Recent Demographic Trends in Saskatchewan

Presentation prepared for:

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Outline

**Recent Demographic Trends in the Province**
- Births and Deaths
- International Migration
- Interprovincial Migration
- Total Population
- Age Structure of the Population

**Older Workers**

**Discussion and Comments**
There are three interrelated factors that determine the size and structure of the provincial population.

- The **natural growth rate** is the number of births less the number of deaths.
- The direct movement to or from other countries is called, respectively, emigration or **immigration**.
- The migration to or from other provinces is called **interprovincial migration**.

These factors affect the age of the population as well as the absolute size and they are related in complex ways. Births and deaths have obvious age implications; migration tends to occur among young adults which, in turn, affects the number of births. Fertility rates may be affected by the extent to which people move to the province because it is “a good place to raise a family”.

Most demographic data are published on a “census year” basis which runs from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

Unless otherwise indicated, the data in this section are from Statistics Canada. The figures from 2006 to date are preliminary and subject to revision. Estimates and projections are the responsibility of **Sask Trends Monitor**.
**Determinants of Population: Natural Growth**

In this figure, the number of births is in blue and the number of deaths in red. The difference between them (i.e. natural growth) is represented by the yellow bars.

The 1990s decline in the number of births was caused by lower fertility rates compounded by a drop in the number of women in the child-bearing age group. Recent increases are the result of a) more young women in the province and b) a slight increase in fertility rates.

The slow but steady increase in the number of deaths is occurring because lower mortality rates are offset by an increasing number of people in older age groups.
Determinants of Population: International Migration

As with the previous figure, immigration is in blue and emigration in red. The difference between the two (i.e. net international immigration) is represented by the yellow bars.

Immigration has increased exponentially because of the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP). The number of immigrants is still small, however, compared with other provinces.

The provincial government has stated that it intends to increase the number of SINP immigrants to at least 10,000 per year.

Retention of international immigrants has been a problem in the past. How many of these newer immigrants will stay in Saskatchewan is an open question.
Interprovincial in-migration is the blue line and interprovincial out-migration the red line in this figure. The difference between the two (that is, net interprovincial migration) is represented by the yellow bars.

Interprovincial migration has been and probably will continue to be the main determining factor for the overall size of Saskatchewan population.

The number of people moving to Saskatchewan from other provinces grew from 13,735 in 2005-06 to 19,037 in 2007-08. This led to a positive net interprovincial flow for the first time since the early 1980s.

The number of persons leaving Saskatchewan is increasing again after the drop in the mid 2000s.
The net effect of all the population flows has been, until recently, a downward trend in the provincial population.

The reversal in interprovincial migration together with the increase in immigration has added 80,000 persons to the province since 2006.

The annual growth rate of 1.5% in the past few years is the highest it has been since the 1970s.

The population reached an all-time high, 1,034,000 late in 2009.
The bulk of the population growth, but not all of it, has happened in the Regina and Saskatoon metropolitan areas.

From 2006 to 2011, the population has increased by an average of:

- 2.8% per year in the Saskatoon metropolitan area;
- 1.9% per year in the Regina metropolitan area; and
- 0.4% in the rest of the province.
Age Structure of the Saskatchewan Population

Saskatchewan Population by Individual Years of Age, July 2011

- Baby Boomers: 45-64 years of age
- Generation Y: 11-30 years of age
- Gen X: 31-44 years of age
- "Echo" Generation: 11-30 years of age

Thousands
Impact on the Labour Market

Saskatchewan Population by Individual Years of Age, July 2011

Primary Labour Market Age group
20 to 64 Years of Age
Older Workers

Employment trends among those 55 and older.
The average retirement age in Canada is now 62 years of age, a year later than it was four years ago.

Because of better pensions, workers in the public sector (broadly defined to include the crown corporations, health, and education as well as government proper) retire about two years before those in the private sector.
Employment Among Older Workers

Many older Saskatchewan workers are choosing not to retire (or to re-enter the labour force after they retire).

Starting in 2002, the number of older workers (55 & older) has increased dramatically.

During the period from 2001 to 2011 when total employment in the province grew by an average of 1.3% per year, employment among older workers grew by 5.7% per year on average.

Looked at another way, older workers account for one in five people working in 2011.
An increasing **employment rate** means that the employment growth is not exclusively because there are more older people in the province.

In 2011, four out of ten persons 55 and older were working. This compares with three out of ten in 2002.
Employment by Age Group

The increase is happening in all age groups although it is more pronounced among those 55 to 64.
Industry Group - Where Older Workers Work

Older Workers Share of Total Employment, by Industry Group, Saskatchewan

- All industries: 20%
- Agriculture: 20%
- Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing: 26%
- Business, building and other support services: 25%
- Transportation and warehousing: 24%
- Professional, scientific and technical services: 21%
- Educational services: 20%
- Personal and household services: 20%
- Public administration: 19%
- Health care and social assistance: 19%
- Construction: 18%
- Retail trade: 17%
- Wholesale trade: 16%
- Information, culture and recreation: 15%
- Manufacturing: 15%
- Utilities: 13%
- Resource sector: 12%
- Accommodation and food services: 9%
Comments or Questions?