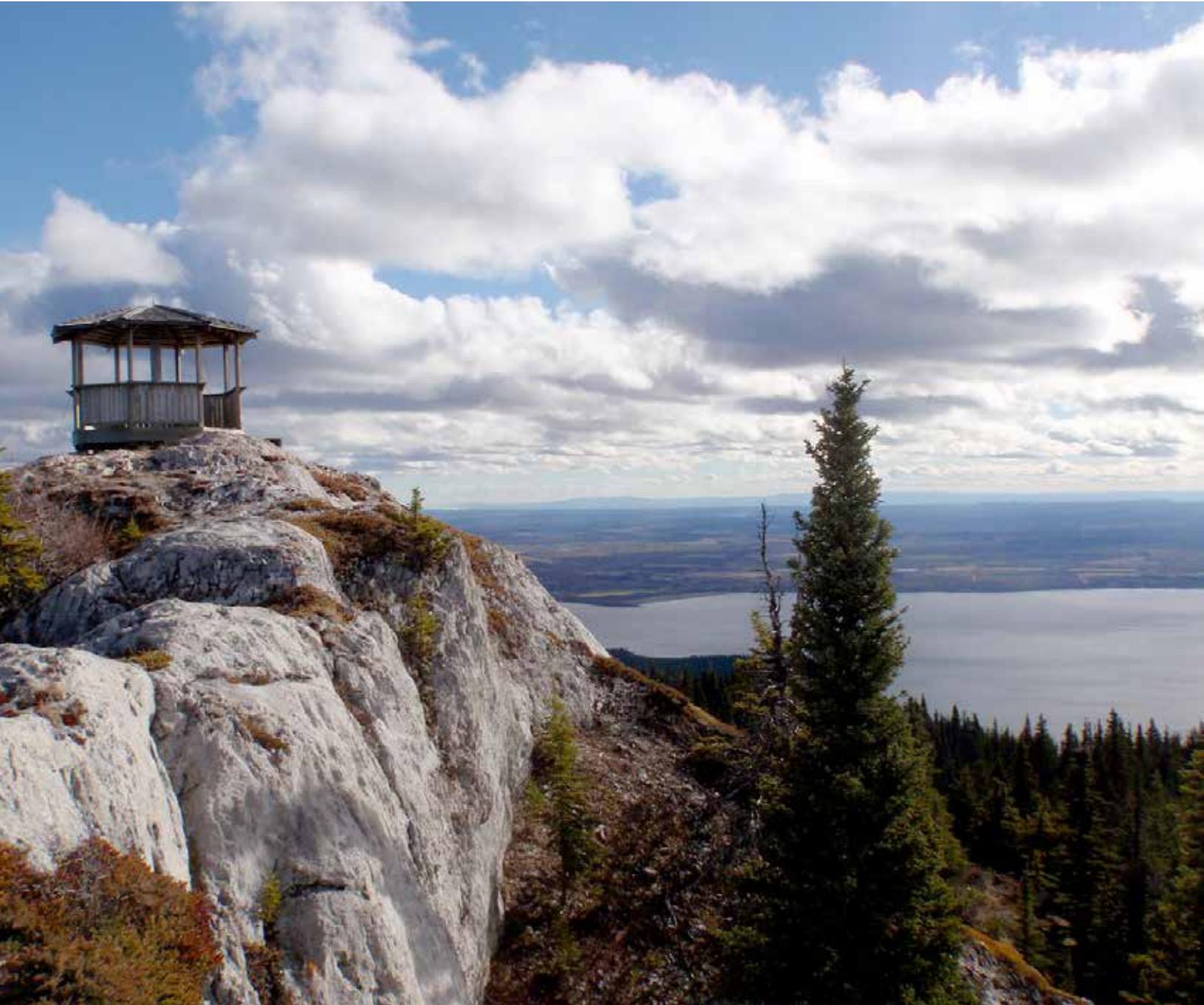


FORT ST. JAMES AND SURROUNDING AREA PROFILE



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



CONTENTS

1. COMMUNITY PROFILE

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth
Age Structure
Household Income

WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment
Education
Labour Force by Industry
Local Post-Secondary Education Facilities and
Employment Service Providers

TRANSPORTATION

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

WATER AND WASTE

Water
Solid Waste Disposal Services

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Taxes
Development Processes and Fees
Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents
Incentive Programs
Local Economic Development Services
Mayor Contact

QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Housing
Accommodations
Restaurants
Other Facilities with Capacity for Hosting
Events
Shopping
Banks
Legal Firms
Media
Local Community Organizations
Local Community Assets
Schools
Health Services

2. ELECTORAL AREA C

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth
Age Structure
Household Income

WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment
Education
Labour Force by Industry

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents
Local Economic Development Services
Electoral Area Director Contact

QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Local Community Organizations

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY

Nak'azdli Band
Takla Lake First Nation
Tl'azt'en Nation
Yekooche First Nation

3. REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO PROFILE

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth
Age Structure
Ethnic Diversity
Household Income

WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment
Education
Labour Force by Industry
Post-Secondary Education Facilities

CLIMATE

Monthly Temperature
Wind Speed
Precipitation

TRANSPORTATION

Road
Rail
Airport

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Electricity and Gas Service Providers
Commercial and Residential Rates for Electricity
and Gas

BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE SUPPORT SERVICES AND FUNDING PROGRAMS

Business Support Services
Business Funding and Tax Credit Programs
Regional Employment Service Providers

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



Fort St. James and Surrounding Area

Founded by Simon Fraser in 1806 on the shores of beautiful Stuart Lake, Fort St. James is the gateway to a chain of rivers and lakes that traverse 400 kilometres of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. This picturesque town of 4,500 has an established forest industry, a growing mining sector and a growing tourism industry.

A natural playground, Fort St. James and surrounding rural area offers year round outdoor and indoor recreational opportunities including hiking and biking trails, parks, golf, fishing, hunting, water-skiing, canoeing, swimming, sailing and boating, alpine and Nordic skiing, skating, hockey, curling, snowmobiling, dog sledding and camping. Cultural opportunities include a public library, community arts council, an amateur theatre company, and a movie theatre.

The Fort St. James National Historic Site, the ancient burial site of Carrier Chief Kwah, Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, and a monument to legendary bush pilot Russ Baker provide opportunities to experience the cultural heritage of Fort St. James firsthand, for residents and visitors alike.

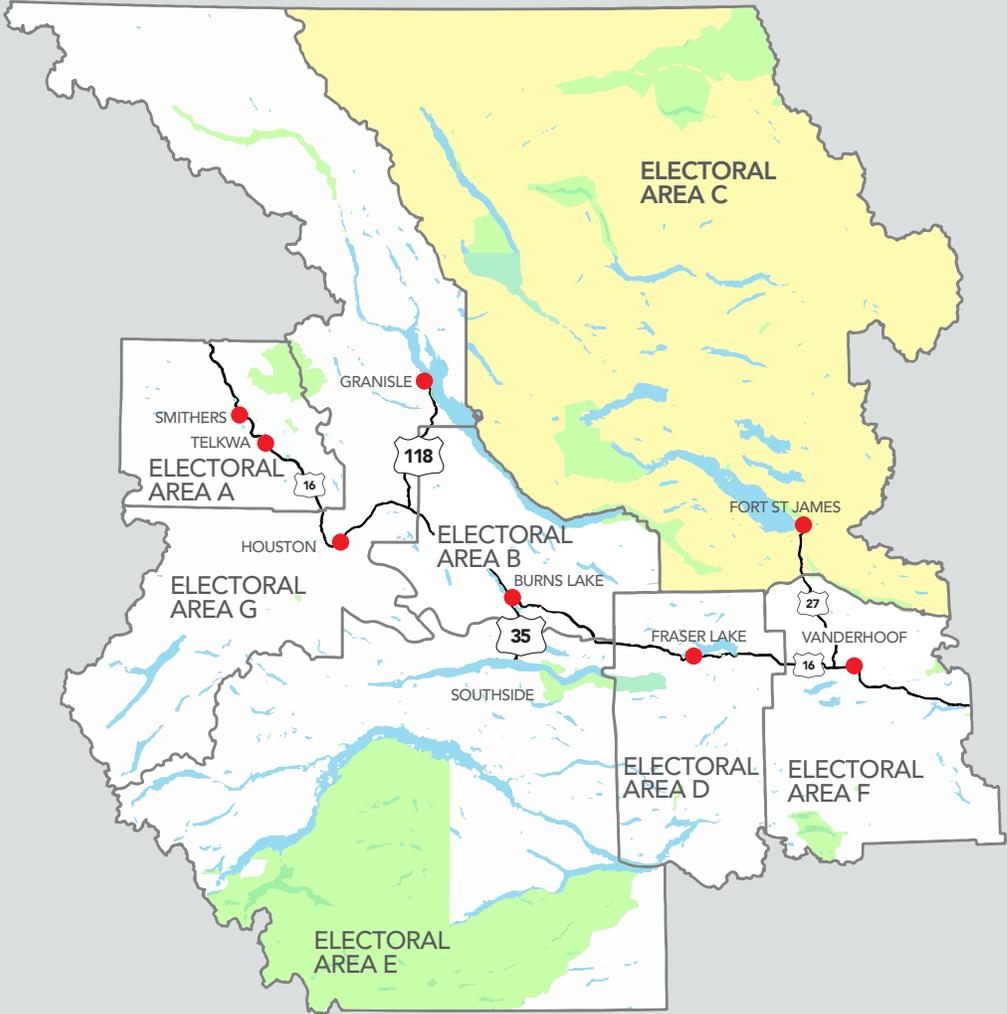
The Regional Profile

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 Fort St. James to:

PLACE	DISTANCE (KM)	DRIVING TIME (HR)
Prince George, BC	160	2 hr
Kitimat, BC	577	6 hr 49 min
Prince Rupert, BC	665	7 hr 56 min
Edmonton, AB	898	10 hr 10 min
Vancouver, BC	940	10 hr 26 min
Calgary, AB	945	11 hr 24 min
Seattle, WA	1,054	11 hr 42 min
Portland, OR	1,335	14 hr 25 min
Whitehorse, YT	1,567	20 hr 14 min
Yellowknife, NT	1,616	20 hr 33 min
Anchorage, AK	2,698	35 hr

Legend

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

1: FORT ST. JAMES AND SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY PROFILE



