program funding to promote students entering the skilled trades in the current school year. The Ministry of Trades, Colleges and Universities granted \$97,500 to the school board to support the apprenticeship program for high school students. During the last school year over 300 students took part in the program, with 57 secondary students and 18 graduates registering as apprentices with the Ministry.

Elementary school teachers in Kingston joined their colleagues across Ontario in a work-to-rule campaign in a protest over stalled contract talks. The services being withdrawn did not relate to student programs. The teachers stopped performing administrative, secretarial and custodial duties and stopped planning school trips, attending staff meetings and ordering school supplies. Thirty school boards across Ontario are participating in this job action. Elementary and secondary school teachers in Ontario had been without a contract since August 31. Limestone Board teachers were in a legal strike position after voting 96 percent in favour of a strike early in March. Local contract talks were scheduled for April.

Health Care and Social services

Renfrew County's Whitewater-Bromley Community Health Centre (a satellite of the North Lanark County Community Health Centre) at Beachburg and Cobden is hiring two physicians, two nurses, a program director, an office administrator, three receptionist/secretaries, a health promoter and a social worker. The two nurse practitioners currently working out of those locations will remain in their jobs. Community Health Centres are non-profit, community governed organizations that provide primary health care using a variety of health providers to meet local needs.

During 2005 the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Health Unit intends to add 12 staff members, including public health nurses, physical activity specialists, a dental hygienist and a health inspector. The new employees will be focusing on programs targeting childhood obesity and the West Nile virus.

The city of Kingston is to receive almost \$1.6 million in provincial funding for homeless shelters and programs. Some



of this funding will go to a three percent rise in the per diem rate paid to homeless shelters, while there will also be a contribution to the consolidated homelessness prevention program.

Brockville's St Vincent de Paul Hospital is transferring its services to Brockville General Hospital (BGH) within 5 years, according to the Providence Continuing Care Centre, which operates St Vincent. Once a full service hospital, St Vincent de Paul now has 47 beds, primarily for complex care. BGH will face more changes as it accommodates St Vincent de Paul services as well as 24 mental health care beds coming from the Elmgrove Unit at the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital. This will be on top of the \$30 million expansion that allowed new operating rooms and emergency services at BGH.

Information, Culture and Recreation

Brockville will be hosting the 2007 Senior Games, according to an announcement made by the Senior Games Association president. Brockville's mayor states that this will bring people to the area at a time of year (February) which is normally very slow and visitors will patronize local accommodations, restaurants and stores. The Ontario Senior Games Winterfest is held every two years, with summer games in the alternate years, encouraging people over 55 to participate in sport.

The New RO television station in Pembroke is losing 17 out of 39 employees due to CHUM television restructuring operations at five of its TV stations, including the Pembroke station. Employees who work in the master control and the traffic department, which manages commercial scheduling, will be laid off in June. Traffic operations are being centralized in the London television station while master control operations will be run from Toronto. Employees will be offered severance packages, and staff members in the

traffic control department will have the opportunity to apply for new jobs which are opening in London.

Accommodation and Food Services

Kingston's Iron Horse Saloon closed at the end of January, due to a combination of increased rent and the city's smoking ban. Established in 1995, the Iron Horse was best known as a live venue for country music performances, although with 800 seats it attracted musicians playing other music genres as well. It is not known how many people will lose their jobs.

Public Administration

Citing financial reasons, the province of Ontario has scuttled plans for the second and third phases of the St Lawrence Valley Correctional and Treatment Centre on the grounds of the Brockville Psychiatric Hospital. The first phase of the project, a 100 bed secure treatment unit, was completed in 2003. The second phase of the centre was to add a 300 bed correctional and treatment unit with a 54 bed remand unit. A spokesperson for the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) stated that instead of the 300 additional jobs which might have been created if the project had gone forward, 57 of 120 existing correctional officers positions may be cut. The small Brockville jail was to be replaced by the second phase of the project; however, the province no longer plans to close the jail in the foreseeable future.

