What We Do

The WindsorEssex **Economic Development Corporation advances** economic development and prosperity in our region. We are the region's lead economic development agency and a dedicated catalyst for business growth and expansion. We attract new businesses to our region, help strengthen existing businesses and support entrepreneurship in three key ways:

INFORMING

We provide the most current and relevant information and data on site selection, market research and available government funding.

GUIDING

We provide answers and advice on general business practices, expansion planning, multi-national branch planning and exporting, as well as training and educational resources.

CONNECTING

We help organizations cut through red tape and we connect them directly with key decision makers, potential partners and funders.

New Investment Facilitated

\$1,300,000 (BA/BRE) \$1,196,134 (SBC)

Total amount of new investment to the region, through both public and private investment streams.

27

Expansions Facilitated (BA/BRE) 5| (SBC) 22

186

New Jobs Facilitated (BA/BRE) 55 | (SBC) 131

14

Priority Files

30

Business Startups

2

Funding Applications and Joint Papers Developed

Business Support Sessions

36 Sessions 715 Attendees



Top Economic Priorities

as reported by Windsor-Essex Businesses

Canada-U.S. border closure: limited cross-border business travel; "new" COVID testing requirements; mandatory quarantine orders (all heavily impacting the manufacturing sector)

Increased COVID compliance protocols and enforcement in the workplace

Uncertainty of economic climate impacting business investment and project planning

Labour challenges - unintended consequences of COVID supports to employees leading to labour shortages

Navigating government resources, support programs, uncertainty of rotating Provincial COVID-19 colour-coded tiers and public health measures

Business sustainability

Regional Economic Indicators[†]



Population 15+ 373,300





Labour Force 217,500





Employment 197,900





Unemployment 19,600



Unemployment Rate

9.0%

Participation Rate 58.3%



Employment Rate 53.0%



Building Permits* \$29.004.617

*Totals do not include all building permit values for Amherstburg or Essex.



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† Notes: The above figures reflect all of Windsor and Essex County, Q4 2020 to Q1 2021. Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey custom tabulation.

Please note: A revision by Statistics Canada has altered the Q4 2020 labour market statistics for Windsor-Essex. The Q1 2021 numbers above are compared to the revised Q4 2020 numbers.