



**Thompson/Okanagan  
 Development Region**

<b>1</b>	<b>General Economy</b>
<p>Regional Districts in Development Region: Okanagan-Similkameen, Thompson-Nicola, Central Okanagan, North Okanagan, Columbia-Shuswap</p> <p>This region stretches from the Interior plateau (west of the Cascade Mountains), northward over the Kootenays, to the Rocky Mountains. It is made up of many different types of ecosystems from desert to mountain alpine. The main economic activities are agriculture, forestry, mining, manufacturing, and tourism. This region contains the most productive tree fruit and wine grape growing areas within the province. Warm weather and low precipitation have resulted in the pine forests being ravished both by a fungus carried by pine beetles, and by an increase in wild fires. The area has many wood processing facilities, some of which have announced closures or output reductions. Several major mines have closed in this region in the last few years due either to ore depletion or low metal prices. However, higher commodity prices have led to increased mining exploration and some mine openings. The climate, which is so conducive to agriculture, also attracts a large number of tourists and retirees to the region. New four season resorts continue to be built particularly in the eastern portion of the region.</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](http://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 2010**

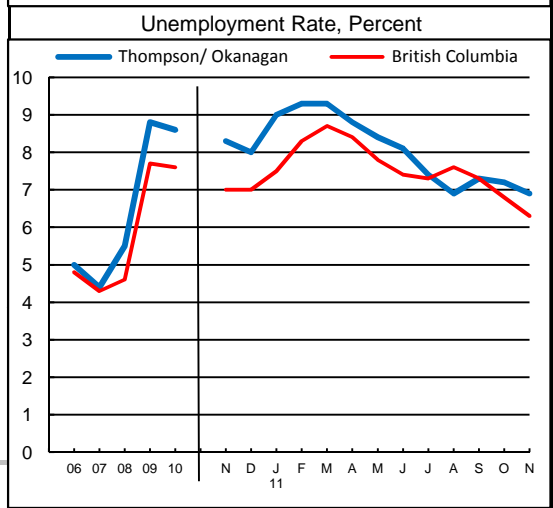
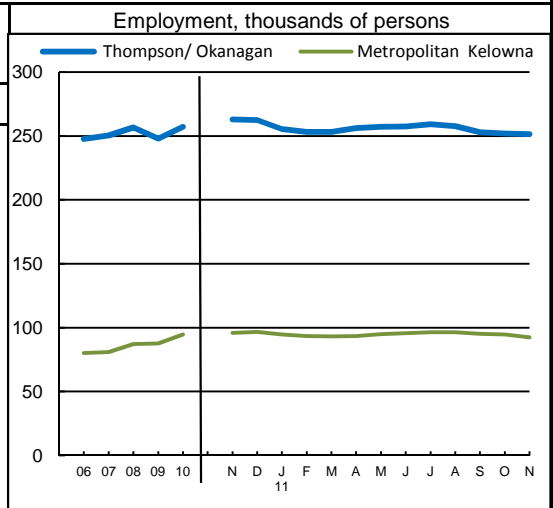
NAICS Code	Industry Sector based on NAICS Canada (North American Industrial Classification System)	Thompson/Okanagan							British Columbia	
		Locations With No Employees	Firms with Employees						With Employees	
			Less Than 20	20 to 49	50 to 199	200 Plus	All Sizes with Emp.	Percent of Total	Percent of Total	All Sizes
	Total, All Industries	22,862	19,519	1,690	657	82	21,948	100.0%	100.0%	370,262
11	Agric., Forestry, Fishing & Hunt	1,584	1,335	80	33	1	1,449	6.6%	4.1%	15,134
21	Mining & Oil & Gas Extract.	104	92	7	3	1	103	0.5%	0.6%	2,220
22	Utilities	28	34	4	3	0	41	0.2%	0.1%	363
23	Construction	4,428	3,157	152	44	1	3,354	15.3%	14.0%	51,926
31	Manufacturing (31-33)	535	777	118	64	12	971	4.4%	3.2%	11,824
41	Wholesale Trade	654	855	95	12	1	963	4.4%	4.4%	16,471
44	Retail Trade (44-45)	1,245	2,428	276	112	14	2,830	12.9%	8.1%	30,041
48	Transp. & Warehousing (48-49)	1,018	772	72	23	6	873	4.0%	5.1%	18,964
51	Information & Cultural Indust.	148	173	23	12	1	209	1.0%	1.5%	5,509
52	Finance & Insurance	1,510	679	101	20	1	801	3.6%	5.4%	19,946
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,752	940	26	10	0	976	4.4%	11.2%	41,389
54	Profes'nl, Scientif. & Tech. Srv	2,585	1,773	51	15	0	1,839	8.4%	13.1%	48,449
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enter.	1,398	271	13	5	3	292	1.3%	3.9%	14,283
56	Admin. & Sup'rt, Waste Mgmt.	887	961	52	28	3	1,044	4.8%	4.5%	16,769
61	Educational Services	165	172	20	10	12	214	1.0%	1.2%	4,290
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	612	1,788	130	65	9	1,992	9.1%	5.6%	20,661
71	Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	299	274	53	26	7	360	1.6%	1.7%	6,187
72	Accom. & Food Services	605	1,122	334	126	4	1,586	7.2%	4.3%	15,964
81	Other Serv's (ex. Public Admin.)	1,302	1,853	62	16	0	1,931	8.8%	7.8%	28,939
91	Public Administration	3	63	21	30	6	120	0.5%	0.3%	933

