



LMI BULLETIN

Issue #6 | September 2025



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that our office is situated on the traditional Haudenosaunee Mohawk Territories with gratitude and respect, we acknowledge the significant contributions indigenous peoples have made to preserve the land around us.

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Section One: Words From the ED

This is our sixth monthly bulletin to the community and we certainly trust that you find the information pertinent and useful. Our focus this month is on apprenticeships. Skilled Trades Ontario, established on January 1, 2022, has been responsible in streamlining and standardizing service access for apprenticeship.



Beginning in April of 2025, there have been significant changes in how apprenticeship programs are administered and supervised in Ontario. Skilled Trades Ontario (STO) will now take on some of these responsibilities. They will continue their work to make it easier for skilled trades professionals to access services, promote careers in the skilled trades and address the labour shortage.



Our newsletter also contains local data on apprenticeship, job postings in the area and a link to our Local Labour Market Help Desk.

As mentioned before, we will be asking for your input in October of 2025 and February of 2026 in respect to our communications. Thanks again for your continued support – questions and input always welcomed.

Sincerely yours,
Frank O'Hearn
Frank@workforcedev.ca

Section Two: The Case for Apprenticeships and Changes in the Service Landscape

There is a transformation afoot in the Province as increasing numbers of employers embrace opportunities to add apprentices to their workforces. According to Statistics Canada, the Province has 105,124 active apprentices registered in Ontario in 2024/2025. This is a significant increase from the 73,239 individuals who registered in 2016. ([Daily Commercial News](#)) The need for skilled trades workers in Ontario is nothing new, but the increased interest of young people as well as some employers is fueling hope as the economy faces an array of challenges from our southern neighbour and biggest trading partner.

The Federal Government's expressed intention to fast-track infrastructure projects means employers will require increased access to skilled trades personnel in professions such as construction, manufacturing, automotive and technology. How has this transformation unfolded? How is the education system working with employers to meet increased needs? And most importantly, how have recent changes made the process easier for persons wishing to enter the skilled trades?

As of April 2, 2025, Skilled Trades Ontario (STO) have taken on the following administrative responsibilities that have been historically performed by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development.

Skilled Trades Ontario are now responsible for:

- **Registering** apprenticeship training agreements and authorizing sponsors.
- **Administering certifying exams** through Prometric Canada Testing Services, a third-party exam provider.
- **Issuing Certificates of Apprenticeship** upon program completion.

STO are now responsible for dealing directly with employers (sponsors), apprentices and for ensuring the completion of exams. They have since contracted with a third party (Prometrics) to administer these examination requirements. Colleges continue to provide in class vocational training, including programs in areas of study such as construction, automotive, manufacturing and technology. The decision to create a separate organization to address apprenticeships was made following community consultations with stakeholders which highlighted difficulties in the existing approach and reported frustration from both employers and apprentices. [News Release on Skilled Trades Ontario](#). By centralizing responsibility, the Province hopes to create a more streamlined and easier to navigate approach for all parties, including partners such as Employment Services providers. We encourage all partners to visit Skilled Trades Ontario through the following web link. <https://www.skilledtradesontario.ca/>

In many ways, elementary and secondary schools are the key to addressing the Provinces increasing need for skilled trade workers and apprentices. Each local school board, both public and Catholic, accesses assistance from the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) in the form of OYAP Recruiters. These recruitment professionals work with Co-operative Education Programs in local schools to assist in identifying youth who may have an interest, explain apprenticeship options and guide young persons and their families on the requirements each apprenticeship stream requires. A link to information on the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Programs and its connection to the school system is provided here. [Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program](#)

What is the case for apprenticeships? From an economic perspective the case is straightforward. Returning to the [Daily Commercial News](#) article, Alex Mahoney, senior account executive at ApprentiScope notes that “Apprenticeship programs target and train people of all ages across all industries, not just the trades. If employers need the skill, they can build an Apprenticeship around it.” Buildforce Canada also estimates that Ontario will need to add 63,800 Construction workers by 2034, and potentially as many as 154,000 in the same period if projections on retirement hold. Similar needs are sure to emerge as the Canadian government pursues infrastructure projects including Port Construction, Pipelines, Shipbuilding and other large endeavours. If projects such as these are approved, the future for apprenticeships in Ontario may very well be bright.



