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## Youth employment by industry

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### Highlights

- Young adults 20 to 24 years of age are over-represented in the following industry sectors: accommodation and food services, business support services, information, culture and recreation services, retail trade services and construction.
- The share of young adults in the construction sector was higher between 2008 and 2013 compared to time periods prior to 2008.

### Why look at youth employment by industry?

This [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) fact sheet documents employment by industry of non-metro<sup>1</sup> young adults and presents data on the industry (or type of firm) of the main job. [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) No. 18 looks at young adult employment by occupation (or type of work)<sup>2</sup>.

### Findings

In non-metro Ontario between 1996 and 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>). This remained constant throughout this time period.

Young adults 20 to 24 years were over-represented in the accommodation and food services sector – providing 16% of employment in this non-metro sector.

The sector with the second largest representation of young adults was the “business, building and other support services<sup>5</sup>” sector. Young adults have contributed an average of 12% of the non-metro

workforce in this sector since 1996 and the trend line shows a slight increase in the share of young adults working in this sector.

Young adults contributed 11% of the workforce to the retail trade sector and to the sector providing information, culture and recreation services<sup>6</sup>. There was a slight downward trend in the share of young adults in each of these sectors.

Another non-metro sector with an above average participation of young adults was construction – representing 10% of all workers. The share of young adults working in construction trended upwards between 1996 and 2013.

Non-metro sectors where young adults represented 6% of the workforce (or less) are: wholesale trade, transportation, finance and insurance, professional services, educational services, health services and public administration<sup>7</sup>.

By contrast the proportion of 25 to 29 year olds in each industry tends to be much closer to their overall share of the workforce (Table 2).

### Summary

Employed non-metro young adults 20 to 24 years were over-represented in some lower-skilled services sectors and are under-represented in other sectors. The share of young adults in each sector has been quite constant over time with minimal shift among industries.

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. Any comments or discussions can be directed to NRagetlie@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca.

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<sup>1</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>2</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>3</sup> For each year, the average level of employment was calculated over the 12 months. All employed individuals (full-time and part-time, 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 indicated no increase and no decrease in the share of employment by individuals 20-24 years.

<sup>5</sup> This service sector includes janitorial, landscaping, garbage collection, security, call centre and office administration services.

<sup>6</sup> This sector includes firms providing services such as telecommunication, movie and video production, software, book and newspaper publishing, golf, ski, marina and fitness services, casinos, museums, spectator sports, performing arts and independent performances.

<sup>7</sup> Includes local, provincial and federal government employment.

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																				
Industry 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 industries	9	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	8	8	8	0.0
Goods-producing sector	7	7	7	8	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	0.1
Agriculture	8	7	6	8	5	7	7	6	7	7	7	7	6	6	8	6	8	7	7	0.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil & gas	7	10	8	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	9	9	11	..	..
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	-	-	-	-	..	..
Construction	9	6	7	10	10	7	9	10	10	10	10	10	11	12	13	11	11	11	10	0.3
Manufacturing	7	8	8	8	8	7	8	8	9	8	9	7	7	6	6	8	7	6	8	-0.1
Durables	8	8	9	9	8	8	9	7	9	9	8	7	6	6	6	8	8	7	8	-0.1
Non-durables	6	8	7	8	8	7	8	9	7	6	9	7	7	6	7	7	7	5	7	-0.1
Services-producing sector	9	9	8	8	8	8	9	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	8	8	8	0.0
Trade	13	12	11	10	10	10	11	10	10	9	9	11	10	9	10	11	11	10	10	-0.1
Wholesale trade	12	-	7	7	9	7	8	7	6	5	7	5	6	6	5	8	-	6	6	-0.2
Retail trade	13	13	12	11	10	11	12	11	11	10	10	12	10	10	11	11	12	11	11	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	5	6	6	3	3	5	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	4	-	5	5	2	4	-0.1
Finance, insurance, real estate & leasing	5	6	6	5	6	6	5	6	7	8	8	7	5	5	4	5	4	6	6	0.0
Professional, scientific & technical services	6	5	6	6	5	8	8	5	5	7	6	8	7	7	9	5	5	6	6	0.0
Business, building & other support services	11	10	10	11	10	9	13	12	13	14	13	16	11	11	11	14	11	11	12	0.1
Educational services	5	4	5	6	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	5	7	4	4	5	-0.1
Health care & social assistance	6	5	6	6	6	5	7	6	7	5	7	7	7	7	8	7	6	6	6	0.1
Information, culture & recreation	14	10	11	10	10	13	11	12	12	14	11	9	9	9	11	10	9	10	11	-0.1
Accommodation & food services	19	17	16	17	16	16	15	16	18	16	15	15	15	15	20	17	16	15	16	0.0
Other services	10	8	8	9	5	5	8	8	7	9	7	7	10	9	12	10	11	8	8	0.1
Public administration	4	5	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	6	4	5	3	4	3	3	2	3	4	-0.1

Table 2

Number employed 25 to 29 years of age as percent of total employment (15 years of age and over), non-metro areas, Ontario, 1996 to 2013																				
Industry 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 industries	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	8	8	9	9	8	9	9	8	10	9	9	9	0.0
Goods-producing sector	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	9	9	0.0
Agriculture	5	6	7	8	6	6	7	5	5	7	5	8	6	9	7	5	6	8	6	0.0
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil & gas	9	8	9	11	9	-	9	-	10	11	-	-	10	9	14	-	14	11	..	..
Utilities	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	8	7	6	11	13	11	15	10	..	..
Construction	12	12	10	11	10	11	8	8	9	10	10	9	10	10	11	14	11	12	10	0.1
Manufacturing	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	9	10	10	10	9	10	9	8	9	10	7	10	-0.2
Durables	12	11	12	12	11	11	10	9	10	11	10	10	11	9	8	9	11	7	10	-0.2
Non-durables	10	11	9	10	9	9	9	9	9	8	9	7	10	8	7	8	8	7	9	-0.1
Services-producing sector	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	9	8	10	9	9	9	0.0
Trade	9	11	9	9	10	8	8	7	8	8	8	7	6	8	6	8	8	9	8	-0.1
Wholesale trade	10	10	12	8	10	9	11	11	9	10	12	10	8	7	6	7	9	8	9	-0.2
Retail trade	8	11	9	9	10	7	8	6	8	8	7	6	6	9	6	9	8	9	8	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	7	8	7	9	8	9	8	6	6	8	7	4	5	7	7	6	7	7	7	-0.1
Finance, insurance, real estate & leasing	9	8	10	9	8	6	6	6	7	10	9	6	9	10	6	10	8	8	8	0.0
Professional, scientific & technical services	7	12	10	7	8	8	11	6	8	9	12	7	10	9	9	12	8	8	9	0.0
Business, building & other support services	10	9	10	8	7	11	8	8	9	14	15	8	10	8	11	9	10	10	10	0.1
Educational services	7	8	9	10	10	12	10	12	9	7	10	11	10	9	8	12	8	8	9	0.0
Health care & social assistance	11	10	10	11	10	10	8	10	10	8	9	9	11	10	10	11	12	10	10	0.1
Information, culture & recreation	10	10	10	12	11	11	10	9	10	9	9	9	8	11	11	10	6	7	10	-0.2
Accommodation & food services	10	9	11	10	9	8	8	6	8	8	7	9	8	8	7	8	8	9	8	-0.1
Other services	11	11	10	9	11	9	8	6	9	11	11	11	8	9	8	10	10	9	10	0.0
Public administration	8	5	6	6	8	8	8	10	8	6	9	8	7	10	7	8	8	8	8	0.1