

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

REGIONAL POLICING

- Sunshine Coast Regional District is policed by an integrated RCMP detachment located in Sechelt. The RCMP provides municipal police services to the District of Sechelt while the RCMP Provincial Force polices the regional district's unincorporated or rural areas.
- In 2007, there were 32 RCMP members assigned to police the region: 10 members directly policed the District of Sechelt while 22 were responsible for policing the regional district's unincorporated areas.
- A case load of 74 Criminal Code offences per RCMP member was recorded for Sunshine Coast Regional District in 2007. This was 3% higher than the member workload of 72 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 29,781; the population served per member was 931.

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, 2,380 Criminal Code offences were recorded within the regional district. This was a 7% increase (+147 offences) from the 2,233 recorded in 2006.
- In 2007, Sunshine Coast recorded a crime rate of 80, lower than the provincial crime rate of 104, but 4% higher than the region's 2006 crime rate of 77 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 222 violent crimes were reported by the RCMP, a 1% decrease (-2 offences) from the 224 recorded in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast violent crime rate was 7.5 violent crimes per 1,000 population, a 3% decrease from the 2006 rate of 7.7. The region's 2007 violent crime rate was lower 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, 162 common assaults were reported by within the regional district, a 17% increase (+24 offences) from the 138 reported in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast common assault rate was 5.4 offences per 1,000 population, a 15% increase from the 2006 rate of 4.7. The region's 2007 common assault rate was lower than the provincial common assault rate of 7.1 offences per 1,000 population.
- In 2007, 770 property crimes were recorded within the regional district, a 4% decrease (-34 offences) from the 804 reported in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast property crime rate was 26 property crimes per 1,000 population, a 7% decrease from the 2006 rate of 28. The region's 2007 property crime rate was lower than the provincial property crime rate of 52 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 2007, 53 motor vehicle thefts were reported within the regional district, a 61% increase (+20 offences) from the 33 reported in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast motor vehicle theft rate was 1.8 offences per 1,000 population, a 64% increase from the 2006 rate of 1.1. 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, 1,388 other crimes were reported within the regional district, a 15% increase (+183 offences) from the 1,205 reported in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast other crime rate was 47 other crimes per 1,000 population, a 15% rise from the 2006 rate of 41. 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, 280 drug crimes were reported within the regional district, a 56% increase (+100 offences) from the 180 reported in 2006. The 2007 Sunshine Coast drug crime rate was 9.4 offences per 1,000 population, a 52% increase from the 2006 rate of 6.2. 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 29,781, a 2% increase from the 2006 population of 29,065.
- Over the past ten years, the population for the region has generally increased resulting in a 12% rise overall, from 26,679 in 1998 to 29,781 in 2007.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

REGIONAL DISTRICT SUMMARY	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	26,679	26,862	27,079	26,713	26,963	27,323	27,585	28,397	29,065	29,781
Police Strength	27	27	27	27	27	27	28	30	31	32
Case Load	122	111	106	95	103	84	85	82	72	74
Population Served Per Member	988	995	1,003	989	999	1,012	985	947	938	931
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	369	324	320	352	367	255	277	259	224	222
Crime Rate	13.8	12.1	11.8	13.2	13.6	9.3	10.0	9.1	7.7	7.5
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,581	1,490	1,285	1,026	1,044	1,028	1,005	1,011	804	770
Crime Rate	59	55	47	38	39	38	36	36	28	26
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,334	1,193	1,265	1,187	1,383	991	1,111	1,200	1,205	1,388
Crime Rate	50	44	47	44	51	36	40	42	41	47
Total Criminal Code Offences	3,284	3,007	2,870	2,565	2,794	2,274	2,393	2,470	2,233	2,380
Crime Rate	123	112	106	96	104	83	87	87	77	80
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	160	169	169	175	171	139	117	150	180	280
Crime Rate	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.3	5.1	4.2	5.3	6.2	9.4
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	289	238	237	263	253	176	178	182	138	162
Crime Rate	10.8	8.9	8.8	9.8	9.4	6.4	6.5	6.4	4.7	5.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	124	141	119	62	76	46	45	60	33	53
Crime Rate	4.6	5.2	4.4	2.3	2.8	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.1	1.8
DISTRICT OF SECHLT	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	8,009	8,040	8,044	8,113	8,164	8,243	8,283	8,599	8,863	9,157
Police Strength	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10
Case Load	135	140	138	112	113	86	90	86	87	88
Population Served Per Member	890	893	894	901	907	824	828	860	886	916
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	139	129	135	140	152	91	91	76	72	64
Crime Rate	17.4	16.0	16.8	17.3	18.6	11.0	11.0	8.8	8.1	7.0
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	551	590	531	360	370	419	429	423	324	259
Crime Rate	69	73	66	44	45	51	52	49	37	28
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	524	543	578	506	494	353	384	356	472	560
Crime Rate	65	68	72	62	61	43	46	41	53	61
Total Criminal Code Offences	1,214	1,262	1,244	1,006	1,016	863	904	855	868	883
Crime Rate	152	157	155	124	124	105	109	99	98	96
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	46	63	77	56	60	52	47	43	60	97
Crime Rate	5.7	7.8	9.6	6.9	7.3	6.3	5.7	5.0	6.8	10.6
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	102	96	99	99	99	65	58	50	44	40
Crime Rate	12.7	11.9	12.3	12.2	12.1	7.9	7.0	5.8	5.0	4.4
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	27	43	39	14	15	12	15	29	8	16
Crime Rate	3.4	5.3	4.8	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.8	3.4	0.9	1.7

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT DATA TABLES

AREA POLICED AS SUNSHINE COAST PROV	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Population	18,670	18,822	19,035	18,600	18,799	19,080	19,302	19,798	20,202	20,624
Police Strength	18	18	18	18	18	17	18	20	21	22
Case Load	115	97	90	87	99	83	83	81	65	68
Population Served Per Member	1,037	1,046	1,058	1,033	1,044	1,122	1,072	990	962	937
Violent Crimes										
Number of Offences	230	195	185	212	215	164	186	183	152	158
Crime Rate	12.3	10.4	9.7	11.4	11.4	8.6	9.6	9.2	7.5	7.7
Property Crimes										
Number of Offences	1,030	900	754	666	674	609	576	588	480	511
Crime Rate	55	48	40	36	36	32	30	30	24	25
Other Crimes										
Number of Offences	810	650	687	681	889	638	727	844	733	828
Crime Rate	43	35	36	37	47	33	38	43	36	40
Total Criminal Code Offences	2,070	1,745	1,626	1,559	1,778	1,411	1,489	1,615	1,365	1,497
Crime Rate	111	93	85	84	95	74	77	82	68	73
Drug Crimes¹										
Number of Offences	114	106	92	119	111	87	70	107	120	183
Crime Rate	6.1	5.6	4.8	6.4	5.9	4.6	3.6	5.4	5.9	8.9
Assault: Level 1										
Number of Offences	187	142	138	164	154	111	120	132	94	122
Crime Rate	10.0	7.5	7.2	8.8	8.2	5.8	6.2	6.7	4.7	5.9
Motor Vehicle Theft²										
Number of Offences	97	98	80	48	61	34	30	31	25	37
Crime Rate	5.2	5.2	4.2	2.6	3.2	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.8

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

- 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.



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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 12, 2008.