

Photo: Ingunn Þráinsdóttir

### V.5. FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ IN ICELAND: Good services and leisure activities primary factors for attractiveness

By Hjördis Rut Sigurjonsdottir, 2018/2019

### Introduction

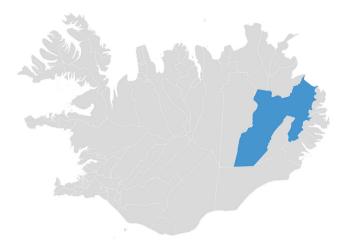
Why are some municipalities better than others at deploying their resources, attracting people and creating jobs? This was the key question studied in this analysis of the attractiveness of 14 rural municipalities in the Nordic Region.

The 14 areas selected are all defined as attractive in the sense that their populations and the number of people in work have increased in recent years. The nature of the boost to employment in some sectors has been identified by means of shift-share analyses to determine how much of the change is attributable to specifically local factors.

Interviews then probed key stakeholders about motivation, working conditions, job creation and living conditions. These interviews were with public sector representatives (e.g. mayors and heads of planning and development), business representatives and entrepreneurs, high school students and people from the education sector, as well as families. Combined with analyses of other data and information, the interviews helped us to understand why some places do better than others.

Fljótsdalshérað is located far from the capital city of Reykjavík (636 km), and from the urban areas in the south west corner of Iceland, where two-thirds of the nation lives. It certainly counts as the countryside. The rural areas in the Nordic countries have been threatened by urbanisation in recent decades, to the extent that not even a moderate population increase can be taken for granted. Population data the last 25 years, presented in the municipal housing policy, demonstrates that population growth has been positive, at around 27.4% (Fljótsdalshérað, April 2018, see Figure 1, next page). Statistics for 2017 and 2018 demonstrate a further increase, of almost 3% (Hagstofa Íslands, n.d.). In 2018, the gender distribution was healthy, while gender split is more evident in the seaside towns in the Austurland region (Viaplan. is, January 2016), with around 51% men and 49% women (Austurbrú, 2018).

Fljótsdalshérað covers a large part of the Austurland region and is the largest municipality in Iceland by area at 8,884 km<sup>2</sup> (Austurbrú, 2018) and with a population of 3,547 in 2018 (Hagstofa,



n.d.). Fljótsdalshérað was formed in 2004 when Austur-Hérað, Fellahreppur and Norður-Hérað merged into a single municipality. A service centre developed in the town of Egilsstaðir, established in 1947, which was deemed a good location on the crossroads at the middle of the region. One of four airports in Iceland large enough for international flights is located in Egilsstaðir and serves as an alternative to Keflavík Airport, when another airport facility is needed as a result of bad weather or other adverse circumstances.

### **Demographic development**

The largest segments of the population live in Egilsstaðir (2,464) and Fellabær (395) (Hagstofa, n.d.) on the opposite sides of the main bridge over the Lagarfljót river.

Fljótsdalshérað's population increased by 27% over a 25-year period from 1993 to 2018. This was 1.08% on average per year, which is slightly under the national average of 1.14%. This development has not been in line with that in other urban sites in East Iceland, as seen in table 1 below (Fljótsdalshérað, April 2018).

### Labour market, employment and business development The labour market

The total population of the region of Austurland is around 10,300, and despite being a sparsely populated area the economy is lively and relatively varied (Austurbrú, 2018). Economic activities are based on public services, contractors, the airport, power plants, and the aluminium smelter in the neighbouring municipality of Fjarðarbyggð. This variety in Fljótsdalshérað has offset the fluctuation in economic activities that has been experienced in the seaside towns and villages of the region (Fljótsdalshérað, April 2018). Both population development and economic activities have reached a balance, as Figure 2 shows, following periods of rapid economic growth around the largescale construction of hydropower plants and the building of the aluminium smelter in Fjarðarbyggð, from 2002 to late 2007. Unemployment has been below the national average (which is generally low in any case) since 2003, and it was just above 1% in 2018 (Fljótsdalshérað, April 201856).