Section Three: Local Apprenticeship Data

Table 1: Apprenticeship Counts in EWIB Region

	New Registrations	Active Apprentices	Certificate of Apprenticeship Issued	Modular Training Registrations
2024-25	554	1,911	169	83
2023-24	533	1,790	186	130
2022-23	559	1,696	185	120

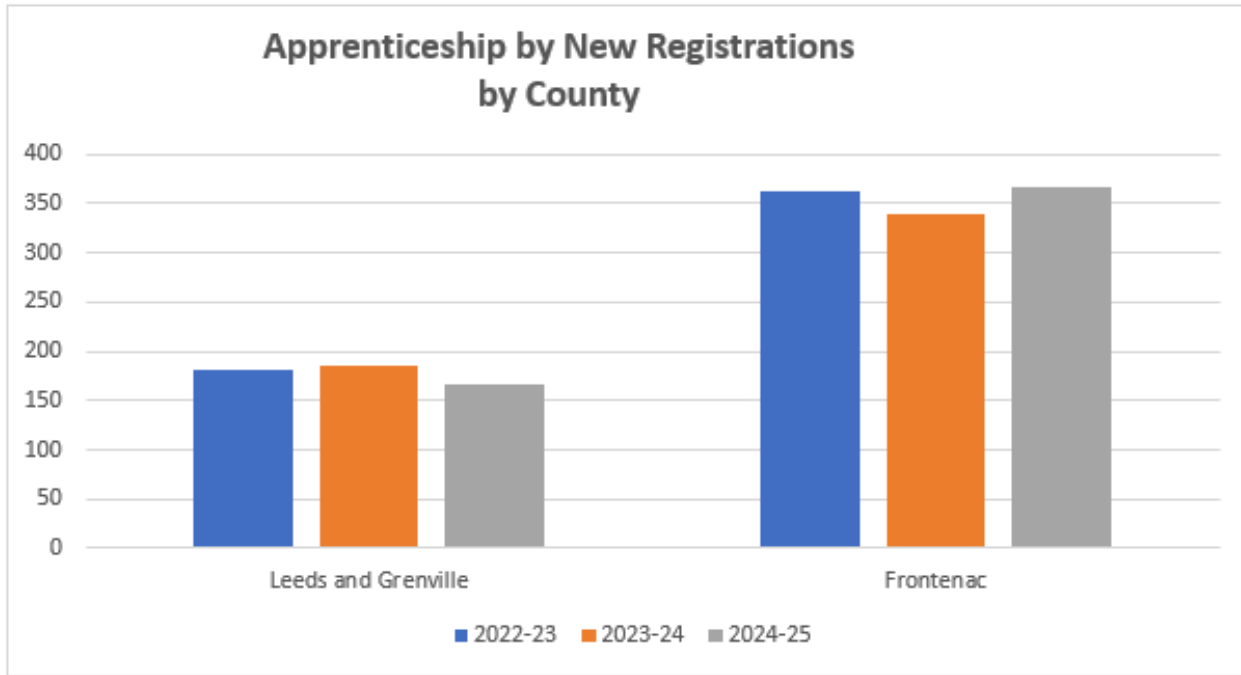
Source: Employment Ontario Program

Compared to last year, there has been an increase of 21 (3.9%) of new registrations and 121(6.8%) in active apprenticeships. However, there has been a decrease of 17 (-9.1%) of certificates of apprenticeship (CofAs) issued and a significant decrease in modular training registrations of 47 (-36.2%). Modular training is on-the-job training that is provided in response to skills needs or health and safety concerns. In conjunction with industry, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development program develops training standards, administers the modular training programs, and certifies the trainees.

New registrations have jumped 13.6% in Eastern Ontario and 9.7% in Ontario compared to last year. There was a decrease in the number of CofAs issued in Eastern Ontario but an increase in Ontario. Similar to the EWIB region there were significant decreases in modular training registrations in both Eastern Ontario and Ontario.



Chart 1



Source: Employment Ontario Program

New apprenticeship registrations have decreased in 2024-25 over the last two years in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville but have increased in Frontenac County.

