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# MUNICIPALITY OF WEST GREY



## *COMMUNITY PROFILE*

**For More Information Contact:**

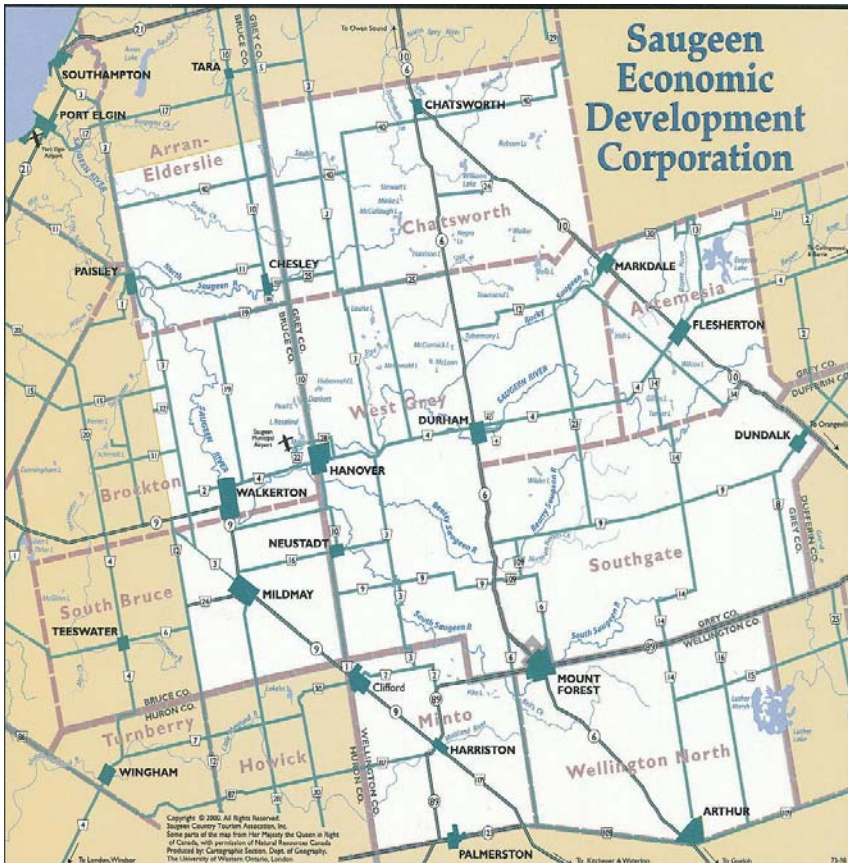


**SAUGEEN**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**A Community Futures Development Corporation**  
554 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hanover, Ontario, N4N 2J7  
Tel (519) 364-3694 Fax (519) 364-6384  
[www.sbdc.ca](http://www.sbdc.ca)



## LOCATION

The Municipality of West Grey is located in southwestern Grey County, and is an amalgamation of the former Townships of Bentinck, Glenelg, Normanby, the Town of Durham and the Village of Neustadt. The Municipality is a short drive on excellent roads from Owen Sound, the Grey-Bruce region's largest urban centre, and the larger urban areas of Southwestern Ontario.



**Highway Distances from the Municipality of West Grey to Major Centres (in kilometres and miles)**

|                      | km  | miles |
|----------------------|-----|-------|
| Windsor/Detroit...   | 380 | 235   |
| Sarnia/Port Huron... | 245 | 150   |
| London.....          | 180 | 110   |
| Kitchener.....       | 100 | 60    |
| Hamilton.....        | 140 | 85    |
| Fort Erie/Buffalo... | 235 | 145   |
| Toronto.....         | 170 | 105   |
| Oshawa.....          | 215 | 135   |
| Ottawa.....          | 570 | 355   |
| Montreal.....        | 715 | 445   |

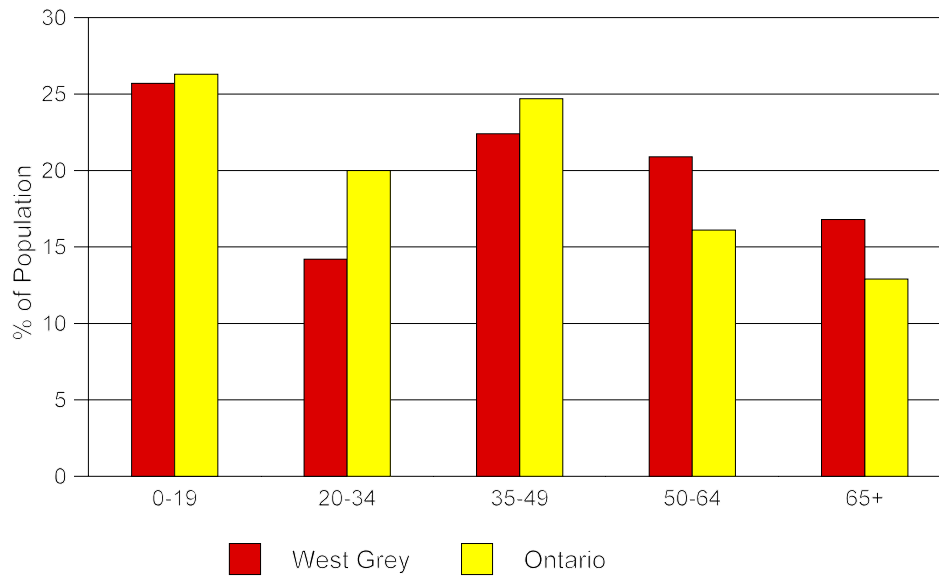
West Grey is well situated mid-way between the major centres of southern Ontario and popular recreational areas along the eastern shore of Lake Huron and southern Georgian Bay. It is only a 1½ to 2 hour drive from the Municipality to cities in Canada's "Golden Horseshoe" industrial heartland, like Toronto, Hamilton, and Kitchener-Waterloo. The City of Owen Sound offers Great Lakes port and Shipping facilities, as does the Town of Goderich situated approximately 100 kilometres to the southwest.

