

## **OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN REGION**

### **REGIONAL POLICING**

- Okanagan Similkameen Region is policed by RCMP detachments located in Keremeos, Osoyoos, Penticton, Princeton, and Summerland. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Penticton and the District of Summerland while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the region's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2008, there were 90 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 54 members directly policed the City of Penticton and the District of Summerland while 36 were responsible for policing the region's unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 89 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Okanagan Similkameen Region in 2008. This was 8% lower than the member workload of 97 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 82,874; the population served per member was 921.

### **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, 8,034 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was an 8% decrease from the 8,709 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Okanagan Similkameen recorded a crime rate of 97, comparable to the provincial crime rate of 96, and 8% lower than the region's 2007 crime rate of 106 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 977 violent crimes were reported by police, a 7% decrease from the 1,052 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen violent crime rate was 11.8 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 9% decrease from the 2007 rate of 12.9. The region's 2008 violent crime rate was slightly 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, 648 common assaults were reported within the region, a 17% drop from the 783 reported in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen common assault rate was 7.8 offences per 1,000 population, a 19% decrease from the 2007 rate of 9.6. 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, 3,216 property crimes were recorded within the region, a 15% decrease from the 3,785 reported in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen property crime rate was 39 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 15% decrease from the 2007 rate of 46. The region's 2008 property crime rate was lower 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, 416 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 32% decrease from the 613 reported in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen motor vehicle theft rate was 5.0 offences per 1,000 population, a 33% decrease from the 2007 rate of 7.5. The region's 2008 motor vehicle theft rate was slightly lower than the provincial motor vehicle theft rate of 5.2 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 3,841 other crimes were reported within the region, a 1% decrease from the 3,872 reported in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen other crime rate was 46 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 2% drop from the 2007 rate of 47. 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, 518 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 6% decrease from the 554 reported in 2007. The 2008 Okanagan Similkameen drug crime rate was 6.3 offences per 1,000 population, a 7% decrease from the 2007 rate of 6.8. The region's 2008 drug crime rate was comparable to 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 82,874, a 1% increase from the 2007 population of 81,824.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has generally increased resulting in a 4% growth overall, from 79,932 in 1999 to 82,874 in 2008.

## OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN REGION DATA TABLES

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	79,932	79,767	80,271	80,632	80,655	81,018	82,107	80,770	81,824	82,874
<b>Police Strength</b>	76	78	79	79	79	81	85	89	90	90
Case Load	109	97	104	110	131	116	114	103	97	89
Population Served Per Member	1,052	1,023	1,016	1,021	1,021	1,000	966	908	909	921
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	800	778	871	881	892	883	932	1,023	1,052	977
Crime Rate	10.0	9.8	10.9	10.9	11.1	10.9	11.4	12.7	12.9	11.8
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	4,333	3,917	4,178	4,285	5,243	4,643	4,804	4,161	3,785	3,216
Crime Rate	54	49	52	53	65	57	59	52	46	39
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	3,150	2,877	3,204	3,559	4,178	3,848	3,969	3,981	3,872	3,841
Crime Rate	39	36	40	44	52	47	48	49	47	46
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>8,283</b>	<b>7,572</b>	<b>8,253</b>	<b>8,725</b>	<b>10,313</b>	<b>9,374</b>	<b>9,705</b>	<b>9,165</b>	<b>8,709</b>	<b>8,034</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	443	402	448	376	495	597	443	571	554	518
Crime Rate	5.5	5.0	5.6	4.7	6.1	7.4	5.4	7.1	6.8	6.3
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	601	558	668	653	619	618	628	753	783	648
Crime Rate	7.5	7.0	8.3	8.1	7.7	7.6	7.6	9.3	9.6	7.8
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	311	277	373	369	412	457	637	726	613	416
Crime Rate	3.9	3.5	4.6	4.6	5.1	5.6	7.8	9.0	7.5	5.0
<b>AREA POLICED AS KEREMEOS PROV</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Population</b>	4,220	4,272	4,483	4,533	4,484	4,573	4,712	4,498	4,541	4,607
<b>Police Strength</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Case Load	92	88	72	74	64	74	71	57	76	75
Population Served Per Member	844	854	897	907	897	915	942	900	908	921
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	48	43	36	44	30	46	46	37	53	44
Crime Rate	11.4	10.1	8.0	9.7	6.7	10.1	9.8	8.2	11.7	9.6
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	200	167	131	134	138	156	136	119	125	132
Crime Rate	47	39	29	30	31	34	29	26	28	29
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	214	229	191	190	150	168	173	131	202	198
Crime Rate	51	54	43	42	33	37	37	29	44	43
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>374</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	36	32	26	42	21	29	12	12	23	23
Crime Rate	8.5	7.5	5.8	9.3	4.7	6.3	2.5	2.7	5.1	5.0
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	42	31	31	33	16	38	39	31	42	24
Crime Rate	10.0	7.3	6.9	7.3	3.6	8.3	8.3	6.9	9.2	5.2
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	9	12	8	3	11	24	15	14	12	12
Crime Rate	2.1	2.8	1.8	0.7	2.5	5.2	3.2	3.1	2.6	2.6

## OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN REGION DATA TABLES

CITY OF PENTICTON	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	<b>32,371</b>	<b>32,318</b>	<b>32,340</b>	<b>32,291</b>	<b>32,434</b>	<b>32,242</b>	<b>32,120</b>	<b>32,544</b>	<b>32,798</b>	<b>32,933</b>
<b>Police Strength</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>
Case Load	129	105	120	129	156	131	124	112	101	95
Population Served Per Member	899	850	851	850	854	806	765	740	729	732
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	433	384	436	472	476	451	491	593	603	513
Crime Rate	13.4	11.9	13.5	14.6	14.7	14.0	15.3	18.2	18.4	15.6
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	2,436	2,105	2,465	2,513	3,201	2,732	2,561	2,181	1,945	1,741
Crime Rate	75	65	76	78	99	85	80	67	59	53
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	1,767	1,494	1,676	1,915	2,267	2,052	2,143	2,161	1,985	2,023
Crime Rate	55	46	52	59	70	64	67	66	61	61
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>4,636</b>	<b>3,983</b>	<b>4,577</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>5,944</b>	<b>5,235</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>4,935</b>	<b>4,533</b>	<b>4,277</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	179	155	184	138	207	264	188	235	258	224
Crime Rate	5.5	4.8	5.7	4.3	6.4	8.2	5.9	7.2	7.9	6.8
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	313	273	344	345	316	301	308	434	455	351
Crime Rate	9.7	8.4	10.6	10.7	9.7	9.3	9.6	13.3	13.9	10.7
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	186	147	186	197	230	252	333	395	345	224
Crime Rate	5.7	4.5	5.8	6.1	7.1	7.8	10.4	12.1	10.5	6.8
<b>AREA POLICED AS PENTICTON PROV</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Population</b>	<b>10,528</b>	<b>10,520</b>	<b>11,384</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>11,296</b>	<b>11,624</b>	<b>12,016</b>	<b>8,832</b>	<b>9,075</b>	<b>9,269</b>
<b>Police Strength</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Case Load	97	98	89	94	129	120	132	132	124	107
Population Served Per Member	1,755	1,753	1,897	1,915	1,883	1,937	2,003	1,472	1,513	1,545
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	61	75	69	61	66	68	82	101	86	84
Crime Rate	5.8	7.1	6.1	5.3	5.8	5.8	6.8	11.4	9.5	9.1
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	330	317	286	289	424	385	429	373	361	294
Crime Rate	31	30	25	25	38	33	36	42	40	32
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	189	197	176	211	285	264	282	318	294	261
Crime Rate	18	19	15	18	25	23	23	36	32	28
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>639</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	33	38	32	17	37	27	34	42	43	41
Crime Rate	3.1	3.6	2.8	1.5	3.3	2.3	2.8	4.8	4.7	4.4
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	49	49	43	50	51	47	53	71	72	65
Crime Rate	4.7	4.7	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.4	8.0	7.9	7.0
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	18	41	42	37	35	47	62	82	74	40
Crime Rate	1.7	3.9	3.7	3.2	3.1	4.0	5.2	9.3	8.2	4.3

