



SQUAMISH - LILLOOET REGIONAL DISTRICT RGS MONITORING REPORT 2016-2020

Prepared by:

For:

WCS engagement
+ planning



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INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth monitoring report to track progress with respect to the regional goals established within the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) [Regional Growth Strategy \(RGS\)](#), as amended in 2019 and [Integrated Sustainability Plan \(ISP\)](#), 2013. The purpose of this monitoring report is to build on the 2012, 2013 and 2014/15 reports so that progress toward or away from the RGS and ISP goals is continually evaluated. The report also incorporates for the first time new RGS goals such as Goal 10 Protect and Enhance Food Systems. This report should be used alongside an evaluation process that includes: 1) opportunities for stakeholders to add additional insights on regional progress and 2) Conversations about efforts to support regional goals.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring is the process of collecting information, analyzing trends and gauging progress toward goals. Evaluation involves reviewing the monitored information, adding additional insights on progress and determining whether the efforts directed at supporting regional goals have been appropriate. Monitoring and evaluation are typically conducted together and should be used constructively to assess progress and inform improvements to the efforts directed at regional goals. Used on a regular basis monitoring and evaluation can provide a point of conversation and reignite efforts toward regional goals and implementation of the RGS.

PROCESS

The RGS and ISP each contain a list of recommended indicators that were developed to monitor the progress with respect to the goals of each plan. An indicator in this case is a numerical representation of some observation that is monitored over time. The indicators for the RGS were selected through collaborative planning processes involving SLRD citizens, staff and board members using the following criteria:

- Validity – that the data measures progress toward the goals as well/directly as possible
- Reliability – that the data can be consistently measured over time
- Resource intensity (including information availability) – that valid/good quality data can be regularly measured with existing/reasonable resources
- Comparability – that the data can be compared/benchmarked against other communities as much as possible





Indicators for Goal 10 Protect and Enhance Food Systems resulted from implementation work associated with SLRD Agriculture Plans and the SLRD Food System Task Force project. To create a more efficient monitoring system for the SLRD, indicators that measure progress toward the RGS and also satisfy the monitoring requirements for the ISP were selected. The final list of measured indicators along with indicator meta-data (information about the indicator) for this 2016-2020 report is located in Appendix 1.

METHODOLOGY

Data collection for the 2016-2020 report took place during 2021. While specific targets related to the RGS and ISP goals have yet to be defined, for the purpose of this monitoring report the assumed target is continuous improvement of results. In some cases, data was available for multiple time periods, allowing initial assessment of year-to-year and three-year rolling average trends. These trends are highlighted in the summary progress table on page 2. The most recent data point was used for analysis even though some of the information is somewhat dated due to monitoring and reporting cycles such as the National Census which is only completed every 5 years.

Results/Performance Legend:

Where enough data exists, results are presented by the 1 year/period change and the 3 year/period rolling average change.

Icon Colour	Meaning
	= Right direction: Trend moved in the right direction
	= Stable/mixed: Trend is stable or mixed
	= Wrong direction: Trend moved in the wrong direction
	= No trend results: Trend data is not currently available; baseline data available only

RESULTS SUMMARY

In 2020, progress toward the SLRD regional goals is mixed, though the majority (23 indicators) are either stable or improving. Data is not yet sufficient to identify any trends for 3 of the indicators as this is only the fourth monitoring report and due to the inclusion of new baseline data for a few new indicators. Six indicators are moving in an undesirable direction away from regional goals.

RGS Goals	Indicators progressing	Indicators stable/mixed	Indicators regressing	Insufficient data	Total
1. Compact, complete sustainable communities	1	2		1	4
2. Transportation linkages and options		1	2		3
3. Range of quality affordable housing			2		2
4. Sustainable economy	4	1	1		6
5. Natural ecosystem functioning	1	1		1	3
6. Sustainable use of parks and natural areas	2				2
7. Healthy and safe communities	1	3			4
8. Indigenous relations		1			1
9. Collaboration		2			2
10. Food Systems	1		1	1	3
11. Climate Change Action		2			2
TOTAL	10	13	6	3	32

RESULTS DISCUSSION

The following section provides an overview of regional progress as well as a short discussion of results. The data used in the report represents the most recent data available at the time of reporting as noted in the date in brackets following the indicator name. Some of the information is somewhat dated due to lengthy monitoring and reporting cycles such as the National Census which is only completed every 5 years.

RGS GOAL 1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Data Representation:
Moderate

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Energy Use (2018)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landfill Waste (2020)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GHGs (2018)			Pop. Density (2020)

Year over year trends to 2018 (most recent year that data is available) reveal stable trends for both energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, however both are increasing over the longer term. Landfilled waste is

decreasing year over year to 2020, and decreasing over the longer term. There is a new method for calculating density in 2020 and therefore trends are not comparable. Population increases coupled with some redevelopment in existing areas means that density has likely increased. Squamish and Whistler have similar densities followed by Pemberton and then Lillooet.

RGS GOAL 2: IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES AND OPTIONS Data Representation: High

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highway Safety (2020)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vehicle Number (2020)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transit Commutes (2016)			

The number of vehicle incidents and injuries on major SLRD highways decreased over the one year and three-year average. Fatalities on the highways increased however, year to year and over the three-year average. Transit commutes by bus or as passengers decreased year to year and on the three-period average to 2016 in both the SLRD as a whole as well as Squamish. Squamish is singled out because it has the most significant number of employees commuting to employment locations outside the community. The number of vehicles over the three-year average to 2020 is increasing along with the SLRD population, albeit slightly faster, leading to more vehicles and more vehicles per person.

RGS GOAL 3: SUPPORT A RANGE OF QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Data Representation: High

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing Affordability (2019)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-	Housing Diversity (2016)

Despite increasing income levels, the assessed value for single family homes is increasing faster from 2014 to 2020 for each community therefore decreasing the affordability of housing in all SLRD communities. There was a decrease in the percentage of occupied home types that were multi-residential (generally more affordable) in the SLRD between 2011 and 2016.

RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Data Representation: Moderate

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Diversity of industry (2016)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Population (2020)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Median income (2019)			Connectivity (2015)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Employment Income (2019)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Room Revenue (2020)			

As of the 2016 the diversity of industry in the SLRD is getting slightly better compared to 2011. Based on the year over year and three-year rolling trend results increasing population numbers and incomes indicates a positive trajectory for the SLRD economy. The year 2020 however was a rough patch for the regional economy with room revenue dropping significantly due to the pandemic. Other economic indicators will likely show similar trends once the 2020 data is available. Internet connectivity is high, but affordable access to higher speeds remains limited in specific SLRD rural regions as well Lillooet.

RGS GOAL 5: PROTECT NATURAL ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING

Data Representation: Low*

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
		Water Use (2020)			Regional Air Quality
		Species at Risk (2020)			Quality (2020)

*Accurately tracking the protection of natural ecosystem functioning is a complex endeavor. Without the help of comprehensive mapping tools, ecosystem assessments and resource intensive surveying, it is difficult to assert the progress on the goal. Therefore, the data representation level for this goal, based on the current indicators is 'low'. Future reporting should endeavor to improve reporting in this area.

The air quality in the Sea to Sky region of the SLRD is generally good and performing better than the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standard in many areas. Fires in 2020 resulted in decreased air quality compared to 2019, but the impact wasn't as stark as in 2017 so therefore the air quality improved over the three-year trend. The number of species at risk at the provincial level, that also happen to reside in the SLRD, is based on a new method and so therefore trends are not available. Potable water use decreased year over year and on a three-year average to 2020.

RGS GOAL 6: ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE USE OF PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS

Data Representation: Low*

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 period	3-year.	Indicator
		Recreation Facilities (2021)			Commercial Rec. Operator (2020)

*Accurately tracking the full intent of this goal is a complex endeavor. Including indicator results from the Creating Healthy and Safe Neighbourhoods Goal helps to round out our understanding. Data representation level for this goal remains 'low' even though it now includes two as opposed to one indicator. Future reporting should continue to improve reporting in this area.

All SLRD member municipalities support active indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities through trails and recreation facilities. There were additions to outdoor field facilities in Pemberton and some minor additions to Meadow Park Recreation Centre in Whistler. The number of commercial recreation operators (with a tenure) in the Sea to Sky Forest District increased since the last report in 2015 showing that this is a growth area in the SLRD and that operators are taking appropriate steps to get tenure for operating.