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth

Population growth in Fort St. James, 2001-2011

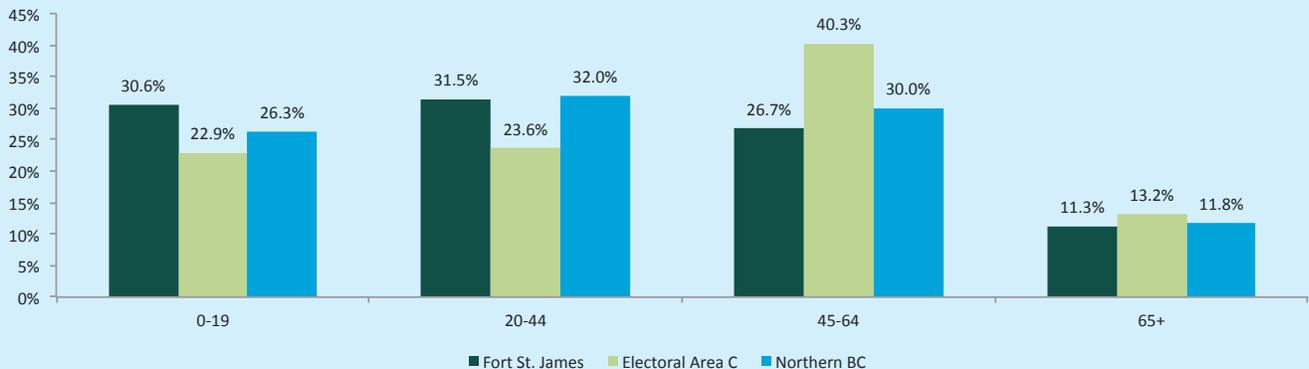
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Fort St. James	1,927	1,355	1,691
Electoral Area C (James Rural)	1,688	1,355	1,429
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

In 2011 Fort St. James had a population of 1,691 which increased by 25% from 2006 to 2011. The population increase from 2006-2011 in Fort St. James outpaced the growth in the Electoral Area and Northern BC which was 2.5% and 5.5% respectively.

Age Structure

Age structure in Fort St. James and Electoral Area C, 2011

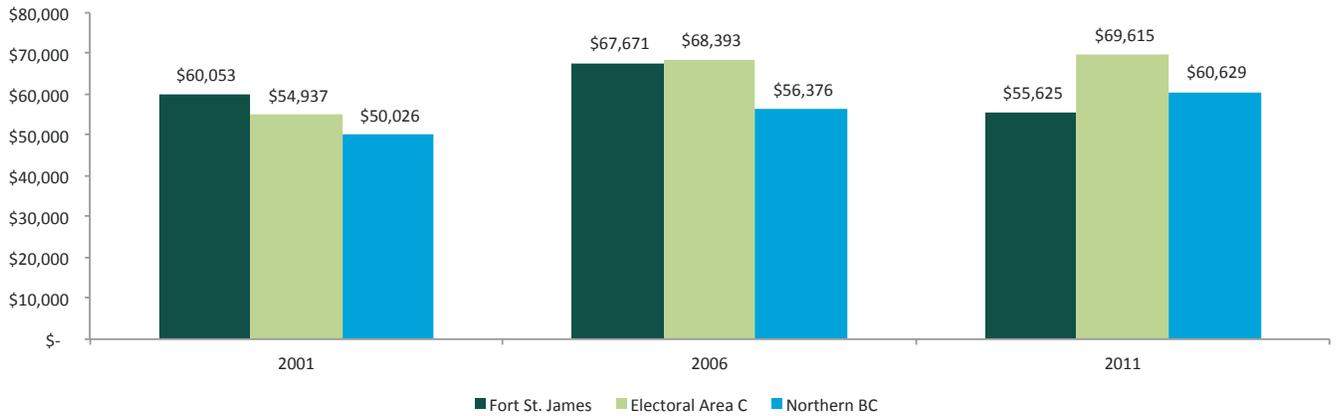


Source: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

The population of Fort St. James was younger than the rest of the Electoral Area and Northern BC in 2011. The median age in Fort St. James was 37, while in the Electoral Area and Northern BC the median age was 47 and 39 respectively. The age structure reveals that Fort St. James had a higher youth population (ages 0-19) and lower proportion of people between the ages of 45-64 compared to the surrounding rural area and Northern BC

Household Income

Median household income in Fort St. James and Electoral Area C, 2001-2011



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

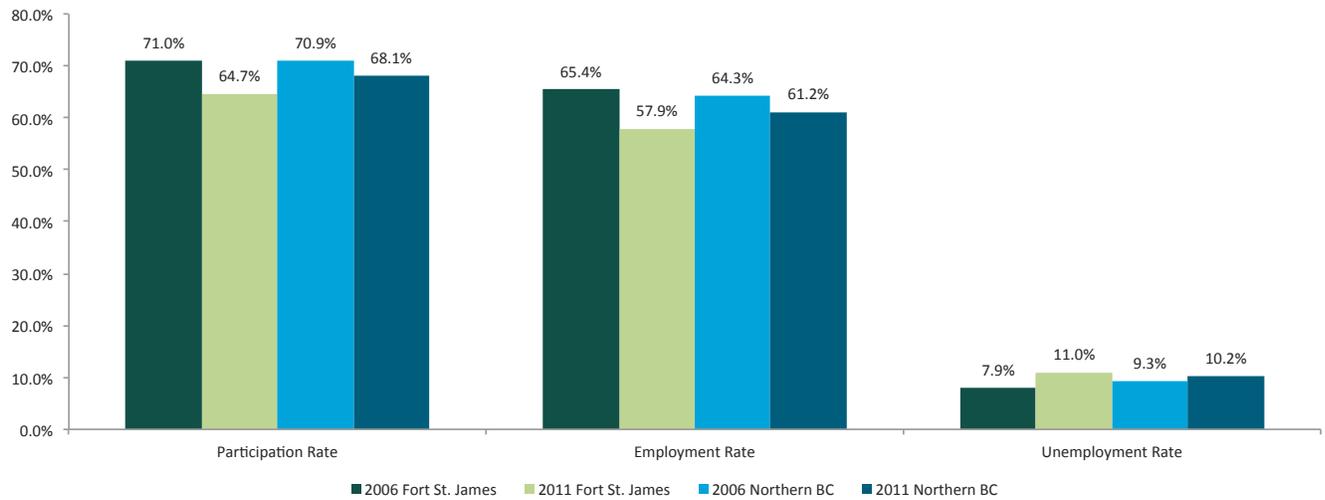
The median household income in Fort St. James has generally been comparable or higher than the Electoral Area and Northern BC over the past ten years; however, in 2011 the median income was lower than both comparative areas. Fort St. James experienced a 13% growth in income from 2001-2006, while from 2006-2011 median household income declined by 18%.



WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment

Employment data in Fort St. James and Northern BC, 2006-2011



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

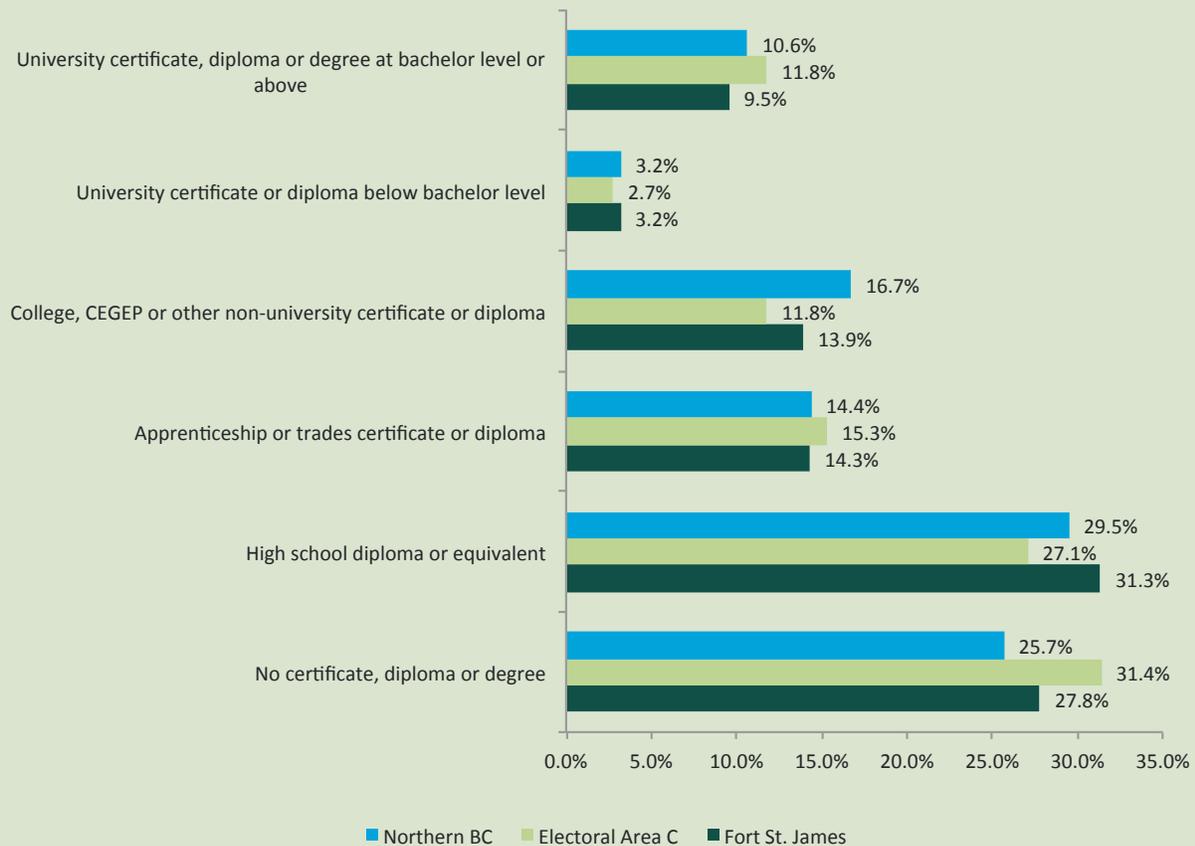
Fort St. James had a higher unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2011. The unemployment rate in Fort St. James increased by 3% from 2006-2011 while in Northern BC the rate increased by 1%.





