



LUNENBURG COUNTY'S

VitalSigns®

Partners for growth



**Taking the Pulse of Our Community
October 2010**

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Lunenburg County's Vital Signs® is a project of the Lunenburg County Community Fund, which operates under the auspices of the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia, and is part of Community Foundations of Canada. For more information, please contact Allison at the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia at 1-877-999-5907.

Special thanks to our Print Sponsors:



Welcome to Lunenburg County's Vital Signs!®

*"Alone we can do so little,
but together we can do so much"*

-Helen Keller

October 5, 2010

We are most fortunate to live in a place that is so rich in history and natural beauty. From sandy beaches to wilderness parks, cycling to sailing, ship building to high-tech, we have it all right here in our own backyards.

We also share a great responsibility to ensure that we, and our children, can continue to enjoy what makes Lunenburg County such a great place to live.

Our ever-changing world brings many wonderful opportunities to our County, but it also exposes us to certain threats. Declining natural resources, market changes, shifting population patterns and increasing costs present challenges that require careful reflection and forward thinking. We must look at ways where we can all work together to identify common needs, create common solutions, and build a future that instills pride in our hearts.

The Lunenburg County Community Fund (LCCF) is a new charitable fund established by Lunenburg County residents. Its mission is to support those initiatives that help sustain and improve our shared quality of life.

The LCCF's first project was Lunenburg County's Vital Signs.® Here, we have collected data from Statistics Canada and other reputable sources to give us a snapshot of where we are today on a number of measures that you, the community, have told us are important. This report also includes your feedback on how you feel about some of the data that we have uncovered.

The LCCF will use this report to engage the broad community of Lunenburg County - including volunteer organizations, governing policy makers, and individuals wishing to give something back to their community - over the coming months and years. Our goal is to bring the community together so that we, as local citizens, can decide where we want to go and how we're going to get there. This report is really just the beginning.

We, the members of the LCCF, are excited about Lunenburg County's Vital Signs.® We encourage you to read it and then consider how you can help make Lunenburg County even better.

All the best in our future,

Lunenburg County Community Fund Executive.

The Lunenburg County Community Fund operates under the auspices of the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia, a member of Community Foundations of Canada.

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Background and Methodology

Lunenburg County's Vital Signs® is a snapshot of our County. Its purpose is to give local community members a better understanding of our quality of life. We believe Lunenburg County is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family, and we want to know more about our strengths and weaknesses in order to plan today for a better tomorrow.

Presented in this report is a myriad of facts and statistics. It is easy to get lost in the data! Here are some suggestions for how you can use Vital Signs:®

READ: Find out about our County by reading this report. See where the gaps are, what assets we have, and identify the trends.

DISCUSS: Reading the report is the first step, but we can't keep the knowledge to ourselves. Talk about the issues that matter to you with your neighbours, co-workers, family, friends, and local leaders.

LEARN: Pick out the issues in the report that you feel strongest about and learn more. Do some research, call local agencies, and take the time to understand as much of the issue as possible.

REFLECT: No asset or issue exists in isolation - all have an impact on each other. Your support of an issue creates new possibilities throughout our County.

CONTACT: Give us a call or send us an email. We can help you get connected with others seeking solutions just like you!

ACT: Advocate, initiate, and participate! There are plenty of things we can do in our own lives to affect change, and plenty more that we can do and/or speak up about. Here, in this report, you will find small, tangible things that we all can do as individuals and families to make a difference.

SHARE: Help spread the word. Give a copy of Lunenburg County's Vital Signs® to your neighbours, or encourage them to download one from www.cfns.ca, and help them get involved.

Methodology

Vital Signs® is based on a series of Community Engagement Goals. These goals are:

- To highlight areas of need so we can encourage further dialogue and response from institutions, public leaders, charitable organizations and citizens;

- To encourage cross-sector, holistic thinking on the overall vitality of our County and provide impetus for cross-sector initiatives; and
- To build community capacity through shared knowledge for good decision-making and further planning.

The Lunenburg County Community Fund worked with a Sounding Board – a diverse group of community members from throughout the County who were broadly representative of our local demographics – to select Indicators addressing the broad needs and interests of the County. Citizen graders went through a selection of these Indicators according to a Grading Process and came up with Community Engagement priorities. You can read more about this process below and see the highlights of the report on the adjoining page.

Grading Process

A selection of Indicators was graded according to the following scale:

- 5 - Awesome! We're leading the way!
- 4 - Doing well, no action needed
- 3 - Not bad, but could do better
- 2 - Of concern, needs attention
- 1 - Terrible, in dire need of corrective action!

The grades assigned to each Indicator were then ranked and split into three distinct sections to identify priority areas. You can identify these areas throughout the report based on the following colours:

- Low Priority
- Medium Priority
- High Priority

Much of the data used in this report was obtained from the Centre for the Study of Living Standards and our Provincial Community Counts website which, in turn, was sourced from Statistics Canada's census and other provincial and national surveys. Sometimes data that was specific to the County was hard to find and, as a result, some data covers different geographic regions or could not be reported. For a complete listing of all data sources, please see the Sources section at the end of this report.

This report, while useful in comparing Lunenburg County to other regions, was not written with that intent. Rather, we have established a baseline upon which we can compare our County then to our County now and identify significant trends. Our hope is that this report will start community dialogues to deal with pressing issues and to make the most of opportunities.

Report Highlights

This report provides a factual document that is accessible and useful to groups and individuals working in various ways to improve life here in Lunenburg County. We hope it becomes a common tool that can help foster innovative thinking and constructive activity that will improve our lives now, and in the future.

Our impetus from the beginning was to ensure that we offered data that reflected the whole County and not just one district, one town, or one region. There are many initiatives at play within various jurisdictions of the County; however we remained committed to bringing a broader view of the situation to all our discussions. We have tried to look at what will help Lunenburg County, comprised of three towns (Mahone Bay, Lunenburg and Bridgewater) and two municipalities (Chester and Lunenburg). This requires all of us to take a much wider view of the issues. It requires patience, tolerance, respect and a commitment to the greater good. It also requires us to think differently about how we can create the solutions we need.

This report confirms that there is much to be proud of here in Lunenburg County.

- Our rates of charitable giving are higher than the provincial and national averages.
- We exceed the provincial average of affordable housing.
- Our violent and property crime rates are well below the provincial and national averages.
- Our wait times for certain medical procedures are generally shorter than those in other parts of our province.
- Our poverty rates are well below the provincial and national averages.

These are all strengths that help to explain why we love to live here. They also present great opportunities for us that we can build on. Who wouldn't want to live and raise a young family in an area where you have a decent chance to buy a nice house, at a reasonable price, in a safe neighbourhood and have access to the services your family needs? These facts need to be shared and promoted!

We also need to ensure that other features of a vital community exist and thrive in Lunenburg County.

There are several key data areas that are clearly related to the future of our County.

- The changing demographics of our community have dramatic implications for our workplaces, our education and health care systems, and our social and cultural environments. The decline of our total population of those 34 years and under, coupled with the growth of the population of those over 55, should give us very serious pause for reflection on what Lunenburg County will look like in 2020.
- The changing nature of our County's economy, with a declining role for the resource sector including agriculture, fisheries and forestry, will challenge our thinking about where the jobs will be in the future. Manufacturing continues to be the biggest employer; however it too is experiencing challenges. The loss of jobs in all sectors creates a difficult environment for young people wanting to work in Lunenburg County.
- Our literacy rates and high school completion rates lag behind the provincial and national averages. Employers seeking a skilled workforce face a number of issues.
- There are issues around health and wellness in our County. Our smoking and obesity rates are significantly above the provincial and national averages, and our rates of physical activity are behind the provincial and national averages.

We need a strong economy to sustain a community of mixed ages. We also need a strong economy to support the infrastructure that will ensure services are provided to all members of our community in health care, education, policing, arts, culture, and recreation.

The beauty of the Vital Signs® initiative is that it is driven by common ordinary citizens who share a passion for Lunenburg County. **We have the power collectively to make a difference;** no longer can we look outside for the solutions to our challenges. In that spirit, we encourage you to read this report and then consider how you can help Lunenburg County. We all need to act now - so our home will continue to be a great place to live.

