



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NOVA SCOTIA

LUNENBURG COUNTY'S

VitalSigns®



Taking the pulse of our County

2013



Partners for growth

This report is a signature product of the Lunenburg County Community Fund and has been generously supported by local residents and businesses. It is offered to all community members, free of charge, as we believe this information must be readily accessible by all so that we can all be well informed. Let this report assist and inspire us to bring about changes that will improve the quality of our lives now and in the future.

This report and more is available at www.cfns.ca

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Lunenburg County's Vital Signs!

This report is an update of the Lunenburg County Community Fund's (LCCF) first Vital Signs report, published in 2010. Like our last report, this version provides information on issue areas that are considered critical to the well-being of residents in our County.

As you read through this report, you will discover that some things have changed for the better, while others, have not. Our 2010 report highlighted a mass exodus of youth under 35 years, a changing economy, high rates of obesity, low rates of physical activity and low literacy rates.

In 2013, we see that we continue to lose our youth segment at an alarming rate: from 2001-2011, the proportion of our population under 15 years of age dropped 19.5% (1,485 young people), while the proportion of our population 65 years and older increased 22.4% (1,865 seniors). We now have just 6,080 youth compared to 10,205 seniors in our County. If this trend continues, we will soon have two seniors for every one young person.

A key question that arises from these statistics is what are we doing now to encourage the youth who remain, or those who may come, to consider our County their home? Our public school outcomes are worrisome. Provincial assessment results indicate that our students are struggling with narrative writing at the Grade 3 level and that achievement in math decreases as our students advance through the grade levels. In 2011-12, only 37% of Grade 12 Math students and 45% of Grade 12 Advanced Math students passed their final exams. Unfortunately, these standard exams have been discontinued by the Department of Education which means we will be unable to track this data point over time.

In terms of our economy, while our productivity has improved - GDP per worker and per person growth rates from 2001-2011 have exceeded both the provincial and national averages – our job growth lags behind both of these averages. Nearly one in four youth is unemployed in our County. While housing is relatively affordable, our young people are not able to take advantage of this if they cannot find work.

From a health perspective, we are burdened by high obesity and smoking rates and the growing proportion of our population without a regular doctor. And, while we continue to have satisfactory wait times for most common procedures, our number of emergency department closures suggests that our system is under strain.

So what is next for our County? Despite this troubling picture, we, the members of the LCCF, remain committed to creating a positive future for our County. Through this report, we are giving all community members the facts in a clear and unbiased fashion about how our community is faring. Let this report assist and inspire us to bring about changes that will improve the quality of our lives now and in the future.

The Lunenburg County Community Fund Members

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A SNAPSHOT OF LUNENBURG COUNTY

TOTAL POPULATION

On July 1, 2012, the population of Lunenburg County was 46,743, which represented 4.9% of the provincial total (948,695) and 0.1% of the national total (34,880,491). Since 1996, the County's population has declined by 3.9% (1,915 people), compared to an increase of 1.9% provincially and 17.8% nationally.

Population Decline 1996-2012



MEDIAN AGE

In 2011, the median age in Lunenburg County was 49.0 years, compared to 43.7 years provincially and 40.6 years nationally. In the past ten years, the County's median age has increased by 6.4 years, compared to 4.9 years provincially and 3.0 years nationally.

Median Age 2011



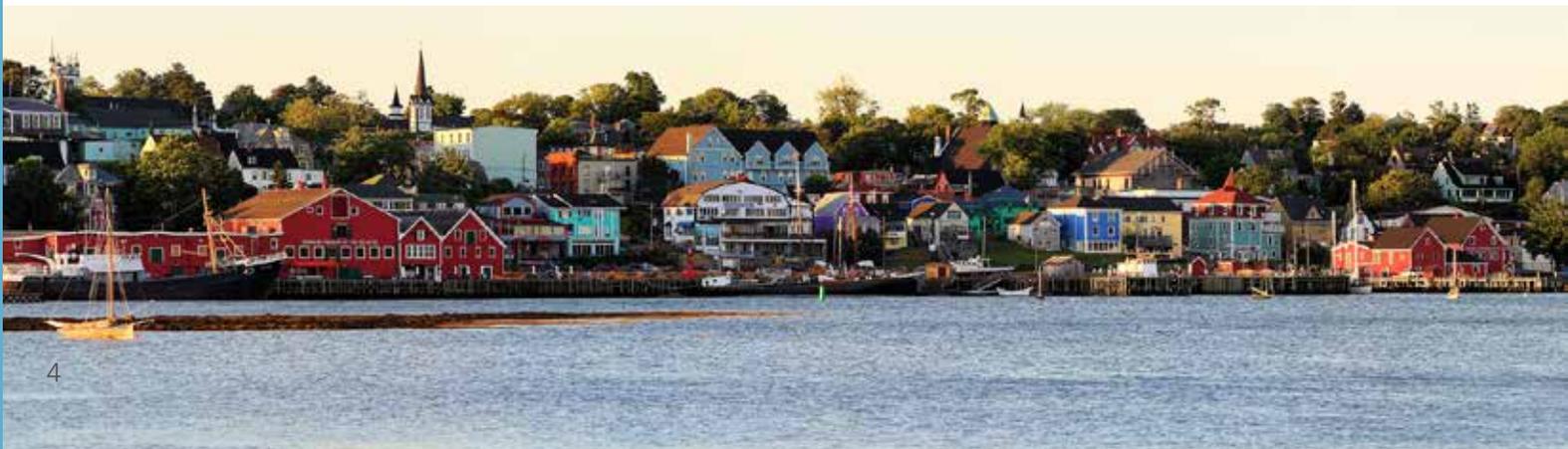
MIGRATION AND COMPONENTS OF POPULATION

Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 Lunenburg County had a net loss of 223 people.

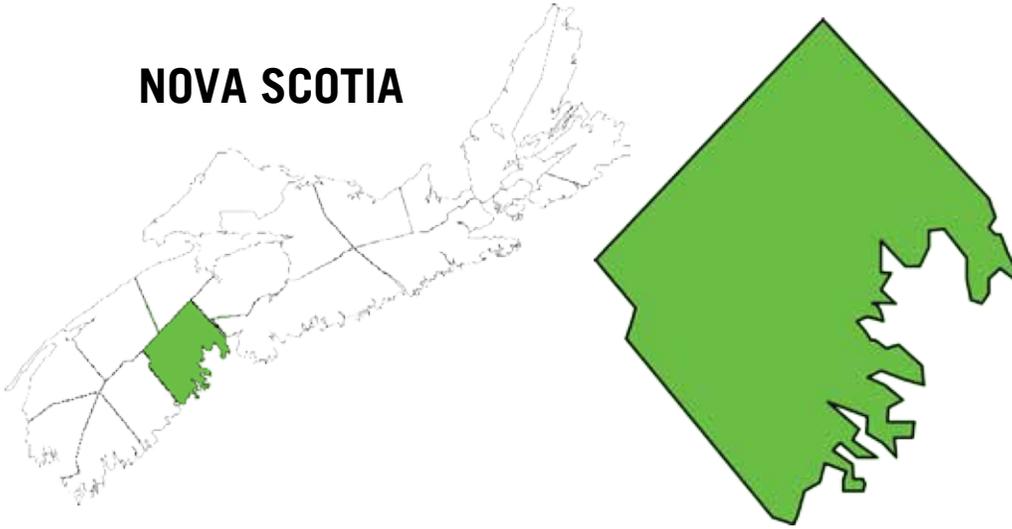
- ↓ 194 people to the difference between natural increase and decrease
 - ↑ 77 people from other countries
 - ↓ 66 people to other parts of Nova Scotia
 - ↓ 40 people to other parts of Canada
-
- ↓ 223 net loss in population

NET MIGRATION OF THE POPULATION

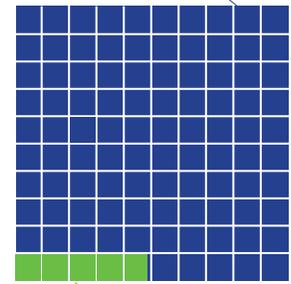
Since 2005-06, Lunenburg County has lost youth in the 25-34 year bracket each year to out-migration while net migration of those in the 35-54 bracket has increased somewhat. In 2011-12, the highest net migration into the County was by those 55 years and older.



NOVA SCOTIA



Total Population
NS: 948,695

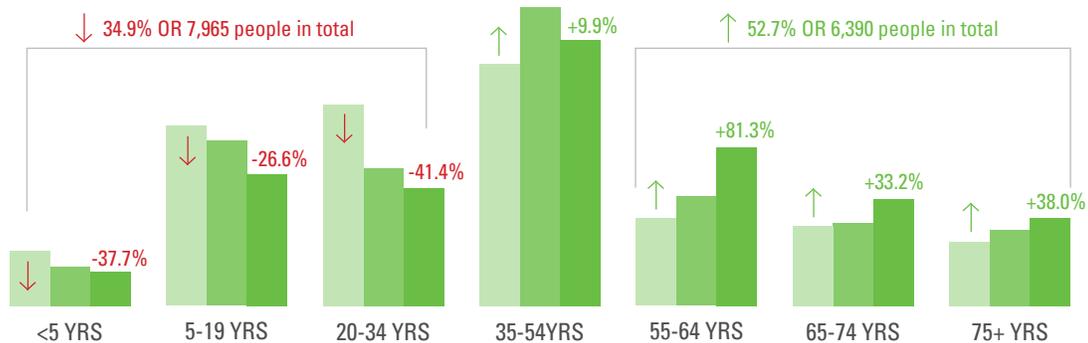


LC: 46,743

CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS: TWENTY-YEAR TREND

From 1991 to 2011, the number of people in the 20 to 34 year-old age bracket declined the most of all age groups, dropping 41.5% (4,370 people). This was followed closely by the under 5 years bracket which experienced a 37.7% decline (1,085 children) and the 5-19 years bracket which experienced a 26.6% decline (2,510 youth) over the same time period. Overall, the total population of those 34 years and under within the County dropped by 34.9% (7,965), while the population of those 35 years and over grew by 30.8% (7,640). During this same twenty years, the number of people 55 years of age or older grew by 52.7% (6,390), while the number of people under 55 years of age decreased by 18.9% (6,715).

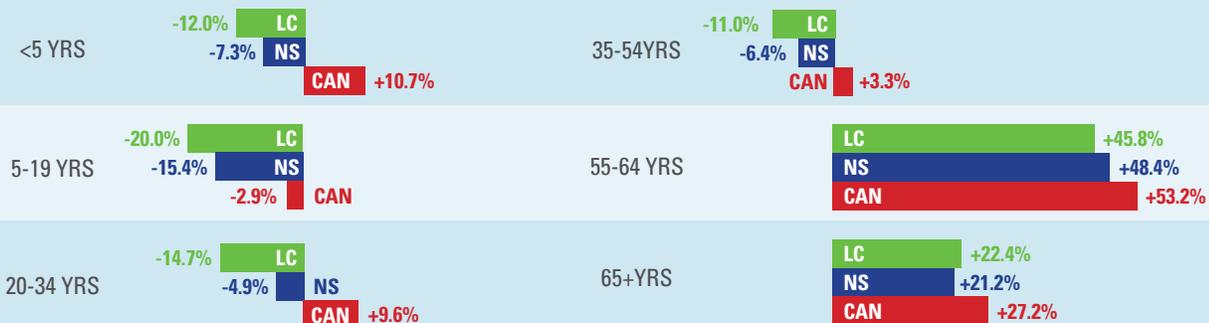
CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS 1991, 2001 & 2011



TEN-YEAR TREND

From 2001 to 2011, all demographic segments below 55 years of age in Lunenburg County declined at a faster rate than the provincial average, while nationally these segments grew (with the exception of the 5-19 year old bracket).

% CHANGE IN DEMOGRAPHIC SEGMENTS 2001-2011



GETTING STARTED & BELONGING



WHY IT MATTERS:

To encourage others to make Lunenburg County their home, we must offer good employment opportunities and strong social supports.

