

TELKWA AND SURROUNDING AREA PROFILE



Telkwa

SMITHERS | **TELKWA** | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | BURNS LAKE
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF





Telkwa and Surrounding Area

A picturesque, historic village, Telkwa is nestled on the banks of the world-renowned Bulkley and Telkwa Rivers. Surrounded by snow-capped mountain ranges and a myriad of lakes and streams, Telkwa's spectacular natural setting offers extensive outdoor adventure and recreational opportunities.

Residents of Telkwa have their choice of year-round wilderness adventures. Local sightseeing and adventure tour operators offer world-class hunting and sport fishing, hiking, canoeing, rafting, kayaking, bird watching and wilderness photography explorations. The adventures continue in the winter with phenomenal ice climbing, cross-country, backcountry and downhill skiing, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing. For a quiet day, Telkwa is also home to lush parks and historical buildings, including the restored 1910 St. Stephen's Anglican Church and the Pioneer Museum.

A friendly, safe and family oriented community, Telkwa is attractive to potential buyers as it offers a rural setting, with larger lots and lower priced housing. Telkwa is set for a wide range of interests and needs, with a library, high-speed internet access, building lots, prime commercial spaces, baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts, community hall, parks, and retail and home based businesses.

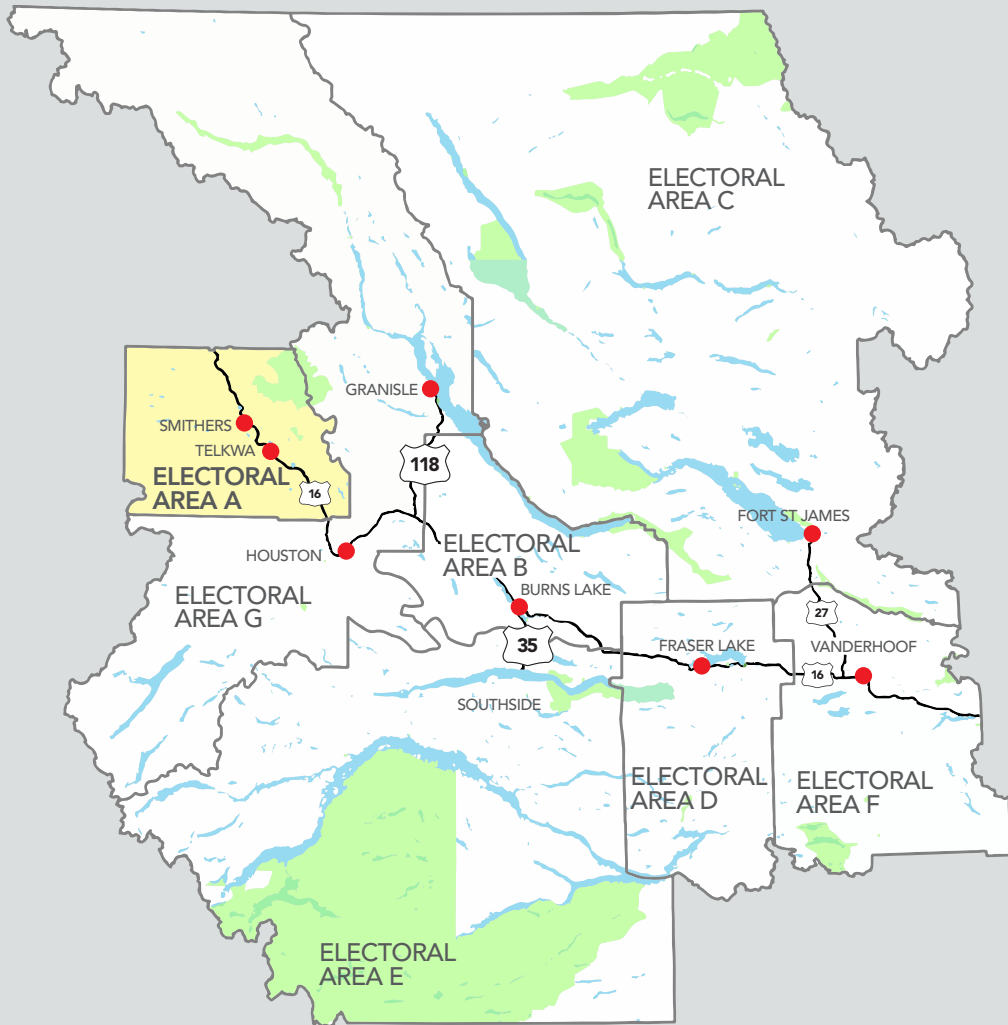
The Regional Profile

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Regional and Community Profiles bring together current and detailed demographic data as well as information about workforce, transportation, energy, utilities, local government and quality of life. The information about the region is intended to inform potential investors, support decisions to establish or expand a business and provide opportunities to future residents. The Community and Surrounding Rural Area profiles provide the complete picture of each Electoral Area, as well as insight into why residents love to work, live and play in the RDBN.

Northern BC is used as a comparative area in many of the profile graphs. In this case, the area of Northern BC is defined as the three northern [federal electoral areas](#) in the province, including Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Cariboo-Prince George, and Prince George-Peace River.

More information about the businesses and organizations listed in this document is available on the RDBN website under *Bulkley-Nechako Directory*. Please use the Bulkley-Nechako Directory by inserting the following website in your browser: directory.rdbn.bc.ca.


Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Map



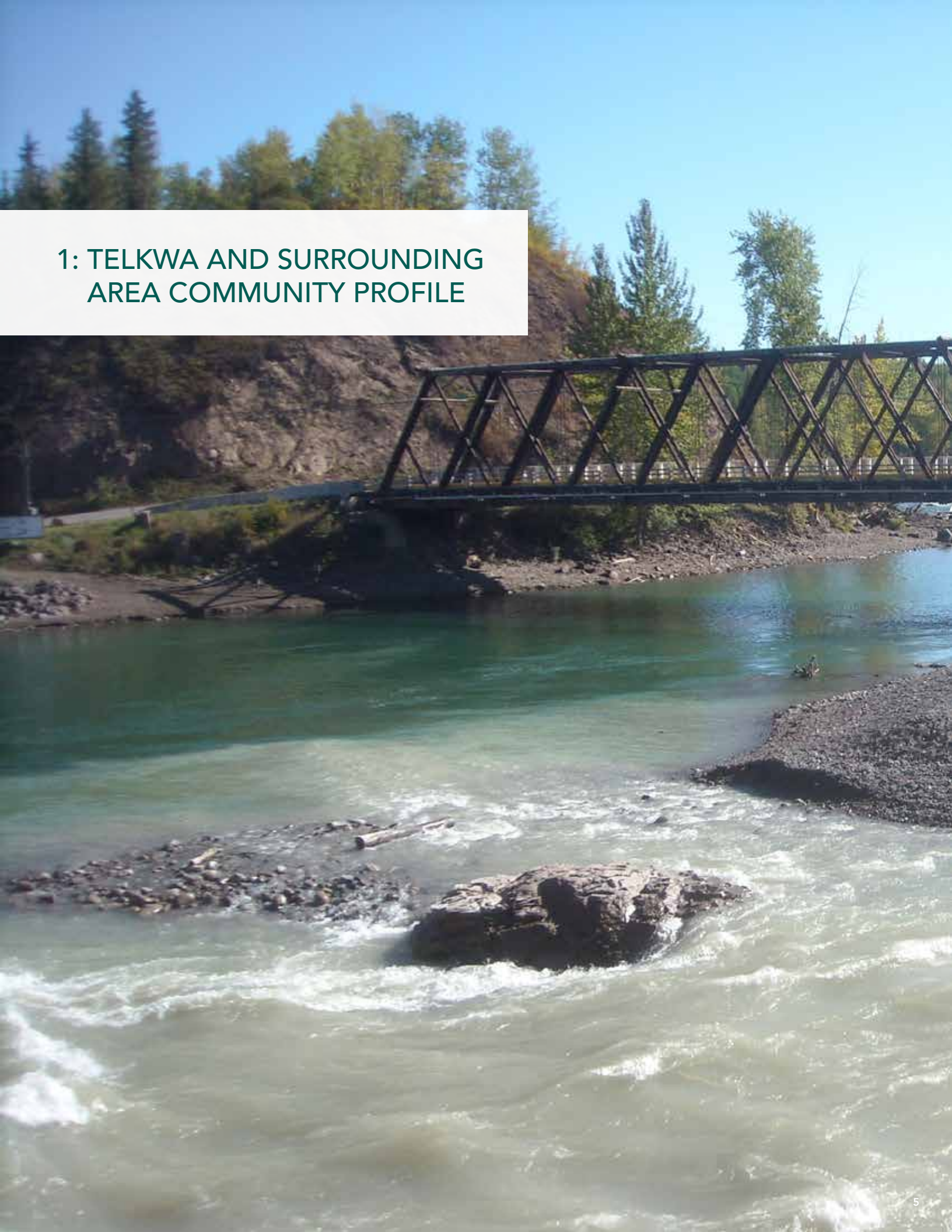
Distance from Telkwa to:

| PLACE | DISTANCE (KM) | DRIVING TIME (HR) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Prince George, BC | 356 | 3 hr 48 min |
| Kitimat, BC | 274 | 3 hr 25 min |
| Prince Rupert, BC | 362 | 4 hr 31 min |
| Edmonton, AB | 1,094 | 12 hr 17 min |
| Vancouver, BC | 1,136 | 12 hr 33 min |
| Calgary, AB | 1,140 | 13 hr 31 |
| Seattle, WA | 1,250 | 13 hr 49 min |
| Whitehorse, YT | 1,264 | 16 hr 50 min |
| Portland, OR | 1,530 | 16 hr 32 min |
| Yellowknife, NT | 1,960 | 23 hr 18 min |
| Anchorage, AK | 2,395 | 31 hr |

Legend

- Municipalities
 - Parks
 - Lakes
 - Electoral Area Boundary
 - Regional District Boundaries
 - Highway
- N


1: TELKWA AND SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY PROFILE



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth

Population growth in Telkwa, 2001-2011

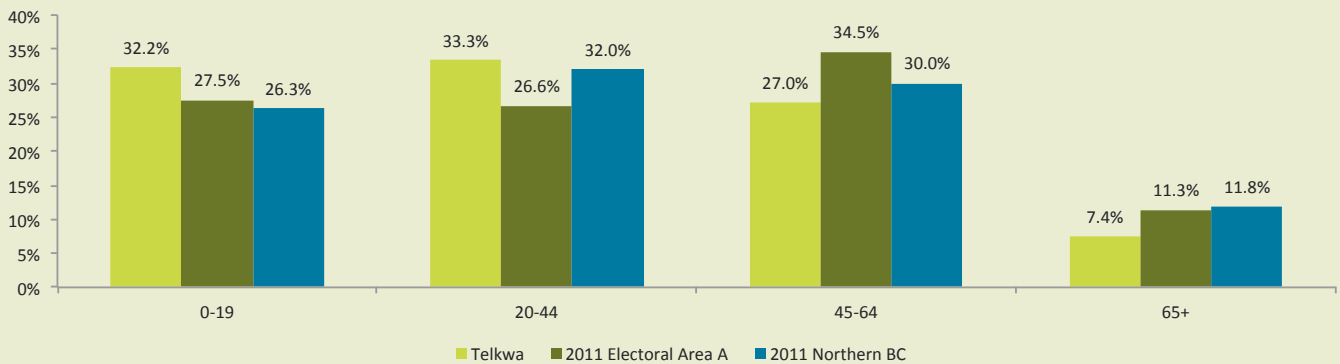
| POPULATION GROWTH | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Telkwa | 1,371 | 1,295 | 1,350 |
| Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) | 5,696 | 5,290 | 5,391 |
| Northern BC | 315,217 | 304,173 | 304,620 |

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

The Village of Telkwa had a population of 1,295 in 2006 and since continues to see a slow, steady growth. Telkwa experienced a 4.5% increase in population from 2006-2011 outpacing growth rates in Electoral Area A and Northern BC, which increased by 1.9% and 0.1% respectively.

