



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

CENTRAL OKANAGAN REGION

REGIONAL POLICING

- Central Okanagan Region is policed by RCMP detachments located in Kelowna and Lake Country. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Kelowna and the District of Lake Country while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the region's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2008, there were 199 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 165 members directly policed the City of Kelowna and the District of Lake Country while 34 were responsible for policing the region's unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 96 Criminal Code offences per member was recorded for Central Okanagan Region in 2008. This was 7% lower than the member workload of 104 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 180,114; the population served per member was 905.

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, 19,197 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was a less than 1% increase from the 19,118 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Central Okanagan recorded a crime rate of 107, higher than the provincial crime rate of 96, but 3% lower than the region's 2007 crime rate of 110 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 2,304 violent crimes were reported by police, an 8% decrease from the 2,508 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan violent crime rate was 12.8 violent crimes per 1,000 population, an 11% decrease from the 2007 rate of 14.4. 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, 1,535 common assaults were reported within the region, a 16% decrease from the 1,835 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan common assault rate was 8.5 offences per 1,000 population, a 19% decrease from the 2007 rate of 10.5. 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, 9,451 property crimes were recorded within the region, a less than 1% decrease from the 9,463 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan property crime rate was 52 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 3% decrease from the 2007 rate of 54. The region's 2008 property crime rate was higher 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, 1,418 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 21% increase from the 1,168 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan motor vehicle theft rate was 7.9 offences per 1,000 population, a 17% increase from the 2007 rate of 6.7. The region's 2008 motor vehicle theft rate was higher than the provincial motor vehicle theft rate of 5.2 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 7,442 other crimes were reported within the region, a 4% increase from the 7,147 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan other crime rate remained stable at 41 other crimes per 1,000 population. 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, 973 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 2% decrease from the 997 reported in 2007. The 2008 Central Okanagan drug crime rate was 5.4 offences per 1,000 population, a 6% decrease from the 2007 rate of 5.7. The region's 2008 drug crime rate was lower 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 180,114, a 3% increase from the 2007 population of 174,052.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region increased annually resulting in a 21% overall increase, from 148,841 in 1999 to 180,114 in 2008.



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CENTRAL OKANAGAN REGION DATA TABLES

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	148,841	150,259	153,348	155,407	158,524	160,132	164,452	167,417	174,052	180,114
Police Strength	153	156	156	156	157	157	172	181	184	199
Case Load	108	99	101	105	119	143	123	106	104	96
Population Served Per Member	973	963	983	996	1,010	1,020	956	925	946	905
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,767	1,526	1,646	1,706	1,971	2,196	2,137	2,076	2,508	2,304
Crime Rate	11.9	10.2	10.7	11.0	12.4	13.7	13.0	12.4	14.4	12.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	9,421	8,893	8,100	8,590	10,795	12,287	11,952	10,535	9,463	9,451
Crime Rate	63	59	53	55	68	77	73	63	54	52
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	5,299	5,091	5,990	6,007	5,886	7,910	7,148	6,603	7,147	7,442
Crime Rate	36	34	39	39	37	49	43	39	41	41
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	16,487	15,510	15,736	16,303	18,652	22,393	21,237	19,214	19,118	19,197
CRIME RATE	111	103	103	105	118	140	129	115	110	107
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	533	664	708	750	965	1,428	1,311	901	997	973
Crime Rate	3.6	4.4	4.6	4.8	6.1	8.9	8.0	5.4	5.7	5.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	1,349	1,154	1,193	1,230	1,397	1,574	1,480	1,444	1,835	1,535
Crime Rate	9.1	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.8	9.8	9.0	8.6	10.5	8.5
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	797	795	821	867	1,075	1,412	1,661	1,250	1,168	1,418
Crime Rate	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.6	6.8	8.8	10.1	7.5	6.7	7.9
CITY OF KELOWNA	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	97,865	99,276	100,495	102,049	104,350	105,182	108,559	110,122	114,502	118,278
Police Strength	118	121	121	121	121	121	131	139	141	154
Case Load	107	100	101	103	119	145	123	108	105	97
Population Served Per Member	829	820	831	843	862	869	829	792	812	768
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,325	1,189	1,240	1,249	1,493	1,685	1,568	1,575	1,903	1,766
Crime Rate	13.5	12.0	12.3	12.2	14.3	16.0	14.4	14.3	16.6	14.9
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	7,319	7,141	6,286	6,573	8,447	9,791	9,147	8,382	7,441	7,356
Crime Rate	75	72	63	64	81	93	84	76	65	62
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	4,030	3,808	4,654	4,594	4,448	6,118	5,416	5,112	5,522	5,855
Crime Rate	41	38	46	45	43	58	50	46	48	50
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	12,674	12,138	12,180	12,416	14,388	17,594	16,131	15,069	14,866	14,977
CRIME RATE	130	122	121	122	138	167	149	137	130	127
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	428	531	542	548	751	1,192	1,118	734	817	794
Crime Rate	4.4	5.3	5.4	5.4	7.2	11.3	10.3	6.7	7.1	6.7
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	1,009	890	881	896	1,047	1,190	1,078	1,061	1,373	1,159
Crime Rate	10.3	9.0	8.8	8.8	10.0	11.3	9.9	9.6	12.0	9.8
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	612	630	608	660	876	1,171	1,267	929	831	1,102
Crime Rate	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.5	8.4	11.1	11.7	8.4	7.3	9.3

