

All figures quoted in \$ Cdn

EMPLOYMENT/TECHNOLOGY

**Unemployment Rates February 2008 (StatsCan)
Monthly, Seasonally Adjusted**

National	5.8% (January 5.8%)
Provincial	6.1% (January 6.3%)
Local (3-month moving avg)	4.5% (January 4.4%)

**Local Employment Outlook
(Manpower Inc. Survey 2nd Quarter 2008)**

Plan to hire:	25%
Plan to layoff:	5%
No change:	64%
Not sure:	6%

**Overall Employment in Ottawa-Gatineau
(StatsCan)**

February 2008	664,400
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HT Companies in Ottawa-Gatineau (OCRI)

<u>January 2008 Disclosed</u>	1,819
January 2007 Disclosed	1,803

High Tech Workers in Ottawa-Gatineau (OCRI)

<u>January 2008 Disclosed</u>	81,910
January 2007 Disclosed	79,466

HOUSING/REAL ESTATE/CONSTRUCTION

Overall New Home Starts in Ottawa (CMHC)

February 2008 (Unadjusted)	317
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Average Sale Price (Ottawa Real Estate Board)

February 2008	\$282,571
Units Sold in February 2008	983

Value of Building Permits (StatsCan)

Ottawa-Gatineau (ON/QC) January 2008 (adjusted)	\$237.2 million
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**Office Vacancy Rate (Cushman & Wakefield
Lepage)**

Q4 2007	5.6%
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VENTURE CAPITAL/FUNDING

Venture Capital Investment (Revised, OCN)

1999: \$274M
2000: \$1.3B
2001: \$921M
2002: \$734M
2003: \$241.71M
2004: \$189.58M
2005: \$359.40M
2006: \$266.10M
2007: \$184.45M
2008: \$12M

Recent Venture Capital Investments

Q1 2008

<u>VoIPShield Systems</u>	\$6.0 million
<u>Sidense Corp</u>	\$6.0 million

[Click here](#) for a detailed list of 2007 funding in the NCR.

AWARDS

Win at TMC (National Capital SCAN, 3/2008)

PIKA Technologies wins "Best of Show" at the Technology Marketing Corporation's (TMC) Internet Telephony Conference & EXPO East 2008, held at the Miami Beach Convention Centre.

CONTRACTS

March expands footprint in Mexico (Ottawa Business Journal, 19/2/2008)

A large Mexican department store chain will use gear from March Networks for its video surveillance and security needs.

Espial signs reseller agreement (Ottawa Business Journal, 20/2/2008)

Ottawa-based Espial has signed a reseller agreement with an un-named vendor of networking equipment to sell its IPTV service platform to European telecom and cable operators.

C-COM gear to be used at 2008 Summer Olympics (Ottawa Business Journal, 20/2/2008)

Ottawa's C-COM Satellite Systems has delivered a number of its mobile systems to one of its resellers, China SATNET Communications Technology Co., for use during this summer's Beijing Olympics.

Ottawa, Ontario sign new training agreement (Ottawa Business Journal, 21/2/2008)

Ontario and the federal government have set aside their sniping over the economy long enough to sign a new agreement to help workers improve their skills.

Third Brigade links with IT health services company (Ottawa Business Journal, 25/2/2008)

Ottawa's Third Brigade is joining forces with Concordant Inc., a provider of health care IT services, to build and manage secure electronic health records systems for physician organizations and ambulatory medical practices.

Telecom Ottawa sold (Ottawa Business Journal, 25/2/2008)

Telecom Ottawa, the fibre optic network arm of Hydro Ottawa, has been sold - at a profit. Atria Networks has agreed to pay \$63 million, which represents about 3.9 times 2007 revenues and eight times Telecom Ottawa's 2007 earnings

Calian wins \$8 million contract (Ottawa Business Journal, 25/2/2008)

Calian Technologies SED Systems division has won a contract to supply new ground earth stations to Inmarsat.

N-able opens Aussie office (Ottawa Business Journal, 27/2/2008)

Ottawa-based N-able Technologies has opened an office in Australia and signed a strategic distribution agreement with Australian distributor Lan 1.

