

# News Release

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## INCREASED LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STILL LOWER THAN PROVINCE IN JULY

**Walkerton, ON** (August 9, 2019) – In July, the unemployment rate for the Stratford-Bruce Peninsula Economic Region increased by 0.4 percentage points to 3.8%. This is slightly higher than a year ago where July 2018 unemployment rate was 3.0%. The provincial unemployment rate also saw a slight increase of 0.1 percentage points to 5.7%.

Employment increased by 2,000 in the region with both full-time (+1,100) and part-time (+1,000) gains.

The number of Goods-producing sector employees decreased by 2,100 in the Stratford-Bruce Peninsula Economic Region. The greatest losses were in Agriculture (-1,500) followed by Utilities (-200) and Construction (-200).

Employment in the Services-producing sector increased by 4,100. The greatest gains were in Healthcare and social assistance (+2,800) followed by Business, building and other support services (+1,400).

“As we continue to see lower unemployment rates employers may want to reach a wider group of local people” says Gemma Mendez-Smith, Executive Director of the Four County Labour Market Planning Board. “There are many local initiatives to help employers fill job vacancies. Employers can contact their local Employment Ontario Service Provider to get the help they need to reach the untapped resource of a local labour market.”

-30-

**Note:** Statistics Canada’s monthly Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment, based on a sampling of households in communities. Stratford-Bruce Peninsula figures represent a three-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality.