

# HALIFAX ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN 2016-21 PROGRESS

All indicators are measured for the Halifax Census Metropolitan Area unless indicated otherwise.

Goal	Measurement	Baseline	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	STATUS VS. BASELINE
<b>Promote &amp; Maximize Growth</b>	<b>Grow Halifax's GDP to \$22.5 Billion</b> Source: Conference Board of Canada, Metropolitan Outlook (Winter)	<b>\$18.3 billion</b>	<b>\$18.6 billion</b>	<b>\$18.9 billion</b>	<b>\$19.2 billion</b>	<b>\$19.7 billion</b>	<b>\$19.0 billion</b>	<b>Progressing</b>
	• Increase average annual GDP growth Source: Conference Board of Canada, Metropolitan Outlook (Winter)	+1.4%	+1.4%	+1.9%	+1.6%	+2.6%	-3.5%	Worsening
	• Increase the total number of jobs Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey	216,600	218,700	217,300	227,600	234,100	227,400	Improving
	• Increase the share of full-time work Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey	83%	82%	81%	82%	81%	82%	Unchanged
	• Increase the share of businesses that consider Halifax an above-average place to do business Source: Narrative Research, Business Confidence Survey	15%	23%	27%	26%	32%	39%	Improving
	• Reduce commercial vacancy rates in the downtown Source: Cushman & Wakefield Atlantic, Office MarketBeat	14.3%	15.1%	19.6%	19.1%	18.8%	19.5%	Worsening
• Increase the commercial property tax base Source: HRM – Financial Policy and Planning	\$7.8 billion	\$8.2 billion	\$8.3 billion	\$8.3 billion	\$8.5 billion	\$8.6 billion	Improving	
<b>Attract &amp; Retain Talent</b>	<b>Grow Halifax's Labour Force to 271,000</b> Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey	<b>231,300</b>	<b>232,900</b>	<b>233,400</b>	<b>242,100</b>	<b>248,600</b>	<b>249,000</b>	<b>Progressing</b>
	• Increase Halifax's overall labour force growth Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey	-0.5%	+0.7%	+0.2%	+3.7%	+2.7%	+0.2%	Improving
	• Increase net interprovincial migration of youth ages 20 to 29 to Nova Scotia Source: Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates	-1,300	-222	+252	+238	+376	+365	Improving
	• Grow the international student body... Source: Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission	5,832	6,045	6,413	6,577	6,917	7,588	Improving
	- ...and the gross share that transition into permanent residency	3.4%	6.9%	9.5%	12.9%	12.8%	7.1%	Improving
• Increase net international immigration to Halifax Source: Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates	+2,018	+5,476	+4,329	+5,045	+6,341	+5,751	Improving	
<b>Make Halifax a Better Place to Live &amp; Work</b>	<b>Grow Halifax's Population to 470,000</b> Source: Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates	<b>408,017</b>	<b>414,015</b>	<b>421,713</b>	<b>429,895</b>	<b>439,529</b>	<b>448,544</b>	<b>Progressing</b>
	• Increase Halifax's overall population growth Source: Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates	+0.2%	+1.5%	+1.9%	+1.9%	+2.2%	+2.1%	Improving
	• Increase the share of Nova Scotians who have a strong, or somewhat strong, sense of belonging to their community Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey	76.4%	73.4%	~	71.7%	74.2%	75%	Worsening
	• Raise the mean score on various quality of life indicators as measured by the City Matters survey Source: MQO Research, City Matters Survey	7.7	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.7	7.5	Worsening
	- Good place to raise a family	7.7	7.8	7.4	7.6	8.1	7.7	Unchanged
	- Outdoor recreational facilities	7.3	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.5	7.2	Unchanged
	- Indoor recreational facilities	7.2	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.4	7.2	Unchanged
	- Housing affordability	6.1	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.1	4.2	Worsening
	- Arts and cultural events	7.4	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.4	6.9	Worsening
	- City is easy to get around	6.6	5.9	6.0	5.6	6.4	6.2	Worsening
	- Percentage who feel mostly safe	61%	80%	80%	87%	90%	81%	Improving
• Increase library programming attendance Source: Halifax Regional Library	209,772	213,576	224,072	241,154	221,409	91,808*	Worsening	
- ...and in-person visits	3,595,902	3,613,986	3,618,317	3,617,008	3,447,146	1,060,662	Worsening	

\*Includes in-person and virtual programming.