

COMPARISON TABLE: “COMMUNITY PROFILE” SECTION

Current Electoral Area Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw No. 2450, 2008	Proposed Electoral Area Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw No. 2905, 2021
<p>[Not applicable]</p>	<p>3.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE</p> <p>3.1 Location and Geography</p> <p>Covering 313 square kilometres, Electoral Area “A” is located in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) at the south end of the Okanagan Valley on the international border of Canada with the United States of America. The rural Osoyoos area is the smallest Electoral Area in the region and makes up 2.8% of the total area of the RDOS. The entire Osoyoos area includes rural Osoyoos, Osoyoos Indian Band lands, and the Town of Osoyoos.</p>
<p>4.1 Historical [from Section 4.0 - Growth Management]</p> <p><i>Osoyoos is a place name for the area where the water is shallow enough to walk across,, and Nk’Mip was originally the name of the village at the north end of Osoyoos</i> Shelley Witzky, Osoyoos Indian Band</p> <p><i>... Osoyoos means ‘narrowing of the waters’ or ‘sand bar across’</i> ‘Osoyoos Deserving Of All The Praise It Receives’ Christian Cook archivist / researcher Penticton Museum</p> <p><i>The Okanagan nation, the Nk’Mip, celebrate thousands of years of Okanagan First Nations habitation on desert lands. The Nk’Mip lands are one of Canada’s three most endangered ecosystems and are home to many endangered plant and animal species.</i> Nk’Mip Desert & Heritage Centre</p> <p><i>The rolling, bunch grass hills made an ideal range ... The Hudson’s Bay Company servants were quick to see its possibilities. There was always a ready local market for packhorses, and a market for cattle ... The first fruit trees planted in the Okanagan appear to have been those planted by Hiram F. “Okanagan” Smith in 1857 on his tract of land beside Osoyoos Lake ... most orchard development resulted when land speculators bought out the estates of the early cattlemen and subdivided these into ten-, twenty-, forty- or even, occasionally, one hundred-acre lots ... irrigation system[s] were installed ... About 1957, because of an increased demand for grapes by existing and new wineries a new era in grape growing started ... Aware of the pressures urbanization was putting on BC lands the provincial government in ... 1973 brought in the Land Commission Act ... which froze agricultural lands...</i> A Rich and Fruitful Land, Webber, 1999 p.56, 167, 170, 183, 189</p>	<p>3.2 History</p> <p>Indigenous people have lived in the RDOS area for thousands of years prior to the arrival of Europeans. The original people of the Okanagan are known as the Syilx speaking people – the “Okanagans” and according to their history have been in the area since the beginning of people on this land. The Okanagans (Syilx) people occupied an area that extended over approximately 69,000 square kilometres. The northern area of this territory stretched from the area of Mica Creek, just north of modern-day Revelstoke, BC and east to Kootenay Lake. The southern boundary extended to the vicinity of Wilbur, Washington and the western border extended into the Nicola Valley.</p> <p>Okanagan First Nations once travelled widely to fishing, gathering and hunting areas. Each year, the first harvests of roots, berries, fish and game were celebrated by ceremonies honouring the food chiefs who provided for the people. During the winter, people returned to permanent winter villages and the names of many of the settlements in the Okanagan Valley – Osoyoos, Keremeos, Penticton and Kelowna – all come from Indigenous words for these settled areas and attest to the long history of the Syilx people on this land.</p> <p>Osoyoos means ‘narrowing of the waters’ or ‘sand bar across’ and was the original place name for the area where the water was shallow enough to walk across, while Nk’Mip was originally the name of the village at the north end of Osoyoos.</p> <p>The non-Indigenous historical records of the plan area date back to 1821 with establishment of the Hudson’s Bay Fur Brigade Trail. The Trail represented a fur trading supply route through the Okanagan Valley north to Kamloops. With the United States and Canada boundary settlement in 1847, alternative trails were developed from Kamloops through the Fraser Canyon to Fort Langley. The last brigade took the trail in 1847.</p> <p>Non-Indigenous settlement in the plan area began in the mid 1850’s. During this period, several of the settlements known today were established (e.g., Okanagan Falls). Due to the absence of a public roadway system connecting the early settlements, stern-wheeler boats played an important role in transporting supplies to residents, and agricultural products to trail heads at the three Okanagan Valley centres.</p> <p>The first fruit trees planted in the Okanagan were planted by Hiram “Okanagan” Smith on his land beside Osoyoos Lake. Over the years the region established itself as an agricultural area. Orchard development increased towards the early 1900’s when land speculators bought out the estates of the early ranchers and subdivided the parcels into smaller lots, some with irrigation systems. Grapes and wine making emerged as</p>

