

Defining the Green Economy

In a green economy, growth in employment and income are driven by public and private investment into economic activities, infrastructure and assets that allow reduced carbon emissions and pollution, enhanced energy and resource efficiency, and prevention of the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.



Green Industries in Chatham-Kent

The Conference Board of Canada's *Green Occupation Pathways: From Vulnerable Jobs to Rapid Growth Careers Report* identified 81 industries at the six-digit NAICS level that play a role in a green economy. Of those 81 industries, **24 are present in Chatham-Kent's economy** (based on Statistics Canada's Canadian Business Counts data).

Job Posting Data

Using data from *ChathamKentJobs.com* and looking at the 24 green industries in Chatham-Kent, **there were 249 jobs posted in 2024**. Environmental Consulting Services (NAICS 541620) had the highest number of job postings, with 53 in 2024.

Green Occupations

12 in-demand occupations (at the 5-digit NOC level) were highlighted in the report.

In 2024, there were 196 job postings under these 12 occupations.

Mechanical engineers led the way with 28 job postings in 2024.

Future Demand

Using *Lightcast* to forecast future job demand, the top three green occupations expected to see growth between 2024 and 2031 were:

- Electricians (+32)
- Industrial and manufacturing engineer (+25)
- Mechanical engineer (+23)

Income Characteristics

At the time of the 2021 Census, there were 1,355 people with employment income under these 12 occupations.

9 of 12 occupations had a median salary of over \$65,000/year.

5 of 12 occupations had a salary of over \$80,000.

Education Opportunities

Chatham-Kent is home to two postsecondary institutions that have programs that can lead to careers in the green economy.

Programs include electrical engineering technician, powerline technician, electrical techniques, agriculture, horticulture, and environmental technician.



Employer Engagement

10 local employers, representing a workforce of over 1,200 workers in Chatham-Kent, were interviewed during the research process.

An increase in **access to information** and an increase in **talent attraction initiatives** were identified as the main employer supports needed to maintain and grow their workforce.

2024 EmployerOne Survey

Based on feedback from 136 employers, **31.6% said their business or workforce has had to adapt towards the green economy** and **33.1% said they foresee having to change to support the green economy.**

Looking Ahead

The 10 employers engaged anticipated that their business and workforce would either remain status quo or see limited growth over the next five years. However, **employers noted that accurately predicting what future demand and work will look like is challenging in the sector.**

Priority Focus

The Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board is encouraged to **maintain engagement with employers and stakeholders in the Green sector to monitor growth and emerging workforce demand.**

[View the full report at www.CKWorkforce.ca](http://www.CKWorkforce.ca)

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