

OCTOBER 2012



MUNICIPAL  
**CENSUS 2012**  
Count Yourself In!



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The statistical information summarized in this report by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (the Municipality) has been collected through a partnership between the Municipality, Dillon Consulting Limited, and the City of Airdrie.

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## Note Of Appreciation

The Municipality would like to extend its sincere thanks to the residents of the region for their cooperation during the Municipal Census 2012. The reporting of this statistical information could not be accomplished without their continued willingness to participate in our annual enumeration.

**Thank You For Counting Yourself In!**

## Photo Credits

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



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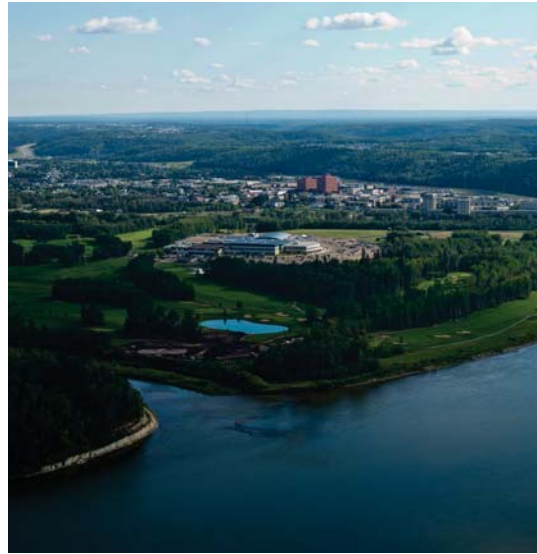
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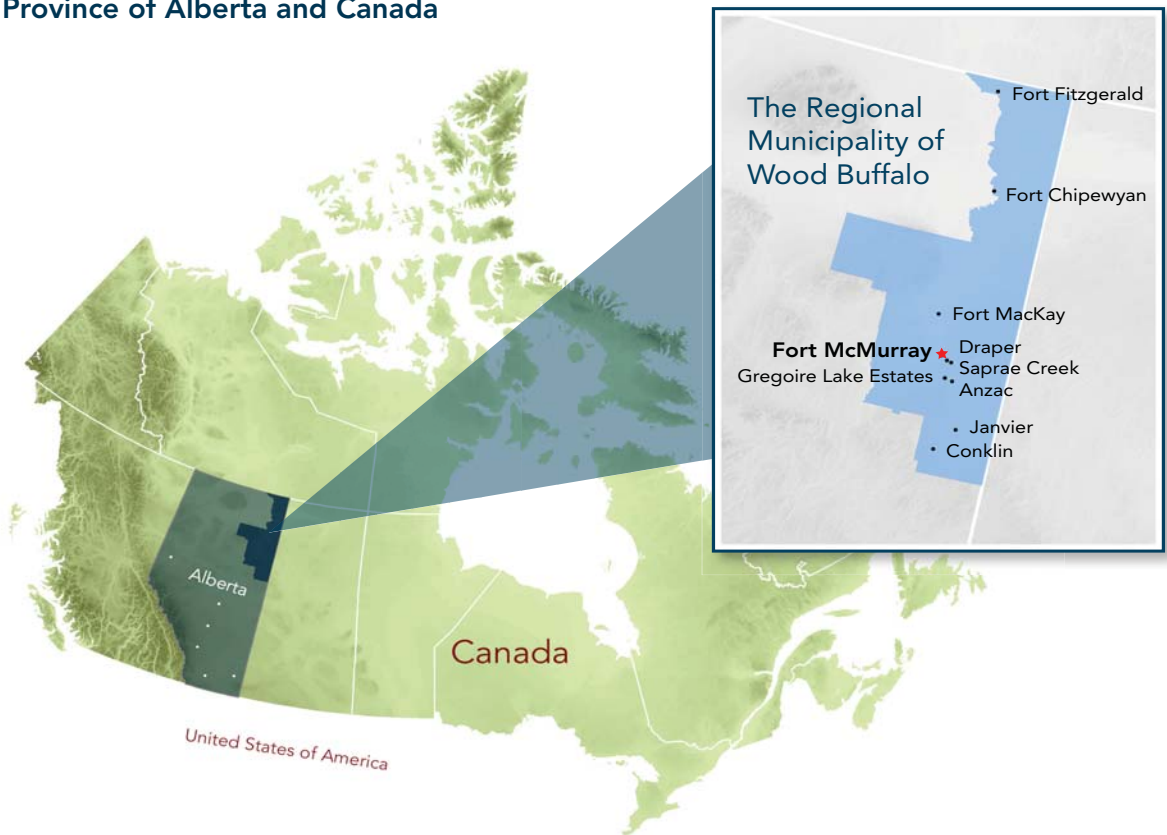
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## GEOGRAPHY

At almost 70,000 square kilometres, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (the Municipality) is one of the largest municipalities in North America. It was established on April 1, 1995, through the amalgamation of the City of Fort McMurray and Improvement District No.143; it stretches from northcentral Alberta to the borders of Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. Today, the Municipality is one of the fastest growing industrial communities in Canada due to the rich oil sands deposits underlying the region.



**Map 1: Location of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in relation to the Province of Alberta and Canada**





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# INTRODUCTION



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
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# INTRODUCTION

## Municipal Census 2012

The Municipality conducts a municipal census in order to collect information regarding residents of the region and their social and economic living standards.

The details gathered by the Municipal Census 2012 (Census 2012) are set out in tables, charts, and figures which give a picture of life in the Municipality at a point in time.

The following identifies the goals and objectives for Census 2012:

### Goals

- Produce detailed and accurate results regarding population size, composition, and distribution;
- Collect baseline complementary information to the 2011 Federal Census to support various municipal initiatives;
- Promote collaboration among stakeholders on the region's particular demographics; and,
- Increase the value and relevance of census data to all stakeholders.

### Objectives

Achieve the best result in terms of coverage, quality, and relevance for Census 2012 by:

- providing better information to Administration, stakeholders, and the public regarding the purpose and relevance of the census;
- improving the level of preparedness, operations, and outcomes of the census through better planning of its geographic coverage and scopes, beyond regular population counting;
- laying the foundation for a periodical census by adapting standard practices in the Municipality's approach to census data collection, data processing, analysis, presentation, and utilization; and,
- informing and validating demographic growth forecasts.

Data collected during Census 2012 is not only valuable to the Municipality, but also to other public sector agencies with local presence. Private sector businesses, industries, and associations also have an interest in current census data for activities such as workforce planning, as well as economic and social development.

In addition, government grant funding to municipalities in Alberta is provided on a per capita basis. Given the rapid population growth in the Municipality during the past decade, it is essential that grants and associated capital expenditures be based on the most up to date population figures.

## Scope of the Report

This report contains quantitative data taken from the 2012 enumeration outcomes, as well as other statistical and reference sources. The intent is to provide a broader perspective on the region's demographic profile, as well as socioeconomic circumstances, and their respective characteristics. This information is not exhaustive. It is intended to provide a starting point for further research to draw specific conclusions about given indicators.

The census information contained in this report is presented under seven general headings with both narrative and statistical charts and tables reporting enumeration outcomes:

- **Section One:** Data Collection, Completion, and Response Percentages
- **Section Two:** Regional Population Count
- **Section Three:** Housing
- **Section Four:** Regional Demographic Profile
- **Section Five:** Project Accommodations Population Count
- **Section Six:** Project Accommodations Demographic Profile
- **Section Seven:** Migration

Within this report is a glossary of terms to provide clarification on reporting elements and terminology used throughout Census 2012.







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# SECTION ONE: DATA COLLECTION, COMPLETION, AND RESPONSE PERCENTAGES



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## Census Data Collection

Census 2012 enumerated the Urban Service Area (*Abasand Heights, Beacon Hill, Gregoire, Lower Townsite, Thickwood Heights, Timberlea, and Waterways*), Rural Service Area (*Anzac, Conklin, Draper, Fort Chipewyan, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort MacKay, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier, and Sapræe Creek Estates*), and Hinterland. Hotels/motels, care facilities, campgrounds, and project accommodations throughout the Municipality were also included in the census.

Despite many efforts, no population was reported for Fort Fitzgerald. Hinterland populations were included in population counts for the Rural Service Area communities. The on-reserve population of the five First Nations located in the region was not captured during Census 2012.

Data collection took place throughout the region between April 30, 2012 and July 30, 2012. Numerous data collection methods, or channels of contact, were employed in an effort to enumerate all persons, in all areas, and all types of accommodations. The three primary methods used for the Census 2012 data collection process included:

- door-to-door in-person interviews conducted by enumerators;
- online self-declaration using the Census 2012 website; and,
- telephone self-declaration interviews conducted by the Census Office.

In addition to the traditional enumeration methods identified above, phone interviews to collect population counts were conducted for the project accommodations, hotels/motels, care facilities, and campgrounds. In-person interviews to collect detailed demographic data were also conducted

for a sample of the population residing in project accommodations. A total of nine project accommodations were visited over the census period and 1,801 people were surveyed.

The primary tool for recording census data and monitoring ongoing census procedures was through the use of the City of Airdrie's online Census Tracking Database. In order to improve the completion rate, the Municipality introduced online enumeration in 2008 as an addition to the traditional door-to-door method.

In 2012, the Municipality worked in conjunction with Dillon Consulting Limited and the City of Airdrie to improve the online enumeration method, and launched more vigorous public advertising (e.g., local newspaper, street signage, etc.) and communication campaigns (e.g., radio, television, etc.) to increase the awareness of online enumeration.

As well in 2012, the Municipality used Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) which are a unique identifier for every legal address within the Municipality. The PINs were created to improve the accuracy of the data collection by reducing the possibility of dwellings being double counted, and by decreasing the chance of residents entering inaccurate data on behalf of other residents of the Municipality. To encourage self-declaration by residents, PIN letters were sent to all legal addresses in the Municipality. Additionally, an effort was made to streamline the enumeration data entry processes by implementing the use of wireless hand held devices (i.e., tablets). The tablets were used by enumerators to allow for census data to be entered online while completing door-to-door enumeration. The above mentioned methodologies have been communicated to Alberta Municipal Affairs, the governing body for municipal censuses in Alberta.

## Completion Rates

The overall completion rate for Census 2012 was 94.5% (**Tables 1, 2, and 3**). Out of this total completion rate, 65.0% of dwellings were enumerated by the door-to-door method, 26.5% by online self-declaration, and 3.0% by telephone self-declaration to the Census office.

**Census 2012 achieved the highest completion rate in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo over the last 20 years.**

The incomplete rate of 5.5% could be attributed to the following:

- The Census was conducted in the late spring and first half of the summer with many residents leaving for vacation;
- Many residents in the Municipality are employed on a shift work schedule and are absent for extended periods of time;
- Some residents were not interested in participating in the census and would not provide any information;
- PIN letters were not received by some residents due to inconsistencies between civic addresses and post office mailbox numbers. In some instances PIN letters were refused by residents;
- Vacant and under construction dwellings and barelands within the Municipality; and
- Uninhabitable dwelling units found vacant due to fires and structural failures where the population had been evacuated.

Due to geographic redistribution of population for Draper and the Rural Service Area campgrounds, the final allocation of population presented in the Census 2012 Report for the Municipality is different than previously presented to Senior Administration, and the Mayor, and Council.

In the previous reporting to Senior Administration, the Mayor, and Council, Draper (total population of 197) was combined with Waterways, and the Rural Service Area campgrounds (total population of 525) were included in the population of the Urban Service Area.

During the analysis phase (September and October 2012) of the Census 2012 Report, these populations were redistributed to their correct locations in the Rural Service Area and Rural Service Area campgrounds, respectively.

The number reported for the Fort McMurray Urban Service Area was 73,666 (as per the "Census Counts 2010-2012" PowerPoint presentation received on September 24, 2012). When the population of Draper (197) and the Rural Campgrounds (525) are removed, the total population of the Urban Service Area is 72,944, and the population for the Rural Service Area is 4,192 as identified in the Census 2012 Report. This change in the allocation of the population accounts for the difference in final population numbers between the Census 2012 Report and those preliminary numbers that were presented in early Fall 2012.

**Table 1: Total number of dwelling units enumerated for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and project accommodations**

	Total Number of Dwelling Units	Total Number of Dwelling Units Enumerated	Percent Complete
Urban Service Area <sup>1</sup>	27,773	26,194	94.3%
Rural Service Area <sup>2</sup>	1,243	1,236	99.4%
Sub-Total	29,016	27,430	94.5%
Project Accommodations <sup>3</sup>	91	88	96.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,107</b>	<b>27,518</b>	<b>94.5%</b>

**Note:** The total number of dwellings enumerated include bareland (404) and vacant (2,262) units.

**1** Urban Service Area (Fort McMurray): Abasand Heights, Beacon Hill, Gregoire, Lower Townsite, Thickwood Heights, Timberlea, Waterways, hotels/motels, care facilities, and urban campgrounds.

**2** Rural Service Area: Anzac, Conklin, Draper, Fort Chipewyan, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort Mackay, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier, Saprae Creek, and rural campgrounds.

**3** Project Accommodations: Work camps and work campgrounds.

**Table 2: Total number of dwelling units enumerated for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhoods, hotels/motels, care facilities, and urban campgrounds**

	Total Number of Dwelling Units	Total Number of Dwelling Units Enumerated	Percent Complete
<b>Permanent Population</b>			
Abasand Heights	1,741	1,693	97.2%
Beacon Hill	716	706	98.6%
Gregoire	1,544	1,444	93.5%
Lower Townsite	4,872	4,330	88.9%
Thickwood Heights	5,891	5,602	95.1%
Timberlea	12,678	12,093	95.4%
Waterways	258	253	98.1%
Care Facilities <sup>4</sup>	52	52	100.0%
Sub-Total	27,752	26,173	94.3%
<b>Shadow Population<sup>5</sup></b>			
Hotels/Motels	19	19	100.0%
Urban Campgrounds	2	2	100.0%
Sub-Total	21	21	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,773</b>	<b>26,194</b>	<b>94.3%</b>

**Note:** The total number of dwellings enumerated includes bareland and vacant units.

**4** PIN letters were inadvertently sent to three care facilities (Rotary House, Legion Manor, and Arabasca House) during the legal address mail out process for Census 2012. This has caused the dwelling unit count for care facilities to be skewed by 43 dwelling units. The actual dwelling unit count should be nine (i.e., there are only nine care facilities in the Urban Service Area). The total number of dwelling units in each care facility was not captured.

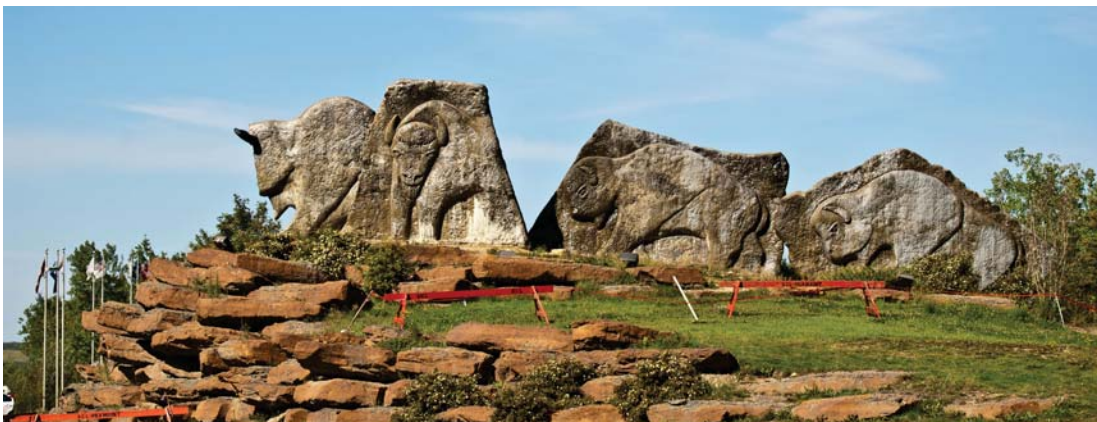
**5** Shadow Population: Temporary residents of a municipality who are employed or will be employed by industrial or commercial establishments in the municipality for a minimum of 30 days.

**Table 3: Total number of dwelling units enumerated for the Rural Service Area by communities and by rural campgrounds**

	Total Number of Dwelling Units	Total Number of Dwelling Units Enumerated	Percent Complete
<b>Permanent Population<sup>6</sup></b>			
Anzac	232	232	100.0%
Conklin	139	139	100.0%
Draper	50	50	100.0%
Fort Chipewyan	366	364	99.5%
Fort MacKay	22	22	100.0%
Gregoire Lake Estates	99	99	100.0%
Janvier	68	68	100.0%
Saprae Creek Estates	263	258	98.1%
Sub-Total	1,239	1,232	99.4%
<b>Shadow Population</b>			
Rural Campgrounds	4	4	100.0%
Sub-Total	4	4	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>99.4%</b>

**Note:** The total number of dwelling units enumerated includes bareland and vacant units. No dwelling units were reported for Fort Fitzgerald. The total dwelling unit count for Fort Chipewyan includes one care facility (i.e., there is only one care facility located in the Rural Service Area.)

<sup>6</sup> Hinterland consists of the sparsely populated region outside of the Urban and Rural Service Areas, not including First Nations Reserves, rural campgrounds, and project accommodations. Hinterland populations were included in the population counts for the Rural Service Area communities.



## Census Responses

To gain insight into the demographic characteristics of the population living in the Municipality, Census 2012 began with the collection of responses from residents using a long-form census (25 questions, **Figure 1** and **2**). The long-form census was used for enumeration from April 30, 2012 to July 8, 2012, representing 56.0% of the total dwellings enumerated in the Municipality. On July 9, the census was changed to a short-form version including only 6 of these questions. The short-form version of the census was utilized until the conclusion of the census on July 30, 2012. This change, along with an approval to extend the census to July 30, 2012 by Alberta Municipal Affairs, improved the completion rate for Census 2012.

**Tables 4** and **5** show a detailed overview of the response and non-response percentages by census question. **Table 4** is based on the overall population count (115,666), while **Table 5** is based on the occupied dwelling count (24,846). The non-response percentages are attributed to 4 factors:

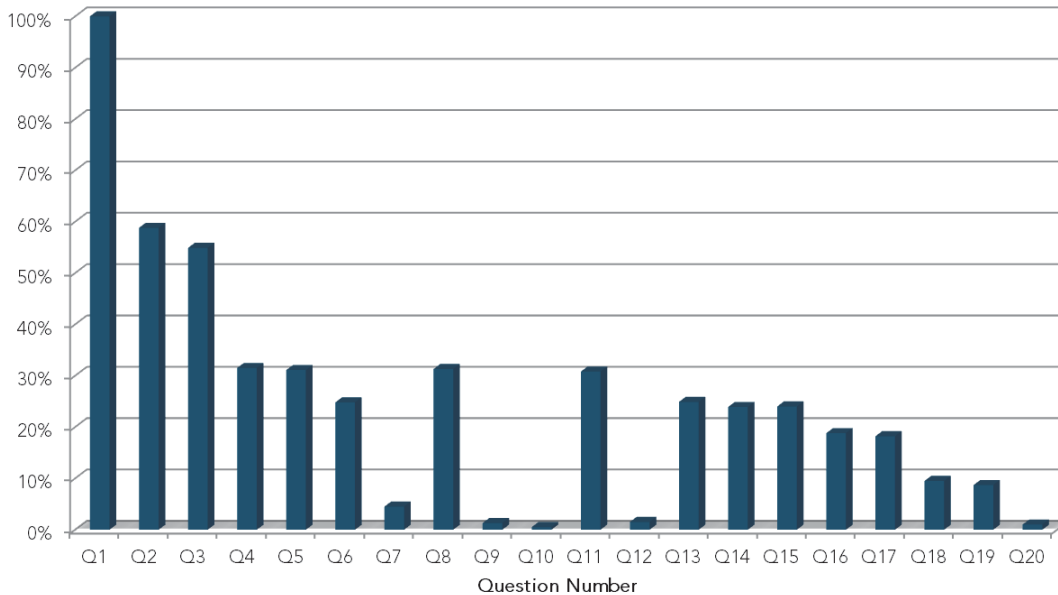
1. Changing from the long to short-form (included only questions 1-3, and 21-23) reduced the response rates for 19 of the original 25 questions.
2. Only a population count was completed for the hotels/motels, care facilities, campgrounds, and project accommodations. Detailed demographic data was collected only for a sample (i.e., nine locations) of the project accommodations.

3. The resident did not answer the question.
4. Some questions were not applicable based on a previous answer (i.e., questions 7, 9-10, 12, and 18-20); including:
  - the “if” questions (e.g., question 8: Is this address the primary place of residence for this person? If no, please answer question 9. If yes, please skip to question 11); and
  - the age-based question (e.g., Children under the age of 4 did not have to answer questions 13 to 20.)

Additionally, the low response percentages observed for questions 18-20 could be attributed to their targeted audience (i.e., people who work in oil sands project sites). These questions were specifically created to collect data from individuals working for the oil sands industry. As mentioned previously, all project accommodations were contacted, but only a population count was collected; therefore, the response percentages illustrated are only for the Urban and Rural Service Areas’ permanent population.

The long-form census was used to collect demographic information from a sample of the project accommodations’ population (i.e., 9 locations totaling 1,801 people, or 4.6% of the total project accommodations population) and was tracked in a separate database.

**Figure 1: Response percentage by question at the person level based on the total population count**



**Legend**

Q1: What is the usual number of residents in this dwelling or location?

Q2: Please provide the gender for this resident.

Q3: Please indicate the age of this resident.

Q4: What ethnic group does this person identify with?

Q5: Does this person identify with Canada as their country of origin?

Q6: Which province of origin does this person identify with?

Q7: What region of origin does this person identify with?

Q8: Is this address the primary place of residence for this person?

Q9: Please select the location of the alternative residence.

Q10: What province is this alternative residence in?

Q11: Where was this person living 1 year ago (on May 9, 2011)?

Q12: What province was this person living in 1 year ago?

Q13: What is the highest level of education this person has attained?

Q14: What is the marital status of this person?

Q15: What is the employment status of this person?

Q16: What kind of business or service industry is this person employed with?

Q17: What location does this person primarily work in?

Q18: How long has this person worked in the Oil Sands (total)?

Q19: How often does this person visit Fort McMurray?

Q20: What could make this person consider living in Fort McMurray?

**Tables 4 and 5** show the responses by question for the total population. Response percentages varied from 0.5% to 100% for Census 2012. In summary, question 1 (i.e., usual number of residents) achieved a response percentage of 100%, followed by questions 21 to 23 (i.e., household and dwelling characteristics) which achieved response percentages of 95.7%, 93.9%, and 94.4%, respectively. The top four responses are followed by question two (i.e., gender) which achieved a response percentage of 58.8%. The lowest response percentage was noted for question ten (i.e., alternative residences) where:

- 0.5% of the total population responded to the question;
- 26.7% of the total population did not get a chance to respond due to being enumerated by the short-form census;
- 36.2% of the total population were not asked the question since they resided in hotels/motels, campgrounds, or project accommodations;
- 5.9% of the total population chose not to respond to the question; and,
- 30.7% of the total population were not asked the question since it was not applicable.



**Note:** Questions 18 to 20 were only included during the project accommodations survey.



**Table 4: Responses by question at the person level based on the total population count**

Question #	Responses at person level									
	Response		Non-Response							
	Responses	(%)	Due to short form census	(%)	Hotels/motels, care facilities, campgrounds, and project accommodations <sup>7</sup>	(%)	No response from residents <sup>8</sup>	(%)	Not applicable <sup>9</sup>	(%)
Q1	115,666	100.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Q2	68,014	58.8%	-	0.0%	41,855	36.2%	5,797	5.0%	-	0.0%
Q3	63,509	54.9%	-	0.0%	41,855	36.2%	10,302	8.9%	-	0.0%
Q4	36,426	31.5%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,457	5.6%	-	0.0%
Q5	35,967	31.1%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,916	6.0%	-	0.0%
Q6	28,653	24.8%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	8,977	7.8%	5,253	4.5%
Q7	5,187	4.5%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,982	6.0%	30,714	26.6%
Q8	36,238	31.3%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,645	5.8%	-	0.0%
Q9	1,474	1.3%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,748	5.8%	34,661	30.0%
Q10	619	0.5%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	6,764	5.9%	35,500	30.7%
Q11	35,592	30.8%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	7,291	6.3%	-	0.0%
Q12	1,742	1.5%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	7,387	6.4%	33,754	29.2%
Q13	28,775	24.9%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	9,018	7.8%	5,090	4.4%
Q14	27,679	23.9%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	8,121	7.1%	7,083	6.1%
Q15	27,766	24.0%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	8,034	7.0%	7,083	6.1%
Q16	21,761	18.8%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	14,039	12.2%	7,083	6.1%
Q17	21,098	18.2%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	14,702	12.8%	7,083	6.1%
Q18	10,981	9.5%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	24,819	21.5%	7,083	6.1%
Q19	10,031	8.7%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	25,769	22.3%	7,083	6.1%
Q20	778	0.7%	30,928	26.7%	41,855	36.2%	35,022	30.3%	7,083	6.1%

**Note:** Percentages may vary by +/- 0.05 due to rounding.

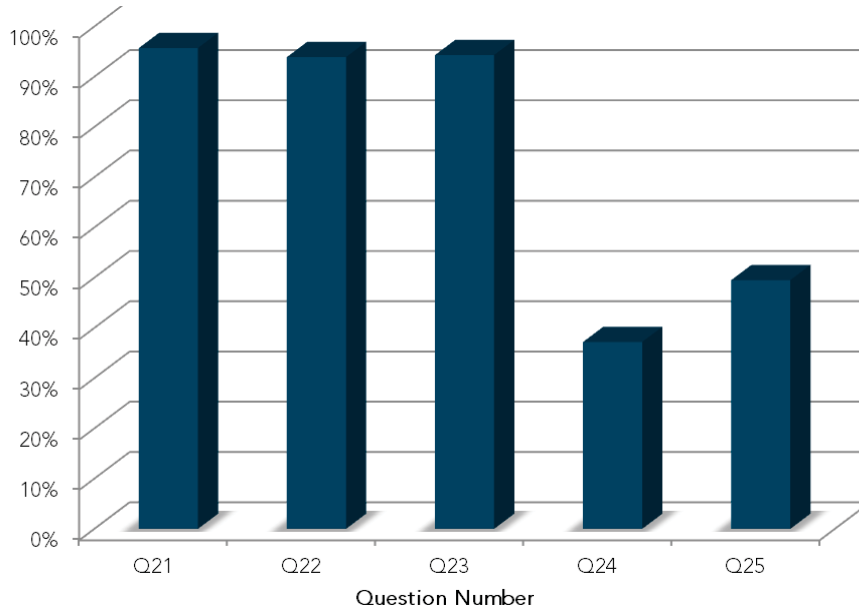
<sup>7</sup> Only a population count was collected. No detailed demographic data was collected.

<sup>8</sup> Response percentage was calculated based on a total population of 115,666.

<sup>9</sup> This category contains respondents that were not asked these questions due to their previous responses to age-based and "if" questions.



Figure 2: Response percentage by question at the dwelling level



### Legend

Q21: What is the household type?

Q22: What is the location of this household?

Q23: What type of dwelling is this household?

Q24: What is the estimated gross annual income of this household?

Q25: What is the primary language spoken in this household?





**Table 5: Responses by question at the dwelling level based on the total dwelling count**

Question #	Responses at dwelling level <sup>10</sup>									
	Response		Non-Response							
	Responses	(%)	Due to short form census	(%)	Hotels/motels, care facilities, campgrounds, and project accommodations <sup>11</sup>	(%)	No response from residents	(%)	Not applicable <sup>12</sup>	(%)
Q21	23,785	95.7%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	1,061	4.3%	-	0.0%
Q22	23,320	93.9%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	1,526	6.1%	-	0.0%
Q23	23,440	94.3%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	1,406	5.7%	-	0.0%
Q24	9,243	37.2%	10,584	42.6%	149	0.6%	4,870	19.6%	-	0.0%
Q25	12,299	49.5%	10,584	42.6%	149	0.6%	1,814	7.3%	-	0.0%

**Note:** Percentages may vary by +/- 0.05 due to rounding.

**10** Response percentage is calculated on the total number of occupied dwelling units (24,846), which is the total dwelling units enumerated (27,518) minus barelands (404), vacant units (2,262), and system errors (6).

**11** Only a population count was collected. No detailed demographic data was collected.

**12** This category contains respondents that were not asked these questions due to their previous responses to age-based and "if" questions.





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## SECTION TWO: CENSUS RETROSPECTIVE



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
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# CENSUS RETROSPECTIVE

**Table 6: Population count for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

	2010 Municipal Census <sup>13</sup>	2011 Federal Census <sup>14</sup>	2012 Municipal Census <sup>15</sup> (extrapolated to a 95.5% completion rate)	2012 Municipal Census (extrapolated to a 100% completion rate)
Urban Service Area <sup>16</sup>	76,797	61,374	72,944	76,009
Rural Service Area <sup>17</sup>	4,216	4,191	4,192	4,216
Project Accommodations <sup>18</sup>	23,325	N/A	39,271	39,271
<b>Total</b>	<b>104,338</b>	<b>65,565</b>	<b>116,407</b>	<b>119,496</b>

Census 2012 achieved a completion rate of 94.5%, resulting in a total population count (including both permanent and non-permanent populations) of 115,666. In comparison, Census 2010 achieved an actual completion rate of 80%.

Based on Alberta Municipal Affairs' extrapolation methodology, the population count was extrapolated by less than 1% for the permanent population, bringing the official total population count to 116,407 (**Table 6**). The approved extrapolation methodology in Census 2012 differs from the methodology used for extrapolating

the total permanent population in previous censuses. Based on the population extrapolation methodology required by Alberta Municipal Affairs, municipalities in Alberta are only permitted to extrapolate the permanent population up to 1%.

Overall, there is an increase in population of 11.6% in Census 2012 compared to Census 2010 results. Most of the increase can be attributed to substantial growth in the population located in project accommodations.

<sup>13</sup> Source: Municipal Census 2010, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

<sup>14</sup> Source: 2011 Census of Canada, Population and Dwelling Release, February 08, 2012. Note: First Nations Reserve population has been excluded from the count.

<sup>15</sup> The preliminary sub-total population numbers for the Urban and Rural Service Areas may not reflect those previously reported due to the redistribution of population. For example, the campgrounds' population has been split to properly reflect their geographic location in the Urban (125) and Rural Service Areas (525); the community of Grayling Terrace (335) has been included within the neighbourhood of Abasand Heights (4,763); and the community of Draper (197) has been reallocated from the Urban to Rural Service Area. The total population of the Municipality remains unchanged (116,407).

<sup>16</sup> Urban Service Area (Fort McMurray): Abasand Heights, Beacon Hill, Gregoire, Lower Townsite, Thickwood Heights, Timberlea, Waterways, hotels/motels, care facilities, and urban campgrounds.

<sup>17</sup> Rural Service Area: Anzac, Conklin, Draper, Fort Chipewyan, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort Mackay, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier, Saprae Creek Estates, and rural campgrounds.

<sup>18</sup> Project Accommodations: Work camps and work campgrounds.

In 2012, the project accommodations' population is 39,271 compared to a provincially approved population of 34,490 in 2011, and 23,325 in 2010. The population increase (by 4,781 since 2011, and 15,946 since 2010) in project accommodations may be attributed to the migration of population in the Municipality. The Urban Service Area population count (based on 100% extrapolation) slightly changed by 1.0% (788 people) and the Rural Service Area remained the same in comparison to 2010 results.

