

2016 MEDICINE HAT'S **VitalSigns**[®]



Community
Foundation
of Southeastern Alberta



Tenth Anniversary
PUBLICATION

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

Start Conversations

- Take action. If you or your organization are moved or motivated by what you read, use this report as a starting point for positive action.

Pass It On

- Share the report with your friends, colleagues, employees, employers, students, neighbours, libraries or community centres, or elected officials at any level.

Contact Us

- We know the issues and organizations in our community. If you are looking for ways to make a difference, we can help.

Find Out More

- Learn about the many organizations in our community working to improve it, and see how you too can help.

LEGEND

- AB:** Alberta
- CA:** Census Agglomeration is an area consisting of one or more neighboring municipalities situated around a core.
- CFSEA:** Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta
- CMA:** Census Metropolitan Area must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the core.

METHODOLOGY

Why We Did It

Through this report, we hope to provide a fact based, well-rounded view of the overall vitality of our community. It is our hope that *Vital Signs® 2016* will help the reader to discover what issues in the community are of greatest need and what strengths we must continue to support.

The Community Foundation's personal goals with this project are to increase effectiveness of our grant making, better inform our donors about issues and opportunities in the community, and assist us in making connections between individuals and groups to address current issues. We would also hope that the information within *Vital Signs® 2016* is helpful to a wide range of organizations and people for a large variety of uses. It is our desire to share this community knowledge, to encourage community discussions, to evoke response and diverse opinions, and ultimately to foster the best possible decision making for the benefit of our community.

How We Did It

Medicine Hat's Vital Signs® 2016 combines information from a wide variety of credible and reliable sources. This is not new information created from surveys or studies undertaken by the Community Foundation, but rather a collection of statistical data taken from a large number of sources and presented in a single report.

We started with consultations with a number of institutions and organizations to provide feedback and guidance. Research was then collected from existing data and analyzed or summarized to provide an overview of the community. Data was collected from mostly local, but also some provincial and national sources.

Data was then selected based on the following specifications:

- As current, relevant and frequently updated as possible
- Straightforward and understandable
- Quantifiably measurable
- Ease of collection

Indicators were then formed to compare the health and vitality of our community. Data collected could only be turned into an indicator if it had the ability to be compared over time and/or with other communities.

Indicators were selected based on the following guidelines:

- Perceived public interest
- Well-defined and measurable
- Availability of data
- Relevancy of data
- Potential to inspire action

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THIS REPORT

Discovery/Response

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta (CFSEA) takes a proactive role in addressing issues of concern in our community. Often these issues come to light as the result of research findings profiled in *Medicine Hat's Vital Signs® 2016*. In this section you will see how we have responded to the discoveries of our community, or how others are responding.

Committee Reflection

The *Medicine Hat Vital Signs® 2016* steering committee of nine people reviewed all of the compiled data and provided its reflection on the information. This committee has multiple years of experience with the *Medicine Hat Vital Signs® 2016* publication and have provided insight on the community.

MESSAGE

From the Board

10 years. Wow! What a milestone. When our Board of Directors and the Vital Signs Project Team first embarked on this project we had a couple of examples from other Canadian communities to follow, and a whole lot of information we wanted to publish. We were not sure how it would look, but we knew and continue to know why we do it.

We want to tell people the story of Medicine Hat and Southeastern Alberta. Historically, and currently. Not just the day-to-day benefits of living here but also what it really, truly looks like, and the high quality of life we have. However we also want to look at what isn't working. Where do we struggle? What don't we see? Most often organizations provide us with typical numbers, vacancy, usage, incidents. These are all very important and relevant, but our favourite questions to ask organizations are "What most bothers you?" and "What would you change if you could?" and wow did we get amazing responses. The answers to these questions have sparked initiatives throughout the last 10 years that may have otherwise taken a little longer to come to light.

Thank you, our community, for coming through this journey with us; providing us with information, reading the publication annually. We have learned so much along the way and the statistics we gather and stories we hear each year help target our grants, and have more purposeful partnerships.

Don't be complacent. Continue to read through the document, find the pieces that light a fire in you, the issues that give you purpose and act. Continue to help those pieces to grow and succeed.

This is why we have done this for 10 years.



Mike Anctil
Chair



Community
Foundation
of Southeastern Alberta

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The 2016 Vital Signs
Community Section
is sponsored by



COMMUNITY

Medicine Hat Population



Population Age Demographics

	2008	2012	2015*
0-19	14,533	14,321	13,843
20-44	17,298	20,676	19,046
45-64	16,589	16,493	15,824
65+	12,006	9,690	10,292

*Within the census some individuals chose "prefer not to answer" for their age bracket.

Percentage of population under the age of 14

Year	Percentage
2014	19.7%
2015	19.9%

of total population in Lethbridge-Medicine Hat (ER)

16% of the total population of Canada are youth under 14.

Did You Know?

Individuals in Medicine Hat have an average life expectancy of 79.9 years of age.

Percentage of 2015 population as 65 and over

Lethbridge-Medicine Hat (ER)	Alberta	Canada
14.9%	11.6%	16.1%

Median Age of the Population

The median age of the population in 2011 was 39.9 years in Medicine Hat (CA). Alberta was 36.5 years and Canada was 40.6 years.

Migration of Population to Medicine Hat

	2009	2014*
International	1,000	396
Interprovincial	2,295	503
Intraprovincial	540	—
Natural Increase	—	391
Net gain	3,835	888

* From July 2013 - June 2014

Did You Know?

2015 was the first time Medicine Hat residents could participate online in the municipal census. Forty per cent of addresses/dwellings participated online.

Saamis Immigration

From December 29th, 2015 to February 29th, 2016, Medicine Hat welcomed 119 Syrian refugees. 105 of those were Government Assisted Refugees, eight were privately Sponsored refugees and six were Secondary Migrants.

In the month of March 2016, Medicine Hat welcomed 16 Syrian refugees and 4 Bhutanese refugees.

From April to July 2016, Medicine Hat welcomed five different families from five different countries



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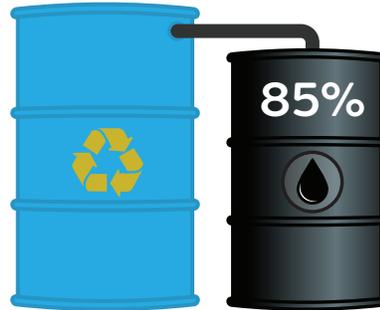


Berm in Lions Park



ENVIRONMENT

Volume of recycled oil turned in (Alberta)



95,370,836 litres of used oil were recovered in 2015, a recovery rate of 85.5% of used oil available for recycling.

This data sponsored by
 Mr. Lube



Green Buildings Certified LEED

There were 18 LEED-certified buildings in Medicine Hat (city) in 2015, representing a rate of 30 per 100,000 people.

The rate of green buildings per 100,000 people in Alberta was 2.5 in 2015.

Medicine Hat Mean Temperature

2015	Average for 1971-2015
7.3°C*	5.7°C

* This was the highest average temperature since 2006 which was 7.4°C.



2,300 Seedlings

Trees for the Future

In June 2016, the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Medicine Hat held a community tree planting event to replace the trees lost due to berm construction along the river. 2,300 seedlings were planted from Lions Park extending into Strathcona Island Park.

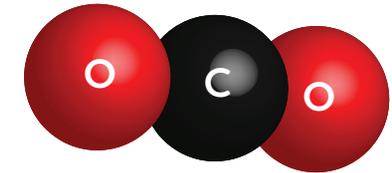
Did you know?

Harlow Community Project in 2016 included residents planting and caring for 200 trees in order to replace trees removed to make way for the berm.

Berm/Flood Mitigation

The city spent \$18 million for flood protection measures which includes three kilometres of earthen berm between two and five metres high and five demountable flood walls. This incorporated 3.7 kilometres of multi-use trails.

CO₂ Equivalent Emissions

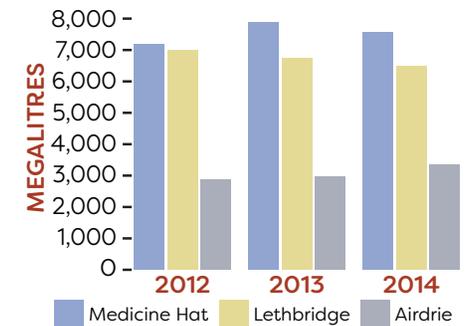


-6.89% Annual Change Equivalent Emissions (2014)

CO₂ equivalent is a term for describing different greenhouse gases (like methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, etc.) in a common unit. The CO₂ equivalent would signify the amount of CO₂ required to have an equivalent greenhouse effect.

In 2014, Medicine Hat had 2.8M tonnes in CO₂ equivalent emissions from facilities emitting over 50kt, which was a decrease of 6.89% year over year.