LIFE SATISFACTION

In 2012, 90.3% of respondents in the local Health District Authority reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their overall life, which was about the same as the 2009 rate (91.1%), and both the provincial (93.3%) and national (92.4%) averages.

Life Satisfaction 2012



SENSE OF COMMUNITY BELONGING

In 2012, 78.8% of respondents in the local Health District Authority reported a strong or somewhat strong sense of community belonging, which was 9.6% higher than the 2009 rate (71.9%), 11.1% higher than the provincial average (70.9%), and 19.2% higher than the national average (66.1%).

Sense of Community Belonging 2012



VOLUNTEERISM

In 2010, more than half (54.8%) of Lunenburg County's population engaged in unpaid volunteer activities as part of a group or organization, up from 48.3% in 2007. The County's 2010 rate was about the same as the provincial average (55.3%) and 16.6% higher than the national average (47.0%).

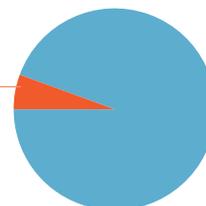
54.8% OF US VOLUNTEER



PROPORTION OF IMMIGRANTS

The proportion of foreign-born people in Lunenburg County is on the rise: in 2001 it was 4.3%, while in 2006 it was 4.5% and in 2011 it was 5.8%. The County's 2011 proportion was 9.4% higher than the provincial proportion (5.3%), but almost three quarters (71.9%) lower than the national proportion (20.6%).

Proportion of Immigrants in 2011
5.8%



Giving to Charity

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

In 2010, about a quarter (24.3%) of all tax filers in Lunenburg County declared a charitable donation. This rate is 7.5% above the provincial average (22.6 %) and about the same as the national average (23.4%).

1 out of 4
of us donate to charity

CHARITABLE DONATION RATE 2010



MEDIAN CHARITABLE DONATION 2010



HOW MUCH DO WE DONATE

In the same year, the median charitable donation in the County was \$250. By comparison, the median donation was \$310 provincially and \$260 nationally.



CHILD CARE FACILITIES

There are approximately 4,912 children under the age of 13 living in Lunenburg County. Of these, 1,778 are under the age of 5.

There are 16 licensed child care facilities in Lunenburg County with a total capacity of 730 children. Seven facilities have full day programs, 7 have part day programs, and 10 have school-age programs.

AVERAGE VOTER TURNOUT FOR ELECTIONS



WHY IT MATTERS:

Shelter is a basic human right. Accommodation for everyone needs to be available and affordable.

HOUSING

TYPES OF DWELLINGS

	2001	2011	% CHANGE FROM 2001-2011
SINGLE DETACHED HOUSES	16,075	17,380	8.1%
SEMI-DETACHED /ROW/DUPLEX	795	810	1.9%
APARTMENTS	1,540	1,660	7.8%
MOVABLE DWELLINGS	1,060	955	-9.9%
TOTAL OCCUPIED PRIVATE DWELLINGS	19,465	20,795	6.8%

LUNENBURG COUNTY REAL ESTATE MARKET

In 2012, the average selling price for a home on the market in Lunenburg County was \$198,905, 9.8% below the provincial average (\$220,413) and 45.5% below the national average (\$364,930). From 2005 to 2012, average housing prices in Lunenburg County increased by 21.0%, the number of houses on the market increased by 9.6%, while both the average number of days on the market and number of units sold has remained relatively constant.

Average Selling Price for a Home 2012

LC	\$198,905
NS	\$220,413
CAN	\$364,930

PROPERTY TAX RATES (PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUE)

2013/14

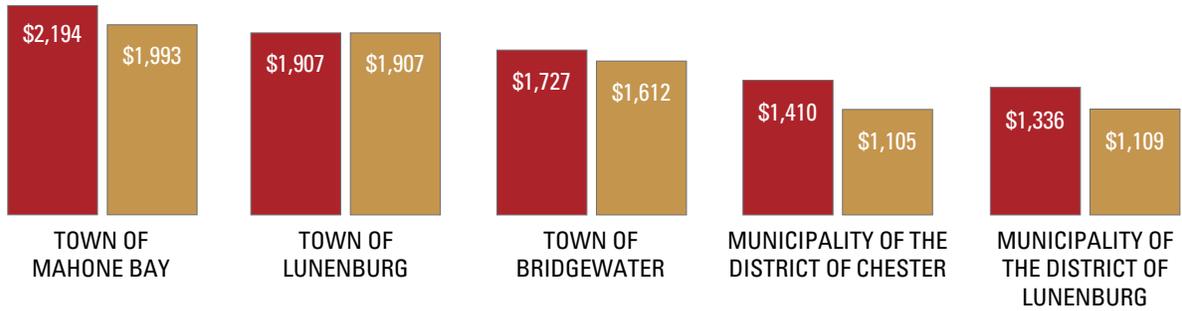
	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL
Town of Bridgewater	\$1.65	\$3.99
Town of Lunenburg	\$1.28	\$3.26
Town of Mahone Bay	\$1.15	\$2.91
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg	\$0.81	\$1.96
Municipality of the District of Chester	\$0.66	\$1.53

RESIDENTIAL TAX BURDEN

This indicator shows the average cost, to each dwelling unit, of municipal government services. When comparing municipalities, it is a more accurate reflection of residential property taxes than tax rates. It is calculated by dividing total residential property tax and area rate revenue by the number of dwelling units in the municipality.

In 2011-12, the residential tax burden was the highest in the Town of Mahone Bay (\$2,194/ \$1,993), followed by the Town of Lunenburg (\$1,907/\$1,907), and the Town of Bridgewater (\$1,727/\$1,612). The lowest burden was in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg (\$1,336/\$1,109).

RESIDENTIAL TAX & AREA RATES PER DWELLING UNIT / RESIDENTIAL TAX PER DWELLING UNIT 2011-12



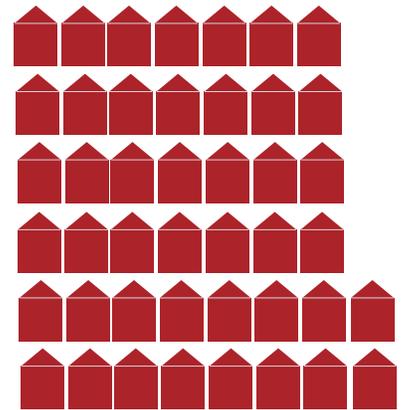
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Western Regional Housing Authority manages a rental program designed to assist low income families, seniors and individuals needing adequate, affordable rental housing in Lunenburg County.

HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS

There are 44 units in Lunenburg County for which a rent-supplement is provided by the Housing Authority. These units are located in both privately-owned apartment buildings and co-operative/ non-profit housing projects. The cost to the tenants is 30% of their total gross income plus any extra charge for heat, electricity or laundry.

HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS



HOUSING FOR FAMILIES

There are 18 public housing units in the County which cost 25% of a family's total gross income with heat often included and 33 homes which operate similarly, except utilities are excluded.

HOUSING FOR FAMILIES



HOUSING FOR SENIORS

	SENIORS SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	AFFORDABLE HOUSING	
COST TO SENIORS	30% of total gross income + \$25/month for heat and electricity + \$4/month for laundry	Low market rent	30% of total gross income + \$25/month for heat and electricity
# OF UNITS	12 seniors buildings (234 units)	4 units	9 units

In addition, Pineview Apartments in Bridgewater offers services from the Hillside Pines nursing home to 30 residents at a cost of \$532/month per person, which is paid to the nursing home.

SAFETY

WHY IT MATTERS:

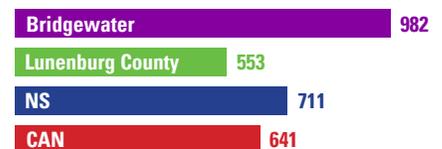
A sense of security contributes to our quality of life in Lunenburg County and our ability to enjoy life to its fullest. Personal safety affects how we socialize and participate in our communities.

Data reported in this section relate to the population served by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), which serves Lunenburg County, and the Bridgewater Police Service, which includes the Town of Bridgewater.

TOTAL CRIME RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's total crime rate was 553 violations per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was nearly twice that at 982 violations per 10,000 people. The County's total crime rate peaked in 2005 at 660 violations and has dropped by 16.2% since that time, while Bridgewater's peaked at 2,231 violations in 1998 and has dropped by more than half (56.0%) since that time. Since 1998, Bridgewater's total crime rate has consistently exceeded both the provincial and national averages, while the County's has consistently lagged behind these averages.

TOTAL CRIME RATE 2012

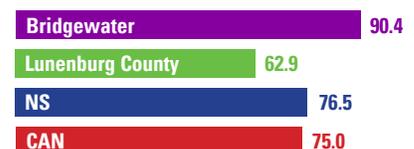


CRIME SEVERITY INDEX

The Crime Severity Index reflects the relative seriousness of the offenses committed. The index was set at 100 for Canada in 2006.

In 2012, Lunenburg County's Crime Severity Index was 62.9, while Bridgewater's was 90.4. The County's index peaked at 71.5 in 2006 and dropped by 12.0% since that time, while Bridgewater's index peaked at 225.0 in 1998 and has dropped by more than half (59.8%) since that time. Since 1998, Bridgewater's Index has been higher or about the same as the provincial and national averages, while the County's has been far lower than both for the years reported.

CRIME SEVERITY INDEX 2012



VIOLENT CRIME RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's violent crime rate was 123 violations per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was 169 violations per 10,000 people - the lowest it has been in fourteen years. The County's violent crime rate peaked at 148 violations in 2004 and has dropped by 16.9% since that time, while Bridgewater's rate peaked at 556 violations in 1999 and has dropped by 69.7% since that time.

Since 1998, Bridgewater's violent crime rate has consistently exceeded the provincial and national averages, while the County's has been far lower than both for the years reported.

VIOLENT CRIME SEVERITY INDEX

The Violent Crime Severity Index reflects the relative seriousness of the offences committed. Violent crimes involve the application, or threat of application, of force to a person. The index was set at 100 for Canada in 2006.

In 2012, Lunenburg County's Violent Crime Severity Index was 55.2, while Bridgewater's was 88.4. The County's index peaked at 57.3 in 2007 and has remained about the same since that time, while Bridgewater's index peaked in 1999 at 195.3 and has dropped more than half (54.8%) since that time.

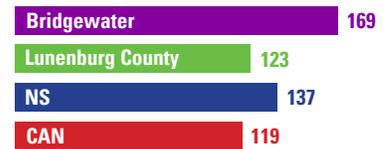
Since 1998, Bridgewater's Index has generally exceeded the provincial and national averages, while Lunenburg County's has been far lower than both for the years reported.

PROPERTY CRIME RATE

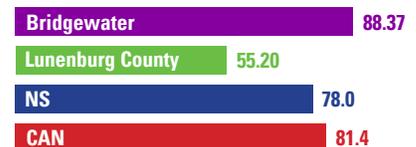
In 2012, Lunenburg County's property crime rate was 309 violations per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was 556 violations per 10,000 people. Lunenburg County's property crime rate peaked at 394 violations in 2006 and has dropped by 21.4% since that time, while Bridgewater's rate peaked at 1,078 violations in 1998 and has dropped by 48.4% since that time.

Since 1998, Bridgewater's rate has consistently exceeded the provincial and national averages, while Lunenburg County's has been lower than both for the years it has been reported.

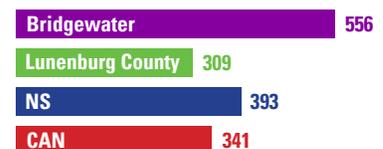
VIOLENT CRIME RATE 2012



VIOLENT CRIME SEVERITY INDEX 2012



PROPERTY CRIME RATE 2012

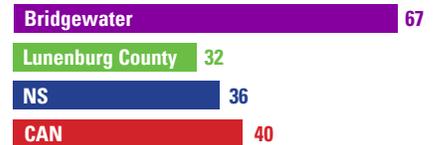


CRIMINAL CODE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

In 2012, Lunenburg County's traffic crime rate was 32 violations per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was 67 violations per 10,000 people. The County's traffic crime rate peaked at 50 violations in 2010 and has dropped by over a third (35.2%) since that time, while Bridgewater's rate peaked at 148 violations in 2003 and has dropped by more than half (54.5%) since that time.