# POPULATION

## POPULATION BY FIVE-YEAR AGE GROUPS AND GENDER

| Age Group        | Both Genders  | Male         | Female       |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 - 4            | 570           | 280          | 290          |
| 5 - 9            | 750           | 360          | 390          |
| 10 - 14          | 815           | 430          | 385          |
| 15 - 19          | 880           | 460          | 420          |
| 20 - 24          | 590           | 295          | 295          |
| 25 - 29          | 485           | 250          | 235          |
| 30 - 34          | 590           | 280          | 310          |
| 35 - 39          | 800           | 420          | 380          |
| 40 - 44          | 905           | 420          | 485          |
| 45 - 49          | 920           | 480          | 440          |
| 50 - 54          | 985           | 470          | 515          |
| 55 - 59          | 775           | 385          | 390          |
| 60 - 64          | 700           | 360          | 340          |
| 65 - 74          | 1,225         | 650          | 575          |
| 75+              | 750           | 320          | 430          |
| <b>Total Pop</b> | <b>11,740</b> | <b>5,860</b> | <b>5,880</b> |

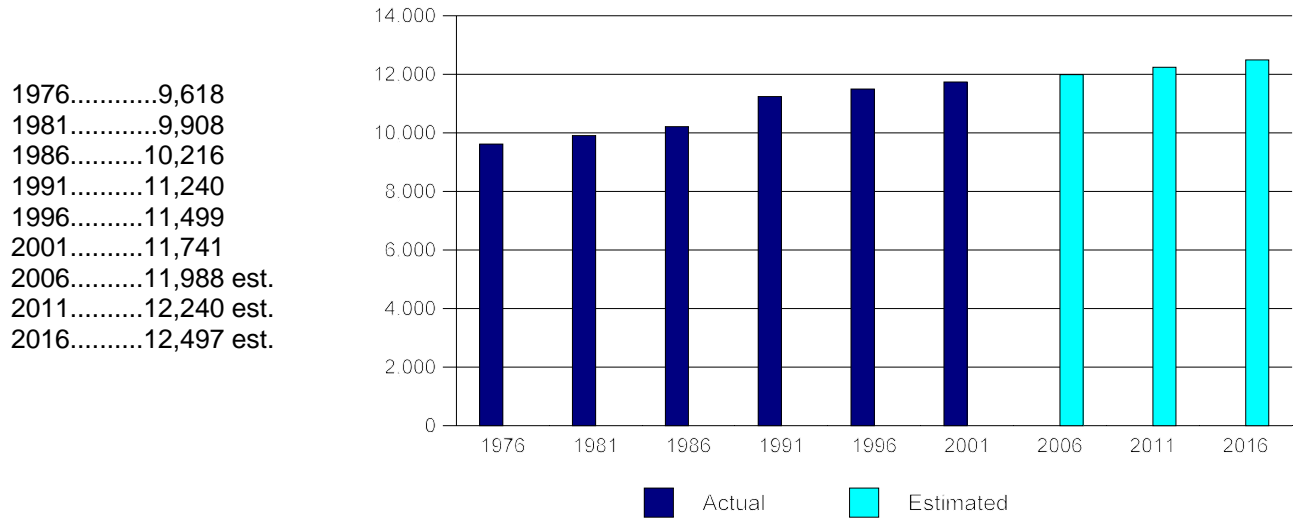
## POPULATION COMPARISON TO ONTARIO BY AGE GROUP



