



Employment Forecast Survey

For the 1st Quarter of 2017

Created by the Job Developers of the Employment Help Centre
January 2017

**EMPLOYMENT
ONTARIO**

This *Employment Ontario* service is funded by the Ontario government.

The Employment Help Centre Employment Forecast Survey is released quarterly to measure employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforce during the next quarter in the West Niagara area.

The views expressed in this publication are based on the results and findings of a survey conducted by the Employment Help Centre and do not necessarily reflect those of the Ministry.



Employment Forecast Survey – Lincoln, Grimsby & West Lincoln

The Employment Help Centre (EHC) *Employment Forecast Survey* for the First Quarter of 2017 was conducted by our team of Job Developers by performing telephone interviews with local employers in the Lincoln, Grimsby and West Lincoln areas. The total number of local businesses in our survey for the First Quarter was 596 employers. Our findings are based on a sample of 311 surveys that were completed. The percentage of employers that completed our survey was 52%.

All survey participants were asked, “Over the course of the next 3 months and based on your current business demands, are you forecasting that your company will need to: Increase Staff, Decrease Staff or Remain the Same?”

Overall employers in the Lincoln, Grimsby and West Lincoln area anticipate a steady increase in hiring needs during the First Quarter of 2017, with a slight increase in hiring needs anticipated in comparison to the previous Fourth Quarter of 2016. We can also anticipate seasonal hiring activities will decrease slightly in comparison to the First Quarter of 2016. Our results show that 32% of employers expect staffing levels to increase; 1% forecast a decrease, and the majority of employers (67%) foresee no change in their staffing levels. The Net Employment Forecast continues to remain healthy and at a seasonal average of +31% in the First Quarter of 2017. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
1st Quarter 2017	32%	1%	67%	+ 31%
4th Quarter 2016	30%	4%	66%	+ 26%
3rd Quarter 2016	31%	3%	66%	+ 28%
2nd Quarter 2016	40%	2%	58%	+ 38%
1st Quarter 2016	38%	4%	58%	+ 34%

When broken down by industry sectors, employers in the Lincoln, Grimsby and West Lincoln area are predicting a positive increase to staffing levels. All five industry sectors that were surveyed for the First Quarter anticipate a moderate increase in staffing levels. The largest growth in jobs is anticipated to come in the **Hospitality Sector** with a net of 56% of employers surveyed anticipating an increase in staff. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
Service	24%	1%	75%	+ 23%
Retail /Wholesale	18%	2%	80%	+ 16%
Hospitality	56%	0%	44%	+ 56%
Manufacturing	54%	0%	46%	+ 54%
Construction	46%	0%	54%	+ 46%

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905-309-9675

Smithville
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ON L0R 2A0
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Employment Forecast Survey – Grimsby

The Employment Help Centre (EHC) *Employment Forecast Survey* for the First Quarter of 2017 was conducted by our team of Job Developers by performing telephone interviews with local employers in the Grimsby area. The total number of local business in our sample for the First Quarter was 245 employers. Our findings are based on a sample of 123 surveys that were completed. The percentage of employers that completed our survey was 50%.

All survey participants were asked, “Over the course of the next 3 months and based on your current business demands, are you forecasting that your company will need to: Increase Staff, Decrease Staff or Remain the Same?”

Overall employers in the Grimsby area anticipate a healthy increase in hiring needs during the First Quarter of 2017, which remains consistent with the hiring activities of the previous Fourth Quarter of 2016. We can anticipate seasonal hiring activities will reduce slightly in comparison to the First Quarter of 2016. Our results show that 35% of employers expect staffing levels to increase; 2% forecast a decrease and 63% of employers foresee no change in staffing levels. The overall or Net Employment Forecast remains very strong at +33% for the First Quarter of 2017. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
1st Quarter 2017	35%	2%	63%	+ 33%
4th Quarter 2016	37%	3%	60%	+ 34%
3rd Quarter 2016	36%	2%	62%	+ 34%
2nd Quarter 2016	40%	0%	60%	+ 40%
1st Quarter 2016	43%	3%	54%	+ 40%

