

NIAGARA'S LABOUR MARKET YEAR IN REVIEW

LABOUR MARKET INSIGHTS

Unemployment Rate (the % of all people 15+ years old working or looking for work, *which is looking for work*)

- Unemployment was overall lower in 2025 compared to 2024, declining by **0.6 ppts to 6.9%** in 2025. Women saw their unemployment rate decline by 0.9 ppts to 5.5%.

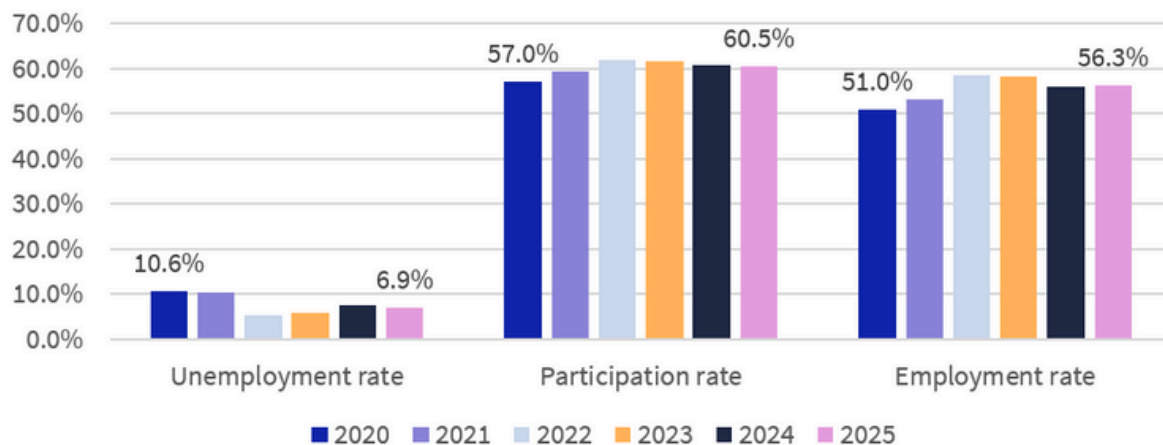
Participation Rate (the % of all people 15+ years old that are working or looking for work)

- Participation was down **0.2 ppts to 60.5%** in 2025. In particular, youths saw their participation rate decline by 2.8 ppts to 61.7%.

Employment Rate (the % of all people 15+ years old that are working)

- The overall employment rate rate increased by **0.2 ppts to 56.3%** in 2025. Niagaran youths saw their employment rate decrease by 3.0% from 2024 to 2025 while women saw their employment rate climb by 0.4 ppts to 53.5%.

Chart 1. Key Labour Market Indicators, Niagara CD, 2021-2025 [1]



[1] Statistics Canada. Table 14-10-0461-01 Labour force characteristics by census metropolitan area, annual [Chart 1. Key Labour Market Indicators, Niagara CD, 2021-2025](#)

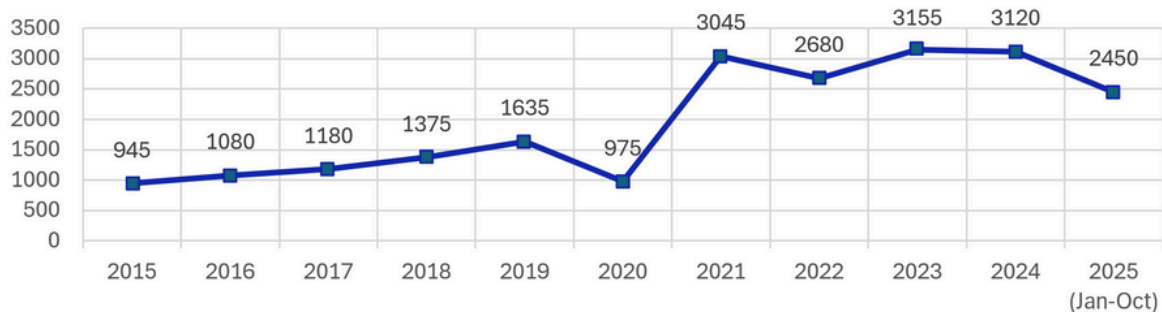
POPULATION INSIGHTS

In 2025, St. Catharines-Niagara's population grew by **2.1% to a total of 424,700 persons**.

- Population growth was concentrated in the **core-working age (25-54)** cohort, increasing by 7.4%.
- Population decline was concentrated in the **youth cohort (15-24)**, declining by 10.7%.

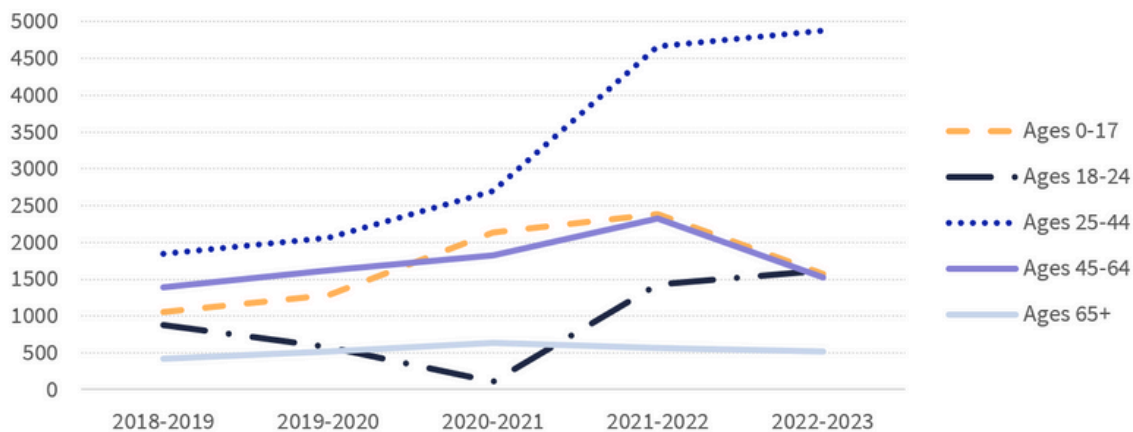
Over the last year, Niagara saw the number of permanent resident admissions decrease, with a **total of 2,450 (Jan-Oct 2025)**.

Chart 2. Permanent Resident Admissions, Niagara CD, 2015-2025 [2]



2022-23[3] saw a net migration level of **10,108 persons, down by 11%** (1,267 persons) from the previous period. Individuals aged 25-44 made up the largest share of net migrants (48%).

Chart 3. Net Migration Data by Age Groups, Niagara CD, 2018-2023 [4]



[2] IRCC.

[3] Represents the latest available data.

[4] Statistics Canada (2025). Tax filers data, custom tabulations.