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AREA POLICED AS PRINCETON PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	5,725	5,739	5,304	5,370	5,362	5,399	5,509	5,309	5,394	5,367
<b>Police Strength</b>	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Case Load	85	87	92	75	84	82	87	62	77	68
Population Served Per Member	818	820	758	767	766	771	787	758	771	767
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	72	70	82	63	67	81	83	56	48	57
Crime Rate	12.6	12.2	15.5	11.7	12.5	15.0	15.1	10.5	8.9	10.6
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	276	266	284	222	261	235	260	197	248	175
Crime Rate	48	46	54	41	49	44	47	37	46	33
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	247	272	277	241	260	260	266	183	240	241
Crime Rate	43	47	52	45	48	48	48	34	44	45
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>473</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	12	22	40	56	82	122	121	88	62	47
Crime Rate	2.1	3.8	7.5	10.4	15.3	22.6	22.0	16.6	11.5	8.8
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	49	53	65	47	54	57	68	45	38	27
Crime Rate	8.6	9.2	12.3	8.8	10.1	10.6	12.3	8.5	7.0	5.0
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	20	5	26	13	23	18	20	12	27	14
Crime Rate	3.5	0.9	4.9	2.4	4.3	3.3	3.6	2.3	5.0	2.6
<b>AREA POLICED AS SOUTH OKANAGAN PROV</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Population</b>	16,018	15,817	15,579	15,739	15,777	15,939	16,400	18,676	19,138	19,588
<b>Police Strength</b>	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	18	18	18
Case Load	93	94	103	109	119	108	126	111	98	92
Population Served Per Member	1,068	1,054	1,039	1,049	1,052	1,063	1,025	1,038	1,063	1,088
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	117	151	172	167	189	158	154	156	166	194
Crime Rate	7.3	9.5	11.0	10.6	12.0	9.9	9.4	8.4	8.7	9.9
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	744	711	761	782	773	796	1,131	988	776	628
Crime Rate	46	45	49	50	49	50	69	53	41	32
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	538	555	605	682	818	673	725	851	823	841
Crime Rate	34	35	39	43	52	42	44	46	43	43
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>1,631</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>1,995</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>1,663</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	171	140	128	95	105	99	54	118	117	130
Crime Rate	10.7	8.9	8.2	6.0	6.7	6.2	3.3	6.3	6.1	6.6
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	85	109	127	125	134	119	106	115	119	118
Crime Rate	5.3	6.9	8.2	7.9	8.5	7.5	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.0
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	61	34	93	84	71	93	180	172	119	82
Crime Rate	3.8	2.1	6.0	5.3	4.5	5.8	11.0	9.2	6.2	4.2

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DISTRICT OF SUMMERLAND	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	11,070	11,101	11,181	11,209	11,302	11,241	11,350	10,911	10,878	11,110
<b>Police Strength</b>	7	7	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9
Case Load	87	77	76	92	114	106	83	80	84	68
Population Served Per Member	1,581	1,586	1,398	1,401	1,413	1,405	1,261	1,212	1,209	1,234
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	69	55	76	74	64	79	76	80	96	85
Crime Rate	6.2	5.0	6.8	6.6	5.7	7.0	6.7	7.3	8.8	7.7
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	347	351	251	345	446	339	287	303	330	246
Crime Rate	31	32	22	31	39	30	25	28	30	22
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	195	130	279	320	398	431	380	337	328	277
Crime Rate	18	12	25	29	35	38	33	31	30	25
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>608</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	12	15	38	28	43	56	34	76	51	53
Crime Rate	1.1	1.4	3.4	2.5	3.8	5.0	3.0	7.0	4.7	4.8
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	63	43	58	53	48	56	54	57	57	63
Crime Rate	5.7	3.9	5.2	4.7	4.2	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.7
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	17	38	18	35	42	23	27	51	36	44
Crime Rate	1.5	3.4	1.6	3.1	3.7	2.0	2.4	4.7	3.3	4.0

### ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Drug crimes include heroin, cocaine, cannabis and other CDSA drug offences. These data are not included in Total Criminal Code offences.
- <sup>2</sup> 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

- Police strengths represent an areas authorized police strength as of December 31st of each calendar year as submitted annually to Police Services Division.
- 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.
- 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.