Table 1. Population in East Iceland											
	1. January 2018	1. December 1993	Change	%							
Seyðisfjörður	676	878	-202	-23.01							
Fjarðabyggð	4777	4662	115	2.47							
Fljótsdalshérað	3547	2792	755	27.04							
Vopnafjarðarhreppur	655	886	-231	-26.07							
Fljótsdalshreppur	76	117	-41	-35.04							
Borgarfjarðarhreppur	108	189	-81	-42.86							
Breiðdalshreppur	185	332	-147	-44.28							
Djúpavogshreppur	461	591	-130	-22							
	10.485	10.447	38	0.36							

Figure 1. Data on population in Fljótsdalshérað's housing policy, published in April 2018, shows the population change in comparison with other municipalities in East Iceland.

### Fljótsdalshérað population development

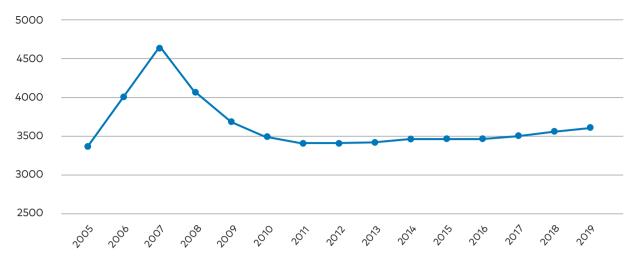


Figure 2. Population in Fljótsdalshérað has reached a balance, after a major influx of people following the large-scale construction project that came to an end in 2007.

Development data for the number of jobs at local level is not collated in Iceland.<sup>21</sup> The labour market trend has to be discerned from income, divided by industries and regions. This shows that total income decreased in East Iceland from 2008 to 2017. That trend can be attributed to recession in the first years of the period – that is to the economic crisis, and to the fact that large-scale construction of both the power plant and the aluminium smelter came to an end. Differential income in the region has increased since 2011, and when looking at the northern part of the region, which includes Fljótsdalshérað, the largest growth was in sectors related to industry, public administration and education (Byggðastofnun, 2018).

### Education

Although the labour market is comparatively diverse, given that this is a very rural part of Iceland, this case study sheds light on the rather limited opportunities that exist for people with a university education. These concerns are confirmed in the current action plan for the region, together with worries about the shortage of trained staff in the industrial and technology sector (Sóknaráæt-lun Austurlands 2015-2019). The opening of the aluminium smelter in Fjarðarbyggð has increased employment opportunities in industrial jobs in East Iceland (Nordregio, n.d.). But while the labour market for business in East Iceland relies heav-

ily on people with technical and vocational skills, there is a shortage of those with the required level of education, and it is difficult to get Icelanders to work in these professions (Halldórsdóttir, 14th February 2019).

Looking at the interviews it seems that employment opportunities were perceived as somewhat more limited for women than for men. Data from the Icelandic Regional Development institute (2018) demonstrates an unequal status for men and women in the region, in terms of employment income. Although that statistic does not take factors such as participation rates into account, it still shows that women in the region have the lowest share of total employment salaries in all of Iceland compared with men, just under 35% (Icelandic Regional Development Institute, 2018). When looking at average salaries, women's average salaries were 70% of men's in 2015 (Austurbrú, 2018).

# Tourism as an important factor for development

Tourism is seen as one of the future pillars for communities in East Iceland, as Jóna Arný Þórðardóttir, the Managing Director for Austurbrú (East Iceland Bridge), expresses it in a Destination Management Plan for the region. This plan aims to increase income from tourism by attracting visitors who want authentic and tangible experiences in an unspoilt natural environment (Destination Austurland, 2018).