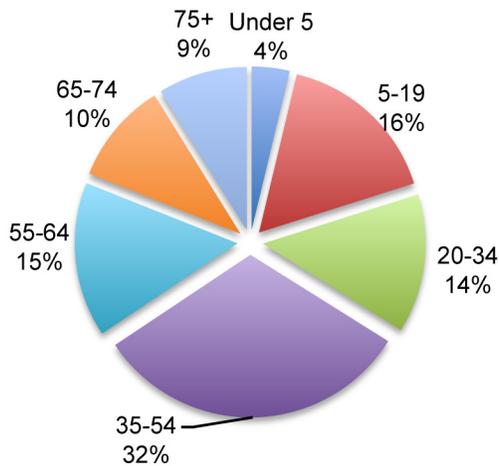
A Snapshot of Lunenburg County



Total Population

In 2006, the population of Lunenburg County was 47,150, which represented 5.2% of the provincial population. The population has **declined by 0.9%** from 47,594 in 2001.

Population by Selected Age Groups (2006)



Median Age

In May 2006, the median age in Lunenburg County was 46.0 years. This was up 3.4 years from a median age of 42.6 years in 2001. Compared to the provincial and national averages, the median age for Lunenburg County was **10.0% higher** than the provincial level of 41.8 years and **16.5% higher** than the national level of 39.5 years.

Child and Youth Net Out-Migration

From 2006-2007, Lunenburg County lost 19 people under the age of 17 to out-migration and 246 people between the ages of 17 and 24 years.

Family Structure (2006)

More than half, or 56%, of the married families in Lunenburg County have no children at home, while 60% of common-law families have no children at home.

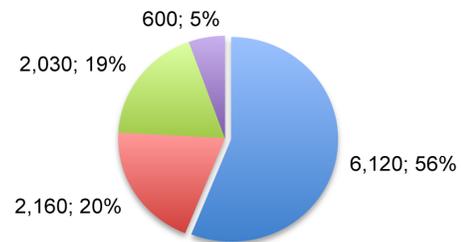
Twenty percent of the married families in Lunenburg County have one child at home, compared to 65% of the lone-parent families and 27% of common-law families.

Nineteen percent of the married families in Lunenburg County have two children at home, compared to 26% of the lone-parent families and 10% of the common-law families.

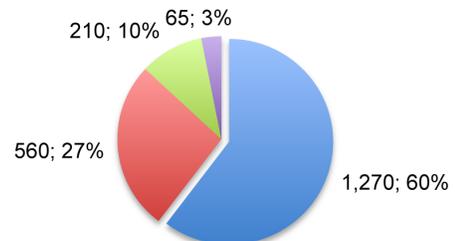
Only 5% of the married families in Lunenburg County have three or more children at home, compared to 9% of lone-parent families and 3% of common-law families.

Married Families

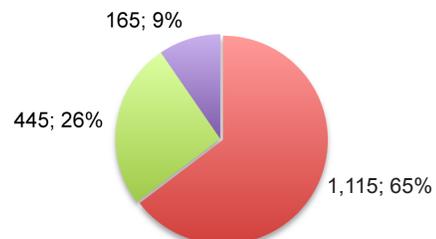
- With no children at home
- 1 child at home
- 2 children at home
- 3 or more children at home



Common-Law Families

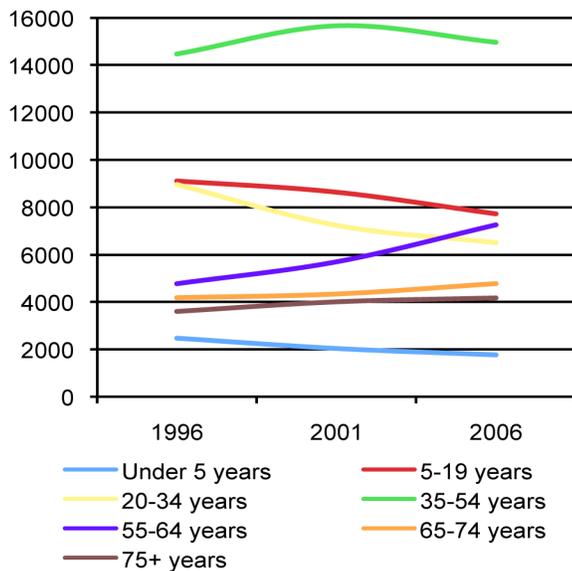


Lone-Parent Families



A Snapshot of Lunenburg County

Changing Demographics



From 1996 to 2006, the under 5 years demographic experienced the biggest decline of all age groups, **dropping 28.5%** from 2,470 people in 1996, to 1,765 people in 2006. This was followed closely by the 20-34 age bracket, which experienced a **27.3% decline** from 8,950 to 6,505 people, and the 5-19 age bracket which experienced a **15.3% decline** from 9,115 to 7,720 people over the same period. Overall, the total population of those 34 years and under within the County has **declined 22.1%** from 20,535 people in 1996 to 15,990 people in 2006, while the population of those 55 years and over has **grown 29.1%** from 12,550 people in 1996 to 16,200 in 2006.

Provincially, a similar trend has occurred over the same time period, with the under 5 years demographic again experiencing the biggest decline of all age groups, **dropping 24.7%** from 55,855 people in 1996, to 42,045 people in 2006. This was followed closely by the 20-34 years-old age bracket, which experienced an **18.8% decline** from 199,555 to 162,000 people, and the 5-19 years age bracket which experienced an **11.0% decline** from 186,270 to 165,830 people over the same period. Overall, the total population of those 34 years and under within the province has **declined 16.3%** from 441,680 people in 1996, to 369,875 people in 2006, while the population of those 55 years and over has **grown 29.9%** from 198,665 people in 1996, to 258,025 in 2006.

Nationally, the under 5 years demographic also experienced the biggest decline of all age groups, **dropping 11.8%** from 1,917,810 people in 1996, to 1,690,550 people in 2006. The 20-34 years-old age bracket **dropped 4.9%**, from 6,396,965 to 6,086,180 people, while the 5-19 years age bracket actually **increased by 1.5%** from 5,942,610 in 1996, to 6,029,805 in 2006. Overall, the total population of those 34 years and under across the country has **declined 3.2%** from 14,257,385 people in 1996, to 13,806,535 people in 2006, while the population of those 55 years and over has **grown 33.1%** from 6,017,225 people in 1996, to 8,009,725 in 2006.

As identified in the table below, the rate at which Lunenburg County's under 34 years of age demographic has declined has far out-paced both the provincial and national rates. Lunenburg County's increase in the 35-54 years-old demographic and the 65+ years demographic has not been as dramatic as the provincial and national trends, while Lunenburg County's growth in the 55-64 years-old demographic has outpaced both the provincial and national averages.

Comparisons to Provincial and National Rates of % Demographic Change from 1996-2006

Age	Lunenburg County	Nova Scotia	Canada	Lunenburg County compared to Nova Scotia	Lunenburg County compared to Canada
Under 5	- 28.5%	- 24.7%	- 11.8%	+15.4%	+ 2.4%
5-19 years	- 15.3%	- 11.0%	+ 1.5%	+39.1%	+ 10.2 %
20-34 years	- 27.3%	- 18.8%	- 4.9%	+45.2%	+ 5.5%
35-54 years	+ 3.4%	+ 6.2%	+ 14.3%	-45.2%	-76.2%
55-64 years	+ 52.1%	+ 50.6%	+ 47.6%	+3.0%	+9.5%
65 + years	+ 15.0%	+ 16.0%	+ 22.9%	-6.3%	-34.5%

Did you know?

Lunenburg County contains the following five municipalities:

- Municipality of Chester (eastern section of county)
- Municipality of Lunenburg (western section of county)
- Town of Bridgewater
- Town of Lunenburg
- Town of Mahone Bay

Getting Started and Belonging

Migration

In 2006, in Lunenburg County, 1.6% of the population had lived outside the province within the previous year, compared to 2.1% provincially and 1.9% nationally. Also in 2006, 5.3% of the population had lived outside the province within the last 5 years.

