

# THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CO-OPERATIVES IN ONTARIO



## WHAT IS A CO-OP?

**Co-operatives** are community-focussed businesses that balance people, planet and profit. They are formed to seize local opportunities or respond to local challenges.

**Co-operatives** are democratic, value-based, and member-focussed. As a trusted place to do business, **co-ops** are chosen by more than 1 in 7 people worldwide. Twice as many **co-ops** remain in operation after ten years as other types of business enterprise.

## Ontario's co-ops: fast facts

**49,000**  
VOLUNTEERS

♣ = 1,000



**OLDEST**  
CO-OPS



**Vineland Growers**  
CO-OPERATIVE  
(November 20, 1913)

and

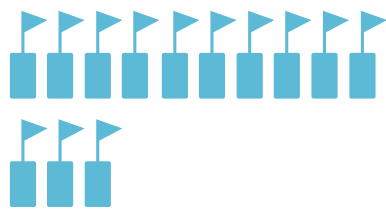


**Guelph Campus**  
CO-OPERATIVE\*  
(November 27, 1913)

\* also the oldest student housing co-op in Canada

**1,300**  
CO-OPS  
in Ontario  
(estimated)

♣ = 100



**10,000**  
of which are  
BOARD MEMBERS

### LONG-LASTING



**TWICE** as many co-ops remain in business **after 10 years** as other business enterprises

### TRUSTED



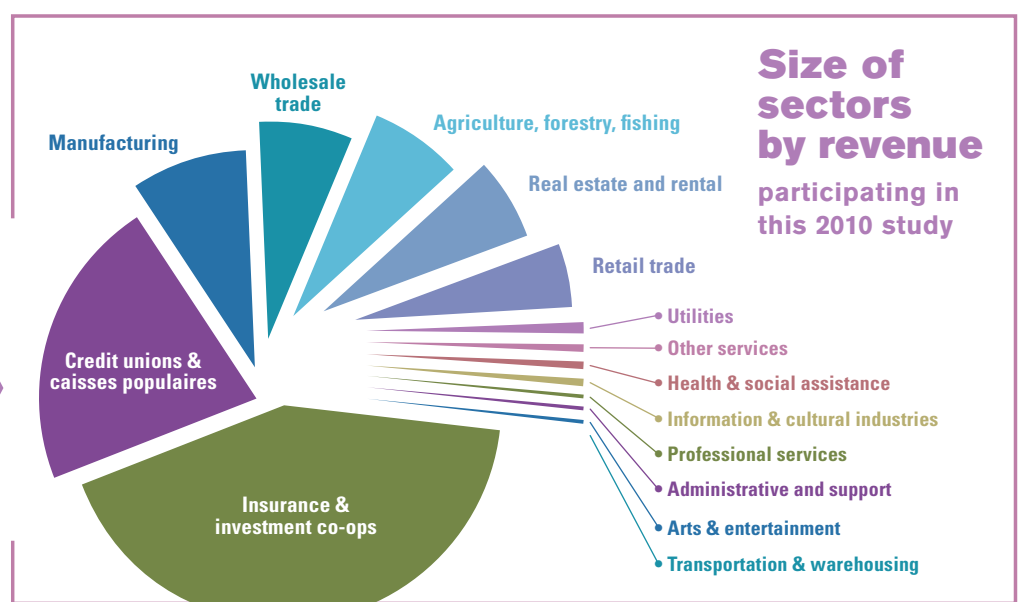
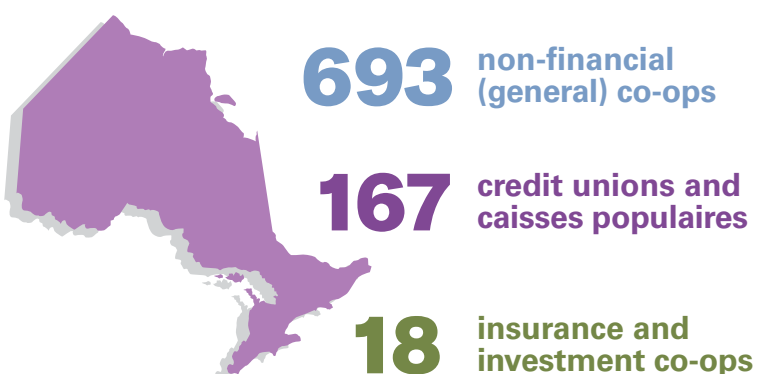
More than **2 OUT OF 3** Canadians agree that co-ops are a trusted place to do business

### A BETTER WORLD



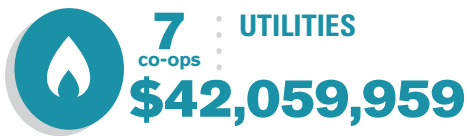
Co-operatives operate in more than **90 countries** around the world, employing over **100 MILLION PEOPLE**