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



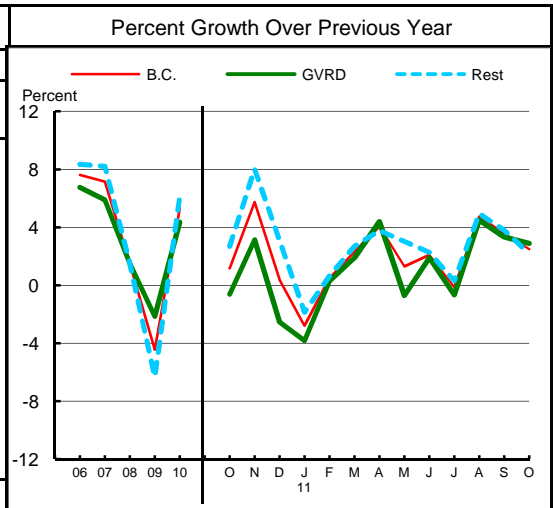
**Thompson/Okanagan  
 Development Region**

<b>3 Employment and Unemployment Rate, monthly data are 3-month moving average, actual, ending in stated month</b>						
	Thompson/Okanagan		Metropolitan Kelowna		British Columbia	
	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %	Emp. ('000)	Unemp. %
2001	210.4	9.4	71.3	6.5	1,919.7	7.7
2002	207.2	9.4	69.6	9.7	1,952.8	8.5
2003	217.4	8.8	71.1	8.6	1,998.0	8.0
2004	226.6	6.6	77.8	4.9	2,032.8	7.2
2005	239.5	5.2	76.4	5.3	2,091.9	5.8
2006	247.6	5.0	80.1	6.0	2,147.2	4.8
2007	250.4	4.4	80.9	4.6	2,222.6	4.3
2008	256.6	5.5	87.2	5.0	2,266.4	4.6
2009	248.0	8.8	87.5	8.8	2,217.9	7.7
2010	257.2	8.6	94.6	7.7	2,256.5	7.6
2010 Jan	255.4	8.7	93.1	9.1	2,219.8	8.0
2010 Feb	251.6	9.4	93.0	9.1	2,213.3	8.1
2010 Mar	254.0	9.3	94.2	8.3	2,213.2	8.2
2010 Apr	254.2	9.1	93.6	7.4	2,224.5	7.8
2010 May	253.7	9.1	93.4	7.8	2,238.7	7.8
2010 Jun	255.1	8.4	93.6	7.0	2,258.8	7.6
2010 Jul	256.6	8.1	94.5	7.2	2,277.1	7.7
2010 Aug	259.0	8.1	95.1	7.7	2,289.9	7.8
2010 Sep	257.1	8.7	94.1	8.7	2,284.5	7.8
2010 Oct	261.0	8.6	95.5	8.2	2,278.8	7.5
2010 Nov	262.9	8.3	95.9	7.5	2,273.6	7.0
2010 Dec	262.4	8.0	96.7	6.9	2,269.6	7.0
2011 Jan	255.5	9.0	94.7	8.0	2,250.0	7.5
2011 Feb	253.2	9.3	93.4	8.4	2,232.3	8.3
2011 Mar	253.3	9.3	93.2	8.8	2,227.7	8.7
2011 Apr	256.2	8.8	93.3	8.7	2,240.5	8.4
2011 May	257.1	8.4	94.8	8.6	2,261.0	7.8
2011 Jun	257.4	8.1	95.6	8.7	2,280.1	7.4
2011 Jul	259.2	7.4	96.3	7.8	2,295.3	7.3
2011 Aug	257.6	6.9	96.5	7.1	2,298.0	7.6
2011 Sep	253.0	7.3	95.1	6.9	2,300.7	7.3
2011 Oct	251.9	7.2	94.5	6.9	2,299.8	6.8
2011 Nov	251.5	6.9	92.4	7.2	2,296.6	6.3
Average:						
Jan-Nov10	257.3	8.7	94.6	7.8	2,256.8	7.7
Jan-Nov11	254.8	7.9	94.2	7.9	2,273.7	7.5
% Change	-1.0		-0.4		0.7	



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

<b>4 Retail Sales - based on Statistics Canada monthly survey</b>						
Year or Year/Year-to-Date	\$ millions of retail sales			Percent change on year ago		
	B.C.	Greater Vancouver	Rest of Province	B.C.	Greater Vancouver	Rest of Province