Age Structure

Age structure in Telkwa and Electoral Area A, 2011

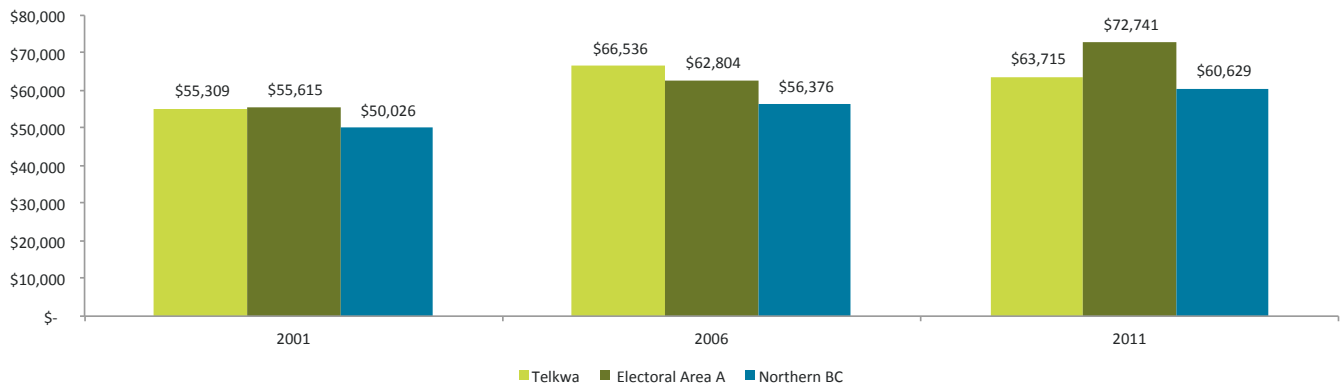


Source: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

The Village of Telkwa is one of the youngest municipalities in the region with a median age of 34. Telkwa is also generally younger than Electoral Area A and Northern BC. The median age in Telkwa is 34 while in the Electoral Area and Northern BC the median is 42 and 39 respectively. The age structure reveals that Telkwa has a higher youth population (ages 0-19) and lower percentage of people between the ages of 45-64 compared to the Electoral Area and Northern BC. Telkwa is also retaining their senior populations.

Household Income

Median household income in Telkwa and Electoral Area A, 2001-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006

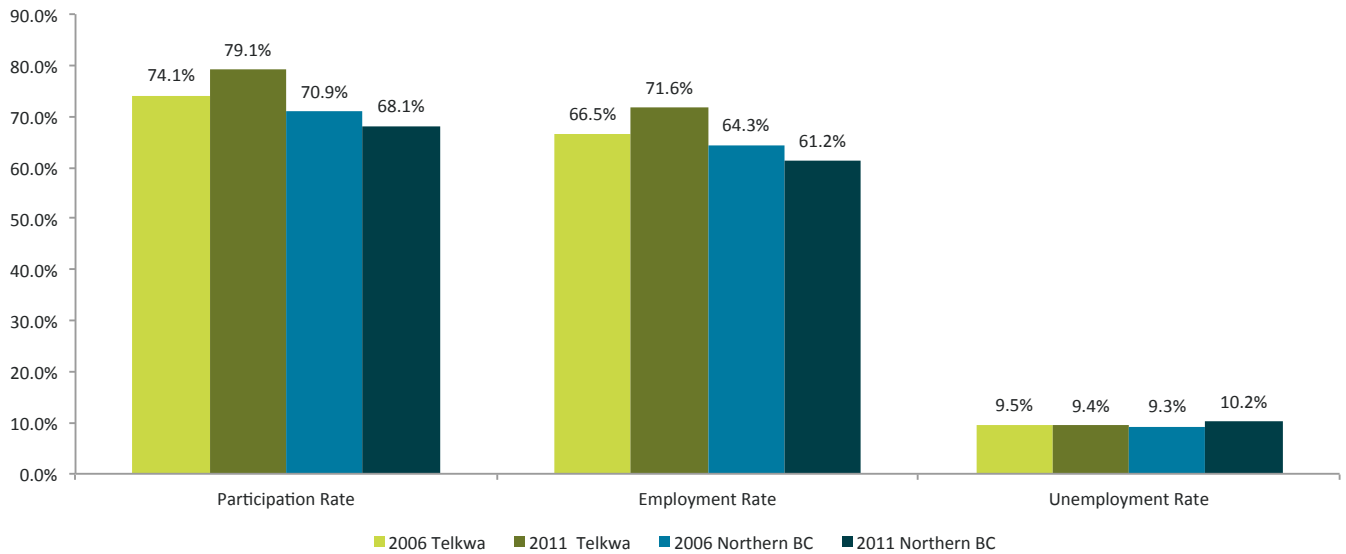
The median household income in Telkwa was higher than Northern BC from 2001-2011. When compared to the Electoral Area, household income in Telkwa was higher in 2006 and lower in 2011. From 2001-2006 household income in Telkwa grew by 20% while in the RDBN and Northern BC the rate was 13%.



WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment

Employment data in Telkwa and Northern BC 2006-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006

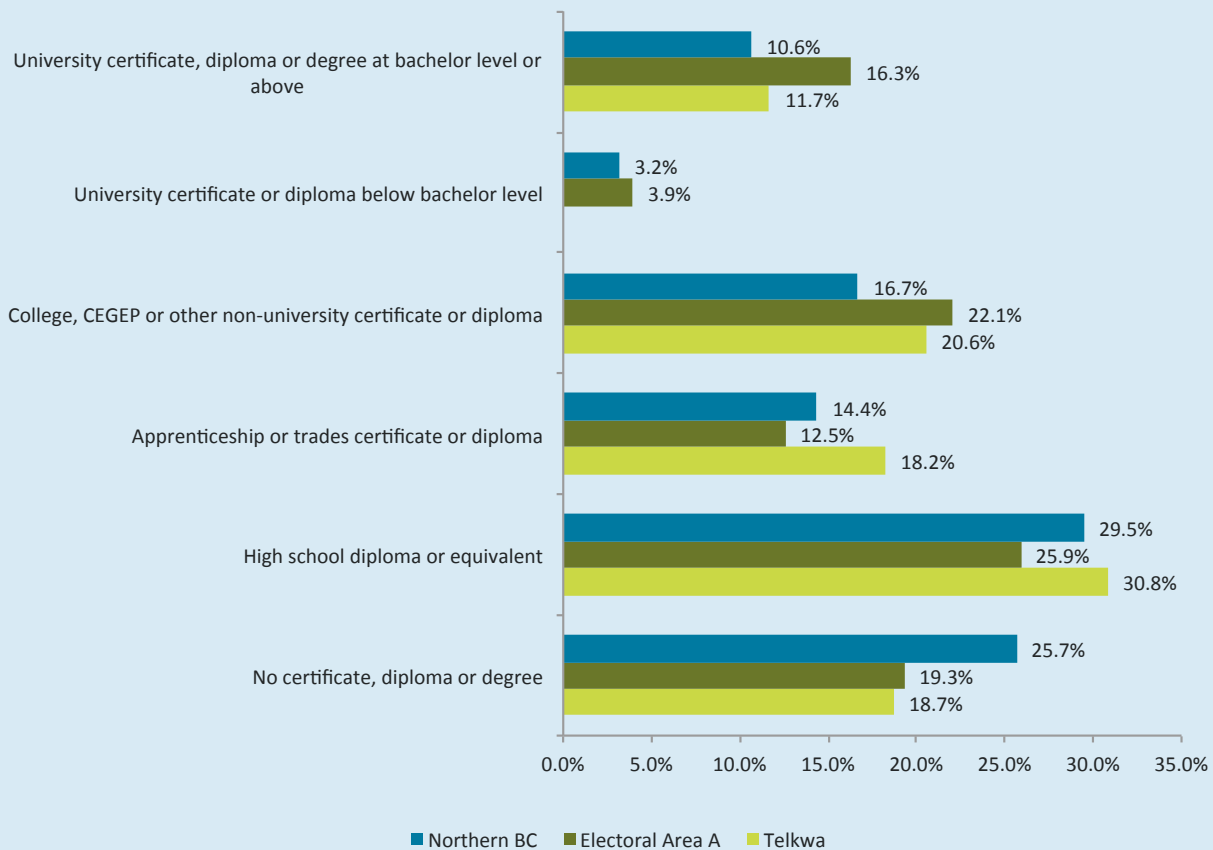
Telkwa has had a relatively stable unemployment rate from 2006-2011. In 2011 Telkwa had a lower unemployment rate compared to Northern BC and the highest participation rate amongst the municipalities in the region with a rate of 79%.