Tourism is growing in East Iceland, even though this growth has not been to the same extent as in

<sup>21</sup> See the appendix for statistics for the number of jobs in Iceland 2008–2016.

the south west part of the country and remains highly seasonal. According to the Icelandic Tourist Board, the average uptake of accommodation in East Iceland in May 2018, as Figure 3 shows, was lower than in all the other regions (36.6%, for comparison). The highest uptake was in the Suðurnes region (74.2%), where the international airport is located (The Icelandic Tourist Board, May 2019). Looking at statistics from August last year (018), we can see how seasonal tourism is in East Iceland, where the uptake of accommodation was much higher than in May (73.4%, as Figure 4 shows, The Icelandic Tourist Board, 2018). Yet it is still the lowest in Iceland. However, tourism has nevertheless become a significant contributor to the local economy and is now one of the primary industries capable of providing numerous jobs in the area (Destination Austurland, 2018). A new spa destination, 'Vök', is opening in the summer of 2019. This is somewhere where guests can take a bath in hot, drinkable water that streams from hot springs deep under Lake Urriðavatn (Vök baths, n.d.). The appealing concept and design are expected to enhance other activities close to Egilsstaðir, and to attract more tourists to East Iceland.

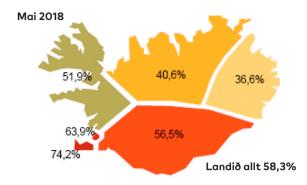
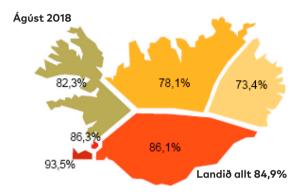


Figure 3. Uptake of accommodation in May 2018.







Austri Brugghús, a micro brewery linked with a bar, is one of the new businesses that have coincided with increased tourism in the region. Photo: Hjördis Rut Sigurjonsdottir

The vision described in the Destination Management Plan is for the region "to develop into a strong and sustainable destination with all-yearround tourism." (Destination Austurland, 2018, page 8). One of the prime factors in boosting tourism further in the region is establishing direct international flights to Egilsstaðir. Flights are regular between Reykjavík and Egilsstaðir throughout the year and the airport is located between one and one-and-a-half hours from most settlements in the region. Apart from being the alternative airport to Keflavík Airport (when bad weather or adverse conditions apply), international flights only occasionally land there. However, as seen in the statistics on overnight stays, Austurland, the region furthest from the international airport in Keflavík, has the smallest share of tourists and the domestic market is still very important for hotels and guesthouses in the area (Destination Austurland, 2018).

# Policies and action supporting attractiveness

In the municipal plan (2009) it is stated: "To live in Fljótsdalshérað should always be seen as special, with a desirable quality of life, enjoyment of natural beauty, a safe environment, and the ability to participate in building a model society for current and future generations" (translation from infrastructure report Austurbrú, 2018, page 9). The labour market policy from 2008 specifies that it is not a goal in itself to increase the population. However, it is obviously seen as desirable that people and businesses want to settle in the municipality. The policy is under review and according to interviews with the town's mayor and other officials, it is recognised that a slightly larger population would be good for economic sustainability.

### Good services are seen as the main attraction

Despite a larger population being desirable, there are no active measures in place on the part of municipality to attract more people or businesses, aside from focusing on providing good services for the current population and the benefits that accrue from that. This includes focusing on kindergartens, schools, music schools and recreational activities for children and young people. To meet the recent population growth, a new kindergarten is being built. It is planned that this will open in 2020. An extension to the town's sports hall has been another pressing task: one that had been on hold for some time, because it was too costly for the municipality to begin construction in the conventional way. To prevent continuous delay, the town's sports club was given the responsibility of managing the work. This new approach resulted in helpful savings, whereby the sports club's goodwill meant it could offer both a lower cost and voluntary labour for the construction project.

A free bus runs in Egilsstaðir on weekdays, from 7am to 8pm, so that children can get to different recreational activities after school without their parents having to leave work to shuttle them around. The bus also crosses over to Fellabær, on the other side of the river, where the football field is located. It is estimated that 90% of the passengers are children.

