

FINDING A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN NOVA SCOTIA

April 2019 Report

Prepared for: Public



Reporting Cycle: Monthly

INTRODUCTION

Background

Nova Scotia Health Authority’s Need a Family Practice (NAFP) registry was launched on November 1, 2016. The registry provides a coordinated and consistent provincial approach for tracking Nova Scotians who self identify as not having access to a primary care provider (family physician or nurse practitioner).

People can register themselves and their family members on the NAFP registry online or by telephone to be contacted by a participating practice/provider that is accepting new patients. There are two main ways that contribute to how we report the number of people who have found a primary care provider in Nova Scotia: (1) Through names that are on the NAFP Registry and; (2) names that are not on the NAFP Registry and are sent to NSHA through other routes.

 1. NSHA’s Need a Family Practice Registry	 2. Other Routes
People can register themselves and their family members on the Need a Family Practice (NAFP) Registry online or by telephone to be contacted by a participating practice/provider that is accepting new patients.	People can find a primary care provider in other ways, such as with local family practices, through a family member who is an existing patient of a practice, or through a referral by another provider. Information on the number of patients accepted by family doctors who received the patient attachment incentive since April 2018 is also included in the ‘Other Routes’ category.

The term **‘Found a Provider’** is used throughout the report to depict the approximate number of people in Nova Scotia who have found a primary care provider and were registered on the NAFP registry and through other routes as tracked by NSHA since November 2016. The term **‘Not Yet Placed’** is used to depict the number of NAFP registrants who are seeking a primary care provider and have added their names to the NAFP registry.

The report highlights the overall volume of people who have found a provider and who are not yet placed by geography (zone, network, and cluster), as well as by month, with data as of **March 25, 2019**.

Report Format

This report is divided into the following sections:

1. Total Provincial Volumes
2. Monthly Activity
3. Total Zonal Volumes – Found a Provider
4. Total Zonal Volumes – Not Yet Placed

1 | TOTAL PROVINCIAL VOLUMES



Total Provincial Volumes – Found a Primary Care Provider

- Over the month of March, 5,157 people found a primary care provider.
- The overall number of people in Nova Scotia who have found a primary care provider (NAFP registry and other routes) as tracked by NSHA since November 2016 is 80,802.



Total Provincial Volumes – Not Yet Placed

- As of the April 1, 2019 report, there were 51,802 registrants not yet placed with a family practice, which accounts for 5.6% of the total population in Nova Scotia (based on 2011 census data).
- This represents a 1.3% increase from the March 1, 2019 report where 51,119 registrants were not yet placed.

Figure 1 identifies the number of people in Nova Scotia who have found a primary care provider who were on the NAFP registry or identified through other routes as tracked by NSHA since November 2016.

Figure 1: Total Provincial Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider by Month