Total Residential Water Usage



Population served as of 2014:

Medicine Hat	61,180
Lethbridge	93,004
Airdrie	54,891

A megalitre (ML) is equivalent to one million litres.

An Olympic-sized swimming pool has a capacity of 2.5 megalitres.

The 2016 Vital Signs
Belonging & Leadership Section
 is sponsored by



YMCA of
 Medicine Hat

Did you know?

In partnership with Medicine Hat School District 76 the YMCA delivers the Young Mom's program, serving about 10 young moms each year. The program runs in the YMCA Crescent Heights Child Care Centre, ensuring the young moms and babies reach their potential in an environment that promotes healthy living for both of them.

BELONGING & LEADERSHIP

Youth in Philanthropy Program

Guiding the next generation in how they can give back to their community.

That's just one focus of the Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) program which the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta has worked to establish throughout the region.

Currently, five YiP programs have been set up at local high schools and the YMCA, with youth setting out to learn more about local charities and non-profit organizations.

Students study the CFSEA *Vital Signs*® publication to discover more about their community and then look at what can be done to help improve the statistics that they have read about.

They do this through researching local non-profits and charities, looking at how much funding is given to these charities, and operational costs. This research can include government

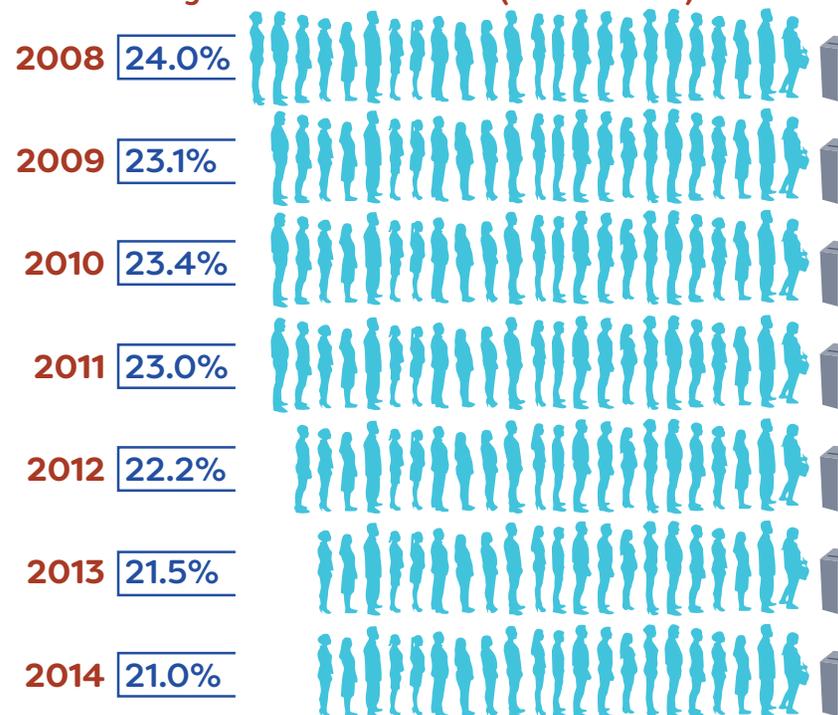
funding, gifts from charities, management and administration, and fundraising costs. The youth also learn about their community's needs through volunteering with different charities, and often create their own fundraising projects to support these organizations.

And once all of this work is done, students work together to decide which local charity will receive a designated donation, provided through a CFSEA grant.

Since launching just a few years ago, numerous charities and non-profits have been supported thanks to the program, including local animal rescues, the Canadian Mental Health Association, Medicine Hat and District Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and more.

Charitable Donations

Tax Filers Making Charitable Donations (Medicine Hat)



Median Charitable Donations (Medicine Hat (CA))

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
\$290	\$310	\$300	\$320	\$310	\$320	\$350	\$360	\$380	
								2014 National average	\$280
								2014 Provincial average	\$440

Random Act of Kindness Day

	2013	2014	2015
Kindness Krew Members	2,000	3,199	3,090
Registered Acts of Kindness	11,100	15,150	15,080

Volunteer Rate (2013)

Medicine Hat (CA)	Canada
61%	43.6%

The volunteer rate for Medicine Hat (CA) is up from 33.6% in 2007

Project Connect

Building a safety net for vulnerable people requires making a lot of connections, and that's where Project Connect comes in.

Now in its seventh year, Project Connect is a one day outreach program held under one roof, which gives those in the community who face economic and social challenges the chance to connect with agencies and service providers who can help them meet a variety of needs, both short and long term.

The outreach day brings together more than 20 local agencies and organizations that provide support in the areas of health care, housing, employment, addictions,

tax preparation and education, as well as providing free services from professionals such as haircuts, medical foot care, photographs, and flu shots.

Pitching in to help with the day are local churches, college students, businesses and service clubs who provide attendees with on-site hospitality and giveaway items such as free lunches, winter clothing, and numerous personal and household items that may be needed.

It's a cooperative and collaborative approach to addressing community issues like poverty, hunger, homelessness and unemployment.



Community Connection

Maple syrup, cowboys, double doubles, hockey and more.

Canada can be a confusing place for newcomers to navigate, which is why the Community Connection program steps up to give them a helping hand.

The volunteer-based program matches Canadian volunteers with newcomers to help them learn about Canadian values and traditions, and ultimately lessen the stress and confusion of moving to a new country.

Volunteers assist newcomers with learning about community resources and how to use them, practicing their English, getting contacts in their field of work, and participating in the community.

No financial commitment is required for volunteers, just time spent with a new friend on their own schedules and making plans for whatever interests them – whether it's participating in social events together, shopping, cooking, watching movies or other sorts of get-togethers.

And it isn't a one-way street. By volunteering, Canadians are given the opportunity to learn about new cultures, other lands, and different languages all while making new friends and strengthening the community.

Medicine Hat & District Child Care Association (June 2016)



Approved Family Day Home Agencies

Cost of Full Time Child Care for an infant (up to 19 months old):

	Ranges	Average
2015	\$550-\$675	\$618
2016	\$575-\$675	\$615

Cost of Full Time Child Care for a Preschool-Aged Child:

	Ranges	Average
2015	\$550-\$675	\$593
2016	\$575-\$675	\$615

Licensed Child Care Centres

Cost of Full Time Child Care for an infant (up to 19 months old):

	Ranges	Average
2015	\$725-\$850	\$796
2016	\$725-\$875	\$815

Cost of Full-Time Child Care for a Preschool-Aged Child:

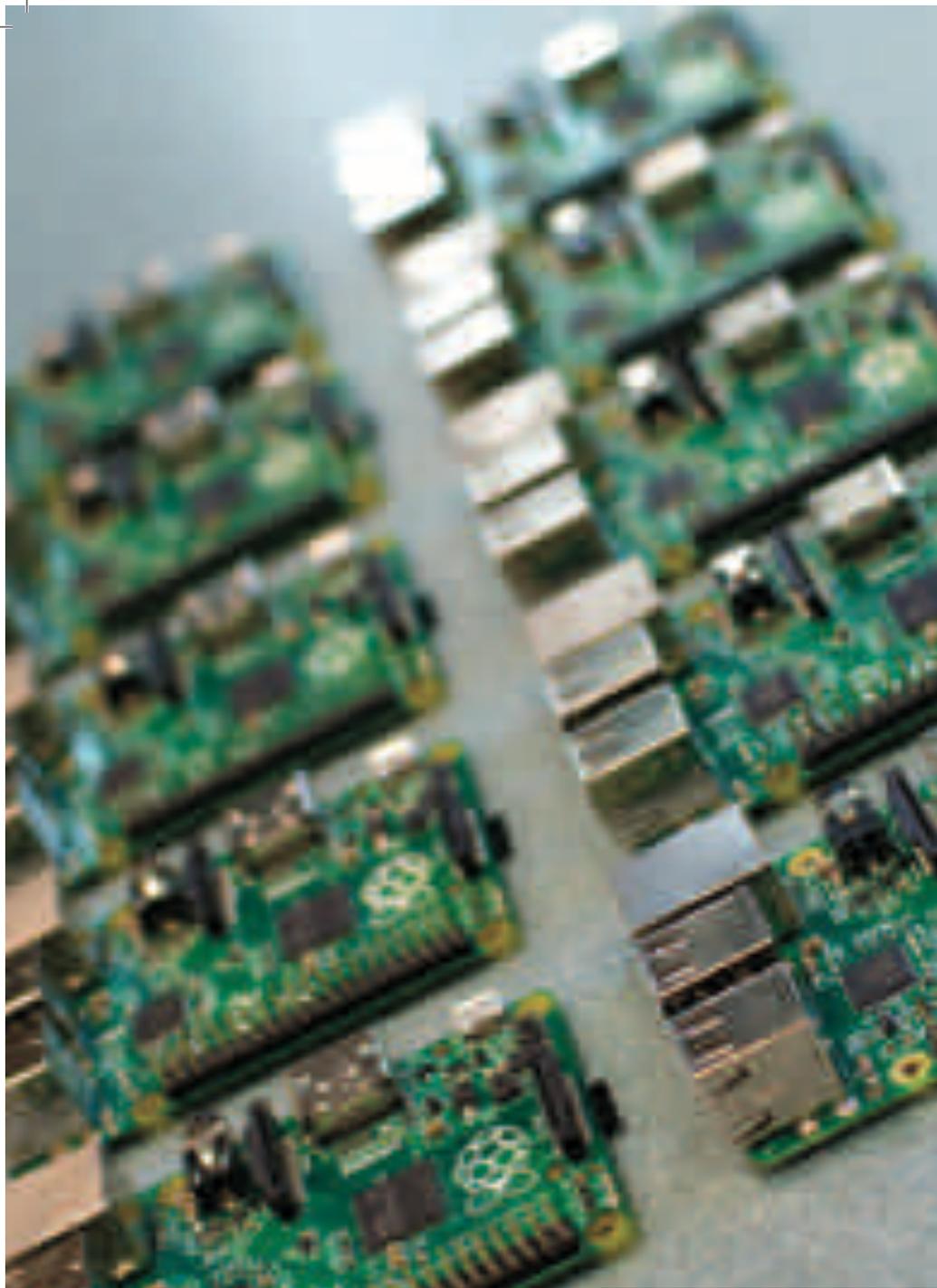
	Ranges	Average
2015	\$575-\$750	\$698
2016	\$600-\$775	\$695