## Young people engaging in the region's development

Maintaining a high level of services is challenging in a municipality with a population of just over 3,500 people. To be able to maintain this level it would be more cost effective if the population reached 5,000, according to the officials at the municipality. There is a low unemployment rate and more working hands are needed to continue development in the area. Young East Iceland (Ungt Austurland) has helped to attract people to the region. This Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) was established in 2016, and is intended for young people from 18 to 40 years of age who are concerned about the region's future and development. The aim is to strengthen the young people's network in the region and to arise awareness among those who have moved away about opportunities and potential in East Iceland. In 2017, the organisation hosted a forum called 'Að heiman og heim (Home and back) in order to increase the visibility of companies and businesses in the area for those thinking about returning to the region. The response was good. Around 50 companies, schools and entrepreneurs presented their activities, operations and possibilities. Young East Iceland has also taken up a role as an advocate for young people in the area, aiming to get them involved in local development - whether their concerns are politics, elections, transportation or other issues. In 2018, they offered a course on politics to encourage young people to actively take part in local politics and to take a seat on the one of the parties' lists. The chair of the organisation, Margrét Árnadóttir says that the voice of the young people is both necessary for the future and appreciated by many in senior positions in the municipality.

### Pursuing a lively downtown environment

Tourism has changed the appearance of Egilsstaðir, in the form of the emergence of a variety of restaurants. Now both tourists and residents have four or five restaurants to choose from.

The increased number of tourists has had an impact on society, and highlights the lack of a viable city centre or downtown area in Egilsstaðir. This situation has been under discussion for over a decade now. Before the economic crisis in 2008 there were great plans to build a downtown area, including an 18-metres-wide street, in order to create a lively, thriving atmosphere. A new, modest local plan for the city centre was introduced at a meeting with residents in May 2019 (Fljótsdalshérað, 23 May 2019). The goal has been to increase the attractiveness of the area for people and for businesses, by increasing the number of apartments and by making it more densely populated and livelier.

Fljótstdalshérað is, together with another Icelandic town, currently involved in the project known as Attractive Nordic Towns and Regions, led by the Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation. The purpose of this project is to identify key indicators for attractiveness, and then to develop specific strategies for towns to become more attractive in economically, environmentally and socially sustainable ways (Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation 2018).



Downtown Egilsstaðir, mid-January. Photo: Hjördis Rut Sigurjonsdottir

### An attractive place to live: housing, infrastructure and quality of life Housing and infrastructure

The building of power plants and an aluminium smelter in East Iceland generated a boost for the region. Initially, the construction of houses and apartments in Fljótsdalshérað was not in line with demand, leading to oversupply. In October 2009, 218 apartments were empty in central East Iceland (Jóhannesson, March 2010). It took several years to fill the surplus, but all of them have been filled, so now there is a housing shortage. Due to demand and positive economic developments, real estate prices are now in line with construction costs for the first time in a long while (Fljótsdalshérað, April 2018).

The housing market situation was an issue raised frequently during the case study. Few apartments are available on the rental market, making it difficult for young people - as well as working migrants - to find housing. Business owners in tourism have resorted to buying houses to provide homes for the employees they need for their businesses. This can influence potential residents who want to try living in the town before committing to buying real estate there. The municipality has assumed the responsibility for ensuring that enough plots are available for housing, as stated in the housing plan. But all construction of houses and apartments is determined by the market. As an incentive, a 50% subsidy is given towards infrastructure costs for those who want to build a house themselves. Rising real estate prices, which are now close to matching construction costs, have increased the prospect of private building initiatives, and some new houses are already under construction as a result.

Airbnb also influences the housing supply in Fljótsdalshérað, as in many parts of Iceland, and the effects of this on the rental market are quite severe. In the housing plan (April 2018) it was estimated that around 60 to 70 apartments were being offered for rent on Airbnb. In 2017 a new law was passed to respond to the large number of apartments rented through Airbnb by individuals. Now private accommodation can only be rented for 90 days per year without obtaining a special licence (Sýslumenn.is, n.d.). Some participants in the case study thought that this 90-day period was too long in regions like Austurland, where the tourist season is short and largely confined to the summer, making the operational and development basis for hotels and guesthouses difficult. Others believe that further restrictions are needed to give businesses in the tourism sector the opportunity to develop and to become a flourishing part of the labour market.

