

# Information Communications Technology

**NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA** 

Did you know that the fastest growing demographic in Halifax, Nova Scotia is between the ages of 25-39?

And that 70% of the population in the city has post-secondary education, compared with a national average of 61%? This combined with cost-competitive wages make Nova Scotia an attractive location to build a workforce.

Additionally, our academic community coordinates closely with industry to build a strong foundation for the workforce of the future. We have a high concentration of university enrollments in tech, which reflects a booming tech ecosystem. Nova Scotia is also home to the largest innovation hub in eastern Canada: Volta Labs.

But, the real reason businesses from around the world are choosing Nova Scotia, is an unparalleled quality of life where you can enjoy an affordable, ocean lifestyle. This is evident from our growing immigration numbers, which are outpacing the Canadian national average. The Atlantic Immigration Pilot, unique to Atlantic Canada, allows employers to further leverage Canada's well-known immigration-friendly approach and attract top talent from all around the world.

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**#1 province  
in Canada for  
concentration of  
university students  
in tech, with a  
workforce of more  
than 25,000.**

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## Information Communications Technology in Nova Scotia, Canada

### About the Sector

Nova Scotia's ICT industry is focused on producing innovative products and services in:

- Analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning
- Data Science
- Cyber security
- SaaS (Software as a Service)
- Virtual and augmented reality
- Enterprise resource planning services
- Disruptive technologies
- Niche-orientated software development

The industry is 1,000+ establishments strong, accounting for 8.2% of Nova Scotia's business sector output and more than 35% of all private sector R&D spending.

All of this is supported by Nova Scotia's 10 universities and 13 community college campuses. Schools offer degrees that relate directly to industry needs, including artificial intelligence, SAP software expertise, and cyber security. We have seen a growth of 50% in computer science and math enrollments over the past two years.

In fact, the availability of highly-skilled talent played a major role in IBM's decision to build its first Canadian Client Innovation Centre here. It also tipped the scales for EY in choosing Halifax as an ideal location for its first global Centre of Excellence in Robotic Process Automation.

Our strategic location between Europe and North America's west coast offers connectivity advantages. It boasts one of the world's best internet connections to both Europe and the eastern United States (with low latency and fast speeds). On average, we have the best internet speeds in Canada.

### Incentives

In Nova Scotia, we understand that a strong economy is the foundation of a strong province. That's why we offer one of the most competitive business climates, with reasonable business costs and generous incentives.

This is particularly true in our digital services industries, where operating costs are among the most cost-competitive in North America. Halifax also offers a 22% cost savings over the U.S. average cost for software development (controlling for exchange rates).

We also offer:

- **Payroll Rebate:** A percentage return on a company's eligible gross payroll.
- **Research and Development Tax Credits:** Up to 50% of qualified expenditures made in Nova Scotia are eligible as a tax credit.
- **Innovation Rebate Program:** 25% of qualified capital investment expenditures are eligible for a rebate.
- **Export Programs:** Suite of funding programs designed to assist companies throughout the export process.



### YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY

Some of the world's top ICT companies have chosen to take advantage of the big talent and big opportunities in Nova Scotia.



NTT DATA



SAMSUNG



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