2006	53,133.4	24,301.6	28,831.9	7.6	6.7	8.3
2007	56,930.4	25,733.1	31,197.3	7.1	5.9	8.2
2008	57,783.0	26,116.0	31,667.0	1.5	1.5	1.5
2009	55,221.9	25,556.4	29,665.6	-4.4	-2.1	-6.3
2010	58,144.7	26,667.6	31,477.1	5.3	4.3	6.1
Jan-Sep 2010	42,773.1	19,620.4	23,152.6			
Jan-Sep 2011	43,551.2	19,871.0	23,680.1	1.8	1.3	2.3



Source: B.C. & GVRD data - Statistics Canada, CANSIM 080-0020, unadjusted data.



**Thompson/Okanagan  
 Development Region**

**Was 5** **Manufacturing Principal Statistics - Search at [www.made-in-bc.ca](http://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.

The methodology used to generate Room Revenue estimates is being refined and as a result the regularly scheduled release of the data from April through August 2011 was interrupted. BC Stats will be publishing updated estimates, including revisions to previously-released data, in September of 2011. We apologize for any inconvenience to users.

5		Tourism Room Revenue (\$ Thousands)						Tourism Room Revenue Index 2004=100	
	Year	Total/YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Index		
Thompson/Ok. Dev. Region	2006	259,729.0	43,284.0	61,051.0	114,122.0	41,272.0			
	2007	293,352.0	51,282.0	70,430.0	126,904.0	44,736.0			
	2008	298,664.0	53,334.0	73,116.0	128,258.0	43,956.0			
	2009	267,705.0	48,023.0	63,215.0	117,037.0	39,430.0			
	2010	239,992.0	49,257.0	64,092.0	126,643.0				
British Columbia	2006	1,807,466.0	366,131.0	450,720.0	652,402.0	338,213.0			
	2007	1,807,466.0	366,131.0	450,720.0	652,402.0	338,213.0			
	2008	1,977,385.0	435,234.0	503,243.0	687,790.0	351,118.0			
	2009	1,743,074.0	378,897.0	423,761.0	617,008.0	323,408.0			
	2010	1,594,984.0	502,294.0	441,819.0	650,871.0				
2009 Room Revenue by Accommodation Type (\$Thousands   %Share)									
TOTAL	267,495.0	100.0%							
Fishing lodges	2,040.0	0.8%							
Hotels	135,672.0	50.7%							
76+ Rooms	108,793.0	40.7%							
1-75 Rooms	26,879.0	10.0%							
Motels	74,393.0	27.8%							
Vacation Rentals	21,133.0	7.9%							
Miscellaneous	34,258.0	12.8%							
asterisk before location denotes sub-area detail									

