

Economy in the Fraser River Basin

- 39 communities within the Fraser River Basin have economic statistics summarized by BC Stats as 2002 Community Facts.
- Of these 39 communities, 14 are in the Lower Fraser Region, 3 are in the Fraser Canyon Region, 12 are in the Thompson Region, 2 are in the Cariboo-Chilcotin Region, 5 are in the Nechako Region, and 3 are in the Fraser Headwaters Region.

Average Income

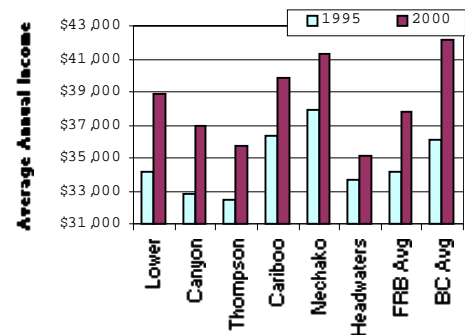
- For the 39 communities listed, the average income increased between 1995 and 2000 by 10.7%, from \$34,155 to \$37,821. The average income for BC during this time period increased by 16.6%, from \$36,126 to \$42,121.
- Communities in the Nechako, Cariboo-Chilcotin, and Lower Fraser Regions showed the highest average incomes in 2000 (\$41,252, \$39,796, \$38,921, respectively), with the lowest average incomes being in the Fraser Canyon Region (\$36,996), the Thompson Region (\$35,668), and the Fraser Headwaters Region (\$35,082). The Lower Fraser and Fraser Canyon Regions showed the largest percent increases in average income between 1995 and 2000 (13.8% and 12.7%), with the smallest increase occurring in the Fraser Headwaters Region (4.3%).
- Another way to measure average is the median, which gives the middle number of a set as opposed to the mean, or average, of the set. It can be argued that the median income is more reflective of the 'average' income in an area because it does not get skewed if a few in the area have very large incomes.

List of Communities within the Fraser River Basin summarized by BC Stats

Community	1995 Avg Income	2000 Avg Income	2000 Median Income	% on Income Assistance*
Lower Fraser Region				
Abbotsford	\$32,771	\$36,890	\$20,137	6.4%
Burnaby	\$34,114	\$39,967	\$20,339	5.3%
Chilliwack	\$32,333	\$36,000	\$20,658	8.1%
Coquitlam	\$36,723	\$42,646	\$23,766	4.2%
Harrison	\$31,940	\$39,273	\$20,328	5.8%
Kent	\$31,470	\$33,916	\$17,075	6.0%
Langley DM	\$36,598	\$42,011	\$25,813	4.1%
Maple Ridge	\$34,758	\$39,797	\$26,250	5.3%
Mission	\$33,076	\$36,938	\$20,746	7.9%
New Westminster	\$34,795	\$39,987	\$23,854	7.5%
Pemberton	\$32,696	\$35,670	\$25,470	2.7%
Pitt Meadows	\$35,237	\$39,552	\$26,313	4.4%
Port Coquitlam	\$36,833	\$41,846	\$26,875	4.9%
Richmond	\$35,622	\$40,407	\$19,148	3.8%
Average:	\$34,212	\$38,921	\$22,627	5.5%
Canyon Region				
Hope	\$32,455	\$35,653	\$16,932	10.8%
Lillooet	\$33,975	\$38,042	\$16,619	10.9%
Lytton	\$32,035	\$37,293	\$9,224	7.2%
Average:	\$32,822	\$36,996	\$14,258	9.6%
Thompson Region				
100 Mile House	\$33,334	\$35,398	\$19,342	6.9%
Ashcroft	\$34,631	\$36,718	\$18,389	5.1%
Cache Creek	\$29,438	\$32,853	\$15,286	7.0%
Chase	\$30,741	\$34,132	\$16,083	6.9%
Clinton	\$28,553	\$33,704	\$15,337	7.2%
Enderby	\$29,458	\$31,989	\$15,804	9.9%
Kamloops	\$35,198	\$39,242	\$22,370	7.2%
Logan Lake	\$37,468	\$41,848	\$21,001	3.8%
Lumby	\$31,173	\$34,191	\$16,385	8.2%
Merritt	\$33,923	\$37,638	\$16,290	9.1%
Salmon Arm	\$33,592	\$37,844	\$19,308	7.6%
Sicamous	-	\$32,462	\$17,039	8.4%
Average:	\$32,501	\$35,668	\$17,720	7.3%
Cariboo-Chilcotin Region				
Quesnel	\$36,257	\$39,709	\$20,774	11.8%
Williams Lake	\$36,354	\$39,883	\$23,211	10.2%
Average:	\$36,306	\$39,796	\$21,993	11.0%
Nechako Region				
Burns Lake	\$36,112	\$40,565	\$18,937	6.9%
Fort St. James	\$40,084	\$41,603	\$17,503	7.2%
Fraser Lake	\$39,563	\$42,593	\$21,079	7.1%
Prince George	\$37,644	\$41,852	\$24,518	9.6%
Vanderhoof	\$36,031	\$39,649	\$20,658	7.7%
Average:	\$37,887	\$41,252	\$20,539	7.7%
Fraser Headwaters Region				
McBride	\$30,806	\$32,242	\$18,399	9.0%
Valemount	\$35,173	\$34,558	\$18,294	10.5%
Wells	\$34,943	\$38,445	\$19,648	7.4%
Average:	\$33,641	\$35,082	\$18,780	9.1%
FRB Average:	\$34,155	\$37,821	\$19,877	7.2%
BC Average:	\$36,126	\$42,121	\$22,189	6.1%