The observed changes in shadow population and permanent population are also noted in the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Rental Market Report released in spring 2012. The report states that "in Wood Buffalo, although elevated oil prices are fuelling job growth, the increasing use of work camps in favour of purpose-built apartments continued to impact the rental market. As a result, Wood Buffalo's vacancy rate increased to 10.8 per cent in April 2012, up from 6.2 per cent in April 2011." The trend shows that growth continues today, and it is focused primarily in project accommodations.

When compared to the 2011 Federal Census, a noticeable increase in population can be observed. The increase is due to the definition of the "shadow" population. The shadow population is normally defined as temporary residents in the Municipality who are employed, or will be employed, by industrial or commercial establishments in the Municipality for a minimum of 30 days.

Historically, many of the non-permanent population residents in the Municipality are counted as permanent residents elsewhere by Statistics Canada. Therefore, the gap in the Municipal Census figures and Statistics Canada reporting is attributable to the definition of "shadow" population and conceptualization of permanent residence of the population living in the Municipality.

In the Municipality, the shadow population is characterized by a large component of temporary population living in project accommodations, hotels/motels, and campgrounds but also within the Urban and Rural Service Areas living in permanent residences. The shadow population can be found primarily in construction, resource-based activity, and service industries, but could also refer to recently arrived population in other employment sectors that are expected to make a transition to permanent population.

The shadow population situation is not unique to the Municipality and is recorded in other jurisdictions in the province including Northern Sunrise County, the Municipality of Jasper, and the Town of Banff. Although in the Town of Banff and Municipality of Jasper the shadow population is more of a seasonal workforce based on the tourism industry.

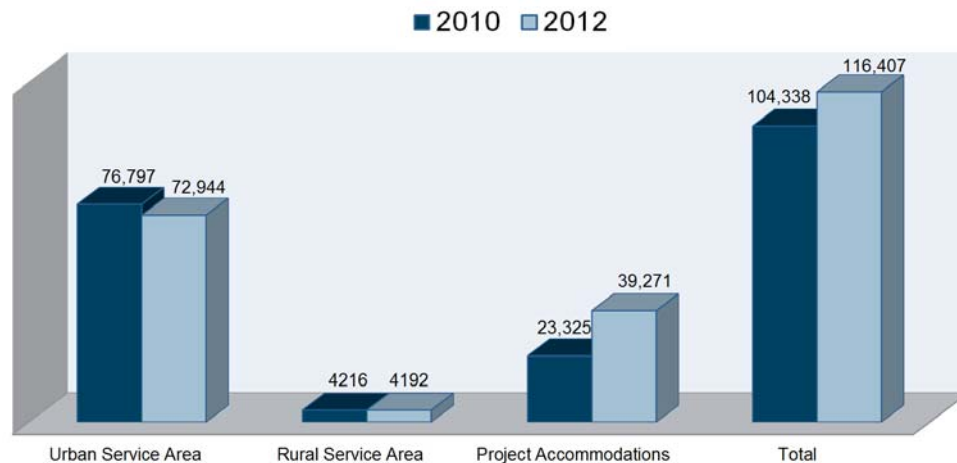


## Regional Growth

The Municipality experiences sustained economic growth as a result of abundant oil sands deposits in the region. Unabated economic growth took place from 2000 until the fall of 2008, when the global financial crisis started. The financial crisis slowed population growth in the region between 2008 and 2010, and now Census 2012 results show a total population increase of 11.6% since 2010. However, **Figure 3** shows a change in population count in the Urban and Rural Service Areas in 2012 compared to the 2010 population count.



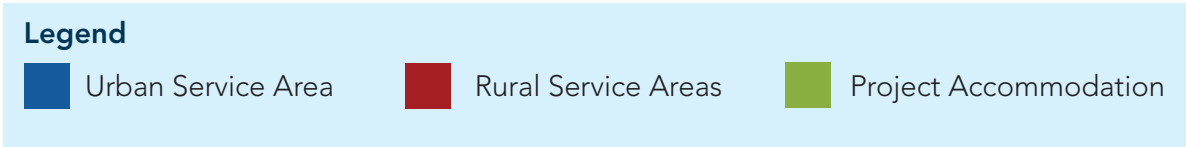
**Figure 3: Comparison of the population count in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo between 2010 and 2012**



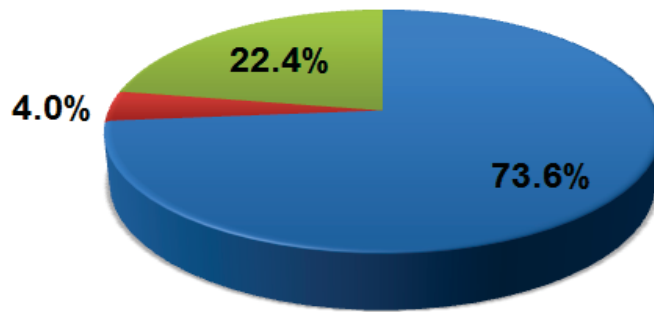
Although the total population in 2012 is greater than 2010, the slight change observed in the Urban and Rural Service Areas' population may be attributed to the increase in employment in the resource industry. For example, since 2010, oil sands development projects continue to grow, which is reflected in a 68.0% increase in the population count for the project accommodations. As shown in **Chart 1**, this significantly higher population count for project accommodations shows an overall population redistribution in the

Municipality when compared to 2010. A trend showing redistribution of population from the Urban and Rural Service Areas to project accommodations can be observed in both **Figure 3** and **Chart 1**. The redistribution of population may also be attributed to oil sands jobs requiring a greater amount of time on site, as well as movement of jobs previously located in the Urban Service Area or rural communities to outside the Region (e.g., Edmonton or Calgary).

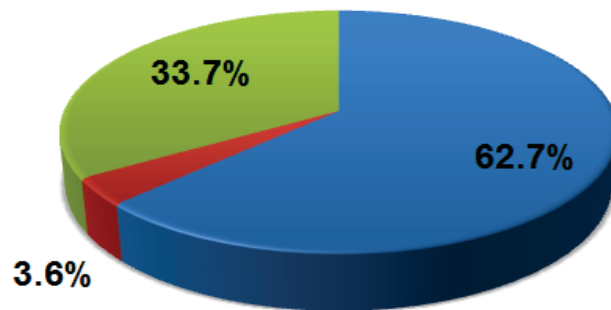
Chart 1: Comparison of the population distribution in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo between 2010 and 2012



Population Distribution in 2010

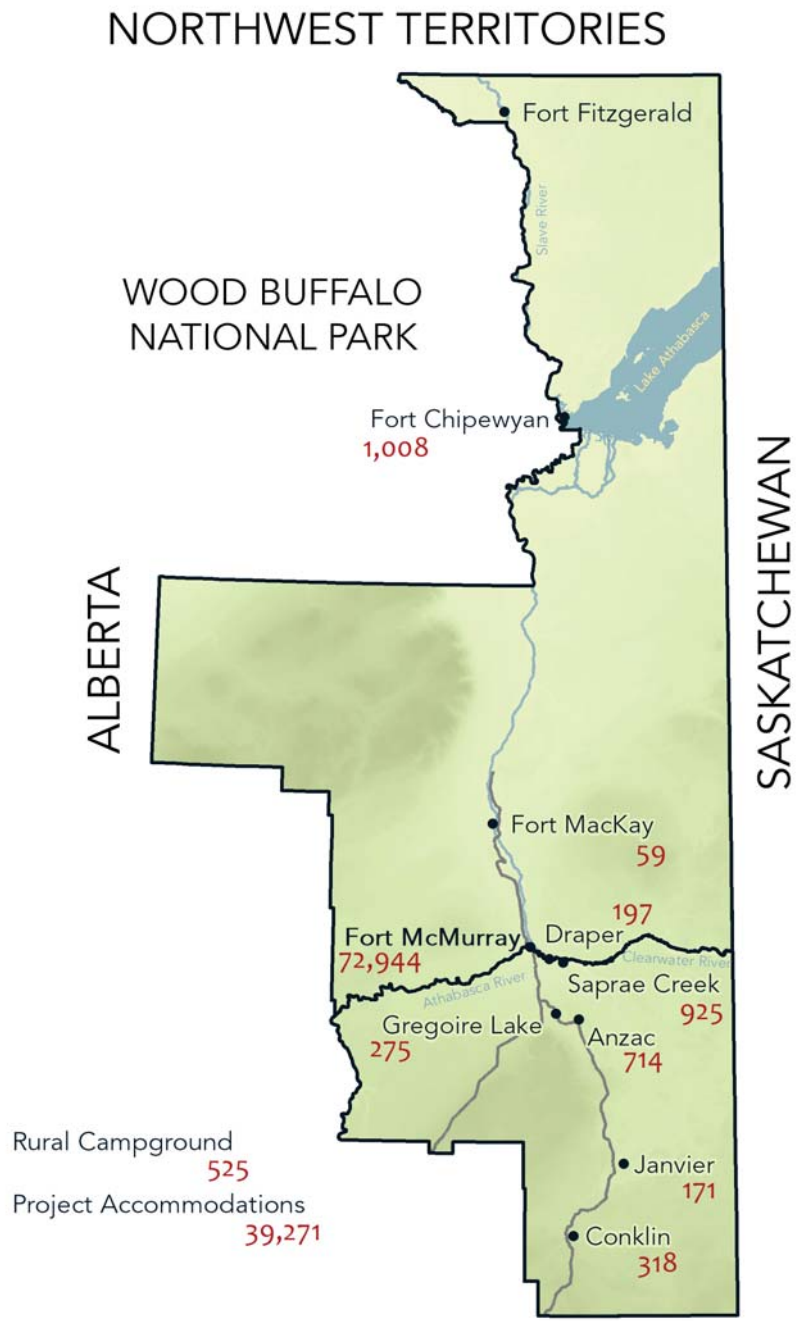


Population Distribution in 2012





Map 2: Population distribution in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo



**Note:** The Urban Service Area (Fort McMurray) population includes hotels/motels, care facilities, and urban campgrounds. No population was reported for Fort Fitzgerald.

Historically and in 2012, the majority of the population within the Municipality is contained within the Urban Service Area. Communities in the Rural Service Area of the Municipality are considerably smaller in population size. In comparing only the Urban Service Area and rural communities' population distribution, 94.6% of the population resides in the Urban Service Area, compared to 5.4% for the rural communities.

As outlined on **Table 7** and **Chart 2**, within the Urban Service Area, the neighbourhoods of Waterways and Timberlea showed population increases.

In particular, Timberlea experienced the most growth, from 30,594 in 2010 to 32,008 in 2012 (4.62%). This can be attributed to the construction of new homes in the Eagle Ridge, Stone Creek, and Parsons Creek North subdivisions. Most other neighbourhoods and rural communities (**Table 8** and **Chart 3**) experienced small changes in population, which may be attributed to population redistribution within the Municipality, higher vacancy rates due to changes in employment location, and the continued use of private fly-in and fly-out aerodromes by industry directly to work sites.

**Table 7: Comparison of the population count in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhoods between 2010 and 2012**

	Urban Service Area <sup>19</sup>		
	2010	2012 (Extrapolated to a 95.5% completion rate)	2012 (Extrapolated to a 100% completion rate)
<b>Permanent Population</b>			
Abasand Heights <sup>20</sup>	5,445	5,098	5,239
Beacon Hill	2,489	2,163	2,193
Gregoire <sup>21</sup>	4,600	3,806	4,053
Lower Townsite	12,111	10,446	10,785
Thickwood Heights	18,784	16,731	17,548
Timberlea	30,594	32,008	33,485
Waterways	686	712	726
Sub-Total	74,709	70,964	74,029
<b>Shadow Population</b>			
Hotels/Motels	850	1,630	1,630
Urban Campgrounds	689	125	125
Homeless <sup>22</sup>	549	225	225
Sub-Total	2,088	1,980	1,980
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,797</b>	<b>72,944</b>	<b>76,009</b>

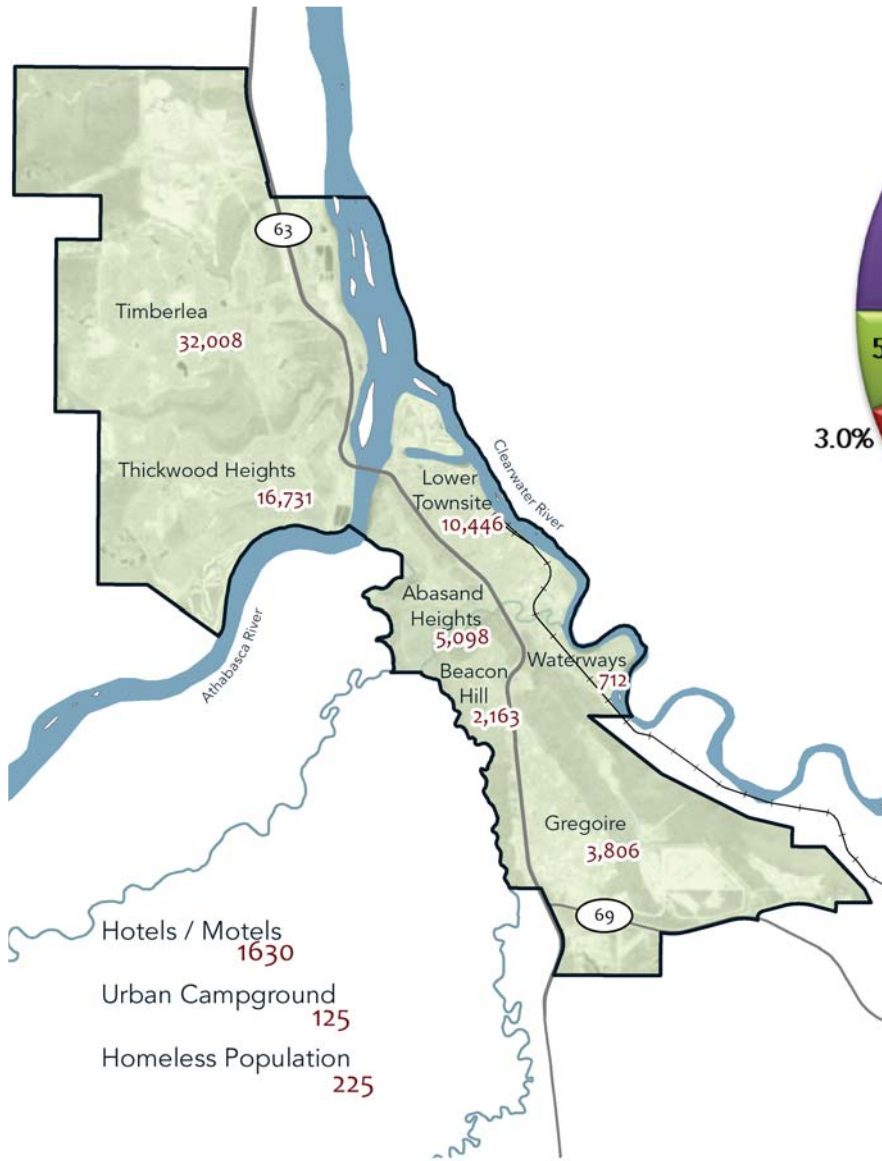
<sup>19</sup> Census 2010 population was extrapolated by 20% to a total of 100%, whereas the Census 2012 is extrapolated by less than 1% to a total of 95.5%.

<sup>20</sup> Population includes Grayling Terrace neighbourhood.

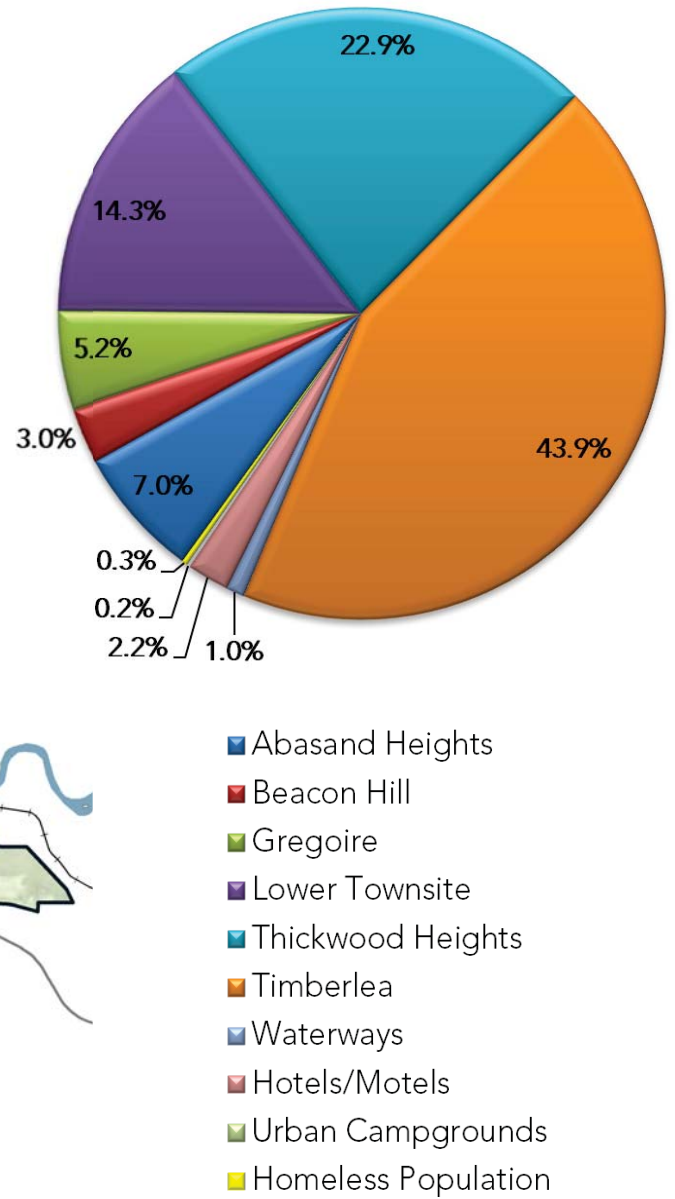
<sup>21</sup> Population includes Prairie Creek neighbourhood.

<sup>22</sup> Homeless population is captured within care facilities located in the Urban Service Area and in Table 7 it is shown under shadow population for comparison purposes only. The facilities include Centre of Hope (population: 60), Marshall House (population: 60), Salvation Army (population: 80), and Unity House (population: 25). No information was reported for Stepping Stones Youth Services located in the Urban Service Area.

**Map 3: Population distribution in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**



**Chart 2: Population distributions in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**



**Table 8: Comparison of the population count in the Rural Service Area by community between 2010 and 2012**

	Rural Service Area <sup>23</sup>		
	2010	2012 (Extrapolated to 95.5% completion rate)	2012 (Extrapolated to a 100% completion rate)
<b>Permanent Population</b>			
Anzac	785	714	714
Conklin	337	318	318
Draper	254	197	197
Fort Chipewyan	1,261	1,008	1,014
Fort Fitzgerald <sup>24</sup>	8	-	-
Fort MacKay	44	59	59
Gregoire Lake Estates	248	275	275
Janvier	195	171	171
Saprae Creek Estates	926	925	943
Hinterland <sup>25</sup>	158	-	-
Sub-Total	4,216	3,667	3,691
<b>Shadow Population</b>			
Rural Campgrounds	-	525	525
Sub-Total	-	525	525
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,216</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,216</b>

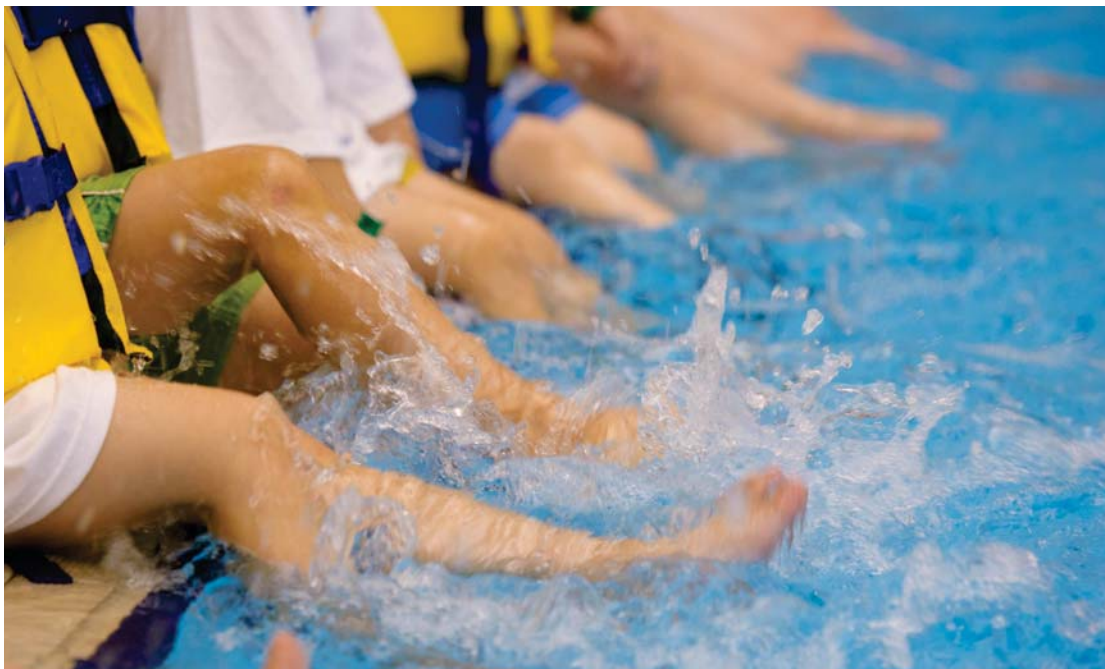
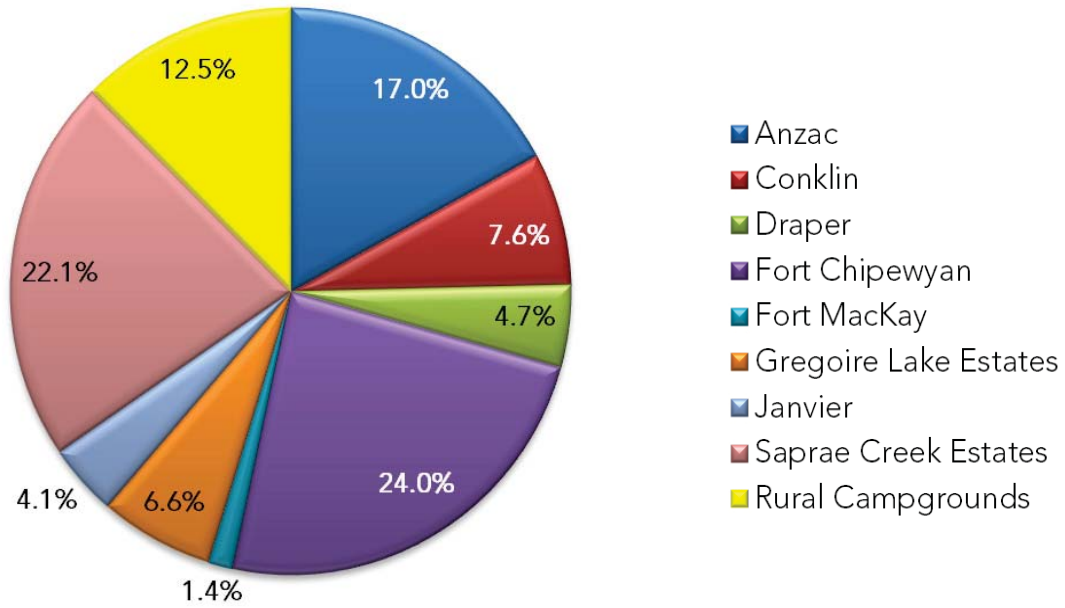
<sup>23</sup> Census 2010 population was extrapolated by 20% to a total of 100%, whereas the Census 2012 is extrapolated by less than 1% to a total of 95.5%.

<sup>24</sup> Though efforts were made, no population could be reported for Fort Fitzgerald for Census 2012.

<sup>25</sup> Hinterland populations are included in population counts for the Rural Service Area communities.



Chart 3: Population distribution in the Rural Service Area by community



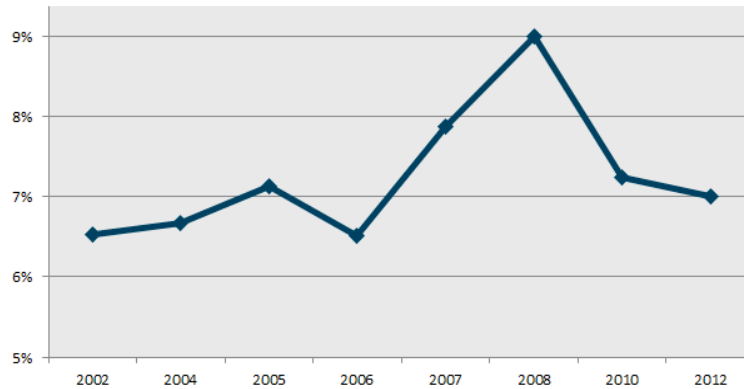
## Growth Patterns

The average annual growth rate (see formula below) for the Municipality between 2000 and 2012 is 7%, which is higher than the average annual growth rate of Canada (1.1%)<sup>26</sup> and Calgary (2.21%)<sup>27</sup> for the same time interval. The rapid pace of population

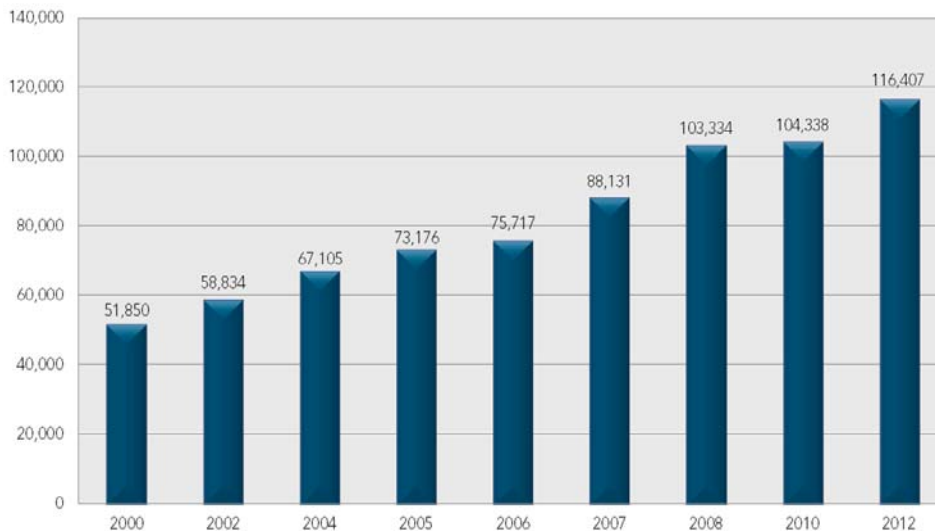
growth is expected to continue as new oil sands projects are implemented in the next decade. **Figure 4** displays the average annual growth rate for each municipal census since the Census 2000 figures, and **Figure 5** shows the increase in population count from 2000 to 2012.

$$\text{Compound Average Growth Rate (CAGR)} = \left( \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Beginning Value}} \right)^{\left( \frac{1}{\# \text{ of Years}} \right)} \right) - 1$$

**Figure 4: Average annual growth rate for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo from 2002 - 2012**



**Figure 5: Total population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo from 2000-2012**



<sup>26</sup> Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 and 2011.

<sup>27</sup> Source: 2012 Civic Census Results, City of Calgary.

The connection between population growth and oil sands activity was evident when regional growth slowed between 1989 and 1999, before the next major investments in the oil sands. The total population growth in Fort McMurray (Urban Service Area) between 1989 (33,698) and 1999 (36,876) was 9.4%<sup>28</sup>. During that same time period, the oil sands capital expenditures and operating costs increased by 114.5%<sup>29</sup>. Amplified interest in oil sands investment resulted in a population increase in the Urban Service Area of 71.2%, or from 42,600 in 2000 to 72,944 in 2012.

Oil sands investments have accelerated at a higher speed than the Urban and Rural Service Areas' population. This could be explained by a higher number of people living in project accommodations, better economy of scale, and out-of-region investment. In comparison, the population living in project accommodations increased by 565% from 5,903 in 2000 to 39,271 in 2012, an average of 17.9% annually (CAGR).

**Figure 6** shows the development of a migration trend between the project accommodations' population and the Urban and Rural Service Areas' population. The variation of the Urban and Rural Service Areas' population is impacted by the oil sands and development activities.

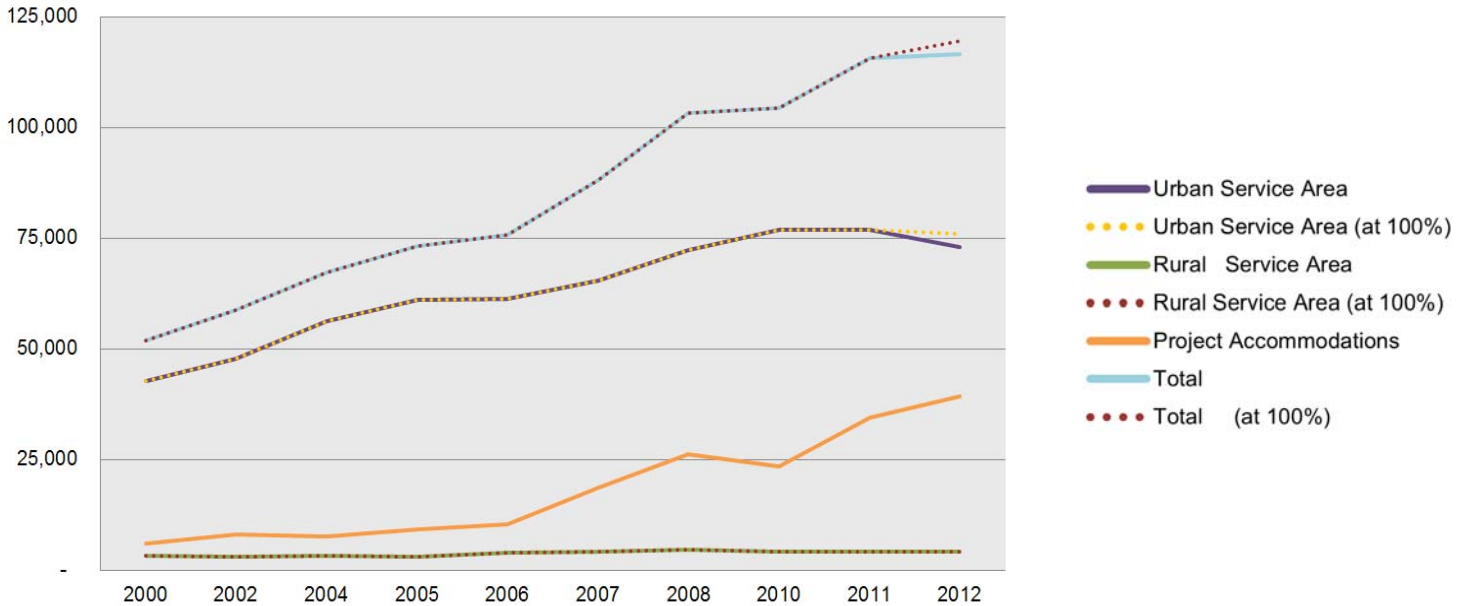
A decrease of 11.3% of population in the project accommodations between 2008 and 2010 is observed, while an increase of the population in the Urban and Rural Service Areas was simultaneously occurring. This may have been attributed to the migration of non-permanent residents from project accommodations to the Urban and Rural Service Areas. The reverse scenario is now being observed. Overall, there has been an increase in the regional population of 12,069 since 2010.