Since 1998, Bridgewater's rate has generally exceeded both the provincial and national averages while Lunenburg County's has generally exceeded the provincial average and been comparable to, or slightly below, the national average for the years reported.

CRIMINAL CODE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS 2012

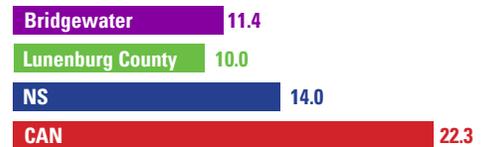


MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's motor vehicle theft rate was 10.0 violations per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was 11.4 violations per 10,000 people. The County's motor vehicle theft rate peaked at 17.2 violations in 2006 and has dropped by 41.7% since that time, while Bridgewater's rate peaked at 32.5 violations in 1999 and has dropped by 64.9% since that time.

Since 1998, both the County's and Bridgewater's motor vehicle theft rate have generally been below both the provincial and national averages.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT RATE 2012



PARTNER VIOLENCE

Intimate partner violence (IPV) refers to violence committed by legally married, separated, divorced, opposite and same sex common-law, dating partners (current and previous) and other intimate partners and includes victims aged 15 to 89. Non-intimate partner violence (NIPV) refers to violence committed by other family members (parent, child, sibling, and extended family), friends, acquaintances, business relationships, criminal relationships, authority figures and strangers and includes victims aged 0 to 89.

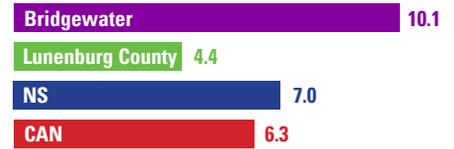
Year	Incidents of IPV	Rate (per 10,000)	Incidents of NIPV	Rate (per 10,000)
2010	38	55.5	157	199.5
2011	43	63.0	102	130.0
2012	24	35.2	70	89.5

In 2012, there were 24 incidents of intimate-partner violence and 70 incidents of non-partner violence in Bridgewater. Both rates have decreased since 2010.

SEXUAL ASSAULT RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's sexual assault rate was 4.4 assaults per 10,000 people, while Bridgewater's was more than twice that at 10.1 assaults per 10,000 people. The County's sexual assault rate peaked at 10.0 assaults in 2003 and has dropped 56.4% since that time, while Bridgewater's rate peaked at 23.6 assaults in 1998 and has dropped 57.1% since that time. Since 1998, Bridgewater's sexual assault rate has generally exceeded both the provincial and national averages, while Lunenburg County's has generally been lower than both for the years reported.

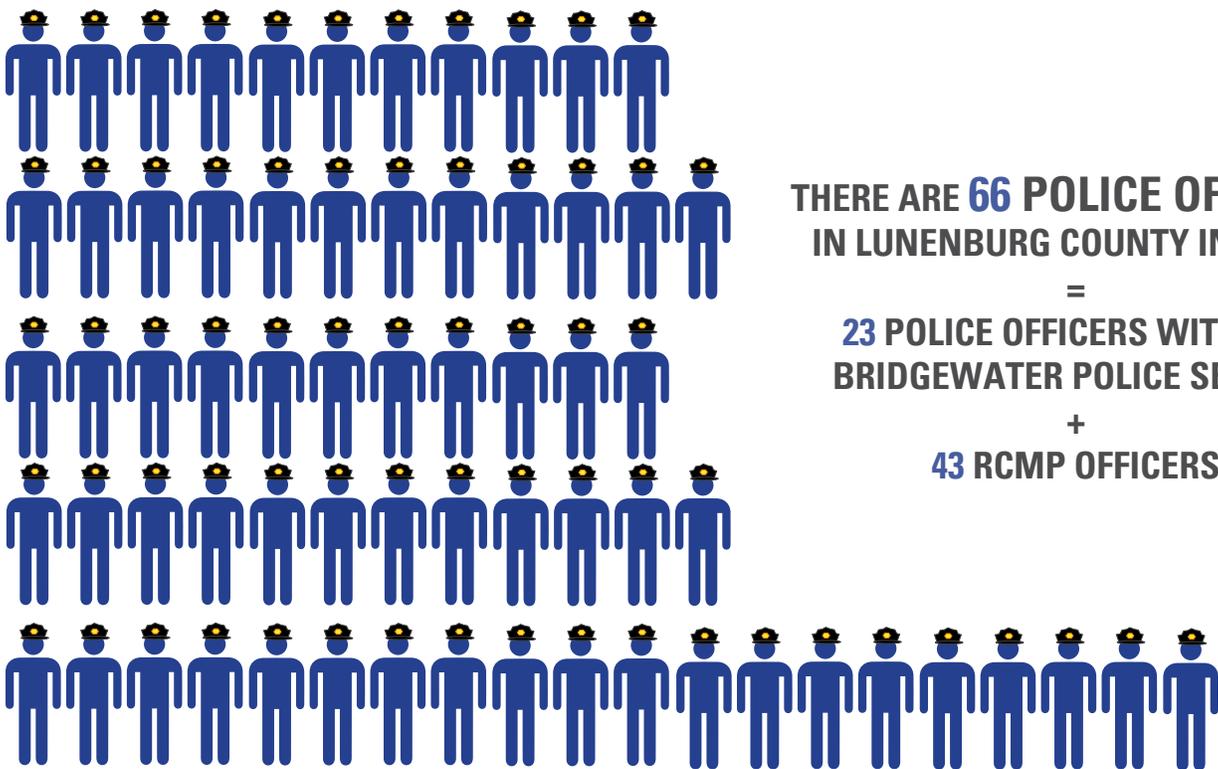
SEXUAL ASSAULT RATE 2012



NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS

As of August 12, 2013, there were 23 police officers with the Bridgewater Police Service and 43 RCMP officers for a total of 66 police officers in Lunenburg County (or 14.1 officers per 10,000 people), down 15.4% from 78 in August 2010. Lunenburg County's 2013 rate was below the provincial (20.4) and national (19.9) averages.

NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS PER 10,000 PEOPLE IN 2013



GETTING AROUND

WHY IT MATTERS:

The prosperity of the economy, the health of the environment and the productivity of citizens depends upon the availability of strong transportation systems.

FORMAL AND INFORMAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN THE COUNTY

A formal transportation service is one provided by an organization with that specific mandate, while an informal one does not have this specific mandate, but does have measures in place to provide or assist with the transportation needs of its target population.

In 2012, the LCCF began a series of Vital Initiatives led by four working groups which were developed in response to its 2010 Vital Signs report. These groups focussed on key priority areas identified by the community: Health and Wellness, Literacy, the Economy and Youth. A common theme which emerged was that transportation within the County is a challenge for all, particularly those under 34 years and over 65 years. It also became clear that a lack of transportation presents a real barrier for those seeking employment and for those who need to access services such as those designed to increase health and wellness and literacy.

In 2013, the LCCF commissioned a study to determine what resources are currently being used to provide transportation services in the County. We found there were three formal transportation service providers and twelve informal transportation service providers. All of these served different segments of the public to varying degrees of satisfaction from both a service-provider and user perspective. A key question is whether coordination of the existing system could produce better outcomes. For more information, or to receive a copy of the report, please contact us.

COMMUNITY WHEELS USAGE

In the 2011-12 fiscal year, the Community Wheels bus provided 2,107 one-way trips for the residents of the Municipality of the District of Chester and logged 34,706 kilometres of travel. Both of these figures are above 2009-10 levels of 1,993 one-way trips and 17,963 kilometres.

SENIOR WHEELS ASSOCIATION

This volunteer organization operates a donation-based bus service to seniors within a 7km radius of the Town of Bridgewater. In fiscal year 2012, Senior Wheels carried 8,824 passengers. Of this total, 78.0% (6,879) were from the Town of Bridgewater, 17.9% (1,582) were from the surrounding area and 4.1% (363) were wheel chair passengers.

COMMUTING-TO-WORK PATTERNS (2011)

Place of Residence

Municipality of the District of Chester

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Town of Mahone Bay

Town of Lunenburg

Town of Bridgewater

Top Three Commuting Destinations for Work

1. Municipality of the District of Chester (40.5%)
2. Halifax Regional Municipality (38.1%)
3. Bridgewater (11.1%)

1. Bridgewater (48.5%)
2. Municipality of Lunenburg (20.6%)
3. Town of Lunenburg (16.9%)

1. Mahone Bay (59.6%)
2. Bridgewater (23.4%)
3. Town of Lunenburg (17.0%)

1. Town of Lunenburg (56.8%)
2. Bridgewater (21.2%)
3. Halifax Regional Municipality (6.1%)

1. Bridgewater (70.4%)
2. Municipality of Lunenburg (11.8%)
3. Town of Lunenburg (8.9%)



ARTS & CULTURE

WHY IT MATTERS:

Arts and Culture inspire people and help to fuel innovation.



Data reported in this section relate to the population served by the South Shore Public Libraries (SSPL) which covers Lunenburg and Queens Counties and the population in the South Shore which includes Lunenburg, Queens and Shelburne Counties. In 2012, Lunenburg County comprised 81.0% of the total population served by the SSPL and 64.5% of the population in the South Shore.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCCUPATIONS RELATED TO ARTS, CULTURE, RECREATION, AND SPORT

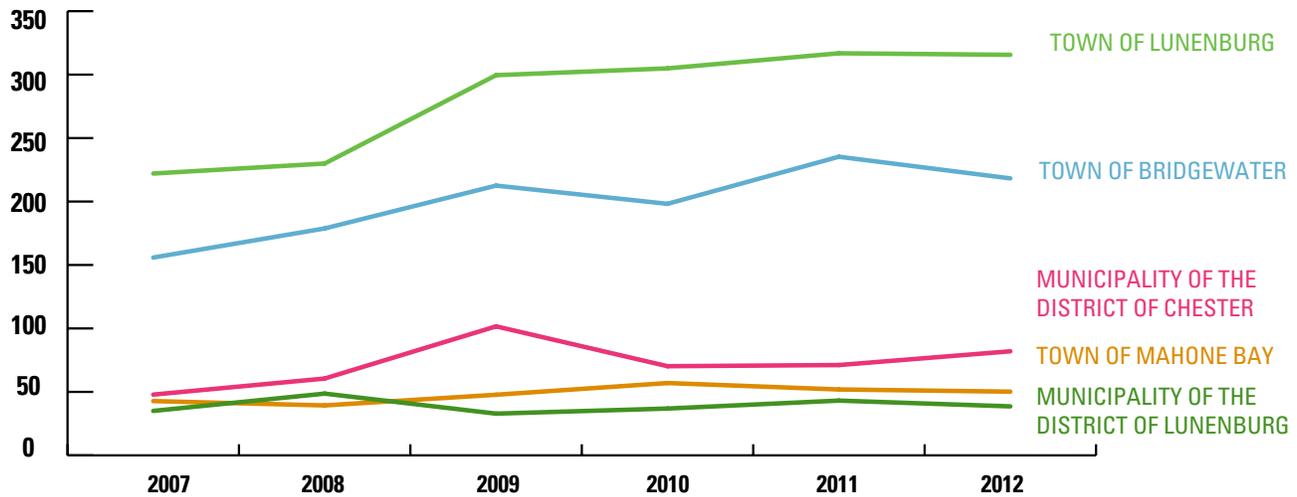
In 2011, 555 people were employed in occupations related to Arts, Culture, Recreation and Sport in Lunenburg County, up 42.3% from 390 people in 2006. These occupations accounted for 2.4% of total employment in Lunenburg County, which was on par with the provincial average and 16.2% below the national average (2.9%).

NUMBER OF ARTISTS

In 2011, there were 150 people employed as artists in Lunenburg County. Artists accounted for 0.7% of total employment in the County, compared to 0.5% provincially and nationally.