Education

Education in Telkwa and Electoral Area A, 2011

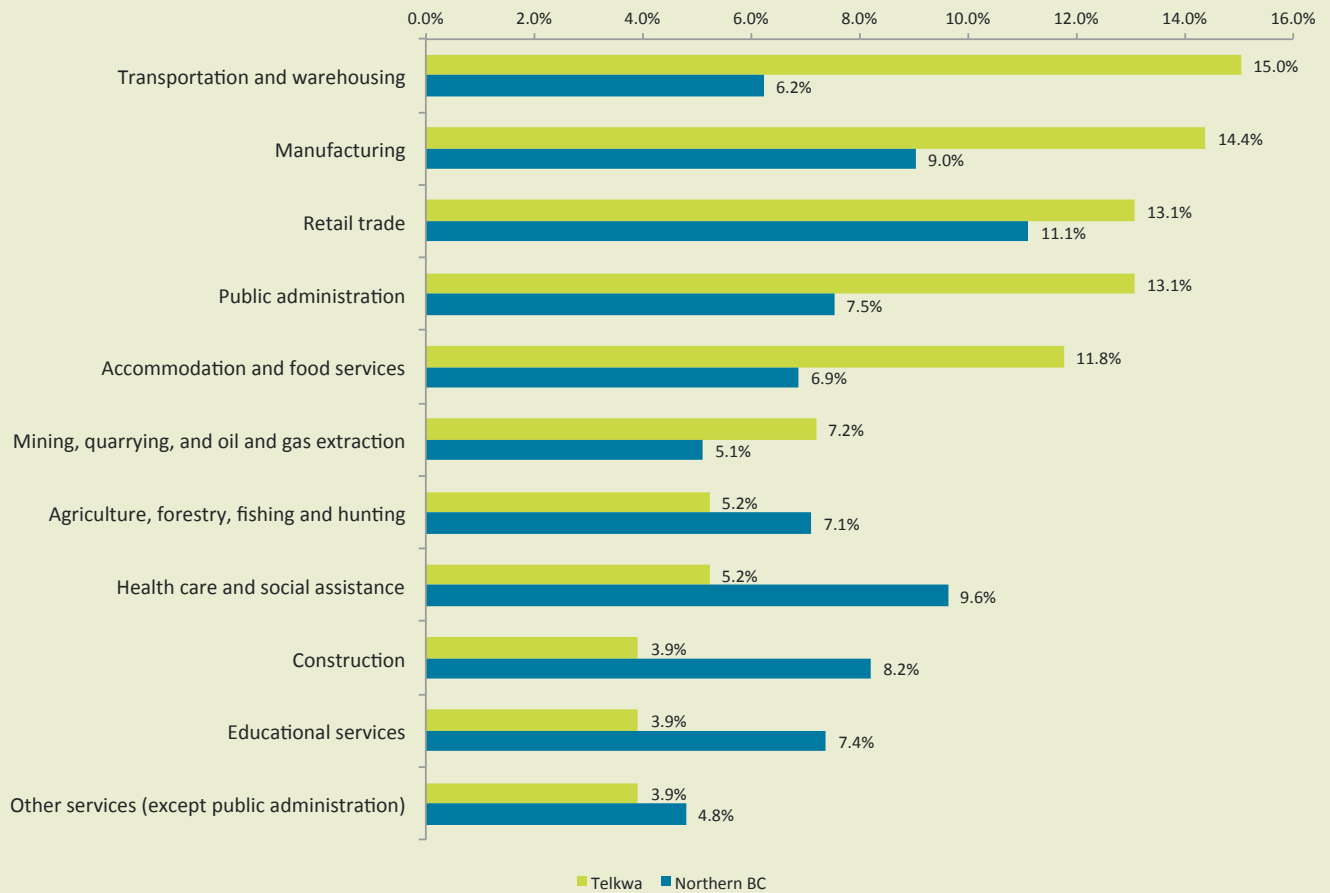


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

Telkwa’s population has the highest percentage of residents with an apprenticeship or trades certificates or diploma among the municipalities in the RDBN. The village has a higher percentage of people with a college and university degree and higher portion of people with an apprenticeship or trades certificates or diploma compared to Northern BC. The Electoral Area has a higher percentage of people with college and university degree and lower percentage with an apprenticeship or trades certificates or diploma compared to Telkwa.

Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Telkwa and Northern BC, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

In 2011 the Village of Telkwa had a total labour force of 765 people. The manufacturing, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services and public administration sectors were major sources of employment. Among these sectors, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service and public administration employ a much larger portion of the labour force than in Northern BC. The percentage of the labour force that works in transportation and warehousing in Telkwa is the highest among the municipalities in the RDBN.

Some of the major employers in the RDBN include the following:

| NAME | NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES |
|--|---------------------|
| Pro-Tech Forest Resources Ltd | 40 |
| Bulkley Valley Home Centre Ltd | 17 |

TRANSPORTATION

- [Smithers and District Transit - Public Transit](#)

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

- [Telus](#)
- [Citywest](#)
- [Uniserve](#)
- [Rogers](#)
- [Cybernet](#)

WATER AND WASTE

Water

Source of Water Supply and Means of Access

The Village of Telkwa's water is sourced primarily from the Bulkley River. The water is treated in a traditional Water Treatment Facility. The water is pumped from the Bulkley River to the water treatment plant which is located on the west side of the bridge. The water is treated and then sent through the distribution system with the reservoir acting as a backup. The Village of Telkwa also has another backup water source being the well.

Water Supply vs. Projected Demand

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Rated Capacity | 2,600 m ³ /d |
| Average Daily Demand | 1,000m ³ /d |
| Peak Demand | 2,600m ³ /d |

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Water Rates

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Single Family | \$504/year |
| Light Commercial/Industrial | \$741/year |

For further information on water rates in Telkwa please visit the following:

[Water Rates](#)

Description of Waste Treatment Facility and Capacity

Telkwa has aerated lagoons and a capacity of 2,000 residential customer equivalent.

Solid Waste Disposal Services

Curbside garbage is picked up weekly.

Recycling

Telkwa is leading the way with recycling services and since 2011 has carried out curbside recycling services every second week to the residents of Telkwa.

SOURCES OF POWER

The Village of Telkwa is an energy provider with their 300 Kilowatt equivalent district heating system. There is potential for expansion of this system. Local businesses can contact the municipality for more information and current rates.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Taxes

The following chart summarizes the 2013 tax rates in Telkwa. For up to date information contact the municipality. Tax rates are calculated in dollars of tax per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value.

| PURPOSE OF TAX RATE | RESIDENTIAL | UTILITIES | MAJOR INDUSTRY | LIGHT INDUSTRY | BUSINESS / OTHER | MANAGED FOREST LAND | RECREATION / NON-PROFIT | FARM |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Municipal | 6.3437 | 30.7643 | 0.0000 | 22.4041 | 12.6422 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| Regional District | 1.1561 | 4.0462 | 0.0000 | 3.9306 | 2.8323 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| Hospital District | 0.6617 | 2.3160 | 0.0000 | 2.2498 | 1.6212 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| School | 3.0906 | 14.0000 | 6.2000 | 10.8000 | 6.2000 | 2.3000 | 3.4000 | 6.9000 |
| Other | 0.4759 | 1.9736 | 1.9321 | 1.5919 | 1.1977 | 1.5798 | 0.4759 | 0.4759 |
| Total | 11.7280 | 53.1001 | 8.1321 | 40.9764 | 24.4934 | 3.8798 | 3.8759 | 7.3759 |

Development Processes and Fees

A business license with the Village of Telkwa costs \$60 per year. A seasonal rate of \$30 per year is also available.

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Telkwa's official community plan and zoning bylaw are available at the community www.telkwa.com. The following plans are internationally award winning planning documents.

- [Official Community Plan](#)
- [Zoning Bylaw](#)
- [Affordable Housing Needs Assessment](#)
- [Integrated Community Sustainability Plan](#)
- [Age Friendly Assessment](#)
- [Housing Needs Survey](#)

Incentive Programs

Business Support Services

The Village of Telkwa offers economic development services to the business community. Telkwa staff and elected officials welcome strategic and sustainable investment and work with prospective developers and entrepreneurs to assist investors.

Once a month a local Telkwa business is named 'Telkwa's Business of the Month'. The "Business of the Month" feature highlights the skills and services of a Telkwa local business license holder through a professionally written article and high quality photographs. This is free business advertising in a municipal mail out newsletter, on area radio stations as well as through social media. Business information is also searchable through a permanent link on the municipal website, www.telkwa.com.

A list of business license holders in Telkwa with key contact information is maintained on the municipal website.

In 2012 Telkwa created mobile vendor areas to encourage caterers and potential restaurateurs to test the market. This was a great success that shows the need and demand for food service and retail providers in the community.

2014 Projects will include the Business Facade Improvement Program and the Small Town Love website development.

Local Economic Development Services

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact the Economic Development Officer.

Jane Stevenson
Economic Development Officer
Village of Telkwa
Email: jstevenson@telkwa.com
Phone: 250-846-5212

Mayor Contact

Mayor Darcy Repen
Box 473
Telkwa, BC V0J 2X0
Email: darcyrepen@gmail.com



QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Housing

Housing in Telkwa is primarily residential. Telkwa has an eight unit low income seniors housing facility.

The housing stock in the municipality consists of the following:

| DESCRIPTION OF TYPICAL HOUSING STOCK | # OF UNITS |
|---|------------|
| Total Private Dwellings (2011 census) | 498 |
| Private dwellings occupied by usual residents (2011 census) | 497 |
| Single detached houses (2006 census) | 460 |
| # of owned dwellings (2006 census) | 440 |
| # of rented dwellings (2006 census) | 20 |
| RECENT AND FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS | # OF UNITS |
| # of dwellings constructed before 1986 (2006 census) | 280 |
| # of dwellings constructed between 1986-2006 (2006 census) | 180 |

The typical cost for a single family home is as follows:

| TYPE OF HOUSING | COST |
|--|-----------|
| Single Family Homes (BC Stats – Community) | \$149,026 |





Accommodations

- Cointe River Inn
- Eddy Park Lodge

Restaurants

- Midway Restaurant
- Telkwa Backerei and Kaffeehaus

Other Facilities with Capacity for Hosting Events

- Community Stage
- Telkwa Community Hall
- Tree House Housing Association, “The Ark” Community Daycare
- St. Stephen’s Anglican Church
- Telkwa Seniors Hall

Shopping

Shopping District: Downtown Telkwa

Media

- Interior News
- CFTK
- CJFW
- The Peak/BVLD
- CBC

Local Community Organizations

- Telkwa Community Initiatives Society
- Telkwa Seniors Association
- Telkwa Seniors Housing Society
- Bulkley Valley Kinsmen and Kinettes
- Telkwa and District Volunteer Fire Department
- Telkwa Elementary School
- Parent Advisory Committee
- Telkwa Christian Reformed Church
- Faith Reformed Church of Telkwa
- Mt. Zion Lutheran Congregation at St. Stephens
- Telkwa Museum Society

Local Community Assets

- Telkwa Senior Centre
- Bulkley River and Telkwa River
- Perimeter Walkway throughout Village
- Timber Framed Outdoor Stage (electricity)
- Community Grounds, “BBQ Grounds”
- Eddy Park
- St. Stephen’s Heritage Anglican Church
- Telkwa Visitor Information Centre
- Telkwa Reading Center
- Telkwa Museum Society
- Telkwa Community Hall

Schools

Telkwa Elementary School (K-7).

“The Village of Telkwa is not only the place we choose to live, it is the place we choose to operate our business. We are surrounded by majestic mountains, world class rivers, and nature trails to satisfy daily walkers or the more serious hiker. Our business community is growing because of the loyal people who choose to support local businesses whether big or small. The residents of Telkwa themselves are who we are most proud of. Telkwa is our home, yet the door is always open to prospective new businesses.” **Leroy & Patricia Dekens**, Midway Services

“Telkwa is a young community with a population that has been steadily growing. We have lots of young families and we are retaining our seniors too. We have commercial rental space available in Telkwa and welcome entrepreneurs!” **Jane Stevenson**, Economic Development Officer, Village of Telkwa

www.telkwa.com



SMITHERS | **TELKWA** | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | BURNS LAKE
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF

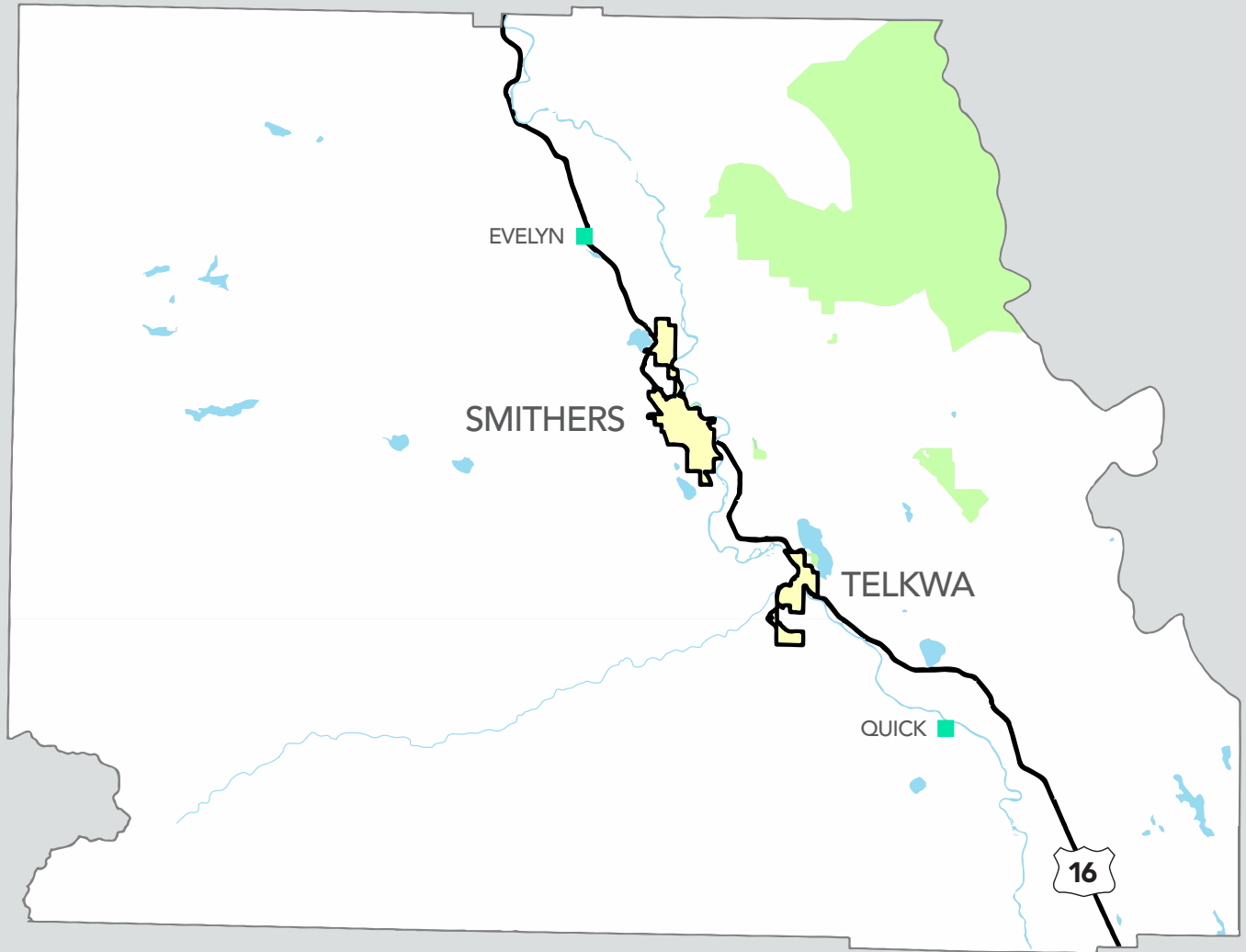


2: ELECTORAL AREA A (SMITHERS RURAL)






ELECTORAL AREA 'A'

(Smithers Rural)



Legend

-  Municipal Boundary
-  Unincorporated Communities
-  Lakes

-  Electoral Area Boundary
-  Parks
-  Highway



Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural)

Smithers Rural, or Electoral Area A, is the most populated Electoral Area in The RDBN. The rural area is known for its mountainous landscape and the municipalities of Smithers and Telkwa within its boundaries.

The rural area has a relatively high median household income, a high percentage of university and college graduates in its population and relatively high participation in the local labour force.

The Office of the Wet'suwet'en is located in Smithers, which manages the surrounding traditional territory.



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth

Population growth in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural), 2001-2011

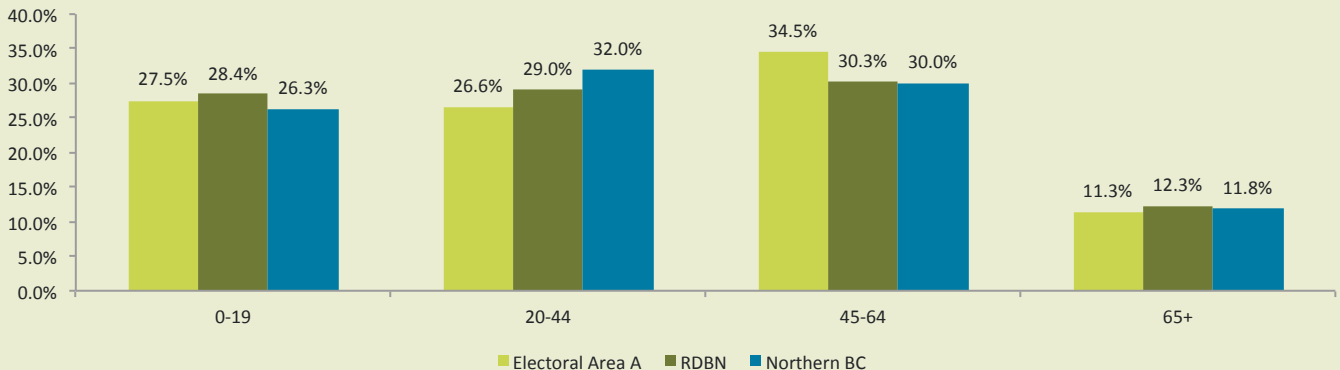
| POPULATION GROWTH | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Electoral District A | 5,696 | 5,290 | 5,391 |
| Regional District Bulkley-Nechako | 40,856 | 38,243 | 39,208 |
| Northern BC | 315,217 | 304,173 | 304,620 |

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile 2001-2011.

Electoral Area A had the highest population among the electoral areas in the RDBN with a total population of 5,391 in 2011. The population has remained relatively stable over the past 5 years. From 2001-2006 however, the population in the Northern BC decreased by 3.5% while in Electoral Area A the decrease was 7.1%. This trend changed from 2006 to 2011 when the Electoral Area saw a 1.9% increase in population, greater than the 0.1% growth experienced in Northern BC.

Age Structure

Age structure in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2011

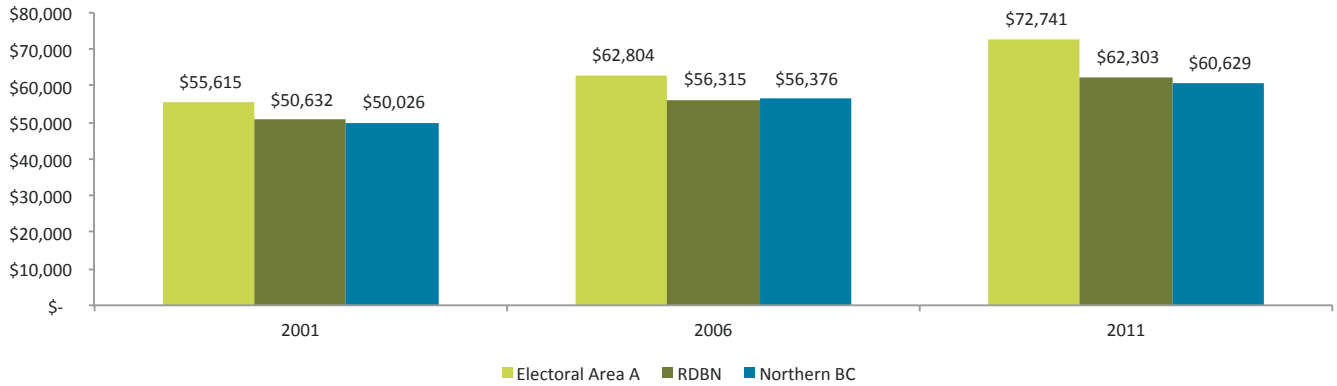


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011.

The population of Electoral Area A tended to be older than the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011. The median age in the Electoral Area was 42 while in the RDBN and Northern BC the median was 39. Its age structure reveals that Electoral Area A had a higher older worker population (ages 45-64) and slightly lower proportion of residents aged 65 years and older compared to the RDBN and Northern BC.

Household Income

Median household income in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2001-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006.

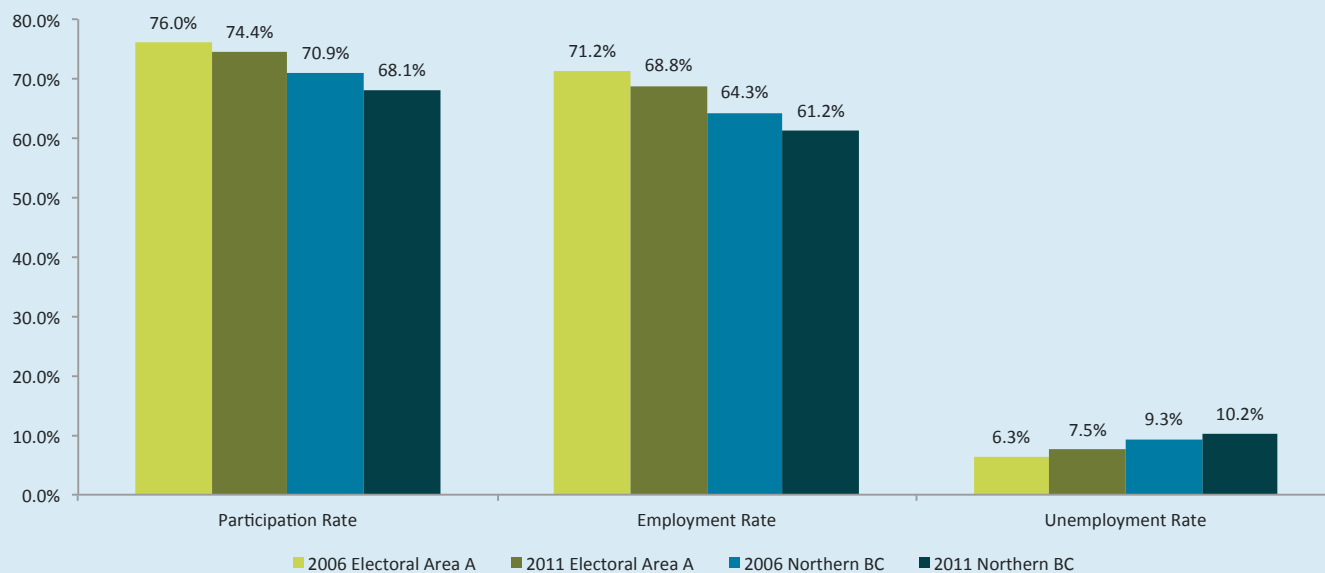
In 2011, Electoral Area A had the highest median household income among the electoral areas, of \$72,741. The household income in Electoral Area A has been higher than in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2001 to 2011. Income growth during this period also outpaced growth in the RDBN and Northern BC. Electoral Area A experienced a 13% increase in median household income between 2001 and 2006 and a 16% increase from 2006 to 2011.



WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment

Employment data in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2006-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006.