Education

Educational attainment in Fort St. James and Electoral Area C, 2011

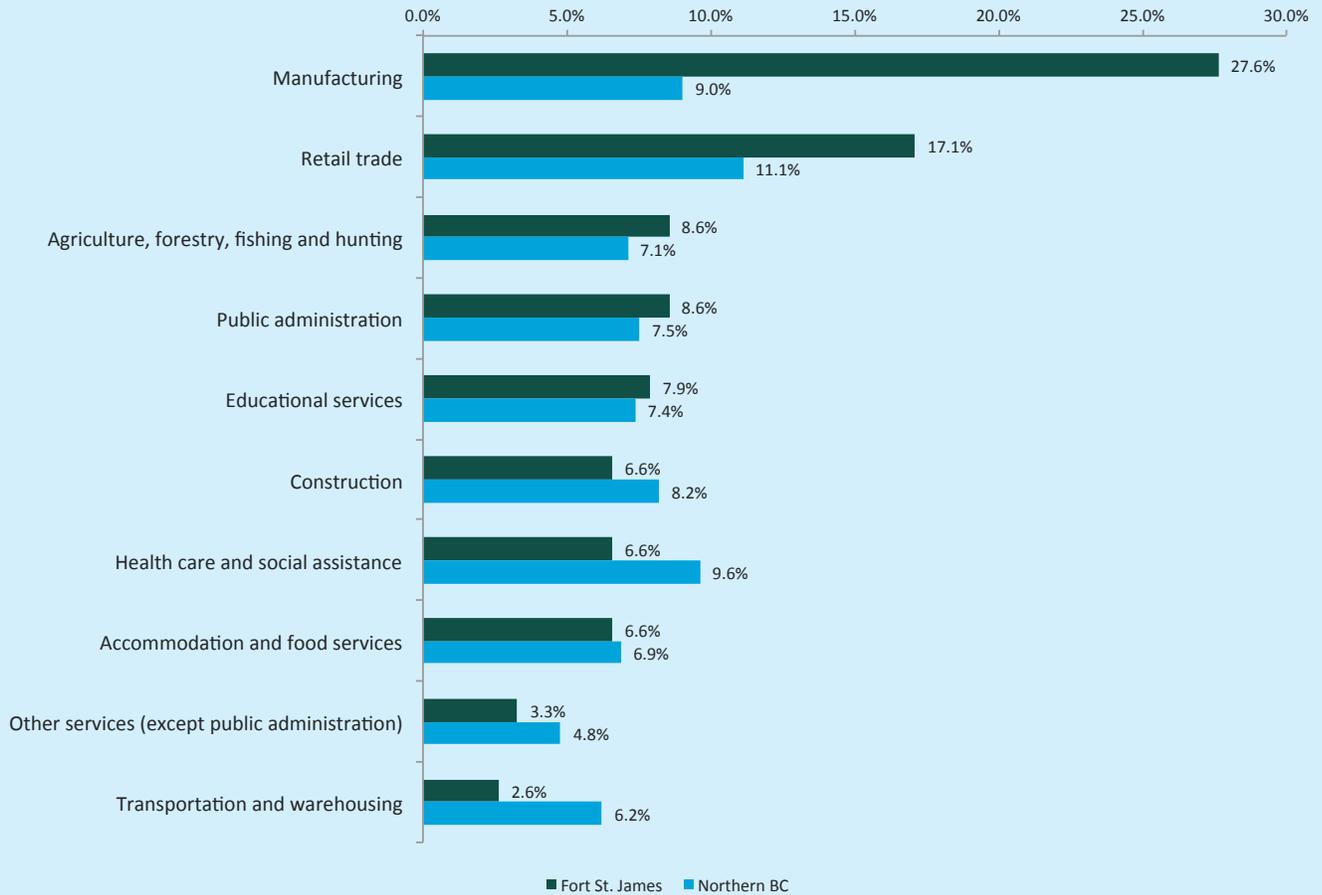


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

In 2011, Fort St. James had an equivalent portion of the population with a university education and people with an apprenticeship or trades certificates or diploma as compared to Northern BC. However, when compared to the Electoral Area, the town had a lower portion of people with a university education or apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. Fort St. James had the second highest portion of the population with university education amongst the municipalities in the RDBN.

Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Fort St. James and Northern BC, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

In 2011, Fort St. James had a total labour force of 760 people. Over a quarter of the local force in Fort St. James worked in the manufacturing sector, while in Northern BC this sector only accounted for 9% of the work force. Retail trade was another large source of employment as 17% of the labour force worked in this sector, while only 11% did so in Northern BC. The percentage of the labour force working in retail trade in Fort St. James was highest among the municipalities in the region, while manufacturing was second highest in the region.

Some of the major employers in Fort St. James included the following:

NAME	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES
Apollo Forest Products	156
Conifex	91
School District #91	91
Mount Milligan Mine	420

Local Post-Secondary Education Facilities and Employment Service Providers

NAME	FACILITY OR SERVICE
College of New Caledonia	Post-Secondary Institution
Fort Outreach Employment Services	Employment Services
Nak'azdli Employment & Training Services	Employment Services

TRANSPORTATION

NAME	CATEGORY
Fort St. James Perison Airport	Airport
Interior Helicopters	Helicopter Service
Northland Bus Lines - Greyhound- Fort St. James	Bus Service
Yellowhead Helicopter	Helicopter Service
Tee Kay Taxi Service	Taxi Service
Tsayta Aviation Ltd.	Airplane Service
Seniors Helping Seniors Transportation	Driving Service

Fort St. James Airport

The Fort St. James airport is located 4 km south of Fort St. James. There is no scheduled service to or from the Fort St. James airport. Yellowhead Helicopters Inc. operates from the airport and offering services to mining and forest industry clients.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

- [Telus](#)
- [YourLink](#)
- [Fort St James TV Society](#)



WATER AND WASTE

Water

Source of Water Supply and Means of Access

The District of Fort St. James' water is supplied from an artesian well (aquifer), assisted by a well pump, and provides water to both Fort St. James and neighbouring Nak'azdli Reserve. The water distribution consists of 16.7km of water mains fed from a 500,000 imperial gallon reinforced concrete reservoir. The reservoir provides sufficient storage for fire protection and peak use periods. The water system also includes a small booster station with a fire pump to service the Pineridge Way area and pressure reducing stations that service Ash Street residents.

Water Supply vs. Projected Demand

Rated Capacity	968 gallon/minute
Average Daily Demand	1,000 gallons
Peak Demand	1,200 gallons

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Water Rates

Residential Cost	\$178.20/year
Commercial Cost	\$217.92-\$303.98/year

Solid Waste Disposal Services

Capacity of Waste Disposal Site vs. Projected Demand

Landfill Name	Clearview Landfill
Location	22 km South of Fort St. James
Capacity Left at Current Site	90%/95 years
Plans for New Capacity	None
Transfer Station	Necoslie Road, Fort St. James

Recycling

Although no curbside recycling is available at this time several recycling options are available to residents of Fort St. James. For more information go to www.rdbn.bc.bc/environmentalservices/recycling

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Taxes

The following chart summarizes 2013 tax rates in Fort St. James. 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	4.3081	46.1398	59.8532	11.9925	14.3894	0.0000	3.6535	0.0000
Regional District	1.1335	3.9673	3.8540	3.8540	2.7771	0.0000	1.1335	0.0000
Hospital District	0.5566	1.9481	1.8924	1.8924	1.3637	0.0000	0.5566	0.0000
School	3.9281	14.0000	6.2000	10.8000	6.2000	2.3000	3.4000	6.9000
Other	0.4525	1.8917	1.8526	1.5124	1.1404	1.5096	0.4525	0.4525
Total	10.3788	67.9469	73.6522	30.0513	25.8706	3.8096	9.1961	7.3525

Development Processes and Fees

Fort St. James has instituted a streamlined application process, which allows a quick and easy process time. The community also has an inexpensive business licensing program with fees starting at \$50.00.

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Fort St. James' official community plan and zoning bylaw are available at www.fortstjames.ca

- [Official Community Plan](#)
- [Zoning Bylaw](#)

Incentive Programs

The community of Fort St. James has adopted many initiatives to support the competitiveness of local business. These initiatives include the following:

- Two business façade improvement programs in a 3-year period; the 2013 program matched 50% of improvement costs
- Revitalization Tax Exemption Program for commercial core, highway commercial, as well as heavy, light and intermediate industrial zoned lands
- Economic development programs and services, including the following activities:
 - Online directory of local businesses that allows external organizations to contact Fort St. James businesses more easily
 - Lunchtime workshop series for business owners on tourism, merchandizing and customer service
 - Conduit for regional, provincial and federal government information, directing local businesses to resources such as grants and contests
 - Downtown Marketing and Activities Coordinator to assist local businesses with branding, and a buy local campaign
 - Grant writing service for non-profit organizations

Business Support Services

- [Community Futures Stuart-Nechako](#)
- [Fort St. James Chamber of Commerce](#)

Business Funding Programs

- [Community Futures Stuart-Nechako](#)
- [District of Fort St. James](#): Revitalization Tax Exemption

Local Economic Development Services

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

Emily Colombo
Economic Development Officer/ Deputy Corporate Officer
District of Fort St. James
Box 640, 477 Stuart Dr. W
Fort St. James
BC V0J 1P0
Email: edo@fortstjames.ca
Phone: 250-996-8233

Chamber Manager
Fort St. James Chamber of Commerce
Email: fsjchamb@fsjames.com
Phone: 250-996-7023

Mayor Contact

Mayor Rob MacDougall
477 Stuart Drive West, PO Box 640
Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0
Email: mayor@fortstjames.ca

QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Housing

The housing stock in the municipality consists of the following:

DESCRIPTION OF TYPICAL HOUSING STOCK	# OF UNITS
Total Private Dwellings (2011 census)	760
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents (2011 census)	674
Single detached houses (2006 census)	430
Apartments, duplex (2006 census)	75
Other dwellings (2006 census)	20
# of owned dwellings (BC Stats –Community Facts)	425
# of rented dwellings (BC Stats –Community Facts)	135
RECENT AND FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS	# OF UNITS
# of dwellings constructed before 1986 (2006 census)	435
# of dwellings constructed between 1986-2006 (2006 census)	120

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

TYPE OF HOUSING	COST
Single Family Homes (BC Stats – Community)	\$123,770



Accommodations

- The View Hotel
- New Caledonia Motel
- Chundoo Motor Inn
- Tannis' Place B & B

Restaurants

- Classic Restaurant
- Isola Bella Pizzeria
- King's Restaurant
- Little Jimmy Fry's
- Miguel's Pizza
- Sam Witch's (Nak'azdil) Concession
- St. James Restaurant
- North Arm Pub & Grill
- Stuart Lake Golf Club Restaurant
- Subway
- The Soup Wallah
- Timberman's Restaurant
- National Historic Site Cafe

Other Facilities with Capacity for Hosting Events

- Kwah Hall – Nak'azdli Indian Band
- Music Makers Hall
- Fort Forum Arena
- Fort St. James Legion
- Fort St. James Community Centre
- Stuart Lake Seniors Association
- The View Hotel

Shopping

Shopping District: Downtown Fort St. James

Shopping Mall: Fort St. James Shopping Centre (Ydenberg Properties Ltd.)

