



Labour Market Bulletin

Human Resource Centre of Canada

Kingston/Pembroke Area

~ An Analysis of the Kingston/Pembroke Area Labour Market ~ April to June, 2005 ~

Volume 5 Issue 2 Second Quarter 2005

IN THIS ISSUE:

HIGHLIGHTS..... 1

LABOUR MARKET NEWS..... 2

 Utilities..... 2

 Trade 2

 Transportation and Warehousing 2

 Business, Building and Other Support Services... 2

 Educational Services 2

 Health Care and Social services 3

 Information, Culture and Recreation..... 3

 Accommodation and Food Services..... 3

LABOUR FORCE TRENDS..... 4

 Employment by Industry 5

LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND..... 6

 Employment Insurance Claimload 7

 Employment Opportunities 8

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>

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.*

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

As is usual in the spring, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits dropped from last quarter. As well, fewer people drew benefits than at the same time in 2004. In all areas of the Kingston/Pembroke area the unemployment rate decreased from both last quarter and last year.

In Brockville, Perth and Smiths Falls (Economic Region 510 less Ottawa) employment rose over last quarter, with more people employed in construction and management, administration and other support along with information, culture and recreation. Note that economic region 510 less Ottawa also includes Cornwall.

The Pembroke and Kingston area (Economic Region 515) also saw an increase in employment plus a decrease in unemployment in the spring quarter. Employment increased in the goods-producing sector as well as the services-producing sector, with gains occurring in management, administration and other support, information, culture and recreation as well as education. Note that Economic Region 515 also includes the Quinte area.

Kingston CMA experienced an increase in the number of people in its labour force and a corresponding increase in employment. Both the goods- and services-producing sectors saw an increase in employment, particularly in education and public administration.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Two hundred people are employed at Pembroke’s On-Line Support call centre, which held its grand opening in June.
- ▶ Liquidation World opens in Renfrew, employing 25 full-and part-time staff.
- ▶ Construction begins on a new truck service centre in Kingston, which is to employ 25 people.
- ▶ Canadian Tire in Perth is expanding, and will employ 15 additional people.
- ▶ St Lawrence College receives funding from the province to mount training in the skilled trades.



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.

Utilities

Construction is taking place in Kingston on a new wastewater and sewage reservoir. This project cost over \$16 million and should reduce the number of times the city will have to dump excess wastewater into the Cataraqui River during periods of heavy rainfall. Workers have already completed one sewer line and now must build the large tank and an additional sewer line.

Hydro One employees who are members of the Society of Energy Professionals went on strike early in June. This union represents supervisory staff, information technology specialists and electrical system planners and has been without a contract since March 31, 2005. Negotiations broke down over several issues, including an increase in working hours and reduced pay for new hires. Strikers blocking Hydro offices have stated that picketers will slow down response times to unplanned power outages.

Trade

A new store, Liquidation World, opened in Renfrew in late April. Employing approximately 25 full-and part-time staff, the outlet sells a variety of merchandise, including furniture, clothing, toys and food.

In mid-May Home Hardware opened a new store in Renfrew, doubling the size of its previous site. The store features a kitchen and bath showroom, hands-on access to various building materials and a gourmet shop.

Parmalat plans to close the cheese store in Balderson, north of Perth, in September. The closure is a result of Parmalat's decision to close retail outlets while concentrating on manufacturing and distributing dairy products. Seventeen full-and part-time employees will lose their jobs when the store closes. Parmalat is attempting to find a buyer for the store.

The Smiths Falls town council has approved an expansion of the local Canadian Tire retail outlet. The expansion will include a new gas bar/car wash operation and an enlarged garden centre. The project is expected to cost \$4 to \$5 million.

Perth's Canadian Tire store is also expanding, and will be one of the first stores in Canada to change to the company's new 20/20 format. New products and product lines will be added and the store will be reorganized for an optimum display of

its merchandise. The store also intends to hire another 15 employees along with 40 temporary people to assist with the transition to the new format. The grand opening of the refurbished store is planned for November.

