



Telkwa and Surrounding Area Community Profile

Smithers • Telkwa • Houston • Granisle
Burns Lake • Fraser Lake • Fort St. James • Vanderhoof

Telkwa



Land Acknowledgement

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Board and staff would like to open this report by acknowledging that the RDBN conducts its work on the unceded territories of First Nations across the vast Regional District. The Bulkley-Nechako Region covers an area over 70,000 square kilometers, spanning the traditional territories of the Dakelh, Nedut'en, Tse'khene, and Witsuwit'en speaking peoples. The RDBN respects the distinct cultures of the Indigenous Peoples in the Bulkley-Nechako and honours their long-standing relationship with these lands and waters from time immemorial.

The RDBN is further committed to building strong and enduring relationships with the 14 First Nations governments within the boundaries of the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District.

Listed in Alphabetical Order They Are:

- Binche Whut'en
- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- Lake Babine Nation
- Nadleh Whuten
- Nak'azdli Whut'en
- Nee-Tahi-Buhn
- Saik'uz First Nation
- Skin Tyee
- Stellat'en First Nation
- Takla Nation
- Tl'azt'en Nation
- Ts'il Kaz Koh (formerly Burns Lake Band)
- Wet'suwet'en First Nation
- Yekooche First Nation

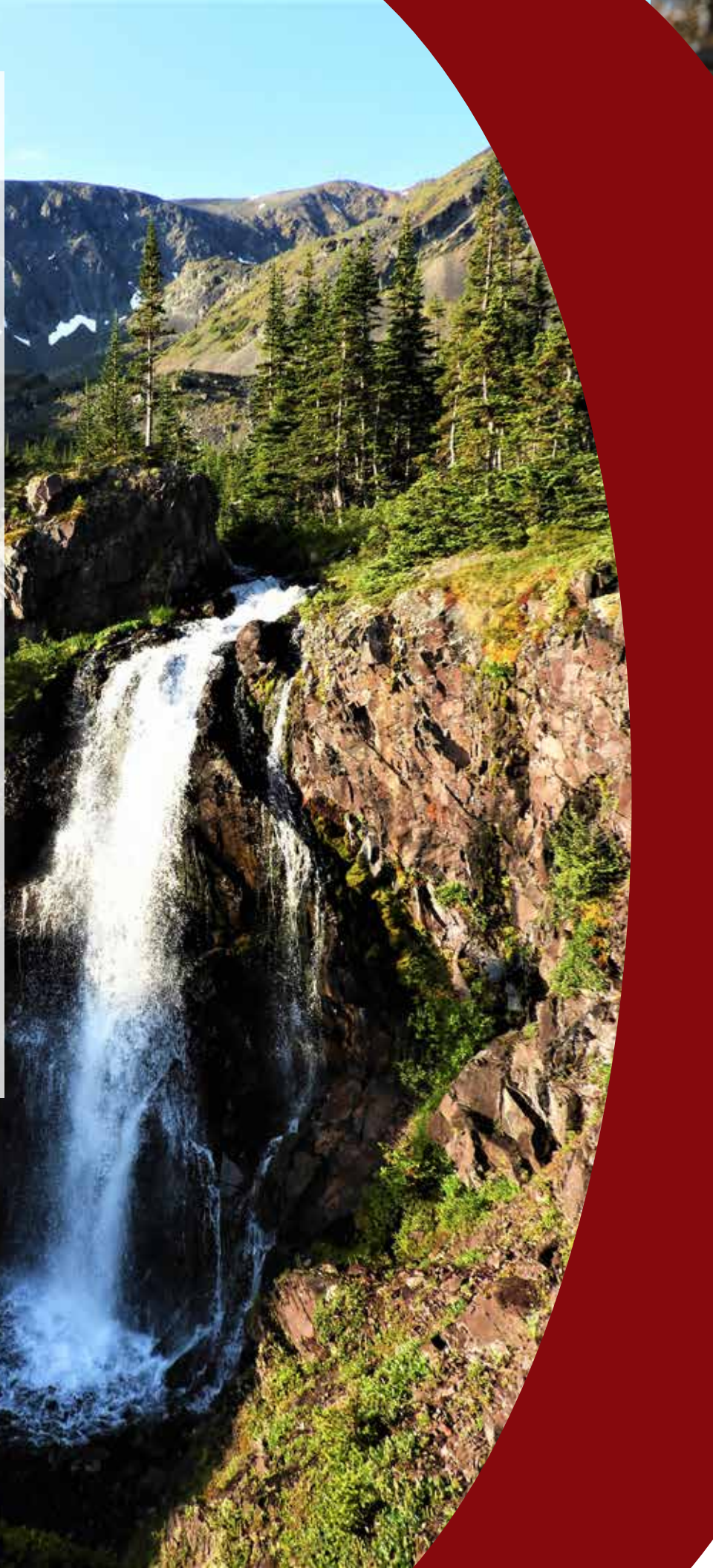




Photo by Camus Photography

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, year-round outdoor adventure and recreational activities.

Local sightseeing and adventure tour operators offer various organized packages from world-class hunting, sport fishing and flight charters. Locals and visitors enjoy hiking, cycling, canoeing, tubing, rafting, kayaking, paddle-boarding and bird watching. The adventures continue in the winter with phenomenal snowmobiling, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, skating, ice-fishing and downhill skiing at neighbouring mountains. For those looking for a quiet day, Telkwa is home to lush parks and historical buildings, including the restored 1910 St. Stephen's Church and Telkwa Museum.

A friendly, safe and family-orientated community, Telkwa is attractive to potential buyers as it offers a rural setting with larger lots and a relaxed lifestyle. Telkwa is set for a wide range of interests and needs, with a library, high-speed internet access, baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis & pickleball courts, community grounds with a community hall, walking trails, including an accessible trail alongside the river, as well as retail and home-based businesses.

The Regional Profile

This community profile is one of eight such guides, one for each community within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. The profiles contain the latest census data laid out in an easy-to-read format which can help those considering investing in or moving to the RDBN to better understand the region and its value. Each community is paired with information on the rural Electoral Area that surrounds it. While the data is delivered from the Federal Government separately, each municipality and its surrounding area are very closely linked by their people, their land, and their governments.

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.

Regional Map



Distance to Major Centres

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



Electoral Area A
(Smithers/Telkwa
Rural)

