

special area 3

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Alberta's Special Areas is a unique rural municipal area covering approximately 2.1 million hectares in south central part of the province. Special Areas No. 3 is a rural municipality with a number of hamlets, surrounds the Town of Oyen and has a strong agricultural economy, successful petroleum industry and a growing tourism industry. Many small businesses flourish in the district and access the world using technology. Special Areas No. 3 encourages innovative ideas to enhance and facilitate a great business environment for residents and continues to build recreational opportunities throughout the area.

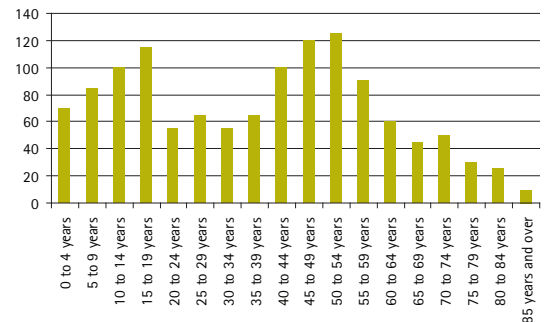
Geographic Information/ Access to Markets

Location: Southeastern part of the Canadian Badlands
Elevation: 761 Meters, 2,498 Feet (Oyen)
Latitude: 51 20'03" N (Oyen)
Longitude: 110 29'29" W (Oyen)
Major Highways: Highways 9 and 41
Secondary Highways: Highways 570, 884, 886, 895, 899
Closest Airport: Oyen Municipal Airport

Population Information

Population in 2006 1,266

Age by Population

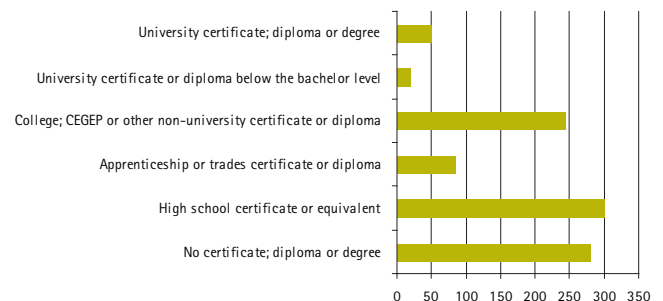


Income

Median Household Income: \$53,012 (2005)
Median Family Income: \$42,821 (2005)

Educational Attainment

Total Population 15 Years and Over (2006)

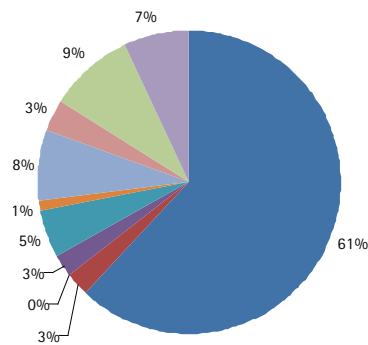


Labour Market Data (2006)

Total population 15 years and over	980	Not in the labour force	175
In the labour force	810	Participation rate	82.7
Employed	800	Employment rate	81.6
Unemployed	10	Unemployment rate	1.2



Labour Force By Industry (2006)



- Agriculture and other resource-based industries
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale trade
- Retail trade
- Finance and real estate
- Health care and social services
- Educational services
- Business services
- Other services



Safety & Security

Police/RCMP:

Oyen RCMP Detachment

Ambulance, Fire, Rescue:

Volunteer Fire Departments in Acadia Valley, Oyen, Cereal, Youngstown, Bindloss and Empress, Regional EMS, 911 Services

Utilities & Services

Electric Power Providers:

Atco Electric, Direct Energy

Natural Gas Providers:

Dry Country Gas Co-op

Landfill/Waste Transfer:

Big Country Waste Commission - Oyen, Capon, Cereal, New Brigden, Youngstown

Water:

Henry Kroeger Water Services Commission

Water Source:

Red Deer River and Ground Well Water

Overnight Express Service:

Canada Post, Hi-Way 9 Express Ltd., Greyhound Canada, DHL, Purolator, Canpar

Financial Institutions

Oyen: TD, Alberta Treasury Branch

Youngstown: Alberta Treasury Branch Agency

Telecommunications

Telephone: Telus

Internet:

High speed and wireless throughout region

Business Supports

Oyen & District Chamber of Commerce, SAMDA, Community Futures Meridian, Palliser Economic Partnership

Major Employers

Special Areas Board, Evergreen Environmental, Pioneer Grain

Educational Facilities

Oyen Public School (K-9), Oyen South Central High School (10-12), Assumption Roman Catholic School (K-6), Youngstown School (1-12), New Brigden School (K-9)

Post-Secondary Institutions

College:

Medicine Hat College

University:

Athabasca University, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge

Hospital

Big Country Health Center - Oyen

Print Media

Oyen Echo, Prairie Post

Library

Cereal Municipal Library, Oyen Municipal Library

Recreation Facilities

Community Halls, Curling Rinks, Outdoor Skating Arena, Rodeo Grounds, Ball Diamonds, RV Campgrounds, Parks, Playgrounds, Blood Indian Park -boating, fishing

Religious Facilities

Cereal United Church (Cereal), Cereal Lutheran Church (Cereal), Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah's Witnesses (Cereal), New Bridgen Church (New Brigden), Anglican Church (Oyen), Evangelical Missionary Church (Oyen), St. Peters Lutheran Church (Oyen), Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church (Oyen), United Church (Oyen)

***All information included in this profile has been obtained from the community and Statistics Canada Census 2006.*

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