

FINDING A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN NOVA SCOTIA

December 2019 Report

Prepared for: Public



Reporting Cycle: Monthly

INTRODUCTION

Background

Nova Scotia Health Authority's Need a Family Practice (NAFP) registry was launched on December 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 December 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 **November 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

- As reported in the month of November, 5,485 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 December 2016 is 129,061.



Total Provincial Volumes – Not Yet Placed

- As of the December 1, 2019 report, there were 48,790 registrants not yet placed with a family practice, which accounts for 5.3% of the total population in Nova Scotia (based on 2016 census data).
- This represents a 1.1% decrease from the November 1, 2019 report where 49,340 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 December 2016.

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

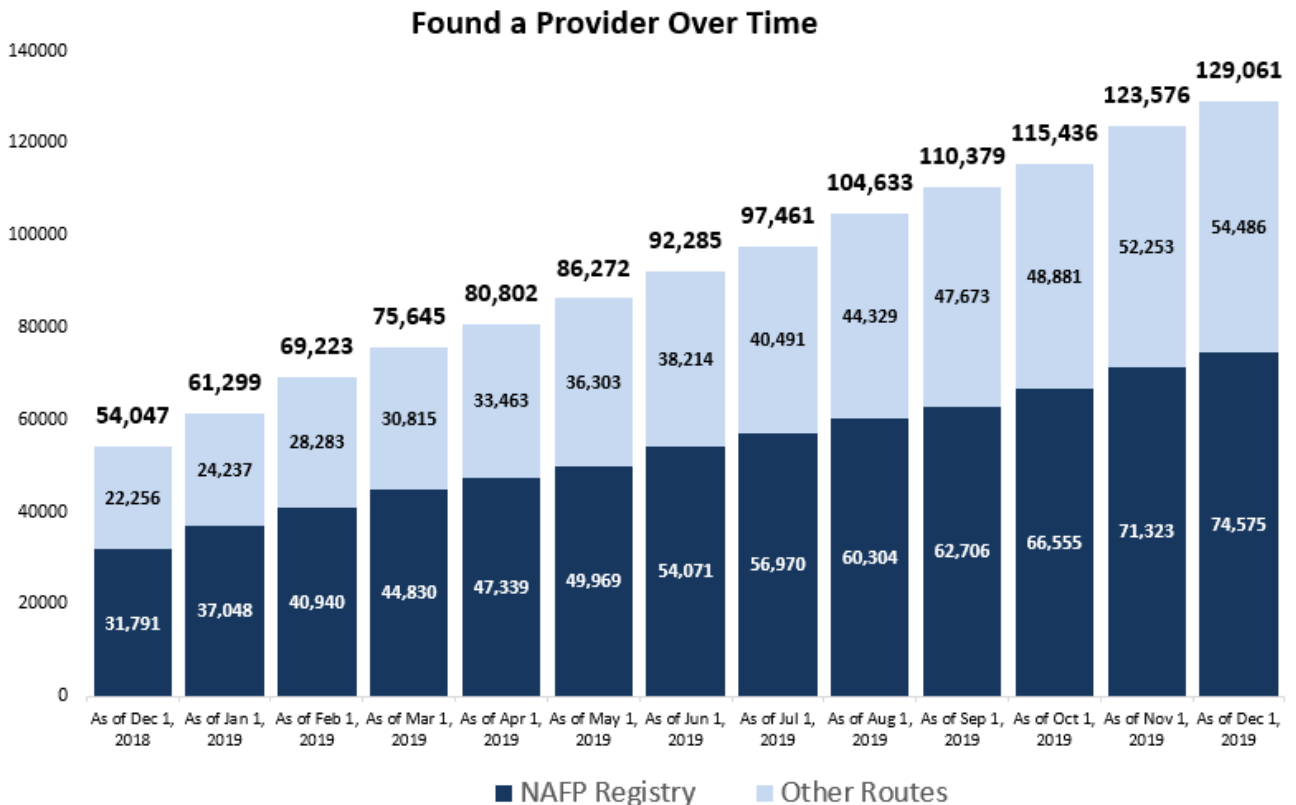
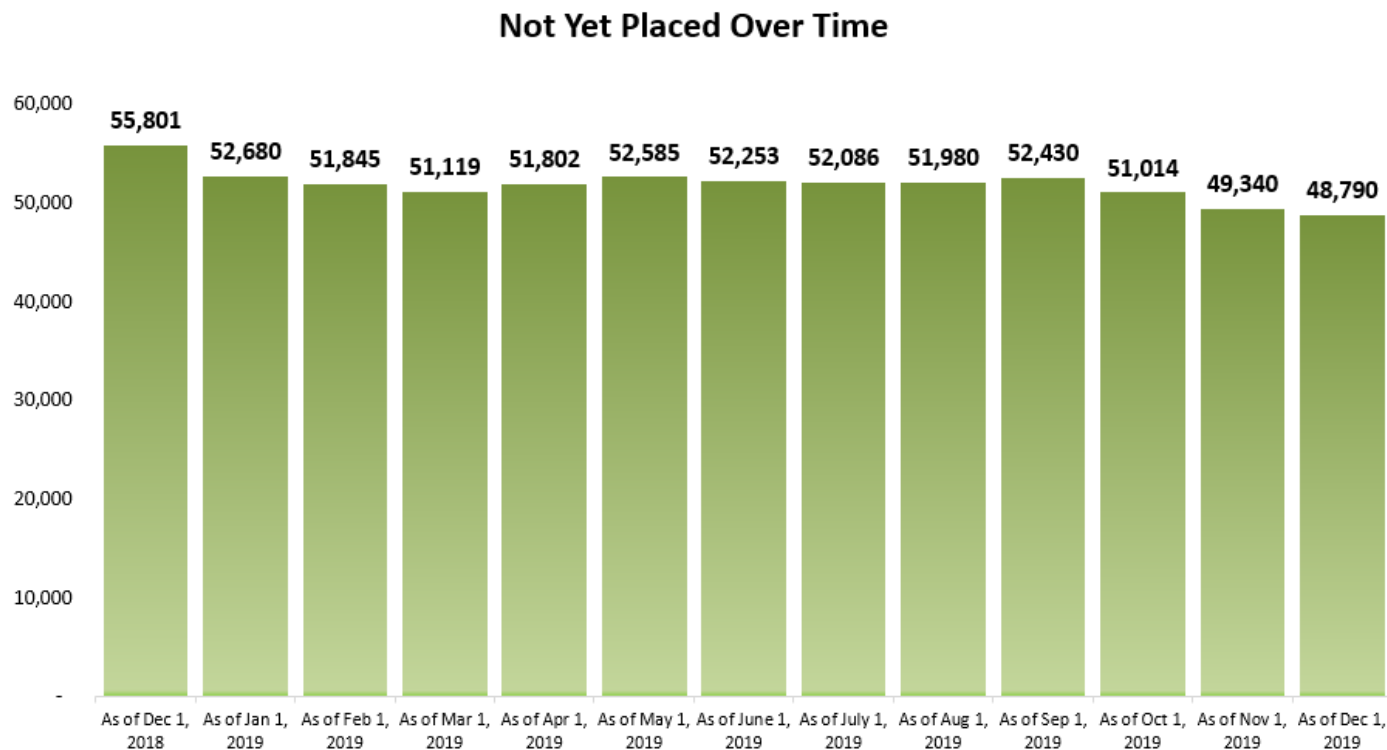


