



British Columbia

1	General Economy
<p>Although the services sector is the largest component of British Columbia's economy (as measured by the Gross Domestic Product), the people of the Province are still heavily dependent on natural resource industries. When inter-industry linkages are taken into account, the resource sector is still responsible for at least one quarter of the jobs in British Columbia. Forest-based industries form the most important segment of the Provincial economy. Virtually every community in the province relies to some degree on the industry. Of all manufacturing industries in B.C., wood industries rank first, followed closely by the paper and allied industries. These two industries combined account for almost one half of all manufacturing in British Columbia. Mining is another important resource industry for British Columbia. Coal mining occurs predominantly in the East Kootenay Region, and oil and gas extraction is the major economic activity of the Peace River and Northern Rockies Regions. Copper is by far the most important metal mined in British Columbia. Metal manufacturing is an important activity for some communities, particularly Trail and Kitimat where there are large lead-zinc and aluminum smelters respectively. Agriculture and fishing are also important resource industries. Agriculture in B.C. is very diverse, ranging from cattle ranching, to dairy, to poultry, to fruit orchards, to wine grapes. Most of the agricultural activity is located in the southern regions of the Province, primarily around the Okanagan and the Kootenays. Fishing is more predominant in Northern B.C., around Prince Rupert, and the north of Vancouver Island. The fish canning industry is concentrated mainly in Vancouver, Richmond and Prince Rupert. Tourism accounts for over 4 per cent of the Provincial Gross Domestic Product. The Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island-Coast Regions account for more than half of travel expenditures, and Vancouver and Victoria are among the top 20 travel destinations in the world.</p>	

The notes above and later in this report on Demographics and Projections are the basis for BC Stats population projection P33 completed in the Summer of 2008. The projections are updated annually to reflect known demographic shifts and economic conditions. Full projections with "Components of Change", "Special Age Groups", "5 Year Age Cohorts by Sex", and accompanying notes are available for B.C., the 8 development regions, the 28 regional districts, the 79 local health areas (LHAs) and a number of "special areas" of local interest which are not part of a province-wide geocoding system. Individual areas, including age and sex detail, are modestly priced. Users requiring only total population projections are able to self serve for free from our population projection page: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/popproj.asp The full B.C. level projection is available free on the above page.

2		Economic Structure - Number of Business Locations, by Sector, by Employment Size, December 2008								
NAICS Code	Industry Sector based on NAICS Canada (North American Industrial Classification System)	British Columbia							Canada	
		Locations With No Employees	Firms with Employees					Percent of Total	With Employees	
			Less Than 20	20 to 49	50 to 99	200 Plus	All Sizes with Emp.		Percent of Total	All Sizes
	Total, All Industries	185,879	154,924	13,108	5,816	1,155	175,003	100.0%	100.0%	1,120,708
11	Agric., Forestry, Fishing & Hunt	8,619	6,352	450	189	18	7,009	4.0%	4.5%	49,994
21	Mining & Oil & Gas Extract.	994	896	104	57	14	1,071	0.6%	0.9%	10,082
22	Utilities	160	165	18	15	5	203	0.1%	0.1%	1,378
23	Construction	28,364	19,366	1,244	454	44	21,108	12.1%	10.9%	122,455
31	Manufacturing (31-33)	4,484	6,033	1,063	625	158	7,879	4.5%	5.1%	56,633
41	Wholesale Trade	7,462	9,122	896	319	22	10,359	5.9%	5.9%	66,413
44	Retail Trade (44-45)	9,934	18,148	1,713	766	115	20,742	11.9%	13.1%	146,967
48	Transp. & Warehousing (48-49)	10,842	6,890	550	226	68	7,734	4.4%	4.6%	51,220
51	Information & Cultural Indust.	3,265	2,026	230	119	37	2,412	1.4%	1.2%	13,911
52	Finance & Insurance	13,111	5,431	863	235	35	6,564	3.8%	3.7%	41,746
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	28,883	7,396	300	125	14	7,835	4.5%	3.7%	41,672
54	Profes'nl, Scientif. & Tech. Srv	28,096	18,250	702	287	39	19,278	11.0%	10.8%	120,815
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enter.	11,962	2,480	180	106	52	2,818	1.6%	1.4%	15,742
56	Admin. & Sup'rt, Waste Mgmt.	7,727	7,525	615	310	63	8,513	4.9%	4.6%	51,043
61	Educational Services	2,027	1,888	264	123	88	2,363	1.4%	1.1%	12,594
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	3,598	13,502	750	405	116	14,773	8.4%	8.0%	89,667
71	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	3,271	2,442	253	148	30	2,873	1.6%	1.5%	17,346
72	Accom. & Food Services	3,965	8,362	2,214	978	85	11,639	6.7%	6.7%	74,625
81	Other Serv's (ex. Public Admin.)	9,088	18,362	542	155	36	19,095	10.9%	11.5%	128,445
91	Public Administration	27	288	157	174	116	735	0.4%	0.7%	7,960

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register Division. Note: This table formerly identified **business establishments**.

