



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGION

REGIONAL POLICING

- Bulkley Nechako Region is policed by RCMP detachments located in Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Fraser Lake, Houston, Smithers, Takla Landing and Vanderhoof. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Smithers while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the region's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2008, there were 64 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 9 members directly policed the City of Smithers while 55 were responsible for policing the region's rural or unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 93 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Bulkley Nechako Region in 2008. This was 8% less than the member workload of 101 recorded in 2007. The region's 2008 case load was higher than the provincial case load of 67.
- In 2008, the total population of the region was 39,118; the population served per member was 611.

REGIONAL CRIME TRENDS

- Police in BC record criminal activity using Statistics Canada's Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Criminal Code offences are used in police workload and crime rate calculations. They include violent, property, and other Criminal Code crimes.
- In 2008, 5,977 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was a 7% drop from the 6,453 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Bulkley Nechako recorded a crime rate of 153, higher than the provincial crime rate of 96, but 8% less than the region's 2007 crime rate of 166 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 1,050 violent crimes were reported by the RCMP, a 3% decrease from the 1,080 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako violent crime rate was 26.8 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 4% decrease from the 2007 rate of 27.8. The region's 2008 violent crime rate was higher than the provincial violent crime rate of 11.4 violent offences per 1,000 population.
- The volume of Level 1 Assaults (common assault) is the major driver of the violent crime rate. In 2008, 668 common assaults were reported within the region, a 12% decrease from the 757 reported in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako common assault rate was 17.1 offences per 1,000 population, a 12% decrease from the 2007 rate of 19.5. The region's 2008 common assault rate was higher than the provincial common assault rate of 6.7 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 1,403 property crimes were recorded within the region, a 3% increase from the 1,360 reported in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako property crime rate was 36 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 3% increase from the 2007 rate of 35. The region's 2008 property crime rate was lower than the provincial property crime rate of 45 property offences per 1,000 population.



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REGIONAL CRIME TRENDS Cont'd

- Motor vehicle theft includes the theft or attempted theft of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles and other motorized vehicles. In 2008, 142 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 3% increase from the 138 reported in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako motor vehicle theft rate increased 3% to 3.6 offences per 1,000 population. The region's 2008 motor vehicle theft rate was lower than the provincial motor vehicle theft rate of 5.2 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 3,524 other crimes were reported within the region, a 12% decline from the 4,013 reported in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako other crime rate was 90 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 13% drop from the 2007 rate of 103. The region's 2008 other crime rate was higher than the provincial other crime rate of 39 other offences per 1,000 population.
- Not included in crime rate and case load calculations are drug crimes which include heroin, cocaine, cannabis, and other CSDA drug offences. In 2008, 379 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 28% decrease from the 530 reported in 2007. The 2008 Bulkley Nechako drug crime rate was 9.7 offences per 1,000 population, an 29% decline from the 2007 rate of 13.6. The region's 2008 drug crime rate was higher than the provincial drug crime rate of 6.3 offences per 1,000 population.

REGIONAL POPULATION

- In 2008, Census estimates indicated that the population for the region was 39,118, a 1% increase from the 2007 population of 38,883.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region generally declined resulting in an 11% decrease overall, from 43,846 in 1999 to 39,118 in 2008.



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BULKLEY NECHAKO REGION DATA TABLES