Voter Turnout in Medicine Hat

	Federal
2004	–
2006	56.3%
2008	46.2%
2011	52.1%
2012	–
2015	65.2%



	Provincial
2004	41.2%
2006	–
2008	35.4%
2011	–
2012	48.1%
2015	53.3%



Raspberry Pi's at Medicine Hat Public Library

ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION

Medicine Hat Public Library (MHPL) Raspberry Pi programming

Don't let the name fool you, Raspberry Pis aren't pies at all.

The affordable, credit-card sized computers are being utilized by the Medicine Hat Public Library to introduce and inspire youth to learn computer programming.

Since January 2016, the library has run nine coding classes designed for various age groups, where a range of coding concepts are taught through fun projects.

Participating youth have built their own version of the beloved first-ever computer game "Pong," designed digital ball and maze games, created a Magic 8-Ball to answer questions, and discovered how to build a "parent detector" where a camera is triggered by a motion sensor.

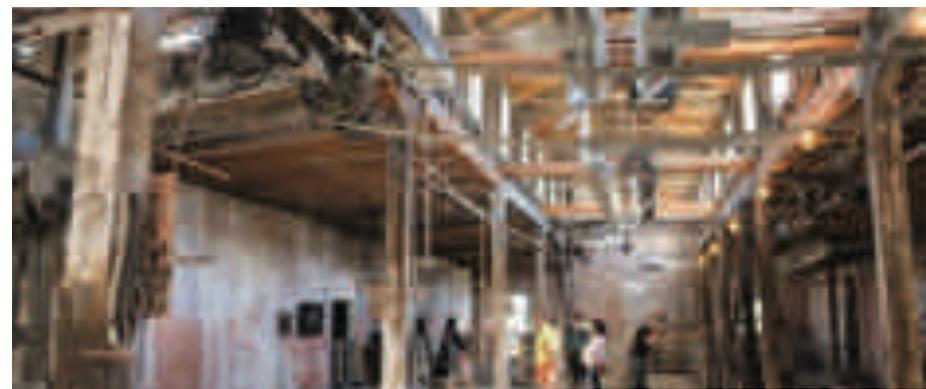
And once the youth learn the basics, there's plenty they can go on and do with their newfound skills – from coding modifications for popular games like Minecraft or even bigger projects.

Since launching, the MHPL has continued to expand the programming offered with the Raspberry Pi, including running a flex day session for local School Division 76, and two summer coding camps.

The library also hosted a basic coding workshop for adults which was attended by 88 people – proving you're never too old to learn something new.

The purchase of the Raspberry Pi was made possible through a medium-sized grant through the Canadian Internet Registration Authority.

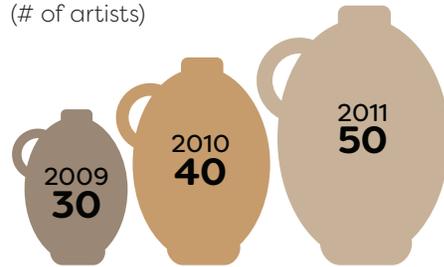
The MHPL is excited to offer more coding sessions in the year ahead, and to continue expanding the programming being offered.



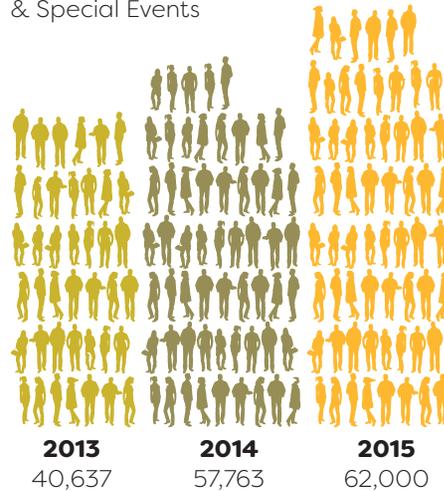
Medalta

Medalta in the Historic Clay District

Artists in Residence Program (# of artists)



Medalta Visitors Museum, Market, Gallery & Special Events



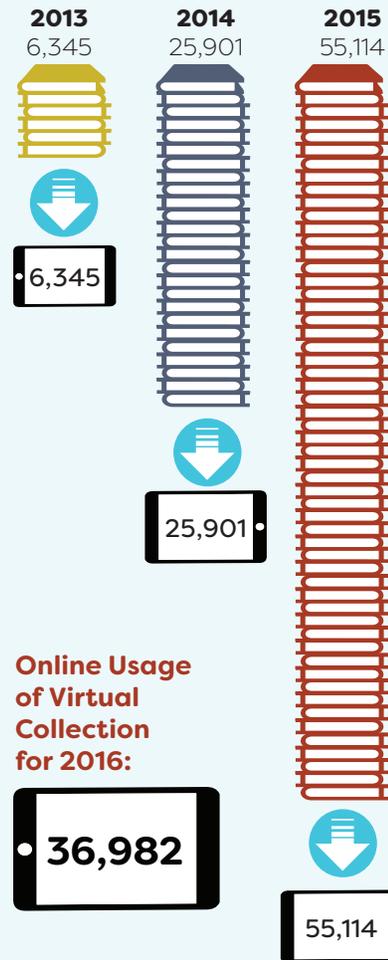
12 beds will be in the new residence for the Medicine Hat Brick and Tile for Artists in Residence program

Did You Know?

In 1935 a set of mixing bowls was .15 cents and in 2016 a set of mixing bowls is \$147 dollars.

Medicine Hat Public Library

Total Licensed Virtual Collection (Online electronic collection)



Medicine Hat Public Library item circulation per capita



Employment in Cultural Industries

In 2015, employment in cultural industries stood at 2.1% of the population for the Lethbridge - Medicine Hat (ER).

That is up from 1.9% in 2014.



Stampede Attendance

Paid Gate Attendance

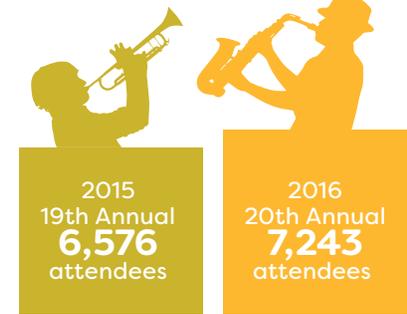


Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre

In October 2015, more than 3,500 people marked the Esplanade's 10th Anniversary. Esplanade @ Ten showcased the facility's impact on the community over the past 10 years, including:

- 750,000 visitors to the Esplanade
- 900,000 visitors to travelling art exhibitions in Southeastern Alberta
- 58,000 hours of volunteer time
- 30,000 students participating in school trips

Medicine Hat JazzFest



20th Anniversary!

Did you know?

Medicine Hat JazzFest is the longest consecutive running jazz festival in Alberta.

Regular Season Mavericks Baseball Games



Attendance through 27 home games 21,980 Attendance through 20 home games 20,235

Medicine Hat Visitor Information Centre Visitation





ECONOMY & WORK

GDP for Medicine Hat (CA)

2013	2014
\$4,389 Million	\$4,500 Million

GDP (Millions of Chained 2007 Dollars), GDP Annual Growth, Share of National GDP, Share of Provincial GDP.

Medicine Hat (CA)'s GDP makes up 1.5% of the provincial total (\$203,067 million) and 0.3% of the national total (\$1,634,178 million).

This data sponsored by
The Smith Group



Enactus

Tapping into the imagination and entrepreneurial spirit that youth have within them.

