



## Agri-Food and Food & Beverage Processing Sector Overview

**HOPA**  
PORTS

**INVEST  
IN HAMILTON**

INVEST IN HAMILTON PARTNERSHIP

## Putting Hamilton on the Map

Hamilton is at the center of Canada's most densely populated and economically advanced region and has all the amenities to be the ideal location for businesses and their workforces to locate and grow.

**1 hour**

from Toronto, North America's  
4th largest city

**51 countries**

connected via Canadian free  
trade agreements

**107 investments**

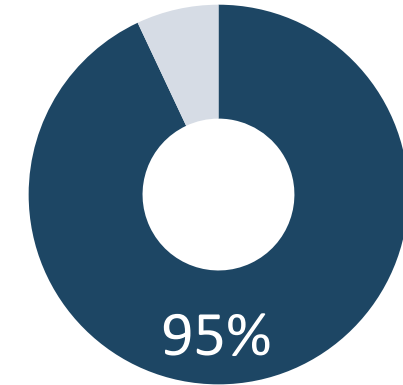
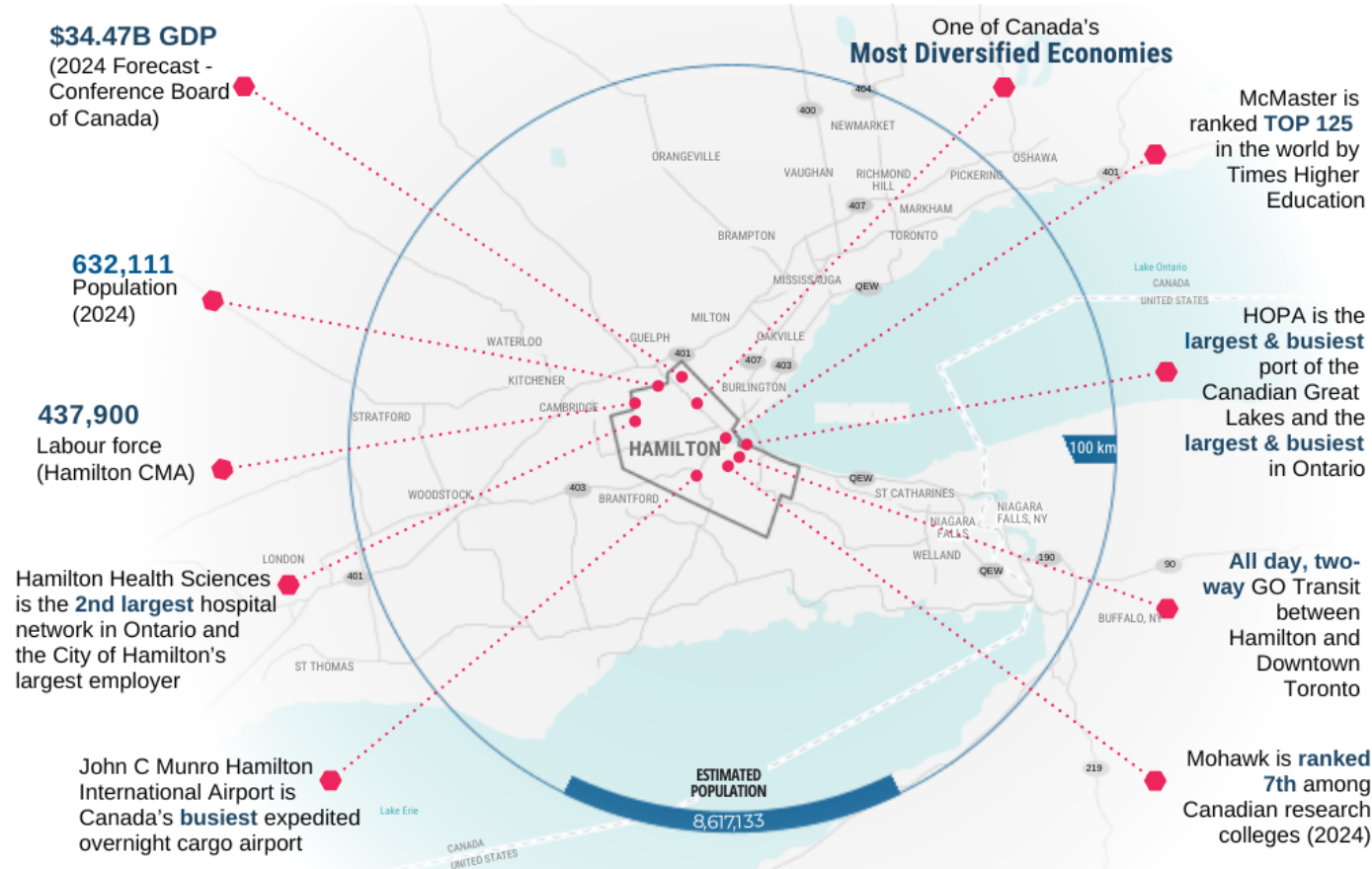
Since 2019