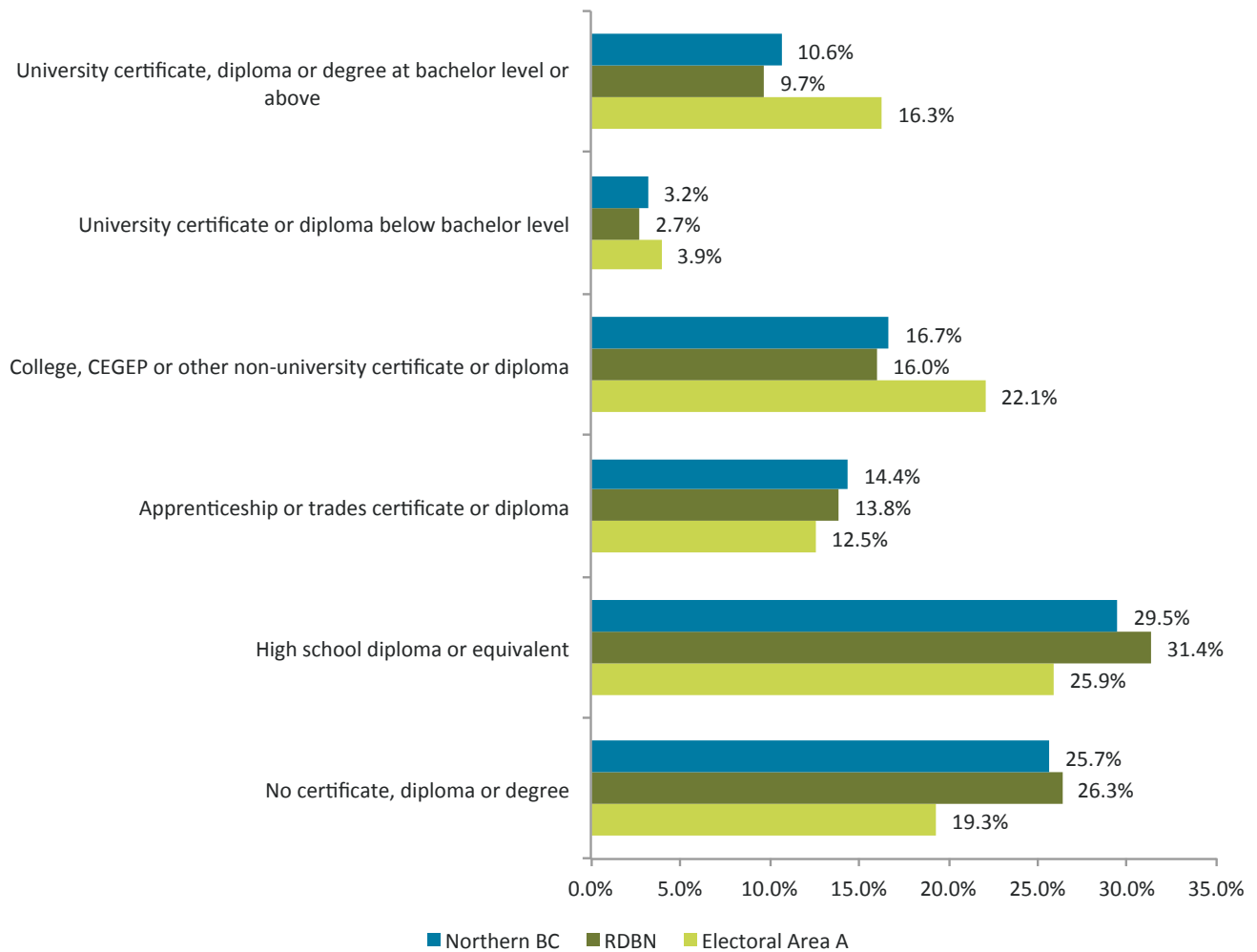
In 2011, Electoral Area A had the lowest unemployment rate and highest participation rate among the electoral areas in the RDBN. Electoral Area A had a lower unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2006 and 2011 and the unemployment rate increase from 2006 to 2011 was similar to Northern BC.





Education

Education in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2001

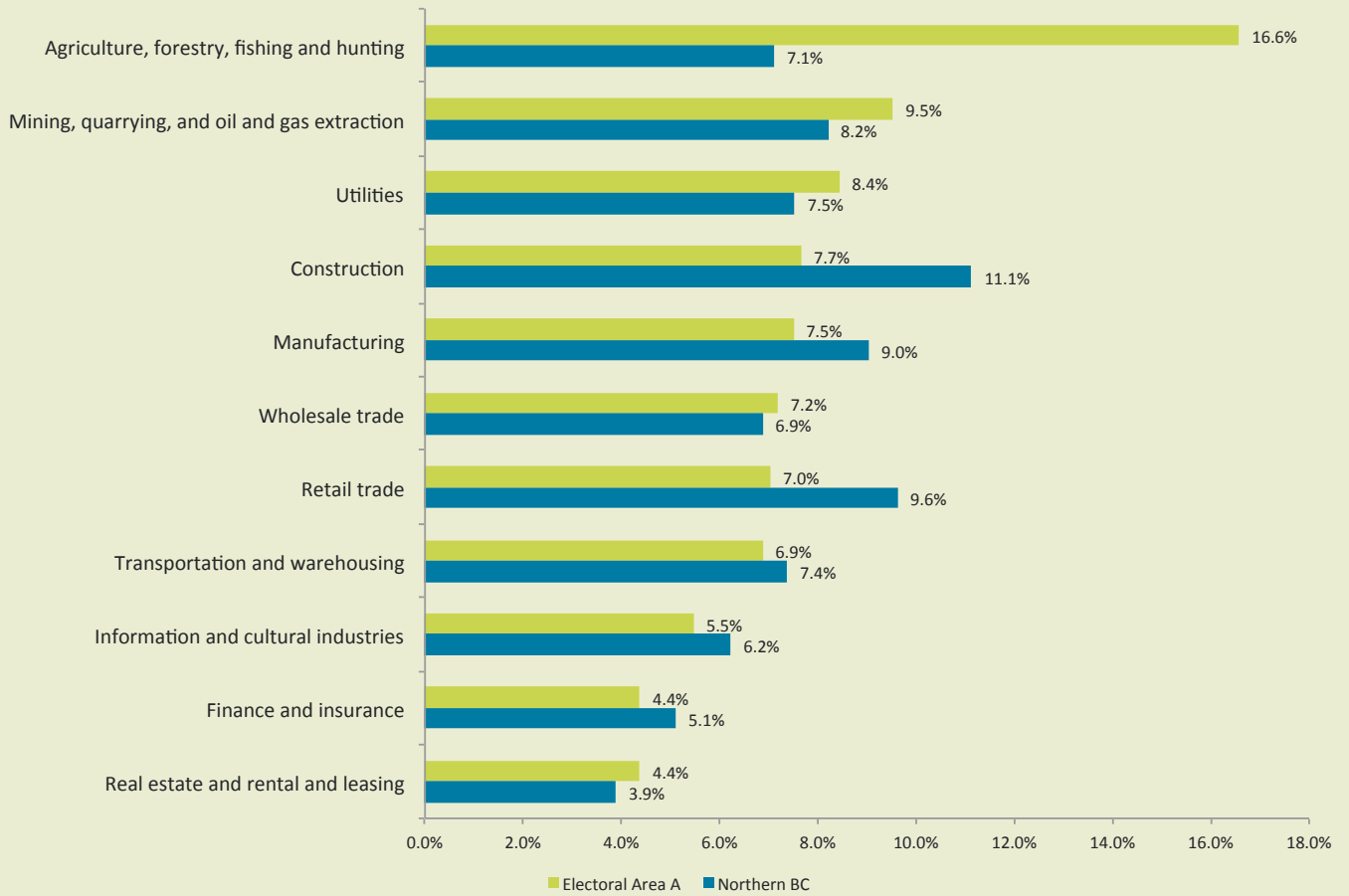


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

Electoral Area A had a well-educated population compared to Northern BC in 2011. A higher portion of the population in the Electoral Area had a university or college education compared to the RDBN and Northern BC. Electoral Area A also had an equivalent portion people with an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma to the RDBN in 2011.

Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011, Electoral Area A had a total labour force of 3,200 people. The major sources of employment came from primary industries such as agriculture, forestry, and fishing. The primary industries employed around 17% of the labour force, while in Northern BC this sector accounts for only 7% of the work force. The construction and public administration sectors are also major employers as they support 10% and 8% of employment.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Electoral Area A, Smithers Rural, official community plan is available at www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department.
[Burns Lake Rural Official Community Plan](#)

First Nations Services

The Office of the Wet'suwet'en is located in Smithers and was created as a central office for a number of First Nations in the area. The office offers many services throughout the traditional territories focusing on lands and resources, fisheries & wildlife, human and social services and treaty negotiations.

Local Economic Development Services

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact:

Corrine Swenson
Manager of Regional Economic Development
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Email: corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca
Phone: 250-692-3195 / 1-800-320-3339

Allan Stroet
Economic Development Officer
Bulkley Valley Economic Development Association
Email: allanstroet@bveda.ca
Phone: 250-847-4355

Electoral Area Director Contact

Director Mark Fisher
10668 Hislop Road
Telkwa, BC V0J 2X1
Email: mark.fisher@rdbn.bc.ca

QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Local Community Organizations

The following civic and social organizations are present in the area:

- Evelyn Community Hall
- Round Lake Community Hall
- Driftwood Community Hall
- Smithers Motocross Association
- Smithers Ski Club
- Smithers Snowmobile Association
- Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club

Local Community Assets

The following is a list of physical and intangible assets within the community:

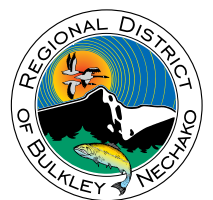
- Riverside Golf Course and RV Park
- Smithers Golf and Country Club
- Hudson Bay Mountain Resort
- Hankin Evelyn Back Country Ski Area



www.rdbn.bc.ca



SMITHERS | **TELKWA** | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | BURNS LAKE
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF





3: REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO PROFILE

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Profile

Located in the heart of British Columbia and home to 8 unique municipalities, 7 electoral areas, and 13 First Nations, the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) boasts extraordinary natural beauty, vibrant small town culture and exciting business opportunities.

Residents of RDBN enjoy the natural splendor of snow-capped mountains in winter, refreshing lakes and rivers in the summer, abundant and diverse wildlife, a wealth of community events, and all-season recreation create an abundance of activities for the outdoor enthusiast. Quality of life is highly valued; the natural amenities of the region and family values are an integral part of life in the RDBN.

Culture and history are an important part of life in the RDBN, where a strong agricultural heritage and natural resource economy are the foundations of its welcoming, family friendly communities. Cultural experiences enjoyed by residents include charming local museums, inspiring First Nations events and artwork, historic sites, galleries, theatres, and unique small businesses.

The Regional Profile

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Regional and Community Profiles bring together current and detailed demographic data as well as information about workforce, transportation, energy, utilities, local government and quality of life. The information about the region is intended to inform potential investors, support decisions to establish or expand a business and provide opportunities to future residents. The Community and Surrounding Rural Area profiles provide the complete picture of each Electoral Area, as well as insight into why residents love to work, live and play in the RDBN.

Northern BC is used as a comparative area in many of the profile graphs. In this case, the area of Northern BC is defined as the three northern [federal electoral areas](#) in the province, including Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Cariboo- Prince George, and Prince George-Peace River.