**Local Area
Map**

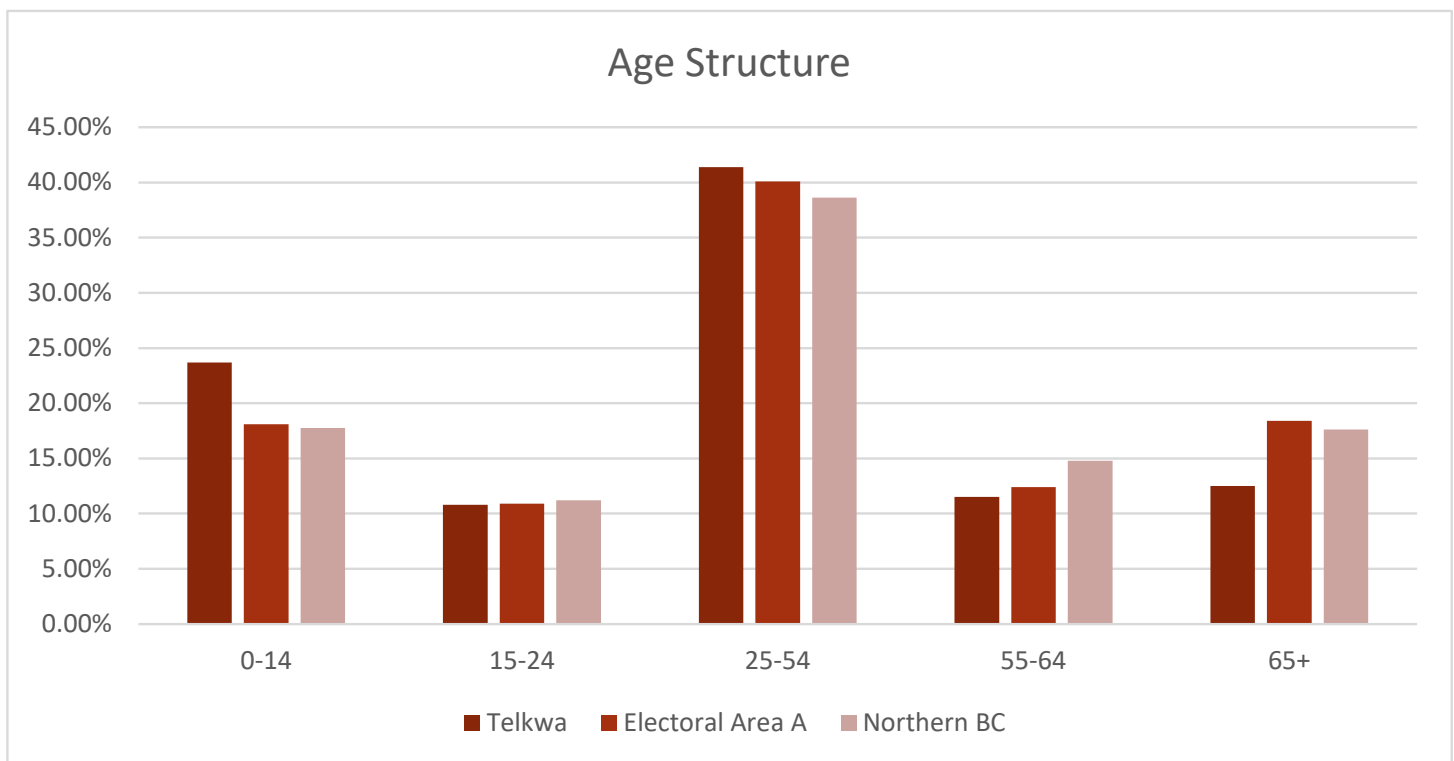
Population Growth

	2006	2011	2016	2021
Telkwa	1,295	1,350	1,327	1,474
Electoral Area A	5,290	5,391	5,256	5,587
Northern BC	314,771	315,284	318,225	319,628

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2006-2021

The Village of Telkwa had a population of 1,474 in 2021 and continues to see a steady growth. Telkwa experienced a 13.8% increase in population from 2006-2021, outpacing growth rates in Electoral Area A and Northern BC.

Age Structure



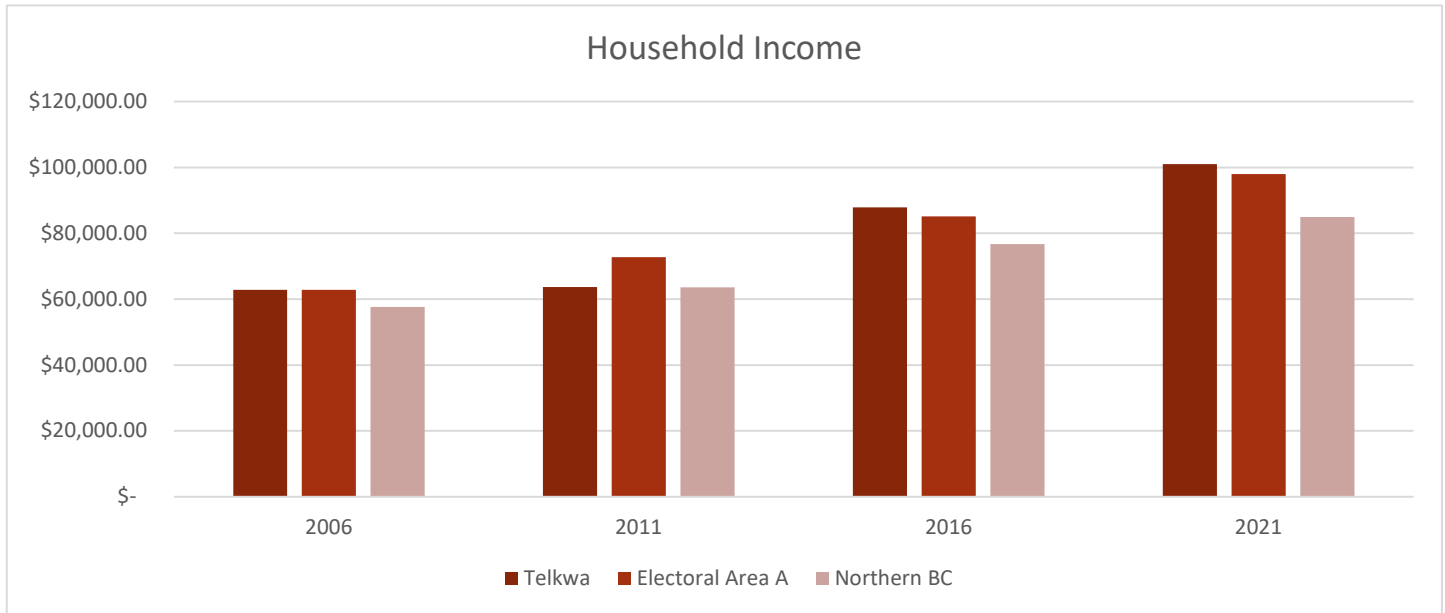
Source: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2021

The Village of Telkwa is one of the youngest municipalities in the region. Telkwa is also generally younger than Electoral Area A and Northern BC. The age structure reveals that Telkwa has a higher youth population (ages 0-14) and lower percentage of people between the ages of 55 and over compared to the Electoral Area and Northern BC.