MUNICIPAL SPENDING ON RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

In 2011-12, about \$4.3 million was spent on recreation and cultural services by the five Municipal Units in Lunenburg County, up a third (34.0%) from \$3.2 million in 2006-07. Since 2006-07, the Town of Lunenburg's and Bridgewater's municipal governments have spent more per person on recreation and cultural services than all other units. This trend is likely impacted by their expenditures on the new Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre being built in Bridgewater.



MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

In 2012, the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic had an attendance level of 70,100 – the highest of all Nova Scotia Museums in Lunenburg County, followed by Ross Farm Museum (28,400) and the Wile Carding Mill (1,900). From 2007-2012, attendance at the Fisheries Museum dropped 17.8%, while attendance at the Ross Farm Museum increased 16.4% and attendance at the Wile Carding Mill increased 35.7%.

Since 2009-2011, community museum attendance has declined for all community museums in Lunenburg County in contrast to the provincial trend which has seen an increase in attendance at community museums. Still, attendance levels at all community museums in the County, apart from Fort Point Museum, were above the provincial average during this time period.

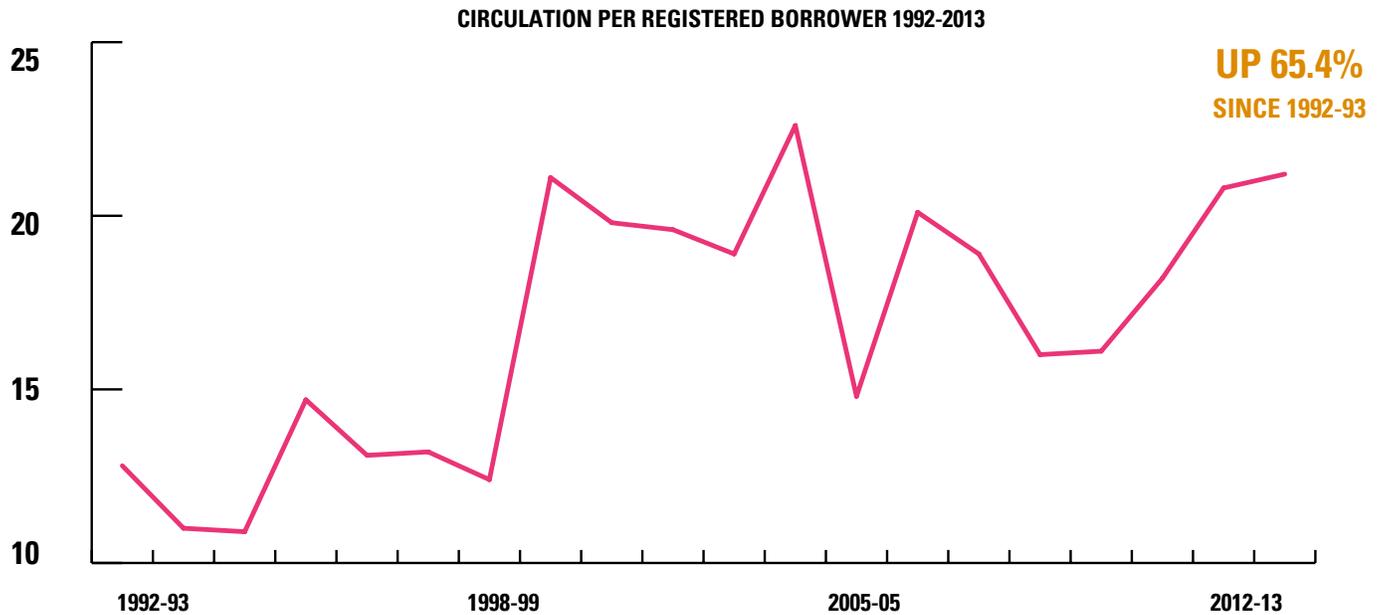


LIBRARY USE

In 2012-13, 12,132 people - or 21.0% of the population of the South Shore - were active members of the SSPL system. In that year, each member borrowed an average of 21.2 items, nearly double (93.6%) the twenty-year low of 10.9 items in the 1994-95 fiscal year. Since 1992-93, the number of items circulated per registered borrow has increased an average of 2.5% annually for a total increase of 65.4%.

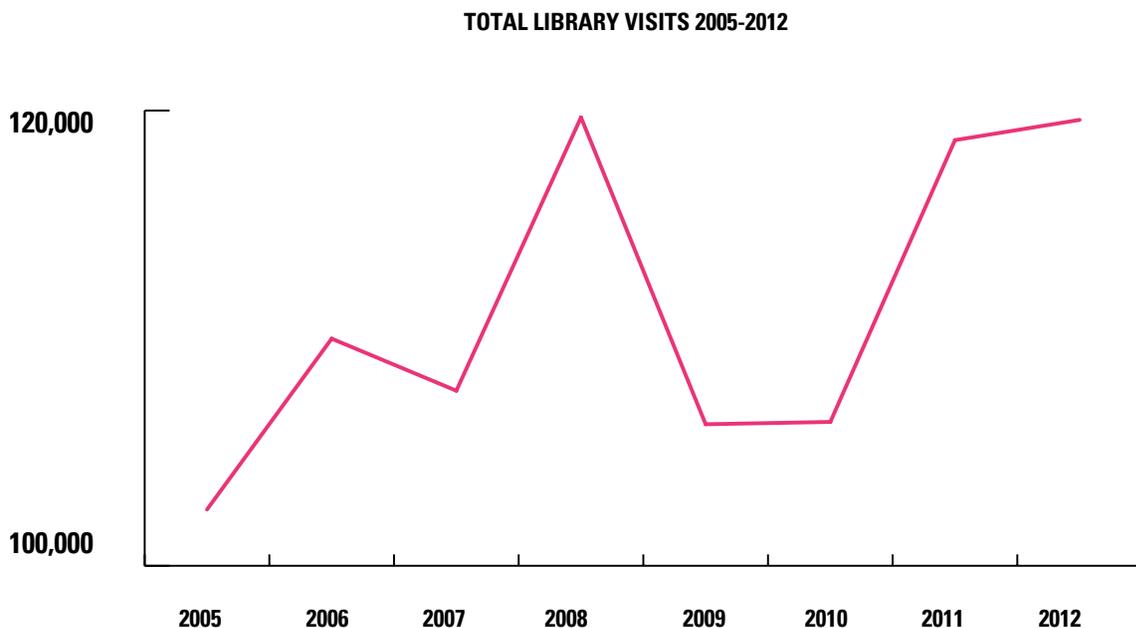
OF MEMBERS 2012-13
12,132

AVERAGE CIRCULATION
PER PERSON PER YEAR
21.2 ITEMS



LIBRARY USE

In 2012-13, over one hundred thousand (119,590) visits were made in person to SSPL's 6 branches, up 17,118 visits from the 2005 level. Over the past five years, the number of visits to SSPL's branches has increased an average of 2.2% annually for a total increase of 16.7%.



In 2012-13,

About 12 people walked into a library in the SSPL system every hour they were open.

SSPL offered 508 programs to 3,554 preschoolers, children, youth and adults.

Adult programming included book clubs, Lunch N' Learn sessions, film series, a Spanish basics class, author readings, a song writing workshop and computer/e-reader tutorials.

Children's programming included a Fun with French program, day camps during March Break, a summer reading program, after school clubs, in-service day events and Tuesday morning Story-time.

Youth programming included creative writing, poetry, narrative writing and songwriting workshops.



DID YOU KNOW? - YOUR LIBRARY OFFERS THESE SERVICES

SSPL has a mobile library which makes recurrent stops throughout Lunenburg and Queens Counties. To learn about stops near you, call 1-877-455-2548, check your local paper or visit southshorepubliclibraries.ca.

The SSPL also offers outreach services to those who are unable to visit a library.

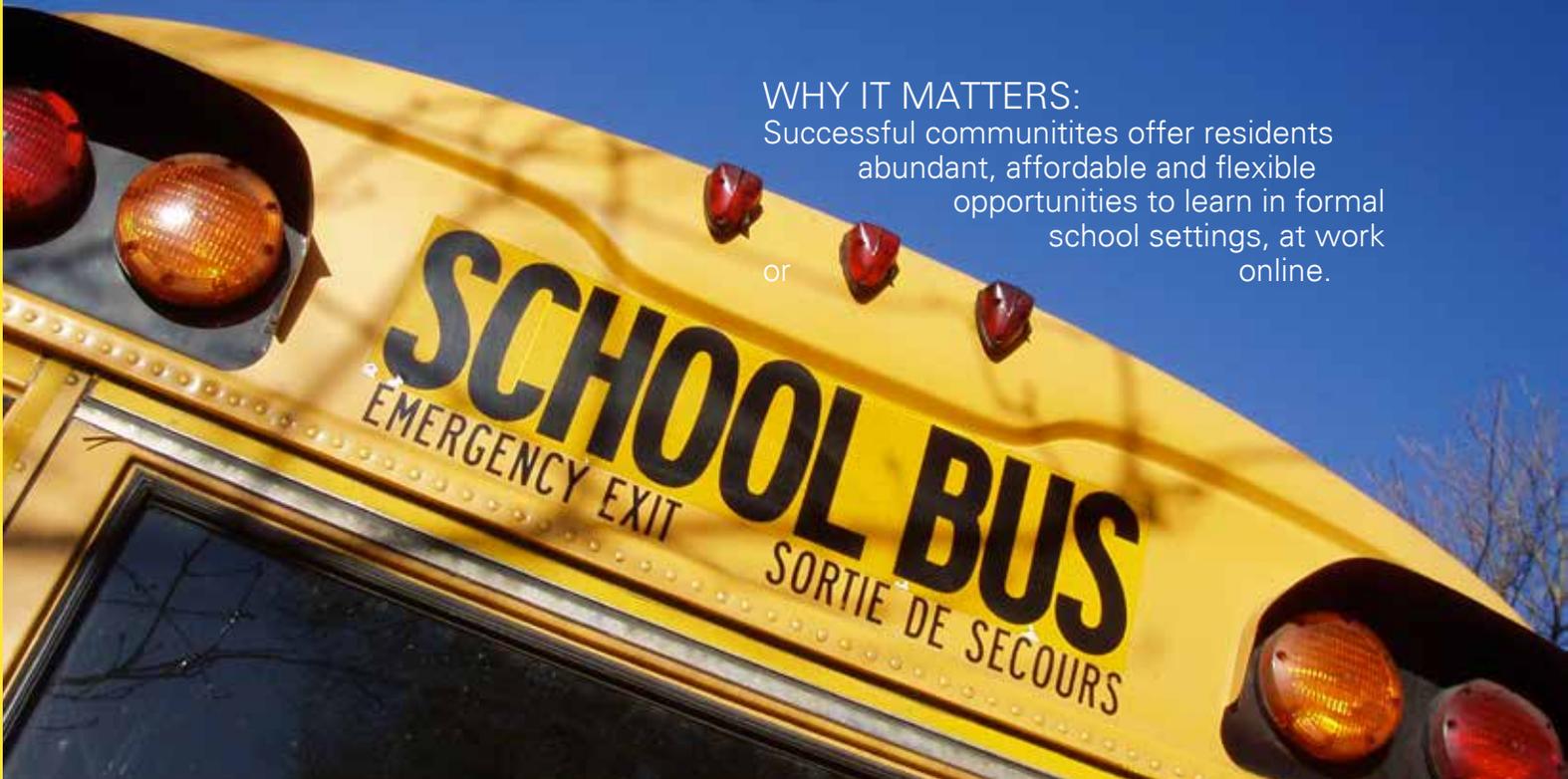
Books by Mail is growing along with the demand for the talking book service.
SSPL also offers health programs.

The Bridgewater library will move to the new Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre in the Fall of 2013.

LEARNING

WHY IT MATTERS:

Successful communities offer residents abundant, affordable and flexible opportunities to learn in formal school settings, at work or online.



Data reported in this section relates to the population served by the South Shore Regional School Board (SSRSB) which includes Lunenburg and Queens Counties. In 2012, Lunenburg County comprised 81.0% of the total population served by the SSRSB.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENT

In 2012-13, there were 5,675 students enrolled in public school in Lunenburg County, down 14.2% from 6,614 in 2005-06, for an average decline of 2.2% annually.