Sixteen Ontario government employees were to lose their jobs when the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care disbanded Health Councils across Ontario at the end of March. In Kingston since 1981, Health councils were established to advise the provincial government on the health system's local needs. In their place the province is establishing Local Health Integration Networks in newly designated geographic regions.



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

Cornwall-Brockville-Smiths Falls - Economic Region 510 (less Ottawa) Labour Force Trends

The winter economic slowdown reduced the amount of full-time work available in Economic Region 510 (less Ottawa). Although normally we see a seasonal reduction in the labour force that did not occur this year. Thus, with fewer jobs available this quarter, persistent job seekers increased the number of unemployed. The unemployment rate, as usual, rose during the winter months, and reached 8.4%.

Although labour force indicators were mixed regarding the current labour market conditions compared to 12 months ago, the changes more or less cancelled each other out. Although employment increased over last year, so did the working age population and the labour force. While more people had work and were looking for work, about the same number of people weren't successful in finding work.

	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year	
	March	December	March	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
	2005	2004	2004				
Population 15 + ('000)	266,900	266,100	262,700	800	0.3	4,200	1.6
Labour Force ('000)	168,200	164,500	163,400	3,700	2.2	4,800	2.9
Employed ('000)	154,100	156,200	151,300	-2,100	-1.3	2,800	1.9
Full-time	122,400	127,300	120,800	-4,900	-3.8	1,600	1.3
Part-time	31,700	28,900	30,600	2,800	9.7	1,100	3.6
Unemployed ('000)	14,100	8,300	12,100	5,800	69.9	2,000	16.5
Not in Labour Force('000)	98,700	101,600	99,300	-2,900	-2.9	-600	-0.6
Participation Rate (%)	63.0	61.8	62.2	1.2		0.8	
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.4	5.0	7.4	3.3		1.0	
Employment Rate (%)	57.7	58.7	57.6	-1.0		0.1	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke - Economic Region 515 Labour Force Trends

The usual winter downturn in economic activity reduced jobs and increased the unemployment rate for the Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke region. The estimated 7,700 person reduction in employment was a little more than average. Of more concern, however, was the nearly 13,000 fewer full-time jobs. The normal ratio between winter job loss and full-time job loss is one to one rather than 1 to 1.5.

The unemployment rate continued to climb through the first quarter of 2005. While employment loss continued, fewer than the average number of people chose to drop out of the labour force at the end of December. This can be gleaned by comparing how similar the participation rates were between the low unemployment rate of the fourth quarter of 2004 and the higher unemployment rates of the first quarter of 2005. Despite 3.6% fewer jobs, the same number of people remained in the labour force. This means most job openings had many more candidates applying than usual.

	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year	
	March	December	March	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
	2005	2004	2004				
Population 15 + ('000)	356,000	355,300	351,900	700	0.2	4,100	1.2
Labour Force ('000)	220,900	222,900	210,800	-2,000	-0.9	10,100	4.8
Employed ('000)	204,500	212,200	195,400	-7,700	-3.6	9,100	4.7
Full-time	154,400	167,300	147,700	-12,900	-7.7	6,700	4.5
Part-time	50,200	44,800	47,700	5,400	12.1	2,500	5.2
Unemployed ('000)	16,300	10,800	15,300	5,500	50.9	1,000	6.5
Not in Labour Force('000)	135,100	132,300	141,200	2,800	2.1	-6,100	-4.3
Participation Rate (%)	62.1	62.7	59.9	-0.6		2.2	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.4	4.8	7.3	2.6		0.1	
Employment Rate (%)	57.4	59.7	55.5	-2.3		1.9	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area Labour Force Trends

The 2005 winter months in Kingston resulted in an average decline in the labour force and employment. The changes in full- and part-time work were uncommon, however. Compared to the average changes, three times as many full-time jobs were lost and three times as many part-time jobs were created. The logical conclusion is that most of the affected full-time jobs had their hours reduced to part-time levels. These changes in the labour force resulted in an increase in seasonal unemployment. The unemployment rate reached 7.0%, the same as Ontario's rate.

