

FINDING A PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER IN NOVA SCOTIA

November 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 **October 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 October, 8,140 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 123,576.



Total Provincial Volumes – Not Yet Placed

- As of the November 1, 2019 report, there were 49,340 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 3.3% decrease from the October 1, 2019 report where 51,014 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

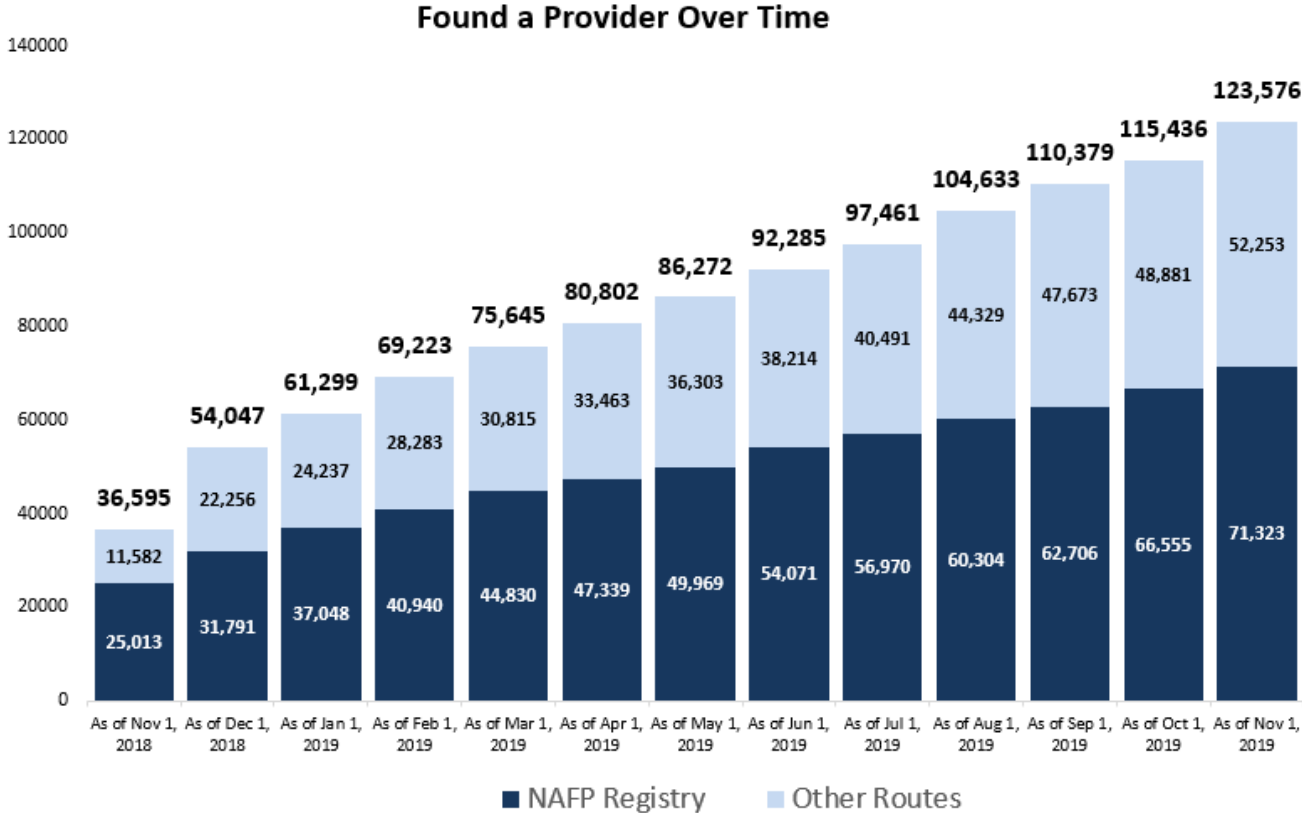
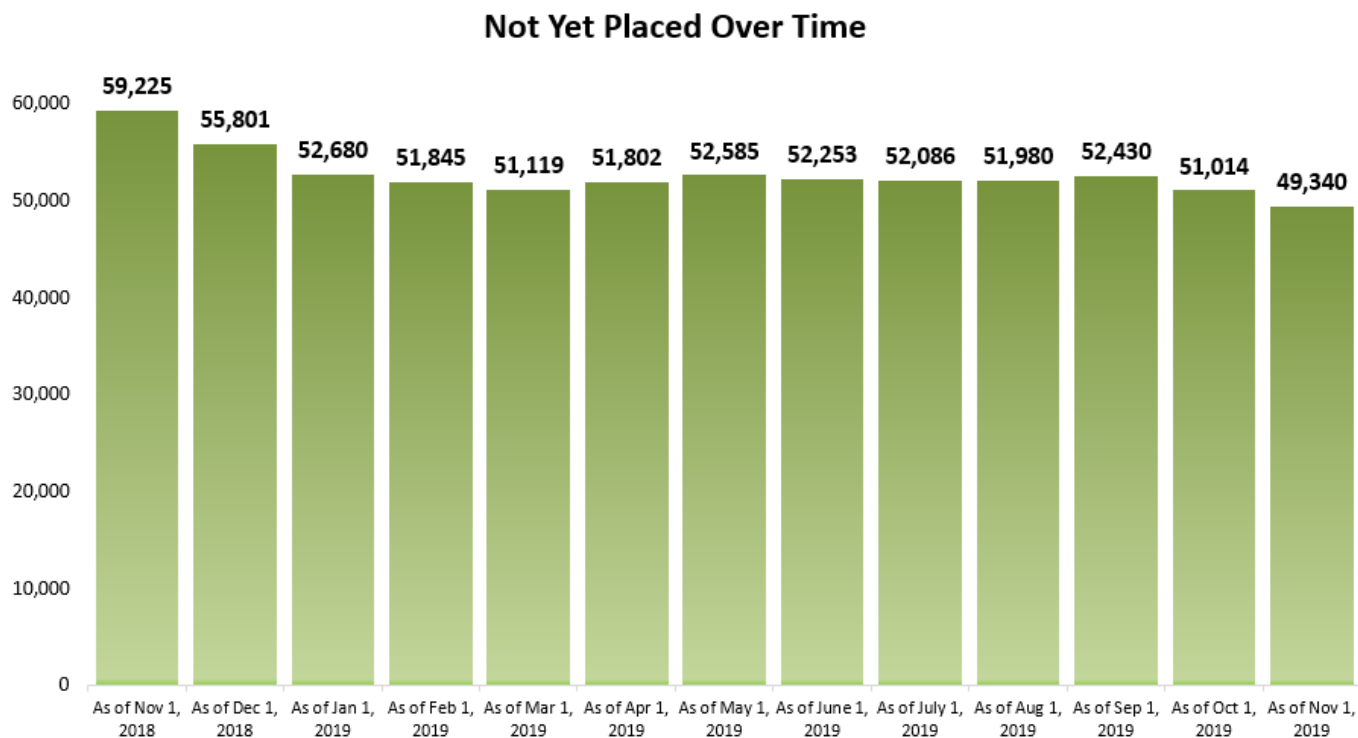