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3 Employment and Unemployment Rate, monthly data are 3-month moving average, actual, ending in stated month							
	British Columbia		Vancouver		Victoria		
	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %	
1999	1,894.4	8.3	996.0	7.7	155.3	6.6	
2000	1,931.3	7.1	1,032.1	5.8	155.3	6.7	
2001	1,921.6	7.7	1,039.1	6.6	150.8	6.3	
2002	1,965.0	8.5	1,072.1	7.7	155.7	7.0	
2003	2,014.7	8.0	1,103.5	7.3	158.7	6.2	
2004	2,062.7	7.2	1,127.5	6.7	162.0	5.3	
2005	2,130.5	5.9	1,155.7	5.7	169.3	4.5	
2006	2,195.5	4.8	1,187.1	4.4	175.2	3.7	
2007	2,266.3	4.2	1,222.7	4.0	182.9	3.3	
2008	2,314.3	4.6	1,241.6	4.3	190.9	3.3	
2008 Jan	2,286.5	4.1	1,245.2	3.7	186.2	3.0	
Feb	2,278.9	4.2	1,239.5	3.7	185.0	3.3	
Mar	2,284.9	4.4	1,240.4	3.8	186.8	3.2	
Apr	2,295.0	4.4	1,238.6	3.9	190.0	2.8	
May	2,313.3	4.5	1,241.8	4.1	193.8	2.7	
Jun	2,329.8	4.4	1,243.8	4.3	195.0	2.8	
Jul	2,345.0	4.5	1,249.0	4.4	195.1	3.3	
Aug	2,350.7	4.6	1,253.4	4.5	194.0	3.7	
Sep	2,337.7	4.7	1,243.8	4.6	192.8	3.7	
Oct	2,325.3	4.7	1,240.6	4.5	191.8	3.8	
Nov	2,312.5	4.7	1,238.1	4.3	191.2	3.4	
Dec	2,304.8	4.9	1,238.6	4.4	189.2	3.6	
2009 Jan	2,278.4	5.5	1,225.3	4.9	184.9	3.9	
Feb	2,251.1	6.3	1,214.1	5.6	181.3	4.9	
Mar	2,227.5	7.2	1,210.5	6.3	178.8	5.5	
Apr	2,229.0	7.6	1,219.9	6.7	178.9	6.0	
May	2,243.1	7.8	1,229.8	7.0	180.1	6.2	
Jun	2,264.6	7.8	1,243.8	7.2	182.4	6.2	
Jul	2,275.9	7.8	1,247.5	7.3	183.4	6.1	
Aug	2,280.5	8.0	1,249.9	7.5	183.4	6.1	
Sep	2,275.8	7.8	1,244.8	7.3	181.1	6.6	
Oct							
Nov							
Dec							
Average:							
ytd average	Jan-Sep08	2,317.5	4.5	1,242.6	4.2	191.5	3.2
based on	Jan-Sep09	2,256.0	7.6	1,233.0	6.9	180.8	6.1
actual data	% Change	-2.7		-0.8		-5.6	

Employment, thousands of persons

Unemployment Rate, Percent

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada. Sub-provincial regions are development regions or census metropolitan areas.