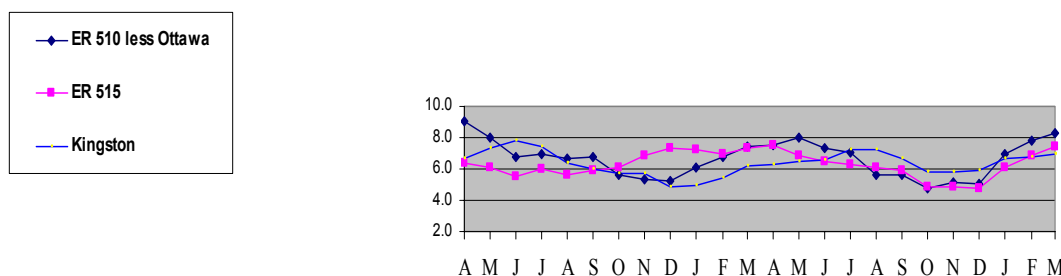
Compared to 12 months ago, labour market conditions remained about the same overall although the situation was less positive for job finding opportunities. One reason for the slightly negative assessment was that the employment increase was less than the population increase. Also, due to the changes in March 2005, more part-time work occurred this year than last year. Full-time work was still the norm, however, with over 70 percent of the workforce engaged in work for 30 or more hours a week.

	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year	
	March	December	March	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
	2005	2004	2004				
Population 15 + ('000)	124,700	124,400	122,900	300	0.2	1,800	1.5
Labour Force ('000)	77,100	77,700	75,800	-600	-0.8	1,300	1.7
Employed ('000)	71,800	73,200	71,100	-1,400	-1.9	700	1.0
Full-time	51,200	55,700	53,900	-4,500	-8.1	-2,700	-5.0
Part-time	20,600	17,400	17,200	3,200	18.4	3,400	19.8
Unemployed ('000)	5,400	4,600	4,700	800	17.4	700	14.9
Not in Labour Force('000)	47,600	46,700	47,100	900	1.9	500	1.1
Participation Rate (%)	61.8	62.5	61.7	-0.7		0.1	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.0	5.9	6.2	1.1		0.8	
Employment Rate (%)	57.6	58.8	57.9	-1.2		-0.3	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Unemployment Rate (%), Economic Regions 510 (less Ottawa), 515 and Ontario
April 2003 to March 2005



Employment by Industry

Cornwall-Brockville-Smiths Falls - Economic Region 510 Less Ottawa Area Employment by Industry ('000)

The goods-producing sector had losses in all of its industry groups: agriculture, utilities, construction, and, manufacturing, with a total loss of an estimated 6000 jobs. The services-producing sector produced more jobs in total with the largest gain in trade. Losses occurred in accommodation and food service as well as public administration.

Compared to last year, the story was similar. The goods-producing sector lost jobs with almost all goods industries having a decline. The services-producing sector gained jobs, with these gains coming mainly from a few industry groups: professional services, finance, insurance, real estate, and leasing, and trade. In all, these three industries produced over 12,000 positions.

Industry	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year Change	
	March	December	March	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
	2005	2004	2004				
Total	154,100	156,200	151,300	-2,100	-1.3	2,800	1.9
Goods-Producing Sector	36,200	42,200	43,900	-6,000	-14.2	-7,700	-17.5
Agriculture	4,800	5,300	5,800	-500	-9.4	-1,000	-17.2
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Utilities	600	900	2,200	-300	-33.3	-1,600	-72.7
Construction	8,500	11,100	8,000	-2,600	-23.4	500	6.3
Manufacturing	22,300	24,300	28,100	-2,000	-8.2	-5,800	-20.6
Services-Producing Sector	117,900	113,900	107,500	4,000	3.5	10,400	9.7
Trade	24,700	20,200	21,800	4,500	22.3	2,900	13.3
Transportation and warehousing	10,200	8,800	8,500	1,400	15.9	1,700	20.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	8,000	6,700	4,300	1,300	19.4	3,700	86.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	11,000	8,800	5,500	2,200	25.0	5,500	100.0
Management, administrative and other support	4,500	2,800	6,800	1,700	60.7	-2,300	-33.8
Educational services	11,500	11,600	9,900	-100	-0.9	1,600	16.2
Health care and social assistance	18,300	18,100	18,200	200	1.1	100	0.5
Information, culture and recreation	4,900	5,500	5,700	-600	-10.9	-800	-14.0
Accommodation and food services	8,200	11,800	9,800	-3,600	-30.5	-1,600	-16.3
Other services	6,600	6,400	5,900	200	3.1	700	11.9
Public administration	10,100	13,100	10,900	-3,000	-22.9	-800	-7.3