**\$5.9 billion**

in capital expenditures  
since 2019



# Hamilton's Key Insights

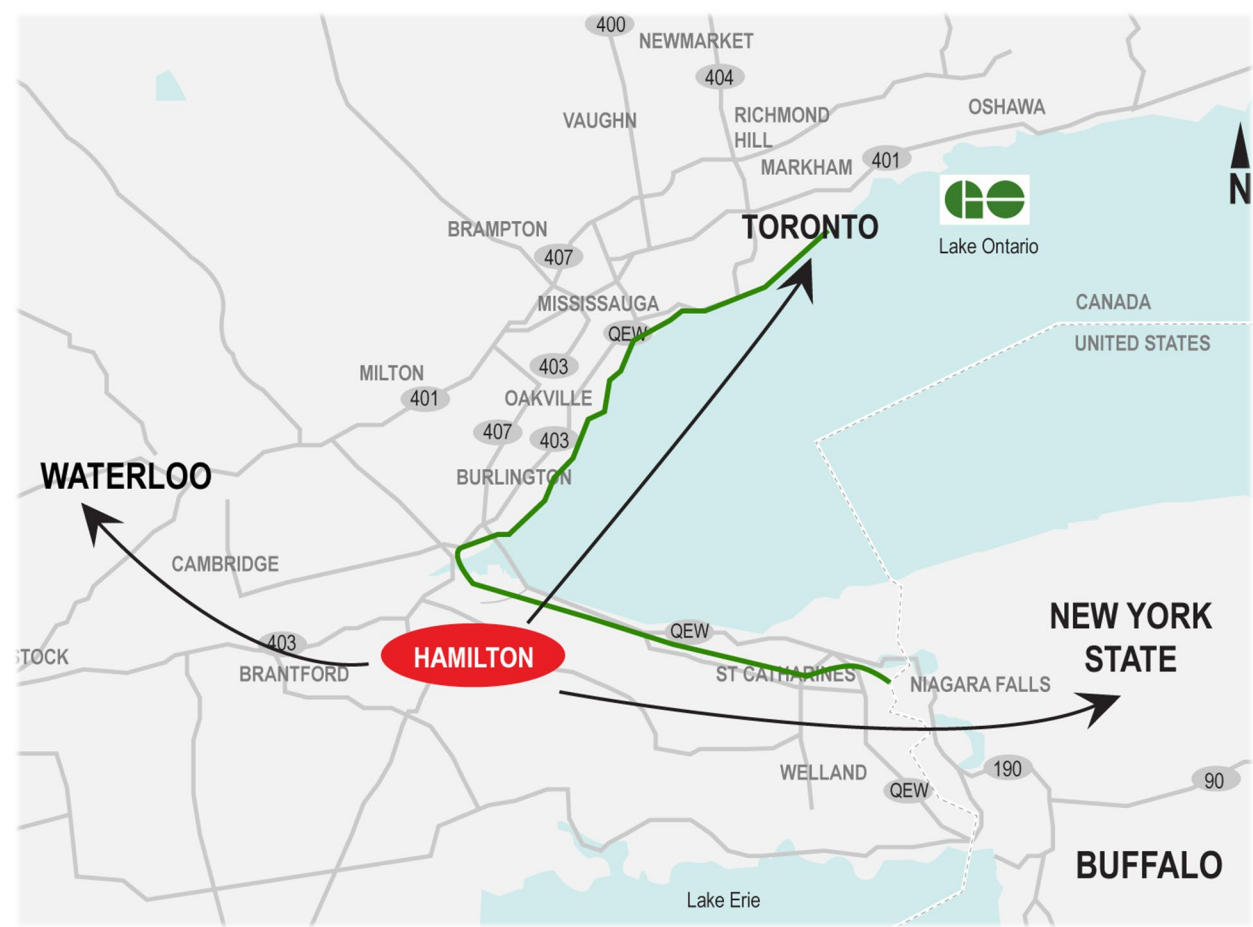


## Diversified Economy Rating

(Conference Board of Canada, 2024)

Boasting a highly diverse economy, Hamilton offers all the amenities of a major metropolis including a truly multi-modal transportation network that features air, water, rail, and road linkages across North America.

# Access to a Labour Market of Millions



Census Metropolitan Area	Labour Force Size	% Post-Secondary Trained
Hamilton	437,900	57.2%
