



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

CENTRAL KOOTENAY REGION

REGIONAL POLICING

- Central Kootenay Region is policed by one independent municipal police force, and the RCMP. The City of Nelson is policed by an independent municipal police force while the RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Castlegar. The RCMP Provincial Force polices the region's rural or unincorporated areas through detachments located in Castlegar, Kaslo, Nelson, Salmo, and Slocan Lake.
- In 2008, there were 72 members assigned to police the region: 21 policed the independent municipal force area, 12 policed RCMP municipal areas, and 39 policed the region's unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 61 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Central Kootenay Region in 2008. This was 13% lower than the member workload of 70 recorded in 2007. The region's 2008 case load was lower than the provincial case load of 67.
- In 2008, the total population of the region was 59,714; the population served per member was 829.

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, 4,380 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was a 10% decrease from the 4,883 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Central Kootenay recorded a crime rate of 73, lower than the provincial crime rate of 96, and 12% lower than the region's 2007 crime rate of 83 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 518 violent crimes were reported by police, a less than 1% decrease from the 520 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay violent crime rate was 8.7 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 2% decrease from the 2007 rate of 8.9. The region's 2008 violent crime rate was lower 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, 340 common assaults were reported within the region, a 14% rise from the 297 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay common assault rate was 5.7 offences per 1,000 population, a 12% increase from the 2007 rate of 5.1. The region's 2008 common assault rate was lower than the provincial common assault rate of 6.7 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 1,628 property crimes were recorded within the region, a 19% decrease from the 2,016 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay property crime rate was 27 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 21% decrease from the 2007 rate of 34. 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, 104 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 21% decrease from the 131 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay motor vehicle theft rate was 1.7 offences per 1,000 population, a 23% decrease from the 2007 rate of 2.2. 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, 2,234 other crimes were reported within the region, a 5% decrease from the 2,347 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay other crime rate was 37 other crimes per 1,000 population, an 8% drop from the 2007 rate of 40. The region's 2008 other crime rate was lower 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, 472 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 15% increase from the 410 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Kootenay drug crime rate was 7.9 offences per 1,000 population, a 13% increase from the 2007 rate of 7.0. 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 59,714, a 2% increase from the 2007 population of 58,518.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has remained relatively stable decreasing 1%, from 60,291 in 1999 to 59,714 in 2008.



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CENTRAL KOOTENAY REGION DATA TABLES

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	60,291	60,045	60,384	60,233	60,328	59,612	59,628	57,335	58,518	59,714
Police Strength	62	63	63	63	65	65	66	67	70	72
Case Load	82	67	81	84	85	78	81	79	70	61
Population Served Per Member	972	953	958	956	928	917	903	856	836	829
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	598	468	614	575	537	541	545	550	520	518
Crime Rate	9.9	7.8	10.2	9.5	8.9	9.1	9.1	9.6	8.9	8.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,189	1,981	2,329	2,393	2,465	2,090	2,221	1,937	2,016	1,628
Crime Rate	36	33	39	40	41	35	37	34	34	27
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,299	1,782	2,185	2,314	2,498	2,414	2,597	2,823	2,347	2,234
Crime Rate	38	30	36	38	41	40	44	49	40	37
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	5,086	4,231	5,128	5,282	5,500	5,045	5,363	5,310	4,883	4,380
CRIME RATE	84	70	85	88	91	85	90	93	83	73
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	490	374	556	457	565	589	563	492	410	472
Crime Rate	8.1	6.2	9.2	7.6	9.4	9.9	9.4	8.6	7.0	7.9
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	442	358	479	432	408	395	385	351	297	340
Crime Rate	7.3	6.0	7.9	7.2	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.1	5.1	5.7
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	97	94	106	122	143	118	167	134	131	104
Crime Rate	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.8	2.3	2.2	1.7
CITY OF CASTLEGAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	7,285	7,299	7,307	7,253	7,166	7,623	7,622	7,359	7,412	7,579
Police Strength	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12
Case Load	99	93	88	87	91	83	108	110	109	90
Population Served Per Member	729	664	664	659	651	693	693	669	674	632
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	108	93	90	90	79	72	100	106	97	115
Crime Rate	14.8	12.7	12.3	12.4	11.0	9.4	13.1	14.4	13.1	15.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	416	464	441	450	507	455	498	349	471	350
Crime Rate	57	64	60	62	71	60	65	47	64	46
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	470	469	442	421	417	382	593	759	632	617
Crime Rate	65	64	60	58	58	50	78	103	85	81
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	994	1,026	973	961	1,003	909	1,191	1,214	1,200	1,082
CRIME RATE	136	141	133	132	140	119	156	165	162	143
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	55	30	63	55	36	36	72	70	79	79
Crime Rate	7.5	4.1	8.6	7.6	5.0	4.7	9.4	9.5	10.7	10.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	83	69	73	59	57	54	71	58	47	67
Crime Rate	11.4	9.5	10.0	8.1	8.0	7.1	9.3	7.9	6.3	8.8
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	15	14	17	15	33	22	30	24	19	21
Crime Rate	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.1	4.6	2.9	3.9	3.3	2.6	2.8