CENTRAL OKANAGAN REGION DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS KELOWNA PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	41,355	41,495	43,181	43,734	44,493	45,214	45,998	47,505	49,317	50,785
Police Strength	27	27	27	27	28	28	32	33	33	34
Case Load	119	101	112	120	129	140	131	105	104	101
Population Served Per Member	1,532	1,537	1,599	1,620	1,589	1,615	1,437	1,440	1,494	1,494
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	381	285	342	369	404	438	470	424	510	430
Crime Rate	9.2	6.9	7.9	8.4	9.1	9.7	10.2	8.9	10.3	8.5
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,789	1,460	1,544	1,703	2,034	2,060	2,340	1,828	1,656	1,732
Crime Rate	43	35	36	39	46	46	51	38	34	34
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,044	995	1,142	1,176	1,170	1,408	1,373	1,209	1,264	1,262
Crime Rate	25	24	26	27	26	31	30	25	26	25
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	3,214	2,740	3,028	3,248	3,608	3,906	4,183	3,461	3,430	3,424
CRIME RATE	78	66	70	74	81	86	91	73	70	67
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	80	85	115	159	167	206	146	135	125	143
Crime Rate	1.9	2.0	2.7	3.6	3.8	4.6	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.8
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	288	221	256	270	295	328	336	320	382	295
Crime Rate	7.0	5.3	5.9	6.2	6.6	7.3	7.3	6.7	7.7	5.8
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	165	139	185	171	161	194	325	258	268	239
Crime Rate	4.0	3.3	4.3	3.9	3.6	4.3	7.1	5.4	5.4	4.7
DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTRY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	9,621	9,488	9,672	9,624	9,681	9,736	9,895	9,790	10,233	11,051
Police Strength	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	10	11
Case Load	75	79	66	80	82	112	103	76	82	72
Population Served Per Member	1,203	1,186	1,209	1,203	1,210	1,217	1,099	1,088	1,023	1,005
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	61	52	64	88	74	73	99	77	95	108
Crime Rate	6.3	5.5	6.6	9.1	7.6	7.5	10.0	7.9	9.3	9.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	313	292	270	314	314	436	465	325	366	363
Crime Rate	33	31	28	33	32	45	47	33	36	33
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	225	288	194	237	268	384	359	282	361	325
Crime Rate	23	30	20	25	28	39	36	29	35	29
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	599	632	528	639	656	893	923	684	822	796
CRIME RATE	62	67	55	66	68	92	93	70	80	72
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	25	48	51	43	47	30	47	32	55	36
Crime Rate	2.6	5.1	5.3	4.5	4.9	3.1	4.7	3.3	5.4	3.3
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	52	43	56	64	55	56	66	63	80	81
Crime Rate	5.4	4.5	5.8	6.7	5.7	5.8	6.7	6.4	7.8	7.3
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	20	26	28	36	38	47	69	63	69	77
Crime Rate	2.1	2.7	2.9	3.7	3.9	4.8	7.0	6.4	6.7	7.0



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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.