TEACHERS AND STAFF

Since 2010-11, the number of full time teachers in Lunenburg County has declined by 33 (or 8.1% from 405-372), while the number of part time teachers has declined by 4 (from 37-33).

FUNDING PER STUDENT

In the 2012-13 academic year, the SSRSB spent \$10,865 per student to deliver public education in the area. Of its \$74.4 million budget, 72.6% was provided by the provincial government, 21.8% by the municipal governments, 3.7% by school generated funds, 0.4% by the federal government and 1.4% by other sources.

Of all eight school boards in the province, the SSRSB had the fourth highest funding per student and its funding per student was 9.4% higher than the provincial level (\$9,936).

FUNDING PER STUDENT 2012-13

SRSB	\$12,578
CSAP	\$12,533
CBVRSB	\$11,816
SSRSB	\$10,865
TCSB	\$10,616
NS	\$9,936
AVRSB	\$9,593
CCRSB	\$9,204
HRSB	\$8,966

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ASSESSMENT RESULTS

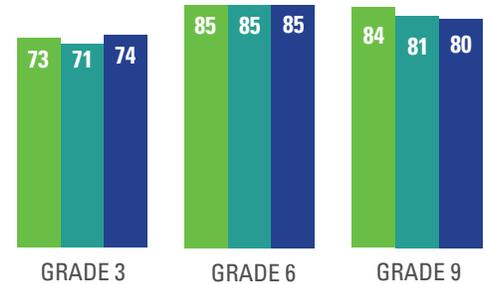
READING

In the 2011-12 academic year, reading scores for Grade 3, Grade 6 and 9 students in Lunenburg County generally met or exceeded the school board and provincial averages and showed improvement through the grade levels.

Since 2009-10, Grade 6 and 9 reading scores have generally seen small improvements (82%, 83%, 85% and 80%, 76%, 84% respectively), while the performance of Grade 3 students has declined (83%, 84%, 73%). County students in Grades 6 and 9 have generally performed better at writing than reading.

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO MET EXPECTATIONS IN READING (2011-2012)

LUNENBURG COUNTY SSRSB NOVA SCOTIA



PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL READING LITERACY STUDY (PIRLS) OF GRADE 4 STUDENTS (2011)

The PIRLS is an international assessment measuring trends in the reading achievement of grade 4 students. PIRLS is administered every 5 years by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA).

In 2011, Grade 4 students in the SSRSB had an average PIRLS score of 537, which was considered at par with the provincial (549) and national (548) averages. On a proportionate basis, there were a larger number of SSRSB students at the lowest international benchmark (17%) than Grade 4's at this level in the province (13%), Canada (12%) and the United States (12%).

DID YOU KNOW?

Only 1 in 3 (34%) Grade 4 children in Nova Scotia like reading. Fewer than half (46%) say they are confident readers.

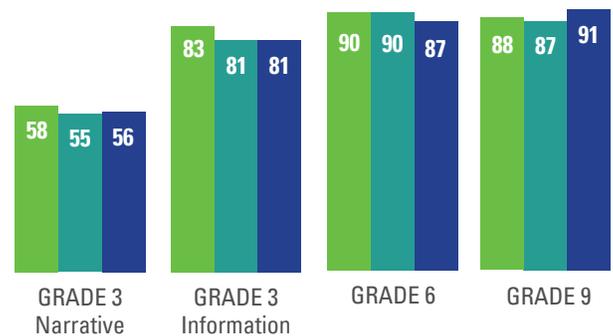
WRITING

In the 2011-12 academic year, writing scores for Grades 3 and 6 students in Lunenburg County exceeded or met the school board and provincial averages, while the scores for Grade 9's exceeded the school board average, but fell below the provincial average. Grade 3 narrative writing produced the lowest scores with only 58% of County students meeting expectations in that area.

Since 2009-10, the proportion of County students meeting the expectations in writing in Grades 3, 6 and 9 has been declining. Grade 3 narrative writing scores have experienced the worst decline with a drop of almost a third (31.7%) from their peak performance of 85% of students meeting expectations in 2009-10 to 58% in 2011-12. The school board and provincial averages have followed similar trends.

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO MET EXPECTATIONS IN WRITING (2011-2012)

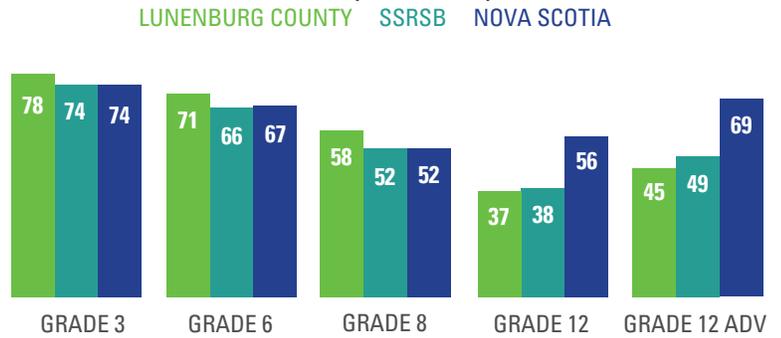
LUNENBURG COUNTY SSRSB NOVA SCOTIA



MATH

Math is a problem in Lunenburg County! While scores for County students in Grades 3, 6 and 8 in the 2011-12 academic year exceeded the school board and provincial averages, they trend downwards through the grade levels to the point where only 37% of Math 12 students and 45% of Advanced Math 12 students were able to pass their respective provincial exams (where 50% or more is a passing score) in that year.

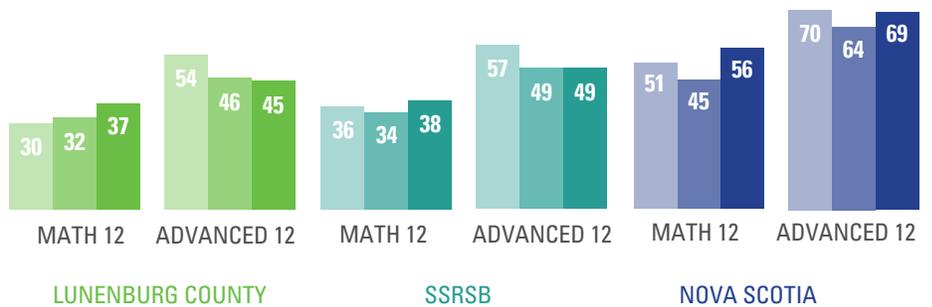
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO MET EXPECTATIONS IN MATH (2011-2012)



NOVA SCOTIA GRADE 12 PROVINCIAL MATH ASSESSMENTS

In 2011-12, there were 121 students in Lunenburg County who were enrolled in Math 12 and 102 enrolled in Advanced Math 12. Since the 2007-08 academic year, Math 12 results have improved from 30% to 37% of students passing the final exam, while Advanced Math results have declined from 54% to 45% of students passing the final exam. County students consistently perform well below the School Board and provincial averages.

PERCENTAGE OF GRADE 12 STUDENT WHO PASSED THE PROVINCIAL MATH EXAM 2007-08, 2008-09, 2011-12



Note: Provincial assessments at the Grade 12 level were discontinued after the 2011-12 academic year.

INDIVIDUALIZED PROGRAM PLANS AND DOCUMENTED ADAPTATIONS

In the 2012-13 academic year, 341 (6.0%) students in Lunenburg County had an Individualized Program Plan (IPP) and 1,087 (19.2%) had a Documented Adaptation (DA). An IPP is a statement of annual specific individualized outcomes based on the student's strengths and needs while a DA is an adjustment to the way the student is assessed or required to do something.

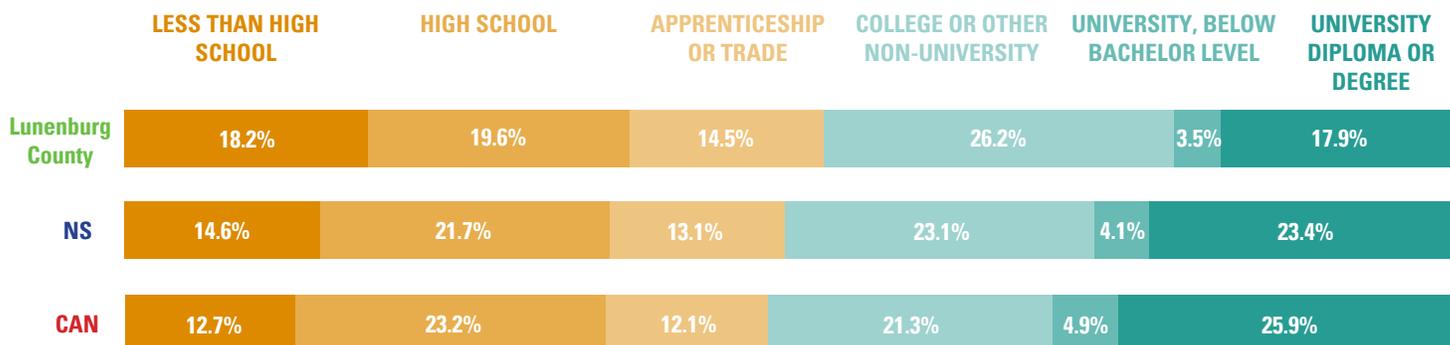
GRADUATING CLASS OF 2013: WHERE DID THEY GO?

	SSRSB	NOVA SCOTIA
University	43.6%	45.9%
Community College	27.4%	20.3%
Joined Workforce	15.5%	13.2%
Other	4.3%	4.9%
Unknown	9.1%	15.6%



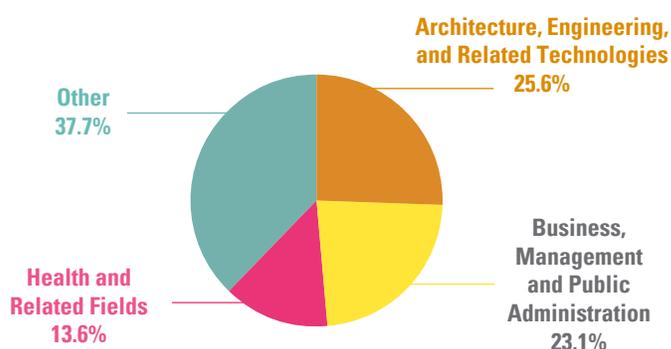
HIGHEST LEVELS OF EDUCATION IN LUNENBURG COUNTY

In 2011, 18.2% of the population of Lunenburg County between the ages of 25 and 64 had not completed high school. While this proportion exceeds both the provincial (14.6%) and national (12.7%) proportions, it is down 24.9% from the 2006 level (24.3%). About a quarter (26.2%) of people in the County hold a college or other non-university certificate or diploma, while most provincially (23.4%) and nationally (25.9%) hold a university certificate, diploma or degree.



MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY

In 2011, of the population 15 years and older in Lunenburg County with a post-secondary education, the three most popular categories of study undertaken were: architecture, engineering, and related technologies at 25.6%, business, management and public administration at 23.1%, and health and related fields at 13.6%.