CENTRAL KOOTENAY REGION DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS CASTLEGAR PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	5,930	5,888	5,793	5,811	5,827	5,649	5,673	5,601	5,710	5,822
Police Strength	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Case Load	74	74	68	69	68	67	65	77	72	62
Population Served Per Member	1,483	1,472	1,448	1,453	1,457	1,412	1,418	1,400	1,428	1,456
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	52	34	40	37	26	26	30	23	31	33
Crime Rate	8.8	5.8	6.9	6.4	4.5	4.6	5.3	4.1	5.4	5.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	115	127	109	107	131	130	98	93	90	86
Crime Rate	19	22	19	18	22	23	17	17	16	15
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	128	135	123	133	114	112	132	192	165	127
Crime Rate	22	23	21	23	20	20	23	34	29	22
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	295	296	272	277	271	268	260	308	286	246
CRIME RATE	50	50	47	48	47	47	46	55	50	42
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	23	15	49	37	38	41	43	44	27	32
Crime Rate	3.9	2.5	8.5	6.4	6.5	7.3	7.6	7.9	4.7	5.5
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	40	27	32	31	23	22	20	15	17	16
Crime Rate	6.7	4.6	5.5	5.3	3.9	3.9	3.5	2.7	3.0	2.7
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	12	9	11	11	7	6	22	16	8	12
Crime Rate	2.0	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.2	1.1	3.9	2.9	1.4	2.1
AREA POLICED AS CRESTON PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	13,543	13,474	13,673	13,665	13,718	13,415	13,464	12,635	12,866	13,238
Police Strength	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	13	13	13
Case Load	130	46	116	108	117	99	96	100	88	71
Population Served Per Member	1,231	1,225	1,243	1,242	1,143	1,118	1,122	972	990	1,018
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	155	53	146	145	123	119	137	158	143	141
Crime Rate	11.4	3.9	10.7	10.6	9.0	8.9	10.2	12.5	11.1	10.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	610	242	600	497	669	483	464	471	458	277
Crime Rate	45	18	44	36	49	36	34	37	36	21
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	670	211	531	551	607	580	555	671	538	510
Crime Rate	49	16	39	40	44	43	41	53	42	39
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,435	506	1,277	1,193	1,399	1,182	1,156	1,300	1,139	928
CRIME RATE	106	38	93	87	102	88	86	103	89	70
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	121	88	131	78	181	166	185	87	69	81
Crime Rate	8.9	6.5	9.6	5.7	13.2	12.4	13.7	6.9	5.4	6.1
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	105	43	109	118	95	82	109	129	83	101
Crime Rate	7.8	3.2	8.0	8.6	6.9	6.1	8.1	10.2	6.5	7.6
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	18	18	25	28	47	48	47	36	26	20
Crime Rate	1.3	1.3	1.8	2.0	3.4	3.6	3.5	2.8	2.0	1.5