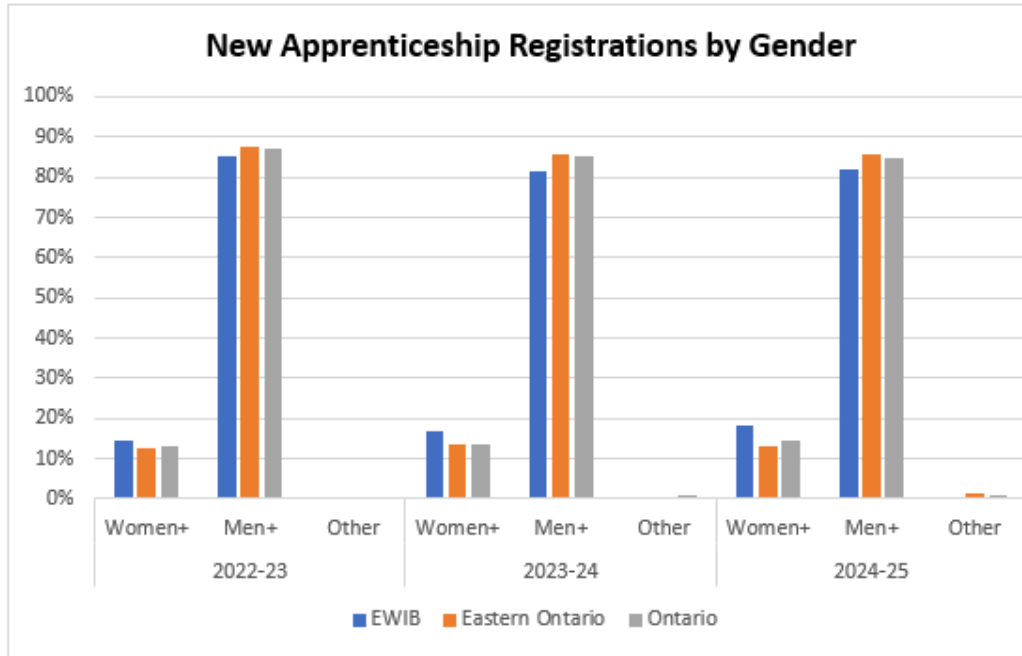
Table 2: New Apprenticeship Registrations by County

Region	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Leeds and Grenville	181	186	166
Frontenac	362	339	366

Source: Employment Ontario Program



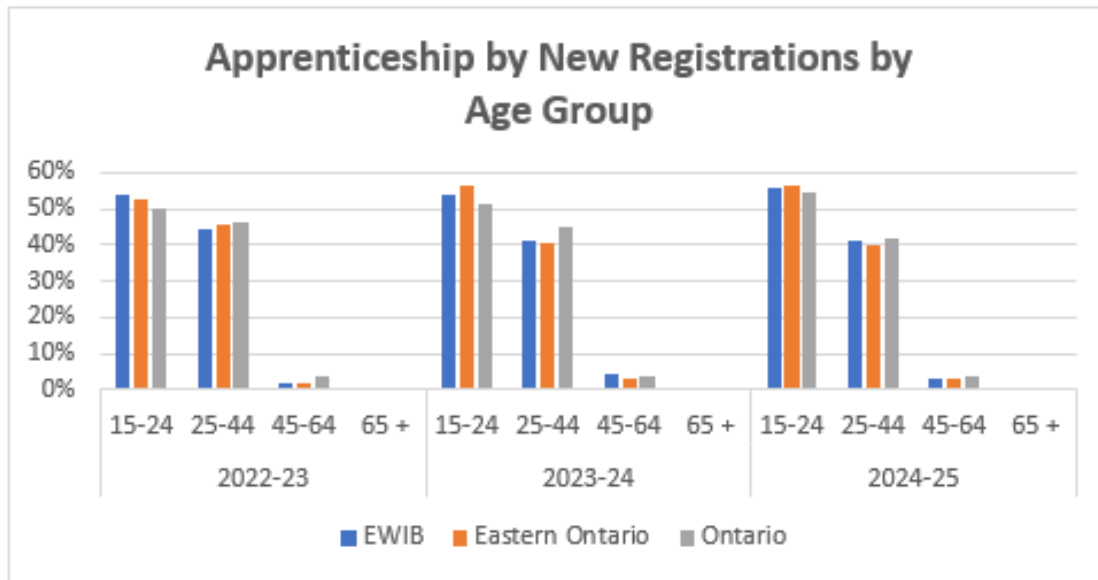
Chart 2



Source: Employment Ontario Program

Men still dominate the number of new apprenticeship registrations. However, the number of registrations of women increased slightly from 17% last year to 18% in the EWIB region. Eastern Ontario and Ontario had the same percentage of women as last year at 13% and 14% respectively.