RGS GOAL 7: CREATE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

Data Representation: Moderate

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
		Child Development (2016-2019)			Trail Length (2020)
		Safe Drinking Water (2020)			Leisure Activity (2017/18)

Indicators of healthy and safe communities now have multiple data points for reporting trends, and there are some interesting highlights. The child development indicator to 2019 shows a stable trend year to year and decrease in performance over the three year average (Sea to Sky only). Past results show a relatively large gap between the relatively low vulnerability results in the southern part of the region (School District 48) and the relatively high vulnerability results in the north (School District 74). That said, the vulnerability in the north and the more vulnerable southern neighbourhoods is improving whereas vulnerability is increasing in some southern neighbourhoods. On measures of safe drinking water, large municipal and SLRD-operated water systems are obtaining "low" hazard ratings, whereas the medium-sized systems as a whole are registering an increase in hazard ratings to 2020. When it comes to leisure activity, SLRD

residents, especially those in the North Shore Coast Garibaldi and Thompson Cariboo health area, are more active than the average Canadian.

RGS GOAL 8: ENHANCE RELATIONS WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Data Representation: Med

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
		SLRD & Indigenous meetings (2020)			

This fourth SLRD RGS Monitoring report includes baseline results from 2015 and estimates for 2016-2020 in this area. Progress is improving over the longer term and is estimated to be stable year over year to 2020. Ongoing tracking for this indicator will continue to improve.

RGS GOAL 9: IMPROVE COLLABORATION AMONG JURISDICTIONS

Data Representation: High

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
☒	☑	Voter Turnout (2018)	☑	☒	RGS Collaboration (2020)

Municipal and Regional District election results to 2018 showed increasing voter participation in the SLRD unincorporated areas over the longer term, however slightly less from 2014 to 2018. Squamish and Whistler participation rates grew somewhat, with participation decreasing in Lillooet and Pemberton. RGS Collaboration reported an increase to two RGS Steering Committee meetings in 2020 compared to none in 2019, but the general trend is down over the three-year average. This reflects the completion of the RGS Review and shift from an extensive project-specific engagement period to ongoing collaboration, with meetings taking place on an as needed basis.

RGS GOAL 10: PROTECT AND ENHANCE FOOD SYSTEMS

Data Representation: High

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
☒	☒	Working Farm Land (2016)			Urban Agriculture (2020)
☑	☑	Agricultural Land Reserve (2020)			

The amount of working farm land in the SLRD decreased between 2011 and 2016. Most of the decrease is due to a reduction in the area of hay crops as the area of vegetables, berries/fruits and field crops increased from 2011. The agricultural land reserve size has remained stable over the past few years with no approved exclusions during that time. Recent years have seen the demand for community gardening grow and as of 2020 there were 491 garden plots between Whistler, Squamish and Pemberton.

RGS GOAL 11: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Data Representation: High

1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator
	☒	GHG (2018)		☒	Energy Use (2018)

Year over year trends to 2018 (most recent year that data is available) reveal stable trends for both energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, however both results are increasing over the longer term.

DETAILED RESULTS

LEGEND AND DETAILED INDICATOR REPORTING PAGE LAYOUT

Page layout

RGS GOAL			
RGS Goal Preamble			
INDICATOR SHORT NAME			
What is being measured? Describes the indicator and context.		Why measure this? Provides a rationale for use of the indicator.	
Trends 1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Indicator long name	
Icons indicate trends over one period and the rolling three year average.		Source: Sources of data and survey name if applicable.	Availability: Indicates the availability of data.
		Trend Sensitivity: Indicates the % change trigger for indicating a positive or negative trend for the year to year results.	Time Frame: Indicates the time frame that the indicator data represents. i.e. snapshot in time, or year.

Latest Analysis

- Contains basic descriptive analysis of the current results, trends, comparisons, and by SLRD community if possible.



Chart

Results/Performance Legend:

Where enough data exists, results are presented by the 1 year/period change and the 3 year/period rolling average change.

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-	= Data forthcoming

RGS GOAL 1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The RGS aims to encourage compact, complete sustainable communities as the basis for land use planning throughout the region. ‘Compact, Complete, Sustainable Communities’ refers to settlement that takes a long-term view of the quality of life for future generations, promotes the efficient use of land at higher population densities with greater transportation choices, protects agriculture, natural areas and open spaces, and provides an opportunity to live and work in the same community. Focussing settlements into compact, complete, sustainable communities or nodes moves us toward a vision of sustainable, highly liveable communities with accessible services, public spaces, parks, and cultural and recreation amenities.

ENERGY USE

What is being measured?

Total energy used includes electricity delivered, the energy used to generate space and water heating/cooling, as well as transportation energy. The embodied energy of the products used in the region are not included. *Transportation energy use estimated based on ICBC registered vehicles.

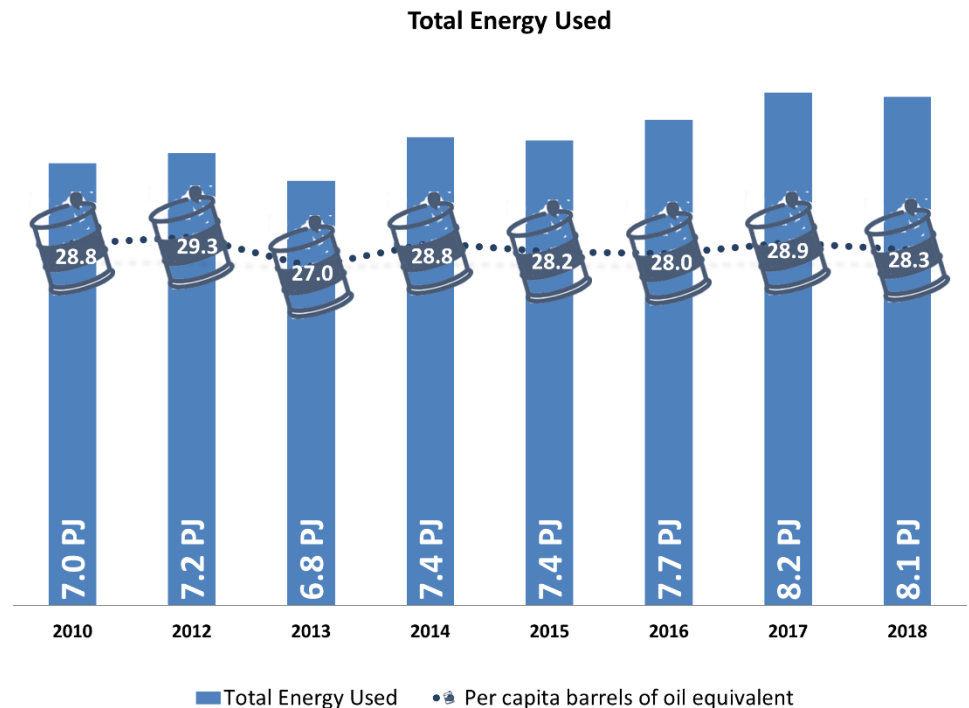
Why measure this?

Energy is a critical input to certain aspects of day to day living and business success in the region. Using non-renewable energy has an impact on future energy supplies as well as ecosystem and human health locally and abroad. Even large renewable projects such as hydroelectric dams have significant impacts on land and aquatic ecosystems. An ability to reduce dependence on energy resources reflects more sustainable communities and may help regional residents and businesses better adapt to future energy price increases.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total Energy Used		
	-1%	+3%	Source: BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory, ICBC		
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -	Time Frame: Year	Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2018, SLRD energy use totaled 8.1 petajoules (PJ), or the equivalent of about 1.3 million barrels of oil worth of energy.
- Per capita usage was the equivalent of 28 barrels of oil for every resident.
- Total energy use was more than the past eight-year average, but 1% less than 2017.



RGS GOAL 1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

What is being measured?

Total annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions results include the emissions released from electricity generation, the energy used to generate heat/cooling, transportation energy as well as emissions resulting from landfilled waste. The embodied emissions of the products used in the region are not included. *Transportation emissions are estimated based on the number of ICBC registered vehicles.