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	43,846	43,337	43,282	42,535	41,753	42,158	41,528	39,466	38,883	39,118
Police Strength	55	55	56	56	57	57	62	64	64	64
Case Load	100	101	104	113	115	122	119	106	101	93
Population Served Per Member	797	788	773	760	733	740	670	617	608	611
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	955	1,133	1,033	1,002	925	949	966	992	1,080	1,050
Crime Rate	21.8	26.1	23.9	23.6	22.2	22.5	23.3	25.1	27.8	26.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,051	1,713	1,937	2,154	2,137	1,889	1,841	1,540	1,360	1,403
Crime Rate	47	40	45	51	51	45	44	39	35	36
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,495	2,684	2,857	3,178	3,516	4,090	4,543	4,272	4,013	3,524
Crime Rate	57	62	66	75	84	97	109	108	103	90
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	5,501	5,530	5,827	6,334	6,578	6,928	7,350	6,804	6,453	5,977
CRIME RATE	125	128	135	149	158	164	177	172	166	153
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	239	323	293	281	328	461	500	583	530	379
Crime Rate	5.5	7.5	6.8	6.6	7.9	10.9	12.0	14.8	13.6	9.7
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	708	864	775	758	697	724	687	733	757	668
Crime Rate	16.1	19.9	17.9	17.8	16.7	17.2	16.5	18.6	19.5	17.1
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	111	101	135	172	142	139	156	135	138	142
Crime Rate	2.5	2.3	3.1	4.0	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.6
AREA POLICED AS BURNS LAKE PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	6,434	6,428	7,354	7,316	7,272	7,381	7,378	7,067	7,041	7,098
Police Strength	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	11	11	11
Case Load	145	144	143	165	149	198	178	157	132	101
Population Served Per Member	804	804	919	915	909	923	738	642	640	645
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	181	200	240	211	192	219	180	214	187	223
Crime Rate	28.1	31.1	32.6	28.8	26.4	29.7	24.4	30.3	26.6	31.4
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	341	281	248	348	335	350	268	223	228	182
Crime Rate	53	44	34	48	46	47	36	32	32	26
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	640	673	653	763	662	1,015	1,330	1,294	1,037	703
Crime Rate	99	105	89	104	91	138	180	183	147	99
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,162	1,154	1,141	1,322	1,189	1,584	1,778	1,731	1,452	1,108
CRIME RATE	181	180	155	181	164	215	241	245	206	156
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	12	61	39	53	59	84	143	228	193	122
Crime Rate	1.9	9.5	5.3	7.2	8.1	11.4	19.4	32.3	27.4	17.2
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	138	163	186	171	158	167	131	148	144	156
Crime Rate	21.4	25.4	25.3	23.4	21.7	22.6	17.8	20.9	20.5	22.0
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	18	15	7	43	28	29	22	17	15	13
Crime Rate	2.8	2.3	1.0	5.9	3.9	3.9	3.0	2.4	2.1	1.8

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AREA POLICED AS FORT ST.JAMES PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	5,428	5,150	4,754	4,590	4,447	4,384	4,265	3,914	3,893	3,921
Police Strength	10	10	10	10	11	11	13	14	14	14
Case Load	102	93	112	117	110	121	113	106	90	86
Population Served Per Member	543	515	475	459	404	399	328	280	278	280
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	218	252	219	237	201	216	268	263	277	258
Crime Rate	40.2	48.9	46.1	51.6	45.2	49.3	62.8	67.2	71.2	65.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	458	311	332	355	358	333	400	338	245	308
Crime Rate	84	60	70	77	81	76	94	86	63	79
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	339	369	571	576	655	783	805	881	742	642
Crime Rate	62	72	120	125	147	179	189	225	191	164
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,015	932	1,122	1,168	1,214	1,332	1,473	1,482	1,264	1,208
CRIME RATE	187	181	236	254	273	304	345	379	325	308
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	19	18	32	28	40	85	80	67	77	46
Crime Rate	3.5	3.5	6.7	6.1	9.0	19.4	18.8	17.1	19.8	11.7
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	163	179	157	167	147	160	184	203	184	169
Crime Rate	30.0	34.8	33.0	36.4	33.1	36.5	43.1	51.9	47.3	43.1
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	20	29	30	22	31	18	43	17	16	25
Crime Rate	3.7	5.6	6.3	4.8	7.0	4.1	10.1	4.3	4.1	6.4
AREA POLICED AS FRASER LAKE PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	3,725	3,710	3,551	3,479	3,379	3,451	3,401	3,160	3,151	3,164
Police Strength	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Case Load	73	50	78	74	50	49	58	47	41	77
Population Served Per Member	745	742	710	696	676	690	680	632	630	633
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	70	61	64	72	40	39	63	60	68	102
Crime Rate	18.8	16.4	18.0	20.7	11.8	11.3	18.5	19.0	21.6	32.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	161	109	168	141	108	97	71	53	55	69
Crime Rate	43	29	47	41	32	28	21	17	17	22
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	135	78	159	159	103	111	155	124	84	215
Crime Rate	36	21	45	46	30	32	46	39	27	68
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	366	248	391	372	251	247	289	237	207	386
CRIME RATE	98	67	110	107	74	72	85	75	66	122
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	7	5	5	31	19	40	28	29	9	12
Crime Rate	1.9	1.3	1.4	8.9	5.6	11.6	8.2	9.2	2.9	3.8
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	52	50	53	65	32	32	47	46	38	63
Crime Rate	14.0	13.5	14.9	18.7	9.5	9.3	13.8	14.6	12.1	19.9
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	12	4	9	20	11	8	5	5	8	6
Crime Rate	3.2	1.1	2.5	5.7	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.6	2.5	1.9



