



Census numbers released for Labour and Education in Saskatoon Region

Saskatoon, SK—According to the latest Census release from Statistics Canada, the Saskatoon region’s labour force numbers and education statistics reveal positive gains for the region since 2001. The Census release encompasses data collected in 2006 to reflect changes in the 5-year period between 2001-2005. Highlights in the release include growth in the region’s labour force, educational patterns, and distribution of industries in which people were employed.

Between 2001-2005, the working population grew by 30,450 people in the Saskatoon region. Over that five-year period, more people chose to enter the work force due to more opportunities and better wages. Considering good economic times, a larger number of people were either working (increased employment rate of 65.9 percent) or are looking for work. While the majority of the labour force were people with a high school certificate, there was an increase in the portion of the labour force that did not have a certificate, diploma, or degree. Overall there has been a 30 percent increase in the number of people with post secondary education. Top fields of study for those that were enrolled in university included business, management, and public administration; architecture, engineering, and related technologies; and agriculture, natural resources, and conservation.

According to Statistics Canada, the majority of employment growth in the region between 2001-2005 was in the health care, social, and educational services sector, with business services contributing to a large part of the growth. These two sectors accounted for 57 percent of the employment growth in the region. The construction and manufacturing sector also drove job gains, accounting for 18 percent of job growth over the five year period.

It is evident that the Saskatoon region has been experiencing positive growth in almost every industry since 2001. And as more recent statistics suggest, this trend will not be changing any time soon. In SREDA’s recently released *2007 Annual Report*, labour force statistics for the year showed that 7,500 people joined the work force increasing total employment by 6.3 percent.

Table 1: Employment by Industry (Source: Statistics Canada Census Release 2008)	Employment Growth
Total experienced labour force 15 years and over	7.6%
A Management occupations	5.0%
B Business; finance and administration occupations	11.0%
C Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	10.7%
D Health occupations	9.6%
E Occupations in social science; education; government service and religion	10.5%
F Occupations in art; culture; recreation and sport	-1.0%
G Sales and service occupations	2.7%
H Trades; transport and equipment operators and related occupations	14.3%
I Occupations unique to primary industry	2.0%
J Occupations unique to processing; manufacturing and utilities	3.3%

For more information on this report, please contact Dara Hrytzak-Lieffers, Communications Coordinator, Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority at dhrytzak@sreda.com or 664-0729..