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	<p>a new industry in the late 1950s and early 1960s.</p>
<p>[Not applicable]</p>	<p>3.3 Communities and Settlement Areas</p> <p>Electoral Area “A” is largely rural area characterised by lower density housing largely concentrated around Osoyoos Lake and the valley bottom. The principal settlement areas include Anarchist Mountain, Kilpoola, Willow Beach, and smaller, rural residential agglomerations, including the area south of S̓wi̓ws (Haynes Point Park) located along Osoyoos Lake.</p> <p>The predominant development pattern reflects the historic growth of this area in the 1920s under the provincial <i>Land Settlement and Development Act</i> (1917). The idea behind this legislation was to settle soldiers returning from the “Great War” on farmland. To this end, the provincial government acquired large ranch holdings in the Osoyoos area and subdivided these into parcels ranging between 10 to 20 acres in size (e.g. 4.0 to 8.0 ha) for orchards.</p> <p>Over the proceeding 100 years, some of these agricultural lands — principally in close proximity to Osoyoos Lake — were converted to recreational uses, initially as small-lot seasonal (cottage) properties or campgrounds catering to tourists, and later as year-round residential properties.</p> <p>Starting in the 1970s, new communities adjacent Highway 3 such as “Kilpoola” in the west and on Anarchist Mountain in the east have emerged as smaller, rural-residential communities within Electoral Area “A”.</p> <p>All of these communities are described further in Section 7.0 (Local Area Policies).</p>
<p>[Not applicable]</p>	<p>3.4 Osoyoos Indian Band</p> <p>The Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB) has reserve land in Electoral Area “A”. The main 13,009 hectare reserve stretches from the Town of Osoyoos into Electoral Area “C” and the Town of Oliver on the east side of the Okanagan Valley. There is second much smaller reserve located adjacent to the main reserve in the Electoral Area “A”. The majority (335) of the OIB's 550 members live on the main reserve which is also where all OIB services, facilities, homes, and businesses are located.</p> <p>OIB has nine companies employing more than 500 people on reserve, including Nk’Mip, a 4-star destination resort featuring Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort & Spa, a golf course, an RV and campground on the shores of Osoyoos Lake, Nk’Mip Desert Cultural Centre, and Nk’Mip Cellars Winery, North America’s first Indigenous winery. OIB also operates the Senkulmen Business Park to the east of the Town of Oliver and is a development partner in 241 unit The Cottages on Osoyoos Lake development located on OIB lands.</p> <p>OIB is a member of the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA). The ONA was formed in 1981 as the inaugural First Nations government in the Okanagan which represents the eight member communities including Okanagan Indian Band, Upper Nicola Band, Westbank First Nation, Penticton Indian Band, Osoyoos Indian Band and Lower and Upper Similkameen Indian Bands and the Colville Confederated Tribes on areas of common concern. The ONA mandate is to work collectively to advance and assert Syilx/Okanagan Nation Title and Rights over the Okanagan Nation Territory. The organization facilitates collaborative working in areas of shared interest including Title and Rights, natural resource management, social services and economic development.</p>
<p>[Not applicable]</p>	<p>3.5 Population and Demographics</p>

COMPARISON TABLE: “COMMUNITY PROFILE” SECTION

The total population of Electoral Area “A” decreased slightly between 2011 and 2016, from 1,892 residents to 1,858, a change of 34 fewer residents, or 2%. Of the eight electoral areas that comprise the RDOS, half grew in population between 2011 and 2016 while the other half declined. Overall the population of the RDOS grew by 3% in this five-year time period (Figure 3).



