Overview of Social & Economic Trends

Central Region

Building strong, healthy communities together
Preface

• These slides were prepared to accompany a detailed presentation called “Social Trends in Nova Scotia 2007”

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

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

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### Overview – Central Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Central Region</th>
<th>Nova Scotia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2007)</td>
<td>385,457</td>
<td>934,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population change 1998-2007</td>
<td>+7.4%</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate (2007)</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation rate (2007)</td>
<td>70.2%</td>
<td>63.7%</td>
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</table>

The Central Region is the only region in Nova Scotia to experience steady population growth between 1988 and 2007 (+20%).

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue Number 91-213-XIB, “Annual Demographic Statistics”
In the Central Region, the population 24 and under is expected to decline by 19% between 2002 and 2017. On the other end of the age range, the number of adults 65 and over is projected to increase by 60%.

Population Trends – Focus on youth

Population under 15
Central Region, 1987-2017

-12% between 1987 and 2017
-7% between 1987 and 2017
-9% between 1987 and 2017

Employment Trends

Labour Market Statistics
Central Region, 1998 to 2007

- Labour market statistics for the Central Region are strong, with low unemployment rates and high participation rates.

Income Trends

Average Income per Tax Filer
Nova Scotia and the Central Region (Halifax), 2005

- Average incomes in the Central Region are higher than the Canadian average.

Housing - Repairs

Occupied Private Dwellings in Need of Major Repairs Canada, Nova Scotia and the Central Region, 2001 and 2006

- Homes in the Central Region are in less need of major repair compared with both the provincial and national averages.
- The need for major repairs decreased between 2001 and 2006.

Income Assistance Caseload - Trends

Average Income Assistance Caseload
Central Region by Fiscal Year

- As with provincial results, the number of income assistance cases in the Central Region is declining.

Source: Department Of Community Services, ESIA Data, 2000 – 2007.
Aging Income Assistance Caseload

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

Source: Department Of Community Services, ESIA Data, 2000 – 2007. *Information reflects most recent data

As with the population, the average age of the Central Region’s client caseload is rising.
Education and the ESIA Caseload

Highest Educational Attainment of Identified Clients for Income Assistance, Central Region, Fiscal Year 2006/07 *

- Some post-secondary 11%
- < than grade 9 21%
- Secondary complete 28%
- Secondary incomplete 40%

• 39% of the Central Region’s income assistance cases have completed high school or beyond.

Source: Department Of Community Services, ESIA Data, 2000 – 2007. *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/
