



# REGIONAL PROFILE 2008

## **POWELL RIVER REGION**

### **REGIONAL POLICING**

- Powell River Region is policed by RCMP detachments located in Gillies Bay and Powell River. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Powell River while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the region's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2008, there were 25 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 18 members directly policed the City of Powell River while 7 were responsible for policing the region's unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 71 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Powell River Region in 2008. This was comparable to the member workload 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 19,857; the population served per member was 794.

### **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, 1,773 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the region. This was a less than 1% decrease from the 1,780 recorded in 2007.
- In 2008, Powell River recorded a crime rate of 89, lower than the provincial crime rate of 96, and 2% lower than the region's 2007 crime rate of 91 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2008, 231 violent crimes were reported by police, a 5% decrease from the 244 recorded in 2007. The 2008 Powell River violent crime rate was 11.6 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 7% decrease from the 2007 rate of 12.5. 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, 176 common assaults were reported within the region, a 5% drop from the 186 reported in 2007. The 2008 Powell River common assault rate was 8.9 offences per 1,000 population, a 6% decrease from the 2007 rate of 9.5. 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, 589 property crimes were recorded within the region, a 16% decrease from the 702 reported in 2007. The 2008 Powell River property crime rate was 30 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 17% decrease from the 2007 rate of 36. 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, 43 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the region, a 48% increase from the 29 reported in 2007. The 2008 Powell River motor vehicle theft rate was 2.2 offences per 1,000 population, a 47% increase from the 2007 rate of 1.5. 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, 953 other crimes were reported within the region, a 14% increase from the 834 reported in 2007. The 2008 Powell River other crime rate was 48 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 12% rise from the 2007 rate of 43. 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, 142 drug crimes were reported within the region, a 23% increase from the 115 reported in 2007. The 2008 Powell River drug crime rate was 7.2 offences per 1,000 population, a 22% increase from the 2007 rate of 5.9. 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 19,857, a 1% increase from the 2007 population of 19,578.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has decreased 2% overall, from 20,312 in 1999 to 19,857 in 2008.



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## POWELL RIVER REGION DATA TABLES

REGION SUMMARY	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	20,312	20,130	20,378	20,264	20,179	20,165	20,225	19,452	19,578	19,857
<b>Police Strength</b>	24	24	24	24	24	24	25	25	25	25
Case Load	88	96	101	106	108	94	84	82	71	71
Population Served Per Member	846	839	849	844	841	840	809	778	783	794
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	231	260	278	285	250	253	245	249	244	231
Crime Rate	11.4	12.9	13.6	14.1	12.4	12.5	12.1	12.8	12.5	11.6
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	1,051	1,112	1,148	1,229	1,174	995	933	799	702	589
Crime Rate	52	55	56	61	58	49	46	41	36	30
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	840	929	1,002	1,028	1,167	1,003	927	1,002	834	953
Crime Rate	41	46	49	51	58	50	46	52	43	48
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>2,301</b>	<b>2,428</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>2,591</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,105</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>1,773</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	240	174	173	211	266	200	243	212	115	142
Crime Rate	11.8	8.6	8.5	10.4	13.2	9.9	12.0	10.9	5.9	7.2
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	177	179	207	214	199	190	164	188	186	176
Crime Rate	8.7	8.9	10.2	10.6	9.9	9.4	8.1	9.7	9.5	8.9
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	64	40	68	71	56	31	48	46	29	43
Crime Rate	3.2	2.0	3.3	3.5	2.8	1.5	2.4	2.4	1.5	2.2
<b>CITY OF POWELL RIVER</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>	13,667	13,558	13,550	13,472	13,420	13,464	13,499	13,027	13,134	13,243
<b>Police Strength</b>	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Case Load	87	95	98	104	108	95	87	83	76	77
Population Served Per Member	759	753	753	748	746	748	750	724	730	736
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	156	187	199	220	191	172	167	163	172	170
Crime Rate	11.4	13.8	14.7	16.3	14.2	12.8	12.4	12.5	13.1	12.8
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	793	854	824	896	876	778	738	623	565	478
Crime Rate	58	63	61	67	65	58	55	48	43	36
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	610	667	735	760	868	760	661	707	635	736
Crime Rate	45	49	54	56	65	56	49	54	48	56
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>1,758</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>1,710</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>1,384</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	86	68	81	102	130	124	137	123	63	82
Crime Rate	6.3	5.0	6.0	7.6	9.7	9.2	10.1	9.4	4.8	6.2
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	119	127	155	165	154	134	108	128	130	125
Crime Rate	8.7	9.4	11.4	12.2	11.5	10.0	8.0	9.8	9.9	9.4
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	44	22	41	40	27	18	26	34	22	29
Crime Rate	3.2	1.6	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.3	1.9	2.6	1.7	2.2

## POWELL RIVER REGION DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS POWELL RIVER PROV	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Population</b>	5,512	5,464	5,655	5,625	5,596	5,548	5,568	5,320	5,335	5,476
<b>Police Strength</b>	4	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	5	5
Case Load	116	128	142	152	137	94	81	81	72	65
Population Served Per Member	1,378	1,366	1,414	1,406	1,399	1,110	928	887	1,067	1,095
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	65	62	66	61	53	71	68	82	72	50
Crime Rate	11.8	11.3	11.7	10.8	9.5	12.8	12.2	15.4	13.5	9.1
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	222	235	267	308	255	187	177	152	124	87
Crime Rate	40	43	47	55	46	34	32	29	23	16
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	177	213	233	238	238	212	242	252	164	188
Crime Rate	32	39	41	42	43	38	43	47	31	34
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>325</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	25	39	35	33	70	38	51	53	26	33
Crime Rate	4.5	7.1	6.2	5.9	12.5	6.8	9.2	10.0	4.9	6.0
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	50	44	47	48	41	49	47	57	56	44
Crime Rate	9.1	8.1	8.3	8.5	7.3	8.8	8.4	10.7	10.5	8.0
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	19	17	25	31	28	11	21	11	7	13
Crime Rate	3.4	3.1	4.4	5.5	5.0	2.0	3.8	2.1	1.3	2.4
<b>AREA POLICED AS TEXADA ISLAND 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>	1,133	1,108	1,173	1,167	1,163	1,153	1,158	1,105	1,109	1,138
<b>Police Strength</b>	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2
Case Load	50	42	52	30	55	71	52	71	24	32
Population Served Per Member	567	554	587	584	582	1,153	1,158	1,105	555	569
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	10	11	13	4	6	10	10	4	0	11
Crime Rate	8.8	9.9	11.1	3.4	5.2	8.7	8.6	3.6	0.0	9.7
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	36	23	57	25	43	30	18	24	13	24
Crime Rate	32	21	49	21	37	26	16	22	12	21
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	53	49	34	30	61	31	24	43	35	29
Crime Rate	47	44	29	26	52	27	21	39	32	25
<b>TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE OFFENCES</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>CRIME RATE</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	129	67	57	76	66	38	55	36	26	27
Crime Rate	113.9	60.5	48.6	65.1	56.7	33.0	47.5	32.6	23.4	23.7
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	8	8	5	1	4	7	9	3	0	7
Crime Rate	7.1	7.2	4.3	0.9	3.4	6.1	7.8	2.7	0.0	6.2
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	1	1	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	1
Crime Rate	0.9	0.9	1.7	0.0	0.9	1.7	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.9



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## **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**

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.