It's what Medicine Hat College's Enactus chapter has been cultivating through the Young Entrepreneur Program.

The eight-week program invites Enactus members to schools to teach students basic business skills such as managing money, creating business plans, and financial literacy.

To put these skills to the test, students create a product prototype and go before Enactus to request a loan for getting their business up and running. After much hard work and preparation, the final products are sold in a giant trade show open to family, friends and the community.

Now in its fourth year, YEP started out at Elm Street School. It expanded this past year to include the Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre, and worked with more than 210 students, loaning more than \$8,000.

Students pay back the loans, with five per cent interest to help teach accountability in personal finances. As well, students donate five per cent of their profits to a local charity of choice, and get to keep the remaining profit.

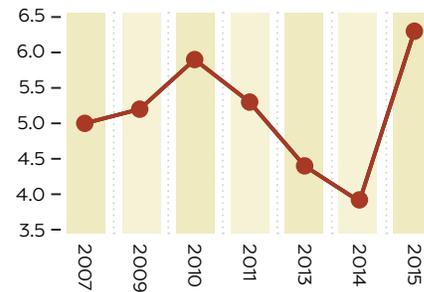
It's an eye opener for many of the youth, with YEP giving them both guidance and the confidence to discover what they can achieve.

In recognition of the program's accomplishments, Enactus MHC won the Impact Award for the Scotiabank Youth Empowerment Challenge at the 2016 Enactus Canada Regional Exposition in Calgary in March. The team also was runner-up in its league at nationals in Toronto.

Employment & Income

Unemployment Rates (%)

Medicine Hat (CA)



Regular Employment Insurance (EI) Benefits Beneficiaries

Average Beneficiaries Per Month in Medicine Hat (CA)

2014	2015
618	1048

The Medicine Hat (CA) rate represented 2.1% of regular employment insurance benefit beneficiaries in Alberta (50,419) and 0.2% of the national amount (534,518).

June Estimates for Number of EI Recipients

The average number of EI recipients in the municipality of Medicine Hat.

June 2015	June 2016
890	1,340

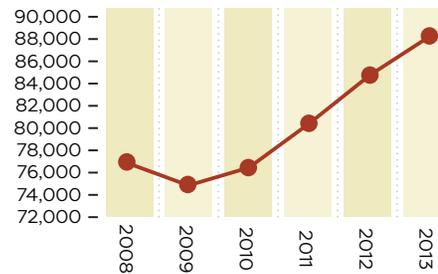
+51%

Year-Over-Year

Red Deer: up 30%
Lethbridge: up 28%

within the same time period.

Median Census Family Income (in current dollars)



MHC Job Fair

The 2015 Job Fair held on campus at Medicine Hat College had 1,100 job seekers, while the 2016 event had 1,700.

Experienced Labour Force by Industry

The labour force in the health and education sectors increased from 16.3 per cent to 19.2 per cent. Business services remained constant between 12.7 per cent in 2006 and 14.2 per cent in 2011.

Experienced Labour Force by Industry

	Goods*	Services*
Lethbridge-Medicine Hat (ER)	35.8	64.1
Alberta	27.9	72.1
Canada	21.6	78.4

*per cent of the labour force

Within the goods producing sector, the largest amount of people worked in agriculture (11.6%). In the services producing sector, the largest proportion of the workers were employed in the trade sector (12.2%).

Median Hourly Earning Increase since 2000

Medicine Hat (ER)	44.4%
Alberta	43.2%
Canada	31.8%

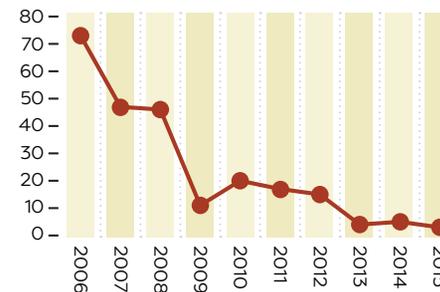
2015 Median Hourly Earnings

Lethbridge-Medicine Hat (ER)	\$22.50
Alberta	\$25.38
Canada	\$22.00

Bankruptcies

Total Business Bankruptcies

Medicine Hat-Lethbridge (ER)



Consumer Bankruptcies (Total)

2009	2014	2015
1,003	380	410

Lethbridge-Medicine Hat (ER) made up 9.6% of the total consumer bankruptcies in the province (4,280) and 0.6% of the national amount (63,406).

Cattle Prices

MAY



JUNE



Cattle prices from May 2015 to May 2016 dropped 22.1% to \$150.21/hundredweight. Calf prices followed suit, with a 30.3% decrease in Alberta prices. From June to June cattle prices dropped 25.1% to \$142.44/hundredweight. Calf prices dropped 30.6%.

This reflects a national trend for cattle prices that experienced decreases in every province in May and June over last year.

Hog prices in these time frames experienced 0% change May to May and 4.7% increase from June to June.

Wells Drilled

Number of Exploratory Wells Drilled in Alberta

	2015	2016
March	214	135
April	115	67

Percentage of Development Wells Drilled in 2016 over 2015

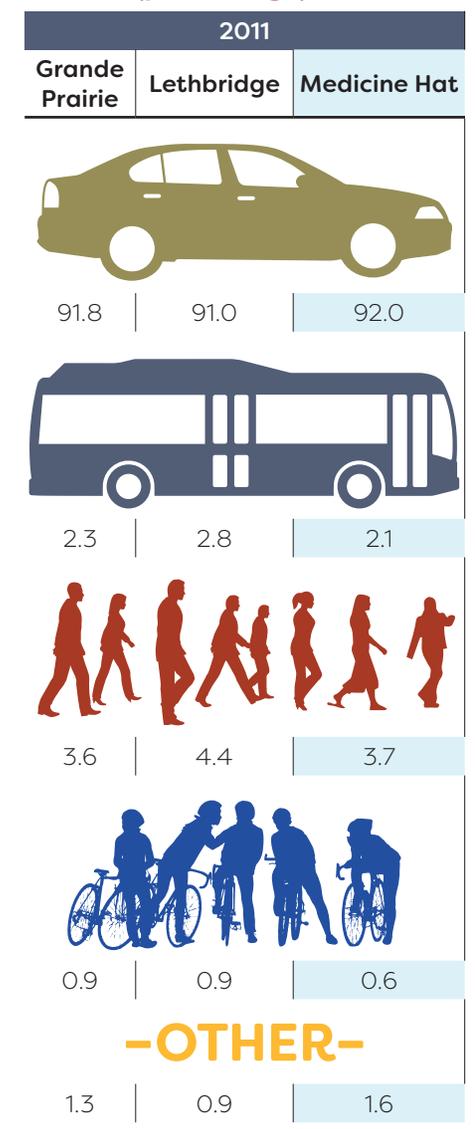
Resource	March	April
Gas	-25%	-16.2%
Bitumen	-15.5%	-51.4%
Crude Oil	-60.9%	+100%



Central Park

GETTING AROUND

Mode of Transportation to Work (percentage)



Ratio of Registered Vehicles Per Licensed Driver



2005	2010	2012	2014
1.19	1.35	1.38	1.41

In 2014 there were 43,262 licensed drivers in Medicine Hat and 60,943 registered vehicles.

Registered Motorcycles/Mopeds



2012	2013	2014
2,534	2,655	2,712

Distracted Driving Tickets

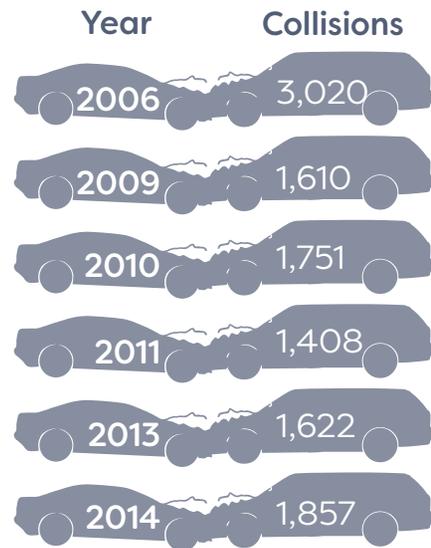


2012	2013	2014	2015
1,092	1,295	1,063	915

Effective January 1, 2016 distracted drivers receive a \$287 fine and

3 demerit points

Total Traffic Collisions



Road Rehabilitation

In 2015, Medicine Hat repaired 8.8 km of roadway to improve service levels and road life-time at the cost of \$2.2 million.

Pedestrian Improvements

In 2015 there were \$1.6 million in improvements made including:

- 98 wheelchair ramps installed or upgraded
- 175 metres of new recycled rubber sidewalk installed on 8th St. SW near Connaught School.

Did You Know?

426 new wheelchair ramps were installed to create safe pedestrian routes for those using mobility devices (2012 - 2014).