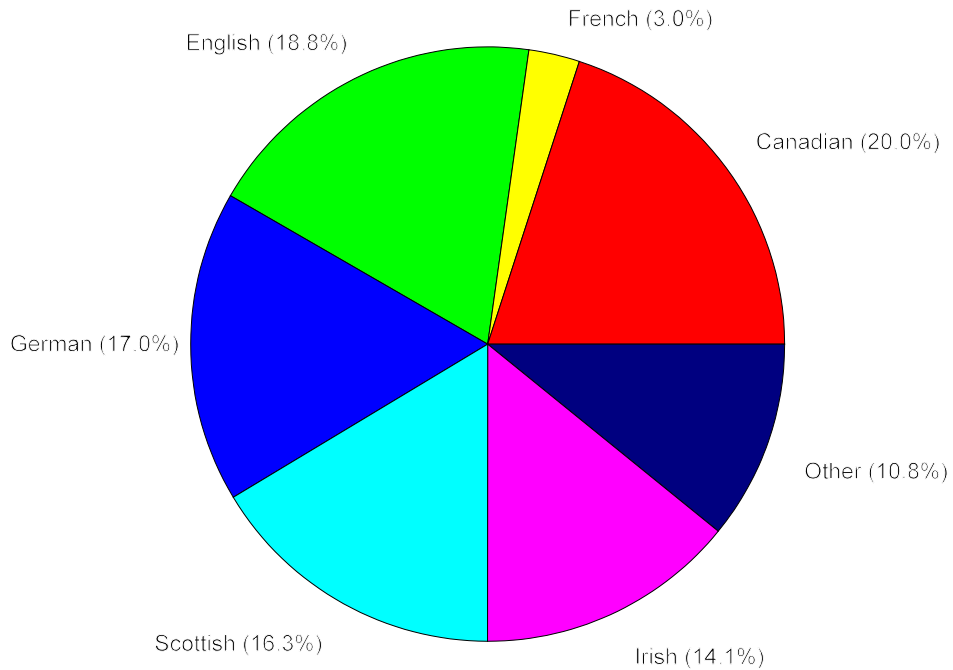
Source: Statistics Canada 2001

# POPULATION

## POPULATION GROWTH



## ETHNIC ORIGIN

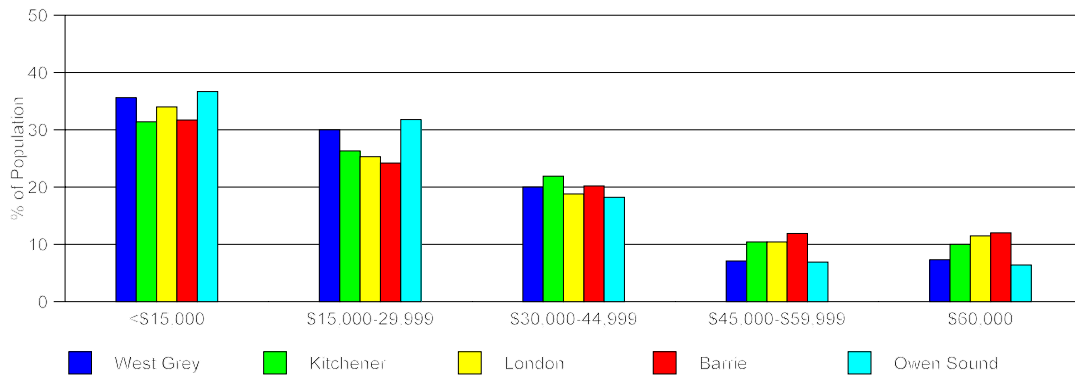


Source: Statistics Canada 2001

# INCOME

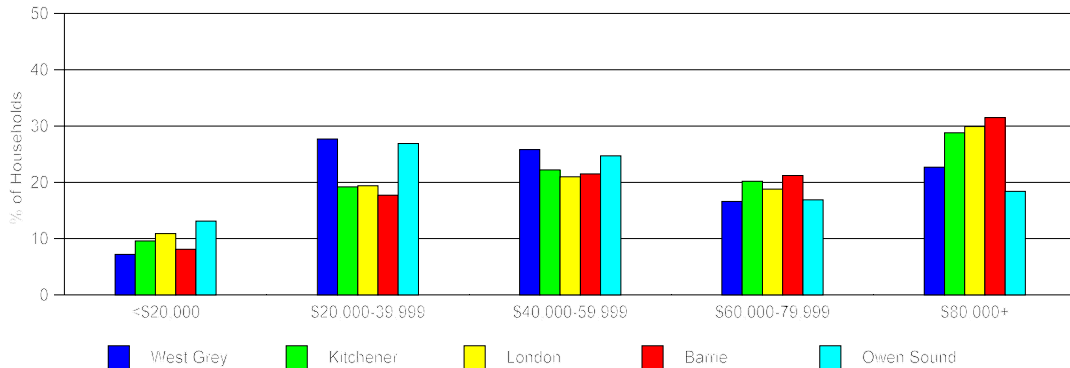
## TOTAL INCOME BY GENDER AND INCOME GROUP

| Income Group           | Number of People |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                        | Male             | Female          | Total           | Kitchener       | London          | Barrie          | Owen Sound      |
| Under \$15,000         | 1,310            | 1,955           | 3,265           | 44,930          | 87,005          | 23,805          | 6,010           |
| \$15,000 - \$29,999    | 1,180            | 1,560           | 2,740           | 37,605          | 64,835          | 18,180          | 5,195           |
| \$30,000 - \$44,999    | 1,185            | 645             | 1,830           | 31,390          | 48,190          | 15,135          | 2,970           |
| \$45,000 - \$59,999    | 440              | 215             | 665             | 14,875          | 26,640          | 8,910           | 1,130           |
| \$60,000 and over      | 495              | 180             | 675             | 14,240          | 29,520          | 9,020           | 1,050           |
| <b>15+ with income</b> | <b>4,610</b>     | <b>4,555</b>    | <b>9,165</b>    | <b>143,040</b>  | <b>256,190</b>  | <b>75,050</b>   | <b>16,355</b>   |
| <b>Average Income</b>  | <b>\$32,089</b>  | <b>\$21,208</b> | <b>\$26,687</b> | <b>\$30,073</b> | <b>\$31,001</b> | <b>\$31,054</b> | <b>\$24,883</b> |



## HOUSEHOLD INCOME DISTRIBUTION

| Income Level          | Number of Households |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                       | West Grey            | Kitchener       | London          | Barrie          | Owen Sound      |
| Under \$20,000        | 235                  | 5,055           | 9,965           | 2,345           | 770             |
| \$20,000 - \$39,999   | 985                  | 10,135          | 17,760          | 5,120           | 1,585           |
| \$40,000 - \$59,999   | 920                  | 11,755          | 19,240          | 6,235           | 1,450           |
| \$60,000 - \$79,999   | 590                  | 10,690          | 17,215          | 6,140           | 995             |
| \$80,000 and over     | 810                  | 15,260          | 27,570          | 9,105           | 1,080           |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>3,560</b>         | <b>52,895</b>   | <b>91,750</b>   | <b>28,945</b>   | <b>5,880</b>    |
| <b>Average Income</b> | <b>\$60,349</b>      | <b>\$48,769</b> | <b>\$69,121</b> | <b>\$67,380</b> | <b>\$53,764</b> |



Source: Statistics Canada 2001

## LABOUR

### LABOUR FORCE 15 YEARS AND OVER BY INDUSTRY DIVISIONS

| Industry Divisions  | Total        | % of Workforce |              |
|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|   |              | West Grey      | Ontario      |
| Manufacturing   | 1,720        | 26.5           | 16.4         |
| Agriculture, Forestry Fishing and Hunting                             | 835          | 12.9           | 2.1          |
| Retail Trade  | 645          | 9.9            | 11.2         |
| Health Care and Social Assistance                                     | 530          | 8.2            | 8.9          |
| Construction  | 450          | 6.9            | 5.5          |
| Other Services (Except Public Administration)                         | 325          | 5.0            | 4.6          |
| Transportation and Warehousing  | 280          | 4.3            | 4.7          |
| Accommodation and Food Services                                       | 270          | 4.2            | 6.3          |
| Educational Services  | 270          | 4.2            | 6.2          |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services                       | 245          | 3.8            | 7.2          |
| Wholesale Trade   | 170          | 2.6            | 4.7          |
| Finance and Insurance   | 165          | 2.5            | 4.9          |
| Administrative, Support, Waste Management<br>and Remediation Services | 145          | 2.2            | 4.3          |
| Information and Cultural Industries                                   | 145          | 2.2            | 2.9          |
| Public Administration   | 140          | 2.2            | 5.2          |
| Arts, Entertainment and Recreation                                    | 65           | 1.0            | 2.1          |
| Real Estate and Rental and Leasing                                    | 50           | 0.8            | 1.8          |
| Utilities   | 40           | 0.6            | 0.8          |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises                               | 0            | 0.0            | 0.1          |
| Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction                                     | 0            | 0.0            | 0.4          |
| <b>Total Labour Force</b>   | <b>6,490</b> | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |