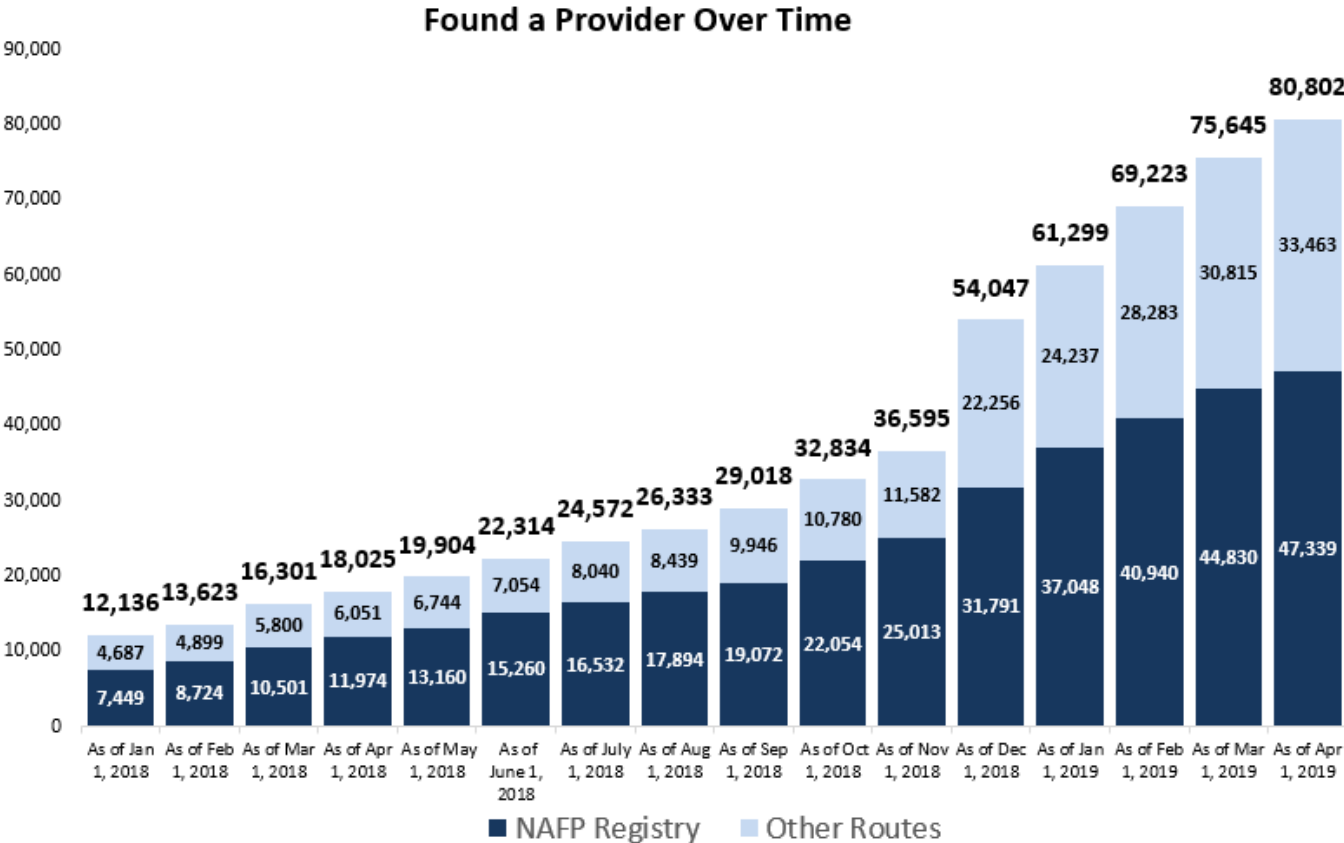
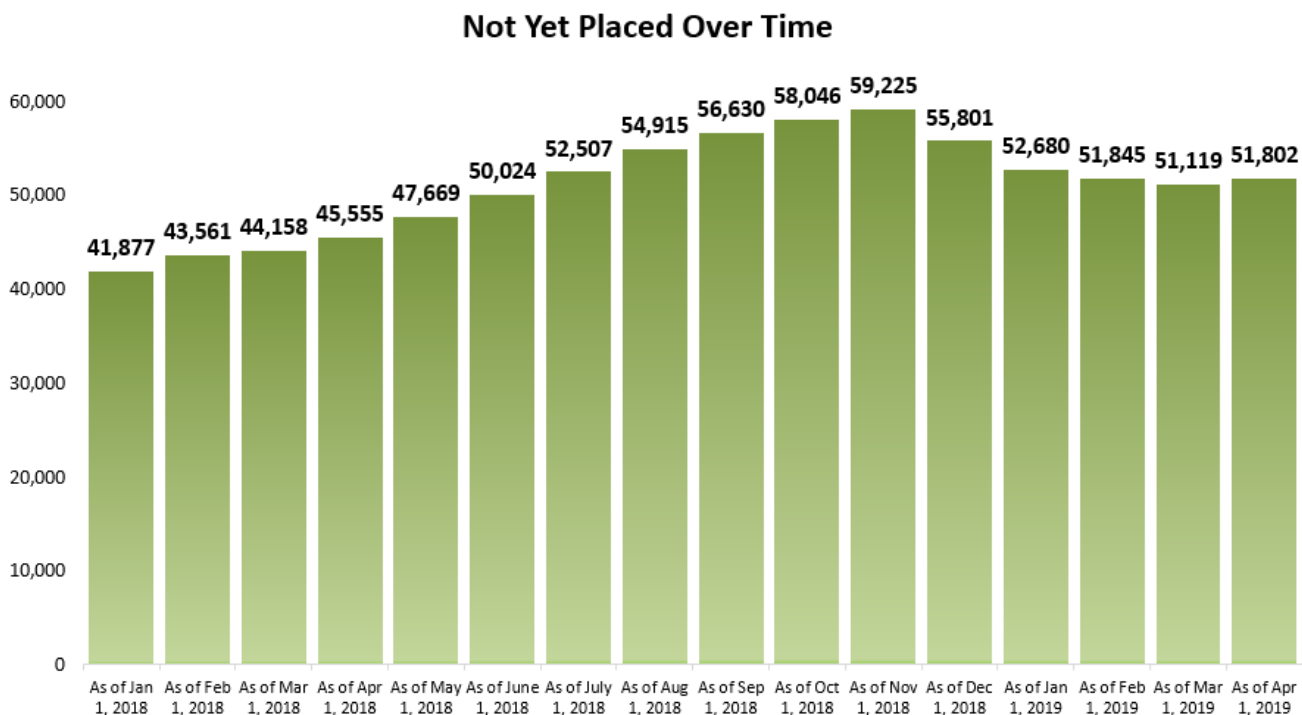