Transportation and Warehousing

Construction on a new truck service centre in Kingston's west end began in May. Benson Truck and Trailer and Benson Commercial Tire will consolidate at a new location and is expected to create up to 25 new jobs. The company is building a 37,000 square foot truck service and parts distribution centre at a cost of \$1.6 million.

Business, Building and Other Support Services

Although Pembroke's new call centre, On-Line Support, opened in May, the company held its official opening ceremony at the end of June when the last of its 200 employees was in place. On-Line Support is a Charlottetown based company offering technical support services to a number of North American ISP's.

Educational Services

Fifty students will be able to enroll in St Lawrence College's skilled trades programs as the college has received \$577,000 from the province for training in the skilled trades. The money will go to three co-op diploma programs and one program in construction. The college plans to build a new facility for training in trades in 2005.

The union representing Secondary Schools at the Limestone District School Board reached a deal with the province in May. Collective agreements had to be reached by June 1 in order for school boards to access additional funding for teachers for students at risk of dropping out of school.

Elementary school teachers across Ontario resumed a work to rule campaign on June 1 as they were unable to reach a collective agreement with their school boards. Teachers working for the Limestone District School Board, the Upper Canada District School Board and the Renfrew County District School Board were all affected. Teachers refused to perform extra-curricular duties like track meets and school trips. Each board eventually reached agreements with their teachers within a few days.



Health Care and Social services

The walk in clinic in Brockville closed after two and a half years in operation, due to a shortage of doctors. Originally staffed by nine doctors, the clinic was down to two physicians when it closed on June 23. The doctors worked at the clinic in addition to the work they performed at their regular practices. The clinic saw 30 to 40 people each evening. Some of these patients had no family physician and will likely seek medical care at the emergency department of Brockville General Hospital.

Early in June satellite offices of the Whitewater Community Health Care Centre opened in Beachburg and Cobden in Renfrew County. They are funded through the Lanark Health and Community Services. The communities will be served by a multi-disciplinary team of health care professionals, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, a social worker and a health promoter.

Information, Culture and Recreation

Bell Subco Technicians, contracted by Bell Canada for residential installation and repair, are on rotating strikes throughout the Ottawa Valley. The Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada does not want the gap between Bell Subco and the more highly paid Bell technicians to increase. As well, they are seeking the same benefit and pension plan as Bell employees. Bell Subco services residential, small business and high speed internet customers, all of whom could face up to a month's wait for repairs.

Accommodation and Food Services

Burger King plans to reopen in Kingston in mid-July under new ownership. The chain's two local restaurants, one on Princess Street and the other on Bath Road, closed their doors in September. The Bath Road restaurant, currently undergoing renovations, will be the first to re-open with approximately 40 employees. The Princess Street location is to open in the fall.



LABOUR FORCE TRENDS

As is normal in the spring quarter, employment in the Cornwall-Brockville-Smiths Falls area rose while unemployment dropped. This was reflected in the unemployment rate, which fell to 6.8 percent at the end of June from 8.4 percent at the end of March. The labour market is also performing more strongly than it did a year ago, with employment up by an estimated 7,200 people.

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

	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
				Population 15 + ('000)	267,900	266,900	263,000	1,000	0.4	4,900	1.9
Labour Force ('000)	169,400	168,200	162,600	1,200	0.7	6,800	4.2
Employed ('000)	157,900	154,100	150,700	3,800	2.5	7,200	4.8
Unemployed ('000)	11,500	14,100	11,900	-2,600	-18.4	-400	-3.4
Not in Labour Force ('000)	98,500	98,700	100,400	-200	-0.2	-1,900	-1.9
Participation Rate (%)	63.2	63.0	61.8	0.2		1.4	
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	8.4	7.3	-1.6		-0.5	
Employment Rate (%)	58.9	57.7	57.3	1.2		1.6	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Both the labour force and employment in the Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke area increased over the winter quarter as well as over the spring quarter in 2004, while unemployment decreased, dropping the unemployment rate to 5.4 percent. Employment gained an estimated 4,900 jobs in the spring quarter, allowing the employment rate to continue its climb.