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

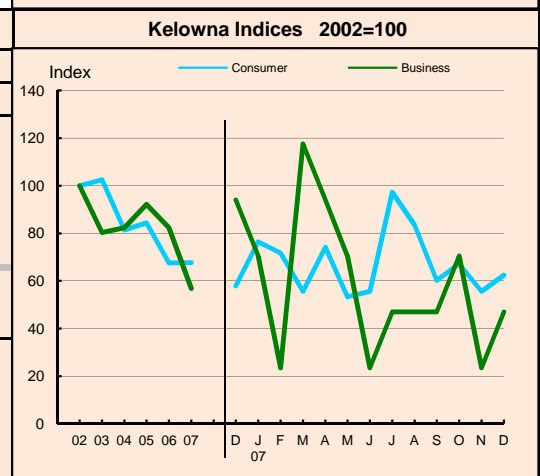
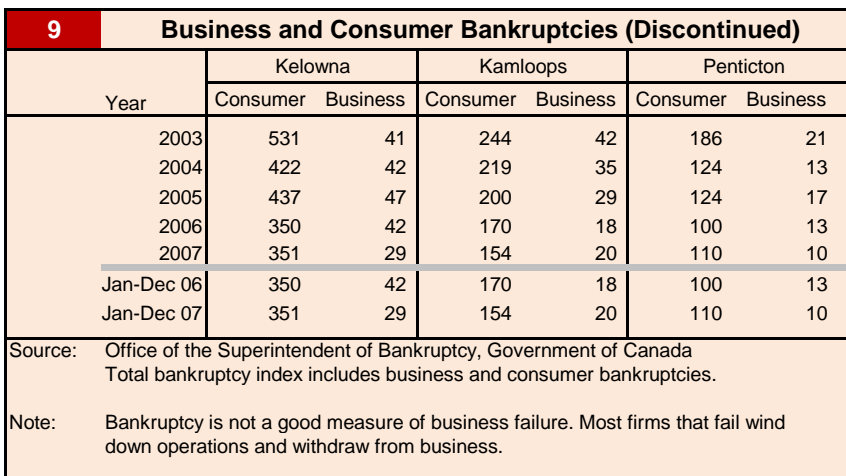
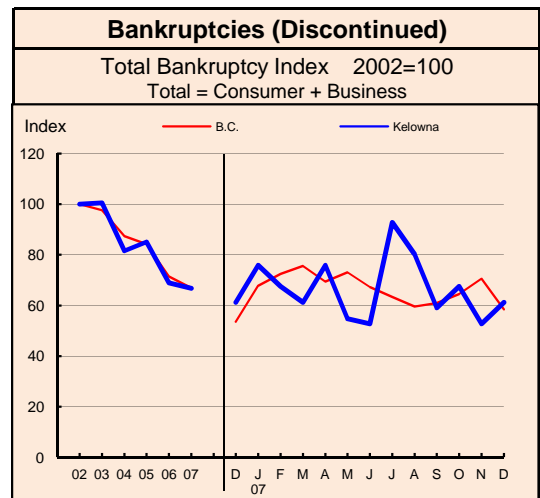
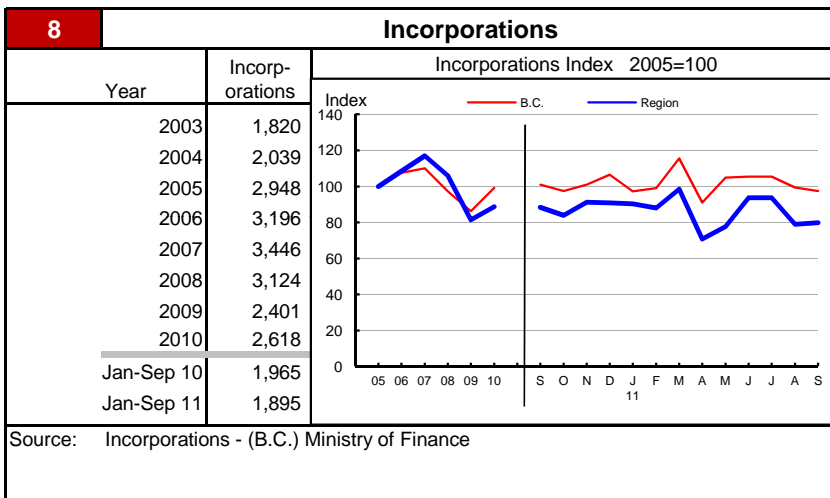
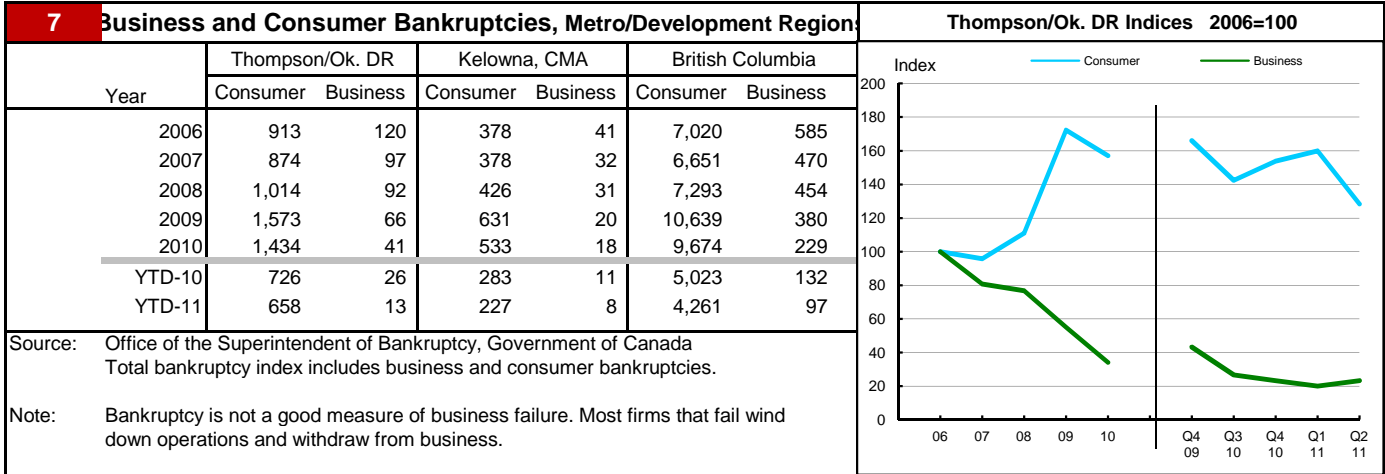
All room revenue data has been revised. For an explanation, see our periodical called *Tourism Sector Monitor*, April and May issues of 2009.  
 Link to explanation of changes: [http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/pr\\_tour.asp](http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/pr_tour.asp)

