



News Release

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FEBRUARY JOBLESS RATE UNCHANGED

BRANTFORD (March 11, 2016) - Brantford's jobless rate remained unchanged last month even as Canada's rate climbed to the highest level in three years.

February's local seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.8%, the same as in January, according to Statistics Canada figures released Friday.

Canada's jobless rate inched up to 7.3% in February - the highest level in three years - while Ontario's unemployment rate edged up to 6.8%. Despite the increases, Statistics Canada is reporting that employment has grown by 118,000 across Canada and 74,000 in Ontario alone in the last 12 months.

Brantford's employment rate – the percentage of people working – climbed modestly to 61.1% in February from 60.8% the month before. The number of people participating in the job market also climbed.

“Although hiring slowed near the end of 2015, our research shows the job market is fairly stable,” said Jill Halyk, executive director of the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie. “Job postings in the last several months continue to show a good demand for workers in manufacturing and retail – and the majority of jobs are full-time, permanent positions.”

BrantJobs posted 384 jobs in February, down about 7% from January but up 16% from February 2015. Manufacturing- and retail-related jobs consistently top the list of posted positions, followed by postings in the trades and for equipment operators, and transportation and warehousing. The majority of postings are full-time jobs.

[BrantJobs](#) is a service of the City of Brantford and County of Brant, providing a broad range of employment solutions to local employers and jobseekers. The [Workforce Planning Board](#) is one of 26 non-profit organizations in Ontario that play a leadership role in labour force planning.

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Note: Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment, based on a sampling of households in communities.