TalkSwitch teams with UK telecom company (Ottawa Business Journal, 28/2/2008)

Ottawa-based TalkSwitch says its Internet protocol telephone systems are fully compatible with Gamma Telecom's IP DirectConnect service in the United Kingdom.

Zarlink unloads UK chip foundry (Ottawa Business Journal, 29/2/2008)

Zarlink Semiconductor has sold its money-losing analog chip foundry in Swindon, England to MHS Electronics UK, a subsidiary of MHS Industries Group of France.

Liponex, ImaSight make it official (Ottawa Business Journal, 3/3/2008)

Local companies Liponex Inc. and ImaSight Inc. are formally tying the knot. The companies said Monday their respective boards have approved a definitive agreement.

QNX partners with German GPS software company (Ottawa Business Journal, 4/3/2008)

Ottawa-based QNX Software Systems is teaming up with Germany's Nav N Go to put out 3D navigation systems.

Thermal Energy sells steam trap to Alberta oil and gas company (Ottawa Business Journal, 4/3/2008)

Thermal Energy International Inc. is cleaning up greenhouse gas emissions in the Alberta oil industry, with an announcement today that it has found a new customer for its GEM steam traps in the Lloydminster area.

N-able forms marketing alliance with Iron Mountain Digital (Ottawa Business Journal, 5/3/2008)

Information technology services provider N-able Technologies is partnering with a Massachusetts firm to co-promote their products.

Wi-LAN signs up more V-chip and Wi-Fi licensees (Ottawa Business Journal, 6/3/2008)

Wi-LAN Inc. has signed three more licence agreements for its V-chip parental control technology and four deals for its wireless Wi-Fi patents.

OSI Geospatial signs up \$1.4M in new mapping orders (Ottawa Business Journal, 10/3/2008)

Navigational systems maker OSI Geospatial Inc. has signed US\$1.4-million-worth of new contracts for its mapping operations division.

Atreus signs up California's De-Fi for automated activation product (Ottawa Business Journal, 11/2/2008)

Atreus Systems has won an order from California-based mobile communications company De-Fi Mobile Ltd.

Harris Computer Systems buys California software firms (Ottawa Business Journal, 13/3/2008)

Harris Computer Systems has acquired California's Schoolhouse Software Inc. and its subsidiary KnowledgeCore Software Inc.

Four Wins (National Capital SCAN, 3/2008)

IT consulting and staffing firm Veritaaq wins four new contracts with the federal government, resulting in some 50 new positions in the company's Ottawa operations.

SIRIUS Project (National Capital SCAN, 3/2008)

Gallium, the mapping and geotracking visualisation solutions provider, is awarded a contract by DRS Technologies Canada to develop control and display workstation software for SIRIUS, an infrared search and track system built on Gallium's flagship product InterMAPhics.

DragonWave solutions selected (National Capital SCAN 3/2008)

An agreement between DragonWave and Virginia based Nextlink Wireless Inc will see two DragonWave solutions used to help bring wireless service to up to 75 US markets.

Mitel takes Manhattan hotel (National Capital SCAN, 3/2008)

Mitel is called upon by LXR Luxury Resorts & Hotels to replace the outdated telephone system at its New York property, London NYC, the tallest hotel in midtown Manhattan.

University of Arizona to Co-Lead DHS Center of Excellence for Border Security and Immigration (University of Arizona, 26/2/2008)

The University of Arizona will co-lead a team of research universities who have partnered to form the Center of Excellence for Border Security and Immigration, known as COE BSI. The Center will receive \$15 million over six years. The establishment of the Center by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security follows more than two years of work assembling a team of U.S. universities and Mexican and Canadian institutions (including Carleton University), government agencies, technology companies and national laboratories.

Carleton gets \$12.3M from province for upgrades (Ottawa Business Journal, 7/3/2008)

Carleton University is getting a \$5-million boost from the provincial government for its aging science labs. The University is also receiving \$7.3 million from the province under campus renewal to improve energy efficiency and campus safety.

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