Figure 2 depicts the total number of registrants, by month, on the Need a Family Practice registry that are not yet placed with a family practice.

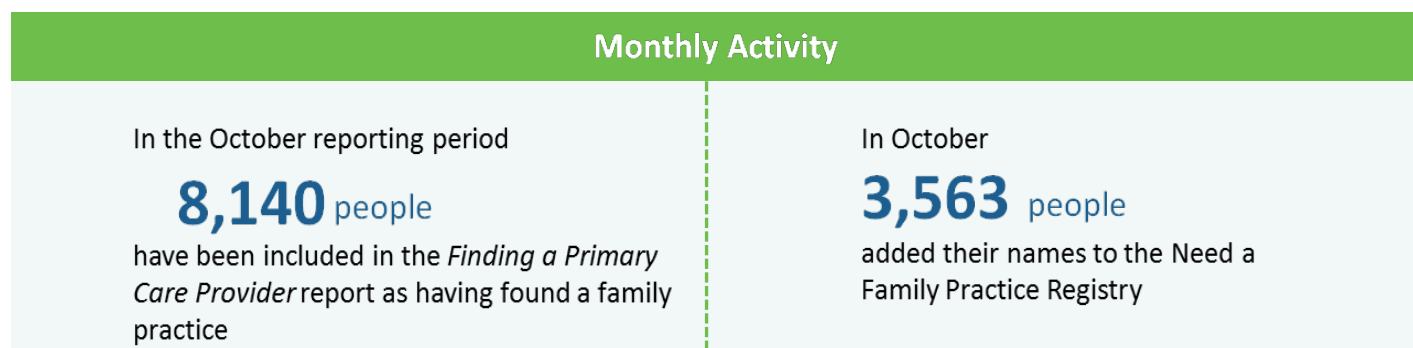
Figure 2: Total Provincial Volumes - Not Yet Placed by Month



2 | MONTHLY ACTIVITY

During the month of October, 8,140 people found a family doctor or nurse practitioner, and 3,563 people added their names to the Need a Family Practice registry as of November 1. Figure 3 highlights the overall monthly activity during the month of October 2019.


