

<b>Economic Snapshot 2nd Quarter 2010</b>	<b>June 2008</b>	<b>June 2009</b>	<b>June 2010</b>	<b>June 09-10 % Change</b>	<b>Trend</b>
<b>LABOURFORCE</b>					
Employment ('000)	207.9	216.5	218.9	1.2%	↑
Labour force size ('000)	219.8	230.3	232.5	1%	↑
Participation rate	69.4%	71.8%	71.6%	0.28%	↓
Unemployment rate	5.4%	5.9%	5.8%	0.1	↓
<b>CONSUMPTION</b>					
Inflation rate	3.8%	-0.8%	0.6	4.6	↑
Retail sales (\$ millions)*	\$1,515	\$1,505	\$1,597	6.1%	↑
<b>HOUSING</b>					
Average housing prices	\$232,685	\$239,822	\$252,470	5.3%	↑
New housing price index	150.5	150.5	150.5	0%	=
Housing starts*	612	345	651	89%	↑
Housing sales*	2277	1995	2009	0.70%	↑
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>					
Building permits (\$ millions)	59.9	65.6	68.7	4.7%	↑
Non-residential construction (\$ millions)	81	93	100	7.5%	↑
<b>OFFICE SPACE</b>					
<b>Q2 2010 VACANCY RATE</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class C</b>		
	%	%	%		
Downtown Halifax	5.1	5.1	13.7		
Peripheral Halifax	12.9	10.6	10.1		
Dartmouth	17.1	14.9	13.4		
Bedford/Sackville	14.4	14.0	5.6		
<b>AVERAGE RENT (per squarefoot,)</b>	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	<b>Class C</b>		
Downtown Halifax	\$17.39	\$13.60	\$20.50		
Peripheral Halifax	\$15.89	\$12.15	\$12.68		
Dartmouth	\$15.07	\$11.41	\$9.78		
Bedford/Sackville	\$15.03	\$13.48	\$13.24		

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