

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT Q1 2010	March 08	March 09	March 10	09-10 % Change	Trend
LABOURFORCE					
Employment ('000)	211.3	215.9	217.7	1.0%	↑
Labour force size ('000)	219.5	229.6	232.4	1.2%	↑
Participation rate	70.4%	71.8%	71.8%	0.0	—
Unemployment rate	4.8%	6%	6.4%	0.4	↑
Average Weekly Earnings	\$688	\$758	\$772	1.8%	↑
HOUSING					
Average housing sale price * yr to date	\$218,909	\$229,190	\$248,065	8.2%	↑
New housing price index	148.2	150.5	151.5	1	↑□
Housing starts*	423	274	466	70%	↑
Housing sales*	1324	975	1248	27.6%	↑
TRANSPORTATION					
Aircraft passengers* (enplaned/deplaned)	814,786	721,226	736,791	1.3%	↑
Total Cargo Volume* (metric tonnes)	N/A	2,358,423	2,389,527	1.3%	↑
Containerized Imports* (metric tonnes)	N/A	234,323	267,134	14%	↑
Containerized Exports* (metric tonnes)	N/A	315,542	536,312	70%	↑
CONSUMPTION					
Inflation rate	2.2%	0.2%	2.5%	2.3	↑
Retail sales (\$ millions)*	1,525	1,466.5	1,590	8.4	↑
CONSTRUCTION					
Building permits (\$ millions)	52.5	27.8	56.0	101.4%	↑
Investment in non-residential construction (\$ millions)	72	98	100	2%	↑
OFFICE SPACE					
Q1 2010 VACANCY RATE	Class A %	Class B %	Class C %		
Downtown Halifax	4%	4.5%	14.3%		
Peripheral Halifax	17.5%	7.8%	6.9%		
Dartmouth	18.5%	18.3%	12.9%		
Bedford/Sackville	15.1%	9.0%	5.6%		
AVERAGE RENT (per squarefoot,)					
	Class A	Class B	Class C		
Downtown Halifax	\$17.46	\$13.29	\$17.00		
Peripheral Halifax	\$15.45	\$11.80	\$13.41		
Dartmouth	\$14.50	\$10.96	\$9.43		
Bedford/Sackville	\$14.86	\$13.36	\$13.15		