Banks

- [Integrus Credit Union Fort St. James](#)
- [CIBC](#)
- [Royal Bank of Canada](#)

Legal Firms

- [Micheal P.F. Reed](#)
- [Hope Heinrich](#)

Media

- [Caledonia Courier](#)
- [Fort St. James TV and Radio Society](#)
- [The Valley Wolf](#)

Local Community Organizations

- [Fort St. James Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Stuart Lake Hospital Auxiliary](#)
- [Fort St. James Legion #2681](#)
- [Community Arts Council of Fort St. James](#)
- [Fireweed Collective Society & Safe Haven](#)
- [Friends of the Fort St. James National Historic Site](#)
- [Fort St. James Ball Association](#)
- [Fort St. James Community Foundation](#)
- [Fort St. James Curling Club](#)
- [Fort St. James Farmers Market](#)
- [Fort St. James Girl Guides](#)
- [Fort St. James Humane Society](#)
- [Fort St. James Ladies Hockey](#)
- [Fort St. James Minor Hockey](#)
- [Fort St. James Falcon Speed Skating Club](#)
- [Fort St. James Tae Kwon Do](#)
- [Fort St. James Youth Soccer](#)
- [Nak'azdli Elders Society](#)
- [Recreation Hockey](#)
- [Stuart Lake Seniors Association](#)

Local Community Assets

- Fort St. James Visitor Information Centre
- Murray Ridge Nordic Ski Club
- Murray Ridge Ski Area
- Stuart Lake Golf Club
- Barry Salt Memorial Tennis Courts
- Fort Forum Ice Arena
- Fort St. James Curling Rink
- Sunny Hamper Ball Diamonds
- Cottonwood Park Volleyball Court
- Fort St. James Library
- Music Makers Hall
- Fort St. James Firehall
- KEY (Knowledge Empowers You) Centre
- Fireweed Safe Haven Women's Shelter
- Fort St. James National Historic Site
- Cottonwood Marina

Schools

- David Hoy Elementary (K-7)
- Fort St. James Secondary (8-12)
- Sowchea Elementary (K-7)
- Nak'album Elementary (K-7)

Health Services

- Fort St. James Medical Clinic
- Stuart Lake Hospital
- Stuart Lake Dental
- Nak'azdli Health Clinic Services

Stuart Lake Hospital

Stuart Lake Hospital is a 12-bed hospital that includes acute, maternity, medicine and emergency services. The Stuart Lake Hospital supports the area of Stuart Lake and Fort St. James. Many services are shared with and referred to the larger hospital in Vanderhoof. There is an on-site laboratory and pharmacy that delivers some services while others are met by Vanderhoof or the University Hospital of Northern BC in Prince George.

“Fort St. James is the ideal community for doing business; there is great support from community members and collaboration between the district and business community. Fort St. James has an ideal setting with the mountains, lake and ski hill and combined with the great people of Fort St. James; a wonderful location for starting a business.” **Bonnie Cameron**, The View Hotel

www.fortstjames.ca



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

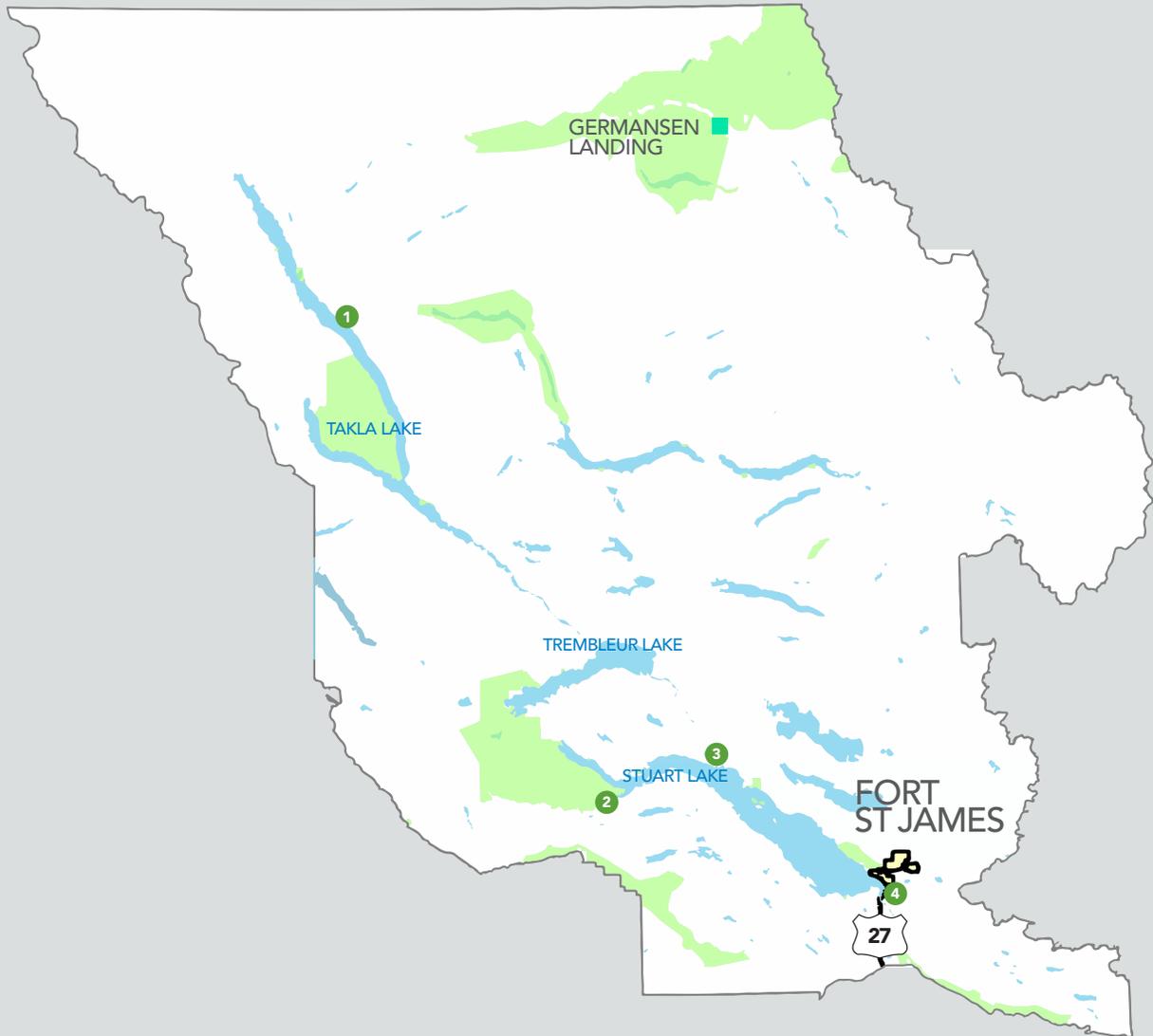


2: ELECTORAL AREA C
(FORT ST. JAMES RURAL)



ELECTORAL AREA 'C'

(Fort St. James Rural)



Legend

-  Municipal Boundary
-  Unincorporated Communities
-  Lakes
-  First Nation Population Centers

-  Electoral Area Boundary
-  Parks
-  Highway



1. Takla Lake First Nation (North Takla Lake Reserve No. 7/7A) 2. Yekooche First Nation (Yekooche Reserve No. 3)
3. Tl'azt'en First Nation (Tache Reserve) 4. Nak'azdli First Nation (Necoslie Reserve No. 1)

Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)

Fort St. James Rural, or Electoral Area C, has a growing economy and a stable population of just over 1,400 people. The rural area is known for its excellent fishing and the annual \$10,000 Stuart Lake fishing derby. The unincorporated community of Germansen Landing and the municipality of Fort St. James are located within the boundaries of Electoral Area C.

The residents of the rural area are employed in a number of sectors, although there is a concentration in agriculture and manufacturing as compared to the rest of the RDBN.

The Nak'azdli Band, Takla Lake First Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation are located in Electoral Area C.



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population Growth

Population growth in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James rural) and the RDBN, 2001-2011

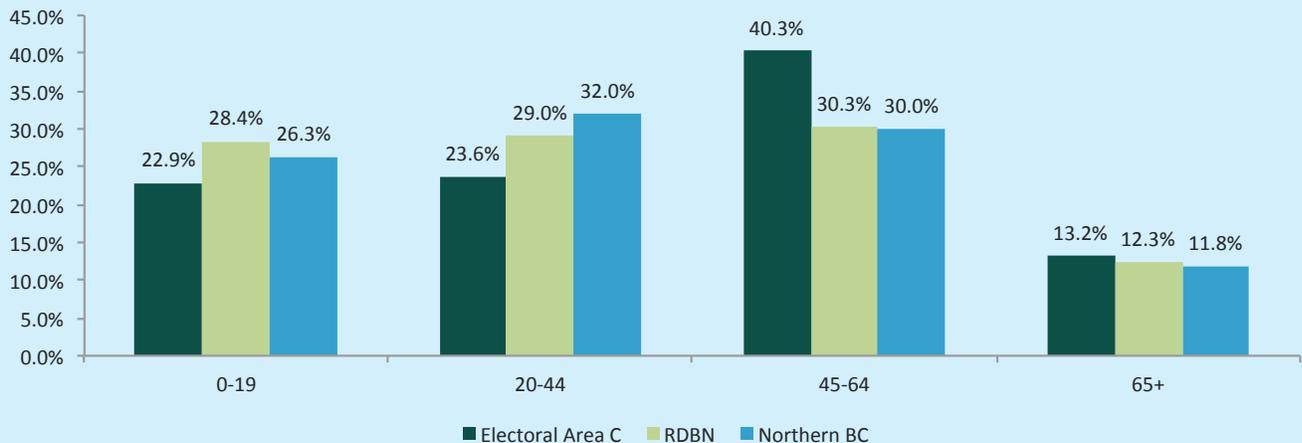
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Electoral Area C	1,688	1,355	1,429
Regional District Bulkley-Nechako	40,856	38,243	39,208
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile 2001-2011.