4 Retail Sales - based on Statistics Canada monthly survey						
Year or Year/Quarter	\$ millions of retail sales			Percent change on year ago		
	Canada	B.C.	Greater Vancouver	Canada	B.C.	Greater Vancouver
2004	346,721.5	47,216.6	22,243.6	4.7	6.3	n/a
2005	366,170.7	49,286.3	22,702.6	5.6	4.4	2.1
Annual data 2006	389,485.1	52,837.1	24,110.2	6.4	7.2	6.2
2007	412,037.3	56,365.4	25,342.8	5.8	6.7	5.1
2008	426,033.7	56,562.4	25,290.5	3.4	0.3	-0.2
Quarterly data 08 2	113,465.7	14,749.1	6,626.3	3.6	1.6	1.6
08 3	111,941.2	14,923.3	6,466.4	5.2	1.5	0.7
08 4	108,124.6	14,053.2	6,340.4	-0.9	-5.6	-6.2
09 1	86,924.4	11,485.1	5,274.5	-6.0	-10.5	-10.0
09 2	107,560.3	13,550.1	6,150.0	-5.2	-8.1	-7.2

Source: Statistics Canada. Monthly survey (CANSIM 080-0015).

Percent Growth Over Same Period in Previous Year



British Columbia

Was 5 **Manufacturing Principal Statistics - Search at www.made-in-bc.ca for local firms, products and more**

This table is discontinued. Sub-provincial manufacturing principal statistics are no longer being produced.

5		Tourism Room Revenue (\$ Thousands)						Tourism Room Revenue Index 2003=100	
Year	Total/YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Index			
						2003=100	B.C.		
British Columbia	2005	1,681,563.6	351,779.6	404,639.8	610,273.7	314,870.6			
	2006	1,807,608.7	366,165.1	450,747.7	652,476.4	338,219.5			
	2007	1,963,958.7	412,949.3	488,493.9	697,545.2	364,970.3			
	2008	1,977,424.9	435,223.9	503,276.7	687,708.3	351,215.9			
	2009	802,329.6	378,880.1	423,449.6					
Canada	2005	No data							
	2006	for this							
	2007	table.							
	2008								
	2009								
2008 Room Revenue by Accommodation Type (\$Thousands %Share)									
TOTAL	1,977,239.0	100.0%	Miscellaneous	120,711.0	6.1%				
Fishing lodges	25,140.0	1.3%							
Hotels	1,431,088.0	72.4%							
251+ Rooms	516,021.0	26.1%							
151-250 Rooms	260,092.0	13.2%							
76-150 Rooms	455,340.0	23.0%							
1-75 Rooms	199,635.0	10.1%							
Motels	240,855.0	12.2%							
Vacation Rentals	159,445.0	8.1%							

Source: Hotel tax database maintained by Consumer Taxation Branch, Ministry of Small Business and Revenue
Published in detail monthly by BC Stats.

All room revenue data has been revised. For an explanation, see our periodical called *Tourism Sector Monitor*, April and May issues of 2009.
Link to explanation of changes: http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/pr_tour.asp

6		Building Permits						Total Permits Index 2003=100	
Year	Total Building Permits	Non Residential				Residential		Index	
		Total Non Res.	Industrial	Commercial	Institutional & Gov't	Units	Canada	B.C.	
		<-- \$ Millions -->							
2001	4,954.8	2,124.9	221.4	1,171.2	732.3	2,829.9	17,542		
2002	5,659.4	1,771.3	230.1	1,116.7	424.4	3,888.1	24,772		
2003	6,394.2	1,880.1	244.0	1,129.6	506.4	4,514.2	27,163		
2004	7,938.7	2,069.8	328.1	1,228.0	513.7	5,868.9	34,898		
2005	10,191.1	3,212.1	346.2	1,886.4	979.5	6,979.0	37,452		
2006	11,541.5	3,920.8	358.8	2,493.7	1,068.3	7,620.7	38,835		
2007	12,544.7	3,933.0	323.9	2,647.9	961.2	8,611.7	40,932		
2008	10,577.2	3,677.9	292.2	2,623.5	762.1	6,899.3	30,110		
Jan-Aug 08	7,914.1	2,453.5	201.2	1,741.0	511.2	5,460.6	24,264		
Jan-Aug 09	4,716.7	2,309.7	186.6	1,180.1	943.0	2,407.0	9,437		

Not all projects require a building permit, and not all municipalities & regions report. Latest month preliminary, previous month is revised.
Source: Statistics Canada (data collected from municipal and Regional District offices).