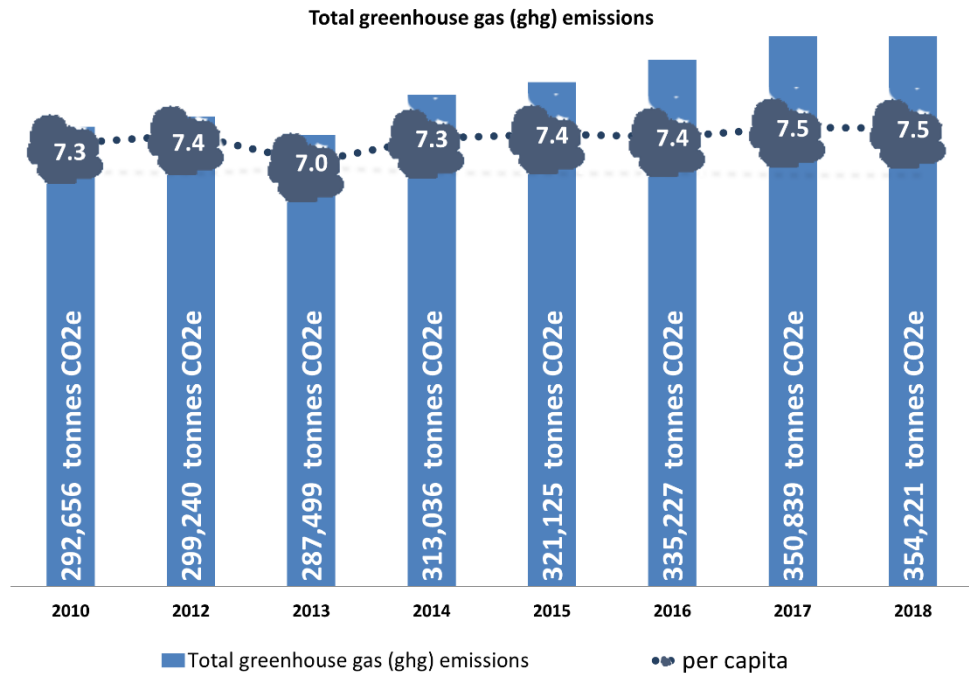
Why measure this?

Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are contributing to global climate change and increased ocean acidification. This changing climate will have impact on the SLRD economy, community life, visitor experiences as well as directly on the local natural environment. Climate change, ocean acidification and GHG emissions are global and local issues that require solutions at all levels. Reducing the regional contribution is an important aspect of environmental stewardship as well as an opportunity to develop new business opportunities.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions
	+1%	+3.3%	Source: BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -
			Time Frame: Year
			Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2018, SLRD GHG emissions totaled 354,221 tonnes.
- Greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1% from 2017 to 2018, and the per capita emissions remained about the same.
- In 2018, transportation contributed 68% of the total GHG emissions, followed by buildings at 25% and solid waste at 7%.



RGS GOAL 1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

LANDFILLED WASTE

What is being measured?

This indicator represents the total amount of solid waste sent to landfills from SLRD communities (Lillooet, Squamish Whistler)

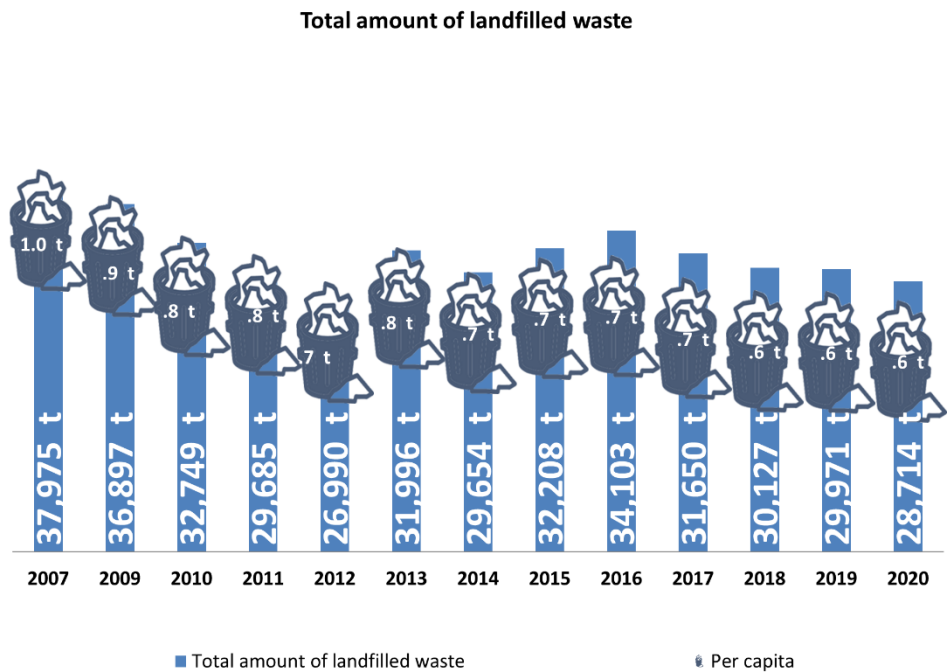
Why measure this?

Maintaining lifestyles and needs currently requires significant quantities of various materials, which in turn can quickly produce 'waste'. Landfilled waste represents materials that are often unnecessary or may have been used for something more purposeful such as composting, recycling or potentially energy use. Solid landfilled waste also takes up land space, emits greenhouse gases, and among other things can leach harmful materials into the surrounding environment.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total amount of landfilled waste		
	-4%	-3%	Source: SLRD		
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -	Time Frame: Year	Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, SLRD tonnes of landfilled waste totaled 29,714 tonnes or .6 tonnes per full time resident.
- Landfilled waste decreased between 2019 and 2020 by 4%, and per capita waste decreased by 3%.
- Total landfilled waste has decreased steadily from a recent high in 2016 to 2020.
- Whistler’s waste makes up the largest source of landfilled waste in the SLRD at 13,277 tonnes, followed by Squamish at 12,489 tonnes in 2020.



RGS GOAL 1: FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

POPULATION DENSITIES

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the number of people per hectare of developable/settlement land in the four incorporated SLRD municipalities. *The methodology for 2020 uses the SLRD RGS settlement land base for the developable area and therefore is not comparable to earlier years.

Why measure this?

Maintaining smart development patterns, as supported by the RGS policy, recognizes the need to increase the concentration of SLRD residents in key settlement urban areas and master planned communities.

Trends

1 period

3 period

Indicator: Number of people per developable hectare

Source: 2016 and earlier, Community Energy and Emissions Inventory, 2016 Census. 2020 - SLRD and BC Statistics.

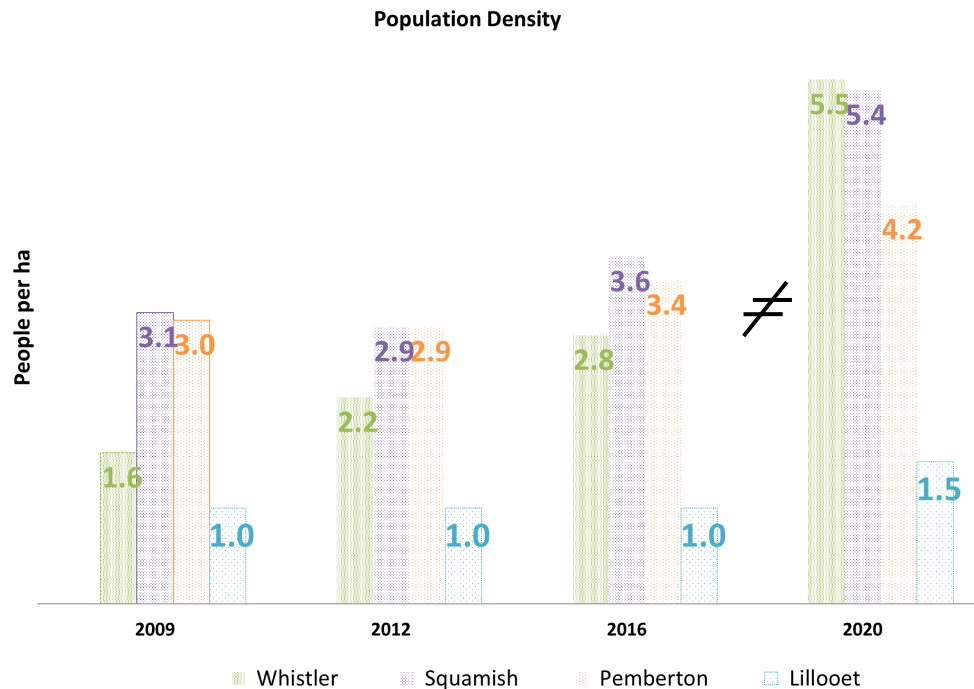
Trend Sensitivity: 3% +or-

Time Frame: Snapshot

Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, residential density in the incorporated SLRD settlement areas was as follows: Whistler 5.5-people/ha, Squamish – 5.4 people/ha, Pemberton – 4.2 people/ha, Lillooet – 1.5 person/ha.
- The general trend for the majority of the incorporated SLRD settlement areas is increasing residential density based on population growth and static settlement areas.
- There were no new approved settlement areas from 2016-2020 to report on.