School and Playground Zone Change



As of September 1, 2016, all 30 km/h school and playground zones will be in effect from 7:30am to 9:00pm daily. This change has come from a review that assessed the existing zone times and issues and challenges with them.

Did You Know?

4,320 tripping hazards were removed making it safer to walk in the North Flats, Downtown, SE & SW Hill areas (2013-2014).

Lanes and Trails

Medicine Hat has added 10.8 km of trail between 2011 and 2016



Medicine Hat has 168.2 km of trail per 100,000

Edmonton has 17.9 km of trail per 100,000

Edmonton has 160 km of trail, Medicine Hat has 106 km of trail as of 2016.

Did you know?

Medicine Hat has 7.8 km of painted bike lanes.

Did You Know?

Keeping sidewalks safe and passable for everyone, especially those with visual impairments means cutting your branches back to provide 8-foot clearance above the sidewalk so trees aren't a hazard, even when heavy with snow and ice.



Mountain Biking

There is 50 km of biking trail in Cypress Hills Provincial Park, 11.5 km of which was built by the 670 Collective Mountain Bike Club of Medicine Hat and other volunteers.

Medicine Hat Transit Estimated Ridership Regular Transit

2014	2015
1,265,000	1,284,000

Special Transit Passenger Trips

2014	2015
51,697	49,643

In 2015, Medicine Hat averaged 4.1 passenger trips per service hour compared to the Canadian average of 2.52



Lions Park

HEALTH

Sedentary Behaviour Study of Adults in Southeast Alberta

Data was collected in 2014-2015.

- Sample was 146 adults (over 18) living in Medicine Hat and the surrounding region.
- All participants wore an activity monitor (Actigraph accelerometer) for 7 days.

On average:

Participants spent 8.6 hours per day being sedentary. That is, people on average spent the majority of their waking hours in sedentary pursuits.

Participants spent 39 minutes in moderate to vigorous activity. This includes incidental activity that may last for seconds, or a few minutes (e.g., walking quickly to the bathroom).

A better indicator of physical activity was when the data was filtered to explore only moderate and vigorous activity accumulated in at least 10 minute bouts. This is more indicative

of a “physical activity session” or “exercise.” When this is done, participants engaged in an average of only 14.6 minutes of moderate to vigorous health-enhancing physical activity.

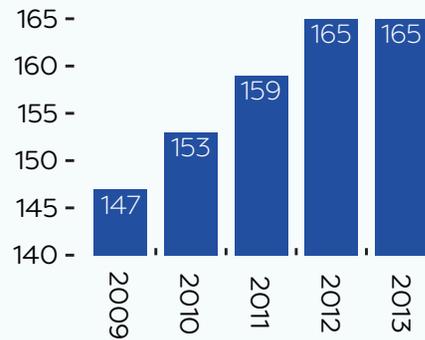
Of those 14.6 minutes, only 4 minutes were spent in vigorous activities. People clearly aren’t engaging in vigorous intensity activities.

Overall, only 25% of adults in this study were meeting Canada’s physical activity guidelines of 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per week.

This is likely an overestimate, as there may be some bias in the sample. That is, people interested in physical activity and perhaps already active may have responded to this study.



Total Number of Physicians per 100,000 (South Zone)



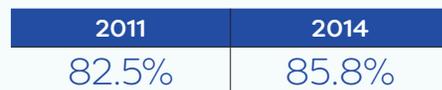
Physician Recruitment

At the beginning of 2015, recruitment need was 34 for Medicine Hat and South Zone.

As of December 2015, 25 physicians were recruited.

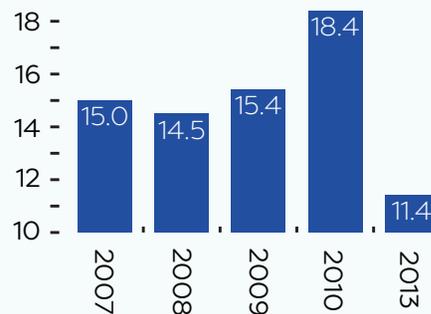
Family Doctor

Per cent of Medicine Hat residents reporting to have a family doctor:



The provincial average was 77.5%

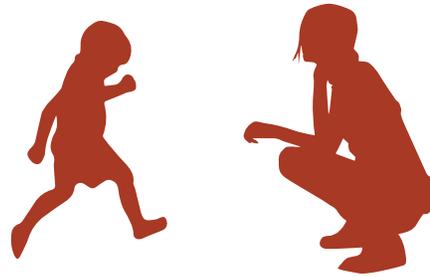
Percentage of Population Without a Regular Doctor (ages 12+)



Calls to Police for Mental Health Responses

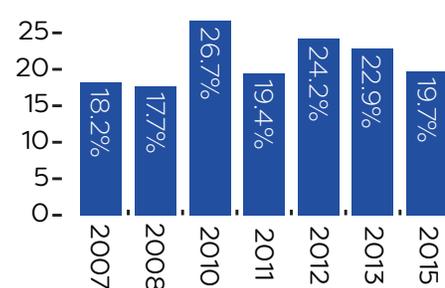
Year	2013	2014	2015
Calls	486	726	961

YMCA Participation Report Card



Children (Ages 3 & 4)	Youth (Ages 5 to 17)
70%	9%
meet the recommended guideline of 180 minutes of daily activity at any intensity	meet the recommended guideline of 60 minutes of daily moderate to vigorous intensity

Obesity Rates (18+)



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)

46,000 Albertans are living diagnosed with FASD	\$18,000 annual cost per case of FASD assessment
4 adult assessments are funded per year*	52 adults are waitlisted for FASD assessment
18 month wait list for assessment for children	FASD assessment is required for support

*Bridges Family Program receives funding for adult assessment.

Canadian Mental Health Elder Abuse Program

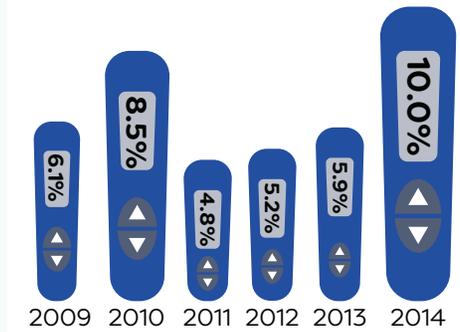
The Canadian Mental Health's Seniors' Outreach Program for Elder Abuse works to identify the needs of seniors in abusive or potentially abusive situations and refers them to the appropriate agencies for assistance. This program started in August 2014 and served 77 individuals in 2015.

Heavy Drinking (South Zone)

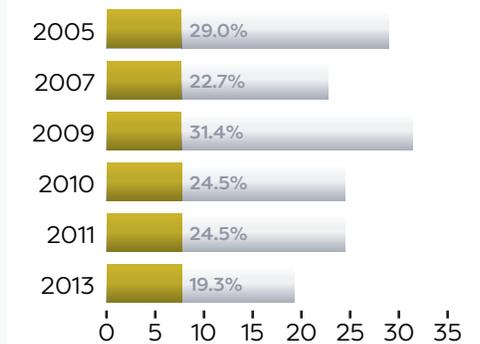
Ages 12 or over who consume 5 or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the past year:



Diabetes Rate (South Zone)



Smoking percentage in Medicine Hat

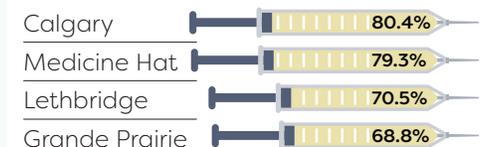


In 2014 the proportion of the population who were daily smokers at the time of reporting (Ages 12+):



Percentage of Children Immunized by Age 2

In 2015, the probability a child will have received their Dtap-IPV-Bib Dose 4 immunization by two years of age.





HOUSING

Taxation

City of Medicine Hat Average Property Tax

YEAR	Bungalow	Two-Storey
2006	\$1,666	\$1,715
2007	\$1,715	\$1,797
2008	\$1,757	\$1,850
2009	\$1,804	\$1,921
2010	\$1,848	\$1,957
2011	\$1,857	\$1,933
2012	\$1,902	\$1,979
2013	\$1,973	\$2,027
2014	\$2,106	\$2,082
2015	\$2,176	\$2,170
2016	\$2,263	\$2,256

In this example, the bungalow is 25-30 years old, 3 bedroom, 1,300 sq ft, finished full basement, double car garage and built on a 6,000 sq ft lot. The two-storey is approximately 30 plus years old, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, attached double garage, 1,500 sq ft and located in an average neighborhood.