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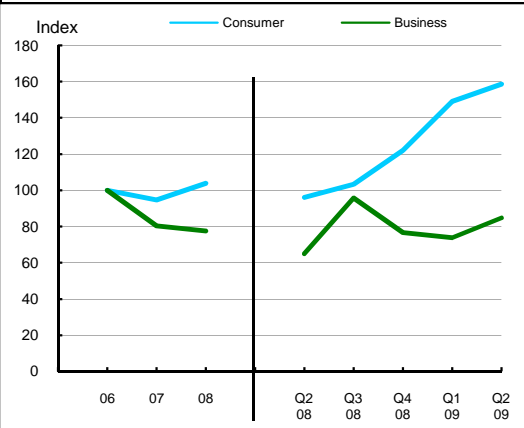
7 Business and Consumer Bankruptcies, Quarterly - NEW series

Year	British Columbia		Vancouver		Victoria	
	Consumer	Business	Consumer	Business	Consumer	Business
2006	7,020	585	3,332	230	611	30
2007	6,651	470	3,091	201	683	35
2008	7,293	454	3,361	161	705	43
2009						
2010						
YTD-08	3,335	202	1,518	72	325	14
YTD-09	5,400	232	2,365	107	478	20

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Government of Canada
Total bankruptcy index includes business and consumer bankruptcies.

Note: Bankruptcy is not a good measure of business failure. Most firms that fail wind down operations and withdraw from business.

British Columbia Indices 2006=100

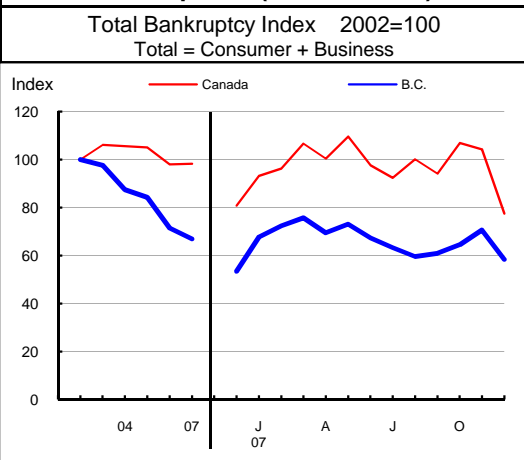


8 Incorporations

Year	Incorporations	Incorporations Index 2003=100	
		Index	B.C.
2001	19,474	100	100
2002	20,987	140	140
2003	22,531	120	120
2004	24,703	100	100
2005	30,937	140	140
2006	33,273	100	100
2007	34,036	80	80
2008	30,085	100	100
Jan-Sep 08	23,630	100	100
Jan-Sep 09	19,227	100	100

Source: Incorporations - (B.C.) Ministry of Finance

Bankruptcies (Discontinued)



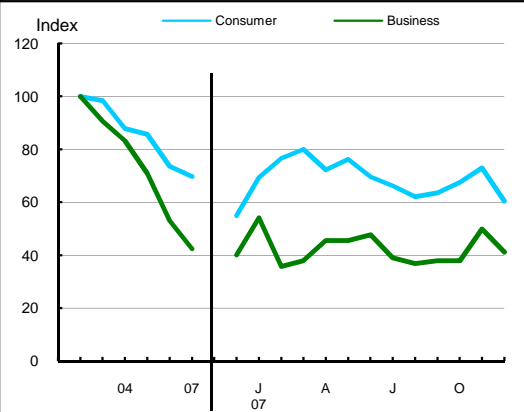
9 Business and Consumer Bankruptcies (Discontinued)

Year	B.C.		Urban centres total		Non-urban B.C.	
	Consumer	Business	Consumer	Business	Consumer	Business
2003	9,385	1,002	8,208	829	1,186	173
2004	8,378	922	7,247	746	1,139	175
2005	8,173	786	7,082	631	1,097	155
2006	7,021	587	6,166	481	856	106
2007	6,651	470	5,824	395	827	75
Jan-Dec 06	7,022	587	6,166	481	856	106
Jan-Dec 07	6,651	470	5,824	395	827	75

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Government of Canada
Total bankruptcy index includes business and consumer bankruptcies.

Note: Bankruptcy is not a good measure of business failure. Most firms that fail wind down operations and withdraw from business.