### LABOUR FORCE 15 YEARS AND OVER BY OCCUPATION AND GENDER

| Occupation   | Male         | Female       | Total        |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sales and Service Occupations  | 400          | 825          | 1,225        |
| Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators<br>and Related Occupations       | 1,070        | 100          | 1,170        |
| Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing<br>and Utilities           | 660          | 475          | 1,135        |
| Occupations Unique to Primary Industry                                     | 555          | 285          | 840          |
| Business, Finance and Administration Occupations                           | 190          | 545          | 735          |
| Management Occupations   | 330          | 190          | 520          |
| Social Science, Education, Government Service<br>and Religious Occupations | 80           | 240          | 320          |
| Health Occupations   | 50           | 225          | 275          |
| Natural and Applied Sciences and Related Occupations                       | 90           | 45           | 135          |
| Occupations in Art and Culture   | 65           | 70           | 135          |
| <b>Total Labour Force</b>  | <b>3,490</b> | <b>3,000</b> | <b>6,490</b> |

Source: Statistics Canada 2001

## LABOUR

### OCCUPATIONS AND WAGE RATES

The following is a list of prevailing wage rates for standard occupations determined by the Human Resources Centre Canada for the Grey-Bruce area, as of May 20, 2004. These wage rates are to be considered as guidelines only and specific information should be obtained from individual employers.

| Occupation                            | Prevailing Wage Range | Average    |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| accounting and related clerk          | \$10.40 - 19.50/hr    | \$14.83/hr |
| administrative clerk                  | \$10.00 - 23.87/hr    | \$15.28/hr |
| auto mechanic                         | \$ 7.98 - 20.60/hr    | \$15.06/hr |
| bookkeepers                           | \$ 9.50 - 20.86/hr    | \$14.33/hr |
| carpenter                             | \$11.44 - 25.95/hr    | \$16.46/hr |
| construction trades helper / labourer | \$10.15 - 22.43/hr    | \$14.43/hr |
| cook                                  | \$ 8.00 - 15.63/hr    | \$10.47/hr |
| data entry clerk                      | \$10.60 - 16.75/hr    | \$13.79/hr |
| dental assistant                      | \$12.00 - 24.00/hr    | \$15.83/hr |
| early childhood educator              | \$ 9.00 - 18.57/hr    | \$12.63/hr |
| electrician                           | \$ 9.70 - 36.71/hr    | \$24.50/hr |
| elementary school teacher             | \$19.00 - 32.67/hr    | \$24.87/hr |
| food and beverage server              | \$ 5.95 - 10.50/hr    | \$ 7.57/hr |
| general office clerks                 | \$ 9.12 - 21.46/hr    | \$14.17/hr |
| heavy equipment operator              | \$14.00 - 28.00/hr    | \$18.38/hr |
| janitor, caretaker                    | \$ 8.65 - 20.51/hr    | \$13.94/hr |
| manufacturing manager                 | \$ 9.95 - 28.77/hr    | \$15.87/hr |
| material handler                      | \$10.00 - 17.85/hr    | \$13.16/hr |
| nurse aide, orderly and PSA           | \$ 9.00 - 18.10/hr    | \$13.76/hr |
| plumber                               | \$10.58 - 32.94/hr    | \$22.83/hr |
| receptionist                          | \$ 8.00 - 15.53/hr    | \$11.27/hr |
| registered nurse                      | \$16.81 - 31.95/hr    | \$24.34/hr |
| restaurant/food service manager       | \$ 8.24 - 15.94/hr    | \$11.19/hr |
| roofer                                | \$10.45 - 16.05/hr    | \$13.45/hr |
| secondary school teacher              | \$17.26 - 30.65/hr    | \$24.20/hr |
| shipper/receiver                      | \$ 9.52 - 17.91/hr    | \$13.51/hr |
| tractor-trailer operator              | \$12.00 - 18.35/hr    | \$15.27/hr |
| welder                                | \$13.00 - 28.80/hr    | \$18.79/hr |

### MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN WEST GREY

| Name                               | Sector                       | # of Employees |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Durham Furniture - Durham Location | Furniture Manufacturing      | 820            |
| Fisher Poultry Farm Inc.           | Agriculture                  | 20             |
| Gemini Canada                      | Manufacturing                | 20             |
| Interforest                        | Wood Products                | 400            |
| Telesat                            | Communications               | 46             |
| Thistlewood Timber Frame Homes     | Custom Design & Construction | 25             |
| Viking-Cives Ltd.                  | Manufacturing                | 125            |

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## TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

### Human Resource and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)

200 McNab Street,  
Walkerton  
(519) 881-2010

The Department of Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSD) is responsible for providing all Canadians with the tools they need to thrive and prosper in the workplace and community. The HRSD satellite office in Walkerton serves all of the communities in southern Bruce and Grey Counties and their clients include employees, employers, individuals receiving Employment Insurance benefits, students and those who need focused support to participate in the workplace. Walkerton HRSD office offers the following services:

- a) For the Individual - Career Planning, Financial Benefits, Social Insurance Number Applications, Labour Market Information, Job Search services and Training and Learning programs
- b) For Businesses - Human Resource Management services, Labour Market Information, and Labour and Workforce Information
- c) For Organizations - Labour Market Information, Labour and Workforce Information and Partnership Initiatives and Funding Programs
- d) Student Employment Centre

### YMCA Employment Services

299 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Hanover  
(519) 364-3163

The YMCA Employment Services operating locally, provides free confidential employment counselling for both youth and adults. Located above the Canada Trust in Hanover, the program includes:

- a) A RESOURCE CENTRE offering free internet access, computers for word processing, job postings and newspapers.
- b) EMPLOYMENT COUNSELLORS who are available by appointment to help people identify career goals and offer support for a job search and assistance with resume preparation.
- c) ON THE JOB TRAINING for participants who meet program eligibility requirements.