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

	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
				Population 15 + ('000)	357,200	356,000	353,000	1,200	0.3	4,200	1.2
Labour Force ('000)	221,400	220,900	214,500	500	0.2	6,900	3.2
Employed ('000)	209,400	204,500	200,600	4,900	2.4	8,800	4.4
Unemployed ('000)	12,000	16,300	13,900	-4,300	-26.4	-1,900	-13.7
Not in Labour Force('000)	135,800	135,100	138,500	700	0.5	-2,700	-1.9
Participation Rate (%)	62.0	62.1	60.8	-0.1		1.2	
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.4	7.4	6.5	-2.0		-1.1	
Employment Rate (%)	58.6	57.4	56.8	1.2		1.8	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



Employment hit a record total of an estimated 77,000 for Kingston in June 2005. Job growth, at over 7 percent, was higher than the increase in the labour force, which grew by slightly over six percent. The unemployment rate fell to 6 percent. The labour market also expanded from the same period in 2004, with the rate of job creation exceeding the increase in the labour market.

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area Labour Force Trends

	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
				Population 15 + ('000)	125,300	124,700	123,500	600	0.5	1,800	1.5
Labour Force ('000)	81,800	77,100	78,500	4,700	6.1	3,300	4.2
Employed ('000)	77,000	71,800	73,300	5,200	7.2	3,700	5.0
Unemployed ('000)	4,900	5,400	5,200	-500	-9.3	-300	-5.8
Not in Labour Force ('000)	43,500	47,600	44,900	-4,100	-8.6	-1,400	-3.1
Participation Rate (%)	65.3	61.8	63.6	3.5		1.7	
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.0	7.0	6.6	-1.0		-0.6	
Employment Rate (%)	61.5	57.6	59.4	3.9		2.1	

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Employment by Industry

Employment in the goods-producing sector grew during the spring quarter, particularly in construction. The services-producing sector experienced a reduction in employment from last quarter, with fewer jobs in professional, scientific and technical services as well as finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. However, trade, along with information, culture and recreation saw an increase in employment over the winter quarter. The situation was reversed year over year, with the goods-producing sector showing fewer jobs than was the case last year, while the services-producing sector experienced a net gain in jobs.

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

Industry	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
				Total	157,900	154,100	150,700	3,800	2.5	7,200	4.8
Goods-Producing Sector	40,800	36,200	47,500	4,600	12.7	-6,700	-14.1
Agriculture	4,300	4,800	7,200	-500	-10.4	-2,900	-40.3
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Utilities	400	600	800	-200	-33.3	-400	-50.0
Construction	12,300	8,500	10,700	3,800	44.7	1,600	15.0
Manufacturing	23,600	22,300	28,500	1,300	5.8	-4,900	-17.2
Services-Producing Sector	117,100	117,900	103,200	-800	-0.7	13,900	13.5
Trade	27,100	24,700	22,400	2,400	9.7	4,700	21.0
Transportation and Warehousing	8,800	10,200	7,800	-1,400	-13.7	1,000	12.8
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	5,900	8,000	5,600	-2,100	-26.3	300	5.4
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8,600	11,000	4,800	-2,400	-21.8	3,800	79.2
Management, Administrative and Other Support	7,300	4,500	5,200	2,800	62.2	2,100	40.4
Educational Services	11,100	11,500	8,800	-400	-3.5	2,300	26.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,900	18,300	16,400	-400	-2.2	1,500	9.1
Information, Culture and Recreation	6,100	4,900	6,400	1,200	24.5	-300	-4.7
Accommodation and Food Services	7,400	8,200	8,800	-800	-9.8	-1,400	-15.9
Other Services	6,700	6,600	6,200	100	1.5	500	8.1
Public Administration	10,400	10,100	10,700	300	3.0	-300	-2.8

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

The goods- and services-producing sectors both created jobs in the second quarter of 2005 in the Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke region. In both the goods- and services- producing sectors, the number of industries that gained jobs was balanced by the number that lost jobs, though there was an overall net increase in employment. Information, culture and recreation saw the largest increase in jobs. The picture was slightly different over twelve months, with the goods-producing sector experiencing a small decline due to employment shrinking in manufacturing.