Rental

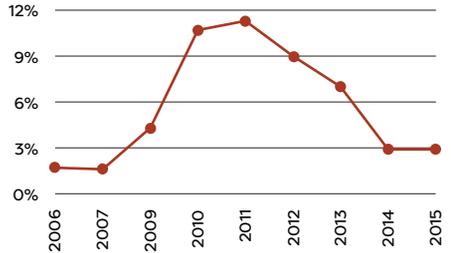
Medicine Hat Average Rent Prices (\$)

	2014	2015	% change
Bachelor	\$545	\$607	+11.4%
1 Bdrm	\$646	\$719	+11.3%
2 Bdrm	\$739	\$825	+11.6%
3 Bdrm	\$809	\$1,037	+28.2%

Rental Vacancy Rate

2009	2013	2015
4.2%	7.0%	6.2%

Rental Vacancy Rates (2 bedroom)



Home Sales

Value of Land Title Transfers:

Annual value of land transfers in the municipality of Medicine Hat. This includes transfers of all or part of a land, transfers of minerals, surface, leasehold titles and life estate, and applications for leasehold titles, subleasehold titles, and life estate titles.

2012	\$530.2 Million
2013	\$516.4 Million
2014	\$640.0 Million

Percentage of Gross Income Spent on Shelter (%)

	2009	2014
Renters	32.1%	40.1%
Home Owners	12.6%	18.5%

(Includes water, fuel and electricity costs for principal accommodation)



Year	Number of Housing Sales	Average Cumulative Days on Market
2006	1586	69
2007	1552	50
2008	1262	71
2009	1102	119
2010	1017	117
2011	1008	116
2012	1153	100
2013	1100	81
2014	1328	69
2015	1148	64

Social and Affordable Housing Housing First Initiative

705 Adults | **308** Children

A total of 1,013 unique individuals have been housed and provided appropriate supports in Medicine Hat since the start of the Housing First initiatives (April 1, 2009).

Of the 71% of Housing First participants who successfully completed the program...

66% live in market housing | **29%** live in subsidized housing

Public System	Days in Hospital	EMS Interactions	ER Use	Days in Jail	Police Interactions	Court Appearance
At Intake	5,989	654	1,734	11,294	2,160	1,050
In Program	4,003	625	1,472	3,050	2,851	1,156
% Change	-33%	-4%	-15%	-73%	-32%	+10%

Program Diversion (MHCHS), is the provision of services targeted to individuals that are homeless (or at risk of homelessness) but do not require the level of support provided by a Housing First or Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRH). 214 unique individuals were diverted from Housing First or RRH. Only three have returned for increased services.

Social and Affordable Housing as of August 2016

377 households on the waitlist for social and affordable housing | **665** individuals | **419** adults | **246** children

The total number of households waitlisted and average number of days they have been on the current waitlist by unit size is as follows:

Number of Bedrooms	Number of Homes	Days on Waitlist
1 BDRM	240 (64%)	232
2 BDRM	78 (21%)	215
3 BDRM	44 (11%)	218
4 BDRM	15 (4%)	201

It is important to note the the days on waitlist means how long they have been waiting since they have been approved - they have not been offered a unit or subsidy at this point.



SAFETY

Safe Families Intervention Team (SFIT) Program

Preventing tragedies before they happen. That's the pro-active goal behind SFIT.

SFIT was launched in July 2014 as a partnership between the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society and the Medicine Hat Police Service to provide coordinated and collaborative services to those affected by family violence.

Based out of the Medicine Hat Police station, the original SFIT team consisted of two MHWSS outreach workers and an officer. The original plan was to have these workers knocking on doors to follow up on domestic calls that the police attended. The team soon discovered that people were coming straight to them at the station for help.

SFIT works with these families to see what they might need, whether it's providing risk assessments, safety plans, education or referrals to other

community services such as mental health, addictions, housing, or other MHWSS programs.

The focus is on helping not just the victim, but the entire family – including the offender – and hopefully ending the cycle of violence sooner, before it spirals into something even worse.

SFIT has grown in size since launching. There were between 65-70 referrals in 2014 when launched, while 329 women, children and men entered the outreach program in 2015. Another 173 didn't enter the program, but were worked with.

Lethbridge College is now working with the MHPS to assess the impact which the program is having.

SFIT has also earned accolades at the provincial level including the Solicitor General's Community Justice Award in 2015.

Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society (MHWSS)

Individuals Who Stayed at the Phoenix Safe House

Year	Women	Children
2008-2009	291	179
2014-2015	269	219
2015-2016	263	242

Did you know?

2016 is the tenth anniversary of Musasa House. Musasa House is a two-phase intensive support program available to women with children for up to one year who have been impacted by, or are experiencing family violence.

MHWSS has gone from serving 80 individuals through outreach programming in 2013-2014 to serving 450 in 2015-2016.

MHWSS has begun working with male victims and 10% of its caseload is now male victims.

Medicine Hat Fire Service

2012 to 2016 Structure Fire Performance First on Scene



Fire Services respond to 90% of structure fire incidents with the first arriving fire engine (4 fire fighters) in 6 minutes and 51 seconds or less in 2016 (end of June). Additionally, Fire Services strives to meet a City Council approved benchmark of 12 minutes and 20 seconds 90% of the time to place 14 fire fighters on scene at a structure fire.

Did you know?

Members of the Medicine Hat Fire Service train approximately 18,000 hours per year.



Medicine Hat Police Service

Property Crime Violations (per 100,000 persons)



Did you know?

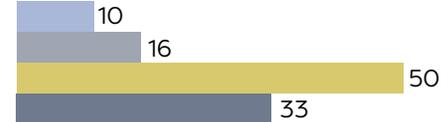
In May 2016 the Medicine Hat Police Service Victim Assistance Unit received, at no cost, a Victim Service dog named Mulder from the Dogs With Wings Society, an internationally accredited training school. Mulder is the sixth Victim Service dog in Alberta and this is the first time this service is being offered to victims of crime and tragedy within our jurisdiction. Mulder's service will also be accessible to victims of crime and tragedy from Redcliff and Bow Island.

Funding breakdown for current officer numbers

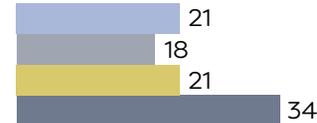
Municipally Funded Positions	101.5
School Resource Officers	1.5
ALERT	7
Solicitor General Officer Grant	4
Total Authorized Strength	114

Suicide and Attempted Suicide

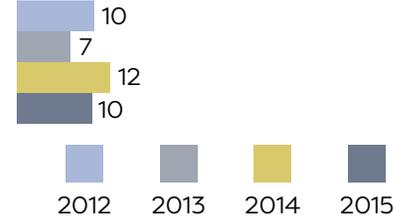
Suicide Attempt Overdose



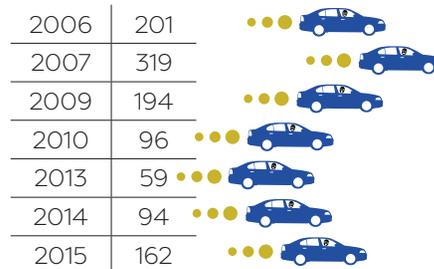
Suicide Attempt



Suicide



Motor Vehicle Theft Rate



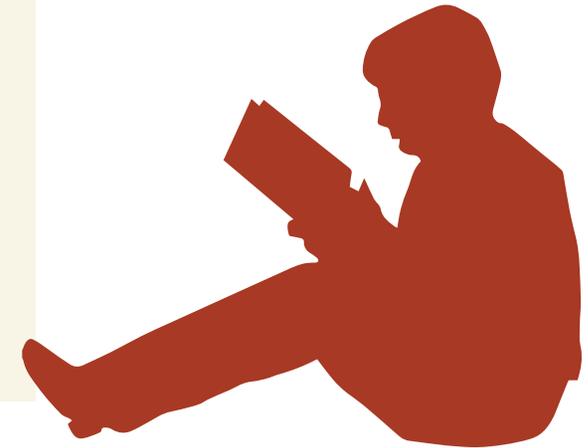
Drug Type Seized (grams)

	Cocaine	Methamphetamine
2013	4,182	13
2014	3,811	150
2015	2,525	369

Methamphetamine is a highly addictive, man-made synthetic drug. It's a stimulant which, when taken, usually causes users to stay up for several days at a time. Methamphetamine has gained popularity as it provides a longer lasting high at a lower cost to the user. For example, a gram of crack cocaine could provide a two hour high when a gram of methamphetamine could provide a four to five hour high.



The 2016 Vital Signs
Learning Section
 is sponsored by



LEARNING

Career & Technology Foundations (CTF)

Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) is an inquiry-based, hands-on, program of study for Grades 5 to 9 that focuses on essential skills common to all 28 occupational areas. The program also allows for the development of specific skills through the CTF key components of design, create, appraise and communicate.

With CTF, students develop critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills through hands-on learning within occupational, practical and community settings. Some schools in the province have been using a preliminary version of the CTF program of studies. These schools have introduced students to courses like robotics, computer programming, culinary arts, fashion and the trades.

