



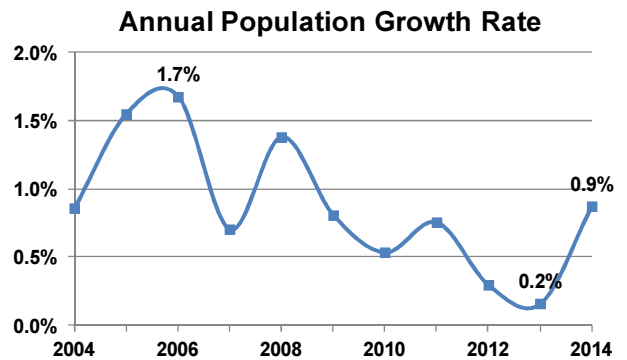
Population Growth (Updated April 2015)

Annual population estimates from BC Stats show a revival of growth in the ICET region in 2014. The region's estimated population for July 1, 2014 was 436,674, an increase of 0.9% over the previous year.

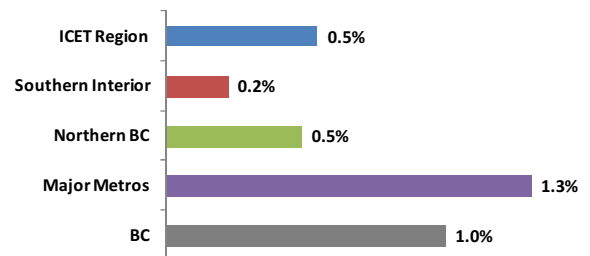
This is the highest annual population growth in the region since 2008 and has reversed, at least temporarily, the gradual downward trend in growth rates over the last decade.

The region added nearly 3,800 people from mid-2013 to mid-2014, significantly more than the average of about 2,250 over the last five years. Growth was also faster in other rural parts of the province from mid-2013 to mid-2014 compared to the five-year average, but slightly slower in the major metropolitan areas of Greater Victoria and the Lower Mainland.

In percentage terms the ICET region has averaged 0.5% growth per year over the last five years, which compares favourably to other rural regions in BC.



Average Annual Population Growth by BC Region, 2009-2014



Population Estimate by BC Region, 2009-2014

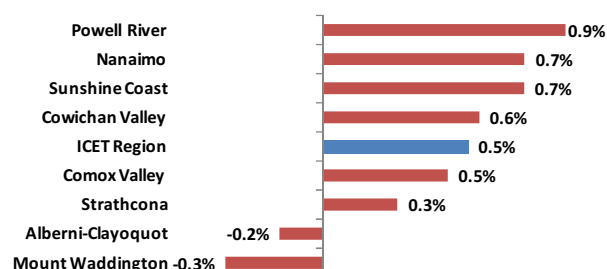
Region	Annual Population Estimate						Change, 2013-2014		Average Change, 2009-2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014				
ICET Region	425,411	427,688	430,921	432,201	432,891	436,674	3,783	0.9%	2,253	0.5%
Southern Interior	715,953	713,747	717,600	719,684	717,991	723,552	5,561	0.8%	1,520	0.2%
Northern BC	323,244	323,765	326,044	327,976	328,813	330,876	2,063	0.6%	1,526	0.5%
Major Metros	2,946,071	3,000,724	3,024,574	3,063,447	3,102,283	3,137,373	35,090	1.1%	38,260	1.3%
BC Total	4,410,679	4,465,924	4,499,139	4,543,308	4,581,978	4,628,475	46,497	1.0%	43,559	1.0%

Source: BC Stats

Every one of the eight regional districts in the ICET region added population in 2014, according to the BC Stats estimates. The increases ranged from 62 people in the RD of Mount Waddington (0.5% increase) to nearly 1,700 people in the RD of Nanaimo (1.1% increase).

Seven of the eight RDs also had faster growth in the last year compared to the average of the last five years, suggesting that the recent uptick in regional growth was shared across most of the region. The only RD that grew more slowly in the 2013 to 2014 period is the Powell River RD, largely because its growth rate over the last five years is the fastest in the region

Average Annual Population Growth by RD within the ICET Region, 2009-2014



Population Estimate by Regional District with the ICET Region, 2009-2014

Region	Annual Population Estimate						Change, 2013-2014		Average Change, 2009-2014	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014				
Nanaimo	146,264	147,456	148,770	149,219	150,014	151,687	1,673	1.1%	1,085	0.7%
Sunshine Coast	28,528	28,590	28,918	29,377	29,279	29,580	301	1.0%	210	0.7%
Comox Valley	63,551	63,875	64,417	64,479	64,380	65,003	623	1.0%	290	0.5%
Cowichan Valley	80,392	81,083	81,485	82,080	82,003	82,690	687	0.8%	460	0.6%
Powell River	19,882	19,987	20,106	20,247	20,634	20,769	135	0.7%	177	0.9%
Mount Waddington	11,834	11,766	11,716	11,481	11,567	11,629	62	0.5%	-41	-0.3%
Strathcona	43,647	43,628	43,928	43,937	44,011	44,242	231	0.5%	119	0.3%
Alberni-Clayoquot	31,313	31,303	31,581	31,381	31,003	31,074	71	0.2%	-48	-0.2%
ICET Region Total	425,411	427,688	430,921	432,201	432,891	436,674	3,783	0.9%	2,253	0.5%

Source: BC Stats

Appendix: Geographic Areas

The four BC regions shown in this report are based on amalgamations of regional districts. Note that the ICET Region boundaries are an exact match for the area covered by the Trust, but the Southern Interior and Northern BC regions do not exactly match the boundaries of the other two regional trusts in BC (the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust and the Northern Development Initiative Trust).

ICET Region

Cowichan Valley, Nanaimo, Alberni-Clayoquot, Comox Valley, Strathcona, Mount Waddington, Powell River, Sunshine Coast

Southern Interior

East Kootenay, Central Kootenay, Kootenay-Boundary, Okanagan-Similkameen, Central Okanagan, North Okanagan, Columbia-Shuswap, Thompson-Nicola, Squamish-Lillooet

Northern BC

Cariboo, Fraser-Fort George, Peace River, Northern Rockies, Bulkley-Nechako, Stikine, Kitimat-Stikine, Skeena-Queen Charlotte, Central Coast

Major Metros

Capital, Greater Vancouver, Fraser Valley