### Transport

The region's main challenge is transport, whether it is domestic flights or winter services on roads. Both impact the mobility of locals and tourists. A domestic flight is expensive, and not everyone has the resources to take advantages of one, except occasionally. In a recent report, requested by the Minister of Transport and Local Government, it is proposed that airline tickets for people domiciled in selected rural area should be subsidised by 50% for four trips a year (both ways), with the change taking effect in 2020. The reasoning behind this measure is that it is a way to fulfil governmental policy, which sets out an intention to equalise access for all Icelanders to the public administration, centralised services and culture that is only offered in the capital area. The report also recommends a new fee to for the development of the three alternate airports in Iceland - both for security reasons and to open up the further possibility of international flights into the Icelandic countryside (Ministry of Transport and Local Government, 2018). The airport in Egilsstaðir is one of these three airports, and the hope is to attract more international flights to facilitate better and cheaper travel abroad for residents, as well as gaining a larger share of tourism for the region. Many of the participants in the case study had great hopes for subsidised airline tickets. They referred to this as the 'Scottish way', where domestic flights are seen as a form of public transport. In addition,



Hopes are that the government will provide subsidised airline tickets for residents. Photo: Hjördis Rut Sigurjonsdottir

they hope to add more direct international flights, to decrease the cost of flying overseas, which now also involves buying an expensive domestic flight as part of the arrangement.

# Quality of life: A small town with all the essentials

Egilsstaðir is a good and safe place for raising children. This was the positive consensus among participants in the study. "There is a little need to worry about traffic, and children can go around the town freely. If they are not home when it is time for dinner, you just pick up the phone," said a mother of four children in one interview. Other participants with families shared similar experiences The time factor was also cumbersome in larger urban areas, they said. Getting between different places and running errands is more time consuming, more stressful and leaves less room for quality time with family and friends. In Egilsstaðir, meanwhile, the level of services and recreational activities is high, and the town is large enough for not everyone to know everyone else, while still enjoying the good elements of a small community's life.

The schools were also praised by the interviewees, and a general level of satisfaction was repeatedly stated during the case study. Fljótsdalshérað runs three kindergartens and three schools (up to the age of 16) where an emphasis is placed on having well-trained teachers in most positions. The upper secondary school, in Egilsstaðir, is one of two schools in East Iceland where students can take matriculation exam. The number of students in these schools has decreased considerably following the shortening of education from four years to three years in 2015, with one cohort missing as a result. The small number of students (around 175) makes it difficult to provide all courses at upper level. This has been handled through distance courses run in cooperation with other smaller rural schools, or by starting courses only when enough of students are available to take them.

A focus group consisting of students in the upper secondary school echo findings from other participants in the study, describing the town as a good place in which to grow up. However, they feel it is rather unexciting for young people like them, naming a three hour drive to the next cinema as one problem. It can be difficult to maintain recreational activities suitable for everyone in a small community. Up to the age of 16 there is a good selection of activities for children, including different sports, music and other planned activities. However, after 16 the activities are mainly linked to the upper secondary school. Aside from that there are few things happening for young people. Even in the upper secondary school it has become increasingly difficult to get young people to participate in recent years. Dances are the best attended events. But otherwise interactions through the Internet are becoming increasingly common, and the poor level of participation in events and activities discourages further initiatives.

All the students who participated in the focus group planned to continue education after leaving school, either immediately or following a one-year break. There is no university in the region, and all of the young people are therefore planning to move away, some to Reykjavik and Akureyri, but with most envisioning study abroad. Few imagined that they would return to Fljótsdalshérað, because they felt that their employment opportunities would be too limited there. Yet some said that there was some possibility that they would return when they decided to start a family.

The educational level in Fljótsdalshérað is below the national average; that is, 21% in 2013 locally, compared to 35% nationally. This proportion refers to those who have completed upper secondary education, either through a university entrance exam, a technical education or an equivalent (Austurbrú, 2018). The lack of a university in the region explains the small number of people aged between 24 years and 42 years in the area. This is a stated concern in terms of housing policy. Around the age of 20, a portion of the population starts to move away for higher education. However, the age pyramid indicates that many return afterwards, or that their place is filled by new people (Fljótsdalshérað, 2018; Austurbrú, 2018).

