2017 Business Count

Region of Durham

Highlights
In 2017, the Regional Municipality of Durham’s Planning and Economic Development Department, and its municipal partners, conducted the 6th annual Business Count. Between May and September, the Business Count Team visited each and every business establishment in the Region, including farms, but not including home-based and mobile businesses.

The 2017 Business Count Highlights Report contains the results of this year’s Business Count program including information about the types of businesses operating within the Region, and the jobs these businesses provide.

Although this is a voluntary survey, the majority of business locations visited, participated in the survey.

The information gathered during the Business Count is used to better understand the Regional economy, to monitor planning and promote economic development initiatives, and to update the Region’s online Business Directory.

Thank you to the Region’s Business Community for your support and continued participation in this very important initiative.

Brian Bridgeman
Commissioner, Planning and Economic Development
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Durham Region

12,364 businesses

11,271 2014
12,069 2015
12,220 2016

1,262 vacant locations

1,298 2014
1,285 2015
1,286 2016

196,713 jobs

170,148 2014
177,563 2015
193,630 2016

99,835,018 Floorspace (square feet)

90,569,508 2014
94,211,197 2015
101,126,201 2016

Jobs by employment type

125,392 Full-time jobs
58,590 Part-time jobs
12,731 Seasonal jobs

Proportion of businesses by municipality

Ajax - 14%
Brock - 4%
Clarington - 11%
Oshawa - 24%
Pickering - 16%
Scugog - 6%
Uxbridge - 6%
Whitby - 21%

Proportion of jobs by municipality

Ajax - 14%
Brock - 2%
Clarington - 11%
Oshawa - 28%
Pickering - 17%
Scugog - 4%
Uxbridge - 4%
Whitby - 21%
8% of businesses were identified for the first time in 2017.

83% of businesses surveyed in 2016 are still operating at the same location in 2017.
Percentage of Jobs and Businesses by Sector*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Businesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care and social assistance</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and food services</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational services</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Support</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare and social assistance</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific and technical</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and insurance</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate and rental and leasing</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and cultural industries</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Classified using the North American Classification System (NAICS) Canada, 2012
Businesses* by employment size

- **8,554** businesses employing ≤10 people provide **33,882** jobs
- **2,790** businesses employing 11-100 people provide **77,953** jobs
- **300** businesses employing >100 people provide **84,878** jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

**Legal status**
- Co-op/Non-profit - 5%
- Corporation - 58%
- Government - 5%
- Partnership - 4%
- Sole Proprietor - 29%
- Not Reported - 5%

**Ownership form**
- Branch - 18%
- Franchise - 10%
- Independent - 65%
- Institutional - 4%
- Public - 3%
- Not Reported - 5%

Businesses most commonly reported a demand for skilled people in these areas: **food services; construction; automotive; skilled trades; AZ/DZ drivers; health services; hairstylists and engineers.**
Ajax

**1,670 businesses**

- **1,581** in 2014
- **1,598** in 2015
- **1,640** in 2016

**184 vacant**

- **193** in 2014
- **165** in 2015
- **164** in 2016

**26,726 jobs**

- **24,377** in 2014
- **25,517** in 2015
- **26,205** in 2016

**15,462,326 Floorspace (square feet)**

- **14,402,093** in 2014
- **14,642,981** in 2015
- **15,405,548** in 2016

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**Jobs by employment type**

- **17,822 Full-time jobs**
- **7,899 Part-time jobs**
- **1,005 Seasonal jobs**

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**Businesses by floor area**

- Blue: <1,000 square feet
- Green: 1,001-5,000 square feet
- Blue: 5,001-10,000 square feet
- Dark blue: 10,001-50,000 square feet
- Beige: 50,001-100,000 square feet
- Yellow: >100,000 square feet

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**152 businesses import**

**96 businesses export**
Businesses* by employment size

- **1,153** businesses employing ≤10 people provide **4,872** jobs
- **406** businesses employing 11-100 people provide **11,294** jobs
- **46** businesses employing >100 people provide **10,560** jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

**Legal status**
- Corporation - 65%
- Government - 4%
- Partnership - 3%
- Sole Proprietor - 21%
- Not Reported - 3%

**Ownership form**
- Branch - 17%
- Franchise - 10%
- Independent - 62%
- Institutional - 4%
- Public - 3%
- Not Reported - 4%

Business locations:

- Business
- Urban Area
- Farm
- Rural Area
**Brock**

**551 businesses**
- 2014: 355
- 2015: 511
- 2016: 548

**37 vacant**
- 2014: 29
- 2015: 43
- 2016: 42

**3,276 jobs**
- 2014: 2,987
- 2015: 3,128
- 2016: 3,581

**1,437,611 Floorspace (square feet)**
- 2014: 1,227,254
- 2015: 1,321,673
- 2016: 1,404,378

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### Jobs by employment type
- **1,941 Full-time jobs**
- **1,102 Part-time jobs**
- **233 Seasonal jobs**