Toronto	3,922,900	60.9%
St. Catharines-Niagara	235,800	52.3%
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	365,900	56.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,962,500</b>	<b>59.7%</b>

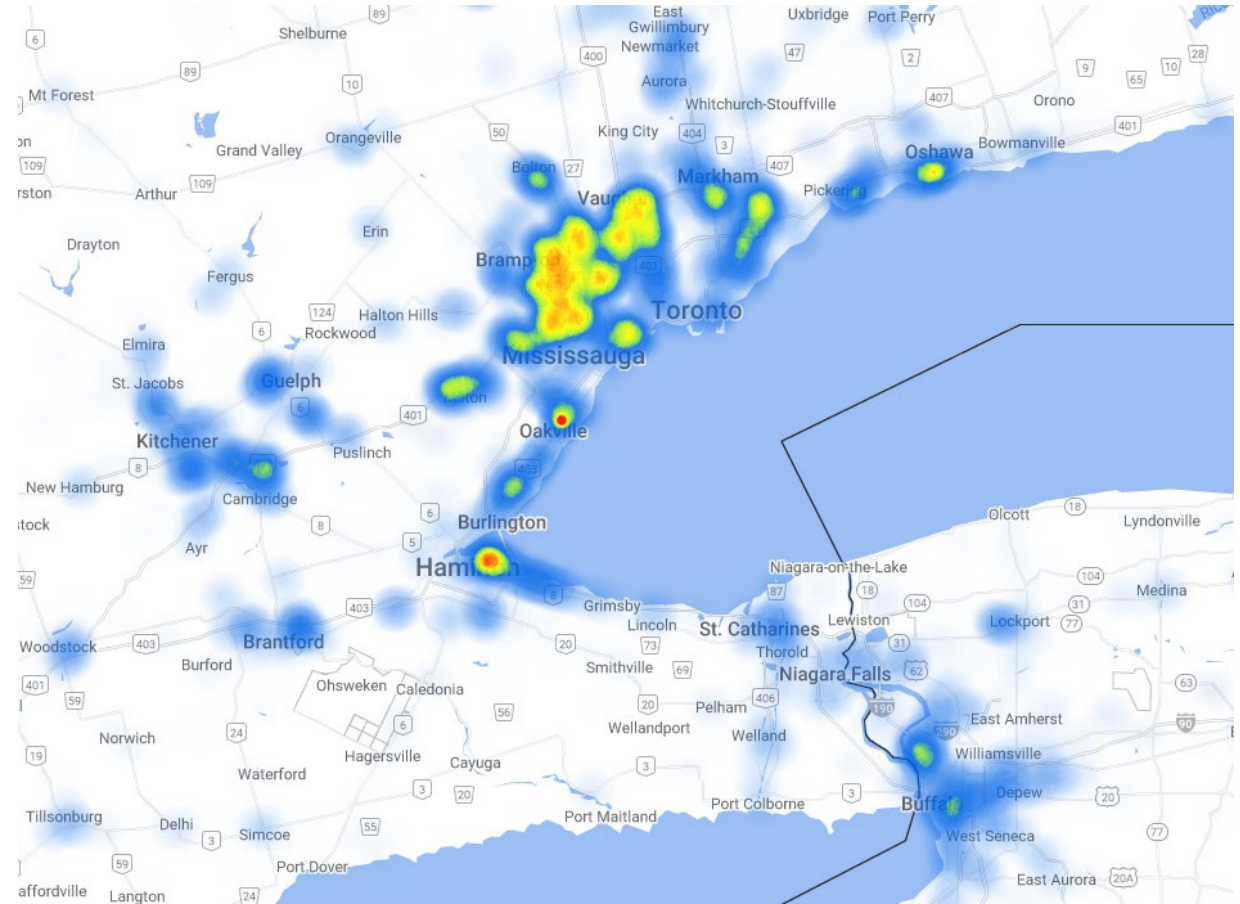
Hamilton is strategically located at the centre of a catchment area of more than 4.9 million people – the majority of whom can access Hamilton through the expanding Lakeshore West Go Line.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey and Statistics Canada Census 2021