The population in Electoral Area C, or Fort St. James Rural, has changed over the past 10 years. From 2001 to 2006 the population in Northern BC decreased by 3.5% while in the rural area the decrease was 19.7%. However, from 2006 to 2011 there was a 5.5% increase in population while Northern BC's population only increased by 0.1%.

Age Structure

Age structure in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and the RDBN, 2011

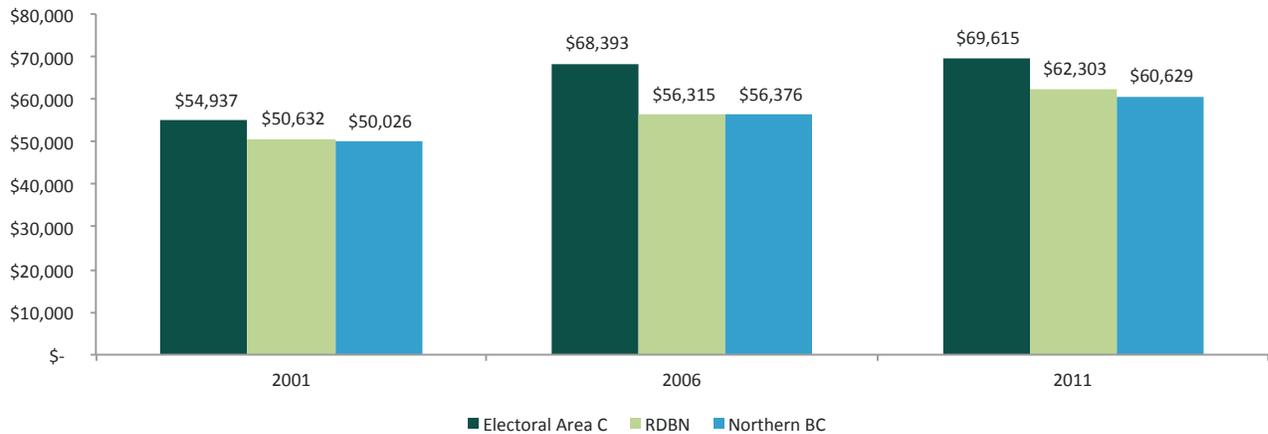


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011.

The population of Electoral Area C tended to be older than the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011. The median age in the rural area is 47 while in the RDBN and Northern BC the median age is 39. Its age structure reveals that Electoral Area C had a lower youth population (ages 0-19) and lower population between the ages of 25-44 compared to the RDBN and Northern BC.

Household Income

Median household income in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and the RDBN, 2001-2011



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

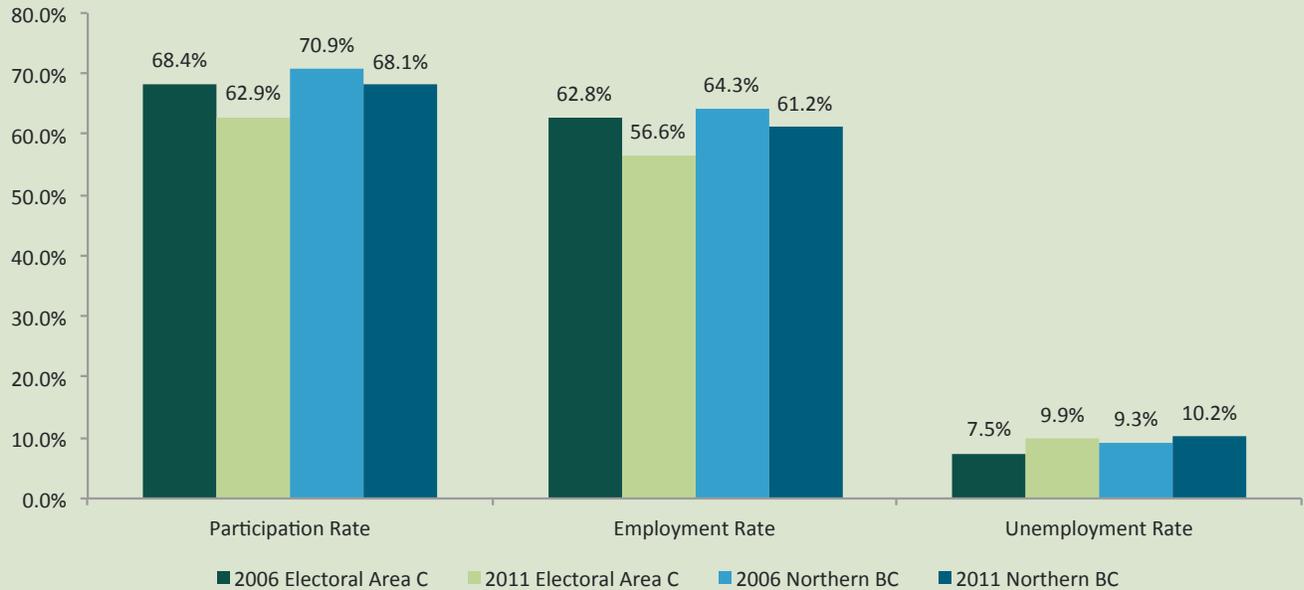
In 2011 Electoral Area C had the second highest median household income among the RDBN electoral areas, of \$69,615. The household income in the rural area was higher than the RDBN and Northern BC from 2001 to 2011. A 25% increase in median household income was experienced from 2001 to 2006, a further 2% increase from 2006 to 2011 followed.



WORKFORCE PROFILE

Employment

Employment data in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and the RDBN, 2006-2011



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

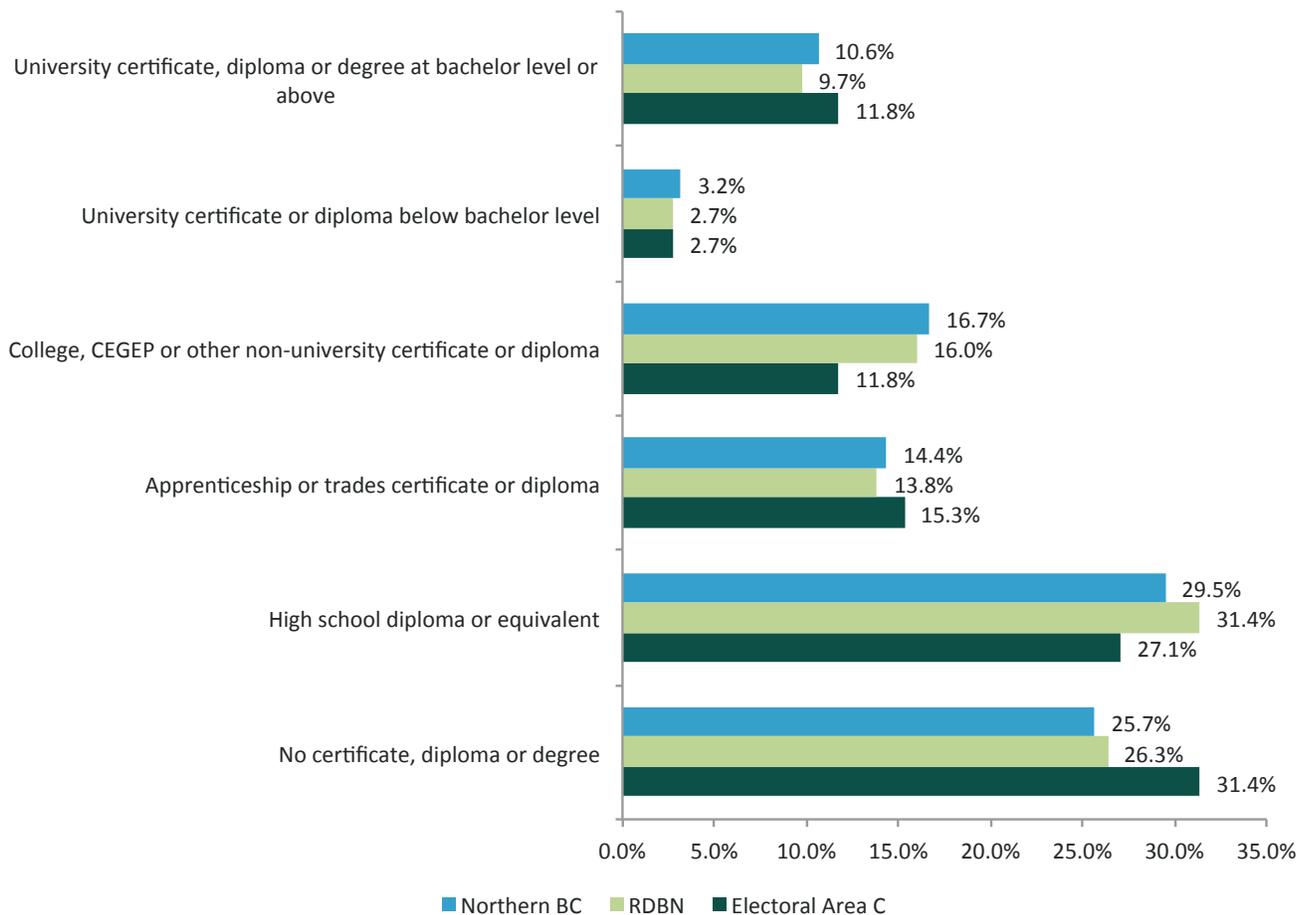
Electoral Area C had a lower unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2006 and 2011. The unemployment rate increased by 1% between 2006 and 2011, which is comparable to Northern BC .