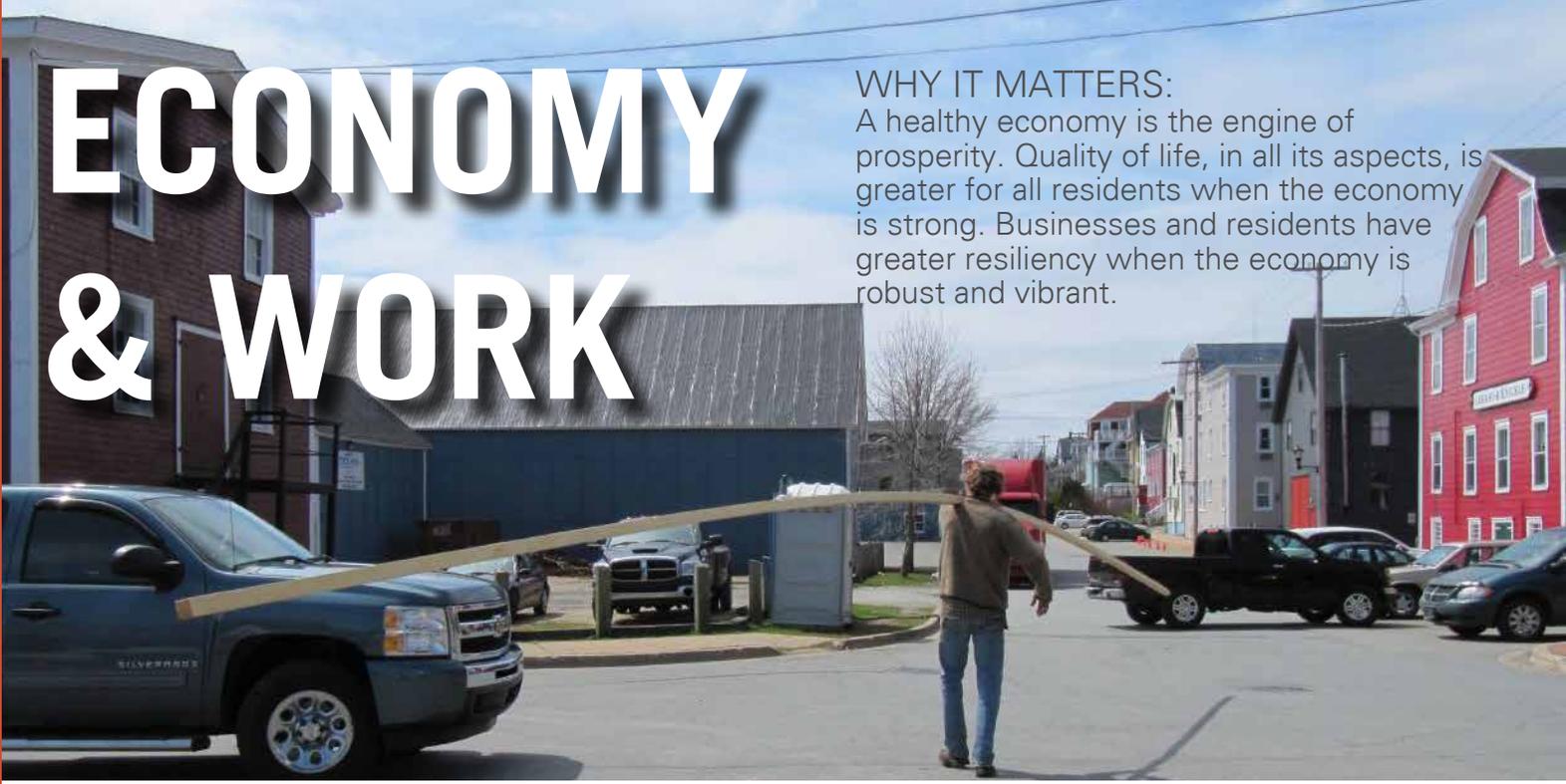
DID YOU KNOW? – The following table outlines the education options for Adults in Lunenburg County.

	LUNENBURG COUNTY ADULT HIGH SCHOOL	NSSC ADULT LEARNING PROGRAM	LUNENBURG COUNTY ADULT LEARNING NETWORK	GED - HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY CERTIFICATE (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)
What is the program?	Provides Public School Credits towards the completion of the NS High School Graduation Diploma for Adults or the regular NS High School Diploma	Provides Grade 9-12 (Level 3 and 4) credits towards the NS high School Graduation Diploma for Adults	Upgrading classes, one-on-one tutoring and provides Grade 1-8 (Level 1 and 2) credits with class sizes no larger than 15 students	International High School Equivalency with 5 areas of testing
Who can apply?	Anyone who has been out of public school for at least 1 year and is at least 18 years of age	Anyone without a high school diploma who has been out of public school for at least 1 year and is at least 19 years of age	Anyone without a high school diploma who has been out of public school for at least 1 year and is at least 19 years of age	Anyone without a high school diploma who has been out of public school for at least 1 year and is at least 19 years of age
When does enrolment occur?	September or February	Any time between September and April	Any time between September and May/June	Classes are not required but some are offered. Testing occurs in May and December
How much does it cost?	No cost if you do not have a high school diploma	No cost for tuition but a cost for texts may apply	No cost	\$43.80 each time a test is written and there are various costs for classes
Where is the program located?	NSSC Lunenburg Campus in Bridgewater	NSSC Lunenburg Campus in Bridgewater	215 Dominion St., Bridgewater	Various locations
Who to contact?	Peggy Weagle-Ott at (902) 527-5990	Academic Chair at the School of Access: (902) 543-0594	Sue Kaulback, Tutor Coordinator (902) 543-0488	http://ged.ednet.ns.ca 23

ECONOMY & WORK

WHY IT MATTERS:

A healthy economy is the engine of prosperity. Quality of life, in all its aspects, is greater for all residents when the economy is strong. Businesses and residents have greater resiliency when the economy is robust and vibrant.



Data reported in this section relate to the population in the Southern Nova Scotia Economic Region (Southern ER), which includes Lunenburg, Queens, Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth Counties. In 2011, Lunenburg County comprised 40.5% of the population in the Southern ER.

PRODUCTIVITY: GDP PER WORKER (2007 DOLLARS) & GROWTH RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's GDP per worker was \$77,790, or 96.1% of the provincial level (\$80,932) and 76.7% of the national level (\$101,485). Since 2006, the County's compounded average annual GDP per worker growth rate of 0.8% has exceeded both the provincial and national rates of 0.2%. This has helped the County to narrow the gap between its average GDP per worker and the province's average from 92.7% of the provincial level in 2006 to 96.1% in 2012.

PRODUCTIVITY PER WORKER 2012



PRODUCTIVITY: GDP PER PERSON (2007 DOLLARS) & GROWTH RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's GDP per person was \$28,368, or 83.3% of the provincial level (\$34,047) and 64.2% of the national level (\$44,197). Since 2006, the County's compounded average annual GDP per person growth rate of 1.1% has exceeded both the provincial (0.7%) and national (0.2%) rates.

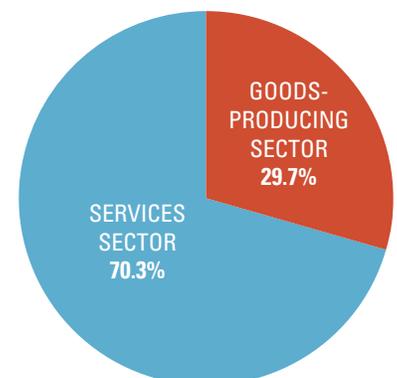
PRODUCTIVITY PER PERSON 2012



LABOUR FORCE FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

In 2012, 29.7% of those employed in all industries in the Southern ER were employed in the goods-producing sector, while 70.3% were employed in the services sector. The proportion employed in the goods-producing sector was above both the provincial (18.7%) and national (22.1%) averages.

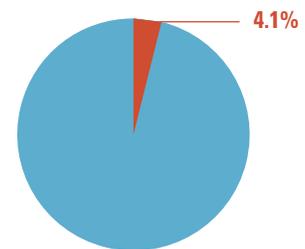
Within the goods-producing sector, almost half of all goods produced in this sector were associated with the manufacturing industry (49.3%), followed by construction (23.0%), forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (22.3%) and agriculture (4.1%). Within the service sector, trades were the most common service (25.4%), followed by health care and social assistance (18.9%), accommodation and food services (9.7%) and educational services (8.6%).



GDP (2007 DOLLARS) & GDP GROWTH RATE

In 2012, Lunenburg County's GDP was \$1.3 billion, or 4.1% of the provincial total (\$32.3 billion) which is disproportionate on a population basis as Lunenburg County makes up 4.9% of the provincial total. Since 2006, the County's compounded average annual GDP growth rate of 0.6% lagged behind both the provincial (0.9%) and national (1.3%) rates.

LUNENBURG COUNTY'S GDP AS A PROPORTION OF NS' GDP



BUSINESS COUNTS

In 2011, there were 3,069 businesses in Lunenburg County, of which 98.3% were classified as small businesses (those with fewer than 50 employees). The 3 most popular industries were:

1. Construction (457 businesses, 14.9% of all businesses)
2. Retail Trade (400 businesses, 13.0% of all businesses)
3. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (308 businesses, 10.0% of all businesses)

INDUSTRIES

Retail trade, manufacturing, and health care and social assistance are the dominant industries in Lunenburg County, accounting for 38.8% of all industries in 2011.



TOP FIVE GROWTH INDUSTRIES BY LABOUR FORCE SIZE (2006-2011)

1. Utilities (+43.8%, +35 people)
2. Educational services (+43.3%, +520 people)
3. Finance and insurance (+28.1%, +125 people)
4. Professional, scientific and technical services (+27.5%, +210 people)
5. Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (+25.0%, +30 people)



TOP FIVE INDUSTRIES ON THE DECLINE BY LABOUR FORCE SIZE (2006-2011)

1. Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (-35.4%, -605 people)
2. Manufacturing (-22.3%, -875 people)
3. Construction (-15.0%, -295 people)
4. Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services (-13.9%, -190 people)
5. Wholesale trade (-10.1%, -70 people)

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting slipped from the fifth largest industry by labour force size in 2006 to the tenth largest industry in 2011, reflecting a decline of 35.4% (605 people). Educational services moved up from the ninth largest industry by labour force size in 2006 to the fourth largest industry in 2011, reflecting a 43.3% increase (520 people).

TOP FIVE OCCUPATIONS BY EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS (2011)

OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF PEOPLE EMPLOYED	% OF TOTAL EMPLOYED IN ALL OCCUPATIONS
1. Sales and Service	5,660	24.5%
2. Trades, transport and equipment operators, and related occupations	4,140	17.9%
3. Business, finance and administration	2,980	12.9%
4. Education, law and social, community, and government services	2,555	11.0%
5. Management	2,270	9.8%

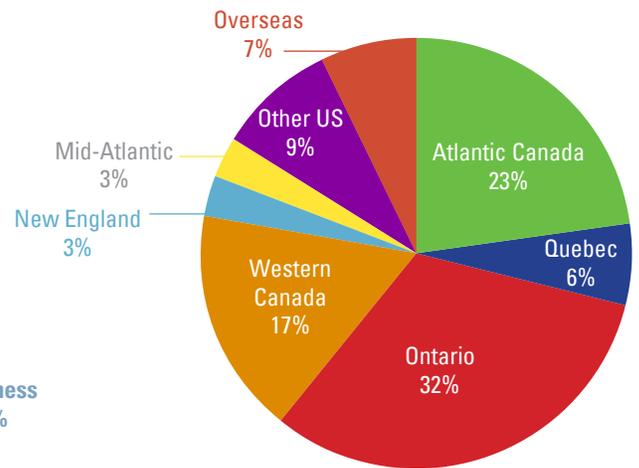
TOURISM REVENUES AND RELATED MUNICIPAL TAXES

In 2010, tourism revenues on the South Shore were \$161 million, or 8.0% of the provincial total (\$2.019 billion), the fourth highest of the seven tourism regions in the province, while tourism-related municipal taxes were \$1.8 million, or 7.4% of the provincial total (\$24.3 million), the fourth highest of the seven tourism regions in the province.

TOP REASONS FOR VISITING



ORIGIN OF VISITORS TO THE SOUTH SHORE 2010



FIXED-ROOF ACCOMMODATION DEMAND

In 2012, the occupancy rate for fixed-roof accommodations on the South Shore was 38%, compared to 48% provincially. The South Shore's occupancy rate has been consistently below the provincial average and decreasing over the past 13 years.

CAMPGROUND DEMAND

In 2010, the occupancy rate for campgrounds on the South Shore was 42%, compared to 43% in the Northumberland Shore and 47% in the Annapolis Valley and Fundy Shore. The South Shore's 2010 rate was up nearly a quarter from 34% in 2006.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES (VICS)

Note: In 2007-2009 the VIC in Bridgewater/Cookville was closed and was replaced with the new one built at exit 11 this year (2013).

From 2002 to 2012, the number of people counselled at VICS in Lunenburg County declined by an average of 9.3% annually, for a total decrease of 62.3% (59,100 visitors) from 94,900 visitors in 2002 to 35,800 in 2012.