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AREA POLICED AS KASLO PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	2,757	2,706	2,683	2,678	2,699	2,658	2,675	2,819	2,947	2,984
Police Strength	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Case Load	42	44	72	39	60	62	93	87	58	33
Population Served Per Member	919	902	894	893	900	886	892	940	982	995
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	14	10	12	16	19	25	19	28	18	12
Crime Rate	5.1	3.7	4.5	6.0	7.0	9.4	7.1	9.9	6.1	4.0
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	52	73	106	56	61	64	117	89	80	42
Crime Rate	19	27	40	21	23	24	44	32	27	14
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	59	48	98	45	100	97	143	144	77	44
Crime Rate	21	18	37	17	37	36	53	51	26	15
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	125	131	216	117	180	186	279	261	175	98
CRIME RATE	45	48	81	44	67	70	104	93	59	33
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	25	16	38	23	40	41	44	60	29	36
Crime Rate	9.1	5.9	14.2	8.6	14.8	15.4	16.4	21.3	9.8	12.1
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	12	9	6	12	10	13	16	15	5	7
Crime Rate	4.4	3.3	2.2	4.5	3.7	4.9	6.0	5.3	1.7	2.3
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	4	5	8	7	4	3	5	5	6	0
Crime Rate	1.5	1.8	3.0	2.6	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.8	2.0	0.0
AREA POLICED AS NAKUSP PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	3,928	3,864	3,811	3,791	3,764	3,666	3,627	3,423	3,449	3,497
Police Strength	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Case Load	96	95	81	76	73	76	60	67	56	57
Population Served Per Member	982	966	953	948	941	917	907	856	862	874
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	47	56	77	49	39	42	25	26	22	20
Crime Rate	12.0	14.5	20.2	12.9	10.4	11.5	6.9	7.6	6.4	5.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	139	186	136	156	103	106	102	81	68	85
Crime Rate	35	48	36	41	27	29	28	24	20	24
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	199	137	112	98	148	154	112	159	132	123
Crime Rate	51	35	29	26	39	42	31	46	38	35
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	385	379	325	303	290	302	239	266	222	228
CRIME RATE	98	98	85	80	77	82	66	78	64	65
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	69	48	69	46	47	40	14	16	16	18
Crime Rate	17.6	12.4	18.1	12.1	12.5	10.9	3.9	4.7	4.6	5.1
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	32	39	61	33	32	31	14	16	9	14
Crime Rate	8.1	10.1	16.0	8.7	8.5	8.5	3.9	4.7	2.6	4.0
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	8	12	2	12	5	6	9	5	5	12
Crime Rate	2.0	3.1	0.5	3.2	1.3	1.6	2.5	1.5	1.4	3.4

CENTRAL KOOTENAY REGION DATA TABLES

CITY OF NELSON	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	9,609	9,555	9,703	9,601	9,699	9,692	9,644	9,326	9,643	9,752
Police Strength	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	20	21
Case Load	60	70	76	93	89	83	79	68	54	51
Population Served Per Member	565	562	571	565	571	570	567	549	482	464
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	92	121	145	129	137	138	92	94	106	74
Crime Rate	9.6	12.7	14.9	13.4	14.1	14.2	9.5	10.1	11.0	7.6
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	525	605	605	828	711	606	641	572	529	518
Crime Rate	55	63	62	86	73	63	66	61	55	53
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	400	466	546	617	663	661	605	495	449	474
Crime Rate	42	49	56	64	68	68	63	53	47	49
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,017	1,192	1,296	1,574	1,511	1,405	1,338	1,161	1,084	1,066
CRIME RATE	106	125	134	164	156	145	139	124	112	109
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	63	77	69	57	60	68	54	61	70	72
Crime Rate	6.6	8.1	7.1	5.9	6.2	7.0	5.6	6.5	7.3	7.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	68	95	119	105	103	107	57	50	69	52
Crime Rate	7.1	9.9	12.3	10.9	10.6	11.0	5.9	5.4	7.2	5.3
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	12	18	29	26	29	18	23	26	26	20
Crime Rate	1.2	1.9	3.0	2.7	3.0	1.9	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.1
AREA POLICED AS NELSON PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	11,823	11,767	12,388	12,427	12,465	12,064	12,106	11,566	11,787	12,013
Police Strength	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8
Case Load	69	59	61	79	75	69	59	53	49	47
Population Served Per Member	1,689	1,681	1,770	1,775	1,781	1,723	1,513	1,446	1,473	1,502
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	81	56	56	60	77	77	87	68	52	74
Crime Rate	6.9	4.8	4.5	4.8	6.2	6.4	7.2	5.9	4.4	6.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	181	168	177	188	172	147	155	151	166	123
Crime Rate	15	14	14	15	14	12	13	13	14	10
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	222	188	197	308	276	260	229	204	171	175
Crime Rate	19	16	16	25	22	22	19	18	15	15
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	484	412	430	556	525	484	471	423	389	372
CRIME RATE	41	35	35	45	42	40	39	37	33	31
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	64	55	92	109	120	143	91	92	67	81
Crime Rate	5.4	4.7	7.4	8.8	9.6	11.9	7.5	8.0	5.7	6.7
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	70	48	46	39	56	53	63	43	37	45
Crime Rate	5.9	4.1	3.7	3.1	4.5	4.4	5.2	3.7	3.1	3.7
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	16	15	5	14	10	11	20	15	16	4
Crime Rate	1.4	1.3	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.7	1.3	1.4	0.3