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

Industry	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Total	209,400	204,500	200,600	4,900	2.4	8,800	4.4
Goods-Producing Sector	44,100	41,600	45,000	2,500	6.0	-900	-2.0
Agriculture	5,000	1,800	3,300	3,200	177.8	1,700	51.5
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	...	2,400	1,700	...	...	...	...
Utilities	3,100	1,500	1,600	1,600	106.7	1,500	93.8
Construction	12,600	12,900	12,500	-300	-2.3	100	0.8
Manufacturing	22,100	23,000	25,900	-900	-3.9	-3,800	-14.7
Services-Producing Sector	165,300	162,900	155,600	2,400	1.5	9,700	6.2
Trade	28,900	32,500	29,900	-3,600	-11.1	-1,000	-3.3
Transportation and Warehousing	11,500	10,800	9,700	700	6.5	1,800	18.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	7,700	6,900	7,700	800	11.6	0	0.0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9,500	9,800	6,700	-300	-3.1	2,800	41.8
Management, Administrative and Other Support	10,900	8,400	9,100	2,500	29.8	1,800	19.8
Educational Services	18,800	16,200	15,800	2,600	16.0	3,000	19.0
Health Care and Social Assistance	30,400	32,200	30,000	-1,800	-5.6	400	1.3
Information, Culture and Recreation	8,200	4,900	6,300	3,300	67.3	1,900	30.2
Accommodation and Food Services	10,900	13,300	15,900	-2,400	-18.0	-5,000	-31.4
Other Services	10,000	10,700	12,300	-700	-6.5	-2,300	-18.7
Public Administration	18,400	17,300	12,100	1,100	6.4	6,300	52.1

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



Both the goods- and services-producing sectors experienced employment expansion in the spring quarter in 2005, with the increases spread across several industries. Education and public administration saw increases over last quarter, while employment in health care and social assistance was down. Year over year there was an overall increase in employment as well; however, accommodation and food services saw a substantial decrease from last year.

Kingston Census Metropolitan Area - Employment by Industry ('000)

Industry	April to June 2005	January to March 2005	April to June 2004	Quarter/Quarter Change		Year/Year Change	
				Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Total	77,000	71,800	73,300	5,200	7.2	3,700	5.0
Goods-Producing Sector	12,700	10,600	11,200	2,100	19.8	1,500	13.4
Agriculture	600	700	...	-100	-14.3	600	...
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Utilities	500	700	...	-200	-28.6	500	...
Construction	4,400	4,100	4,300	300	7.3	100	2.3
Manufacturing	7,100	5,200	6,000	1,900	36.5	1,100	18.3
Services-Producing Sector	64,200	61,100	62,100	3,100	5.1	2,100	3.4
Trade	10,400	9,800	10,600	600	6.1	-200	-1.9
Transportation and Warehousing	2,200	2,000	2,800	200	10.0	-600	-21.4
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	3,200	3,100	2,800	100	3.2	400	14.3
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3,000	2,200	3,300	800	36.4	-300	-9.1
Management, Administrative and Other Support	4,500	3,900	4,200	600	15.4	300	7.1
Educational Services	11,300	9,900	8,000	1,400	14.1	3,300	41.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	11,300	11,900	10,900	-600	-5.0	400	3.7
Information, Culture and Recreation	3,200	3,100	2,800	100	3.2	400	14.3
Accommodation and Food Services	4,800	5,000	6,500	-200	-4.0	-1,700	-26.2
Other Services	2,800	3,600	4,300	-800	-22.2	-1,500	-34.9
Public Administration	7,600	6,600	5,900	1,000	15.2	1,700	28.8