Demographic Data

Household Income

Median household income in Telkwa and Electoral Area A, 2006-2021

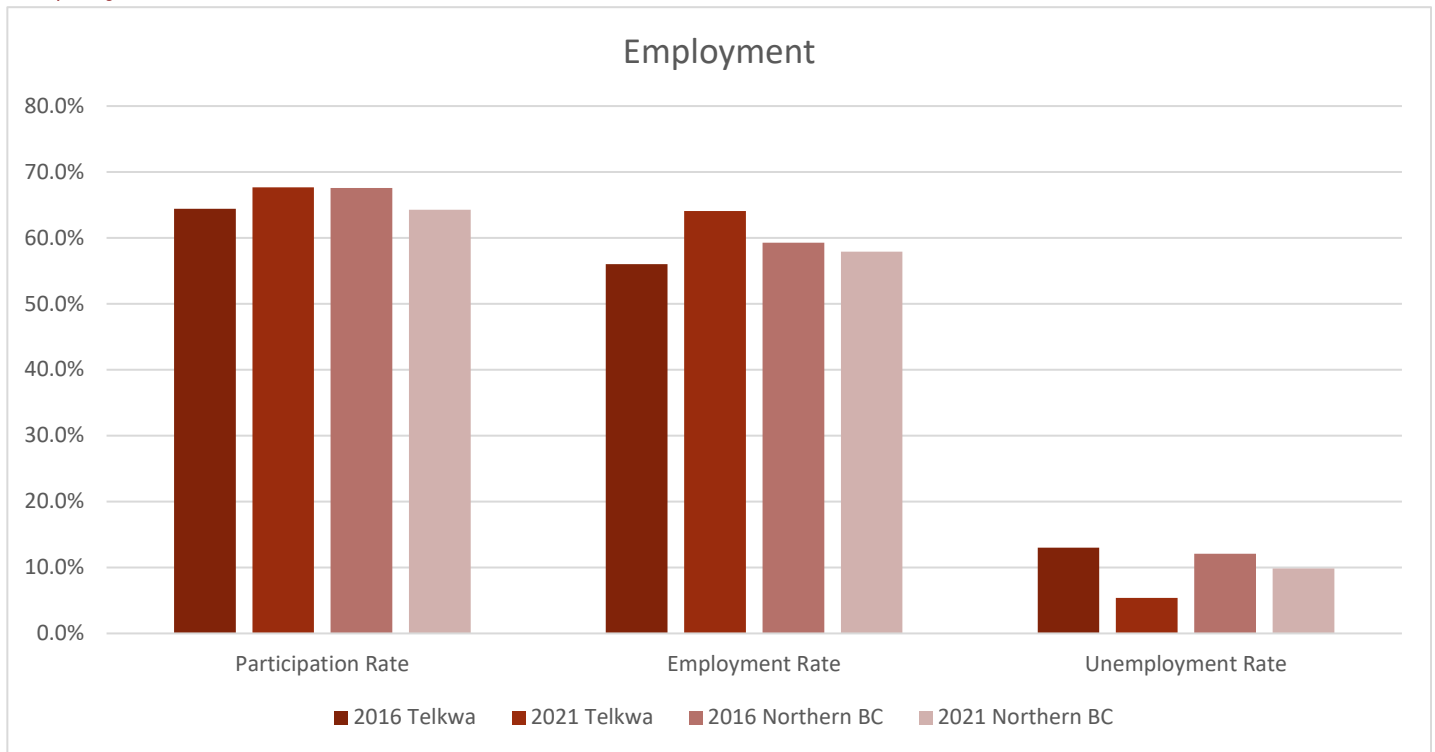


The median household income in Telkwa was higher than Northern BC and Electoral Area A in 2016 and 2021.



Employment Data

Employment data in Telkwa and Northern BC 2011-2021



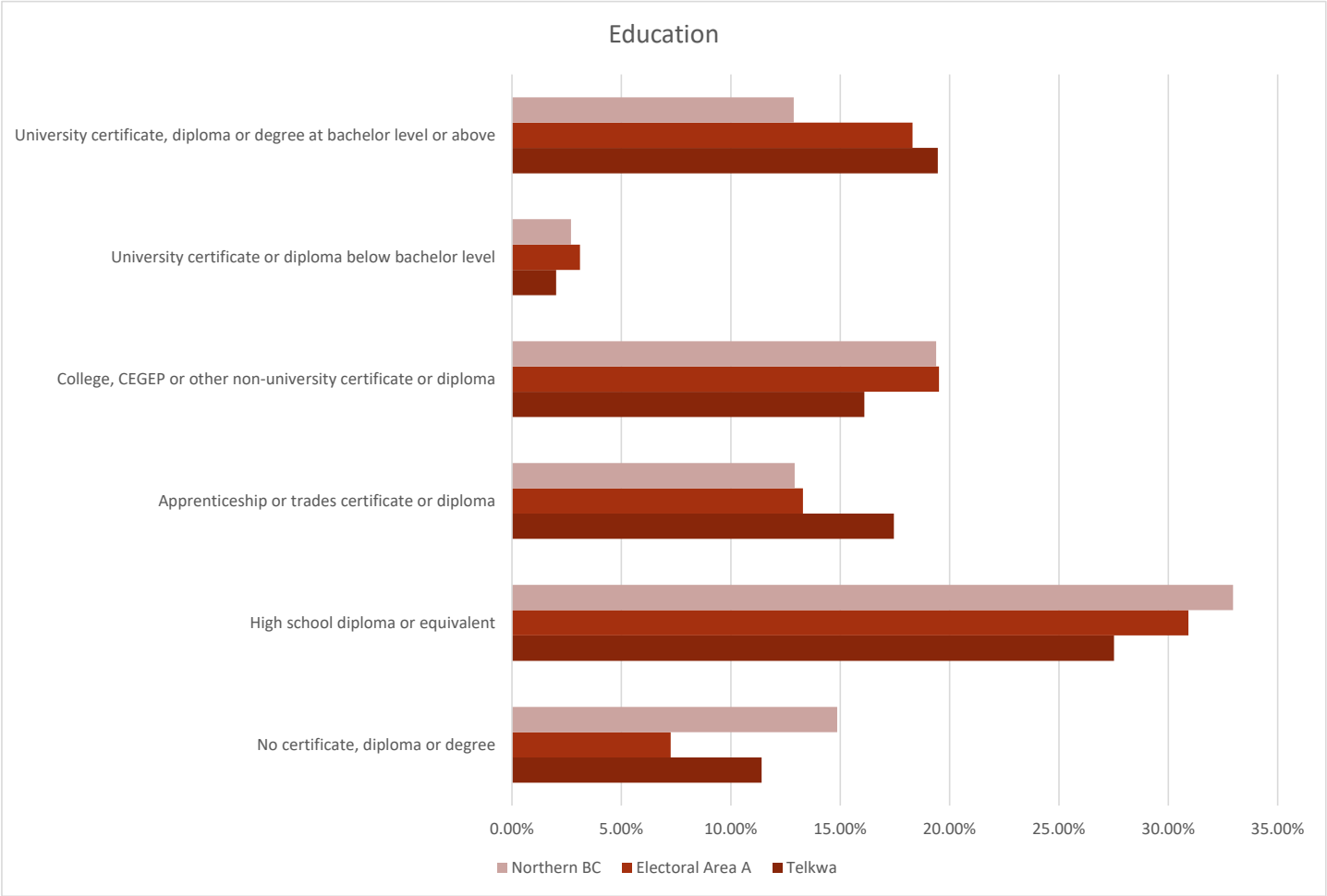
Sources: Statistics Canada, 2016 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2021

Telkwa's unemployment rate fell by over half from 2016 to 2021. Telkwa had a slightly lower participation rate and employment rate than Northern BC in 2021.