RGS GOAL 2: IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES AND OPTIONS

The RGS intends to promote safe and efficient transportation choices across the region and to support an improved regional transportation system that sustains compact, liveable communities, economic vibrancy and a healthy environment.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

What is being measured?

This indicator reports on road crash statistics for Hwy 99 between Furry Creek and Pavilion; Hwy 12 between Hwy 99 junction (Duffy Lake Rd), Lillooet and Fountain Creek Rd, Lytton. Total crashes includes both where there is only property damage and where an injury or fatality occurred. Fatalities includes road users who died within 30 days after the date when the injury was sustained. * Results from 2016 onward are not exactly comparable to earlier data due to minor methodological factors.

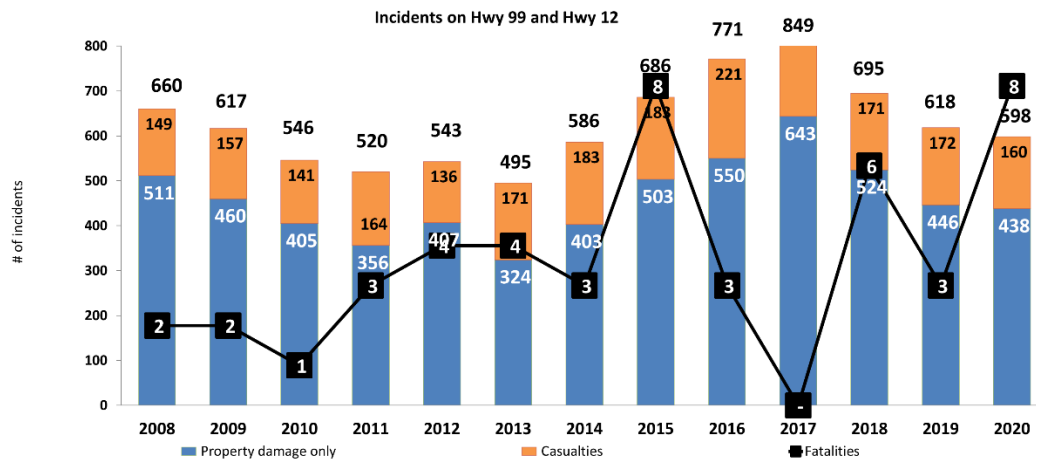
Why measure this?

Safe transportation routes are important in maintaining the flow of people and goods between and beyond SLRD communities. Highway safety measures allow for annual tracking of both minor and major incidents in the region.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Fatalities on major SLRD highways
			Source: 2008-2015: ICBC custom report. 2016-2020: ICBC public data
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or- Time Frame: Year Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, there were 598 total crash incidents on Highway 99 and Highway 12 combined.
- During that same year, 160 of the incidents resulted in human injuries (casualty).
- Fatalities (2016-2020) is based on fatalities in SLRD communities (not specific highway segments) and it increased on the three-year average.
- Of the 20 fatalities between 2016-2020, 15 occurred between Lions Bay and Mount Currie. Five were in the Lillooet area.



RGS GOAL 2: IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES AND OPTIONS

TRANSIT COMMUTES

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the percentage of SLRD employed residents commuting to work via transit/carpool, with a special emphasis on Squamish residents as a proxy for the performance of regional transportation systems.

Why measure this?

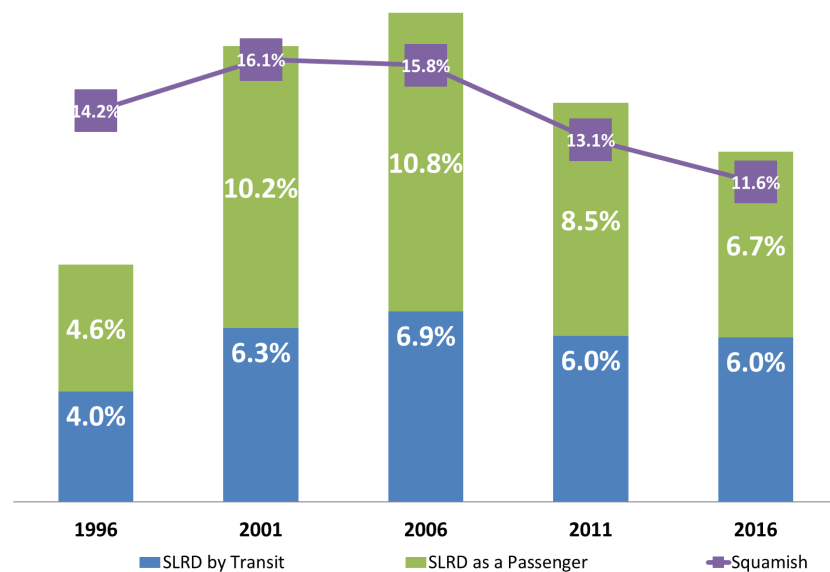
Improving transportation linkages amongst communities includes an emphasis on increased transit like ridership in the region. The linkages best posed for improvements include those in and north and south of Squamish where there is currently very little public transit, yet up to 2,000 regional commuters as of the most recent National Household Survey.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Percentage of SLRD residents commuting to work via transit/carpool		
	-2% points		Source: Statistics Canada, Census, National Household Survey		
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Every 5 years

Latest Analysis

- In 2016, 6% of SLRD residents commuted to work via transit and 6.7% by carpool.
- Results decreased by 2% points from the 2011 Census, and continue the downward trend.
- Squamish commuters taking transit/carpooling decreased as a proportion of the working population from 2011 and over the three-period average.
- It should be noted that a public transit service existed between Whistler and Squamish during the National Household Survey in 2011, but was cancelled soon after.

Percentage of SLRD residents commuting to work via transit or carpool



RGS GOAL 2: IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES AND OPTIONS

VEHICLE NUMBER

What is being measured?

Vehicles in British Columbia are required to carry insurance when in use. This indicator reports on the total number of vehicles registered with insurance in the SLRD. *New method data is from the ICBC online data portal tool. The method is different enough from early reports that it cannot be compared.

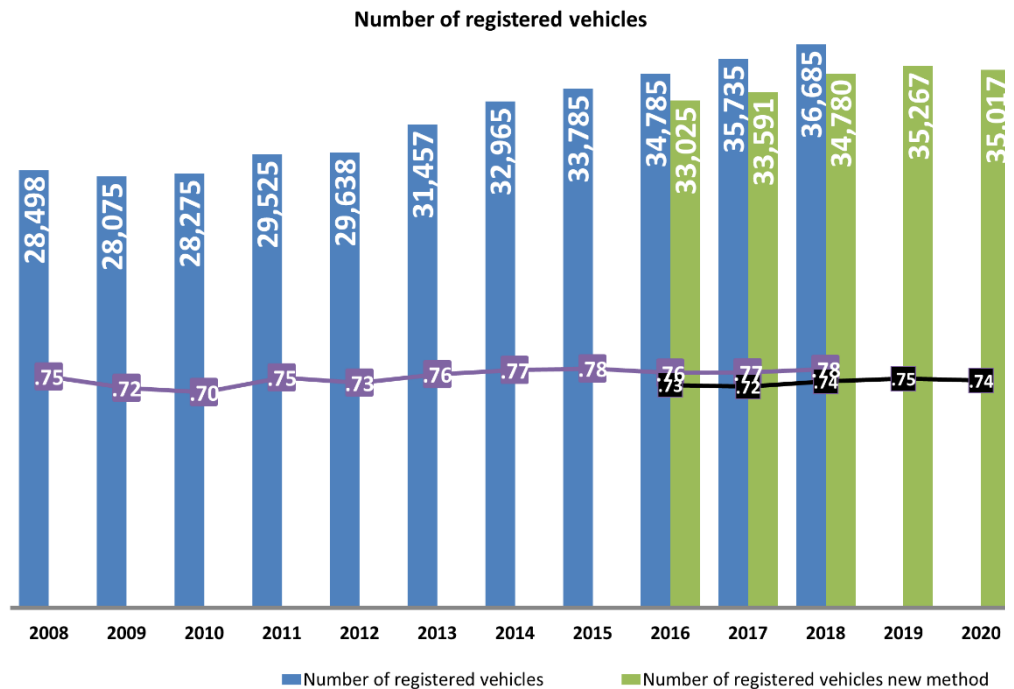
Why measure this?