## Access to Land

### Key Metrics

- Hamilton's industrial market offers approximately 1.5M square feet of leasable industrial space at an asking market rate of \$12.41/square foot – this rate is based on 42 properties with 48 spaces for lease.
- Industrial space leasing comps:
  - Burlington - \$18.04/square foot
  - Mississauga - \$18.45/square foot
  - Toronto - \$16.66/square foot
  - Brantford - \$11.43/square foot
  - Cambridge - \$13.68/square foot
  - Vaughn - \$19.20/square foot
  - Brampton - \$18.12/square foot



A photograph of an industrial facility, likely a grain elevator or food processing plant. The image shows several large, light-colored cylindrical silos on the right side. To the left, there is a complex structure of dark metal scaffolding and walkways. In the center, a tall yellow tower with a crane arm extends upwards. A black crane arm is also visible, extending from the central structure towards the silos. The sky is overcast and grey. A dark blue banner is overlaid on the bottom left of the image, containing white text. In the bottom right corner, there are logos for 'HOPA PORTS' and 'INVEST IN HAMILTON'.

## A Hub for Agri-food and Food & Beverage Processing

**HOPA**  
PORTS

**INVEST  
IN HAMILTON**

## Agri-Food & Food and Beverage Processing in Hamilton



Hamilton, Ontario is a thriving hub for agri-food and food & beverage manufacturing, **home to over 120 producers and 9,500 skilled workers across the supply chain.** With 810 farms supplying fresh ingredients and a strategic location that supports multimodal transportation, Hamilton offers a competitive edge for food innovation and export.

The city boasts advanced infrastructure, access to clean water, and a regulatory environment that ensures product safety and quality. From grain processing and commercial baking to craft beverages and premium confections, Hamilton's sector is diverse, sustainable, and rapidly growing — making it an ideal destination for investment and expansion.

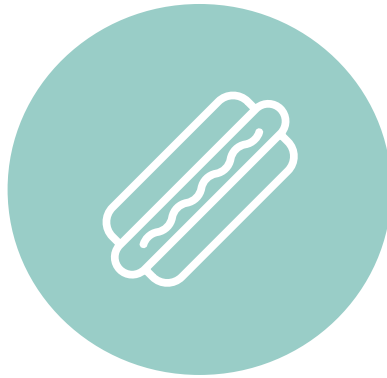
## Subsectors of Strength



Grain Processing  
& Baking



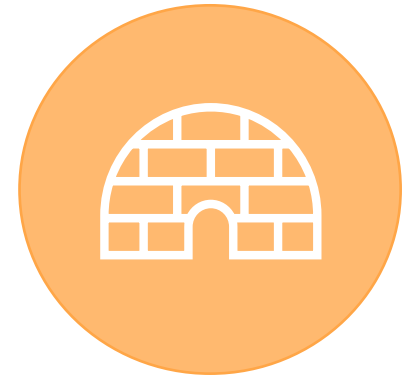
Confectionery &  
Snack Foods



Meat Products



Beverage  
Production



Cold Chain  
Logistics

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Hamilton's agribusiness and food & beverage processing strengths are led by grain processing & baking and confectionery & snack foods — supported by meat products, beverage production, and cold chain logistics capabilities.