Immigration

In 2006, the foreign-born population in Lunenburg County was 2,115 persons or 4.5% of the total population. This compares to the provincial share of 5.0% of the population, and the national share of 19.8% of the population. Lunenburg County's foreign-born population has **grown 4.4%** from 4.3% from 2,025 persons in 2001 to 2,115 persons in 2006.

Visible Minorities

In 2006, the visible minority population in Lunenburg County was 405 persons or 0.9% of the total population. This compares to the provincial share of 4.2% of the population, and the national share of 16.2%. Lunenburg County's visible minority population has **dropped 6.9%** from 434 in 2001 to 405 in 2006.

Sense of Belonging

In 2009, in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 71.9% of respondents reported a strong or somewhat strong sense of community belonging. This rate was **1.1% above** the provincial rate of 71.1% and **9.9% above** the national average of 65.4%.

Volunteerism

In 2010, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 54.8% of respondents reported participation in volunteer activities. This is **on par** with the national average for the same year.

Charitable Giving

In 2007, 24.6% of all tax filers in Lunenburg County made charitable donations. This rate is **7.0% above** the provincial rate of 23.0% and **2.5% above** the national rate of 24.0%.

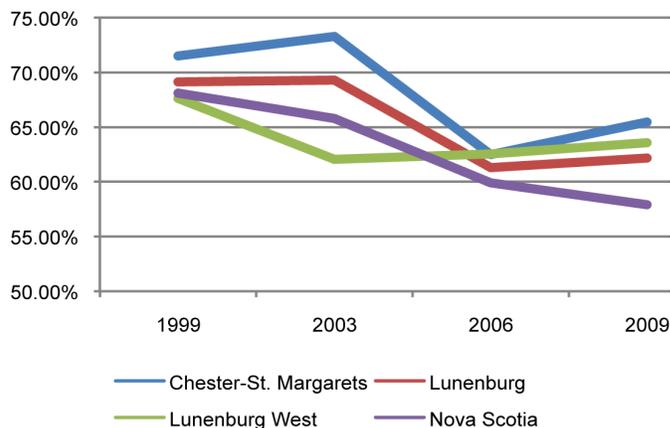
Life Satisfaction

In 2009, in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 91.1% of respondents reported that they were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall life. The rate is **0.7% below** the provincial rate of 91.7% and **1.1% below** the national rate of 92.1%.

Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate in the Region was **down 2.4%** from the 2008 level of 93.3%.

Voter Turnout

Nova Scotia General Elections Voter Turnout 1999-2009 (% of electors who voted by electoral district)



Adopt a Library Donation

Vital Voice

"I think this is a pretty great place to live. If heaven is any better – that's going to be something!"

Housing



Average Monthly Mortgage Payments

In 2006, in Lunenburg County, the average household mortgage payment was \$607. This amount is **20.2% below** the provincial average of \$761 and **39.2% below** the national average of \$998. The 2006 rate for Lunenburg County is **up 18.8%** from 2001 when the average household mortgage payment was \$511.

Average Monthly Rent Payments

In 2006, in Lunenburg County, the average monthly rent was \$598. This amount is **10.9% below** the provincial average of \$671 and **17.9% below** the national average of \$728. The 2006 rate for Lunenburg County is **up 15.4%** from 2001, when the average monthly rent was \$518.

Housing Units Requiring Major Repair

In 2006, in Lunenburg County, 10.2% of all dwelling units were in need of major repair. This rate was **7.4% above** the provincial level of 9.5% and **36.0% above** the national level of 7.5%. At the same time, 39.2% of all dwellings in Lunenburg County were built before 1961. This proportion is **17.8% higher** than the provincial average of 33.3%.

Affordable Housing

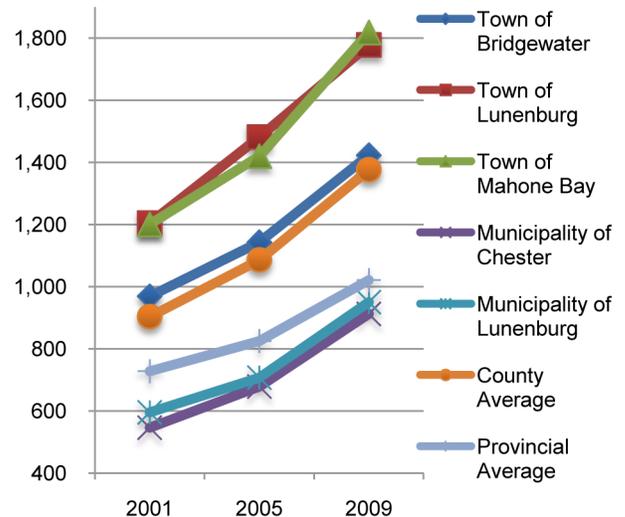
(The cost of adequate shelter should not exceed 30% of total household income. Housing which costs less than this is considered affordable.)

In 2006, 17.1% of all households in Lunenburg County spent more than 30% of their income on rent or major payments. This rate is **24.0% below** the provincial average of 22.5%.

Homelessness

In the 2009-2010 winter season, 8 churches and 80 volunteers worked together to operate "Inn from the Cold Bridgewater". The program housed 100 overnight stays to 15 individuals ranging from 13 to 75 years of age.

Residential Tax Burden (\$)

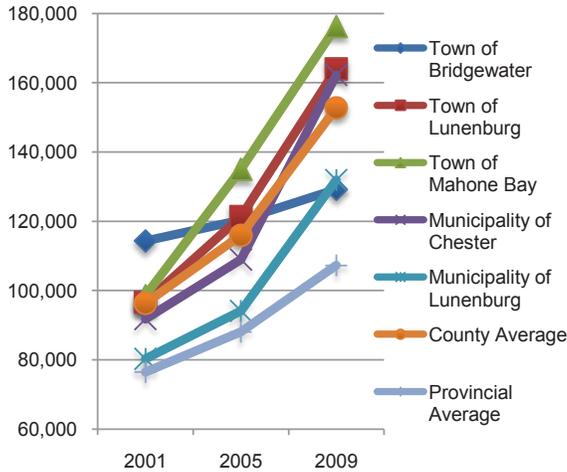


In 2009, the residential tax burden was highest in the Town of Mahone Bay, where the average payment was \$1,818, followed by the Town of Lunenburg at \$1,778, and the Town of Bridgewater at \$1,423. The lowest residential tax burden was in the Municipality of Chester, where it was \$912. The average residential tax burden for the County was \$1,376 in 2009 and \$1,021 for the province.

From 2001-2009, the residential tax burden in the Municipality of Chester grew the most at 67.0%, followed by the Municipality of Lunenburg at 59.7% and the Town of Mahone Bay at 51.4%. The average increase for the County during the same time period was 52.4%, while for the province it was 40.4%.

Housing

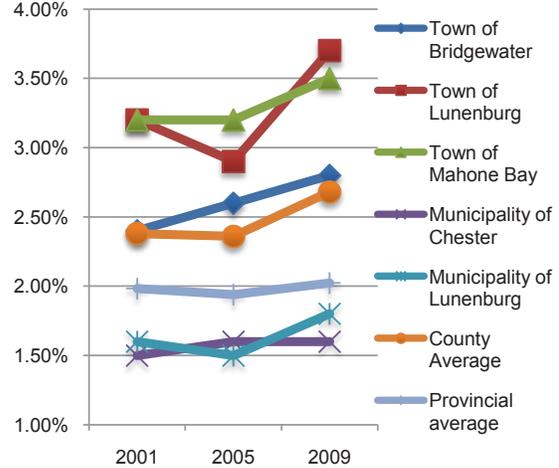
Property Assessments (\$)



In 2009, property assessments were highest in the Town of Mahone Bay, where the average property was assessed at \$176,223, followed by the Town of Lunenburg at \$164,004, and the Municipality of Chester at \$162,283. The lowest property assessments were in the Town of Bridgewater, where the average property was assessed at \$129,231. The average property assessment in the County was \$152,731 in 2009, and \$107,245 for the province.

From 2001-2009, property assessments grew the most in the Town of Mahone Bay at 78.7%, followed by the Municipality of Chester at 76.8%, and the Town of Lunenburg at 69.8%. The average increase for the County during the same time period was 58.6%, while for the province it was 40.2%.