Residents require transportation to, from, around and within the SLRD. While convenient at times, of all transportation options vehicles, especially older and larger models, tend to be a more resource intensive and costly mode of transportation than other options such as walking, biking, or transit. A reduced level of vehicles in the SLRD may also help to track the success of the transportation systems – both regional and municipal.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Number of registered vehicles		
	-0.7%	+1.4%	Source: ICBC		
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, there were ICBC insurance policies for 35,000 vehicles based in SLRD communities. Just over 1% of the vehicles are electric vehicles.
- The number of registered vehicles decreased slightly year over year but increased on the three-year average by 1.4%
- The per capita number of vehicles decreased slightly year over year, yet continued the slow increasing trend.
- Lillooet has the greatest number of vehicles per capita at 1.45/person and Whistler has the lowest number of vehicles per capita at .69/person.



RGS GOAL 3: SUPPORT A RANGE OF QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The RGS aspires to improve the provision of quality affordable housing and support a range of housing types in the region. Affordable housing means rental or ownership housing priced so that monthly payments are less than 30% of gross household income. In the south especially, affordability is an issue even with above-average household incomes. Also, with increasing numbers of seniors in the region, it will be crucial to create a variety of housing options that meet these particular needs. Affordable housing is recognized as a regional issue, needing cooperative approaches that build upon a common strategy to support a range of quality affordable housing across the region.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the changes in relationship between median income levels and the averaged assessed value of single family homes. An increasing number implies a rising cost of housing relative to median incomes. Figures are not available for the SLRD as a whole.

Why measure this?

Housing costs compared to incomes are a consideration in determining whether people choose to live in the region and the financial stress they may experience from housing costs. It is one standard measure of housing affordability.

Trends 1 year 3-year avg. **Indicator: Ratio of median single family house price to median income**

Source: BC Stats, Statistics Canada

Trend Sensitivity: 1% +/-

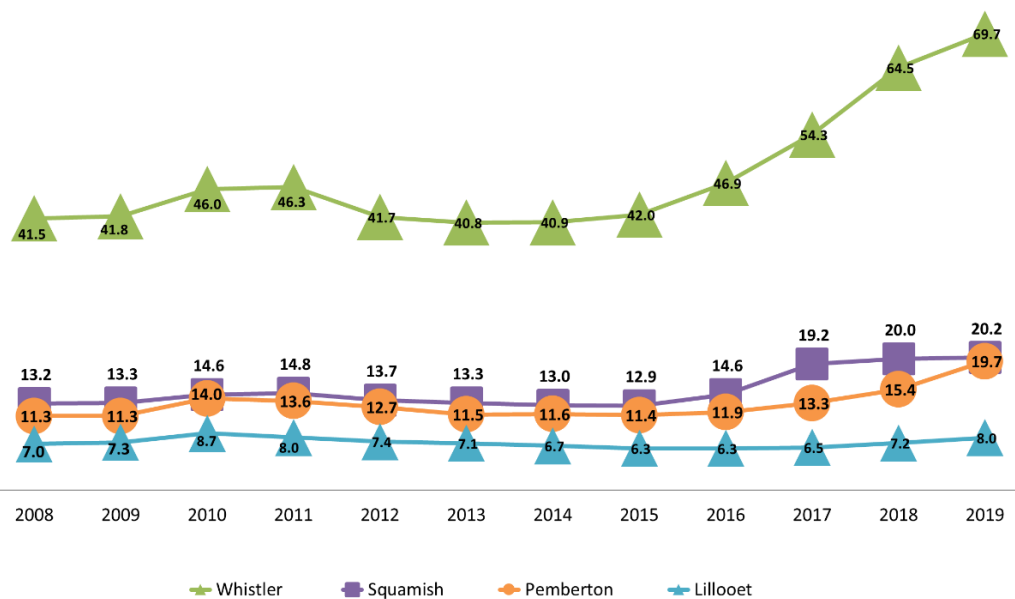
Time Frame: Snapshot/Year

Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- After a few years of increasing affordability to 2014, all member municipalities except Lillooet experienced major decreases in affordability.
- In 2019, Whistler’s housing was most out of reach for the median income. Whistler’s average priced home is 69.7 times the Whistler median income.
- Lillooet homes are still the most affordable at only 8.8 times the local median income.
- Squamish is slightly less affordable than Pemberton at 20.2- and 19.7-times local incomes respectively in 2019.

Ratio of median single family house price to median income



*The SLRD completed a detailed [housing needs study](#) in 2021.

RGS GOAL 3: SUPPORT A RANGE OF QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HOUSING DIVERSITY

What is being measured?

This indicator portrays the proportion of duplex, multi-family, and townhouse dwellings amongst all dwellings. Analysis also provides commentary on any new development areas added to or outside the current settlement areas during the current reporting year.

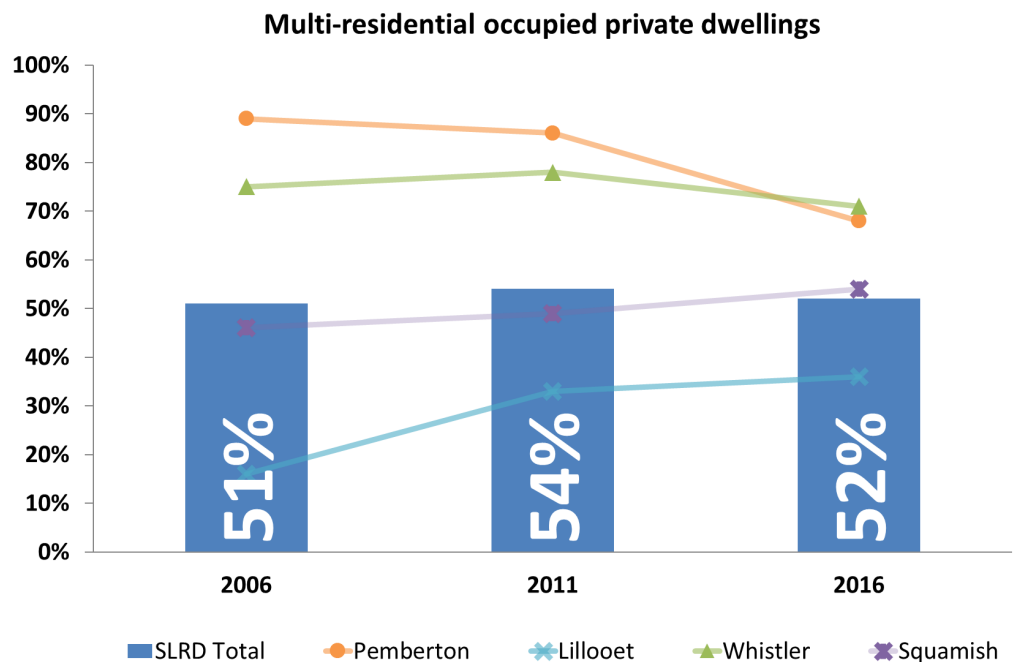
Why measure this?

With settlement areas designated as the prime locations for development, it will be important to provide both a range of housing types and increased density in order to support more affordable housing for various income levels and successful growth. Despite that the size of a residential dwelling is often correlated with the cost of that dwelling, housing prices may still be out of range for residents.

Trends	1 period	3 period	Indicator: Proportion of multi-residential occupied private dwellings		
	-2% points		Source: Statistics Canada, Census		
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Every five years

Latest Analysis

- In 2016, 52% of the dwellings occupied by full time residents were considered multi-residential.
- The results decreased by 3% points from the last census results in 2011, but increased by 1% point from 2006.
- Whistler boasts the largest percentage of lived in multi-residential housing at 71% followed by Pemberton at 68%, Squamish 52%, Lillooet 36% and the Other SLRD at 22%.
- Both Squamish and Lillooet increased from 2006 and Pemberton results dropped significantly from 89% in 2006, to 86% in 2011 and to 68% in 2016.



RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

The RGS supports the development of a healthy economy as a vital component of a liveable, sustainable region. Fostering economic development throughout the regional district, where social, economic, environmental, and community values are addressed in a balanced and sustainable manner, is of particular importance. Sustainable economic development will contribute to the liveability of the region, helping to sustain the quality of life we all desire and will help reverse the economic decline in the northern part of the region. Throughout the region, economic development efforts need to be proactive and collaborative, identifying economic partnerships and opportunities and implementing workable strategies to achieve them.

DIVERSITY OF INDUSTRY

What is being measured?