Universities in Iceland offer distance learning in some subjects, and facilities are in place in Egilsstaðir. Although a few courses and programmes are available for distance learning and facilities are in place, it is more common that people move away to seek education. Participants in this case study at the upper secondary school said that they would recommend people study on site for the social factor, especially young students. Even so, they consider the facilities for distance learning important to have, especially for those who are older, and those who have settled and want to pursue higher education without leaving the area. A survey among residents which Austurbrú conducted and introduced in 2019, demonstrates that educational needs are mostly met with current educational provision. One-third of respondents (around 280) were aged 36 to 45, which is the most numerous age span in the student group (Halldórsdóttir, 14.02.2019).

Another important element for quality of life is the availability of sports and leisure facilities for children. Much importance is placed on sports, and the level of supply for this size of community is notable, and highly appreciated by inhabitants. It includes football, volleyball, basketball, track and field athletics, gymnastics, Taekwondo, swimming and more. In addition, there are three music schools operating in the municipality. A public transport facility has been provided to increase accessibility. This eases the daily life of parents, who do not have to leave work to drive their children between school and different activities.

Systematic efforts have been made to promote creativity in the Austurland region in recent years, particularly with art education in the upper secondary school in Egilsstaðir (ME), and at LungA, the art-based folk high school in the neighbouring municipality of Seyðisfjörður (Sóknaráætlun Austurlands, 2015-2019). Cultural activities like choirs, art clubs, amateur theatre, bridge clubs and other societies are another important factor binding people together socially in Fljótsdalshérað. A few big annual festivals take place in the Austurland region, as well a variety of artistic activities all year around (Sóknaráætlun Austurlands, 2015-2019). Some of these clubs are quire ambitious, e.g. the amateur theatres put on major productions like 'One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest'. In 2018, a symphony orchestra was established in East Iceland. This is important for the musicians living in the region, who are able to practice and play together. It also adds to the cultural variety on offer locally. Cultural vitality is perhaps partly a by-product of distance from the capital area, which encourages the need to be self-sufficient. According to the regional action plan, the main challenges for further progress are lack of financial resources, poor transport and a small population. These are the obstacles in the way of further cultural development and participation.

Some participants interviewed believed that it could be difficult for new inhabitants to feel included in the community, especially those moving there without having any prior social connections. Having no roots is particularly challenging. It was often brought up in the case study that a proportion of the new residents chose to move back after a few years. Possible reasons identified were the difficulty involved in integrating into society, or the pressure of living far from friends and families, along with with lengthy journeys and the high cost of transport. However, most believed that everyone who endeavoured to integrate would be able to do so, not least through participation in different activity-based clubs and their associated social life.

### **Discussion and conclusions**

in the case of Fljótsdalshérað, different factors have been reported as to what makes it an attractive place to live. But the municipality also faces parallel challenges in increasing the attractiveness of the town.

The statistics illustrate that Fljótsdalshérað has managed to attract people despite being far away from the region where the bulk of the Icelandic population live, the greater Reykjavík area. Given the experience of the neighbouring municipalities, which have endured negative or very small population increases, positive population growth in Fljótsdalshérað cannot be regarded as obvious or expected. It is recognised that part of this population increase can be traced to emigration from the neighbouring municipalities, due to a higher level of services and a more diversified labour market. Egilsstaðir, the largest settlement in Fljótsdalshérað, and in East Iceland as a whole, benefits from being within commuting distance from the aluminium smelter at Reyðarfjörður, which has also enlarged the labour market.

Not everyone is eager to live in larger urban areas, and this applies to the majority of interviewees in this case study. The simplicity involved in living in a smaller urban area where it takes shorter time to get between places and to run the routine errands involved in daily life attracts many people. When choosing to live in a smaller urban area it is necessary to recognise that certain requirements will need to be fulfilled, for all family members. The wide range of recreational activities available in Fljótsdalshérað is highly appreciated by local people, and provides an opening for new residents to integrate and become part of society. The variety of sports on offer, especially for children and teenagers, is good for a community of this size and adds value for those considering settlement. Sports facilities and the availability of music teaching count for a large proportion of young people's social life, providing opportunities for worthwhile activities and personal development. However, participation in sport tournaments and competitions with others, both on an individual and team basis, often entails costly and time-consuming travel.

