Overview of Social & Economic Trends

Western Region

Building strong, healthy communities together
Overview – Western Region

• These slides were prepared to accompany a detailed presentation called “Social Trends in Nova Scotia”

• They are intended to provide a general overview of social trends experienced in the Western Region

• For further detail, or if you have any questions, please contact:

  Evan MacDonald
  Department of Community Services
  (902) 722-1314
  macdonev@gov.ns.ca
Overview – Western Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Western Region</th>
<th>Nova Scotia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2007)</td>
<td>246,066</td>
<td>934,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population change 1998-2007</td>
<td>-2.4%</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate (2007)</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation rate (2007)</td>
<td>61.6%</td>
<td>63.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Population Trends

Western Region Population
1988 - 2007

The recent downward trend has resulted in a minimal population increase between 1988 and 2007

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue Number 91-002-XPB, "Quarterly Demographic Statistics"
In the Western Region, the population 24 and under is expected to decline by 23% between 2002 and 2017.

On the other end of the age range, the number of adults 65 and over is projected to increase by 36%.

Western Region

Population Trends – Focus on youth

Population under 15
Western Region, 1987-2017

-31% between 1986 and 2016

-35% between 1986 and 2016

Employment Trends

Labour Market Statistics
Western Region, 1998 to 2007

The proportion of the population with full-time work increased in the Western Region between 1998 and 2007.

Income Trends

Average Income per Tax Filer
Nova Scotia and the Western Region, 2005

- Average incomes per tax filer vary between counties of the Western Region, ranging from $24,388 in Annapolis to $29,009 in Hants.

Western Region

Housing - Repairs

Apart from Kings County, homes in the Western Region are in greater need of repair compared with both the provincial and national averages.

The need for major repairs decreased in each Western county between 2001 and 2006.

As with provincial results, the number of income assistance cases in the Eastern Region is declining.
Aging IA Caseload

Age Range of Identified Clients for Income Assistance, Western Region by Fiscal Year

- As with the population, the average age of the Western Region’s client caseload is rising.

Source: Department Of Community Services, ESIA Data, 2000 – 2005. *Information reflects most recent data
**Education and the IA Caseload**

*Highest Educational Attainment of Identified Clients for Income Assistance, Western Region, Fiscal Year 2005/06*

- 32% of the Western Region’s IA cases have completed high school or beyond.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population. 2001  * *Information reflects most recent data
Additional Resources


2. Statistics Canada: www.statcan.ca
   Census Results: http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/
   Community Profiles: http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/profiles/community/