6		Building Permits						Total Permits Index 2005=100	
Year	Total Building Permits	Non Residential				Residential		Index	
		Total Non Res.	Industrial	Commercial	Institutional & Gov't	Units			
		<-- \$ Millions -->							
2003	774.3	235.5	49.2	116.2	70.1	538.7	3,729		
2004	963.7	235.8	30.5	135.3	70.0	727.9	4,496		
2005	1,560.7	464.0	48.3	293.6	122.0	1,096.8	6,367		
2006	1,549.0	404.6	69.1	209.8	125.7	1,144.5	5,584		
2007	1,881.8	565.7	65.0	369.0	131.8	1,316.1	5,686		
2008	1,650.9	437.5	34.0	259.6	143.9	1,213.4	4,915		
2009	1,236.2	644.2	41.9	203.6	398.7	592.0	2,143		
2010	1,194.2	365.2	42.9	203.6	118.7	828.9	3,349		
Jan-Oct 10	1,072.8	328.6	33.2	179.5	115.9	744.1	2,991		
Jan-Oct 11	786.2	311.9	56.7	139.6	115.5	474.3	1,616		

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).



**Thompson/Okanagan  
 Development Region**





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 Development Region**

**Dependence on the Safety Net**

<b>10 Basic Income Assistance</b> (Basic Income Assistance Recipients in Subject Group as a percent of Reference Group)							<b>11 Employment Insurance (was UI)</b> (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	
Thompson/Ok. Dev. Region	Sep '08	1.6	2.4	1.9	1.5	0.8	1.3	1.1	1.5	0.8	Sep '07
	Dec '08	1.8	2.7	2.3	1.8	0.8	2.3	2.5	2.5	1.7	Dec '07
	Mar '09	2.3	3.2	3.0	2.4	0.9	2.6	2.9	2.9	1.8	Mar '08
	Jun '09	2.4	3.3	3.1	2.4	1.0	3.4	3.3	3.8	2.5	Jun '08
	Sep '09	2.5	3.7	3.3	2.5	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.1	Sep '08
	Dec '09	2.9	4.0	3.8	2.9	1.1	3.5	4.0	3.8	2.4	Dec '08
	Mar '10	3.1	4.1	4.3	3.1	1.1	5.8	7.3	6.2	3.6	Mar '09
	Jun '10	2.9	3.9	4.0	2.9	1.1	4.5	5.2	5.0	2.7	Jun '09
	Sep '10	2.7	3.8	3.5	2.7	1.1	3.8	4.0	4.3	2.2	Sep '09

Duration of Dependence on Income Assistance (As of September 2010)			All* Income Assistance Recipients as % of Total Pop 0-64: Region Compared to B.C.		EI Beneficiaries Aged 19-64 as % of Working Age Population	
Region		B.C.	Percent		Percent	
Total Number of Recipients	11,488	75,506				
Percent Distribution by Duration						
<1 Year	61.2	56.9				
1-2 Years	25.5	24.5				
>2 Years	13.3	18.6				

Source: Ministry of Social 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.

<b>12 Dependence on Basic Income Assistance and/or Employment Insurance</b> (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: Region Compared to B.C.
Reference Group		Total Pop. 19-64	Total Pop. 19-24	Total Pop. 25-54	Total Pop. 55-64	Percent
Thompson/Ok. Dev. Region	Sep '07	2.3	2.6	2.7	1.2	
	Dec '07	3.5	4.1	3.9	2.1	
	Mar '08	3.9	4.5	4.4	2.2	
	Jun '08	4.6	4.9	5.2	2.9	
	Sep '08	2.9	3.4	3.3	1.4	
	Dec '08	4.9	6.1	5.4	2.8	
	Mar '09	7.6	10.0	8.4	4.2	
	Jun '09	6.4	8.2	7.3	3.3	
	Sep '09	5.8	7.1	6.7	2.9	

Note: This data should be revamped in early 2012 with EI data coming from Statistics Canada and IA data from Ministry of Social Development.