OF VISITORS AT VICS IN LUNENBURG COUNTY



LABOUR FORCE = EMPLOYED + UNEMPLOYED

Where...

EMPLOYED = PERSONS HAVING A JOB OR BUSINESS

UNEMPLOYED = PERSONS WITHOUT WORK, WHO ARE AVAILABLE FOR WORK, AND ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING WORK.

Persons not in the labour force are those who were unwilling or unable to offer or supply labour services under conditions existing in their labour markets.

KEY LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS (2011)

	LUNENBURG COUNTY	NS	CAN
Labour Force Participation Rate	58.2% (23,505 people)	63.1%	66.0%
Employed	90.6% (21,300 people)	90.0%	92.2%
Unemployed	9.4% (2,210 people)	10.0%	7.8%
Employment Rate	52.7%	56.8%	60.9%
Unemployment Rate			
Adult	9.4%	10.0%	7.8%
Youth	22.8%	21.4%	16.6%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

The employment rate is the number of employed persons as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and older.

In 2011, the employment rate in Lunenburg County was 52.7%, which was below both the provincial (56.8%) and national (60.9%) rates. Since 2006, the employment rate in the County has dropped one percentage point from 53.7%

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

Between 2001 and 2011, the number of those employed in Lunenburg County grew an average of 0.2% annually, for an overall growth of 1.6% (345 jobs), compared to a 0.8% annual growth rate provincially (8.4% growth overall) and a 1.2% annual growth rate nationally (12.9% growth overall).

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH 2001-2011



MEDIAN AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

In 2012, in the Southern ER, median hourly earnings were \$15.12 and average hourly earnings were \$17.68. The median rate was 16.0% lower than the provincial rate (\$18.00) and 25.9% lower than the national rate (\$20.40). The average rate was 15.4% lower than the provincial rate (\$20.90) and 25.2% lower than the national rate (\$23.65).

MEDIAN HOURLY EARNINGS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



TOP 5 EMPLOYERS IN LUNENBURG COUNTY BY APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

1. South Shore Regional School Board (1,763)
2. Michelin Canada Inc. (1,500)
3. South Shore Regional Hospital and Fishermen's Memorial Hospital (1,062)
4. Composite Atlantic Limited (368)
5. Millennium 1 Solutions (350)
6. High Liner Foods Limited (297)



WORK ABSENCES

In 2012, full-time workers in the Southern ER were absent from work an average of 13.5 days (excluding days spent on maternity leave), compared to 11.4 days provincially and 9.3 days nationally. Since 1997, the number of days workers have been absent from work in the Southern ER has grown an average of 4.9% annually (for a total increase of 104.5%), compared to 3.2% provincially (for a total increase of 60.6%) and 1.5% nationally (for a total increase of 25.7%).

THE AVERAGE FULL-TIME WORKER
WAS ABSENT FROM WORK

13.5 days

AND WORKED AN AVERAGE OF

35.6 hrs/week

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED

Workers in the Southern ER worked an average of 35.6 hours per week in 2012, down 7.5% from 1999 when workers worked 38.5 hours per week on average. The 2012 figure was below both the provincial (36.5 hours) and national (36.6 hours) averages.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

In 2011, the unemployment rate in Lunenburg County was 9.4%, which was below the provincial rate (10.0%) and above the national rate (7.8%). Since 2006, the County's unemployment rate has increased 0.4 percentage points from 9.0%.

***Around 1 in 4 youth
in Lunenburg County
is unemployed***

YOUTH (15 TO 24 YEARS) UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

In 2011, the youth unemployment rate in Lunenburg County was 22.8%, which was above both the provincial (21.4%) and national (16.6%) rates. Since 2006, the County's youth unemployment rate has increased 5.3 percentage points from 17.5%.





SHARED PROSPERITY

WHY IT MATTERS:

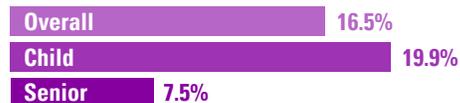
When there is a large gap between the rich and poor in our community, we are all affected. A large gap can lead to social problems, like health disparities and crime. It can also diminish economic growth if it means that we are not fully using the skills and capabilities of all of our citizens.

For a person living alone, the after-tax low income threshold in 2010 was \$19,460; for a family of four it was \$38,920.

OVERALL POVERTY RATE

In 2010, the overall poverty rate for Lunenburg County was 16.5%, the lowest it has been in ten years. From 2000 to 2010, the County's overall poverty rate has consistently been below the provincial average and generally below the national average.

POVERTY RATES (2010)



CHILD POVERTY RATE (UNDER 18 YEARS)

In 2010, the child poverty rate for Lunenburg County was 19.9%, the lowest it has been in ten years. From 2000 to 2010, the County's child poverty rate has consistently been below the provincial average and generally above the national average.

SENIOR POVERTY RATE (65+ YEARS)

In 2010, the elderly poverty rate in Lunenburg County was 7.5%, the third highest it has been in ten years. From 2000 to 2010, the County's elderly poverty rate has generally been below the provincial average and above the national average.

FOOD BANK USAGE

In March 2012, in the South Shore Region, 1,442 individuals accessed a food bank at least once, up 51.5% from 952 individuals in March 2008.

FOOD BANK USAGE INCREASE



COST OF A NUTRITIOUS DIET

In 2010, it cost about \$799/month to feed an average family of four in the South Shore District Health Region with a nutritious diet, compared to \$771/month provincially.

POSITIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS (P.R.O. KIDS)

This program provides financial support to enable young people to participate in sport, recreation and cultural activities. It is available in the Town of Bridgewater and Lunenburg and Chester Municipalities. In the fiscal year 2012, the Bridgewater program had 128 applicants and disbursed \$13,165, the Chester program had 188 applicants and disbursed about \$41,000 and the Lunenburg program had 174 applicants and disbursed \$29,854. Demand for all programs increases yearly.

HEALTH

WHY IT MATTERS:

Lifestyle choices, such as what we eat and how much we exercise, can have a greater effect on our mental and physical health than the ability of doctors.

Data reported in this section relates to the population served by the South Shore District Health Authority (SSDHA), which includes Lunenburg and Queens Counties, and the South Shore/South West Nova District Health Authority (SS/SWNDHA), which includes the SSDHA and Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth Counties. In 2012, Lunenburg County comprised 81.0% and 40.3% of the total population served by the SSDHA and SS/SWNDHA, respectively.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

Children born today in the SSDHA region are expected to live 80.1 years, compared to 79.9 years provincially and 81.1 years nationally. Those who are now 65 years of age are expected to live an additional 19.8 years to 84.8 years, compared to 19.3 years (to 84.3 years) provincially and 20.2 years (to 85.2 years) nationally.

LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR A CHILD BORN TODAY



LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 65



LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES

This indicator gives us insight into how we are doing in terms of long-term maternal malnutrition, ill health, hard work and poor health care in pregnancy.

In 2011-12, 7.7% of newborn babies in the SSDHA region were of low birth weight (less than 2.5 kgs/5.51 lbs.), up from 6.9% in 2010-11 and 4.3% in 2008-09. The 2011-12 rate was 42.6% above the provincial rate (5.4%) and 26.2% above the national rate (6.1%).

LIVE BIRTHS

In 2009, there were 336 live births in Lunenburg County, creating a live birth rate of 14.0 per 1,000 females, compared to 18.4 provincially. The live birth rate has remained relatively stable from 2000 to 2009, with an average value of 14.

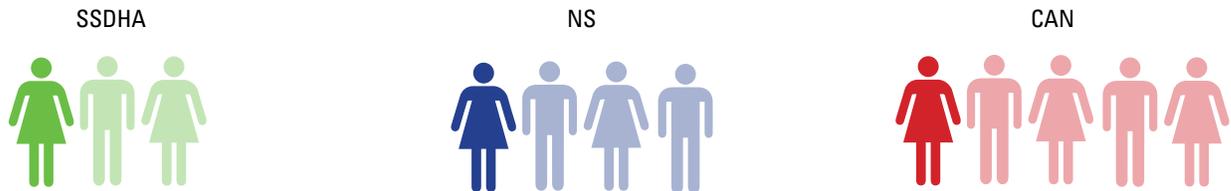
LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE OF MOTHERS 2009



A Closer Look at Obesity in Lunenburg County

OBESITY RATES

In 2012, nearly one in three (31.4%) residents in the SS/SWNDHA region aged 18 and over was considered obese, which was about the same as the 2009 level (30.1%). The 2012 rate was 25.1% above the provincial rate (25.1%) and 70.7% above the national rate (18.4%). Since 2003, the SS/SWNDHA region's obesity rate has consistently exceeded both the provincial and national averages.



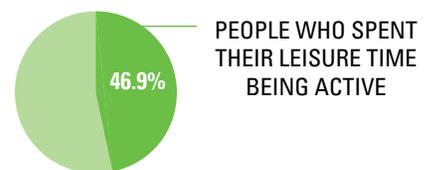
In May 2011, the LCCF's Vital Initiatives Health & Wellness group asked county residents to pick their top choices for projects addressing physical activity, healthy food, and tobacco use. Over 150 people from Lunenburg County completed the survey. The most frequent choice for action projects was physical activity (35%), followed by food-related projects (33%) and healthy living projects in the workplace (19%).

Suggested action projects included Active Transportation initiatives, walking clubs, community gardens, or cooking classes. Physical activity was also the top request for action by local decision makers and government. Respondents wanted local governments to develop physical activity plans and support the development of after school programs. Having healthy choices at public venues, eliminating fast food sponsorships, taxing junk food, and promoting local food were also top picks.

The LCCF has invested in several projects already through its Health & Wellness Small Grants Program and has supported activities at the South Shore Family Resource Association, South Shore Regional School Board, South Shore Waldorf School and the YMCA of Lunenburg County.

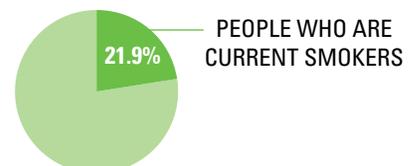
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RATES

In 2012, less than half (46.9%) of those aged 12 and over in the SS/SWNDHA region reported being physically active or moderately active during leisure time, up 7.8% from 43.5% in 2009. The 2012 rate was 13.0% below both the provincial and national levels (53.9%).



SMOKING RATES

In 2012, nearly 1 in 4 (23.1%) of those aged 12 and over in the SS/SWNDHA region identified as current smokers. This rate was about the same as the provincial rate (23.7%) and 13.8% above the national rate (20.3%). Compared to previous years, 2012 was the first year since 2007 where the SS/SWNDHA region's smoking rate was below the provincial rate.

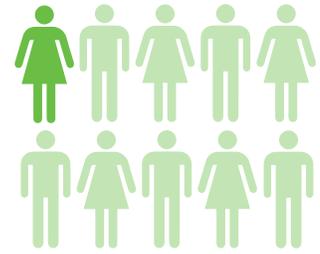


DIABETES RATE

In 2012, nearly one in ten (9.6%) of those 12 years and over in the SS/SWNDHA region had diabetes, up 52.4% from the 2003 rate (6.3%).

The 2012 rate was 11.6% higher than the provincial rate (8.6%) and 47.7% higher than the national rate (6.5%). Since 2003, the rate of diabetes in the region has generally exceeded both the provincial and national rates.

1 IN 10 HAVE DIABETES



ADDICTIONS SERVICES UTILIZATION

In the past 5 years, the majority of those who required addictions services in the SSDHA region sought help for substance abuse, followed by help for another person's substance abuse. Since 2008-09, the number of unique addiction services clients has decreased by an average of 16.2% annually, for a total decrease of 50.6% from 1,669 unique clients to 825.

ADDICTIONS SERVICES
UTILIZATION
DOWN ↓ 50.6%
SINCE 2008-09

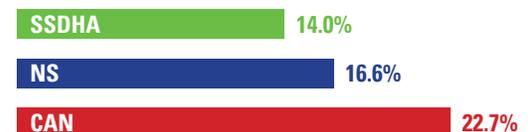
SELF-RATED MENTAL HEALTH

In 2012, 71.6% of respondents in the SS/SWNDHA region rated their mental health status as "excellent" or "very good", compared to 70.7% provincially and 71.7% nationally. This rate was up 8.5% from 66.0% in 2009.