### Businesses by floor area

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**10 businesses import**

**11 businesses export**
Businesses* by employment size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Size</th>
<th>Businesses</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤10 people</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>1,220</td>
<td>1,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-100 people</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>1,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;100 people</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>919</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Legal status

- Co-op/Non-profit - 7%
- Corporation - 28%
- Government - 6%
- Partnership - 7%
- Sole Proprietor - 41%
- Not Reported - 11%

Ownership form

- Branch - 6%
- Franchise - 3%
- Independent - 70%
- Institutional - 5%
- Public - 5%
- Not Reported - 11%

Business locations:

- Beaverton
- Cannington
- Sunderland
- Lake Simcoe

Urban Area

Rural Area

Farm

Business
Clarington

1,372 businesses

- 1,347 businesses in 2014
- 1,449 businesses in 2015
- 1,435 businesses in 2016

94 vacant

- 114 vacant in 2014
- 109 vacant in 2015
- 113 vacant in 2016

21,454 jobs

- 17,086 jobs in 2014
- 18,948 jobs in 2015
- 20,252 jobs in 2016

8,283,707 floorspace (square feet)

- 7,180,474 floorspace in 2014
- 7,219,576 floorspace in 2015
- 8,209,294 floorspace in 2016

Jobs by employment type

- Full-time jobs: 13,093 jobs
- Part-time jobs: 6,664 jobs
- Seasonal jobs: 1,697 jobs

Businesses by floor area

- <1,000 square feet: 820 businesses
- 1,001-5,000 square feet: 641 businesses
- 5,001-10,000 square feet: 300 businesses
- 10,001-50,000 square feet: 61 businesses
- 50,001-100,000 square feet: 5 businesses
- >100,000 square feet: 1 business

86 businesses import

50 businesses export
Businesses* by employment size

962 businesses employing ≤10 people provide 3,664 jobs

294 businesses employing 11-100 people provide 8,499 jobs

24 businesses employing >100 people provide 9,291 jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Legal status

- Co-op/Non-profit - 5%
- Corporation - 48%
- Government - 5%
- Partnership - 5%
- Sole Proprietor - 32%
- Not Reported - 5%

Ownership form

- Branch - 12%
- Franchise - 9%
- Independent - 66%
- Institutional - 4%
- Public - 4%
- Not Reported - 5%

Business locations:
Businesses* by employment size

1,995 businesses employing ≤10 people provide 7,990 jobs

706 businesses employing 11-100 people provide 19,262 jobs

75 businesses employing >100 people provide 28,783 jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Business locations:

- Corporation - 59%
- Government - 4%
- Partnership - 3%
- Sole Proprietor - 23%
- Not Reported - 6%

- Co-op/Non-profit - 6%
- Branch - 20%
- Franchise - 11%
- Independent - 56%
- Institutional - 4%
- Public - 3%
- Not Reported - 6%

Lake Ontario
**Pickering**

**2,007** businesses

- 1,925 (2014)
- 1,957 (2015)
- 1,975 (2016)

**231** vacant

- 257 (2014)
- 262 (2015)
- 239 (2016)

**32,991** jobs

- 32,521 (2014)
- 32,702 (2015)
- 34,446 (2016)

**16,346,306** Floorspace (square feet)

- 15,530,432 (2014)
- 15,999,635 (2015)
- 16,904,514 (2016)

**Jobs by employment type**

- Full-time jobs: 22,667
- Part-time jobs: 8,805
- Seasonal jobs: 1,519

**Businesses by floor area**

- <1,000
- 1,001-5,000
- 5,001-10,000
- 10,001-50,000
- 50,001-100,000
- >100,000

- **152** businesses import
- **112** businesses export
Businesses* by employment size

- **1,390** businesses employing ≤10 people provide **5,888** jobs
- **500** businesses employing 11-100 people provide **13,540** jobs
- **56** businesses employing >100 people provide **13,563** jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

### Legal status
- Corporation - 64%
- Co-op/Non-profit - 4%
- Government - 3%
- Partnership - 3%
- Sole Proprietor - 22%
- Not Reported - 3%

### Ownership form
- Branch - 21%
- Franchise - 11%
- Independent - 58%
- Institutional - 4%
- Public - 2%
- Not Reported - 4%
Scugog

**796** businesses

- **687** in 2014
- **835** in 2015
- **819** in 2016

**74** vacant

- **46** in 2014
- **56** in 2015
- **64** in 2016

**7,530** jobs

- **5,444** in 2014
- **6,741** in 2015
- **7,049** in 2016

**2,671,355**

Floorspace (square feet)

- **2,195,244** in 2014
- **2,228,680** in 2015
- **2,383,433** in 2016

**Jobs by employment type**

- **4,491** Full-time jobs
- **2,536** Part-time jobs
- **503** Seasonal jobs

**Businesses by floor area**

**38** businesses import

**25** businesses export
Businesses* by employment size

602 businesses employing ≤10 people provide 2,107 jobs

125 businesses employing 11-100 people provide 3,512 jobs

7 businesses employing >100 people provide 1,911 jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Legal status:
- Co-op/Non-profit: 4%
- Corporation: 38%
- Government: 4%
- Partnership: 4%
- Sole Proprietor: 42%
- Not Reported: 7%