<sup>28</sup> Source: Municipal Census 2010, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

<sup>29</sup> Source: Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, 2009.

Figure 6: Population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo from 2000-2012



Years	Urban Service Area	Urban Service Area (at 100%)	Rural Service Area	Rural Service Area (at 100%)	Project Accommodations	Total	Total (at 100%)
2000	42,600	42,600	3,347	3,347	5,903	51,850	51,850
2002	47,757	47,757	3,014	3,014	8,063	58,834	58,834
2004	56,111	56,111	3,316	3,316	7,678	67,105	67,105
2005	60,983	60,983	3,015	3,015	9,178	73,176	73,176
2006	61,366	61,366	3,909	3,909	10,442	75,717	75,717
2007	65,400	65,400	4,159	4,159	18,572	88,131	88,131
2008	72,363	72,363	4,687	4,687	26,284	103,334	103,334
2010	76,797	76,797	4,216	4,216	23,325	104,338	104,338
2011	76,797	76,797	4,216	4,216	34,490	115,503	115,503
2012	72,944	76,009	4,192	4,216	39,271	116,407	119,496

**Note:** The 2011 population count for the Urban and Rural Service Areas are based on Census 2010 results.



## Future Growth<sup>30</sup>

The Municipality is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Canada and projections indicate that this rapid rate of growth will not only continue, it will accelerate. This is especially true in the near- to mid-term, within the next decade. The region's oil sands industry will continue to be the primary driver of growth, generating employment opportunities that are expected to attract workers from across the country and around the world.

Recent population and employment projections indicate that the region could grow to over 231,000 people by the year 2030. Population growth will bring with it economic growth through the development of the service industry and private sector-driven small-scale businesses and retail.

Already, the average annual population growth rate is 7 percent. With a number of new oil sands projects proposed to start between now and 2020, employment is projected to grow by as much as 53%, and the population by 66%, over the next decade.

Growing social services and new economic opportunities will continue to attract migrant workers to the region and new induced and indirect employment will develop as the region's economy diversifies beyond oil and gas. Employment in the financial, social services (including health and education), entertainment, and retail sectors could collectively increase by more than 200 percent.



<sup>30</sup> Source: Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Planning and Development Department, (2011). *Municipal Development Plan* (Bylaw No. 11/027). Retrieved from website: [http://www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/Assets/MDPAssests/Draft\\_MDP/FinalMDP.html](http://www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/Assets/MDPAssests/Draft_MDP/FinalMDP.html)



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# SECTION THREE: HOUSING



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

# HOUSING

The following section provides analyses of data collected during Census 2012 by the household and dwelling types within the Municipality. The information allows for a better understanding of the type, distribution, and average population for various household and dwelling types within the region.

## Household Type and Location<sup>31</sup>

There are 29,107 dwelling units in the Municipality. Of this, 27,518 (94.5%) were enumerated during Census 2012 including vacant units and barelands. The responses presented show the total dwelling units enumerated excluding vacant units (2,262), bareland (404), and system errors (6).

**Figure 7** shows that 99.1% (23,579) of the household types in the Municipality are regular households (e.g., single detached, townhome, etc.), and almost 95.0% of them are located in the Urban Service Area.

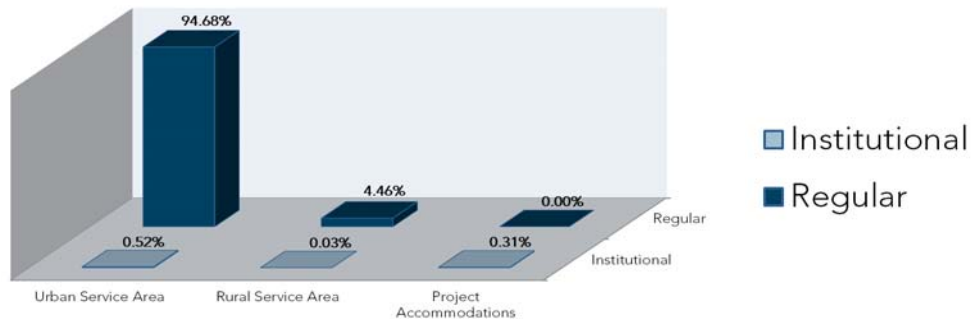
The institutional count within the Municipality includes hotels/motels (19), care facilities (10), campgrounds (6), and project accommodations (88). See **Table 9** for details.

It is important to note that there are a larger amount of dwellings reported under the institutional category for the Municipality (206) than what actually exists (106 occupied). This difference is due to PIN letters being sent to addresses that are also care facilities, as well as residents completing their own census online and mistakenly selecting “Institutional” for their housing type. This causes the results presented in **Figure 7** to be skewed. In actuality, project accommodations should be the highest selection (0.31%), followed by Urban Service Area (0.13%), and Rural Service Area (0.02%) under the “Institutional” category. For the “Regular” category, Urban Service Area (95.06%) should continue as the highest selection, followed by Rural Service Area (4.48%).

The higher count for the Urban Service Area under the “Institutional” category shown in **Figure 7** is attributed to two factors:

- Some residents entered the incorrect answer for household type.
- PIN letters were sent to the Rotary House, Legion Manor, and Araubasca House in Fort McMurray; all are care facilities.

**Figure 7: Percentage of household types in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q21. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.  
**31** Vacant units and barelands are not included in Figure 7. Furthermore, although a total of 88 project accommodations were included in the population count, only 74 reported an existing population. Fourteen project accommodations were reported as vacant or under construction.

**Table 9: List of hotels/motels, care facilities, and campgrounds enumerated during Census 2012**

Type	Name	Population Count
<b>Urban Service Area</b>		
Campgrounds	Centennial Park	117
	Rusty Best Canadian Motor Inns - Gregoire (Rusty)	8
Care Facilities	Centre of Hope (60), Marshall House (60), Salvation Army (80), and Unity House (25).	225
	Araubasca House (20), Legion Manor (11), Northern Lights Regional Health Centre (30), and Rotary House (38).	99
Hotels/Motels	Ace Inn (McMurray Inn)	19
	Best Canadian Motor Inns - Franklin	30
	Best Canadian Motor Inns - Gregoire (Rusty)	108
	Best Western Nomad Inn	88
	Bridgeport Inn and motel suites	17
	Chez Dube Country Inn	16
	Clearwater Suite Hotel	258
	Hilltop Oasis Bed & Breakfast	1
	Merit Inn Hotels and Suites	144
	Oil Sands Hotel	14
	Podollan Inn & Podollan Rez (extended stay suites)	90
	Quality Hotel & Conference Centre	146
	Radisson Hotel & Suites	136
	Ridgewood Inn	65
	Sawridge Inn	118
	Stonebridge Hotel	113
Super 8 Motel	111	
The Franklin Suite Hotel	73	
Vantage Inns & Suites	83	
<b>Urban Total</b>		<b>2,079</b>
<b>Rural Service Area</b>		
Campgrounds	Golden Eagle Resort	120
	Lewyk Park	90
	Rotary Park	110
	Tower Road	205
Care Facilities	Ayabaskaw House and Lodge	15
<b>Rural Total</b>		<b>540</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,619</b>

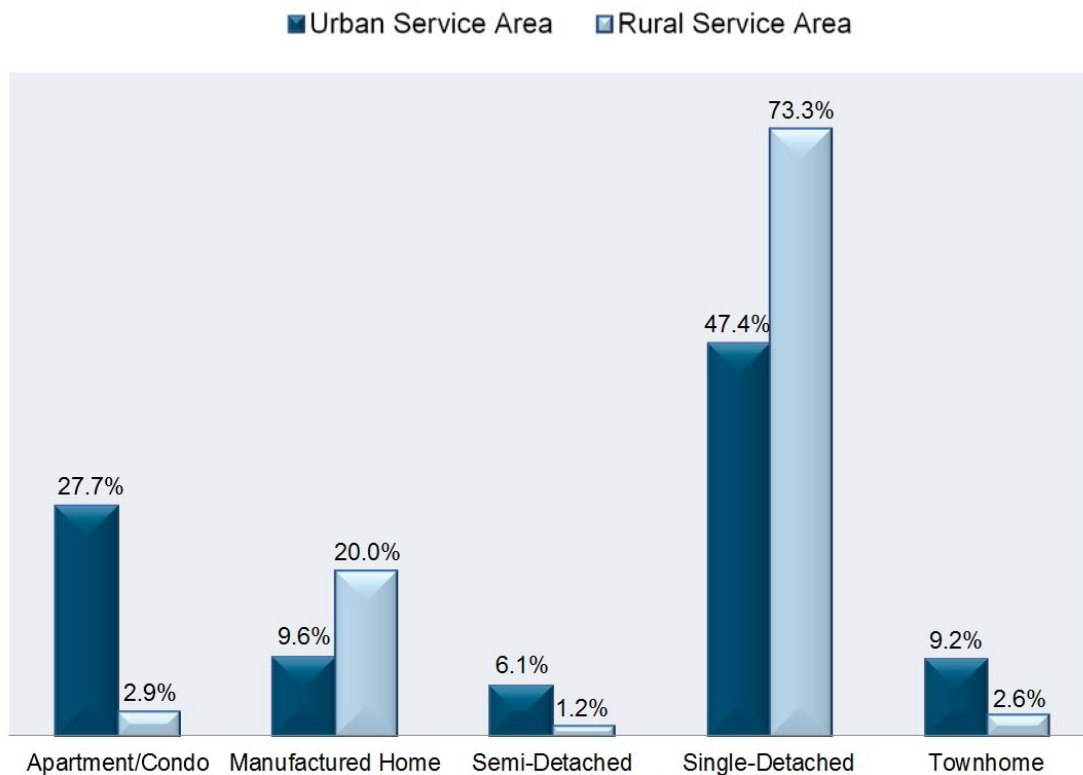
**Note:** In Table 9 the seniors care facilities population counts are shown for information purposes only. Population counts were collected through door-to-door enumeration and have been included in the general population counts for the Urban and Rural Service Areas in previous tables, figures, and charts. No information was reported for the Platinum Hotel and Residences or Stepping Stones Youth Services located in the Urban Service Area.

## Dwelling Type

**Figure 8** illustrates that 47.4% of dwelling types in the Urban Service Area are single-detached homes and 27.7% are listed as apartments and condominiums. Semi-detached, manufactured homes, and townhomes make up less than 25.0% of the dwelling types recorded within the Urban Service Area. In the Rural Service Area, 73.3% of the residences are classified as single-detached and 20.0% are listed as manufactured homes.



**Figure 8: Percentage of dwelling types in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo<sup>32</sup>**



**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q22 and Q23. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

<sup>32</sup> Refer to glossary for definitions of all dwelling types.



**Table 10** shows the percentage of dwelling types for each neighbourhood in the Urban Service Area. In the Lower Townsite, 68.8% of the dwellings recorded are apartments and condominiums. In Beacon Hill, Thickwood Heights, Timberlea, and Waterways, most homes are single-detached. In Gregoire, 72.7% of the homes reported are manufactured. Abasand Heights has a greater diversity of dwelling types with 27.9% of the homes listed as single-detached, 23.5% as apartments and condominiums, 21.4% as semi-detached residences, and 26.4% of residences listed as townhomes.



**Table 10: Percentage and count of dwelling types in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

Neighbourhood	Apartment/ Condo	Manufactured Home	Semi- Detached	Single- Detached	Townhome	Total
Abasand Heights	309	11	282	367	347	1,316
	23.5%	0.8%	21.4%	27.9%	26.4%	100.0%
Beacon Hill	64	47	31	484	45	671
	9.5%	7.0%	4.6%	72.2%	6.7%	100.0%
Gregoire	102	984	11	125	131	1,353
	7.5%	72.7%	0.8%	9.3%	9.7%	100.0%
Lower Townsite	2,446	11	119	851	123	3,550
	68.8%	0.3%	3.4%	24.0%	3.5%	100.0%
Thickwood Heights	936	48	457	3,182	538	5,161
	18.1%	0.9%	8.9%	61.7%	10.4%	100.0%
Timberlea	2,348	952	460	5,460	885	10,105
	23.2%	9.4%	4.6%	54.0%	8.8%	100.0%
Waterways	1	88	5	135	1	230
	0.4%	38.3%	2.2%	58.7%	0.4%	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,206</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>10,604</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>22,386</b>
	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>47.4%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q22 and Q23. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both questions are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

In the Rural Service Area of the Municipality, 73.3% of dwelling units are single-detached homes (see **Table 11**). Manufactured homes are reported to a greater extent in the communities of Conklin (48.5%) and Anzac (39.7%) than in the other six communities.

**Table 11: Percentage and count of dwelling types in the Rural Service Area by community**

Community	Apartment/ Condo	Manufactured Home	Semi- Detached	Single- Detached	Townhome	Total
Anzac	3	82	1	120	-	206
	1.5%	39.7%	0.5%	58.3%	0.0%	100.0%
Conklin	-	50	-	53	-	103
	0.0%	48.5%	0.0%	51.5%	0.0%	100.0%
Draper	1	5	-	40	-	46
	2.2% <sup>33</sup>	10.8%	0.0%	87.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Fort Chipewyan	23	35	9	216	26	309
	7.4%	11.4%	2.9%	69.9%	8.4%	100.0%
Fort MacKay	-	1	-	14	-	15
	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	93.3%	0.0%	100.0%
Gregoire Lake Estates	4	15	1	67	1	88
	4.5%	17.0%	1.2%	76.1%	1.2% <sup>34</sup>	100.0%
Janvier	-	10	-	45	-	55
	0.0%	18.2%	0.0%	81.8%	0.0%	100.0%
Saprae Creek Estates	-	13	1	218	-	232
	0.0%	5.6%	0.4%	94.0%	0.0%	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1,054</b>
	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>73.3%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q23. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both questions are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

**33** A value of 2.2% is reported for apartment/condo in Draper. In actuality, there are no apartment/condo's in Draper.

**34** A value of 1.2% is reported for townhomes in Gregoire Lake Estates. In actuality, there are no townhomes in Gregoire Lake Estates.

## Average Number of People by Dwelling Type

The average number of people by dwelling unit in the Municipality changed from 2010 to 2012. This observation aligns with an increase of the population in project accommodations and with the development of new neighbourhoods which increases the number of households available in the Municipality. However, it remains higher at 2.98 than the national average<sup>35</sup> at 2.51 in 2011, and the provincial average<sup>36</sup> at 2.62 in 2011.



**Table 12: Average number of people by dwelling type in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo from 2000-2012**

Dwelling Type	2000	2002	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2012
Apartment/Condo	4.48	2.60	2.50	2.50	2.30	2.27	2.33	2.29
Manufactured Home	2.70	3.00	3.10	2.90	2.90	3.05	2.98	2.81
Semi-Detached	2.76	3.20	3.10	3.30	2.50	3.28	3.35	3.13
Single-Detached	3.13	3.30	3.20	3.30	3.30	3.58	3.57	3.37
Townhome	3.31	3.20	3.40	3.10	1.90	3.10	3.20	3.00

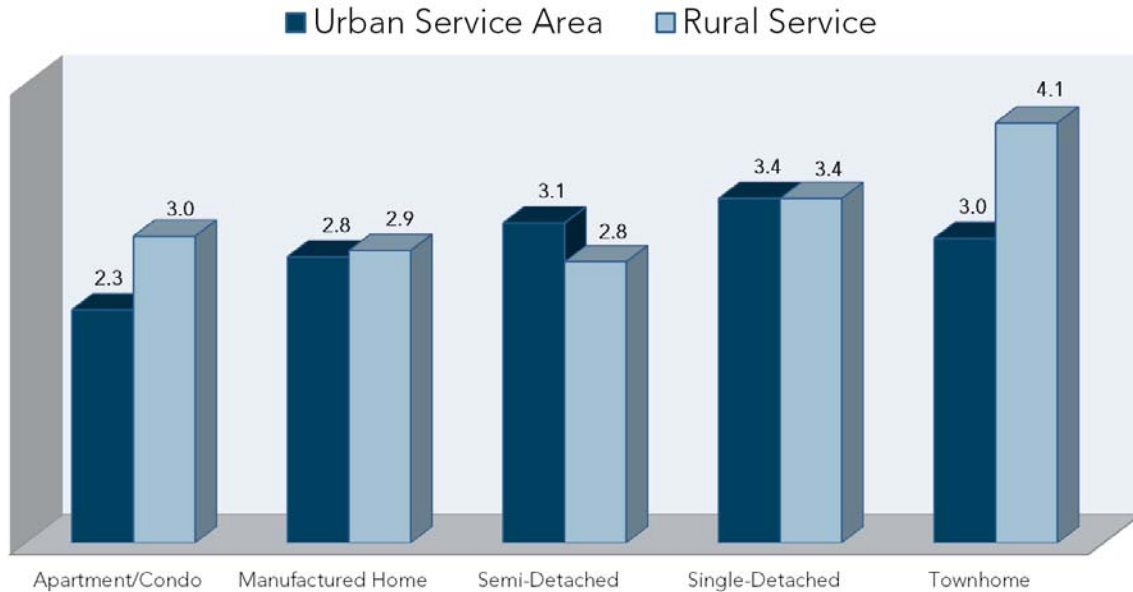
**35** Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Canada (Code 01) and Canada (Code 01) (table). Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released September 19, 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed September 20, 2012). Calculation: Population Canada/Private dwellings occupied by usual residents = Average Person per dwelling.

**36** Source: Statistics Canada. 2012. Alberta (Code 48) and Canada (Code 01) (table). Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released September 19, 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed September 20, 2012). Calculation: Population Alberta/Private dwellings occupied by usual residents = Average Person per dwelling.



**Figure 9** shows that in the Rural Service Area the largest average number of people per household reported is in townhomes at 4.1. Single-detached homes were the most frequent dwelling type reported, with an average of 3.4 people per dwelling unit.

**Figure 9: Average number of people by dwelling type in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on a response percent as shown in Table 4, Q1 and Table 5, Q23.



**Table 13** highlights an overall average of 2.96 people per dwelling unit in the Urban Service Area. The average number of people per dwelling unit, for each neighbourhood of the Urban Service Area, is influenced by the number and type of dwelling units (**Table 10**).

For instance, the lowest average number of people per dwelling unit is found in the Lower Townsite (2.65) where there are more apartments and condominiums.

**Table 13: Average number of people by dwelling type in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

Neighbourhood	Apartment/Condo	Manufactured Home	Semi-Detached	Single-Detached	Townhome	Average # of People
Abasand Heights	2.77	4.73	3.02	3.31	3.04	3.06
Beacon Hill	3.17	2.64	3.10	3.25	2.71	3.16
Gregoire	1.93	2.85	2.73	3.06	2.31	2.75
Lower Townsite	2.33	3.36	3.67	3.35	2.99	2.65
Thickwood Heights	2.50	2.50	3.06	3.34	2.90	3.11
Timberlea	2.07	2.78	3.12	3.41	3.12	3.00
Waterways	1.00	2.47	4.60	3.24	4.00	2.97
<b>Total average number of people by dwelling unit</b>						<b>2.96</b>

**Note:** Results based on a response percent as shown in Table 4, Q1 and Table 5, Q23.



**Table 14** presents an overall average of 3.27 people by dwelling unit in the Rural Service Area. The average number of people per dwelling unit, for each community of the Rural Service Area, is influenced by the number and type of dwelling units (see **Table 11**).

For instance, the highest average number of people per household is found in Draper (3.78) where 87.0% of the dwelling types are single-detached with an average of 3.88 people per dwelling unit.

**Table 14: Average number of people by dwelling type in the Rural Service Area by community**

Community	Apartment/ Condo	Manufactured Home	Semi- Detached	Single- Detached	Townhome	Average # of People
Anzac	5.00	3.11	4.00	3.23	-	3.21
Conklin	-	2.22	-	3.32	-	2.79
Draper	2.00 <sup>37</sup>	3.40	-	3.88	-	3.78
Fort Chipewyan	2.09	3.29	2.22	3.19	4.12	3.17
Fort MacKay	-	6.00	-	3.29	-	3.47
Gregoire Lake Estates	7.00	2.20	7.00	2.73	4.00 <sup>38</sup>	2.90
Janvier	-	2.60	-	3.04	-	2.96
Saprae Creek Estates	-	3.15	2.00	3.79	-	3.75
<b>Total average number of people by dwelling unit</b>						<b>3.27</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q1 and Table 5, Q23. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**37** A value of 2.00% is reported for apartment/condo in Draper. In actuality, there are no apartment/condo's in Draper.

**38** A value of 4.00% is reported for townhomes in Gregoire Lake Estates. In actuality, there are no townhomes in Gregoire Lake Estates.



MUNICIPAL  
**CENSUS 2012**  
Count Yourself In!

# SECTION FOUR: REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

## Regional Demographic Profile

The following section provides an overview, as well as detailed information on the demographic profile of the Municipality. This begins with a look at the distribution of gender in the Urban and Rural Service Areas within the Municipality, and concludes with an overview of income statistics.

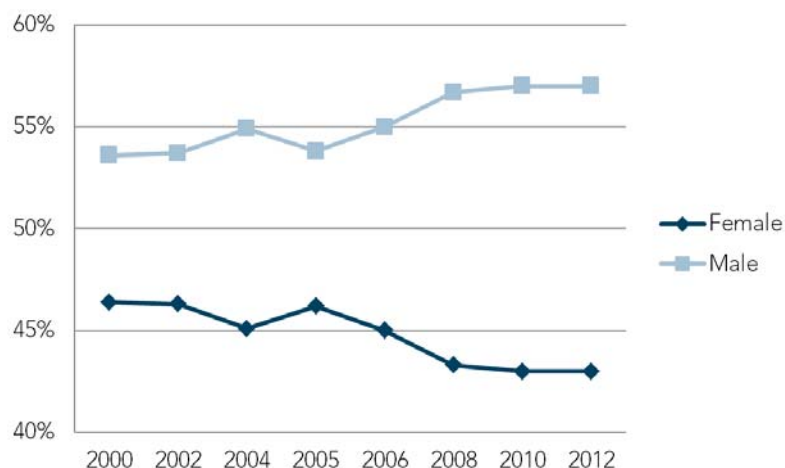
## Age and Gender

The male to female ratio widened between 2000 and 2008. From 2008 to 2012, the population gender ratio has remained fairly steady, at 57.0% male and 43.0% female. **Table 15** outlines the male and female population percentages from 2000 to 2012.

**Table 15: Percentage of population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by area and gender from 2000-2012**

	2000		2002		2004		2005		2006		2008		2010		2012	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Urban Service Area	53.6	46.4	54.5	45.5	56.8	43.2	55.8	44.2	55.2	44.8	56.9	43.1	57.1	42.9	57.0	43.0
Anzac	53.7	46.3	54.3	45.7	54.3	45.7	52.2	47.8	52.9	47.1	59.3	40.7	59.1	40.9	59.5	40.5
Conklin	49.5	50.5	-	-	51.9	48.1	55.7	44.3	56.9	43.1	55.1	44.9	51.0	49.0	58.8	41.2
Draper	53.3	46.7	-	-	48.6	51.4	53.3	46.7	51.9	48.1	59.3	40.7	55.8	44.2	52.8	47.2
Fort Chipewyan	51.3	48.7	49.5	50.5	50.9	49.1	51.6	48.4	50.6	49.4	51.0	49.1	50.7	49.3	52.4	47.6
Fort MacKay	50.9	41.9	50.7	49.3	54.3	45.7	53.3	46.7	58.2	41.8	50.0	50.0	66.7	33.3	69.6	30.4
Gregoire Lake Estates	54.3	45.7	53.8	46.2	56.8	43.2	54.2	45.8	51.7	48.3	53.0	47.0	53.4	46.6	58.0	42.0
Janvier	53.1	46.9	55.1	44.9	59.8	40.2	53.4	46.6	55.8	44.2	52.4	47.6	53.6	46.6	57.6	42.4
Saprae Creek Estates	51.9	48.1	51.7	48.3	54.2	45.8	54.9	45.1	53.4	46.6	53.4	46.6	54.0	46.0	54.8	45.2
<b>Total Average %</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>43.0</b>

**Figure 10: Percentage of population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by gender from 2000-2012**



The Urban Service Area contains a substantial proportion of the population in the Municipality, and as a result, has exactly the same gender ratio as the Municipality as a whole. The largest difference in gender is located in the Lower Townsite, with 61.4% male and 38.6% female. **Table 16** outlines the gender distribution by neighbourhood between 2000 and 2012.

**Table 16: Percentage of population for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood and gender from 2000-2012**

	2000		2002		2004		2005		2006		2008		2010		2012	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Abasand Heights	53.9	46.1	55.5	44.5	59.5	40.5	57.1	54.9	55.7	44.3	58.3	41.7	57.9	42.1	56.5	43.5
Beacon Hill	51.7	48.3	53.4	46.6	60.4	39.6	54.2	45.8	52.2	47.8	57.0	43.0	54.7	45.3	55.2	44.8
Gregoire	53.5	46.5	57.6	42.4	57.2	42.8	55.2	44.8	55.0	45.0	55.7	44.3	52.7	47.3	58.4	41.6
Lower Townsite	57.9	42.1	59.1	40.9	53.3	46.7	59.2	40.8	57.9	42.1	58.6	41.4	60.2	39.8	61.4	38.6
Thickwood	51.8	48.2	52.3	47.7	54.7	45.3	55.4	44.6	55.2	44.8	57.5	42.5	56.5	43.5	57.1	42.9
Timberlea	51.8	48.2	52.1	47.9	53.8	46.2	53.9	46.1	53.7	46.3	55.5	44.5	56.4	43.6	55.7	44.3
Waterways	56.7	43.3	59.0	41.0	59.1	40.9	60.9	39.1	60.5	39.5	57.3	42.7	55.4	44.6	58.9	41.1
Campgrounds <sup>39</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67.1	32.9	-	-
<b>Total Average %</b>	<b>53.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>43.0</b>

<sup>39</sup> Detailed demographic data was not collected for the campground population in Census 2012.

Overall, the gender distribution in the Rural Service Area has remained fairly consistent between 2000 and 2012 with variations from year to year and a slightly higher male to female ratio. However, in the cases of Anzac (5.8%), Conklin (9.3%), and Fort MacKay (18.7%), the percentage of males has drastically increased over the percentage of females between Census 2000 and 2012. **Table 17** outlines the percentage of males and females by community in the Rural Service Area from 2000 to 2012.

**Table 17: Percentage of population for the Rural Service Area by community and gender from 2000-2012**

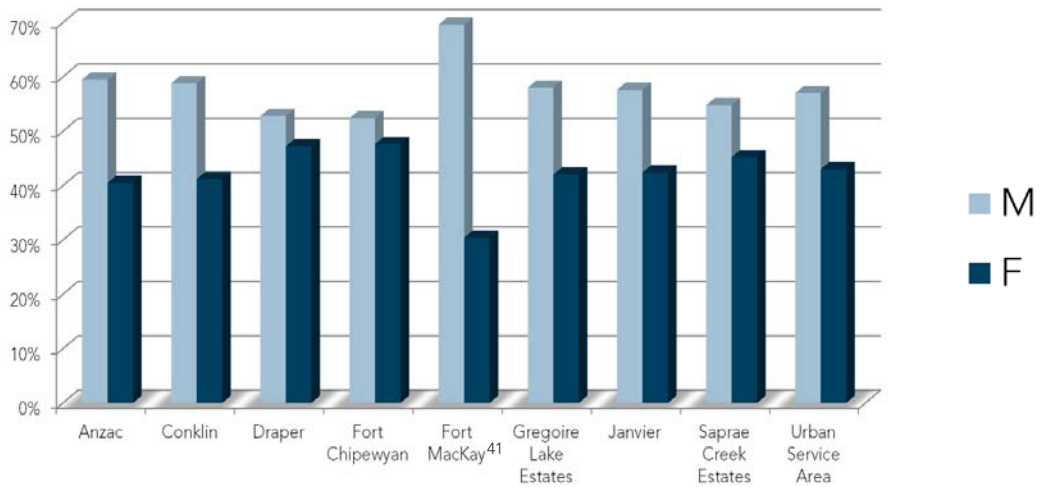
	2000		2002		2004		2005		2006		2008		2010		2012	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Anzac	53.7	46.3	54.3	45.7	54.3	45.7	52.2	47.8	52.9	47.1	59.3	40.7	59.1	40.9	59.5	40.5
Conklin	49.5	50.5	-	-	51.9	48.1	55.7	44.3	56.9	43.1	55.1	44.9	51.0	49.0	58.8	41.2
Draper	53.3	46.7	-	-	48.6	51.4	53.3	46.7	51.9	48.1	59.3	40.7	55.8	44.2	52.8	47.2
Fort Chipewyan	51.3	48.7	49.5	50.5	50.9	49.1	51.6	48.4	50.6	49.4	51.0	49.1	50.7	49.3	52.4	47.6
Fort MacKay <sup>40</sup>	50.9	41.9	50.7	49.3	54.3	45.7	53.3	46.7	58.2	41.8	50.0	50.0	66.7	33.3	69.6	30.4
Gregoire Lake Estates	54.3	45.7	53.8	46.2	56.8	43.2	54.2	45.8	51.7	48.3	53.0	47.0	53.4	46.6	58.0	42.0
Janvier	53.1	46.9	55.1	44.9	59.8	40.2	53.4	46.6	55.8	44.2	52.4	47.6	53.6	46.6	57.6	42.4
Saprae Creek Estates	51.9	48.1	51.7	48.3	54.2	45.8	54.9	45.1	53.4	46.6	53.4	46.6	54.0	46.0	54.8	45.2

<sup>40</sup> Only the off reserve population for Fort MacKay was included in Census 2012.



In 2012, the gender distribution is fairly consistent between neighbourhoods and communities with males ranging between 52.4% and 59.5%. Fort MacKay is an exception with a population comprised of 69.6% males and 30.4% females. **Figure 11** displays the gender ratio by area for Census 2012.

**Figure 11: Percentage of population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by area and gender 2012**



<sup>41</sup> Only the off reserve population for Fort MacKay was included in Census 2012.





The percentage of population for the 0-4 age group has remained relatively steady since 2000, with a minimum of 6.5% in 2008 and a maximum 7.4% in 2004. The 5-9 age group has decreased since its 2000 high of 8.8%, to 5.7% in 2012. Both age groups of 10-14 and 15-19 have changed since 2000 by more than 4%; however, the age groups of 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, and 65-69 have all increased since 2000. Comparing age groups 10-14, 15-19, and 20-24 between 2010 and 2012 a slight decrease can be observed. The changes can be partially attributed to the difference in methodology used in 2012 versus 2010. **Table 18** outlines the percentage of population by age from 2000 to 2012. The main concentration of the population is between the ages of 20 and 54 making up 67.5% of the total population with the highest concentration between 25 and 34 (23.8%).