Education

Educational attainment in Telkwa and Electoral Area A in 2021

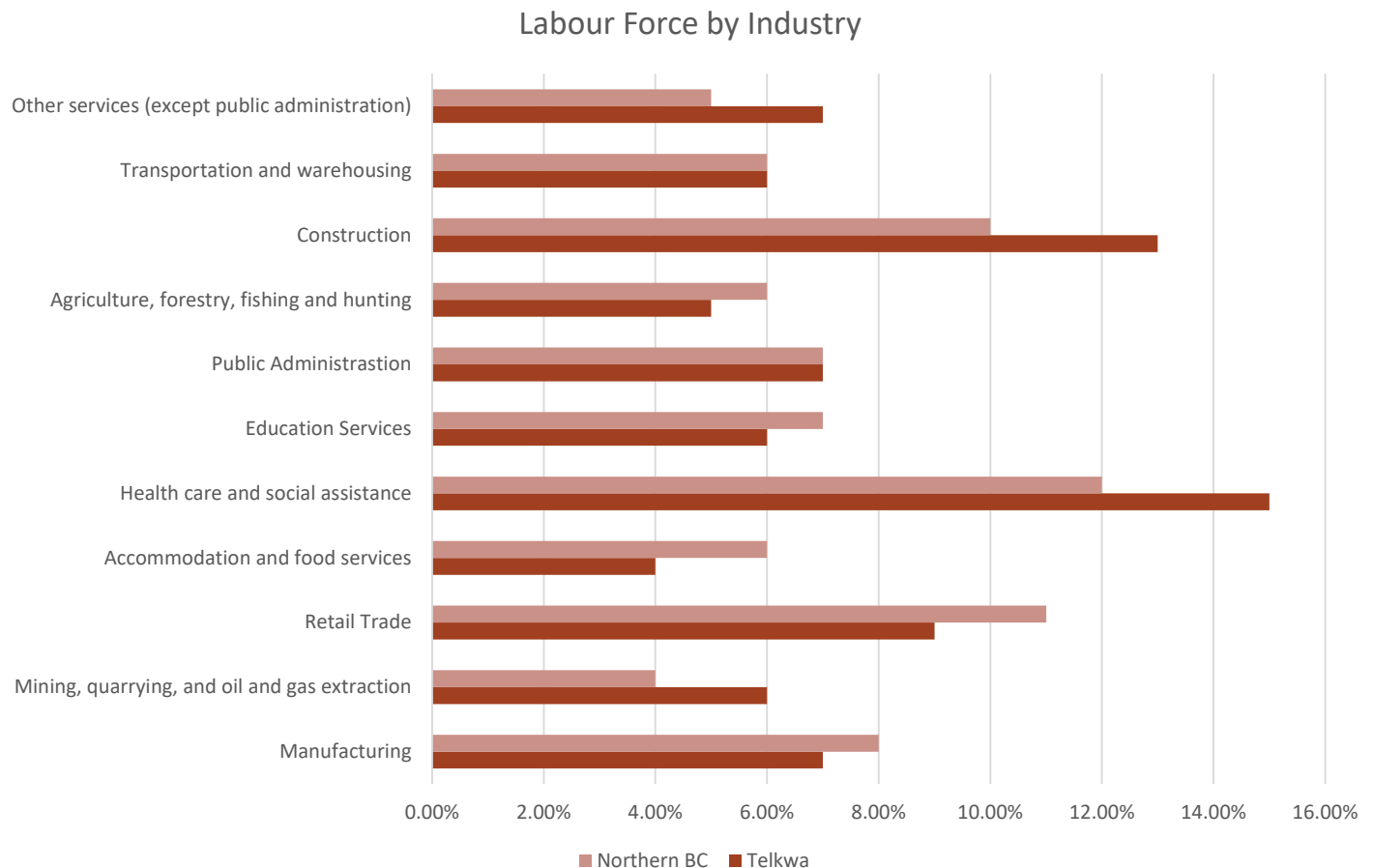


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2021 National Household Survey

Telkwa has a high percentage of its population with apprenticeships or trade certificates, as well as bachelor level university education.

Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Telkwa and Northern BC, 2021



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2021 National Household Survey

In 2021 in the Village of Telkwa, construction, health care, and retail trade were major sources of employment.



Major Employers

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

NAME	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES
Pro-Tech Forest Resources Ltd	30
Bulkley Valley Home Centre Ltd	32
Telkwa Elementary School (School District #54)	20
Woodmere Nursery RD (seasonal)	50
Village of Telkwa	13
PRT Summit Nursery (seasonal)	30

Water and Waste

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 distribution system includes two above-ground reservoirs with a combined capacity of approximately 2,500 m³. The Village has a well that can be used as a back-up water source.

Water Supply vs. Projected Demand

Rated Capacity	1,400 m ³ /d
Average Daily Demand	570 m ³ /d
Peak Demand	1,515 m ³ /d

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Water Rates

Single Family	\$501/year
Light Industrial	\$2,342/year

For further information on water rates in Telkwa please visit www.telkwa.ca

Description of Waste Treatment Facility and Capacity

Telkwa has aerated lagoons and can treat 850 m³ of waste water per day.

Local Government Data

Taxes

The following chart summarizes the 2022 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	3.97850	28.23291	0.00000	15.19470	11.29357	0.00000	3.97850	0.37942
Regional District	1.10665	3.87329	0.00000	3.76263	2.71130	0.00000	1.10665	1.10665
Hospital District	0.50578	1.77023	0.00000	1.71965	1.23916	0.00000	0.50578	0.50578
School	1.94150	12.72000	3.52000	3.52000	3.52000	1.90000	2.03000	6.98000
Other	0.32010	1.46450	1.43600	1.07340	0.80250	1.09110	0.32010	0.32010
Total	7.85253	48.06093	4.95600	25.27038	19.56653	2.99110	7.94103	9.29195

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.

The Village office provides services to new and existing businesses to achieve success, including:

- Business support and incentive programs;
- Marketing Telkwa as place to live, grow and do business;
- Shop local initiatives;
- Providing information and resources to existing businesses, prospective entrepreneurs and potential investors.

Business, community and sports groups and clubs are listed on the Telkwa Business and Community Directory, which is updated annually in March. The directory is available on the Village's website, or printed copies can be picked up upon request at the Village municipal office.

The Business Façade Improvement Program, funded by Northern Development Initiative Trust, will match dollar per dollar, a 50% reimbursement grant up to a maximum of \$5,000 per commercial building/project to improve the facades of businesses in Telkwa's downtown. The building/project must be located in the Village's Downtown Commercial (C1), Service Commercial (C2) or Neighbourhood Commercial (C3) zones.

Housing

DESCRIPTION OF TYPICAL HOUSING STOCK	# OF UNITS
Total private dwellings (2021 census)	584
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents (2021 census)	562
Single detached houses (2021 census)	495
Row houses (2021 census)	20
Moveable Dwellings (2021 census)	30

HOUSING	COST
Average value of Dwellings	\$398,000



Development Processes and Fees

Before purchasing a property or signing a lease for a building where a business will be located, the Village of Telkwa recommends contacting their office to check if the property conforms to the Village's Zoning Bylaw.

Additionally, before constructing, altering, repairing or demolishing a building or structure within the Village of Telkwa, please review the Building Permit Application Guide listed on the Village website, or contact the Village office for guidance.

All signs erected, placed, displayed, altered or moved must please be in conformance with the Village of Telkwa Sign Bylaw.

A Business Licence is required for anyone conducting business within the Village of Telkwa. This includes businesses that are located out of town, but operate within the Village, seasonal, mobile and home-based businesses. Business licence fees range from \$120 to \$350 per annum.

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Telkwa's official community plan and zoning bylaw are available at the community www.telkwa.ca.

The following plans are international award winning planning documents.