Figure 2 depicts the total number of registrants, by month, on the Need a Family Practice registry that are not yet placed with a family practice.

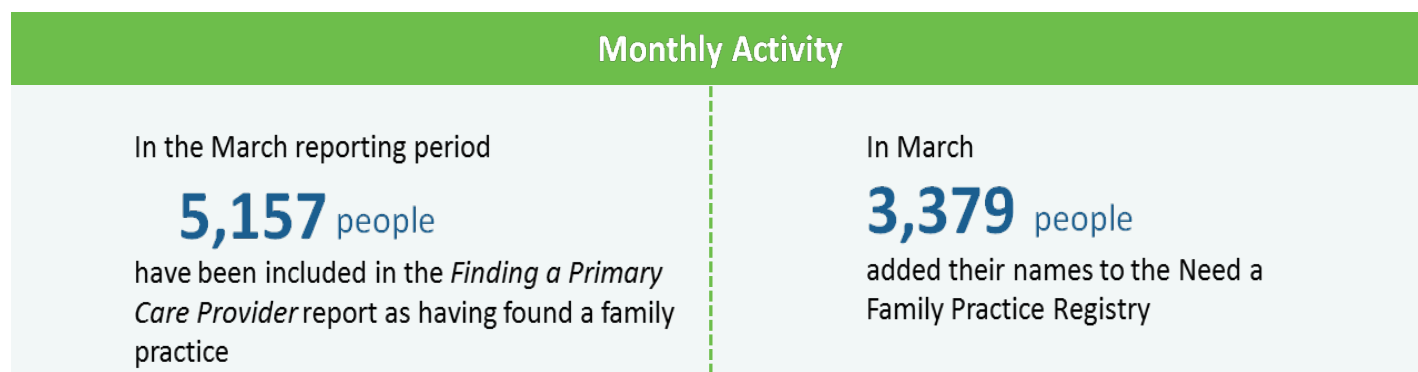
Figure 2: Total Provincial Volumes - Not Yet Placed by Month



2 | MONTHLY ACTIVITY

During the month of March, 5,157 people found a family doctor or nurse practitioner, and 3,379 people added their names to the Need a Family Practice registry as of April 1. Figure 3 highlights the overall monthly activity during the month of March 2019.


Figure 3: Provincial Volumes - Monthly Activity



Monthly Activity by Zone

Figure 4 provides a summary of the monthly activity that occurred between the March 1 report and the April 1 report.