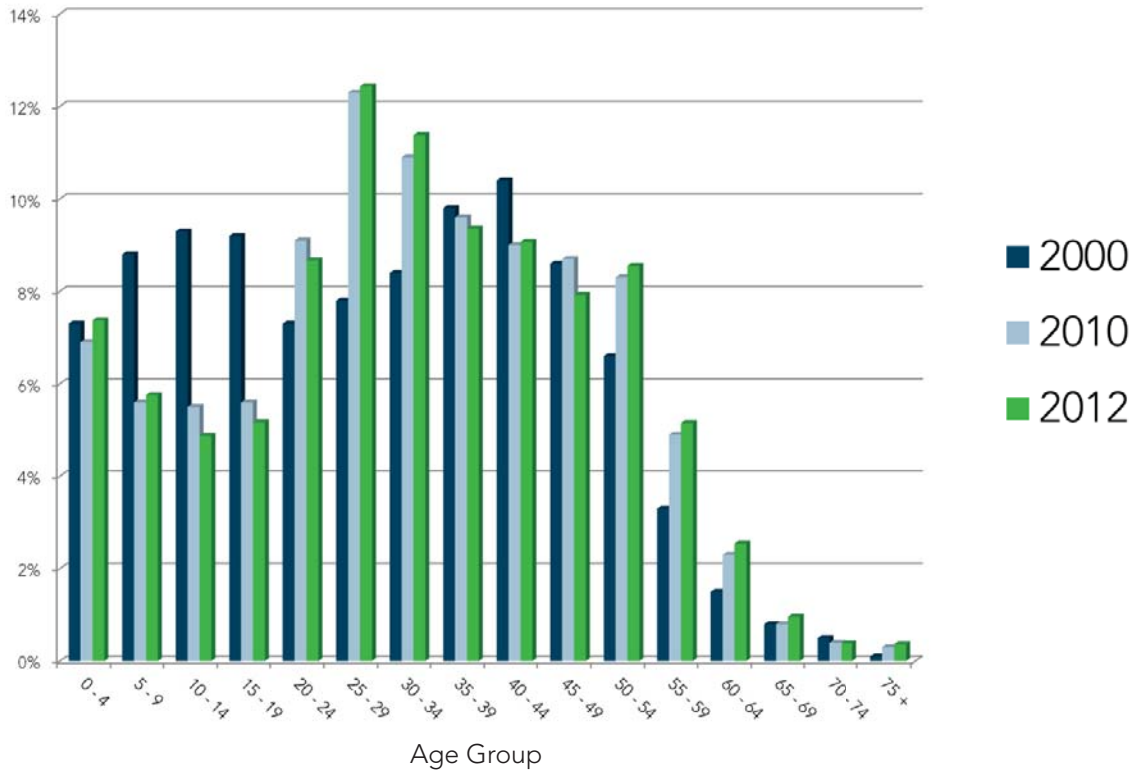
**Table 18: Percentage of the population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by age from 2000-2012**

Age	2000	2002	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2012	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	Count
0 - 4	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.1	6.8	6.5	6.9	7.3	4,684
5 - 9	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.3	6.8	6.1	5.6	5.7	3,657
10 - 14	9.3	8.6	8.6	7.2	7.0	6.2	5.5	4.8	3,098
15 - 19	9.2	8.3	8.2	7.6	7.4	6.7	5.6	5.2	3,282
20 - 24	7.3	8.5	7.9	8.3	9.0	9.5	9.1	8.7	5,509
25 - 29	7.8	8.7	8.3	9.0	9.5	10.9	12.3	12.4	7,899
30 - 34	8.4	8.8	8.3	9.1	9.1	9.6	10.9	11.4	7,228
35 - 39	9.8	9.0	8.9	8.6	9.0	8.8	9.6	9.4	5,948
40 - 44	10.4	10.2	10.1	9.6	9.3	9.2	9.0	9.1	5,761
45 - 49	8.6	9.1	9.5	9.9	9.8	9.4	8.7	7.9	5,032
50 - 54	6.6	6.9	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.7	8.3	8.6	5,434
55 - 59	3.3	3.8	4.3	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.9	5.2	3,273
60 - 64	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	1,616
65 - 69	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	609
70 - 74	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	246
75+	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	233

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Table 18 represents the permanent population residing in the Urban and Rural Service Areas. Census 2012 did not collect separate information on the shadow population.

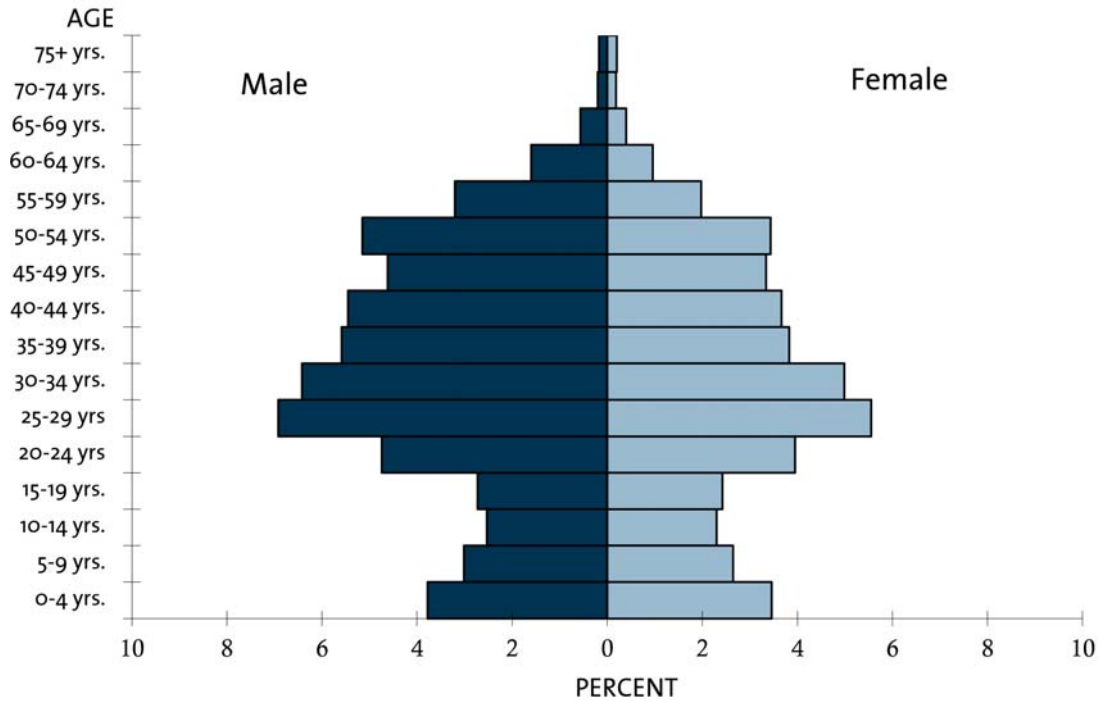
**Figure 12** provides a direct comparison of the percentage of the population by age for 2000, 2010, and 2012. **Figure 12** clearly shows the shift from a population that was relatively balanced across age ranges in 2000 to a reduced proportion of youth with an increase in ages ranging from 20 – 64.

**Figure 12: Percentage of population in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by age group for 2000, 2010, and 2012**



**Figure 13** shows the distribution of age and gender in Census 2012 for the Municipality. The pyramid illustrates that there are more males than females in the population and a greater concentration of overall population in the working ages (20 to 54). There is also a smaller proportion of seniors (65+) in the population.

**Figure 13: Age and gender pyramid for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

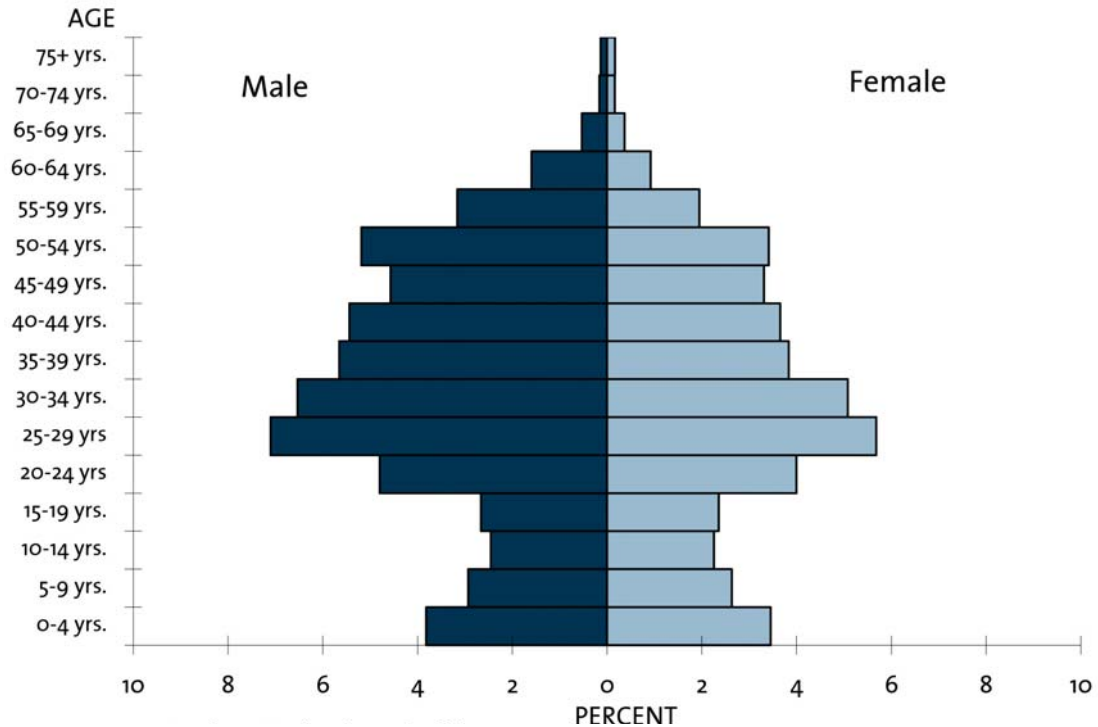


**Note:** Calculation based on 62,815 (35,605 M + 27,210 F) valid responses.



The population pyramid for the Urban Service Area (**Figure 14** and **14a**) shows almost an identical pattern to the regional profile which is not surprising given that a large proportion of the population in the Municipality resides in the Urban Service Area (94.6%).

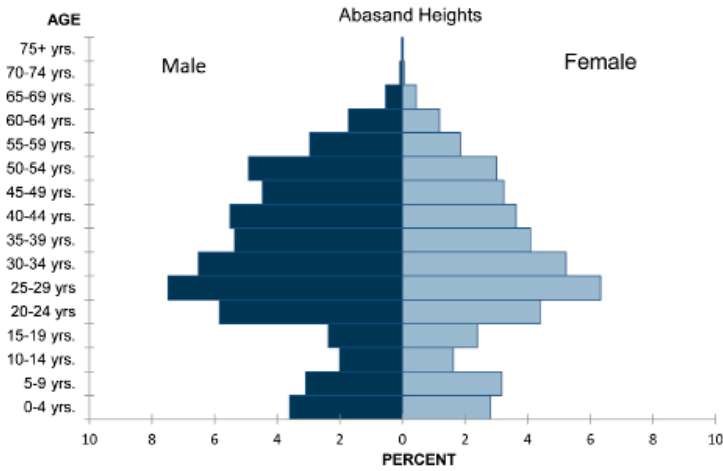
**Figure 14: Age and gender pyramid for the Urban Service Area**



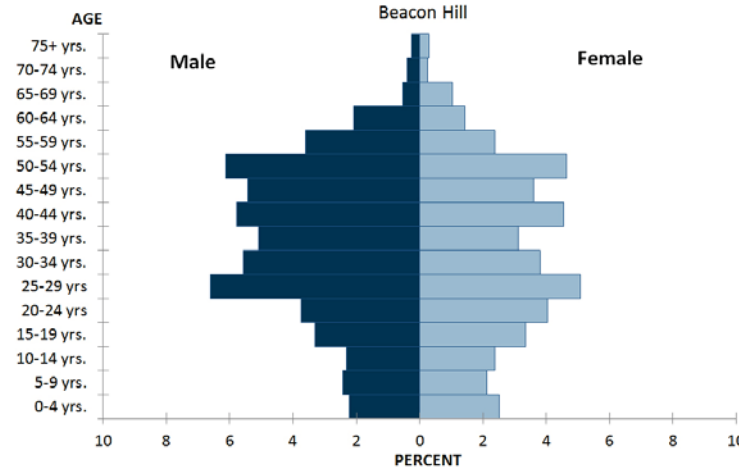
**Note:** Calculation based on 59,540 (33,779 M + 25,761 F) valid responses.



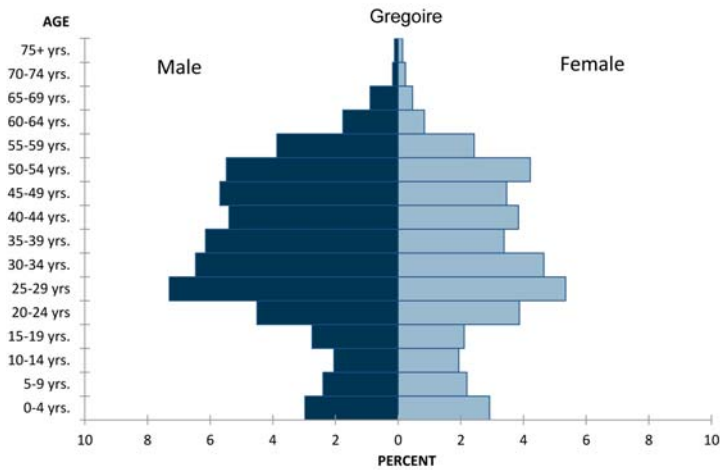
Figure 14a: Age and gender pyramid for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood



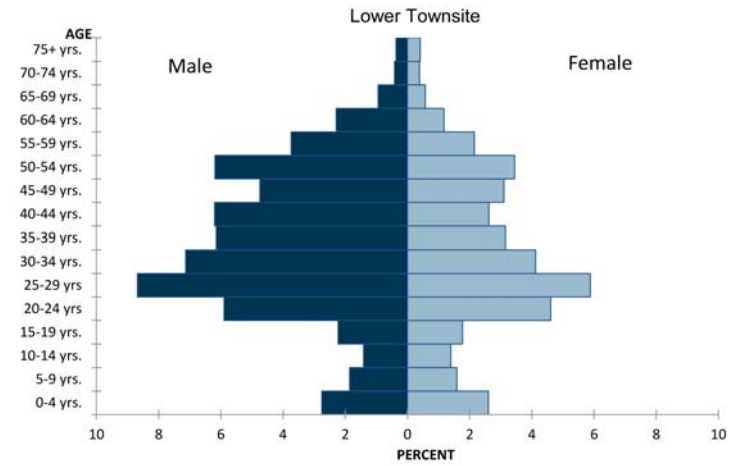
**Note:** Calculation based on 3,884 (2,195 M + 1,689 F) valid responses.



**Note:** Calculation based on 2,027 (1,124 M + 903 F) valid responses.

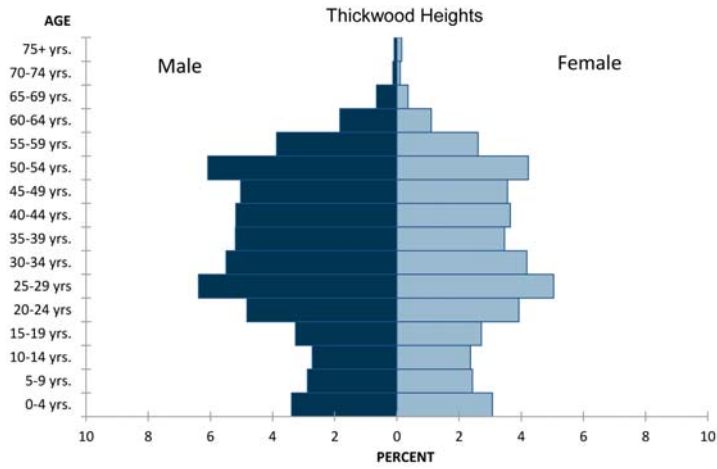


**Note:** Calculation based on 3,463 (2,008 M + 1,455 F) valid responses.

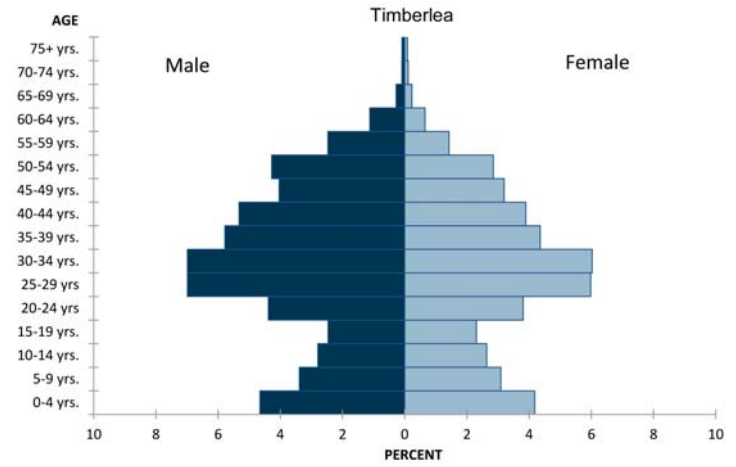


**Note:** Calculation based on 8,509 (5,191 M + 3,318 F) valid responses.

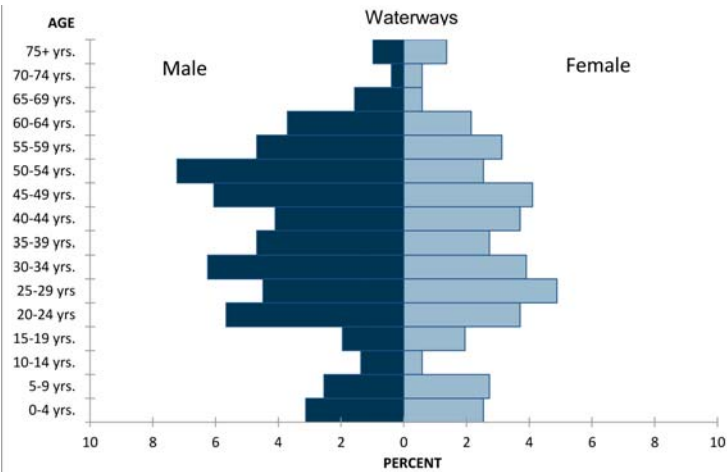
Figure 14a: Age and gender pyramid for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood



**Note:** Calculation based on 14,378 (81,98 M + 6,180 F) valid responses.



**Note:** Calculation based on 26,765 (14,762 M + 12,003 F) valid responses.

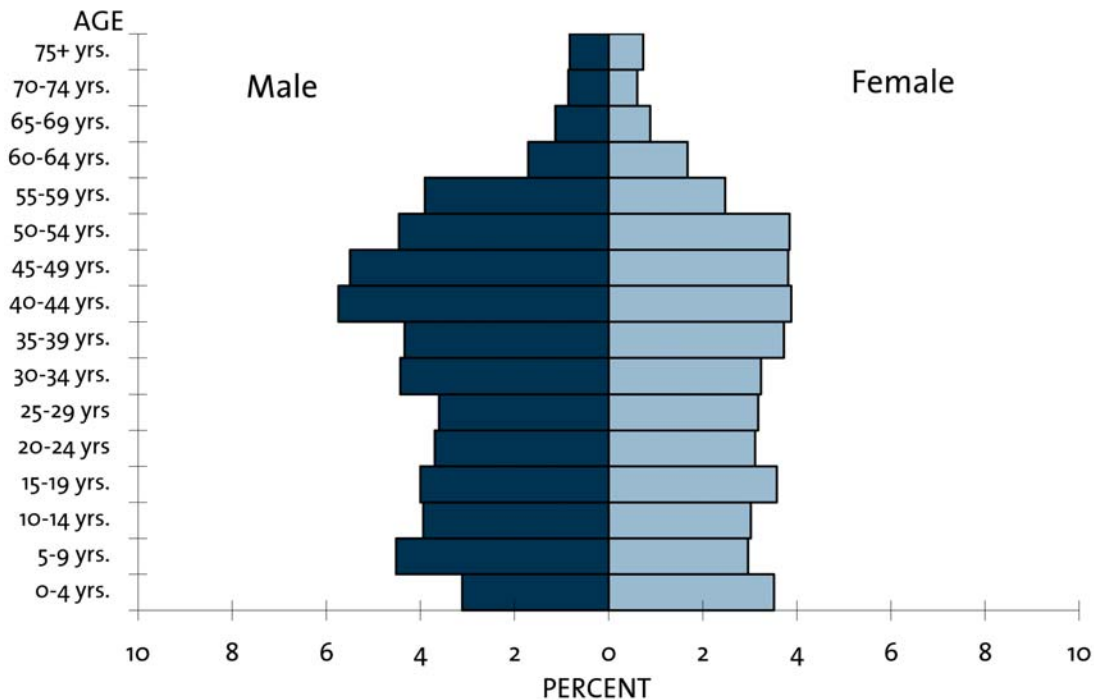


**Note:** Calculation based on 512 (301 M + 211 F) valid responses.



The population pyramid for the Rural Service Area shows a different pattern of age distribution than the Urban Service Area. As shown in **Figure 15** and **15a**, the population creates more of a rectangular shape which is more characteristic of an older population. There is a greater proportion of seniors in the population of the Rural Service Area compared to the Urban Service Area. Similar to the Urban Service Area and overall Municipality profiles, the pyramid for the Rural Service Area shows more males than females with a greater concentration of the in the working age groups.

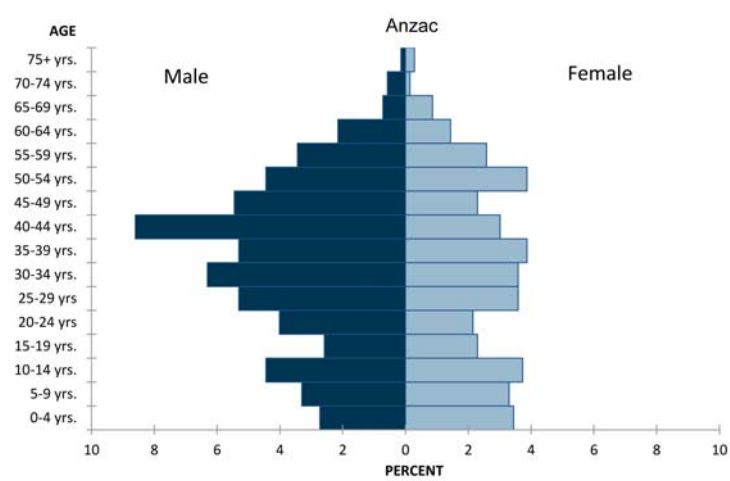
**Figure 15: Age and gender pyramid for the Rural Service Area**



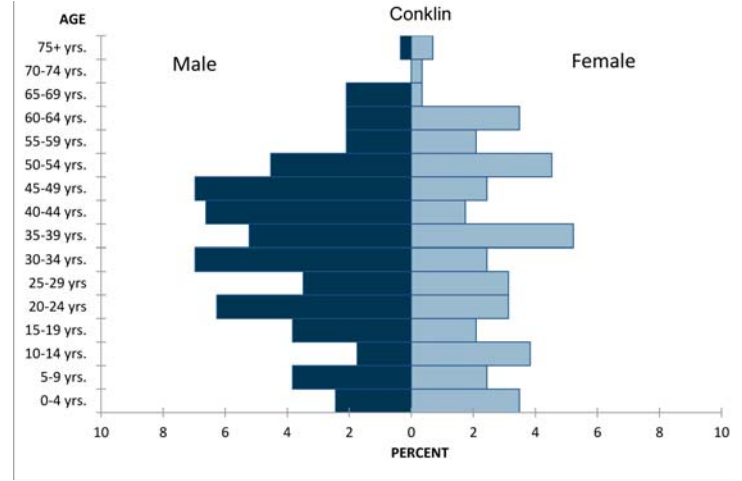
**Note:** Calculation based on 3,275 (1,826 M + 1,449 F) valid responses.



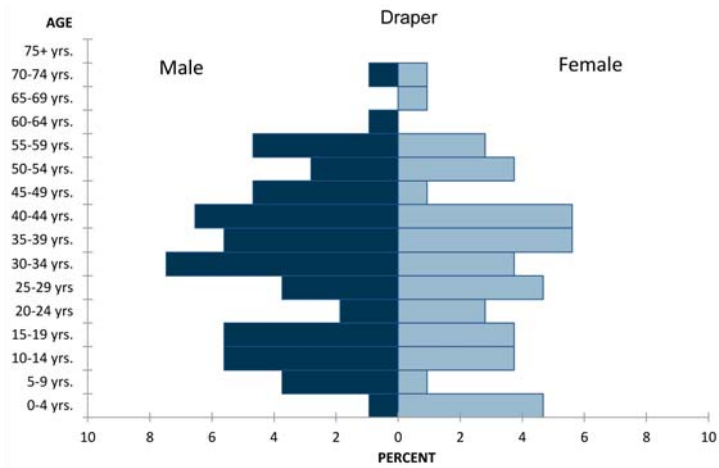
Figure 15a: Age and gender pyramid for the Rural Service Area by community



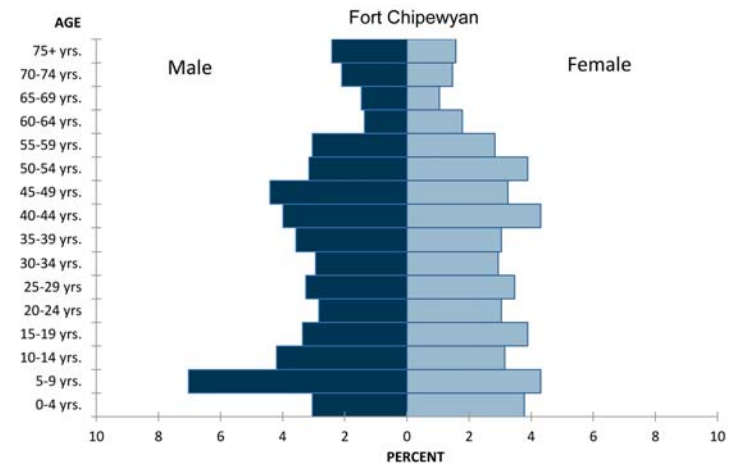
**Note:** Calculation based on 697 (415 M + 282 F).



**Note:** Calculation based on 287 (168 M + 119 F) valid responses.



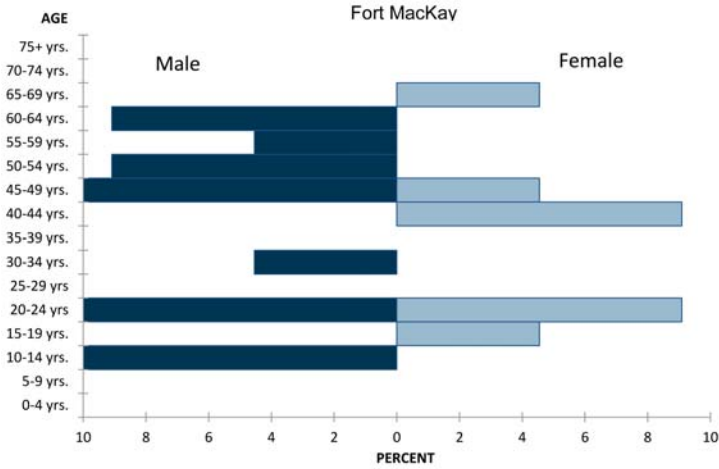
**Note:** Calculation based on 107 (59 M + 48 F) valid responses.



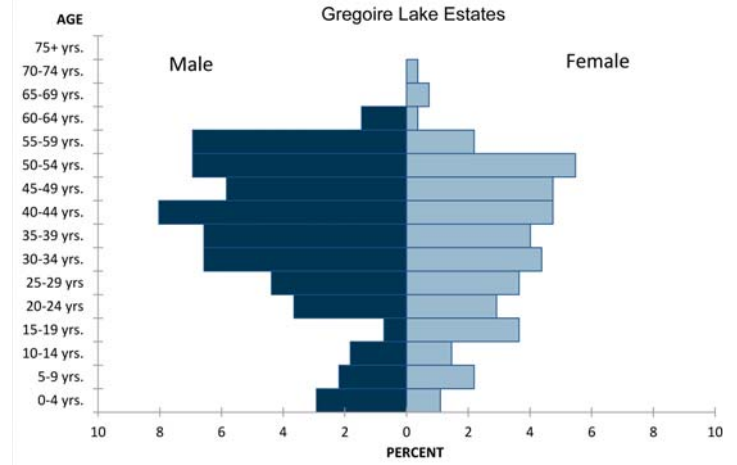
**Note:** Calculation based on 8,509 (5,191 M + 3,318 F) valid responses.



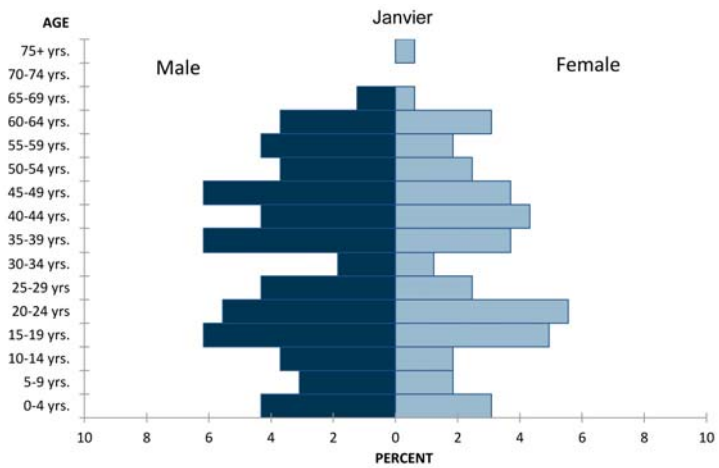
Figure 15a: Age and gender pyramid for the Rural Service Area by community



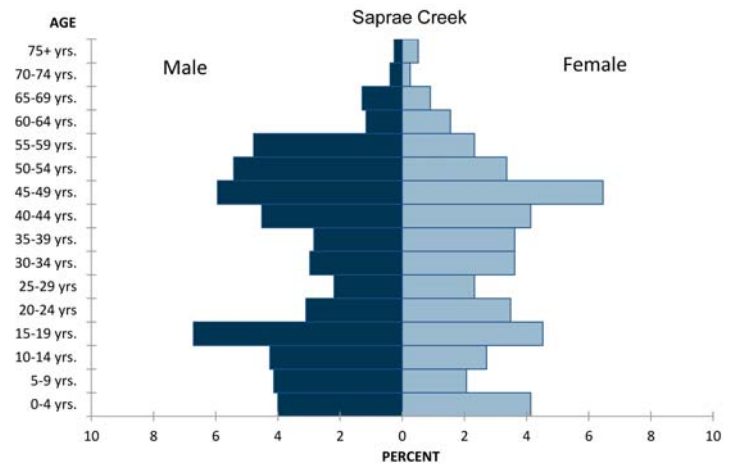
**Note:** Calculation based on 22 (15 M + 7 F) valid responses.