- Telkwa Community & Investment Profile
- Village of Telkwa Official Community Plan
- Economic Development Plan
- Strategic Priority Plan
- Municipal Annual Reports
- Community Water System Annual Report
- Five-Year Financial Plan
- Active Transportation Network Plan
- Age-Friendly Trails and Transportation
- Assessment and Action Plan
- Telkwa Parks Master Plan
- Telkwa Housing Needs Report
- Telkwa & Area Tourism Profile
- Flood Mitigation Planning Report
- Zoning Bylaw

Economic Development

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

Jill Barrowman

Economic Development/Business Liaison Officer

Email: ecdev-busdev@telkwa.ca

Phone: 250-846-5212

Mayor Leroy Dekens

1415 Hankin Ave, PO Box 220

Telkwa, BC V0J 2X0

Email: mayor@telkwa.ca

Quality of Life Factors

Accommodations

- Eddy Park Lodge
- Frontier Experience
- The Inn at the Creamery
- Lakefront Escape
- Round Lake Resort
- Telkwa Riverside B&B
- Telkwa Riverhouse
- Tyhee Lake Guest Ranch
- Tyhee Lake Provincial Park

Food Outlets

- Olivia's Cafe
- Reel Coffee
- Riverbend Ice Cream Shoppe (seasonal)
- Riverside Kitchen Co.
- Rudolph's Pure Sausage
- Tyhee Market

Financial Services

- TD Canada Trust ATM (Tyhee Market)
- CIBC (In Smithers)
- RBC Royal Bank (In Smithers)
- Bulkley Valley Credit Union (In Smithers)

Shopping

Shopping District: Downtown Telkwa

Local Community Assets

- Scenic and accessible riverside walk
- Historic walking tour
- Walking trails
- Dockrill Outdoor Rink
- Woodland Park Outdoor Rink
- Parks and playgrounds
- St. Stephen's Heritage Church
- Telkwa BBQ Grounds
- Telkwa Community Hall
- Telkwa Museum & Information Centre
- Telkwa Reading Centre
- Telkwa Senior Centre
- Timber-framed Outdoor Stage (with electricity)

Media

- Interior News
- CFNR
- The Moose
- CBC

Local Community Organizations

- Bulkley Valley Kinsmen Club
- Bulkley Valley Pickleball Club
- Bulkley Valley Wrestling Club
- Faith Reformed Church of Telkwa
- Mid Valley 4-H Club
- Telkwa Book Club
- Telkwa Community Church
- Telkwa Community Garden
- Telkwa Crochet Club
- Telkwa & District Seniors Society
- Telkwa Elementary School
- Telkwa Museum Society & Visitor Information
- Telkwa Parent Advisory Committee
- Telkwa Senior's Housing Society
- Telkwa Volunteer Fire Department
- Tyhee Lake Dragon Boating

Schools

- Telkwa Elementary School (K-7).

Other Facilities with Capacity for Hosting Events

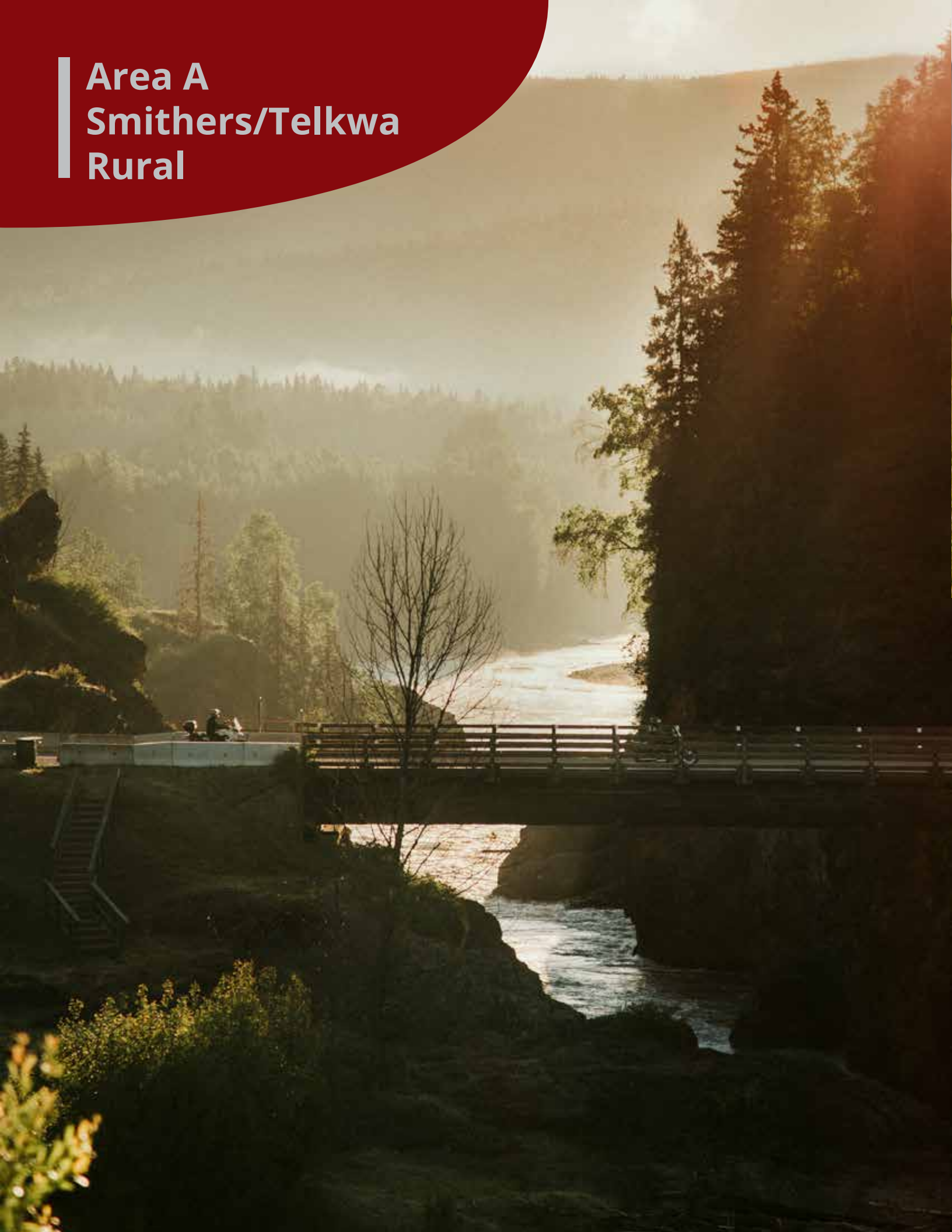
- Community Stage
- Telkwa Community Hall
- St. Stephen's Heritage Church
- Telkwa Senior's Hall
- Telkwa BBQ Grounds
- Eddy Park
- Dockrill Rink
- Village of Telkwa Council Chambers
- Telkwa Community Church

“quote”

www.telkwa.ca



Area A Smithers/Telkwa Rural





Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa 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, located in Smithers, manages the surrounding traditional territory.