Figure 4: Total Zonal Monthly Activity



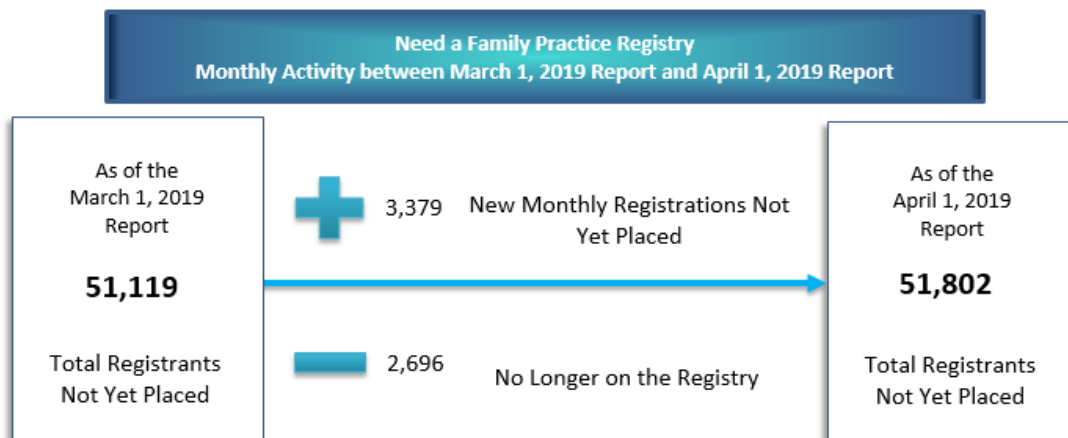
		Mar 1, 2019	Apr 1, 2019	% Change	Apr 1, 2019	Apr 1, 2019
Central Zone	Bedford/Sackville, Dartmouth / Southeastern, Eastern Shore Musquodoboit, Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto, and West Hants	20,593	20,333	-1.3%	2.2%	39,337
Eastern Zone	Antigonish and Guysborough, Cape Breton County, and Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	4,188	4,101	-2.1%	0.4%	14,820
Northern Zone	Colchester, Cumberland, and Pictou County	8,938	9,471	6.0%	1.0%	11,312
Western Zone	Annapolis and Kings, Queens and Lunenburg and Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	17,376	17,879	2.9%	1.9%	15,197
Unknown Geography	Unknown Geography	24	18	-	-	136
NOVA SCOTIA	TOTAL ACROSS NOVA SCOTIA	51,119	51,802	1.3%	5.6%	80,802

*Not yet placed percent of the population relative to the geography's population (i.e., zone)

Monthly Registry Activity

Specific to the NAFP registry during the month of March, 3,379 new registrations occurred (people who need a family practice) and 2,696 registrants were removed from the registry. People are removed from the registry because they were assisted with finding a family practice or for other reasons, such as already having found a provider when contacted by NSHA or having a duplicate registration. Figure 5 highlights the overall activity in the NAFP registry during the month of March 2019.

Figure 5: Monthly NAFP Registry Activity

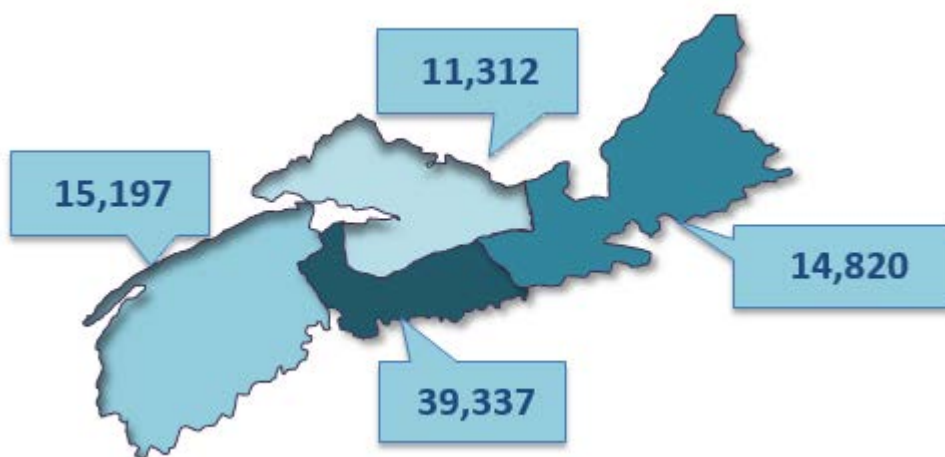


The registry is dynamic, with registrants being added and removed each day. Figure 5 is a simplified graphic that compares two snapshots, one month apart. It depicts the change in the registry total, showing the number of those who have newly registered in the past month, minus the number of people who were no longer on the registry, which is a total of the number of registrants who found a provider and those who have been removed from the registry for other reasons.

3 | TOTAL ZONAL VOLUMES: FOUND A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER

As of April 1, 80,802 Nova Scotians have found a primary care provider who were registered on the NAFP registry or identified through other routes as tracked by NSHA, since November 2016. Figure 6 depicts the breakdown of individuals, by zone, that have found a provider.