**Note:** Calculation based on 274 (159 M + 115 F) valid responses.



**Note:** Calculation based on 162 (95 M + 67 F) valid responses.



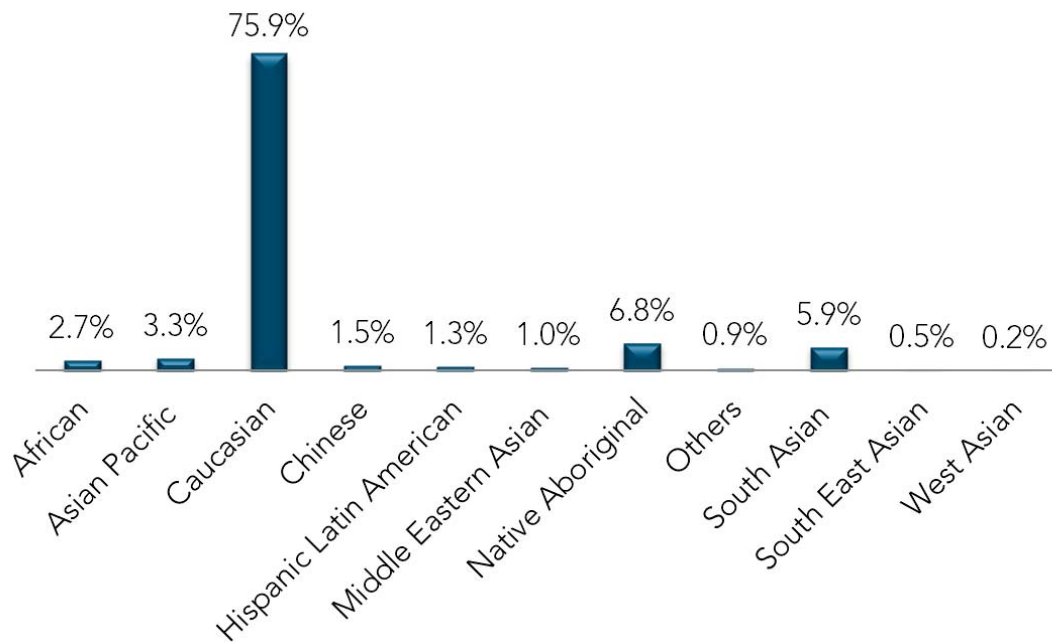
**Note:** Calculation based on 774 (418 M + 356 F) valid responses.

## Ethnicity

The following section outlines the results collected during Census 2012 regarding the ethnicity and origins of the residents of the Municipality. Responses on ethnicity are provided for the Municipality as a whole, and for both the Urban and Rural Service Areas. Residents were asked to provide information on which ethnic group they identified with, as well as their country of origin. Respondents that indicated Canada as their country of origin were then asked to identify their province of origin. Residents that indicated that their country of origin was not Canada were asked to provide the region of the world that they resided, prior to migrating to the Municipality.

While the population of the Municipality is comprised of many ethnic groups, most residents enumerated in Census 2012 identified themselves as Caucasian (75.9%), which covers several ethnicities including those with European origins (see **Figure 16**). The second largest ethnic group identified was Native Aboriginal, totaling 6.8% of the population in the Municipality. There were also residents whom identified themselves as being of South Asian (e.g., Indian, Pakistanis, Sri Lahnkan, etc.) and Asian Pacific (e.g., Korean, Filipino, Japanese, etc.) origins, totaling 5.9% and 3.3% of the population, respectively.

**Figure 16: Percentage of the population by ethnic group in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q4. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Census 2012 population enumeration excluded First Nation Reserve population.

**Table 19** outlines the number of residents that identified with each ethnic group. The total number of responses to this question was 36,426. The two largest ethnic groups within the Municipality represent 82.7% of the population, with 27,646 people identifying themselves as being of Caucasian origins and 2,463 as Native Aboriginal. The next two largest groups are those of South Asian and Asian Pacific origins with populations of 2,165 and 1,193, respectively, representing 9.2% of the Municipality's population. Of the remaining population, many smaller ethnic groups are present including: Chinese (528), African (968), Hispanic Latin American (489), and Middle Eastern Asian (373). These smaller groups represent 6.5% of the population. The remaining 1.7% of the population is comprised of residents who identified themselves as South East Asian (194), West Asian (71), and Other (336).

**Table 19: Population by ethnic group in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo by area**

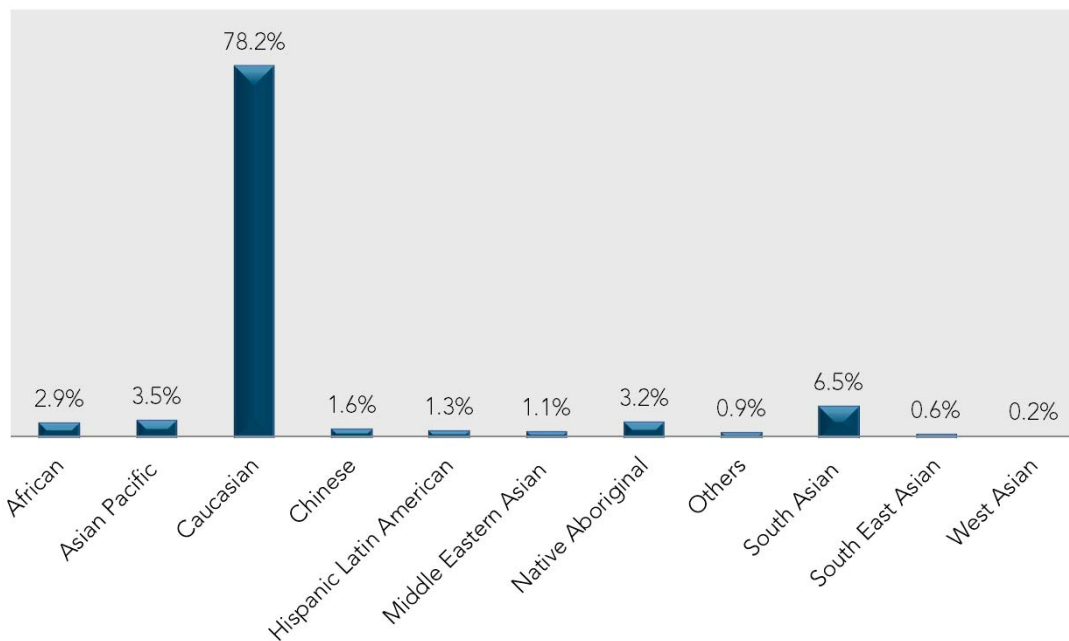
Ethnic Group	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
African	964	4	968
Asian Pacific	1,164	29	1,193
Caucasian	26,162	1,484	27,646
Chinese	528	-	528
Hispanic Latin American	484	5	489
Middle Eastern Asian	371	2	373
Native Aboriginal	1,055	1,408	2,463
Others	315	21	336
South Asian	2,161	4	2,165
South East Asian	189	5	194
West Asian	68	3	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,461</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>36,426</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q4.

The ethnicity reported in the Urban Service Area reveals patterns close to those of the Municipality as a whole with 78.2% of the population identifying themselves as persons of Caucasian origin. The next largest ethnic groups represented in the Urban Service Area are residents of South Asian (6.5%) and Asian Pacific (3.5%) origins. The overall percentage of the Native Aboriginal population in the Urban Service Area is lower than the Municipality as a whole (3.2%). Almost all of the population who identified themselves as being non-Caucasian reside in the Urban Service Area.

Within the Urban Service Area, residents indicating their ethnic origin as Caucasian had the highest concentration in Gregoire (92.0%), while the lowest proportion of Caucasian (63.3%) is reported in the Lower Townsite. Generally, the largest neighbourhoods (e.g., Timberlea, Thickwood, and the Lower Townsite) have the highest proportion overall of persons identifying as Chinese, Hispanic, Asian, Middle Eastern, and African. The second highest proportions of Middle Eastern and African identities are reported in the Lower Townsite at 4.1% and 9.7%, respectively.

**Figure 17: Percentage of the population by ethnic group in the Urban Service Area**

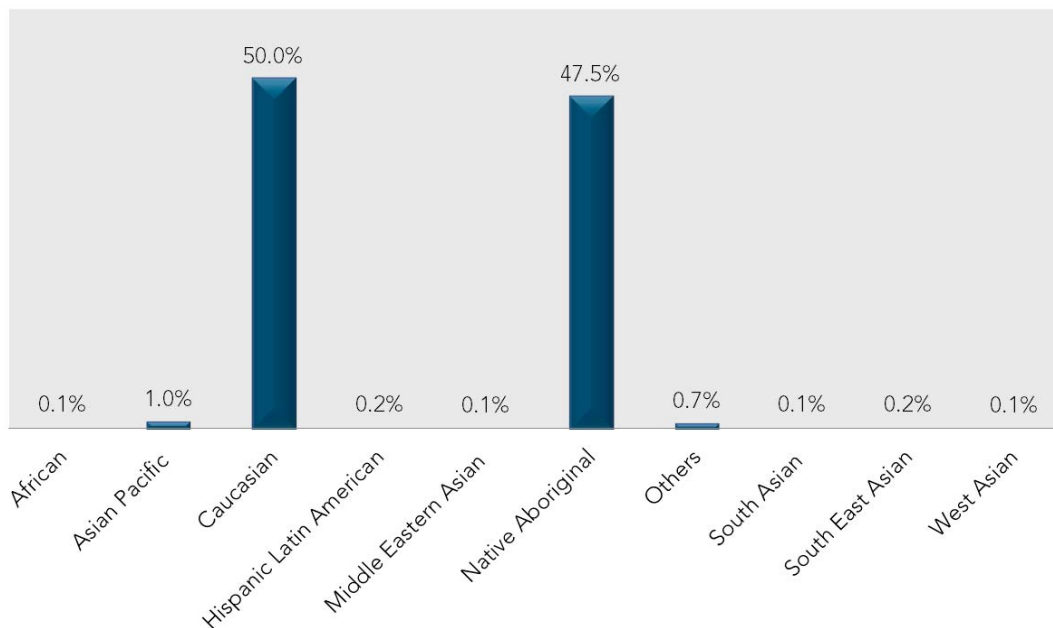


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q4. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

The ethnicities reported in the Rural Service Area have a distinctly different pattern than those noted in the Urban Service Area. There is a significant change in the percentage of the population that identified themselves as being of Caucasian origins (50.0%), and a sharp increase in the percentage of Native Aboriginals, to 47.5%. These two ethnicities represent 97.5% of the population in the Rural Service Area. The remaining 2.5% of the population is dispersed amongst other ethnic groups.

In the Rural Service Area, specifically the communities of Anzac, Draper, Gregoire Lake Estates, and Sapræe Creek Estates, 50.1% of residents indicated Caucasian as the ethnic group they identified with most. In the communities of Conklin (70.2%), Janvier (89.2%), Fort MacKay (96.3%), and Fort Chipewyan (93.7%), residents reported Native Aboriginal as the ethnicity that they identify with most.

**Figure 18: Percentage of the population by ethnic group in the Rural Service Area**

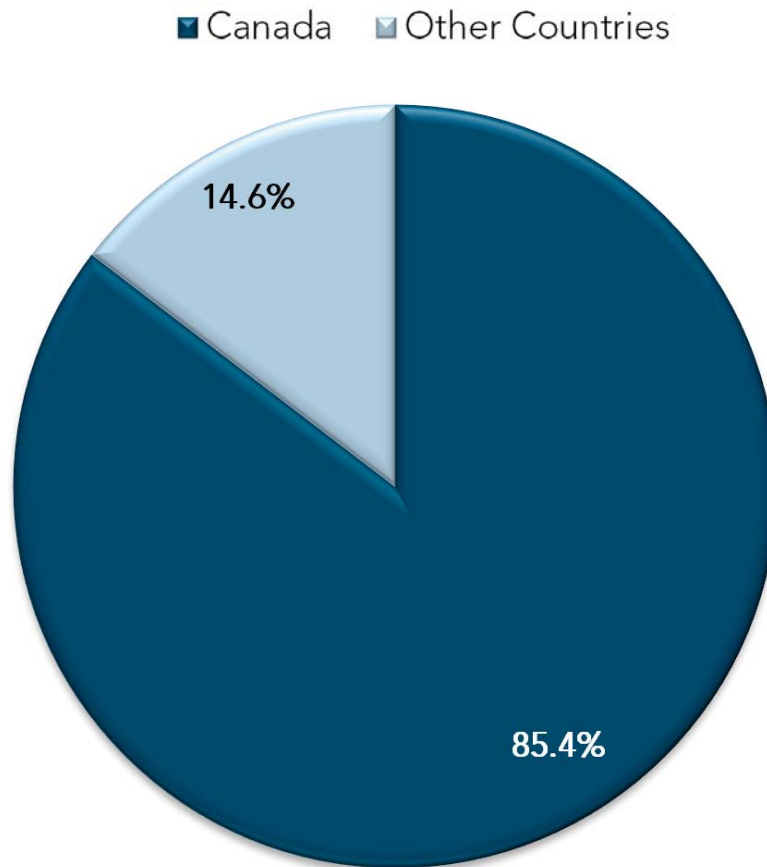


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q4. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Census 2012 population enumeration excluded First Nations Reserve population.

## Country of Origin and Province of Origin

During Census 2012, residents of the Municipality were asked if Canada was their country of origin. Of the respondents, 85.4% identified Canada as their country of origin while 14.6% stated that their origin was from another country. **Chart 4** displays the percentages of the population that identify Canada as their country of origin.

**Chart 4: Percentage of the population that identify Canada as their country of origin for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q5. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 20** provides a detailed view of responses based on the respondent's location within the Municipality. In the Urban Service Area, 27,997 (84.5%) of residents stated that Canada is their country of origin. The percentage is slightly higher in the Rural Service Area, with 2,717 (96.5%) reporting Canada as their country of origin.

**Table 20: Count of the population that identify Canada as their country of origin for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

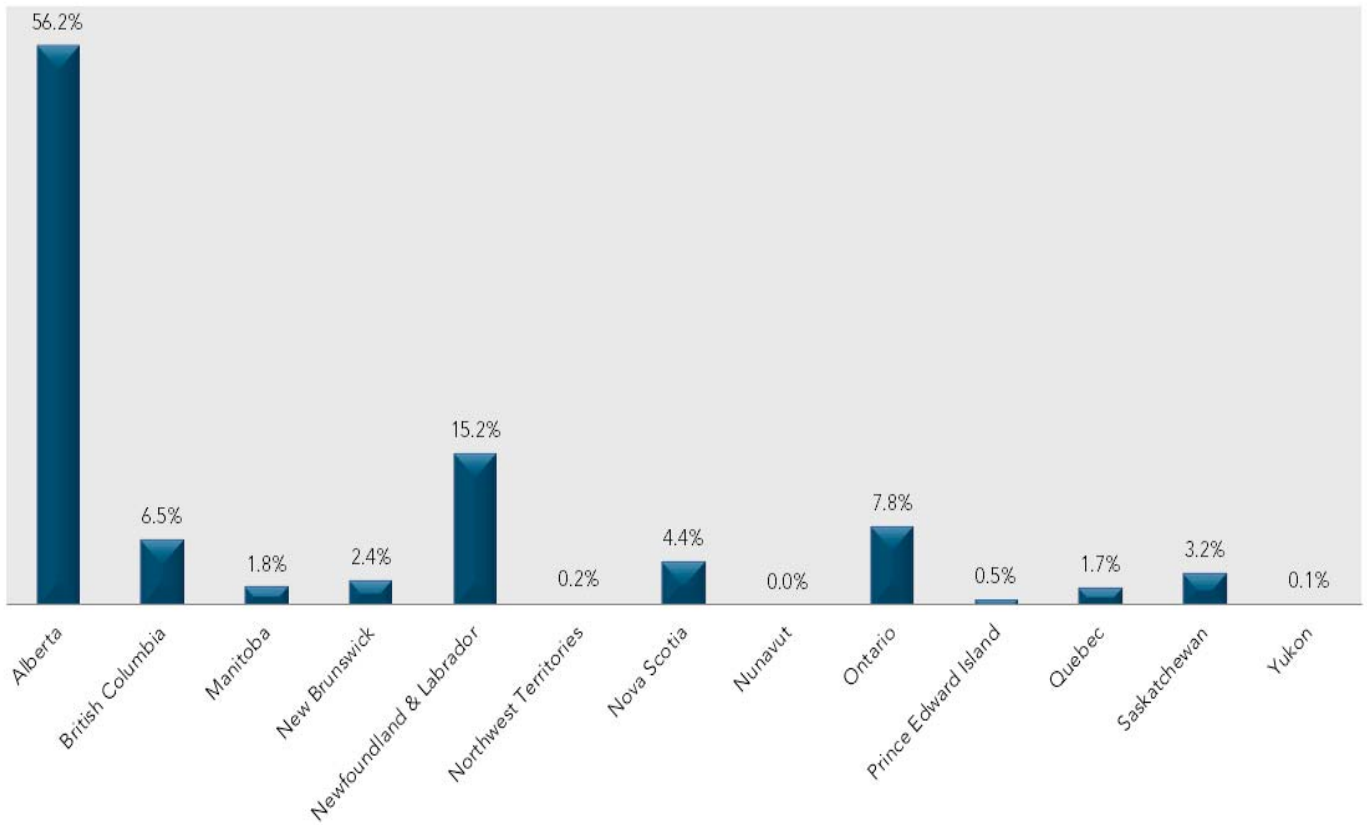
	Canada	Other Countries	Total
Urban Service Area	27,997	5,154	33,151
Rural Service Area	2,717	99	2,816
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,714</b>	<b>5,253</b>	<b>35,967</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q5.



Residents of the Municipality that identified Canada as their country of origin were asked to indicate their province of origin. Of the respondents, over half (56.2%) indicated Alberta as their province of origin. Aside from Alberta, residents identified five main provinces as their province of origin: Newfoundland & Labrador (15.2%), Ontario (7.8%), British Columbia (6.5%), Nova Scotia (4.4%), and Saskatchewan (3.2%). **Figure 19** and **Table 21** illustrate the results of this question.

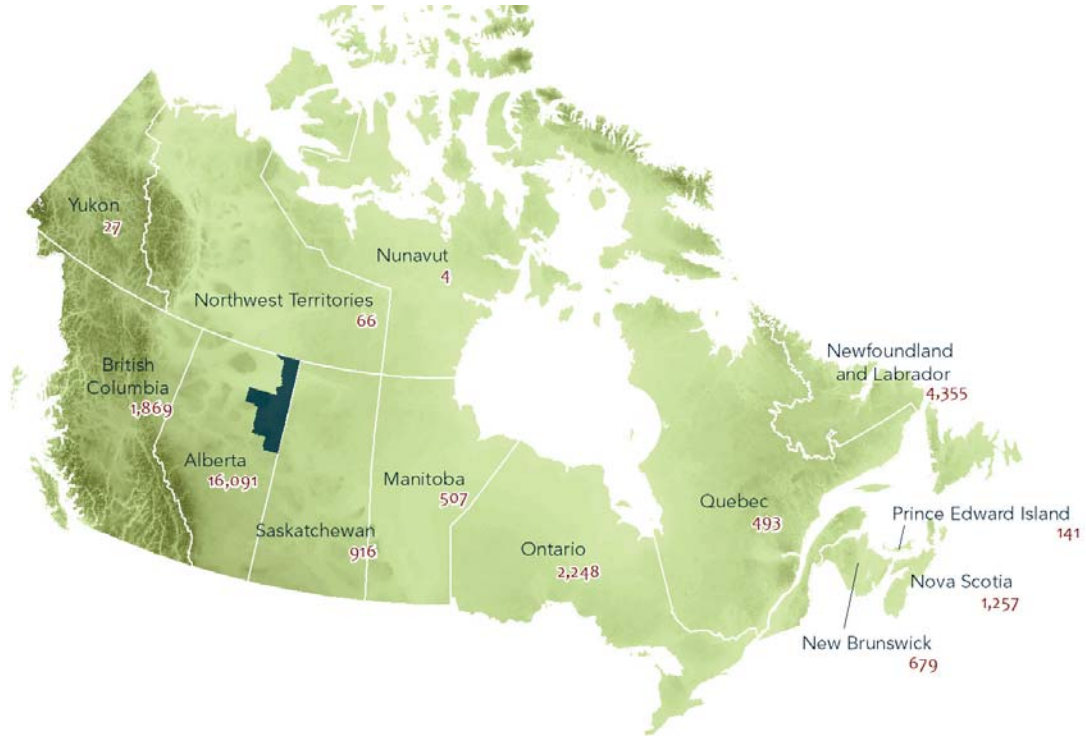
**Figure 19: Percentage of the population by province of origin in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q6. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Map 4: Population by province of origin in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



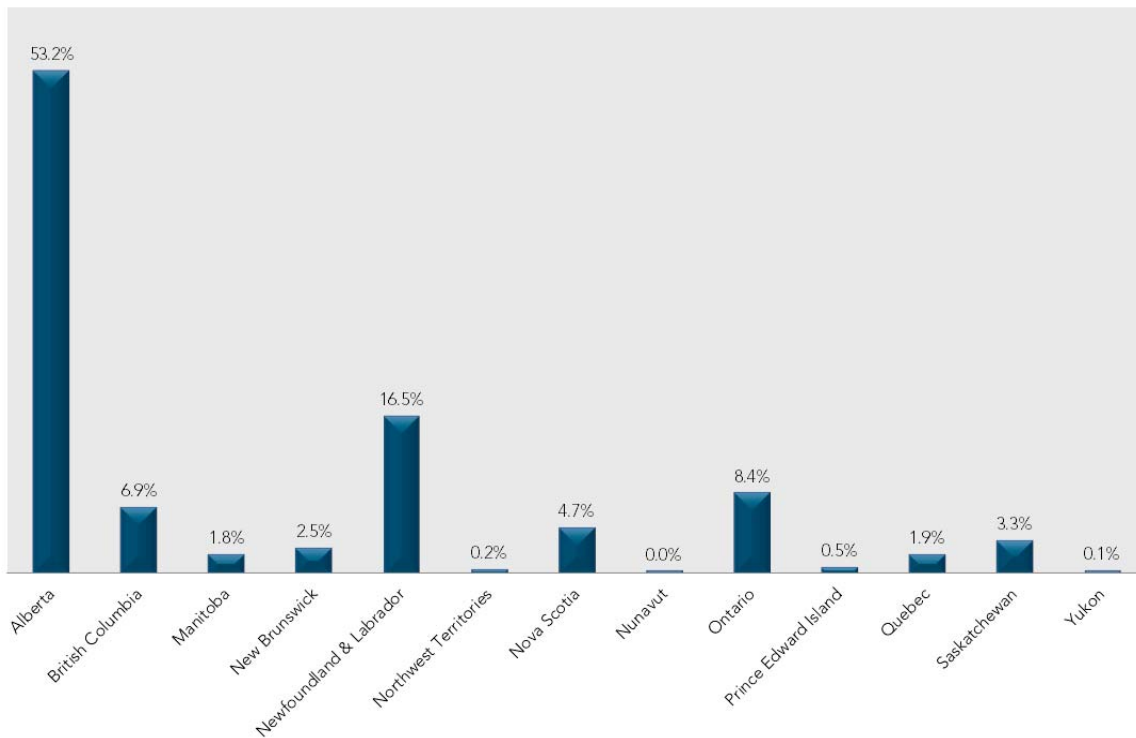
**Table 21: Population by province of origin in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

Province	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Alberta	13,813	2,278	16,091
British Columbia	1,780	89	1,869
Manitoba	475	32	507
New Brunswick	661	18	679
Newfoundland & Labrador	4,278	77	4,355
Northwest Territories	63	3	66
Nova Scotia	1,227	30	1,257
Nunavut	4	0	4
Ontario	2,175	73	2,248
Prince Edward Island	131	10	141
Quebec	484	9	493
Saskatchewan	867	49	916
Yukon	27	0	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,985</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>28,653</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q6.

In the Urban Service Area, the most reported province of origin is Alberta (53.2%). There are five main provinces of origin indicated for residents of the Municipality totaling 39.8% of responses: Newfoundland & Labrador 4,278 (16.5%), Ontario 2,175 (8.4%), British Columbia 1,780 (6.9%), Nova Scotia 1,227 (4.7%), and Saskatchewan 867 (3.3%). **Figure 20** illustrates the responses to this question by province within the Urban Service Area.

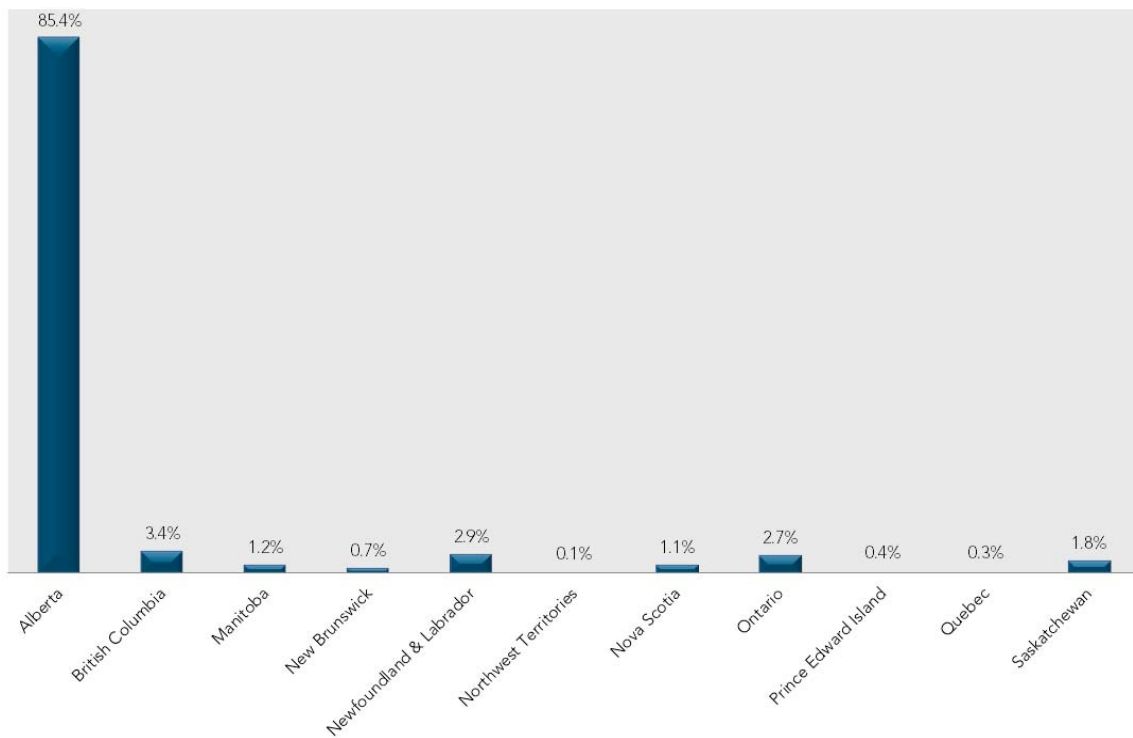
**Figure 20: Percentage of the population by province of origin in the Urban Service Area**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q6. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

The Rural Service Area differs considerably from the Urban Service Area, with 2,278 (85.4%) respondents identifying their province of origin as Alberta. For residents outside of Alberta, the main five provinces of origin stated are slightly different than those of the Urban Service Area, with 89 (3.4%) indicating they migrated from British Columbia. The remaining four provinces are Newfoundland & Labrador (2.9%), Ontario (2.7%), Saskatchewan (1.8%), and Manitoba (1.2%). **Figure 21** illustrates the provinces of origin for residents living in the Rural Service Area.

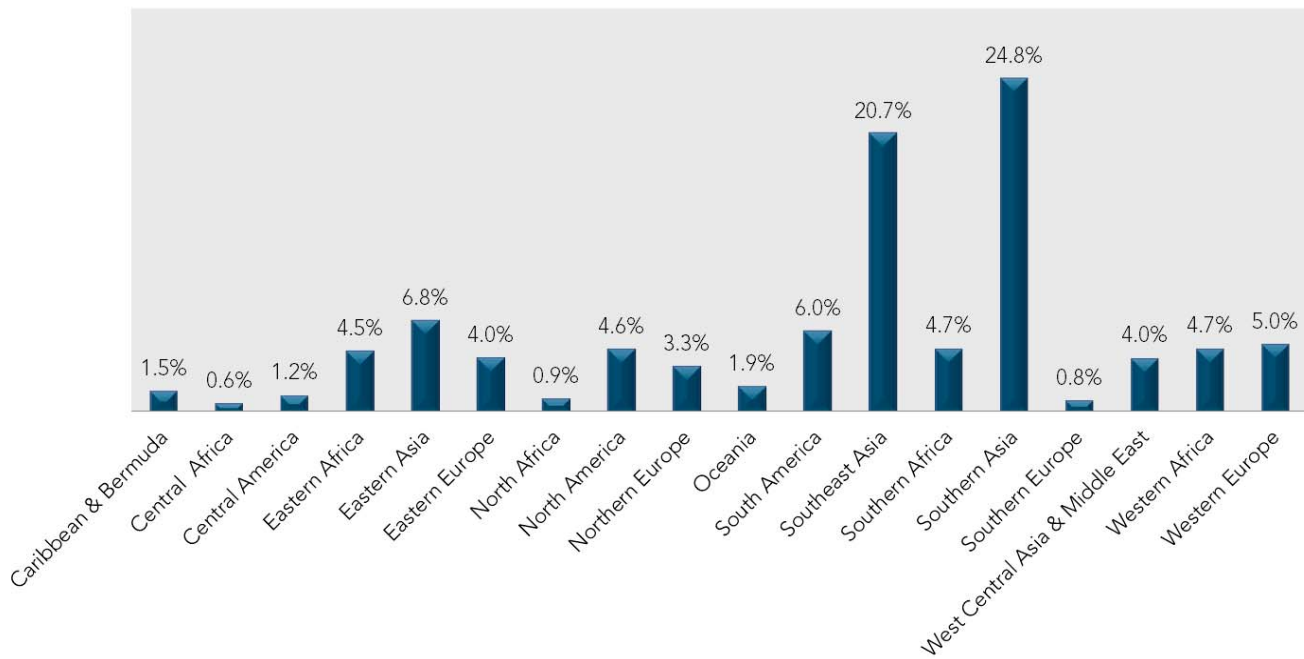
**Figure 21: Percentage of the population by province of origin in the Rural Service Area**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q6. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

Of the residents that responded to the question regarding their country of origin (**Table 20**), 5,253 (14.6%) indicated that they moved to the Municipality from a country other than Canada. Of the residents responding to their region of origin (**Table 22**), two main regions of migration were indicated Southern Asia 1,284 (24.8%) and Southeast Asia 1,074 (20.7%) totaling 2,358 (45.5%). Refer to Appendix A for a map of population distribution in the urban service area by neighbourhood.

**Figure 22: Percentage of the population by region of origin in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q7. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Table 22: Population by region of origin in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

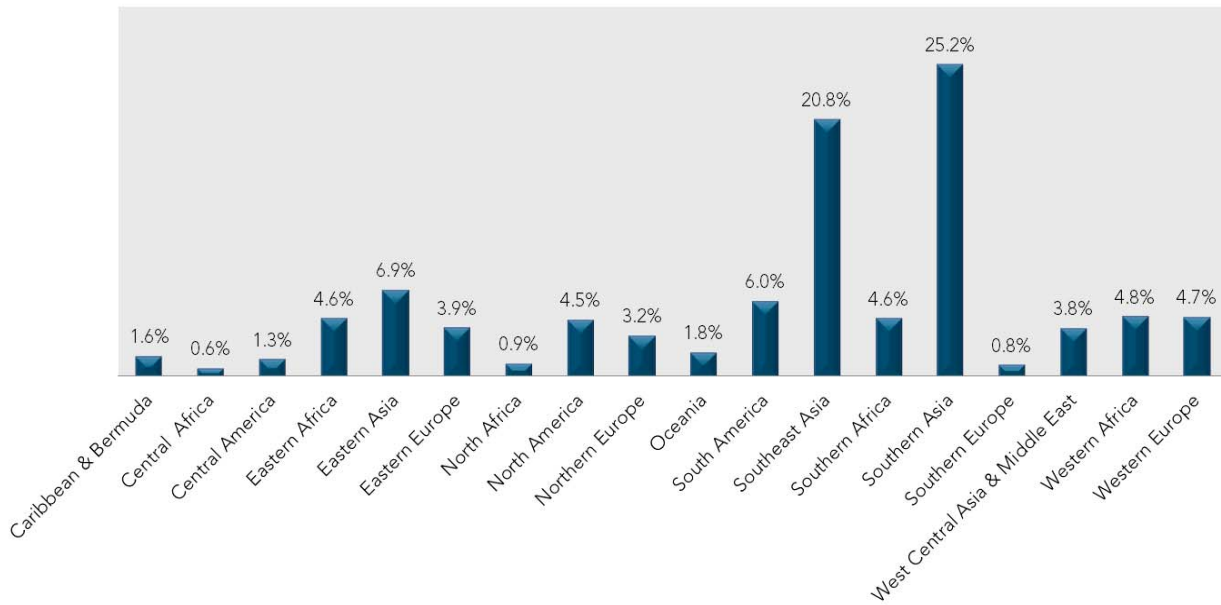
Region	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Caribbean and Bermuda	79	0	79
Central Africa	29	1	30
Central America	65	0	65
Eastern Africa	234	0	234
Eastern Asia	351	1	352
Eastern Europe	196	11	207
North Africa	48	0	48
North America	230	11	241
Northern Europe	167	6	173
Oceania	93	3	96
South America	306	5	311
Southeast Asia	1,057	17	1,074
Southern Africa	234	8	242
Southern Asia	1,284	0	1,284
Southern Europe	42	0	42
West Central Asia & Middle East	193	12	205
Western Africa	242	0	242
Western Europe	239	23	262
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,089</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>5,187</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q7. Reported values may vary as a result of rounding.



