

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT

REGIONAL POLICING

- Bulkley Nechako Regional District is policed by RCMP detachments located in Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Fraser Lake, Granisle, Houston, Smithers, Takla Landing and Vanderhoof. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the City of Smithers while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the regional district's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2007, there were 64 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 9 members directly policed the City of Smithers while 55 were responsible for policing the regional district's rural or unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 100 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Bulkley Nechako Regional District in 2007. This was 6% less than the member workload of 106 recorded in 2006. The region's 2007 case load was higher than the provincial case load of 72.
- In 2007, the total population of the regional district was 40,605; the population served per member was 634.

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 2007, 6,396 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the regional district. This was a 6% drop (-380 offences) from the 6,776 recorded in 2006.
- In 2007, Bulkley Nechako recorded a crime rate of 158, higher than the provincial crime rate of 104, but 4% less than the region's 2006 crime rate of 165 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 1,058 violent crimes were reported by the RCMP, a 7% increase (+66 offences) from the 992 recorded in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako violent crime rate was 26.1 violent crimes per 1,000 population, an 8% increase from the 2006 rate of 24.2. The region's 2007 violent crime rate was higher than the provincial violent crime rate of 12 violent offences per 1,000 population.
- The volume of Level 1 Assaults (common assault) is the major driver of the violent crime rate. In 2007, 750 common assaults were reported by within the regional district, a 2% increase (+17 offences) from the 733 reported in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako common assault rate was 18.5 offences per 1,000 population, a 3% increase from the 2006 rate of 17.9. The region's 2007 common assault rate was higher than the provincial common assault rate of 7.1 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 1,339 property crimes were recorded within the regional district, a 13% decrease (-201 offences) from the 1,540 reported in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako property crime rate was 33 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 13% decrease from the 2006 rate of 38. The region's 2007 property crime rate was lower than the provincial property crime rate of 52 property offences per 1,000 population.

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT

REGIONAL CRIME TRENDS Cont'd

- Motor vehicle theft includes the theft or attempted theft of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles and other motorized vehicles. In 2007, 133 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the regional district, a 1% decrease (-2 offences) from the 135 reported in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako motor vehicle theft rate remained stable with 3.3 offences per 1,000 population. The region's 2007 motor vehicle theft rate was lower than the provincial motor vehicle theft rate of 6.2 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 3,999 other crimes were reported within the regional district, a 6% decline (-245 offences) from the 4,244 reported in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako other crime rate was 98 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 5% drop from the 2006 rate of 103. The region's 2007 other crime rate was higher than the provincial other crime rate of 41 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 2007, 531 drug crimes were reported within the regional district, a 9% decrease (-52 offences) from the 583 reported in 2006. The 2007 Bulkley Nechako drug crime rate was 13.1 offences per 1,000 population, an 8% decline from the 2006 rate of 14.2. The region's 2007 drug crime rate was higher than the provincial drug crime rate of 6.5 offences per 1,000 population.

REGIONAL POPULATION

- In 2007, Census results indicated that the population for the regional district was 40,605, a 1% decrease from the 2006 population of 41,032.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region generally declined resulting in an 8% decrease overall, from 44,286 in 1998 to 40,605 in 2007.