Residential Tax Burden/Average Household Income



In 2009, the residential tax burden in relation to the average household income was the highest in the Town of Lunenburg at 3.7%, followed by the Town of Mahone Bay at 3.5%, and the Town of Bridgewater at 2.8%. The lowest burden was in the Municipality of Chester at 1.6%. The average for the County was 2.7% in 2009, while for the province it was 2.0%.

From 2001-2009, the residential tax burden in relation to the average household income grew the most in the Town of Bridgewater at 16.7%, followed by the Town of Lunenburg at 15.6%, and the Municipality of Lunenburg at 12.5%. The average increase for the County during the same time period was 12.6%, while for the province it was 2.0%.



Vital Voices

“Low income housing is a big concern for seniors and others.”

“Safe housing is a key determinant of health and we must pay close attention to this.”

“Many people cannot afford to make needed repairs.”

- Community Graders

Learning

Library Use

In 2008, on the South Shore (which includes Lunenburg County), 3.70 items were circulated per person. This was **down 6.1%** from 2000, when 3.94 items were circulated per person.

Literacy

In 2003, the average adult literacy score for prose (the knowledge and skills needed to understand and use information from reading texts such as newspaper stories, brochures and instruction manuals) in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was 257. This score was **7.2% below** the provincial average of 277, and **5.6% below** the national average of 272.

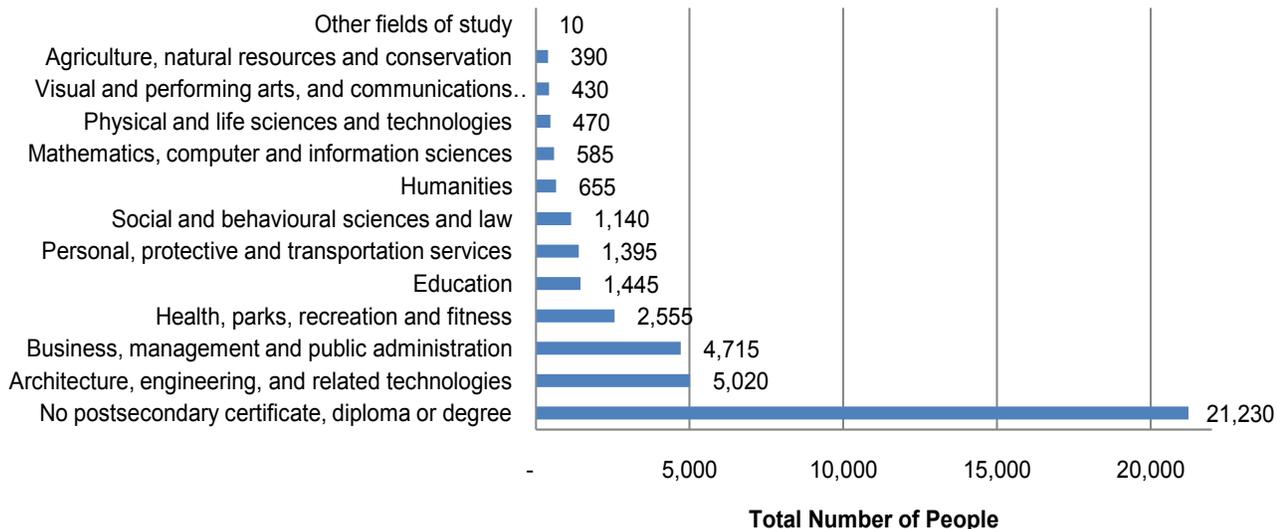
A score in the range of 276-325 means that a person can understand and use the information they need for daily life. Experts believe this literacy level is needed to get and keep a job in a knowledge-based economy. A score falling below 276 means that a person would have difficulty dealing with printed material.

Public School Enrolment P-12 (2005-2010)

As set out in the table below, public school enrolment in Lunenburg County has declined approximately 2.6% annually for the past five years, resulting in a **10.0% overall drop** from 2005 to 2010.

Year	Enrolment	% Change
2005/06	6,643	
2006/07	6,463	-2.7%
2007/08	6,295	-2.6%
2008/09	6,109	-3.0%
2009/10	5,976	-2.2%

Major Field of Study – 15+ years (2006)



Completion of High School

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 67.0% of the population aged 15 years and older had completed high school. This rate was **11.0% below** the provincial rate of 75.3%, and **15.2% below** the national rate of 79.0%.

Completion of Post-Secondary Education

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 45.2% of the population had completed post-secondary education (university degree, post-secondary certificate or diploma). This rate was **10.1% below** the provincial average of 50.3%, and **11.0% below** the national average of 50.8%.

Major Field of Study – 15+ years (2006)

As set out in the chart below, **more than half**, or 53%, of the total labour force in Lunenburg County does not have any post-secondary education. The next three largest categories of study undertaken by the labour force are: architecture, engineering, and related technologies at 12.5%; business, management and public administration at 11.8%; and health, parks, recreation and fitness at 6.4%.

Arts and Recreation



Annual Spending on Social Clubs or Organizations

In 2006, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 35.5% of the population reported spending on dues for social clubs and other organizations. This rate is **13.6% below** the provincial rate of 41.1%, and **14.7% below** the national rate of 41.6%. The 2006 rate for Lunenburg County is also **down 5.6%** from its 2002 rate of 37.6%.

Participation in Social Clubs

In 2008, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 20.2% of the population reported participating in clubs. This participation rate was **up 40.3%** from the 2005 rate of 14.4%.

Annual Spending on the Performing Arts

In 2008, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 22.7% of the population reported spending on performing arts events. This was **down 25.6%** from 2007, when 30.5% reported exposure.

Annual Spending on Internet Services

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), approximately half, or 51.4%, of the population reported spending on internet services. This rate has been generally increasing since 2005, when 40.9% of the population reported spending on internet services. The 2009 rate is below the national average.

Annual Spending on Museums

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 27.2% of the population reported spending on museum activities. This rate is **up 34.7%** from the 2008 rate of 20.2%, but **down 30.8%** from the 2007 level of 39.2%. The 2009 rate is **on par** with the national average.

Use of Recreation Facilities

In 2007, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 20.2% of the population reported use of recreation facilities. This rate is **2.0% above** the provincial rate of 19.8% and **8.0% above** the national rate of 18.7%. Compared to previous years, the 2007 rate is **2.4% below** the rates in 2002 and 2006 which were both 20.7%.

Annual Spending on Sports and Recreation Facilities

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 29.7% of the population reported spending on sports and recreation facilities. This rate is **down 16.3%** from 35.5% in 2007, and **down 6.0%** from 31.6% in 2006. This rate is **below** the national average.

Annual Spending on Reading Materials

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 67.0% of the population reported spending on reading materials. This rate has been generally decreasing since 2005 when 85.5% of the population reported spending on reading materials. The 2009 rate is on par with the national average.



Safety



Violent Crime Rate

In 2009, at 108 incidents per 10,000 people, the violent crime rate in Lunenburg County was **34.5% below** the provincial average of 165 incidents per 10,000 people, and **17.6% below** the national average of 131 incidents per 10,000 people.

Compared to previous years, the 2009 rate was **down 4.4%** from 113 incidents per 10,000 people in 2008, and **down 19.4%** from 134 incidents per 10,000 people in 2003, the earliest year for which data are available.

Property Crime Rate

In 2009, at 272 incidents per 10,000 people, the property crime rate in Lunenburg County was **34.9% below** the provincial average of 418 incidents per 10,000 people, and **33.3% below** the national average of 408 incidents per 10,000 people.

Compared to previous years, the 2009 rate was **up 2.6%** from 265 incidents per 10,000 people in 2008, but **down 19.5%** from 338 per 10,000 in 2003, the earliest year for which data are available.

Youth Crime Rate

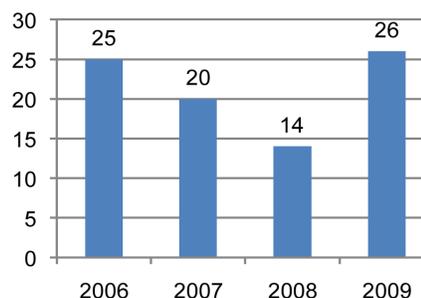
In 2008, at 248 incidents per 10,000 people, the youth crime rate in Lunenburg County was **32.4% lower** than the provincial rate of 367 incidents per 10,000 people.

