

All figures quoted in \$ Cdn

EMPLOYMENT/TECHNOLOGY

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

National	6.0% (February 5.8%)
Provincial	6.4% (February 6.1%)
Local (3-month moving avg)	4.6% (February 4.5%)

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

March 2008	664,400
------------	---------

High Tech Workers in Ottawa-Gatineau (OCRI)

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

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

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

HT Companies in Ottawa-Gatineau (OCRI)

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

HOUSING/REAL ESTATE/CONSTRUCTION

Overall New Home Starts in Ottawa (CMHC)

March 2008 (Unadjusted)	351
-------------------------	-----

Value of Building Permits (StatsCan)

Ottawa-Gatineau (ON/QC)	\$145.6 million
February 2008 (adjusted)	

Average Sale Price (Ottawa Real Estate Board)

March 2008	\$288,068
Units Sold in March 2008	1,086

**Office Vacancy Rate (Cushman & Wakefield
Lepage)**

Q4 2007	5.6%
---------	------

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:	\$42.79M

Recent Venture Capital Investments

Q1 2008

<u>VoIPShield Systems</u>	\$6.0 million
<u>Sidense Corp</u>	\$6.0 million
<u>Distil Interactive</u>	\$1.5 million
<u>Kleer Semiconductor</u>	\$28.76 million
<u>GridIron Software</u>	\$0.53 million

AWARDS

OCRI recognizes Ottawa's tech stars (Ottawa Business Journal, 4/4/2008)

The Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation handed out the hardware at its annual awards gala Thursday evening, with Bridgewater Systems taking top honours as company of the year. Winners were chosen in nine categories and recognized at a gala and dinner event at the Westin Ottawa. The awards focus on the areas of research, technology, entrepreneurship, leadership, partnership development and student accomplishments.

CONTRACTS

N-able Technologies, Microsoft, ink agreement (Ottawa Business Journal, 17/3/2008)

Ottawa-based N-able Technologies has signed an agreement with Microsoft to integrate its remote monitoring and management platform with Microsoft's IT systems management software products.

Quiznos picks Halogen HR software (Ottawa Business Journal, 17/3/2008)

Quiznos has selected Halogen Software Inc. to provide the fast-food restaurant chain's Denver headquarters with the Ottawa-based company's employee performance management software.

CRYPTOCard signs reseller agreement (Ottawa Business Journal, 18/3/2008)

Security authentication provider CRYPTOCard has signed an agreement to resell and integrate its technology with San Francisco-based equipment reseller Variable Path.

Nortel lands \$100M deal to provide cellphone service in India (Ottawa Business Journal 25/3/2008)

Nortel has won a deal worth more than US\$100 million with India's largest telecom services provider. The Toronto-based network equipment maker, which has major operations in Ottawa, said it has signed an agreement with Indian state-run firm Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) to provide GSM cellphone connectivity throughout the southern area of the country.

Cognos hits home run with Major League Baseball union deal (Ottawa Business Journal, 28/3/2008)

Cognos has signed a deal to provide its business intelligence and performance management software to the Major League Baseball Players Association.

March Networks completes Cieffe acquisition (Ottawa Business Journal, 31/3/2008)

March Networks has wrapped up its \$24-million acquisition of Italian rival Cieffe S.p.A. and its subsidiary Insignis technologies S.r.l.

Nitro Microsystems buys Toronto's OAM Network Solutions (Ottawa Business Journal, 1/4/2008)

Ottawa-based Nitro Microsystems Inc. has bought a Toronto competitor as part of its goal to become the largest independent managed services provider in Canada.

Recognia bullish on India's Reliance Money (Ottawa Business Journal, 1/4/2008)

Recognia, a provider of share price forecasting and analysis solutions, said Reliance Money, the financial distribution arm of Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group, had signed up to use Recognia's Automated Technical Analysis on its retail customer platform.

Plaintree buys CEO's companies for \$20M (Ottawa Business Journal, 3/4/2008)

Ottawa-based Plaintree Systems Inc. has wrapped up its acquisitions of Arnprior's Hypernetics Ltd. and the parent company of Triodetic Building Products Inc. and its subsidiaries.

UPDATE: Thermal Energy buys U.K. partner (Ottawa Business Journal, 3/4/2008)

Thermal Energy International Inc. is buying its U.K.-based partner Gardner Energy Management Ltd. for up to \$8.1 million.

Fidus Systems Partners with BAE Sales to Reach More Customers (Ottawa Business Journal, 8/4/2008)

Fidus Systems Inc., an electronic product development company, announced today that the Company has partnered with BAE Sales Inc. to expand its presence in Northern California and Northern Nevada. BAE Sales, a manufacturers' representative firm based in Silicon Valley, now promotes and supports Fidus in the region.

Harris acquires Florida software company (Ottawa Business Journal, 8/4/2008)

The Ottawa-based subsidiary of Toronto's Constellation Software Inc. has bought System Innovators Inc. of Jacksonville, Fla., a provider of online cashiering and collections systems and support for government and utility clients.

Liquid Computing to support Louisiana broadband company (Ottawa Business Journal, 8/4/2008)

The Ottawa-based company said Lafayette, La.'s Abacus Data Exchange would be using its Liquid IQ system to host and deliver broadband applications to businesses over a municipally owned network.

ShapeGrabber working with Nikon to sell in the U.S. (Ottawa Business Journal, 8/4/2008)

Laser inspection systems maker ShapeGrabber is teaming up with optical technology giant Nikon Instruments Inc. to expand its sales in the United States.

OSI Geospatial wins \$925,000 deal with U.S. navy (Ottawa Business Journal, 14/4/2008)

OSI Geospatial Inc. has signed a US\$925,000 deal to provide training technology to the U.S. navy. The Ottawa-based navigational software maker said its U.S. systems operations division will be developing and upgrading its simulation-based training technology for the U.S. navy.

In-Touch buys U.S. company; Q1 revenues will disappoint (Ottawa Business Journal, 14/4/2008)

In-Touch Survey Systems Ltd. is buying MarketLine Research Inc., a rival Minneapolis company. Ottawa-based In-Touch, which makes electronic survey data collection products, said it will be buying the 12-year-old company to get access to MarketLine's customers in the midwest U.S. and its proprietary MarketVU system.

Enablence to buy third company for US\$14M (Ottawa Business Journal, 15/4/2008)

Enablence Technologies Inc. is set to make its third purchase in less than two years, this time Georgia-based Wave7 Optics Inc.

EDUCATION

Ottawa universities get \$1.3M injection (Ottawa Business Journal, 28/3/2008)

The University of Ottawa and Carleton University are receiving more than \$1.3 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation as part of an investment supporting 31 institutions across the country.

Carleton and U of O get \$25.1M from province (Ottawa Business Journal, 11/4/2008)

The McGuinty government is giving Carleton University approximately \$10.8 million, while the University of Ottawa is getting \$14.3 million. The monies will be used to fund projects such as facility renovations, equipment upgrades, or energy efficiency, security and accessibility improvements.

To have your name removed from this distribution list please reply with "Remove" in the subject line or click here to [unsubscribe](#) to any OCRI mailing list. Please allow 3-4 days for data to be updated.

OCRI, 200-2625 Queensview Drive, Ottawa, ON, CANADA K2B 8K2