Figure 6: Total Zonal Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider



*Note: 136 have an unknown zone

Table 1 provides the geographic breakdown of the number of people by zone, network, and cluster that found a primary care provider as reported through the NAFP registry or other routes tracked by NSHA, since November 2016.

Table 1: Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – April 1, 2019 Report

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – April 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Central	39,337
Bedford / Sackville	5,679
Bedford / Hammonds Plains	2,571
Fall River / Waverley	704
Sackville North / Beaverbank / Mount Uniacke	1,237
Sackville South	1,167
Dartmouth / Southeastern	11,587
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	2,658

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – April 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Dartmouth East	3,527
Dartmouth North	2,119
Dartmouth South	2,453
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	830
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,140
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,140
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	13,964
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	1,990
Clayton Park	2,938
Fairview	1,597
Halifax Chebucto	1,487
Halifax Citadel	1,495
Halifax Needham	1,801
Sambro Loop Area	760
Tantallon / Timberlea / St.Margaret's Bay	1,896
West Hants	5,967
West Hants	5,967
Eastern	14,820
Antigonish and Guysborough	568
Antigonish	447
Guysborough / Canso	89
Sherbrooke	32
Cape Breton County	11,535
Dominion / Glace Bay	2,041
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	2,163
New Waterford	1,511
Sydney	5,820
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	2,717
Baddeck / Whycomomagh	739
Cheticamp	572
Dingwall	23
Inverness	247
Port Hawkesbury / Isle Madame / L'Ardoise	1,136
Northern	11,312
Colchester East Hants	5,853
East Hants Corridor	249
Economy / Glenholme	80
Hants North	398
South Colchester	244
Truro and Area	4,882
Cumberland	1,676
Amherst	256
North Cumberland / North Shore	664

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – April 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
South Cumberland	190
Springhill	566
Pictou County	3,783
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	2,197
Pictou West	1,586
Western	15,197
Annapolis and Kings	6,349
Annapolis Royal	157
Berwick	571
Kentville	2,745
Middleton	1,905
Wolfville	971
Queens and Lunenburg	4,922
Bridgewater	1,609
Chester	1,265
Liverpool	1,496
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	552
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	3,926
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	1,233
Shelburne / Lockeport	1,044
Yarmouth	1,649
Unknown	136
Total Found a Provider	80,802

4 | TOTAL ZONAL VOLUMES – NOT YET PLACED

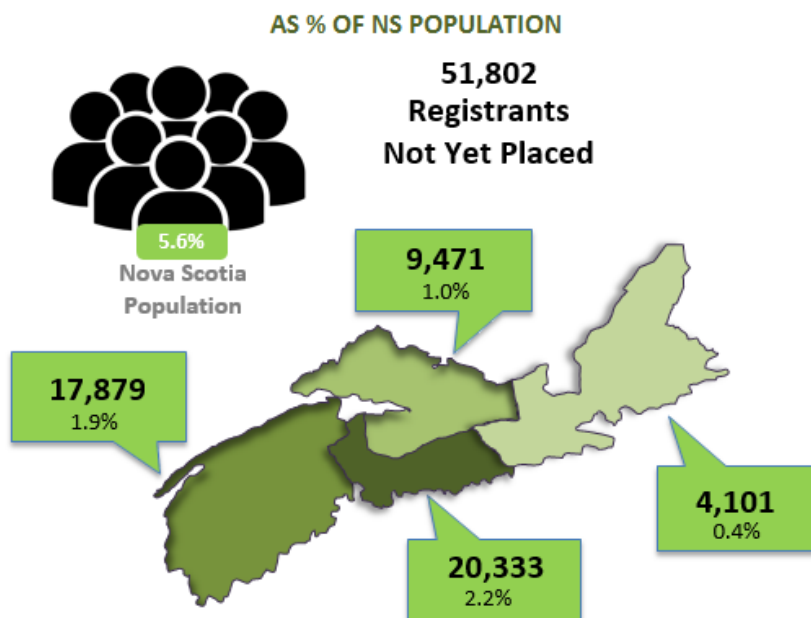
There are 51,802 registrants not yet placed with a family practice as of the April 1 report. The total volumes by zone* are:

- Central Zone: 20,333 registrations
- Eastern Zone: 4,101 registrations
- Northern Zone: 9,471 registrations
- Western Zone: 17,879 registrations

*Note: 18 have an unknown zone

Figure 7 gives a high-level overview of the volume of NAFP registrants who are not yet placed, by zone, as a percent of the total Nova Scotia population based on 2011 census counts.