This indicator provides a labour force concentration in industries that bring in outside money to the region. For example, tourism, primary industry such as logging, and building homes for part-time residents all bring in money from outside the region and into the SLRD. A decreasing trend means more diversity amongst these export like industries.

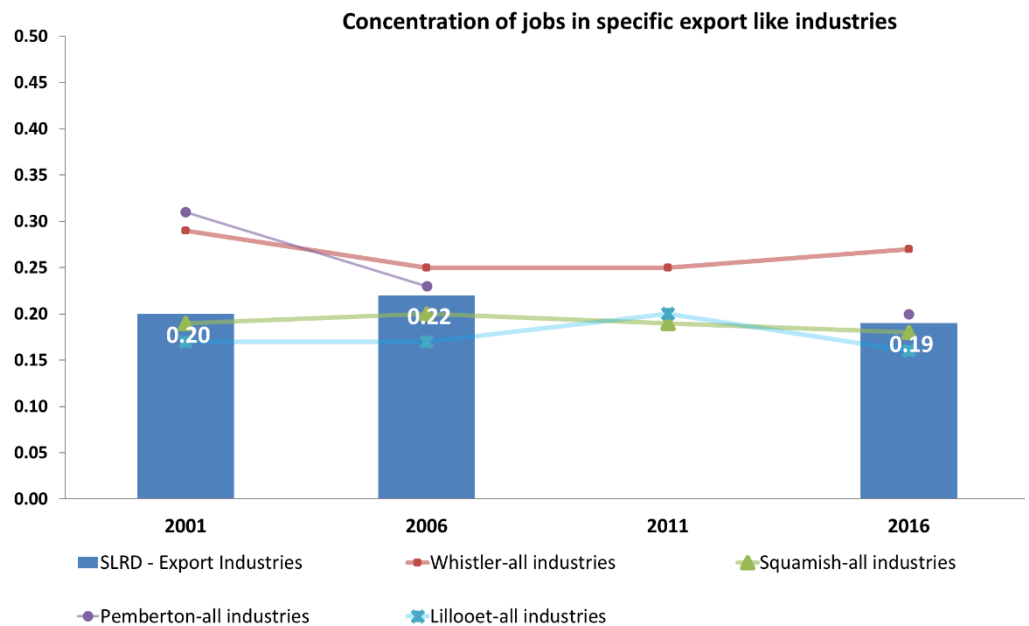
Why measure this?

A diverse export industry based economy is one key strategy to build a more resilient economy that over time is less impacted by negative events targeting one sector of the economy.

Trends	1 period	3-period	Indicator: Concentration of jobs in specific export like industries		
	-13%		Source: BC Stats		
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Every 5 years

Latest Analysis

- In 2006, the concentration of export industries in the SLRD was .19.
- The 2016 results were 13.5% or .03 points lower than in 2006, indicating slightly more diversity in export industries.
- Amongst the larger SLRD communities, the results based on all industries varied somewhat with Whistler and Squamish at .27 and .18 respectively, and with Lillooet experiencing the most diversity at .16. Pemberton's concentration was similar to the SLRD as a whole at .20.



RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

MEDIAN INCOME

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the median individual income as tracked by annual tax returns. The colour of each 'callout' label indicates whether incomes are keeping pace with inflation. No colour indicates keeping up with inflation, 'yellow' means slightly more or less than inflation and 'red' indicates less than inflation.

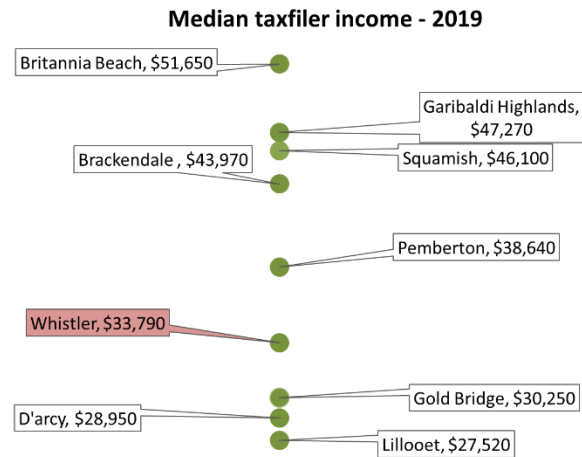
Why measure this?

Median individual income can help reflect a community's overall economic wellbeing. Maintaining purchasing power by having incomes keep up with inflation, is one measure contributing to individual quality of life. Median income is a commonly measured indicator and is readily comparable across communities.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Real median income of SLRD based tax filers
			Source: BC Stats, Neighbourhood Tax file Income Data, BC Consumer Price Index
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% + or - Time Frame: Year Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2019 the median income in most SLRD communities was over \$30,000.
- Most median incomes for SLRD communities grew faster than recent inflation from 2006 -2019. *
- Incomes for SLRD member municipalities in 2019 show significant variation between the southern communities and the northern communities.
- Overall SLRD results are not available for 2019.



*Whistler, Squamish, Lillooet and Pemberton use 2006 as a base year whereas the other communities use 2012 (due to data availability)

RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

EMPLOYMENT INCOME

What is being measured?

Total tax filer employment income measures the sum of reported employment incomes from all tax filers in nine key SLRD communities and is meant as a proxy for the overall size of the economy.

Why measure this?

Total tax filer employment income, along with other economic indicators, helps to provide a sense of the SLRD's economic health and overall size of the economy.

Trends

1 year	3-year avg.
+8%	+7%

Indicator: Total income reported by SLRD based tax filers

Source: BC Stats, Neighbourhood Tax file Income Data

Trend Sensitivity: 1% + or -

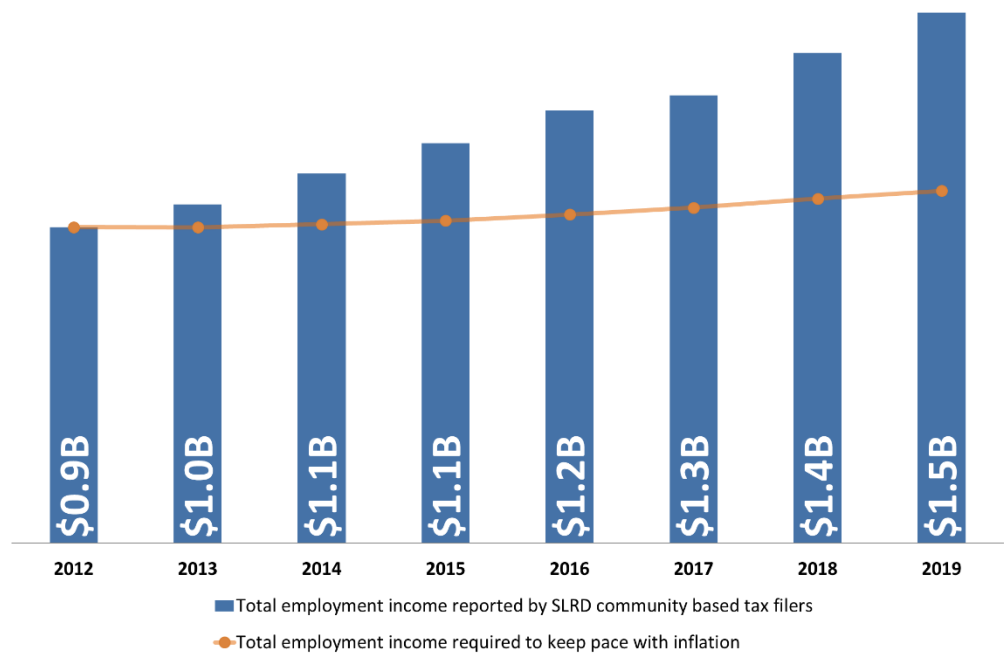
Time Frame: Year

Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2019, the total reported tax filer employment income for the SLRD area was \$1.5 billion.
- Results increased 8% year over year and outpaced inflation.
- Squamish area residents account for just over half of the total income in the SLRD area, followed by Whistler at 33%, Pemberton at 9% and Lillooet at 5%.

Total employment income reported by SLRD based tax filers



RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

ROOM REVENUE

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the total room revenue compiled by all the accommodation providers in the region. It may omit some smaller operators. Estimates are made for years where data is lacking for areas outside Whistler (2011-2013).

Why measure this?

As there is no region wide visitor survey, this indicator is a proxy for on-going visitor satisfaction with the region. It also helps to somewhat track the economic performance of the tourism industry.

Trends 1 year

-46%

3-year avg.