Compared to the previous year, the 2008 youth crime rate for Lunenburg County was nearly **three times higher** than the 2007 rate, when there were only 91 incidents of youth crime per 10,000 people.

Number of Police Officers

As of August 19, 2010, there were 78 police officers in Lunenburg County. This represents a rate of 16.5 of-ficers per 10,000 people. This rate is **17.5% below** the provincial rate of 20.0 police officers per 10,000 people, and **15.7% below** the national rate of 19.6 police officers per 10,000 people.

Domestic Violence Reports (Bridgewater)



The number of domestic violence incidents reported to police in Bridgewater nearly doubled from 14 in 2008, to 26 in 2009, the highest level in the past four years. Prior to 2009, the number of reported incidents had been on the decline.

Harbour House

Harbour House is a transition house which offers crisis and transitional services to women and their children experiencing violence and abuse in Lunenburg and Queens Counties. The statistics for its 2009-2010 fiscal year are as follows:

Counseling Sessions: 923
Distress Calls: 372
New Admissions: 86
Children (with their mothers): 35
Readmissions: 13

As of April 13, 2010, there were 113 open files, comprised of 92 Adults and 21 Children, in Lunenburg County. Of these 113 open files, 78 involved family violence, 18 were at high risk for murder and/or suicide, and 11 involved sexual assaults.

Vital Voices

"I feel safe on the streets!"

"We need to better understand the contributors to youth crime and how they can be reduced."

- Community Graders

Health

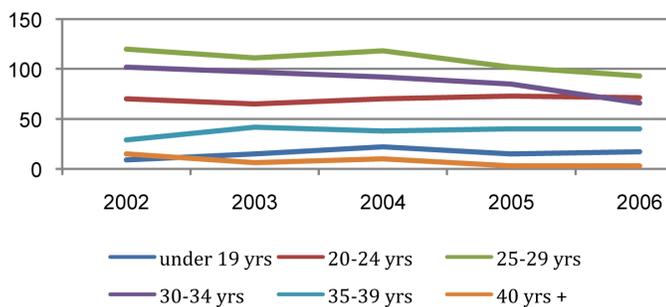
Low Birth Weight Babies

From 2008-2009, the proportion of babies born with a low birth weight in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was 4.3%. This rate was **21.8% below** the provincial rate of 5.5%, and **28.3% below** the national rate of 6.0%. It was also **down 28.3%** from the 2007-2008 rate of 6.0%.

Live Births

Between 2005 and 2007, the live birth rate for Lunenburg County remained relatively stable with a rate of 13.2 live births for every 1,000 females resident in the County in 2007, 11.9 in 2006 and 13.1 in 2005.

Live Births by Age of Mother



Physical Activity Rate

In 2009, 43.5% of the population in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) reported being physically active or moderately active during leisure time. This rate is **16.0% below** the provincial rate of 51.8%, and **17.1% below** the national rate of 52.5%.

Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate is **down 8.0%** from the 2008 rate of 47.3%.

Obesity Rate

In 2009, the obesity rate in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was 30.1%. This rate is **23.9% higher** than the provincial rate of 24.3%, and **68.2% higher** than the national rate of 17.9%.

Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate is **down 8.5%** from the 2008 rate of 32.9%

Smoking Rate

In 2009, 27.8% of the population in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) indicated that they currently smoked. This rate is **19.3% higher** than the provincial rate of 23.3%, and **38.3% higher** than the national rate of 20.1%.

Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate is **down 6.7%** from the 2008 rate of 29.8%.

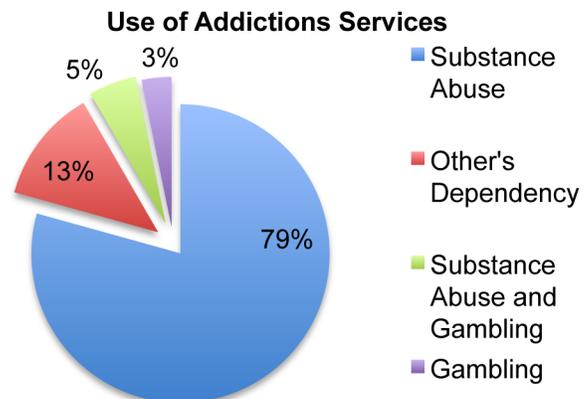
Self-rated Mental Health

In 2009, 66.0% of respondents in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) rated their mental health status as “excellent” or “very good.” This rate was **11.4% below** the provincial rate of 74.5%, and **10.7% below** the national rate of 73.9%.

Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate was **up 5.8%** from 62.4% in 2008.

Addictions Services Utilization

In 2001, 778 clients in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) utilized Addictions Services. Of this total, 79.3% of these clients sought help for substance abuse, 12.3% sought help for another’s dependency, 5.1% sought help for substance abuse and gambling, and 3.2% sought help for gambling alone.



Life Expectancy

In 2001, at 79.3 years, the life expectancy in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was **0.6% higher** than the provincial rate of 78.8 years, and **0.3% lower** than the national rate of 79.5 years.

Life expectancy in the Region has **increased by 1.5 years** since 1997, when the average life expectancy was 77.8 years.

Mortality by Cause and Gender

In 2007, the most common cause of death for men (86 deaths) and women (75 deaths) in Lunenburg County was **diseases of the circulatory system**. For all of Nova Scotia, the most common cause of death for men (1,309 deaths) was **cancer** and the most common cause of death for women (1,270 cases) was **diseases of the circulatory system**.

Health

Cancer Rates – Top three cancers for women and men in Lunenburg County (incidences per 10,000 people; 2003-2007)

		Types of Cancer	Lunenburg County	Nova Scotia
Women	1	Breast	10.4	10.5
	2	Gastro-Intestinal	7.1	7.7
	3	Respiratory	5.2	5.7
Men	1	Genito-Urinary	20.9	19.4
	2	Gastro-Intestinal	11.0	12.0
	3	Respiratory	8.1	9.1

As demonstrated in the table above, gastro-intestinal and respiratory cancers are the second and third most common cancers amongst both men and women in Lunenburg County. Lunenburg County's incident rate of genito-urinary cancer is **7.7% higher** than the provincial rate, while its gastro-intestinal and respiratory cancer rates are **below** the provincial rates.

Palliative Care Patients who Die at Home

From 2006-2007, 27.0% of palliative care patients in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County) died at home. This is **down 28.9%** from 2005-2006, when 38.0% did so, and **down 32.5%** from 2004-2005, when 40.0% did so.

Proportion of the Population with a Regular Doctor

In 2009, in the South Shore District Health Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 91.5% of the population reported that they had a regular medical doctor. This rate was **2.5% below** the provincial average of 93.8%, and **7.8% above** the national average of 84.9%.

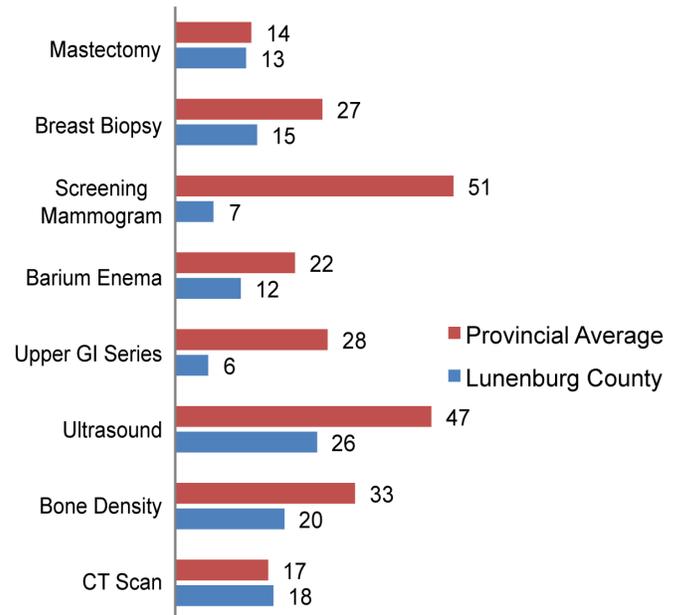
Compared to the previous year, the 2009 rate was **down 2.9%** from 94.2% in 2008.