## Grain Processing and Baking



### Grain Processing & Baking

**118,080 acres**  
Of local farm land

**11.7 million**  
Farm acres within 2 hours of  
Hamilton

**217**  
Oil seed and grain farms locally

**\$19 billion**  
In provincial farm revenue

Hamilton is an established food manufacturing hub, housing key processors of grains and other plant-based resources such as seed and flour mills. This sector is supported by thousands of farms located across the Hamilton-Niagara region, and direct access to a market of tens of millions through the Port of Hamilton's agri-food cargo shipping.

## Confectionary and Snack Food



Confectionery &  
Snack Foods

**\$183M**

In recent capital expenditures

**37,700**

Food manufacturing jobs clustered  
within 2 hours of Hamilton

**1,000,000**

Kg of daily sugar refining  
capacity expected in Q4 2025

**142**

Local food manufacturing firms

Hamilton is home to numerous confectionary manufacturers such as Mondelez and Karma Candy. These operations have grown alongside Hamilton's agribusiness and food processing sector and benefit from the city's raw material processors that include an existing sugar refinery. Sucro Can Sourcing is currently building Canada's largest sugar refinery in Hamilton at the Port of Hamilton.

# Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority

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HOPA Ports plays a pivotal role in Hamilton's agriculture and food & beverage processing sector, serving as Ontario's largest marine gateway for agri-food trade.

- ✓ Agri-food now accounts for 31% of total cargo at the Port of Hamilton, supporting over 105,000 jobs across Ontario.
- ✓ Strategic infrastructure investments — like the Pier 10 Export Expansion and the new Sucro Can sugar refinery — have enhanced marine logistics, reduced truck traffic, and improved supply chain efficiency.
- ✓ Key tenants like Parrish & Heimbecker have expanded flour milling operations, making Hamilton a leading hub for Ontario-grown wheat processing.
- ✓ With over \$300 million invested in port lands and a multimodal network that connects rail, road, and marine assets, HOPA continues to strengthen Hamilton's position as a cornerstone of Canada's agri-food economy.

# The Preferred Destination For Grain Transport, Processing, & Blending



- Grain export (Piers 10, 25, 26)
- Flour milling (Pier 10)
- Oilseed crushing (Pier 11)
- Brewing (Pier 10)
- Sugar refining (Pier 15)
- Cold storage (Pier 15)
- Consumer product logistics (Pier 15)
- Packaging (Pier 15)
- Liquid bulk storage & transload (Piers 11, 23)
- Container packing (Pier 15)

## Transportation Options

### Marine, Rail, Truck and Air

Hamilton is home to major trade and logistics hubs that keep goods moving efficiently.

- The Port of Hamilton ranks as Canada's 7th largest by cargo volume, welcoming more than 600 domestic and international ship calls each year.
- Two Class-1 railways, CN and CP, serve the city with direct port access for seamless transloading.
- Direct links to key 400-series highways place multiple U.S. border crossings within 30 to 60 minutes.
- Hamilton International Airport is Canada's largest overnight express cargo gateway.





Recent Investments in Hamilton

## Canada's Best Locations to Invest

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For **14 consecutive years**, Site Selection Magazine named **Hamilton** one of **Canada's Best Locations to Invest**.

This ranking is based on corporate end-user projects to create per-capita measures of municipal competitiveness.