### Saugeen Business Development Centre (SBDC)

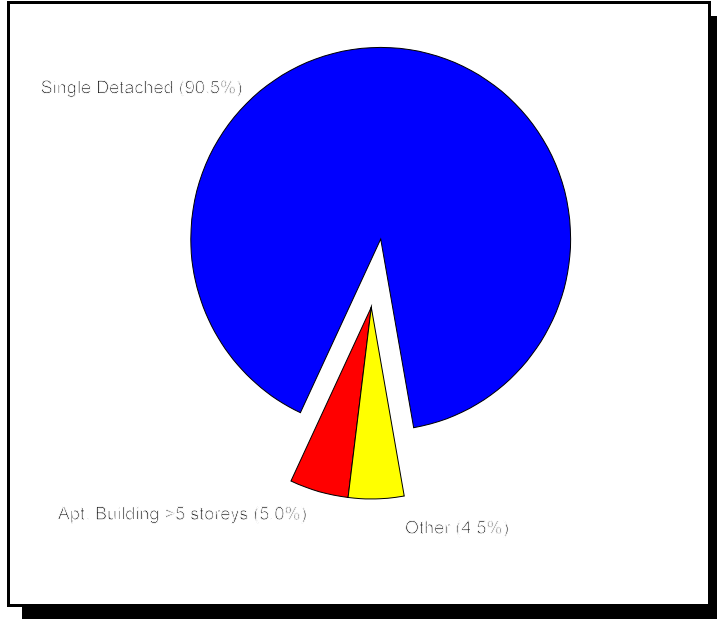
544 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hanover  
(519) 364-3694  
[www.sbdc.ca](http://www.sbdc.ca)

The Saugeen Business Development Centre is a federally supported not-for-profit Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) governed by volunteers in partnership with Industry Canada to help develop and diversify local economy by providing

- a) possible term loans up to \$125,000 for equipment, inventory, operating capital, etc;
- b) information related to demographics, labour market and training programs;
- c) information related to government programs and industrial sites;
- d) Community Profiles on participating municipalities; and
- e) quarterly economic newsletters.

# HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

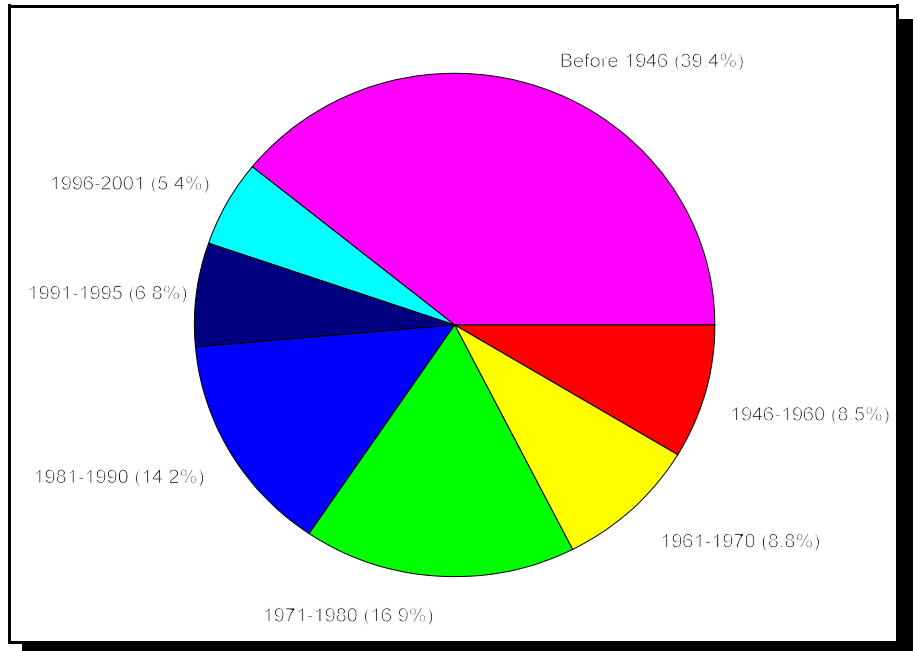
## HOUSING STOCK BY STRUCTURAL TYPE



|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Single-Detached             | 4,080        |
| Semi-Detached               | 40           |
| Row-Housing                 | 45           |
| Apt., detached duplex       | 40           |
| Apt. building <5 storeys    | 0            |
| Apt. building, >5 storeys   | 225          |
| Other single-detached house | 40           |
| Movable Dwellings           | 35           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>4,505</b> |
| <b>Owned</b>                | <b>3,885</b> |
| <b>Rented</b>               | <b>620</b>   |

## HOUSING STOCK BY PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Before 1946  | 1,775        |
| 1946-1960    | 385          |
| 1961-1970    | 395          |
| 1971-1980    | 760          |
| 1981-1990    | 640          |
| 1991-1995    | 305          |
| 1996-2001    | 245          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>4,505</b> |