Future development depends upon success in

Attractiveness of Fljótsdalshérað, and obstacles or challenges to overcome							
Good practice and reasons underlying attractiveness	Obstacles and challenges						
<b>Access to public services</b> High level of services.	<b>Demography</b> Small population.						
<b>Culture, sport, recreation</b> Strong sport culture. Increased tourism has added to the availability of a variety of bars and restaurants.	<b>Education</b> Educational levels are low. No university-level education, apart from dis- tance learning.						
<b>Education</b> Upper secondary school on site. Employment and jobs Very low unemployment, around 1% only.	<b>Employment and jobs</b> Lack of employment diversity. Low average salaries, especially for women. Shortage of employees with technical and voca- tional skills.						
<b>Governance and participation</b> Strong engagement in NGO's – also as an opportunity for integration.	Infrastructure and transportation Long distance to the international airport. No real city centre.						
Infrastructure and transportation Regional airport, Egilsstaðir, located in the area. Location Located in the centre of the region	<b>Seasonality</b> Many fewer tourists than in other Icelandic re- gions, and tourism is much more seasonal						
Quality of life and local community Simpler life, easy to get around.	Young people – living, staying / returning Challenging to get young people back after high- er education.						

dealing with challenges and taking advantage of opportunities. The challenges are connected with the housing shortage, mainly the shortage of rental housing. Plots are available, and a discount is given on infrastructure costs to attract potential house owners and builders. Higher house prices, now matching construction costs, promotes further development. If house building and positive developments in tourism go hand in hand, this can increase the attractiveness of the town. It will also be interesting to see how the municipality solves the problem of the lack of a vibrant downtown area in Egilsstaðir, and what impact this will have.

Fljótsdalshérað provides the opportunity to live in a smaller urban area, but also to be able to access good services, along with recreational and cultural activities. It is possible to fulfil both wishes. There is an ongoing challenge in increasing the population further, however. This is something that could be approached in a more strategic manner.

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### Appendix

Development in	the numb	er of job	s in Icela	nd, 2008	8–2016				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6700	7000	7300	7400	7500	7600	7400	7500	7400
B. Mining and quar- rying	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
C. Manufacturing	21400	19900	20100	20700	21200	21800	22000	22100	22600
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1600	1600	1600	1500	1400	1400	1400	1500	1500
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	800	800	800	800	900	900	900	1000	900
F. Construction	16800	10700	9000	8500	8600	9100	9600	10400	11900
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	24600	21400	21200	21400	22000	22300	22700	23200	24300
H. Transportation and storage	9700	8700	8600	8900	9200	9600	10000	10600	12000
I. Accommodation and food service activities	7500	7200	7700	8300	9100	10000	11000	12400	14100
J. Information and communication	7800	7200	7200	7300	7300	7500	7600	7800	7900
K. Financial and insurance activities	8000	7000	6800	6700	6600	6400	6200	5900	5900
L. Real estate activities	1300	900	1000	1000	1100	1100	1200	1300	1400
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	8400	7700	7500	7700	8000	8100	8300	8500	8800
N. Administrative and support service activities	5200	4500	4600	4900	5200	5600	6100	6900	8600
O. Public admin- istration and de- fence; compulsory social security	12600	11500	11700	12000	11900	11900	11900	12200	11900
P. Education	17900	19000	18800	18800	18900	19200	19600	19600	19500
Q. Human health and social work activities	20300	20900	20300	19700	19800	20200	20500	20900	21000
R. Arts, entertain- ment and recreation	4100	4300	4300	4400	4400	4400	4600	4600	4600
S. Other service activities	4100	4000	3900	3900	3900	3900	4000	4100	4000
U. Activities of extra-territorial organisations and bodies	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
TOTAL	179000	164500	162600	164100	167200	171200	175200	180700	188500