Of the residents in the Urban Service Area who indicated that their region of origin was not Canada, two main regions were represented: Southern Asia 1,284 (25.2%) and Southeast Asia 1,057 (20.8%). Two additional regions that should be noted include Eastern Asia (6.9%) and South America (6.0%). **Figure 23** outlines the breakdown by region of origin for the population in the Urban Service Area.

**Figure 23: Percentage of the population by region of origin in the Urban Service Area**

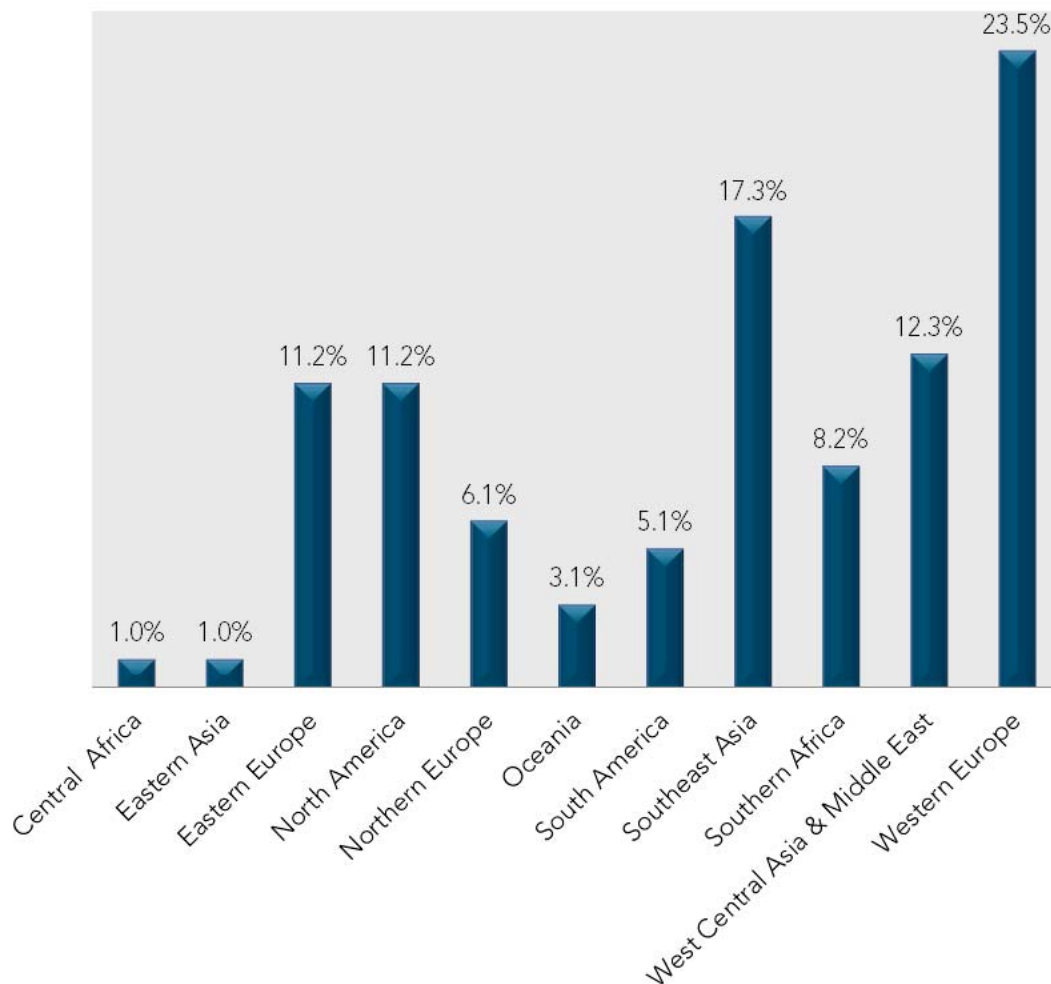


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q7. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Table 22** shows the distribution of the region of origin for 98 residents of the Rural Service Area. Nearly a quarter of these rural residents of non-Canadian origin were from Western Europe (23.5%), while just over one sixth were from Southeast Asia (17.3%), as illustrated in **Table 22**. When **Figure 23** and **Figure 24** are compared, it is evident that the Urban Service Area has a greater diversity of residents with non-Canadian origins.

**Figure 24: Percentage of the population by region of origin in the Rural Service Area**

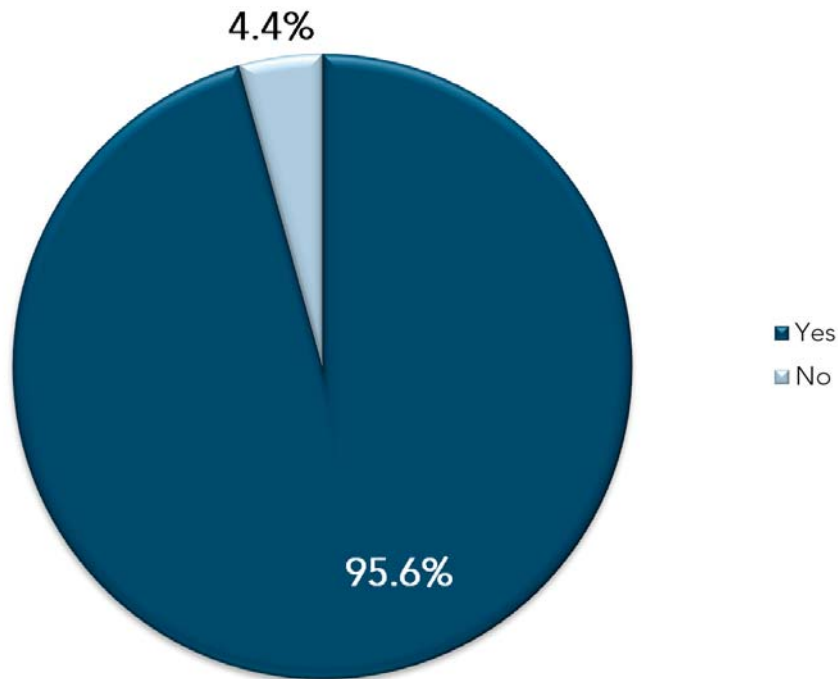


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q7. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

## Primary Place of Residence

A primary place of residence, broadly defined, refers to a residential complex or unit for the purposes of principal mailing address, income taxes, voting, municipal/school taxes, telephone listing, and the location of an individual's personal effects. **Chart 5** shows the percentage of the population surveyed that identify the Municipality as their primary place of residence (95.6%) and the percentage that does not (4.4%).

**Chart 5: Percentage of the population identifying the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as their primary place of residence**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q8. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



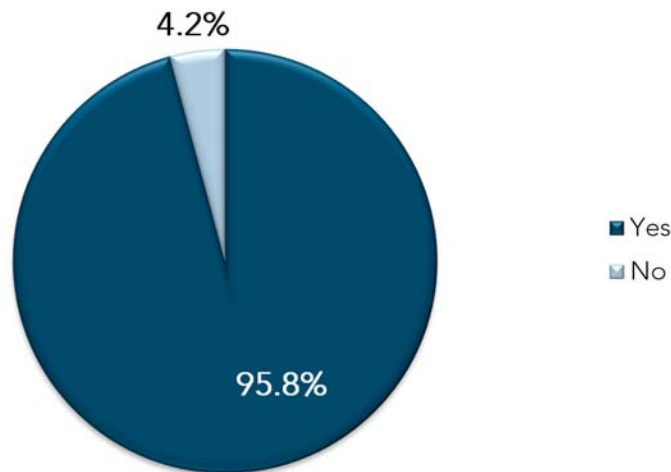
**Table 23** provides a breakdown of residents within the Municipality who responded to the question regarding their primary place of residence (36,238). **Charts 6** and **7** illustrate the percentage of the population whose primary place of residence is within the Urban Service Area or Rural Service Area, 95.8% and 93.7%, respectively. The percentage of residents who view the Municipality as their primary place of residence varies by less than 3% between Urban and Rural Service Areas.

**Table 23: Percentage of the population identifying the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as their primary place of residence**

	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Yes	31,885	2,776	34,661
No	1,389	188	1,577
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,274</b>	<b>2,964</b>	<b>36,238</b>

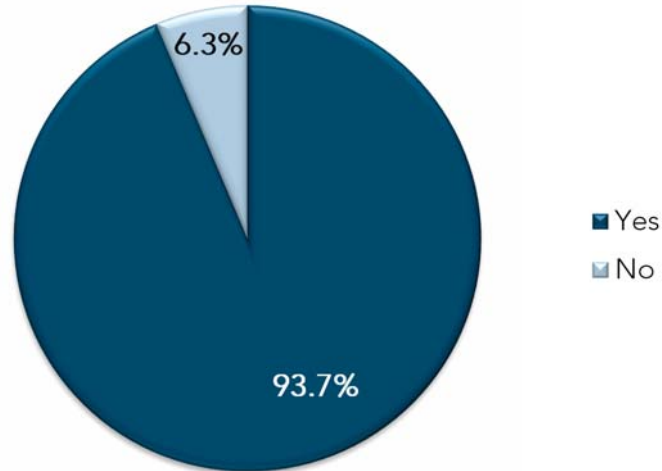
**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q8.

**Chart 6: Percentage of the population in the Urban Service Area identifying the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as their primary place of residence**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q8. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

Chart 7: Percentage of the population in the Rural Service Area identifying the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as their primary place of residence



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q8. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



## Main Language Spoken

As shown in **Table 24**, 90.0% of respondents (12,305) identified English (11,079) as the primary language spoken in the household. Other top primary spoken languages were French (1.3%), Hindi (1.0%), Chinese (1.0%), and Spanish (0.9%). Considering the high percentage of the Native Aboriginal population counted in the Municipality, it should be noted that the question regarding main language spoken did not include some languages, such as Michif and Dené among others (Punjabi), following the approach taken by Statistics Canada in the Federal Census. This may have contributed to a relatively high amount of responses in the “Other” category (4.5%).

**Table 24: Households by primary language spoken for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

Language Spoken	Count	Percentage
Arabic	70	0.6%
Bengali	35	0.3%
Chinese	118	1.0%
Cree	18	0.1%
English	11,079	90.0%
French	161	1.3%
German	7	0.1%
Hindi	129	1.0%
Japanese	2	0.0%
Other	553	4.5%
Portuguese	9	0.1%
Russian	8	0.1%
Spanish	116	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,305</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q25. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

As shown in **Table 25**, residents of the Rural Service Area (97.5%) reported English as the primary language spoken in their household compared to the Urban Service Area (89.4%). After English, Cree is recorded at 1.1% in the Rural Service Area, and French is identified at 1.4% in the Urban Service Area.

**Table 25: Households by primary language spoken for Urban and Rural Service Areas**

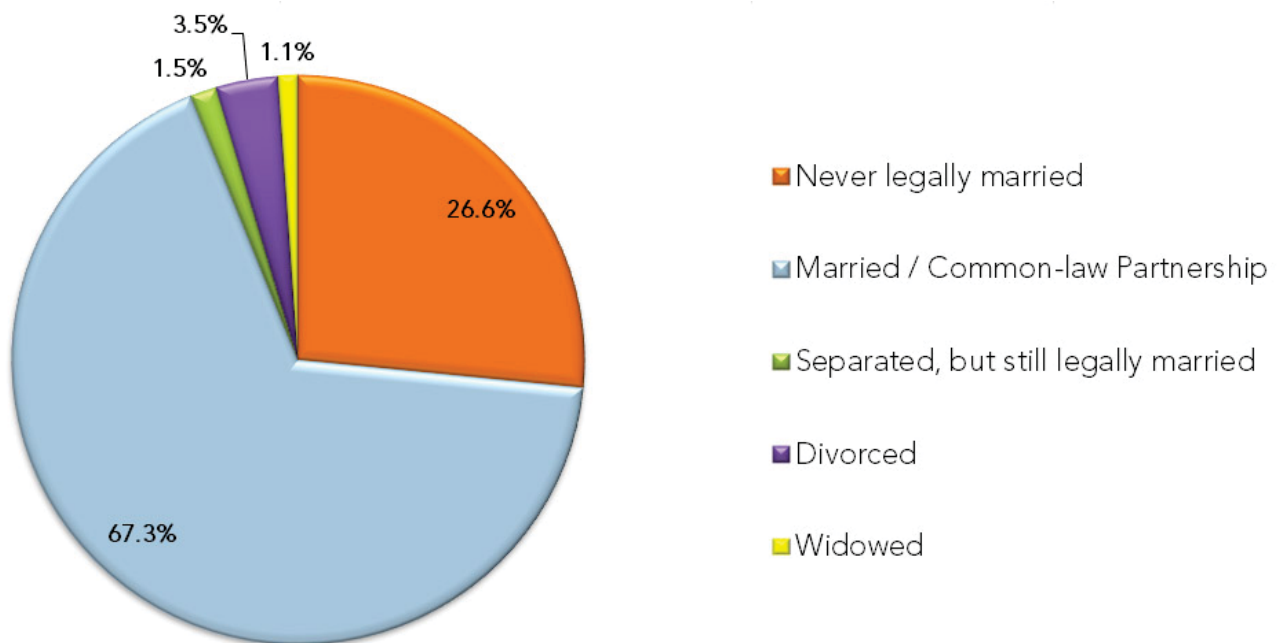
Language Spoken	Urban Service Area		Rural Service Area	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Arabic	70	0.6%	-	0.0%
Bengali	35	0.3%	-	0.0%
Chinese	118	1.0%	-	0.0%
Cree	8	0.1%	10	1.1%
English	10,143	89.4%	936	97.5%
French	158	1.4%	3	0.3%
German	6	0.1%	1	0.1%
Hindi	129	1.1%	-	0.0%
Japanese	2	0.0%	-	0.0%
Other	545	4.8%	8	0.8%
Portuguese	9	0.1%	-	0.0%
Russian	7	0.1%	1	0.1%
Spanish	115	1.0%	1	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,345</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q25. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

## Marital Status

Residents over the age of 15 were asked about their marital status (**Chart 8**). More than half the respondents indicated they were married or in common-law partnerships (67.3%). The second largest group consists of those who have never been legally married (26.6%). Respondents who are divorced, separated but legally married, and widowed made up a very small percentage of the total (3.5%, 1.5%, and 1.1%, respectively).

**Chart 8: Percentage of the population by marital status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q14. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

Residents in the Urban Service Area reported being married or in a common-law partnership at a higher percentage (68.1%) than residents in the Rural Service Area (58.1%) (see **Table 26**). Similarly, residents in the Rural Service Area were more likely than those in the Urban Service Area to report having never been married (single), separated, divorced, and widowed.

**Table 26: Population by marital status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

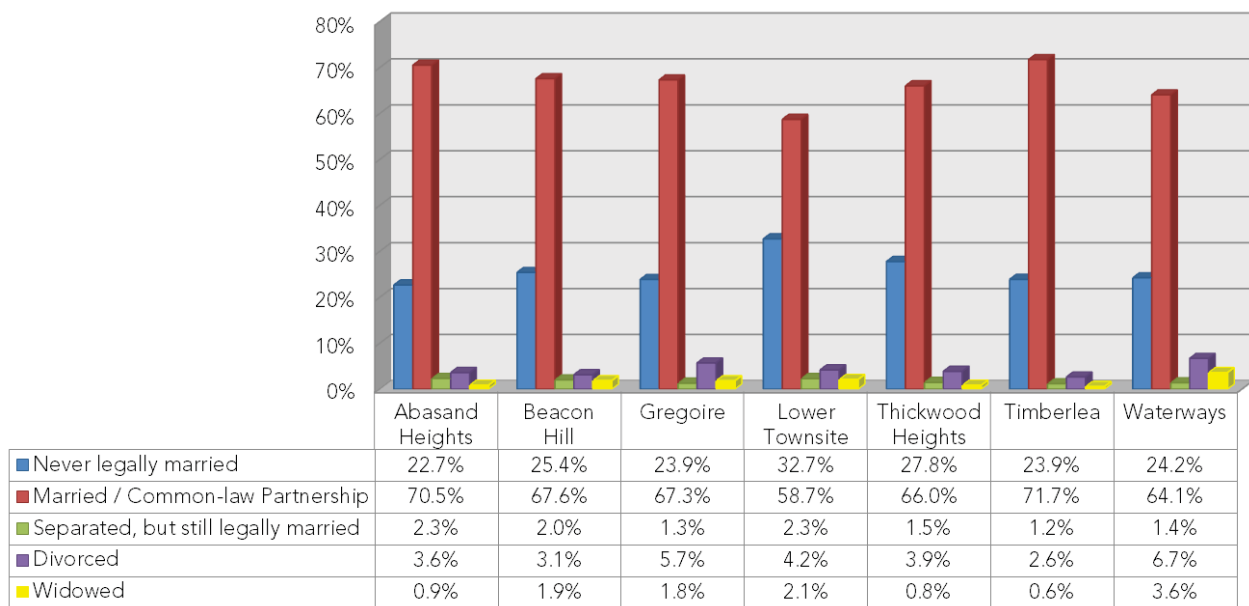
Marital Status	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Never legally married	6,637	715	7,352
	26.0%	33.2%	26.6%
Married/Common-law Partnership	17,386	1,251	18,637
	68.1%	58.1%	67.3%
Separated, but still legally married	379	40	419
	1.5%	1.9%	1.5%
Divorced	876	91	967
	3.4%	4.2%	3.5%
Widowed	247	57	304
	1.0%	2.6%	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,525</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>27,679</b>
	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q14. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Figure 25** shows that residents in the Urban Service Area neighbourhoods of Timberlea (71.7%) and Abasand Heights (70.5%) reported being married or in a common-law partnership at a higher rate than residents in other neighbourhoods. The Lower Townsite has the highest proportion of those never legally married, at 32.7%, and lowest proportion of residents married or in a common-law partnership, at 58.7%. The neighbourhood of Waterways had the highest proportion of those who were divorced (6.7%) or widowed (3.6%).

**Figure 25: Percentage of the population by marital status in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q14. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 27: Population by marital status in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

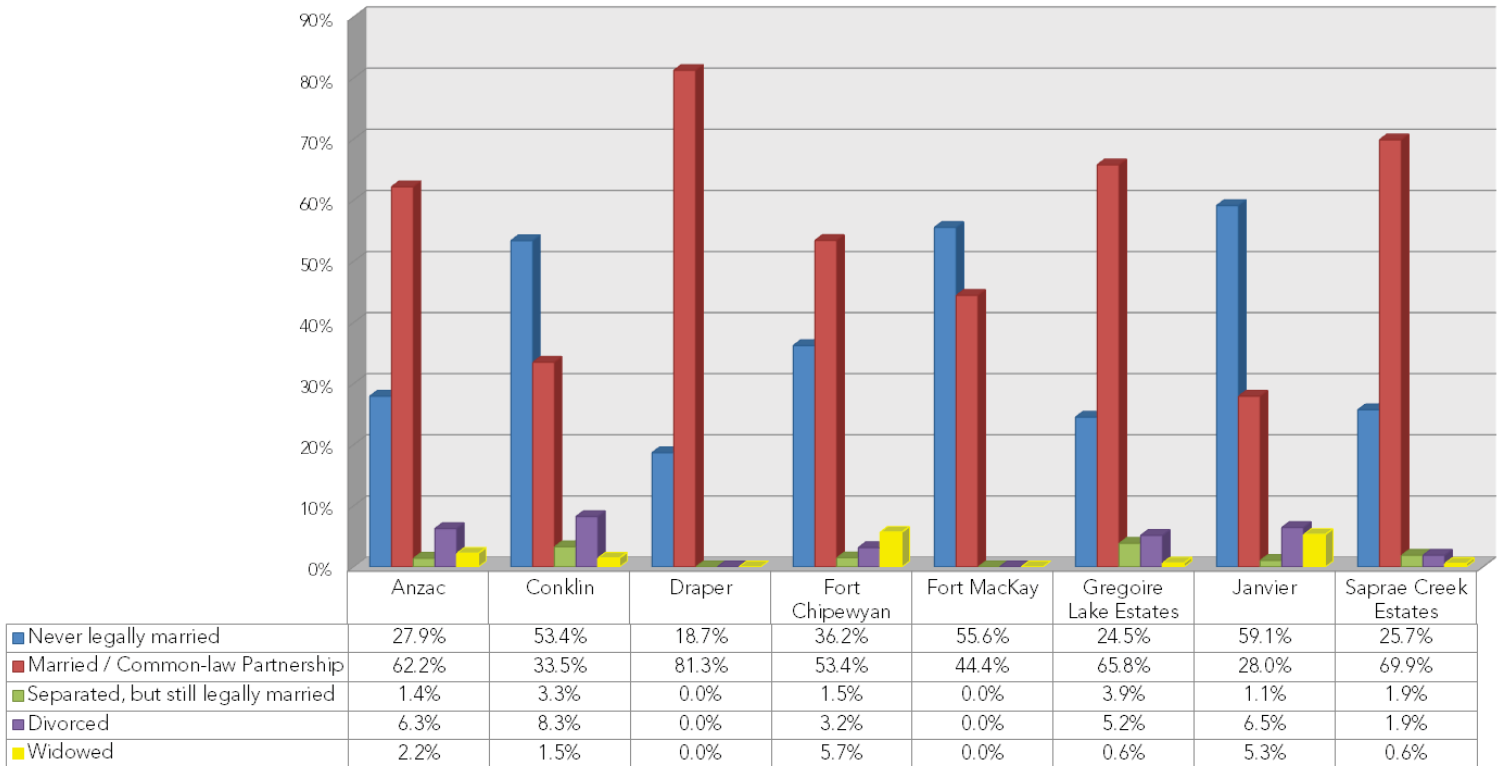
Neighbourhood	Never Legally Married	Married / Common-Law Partnership	Separated, but still Legally Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Abasand Heights	313	973	32	50	12	1,380
Beacon Hill	315	838	25	39	23	1,240
Gregoire	222	626	12	53	17	930
Lower Townsite	807	1,449	57	102	52	2,467
Thickwood Heights	2,268	5,390	120	317	69	8,164
Timberlea	2,625	7,880	128	291	61	10,985
Waterways	87	230	5	24	13	359
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,637</b>	<b>17,386</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>25,525</b>

In the Rural Service Area, the community of Draper has the highest proportion of residents (81.3%) reporting as being married or in a common-law partnership (see **Figure 26** and **27**). Meanwhile, the communities of Janvier (28.0%) and Conklin (33.5%) have the lowest proportion of residents married or in a common-law relationship. Conversely, the communities of Janvier (59.1%) and Conklin (53.4%) also have the highest proportion of residents reporting as having never been married.





**Figure 26: Percentage of the population by marital status in the Rural Service Area by community**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q14. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 28: Population by marital status in the Rural Service Area by community**

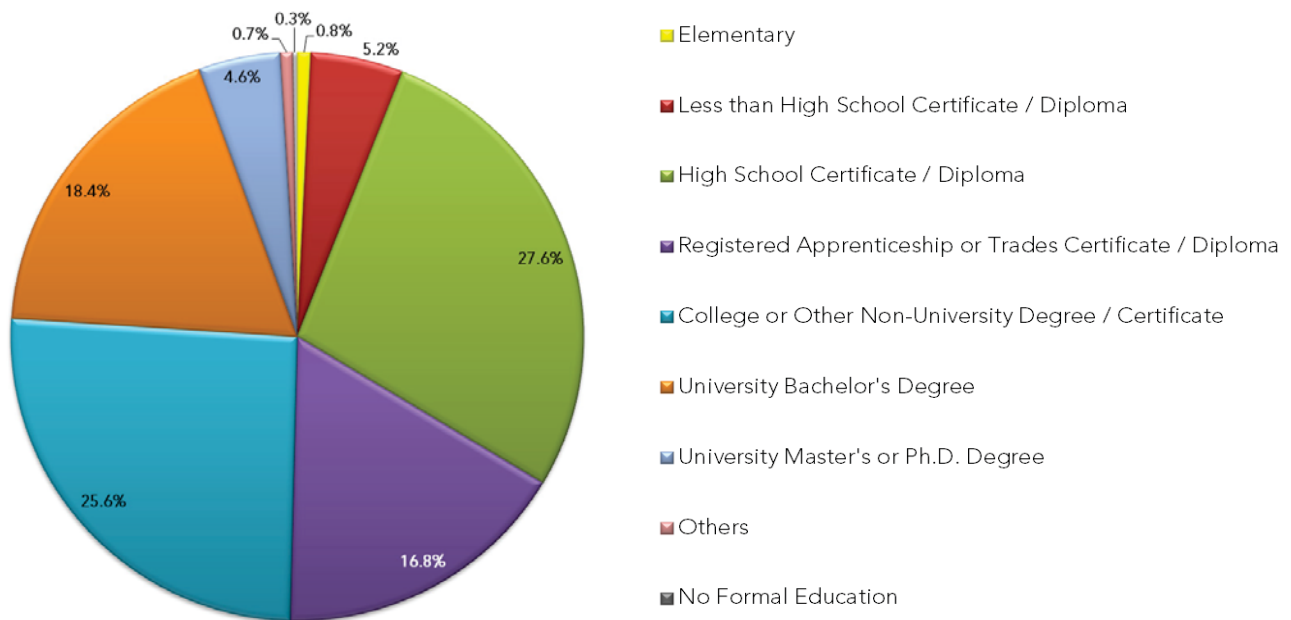
Community	Never Legally Married	Married / Common-Law Partnership	Separated, but still Legally Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Anzac	138	307	7	31	11	494
Conklin	110	69	7	17	3	206
Draper	12	52	0	0	0	64
Fort Chipewyan	217	320	9	19	34	599
Fort MacKay	10	8	0	0	0	18
Gregoire Lake Estates	38	102	6	8	1	155
Janvier	55	26	1	6	5	93
Saprae Creek Estates	135	367	10	10	3	525
<b>Total</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2,154</b>

## Education

In Census 2012, residents over the age of 10 were asked their level of education. However, since many residents under the age of 20 may not have completed their formal high school education yet, using statistics from residents aged 10 to 19 (3,344) could skew the numbers. As well, 328 respondents did not answer the question on age, however they did answer the question on education level. Thus, **Chart 9** and **Table 29** were adjusted to include only the population aged 20 and over who answered both the age and education questions.

In the Municipality, 5.2% of residents (aged 20 and up) reported having completed less than a high school diploma/certificate. Residents in the Rural Service Area were more likely to report having less than a formal high school diploma/certificate (21.1% which includes elementary responses), than residents in the Urban Service Area (4.8%). In the Municipality, 23.0% of residents reported having a university degree (Bachelor's 18.4%, Master's or Ph.D. 4.6%). Urban Service Area residents (23.9%) were more likely to have attained a university degree than Rural Service Area residents (11.1%).

**Chart 9: Percentage of the population by level of education attained in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

**Table 29: Population by level of education attained in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

Education	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Elementary	138	52	190
Less than High School Diploma/Certificate	990	320	1,310
High School Diploma/Certificate	6,399	530	6,929
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate/Diploma	3,943	270	4,213
College or Other Non-University Degree/Certificate	6,116	330	6,446
University Bachelor's Degree	4,457	158	4,615
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	1,122	38	1,160
Others	147	30	177
No Formal Education	28	35	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,340</b>	<b>1,763</b>	<b>25,103</b>

**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.



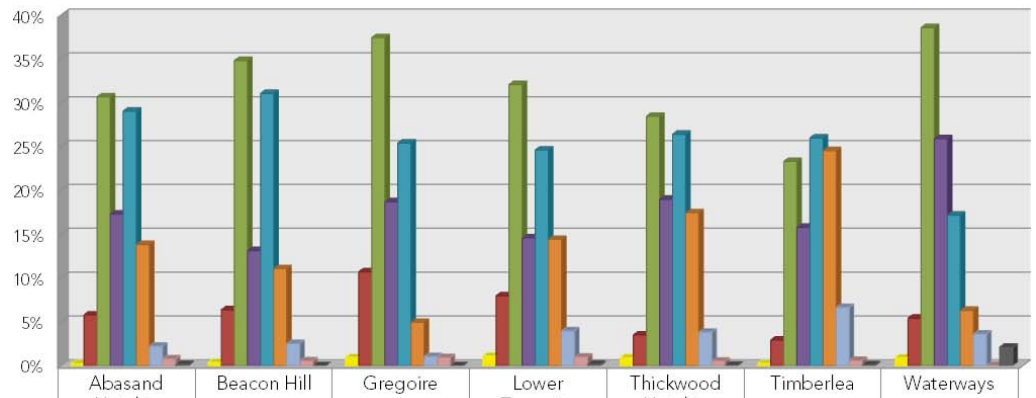
**Table 30: Population by level of education attained in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

Education	Abasand Heights	Beacon Hill	Gregoire	Lower Townsite	Thickwood Heights	Timberlea	Waterways	Total
Elementary	3	4	8	27	68	25	3	138
Less than High School Diploma/ Certificate	75	68	91	184	259	295	18	990
High School Diploma/ Certificate	397	372	318	741	2,104	2,339	128	6,399
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate/ Diploma	224	140	159	337	1,404	1,593	86	3,943
College or Other Non-University Degree/ Certificate	376	331	215	570	1,946	2,621	57	6,116
University Bachelor's Degree	179	118	42	333	1,290	2,474	21	4,457
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	29	27	9	92	283	670	12	1,122
Others	10	6	8	23	39	61	-	147
No Formal Education	2	-	-	4	4	11	7	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>2,311</b>	<b>7,397</b>	<b>10,089</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>23,340</b>

**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

In the Urban Service Area, the respondents from the neighbourhoods of Timberlea and Thickwood Heights were most likely to have attained at least a university degree, at 31.1% and 21.2%, respectively (**Figure 27** and **Table 30**). Residents of Gregoire were least likely to have attained university degrees, at 6.0%. Residents of Gregoire and Lower Townsite were more likely to report having less than a high school diploma/certificate (11.6% and 9.1% respectively) than residents of Timberlea and Thickwood Heights (3.1% and 4.4%). Finally, in terms of registered apprenticeships, trade certificates or diplomas, residents of Waterways were more than twice as likely to have one of these credentials than residents of Beacon Hill (25.9% versus 13.1%).