More information about the businesses and organizations listed in this document is available on the RDBN website under *Bulkley-Nechako Directory*. Please use the Bulkley-Nechako Directory by inserting the following website in your browser: directory.rdbn.bc.ca.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth

Population growth in the RDBN and Northern BC, 2001-2011

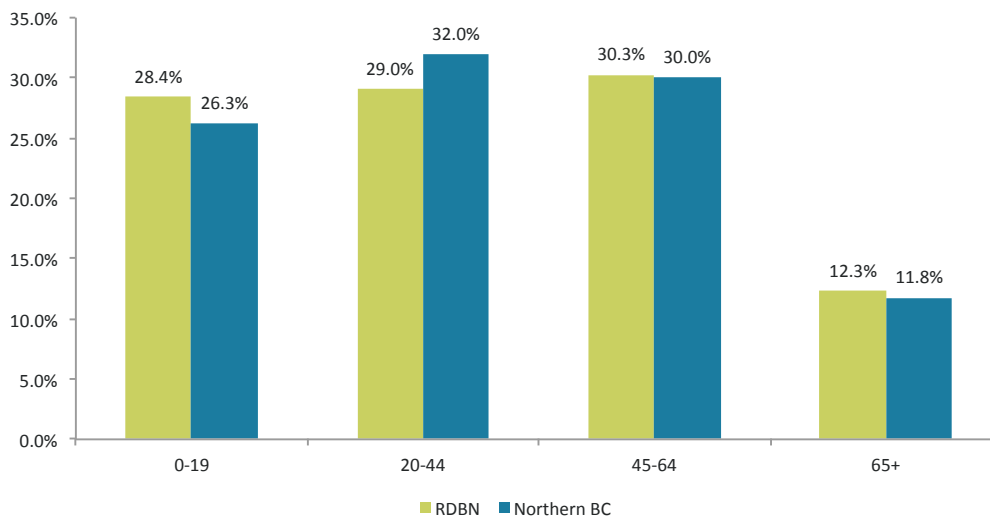
| POPULATION GROWTH | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako | 40,856 | 38,243 | 39,208 |
| Northern BC | 315,217 | 304,173 | 304,620 |

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

The population of the RDBN was 39,208 in 2011. From 2001 to 2006 the population of Northern BC decreased by 3.5%, while the RDBN's population decreased by 6.4%. However, the RDBN's population increased by 2.5% from 2006 to 2011, which outpaced the growth rate of 0.1% in Northern BC.

Age Structure

Age structure in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011

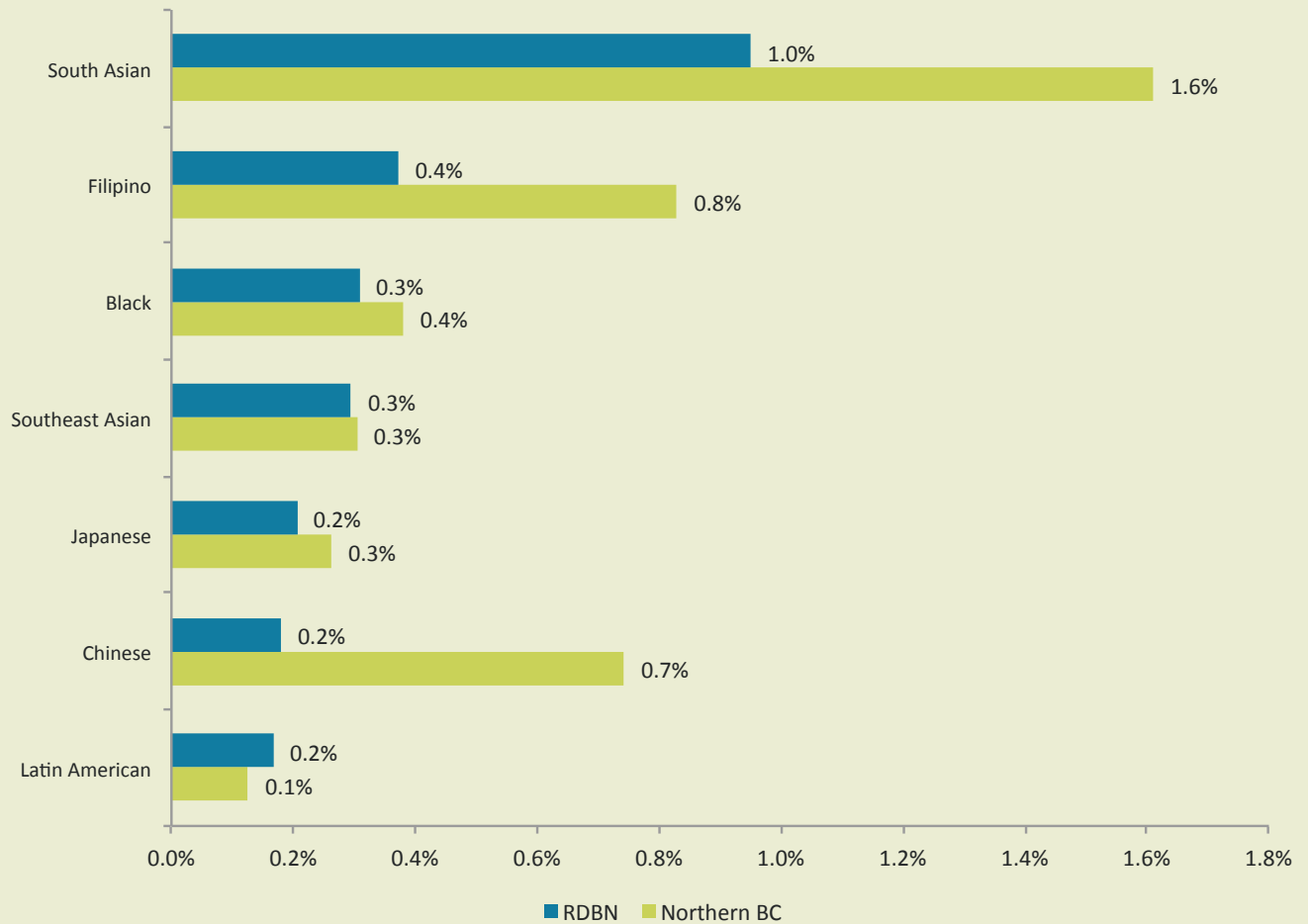


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

Residents of the RDBN and Northern BC had a median age of 39 in 2011. The age structure of the region reveals that the RDBN had a higher youth population (ages 0-19) when compared to Northern BC. A lower portion of the RDBN's population was between the ages of 20-44 as compared to Northern BC.

Ethnic diversity

Visible minority population in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

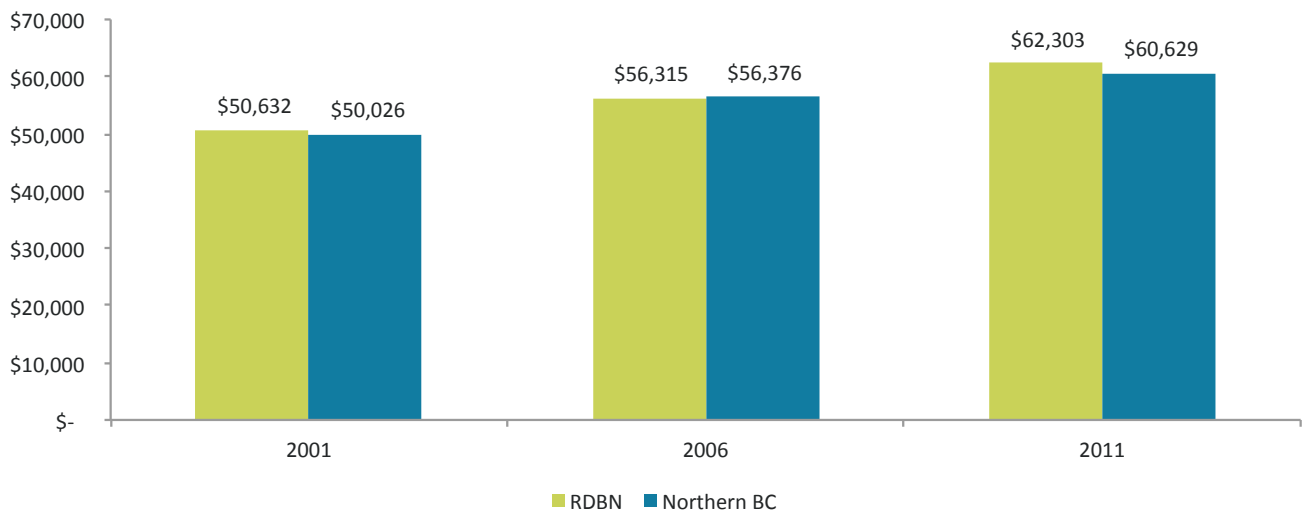
The total visible minority population of the RDBN was 2.5% of its total population, while Northern BC's proportion of visible minorities was higher, at 4.5%. The RDBN and Northern BC had a similar distribution of population amongst visible minority groups in 2011.





Household Income

Median household income in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2001-2011



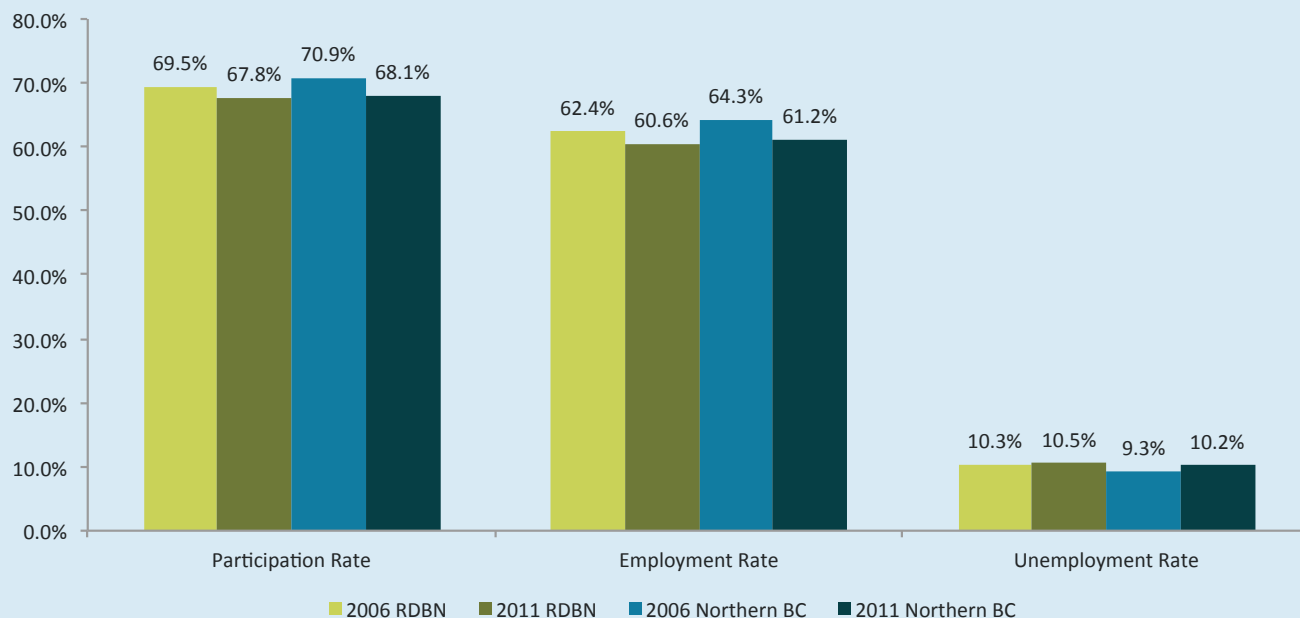
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006

The median household income in the RDBN has generally been similar to Northern BC with the exception of 2011 where it was slightly higher. The RDBN experienced an 11% increase in household income from 2001-2006, while in Northern BC incomes grew by 13%. From 2006 to 2011, the median household income in the RDBN grew by 11% while in Northern BC it grew by 8%.

WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment

Employment data in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2006-2011



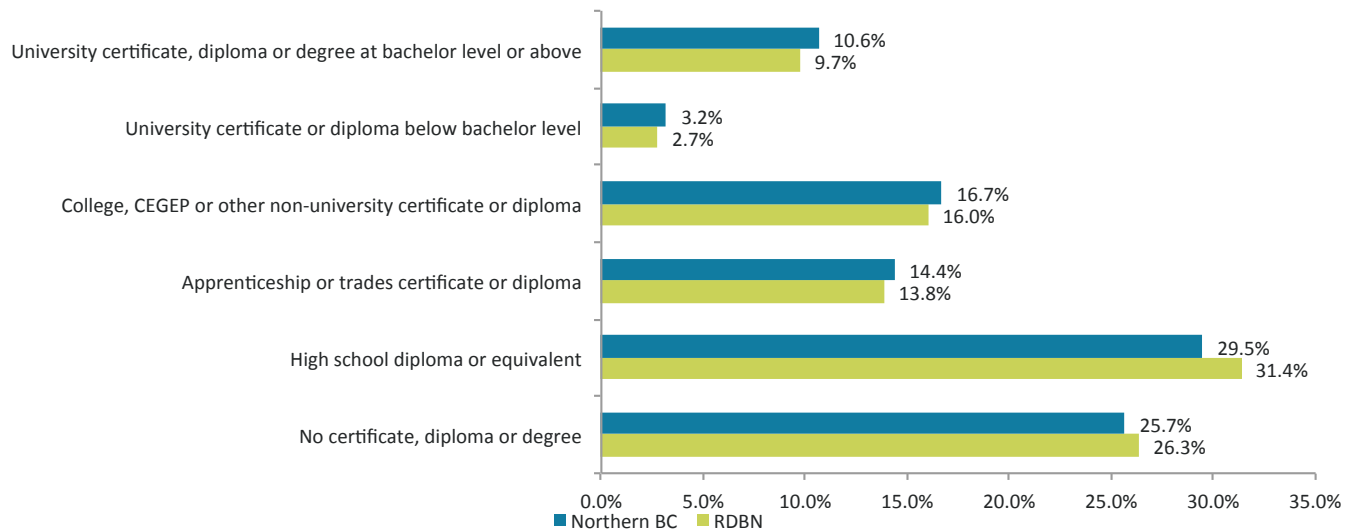
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006

The RDBN had a higher unemployment rate than Northern BC from 2006 to 2011. The unemployment rate in the RDBN remained relatively stable from 2006 to 2011 while in Northern BC the rate increased by 1%.



Education

Educational attainment in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



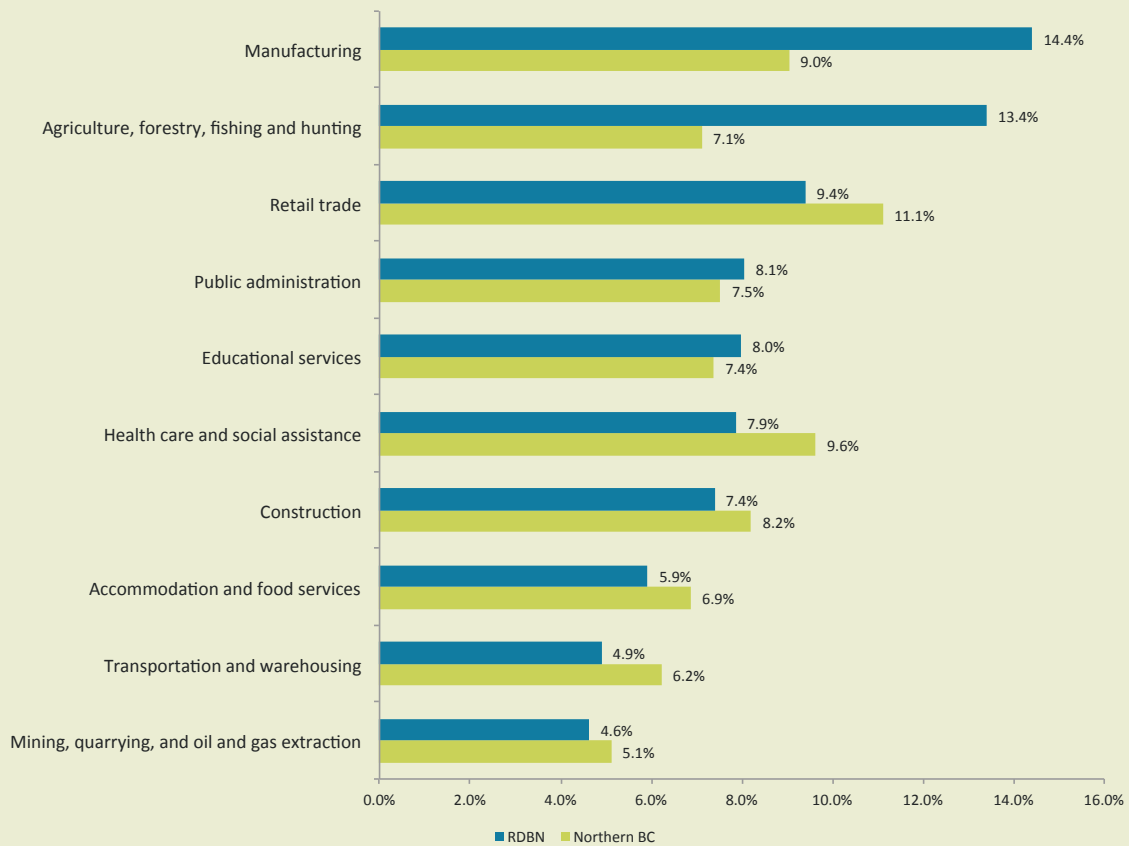
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

The population of Northern BC had a similar level of education as the RDBN in 2011. Although a higher proportion of Northern BC's population held a college or university diploma or degree, or an apprenticeship or trades certification compared to the RDBN, the differences are not substantial.



Labour Force By Industry

Labour force by industry in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011, the RDBN labour force numbered 20,430 people and the agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting and manufacturing sectors were the leading sources of employment. These two major sectors both employed a greater portion of the labour force than is the case across Northern BC.

Some of the major employers in the RDBN include the following:

| NAME | NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES | LOCATION |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| School District No. 91 | 725 | Regional |
| Thompson Creek Mining – Endako Mines | 379 | Fraser Lake |
| Canadian Forest Products - Houston Sawmill | 343 | Houston |
| Canadian Forest Products – Plateau Mills | 317 | Vanderhoof |
| West Fraser – Fraser Lake Sawmills | 300 | Fraser Lake |
| Huckleberry Mine | 280 | Houston |
| School District No. 54 | 270 | Smithers |
| Pacific Inland Resources | 240 | Regional |
| Sinclar Group Forest Products | 200 | Vanderhoof |
| St John Hospital | 200 | Vanderhoof |
| Hampton Affiliates Babine Forest Products | 200 | Burns Lake |
| Hy-Tech Diamond Drilling | 171 | Smithers |
| Apollo Forest Products | 156 | Fort St. James |
| Northern Health | 150 | Regional |
| Bulkley Valley Credit Union | 100 | Regional |
| College of New Caledonia | 100 | Burns Lake |
| DH Manufacturing | 100 | Houston |
| Conifex | 91 | Fort St. James |

Post-Secondary Education Facilities

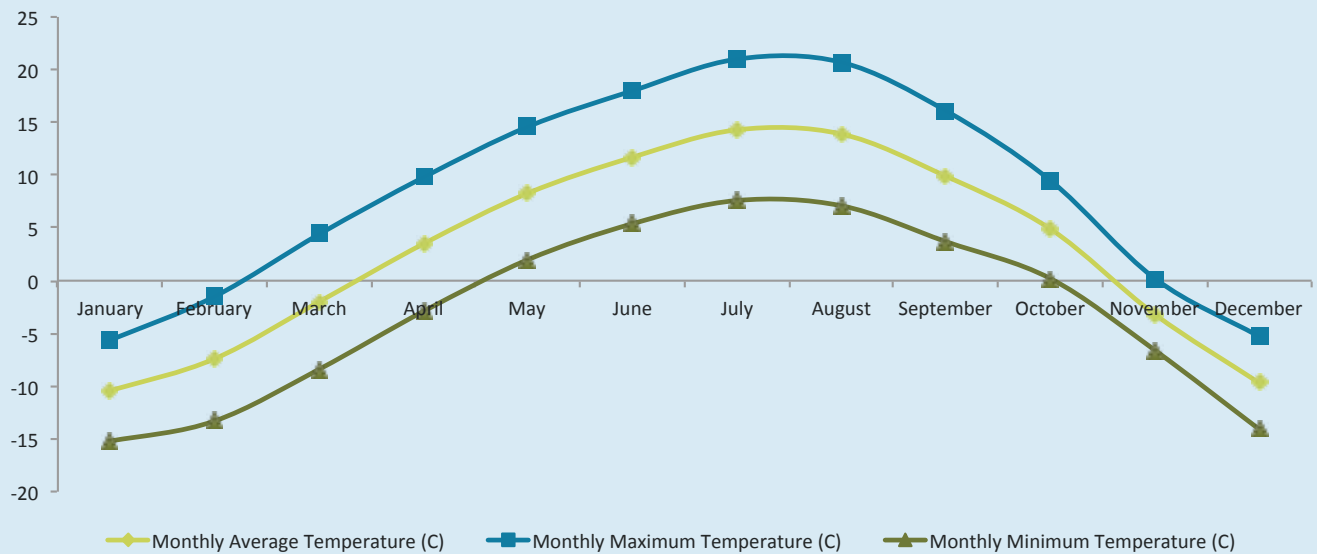
In the RDBN, post-secondary educational facilities are conveniently available in many communities.

| POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION | CAMPUS |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Northwest Community College | Smithers, Houston |
| College of New Caledonia | Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, Burns Lake, Fraser Lake |

CLIMATE

Monthly Temperature

Monthly temperature in the RDBN in 2010



Environment Canada: 1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals

The warmest months of the year in the RDBN are between June and August, when temperatures reach above 20°C. The coldest months of the year occur between December and January, when temperatures drop below -15°C.