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

REGIONAL DISTRICT SUMMARY	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	44,286	43,846	43,639	43,282	42,535	41,753	42,158	41,528	41,032	40,605
Police Strength	55	55	56	56	56	57	57	62	64	64
Case Load	99	99	100	103	112	115	121	118	106	100
Population Served Per Member	805	797	779	773	760	733	740	670	641	634
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,022	952	1,144	1,033	1,002	925	949	965	992	1,058
Crime Rate	23.1	21.7	26.2	23.9	23.6	22.2	22.5	23.2	24.2	26.1
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,121	2,054	1,743	1,937	2,154	2,137	1,889	1,841	1,540	1,339
Crime Rate	47.9	47	40	45	51	51	45	44	38	33
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	2,283	2,461	2,702	2,808	3,134	3,510	4,056	4,510	4,244	3,999
Crime Rate	52	56	62	65	74	84	96	109	103	98
Total Criminal Code Offences	5,426	5,467	5,589	5,778	6,290	6,572	6,894	7,316	6,776	6,396
Crime Rate	123	125	128	133	148	157	164	176	165	158
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	172	239	323	293	281	328	461	500	583	531
Crime Rate	3.9	5.5	7.4	6.8	6.6	7.9	10.9	12	14.2	13.1
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	724	704	872	775	758	697	724	687	733	750
Crime Rate	16.3	16.1	20	17.9	17.8	16.7	17.2	16.5	17.9	18.5
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	167	111	103	135	172	142	139	156	135	133
Crime Rate	3.8	2.5	2.4	3.1	4	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.3
AREA POLICED AS BURNS LAKE PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	6,433	6,434	6,428	7,354	7,316	7,272	7,381	7,378	7,324	7,280
Police Strength	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	11	11
Case Load	119	144	143	140	163	149	197	177	156	132
Population Served Per Member	804	804	804	919	915	909	923	738	666	662
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	184	180	200	240	211	192	219	180	214	181
Crime Rate	28.6	28	31.1	32.6	28.8	26.4	29.7	24.4	29.2	24.9
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	308	341	281	248	348	335	350	268	223	228
Crime Rate	47.9	53	44	34	48	46	47	36	30	31
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	456	633	663	634	747	662	1,003	1,319	1,274	1,048
Crime Rate	71	98	103	86	102	91	136	179	174	144
Total Criminal Code Offences	948	1,154	1,144	1,122	1,306	1,189	1,572	1,767	1,711	1,457
Crime Rate	147	179	178	153	179	164	213	239	234	200
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	11	12	61	39	53	59	84	143	228	196
Crime Rate	1.7	1.9	9.5	5.3	7.2	8.1	11.4	19.4	31.1	26.9
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	144	136	163	186	171	158	167	131	148	143
Crime Rate	22.4	21.1	25.4	25.3	23.4	21.7	22.6	17.8	20.2	19.6
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	20	18	15	7	43	28	29	22	17	15
Crime Rate	3.1	2.8	2.3	1	5.9	3.9	3.9	3	2.3	2.1

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS FORT ST. JAMES PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	5,466	5,428	5,150	4,754	4,590	4,447	4,384	4,265	4,089	4,069
Police Strength	10	10	10	10	10	11	11	13	14	14
Case Load	103	100	93	111	116	111	120	113	106	91
Population Served Per Member	547	543	515	475	459	404	399	328	292	291
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	224	217	252	219	237	201	216	268	263	278
Crime Rate	41	40	48.9	46.1	51.6	45.2	49.3	62.8	64.3	68.3
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	435	458	311	332	355	358	333	400	338	246
Crime Rate	79.6	84	60	70	77	81	76	94	83	60
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	367	329	363	561	568	658	773	798	876	746
Crime Rate	67	61	70	118	124	148	176	187	214	183
Total Criminal Code Offences	1,026	1,004	926	1,112	1,160	1,217	1,322	1,466	1,477	1,270
Crime Rate	188	185	180	234	253	274	302	344	361	312
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	13	19	18	32	28	40	85	80	67	77
Crime Rate	2.4	3.5	3.5	6.7	6.1	9	19.4	18.8	16.4	18.9
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	169	161	179	157	167	147	160	184	203	184
Crime Rate	30.9	29.7	34.8	33	36.4	33.1	36.5	43.1	49.6	45.2
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	31	20	29	30	22	31	18	43	17	17
Crime Rate	5.7	3.7	5.6	6.3	4.8	7	4.1	10.1	4.2	4.2
AREA POLICED AS FRASER LAKE PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	3,824	3,725	3,710	3,551	3,479	3,379	3,451	3,401	3,318	3,300
Police Strength	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Case Load	74	74	50	78	74	50	49	58	47	28
Population Served Per Member	765	745	742	710	696	676	690	680	664	660
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	84	69	61	64	72	40	39	63	60	54
Crime Rate	22	18.5	16.4	18	20.7	11.8	11.3	18.5	18.1	16.4
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	146	161	109	168	141	108	97	71	53	32
Crime Rate	38.2	43	29	47	41	32	28	21	16	10
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	141	140	78	159	158	103	111	155	124	54
Crime Rate	37	38	21	45	45	30	32	46	37	16
Total Criminal Code Offences	371	370	248	391	371	251	247	289	237	140
Crime Rate	97	99	67	110	107	74	72	85	71	42
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	7	7	5	5	31	19	40	28	29	6
Crime Rate	1.8	1.9	1.3	1.4	8.9	5.6	11.6	8.2	8.7	1.8
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	63	52	50	53	65	32	32	47	46	33
Crime Rate	16.5	14	13.5	14.9	18.7	9.5	9.3	13.8	13.9	10
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	6	12	4	9	20	11	8	5	5	5
Crime Rate	1.6	3.2	1.1	2.5	5.7	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.5	1.5

