



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

NORTHERN ROCKIES REGION

REGIONAL POLICING

- Northern Rockies Region is policed by an RCMP detachment located in Fort Nelson. The RCMP Provincial Force polices the entire area encompassing the region.
- In 2008, there were 15 RCMP members assigned to police the region.
- A case load of 68 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Northern Rockies Region in 2008. This was 16% lower than the member workload of 81 recorded in 2007. The region's 2008 case load was comparable to the provincial case load of 67.
- In 2008, the total population of the region was 6,355; the population served per member was 424.

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, 1,026 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was a 15% decrease from the 1,211 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Northern Rockies recorded a crime rate of 161, higher than the provincial crime rate of 96, but 15% lower than the region's 2007 crime rate of 190 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 174 violent crimes were reported by police, a 35% decrease from the 269 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies violent crime rate was 27.4 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 35% decrease from the 2007 rate of 42.2. 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, 97 common assaults were reported within the region, a 50% drop from the 194 reported in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies common assault rate was 15.3 offences per 1,000 population, a 50% decrease from the 2007 rate of 30.4. 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, 322 property crimes were recorded within the region, a 6% increase from the 305 reported in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies property crime rate was 51 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 6% increase from the 2007 rate of 48. The region's 2008 property crime rate was higher than the provincial property crime rate of 45 property offences per 1,000 population.



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

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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, 65 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 23% increase from the 53 reported in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies motor vehicle theft rate was 10.2 offences per 1,000 population, a 23% increase from the 2007 rate of 8.3. 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, 530 other crimes were reported within the region, a 17% decrease from the 637 reported in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies other crime rate was 83 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 17% drop from the 2007 rate of 100. 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, 66 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 45% decrease from the 121 reported in 2007. The 2008 Northern Rockies drug crime rate was 10.4 offences per 1,000 population, a 45% decrease from the 2007 rate of 19.0. 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 6,355, a less than 1% decrease from the 2007 population of 6,377.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has fluctuated but increased 2% overall, from 6,203 in 1999 to 6,355 in 2008.



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

NORTHERN ROCKIES REGION DATA TABLE

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Population	6,203	6,102	5,997	5,990	6,071	6,354	6,469	6,326	6,377	6,355
Police Strength	10	12	12	12	13	13	14	15	15	15
Case Load	111	81	84	96	90	99	89	102	81	68
Population Served Per Member	620	509	500	499	467	489	462	422	425	424
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	226	195	167	231	245	222	251	255	269	174
Crime Rate	36.4	32.0	27.8	38.6	40.4	34.9	38.8	40.3	42.2	27.4
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	290	261	286	360	358	376	364	445	305	322
Crime Rate	47	43	48	60	59	59	56	70	48	51
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	591	521	551	563	570	694	634	833	637	530
Crime Rate	95	85	92	94	94	109	98	132	100	83
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES	1,107	977	1,004	1,154	1,173	1,292	1,249	1,533	1,211	1,026
CRIME RATE	178	160	167	193	193	203	193	242	190	161
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	80	86	104	96	154	183	125	153	121	66
Crime Rate	12.9	14.1	17.3	16.0	25.4	28.8	19.3	24.2	19.0	10.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	158	141	125	167	178	146	194	182	194	97
Crime Rate	25.5	23.1	20.8	27.9	29.3	23.0	30.0	28.8	30.4	15.3
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	36	48	55	81	51	78	61	92	53	65
Crime Rate	5.8	7.9	9.2	13.5	8.4	12.3	9.4	14.5	8.3	10.2

* The region is policed by the RCMP Provincial Force through a detachment located in Fort Nelson. The summary data shown above constitute reporting for the region as well as the policing jurisdiction of Fort Nelson Prov.

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.



REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

DATA QUALIFIERS Cont'd

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.