Population

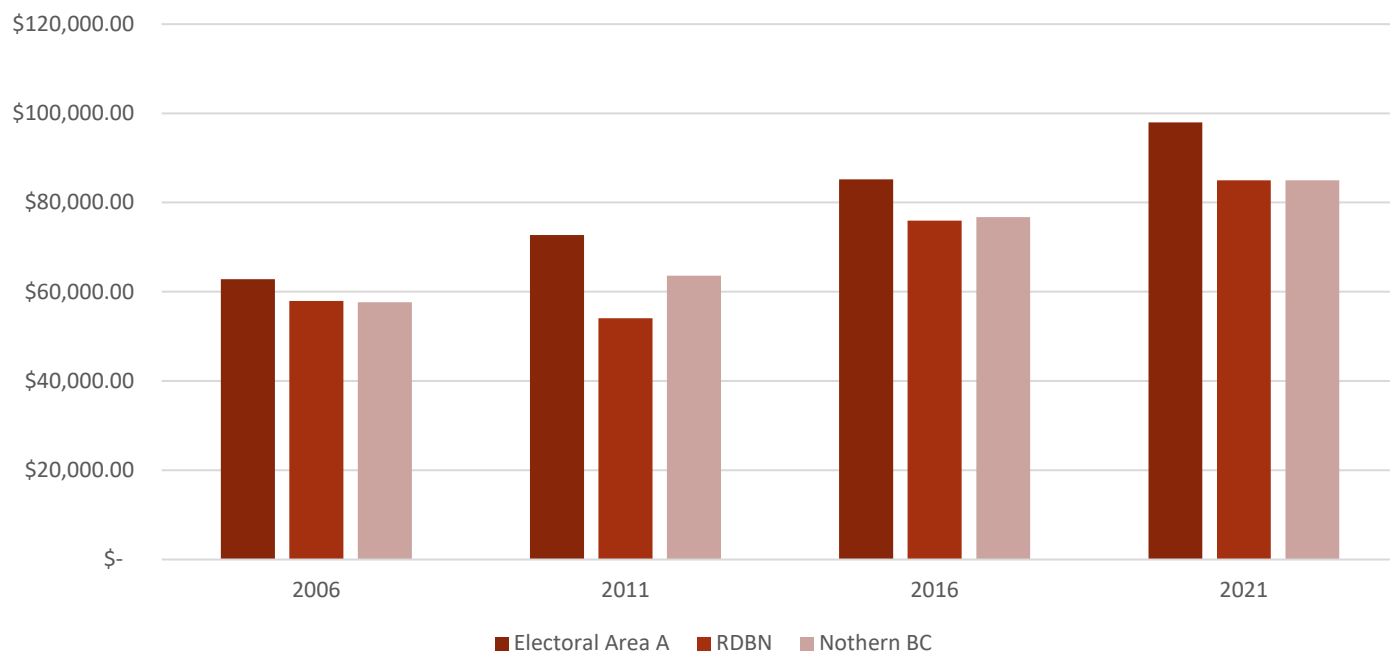
	2006	2011	2016	2021
Electoral Area A	5,290	5,391	5,256	5,587
Regional District Bulkley-Nechako	38,243	39,208	37,896	37,737
Northern BC	314,771	315,284	318,225	319,628

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile 2006-2021.

Electoral Area A had the highest population among the electoral areas in the RDBN, with a total population of 5,587 in 2021. The population has remained relatively stable over the past 15 years.

Household Income

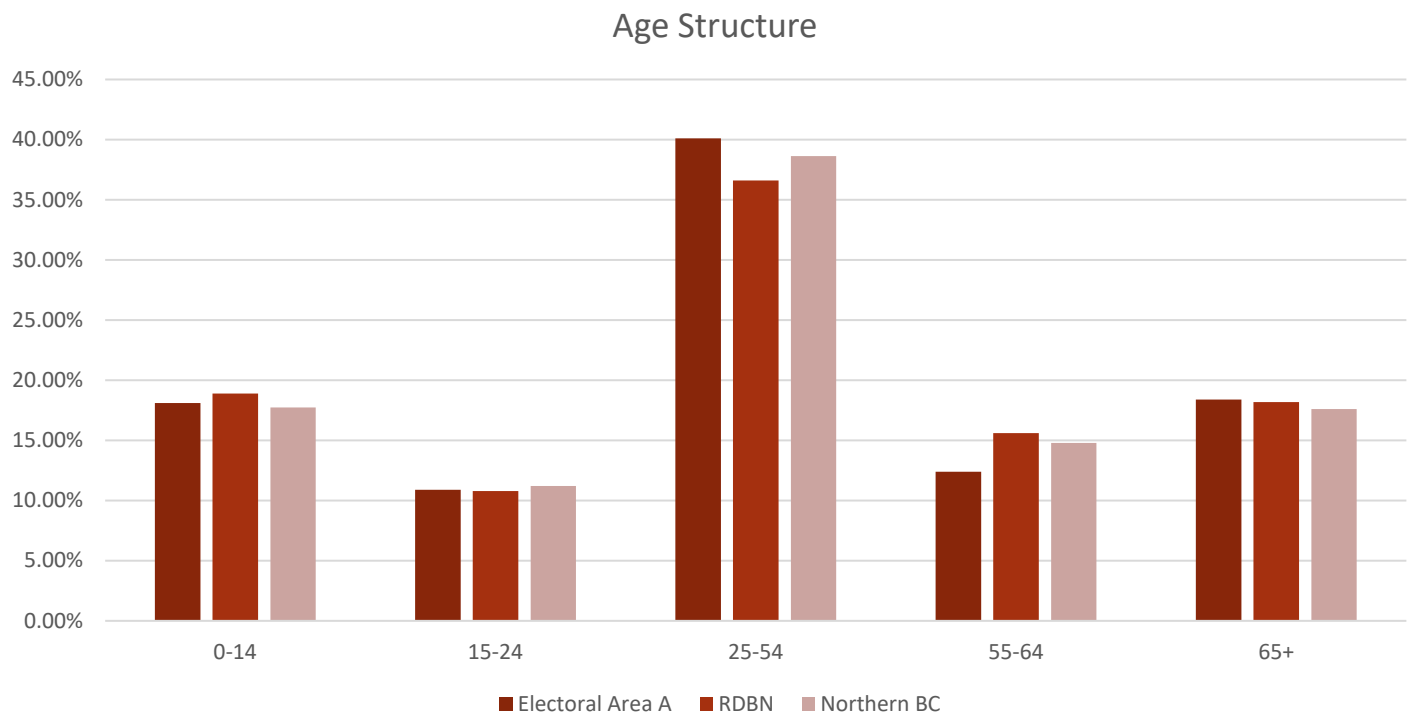
Household Income



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2016 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006-2021.

In 2021, Electoral Area A had the highest median household income among the electoral areas. The household income in Electoral Area A has been higher than in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2006 to 2021.

Age Structure



Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2021 .