Note: "..." indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey



Employment by Industry

Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke - Economic Region 515 Area Employment by Industry ('000)

The seasonal work slowdown was reflected in two industry groups normally affected by seasonal change: construction and accommodation and food service.

Construction's job decline of an estimated 4,200 accounted for more than half of the general decline in the goods-producing service. All the goods-producing industries lost jobs. The services-producing sector showed a small net gain of workers. The gains were relatively small and spread through many industries, while losses were concentrated in a few. The largest of the declining service industries was accommodation and food services with over 3,000 fewer positions. Wholesale and retail trade also lost over 2,000 workers.

The job growth that has taken place compared to last year was concentrated in a few industries. Public administration contributed over half of the new jobs. Trade also contributed a significant portion of the more than 9,000 added workers. The goods-producing sector had more mixed results. The seasonal influence of agriculture produced a large downward push that overcame the positive news from forestry and construction. Manufacturing, which makes up half of the goods-producing jobs, also continued to shed workers. Overall, the industries were evenly split between losers and gainers compared to last year.

Industry	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year Change	
	March 2005	December 2004	March 2004	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Total	204,500	212,200	195,400	-7,700	-3.6	9,100	4.7
Goods-Producing Sector	41,600	49,400	42,000	-7,800	-15.8	-400	-1.0
Agriculture	1,800	...	4,900	...	...	-3,100	-63.3
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	2,400	4,000	...	-1,600	-40.0	2,400	...
Utilities	1,500	1,800	1,700	-300	-16.7	-200	-11.8
Construction	12,900	17,100	10,400	-4,200	-24.6	2,500	24.0
Manufacturing	23,000	25,200	24,300	-2,200	-8.7	-1,300	-5.3
Services-Producing Sector	162,900	162,800	153,500	100	0.1	9,400	6.1
Trade	32,500	34,700	28,100	-2,200	-6.3	4,400	15.7
Transportation and Warehousing	10,800	11,300	10,300	-500	-4.4	500	4.9
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	6,900	6,700	7,100	200	3.0	-200	-2.8
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9,800	8,300	10,300	1,500	18.1	-500	-4.9
Management, Administrative and Other Support	8,400	7,400	9,700	1,000	13.5	-1,300	-13.4
Educational Services	16,200	15,700	17,900	500	3.2	-1,700	-9.5
Health Care and Social Assistance	32,200	31,500	28,600	700	2.2	3,600	12.6
Information, Culture and Recreation	4,900	3,900	4,900	1,000	25.6	0	0.0
Accommodation and Food Services	13,300	16,400	14,900	-3,100	-18.9	-1,600	-10.7
Other Services	10,700	12,000	9,700	-1,300	-10.8	1,000	10.3
Public Administration	17,300	14,800	12,100	2,500	16.9	5,200	43.0

Note: "..." indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey



Employment by Industry

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area Employment by Industry ('000)

There was little change in the overall number of jobs in the goods-producing sector. Employment in the services-producing sector shrank by an estimated 1,600 positions. Out of the 11 services industries, employment increased in five, decreased in five, and one had no change. No individual industry group change was large enough to significantly lead the others.

On a year-to-year comparison, the goods-producing sector again registered no change in overall employment. Manufacturing, however, had a decline of an estimated 1,200 workers compared to last year. The services-producing sector had a slight increase in jobs. As well, there were more services industry groups with increases than decreases in work. Health care and social assistance, the largest employer in the area, increased its workforce. Accommodation and food, however, experienced a decline of an estimated 2,600 positions.

