

# Co-ops work.

A co-operative is a business enterprise owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services. Twice as many co-ops remain in business after 10 years as other business enterprises.



Robert Owen created the first co-op in England in 1844.

## Values based

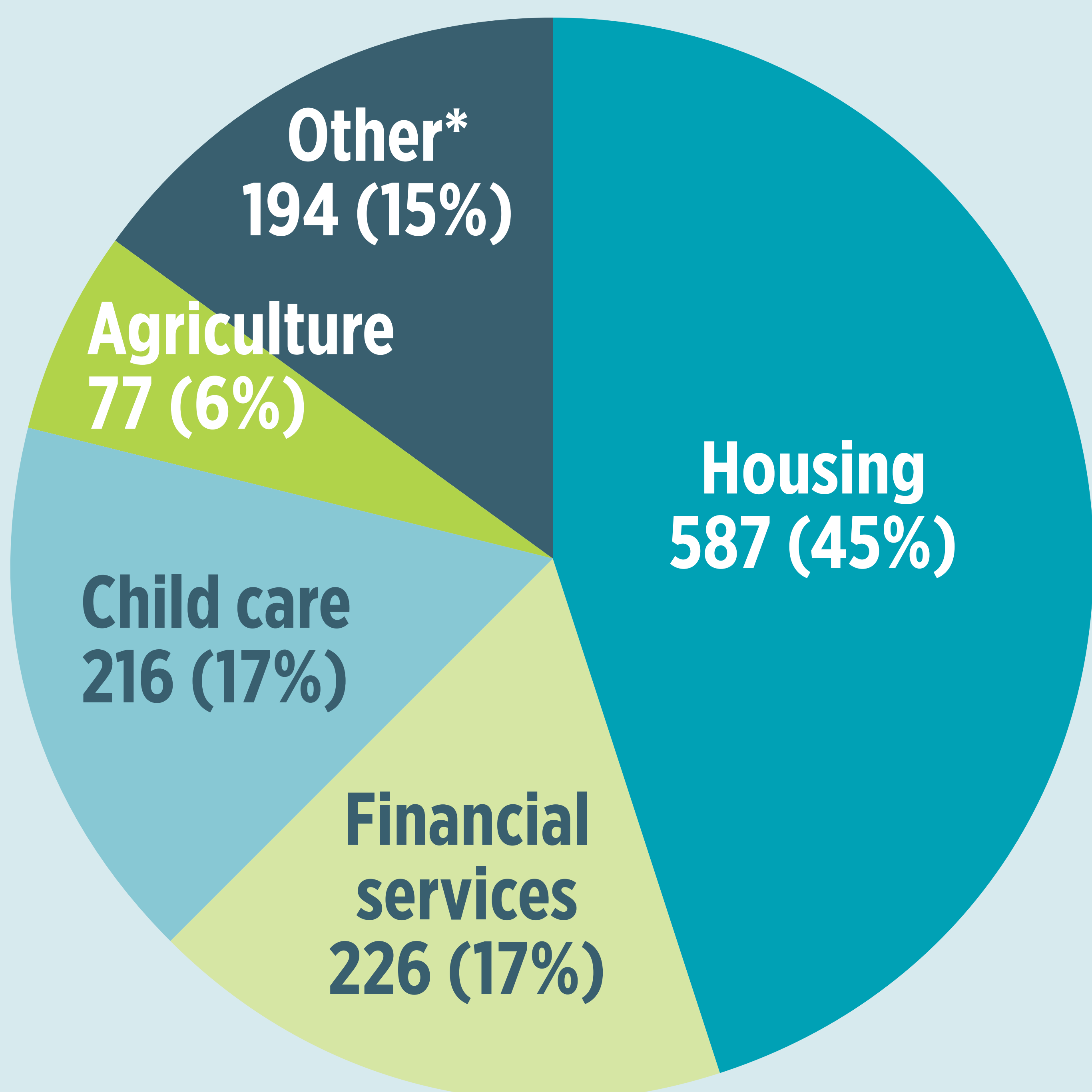
Democratic  
7 co-op principles  
Social and financial objectives

## International

Operate in 90 countries  
Employ 100 million people  
1 billion members

## Ontario co-ops by the numbers

**1,300** independent organizations operating  
**1,900** locations in  
**400** Ontario communities



\*Includes renewable energy, local food, retail, communications, transportation, social services and others.

## Ontario Co-ops

**\$30 billion** in assets  
**\$2.1 billion** in revenue  
(non-financial co-ops)  
**1.4 million** members  
**49,000** volunteers  
**15,500** employees



The United Nations declared 2012 to be the International Year of Co-operatives



Ontario Co-operative Association  
**ontario.coop**

**CO-OPERATIVE ENTERPRISES BUILD A BETTER WORLD**

