

## Youth employment by occupation

Vol. 2, No. 18, January 2015

### Highlights

- Young adults 20 to 24 years of age are over-represented in non-metro Ontario in the following occupational groups: food and beverage service, construction labourers, manufacturing labourers and construction trades (including plumbers and carpenters).
- Young adults are under-represented in non-metro professional health occupations, teaching occupations and truck and bus driver occupations.

### Why look at youth employment by occupation?

Occupation data breaks down type of jobs<sup>1</sup> and this [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) fact sheet explores which types of jobs youth are successful in attaining. This data may indicate why employment rates among youth are more sensitive to recessionary conditions than other age groups. The data also shows employment by occupation (type of job) of non-metro<sup>2</sup> youth and indicates whether or not the types of entry-level jobs are changing over time.

### Findings

In non-metro areas from 1996 to 2013, young adults 20 to 24 years of age contributed, on average, 8% of total non-metro employment<sup>3</sup> (Table 1<sup>4</sup>).

There are several occupations where non-metro 20 to 24 year olds represented a larger proportion of employees. For example, this age group contributed 21% of employment in food and beverage service workers.

In two occupation groups - construction labourers and manufacturing labourers - non-metro workers in the young adult 20-24 age group represented 16%.

Among non-metro retail sales clerks, 15% were young adults between the ages of 20 to 24.

Young adults contributed 12% of non-metro workers in the construction trades<sup>5</sup> and there has been an increase in this share in recent years.

Non-metro occupations where young adults represented 6% or less of the workforce are: managerial occupation; business and finance occupations; health occupations<sup>6</sup>; teachers; and truck and bus drivers.

There was a wide range across occupation groups in the share of employment by young adults<sup>7</sup>. The occupations which showed either under or over-representation by young adults has remained quite consistent over time<sup>8</sup>.

### Summary

Employed non-metro young adults 20 to 24 are over-represented in some occupations and this pattern has remained consistent over time.

<sup>1</sup> The industry refers to the type of firm and the occupation refers to the type of job. A truck driver working for a manufacturing plant is classified to the manufacturing industry but is classified to the occupation of transport and equipment operators. See Statistics Canada. (2007) North American Industry Classification System: 2007 (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 12-501) (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?lang=eng&catno=12-501-X>) and Statistics Canada. (2007) National Occupational Classification for Statistics (NOC-S), 2006 (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 12-583). (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?lang=eng&catno=12-583-X>).

<sup>2</sup> Non-metro areas refer to areas outside Census Metropolitan Areas. For definitions, see the [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) entitled "Overview of Ontario's rural geography."

<sup>3</sup> For each year, the average level of employment was calculated over the 12 months. All employed individuals (students and non-students) are included.

<sup>4</sup> The second to last column in Table 1 presents the average for the period from 1996 to 2013 and the last column shows the trend – where a trend of 0.0 indicates no change in the share of employment by individuals 20-24 years.

Rural Ontario Institute gratefully acknowledges financial support of [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) from the County of Wellington and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Questions on data sources can be directed to [RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net](mailto:RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net). Any comments or discussions can be directed to [NRagetlie@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca](mailto:NRagetlie@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca).

<sup>5</sup> Construction trades include plumbers, carpenters, masonry and plastering trades, roofers and painters.

<sup>6</sup> Young adults represent 6% of all health occupations but the share among doctors and registered nurses is lower and the share among technical and assisting health occupations is 9% (above the average of 8% of young adults in all non-metro jobs).

<sup>7</sup> The share of young adults in each industry group shows less variability across industry groups – see the [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) entitled "Youth employment by industry."

<sup>8</sup> This consistency over time is also true for the share of young adults employed in each industry group.

**Table 1**

**Number employed 20 to 24 years of age as percent of total employment (15 years of age and over), non-metro areas, Ontario, 1996 to 2013**

Occupation group	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Average: 1996 to 2013	Trend: change in percent per year
All occupations	9	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	8	8	8	0.0
Management occupations	3	4	4	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	0	2	2	2	-0.1
Business, finance and administrative occupations	6	5	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	5	7	4	5	6	0.0
Professional occupations in business and finance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial, secretarial and administrative occupations	4	4	5	4	4	3	3	3	-	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	-	3	4	-0.1
Clerical occupations, including supervisors	8	6	7	8	8	8	10	10	10	9	9	9	7	8	7	9	6	8	8	0.0
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	8	9	5	9	6	8	9	8	5	7	9	10	8	6	7	8	7	8	8	0.0
Health occupations	5	6	7	6	5	5	6	6	7	6	7	6	8	8	9	8	7	6	6	0.1
Professional occupations in health, nurse supervisors and registered nurses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-
Technical, assisting and related occupations in health	7	9	10	8	7	6	10	8	10	8	10	9	11	10	13	10	10	8	9	0.2
Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion	6	4	6	6	7	6	7	7	5	5	5	6	5	6	6	6	4	5	6	-0.1
Occupations in social science, government service and religion	9	6	8	8	10	6	9	10	7	8	9	7	8	8	8	6	5	7	8	-0.1
Teachers and professors	-	-	4	4	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	6	-	-	5	0.1
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	11	9	10	13	10	11	11	8	8	13	9	9	6	10	10	9	8	10	10	-0.1
Sales and service occupations	13	13	12	12	11	12	12	11	13	12	11	11	11	11	13	13	12	11	12	-0.1
Wholesale, technical, insurance, real estate sales specialists, and retail, wholesale and grain buyers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-
Retail salespersons, sales clerks, cashiers, including retail trade supervisors	17	19	16	15	14	16	16	13	16	14	13	13	12	13	13	14	14	13	15	-0.3
Chefs and cooks, and occupations in food and beverage service, including supervisors	26	20	21	21	23	17	20	20	19	18	22	23	20	19	24	19	20	20	21	-0.1
Occupation in protective services	10	-	-	-	-	9	-	7	-	12	9	11	0	7	-	-	-	-	8	-0.3
Childcare and home support workers	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	9	0.0
Sales and service occupations n.e.c., including occupations in travel and accommodation, attendants in recreation and sport as well as supervisors	11	12	12	11	9	11	11	10	13	14	10	10	11	10	14	14	12	11	11	0.1
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	9	8	7	7	7	7	9	8	9	8	9	8	10	10	10	10	10	8	9	0.2
Contractors and supervisors in trades and transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction trades	8	6	-	10	12	7	12	10	14	10	15	13	15	14	17	17	14	8	12	0.4
Other trades occupations	9	7	7	7	7	8	12	9	9	9	10	9	11	11	9	11	12	10	9	0.2
Transport and equipment operators	7	6	6	4	3	4	4	4	6	4	5	4	5	5	6	4	6	5	5	0.0
Trades helpers, construction, and transportation labourers and related occupations	19	18	18	13	14	16	13	18	14	16	12	14	18	18	20	22	15	15	16	0.1
Occupations unique to primary industry	9	8	7	9	6	7	7	8	9	9	7	8	8	9	9	8	9	9	8	0.1
Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	9	10	10	11	10	9	10	9	11	10	11	9	8	7	8	8	10	9	10	-0.1
Machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing, including supervisors	8	7	9	10	9	8	9	8	10	9	10	8	7	7	6	7	9	8	8	-0.1
Labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	13	19	15	14	16	15	19	16	19	18	15	16	16	-	16	15	12	18	16	0.0

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey, special tabulation.