B.C. Indices 2002=100





British Columbia

Dependence on the Safety Net											
10 Basic Income Assistance (Basic Income Assistance Recipients in Subject Group as a percent of Reference Group)						11 Employment Insurance (was UI) (EI beneficiaries as a percent of Reference Group)					
Subject Group (receiving benefits)		All (0-64)	Children <19 yrs in Families	Young Adults (19-24)	'Mid' Group (25-54)	Single Parent Women	Working Age (19-64)	Young Adults (19-24)	'Mid' Group (25-54)	'Older' Workers (55-64)	Note Older Data
Reference Group		Total Pop. 0-64	Total Pop. <19	Total Pop. 19-24	Total Pop. 25-54	Tot. Female 19-64	Total Pop. 19-64	Total Pop. 19-24	Total Pop. 25-54	Total Pop. 55-64	
British Columbia	Sep '07	1.3	2.0	1.3	1.3	0.6	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.4	Mar '07
	Dec '07	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.3	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.0	Jun '07
	Mar '08	1.4	2.1	1.4	1.4	0.4	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.8	Sep '07
	Jun '08	1.4	2.1	1.4	1.4	0.7	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.5	Dec '07
	Sep '08	1.4	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.5	Mar '08
	Dec '08	1.6	2.3	1.7	1.5	0.6	2.7	2.1	2.9	2.3	Jun '08
	Mar '09	1.8	2.5	2.0	1.8	0.7	1.2	1.0	1.4	0.9	Sep '08
	Jun '09	1.9	2.6	2.2	1.9	0.7	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.9	Dec '08
	Sep '09	2.0	2.7	2.2	1.9	0.8	3.7	3.8	3.9	2.9	Mar '09
	Duration of Dependence on Income Assistance (As of September 2009)		All* Income Assistance Recipients as % of Total Pop 0-64: Province of British Columbia					EI Beneficiaries Aged 19-64 as % of Working Age Population			
B.C. Canada		Percent					Percent				
Total Number of Recipients	72,592	no data available					no data available				
Percent Distribution by Duration		no data available					no data available				
<1 Year	65.3										
1-2 Years	18.2										
>2 Years	16.4										
Source: Ministry of Children and Family Development administrative files and BC Stats population estimates. These figures include only a subset of those receiving income assistance. Excluded are those on Continuous Assistance (disabled or with persistent multiple barriers to employment, children in the home of a relative, and OAS/seniors. A recipient is defined as 'each person living in a family or living alone that is receiving basic income assistance'. Data does not include Aboriginal people living on Reserve. Note: '-' Data too small to release.						Source: Ministry of Housing and Social Development and BC Stats population estimates.					
12 Dependence on Basic Income Assistance and/or Employment Insurance (Basic Income Assistance Recipients + Employment Insurance Recipients in Subject Group as a percent of Reference Group)											
Subject Group (receiving assistance)		All (19-64)	Young Adults (19-24)	'Mid' Group (25-54)	'Older' Group (55-64)	All 'Safety Net' Recipients as % of Total Pop 19-64: Province of British Columbia					
Reference Group		Total Pop. 19-64	Total Pop. 19-24	Total Pop. 25-54	Total Pop. 55-64	Percent					
British Columbia	Mar '07	2.8	2.8	3.1	1.9	Percent					
	Jun '07	2.3	2.3	2.5	1.4	Percent					
	Sep '07	2.1	2.0	2.4	1.3	Percent					
	Dec '07	2.8	2.7	3.0	2.0	Percent					
	Mar '08	2.9	2.9	3.2	1.9	Percent					
	Jun '08	3.8	3.5	4.2	2.7	Percent					
	Sep '08	2.4	2.4	2.7	1.4	Percent					
	Dec '08	3.5	3.7	3.8	2.3	Percent					
	Mar '09	5.2	5.7	5.7	3.5	Percent					

Note: The EI figures reported above no longer include persons claiming parental/adoption leave. Previous issues of this table did include them.