-9%

Indicator: Room Revenue for the SLRD tourism communities

Source: BC Stats

Trend Sensitivity: 1% + or -

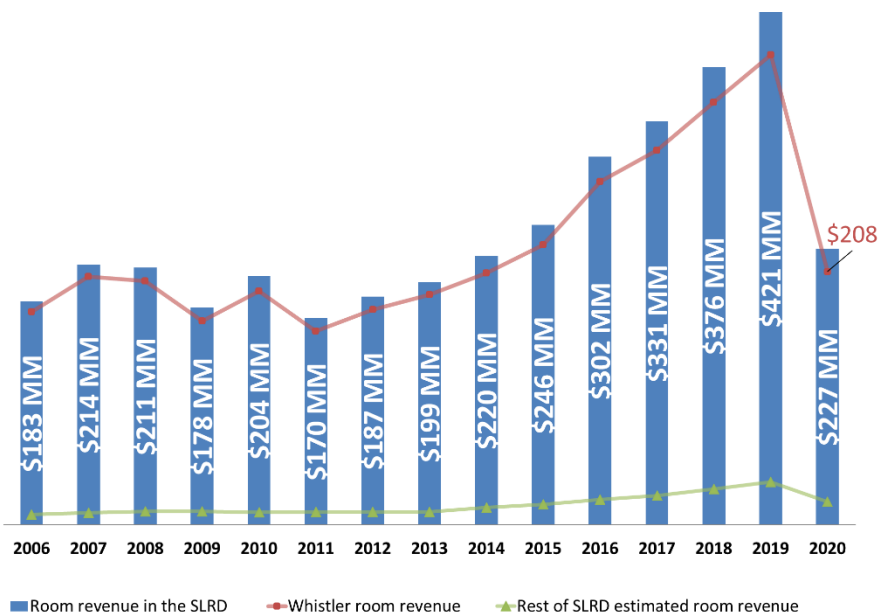
Time Frame: Year

Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, room revenue for properties in the SLRD totaled \$227 million, down significantly from \$421 million in 2019.
- Results decreased year over year by 46% and over the three-year average decreased by 9%.
- Despite the losses due to the pandemic, Whistler continues to be the main room revenue generator in the SLRD at \$208 million in 2020.

Room revenue in the SLRD



RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

POPULATION

What is being measured?

Total population in the SLRD and a variety of population ratios help to provide a sense of the sustainability of the region's population base.

*The dependency ratio accounts for the number of generally non-working population for every 100 of the generally working population (15-64 years). The rejuvenation ratio accounts for the number of seniors for every 100 children/youth (0-14 years). The substitution ratio provides a sense of a community's current economic opportunity and workforce attraction as it follows the number of people at the age of generally entering the workforce for every 100 generally leaving the workforce.

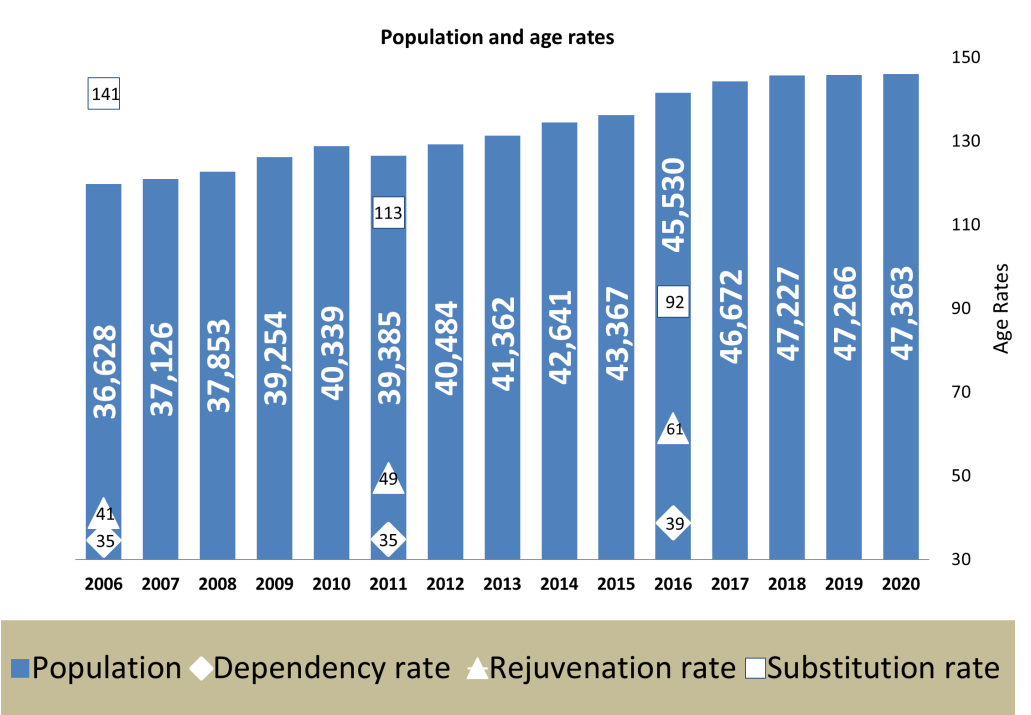
Why measure this?

Population growth reflects optimism and attractiveness of the living and working conditions in the region. Population size also influences demand for goods and services while supporting greater common infrastructure. Measuring diversity helps to measure whether communities are attractive to a range of age groups and improves our understanding of the economic implications of age demographics.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Population and Sustainable Population Ratios
	0%	.5%	Source: BC Statistics Estimates and Statistics Canada, Census Age Counts.
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% + or - Time Frame: Snapshot Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, BC Stats estimated the SLRD population at 47,363. After a few years of about 3% growth per year, results were virtually the same in 2020 as 2019.
- Dependency rate: In 2016, there were 39 non-working population members for every 100 working. This ratio increased only slightly.
- Rejuvenation rate: The number of seniors for every 100 children/youth increased to 61 in 2016 from 49, reflecting a relatively young, but increasingly aging demographic, especially in Lillooet.



- Substitution rate: There were about 92 people entering the workforce (aged 15-24) for every 100 leaving it (aged 50-65) decreasing from 2011 and 2006. It is the first time that the substitution rate was less than 100. This result varies widely from 43 in Lillooet to 133 in Whistler.

RGS GOAL 4: ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

CONNECTIVITY

What is being measured?

The percentage of the SLRD population (including First Nations) with access to high speed non-satellite communications infrastructure (cable, DSL, wireless). The population numbers used for the calculations are from the 2006 Census count, and the technology assessment was last updated by Industry Canada in late 2009. Other data includes: Access to very high speed DSL as well as access to at least 5Mbs of service through satellite or wired communications infrastructure.

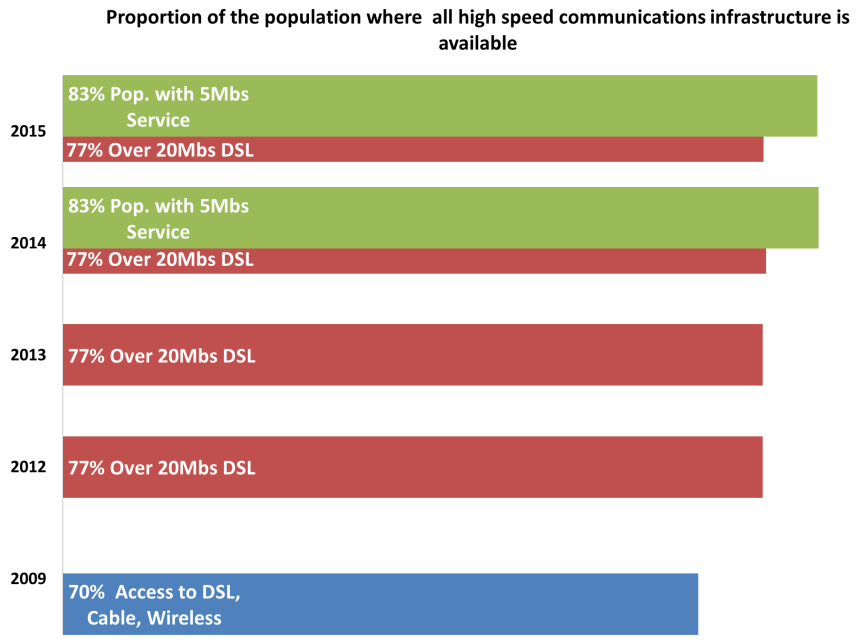
Why measure this?

Availability of communications and connectivity technology can enable a higher quality of life and greater economic competitiveness and resiliency. Citizens in rural and remote areas, including First Nations, require the same access to technology as their more urban counterparts if they are to access information and services to improve their health, education, economic opportunities and public safety.