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS GRANISLE PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	651	622	584	603	604	594	615	607	608	616
Police Strength	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3
Case Load	64	47	93	94	61	58	50	46	58	34
Population Served Per Member	326	311	292	302	302	297	308	202	203	205
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	35	25	34	32	32	21	23	14	31	13
Crime Rate	53.8	40.2	58.2	53.1	53	35.4	37.4	23.1	51	21.1
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	38	33	45	45	41	29	24	37	21	12
Crime Rate	58.4	53	77	75	68	49	39	61	35	19
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	55	36	107	110	48	65	53	88	122	77
Crime Rate	84	58	183	182	79	109	86	145	201	125
Total Criminal Code Offences	128	94	186	187	121	115	100	139	174	102
Crime Rate	197	151	318	310	200	194	163	229	286	166
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	13	7	36	43	30	12	12	9	6	7
Crime Rate	20	11.3	61.6	71.3	49.7	20.2	19.5	14.8	9.9	11.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	17	10	17	15	17	17	19	10	21	11
Crime Rate	26.1	16.1	29.1	24.9	28.1	28.6	30.9	16.5	34.5	17.9
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1
Crime Rate	1.5	0	1.7	3.3	1.7	1.7	3.3	3.3	3.3	1.6
AREA POLICED AS HOUSTON PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	5,891	5,711	5,648	5,114	4,884	4,761	4,933	4,721	4,676	4,514
Police Strength	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Case Load	60	79	67	64	57	65	60	85	60	76
Population Served Per Member	982	952	941	852	814	794	822	787	779	752
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	57	63	67	57	50	58	49	59	44	71
Crime Rate	9.7	11	11.9	11.1	10.2	12.2	9.9	12.5	9.4	15.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	153	186	146	174	107	134	104	127	81	85
Crime Rate	26	33	26	34	22	28	21	27	17	19
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	147	223	190	155	186	198	207	325	234	298
Crime Rate	25	39	34	30	38	42	42	69	50	66
Total Criminal Code Offences	357	472	403	386	343	390	360	511	359	454
Crime Rate	61	83	71	75	70	82	73	108	77	101
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	10	29	31	26	31	34	34	36	36	37
Crime Rate	1.7	5.1	5.5	5.1	6.3	7.1	6.9	7.6	7.7	8.2
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	43	51	57	41	38	41	33	42	31	47
Crime Rate	7.3	8.9	10.1	8	7.8	8.6	6.7	8.9	6.6	10.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	16	10	5	13	7	10	12	8	3	13
Crime Rate	2.7	1.8	0.9	2.5	1.4	2.1	2.4	1.7	0.6	2.9