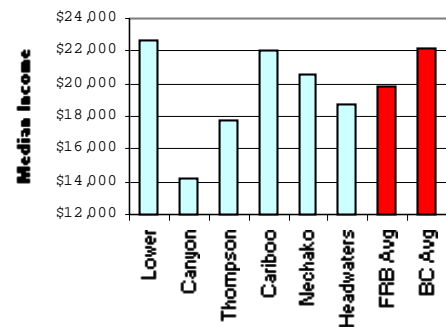
* Percent of residents between 19-64 years of age receiving either EI or Basic Income Assistance in 2002.

1995 and 2000 Annual Incomes by Region Based on 39 Communities in the Fraser River Basin



- The median income for BC in 2000 was \$22,189. For the 39 Fraser River Basin communities, the median income in 2000 was \$19,877. Communities in the Lower Fraser Region had the highest median income (\$22,627), followed by the Cariboo-Chilcotin Region (\$21,993), the Nechako Region (\$20,539), and the Fraser Headwaters Region (\$18,780). The Thompson Region (\$17,720) and the Fraser Canyon Region (\$14,258) had the lowest median incomes.

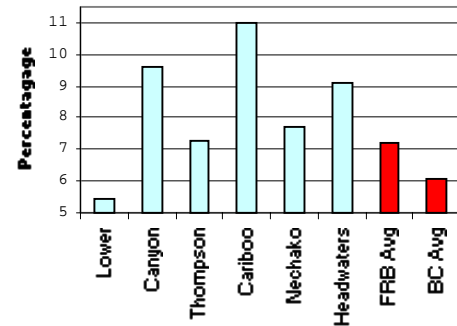
Median Income in 2000 by Region
Based on 39 Communities Located
within the Fraser River Basin



Income Assistance

- For the 39 communities described, the average percentage of 19-64 year old residents receiving either Unemployment Insurance or Basic Income Assistance in 2002 was 7.2%. The BC average was 6.1%.
- By region, the lowest number of recipients were within the Lower Fraser Region (5.5%), the Thompson Region (7.3%), and the Nechako Region (7.7%). The regions with the largest number of residents receiving EI or Basic Income Assistance were the Cariboo-Chilcotin Region (11.0%), the Fraser Canyon Region (9.6%), and the Fraser Headwaters Region (9.1%).

Percentage of 19-64 Year Old
Residents on Income Assistance in
the Fraser River Basin



Source:

BC Stats. 2002 Community Facts. Ministry of Management Services, Victoria, BC.
<http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/dd/facsheet/facsheet.htm>