Figure 3: Provincial Volumes - Monthly Activity



Monthly Activity by Zone

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

Figure 4: Total Zonal Monthly Activity



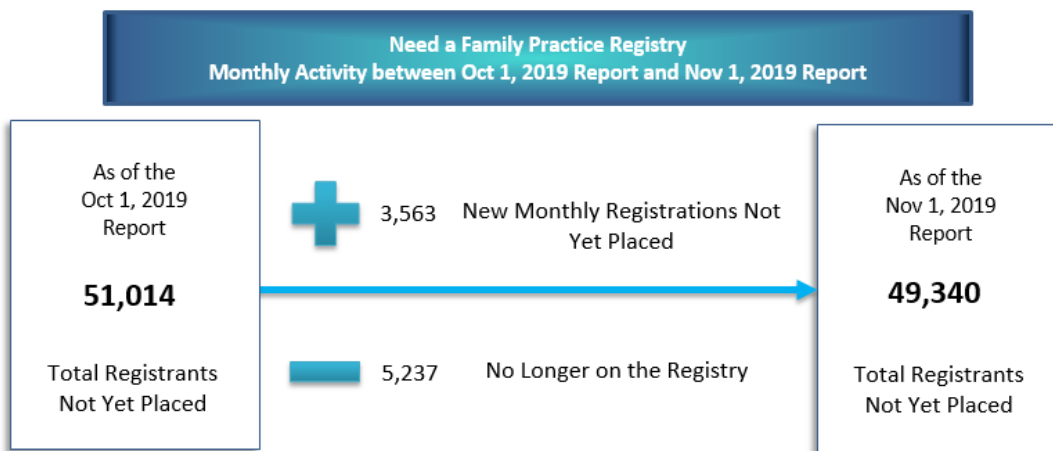
		Oct 1, 2019	Nov 1, 2019	% Change	Nov 1, 2019	Nov 1, 2019
Central Zone	Bedford /Sackville, Dartmouth / Southeastern, Eastern Shore Musquodoboit, Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto, and West Hants	13,493	11,697	-13.3%	2.8%	63,322
Eastern Zone	Antigonish and Guysborough, Cape Breton County, and Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	4,318	4,530	4.9%	2.9%	21,026
Northern Zone	Colchester, Cumberland, and Pictou County	12,632	12,387	-1.9%	8.4%	16,473
Western Zone	Annapolis and Kings, Queens and Lunenburg and Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	20,514	20,606	0.4%	10.6%	22,494
Unknown Geography	Unknown Geography	57	120	-	-	261
NOVA SCOTIA	TOTAL ACROSS NOVA SCOTIA	51,014	49,340	-3.3%	5.3%	123,576

**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 October, 3,563 new registrations occurred (people who need a family practice) and 5,237 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 October 2019.

Figure 5: Monthly NAFP Registry Activity



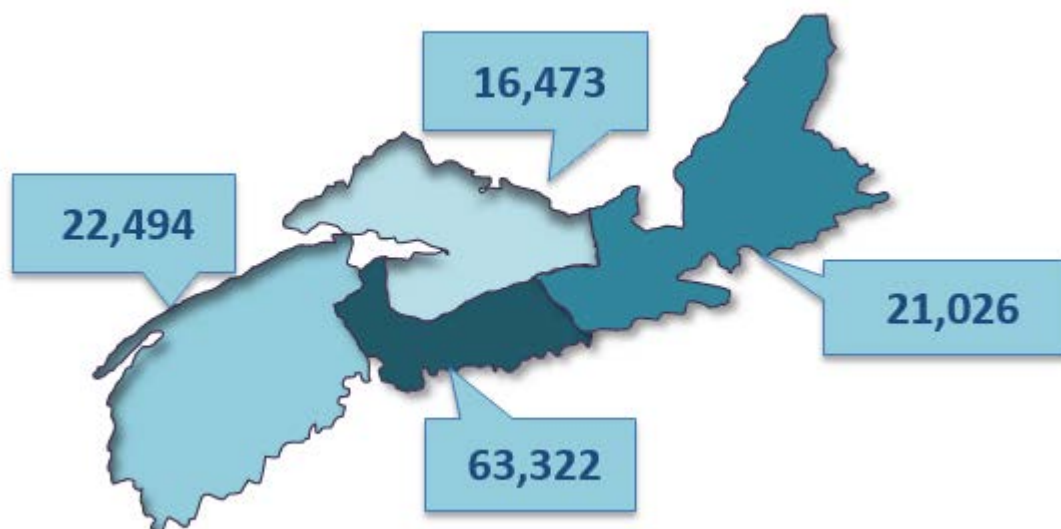
The registry is dynamic, with registrants being added and removed each day. Figure 5 is a simplified graphic that compares two snapshots, one month apart. It depicts the change in the registry total, showing the number of those who have newly registered in the past month, minus the number of people who 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 November 1 report, 123,576 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: 261 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 – November 1, 2019 Report

