

Growing Your Community

Virден Insight: Education Report

- The community of Virден is compared to other select communities in three ways.
 - Nearby communities are defined as urban communities and rural regions within roughly 50 km and Brandon given that it's the major community in the larger region.
 - Similar communities are defined as Census Divisions within the SE Saskatchewan and SW Manitoba oil and gas region.
 - The provincial average comparison is Manitoba.
- Comparison Method: A weighted average is used when aggregating nearby and similar communities largely because of the influence of larger populated centres. Provincial data is reported as a weighted average and essentially compares Virден with larger centres like Winnipeg and Brandon.
- Virден is the major urban community within the nearby community group. It means that the comparison to similar communities will be the more relevant analysis in most cases.
- Virден has an above average level of high school drop when compared to other similar communities. The level of post secondary education in Virден is higher for college diplomas (+24%) when compared to similar communities but lower for university degrees (-30%).
- Given that Virден has a relatively small population, it's important not to read too much into the variation that exists in terms of major educational fields of study. A number of the fields, like social sciences, health professions, and public administration and social service professionals have a lower proportion of the population than other similar communities reflecting primarily population size.
- Education in agriculture, natural resources and conservation, and physical and life sciences and technologies are higher than similar communities and are an important strength of the community.
- Architecture, engineering and related technologies make up 6.6% of the population, which is 23% lower than in similar communities. This suggests an education shortage likely supplied through larger centres such as Brandon. This suggests a shortage and a potential opportunity for the needs of the construction industry.
- Other educational fields are generally equal to other similar communities on a per capita basis.