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AREA POLICED AS GRANISLE PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	622	584	603	604	594	615	607	581	592	608
Police Strength	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
Case Load	47	94	94	61	58	50	46	58	35	29
Population Served Per Member	311	292	302	302	297	308	202	194	197	203
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	25	34	32	32	21	23	14	31	13	28
Crime Rate	40.2	58.2	53.1	53.0	35.4	37.4	23.1	53.4	22.0	46.1
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	33	45	45	41	29	24	37	21	13	12
Crime Rate	53	77	75	68	49	39	61	36	22	20
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	36	108	110	48	65	53	88	123	79	46
Crime Rate	58	185	182	79	109	86	145	212	133	76
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	94	187	187	121	115	100	139	175	105	86
CRIME RATE	151	320	310	200	194	163	229	301	177	141
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	7	36	43	30	12	12	9	6	7	5
Crime Rate	11.3	61.6	71.3	49.7	20.2	19.5	14.8	10.3	11.8	8.2
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	10	17	15	17	17	19	10	21	11	13
Crime Rate	16.1	29.1	24.9	28.1	28.6	30.9	16.5	36.1	18.6	21.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	0	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
Crime Rate	0.0	1.7	3.3	1.7	1.7	3.3	3.3	3.4	1.7	1.6
AREA POLICED AS HOUSTON PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	5,711	5,648	5,114	4,884	4,761	4,933	4,721	4,142	3,948	3,951
Police Strength	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Case Load	79	67	64	57	65	60	84	59	76	76
Population Served Per Member	952	941	852	814	794	822	787	690	658	659
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	63	67	57	50	58	49	60	44	73	64
Crime Rate	11.0	11.9	11.1	10.2	12.2	9.9	12.7	10.6	18.5	16.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	186	146	174	107	134	104	127	81	84	82
Crime Rate	33	26	34	22	28	21	27	20	21	21
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	227	190	155	184	199	208	319	229	300	310
Crime Rate	40	34	30	38	42	42	68	55	76	78
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	476	403	386	341	391	361	506	354	457	456
CRIME RATE	83	71	75	70	82	73	107	85	116	115
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	29	31	26	31	34	34	36	36	39	35
Crime Rate	5.1	5.5	5.1	6.3	7.1	6.9	7.6	8.7	9.9	8.9
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	51	57	41	38	41	33	42	31	49	40
Crime Rate	8.9	10.1	8.0	7.8	8.6	6.7	8.9	7.5	12.4	10.1
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	10	5	13	7	10	12	8	3	15	4
Crime Rate	1.8	0.9	2.5	1.4	2.1	2.4	1.7	0.7	3.8	1.0