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AREA POLICED AS SALMO PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	2,746	2,736	2,887	2,887	2,858	2,774	2,761	2,634	2,686	2,738
Police Strength	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Case Load	66	49	59	56	55	53	74	64	76	76
Population Served Per Member	687	684	722	722	715	694	690	659	672	685
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	39	37	36	37	19	22	41	38	40	45
Crime Rate	14.2	13.5	12.5	12.8	6.6	7.9	14.8	14.4	14.9	16.4
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	101	77	110	84	77	70	101	87	121	122
Crime Rate	37	28	38	29	27	25	37	33	45	45
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	123	82	90	101	125	119	154	131	143	135
Crime Rate	45	30	31	35	44	43	56	50	53	49
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	263	196	236	222	221	211	296	256	304	302
CRIME RATE	96	72	82	77	77	76	107	97	113	110
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	32	34	28	37	34	38	33	39	34	42
Crime Rate	11.7	12.4	9.7	12.8	11.9	13.7	12.0	14.8	12.7	15.3
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	25	24	24	26	16	19	26	22	23	35
Crime Rate	9.1	8.8	8.3	9.0	5.6	6.8	9.4	8.4	8.6	12.8
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	7	2	3	8	7	3	6	3	18	15
Crime Rate	2.5	0.7	1.0	2.8	2.4	1.1	2.2	1.1	6.7	5.5
AREA POLICED AS SLOCAN LAKE PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	2,670	2,756	2,139	2,120	2,132	2,071	2,056	1,972	2,018	2,091
Police Strength	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Case Load	44	47	52	40	33	33	44	40	28	19
Population Served Per Member	1,335	1,378	1,070	1,060	711	690	685	657	673	697
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	10	8	12	12	18	20	14	9	11	4
Crime Rate	3.7	2.9	5.6	5.7	8.4	9.7	6.8	4.6	5.5	1.9
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	50	39	45	27	34	29	45	44	33	25
Crime Rate	19	14	21	13	16	14	22	22	16	12
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	28	46	46	40	48	49	74	68	40	29
Crime Rate	10	17	22	19	23	24	36	34	20	14
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	88	93	103	79	100	98	133	121	84	58
CRIME RATE	33	34	48	37	47	47	65	61	42	28
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	38	11	17	15	9	16	27	23	19	31
Crime Rate	14.2	4.0	7.9	7.1	4.2	7.7	13.1	11.7	9.4	14.8
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	7	4	9	9	16	14	9	3	7	3
Crime Rate	2.6	1.5	4.2	4.2	7.5	6.8	4.4	1.5	3.5	1.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	5	1	6	1	1	1	5	4	7	0
Crime Rate	1.9	0.4	2.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.4	2.0	3.5	0.0



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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.