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – November 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Central	63,322
Bedford / Sackville	10,310
Bedford / Hammonds Plains	4,877
Fall River / Waverley	1,210
Sackville North and Area	2,209
Sackville South	2,014
Dartmouth / Southeastern	18,744
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	5,015
Dartmouth East	5,190

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – November 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Dartmouth North	3,208
Dartmouth South	4,075
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	1,256
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,619
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	2,619
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	24,513
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	3,744
Clayton Park	5,096
Fairview	2,635
Halifax Chebucto	2,735
Halifax Citadel	2,918
Halifax Needham	3,113
Sambro Loop Area	1,213
Tantallon / Timberlea / St.Margaret's Bay	3,059
West Hants	7,136
West Hants	7,136
Eastern	21,026
Antigonish and Guysborough	932
Antigonish	777
Guysborough / Canso	109
Sherbrooke	46
Cape Breton County	14,725
Dominion / Glace Bay	2,589
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	2,618
New Waterford	1,819
Sydney and Area	7,699
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	5,369
Baddeck / Whycocomagh	2,558
Cheticamp	585
Dingwall	42
Inverness	331
Port Hawkesbury / L'Ardoise / Isle Madame	1,853
Northern	16,473
Colchester East Hants	8,644
East Hants Corridor	533
Economy / Glenholme	177
Hants North	579
South Colchester	438
Truro and Area	6,917
Cumberland	3,363
Amherst	1,331
Cumberland North / North Shore	776
South Cumberland	304

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes - Found a Primary Care Provider – November 1, 2019 Report	
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Found a Provider
Springhill	952
Pictou County	4,466
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	2,764
Pictou West	1,702
Western	22,494
Annapolis and Kings	9,472
Annapolis Royal	382
Berwick	1,264
Kentville	3,704
Middleton	2,699
Wolfville	1,423
Queens and Lunenburg	6,927
Bridgewater	2,653
Chester and Area	1,716
Liverpool	1,705
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	853
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	6,095
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	1,870
Shelburne / Lockeport	1,596
Yarmouth	2,629
Unknown	261
Total Found a Provider	123,576

4 | TOTAL ZONAL VOLUMES – NOT YET PLACED

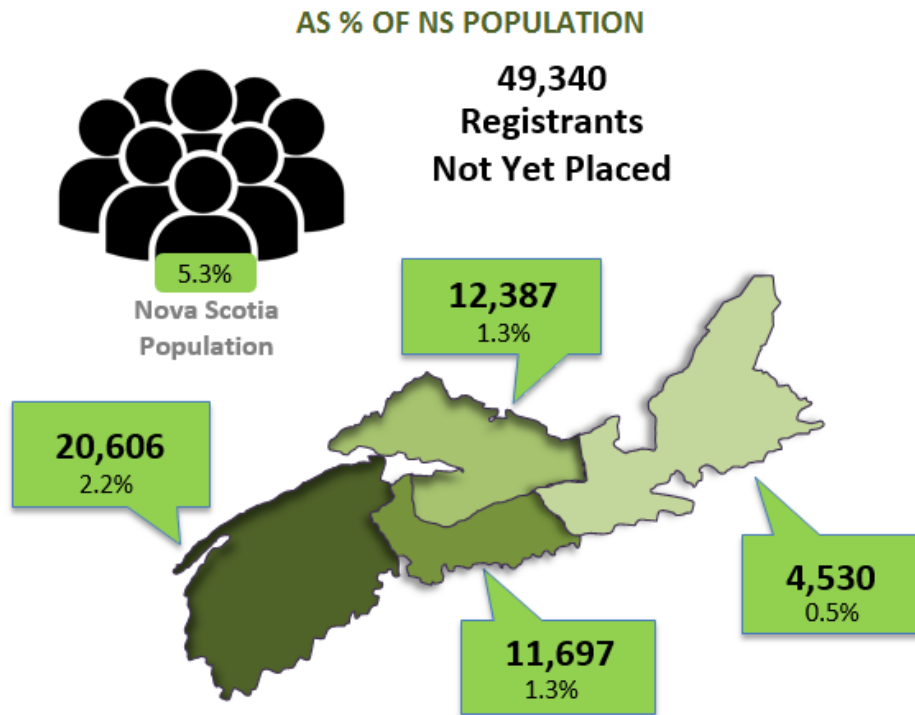
There are 49,340 registrants not yet placed with a family practice as of the November 1 report. The total volumes by zone* are:

- Central Zone: 11,697 registrations
- Eastern Zone: 4,530 registrations
- Northern Zone: 12,387 registrations
- Western Zone: 20,606 registrations

*Note: 120 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 Zonal Volumes - Not Yet Placed as a Percent of the Total Nova Scotia Population



*Note: 120 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 – November 1, 2019 Report			
Zone/Network/Cluster	Total # Not Yet Placed	Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)	% of Population by Zone, Network, Cluster (2016)
Central	11,697	423,498	2.8%
Bedford / Sackville	2,168	99,581	2.2%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – November 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	1,002	40,679	2.5%
Fall River and Area	306	15,424	2.0%
Sackville North and Area	521	22,325	2.3%
Sackville South	339	21,153	1.6%
Dartmouth / Southeastern	2,877	116,491	2.5%
Cole Harbour / Eastern Passage	393	35,355	1.1%
Dartmouth East	624	23,264	2.7%
Dartmouth North	780	19,833	3.9%
Dartmouth South	884	27,284	3.2%
Preston / Lawrencetown / Lake Echo	196	10,755	1.8%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	395	17,474	2.3%
Eastern Shore Musquodoboit	395	17,474	2.3%
Halifax Peninsula / Chebucto	5,778	169,768	3.4%
Armdale / Spryfield / Herring Cove	654	25,640	2.6%
Clayton Park	2,043	34,194	6.0%
Fairview	511	17,104	3.0%
Halifax Chebucto	550	18,939	2.9%
Halifax Citadel	863	22,106	3.9%
Halifax Needham	672	19,426	3.5%
Sambro Loop Area	316	12,660	2.5%
Tantallon / Timberlea / St. Margaret's Bay	169	19,699	0.9%
West Hants	479	20,184	2.4%
West Hants	479	20,184	2.4%
Eastern	4,530	158,936	2.9%
Antigonish and Guysborough	408	26,926	1.5%
Antigonish	358	19,301	1.9%
Guysborough / Canso	43	5,039	0.9%
Sherbrooke	7	2,586	0.3%
Cape Breton County	3,674	99,590	3.7%
Dominion / Glace Bay	786	20,713	3.8%
Florence / Sydney Mines / North Sydney	584	19,679	3.0%
New Waterford	591	9,454	6.3%
Sydney and Area	1,713	49,744	3.4%
Inverness / Victoria / Richmond	448	32,420	1.4%
Baddeck / Whycocomagh	20	3,654	0.5%
Cheticamp	<5	3,903	0.1%
Dingwall	<5	2,567	0.0%
Inverness	39	6,932	0.6%

Total Zone, Network, and Cluster Volumes – Not Yet Placed – November 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	384	15,364	2.5%
Northern	12,387	147,500	8.4%
Colchester East Hants	6,376	70,658	9.0%
East Hants Corridor	851	12,674	6.7%
Economy / Glenholme	363	5,277	6.9%
Hants North	497	6,945	7.2%
South Colchester	356	10,792	3.3%
Truro and Area	4,309	34,971	12.3%
Cumberland	1,803	33,094	5.4%
Amherst	832	13,143	6.3%
Cumberland North / North Shore	619	8,665	7.1%
South Cumberland	185	3,864	4.8%
Springhill	167	7,422	2.3%
Pictou County	4,208	43,748	9.6%
New Glasgow / Westville / Stellarton	3,419	33,561	10.2%
Pictou West	789	10,187	7.7%
Western	20,606	193,664	10.6%
Annapolis and Kings	9,547	78,793	12.1%
Annapolis Royal	961	6,056	15.9%
Berwick	2,000	13,764	14.5%
Kentville	1,646	23,893	6.9%
Middleton	4,381	20,910	21.0%
Wolfville	559	14,170	3.9%
Queens and Lunenburg	5,326	57,933	9.2%
Bridgewater	2,473	26,711	9.3%
Chester and Area	952	11,778	8.1%
Liverpool	900	10,351	8.7%
Lunenburg / Mahone Bay	1,001	9,093	11.0%
Yarmouth / Shelburne / Digby	5,733	56,938	10.1%
Digby / Clare / Weymouth	2,376	18,553	12.8%
Shelburne / Lockeport	880	13,966	6.3%
Yarmouth	2,477	24,419	10.1%
Unknown	120	-	0.0%
Total # Not Yet Placed	49,340	923,598	5.3%