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

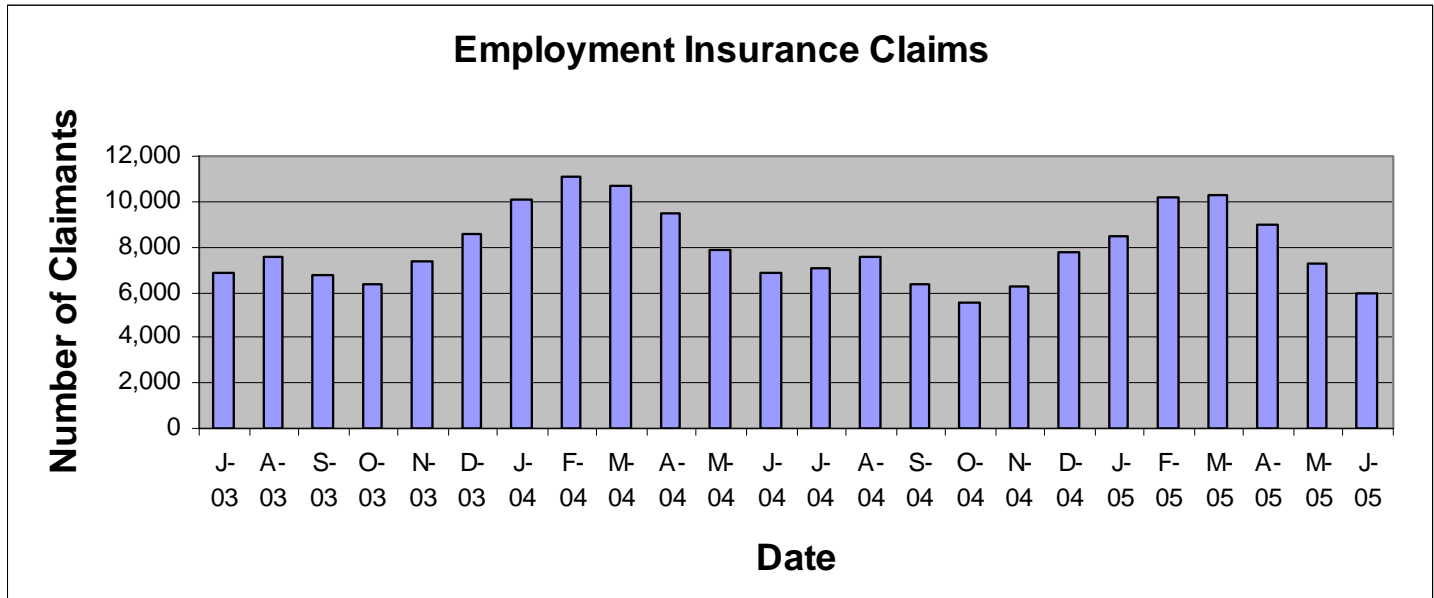
Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey

LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Employment Insurance Claim Load

Seasonal factors caused the number of Employment Insurance claims to drop throughout the Kingston/Pembroke area during the second quarter of 2005. There were 5,988 people on claim at the end of June compared to 10,319 at the end of March. The following chart shows the number of people on regular Employment Insurance claims during the last two years. People on regular claims are unemployed and seeking work. Fewer people were drawing benefits than at the same time in 2004.





Employment Opportunities

Employment vacancies continued to be strong throughout the Kingston/Pembroke area. Please note, however, that we have added an additional source of vacancy information in 2005 (jobs posted through jobbank.gc.ca) which accounts for some of the substantial increase since the same period in 2004. Quarter over quarter clearly shows the seasonal increase in vacancies, with all offices in the area reflecting increased job opportunities in the spring months.

	April - June '05 Vacancies	January-March '05 Vacancies	April - June '04 Vacancies
Total	4155	2945	2,618
Arnprior	183	98	42
Brockville	453	377	448
Carleton Place	184	124	57
Gananoque	154	111	92
Kingston	1826	1300	1,222
Pembroke	502	379	209
Perth	130	81	59
Prescott	62	58	35
Renfrew	223	140	125
Smiths Falls	438	277	329

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 City of Ottawa, but we have factored out this area to make the data more representative of local trends. The **Kingston-Quinte-Pembroke (Economic Region 515)** area includes the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington, Hastings, Prince Edward, and Renfrew. The Kingston CMA (Census Metropolitan Area) includes the City of Kingston, Frontenac Islands, Loyalist Township and South Frontenac Township.
2. For the purpose of this publication, the **Kingston/Pembroke area** includes 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/sdds/3701.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/sdds/3701.htm>