Figure 1: Regional Growth Rate Comparisons 2011-2016

The age and gender distribution of Electoral Area “A” is illustrated in Figure 4. Overall, approximately 51% of the population is female and 49% male. In Electoral Area “A”, the “baby boomer” generation (currently aged 55 - 75 years old) makes up the largest proportion of the population (46% of the population in 2016). In comparison, the 20 to 34-year old age group comprised only 5% of the population in the 2016 census. The profile shown in Figure 4 provides a strong contrast to the Province of BC, which is shown in Figure 5. Both show an aging population; however, the proportion of residents aged 20 - 34 years in Electoral Area “A” is quite low relative to the provincial average.

In 2016, the median age in Electoral Area “A” was 58 years, while the provincial median age was 43 years - a difference of 15 years. The median age for Electoral Area “A” is also higher than that of the RDOS where the median age in 2016 was 55 years. Electoral Area “A” has a significantly higher proportion of older residents in proportion to youth and young adults.

COMPARISON TABLE: "COMMUNITY PROFILE" SECTION

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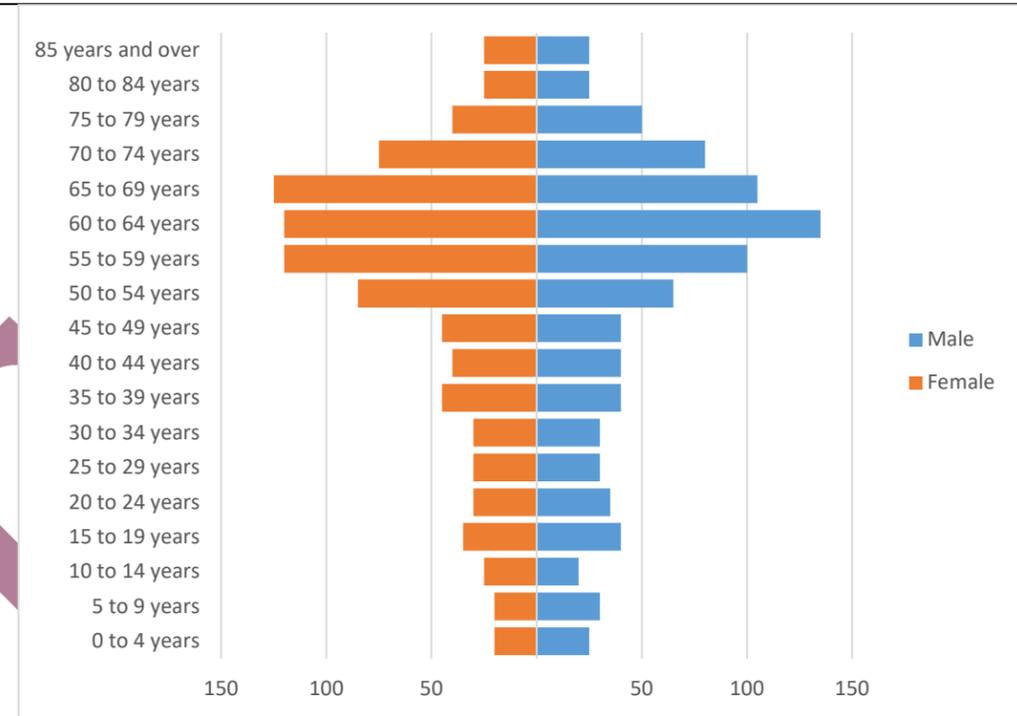