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area Employment by Industry ('000)

Industry	January to	October to	January to	Quarter/Quarter		Year/Year Change	
	March	December	March	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
	2005	2004	2004				
Total	71,800	73,200	71,100	-1,400	-1.9	700	1.0
Goods-Producing Sector	10,600	10,600	10,600	0	0.0	0	0.0
Agriculture	700	600	...	100	16.7	...	...
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Utilities	700	900	...	-200	-22.2	...	...
Construction	4,100	4,600	3,600	-500	-10.9	500	13.9
Manufacturing	5,200	4,500	6,400	700	15.6	-1,200	-18.8
Services-Producing Sector	61,100	62,500	60,500	-1,400	-2.2	600	1.0
Trade	9,800	8,800	11,200	1,000	11.4	-1,400	-12.5
Transportation and warehousing	2,000	3,000	2,800	-1,000	-33.3	-800	-28.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	3,100	3,800	1,900	-700	-18.4	1,200	63.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	2,200	2,200	3,600	0	0.0	-1,400	-38.9
Management, administrative and other support	3,900	3,800	2,200	100	2.6	1,700	77.3
Educational services	9,900	11,300	8,500	-1,400	-12.4	1,400	16.5
Health care and social assistance	11,900	11,200	10,900	700	6.3	1,000	9.2
Information, culture and recreation	3,100	2,700	2,900	400	14.8	200	6.9
Accommodation and food services	5,000	6,300	7,600	-1,300	-20.6	-2,600	-34.2
Other services	3,600	4,000	3,400	-400	-10.0	200	5.9
Public administration	6,600	5,600	5,500	1,000	17.9	1,100	20.0

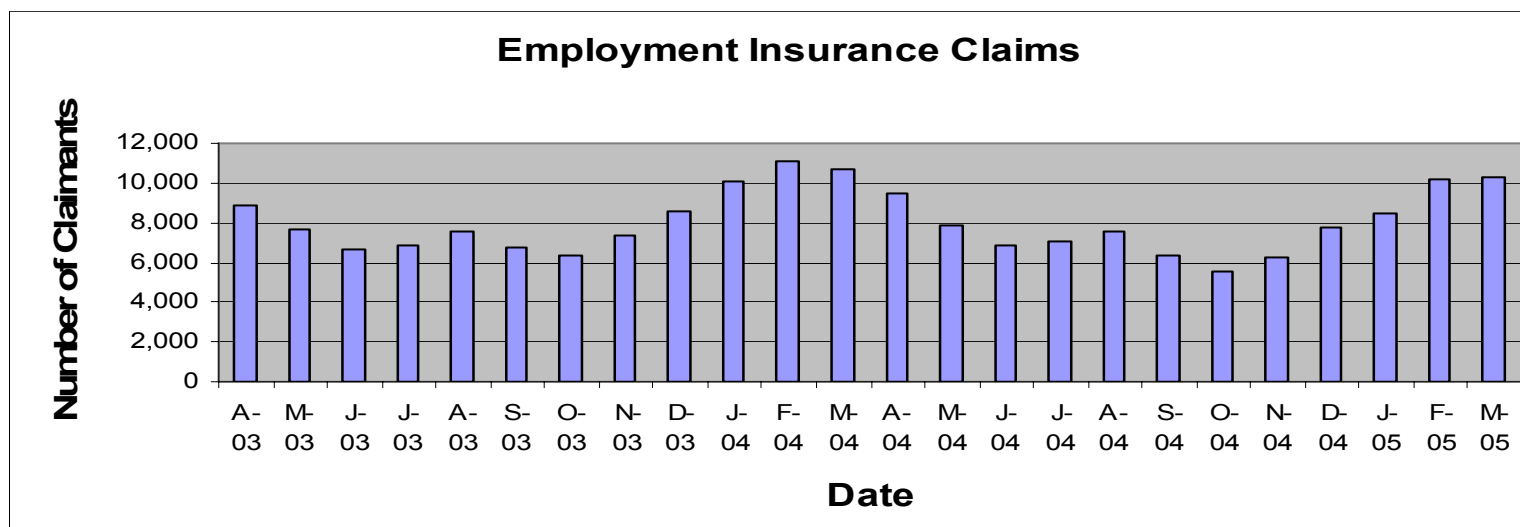
Note: "..." indicates that data are too small to be expressed and are not appropriate for release. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey



EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIM LOAD

The first quarter of 2005 saw the normal seasonal spike in Employment Insurance claims, with 10,319 people on claim in the Kingston/Pembroke Area in March, 2005. The following chart shows the number of regular claimants – those unemployed and seeking work – during the last two years. Continuing the trend from the fourth quarter, 2004, fewer people drew regular benefits than during the same period last year.