British Columbia

13 Demographics

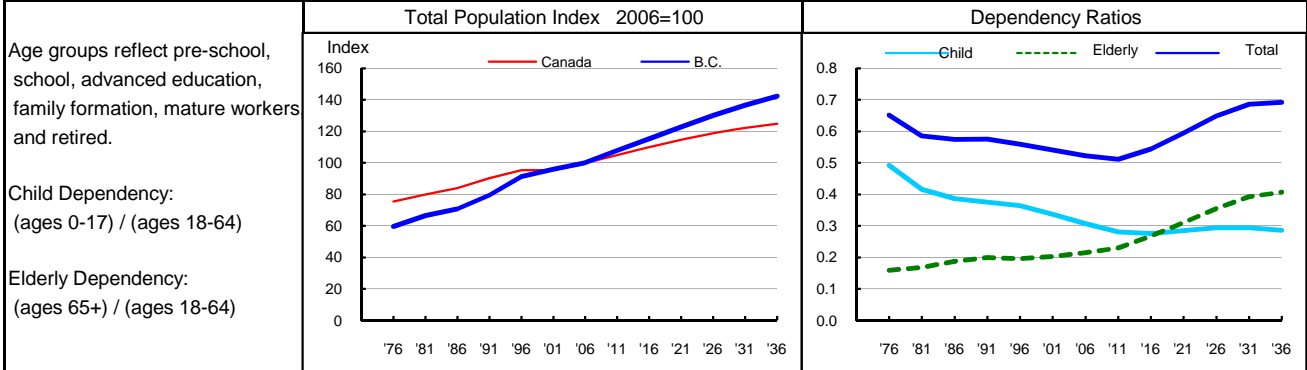
The British Columbia population is getting larger, reaching almost 4.4 million in 2007. The population is also ageing due to the long-term historical decline in fertility rates. The baby boom that occurred between the end of World War II and the mid-sixties helped delay the onset of the full effect of this ageing. However, as these boomers reach retirement age, the ageing of the population will accelerate. The median age of the province's population has increased by 7.2 years since the mid 1980s. Consistent with an older population, there are proportionately more females than 20 years ago. The number of births has decreased in the last 20 years, while the number of deaths has increased. As a result, natural increase is substantially less than in the mid 1980s. As the rate of natural increase declines, population growth is driven to a greater extent by migration. After very low rates in the late 1990s, net migration rates have been on the rise. Despite a slight increase in fertility rates over the last few years, the ratio of children to those of working age (18 to 64 years) continues to decline, while elderly dependency ratios continue to increase.

14 Projection

While migration between BC and other provinces will likely continue to fluctuate, the overall trend is expected to be positive. The provincial share of international migration to Canada has declined marginally recently but is expected to remain around current rates. Together these components are forecast to contribute to an increasing number of people moving to the province. As deaths increase, natural increase is expected to decline, becoming negative around 2025 and resulting in lower growth rates. Population ageing will continue resulting in a 2036 overall dependency ratio of almost 7 dependents for every 10 people of working age. The population aged 65 and older is projected to account for the bulk of overall dependency.

15 Selected Demographic Characteristics

Year	Population by age group, Thousands of persons							Households (,000)	Dependency Ratios			Year
	0-4	5-17	18-24	25-44	45-64	65+	All Ages		Child	Elderly	Total	
1976	177.4	577.5	333.3	699.7	500.8	245.2	2,533.9	849.4	0.492	0.160	0.652	1976
1981	195.2	547.4	377.9	862.4	542.4	301.3	2,826.6	1,022.8	0.417	0.169	0.586	1981
1986	209.4	528.0	340.2	983.4	584.5	358.1	3,003.6	1,157.5	0.386	0.188	0.574	1986
1991	227.0	577.0	327.7	1,147.3	666.7	428.1	3,373.8	1,278.7	0.375	0.200	0.575	1991
1996	241.6	662.1	360.0	1,287.7	836.5	486.4	3,874.3	1,484.9	0.364	0.196	0.560	1996
2001	214.9	677.4	380.7	1,262.2	1,002.4	538.7	4,076.3	1,592.7	0.337	0.204	0.541	2001
2006	207.2	650.4	403.9	1,201.7	1,180.2	600.2	4,243.6	1,677.4	0.308	0.215	0.523	2006
2011	229.6	619.7	428.4	1,256.1	1,340.4	698.4	4,572.6	1,841.8	0.281	0.231	0.512	2011
2016	248.6	625.3	403.8	1,357.4	1,405.7	848.7	4,889.5	2,012.9	0.276	0.268	0.544	2016
2021	261.7	668.3	382.4	1,456.6	1,428.5	1,014.9	5,212.4	2,156.1	0.285	0.311	0.595	2021
2026	265.1	717.6	387.0	1,507.9	1,450.0	1,189.0	5,516.6	2,286.3	0.294	0.355	0.649	2026
2031	263.1	746.1	418.8	1,505.3	1,511.3	1,347.8	5,792.5	2,413.5	0.294	0.392	0.686	2031
2036	264.0	755.8	446.1	1,500.2	1,619.9	1,449.9	6,036.0	2,536.3	0.286	0.407	0.693	2036



Source: Population data are Projection P-34, run in Summer 2009. Figures are adjusted for Census undercount and are for July 1st of stated year.
Note: Demographics and Projection notes in Tables 13 and 14 are from Projection P-33, run the Summer 2008.