**Figure 27: Percentage of the population by level of education attained in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

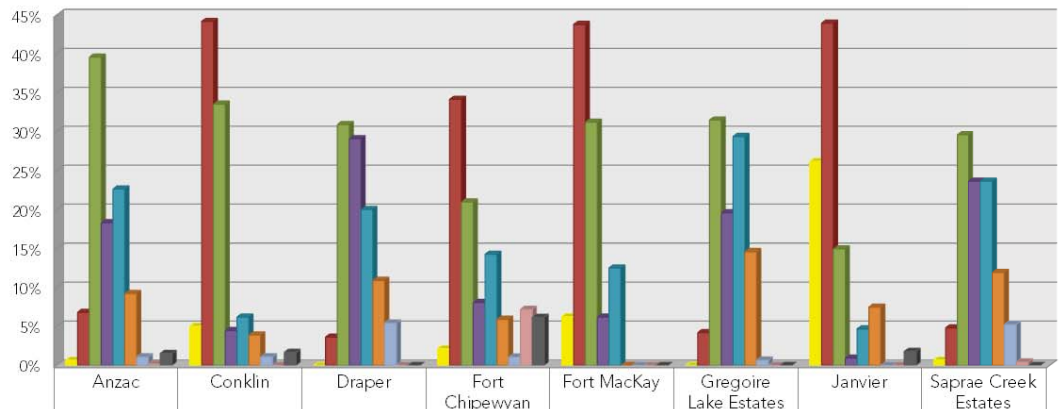


	Abasand Heights	Beacon Hill	Gregoire	Lower Townsite	Thickwood Heights	Timberlea	Waterways
Elementary	0.2%	0.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	0.2%	0.9%
Less than High School Certificate / Diploma	5.8%	6.4%	10.7%	8.0%	3.5%	2.9%	5.4%
High School Certificate / Diploma	30.7%	34.8%	37.4%	32.1%	28.4%	23.3%	38.6%
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate / Diploma	17.3%	13.1%	18.7%	14.6%	19.0%	15.8%	25.9%
College or Other Non-University Degree / Certificate	29.0%	31.1%	25.4%	24.6%	26.4%	26.0%	17.2%
University Bachelor's Degree	13.8%	11.1%	4.9%	14.4%	17.4%	24.5%	6.3%
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	2.2%	2.5%	1.1%	4.0%	3.8%	6.6%	3.6%
Others	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%	1.0%	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%
No Formal Education	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	2.1%

**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

In the Rural Service Area, there were considerable differences between communities in terms of level of educational attainment (**Figure 28** and **Table 31**). While over half of residents in the communities of Janvier, Fort MacKay, and Conklin reported having less than a high school diploma/certificate, only 4.2% of residents in Gregoire Lake Estates reported the same. Respondents from Draper and Gregoire Lake Estates were most likely to have attained university degrees at 16.4% and 15.3%, while residents of Fort MacKay and Conklin were the least likely (at 0.0% and 5.0% respectively). Residents of Draper and Sapræ Creek Estates were most likely to have registered apprenticeships, trade certificates, or diplomas, at 29.1% and 23.6% respectively. Conversely, residents of Janvier, Conklin, and Fort MacKay were least likely to have registered apprenticeships, trade certificates or diplomas, at 0.9%, 4.5%, and 6.2% respectively.

**Figure 28: Percentage of the population by level of education attained in Rural Service Area by community**



	Anzac	Conklin	Draper	Fort Chipewyan	Fort MacKay	Gregoire Lake Estates	Janvier	Sapræ Creek Estates
Elementary	0.7%	5.0%	0.0%	2.2%	6.3%	0.0%	26.2%	0.7%
Less than High School Certificate / Diploma	6.8%	44.1%	3.6%	34.1%	43.8%	4.2%	43.9%	4.8%
High School Certificate / Diploma	39.6%	33.5%	30.9%	21.0%	31.2%	31.5%	15.0%	29.6%
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate / Diploma	18.3%	4.5%	29.1%	8.1%	6.2%	19.6%	0.9%	23.6%
College or Other Non-University Degree / Certificate	22.6%	6.2%	20.0%	14.2%	12.5%	29.4%	4.7%	23.6%
University Bachelor's Degree	9.2%	3.9%	10.9%	5.9%	0.0%	14.6%	7.5%	11.9%
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	1.1%	1.1%	5.5%	1.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	5.3%
Others	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	7.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
No Formal Education	1.5%	1.7%	0.0%	6.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%

**Note:** Based on response percent shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

**Table 31: Population by level of education attained in Rural Service Area by community**

Education	Anzac	Conklin	Draper	Fort Chipewyan	Fort MacKay	Gregoire Lake Estates	Janvier	Saprae Creek Estates	Total
Elementary	3	9	-	8	1	-	28	3	52
Less than High School Diploma/Certificate	31	79	2	127	7	6	47	21	320
High School Diploma/Certificate	180	60	17	78	5	45	16	129	530
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate/Diploma	83	8	16	30	1	28	1	103	270
College or Other Non-University Degree/Certificate	103	11	11	53	2	42	5	103	330
University Bachelor's Degree	42	7	6	22	-	21	8	52	158
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	5	2	3	4	-	1	-	23	38
Others	1	-	-	27	-	-	-	2	30
No Formal Education	7	3	-	23	-	-	2	-	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>1,763</b>

**Note:** Based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q3 and Q13. Reported values may vary as a result of rounding. Only responses from residents that answered both the age question (Q3) and the educational attainment question (Q13) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.

## Employment Status

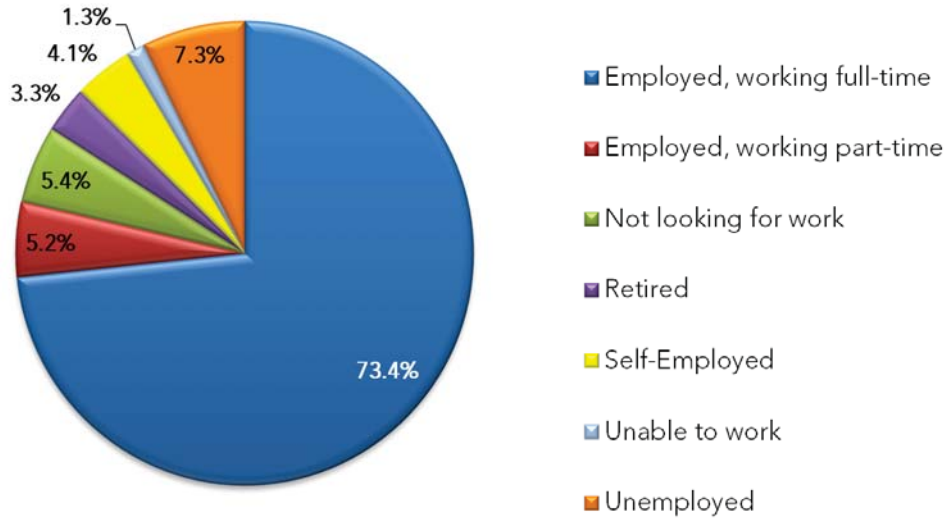
Census 2012 captured information from residents of the Municipality regarding their status of employment. The questions include the residents' employment status, the type of business or service industry in which they work, and the primary location of their work. The information provided in this section is based on the percentage of valid responses to the respective questions as indicated in **Table 4**. For the purposes of data analysis, a respondent is a full-time employee if they work 30 hours per week or more and a part-time employee if they work less than 30 hours per week. A homemaker not having a clear choice when answering the employment status question may impact the unemployed and/or not looking for work category(s), as it happens with women who are on maternity leave. The information in this section reports on residents of the Municipality that may legally work without parental consent as defined by the Government of Alberta (ages 15 and older).

**Chart 10** shows the distribution of respondents in the Municipality by employment status. The percentage of respondents who are employed in the Municipality, including full-time, part-time, and self-employed, is 82.7% (22,952 respondents). Non-working respondents make up the unemployed, retired, unable to work, and not looking for work categories. The total percentage of non-working respondents is 17.3% (4,814). An analysis of **Table 32** indicates that the Urban Service Area has a higher percentage (83.4%) of residents employed than the Rural Service Area (73.3%). The percentages of respondents who are working full-time, part-time, and self-employed in the Urban Service Area are 74.3%, 5.2%, and 3.9%, respectively. The percentages of respondents who are working full-time, part-time, and self-employed in the Rural Service Area are 61.1%, 5.1%, and 7.1%, respectively. The largest difference between the Urban and Rural Service Areas is the percentage of residents with full-time employment. The percentages of the employed in the Urban and Rural Service Areas are obtained by dividing the number of respondents working (categorically and total) by the total number of respondents specific to the area.





**Chart 10: Percentage of the population by employment status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

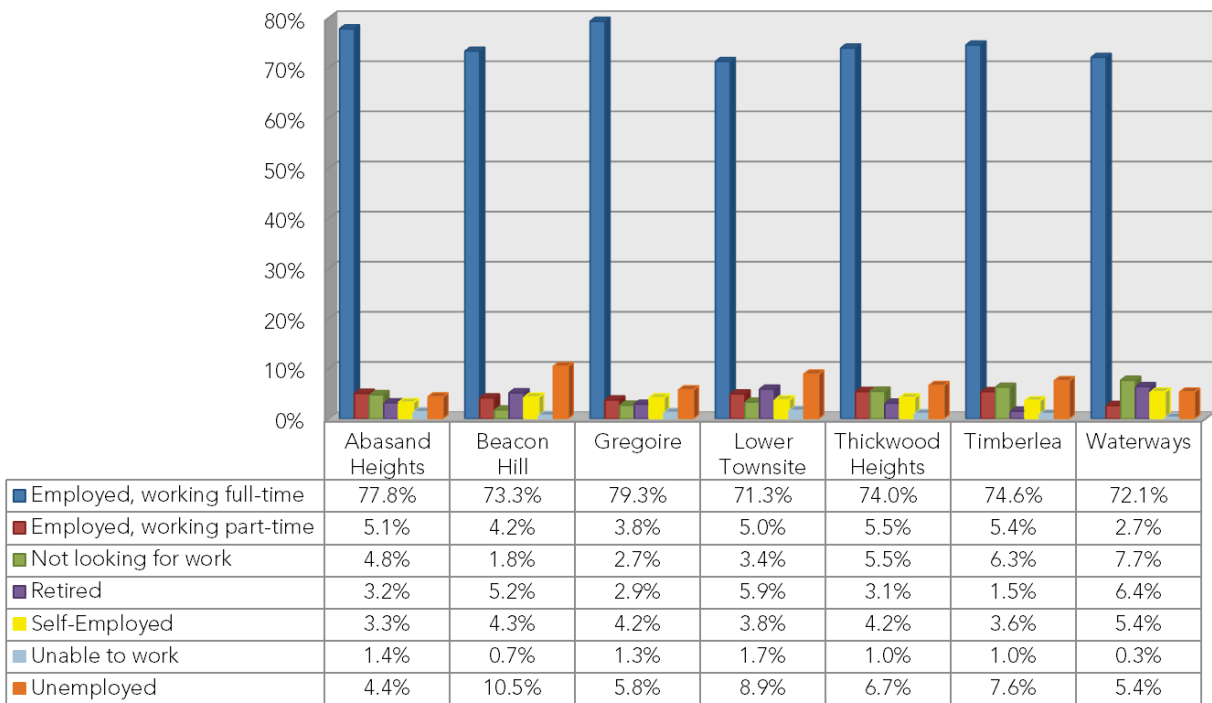
**Table 32: Population by employment status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

Employment Status	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Employed, working full-time	19,086	1,272	20,358
Employed, working part-time	1,340	107	1,447
Not looking for work	1,363	141	1,504
Retired	740	160	900
Self-Employed	1,000	147	1,147
Unable to work	277	69	346
Unemployed	1,878	186	2,064
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,684</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>27,766</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15.

**Figure 29** and **Table 33** represent the distribution of employment by neighbourhood in the Urban Service Area. The highest percentage (79.3%) of respondents (755) employed full-time in the Urban Service Area reside in Gregoire. Gregoire also represents the highest full-time employment rate in the Municipality. The lowest percentage (71.3%) of respondents (1,826) employed full-time reside in the Lower Townsite. No neighbourhood in the Urban Service Area has a full-time employment percentage less than 70%. The neighbourhood with the highest unemployment percentage (10.5%) is Beacon Hill. The neighbourhood with the highest percentage of self-employed respondents is Waterways (5.4%).

**Figure 29: Percentage of the population by employment status in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15 and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 33: Population by employment status in the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

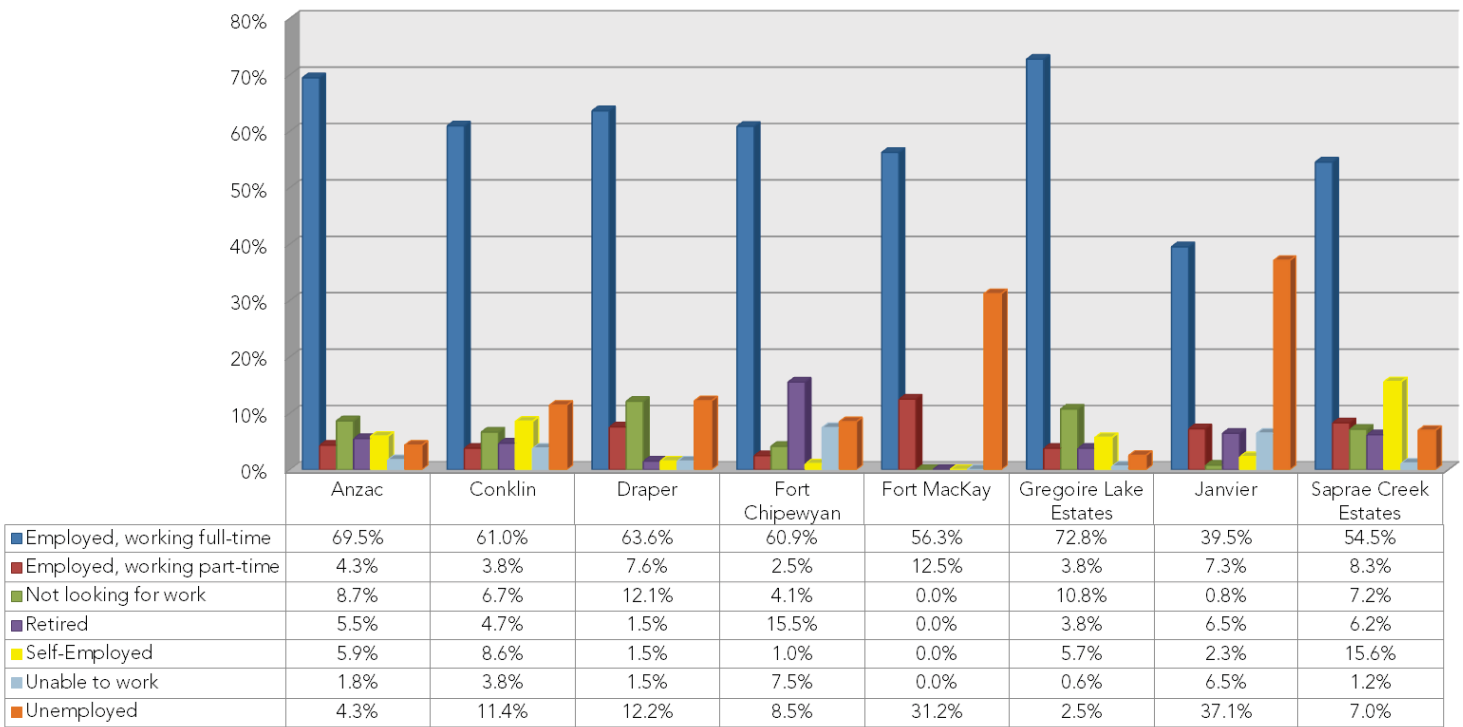
Neighbourhood	Employed, working full-time	Employed, working part-time	Not looking for work	Retired	Self-Employed	Unable to work	Unemployed	Total
Abasand Heights	1,097	72	68	45	46	20	62	1,410
Beacon Hill	946	54	23	67	56	9	135	1,290
Gregoire	755	36	26	28	40	12	55	952
Lower Townsite	1,826	128	86	152	97	43	229	2,561
Thickwood Heights	6,027	445	449	256	344	85	543	8,149
Timberlea	8,166	595	682	168	397	107	834	10,949
Waterways	269	10	29	24	20	1	20	373
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,086</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>1,878</b>	<b>25,684</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15 and Table 5, Q22.



**Figure 30** and **Table 34** represent the distribution of employment by community in the Rural Service Area. The community with the highest full-time percentage of respondents is Gregoire Lake Estates (72.8%). Gregoire Lake Estates is the only community in the Rural Service Area with a full-time employment percentage similar to that in the Urban Service Area. All other communities in the Rural Service Area have a full-time employment percentage below 70%. The community with the highest percentage of self-employed respondents is Sapræe Creek Estates (15.6%).

**Figure 30: Percentage of the population by employment status in the Rural Service Area by community**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15 and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 34: Population by employment status in the Rural Service Area by community**

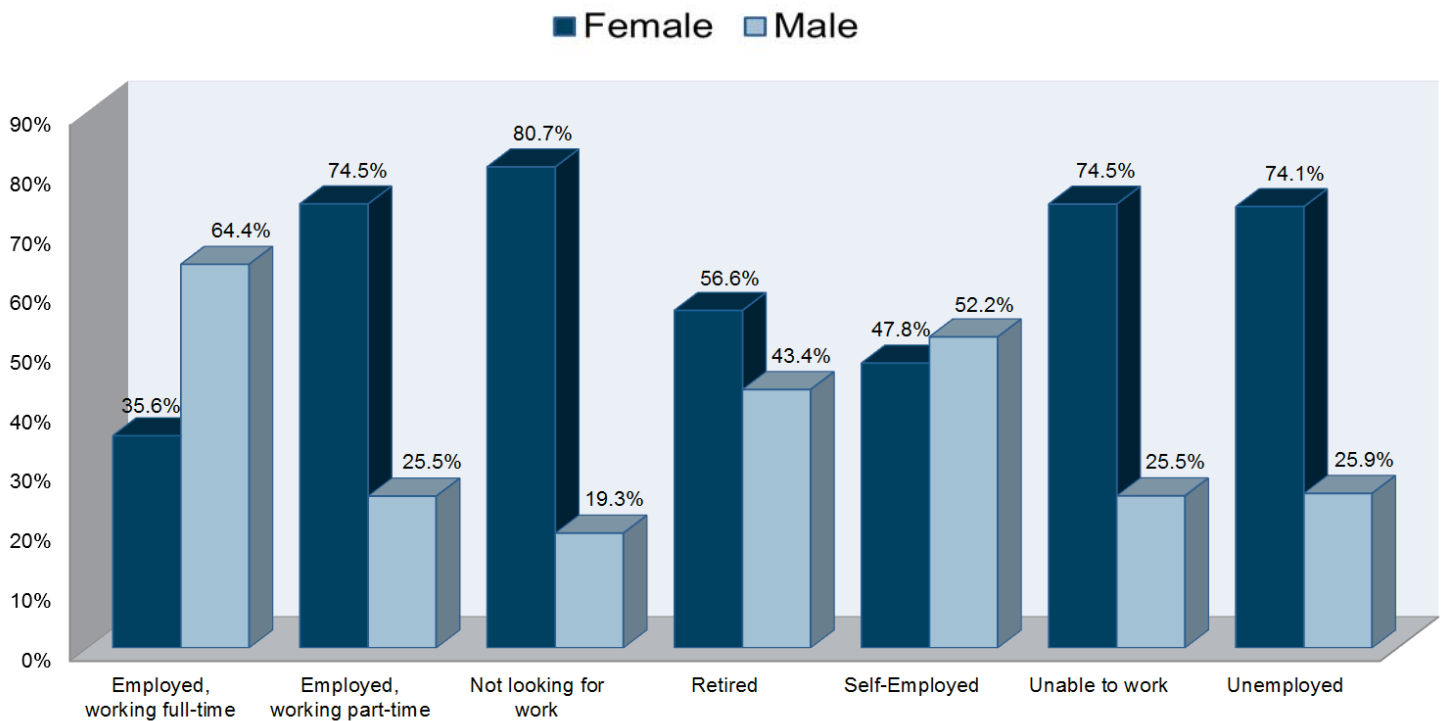
Community	Employed, working full-time	Employed, working part-time	Not looking for work	Retired	Self-Employed	Unable to work	Unemployed	Total
Anzac	353	22	44	28	30	9	22	508
Conklin	128	8	14	10	18	8	24	210
Draper	42	5	8	1	1	1	8	66
Fort Chipewyan	294	12	20	75	5	36	41	483
Fort MacKay	9	2	-	-	-	-	5	16
Gregoire Lake Estates	115	6	17	6	9	1	4	158
Janvier	49	9	1	8	3	8	46	124
Saprae Creek Estates	282	43	37	32	81	6	36	517
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>2,082</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15 and Table 5, Q22.



**Figure 31** compares the percentage of males and females indicating a specific employment status. The response totals can be found in **Table 35**. For every female employed full-time (7,184) there are approximately 1.8 males employed full-time (12,987). The percentage of females considered employed outnumber males only in part-time employment at an approximate rate of 2.9 females to 1 male. There is also a consistently higher percentage of females indicating non-employment (unemployed, retired, unable to work, or not looking for work) than males.

**Figure 31: Percentage of the gender distribution by employment in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q2 and Q15. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 35: Population by gender and employment status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

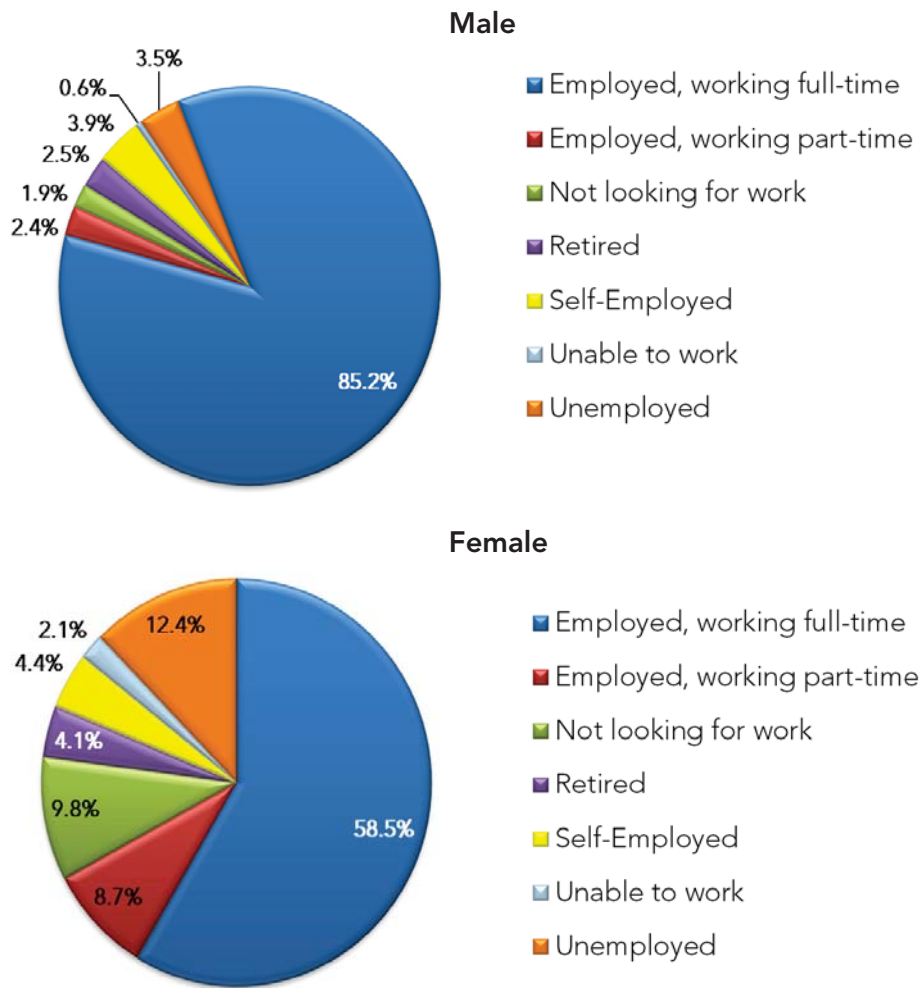
Employment Status	Male	Female	Total
Employed, working full-time	12,987	7,184	20,171
Employed, working part-time	365	1,068	1,433
Not looking for work	288	1,207	1,495
Retired	385	503	888
Self-Employed	592	542	1,134
Unable to work	86	251	337
Unemployed	532	1,519	2,051
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,235</b>	<b>12,274</b>	<b>27,509</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q2 and Q15. Only responses from residents that answered both the gender question (Q2) and the employment status question (Q15) are included in this section, as the responses are cross-tabulated.



**Chart 11** compares the employment status distribution by gender. Regardless of gender, more than half of respondents are employed full-time. However, male respondents show a higher percentage (85.2%) of full-time employment than females (58.5%). There is also a larger percentage of females (11.8%) not looking for work and unable to work compared to males (2.5%). The unemployment percentage of females (12.4%) is higher than it is for males (3.5%), but that does not consider a respondent's willingness to look for work or accept work if it is offered. The observable percentages of females or males who are non-workers does not consider those who are homemakers.

**Chart 11: Percentage of employment status distribution by gender in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

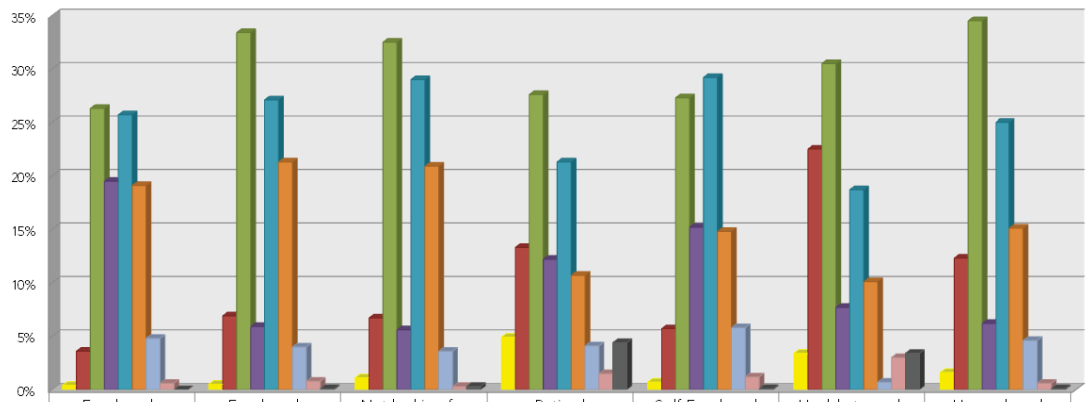


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q2 and Q15. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Figure 32** illustrates the percentage distribution of the education level of respondents aged 20 years and older by employment status. Employment status categories show the largest percentage of respondents working, whether full or part-time, have a high school certificate/diploma. However, the highest percentage of respondents who are unemployed, retired, unable to work, or not looking for work also have a high school certificate/diploma. The highest percentage of self-employed respondents have a college or other non-university degree/certificate.

**Figure 32: Percentage distribution of education level by employment status in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

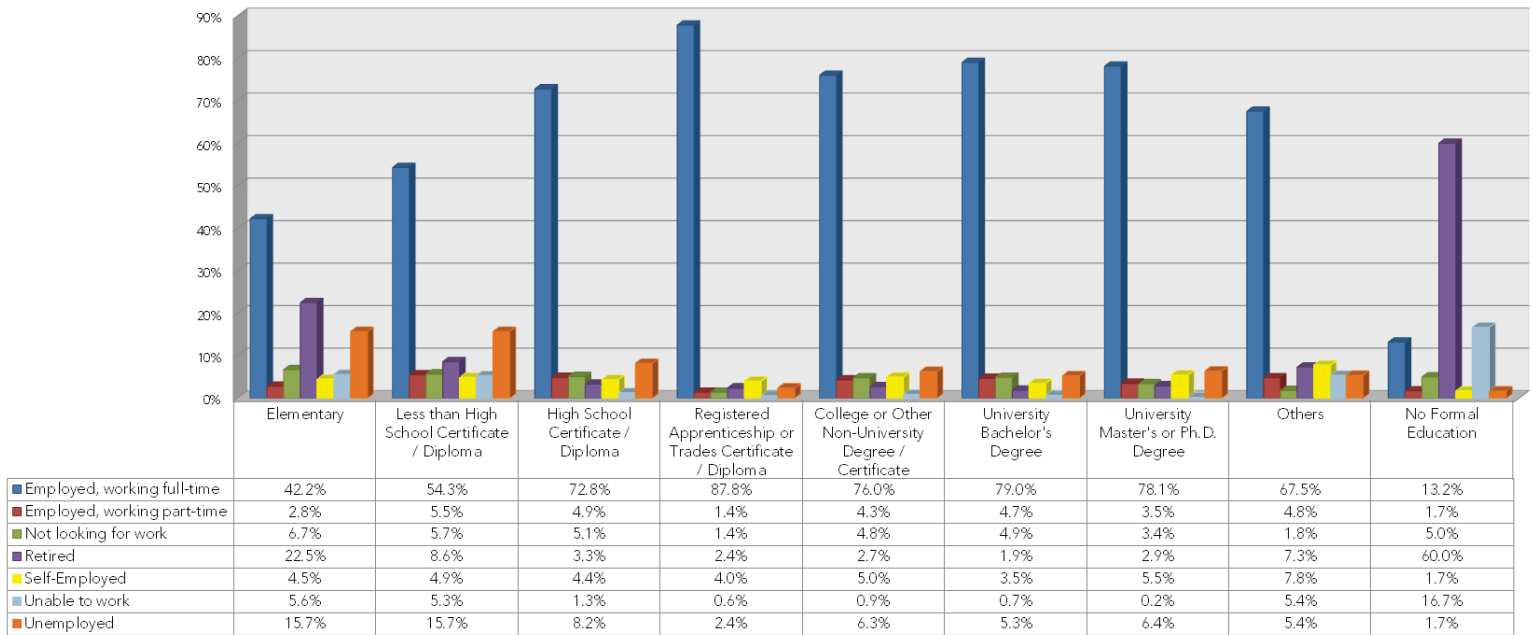


	Employed, working full-time	Employed, working part-time	Not looking for work	Retired	Self-Employed	Unable to work	Unemployed
Elementary	0.4%	0.5%	1.1%	4.9%	0.7%	3.4%	1.6%
Less than High School Certificate / Diploma	3.6%	6.9%	6.7%	13.3%	5.7%	22.5%	12.3%
High School Certificate / Diploma	26.3%	33.4%	32.5%	27.6%	27.3%	30.5%	34.5%
Registered Apprenticeship or Trades Certificate / Diploma	19.5%	5.9%	5.6%	12.2%	15.2%	7.7%	6.2%
College or Other Non-University Degree / Certificate	25.7%	27.1%	29.0%	21.3%	29.2%	18.7%	25.0%
University Bachelor's Degree	19.1%	21.3%	20.9%	10.7%	14.8%	10.1%	15.1%
University Master's or Ph.D. Degree	4.8%	4.0%	3.6%	4.1%	5.8%	0.7%	4.6%
Others	0.6%	0.8%	0.3%	1.5%	1.2%	3.0%	0.6%
No Formal Education	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	4.4%	0.1%	3.4%	0.1%

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q13 and Q15. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Figure 33** illustrates the distribution of employment status by education level of respondents aged 20 years and older. More than half of respondents with an education level of less than a high school certificate/diploma or higher are employed full-time. Of residents with no formal education, retired respondents account for the highest percentage at 60.0%.