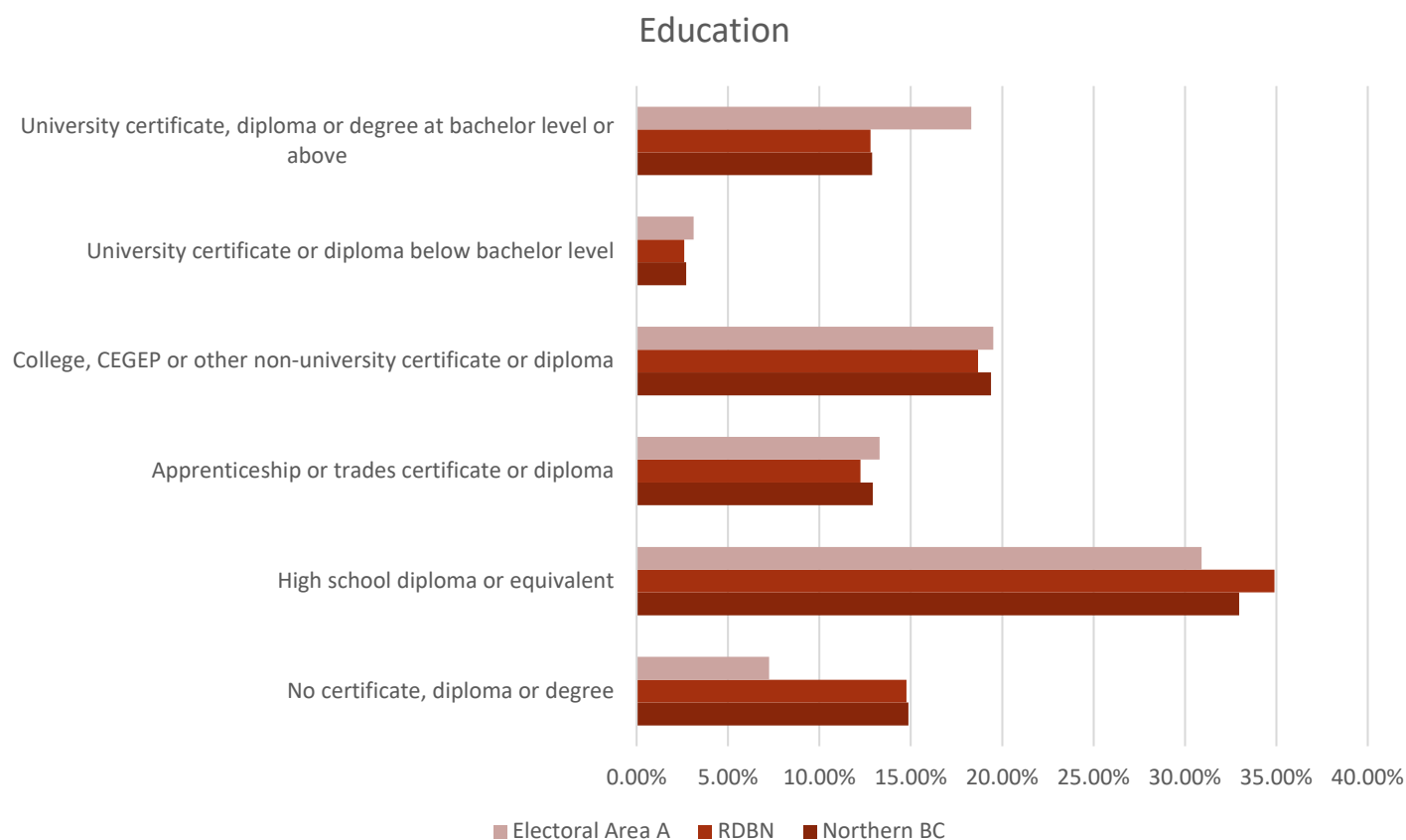
The population of Electoral Area A was quite evenly spread in 2021, with most age groups near to the average for Northern BC.





Education Level

Education in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and the RDBN, 2021

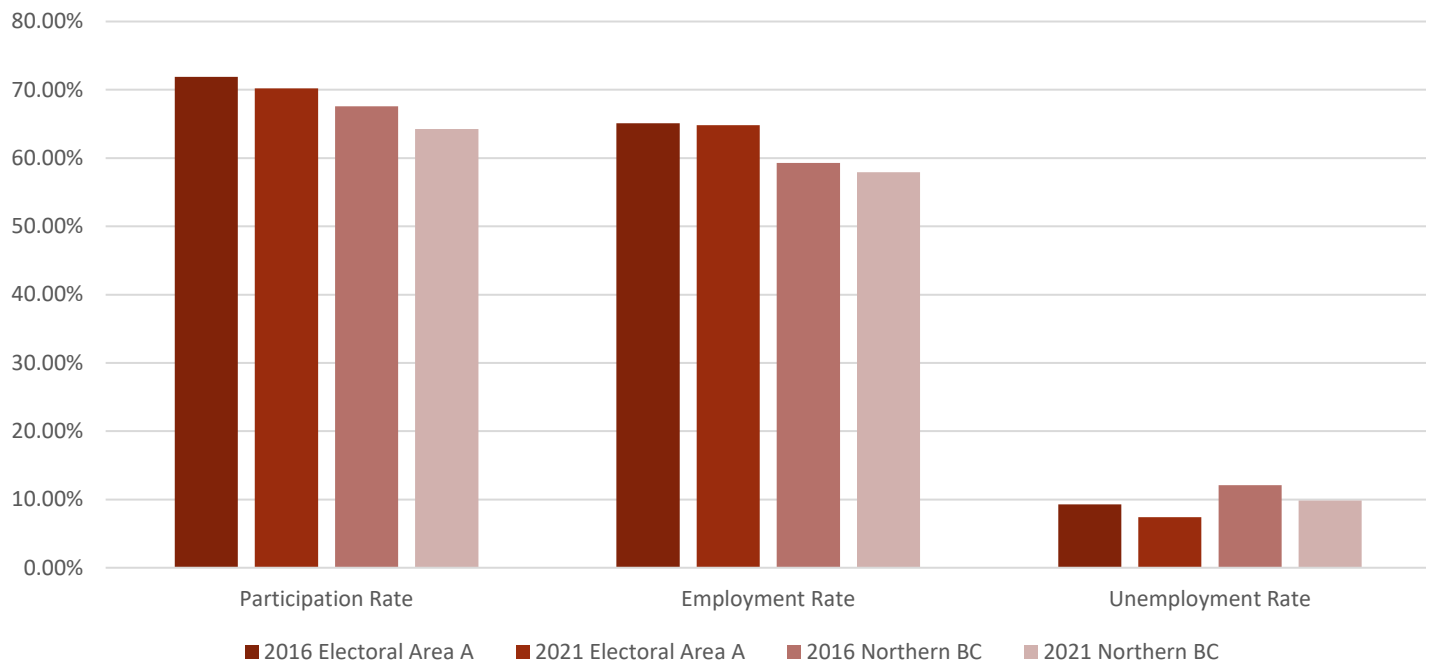


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2021 National Household Survey.

Electoral Area A has a higher population of every kind of university, college, and trades education than the rest of the RDBN or Northern BC in 2021.

Employment

Employment



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2016 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2021.