Figure 2 depicts the total number of registrants, by month, on the Need a Family Practice registry that are not yet placed with a family practice.

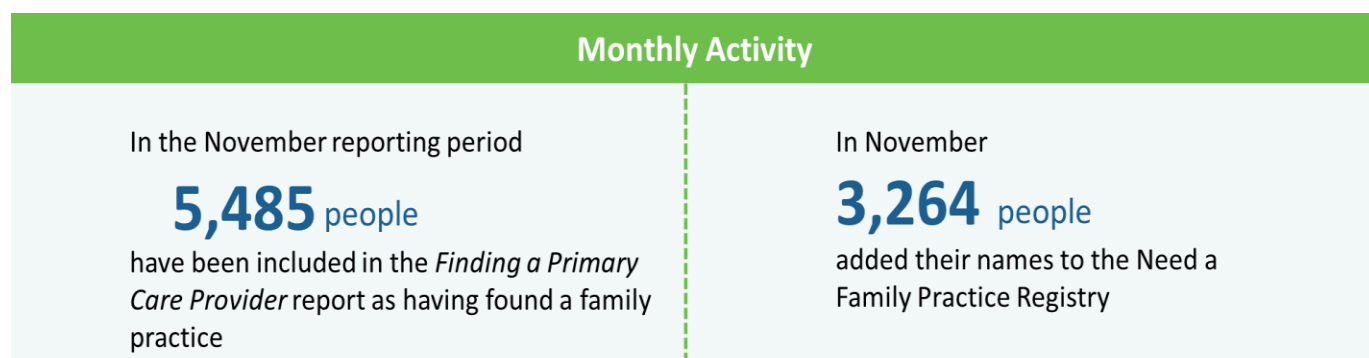
Figure 2: Total Provincial Volumes - Not Yet Placed by Month



2 | MONTHLY ACTIVITY

During the month of November, 5,485 people found a family doctor or nurse practitioner, and 3,264 people added their names to the Need a Family Practice registry as of December 1. Figure 3 highlights the overall monthly activity during the month of November 2019.


