Introduction
This report presents the context indicators associated with the TMEP BC Interior Region, updated to reflect the July to September (Q3) 2020 monitoring period. These data are from public and government sources. They reflect the overall socio-economic context within which Project construction is occurring and present a picture of the overall social and economic vulnerability or resiliency of the region related to the socio-economic monitoring topic areas. Data is being reported for the entire region, even though construction activity may only be occurring in a select portion of the region. These data will be updated during Project construction when new data becomes available. This report also provides a one-time update of select community-level data points for communities crossed by the Project footprint have been updated since the finalization of the Socio-Economic Effects Monitoring Plan based on the 2016 Census of Canada; this data is only updated every 5 years, so will not be updated during the Project construction period.

One-time Community Level Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Population 2016 (No.)</th>
<th>Population Change from Last Census (2011) (%)</th>
<th>Percentage of Population that Identifies as Aboriginal (%)</th>
<th>Total Private Dwellings (No.)</th>
<th>Percentage of Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents (%)</th>
<th>Average Value of Dwellings ($)</th>
<th>Labour Force Size (No.)</th>
<th>Participation Rate (%)</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate (%)</th>
<th>Labour Force by Industry (%) (top 3 industries)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Kamloops</td>
<td>90280</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>39081</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>$390,396.00</td>
<td>47825</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Health care and social assistance (14.0%) Retail Trade (12.8%) Accommodation and food services (9.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Merritt</td>
<td>7139</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>3176</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>$264,033.00</td>
<td>3270</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>Health care and social assistance (12.7%) Retail Trade (11.0%) Accommodation and food services (9.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Area P, Thompson-Nicola Regional District</td>
<td>3672</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>1738</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>$453,714</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Construction (11.1%) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (9.8%) Retail Trade (8.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Area J, Thompson-Nicola Regional District</td>
<td>1580</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>$442,740</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>Construction (15.0%) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (9.4%) Retail Trade (8.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Area M, Thompson-Nicola Regional District</td>
<td>1598</td>
<td>-12.3</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>1049</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>$397,794</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (17.1%) Retail trade (11.4%) Health care and social assistance (8.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Area N, Thompson-Nicola Regional District</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>$451,476</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (18.5%) Construction (9.9%) Retail Trade, Other Services and Public Administration (8.6%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Context Indicators
In this region, the Project is occurring in a rural area with a regional population of over approximately 450,000 and a labour force of approximately 295,000 workers. There is other development in the region, with approximately $1.9 billion of other capital projects under construction. The current and anticipated Project workforce is small in the context of this region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context Indicator</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Data Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson-Okanagan Economic Region¹</td>
<td>Jul-20</td>
<td>The total population was 459,900, which is a 0.3% increase from April 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson-Okanagan Economic Region</td>
<td>Jul-20</td>
<td>The labour force size was 292,600, which is a 5.6% increase from April 2020.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the communities in the BC Interior Region, 8 major projects were identified as under construction, with a total capital cost of approximately $1.9 billion. The projects are located throughout the BC Interior Region. Key projects with large (>$100 million) capital costs include the Sun Peaks Ski Resort (Sun Peaks), Sun Rivers Community residential development, Juniper West residential development, Orchards Walk residential development and the Royal Inland Hospital Patient Care Tower.

The vacancy rate was 2.1% in private apartments.

The average rents for a private apartment range from $801 for a bachelor, to $1,203 for 3 bedroom.

The participation rate was 63.6%, which is higher than the participation rate reported in April 2020 (60.5%).

The unemployment rate was 10.3%, which is higher than the unemployment rate reported in April 2020 (9.0%).

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Methodology and Notes

Notes:
1 The Thompson-Okanagan Economic Region consists of: 31 regional district electoral areas; 9 cities, including Kamloops and Merritt; 10 district municipalities; 12 villages or towns; and 94 Indian Reserves.

All numbers are approximate. In certain instances (e.g., gender-based crimes), additional decimal spaces are shown in order to capture small numbers.

References


Tourism Kamloops, personal communication, September 2020.