Education

Education in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and the RDBN, 2011

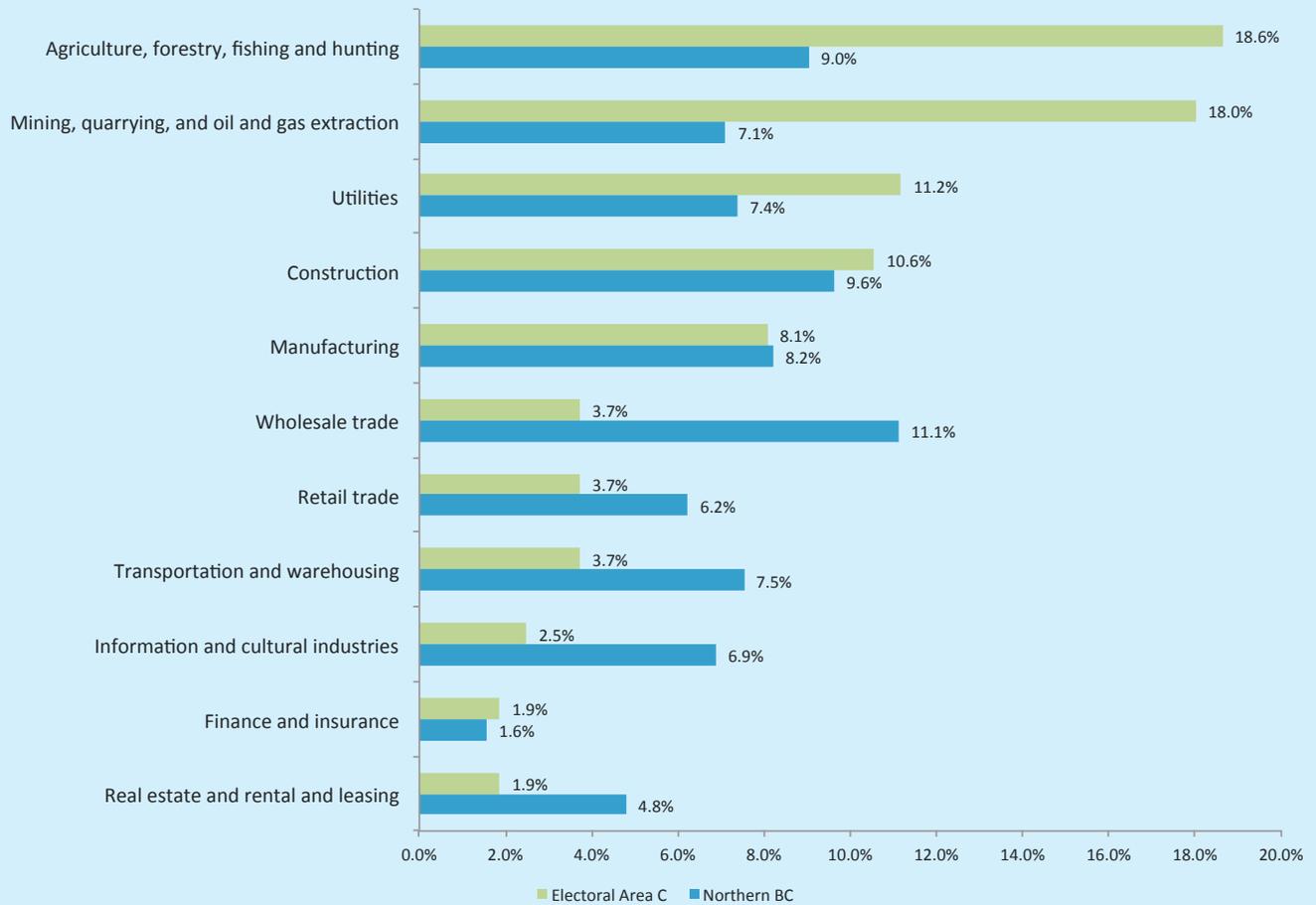


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

The percentage of Electoral Area C residents with a university education, an apprenticeship, trades certificate, or diploma was higher than the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011. The rural area also had a lower percentage of a college degree holders compared to the RDBN and Northern BC.

Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and the RDBN, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011 Electoral Area C had a total labour force of 805 people. The agriculture, manufacturing, educational services, and health care and social assistance sectors are major sources of employment. Among these major employers, all four sectors employ a greater portion of the labour force as compared to Northern BC. The portion of the labour force that worked in agriculture and manufacturing in the Electoral Area is the second highest among the electoral areas in the RDBN.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Electoral Area C, Fort St. James Rural, official community plan is available at www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department.

- [Omenica Official Community Plan](#)
- [Fort St. James Official Rural Community Plan](#)

Local Economic Development Services

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

Electoral Area Director Contact

Director Tom Greenaway
PO Box 1296
Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0
Email: greenawayfarms@gmail.com

QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

Local Community Organizations

- Stuart Lake Seniors
- Far Fetched Archery
- Fort St. James 4H
- Fort St. James Ball Club
- Fort St. James Nordic Ski Club
- Fort St. James Ski Club/Murray Ridge
- Fort St. James Snowmobile Club
- Stuart Lake Golf Club
- Stuart Lake Sailing Club
- Fort Trap & Handgun Club
- Fort St. James TV Society
- Fort St. James Search and Rescue
- Music on the Mountain Society



FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY

Nak'azdli Band

Prior to 1806, Nak'azdli First Nation had a village on the north east shore of Stuart Lake, now called Mission Lands. The Village includes a historical church built by nak'azdli people, still standing today. Today the Village, designated as reserve land is the location of a new modern elementary school controlled and operated by the band. Nak'azdli band has 1400 hectares of reserve land situated in several locations within their traditional territory.

The main reserve IR no.1 is adjacent to the municipality of Fort St James. They are a thriving First Nation community with 230 residences, several businesses including a gas bar, modern grocery store, and value added mill. The Nak'azdli Band has 1,850 members with 950 residing on the reserve. The Nak'azdli First Nation depends on the natural resource economy and employs many people in the region. Nak'azdli, are a Dene people who speak the Dakalh language.

Traditional trapping, hunting, fishing, arts and crafts are still practiced today. Nak'azdli uses the traditions of the potlatch governance system to conduct internal business. Moving forward the Nak'azdli continue to embrace improving relations with the municipality of Fort St. James and its residents.

Band Office

P.O. Box 1329
Fort St. James, BC V0J 1P0
Phone: 250.996.7171
Fax: 250.996.8010
Website: www.nakazdli.ca

Nak'azdli Businesses

- [Sana-Aih Market](#)
- [Carrier Food and Fuel](#)



Takla Lake First Nation

Takla Lake Nation is based around Takla Lake which is 60km north of Fort St. James. The main community is located at Takla Landing, at the north end of Takla Lake, but the band services 17 reserves totaling 809 hectares. Takla Lake First Nation has a registered population of 742 as of February 2014 living on and off reserve. It was created by the amalgamation of the Takla Lake and Fort Connelly bands in 1959. The Takla Lake people currently speak predominantly English and the Babine dialect of Babine-Wet'suwet'en, locally referred to as "Carrier". Until recently, many people also spoke Sekani, and some Gitksan. Some members also speak the Stuart Lake dialect of Carrier. The overall identification of the community is Carrier.

Band Office

Takla Landing, BC VOJ 2T0

Tel: 250-996-7877

Fax: 250-996-7874

Toll Free: 1-877-794-7877

Prince George Office

1839 1st Ave., Units 11 & 13

Prince George, BC V2L 3B9

Tel: 250.564.9321

Fax: 250.564.9521

Website: www.taklafn.ca



Tl'azt'en Nation

Tl'azt'en Nation is located along the north shore of Stuart Lake in the northern interior of British Columbia. The two main villages belonging to Tl'azt'en Nation are Tache, 60 km northwest of Fort St. James and Binche, 40 km northwest of Fort St. James. The small settlements of Middle River on Trembleur Lake and Grand Rapids, along the Tache River between Stuart Lake and Trembleur Lake also belong to Tl'azt'en Nation. The registered population of Tl'azt'en Nation is 1,724 members as of February 2014. Of these, approximately 800 live in one of the main communities of Tache, Binche and Dzitl'ainli, and K'uzche.

Band Office

PO Box 670

Fort St. James, BC

V0J 1P0

Phone: 250-648-3212

Fax: 250-648-3250

Website: tlc.baremetal.com/index.htm



Yekooche First Nation

Yekooche First Nation is based 75 kilometers northwest of Fort St. James at the north end of Stuart Lake on Yekooche reserves (about 380 hectares in size). It is known in English as Portage due to its location along the portage route between Babine Lake and Stuart Lake.

Yekooche is a small community reserve. The registered population of the Yekooche is 224 members as of February 2014, of which 130 live on the Yekooche reserve. Near to Yekooche are Babine, Cunningham and Whitefish Lakes, which are used to collect winter food for families.

The people of Yekooche are Dakelh and speak the Stuart Lake dialect of the Carrier language. Due to their proximity to Lake Babine territory, they have traditionally been bilingual in Babine-Wet'suwet'en.

Band Office

1890 3rd Ave
Prince George, BC V2M 1G4
Phone: (250) 562-0592
Website: www.yekooche.com



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

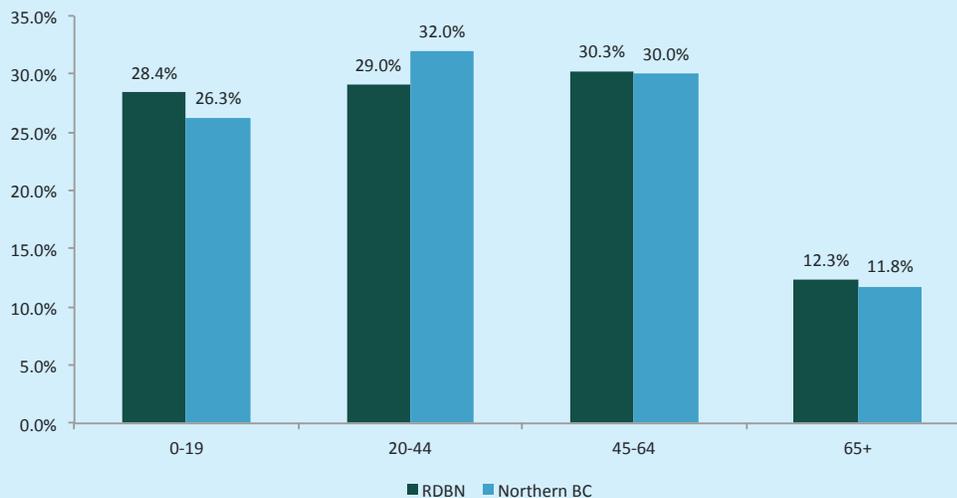
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	40,856	38,243	39,208
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