Figure 2: Electoral Area "A" 2016 Population by Gender and Age Cohort

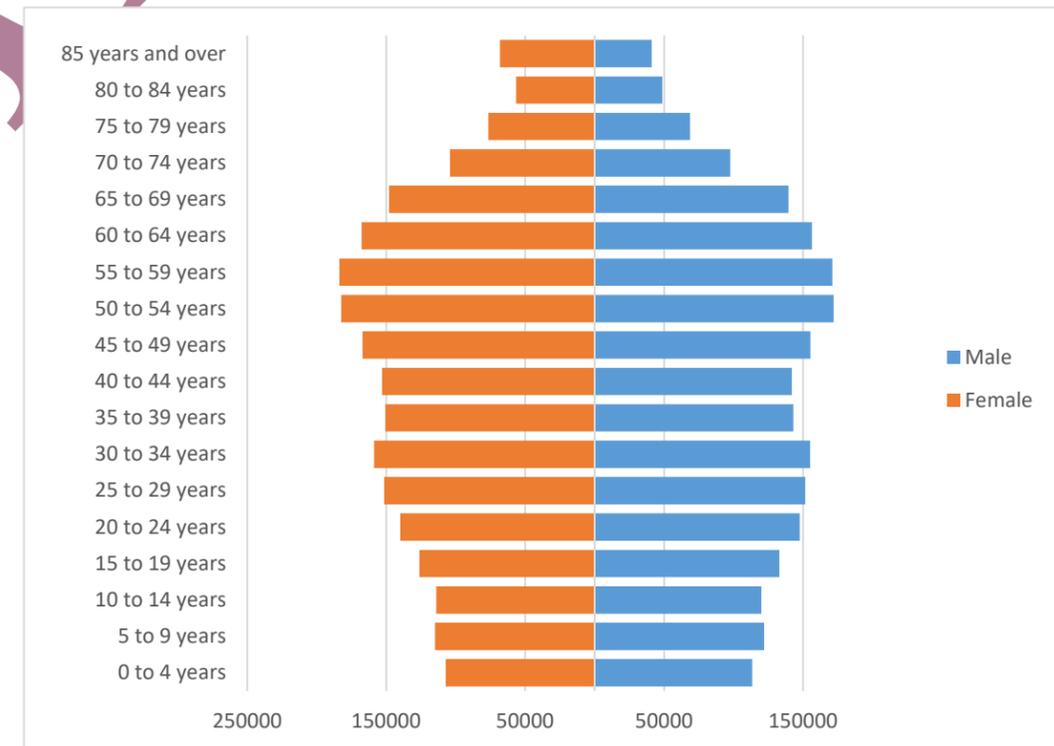


Figure 3: BC 2016 Population by Gender and Age Cohort

Total population figures from 1996 to 2016 suggest a stable population with a slight decline from 2006 to

COMPARISON TABLE: "COMMUNITY PROFILE" SECTION

2016 (Figure 6). If modest population growth or decline were to continue for the next 20 years, the population could be expected to be between 1,637 and 2,175 by 2041, given scenarios of +1% growth, +1.5% growth or -0.5% decline.