**Figure 33: Percentage distribution of employment status by education level in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



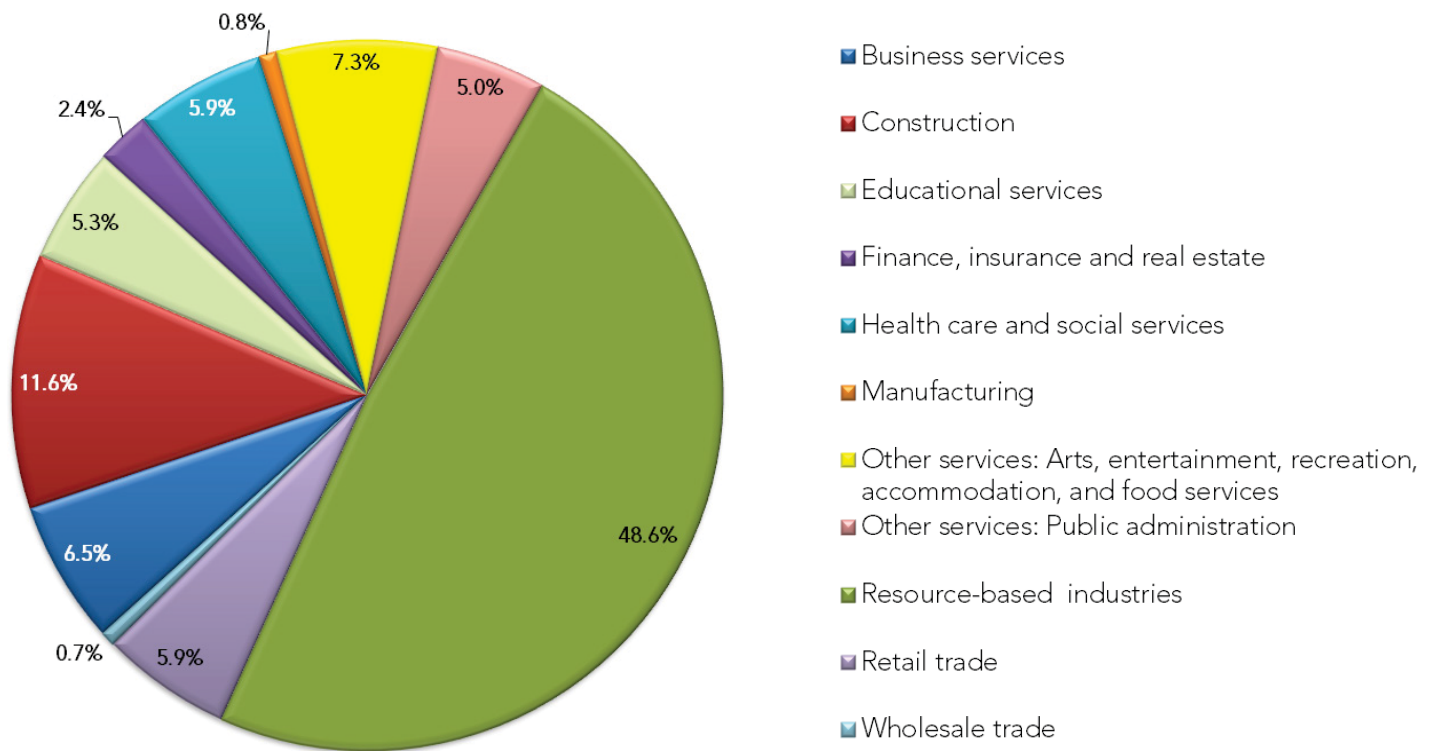
**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q13 and Q15. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



## Industry

Residents in the Municipality, excluding project accommodations, who responded to the long-form census regarding employment status and industry type are represented in **Chart 12**. Approximately half the respondents, 48.6%, are employed by resource sector industries. The next largest percentage (11.6%) of respondents reported being employed by the construction industry.

**Chart 12: Percentage of the population employed by industry type for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15 and Q16. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

Responses by residents 15 years of age and older are represented in **Table 36**. In both the Urban and Rural Service Areas, resource-based industries represent the largest percentage of the employed respondents at 49.2% and 40.6%, respectively. The industry with the smallest percentage employed in the Urban (0.7%) and Rural (0.1%) Service Areas is wholesale trade. As previously mentioned, percentages are obtained by dividing the number of respondents working in an industry type by the total number of respondents specific to the Urban and Rural Service Areas, excluding project accommodations.

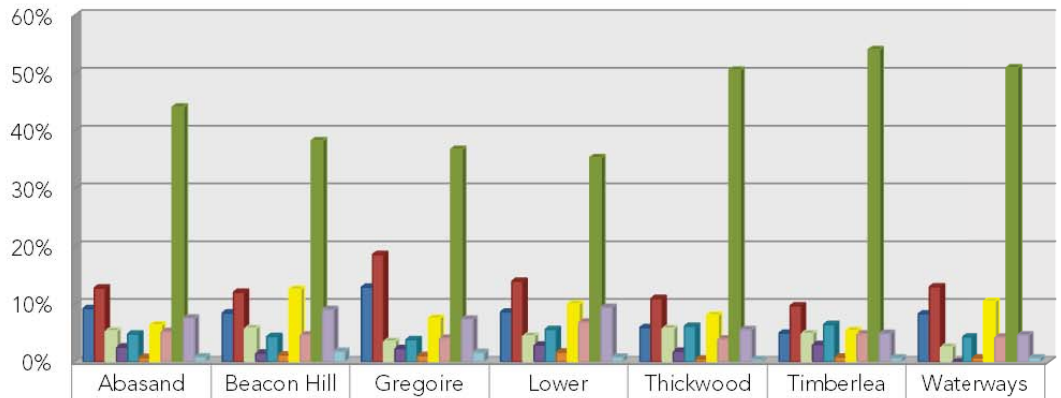
**Table 36: Population employed by industry type for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
Business services	91.3%	8.7%	100.0%
	1,297	123	1,420
Construction	90.0%	10.0%	100.0%
	2,270	253	2,523
Educational services	90.7%	9.3%	100.0%
	1,049	108	1,157
Finance, insurance, and real estate	94.2%	5.8%	100.0%
	502	31	533
Health care and social services	94.7%	5.3%	100.0%
	1,218	68	1,286
Manufacturing	95.0%	5.0%	100.0%
	172	9	181
Other services: Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	94.7%	5.3%	100.0%
	1,477	82	1,559
Other services: Public administration	89.3%	10.7%	100.0%
	967	116	1,083
Resource-based industries	94.5%	5.5%	100.0%
	9,997	586	10,583
Retail trade	95.0%	5.0%	100.0%
	1,222	64	1,286
Wholesale trade	98.7%	1.3%	100.0%
	148	2	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
	<b>20,319</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>21,761</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q16, and Table 5, Q22.

**Figures 34** and **35** and **Tables 37** and **38** provide percentages and population employed by industry type for the Municipality. As previously mentioned, figures and tables only consider responses by residents 15 years of age and older. A percentage greater than 35% represents all neighbourhoods in the Urban Service Area with residents employed by resource-based industries. The only community in the Rural Service Area with residents who are not predominately employed by resource-based industries is Janvier. Janvier’s top two industry employers by percentage are construction (45.2%) and educational services (33.3%). Communities in the Rural Service Area with residents predominately employed by resource-based industries are Conklin, Draper, and Fort MacKay.

**Figure 34: Percentage of the population employed by industry type for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**



	Abasand Heights	Beacon Hill	Gregoire	Lower Townsite	Thickwood Heights	Timberlea	Waterways
Business services	9.3%	8.5%	12.9%	8.7%	6.0%	5.0%	8.3%
Construction	12.8%	12.1%	18.6%	14.0%	11.0%	9.7%	13.0%
Educational services	5.4%	5.8%	3.6%	4.5%	5.8%	4.9%	2.6%
Finance, insurance and real estate	2.6%	1.5%	2.3%	2.9%	1.9%	3.0%	0.0%
Health care and social services	4.8%	4.4%	3.9%	5.6%	6.2%	6.5%	4.3%
Manufacturing	0.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.7%
Other services: Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	6.4%	12.6%	7.6%	10.0%	8.1%	5.4%	10.5%
Other services: Public administration	5.3%	4.7%	4.1%	6.9%	4.0%	4.9%	4.3%
Resource-based industries	44.1%	38.3%	36.8%	35.4%	50.5%	54.0%	50.9%
Retail trade	7.6%	9.1%	7.4%	9.5%	5.6%	5.0%	4.7%
Wholesale trade	0.9%	1.8%	1.7%	0.8%	0.4%	0.7%	0.7%

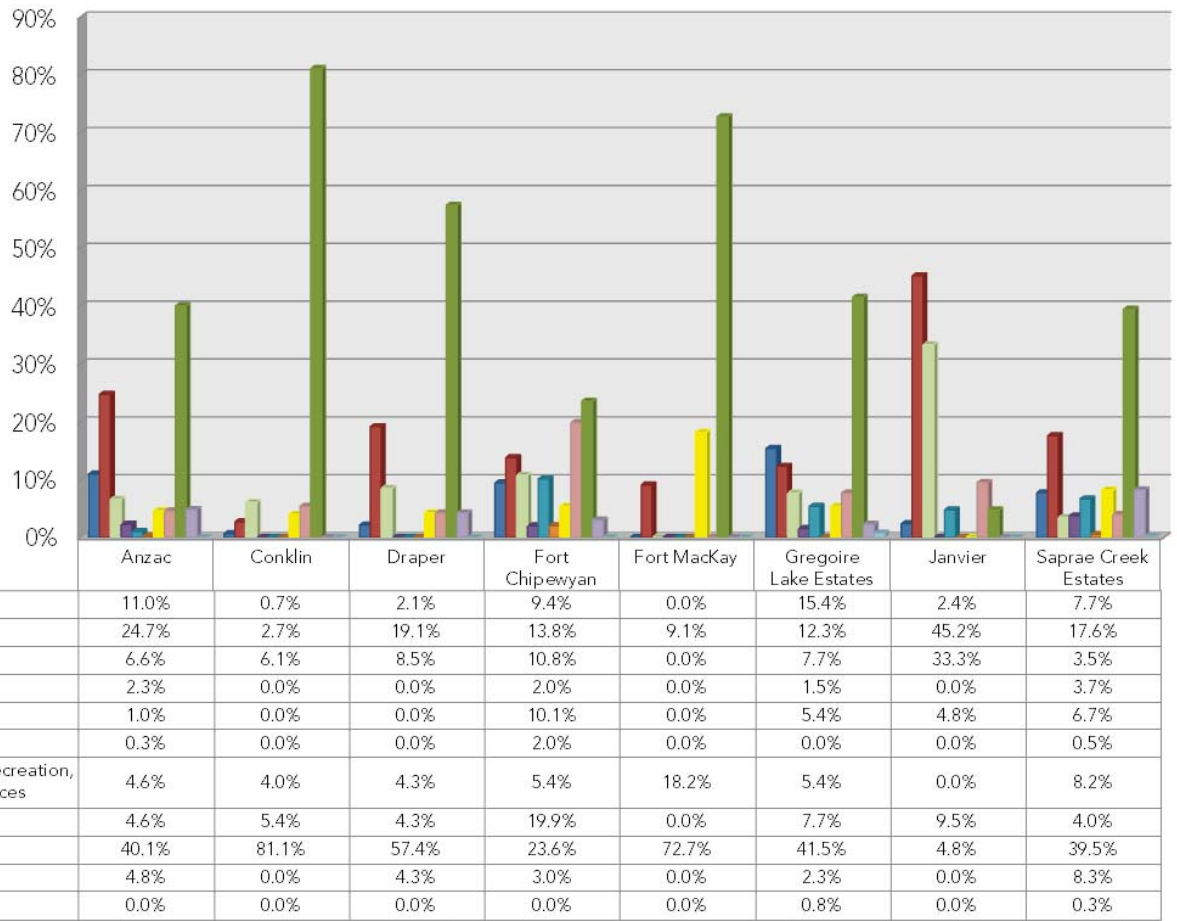
**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q16, and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 37: Population employed by industry type for the Urban Service Area by neighbourhood**

	Abasand Heights	Beacon Hill	Gregoire	Lower Townsite	Thickwood Heights	Timberlea	Waterways	Total
Business services	107	83	94	163	392	435	23	1,297
Construction	148	118	135	263	722	848	36	2,270
Educational services	62	57	26	85	382	430	7	1,049
Finance, insurance, and real estate	30	15	17	55	122	263	-	502
Health care and social services	56	43	28	106	407	566	12	1,218
Manufacturing	9	12	8	32	34	75	2	172
Other services: Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	74	123	55	189	534	473	29	1,477
Other services: Public administration	62	46	30	130	261	426	12	967
Resource-based industries	510	375	267	666	3,325	4,713	141	9,997
Retail trade	88	89	54	178	368	432	13	1,222
Wholesale trade	10	18	12	16	29	61	2	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>1,883</b>	<b>6,576</b>	<b>8,722</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>20,319</b>

**Note:** Result based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q16, and Table 5, Q22.

**Figure 35: Percentage of the population employed by industry type for the Rural Service Area by community**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q16, and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.



**Table 38: Population employed by industry type for the Rural Service Area by community**

	Anzac	Conklin	Draper	Fort Chipewyan	Fort MacKay	Gregoire Lake Estates	Janvier	Saprae Creek Estates	Total
Business services	43	1	1	28	-	20	1	29	123
Construction	97	4	9	41	1	16	19	66	253
Educational services	26	9	4	32	-	10	14	13	108
Finance, insurance, and real estate	9	-	-	6	-	2	-	14	31
Health care and social services	4	-	-	30	-	7	2	25	68
Manufacturing	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	2	9
Other services: Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation & food services	18	6	2	16	2	7	-	31	82
Other services: Public administration	18	8	2	59	-	10	4	15	116
Resource-based industries	157	120	27	70	8	54	2	148	586
Retail trade	19	-	2	9	-	3	-	31	64
Wholesale trade	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>1,442</b>

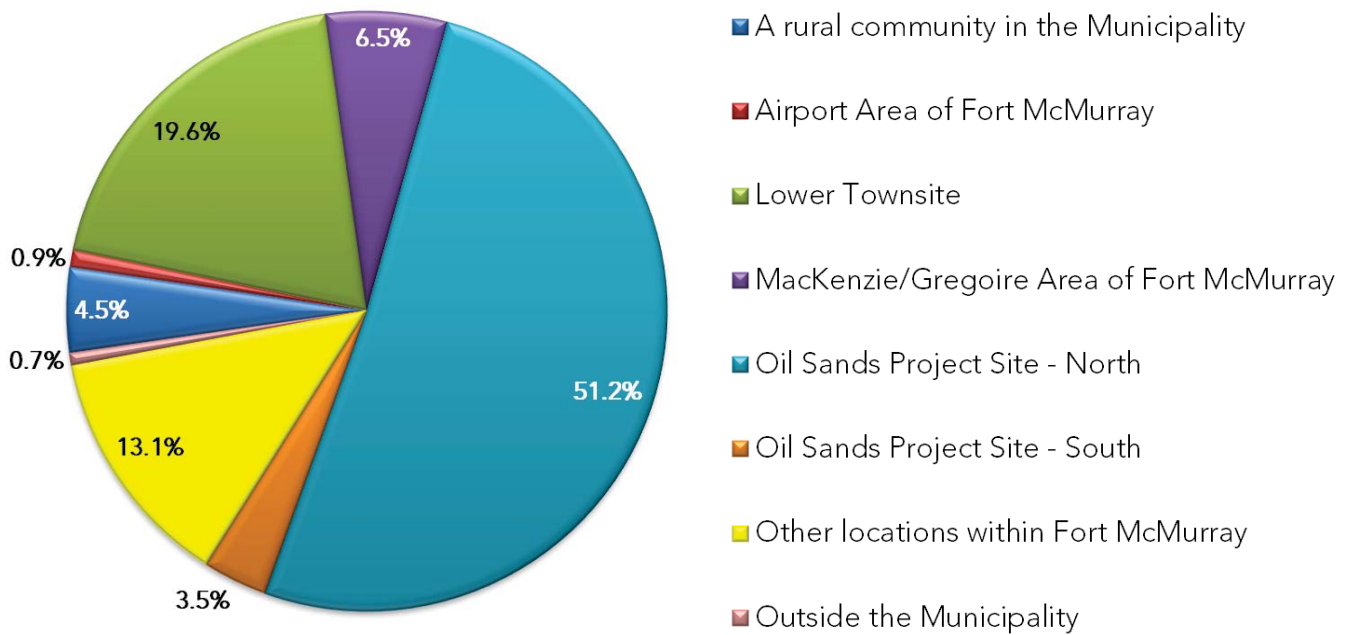
**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q16, and Table 5, Q22.



## Location

Residents over the age of 15 were asked about their primary employment location. The majority of respondents (51.2%) identified the oil sands sites north of the Urban Service Area to be their primary employment location. Oil sands locations south of the Urban Service Area serve as the employment location for 3.5% of respondents. The second most frequent employment location, although less than half that of the oil sands north of the Urban Service Area, is the Lower Townsite at 19.6%. Respondents who are employed outside the Municipality make up a small percentage, at 0.7%.

**Chart 13: Percentage of the employed population by employment location for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q17, and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Table 39: Employed population by the location of employment for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

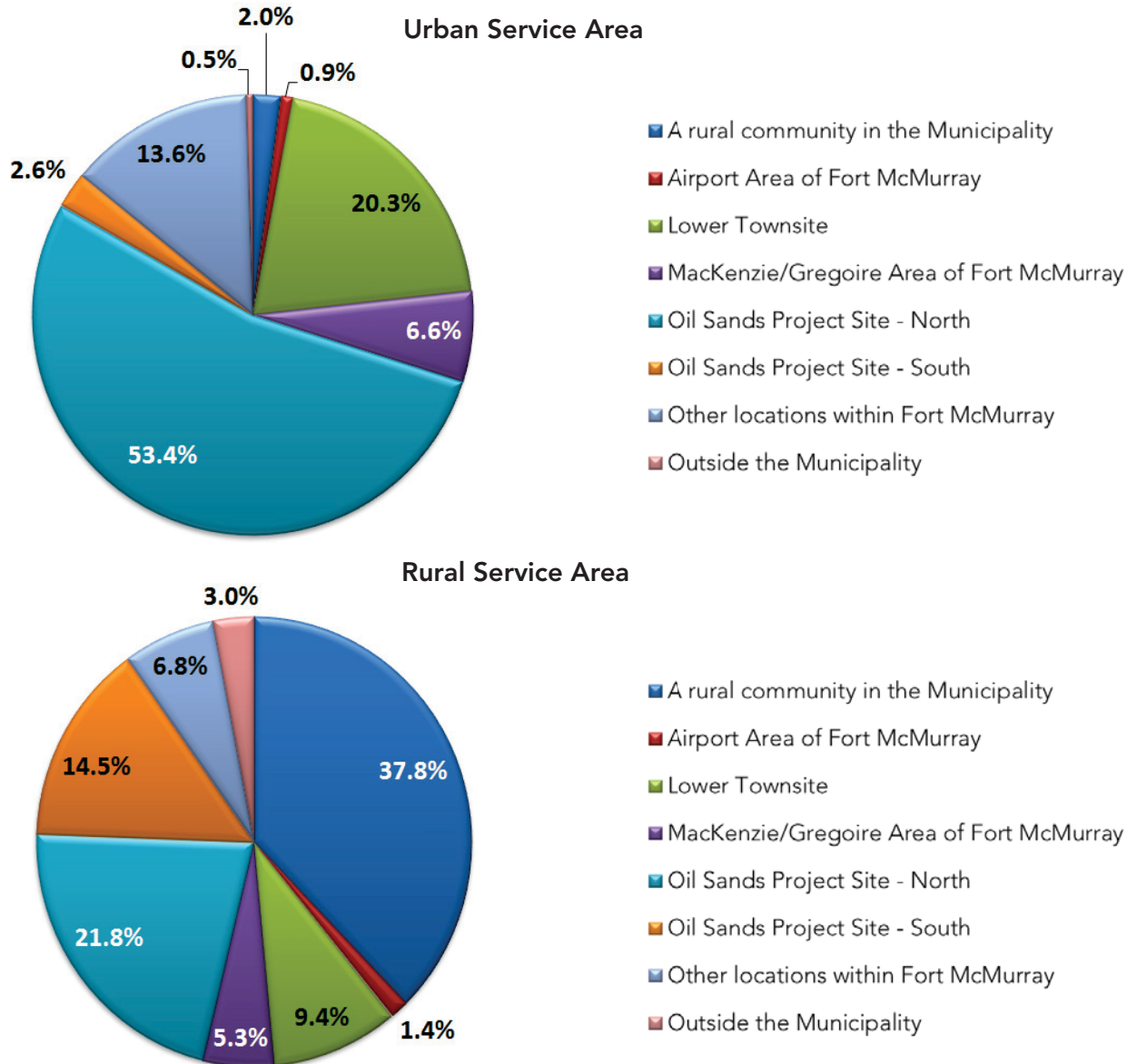
Employment Location	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
A Rural Community in the Municipality	399	558	957
Airport Area of Fort McMurray	176	20	196
Lower Townsite	3,988	139	4,127
MacKenzie/Gregoire Area of Fort McMurray	1,303	78	1,381
Oil Sand Project Site - North of Fort McMurray	10,469	322	10,791
Oil Sand Project Site - South of Fort McMurray	517	215	732
Other Locations within Fort McMurray (Urban Service Area)	2,673	101	2,774
Outside the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo	95	45	140
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,620</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>21,098</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q17, and Table 5, Q22.



**Chart 14** outlines residents who reside within either the Urban or Rural Service Areas and where they are employed. The percentage of residents who reside and work in the Rural Service Area is 75.5%. The percentages of residents of the Urban and Rural Service Area who work in the oil sands project sites are 56.0% and 36.3%, respectively.

**Chart 14: Percentage of the population employed and residing in the Urban and Rural Service Areas**

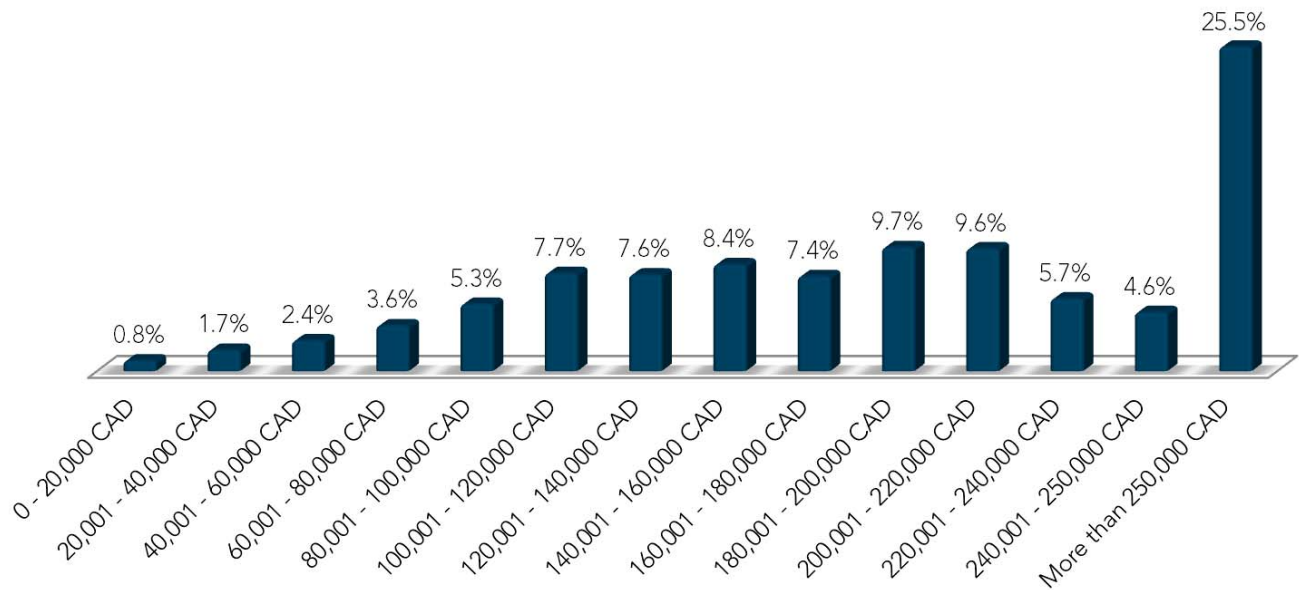


**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 4, Q15, Q17, and Table 5, Q22. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

## Household Income

Respondents who received the long-form census were asked a question on household income. The response percent for the question at the dwelling level was 37.2%. In the Municipality, 55.1% of households reported an annual income of over \$180,000. Moreover, 25.5% of respondents reported an annual household income of over \$250,000. Conversely, only 13.8% of households reported an annual household income below \$100,001. **Figure 36** shows the exact breakdown for each of the income categories.

**Figure 36: Percentage of households by income group for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q24. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

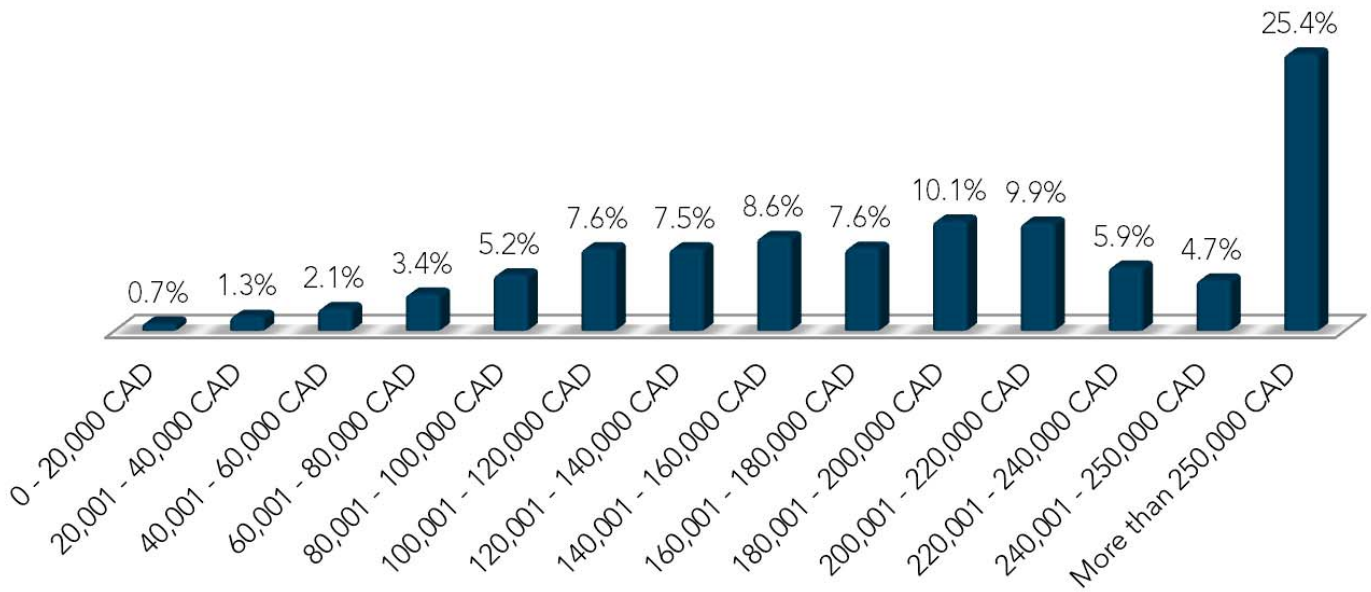
**Table 40: Number of households by income group in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo**

Income Group	Urban Service Area	Rural Service Area	Total
0 - 20,000 CAD	60	17	77
20,001 - 40,000 CAD	116	38	154
40,001 - 60,000 CAD	178	44	222
60,001 - 80,000 CAD	293	38	331
80,001 - 100,000 CAD	446	41	487
100,001 - 120,000 CAD	654	57	711
120,001 - 140,000 CAD	653	47	700
140,001 - 160,000 CAD	743	31	774
160,001 - 180,000 CAD	662	26	688
180,001 - 200,000 CAD	874	24	898
200,001 - 220,000 CAD	857	33	890
220,001 - 240,000 CAD	508	18	526
240,001 - 250,000 CAD	405	23	428
More than 250,000 CAD	2,201	151	2,352
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,650</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>9,238</b>

**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q24.

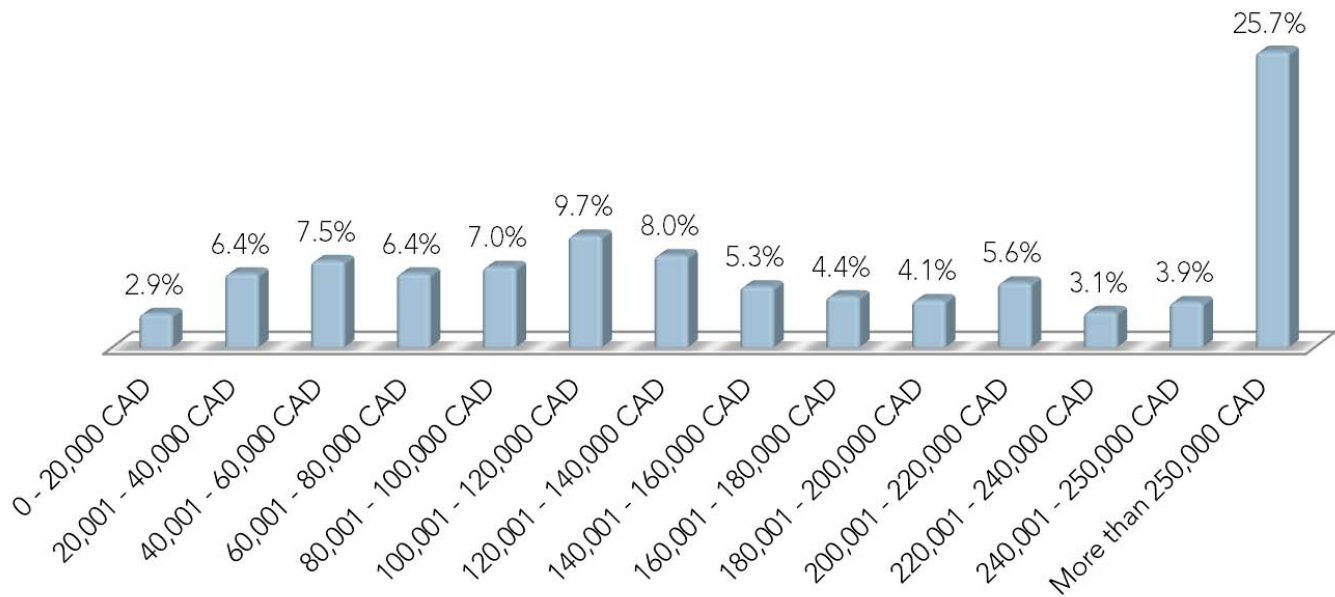
As noted in **Figure 37**, 56.0% of respondents in the Urban Service Area reported an annual household income of over \$180,000. The percentage was somewhat lower in the Rural Service Area, where 42.4% of households reported an annual income of over \$180,000 (see **Figure 38**). The number of respondents reporting an annual household income of over \$250,000 was relatively similar in both the Urban and Rural Service Areas (25.4% and 25.7%, respectively). Conversely, while only 12.7% of households in the Urban Service Area reported an annual income up to \$100,000, the number was much higher (30.2%) in the Rural Service Area.

**Figure 37: Percentage of households by income group for the Urban Service Area**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q24. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

**Figure 38: Percentage of households by income group for the Rural Service Area**



**Note:** Results based on response percent as shown in Table 5, Q24. Reported percentages may vary as a result of rounding.