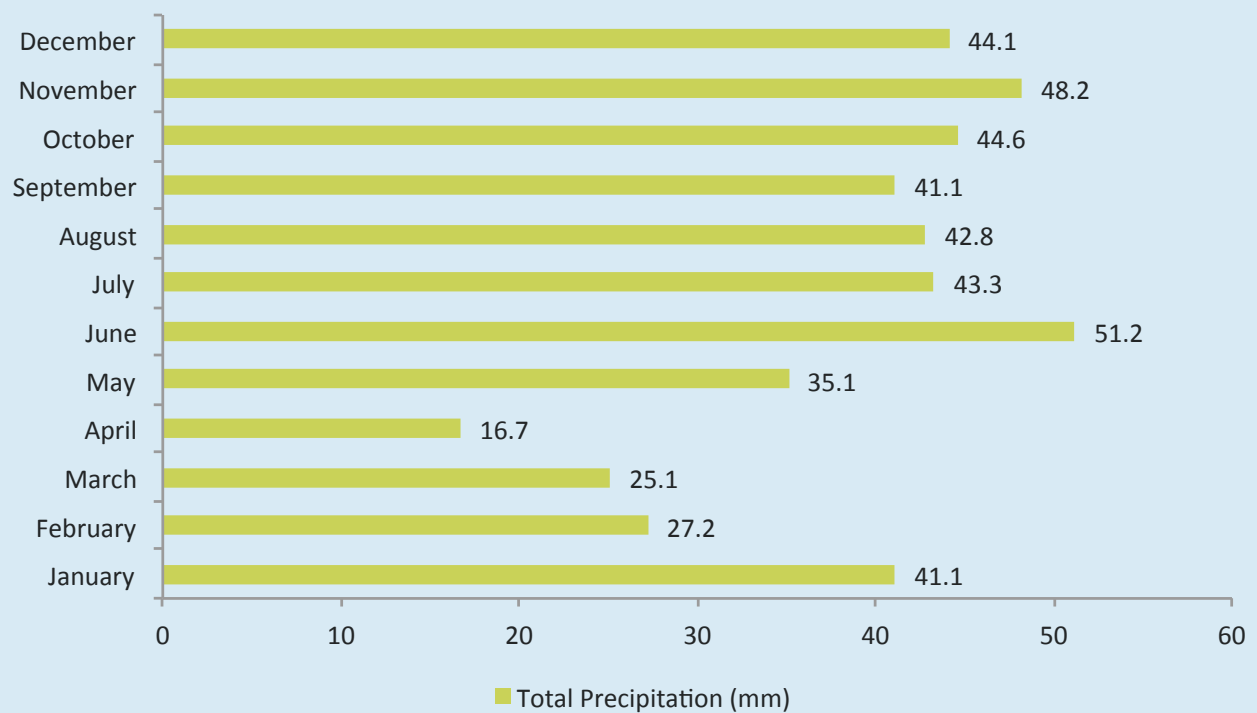
Wind Speed

| LOCATION | PERIOD | MEAN WIND SPEED | MEAN WIND ENERGY | WEIBULL SHAPE PARAMETER (K) | WEIBULL SCALE PARAMETER (A) |
|--|--------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Burns Lake Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.216, longitude = -125.751 | Annual | 2.54 m/s | 20.50 W/m ² | 1.59 | 2.83 m/s |
| Houston Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.395, longitude = -126.653 | Annual | 1.71 m/s | 8.75 W/m ² | 1.29 | 1.85 m/s |
| Smithers Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.785, longitude = -127.163 | Annual | 2.20 m/s | 12.88 W/m ² | 1.64 | 2.46 m/s |
| Telkwa Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.668, longitude = -127.060 | Annual | 2.66 m/s | 22.13 W/m ² | 1.67 | 2.98 m/s |
| Fraser lake Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.062, longitude = -124.558 | Annual | 2.60 m/s | 23.38 W/m ² | 1.53 | 2.89 m/s |
| Vanderhoof Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 53.727, longitude = -123.656 | Annual | 3.09 m/s | 26.75 W/m ² | 2.12 | 3.49 m/s |
| Fort St James Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.467, longitude = -124.298 | Annual | 3.37 m/s | 42.50 W/m ² | 1.74 | 3.78 m/s |
| Granisle Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.903, longitude = -126.245 | Annual | 2.67 m/s | 24.25 W/m ² | 1.57 | 2.97 m/s |
| Electoral Area E Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 53.939, longitude = -125.361 | Annual | 4.47 m/s | 99.63 W/m ² | 1.74 | 5.02 m/s |

Data Source: <http://www.windatlas.ca/en/nav.php?no=52&field=EU&height=30&season=ANU>

Precipitation

Precipitation in the RDBN in 2010



Source: Environment Canada, 1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals

The RDBN experienced the lowest amount of precipitation during the months of February to April in 2010, as little as 17mm per month. In contrast, the most precipitation fell during June and November, surpassing 50mm per month.



TRANSPORTATION

Road

Highway 16 is the main paved transportation route running east to west through the RDBN. Highway 16 is the transportation route for goods being shipped in and out of the region.

The following provincial highways connect communities to the Highway 16 corridor:

- Highway 27 to Fort St. James from Highway 16 (Vanderhoof)
- Highway 35 to Francois Lake/Southbank from Highway 16 (Burns Lake)
- Highway 118 to Granisle from Highway 16 (Topley)

Rail

The Canadian National Railway follows the Highway 16 corridor from Prince George to Prince Rupert, with service through the RDBN. Currently, CN Rail is upgrading the rail line to accommodate an increase in traffic due to goods being shipped to Asia. Prince George, to the east of the RDBN, is the regional trading centre for Northern BC, where CN Rails Intermodal Terminal is located. The Intermodal terminal is designed to support customers shipping to and from Asia through the Port of Prince Rupert.

VIA Rail operates ‘The Skeena’ passenger train, running from Jasper to Prince Rupert and back again, with stops in many of the communities within the RDBN. Passengers are able to disembark and take in the splendor of the communities on route. The journey passes through some of Canada’s most scenic areas.

Airport

Airports are an integral part of the RDBN economy. Air services support the region’s economic drivers of forestry, mining, tourism, and agriculture. Charter, passenger, and cargo services are available. The following airports operate within the region:

| NAME | LOCATION | OPERATOR |
|---|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Smithers Regional Airport | Smithers | Town of Smithers |
| Vanderhoof Airport | Vanderhoof | District of Vanderhoof |
| Baker Airport | Burns Lake | Lakes District Airport Society |
| Fort St James Perison Airport | Fort St. James | District of Fort St. James |
| Fraser Lake Airport | Fraser Lake | Village of Fraser Lake |
| Houston Airport | Houston | District of Houston |

The Smithers Regional airport is located 5 kms north of the Town of Smithers. This airport is the only airport in the region with scheduled passenger flights. Three commercial passenger airlines operate at the Smithers Airport:

- Air Canada—Daily service to Vancouver.
- Central Mountain Air—Service to and from Terrace, Prince George, Kamloops, and Kelowna.
- Hawkair—Service to and from Terrace and Vancouver.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Electricity and Gas Service Providers

The following businesses provide electricity and gas services:

- [BC Hydro](#)
- [Pacific Northern Gas](#)

Commercial and Residential Rates for Electricity and Gas

BC Hydro electricity rates:

(The electricity and gas providers are the same throughout the RDBN)

BC Hydro residential rates are listed as follows:

- 6.90 cents per kWh for the first 1,350 kWh
- 10.34 cents per kWh after first 1,350 kWh

BC Hydro commercial rates are listed as follows:

| SERVICE RATE | BASIC CHARGE | ENERGY CHARGE | MINIMUM CHARGE |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Small General Service Rate | \$0.1953 per day | \$0.0928 per kWh | \$0.1953 per day (equal to the Basic Charge) |
| Medium General Service Rate | \$0.1953 per day | \$0.00 per kW for first 35 kW \$4.76 per kW for next 115 kW \$9.13 per kW for remaining kW | Part 1 \$0.0885 per kWh for last 14,800 kWh \$0.0549 per kWh for remaining kWh up to baseline Part 2 \$0.0956 per kWh for usage up to 20% above baseline \$0.0956 per kWh for savings down to 20% below baseline (credit) Usage or savings beyond 20% of baseline are based on Part 1 prices |
| Large General Service Rate | \$0.1953 per day | \$0.00 per kW for first 35 kW \$4.76 per kW for next 115 kW \$9.13 per kW for remaining kW | Part 1 \$0.0961 per kWh for last 14,800 kWh \$0.0462 per kWh for remaining kWh up to baseline Part 2 \$0.0956 per kWh for usage up to 20% above baseline \$0.0956 per kWh for savings down to 20% below baseline (credit) Usage or savings beyond 20% of baseline are based on Part 1 prices |

Small General Service (SGS) accounts have an annual peak demand less than 35 kW.

Medium General Service (MGS) accounts have an annual peak demand between 35 kW and 150 kW and use less than 550,000 kWh of electricity per year.

Large General Service (LGS) accounts have an annual peak demand equal or greater than 150 kW or total annual energy usage of at least 550,000 kWh.

BC Northern Gas: Residential and Commercial Gas Rates

| | BASIC MONTHLY CHARGE | DELIVERY CHARGE | COMPANY USE RIDER | RSAM RIDER | INTERIM RATE ADJUSTMENT RIDER | TOTAL DELIVERY CHARGE | COMMODITY CHARGE | GCVA RIDER | TOTAL COMMODITY CHARGE | DELIVERY + COMMODITY CHARGE |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rate Class | \$/Month | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ | \$/GJ |
| Residential | 10.75 | 11.732 | -0.017 | -0.633 | -0.188 | 10.894 | 3.5 | 0.07 | 3.57 | 14.464 |
| Small Commercial | 25 | 9.925 | -0.017 | -0.633 | -0.132 | 9.143 | 3.481 | 0.07 | 3.551 | 12.694 |
| Large Commercial | 150 | 8.001 | -0.017 | N/A | -0.139 | 7.845 | 3.481 | 0.07 | 3.551 | 11.396 |



Business and Workforce Support Services and Funding Programs

Business Support Services

The following business support services are available for businesses and residents located within the RDBN:

| ORGANIZATION | DETAILS |
|---|--|
| Community Futures Nadina | Assistance with Building a Business Plan, Startup steps, or planning for existing businesses |
| Community Futures Stuart Nechako | Business Start-up Assistance |
| Burns Lake Native Development Corporation | Technical Services Including Business Plan Assistance, Training and Project Development Assistance |
| Small Business BC | Business Start-Up / Growth Assistance |
| Doing Business in BC | BC One-Stop -Business Start-Up and Registration Site. |
| Business & Investing Services | Resource for Business Owners |

Business Funding and Tax Credit Programs

| ORGANIZATION | DETAILS |
|---|---|
| Community Futures Nadina | Small Business Loans |
| Community Futures Stuart Nechako | Business Loans Program |
| Burns Lake Native Development Corporation | Small Business Loans Program |
| Northern Development Initiative Trust | Capital Investment and Training Rebate Program |
| Northern Development Initiative Trust | Competitiveness Consulting Rebate |
| BC Hydro | PowerSmart Programs for Business |
| Investment Agriculture Foundation | Funding to support innovative projects that support the Agri-food industry in British Columbia. |

Regional Employment Service Providers

The following employment service providers are available within the RDBN.

| EMPLOYMENT SERVICES | MUNICIPALITY |
|---|---|
| Community Living BC | Smithers |
| Smithers Community Services Association | Smithers |
| Fort Outreach Employment Services | Fort St. James |
| Progressive Employment Services Ltd | Vanderhoof |
| Targeted Skills Shortage Program | Vanderhoof |
| Northern Skills Training | Vanderhoof |
| Transitions Career Consultants | Vanderhoof |
| Community Futures Nadina | Smithers, Burns Lake, Telkwa, Granisle, Houston |
| WorkBC Employment Services Centre | Smithers, Burns Lake, Houston |

Local Economic Development Services

The RDBN is engaged in the following economic development projects:

- [Mining in the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako](#)
- [Bulkley-Nechako Directory](#)
- [Visit Bulkley-Nechako - Tourism Site](#)
- Regional Skills Gap Analysis
- Annual RDBN Business Forum
- Annual RDBN Start-up Business Contest
- Industrial Land Inventory Reports
- Grant writing services for nonprofit organizations

RDBN supports the following initiatives:

- [Beyond the Market](#)
- [Invest Northwest](#) and [Invest North Central](#) Web Portals
- [Geoscience BC's Quest-West projects](#)

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact the Regional Economic Development Department:

Corrine Swenson
Manager of Regional Economic Development
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Email: corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca
Phone: 250-692-3195 / 1-800-320-3339

Chair Bill Miller
PO Box 450
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0
Email: bmiller.pbm@gmail.com

A World of
Opportunities
Within Our Region

www.rdbn.bc.ca



SMITHERS | **TELKWA** | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | BURNS LAKE
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF

