



LIFE SCIENCES

Advancing world-class health and life sciences
R&D, innovation, and commercialization.

HALIFAX 
NOVA SCOTIA

SECTOR SNAPSHOT

A growing health and life sciences industry with major research centres, leading hospitals, and a vibrant post-secondary sector that supports R&D and commercialization.



More than 100 companies across a range of industries, from medical devices to digital health to bioproducts.



Emerging medical technology cluster bolstered by Halifax's IT strengths and vibrant innovation ecosystem.



Critical mass of students and scientists undertaking R&D in areas like neurology, multi-organ transplants, cardiology, and cancer research.



Expertise in the marine environment and a leader in marine biotechnology, with industry successes such as DSM Nutrition, Nature's Way, and Acadian Seaplants.



Heavily export-focused featuring partnerships with multinational biotechnology giants including Pfizer, Merck Canada Ltd, and AstraZeneca.

THE HALIFAX ADVANTAGE



Established tech and innovation ecosystem with 2000+ companies, ranging from startups to multinationals, undertaking world-class R&D and commercialization of innovative products and services.



Home to major research centres, anchor institutions, and state-of-the-art incubator facilities such as the QEII Health Sciences Centre, Life Sciences Research Institute, the Brain Repair Centre, National Research Council, Genome Atlantic, and Innovacorp Enterprise Centre.



Easily access global markets and do business across European, North American, and Caribbean time zones all on the same day.



Ranked Top 5 among Mid-sized Cities in the Americas for Best Human Capital and Lifestyle (fDi American Cities of the Future 2021/22).



World-class infrastructure including fibre optic networks with gigabit connections, a self-generating power grid, and reliable, fast, and secure data transmission between North America and Europe through the EXA Atlantic and EXA Express transatlantic cables at >53 Tbps.

TALENT



STEADY STREAM OF STEM GRADUATES

WITH ABOUT 4,600 HEALTH AND RELATED-FIELD GRADUATES IN NOVA SCOTIA IN 2022.

70%

OF THE WORKFORCE HAS POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

7

UNIVERSITIES AND

3

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUSES

GRADUATING TOP TALENT

36K

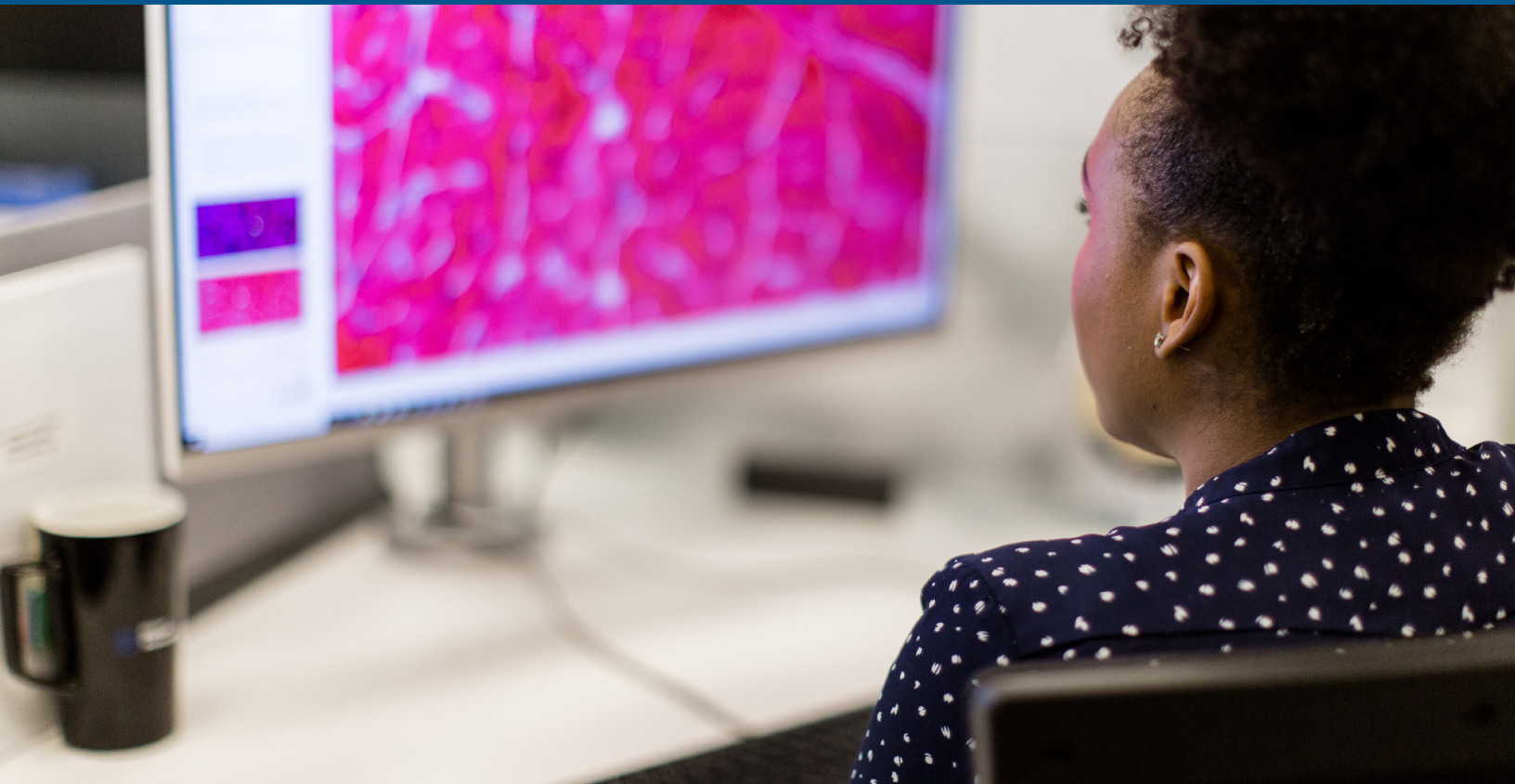
POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS ENROLLED ANNUALLY