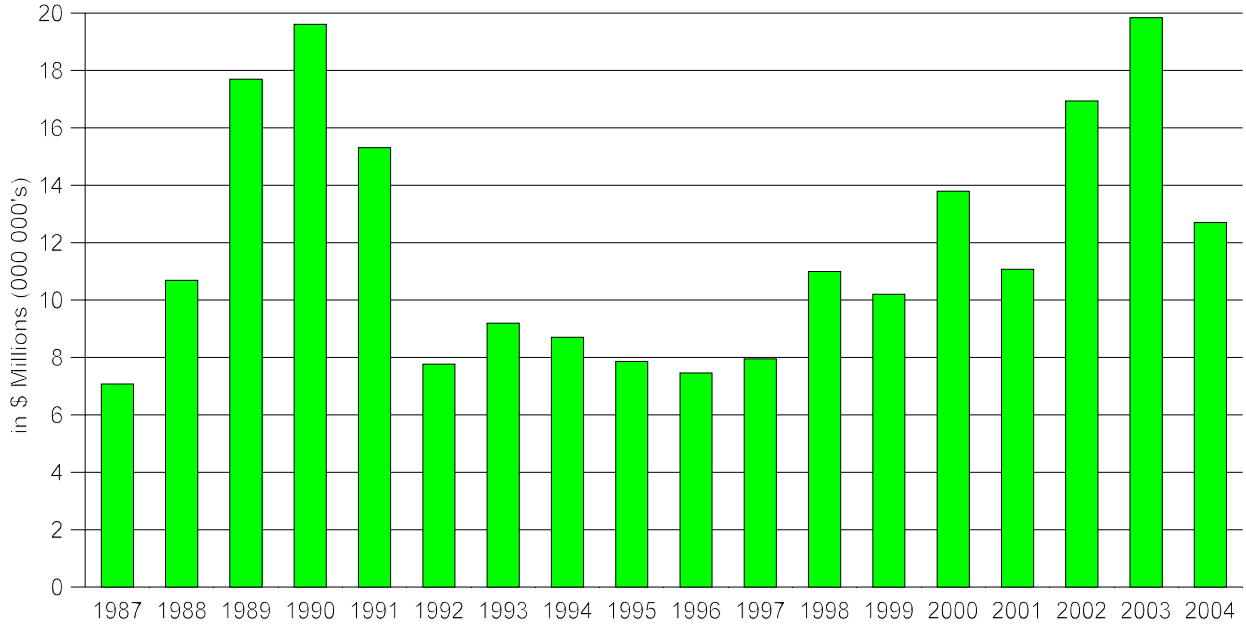


Source: Statistics Canada 2001

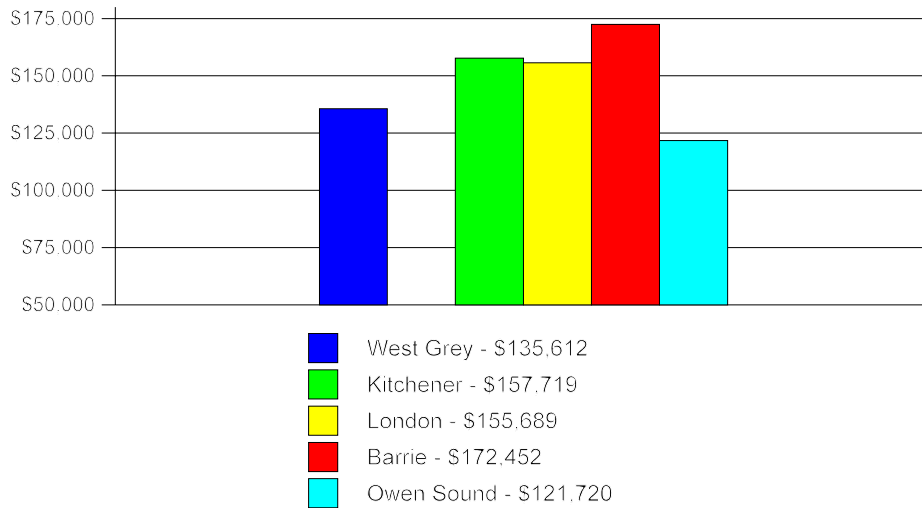
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# HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

## Building Permits



## Average Residential Selling Price



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## LOCAL MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

### **Form of Government**

West Grey is governed by an elected council consisting of a Mayor, a Deputy Mayor, and seven councillors, for a three year term. Council meets twice a month to consider municipal business. Day-to-day operations of the municipal offices is carried out by staff appointed by the council.

### **Tax Structure**

Tax information is available upon request at the municipal office. Contact Kerri Mighton, Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer, at 369-2200.

### **Fire Protection**

The municipality serviced by seven fire departments, of which two are municipally owned, three departments are jointly funded with other municipalities, and the Municipality pays fire service levies to two other municipalities. All of the departments are well equipped with various devices including pumpers, a 75-foot tower and pumper/rescue trucks, and are manned by volunteers from the communities. Additional equipment includes Jaws of Life apparatus, breathing apparatus, water rescue vehicles and confined space and high angle rescue apparatus.

The departments have an aggressive Fire Prevention Program and provide the public with information, have open houses and provide the schools with safety seminars and fire drills.

All departments within the West Grey region hold practices twice a month and specialty practices vary with the individual departments.

### **Police Protection**

The entire Municipality of West Grey is policed by the West Grey Police. The force includes 16 officers plus a police chief to ensure there is police protection 24 hours per day.

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## **POWER AND UTILITIES**

### **Electricity**

The municipality is serviced by two power utilities, Westario Power and Hydro One. Rates vary according to the type of user. Please contact the utility companies for the current rates.

### **Water & Sewer**

The urban areas are serviced by municipal water and sewer systems. The rural areas are serviced by private wells and septic systems.

### **Fuel Oil & Natural Gas**

Fuel oil is supplied to the Municipality by Esso, Imperial Oil, Shell and Sunoco located in many communities in West Grey. Natural gas is supplied to the area by Union Gas.

### **Garbage Removal and Recycling**

Private contractors collect garbage once a week in the former town of Durham, and bi-weekly in the rest of West Grey. Blue box collections are on a bi-weekly basis in West Grey, by private contractor.

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## INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

### Sites Available

The available industrial sites within West Grey have excellent potential to attract new industry. The sites are highly visible, in areas that are accessible to major transportation and shipping routes. Most sites are presently fully serviced, but where this is not the case, the sites are in close proximity to services and could easily be adapted.

| Ward     | Total Acres | Services Provided                                      |
|----------|-------------|--|
| Durham   | 112         | Municipal water and sewer services, natural gas, hydro |
| Neustadt | 21          | Municipal water and sewers, hydro                      |
| Normanby | 325         | Serviceable  |

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## TRANSPORTATION

### **Air Transportation**

The Saugeen Municipal Airport, located just outside Hanover on County Road #2, is the Saugeen community's key to the provincial airport network, offering quality service to both recreational and commercial traffic.

Runway 01/19 is approximately 4,000 feet in length and 75 feet in width. The secondary runway 09/27 is approximately 2,500 feet in length and 50 feet in width. Both runways are maintained year round and service is available 365 days of the year between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The professionally maintained runways are capable of servicing and accommodating small to midsize corporate jets and larger commuter-type turbo-prop aircraft. Charters and flight training are available as well as food and catering on a daily basis. The Saugeen Municipal Airport also offers Canada Customs clearance on an as needed basis.