**Thompson/Okanagan  
 Development Region**

**13 Demographics**

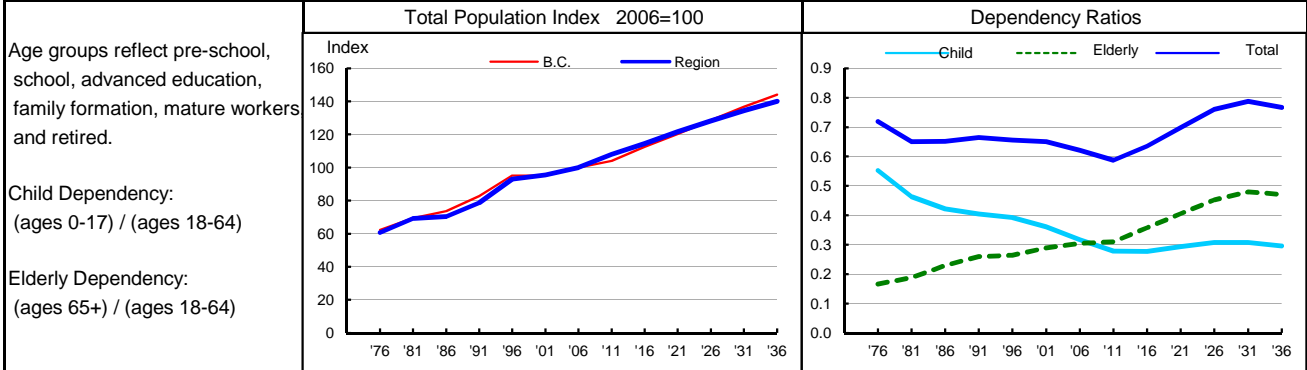
Thompson/Okanagan experienced strong net inflows of migrants during the early to mid 1990's. This highly positive net migration contributed to strong population growth for the region during this time. Levels tapered off after this period, but in 2006 and 2007 saw a return to relatively large net inflows. The population in this area was almost four years older than the provincial median in 2007, and has aged quickly, adding 9.5 years to its median population since the mid 1980s, compared to the provincial gain of 7.2 years. This may be due, in part, to the substantial number of retirees located in the region. The proportion of elderly (aged 65 and over) to working age population (aged 18 to 64) is also higher than the provincial ratio and has been since the mid 1980s. Fertility rates have declined over time, but they remain slightly above provincial levels. Along with fertility rates, the number of births has dropped, while the number of deaths almost doubled between 1986 and 2007. As a result, natural increase has been declining, becoming negative in 2002. Net migration has been positive and fairly strong in the last few years, and has been the sole contributor to recent growth in the region.

**14 Projection**

Natural increase is projected to become increasingly negative over the period as deaths outstrip births by a wider and wider margin. However, the strong inflows of migrants will likely more than compensate for the losses due to increased deaths. Despite a slowing of growth over the projection period due to natural increase, this region is expected to experience continued strong growth. By 2036, the population in this region is expected to be larger by about 145,000 people. The population will continue to age and, by 2036, this area will likely have about 7.5 dependents for every 10 people of working age. Most of these dependents will be seniors.

**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	22.0	76.1	37.8	79.7	60.0	29.5	305.1	98.8	0.553	0.166	0.719	1976
1981	24.3	73.2	43.1	98.6	69.0	39.6	347.8	123.3	0.463	0.188	0.651	1981
1986	23.8	66.7	36.1	103.9	74.4	49.2	354.0	135.9	0.422	0.229	0.652	1986
1991	25.1	71.1	33.6	118.7	85.8	61.9	396.2	152.3	0.404	0.260	0.664	1991
1996	27.3	83.4	39.2	136.5	106.6	74.5	467.6	184.2	0.392	0.264	0.656	1996
2001	22.8	82.2	39.2	126.7	125.0	84.1	480.1	196.2	0.361	0.289	0.650	2001
2006	21.8	76.4	43.2	117.9	149.2	94.5	503.0	205.8	0.316	0.304	0.621	2006
2011	24.3	70.8	50.3	123.8	167.6	105.8	542.6	229.1	0.278	0.310	0.588	2011
2016	26.6	71.2	44.5	140.7	167.2	126.0	576.1	250.7	0.278	0.358	0.635	2016
2021	28.6	76.9	40.5	155.6	163.9	145.9	611.4	267.1	0.293	0.405	0.698	2021
2026	28.9	83.8	41.6	163.3	161.8	166.0	645.4	282.2	0.307	0.453	0.760	2026
2031	28.4	88.1	45.6	163.4	169.4	181.6	676.5	297.2	0.308	0.480	0.788	2031
2036	28.6	89.4	49.7	160.4	188.5	187.7	704.3	312.0	0.296	0.471	0.767	2036



Source: Population data are Projection P-36, run in Summer 2011. 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.