Regional School Division Information

High School Completion Rates (3yr)	SD76	Prairie Rose	Med Hat Catholic	Alberta
Oct. 2011	67.8	87.9	84.7	72.6
Oct. 2012	74.3	84.1	88.5	71.6
Oct. 2013	71	86.5	84.6	74.8
Oct. 2014	76.5	82.5	85.9	74.9
Oct. 2015	73.5	85.1	89.7	76.4

Transition Rate (6yr)	SD76	Prairie Rose	Med Hat Catholic	Alberta
Oct. 2011	57.7	70.6	57.7	59.3
Oct. 2012	56.4	66.8	64.4	58.4
Oct. 2013	53.3	69.9	69.1	59.5
Oct. 2014	55.4	68.0	69.8	59.2
Oct. 2015	55.6	67.4	69.6	59.8

Student Enrollment	SD76	Prairie Rose	Med Hat Catholic
Oct. 2011	6,996	3,087	2,495
Oct. 2012	7,224	3,053	2,470
Oct. 2013	7,068	2,981	2,447
Oct. 2014	6,972	3,057	2,432
Oct. 2015	6,759	3,139	2,437



Did you know?

As of September 1, 2015, the weighting of diploma exams for high school students was changed from 50%, to 30% of a student's final mark. This change, brought on by the Alberta Government, was said to be made to help provide a more accurate reflection of student performance by putting a greater weight on teacher assessments of students' abilities and knowledge, while also relieving students of a large amount of anxiety that came from a 3-hour exam that could determine half their grade.



Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp (AYEC)

The Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp (AYEC) is a week-long leadership and entrepreneurship camp for approximately 70 youth ages 12-18 (60 Campers, 10 Youth Leaders) held at Eagles Nest Ranch in Cypress Hills. AYEC is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2016.

Did you know?

AYEC campers were asked if they had started a business or been involved in a start-up.

30% said yes
75%

75% of AYEC campers have gone on to post-secondary education which nearly doubles the average 42% general community completion rate.

Junior Achievement Southern Alberta

Did you know?

Junior Achievement educates youth about financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship, tying education and business together for students in Grades 5-12.

In the 2013/2014 School Year

894 Classes Delivered

23,084 Students Reached

Junior Achievement offers nine different programs with the support of 1,428 volunteers and 26 company program teams.

Medicine Hat College

The number of graduates in health-related fields for MHC in the 2014-15 Academic Year was 223, and as follows:

43	Health Care Aide Certificate
4	Bachelor of Applied Health Sciences (Paramedic)
5	Addiction Counselling Diploma
6	Massage Therapy Diploma
11	Paramedic Diploma
29	Practical Nurse Diploma
25	Social Work Diploma
35	Therapist Assistant Diploma
65	Bachelor of Nursing*

* degree issued by University of Calgary - collaborative partnership

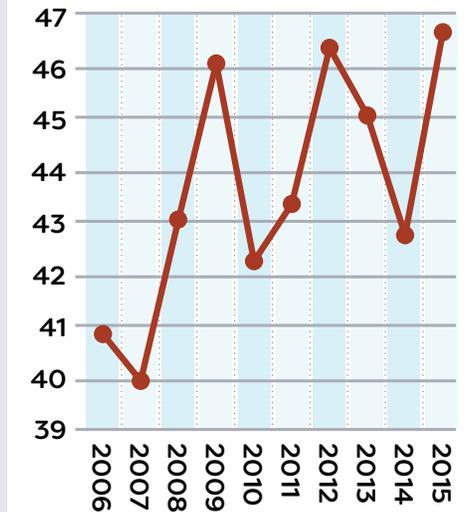
Did you know?

In 2015 there were 1,080 total apprentices in Medicine Hat, and 190 apprentices certified.

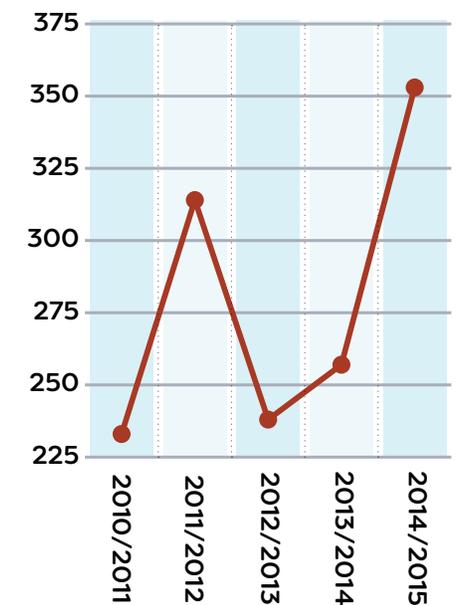
Aboriginal High School Completion Rates (percentage aged 25 to 64)

In 2011, 77.1% of the population aged 25 to 64 years old who identifying as Aboriginal in Medicine Hat (CA) had at least one certificate, diploma or degree. This is up 8.6% from 2001, 7.5% higher than the provincial average for the same population group, and 6% higher than the Canadian average for the same population group.

Population with Post-Secondary Education (Medicine Hat-Lethbridge ER)



Number of MHC Students Seeking Disability Services





WEALTH & POVERTY

Food First Pilot Project

How do you transform reliance into independence?

The Medicine Hat and District Food Bank is working towards this through the “Food First” pilot program launched in Sept. 2015, with the help of Community Food Connections and a Vital Impact Grant from the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta.

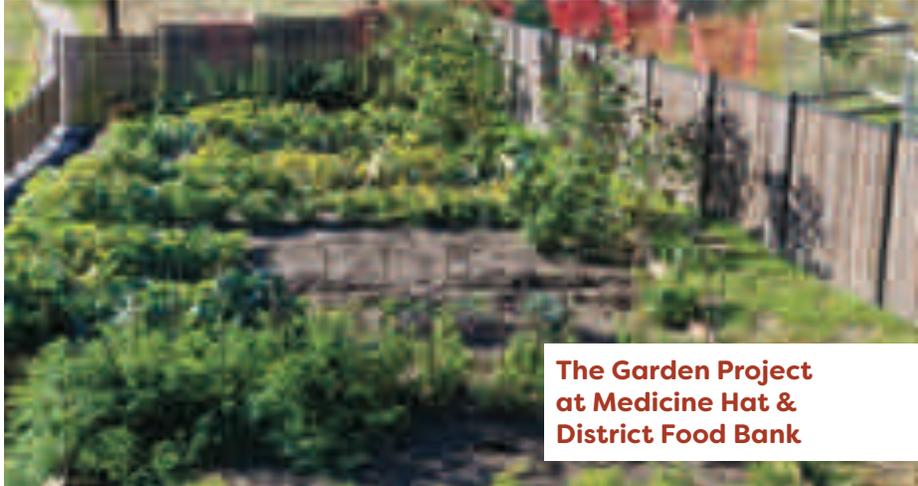
Focusing on food security and a holistic, client-centred approach, 11 families were recruited. They were each given a crockpot and deep freeze, and throughout the year participated in monthly community kitchens, planting and maintaining garden space, and examining core issues that lead to their poverty.

The pilot involved many people – crockpots were donated by the late Dr. Tim Clugston, the deep freezers by Starks Plumbing, while Joanne Smith and the CFC organized ingredients for the community kitchens and provided volunteers and mentors. Families learned about food safety, preparation, preservation, kitchen hygiene, food labels, whole foods, meal planning, budgeting and more.

Tangible results have already been seen, including changes to food bank use. The biggest surprise is how the families connected with each other over the small things like making the perfectly spiced chilli, to even larger issues such as money management, grief, loss and domestic violence. The project gave these families the chance to see food security in a different light.

The next step is creating more community kitchens for more food bank clients.

The food bank has also established a “Tim Clugston Crockpot Fund,” in memory of the local doctor who believed in the project, but passed away before seeing it completed.



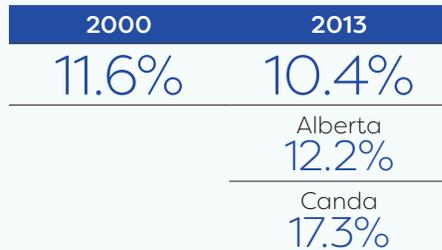
The Garden Project at Medicine Hat & District Food Bank

Income

Elderly in Low Income: Low income measure (LIM) (% aged 65+)



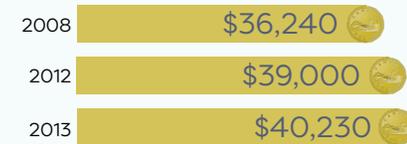
Families in Low Income: Low Income Measure (LIM)



Children in Low Income: Low Income Measure (LIM) (% persons 18 years and under)



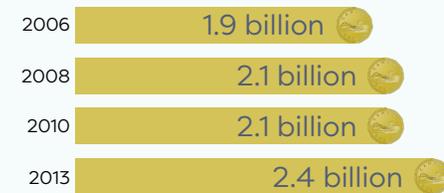
Median Income of Lone-Parent Families (Before-Tax)



The 2013 level was 0.4% below the national level (\$40,380) and 11.9% below the provincial level (\$45,650).