Chart 3



Source: Employment Ontario Program

Over 54% of new apprenticeship registrations are in the age categories of 15-24 in the EWIB region, Eastern Ontario and Ontario. Approximately 40% fall within the age group of 25-44.

Table 3: Top 10 New Apprenticeship Registrations by Occupation – EWIB Region

Top 10 Registrations 2022-23	Top 10 Registrations 2023-24	Top 10 Registrations 2024-25
Electrician - Construction and Maintenance	General Carpenter	Electrician - Construction and Maintenance
General Carpenter	Electrician - Construction and Maintenance	Automotive Service Technician
Automotive Service Technician	Automotive Service Technician	General Carpenter
Hairstylist	Hairstylist	Hairstylist
Plumber	Truck and Coach Technician	Truck and Coach Technician
Truck and Coach Technician	Plumber	Plumber
Welder	Industrial Mechanic Millwright	Welder
Industrial Mechanic Millwright	Sheet Metal Worker	Sheet Metal Worker
Sheet Metal Worker	Child Development Practitioner	Industrial Mechanic Millwright
Child Development Practitioner	n/a	Brick & Stone Mason

Source: Employment Ontario Program

Section 4: Local Job Postings

This section provides information on local jobs that are in demand by reviewing data of the job hubs on the EWIB web-site. [Click here](#) to visit the EWIB's job board.

Job Postings by Occupation in EWIB

NOC	Occupation	Aug-25	July 2025	Aug-24	Aug 2025 vs July 2025	Aug 2025 vs Aug 2024
0	Legislative and senior management occupations	3	7	10	(4)	(7)
1	Business, finance and administration occupations	266	317	277	(51)	(11)
2	Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	101	116	97	(15)	4
3	Health occupations	187	254	180	(67)	7
4	Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	181	170	257	11	(76)
5	Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	23	27	32	(4)	(9)
6	Sales and service occupations	620	688	710	(68)	(90)
7	Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	209	260	267	(51)	(58)
8	Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	12	9	10	3	2
9	Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	52	50	43	2	9
X	Unclassified occupation	25	29	33	(4)	(8)
	Total Across All Occupations	1679	1927	1,916	(248)	(237)

Source: Lightcast

EWIB Region includes Leeds & Grenville Counties, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township.

August 2025 showed 1,679 new job postings. This was a decrease over the previous month of July of 248 job postings and a decrease of 237 job postings from a year ago reported in August 2024. The most significant decreases in job postings from last month were in sales and service occupations of 68 jobs and health occupations of 67 jobs. From last year the largest decrease was in the sales and services occupations.

During the fall and winter seasons, it is expected to see declining job postings especially in seasonal occupations.

Top 20 Job Postings by Occupations August 2025 - EWIB Region

NOC Code	Occupational Title	# Job Postings
64100	Retail salespersons and visual merchandisers	97
31301	Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses	67
64409	Other customer and information services representatives	45
44101	Home support workers, caregivers and related occupations	46
64101	Sales and account representatives - wholesale trade (non-technical)	45
75101	Material handlers	37
63200	Cooks	37
13100	Administrative officers	35
65200	Food and beverage servers	34
60020	Retail and wholesale trade managers	30
64410	Security guards and related security service occupations	28
65102	Store shelf stockers, clerks and order fillers	27
95109	Other labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities	25
42201	Social and community service workers	23
65201	Food counter attendants, kitchen helpers and related support occupations	24
73300	Transport truck drivers	24
11100	Financial auditors and accountants	21
65100	Cashiers	22
65311	Specialized cleaners	25
33102	Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates	18

Source: Lightcast Job Postings August 2025

Section 5: LMI Help Desk

EWIB provides a free Labour Market Information (LMI) Help Desk Service to the public. Questions can be submitted by completing an online form and a response will be sent to you within 5 business days. [Click here](#) to request local labour market information from our LMI Help Desk.