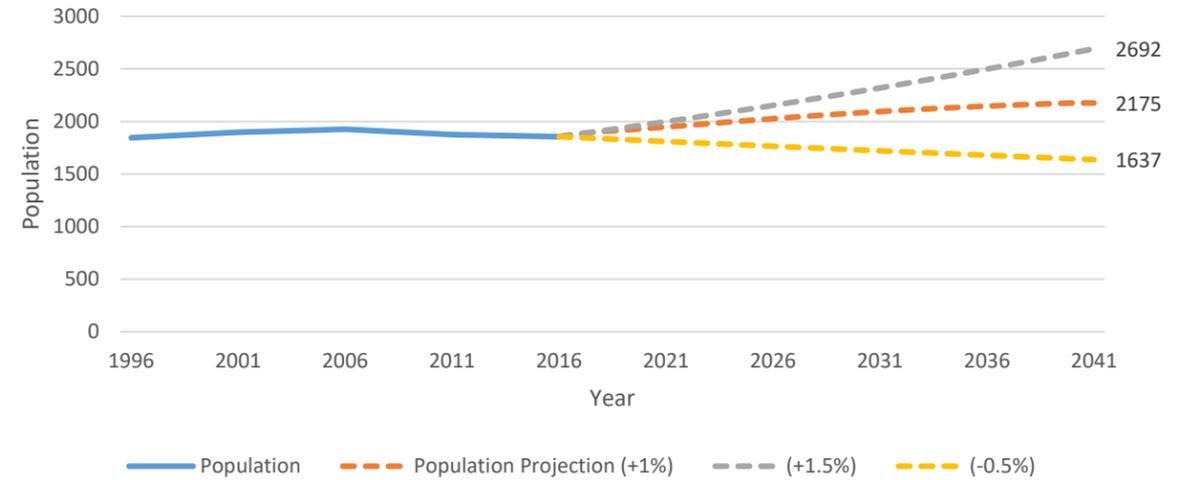


Figure 4: Electoral Area "A" Projected Population Growth (1996-2041)

[Not applicable]

3.6 Housing types

The overwhelming majority of housing in Electoral Area "A" consists of single-detached homes (Figure 7). This comprises 94% of all housing. The remaining housing forms are mobile homes, duplex/semi-detached housing, and apartment units fewer than five stories. Generally, the housing in Electoral Area "A" is relatively low-density and dispersed.

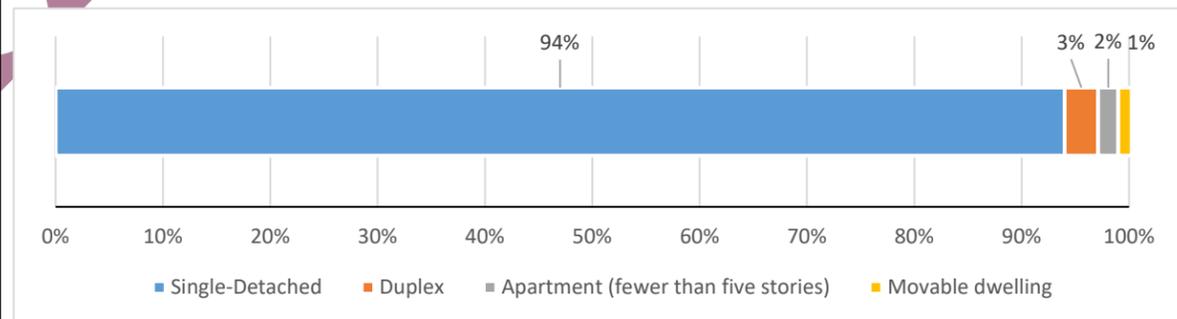


Figure 5: Housing by Dwelling Type in Electoral Area "A", 2016

Most households (53%) in Electoral Area "A" are two person households (Figure 8). Together, one and two person households account for 72% of households. These smaller household sizes are consistent with the older population in the planning area.

COMPARISON TABLE: "COMMUNITY PROFILE" SECTION

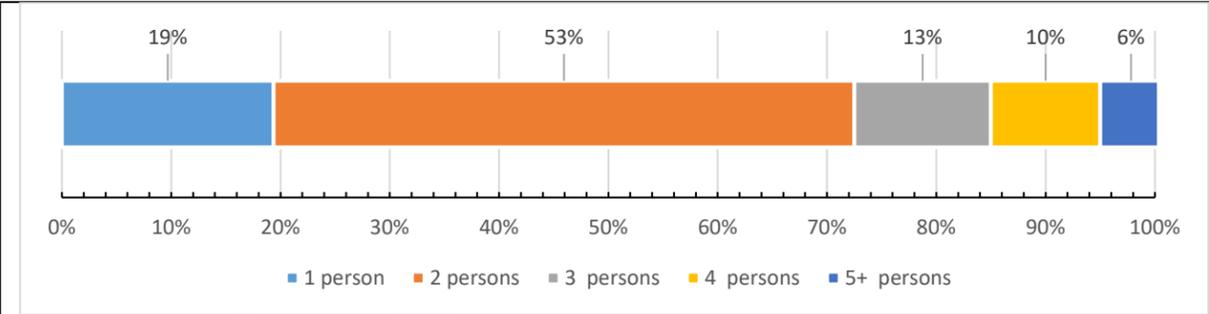


Figure 6: Electoral Area "A" Household Size, 2016

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