## Who's investing?



### SucroCan Sourcing

- The Hamilton sugar refinery will be the largest in Canada, with a capacity to produce **4,000 tonnes** of refined sugar per day, or **one million tonnes** per year.
- Located at the Port of Hamilton, the refinery will benefit from access to marine, rail, and highway transportation options, enhancing **supply chain efficiency**.
- Expected to create **50 to 75 new jobs** and could have a **\$1 billion** ripple effect on Ontario's economy.



Investment value

**\$135 million**

## Who's investing?



### P&H Milling Group

- Parrish & Heimbecker Limited expanded its facility at HOPA's Hamilton Port, **increasing grain storage and flour production** with the addition of two new storage silos and the construction of a third mill.
- The expansion marks a significant milestone in the **15-year partnership** between P&H and HOPA Ports.
- The expansion aims to reduce truck traffic and greenhouse gas emissions, thereby improving the **efficiency and sustainability** of the food supply chain.



## Who's investing?



### Toronto Tank Lines

- TTL opened a new rail transload yard at Pier 25 in Hamilton's port, covering **7 acres**.
- Specialize in transporting and storing a **wide array of food-grade products**, including dry bulk sugar, processed grains, liquid sweeteners, flour, and edible oils.
- The yard offers ample space for up to **70 railcar spots**, with the majority being truck accessible.
- The new facility is fully paved and illuminated, **enhancing operational efficiency and safety**.



## Who's investing?

### Bartek Ingredients

- Investing **\$175 million** in a state-of-the-art facility in Stoney Creek, which will be the **world's largest production plant** for malic and fumaric acid.
- The construction of the **55,000-square-foot** facility is projected to inject **\$100 million** into the local economy and **employ 120 people**.
- The facility aims to reduce per unit greenhouse gas emissions by **more than 80%**, setting a new benchmark for environmental performance in the industry.

**Bartek**<sup>TM</sup>



## Who's investing?

### Reiser

- Offers custom-tailored **food processing and packaging solutions** for small, medium, and large businesses.
- Moving its **national headquarters** from Burlington to **Hamilton**.
- The new warehouse and customer service centre will cover an estimated **40,600 square feet**.

**REISER**



## Who's investing?



### Summit Station

- **10,000-square-foot** expansion includes a storefront and facilities for milk, butter, and cheese curd production.
- Summit Station is reintroducing home milk delivery to Greater Hamilton, which will help meet **sustainability goals** by **selling products locally**.
- Hamilton's agriculture industry contributes **\$1.34 billion** annually to the local economy.





## Who We Work With



## Federal and Provincial Partners



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) supports Canada's farming and food sector through research, innovation, and market growth. In Hamilton, this connects to local farms and food producers in areas like Flamborough and Stoney Creek, helping drive sustainability, food processing, and economic growth.



Ministry of  
Agriculture, Food &  
Rural Affairs

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) supports the province's agriculture and food sector through policy, research, and business development. In Hamilton, OMAFRA works with farmers and agri-food businesses to strengthen rural communities, promote sustainability, and grow the city's role as a hub for food production and processing.



Food and Beverage Ontario (FBO) is an industry association that supports Ontario's food and beverage processors through advocacy, workforce development, and business growth. In Hamilton, FBO helps local processors connect to resources, talent, and markets, reinforcing the city's position as a key player in Ontario's food manufacturing sector.

## Public and Private Partners

Economic Development team collaborates with industry partners to support investment attraction, business expansion and retention efforts in the food and beverage sector.



Craig Richardson  
INSTITUTE OF FOOD  
PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY



Food & Beverage  
Innovation Centre



Hamilton-Wentworth Federation of Agriculture



GUELPH  
FOOD  
INNOVATION  
CENTRE



Meat &  
Poultry  
ONTARIO



Ontario Processing  
Vegetable Growers



FOOD PROCESSING  
SKILLS CANADA



hamilton  
chamber of commerce  
your voice in business

innovation  
FACTORY

HOPA  
PORTS

John C. Munro  
HAMILTON  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Redeemer  
University

COLUMBIA  
INTERNATIONAL  
COLLEGE  
Hamilton Ontario

McMaster  
University



MOHAWK  
COLLEGE

## Interested in Learning More about Hamilton?



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