Employment Opportunities – Kingston/Pembroke Area

In 2005 the way vacancies are reported has changed. Along with newspaper vacancies, we are now capturing vacancies placed with the on-line Job Bank for Employers. Thus, most HRCs are seeing a marked increase in job opportunities over last year, particularly in larger centres. Some smaller centres still rely largely on local media to advertise vacancies, for example Renfrew, which experienced a decrease in vacancies compared to the same period last year.

	January-March '05 Vacancies	October-December '04 Vacancies	January-March '04 Vacancies
Total	2945	2445	2551
Amnprior	98	81	85
Brockville	377	351	380
Carleton Place	124	72	66
Gananoque	111	29	92
Kingston	1300	1171	1180
Pembroke	379	275	233
Perth	81	70	57
Prescott	58	29	31
Renfrew	140	116	150
Smiths Falls	277	251	277

Source: HRCC vacancies and local newspaper ads



Notes to Readers:

1. The **Cornwall-Brockville-Smiths Falls (Economic Region 510 less Ottawa)** area is comprised of the Counties of Prescott-Russell, Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry, Leeds-Grenville, and Lanark. Normally Economic Region 510 includes the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, but we have factored out this area to make the data more representative of local trends. Economic Region 515 includes the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington, Hastings, Prince Edward, and Renfrew.
2. For the purpose of this publication, the **Kingston/Pembroke area** includes all of the above communities as well as Arnprior, Brockville, Carleton Place, Gananoque, Kingston, Pembroke, Perth, Prescott, Renfrew and Smiths Falls..
3. The information contained in the Labour Market News section is gathered using a variety of internal and external sources. The primary sources of information include **The Arnprior Chronicle Guide; Brockville Recorder & Times; Carleton Place Canadian; Gananoque Reporter; Kingston Whig Standard; Pembroke Daily Observer; North Renfrew Times; Perth Courier; Prescott Journal; Renfrew Mercury; Eganville Leader; and, Smiths Falls Record News (EMC).**
4. **Definitions – Labour Force Survey data**
Population 15+ (the working age population) consists of all persons 15 years of age and over residing in Canada with the exception of residents of the Territories, persons living on Indian Reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Canadian Armed forces. The **Labour Force** consists of people employed or unemployed and searching for work. Those who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not willing or able to supply labour services are considered **Not in the Labour Force**. The **Participation Rate** is the percentage of the working age population (15+) who are seeking work or are employed. The **Unemployment Rate** is the number of people who are unemployed and looking for work as a percentage of the number of people in the Labour Force. The **Employment Rate** is the number of people employed as a percentage of the working age population.
5. **Definitions - HRDC Corporate Data**
Employment Insurance claim load: The number of individuals with an active claim for regular Employment Insurance benefits. Data on Employment Insurance claimants is not an accurate measure of the absolute level of unemployment. The data does not include unemployed individuals who: 1/ have not met the program's eligibility requirements or 2/ have exhausted their benefit entitlement.
Employment Opportunities: Advertised employment opportunities are comprised of vacancies notified to the HRCC offices in our area and newspaper want ads. This data is not a count of all labour market activity; in practical terms, such a count is not feasible. This data is useful to track short and long-term changes in the demand for individual occupations. The total number of opportunities is equal to full-time plus part-time and casual.
6. This review uses data from **Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS)**. In any survey there is a chance of variation due to sampling size. **Three-month moving averages** are used for selected labour force characteristics in an attempt to improve the reliability of this data. For further information on the Labour Force Survey, visit Statistics Canada's website at:
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm>
7. For more information on Industrial and Occupational categories used in this review, visit **Statistics Canada's website** at:
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/index.htm>