For a list of family doctors accepting new patients visit: www.gov.ns.ca/health/physicians/

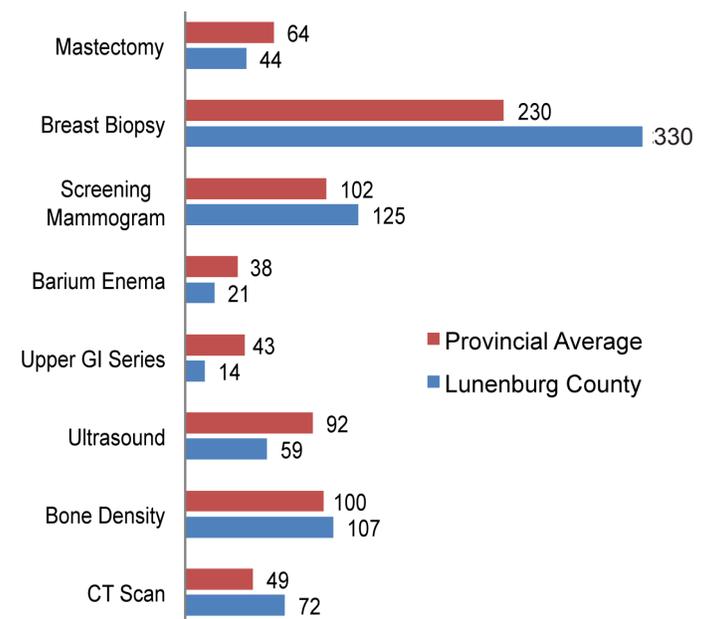
Wait Times for Procedures

Between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2010, in the South Shore Health District Health Authority (which includes Lunenburg County), the following procedures were completed within the specified time period:

Wait times for selected procedures: Number of days within which 50% of all patients are seen



Wait times for selected procedures: Number of days within which 90% of all patients are seen



Vital Voice

“We must focus on prevention of health problems as much as remediation.”

- A Community Grader

Gap Between Rich and Poor

Overall Poverty Rate

In 2005, the overall poverty rate for Lunenburg County, based on the **Low Income Cut-Off** (after tax), was 7.2%. This was **25.0% lower** than the provincial rate of 9.6%, and **36.8% lower** than the national rate of 11.4% for the same year.

Child Poverty Rate

In 2005, the child poverty rate for Lunenburg County based on the **Low Income Cut-Off** (after tax), was 7.8%. This was **32.2% lower** than the provincial rate of 11.5%, and **40.5% lower** than the national rate of 13.1% for the same year.

Low Income Seniors

In 2006, 6.6% of Lunenburg County's seniors were considered low income based on the **Low Income Measure**. This is slightly higher than in 2005 when 6.5% of seniors were considered low income. The 2006 level is even with the 2004 level.



A food bank worker prepares sourdough bread.



A volunteer tends to a community garden in Bridgewater.

Positive Recreation Opportunities for Kids

The P.R.O. Kids Program is available in both Lunenburg and Chester Municipalities. The program provides financial assistance to children and youth who, due to lack of funds, are not able to participate in sport, recreation and cultural activities. The Chester Municipality P.R.O. Kids program had 122 applicants between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 and 87 applicants in 2007.

Vital Voices

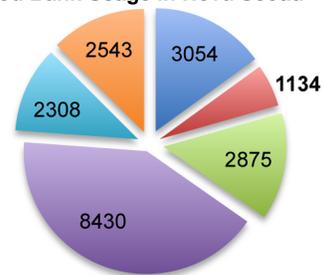
"Everyone should be above the poverty line. We need to get the economy moving and create jobs and work for people. For those not able to work, a social network/support system needs to be improved."

"Nobody should want for food, especially food that is grown in our province."

Food Bank Usage

In 2009, in the South Shore Region, 1,134 individuals accessed a food bank at least once. This rate is **up 18%** from 2008. In Nova Scotia as a whole, 20,344 individuals accessed a food bank at least once in 2009. This rate is **up 20%** from 2008.

Food Bank Usage in Nova Scotia



- Annapolis Valley - Yarmouth (up 18% from 2008-2009)
- South Shore (up 18% from 2008-2009)
- Colchester - East Hants - Cumberland (up 36% from 2008-2009)
- Halifax Regional Municipality (up 23% from 2008-2009)
- Antigonish - Guysborough - Pictou (up 8% from 2008-2009)
- Cape Breton (up 3% from 2008-2009)

Getting Around

Transportation to Work (Driving)

In 2006, 92.1% of the working population in Lunenburg County drove to work. This rate is **9.5% above** the provincial rate of 84.1% for the same year.

The 2006 rate for Lunenburg County is **up 1.5%** from its rate of 90.7% in 2001.

Transportation to Work (Walking)

In 2006, 6.0% of the working population in Lunenburg County walked to work. This rate is **26.8% below** the provincial rate of 8.2% for the same year.

The 2006 walking-to-work rate for Lunenburg County is also **10.4% below** its 2001 rate of 6.7%.

Transportation to Work (Bicycling)

In 2006, 0.2% of the working population in Lunenburg County bicycled to work. This rate is **less than half** the provincial rate of 0.7% for the same year.

The 2006 biking-to-work rate for Lunenburg County is **33.3% below** its 2001 rate of 0.3%.

Public Transportation

Lunenburg County does not currently have a publicly-funded, county-wide transportation system.

Community Wheels Usage

In the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the Community Wheels bus provided 1,993 one way trips for the residents of Chester Municipality and logged 17,963 kms of travel. In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, Community Wheels provided 2,283 one way trips and logged 19,372 kms of travel.



Commuting-to-Work Patterns

Top Three Commuting Destinations for Each Municipal Unit in the County:

Place of Residence	Top Three Commuting Destinations for Work		
	1.	2.	3.
MD of Chester	MD of Chester (54.4%)	Halifax (26.4%)	Bridgewater (6.9%)
Mahone Bay	Mahone Bay (31.1%)	Bridgewater (28.9%)	Lunenburg (26.7%)
MD of Lunenburg	Bridgewater (53.8%)	MD of Lunenburg (18.2%)	Lunenburg (13.5%)
Lunenburg	Lunenburg (61.8%)	Bridgewater (13.2%)	MD of Lunenburg (11.2%)
Bridgewater	Bridgewater (78.1%)	MD of Lunenburg (7.3%)	Lunenburg (4.0%)

Employment and Economy



Median and Average Hourly Earnings

In 2009, **median** hourly earnings in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was \$14.42 (in current dollars). This rate was **11.5% below** the provincial rate of \$16.29, and **25.8% below** the national rate of \$19.43.

In 2009, **average** hourly earnings in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was \$16.70 (in current dollars). This rate is **12.1% below** the provincial rate of \$19.00, and **24.3% below** the national rate of \$22.05.

Median and Average Income

Note: From 2001 to 2006, inflation increased by 11.4%

Median Income (Males)			
	2001	2006	% change
Lunenburg County	23,971	28,409	+ 18.5%
Nova Scotia	25,426	30,916	+21.6%
LC: NS	- 6.1%	- 8.8%	

Average Income (Males)			
	2001	2006	% change
Lunenburg County	31,125	35,350	+ 13.6%
Nova Scotia	31,608	38,556	+ 22.0%
LC: NS	- 1.6%	- 9.1%	

In both 2001 and 2006, the median and average incomes for males in Lunenburg County were below the provincial average. In all instances however, the increase in both median and average incomes from 2001-2006 exceeded the rate of inflation of 11.4% over the same time period.

Median Income (Females)			
	2001	2006	% change
Lunenburg County	12,753	16,785	+ 31.6%
Nova Scotia	14,424	19,157	+ 32.8%
LC: NS	- 13.1%	- 14.1%	

Average Income (Females)			
	2001	2006	% change
Lunenburg County	16,679	22,665	+ 35.9%
Nova Scotia	19,318	25,420	+ 31.6%
LC: NS	- 15.8%	- 12.2%	

In both 2001 and 2006, the median and average incomes for females in Lunenburg county were below the provincial average. In all instances however, the increase in both median and average incomes from 2001-2006 nearly tripled the rate of inflation of 11.4% over the same time period. This large increase has helped narrow the income gap between males and females, but a large gap between male and female incomes remains overall.