PERCEIVED LIFE STRESS

In 2012, 14.0% of the population aged 15 and over in the SS/SWNDHA region reported experiencing quite a lot of stress on most days, compared to 16.6% provincially and 22.7% nationally. This rate was down 44.9% from a peak of 25.4% in 2007.

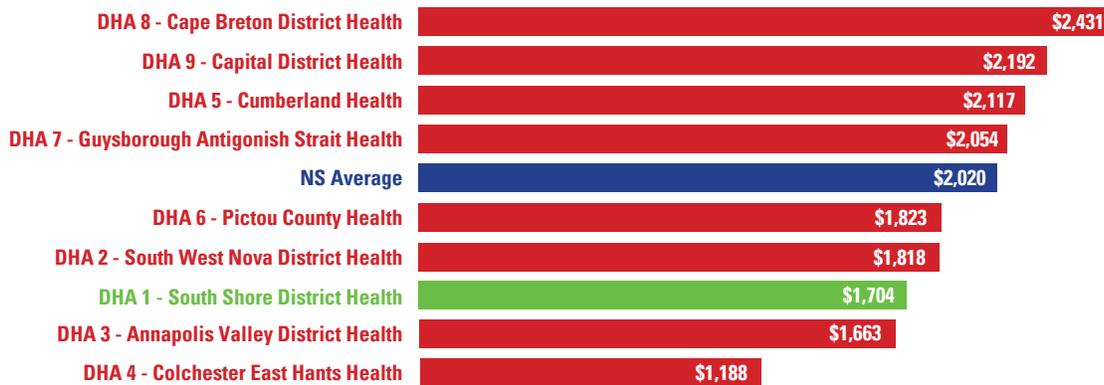
PERCEIVED LIFE STRESS 2012



SOUTH SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH AUTHORITY COSTS

In 2012-13, SSDHA revenues were \$95.9 million, up 53.6% from \$62.4 million in 2005-06 for an average annual increase of 6.3%. In the same year, SSDHA expenses were \$98.3 million up 57.4% from \$62.5 million in 2005-06, for an average annual increase of 6.7%. On a per person basis, SSDHA expenses in 2012-13 were \$1,704 per person, the third lowest in the province.

DHA OPERATING EXPENSES PER PERSON



PHYSICIAN COSTS

In 2011-12, the average payment for all physicians in the SSDHA was \$253,238, 5.9% below the provincial average (\$269,191). Compared to the other district health authorities in the province, the SSDHA had the third lowest payment per physician.

EMERGENCY ROOM CLOSURES (between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012)

	SCHEDULES CLOSURES	TEMPORARY CLOSURES	TOTAL CLOSURES
Fisherman's Memorial Hospital	3,294 hours (92.7%)	259.5 hours (7.3%)	3,553.5 hours
South Shore Regional Hospital	---	---	---
All of Nova Scotia	8,229 hours	9,488 hours	17,717 hours
FMH as a % of NS	40.0%	2.7%	20.1%

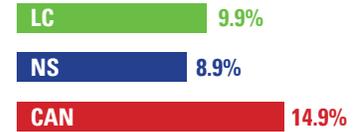
From April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012, the emergency department (ED) at Fishermen's Memorial Hospital (FMH) was closed for 3,553.5 hours which represented 20.1% of all ED closure hours in the province that year. The ED at South Shore Regional Hospital experienced no closures at all.

Of the hours closed at FMH, most (92.7%) of these were scheduled, while 7.3% were not scheduled and the hospital was temporarily closed due to physician and/or registered nurse unavailability.

PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION WITHOUT A REGULAR DOCTOR

In 2012, 9.9% of the population aged 12 and over in the SS/SWNDHA region did not have a regular medical doctor, up 52.3% from 6.5% in 2003. This rate was 11.2% higher than the provincial rate (8.9%) and 33.6% lower than the national rate (14.9%).

PERCENT OF POPULATION 12 YRS+ WITHOUT A REGULAR FAMILY DOCTOR 2012



PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE SSDHA

In 2012, there were 212 new palliative care referrals in the SSDHA, 178 patients supported and 164 bereaved families supported. These figures were similar to 2011 levels. In the same year, 73% of deaths occurred in hospital, up 21.7% from the 2011 level (60%).

HOW WHAT KILLS US COMPARES

Rates are in deaths (during 2005-2007) per 10,000 people (age standardized)

Cause of Death	How we compare nationally	Men	Women	How we compare nationally
All Cancers	About the same	21.1	14.1	About the same
Breast Cancer	---	---	1.3	40.4% lower
Prostate Cancer	29.5% lower	1.5	---	---
Lung Cancer	About the same	5.8	3.3	9.4% lower
Colorectal Cancer	30.8% higher	1.9	0.9	60.7% lower
Circulatory Disease	22.9% higher	24.6	14.6	18.1% higher
Respiratory Disease	About the same	5.7	3.7	About the same

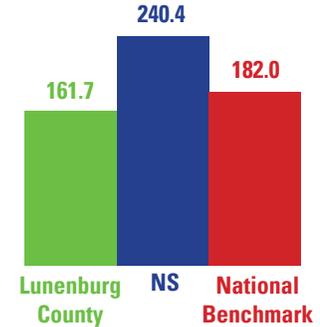
SENIORS' PHARMACARE PROGRAM

In 2011-12, there were 8,766 beneficiaries of the seniors' pharmacare program in the SSDHA, up 5.6% from 8,305 in 2008-09. Each beneficiary had an average of 33 prescriptions that year, the second lowest of all district health authorities in the province. The total cost of this program in the SSDHA was \$ 12.8 million or \$1,458 per beneficiary, comparable to the provincial average (\$1,503).

WAIT TIMES FOR CATARACT SURGERY, A NATIONALLY PRIORITIZED PROCEDURE (WEIGHTED AVERAGE BY VOLUME OF PATIENTS FROM APRIL 1, 2010 TO MARCH 31, 2013)

Over the past 3 years, Lunenburg County has exceeded (for 90% of patients seen) the national standards for cataract surgery.

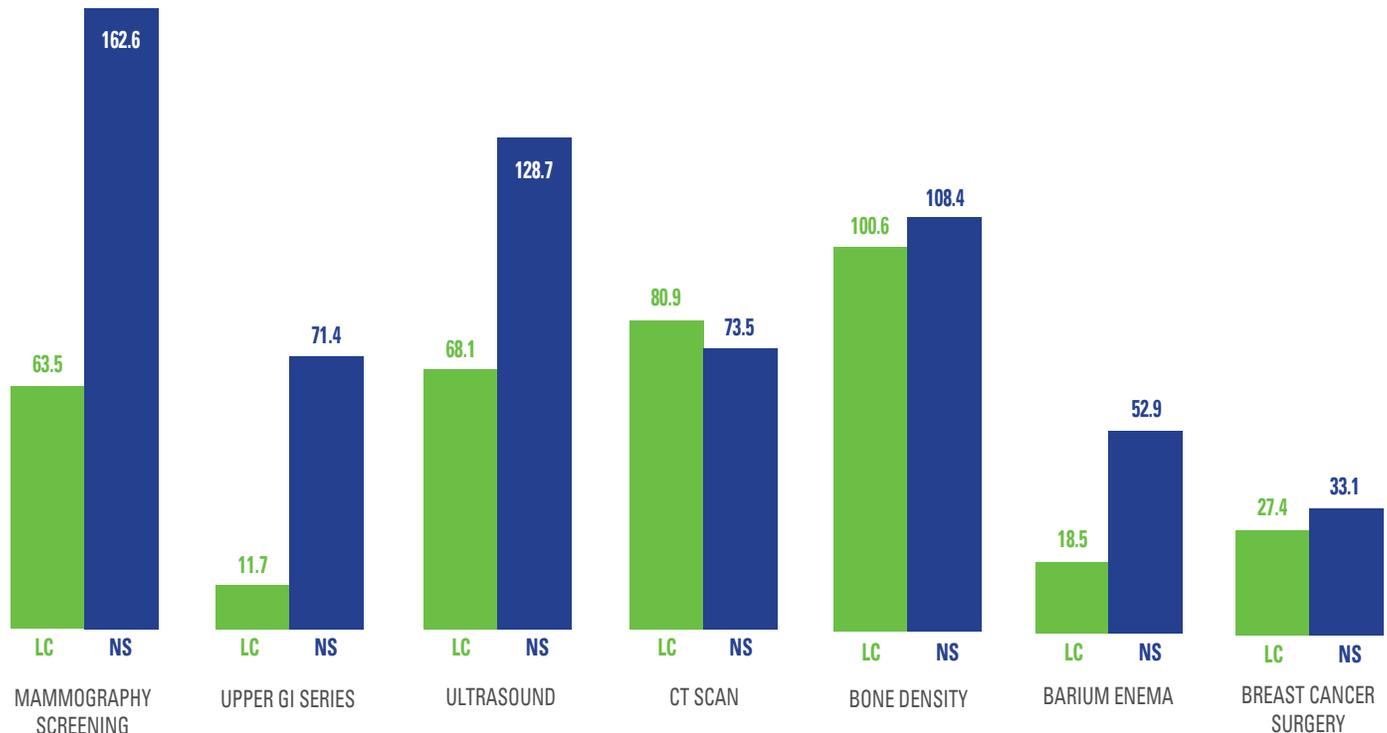
WAIT TIMES (DAYS) FOR CATARACT SURGERY



WAIT TIMES FOR COMMON PROCEDURES

Over the past 5.25 years, wait times for common procedures in Lunenburg County have generally been much shorter than those experienced in other parts of the province. The exception to this is CT scans.

WAIT TIMES FOR COMMON PROCEDURES (90% OF PATIENTS WAIT LESS THAN THIS NUMBER OF DAYS) FOR APRIL 1, 2011 TO MARCH 31, 2013





CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia is proud to have published Vital Signs® for five consecutive years starting with Wolfville in 2009, Lunenburg County in 2010, Nova Scotia in 2011 and Halifax in 2012. While the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia itself is a young initiative, the community foundation movement across Canada has been connecting people who care with causes that matter for more than 90 years. In less than six years, the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia has helped to create over 40 endowment funds, distributed more than \$300,000 as grants and impacted over 125 charities throughout Nova Scotia.

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia is a public charitable foundation established by Nova Scotians for Nova Scotians. We connect donors with the community issues they care about most and create lasting impacts.

Our three core activities are...

1. Growing Philanthropy - We help others to establish and grow endowments that will make a long-term difference in Nova Scotia;
2. Building Knowledge – We provide the public with objective information about community strengths and opportunities through our Vital Signs® reports;
3. Strengthening Community – We support charities and community organizations throughout Nova Scotia and Canada.

So what's so special about a Community Foundation? At the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia we do philanthropy differently. We've tossed out the old idea of "who" creates a Foundation and created a space where people of all financial means can build their own Fund and begin to make their own impact in their own way.

We've also created a space where donors, charities and other community stakeholders can learn more about what's happening in their own backyard through the publication of Vital Signs® reports. All of these efforts are aimed at inspiring civic engagement – or in other words – encouraging you, your co-workers, family, friends and neighbours to get together to try to figure out how we can pool our resources to bring a new perspective to some age-old issues and ultimately build more resilient communities throughout Nova Scotia.

How will you make a positive impact in your community?

Take a look at some of our endowments...



2008

Heart of the Bay Fund

An initiative of the St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association to preserve and enhance the Bay's natural environment, its heritage and quality of life.



2009

Buddy Daye Scholarship Fund

A scholarship fund for African Nova Scotians age 14-24 years that celebrates athletic accomplishments, community involvement and scholastic achievement.



2010

Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society Fund

An initiative aimed at nourishing our connections with the land and protecting the cultural and natural heritage of the Cole Harbour area.

For more visit www.cfns.ca

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The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia is grateful to all of those who helped to make this report possible.

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