For more information, phone (519) 364-3220, or fax (519) 364-7733.

### **Truck Transportation**

West Grey is well served by a number of local and international carriers, including Bierworth Transport, Caswell Trucking, Fess Transport, Schaus Land and Cattle Co. Limited, Ken Reay Transport Ltd., and Vollet Truck Lines Ltd.

### **Water Transportation**

Commercial harbour facilities are located at Goderich, approximately 100 km southwest of West Grey. This harbour is open to Great Lakes shipping from mid-May to early January, depending upon prevailing ice conditions on the lakes.

Commercial harbour facilities are also situated in Owen Sound. This harbour offers between 600 and 700 metres of dockage for large lake freighters at a depth of approximately 6.5 metres. The harbour also offers grain elevator facilities and bulk cement silos with an estimated 15,000 tonne capacity. Loading equipment is generally contained on the incoming freighters, however, equipment is available in Owen Sound through a private contractor.

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## **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

### **Chartered Banks**

West Grey provides the service of several of the major banks, including the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce with branches in Durham, Chesley and Hanover. The Royal Bank has three branches in the area, in Ayton, Durham and Hanover. There are branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Nova Scotia in Hanover. The new TD Canada Trust branch can be found in Hanover.

### **Community Futures Development Corporation**

The local CFDC, the Saugeen Economic Development Corporation, provides financial and technical assistance to small businesses. The maximum loan is \$125,000. It is located at 544 7th Avenue, Hanover. The phone number is (519) 364-3694 or visit the website [www.sbdc.ca](http://www.sbdc.ca).

### **Business Development Bank of Canada**

The nearest branch of this organization is located in Stratford, Ontario and can be contacted by telephone at (519) 271-5650 or toll free 1-800-265-2489.

### **Financial Planning Consultants**

Several financial planning consultants can be found in the area. Hanover offers four such advisors, the Associated Financial Planners, Farm Mutual Financial Services, The Mutual Group and Wilkinson Financial.

### **Stock Brokers**

Brokerage houses serving the area are Nesbitt Burns, located in Hanover, and Wood Gundy Inc. and Midland Walwyn Capital Inc., located in Owen Sound.

### **Other Financial Institutions**

The Saugeen Community Credit Union is located in the hamlet of Elmwood and Durham. Offices of the Farm Credit Canada are located in Walkerton and Owen Sound. Hepcoe Credit Union can be found in Hanover. The Ontario Civil Servants Credit Union offers a branch in Owen Sound. In addition, there is a wide variety of insurance and private investment agencies.

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## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### Health Care

South Bruce Grey Health Centre - Durham (formerly Durham District Memorial Hospital) has been merged with former hospitals located in Chesley, Walkerton and Kincardine. The Durham site offers 29 beds and provides a number of local medical services including access to specialized clinics, laboratory, diagnostic, and electrodiagnostic imaging, physiotherapy and nutritional counseling. Emergency Services are available Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Emergency Services outside these hours are available in Chesley, Walkerton, Hanover, Markdale, Mount Forest or Owen Sound.

South Bruce Grey Health Centre - Chesley (formerly the Chesley & District Memorial Hospital) offers 24 hour Emergency Service and a variety of ambulatory health services including specialty clinics, laboratory, diagnostic, and electrodiagnostic imaging, physiotherapy and dietary counseling. Day Program supports the elderly living in their homes. Inpatient services include medical and chronic beds. There are currently five Family Practice physicians servicing the medical needs of the community in a modern medical clinic.

Hanover & District Hospital is an accredited facility offering 80 beds and an extensive emergency section. The day hospital program has been recently expanded to accommodate more patients with ongoing service needs including food care, palliative care, enterostomal therapy and discharge planning, hydrosound tubs, track lifts and a kinesiology gym. In addition, Hanover & District offers an intensive care unit, a dialysis unit and obstetrical unit, long term care, ambulance service, diagnostic imaging and nutritional services.

The Grey-Bruce Regional Health Centre, located near Owen Sound, is the areas largest and most modernly equipped facility. This hospital serves as a base educational and training hospital and offers services associated with hospitals situated in much larger centres.

The Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound Health Unit provides a variety of services to the Saugeen area, including a school health program, a dental health team, family planning, prenatal classes, nutrition and diet counselling and immunization programs.

Operating Out of Owen Sound, Para-Med Home Health Care services all of Grey and Bruce counties. It offers private nursing, homemaking, childcare, Acquired Brain Injury Care and Life Line services. The Victorian Order of Nurses, based in Owen Sound, provides a variety of home support services including mother and infant care, palliative and supportive care, insurance services, intravenous therapy and private duty (shift) nursing. These services are rendered throughout Grey and Bruce counties.

### Retirement Homes and Communities

Rockwood Terrace, in Durham, is a 100 bed long term care facility owned and operated by the County of Grey and the Province of Ontario. It offers 24-hour registered nursing supervision and medical care in a home-like setting. There is a full calender of entertainment and special events for the residents. Serenity and Abbeyfield House, in Durham, Ayton Residential Lodge and Neustadt Hillside Manor are also available in the municipality.

Outside the municipality, there are presently three retirement communities in Chesley, Brittany Villa, Elgin Abbey and Parkview Manor. Located in Hanover is the Hanover Care Centre and The Village Seniors' Community.

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## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### Medical Clinics

The Durham Medical Group and the Bluewater Physiotherapy clinic serve the needs of the community area, plus a number of physicians in the general area to round out services and special care. In addition, there are three chiropractors, two practising dentists and one denturist in the municipality.

### Additional Community Services

Bruce, Grey and Huron Disability Transportation Network provides transportation for the physically challenged and the elderly using 14 vans and one 40 passenger bus equipped with hydraulic lifts.

There are several public libraries in the area. The Durham, Elmwood, Hanover, Neustadt and Normanby libraries are a part of the Grey County Library system. Each library is home to a complete reference centre for adults and children, with access to films, foreign language publications, video cassettes and talking books.