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

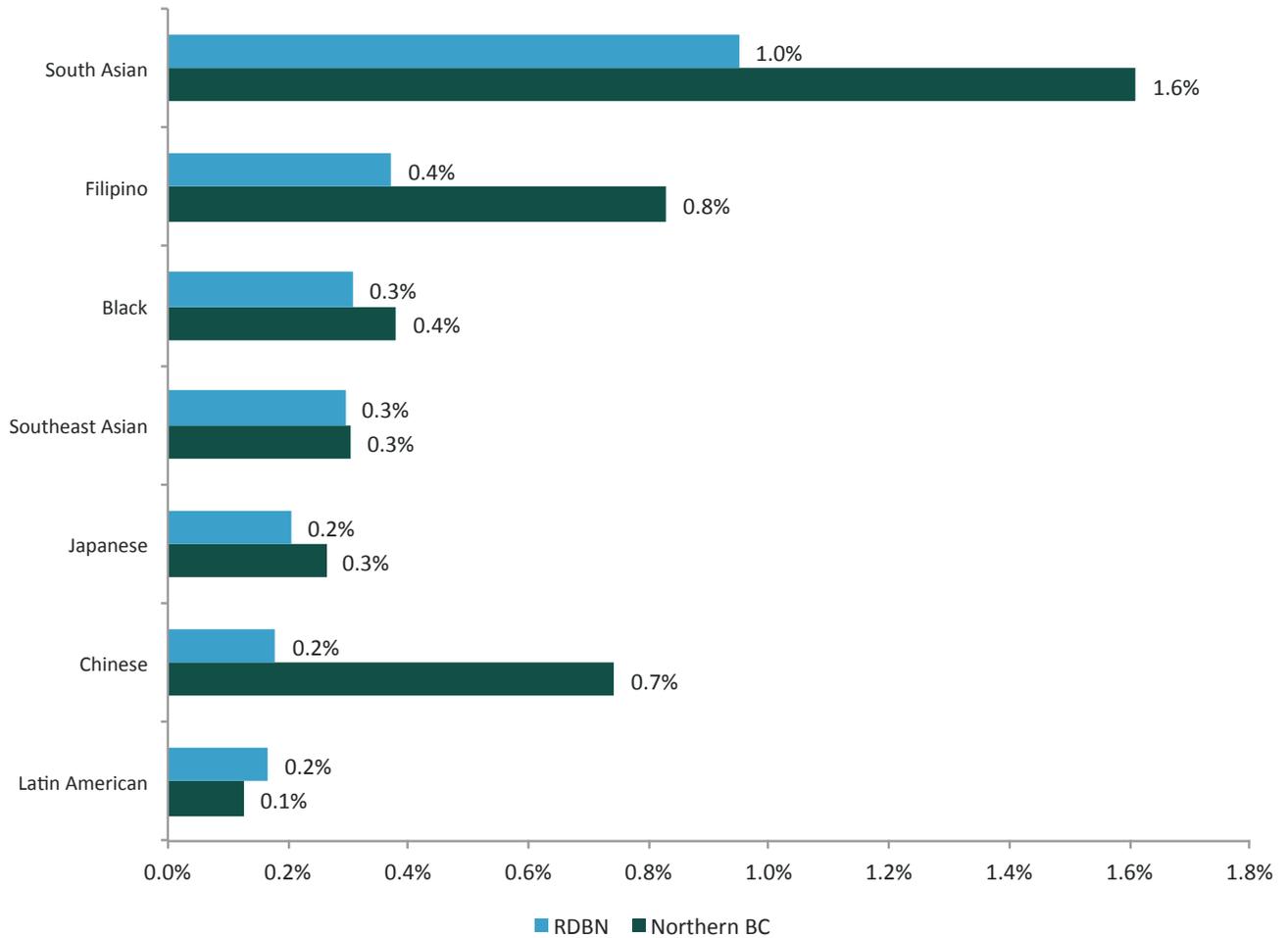


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

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

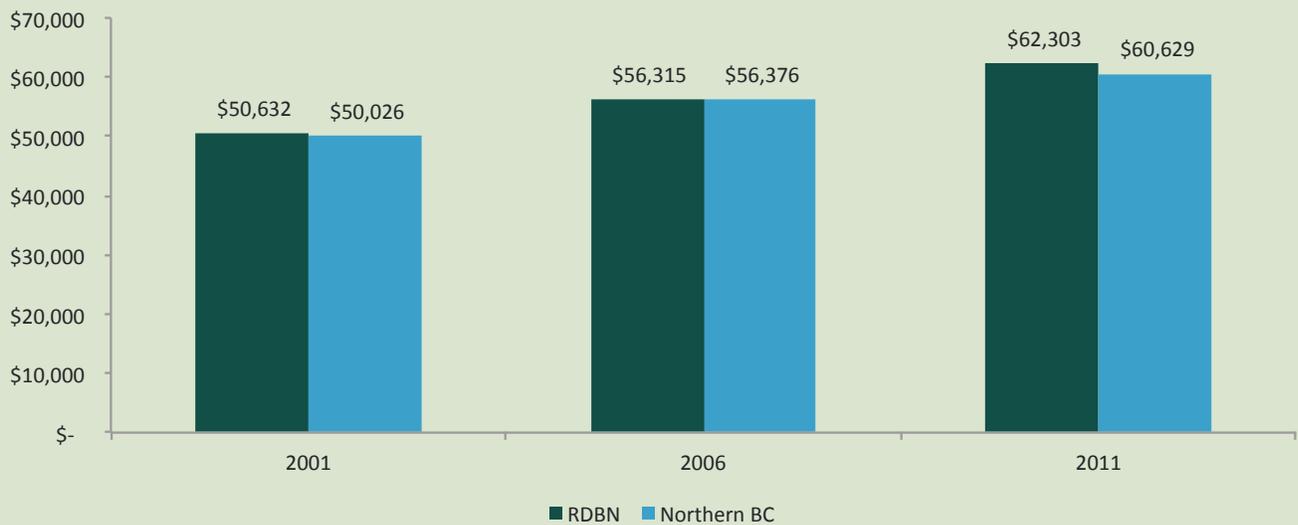
The total visible minority population of the RDBN was 2.5% of its total population, while Northern BC's proportion of visible minorities was higher, at 4.5%. The RDBN and Northern BC had a similar distribution of population amongst visible minority groups in 2011.





Household Income

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



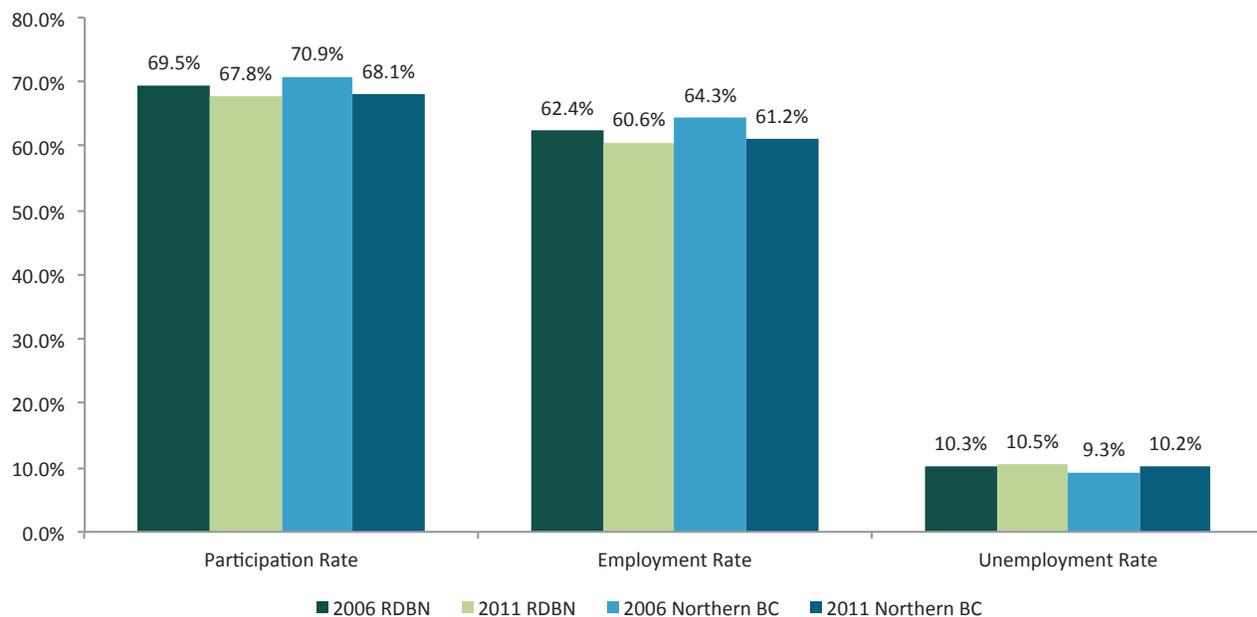
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006

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



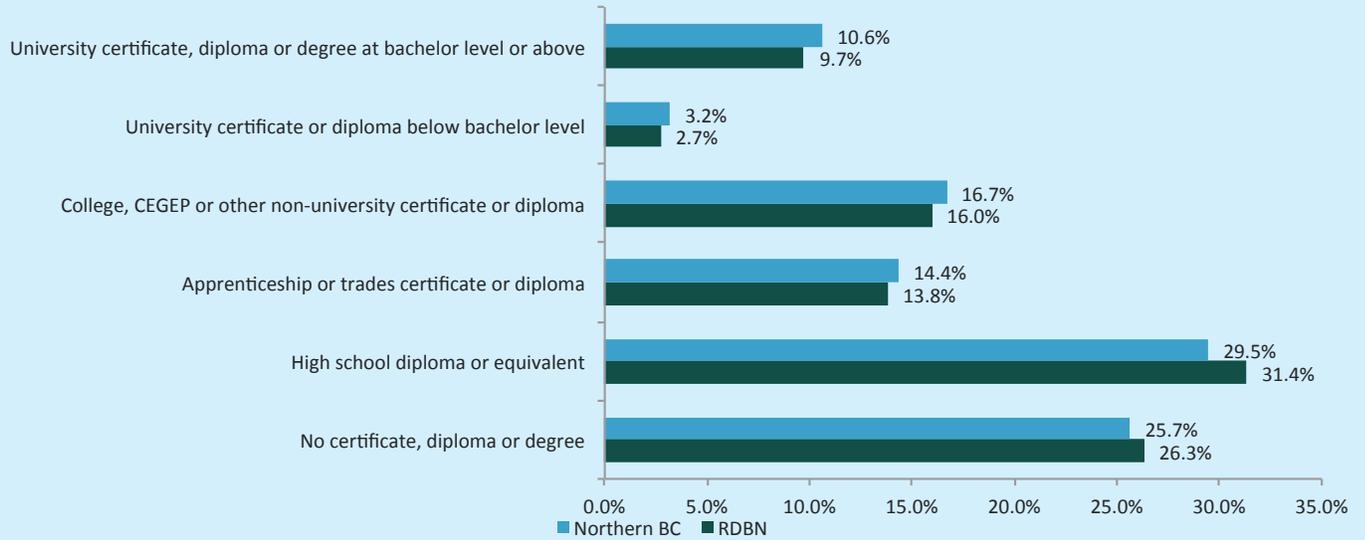
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006

