

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	i
List of Tables and Figures	iv
Executive Summary	vii
INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 1: DEMOGRAPHICS	7
Fast Facts	7
Rural and Urban Populations	7
Diverse Populations	8
Population Changes	9
Age and Sex	13
Dwelling Characteristics	15
Income	15
Low Income Cut-Off	17
Discussion Questions	18
CHAPTER 2: ECONOMY	21
Fast Facts	21
Employment	21
Employment of Young People	23
Employment Sectors	24
Overview of Employment Sectors	24
Fisheries	25
Forestry	27
Mining, Oil, and Gas	28
Agriculture	29
Tourism	30
Manufacturing	31
Discussion Questions	34
CHAPTER 3: EDUCATION	37
Fast Facts	37
Education Levels	38
Public School System	38
Number of Schools, Students, Teachers, and Class Size	39
School Size	40
Teacher Age and Certification	40
Withdrawal and Graduation Rates	41
Nova Scotia Examinations	42
Busing	42
First Nations, Alternative, and Private Schools	43
Community Colleges and Universities	43
Training, Computer Accessibility, and Adult Education Opportunities	45
Nova Scotia Community Learning Initiative	46
Nova Scotia School for Adult Learning	46
Community Access Programs	46
Information Economy Initiative	46
EDnet	46

Provincial Libraries	47
Discussion Questions	48
CHAPTER 4: ENVIRONMENT	51
Fast Facts	51
The Landscape of Nova Scotia	52
Air Quality	52
Greenhouse Gases	52
Wood Smoke	53
Natural Gas	54
Water Quality	54
Groundwater Contamination	54
Acid Rain	56
Wilderness and Natural Areas	57
Non-Resident Land Ownership	57
Forests	59
Wildlife	59
Marine Environment	62
Fish Stocks	62
Impact of Oil and Gas Industry	62
Solid Waste and Industrial Waste	63
Solid Waste	63
Industrial Waste	63
Discussion Questions	64
CHAPTER 5: HEALTH	67
Fast Facts	67
Health Status and Population Health	67
Health Indicators Framework	68
Health Systems and Data Sources	69
District Health Authorities in Nova Scotia	69
Comparing Rural and Urban Nova Scotia: Nova Scotia’s “Health Zones”	71
Comparing Rural Nova Scotia with Canadian Peer Groups	72
Data Sources and Limitations	73
The Health of Nova Scotians	73
Well-being	73
Health Conditions	74
Human Function	76
Deaths	77
Determinants of Health	78
Health Behaviours	79
Living and Working Conditions	80
Personal Resources and Coping Skills	80
Environmental Factors	81
Health System Characteristics	82
Health System	82
Health Resources	82
Health Indicators Across Nova Scotia	85
Discussion Questions	86
FINAL THOUGHTS ON USING THIS REPORT	87
ENDNOTES	89

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

TABLES

Table 1.	Nova Scotia's Rural and Urban Population, 2001	8
Table 2.	Population Changes by County and Region, 1986-2002	9
Table 3.	Percentages of the Mobility and Migration of the Population	12
	One Year Ago and Five Years Ago, 2001 Census	
Table 4.	Total Population of Rural and Urban Nova Scotia by Age	13
	Groups, 2001	
Table 5.	Dwelling and Household Ownership Status, 2001	15
Table 6.	Household Size in Rural and Urban Nova Scotia, 2001	15
Table 7.	Distribution of Incomes based on Tax Returns, by region, 2000	16
Table 8.	The Number and Percentage of Low Income Households by	17
	County, 2001	
Table 9.	Labour Force Activity, by Sex, 2001	23
Table 10.	Employment by Occupation	25
Table 11.	Aquaculture Production	27
Table 12.	Provincial Area (hectares) by Forest and Non-Forest	27
	Categories by Ownership, 1999	
Table 13.	Mineral Production by Quantity and Value	28
Table 14.	Tourism Industry Employment, by Tourism Region, 2000	31
Table 15.	Establishments and Employees by Industry Group, 1999	32
Table 16.	Highest Number of Plants and Employees by County	33
Table 17.	Establishments and Employees by Size of the Manufacturing	34
	Establishment, 1999	
Table 18.	Student Graduation Rates by School Board, 2000-2001	42
Table 19.	Nova Scotia Community College Campuses and	44
	Enrollment, 2000-2001	
Table 20.	Collège de l'Acadie Campuses	44
Table 21.	Collège de l'Acadie Enrollment, 2002-2003 (Oct. Statistics)	45
Table 22.	Nova Scotia University Enrollment (as of October, 2002)	45
Table 23.	Provincial Library Service Points	47
Table 24.	Library Membership	47
Table 25.	Protected Areas	57
Table 26.	Species in Nova Scotia that are Extinct, Endangered,	61
	Threatened and of Special Concern	
Table 27.	Health Indicators Framework	69
Table 28.	Principal Characteristics of Canadian Peer Groups Encompassing ...	72
	Nova Scotia's Communities	
Table 29.	Canadian Community Health Survey 2000/2001	85