IMMIGRATION-FRIENDLY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS LIKE THE ATLANTIC IMMIGRATION PROGRAM.

“ I know the potential of the growing of Life Sciences on the east coast. I believe the Atlantic region will become a ‘life sciences Silicon Valley.’ ”

Alli Mousavi, co-Founder & CEO, MOC Biotechnologies



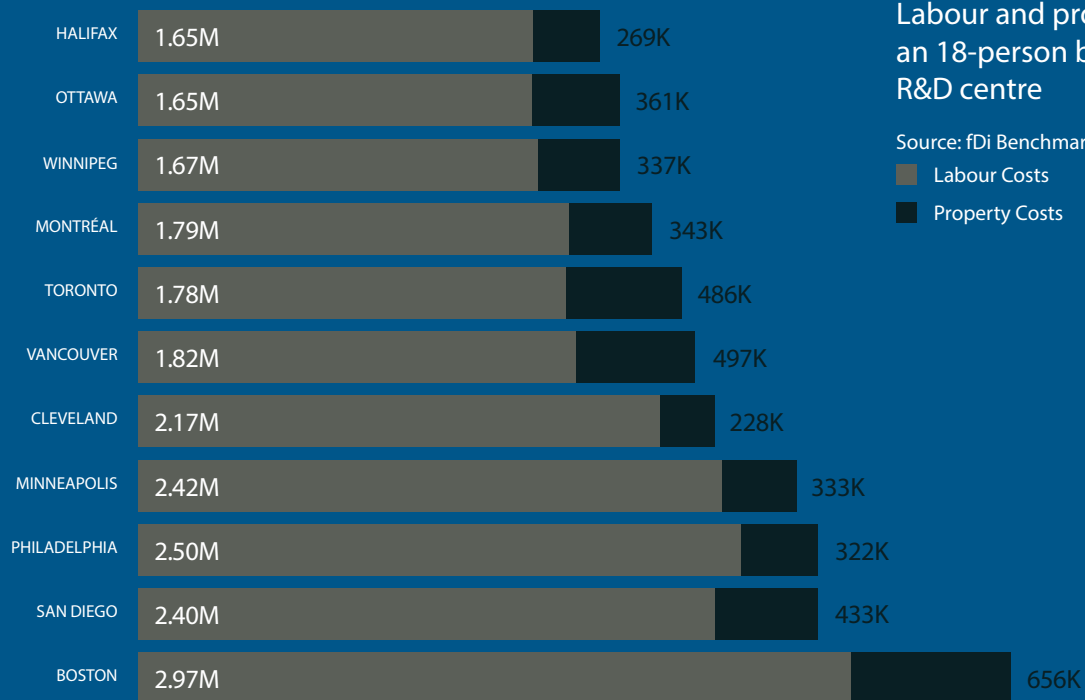


COMPETITIVE BUSINESS COSTS

2nd lowest costs for operating a life sciences business out of the 50 largest cities in Canada and the USA (fDi Benchmark).

Life sciences companies benefit from low business costs and generous incentives that meet industry needs including the Nova Scotia Payroll Rebate, Research and Development Tax Credits, Innovation Rebate Program, and the NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program.

Across several leading North American centres for health and life sciences, Halifax has the lowest average salary cost for key positions including laboratory specialist, laboratory technician, scientist, chemical engineer, production manager, and head of R&D.



Labour and property costs for an 18-person bioinformatics R&D centre

Source: fDi Benchmark 2021

- Labour Costs
- Property Costs

GAIN THE COMPETITIVE EDGE

Connect with our team to learn why Halifax is the right location for business, talent, and investment.

investinhalifax.com