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGION DATA TABLES

CITY OF SMITHERS	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	5,766	5,738	5,651	5,658	5,556	5,602	5,444	5,292	5,260	5,257
Police Strength	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Case Load	117	138	127	163	179	175	186	146	147	131
Population Served Per Member	641	638	628	629	617	622	605	588	584	584
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	138	202	150	148	152	143	157	137	155	127
Crime Rate	23.9	35.2	26.5	26.2	27.4	25.5	28.8	25.9	29.5	24.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	376	396	418	589	620	505	520	395	363	327
Crime Rate	65	69	74	104	112	90	96	75	69	62
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	543	642	575	728	841	928	1,000	785	802	725
Crime Rate	94	112	102	129	151	166	184	148	152	138
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,057	1,240	1,143	1,465	1,613	1,576	1,677	1,317	1,320	1,179
CRIME RATE	183	216	202	259	290	281	308	249	251	224
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	90	96	86	65	93	127	125	119	110	84
Crime Rate	15.6	16.7	15.2	11.5	16.7	22.7	23.0	22.5	20.9	16.0
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	109	158	113	113	110	106	128	101	116	79
Crime Rate	18.9	27.5	20.0	20.0	19.8	18.9	23.5	19.1	22.1	15.0
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	14	17	26	35	23	19	34	22	20	27
Crime Rate	2.4	3.0	4.6	6.2	4.1	3.4	6.2	4.2	3.8	5.1
AREA POLICED AS SMITHERS PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	7,413	7,339	7,648	7,544	7,458	7,487	7,461	7,419	7,388	7,508
Police Strength	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Case Load	81	94	77	83	111	96	92	76	74	65
Population Served Per Member	1,236	1,223	1,275	1,257	1,243	1,248	1,244	1,237	1,231	1,251
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	115	130	88	96	88	72	93	80	103	65
Crime Rate	15.5	17.7	11.5	12.7	11.8	9.6	12.5	10.8	13.9	8.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	118	151	152	128	196	143	146	110	83	79
Crime Rate	16	21	20	17	26	19	20	15	11	11
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	254	282	220	273	384	362	315	264	256	247
Crime Rate	34	38	29	36	51	48	42	36	35	33
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	487	563	460	497	668	577	554	454	442	391
CRIME RATE	66	77	60	66	90	77	74	61	60	52
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	32	43	16	21	31	30	33	27	35	17
Crime Rate	4.3	5.9	2.1	2.8	4.2	4.0	4.4	3.6	4.7	2.3
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	79	106	64	72	67	63	56	58	82	33
Crime Rate	10.7	14.4	8.4	9.5	9.0	8.4	7.5	7.8	11.1	4.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	12	7	19	9	6	21	22	25	16	20
Crime Rate	1.6	1.0	2.5	1.2	0.8	2.8	2.9	3.4	2.2	2.7