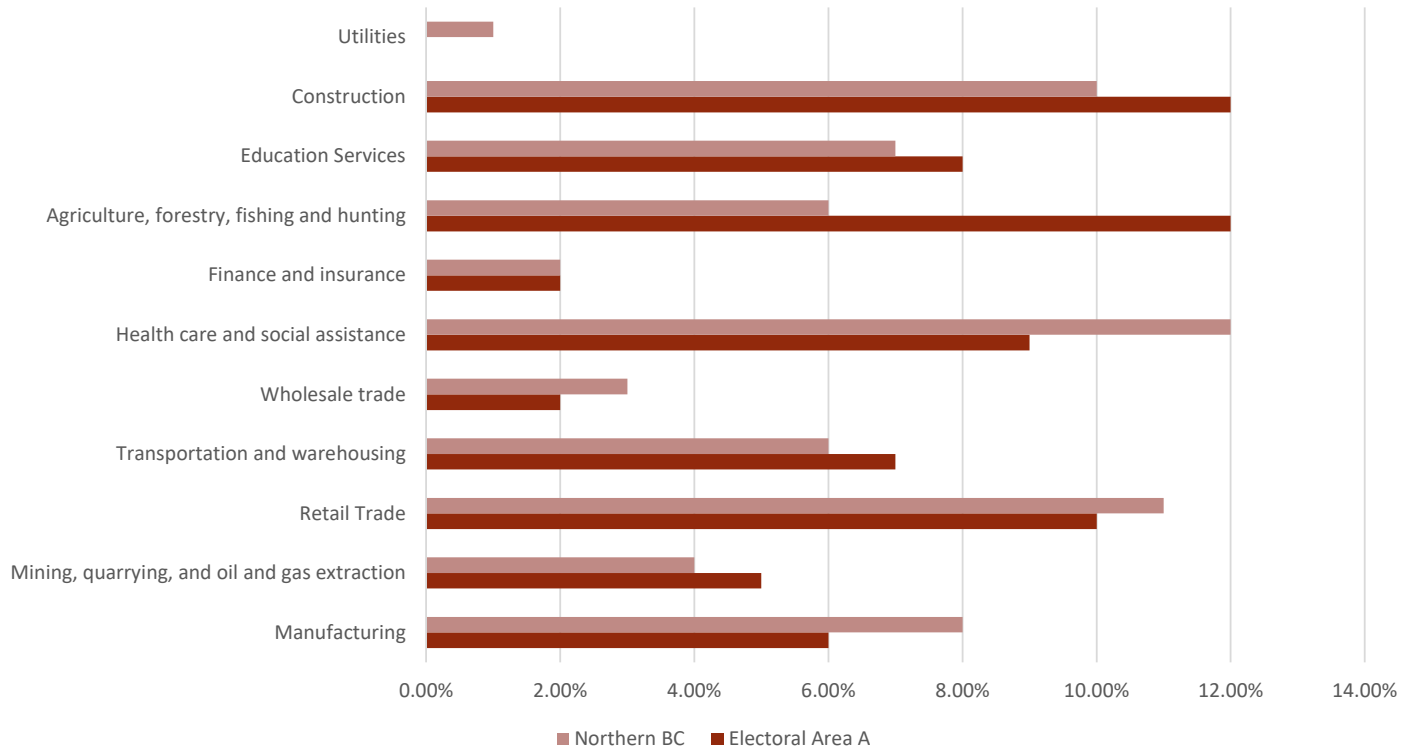
Electoral Area A had a lower unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2016 and 2021.



Labour and Workforce

Labour Force by Industry

Labour Force by Industry



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2021 National Household Survey.

In Electoral Area A in 2021, the major sources of employment came from primary industries such as agriculture, forestry, and fishing, as well as construction.



Economic Development

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

Nellie Davis

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

Director Stoney Stoltenberg

Email: stoney.stoltenberg@rdbn.bc.ca

Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Electoral Area A, Smithers Rural, official community plan is available at: www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/planning.

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 Community Organizations

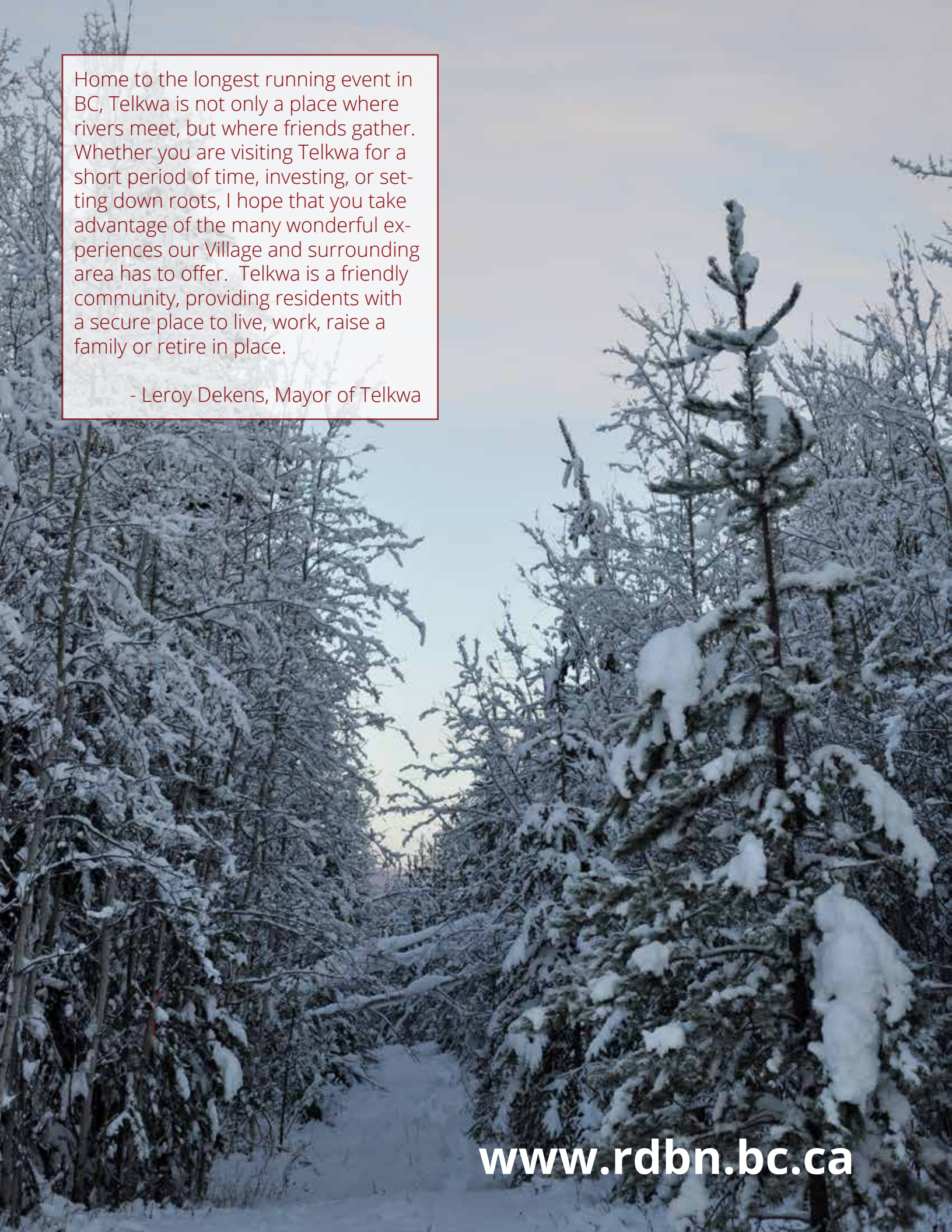
The following civic and social organizations are present in the area:

- 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 assets within the community:

- Smithers Golf & Country Club
- Hudson Bay Mountain Resort
- Hankin Evelyn Back Country Ski Area
- Tyee Mountain Trails (Tyee is correct spelling)
- Driftwood Canyon Provincial Park
- Cycle 16 multi-use trail



Home to the longest running event in BC, Telkwa is not only a place where rivers meet, but where friends gather. Whether you are visiting Telkwa for a short period of time, investing, or setting down roots, I hope that you take advantage of the many wonderful experiences our Village and surrounding area has to offer. Telkwa is a friendly community, providing residents with a secure place to live, work, raise a family or retire in place.

- Leroy Dekens, Mayor of Telkwa

www.rdbn.bc.ca