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



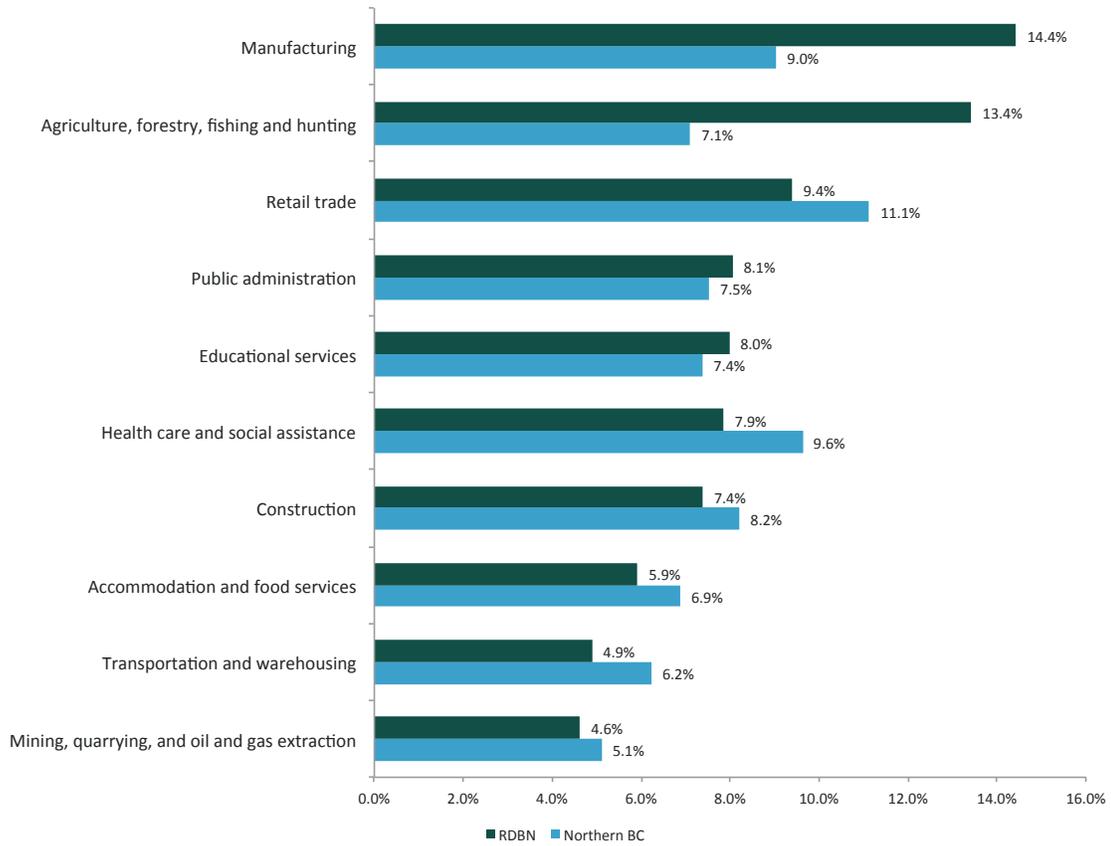
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

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

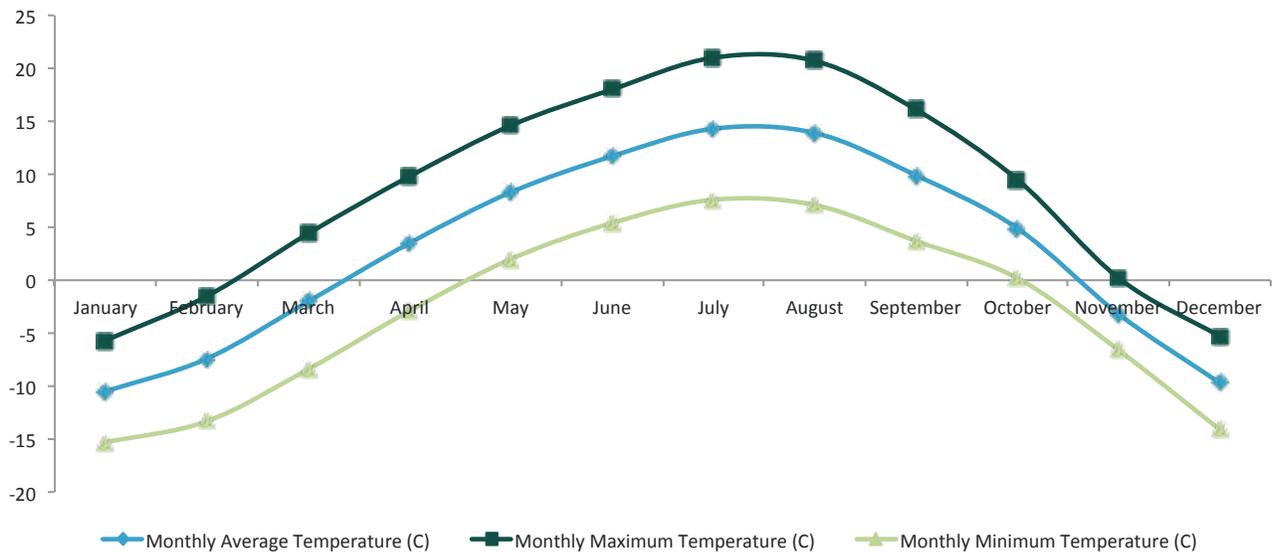
In the RDBN, post-secondary educational facilities are conveniently available in many communities.

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

CLIMATE

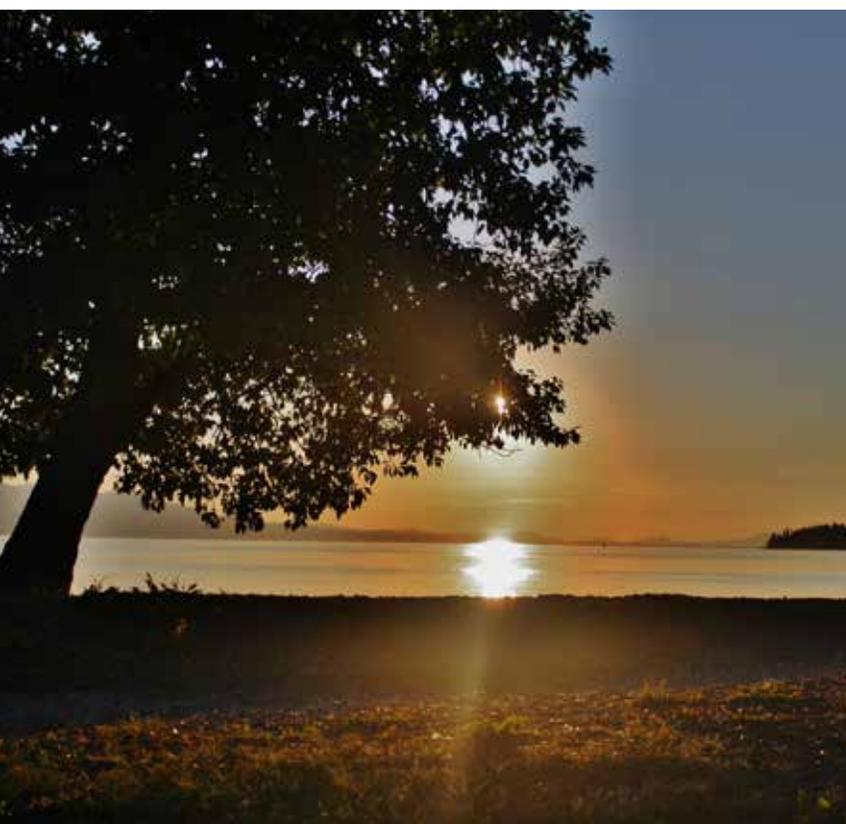
Monthly Temperature

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.



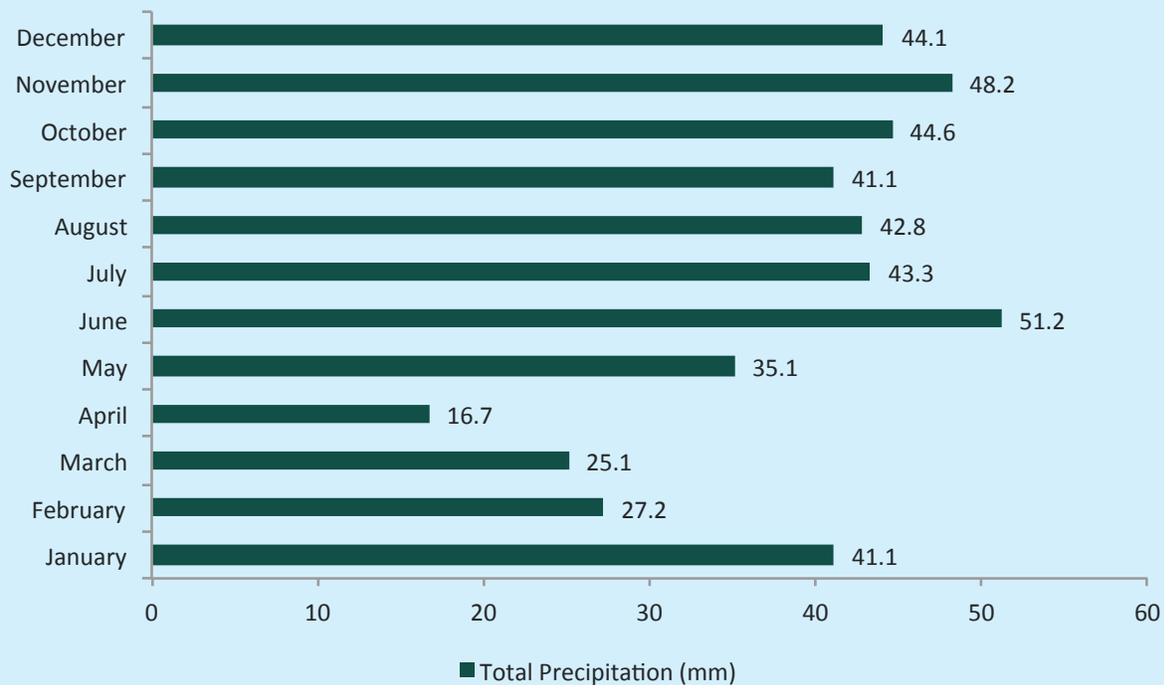
Wind Speed

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

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Opportunities
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