

## **NORTHERN ROCKIES REGIONAL DISTRICT**

### **REGIONAL POLICING**

- Northern Rockies Regional District is policed by an RCMP detachment located in Fort Nelson. The RCMP Provincial Force polices the entire area encompassing the regional district.
- In 2007, there were 15 RCMP members assigned to police the region.
- A case load of 81 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Northern Rockies Regional District in 2007. This was 21% lower than the member workload of 102 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 6,341; the population served per member was 423.

### **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, 1,212 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the regional district. This was a 21% decrease (-313 offences) from the 1,525 recorded in 2006.
- In 2007, Northern Rockies recorded a crime rate of 191, higher than the provincial crime rate of 104, and 19% lower than the region's 2006 crime rate of 235 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 271 violent crimes were reported by police, a 6% increase (+16 offences) from the 255 recorded in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies violent crime rate was 42.7 violent crimes per 1,000 population, an 8% increase from the 2006 rate of 39.4. 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, 194 common assaults were reported by within the regional district, a 7% rise (+12 offences) from the 182 reported in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies common assault rate was 30.6 offences per 1,000 population, a 9% increase from the 2006 rate of 28.1. 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, 304 property crimes were recorded within the regional district, a 32% decrease (-141 offences) from the 445 reported in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies property crime rate was 48 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 30% decrease from the 2006 rate of 69. The region's 2007 property crime rate was lower than the provincial property crime rate of 52 property offences per 1,000 population.



# REGIONAL PROFILE 2007

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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 2007, 53 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the regional district, a 42% decrease (-39 offences) from the 92 reported in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies motor vehicle theft rate was 8.4 offences per 1,000 population, a 41% decrease from the 2006 rate of 14.2. The region's 2007 motor vehicle theft rate was higher than the provincial motor vehicle theft rate of 6.2 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 637 other crimes were reported within the regional district, a 23% decrease (-188 offences) from the 825 reported in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies other crime rate was 100 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 21% drop from the 2006 rate of 127. 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, 121 drug crimes were reported within the regional district, a 21% decrease (-32 offences) from the 153 reported in 2006. The 2007 Northern Rockies drug crime rate was 19.1 offences per 1,000 population, a 19% decrease from the 2006 rate of 23.6. 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 6,341, a 2% decrease from the 2006 population of 6,476.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has fluctuated but increased 1% overall, from 6,262 in 1998 to 6,341 in 2007.

## NORTHERN ROCKIES REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLE

REGIONAL DISTRICT SUMMARY*	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Population</b>	6,262	6,203	6,102	5,997	5,990	6,071	6,354	6,469	6,476	6,341
<b>Police Strength</b>	10	10	12	12	12	13	13	14	15	15
Case Load	134	110	80	83	95	90	100	89	102	81
Population Served Per Member	626	620	509	500	499	467	489	462	432	423
<b>Violent Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	246	226	195	167	231	245	222	251	255	271
Crime Rate	39.3	36.4	32.0	27.8	38.6	40.4	34.9	38.8	39.4	42.7
<b>Property Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	452	290	261	286	360	358	376	364	445	304
Crime Rate	72	47	43	48	60	59	59	56	69	48
<b>Other Crimes</b>										
Number of Offences	642	579	509	540	551	561	699	629	825	637
Crime Rate	103	93	83	90	92	92	110	97	127	100
<b>Total Criminal Code Offences</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>1,212</b>
<b>Crime Rate</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Drug Crimes<sup>1</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	89	80	86	104	96	154	183	125	153	121
Crime Rate	14.2	12.9	14.1	17.3	16.0	25.4	28.8	19.3	23.6	19.1
<b>Assault: Level 1</b>										
Number of Offences	170	158	141	125	167	178	146	194	182	194
Crime Rate	27.1	25.5	23.1	20.8	27.9	29.3	23.0	30.0	28.1	30.6
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>2</sup></b>										
Number of Offences	58	36	48	55	81	51	78	61	92	53
Crime Rate	9.3	5.8	7.9	9.2	13.5	8.4	12.3	9.4	14.2	8.4

\* The regional district is policed by the RCMP Provincial Force through a detachment located in Fort Nelson. The summary data shown above constitute reporting for the regional district 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 2007

## **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.

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