Figure 7: Total Zonal Volumes - Not Yet Placed as a Percent of the Total Nova Scotia Population



*Note: 18 have an unknown zone

Table 2 gives a detailed geographical breakdown of the volume of registrants not yet placed by zone, network, and cluster and as a percent of the corresponding Nova Scotia population by zone, network, and cluster.

Table 2: Total Volumes Not Yet Placed by Zone, Network, and Cluster and as Percent of Population by Zone, Network, and Cluster

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – April 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)
Central	20,333	409,706	5.0%
Bedford / Sackville	3,644	87,838	4.1%
Bedford / Hammonds Plains	1,626	30,109	5.4%
Fall River / Waverley	400	13,994	2.9%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – April 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)
Sackville North / Beaverbank / Mount Uniacke	887	22,356	4.0%
Sackville South	731	21,379	3.4%
Dartmouth / Southeastern	5,949	115,427	5.2%
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	1,839	36,902	5.0%
Dartmouth East	1,030	23,616	4.4%
Dartmouth North	1,181	19,238	6.1%
Dartmouth South	1,541	24,719	6.2%
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	358	10,952	3.3%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	542	18,165	3.0%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	542	18,165	3.0%
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	9,528	167,379	5.7%
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	1,243	23,502	5.3%
Clayton Park	2,704	34,439	7.9%
Fairview	1,024	15,789	6.5%
Halifax Chebucto	1,183	18,764	6.3%
Halifax Citadel	1,393	20,055	6.9%
Halifax Needham	1,161	20,192	5.7%
Sambro Loop Area	388	13,408	2.9%
Tantallon / Timberlea / St.Margaret's Bay	432	21,230	2.0%
West Hants	670	20,897	3.2%
West Hants	670	20,897	3.2%
Eastern	4,101	163,450	2.5%
Antigonish and Guysborough	331	27,548	1.2%
Antigonish	305	19,583	1.6%
Guysborough / Canso	17	5,122	0.3%
Sherbrooke	9	2,843	0.3%
Cape Breton County	3,202	102,397	3.1%
Dominion / Glace Bay	825	21,782	3.8%
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	710	19,870	3.6%
New Waterford	607	9,757	6.2%
Sydney	1,060	50,988	2.1%
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	568	33,505	1.7%
Baddeck / Whycocomagh	71	5,382	1.3%
Cheticamp	<5	4,688	0.0%
Inverness	27	4,667	0.6%
Port Hawkesbury / Isle Madame / L'Ardoise	465	16,035	2.9%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – April 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2011)
Dingwall	5	2,733	0.2%
Northern	9,471	150,409	6.3%
Colchester East Hants	5,037	69,991	7.2%
East Hants Corridor	712	12,860	5.5%
Economy / Glenholme	173	5,078	3.4%
Hants North	396	6,613	6.0%
South Colchester	278	10,001	2.8%
Truro and Area	3,478	35,439	9.8%
Cumberland	1,091	34,750	3.1%
Amherst	275	14,819	1.9%
North Cumberland / North Shore	589	8,395	7.0%
South Cumberland	61	4,311	1.4%
Springhill	166	7,225	2.3%
Pictou County	3,343	45,668	7.3%
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	2,713	34,916	7.8%
Pictou West	630	10,752	5.9%
Western	17,879	196,284	9.1%
Annapolis and Kings	8,937	78,507	11.4%
Annapolis Royal	819	6,026	13.6%
Berwick	2,305	13,161	17.5%
Kentville	1,537	24,944	6.2%
Middleton	3,853	21,022	18.3%
Wolfville	423	13,354	3.2%
Queens and Lunenburg	5,282	59,384	8.9%
Bridgewater	2,661	28,417	9.4%
Chester	841	12,271	6.9%
Liverpool	907	10,908	8.3%
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	873	7,788	11.2%
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	3,660	58,393	6.3%
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	2,230	18,899	11.8%
Shelburne / Lockeport	455	14,506	3.1%
Yarmouth	975	24,988	3.9%
Unknown	18	-	0.0%
Total # Not Yet Placed	51,802	919,849	5.6%