When broken down by industry sectors, employers in the Grimsby area are predicting a positive increase to staffing levels. All five industry sectors that were surveyed for the First Quarter anticipate an increase in staffing levels. The largest growth in jobs is anticipated to come in the **Construction Sector** with a net of 67% of employers surveyed anticipating an increase in staff. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
Service	29%	2%	69%	+ 27%
Retail /Wholesale	21%	4%	75%	+ 17%
Hospitality	61%	0%	39%	+ 61%
Manufacturing	29%	0%	71%	+ 29%
Construction	67%	0%	33%	+ 67%

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Employment Forecast Survey – Lincoln

The Employment Help Centre (EHC) *Employment Forecast Survey* for the First Quarter of 2017 was conducted by our team of Job Developers by performing telephone interviews with local employers in the Lincoln area. The total number of local business in our sample for the First Quarter was 212 employers. Our findings are based on a sample of 152 surveys that were completed. The percentage of employers that completed our survey was 72%.

All survey participants were asked, “Over the course of the next 3 months and based on your current business demands, are you forecasting that your company will need to: Increase Staff, Decrease Staff or Remain the Same?”

Overall employers in the Lincoln area anticipate a steady increase in hiring needs during the First Quarter of 2017, with a healthy increase in hiring activities comparison to the previous Fourth Quarter of 2016. We can also anticipate a slight reduction in seasonal hiring activities in comparison to the First Quarter of 2016. Our results show that 28% of employers expect staffing levels to increase; 0% forecast a decrease and 72% of employers foresee no change in staffing levels. The overall or Net Employment Forecast remains positive at +28% for the First Quarter of 2017. See Chart below:

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
1st Quarter 2017	28%	0%	72%	+ 28%
4th Quarter 2016	27%	5%	68%	+ 22%
3rd Quarter 2016	27%	7%	66%	+ 20%
2nd Quarter 2016	41%	4%	54%	+ 37%
1st Quarter 2016	37%	5%	58%	+ 32%

When broken down by industry sectors, employers in the Lincoln area are predicting a positive increase to staffing levels. All five industry sectors that were surveyed for the First Quarter anticipate an increase in staffing levels. The largest growth in jobs is anticipated to come in the **Manufacturing Sector** with a net of 62% of employers surveyed anticipating an increase in staff. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
Service	18%	0%	82%	+ 18%
Retail /Wholesale	16%	0%	84%	+ 16%
Hospitality	52%	0%	38%	+ 52%
Manufacturing	62%	0%	38%	+ 62%
Construction	42%	0%	58%	+ 42%

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Employment Forecast Survey –West Lincoln

The Employment Help Centre (EHC) *Employment Forecast Survey* for the First Quarter of 2017 was conducted by our team of Job Developers by performing telephone interviews with local employers in the West Lincoln area. The total number of local business in our sample for the First Quarter was 139 employers. Our findings are based on a sample of 36 surveys that were completed. The percentage of employers that completed our survey was 26%.

All survey participants were asked, “Over the course of the next 3 months and based on your current business demands, are you forecasting that your company will need to: Increase Staff, Decrease Staff or Remain the Same?”

Overall employers in the West Lincoln area anticipate a healthy increase in hiring needs during the First Quarter of 2017, with a noticeable increase in hiring activities anticipated when compared to the previous Fourth Quarter of 2016. We can also anticipate a significant increase in seasonal hiring activities in comparison to the First Quarter of 2016. Our results show that 36% of employers expect staffing levels to increase; 0% forecast a decrease and 64% of employers foresee no change in staffing levels. The overall or Net Employment Forecast remains healthy at +36% for the First Quarter of 2017. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
1st Quarter 2017	36%	0%	64%	+ 36%
4th Quarter 2016	27%	2%	71%	+ 25%
3rd Quarter 2016	28%	0%	72%	+ 28%
2nd Quarter 2016	36%	1%	63%	+ 35%
1st Quarter 2016	32%	1%	67%	+ 31%

When broken down by industry sectors, employers in the West Lincoln area are predicting a healthy increase to staffing levels. Three of the five industry sectors that were surveyed for the First Quarter anticipate an increase in staffing levels. The largest growth in jobs is anticipated to come in the **Manufacturing Sector** with a net of 67% of employers surveyed anticipating an increase in staff. See Chart below.

	Increase	Decrease	Remain	Net
	%	%	%	%
Service	33%	0%	67%	+ 33%
Retail /Wholesale	0%	0%	100%	+/- 0%
Hospitality	50%	0%	50%	+ 50%
Manufacturing	67%	0%	33%	+ 67%
Construction	0%	0%	100%	+/- 0%

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