FIGURES

Figure 1.	Population Changes by County, 1986-2002	10
Figure 2.	Nova Scotia's and Canada's Population Living in Predominantly Rural Areas, 1981-2001	11
Figure 3.	Population of Rural and Urban Nova Scotia by Sex, 2001	13
Figure 4.	Population Flow for Rural Nova Scotia by Age Group, 1991-2001	14
Figure 5.	Percentage of Youth Aged 15-19 Years in a Rural and Small Town Community who Moved to a Larger Urban Centre between 1991 and 1996	14
Figure 6.	Average Income per Taxfiler by County, compared with Nova Scotian and Canadian Averages, 2000	16
Figure 7.	Average Earnings of Full-Time Workers, 2001	17
Figure 8.	Unemployment Rate Canada and the Provinces, 2001	22
Figure 9.	Employment Status Nova Scotia, by Region, 2002	22
Figure 10.	Employment Rate, Nova Scotia Rural-Urban Gap, 1993-2002	22
Figure 11.	Employment Opportunities by Sex, 2002	23
Figure 12.	Employment by Industrial Sector Urban and Rural Nova Scotia, 1999	24
Figure 13.	Number of Fishers, Nova Scotia, 1983-2000	26
Figure 14.	Number of Vessels, Nova Scotia, 1983-2000	26
Figure 15.	Commercial Fish Landings, All Species, Nova Scotia 1981-2001	26
Figure 16.	The Distribution of Lobster-Landed Value Across all Nova Scotian Lobster Fishers, by year (1989-1999)	26
Figure 17.	GDP	29
Figure 18.	Total Wages and Salaries	29
Figure 19.	Employment	29
Figure 20.	Nova Scotia Agriculture, 1991-2001	29
Figure 21.	Tourism Receipts in Nova Scotia by Region, 2001	30
Figure 22.	Tourism Receipts in Nova Scotia, Total, Urban, and Rural, 1997-2001	31
Figure 23.	Value of Manufacturing Shipments by Industry Group, Nova Scotia, 2001	32
Figure 24.	Number of Urban and Rural Manufacturing Establishments, 1997	33
Figure 25.	Overall Level of Education of Nova Scotians 20+ years old, 2001	38
Figure 26.	Nova Scotia's School Boards, 2001-2002	39
Figure 27.	Average Class Size by Grade, 2001-2002	39
Figure 28.	Public Schools by Enrollment Size, 2001-2002	40
Figure 29.	Student Withdrawals (percentages), 2000-2001	41
Figure 30.	Grade 12 Examination Results by School Board, 2002	42
Figure 31.	Student Transportation Expenditure per Student by School Board, 2001-2002	43
Figure 32.	Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 1990 and 2000	53
Figure 33.	GHG Emissions: Fuel Combustion Break-Down, Nova Scotia, 2000	53
Figure 34.	Firewood Burned in Nova Scotia (1970-1994)	54
Figure 35.	Arsenic and Uranium Sampling	55
Figure 36.	Sensitivity and Total Alkalinity of Nova Scotia's Water	56
Figure 37.	Nova Scotia Non-resident Ownership Map with Provincial Crown Land	58

Figure 38. Changes in Nova Scotia Forest Age Structure, 1958-1995	59
Figure 39. PCB Concentration in Seabird Eggs, 1972-1996	60
Figure 40. Fishable Biomass Trends for Selected Nova Scotia Finfish Species ...	62
Figure 41. Waste Disposed per Capita, Nova Scotia vs Canada	63
Figure 42. Waste Disposal by Region, Nova Scotia	63
Figure 43. District Health Authorities in Nova Scotia	70
Figure 44. Nova Scotia's Health Zones	71
Figure 45. Age-standardized Life Expectancy for Nova Scotia's Health Zones ...	77
Figure 46. Age-standardized All-Cause Mortality Rates	78
Figure 47. Age-standardized All Cancer Mortality Rates	78
Figure 48. Population per Physician by District Health Authority, 2001	83
Figure 49. Population per Registered Nurse by District Health Authority, 2001	84