Ownership form:
- Branch: 9%
- Franchise: 6%
- Independent: 73%
- Institutional: 2%
- Public: 4%
- Not Reported: 7%
Uxbridge

2017 Durham Region Business Count Draft.pdf

**Jobs by employment type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time jobs</td>
<td>3,835</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time jobs</td>
<td>1,777</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal jobs</td>
<td>1,563</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Businesses by floor area**

- **<1,000** square feet: 100 businesses
- **1,001-5,000** square feet: 200 businesses
- **5,001-10,000** square feet: 50 businesses
- **10,001-50,000** square feet: 10 businesses
- **50,001-100,000** square feet: 3 businesses
- **>100,000** square feet: 1 business

**Floorspace (square feet)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Floorspace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2,695,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,703,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,932,876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vacant businesses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Vacant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jobs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>6,621</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Businesses import**

- 2014: 601
- 2015: 700
- 2016: 705

**Businesses export**

- 2014: 45
- 2015: 29
- 2016: 43

**Total businesses**

- 2014: 717
- 2015: 717
- 2016: 717

**Total jobs**

- 2014: 7,175
- 2015: 6,183
- 2016: 6,621
Businesses* by employment size

- 480 businesses employing ≤10 people provide 1,727 jobs
- 127 businesses employing 11-100 people provide 3,413 jobs
- 14 businesses employing >100 people provide 2,035 jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Legal status:
- Co-op/Non-profit - 5%
- Corporation - 36%
- Government - 4%
- Partnership - 7%
- Sole Proprietor - 41%
- Not Reported - 7%

Ownership form:
- Branch - 8%
- Franchise - 6%
- Independent - 70%
- Institutional - 5%
- Public - 3%
- Not Reported - 8%

Business locations:

[Map showing business locations in Durham Region]
### Jobs by employment type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Type</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time jobs</td>
<td>2,048</td>
<td>2,150</td>
<td>2,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time jobs</td>
<td>28,214</td>
<td>12,115</td>
<td>1,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal jobs</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Businesses by floor area

- <1,000 square feet: 195 (2014), 190 (2015), 212 (2016)
- 5,001-10,000 square feet: 22,000 (2014), 23,000 (2015), 24,000 (2016)
- 10,001-50,000 square feet: 12,000 (2014), 13,000 (2015), 14,000 (2016)
- 50,001-100,000 square feet: 8,000 (2014), 9,000 (2015), 10,000 (2016)
- >100,000 square feet: 4,000 (2014), 5,000 (2015), 6,000 (2016)

### Floorspace (square feet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floorspace</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whitby</td>
<td>18,182,905</td>
<td>19,686,712</td>
<td>21,692,370</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

2017 Durham Region Business Count
Businesses* by employment size

- **1,554** businesses employing **≤10** people provide **6,414** jobs
- **583** businesses employing **11-100** people provide **17,296** jobs
- **73** businesses employing **>100** people provide **17,816** jobs

*Businesses not reporting employment have been excluded.

Legal status

Ownership form

Business locations:
Glossary of Terms:

**Businesses:** Includes, but not limited to, professional offices, stores, restaurants, hotels, medical offices, industrial facilities, schools, government offices, hospitals, not for profit establishments, home based businesses. Vacant commercial and industrial locations are reported separately.

**Business Sectors:** The sectors are defined by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) 2012 version. It is a standard classification system used throughout Canada, the United States and Mexico.

**Vacant:** There is no business operating at a location. Includes vacant commercial, institutional and industrial locations.

**Full-time jobs:** Total number of workers, including self-employed owner operators, who work 30 hours a week or more.

**Part-time jobs:** Total number of workers who work less than 30 hours a week or more.

**Seasonal jobs:** Total number of workers who are considered as seasonal or temporary.

**Floor space in square feet:** The total floor space used by a business (covered area).

**Import:** If a business answers yes when asked about importing products and/or services into the country.

**Export:** If a business answers yes when asked about exporting products and/or services out of the country.

**Legal Status:** The legally recognized framework for conducting commercial activities including: sole-proprietor, partnership, corporation, cooperative/non-profit and government.

**Ownership Form:** The business ownership forms include: independent, franchise, branch, institutional and public. The ownership form of a business does not necessarily have any link to its legal status.
The Region’s annual Business Count is conducted from May to August. It is conducted by a group of seven summer students primarily through short face-to-face interviews. The students are generally able to conduct each survey in less than five minutes. In the event a face-to-face interview is not possible, businesses have the option of returning the survey by mail, fax, or completing it on the Region’s website. Large employers such as school boards and municipal government offices are contacted by phone or email.

Every effort is made to collect all of the survey information for each business. As the survey is voluntary, the data collected is incomplete for some businesses.

Home-based and mobile businesses are encouraged to complete the survey online. Farms are identified through signage including: signs identifying a location as a farm located on the property or barn; OFA signs; and, CFFA signs.

While all care and diligence has been used in processing, analysing, and extracting data and information, the Region of Durham does not warrant the information to be error free.