### Special Community Events

West Grey offers a variety of events for all ages, including hockey and baseball tournaments, beef barbeques, fish fry's, and Christmas parades. Annual fall fairs throughout the area celebrate our agricultural heritage. The Heritage Fair and the Neustadt Craft Show, held annually in November presents beautifully hand-crafted items produced by local artisans. Spring brings the annual Home and Garden Shows and the Herb Fair in Durham.

Woodworking played a major role in the early development of the Saugeen Valley Area and the Welbeck Woodcrafters' Expo. The show features woodworking tool and machinery exhibitors offering a wide variety of the latest workshop innovations.

### Cultural Events

The Saugeen area is very diverse in its cultural offerings. There are several theatre groups, which perform local stage entertainment, with proceeds from these performances going toward future productions, bursaries and community projects. Various local, national and internationally renown artists have performed in the area, including the Bell Canto Singers, Saugeen Bach Music Festival and the Grey-Bruce Singers.

### Community Service Clubs

West Grey is well served by a wide variety of community service organizations including, but not limited to, local chapters of the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, Chambers of Commerce, the Kinsmen, the Lion's and Lioness', Masons, Optimists, the Royal Canadian Legion and Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

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## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### Churches

The community offers a number of churches representing a wide-variety of denominations, including Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Mennonite, Missionary, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and United.

### Recreational Facilities & Parks

West Grey's organized recreational needs are largely serviced by the communities of Durham, Ayton, Markdale, Neustadt, and Hanover. Each of these communities offers a Community Centre complex and numerous organized sports teams for all ages. The development of the Durham Community Activity Centre provides residents with a full range of services, such as extensive selection of weight and aerobic training equipment, toning tables for passive exercise, whirlpool tub and spa, tanning bed, aerobic fitness classes, all under the supervision of trained and enthusiastic instructors.

Residents can remain occupied with the many activities in the area, including, camping, fishing, hiking, walking, curling, tennis, figure skating, basketball, volleyball, fitness classes, weekly bingo, ball hockey, karate and tae bo. There are organized leagues for hockey, ringette, soccer and baseball and extensive trails systems for snowmobiling and walking. Allan Park offers a variety of trails year round for hiking and cross country skiing.

The Durham Conservation Area, situated to the northeast of the town, stretches approximately two miles along the Saugeen River. This facility offers over 200 sites for camping or seasonal residence. The Conservation Authority offers a variety of summer activities including fishing, canoeing, swimming, horseshoes and volleyball. This area also boasts an extensive hiking and nature trail system which allows users to view some of the most beautiful scenery of the Saugeen River Valley. Further, the Conservation Authority maintains 213 acres just south of Hanover as a Wildlife Sanctuary, open year round to the public.

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## COMMUNITY RETAIL FACILITIES

### **Shopping Centres**

The community's shopping areas contain a variety of over 400 retail and service shops. Further, the Saugeen City is centrally located within a short drive on good roads to a number of regional and local shopping malls.

### **Department Stores**

West Grey's immediate department store needs are served by Stedmans Department Stores, Wal-Mart and Zellers.

### **Grocery Stores**

The residents of West Grey are well served by several grocery outlets including Granny's General Store in Ayton, L&M Food Mart in Durham, the Elmwood Grocery and Variety, and Granny's in Neustadt, as well as numerous farmers' markets and local produce stores.

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## COMMUNICATION MEDIA

### **Newspapers**

The Post, a new free weekly publication, covers news and events from the Durham, Chesley, Hanover and Walkerton areas. The Markdale Standard is published weekly and has a circulation of 1,600.

In addition, the Sun Times, a daily paper published in Owen Sound, is available to the township and has a circulation of 24,000.

A variety of national and regional papers are also available within the community, among them the Toronto Star, London Free Press and the Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

### **Television**

CKNX TV, broadcasting from London, is part of the CHUM Broadcasting Corporation. CKCO TV, from Kitchener, also reports area news on a regional basis.

Persona Communications offers cable TV service to select areas of West Grey.

### **Telephone**

Bell Canada and Wightman Telephone Company service the West Grey area. Both have the technology and communication infrastructure to compete nationally and internationally.

### **Radio**

The municipality is served by CFOS 560 AM from Owen Sound, CKNX 920 AM and 101.7 FM from Wingham, as well as CIXK 106.5 FM which broadcasts from Owen Sound. Bluewater Community Radio, in Hanover, broadcasts on 91.3 FM. CBC Radio is also available on 96.8 FM.

### **Postal and Courier Services**

The community is served by several post offices located in Ayton, Chesley, Durham, Elmwood and Hanover. These offices offer Priority Post, a postal courier network service offering next day delivery to points within Ontario. Courier services available to the area include Federal Express Canada and Purolator Courier and both offer local, national and international service.

### **Internet Service Providers**

The area is well serviced by several Internet service providers and provide access to the Internet to all residents of West Grey without having long distance charges.

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## EDUCATION

### Primary and Secondary Schools

#### PUBLIC

| Primary Schools                         | 2004 Enrollment | Teaching Staff |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| Beavercrest Community School (Markdale) | 354             | 19             |
| Spruce Ridge Elementary School (Durham) | 481             | 35             |
| Normanby Community School (Ayton)       | 253             | 13             |

| Secondary Schools                                  | 2004 Enrollment | Teaching Staff |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| Grey Highlands Secondary School (Flesherton)       | 1064            | 85             |
| John Diefenbaker Secondary School (Hanover)        | 808             | 55             |
| Wellington Heights Secondary School (Mount Forest) | 670             | 40             |

#### SEPARATE

| Primary Schools                                   | 2004 Enrollment | Teaching Staff |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| St. Peter's & St. Paul's Separate School (Durham) | 134             | 10             |

| Secondary Schools                    | 2004 Enrollment | Teaching Staff |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Sacred Heart High School (Walkerton) | 779             | 57             |
| St. Mary's High School (Owen Sound)  | 583             | 41             |

### Post Secondary Facilities

The nearby Owen Sound Campus of Georgian College offers a full schedule of extensive college-level education programs. This facility is at most a 50-minute commute from West Grey.

Universities and colleges are located in Barrie, Guelph, Kitchener, London, Toronto and Waterloo and are within a 2 hour drive from West Grey.