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

CITY OF SMITHERS	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	5,835	5,766	5,738	5,651	5,658	5,556	5,602	5,444	5,504	5,426
Police Strength	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Case Load	134	117	137	126	162	180	174	184	146	147
Population Served Per Member	648	641	638	628	629	617	622	605	612	603
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	160	138	202	150	148	152	143	157	137	151
Crime Rate	27.4	23.9	35.2	26.5	26.2	27.4	25.5	28.8	24.9	27.8
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	511	376	396	418	589	620	505	520	395	363
Crime Rate	87.6	65	69	74	104	112	90	96	72	67
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	539	535	632	569	719	847	918	983	781	809
Crime Rate	92	93	110	101	127	152	164	181	142	149
Total Criminal Code Offences	1,210	1,049	1,230	1,137	1,456	1,619	1,566	1,660	1,313	1,323
Crime Rate	207	182	214	201	257	291	280	305	239	244
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	53	90	96	86	65	93	127	125	119	112
Crime Rate	9.1	15.6	16.7	15.2	11.5	16.7	22.7	23	21.6	20.6
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	102	109	158	113	113	110	106	128	101	115
Crime Rate	17.5	18.9	27.5	20	20	19.8	18.9	23.5	18.4	21.2
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	48	14	17	26	35	23	19	34	22	18
Crime Rate	8.2	2.4	3	4.6	6.2	4.1	3.4	6.2	4	3.3
AREA POLICED AS SMITHERS PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	7,419	7,413	7,339	7,648	7,544	7,458	7,487	7,461	7,353	7,291
Police Strength	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Case Load	88	80	93	76	82	110	97	92	75	73
Population Served Per Member	1,237	1,236	1,223	1,275	1,257	1,243	1,248	1,244	1,226	1,215
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	139	115	130	88	96	88	72	93	80	102
Crime Rate	18.7	15.5	17.7	11.5	12.7	11.8	9.6	12.5	10.9	14
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	162	118	151	152	128	196	143	146	110	83
Crime Rate	21.8	16	21	20	17	26	19	20	15	11
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	229	246	275	215	265	377	367	312	262	254
Crime Rate	31	33	37	28	35	51	49	42	36	35
Total Criminal Code Offences	530	479	556	455	489	661	582	551	452	439
Crime Rate	71	65	76	59	65	89	78	74	61	60
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	22	32	43	16	21	31	30	33	27	35
Crime Rate	3	4.3	5.9	2.1	2.8	4.2	4	4.4	3.7	4.8
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	86	79	106	64	72	67	63	56	58	83
Crime Rate	11.6	10.7	14.4	8.4	9.5	9	8.4	7.5	7.9	11.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	20	12	7	19	9	6	21	22	25	16
Crime Rate	2.7	1.6	1	2.5	1.2	0.8	2.8	2.9	3.4	2.2

BULKLEY NECHAKO REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS TAKLA LANDING PROV*	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	—	—	302	144	142	140	141	141	138	137
Police Strength	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Case Load	—	—	100	100	124	191	162	109	106	97
Population Served Per Member	—	—	302	144	142	140	141	141	138	137
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	11	18	19	37	37	23	26	15
Crime Rate	—	—	36.4	125	133.8	264.3	262.4	163.1	188.4	109.5
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	30	30	46	43	29	25	19	14
Crime Rate	—	—	99	208	324	307	206	177	138	102
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	—	—	59	52	59	111	96	61	61	68
Crime Rate	—	—	195	361	415	793	681	433	442	496
Total Criminal Code Offences	—	—	100	100	124	191	162	109	106	97
Crime Rate	—	—	331	694	873	1364	1149	773	768	708
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	—	—	0	1	1	11	1	3	2	1
Crime Rate	—	—	0	6.9	7	78.6	7.1	21.3	14.5	7.3
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	—	—	8	14	10	18	21	15	15	7
Crime Rate	—	—	26.5	97.2	70.4	128.6	148.9	106.4	108.7	51.1
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	—	—	2	1	3	5	1	1	0	2
Crime Rate	—	—	6.6	6.9	21.1	35.7	7.1	7.1	0	14.6

* Detachment opened in 2000

AREA POLICED AS VANDERHOOF PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	8,767	8,747	8,740	8,463	8,318	8,146	8,164	8,110	8,022	7,972
Police Strength	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Case Load	95	94	88	99	102	104	109	92	105	124
Population Served Per Member	974	972	971	940	924	905	907	901	891	886
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	139	145	187	165	137	136	151	108	137	193
Crime Rate	15.9	16.6	21.4	19.5	16.5	16.7	18.5	13.3	17.1	24.2
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	368	381	274	370	399	314	304	247	300	276
Crime Rate	42	44	31	44	48	39	37	30	37	35
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	349	319	335	353	384	489	528	469	510	645
Crime Rate	40	36	38	42	46	60	65	58	64	81
Total Criminal Code Offences	856	845	796	888	920	939	983	824	947	1,114
Crime Rate	98	97	91	105	111	115	120	102	118	140
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	43	43	33	45	21	29	48	43	69	60
Crime Rate	4.9	4.9	3.8	5.3	2.5	3.6	5.9	5.3	8.6	7.5
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	100	106	134	132	105	107	123	74	110	127
Crime Rate	11.4	12.1	15.3	15.6	12.6	13.1	15.1	9.1	13.7	15.9
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	25	25	23	28	32	27	29	19	44	46
Crime Rate	2.9	2.9	2.6	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.6	2.3	5.5	5.8



REGIONAL PROFILE 2007

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 12, 2008.