

Merritt
City

1	General
<p>Incorporated in 1911, Merritt has a total area of 133,723 ha. By highway the City is 270 km east of Vancouver, 89 km north of Princeton and 88 km southwest of Kamloops. Merritt is in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District.</p> <p>The three industries employing the most people in this area in 1996 were Accommodation, Food & Beverage Services, Manufacturing, and Health and Social Services.</p>	

2	Population Estimates				Age Distribution				
Annual Estimates					Age and Gender - 2001 Census				
(as of July 1, includes estimate of Census undercount)									
	Merritt	% Change Prev. Year	B.C.	% Change Prev. Year		Merritt		% Distribution *	
Year						Male	Female	Merritt	B.C.
					All ages	3,460	3,630	100.0	100.0
1998	7,837	-	3,997,113	-	0 - 14	780	760	21.7	18.1
1999	7,658	-2.3	4,028,280	0.8	15 - 24	460	465	13.0	13.2
2000	7,541	-1.5	4,060,133	0.8	25 - 44	890	1,020	26.9	30.1
2001	7,416	-1.7	4,101,579	1.0	45 - 64	890	855	24.6	25.1
2002	7,549	1.8	4,141,272	1.0	65 +	425	540	13.7	13.6

Source: BC STATS

Source: Statistics Canada

* distribution based on published totals, both sexes

3	Selected 1996 Census Characteristics							
Experienced Labour Force by Industry					Occupied Private Dwellings			
	Merritt		Merritt	BC		Merritt		BC
	1991	1996	% Distribution	1996				
Total Industries	2,870	3,595	100.0	100.0	Total number of dwellings	2,805	1,424,640	
Primary Industry	415	530	14.7	5.7	Single/semi detached house	1,835	839,940	
Agriculture & related	110	130	3.6	2.4	Row House	210	86,095	
Fishing & Trapping	0	0	0.0	0.5	Apartment building	465	453,545	
Logging & Forestry	200	290	8.1	2.1	Total dwellings -owned	1,870	928,990	
Mining, Quarry & Oil Well	105	110	3.1	0.8	-rented	935	491,540	
Manufacturing Industry	435	515	14.3	10.4	Avg value of dwelling (\$)	127,944	239,745	
Construction Industry	180	245	6.8	7.5	Avg monthly -owner (\$)	647	799	
Transportation & Commun	235	245	6.8	7.5	payment -renter (\$)	581	704	
Wholesale Trade	35	45	1.3	4.8	General			
Retail Trade	380	285	7.9	12.5	Labour Force	3,740	1,960,660	
Finance, Insur. & Real Estate	85	125	3.5	5.8	Employment/Pop ratio	56.2	60.0	
Business Service	55	115	3.2	6.8	Unemployment rate	13.6	9.6	
Government Service	165	145	4.0	5.9	Avg household income(\$)	41,376	50,667	
Educational Service	230	295	8.2	6.9	Avg family income (\$)	45,910	56,527	
Health & Social Service	210	300	8.3	9.5	Avg employment income(\$)	24,504	27,480	
Accom., Food & Beverage	280	555	15.4	8.4	*Incidence low income %	18.6	15.4	
					Persons per household	2.7	2.6	

Source: Statistics Canada

*Economic Families

4	Values of Building Permits								
	Residential				Non-Residential		Total		
	Number of Units		Value \$'000		Value \$'000		Value \$'000		
Year	Merritt	BC	Merritt	BC	Merritt	BC	Merritt	BC	Year
1998	-	20,943	-	2,717,270	-	2,022,374	-	4,739,644	1998
1999	-	18,630	-	2,591,861	-	2,104,009	-	4,695,870	1999
2000	5	15,739	814	2,403,140	10,422	2,088,857	11,236	4,491,997	2000
2001	5	17,542	957	2,829,874	2,007	2,124,898	2,964	4,954,772	2001
2002	2	24,772	493	3,888,047	3,076	1,771,368	3,569	5,659,415	2002

Source: Statistics Canada

Note: Detailed non-residential permits data can be found on our Website: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

A dash can indicate a nil report, a value of less than \$500, or non-reporting.