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AREA POLICED AS TAKLA LANDING PROV*	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	—	—	144	142	140	141	141	139	138	140
Police Strength	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Case Load	—	—	100	124	191	162	109	106	96	60
Population Served Per Member	—	—	144	142	140	141	141	139	138	140
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	18	19	37	37	23	26	15	13
Crime Rate	—	—	125.0	133.8	264.3	262.4	163.1	187.1	108.7	92.9
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	30	46	43	29	25	19	13	6
Crime Rate	—	—	208	324	307	206	177	137	94	43
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	52	59	111	96	61	61	68	41
Crime Rate	—	—	361	415	793	681	433	439	493	293
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	¾	¾	100	124	191	162	109	106	96	60
CRIME RATE	—	—	694	873	1,364	1,149	773	763	696	429
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	—	—	1	1	11	1	3	2	1	2
Crime Rate	—	—	6.9	7.0	78.6	7.1	21.3	14.4	7.2	14.3
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	—	—	14	10	18	21	15	15	7	2
Crime Rate	—	—	97.2	70.4	128.6	148.9	106.4	107.9	50.7	14.3
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	—	—	1	3	5	1	1	0	2	1
Crime Rate	—	—	6.9	21.1	35.7	7.1	7.1	0.0	14.5	7.1
<i>*Detachment opened in 2000.</i>										
AREA POLICED AS VANDERHOOF PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	8,747	8,740	8,463	8,318	8,146	8,164	8,110	7,752	7,472	7,471
Police Strength	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Case Load	94	89	100	103	105	110	92	105	123	123
Population Served Per Member	972	971	940	924	905	907	901	861	830	830
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	145	187	165	137	136	151	108	137	189	170
Crime Rate	16.6	21.4	19.5	16.5	16.7	18.5	13.3	17.7	25.3	22.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	378	274	370	399	314	304	247	300	276	338
Crime Rate	43	31	44	48	39	37	30	39	37	45
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	321	342	362	388	496	534	470	511	645	595
Crime Rate	37	39	43	47	61	65	58	66	86	80
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	844	803	897	924	946	989	825	948	1,110	1,103
CRIME RATE	96	92	106	111	116	121	102	122	149	148
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	43	33	45	21	29	48	43	69	59	56
Crime Rate	4.9	3.8	5.3	2.5	3.6	5.9	5.3	8.9	7.9	7.5
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	106	134	132	105	107	123	74	110	126	113
Crime Rate	12.1	15.3	15.6	12.6	13.1	15.1	9.1	14.2	16.9	15.1
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	25	23	28	32	27	29	19	44	45	45
Crime Rate	2.9	2.6	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.6	2.3	5.7	6.0	6.0



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ENDNOTES

- ¹ Drug crimes include heroin, cocaine, cannabis and other CDSA drug offences. These data are not included in Total Criminal Code offences.
- ² Motor Vehicle Theft includes four UCR crime categories: Auto Theft, Truck Theft, Motorcycle Theft, and Other Motor Vehicle Theft, e.g. snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, motorized farming and industrial vehicles. Motor Vehicle Theft is included in Property Crimes.

DATA QUALIFIERS

1. Police strengths represent an areas authorized police strength as of December 31st of each calendar year as submitted annually to Police Services Division.
2. Case burdens are defined as the number of Criminal Code offences per authorized police strength. They represent the workload per officer, and as a result, are a better indicator of the demand for police services that either an area's population base or its crime rate. The total number of Criminal Code offences and the authorized police strength as of December 31st of each calendar year are used for case burden calculations.
3. Total Criminal Code includes property, violent and other crimes. Property crimes include the offences of break and enter, theft, motor vehicle theft, possession of stolen property and fraud. Violent crimes include the offences of homicide, attempted murder, sexual and non-sexual assault, abduction and robbery. Other crimes include Criminal Code offences not classified as either violent or property crimes, e.g., prostitution, gaming & betting, weapons, bail violations, counterfeit currency, vandalism, etc.
4. The crime data contained in this report have been recorded by the police on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR). Offences are scored according to the UCR Scoring Rules. If a single criminal incident contains a number of violations of the law, then only the most serious one is recorded for UCR purposes. Number of offences represents only those crimes reported to, or discovered by police which, upon preliminary investigation, have been deemed to have occurred or been attempted; this data does not represent or imply a count of the number of charges laid, prosecutions conducted, informations sworn or convictions obtained.
5. Crime Rate is defined as the number of offences per 1,000 population. The population figures utilized for crime rate calculations are based on the results of Canada Census which is conducted every five years. The most recent Canada Census occurred in 2006. Population figures reflect the permanent residential or "late night" population of a municipality and do not include part-time populations, i.e., commuters, students, tourists and other part-time residents.
6. The data contained in this report may vary when compared with previous reports produced by Police Services Division. Where variances occur, the report produced at the latest date will reflect the most current data available.

SOURCES: Crime Data: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS, Statistics Canada;
Population Data: BCStats, Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services, Province of British Columbia
Police Data: HRMIS Report, RCMP "E" Division.

DATE: September 2009.