Medicine Hat Total Income

The total income of all households in the municipality:



Hot Meals

Offered by the Salvation Army weekdays from within 5th Avenue United Church. The number of people accessing this meal option have increased in 2016

	2015	2016
April	1,258	1,204
May	1,164	1,336
June	1,189	1,339

Medicine Hat & District Food Bank

Brown Bag Lunch Program

The Medicine Hat & District Food Bank believes that children who eat regular healthy meals do better in school.

600-700 lunches are made fresh daily for 31 schools in Medicine Hat and surrounding area.

Number of Lunches Made Monthly for the 2015/2016 School Year

September	8,802
October	8,503
November	8,078
December	5,527
January	8,078
February	6,377
March	7,227
April	8,078
May	8,503
June	8,078

Lunch consists of a pea butter and jam or meat and cheese sandwich, fresh fruit, granola bars or other snacks including a fresh vegetable pack with every lunch. These healthy lunches are made fresh and delivered to Medicine Hat and area schools every day by a dedicated group of approximately 50 volunteers.

Total: 77,251 sandwiches

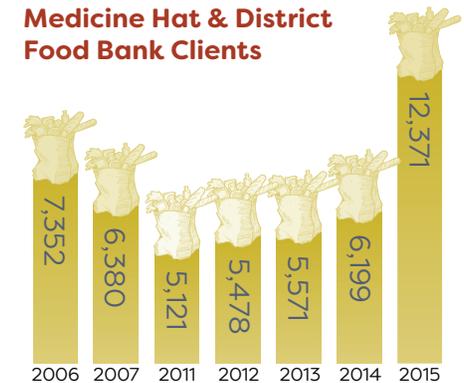
This data sponsored by
Stone Furs



Volume of Food Supplied

- January 1 to June 1, 2015: 4,193 total individuals served with 160,705 lbs of food supplied
- January 1 to June 1, 2016: 7,555 total individuals served with 223,945 lbs of food supplied
- January 1 to August 10, 2016: 10,651 total individuals served with 314,522 lbs of food supplied

Medicine Hat & District Food Bank Clients



PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

Online versions available for download and print at

cfsea.ca/vital-signs



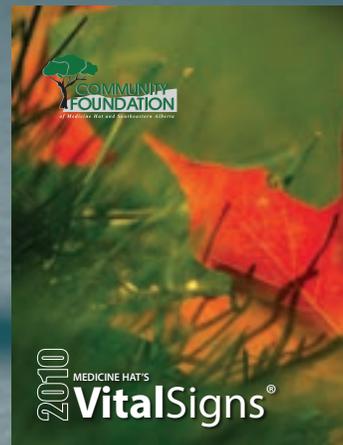
2007



2008



2009



2010



2011



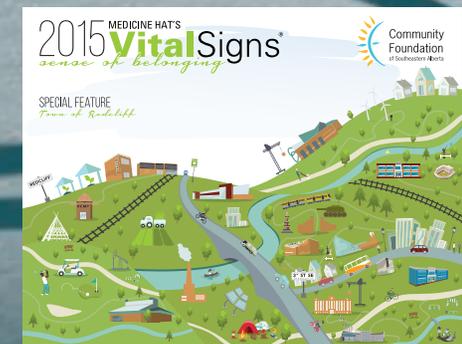
2012



2013



2014



2015

VITAL PEOPLE

Charities operating in the not-for-profit sector are key to the vitality of Southeastern Alberta. The effectiveness and efficiency of these organizations is highly dependent on the dedication, skill and talent of the staff they employ.

The Vital People program aims to acknowledge, recognize and encourage the staff working in front line, program delivery, coordination or junior management positions for local charities.

The program offers two \$500 awards, to assist with the training or skill development that best suits the needs of the individual selected to receive the award.

2012 Recipients

Cori Fisher - Canadian Mental Health Association

Dave Craipley - McMan Youth, Family & Community Services

2013 Recipients

Christina Johnson - Medicine Hat Family Services

Heather Bach - Medicine Hat and District Health Foundation

2014 Recipients

Christa MacDonald - REDI Enterprises

Jamie Evans - Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society

2015 Recipients

Brandi Taylor - McMan Youth, Family & Community Services

Louisa Clapper - Bridges Family Programs Association

Message of impact from two previous Vital People recipients.

The Vital People award has had a great impact on my career. The training allowance I was awarded allowed me to attend the FASD conference in Edmonton. There I had an opportunity to learn more about FASD and found it very valuable in my work in supporting individuals with this diagnosis. I have become part of a great team at REDI Enterprises, and am currently working in the FASD program. Thank you for this opportunity. Receiving this award has made a positive impact on not only my life but also on the lives of the individuals I support.

Christa MacDonald
Redi Enterprises

It was an honor and a complete surprise to win this award a few years ago. In the field that I work in we don't always get to hear the difference you make. You often end up having to go on blind faith and hope.

The award solidified for me that I was on the right path, that touching people's lives, even for a short time, can make a difference. It is about the people and the relationships. Since the award I am still working for the Women's Shelter but it gave me confidence to move into a new role working in Outreach with the Safe Families Intervention Team in partnership with the police services.

Jamie Evans
Dip CYC
SFIT Outreach Worker
Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society



Over the last 24 years

Since 1992 the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta has been creating opportunities for you to customize your philanthropy. This occurs by bringing together individuals, who care about your community and regional charities, while building and sustaining a strong vibrant community. We focus on improving the communities in your area by investing charitable gifts (into an endowment/ forever fund) and making responsible grants with the investment income. The initial gift is never spent and provides a continuous stream of charitable revenue for your community.

Total Assets	Charitable Grants	Board Members	Grants	Agencies Supported
2015 \$11,137,881	2015 \$4,152,791	2015 105	2015 1,124	2015 178
2016 \$11,296,358	2016 \$4,450,942	2016 109	2016 1,380	2016 221



**SMART & CARING
COMMUNITIES**



Vital Signs® is a Vital Program of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta supported by the Smart & Caring Community Fund and other generous sponsors:

Supplemental Data Provided by

- 670 Collective Mountain Bike Club
- Bridges Family Program
- Canadian Mental Health Association, Alberta Southeast Region
- City of Medicine Hat
- Community Futures Entre-Corp
- Medalta in the Historic Clay District
- Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
- Medicine Hat Community Housing Society
- Medicine Hat & District Child Care Association
- Medicine Hat & District Food Bank
- Medicine Hat College
- Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede
- Medicine Hat Family YMCA
- Medicine Hat Fire Services
- Medicine Hat JazzFest
- Medicine Hat Mavericks Baseball Club
- Medicine Hat Police Service
- Medicine Hat Public Library
- Medicine Hat School District No. 76
- Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society
- Physician Attraction and Retention Network
- Prairie Rose School Division No. 8
- REACT Consulting
- Saamis Immigration Services Association
- Tourism Medicine Hat

Community Foundations of Canada

Special thanks to the Toronto Foundation for developing and sharing the *Vital Signs®* concept and Community Foundations of Canada for supporting a coordinated national *Vital Signs®* initiative.

- Calgary Foundation
- Campbell River Community Foundation
- Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
- Columbia Valley Community Foundation
- Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough
- Community Foundation of Grey Bruce
- Community Foundation of Kingston & Area
- Community Foundation of Lethbridge & Southwestern Alberta
- Community Foundation of Newfoundland & Labrador
- Community Foundation of North Okanagan
- Community Foundation of Nova Scotia
- Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta
- Community Foundation of Whistler
- Comox Valley Community Foundation
- Cranbrook and District Community Foundation
- Edmonton Community Foundation
- Huronia Communities Foundation
- London Community Foundation
- Prince George Community Foundation
- Saskatoon Community Foundation
- South Saskatchewan Community Foundation
- Sudbury Community Foundation
- Surrey Cares Community Foundation
- The Kitchener & Waterloo Community Foundation
- Vancouver Foundation
- Victoria Foundation
- West Vancouver Community Foundation
- WindsorEssex Community Foundation
- Banff-Canmore Community Foundation
- Toronto Foundation

A special thank you goes to the following for their leadership and generous financial support in making this year's *Vital Signs®* a reality:





Visit Southeastern Alberta's Community Knowledge Centre to explore your community, connecting with programs and projects that excite you. Explore the innovative and effective solutions that charitable organizations are undertaking to address issues raised in *Medicine Hat's Vital Signs®* report.

Southeastern Alberta is robust with stories of change and progress. Learn how charitable organizations are helping to make your community the perfect place to live.

- DISCOVER** Search for organizations by the regions, people or Vital Signs issue areas that you are passionate about.
- CONNECT** Read Stories, watch videos and connect with the people and organizations who understand where the gaps are, working hard to fill them.
- GIVE** Donate directly from a CKC profile page, or contact the Community Foundation for assistance with how to make your money last forever.

Visit us today

ckc.cfsea.ca

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