5 Personal Taxation Statistics										
Total Income of Taxable Returns								Percent Change in Avg. Income		
Year	Taxable Returns (#)		Average Income (\$)		% Change avg. income					
	Merritt	B.C.	Merritt	B.C.	Merritt	B.C.				
1995	3,980	1,844,970	33,923	36,126						
1996	4,060	1,879,340	34,339	36,961	1.2	2.3				
1997	3,990	1,898,700	35,109	37,894	2.2	2.5				
1998	3,890	1,915,220	35,290	38,398	0.5	1.3				
1999	3,820	1,937,520	36,493	39,758	3.4	3.5				
2000	3,760	1,928,560	37,638	42,121	3.1	5.9				

Distribution of Returns with Income by Income Class and Gender 2000										
	# Of Returns With Income	\$0-14,999 (#)	15,000-24,999 (#)	25,000-34,999 (#)	35,000-49,999 (#)	50,000-99,999 (#)	\$100,000 + (#)	Total Income (\$000)	Median Income (\$)	
B.C.	2,762,780	1,018,310	478,900	374,670	409,510	410,780	70,610	87,594,206	22,189	
Merritt	6,420	3,020	1,000	690	800	860	50	161,592	16,290	
Males	3,280	1,140	490	400	510	700	40	105,313	25,039	
Females	3,140	1,880	500	300	290	160	10	56,243	12,164	

Source of Total Income 2000				Percent Distribution of Total Income					
	Merritt		B.C.	Employment	Pension	Investment	Self-Employed	Other	Tax Exempt
	\$Thousands	% of Total	% of Total						
Employment	115,385	69.3	66.0						
Pension	20,693	12.4	11.9						
Investment	9,447	5.7	9.7						
Self-Employed	3,448	2.1	5.0						
Other	8,439	5.1	4.7						
Tax Exempt	9,039	5.4	2.6						
Total	166,451	100.0	100.0						

Source : Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. Areas are defined by postal codes and may not match municipal boundaries.

6 Dependency on the Safety Net										
Percentage of Population by Age Receiving Benefits - September 2002										
Age Group	BC Basic* Income Assistance Recipients (%)		Employment Insurance Beneficiaries (%)		Total of BC Basic Income Assistance & EI Beneficiaries (%)		Total Beneficiaries by Age Group (Basic BC Assistance & EI)			
	Merritt	B.C.	Merritt	B.C.	Merritt	B.C.				
Under 19	8.4	5.6								
19-24	8.4	3.7	3.9	2.5	12.3	6.2				
25-54	5.4	3.2	4.5	3.4	9.7	6.6				
55-64	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.5	4.1	3.7				
19-64	5.2	3.1	4.0	3.0	9.1	6.1				

* Includes those receiving temporary assistance only. Excludes aboriginal people living on reserve, seniors/OAS, and children living with a relative.

Source: BC STATS. Prepared using administrative files from the BC Ministry of Human Resources, and Human Resources Development Canada

7 Business Formations and Failures										
Incorporations				Bankruptcies						
Year	Number		Year	Kamloops		Kelowna		B.C.		
	Merritt	B.C.		Business	Consumer	Business	Consumer	Business	Consumer	
1998	10	20,759	1998	38	193	39	389	1,031	7,327	
1999	17	21,009	1999	41	213	60	446	1,075	8,179	
2000	12	21,386	2000	51	258	42	509	976	9,181	
2001	12	19,474	2001	52	280	50	492	1,100	9,474	
2002	9	20,987	2002	52	286	51	518	1,105	9,527	

Source: Ministry of Finance, B.C. Government

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Govt of Canada

Note: Bankruptcy is counted where it is filed.

Incorporations are counted in municipality of the registered office address which may differ from the actual business location.

Bankruptcy data is available for urban areas only.