Figure 3: Provincial Volumes - Monthly Activity



Monthly Activity by Zone

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

Figure 4: Total Zonal Monthly Activity



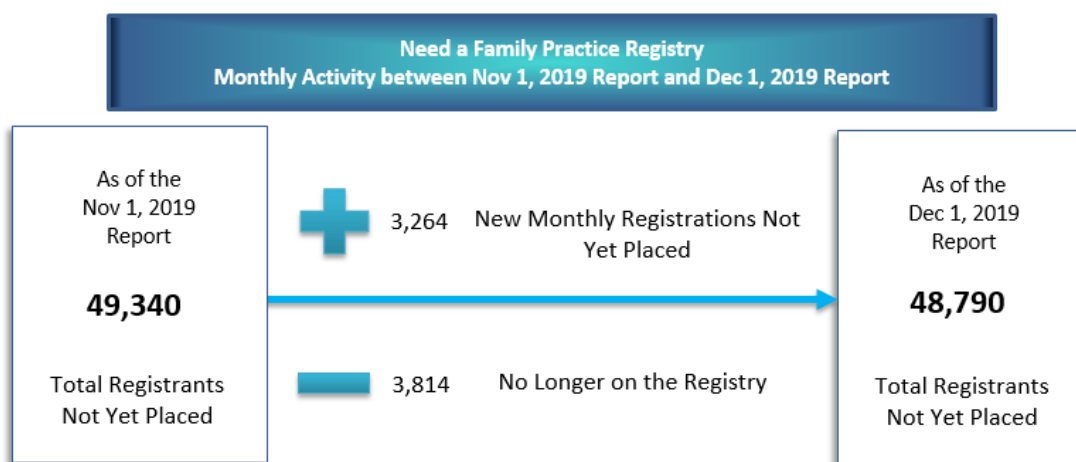
		Nov 1, 2019	Dec 1, 2019	% Change	Dec 1, 2019	Dec 1, 2019
Central Zone	Bedford /Sackville, Dartmouth / Southeastern, Eastern Shore Musquodoboit, Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto, and West Hants	11,697	9,920	-15.2%	2.3%	66,777
Eastern Zone	Antigonish and Guysborough, Cape Breton County, and Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	4,530	4,700	3.8%	3.0%	21,505
Northern Zone	Colchester, Cumberland, and Pictou County	12,387	12,975	4.7%	8.8%	17,006
Western Zone	Annapolis and Kings, Queens and Lunenburg and Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	20,606	21,159	2.7%	10.9%	23,492
Unknown Geography	Unknown Geography	120	36	-	-	281
NOVA SCOTIA	TOTAL ACROSS NOVA SCOTIA	49,340	48,790	-1.1%	5.3%	129,061

*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 November, 3,264 new registrations occurred (people who need a family practice) and 3,814 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 November 2019.