Job-related Training

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), 21.5% of those employed reported participation in job-related training. This is up 14.4% from 18.8% in 2009, and up 2.4% from 21.0% in 2008. These rates are **on par** with the national average.

Work Absences

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), full-time workers were absent from work an average of 10.7 days (excluding days spent on maternity leave). This rate was **4.5% lower** than the provincial average of 11.2 missed days, and **10.3% higher** than the national average of 9.7 missed days.

Labour Force for Goods and Services

In 2009, in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County), the goods-producing sector accounted for 32.1% of the labour force while the services-producing sector accounted for 67.9% of the labour force. The Region's proportion of the goods-producing sector was **68.1% higher** than the provincial average of 19.1% and **44.6% higher** than the national average of 22.2%. The Region's proportion of the services-producing sector was **16.1% lower** than the provincial average of 80.9%, and **12.7% lower** than the national average of 77.8%

Employment and Economy

Industry Diversity by Total Labour Force Participation (2006)



Top Five Industries by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

	Rank	2001		Rank	2006		% Change (2001-06)	Change No. Employed
		No.	%		No.	%		
Manufacturing	1.	4,210	18.2%	1.	3,915	16.6%	- 7.0%	- 295
Retail trade	2.	2,950	12.7%	2.	2,920	12.4%	- 1.0%	- 30
Health Care and Social Assistance	3.	2,265	9.8%	3.	2,480	10.5%	9.5%	+ 215
Agriculture, Forestry Fishing/Hunting	4.	1,990	8.6%	5.	1,710	7.2%	- 14.1%	- 280
Accommodations/Food Services	5.	1,665	7.2%	6.	1,430	6.0%	- 14.1%	- 235
Construction	6.	1,640	7.1%	4.	1,965	8.3%	+ 19.8	+ 325

In 2001 and 2006, Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Health Care and Social Assistance were the dominant industries in Lunenburg County, accounting for 40.7% and 39.5%, respectively, of the total labour force. Within these three industries, the number of people working in the Manufacturing sector **dropped 7.0%**, or 295 workers, from 2001 to 2006, while those working in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector **grew 9.5%**, or 215 workers, during the same time period. The number of people working in Retail Trade remained relatively stable from 2001 to 2006, with a loss of 30 workers.

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting slipped from the fourth largest industry by labour force size in 2001, to fifth in 2006, reflecting a **decline of 14.1%**, or 280 workers. In 2006, Construction became the fourth largest industry by labour force size, **growing 19.8%**, or 325 workers, from 2001 to 2006.

Similarly, Accommodation and Food Services slipped from the fifth largest industry by labour force size in 2001, to sixth in 2006, reflecting a **decline of 14.1%**, or 235 workers.

Top Five Growth Industries by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

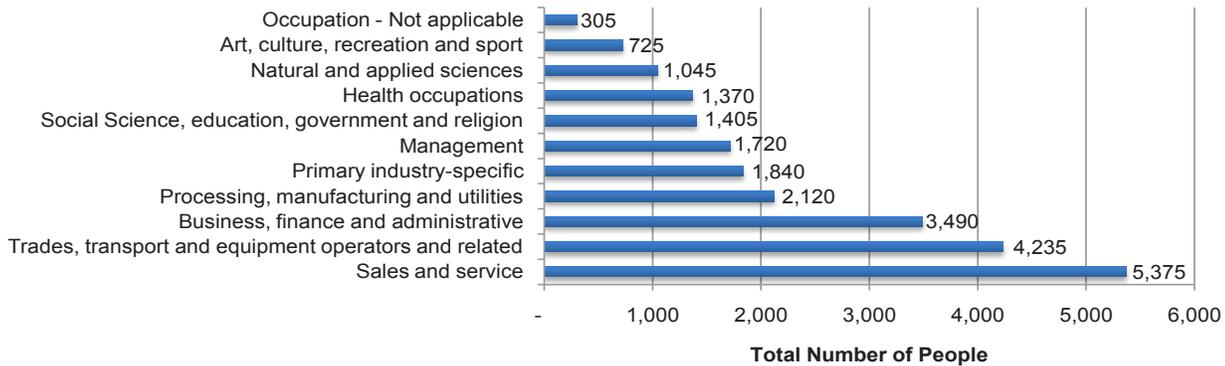
1. Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction (+118.2%, from 55-120)
2. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation (+52.7%, from 370-565)
3. Admin/ Support, Waste Mgmt and Remediation (+38.4%, from 990-1,370)
4. Wholesale Trade (+28.7%, from 540-695)
5. Construction (+19.8%, from 1,640-1,965)

Top Five Industries on the Decline by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

1. Utilities (-20.0%, from 100-80)
2. Finance and Insurance (-18.3%, from 545-445)
3. Accommodation and Food Services (-14.1%, from 1,665-1,430)
4. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (-14.1%, from 1,990-1710)
5. Manufacturing (-7.0%, from 4,210-3,915)

Employment and Economy

Occupation Diversity by Total Labour Force Participation (2006)



Top Five Occupations by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

Nearly 75% of Lunenburg County's total labour force is engaged in one of the following five occupations:

	2001		2006		% Change (2001-2006)	Change No. Employed
	No.	%	No.	%		
Sales and Service	5,500	24.2%	5,375	23.0%	- 2.3%	- 125
Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related	4,105	18.0%	4,235	18.2%	+ 3.2%	+ 130
Business, Finance and Administrative	2,935	12.9%	3,490	15.0%	+ 18.9%	+555
Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities	2,290	10.1%	2,120	9.1%	-7.4%	- 170
Primary Industry-Specific	2,020	8.9%	1,840	7.9%	- 8.9%	- 180

The five main occupations in Lunenburg County have not changed from 2001 to 2006, although there has been movement within the total labour force that is engaged in these five occupations over the same time period. Occupations in Business, Finance and Administration grew the most at **18.9%**, or 555 workers, from 2001 to 2006, followed by occupations in Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators and Related at 3.2%, or 130 workers, during the same time period. The number of people working in Sales and Service **dropped 2.3%**, or 125 workers, from 2001 to 2006, while the number of people working in Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities **dropped 7.4%**, or 170 workers, during the same time period. Primary Industry-Specific occupations experienced the biggest decline from 2001 to 2006, with an **8.9% drop**, or 180 workers.

Top Five Growth Occupations by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

1. Art, culture, recreation and sport (+31.8%, from 550-725)
2. Health occupations (+20.7%, from 1,135-1,370)
3. Business, finance and administrative (+18.9%, from 2,935-3,490)
4. Natural and applied sciences (+14.2%, from 915-1,045)
5. Social science, education, government and religion (+4.9% from 1,340-1,405)

Top Four Occupations on the Decline by Labour Force Size (2001-2006)

1. Management (-12.9%, from 1,975-1,720)
2. Primary Industry-Specific (-8.9%, from 2,020-1,840)
3. Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities (-7.4%, from 2,290-2,120)
4. Sales and Service (-2.3%, from 5,500-5,375)

Employment and Economy

Unemployment Rate

The average *seasonally unadjusted* unemployment rate for the first half of 2010 was 14.9% in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County). This rate is **53.6% above** the provincial rate of 9.7%, and **77.4% above** the national rate of 8.4%. The Region's rate for the first half of 2010 was **up 58.5%** from 9.4% in the second half of 2009.

In 2009 as a whole, the unemployment rate in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County) was 11.1%. This was **20.7% above** the provincial rate of 9.2%, and **33.7% above** the national rate of 8.3%.

Employment Levels and Trends

In 2006, 21,495 residents of Lunenburg County were employed. This level was **up 2.6%** from the 2001 employment level in the County, compared to a **7.5% increase** at the provincial level, and a **9.0% increase** at the national level over the same time period.

Youth Employment

In 2006, in Lunenburg County, 53% of the youth population was employed. This rate is **almost at par** with the provincial rate of 52.9%, and **7.3% lower** than the national rate of 57.2%.