## Participating in this 2010 study



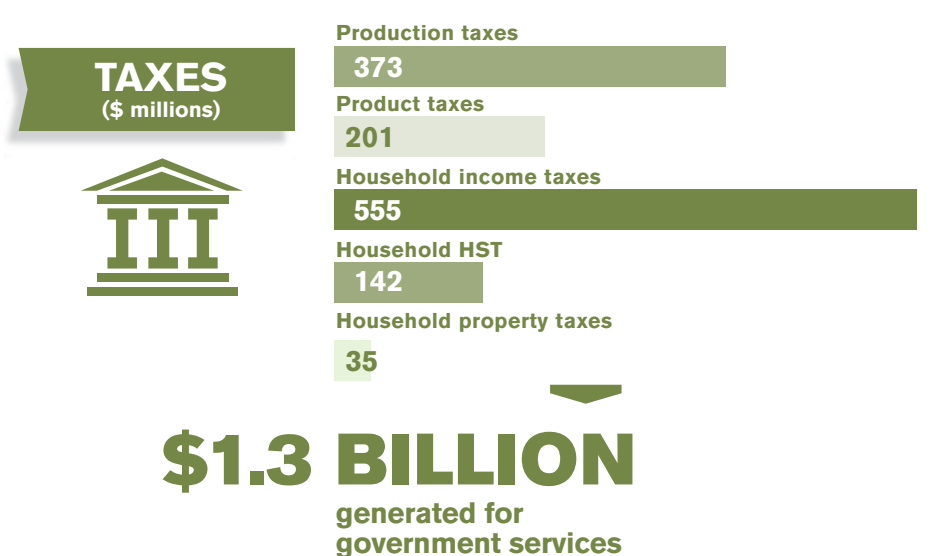
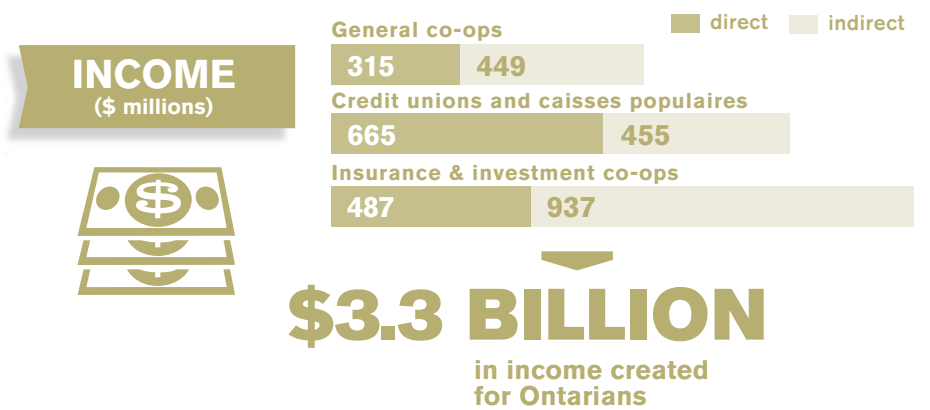
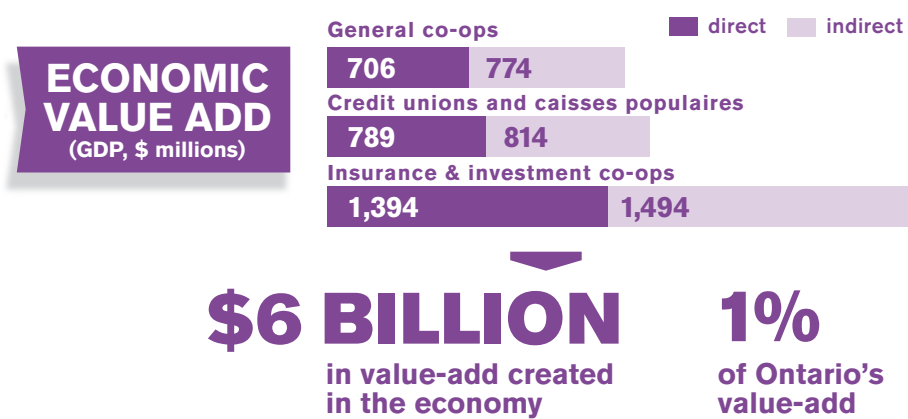
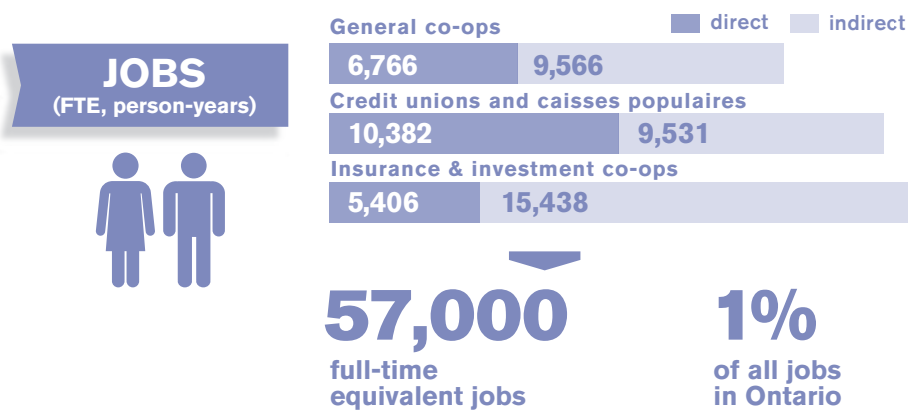
Sources: Industry Canada – Co-operatives in Canada in 2010; On Co-op – Ontario Co-operatives and Credit Union Census 2007; Economic Impact of the Co-operative Sector in Ontario (2010) Karaphillis, Duguid, Lake

## Ontario's top-earning co-operative sectors\*



\* revenues earned, 2010

## The direct and indirect impact of co-operatives



For the full report, visit [ontario.coop](http://ontario.coop)

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