Figure 5: Monthly NAFP Registry Activity

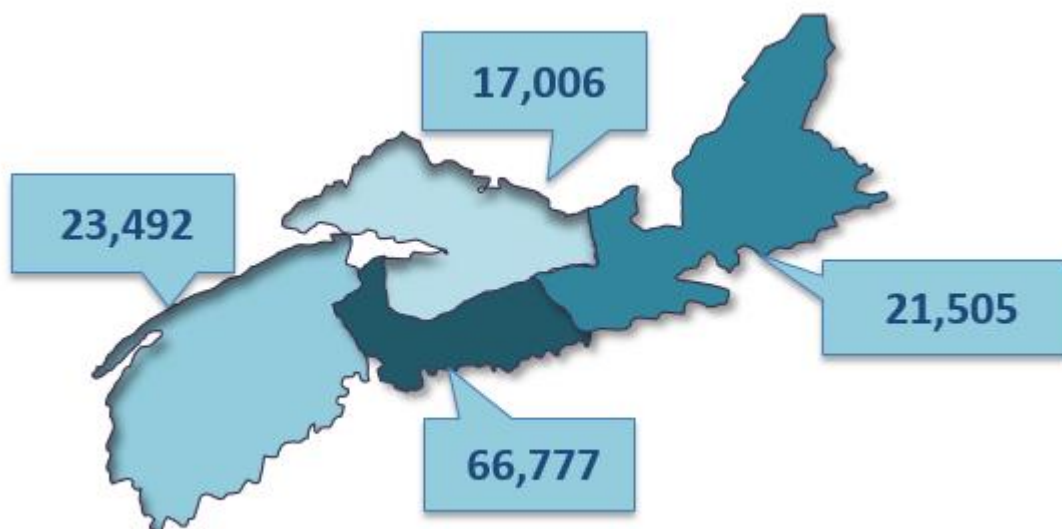


The registry is dynamic, with registrants being added and removed each day. Figure 5 is a simplified graphic that compares two snapshots, one month apart. It depicts the change in the registry total, showing the number of those who have newly registered in the past month, minus the number of people who 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 the December 1 report, 129,061 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 December 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: 281 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 December 2016.

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

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – December 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Central	66,777
Bedford / Sackville	10,841
Bedford / Hammonds Plains	5,160
Fall River / Waverley	1,288
Sackville North and Area	2,272
Sackville South	2,121
Dartmouth / Southeastern	19,752
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	5,132
Dartmouth East	5,402
Dartmouth North	3,452
Dartmouth South	4,436
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	1,330

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – December 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,651
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,651
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	26,368
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	3,956
Clayton Park	5,923
Fairview	2,841
Halifax Chebucto	2,861
Halifax Citadel	3,053
Halifax Needham	3,349
Sambro Loop Area	1,255
Tantallon / Timberlea / St.Margaret's Bay	3,130
West Hants	7,165
West Hants	7,165
Eastern	21,505
Antigonish and Guysborough	943
Antigonish	788
Guysborough / Canso	109
Sherbrooke	46
Cape Breton County	15,184
Dominion / Glace Bay	2,602
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	2,633
New Waterford	1,830
Sydney and Area	8,119
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	5,378
Baddeck / Whycomomagh	2,558
Cheticamp	587
Dingwall	42
Inverness	333
Port Hawkesbury / L'Ardoise / Isle Madame	1,858
Northern	17,006
Colchester East Hants	8,846
East Hants Corridor	561
Economy / Glenholme	187
Hants North	593
South Colchester	456
Truro and Area	7,049
Cumberland	3,582
Amherst	1,455
Cumberland North / North Shore	780
South Cumberland	322
Springhill	1,025
Pictou County	4,578
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	2,818

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – December 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Pictou West	1,760
Western	23,492
Annapolis and Kings	9,931
Annapolis Royal	497
Berwick	1,316
Kentville	3,786
Middleton	2,800
Wolfville	1,532
Queens and Lunenburg	7,265
Bridgewater	2,780
Chester and Area	1,860
Liverpool	1,746
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	879
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	6,296
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	2,002
Shelburne / Lockeport	1,665
Yarmouth	2,629
Unknown	281
Total Found a Provider	129,061

4 | TOTAL ZONAL VOLUMES – NOT YET PLACED

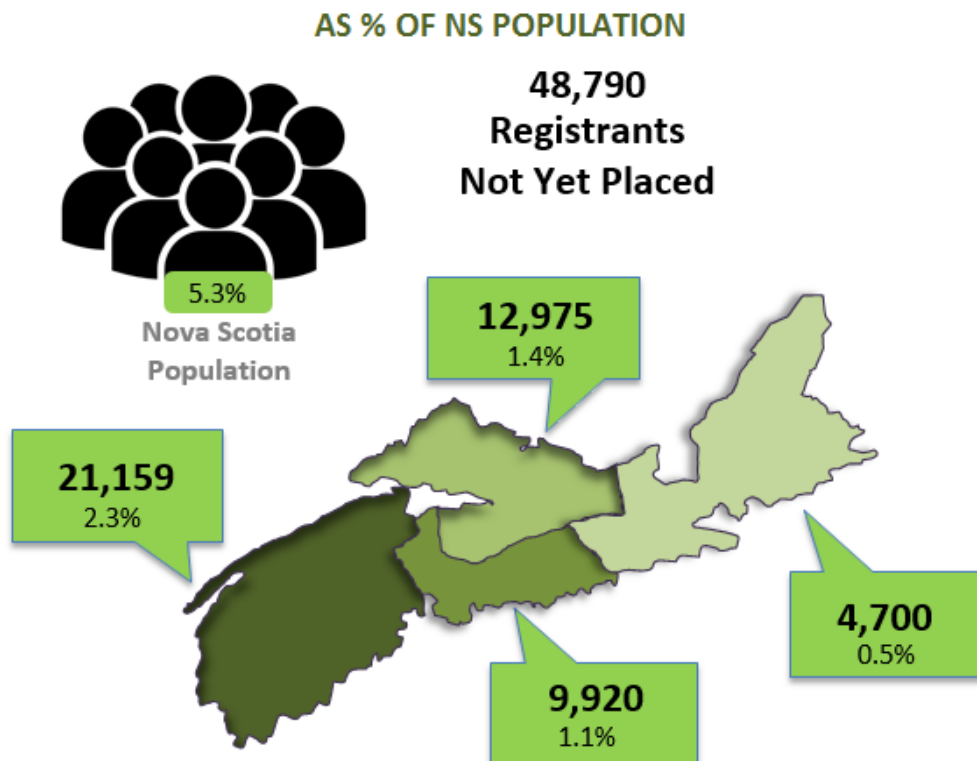
There are 48,790 registrants not yet placed with a family practice as of the December 1 report. The total volumes by zone* are:

- Central Zone: 9,920 registrations
- Eastern Zone: 4,700 registrations
- Northern Zone: 12,975 registrations
- Western Zone: 21,159 registrations

*Note: 36 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 2016 census counts.

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



*Note: 36 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 zone, network, and cluster population.

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 – December 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)
Central	9,920	423,498	2.3%
Bedford / Sackville	2,056	99,581	2.1%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – December 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)
Bedford / Hammonds Plains	955	40,679	2.3%
Fall River and Area	275	15,424	1.8%
Sackville North and Area	508	22,325	2.3%
Sackville South	318	21,153	1.5%
Dartmouth / Southeastern	2,320	116,491	2.0%
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	385	35,355	1.1%
Dartmouth East	488	23,264	2.1%
Dartmouth North	609	19,833	3.1%
Dartmouth South	666	27,284	2.4%
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	172	10,755	1.6%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	420	17,474	2.4%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	420	17,474	2.4%
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	4,603	169,768	2.7%
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	534	25,640	2.1%
Clayton Park	1,180	34,194	3.5%
Fairview	428	17,104	2.5%
Halifax Chebucto	546	18,939	2.9%
Halifax Citadel	887	22,106	4.0%
Halifax Needham	577	19,426	3.0%
Sambro Loop Area	302	12,660	2.4%
Tantallon / Timberlea / St. Margaret's Bay	149	19,699	0.8%
West Hants	521	20,184	2.6%
West Hants	521	20,184	2.6%
Eastern	4,700	158,936	3.0%
Antigonish and Guysborough	455	26,926	1.7%
Antigonish	398	19,301	2.1%
Guysborough / Canso	49	5,039	1.0%
Sherbrooke	8	2,586	0.3%
Cape Breton County	3,763	99,590	3.8%
Dominion / Glace Bay	812	20,713	3.9%
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	623	19,679	3.2%
New Waterford	595	9,454	6.3%
Sydney and Area	1,733	49,744	3.5%
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	482	32,420	1.5%
Baddeck / Whycocomagh	29	3,654	0.8%
Cheticamp	4	3,903	0.1%
Dingwall	2	2,567	0.1%
Inverness	44	6,932	0.6%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – December 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)
Port Hawkesbury / L'Ardoise / Isle Madame	403	15,364	2.6%
Northern	12,975	147,500	8.8%
Colchester East Hants	6,720	70,658	9.5%
East Hants Corridor	947	12,674	7.5%
Economy / Glenholme	420	5,277	8.0%
Hants North	515	6,945	7.4%
South Colchester	378	10,792	3.5%
Truro and Area	4,460	34,971	12.8%
Cumberland	1,800	33,094	5.4%
Amherst	775	13,143	5.9%
Cumberland North / North Shore	639	8,665	7.4%
South Cumberland	209	3,864	5.4%
Springhill	177	7,422	2.4%
Pictou County	4,455	43,748	10.2%
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	3,668	33,561	10.9%
Pictou West	787	10,187	7.7%
Western	21,159	193,664	10.9%
Annapolis and Kings	9,592	78,793	12.2%
Annapolis Royal	890	6,056	14.7%
Berwick	1,987	13,764	14.4%
Kentville	1,715	23,893	7.2%
Middleton	4,424	20,910	21.2%
Wolfville	576	14,170	4.1%
Queens and Lunenburg	5,397	57,933	9.3%
Bridgewater	2,490	26,711	9.3%
Chester and Area	1,006	11,778	8.5%
Liverpool	886	10,351	8.6%
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	1,015	9,093	11.2%
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	6,170	56,938	10.8%
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	2,377	18,553	12.8%
Shelburne / Lockeport	1,184	13,966	8.5%
Yarmouth	2,609	24,419	10.7%
Unknown	36	-	0.0%
Total # Not Yet Placed	48,790	923,598	5.3%