The 2006 rate is up **10.2%** from 2001, when 48.1% of Lunenburg County's youth population was employed.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

(A measure of overall official economic output. It is the market value of all final goods and services officially made in a year.)

GDP per Worker

In 2009, the GDP per worker in Lunenburg County was \$66,049. The amount is **3.8% above** the provincial level of \$63,620, and **13.0% below** the national level of \$75,937.

GDP Growth

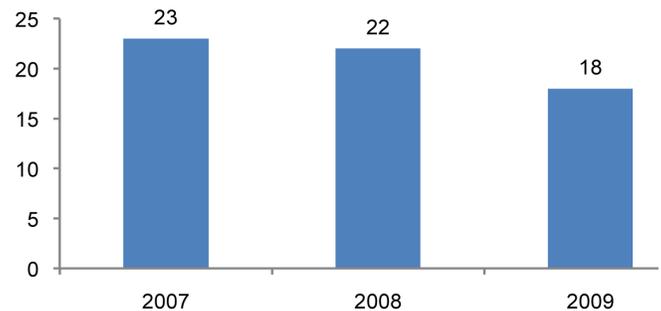
From 2001-2008, Lunenburg County's average annual GDP growth rate was 1.2%. This rate is **20.0% below** the provincial average of 1.5%, and **almost half** the national average of 2.3%.

Business and Personal Bankruptcies

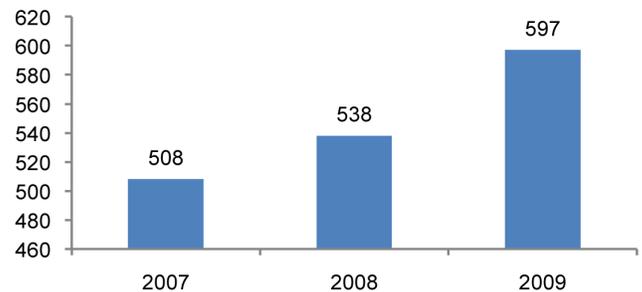
In 2009, there were 18 business bankruptcies in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (which includes Lunenburg County). This is **down 18.2%** from 22 bankruptcies in 2008, and **down 21.7%** from 23 bankruptcies in 2007.

In 2009, there were 597 personal bankruptcies in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region. This is **up 11.0%** from 538 bankruptcies in 2008, and **up 17.5%** from 508 bankruptcies in 2007.

Business Bankruptcies



Personal Bankruptcies



Retail Sales

In 2009, retail sales for Lunenburg County were estimated to be \$616 million (current dollars). This is **down 5.1%** from \$649 million in 2008. Provincially, retail sales were **down 6.9%** in 2009, while nationally, they were **down 0.5%**.

Support local independent businesses -- it keeps dollars in our local economy and helps create jobs!

What Can You Do?

Here are some things you can do to help our community, our neighbours, and yourself. There's something here for everyone!

1. Talk about this report with your family, your friends, your neighbours, your colleagues, your local leaders and anyone willing to listen!
2. Think about what you can do to create positive changes in the County.
3. Explore possibilities for change with usual and less-usual "suspects."
4. Experiment with new ideas.
5. Think about what it might be like to be new to Lunenburg County and what you can do to make newcomers feel welcome.
6. Make healthy food choices and encourage your family and friends to do the same.
7. Exercise - join a program, take a walk, ride a bike, play a sport!
8. Have regular check-ups with your doctor.
9. Donate healthy foods to local food banks.
10. Volunteer with your family on a regular basis.
11. Donate to charity.
12. Speak out for better biking lanes - make streets friendly for bicycles.
13. Support our local "mom and pop" shops and support the local economy!
14. Visit someone else's place of worship.
15. Learn about Lunenburg County's local history - visit local museums and heritage sites.
16. Start and/or support healthy school lunch and snack programs.
17. Read with your children.
18. Volunteer as a tutor at a school in your area.
19. Help a youth put together a good resume or hire a student for the summer.
20. Read your community newspaper, you might come across something that affects you!
21. Advocate for more safe and "cool" places for our teens.
22. Ask a senior citizen what life was like 'back then.'
23. Offer to drive a senior to an appointment.
24. Participate in and tell people about the local Community Garden programs.
25. Pack your lunch in reusable containers to reduce waste.
26. Be kind to the environment - Recycle, Reduce and Reuse.
27. Share a meal with someone from a different culture.
28. Walk your kids to school, or let them walk or bicycle on their own.
29. Give clothes and basic necessities to those who need them most.
30. Get a rain barrel and use it to water your lawn to reduce water usage and your water bill.
31. Support kids who want to do something different.
32. Turn off the television and go to a concert!
33. Conserve energy - use fans in the summer and sweaters in the winter.
34. Visit local art galleries.
35. Make sure every child has a library card - they're free!
36. Buy local produce.
37. Unplug for a day.
38. Women - get a mammogram; men - have a prostate exam.
39. Get rid of plastic bottles, drink tap water or get a good water filter!
40. Visit your local community centre to find out what's happening.
41. Take the stairs instead of riding the elevator.
42. Attend Community Arts/Crafts Festivals.
43. Vote!
44. Promote and support your local arts and culture scene.
45. Try a new activity or learn a new skill at adult education classes.
46. Visit a senior citizen.
47. Join a community committee.
48. Donate blood and put your name on the bone marrow or organ donor list.
49. Get to know and support your childrens' teachers.
50. Share your snow blower or shovel someone's walk.
51. Join a non-profit board of directors.
52. Join/start a community watch program.
53. Start a volunteer group to make home repairs for those in need.
54. Come out of our cars and homes and into the neighbourhood!

If you want to find out more about how you can get involved in your community - please visit Lunenburg County's Vital Signs® website at www.cfns.ca or contact a member of the Lunenburg County Community Fund.

In every community there is work to be done...
In every heart there is the power to do it.

- Marianne Williamson

Glossary and Sources

GLOSSARY

Low Income Measure (LIM): Low Income Measures (LIMs) are a relative measure of low income. LIMs are a fixed percentage (50%) of adjusted median family income, where “adjusted” indicates a consideration of family needs. The family size adjustment used in calculating the LIM reflects the understanding that family needs increase with family size. A census family is considered to be low income when their income is below the LIM for their family type and size.

Low Income Cut-Off (LICO): The income levels at which families or persons not in economic families spend 20% more than average of their before- tax income on food, shelter and clothing.

Average and Median Income: An average income is determined by selecting a group of people, adding up their incomes then dividing this number by the total number of people in the group. A median is also known as the 50th percentile. Exactly the same number of people in a group make less than the median and exactly the same number make more.

Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region: Includes Digby, Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth and Lunenburg Counties. In 2006, Lunenburg County accounted for 45.5% of the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region by population.

South Shore District Health Authority/Region (Zone 1): Includes Lunenburg and Queens Counties. In 2006, Lunenburg County accounted for 39.6% of the Health Region by population.

SOURCES

Statistics Canada
Statistics Canada - Census 1996-2006
Statistics Canada – Community Profiles
Statistics Canada - Canadian Community Health Survey
Canadian Council on Learning – Composite Learning Index
Statistics Canada - Survey of Household Spending
Elections Nova Scotia
Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations
Canadian Council on Learning - International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey
South Shore Regional School Board
Nova Scotia Community Counts Crime Prevention and Reduction Policy View
Bridgewater Police
Lunenburg County RCMP
Bridgewater Police Domestic Violence Program
Harbour House
Second Story Women’s Centre
Lunenburg County Community Health Board – Community Input Survey 2006
South Shore District Health – District Report Card 2006-2007
Nova Scotia Vital Statistics
Nova Scotia Cancer Registry, Surveillance and Epidemiology Unit, Cancer Care Nova Scotia
Nova Scotia Department of Health
Statistics Canada - Small Area and Administrative Data Division
The Dominion Media Co-operative
Feed Nova Scotia
Municipality of the District of Chester
Statistics Canada - Labour Force Survey
Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Community Wheels
Industry Canada - Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada
Nova Scotia Community Counts
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Literacy Nova Scotia
Southshorenova.ca



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