Trends 1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Population where all high speed communications infrastructure is available
		Source: Industry Canada Broadband Maps, TELUS
		Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or - Time Frame: Snapshot Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2014 and 2015, 83% of the SLRD population had access to at least 5Mbs service and 77% had access to 20Mbs.
- In 2009, 70% of the SLRD 2006 Census population had access to either DSL, Cable or wireless high-speed communications infrastructure.
- Of the total population, 16% had access with speeds slower than 1.5Mbs in 2009.
- Some level of satellite access is available for virtually 100% of the population.
- Regions with less access to high speed communications infrastructure tend to be northern SLRD or rural areas.



RGS GOAL 5: PROTECT NATURAL ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING

The RGS seeks to protect ecosystem functioning and to conserve and steward its natural assets. These assets include both renewable and non-renewable resources, including living organisms, water, air, land, vegetation and the habitats and ecological processes that support living organisms. The quality of life in the region is directly dependent on maintaining our natural assets. Population growth in the SLRD is based in large part on the quality of life offered by the region, and with future opportunities in the tourism industry dependent on the natural environment, the RGS intends to protect environmental quality and retain its spectacular natural assets.

WATER USE

What is being measured?

Water use measures the total of water extracted then delivered from municipal and SLRD water plants to end users in the SLRD. Water uses that are not intended to be captured within this measure include private purpose uses such as for regional golf courses and well water. Some smaller SLRD managed water systems (i.e Bralorne) do not have metered data available.

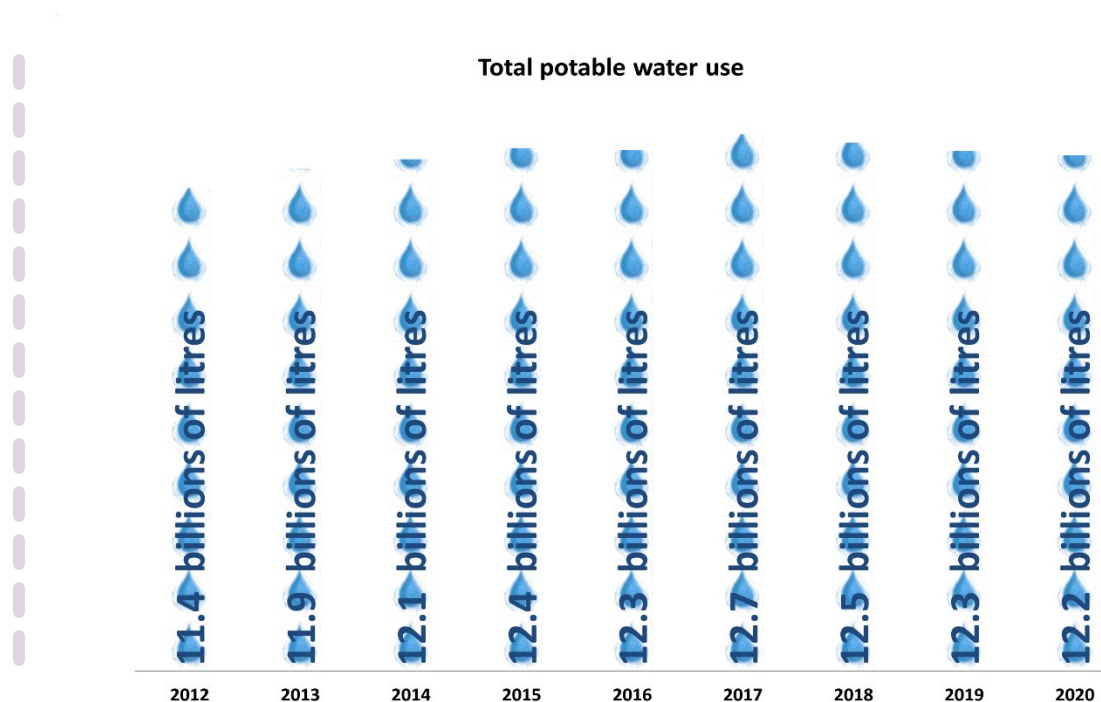
Why measure this?

Water is one of the regions most important assets, supporting natural areas, wildlife, residents and visitors. Using water resources wisely is fundamental to an environmentally-responsible approach to living. This issue relates not only to the availability of the resource; it is also an infrastructure priority that can translate into millions of dollars spent or saved.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total potable and non-potable water flows		
	-1%	-1.3%	Source: SLRD	Time Frame: Year	Availability: Annually
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-		

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, the municipal and SLRD managed drinking water systems in the SLRD treated and sent out 12.2 billion liters of water which is 1% lower than in 2019.
- Per capita per day water use continued the trend of more efficient use dropping from 714 litres in 2019 to 707 litres in 2020.
- Whistler’s municipal water system represents 43% of the water use with Squamish at 35%, Lillooet* at 12%, Pemberton at 6% and SLRD electoral areas (with meters) 4%.



*Estimated from earlier data

RGS GOAL 5: PROTECT NATURAL ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING

SPECIES AT RISK

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the number of provincial species found in the SLRD that are listed as red or blue on the provincial species ranking list. A "Red Listed Species" is an indigenous species or subspecies that is extirpated (no longer exists in BC), endangered or threatened. A "Blue Listed Species" is an indigenous species or subspecies that is of special concern or vulnerable to becoming threatened or endangered. *The BC Conservation Data Centre updated their methodology to be more inclusive and data in 2020 is not comparable to earlier years. Refinements are ongoing and will need to be considered annually.

Why measure this?

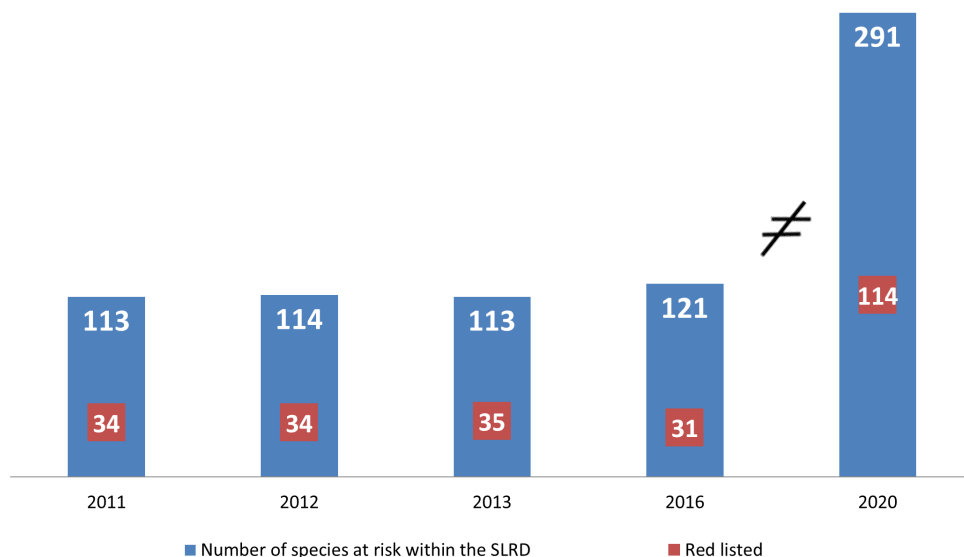
This indicator highlights the importance of biodiversity in the region. A key factor in protecting biodiversity is habitat; therefore, this indicator reflects the importance of maintaining, restoring and protecting habitat and critical areas within the SLRD.

Trends	1 period	3 period avg.	Indicator: Number of species at risk within the SLRD
			Source: BC Ministry of the Environment
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-
			Time Frame: Snapshot
			Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- There are 291 species at risk found in the SLRD as of the end of 2020.
- Of the 291 species, 114 are considered "red listed" and 177 are considered "blue listed"
- Recent enhancements to the methodology improve year over year accuracy however results are more conservative than in the past. Accurate species reviews in the coming years may reduce these results.

Number of species at risk within the SLRD



RGS GOAL 5: PROTECT NATURAL ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONING

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY

What is being measured?

The provincial Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) Risk for Whistler and Squamish measures the number of days that the provincial Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) Risk for Whistler/Squamish is worse than "low". Whistler and Squamish are the only SLRD communities with on-going air quality monitoring.

Why measure this?

Good air quality is critical to the health of regional residents as well as the success of the region as a tourism destination.

Trends 1 year 3-year avg. **Indicator: Number of hours where the AQHI for Whistler and Squamish is worse than low**

Source: BC Ministry of Environment

Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-

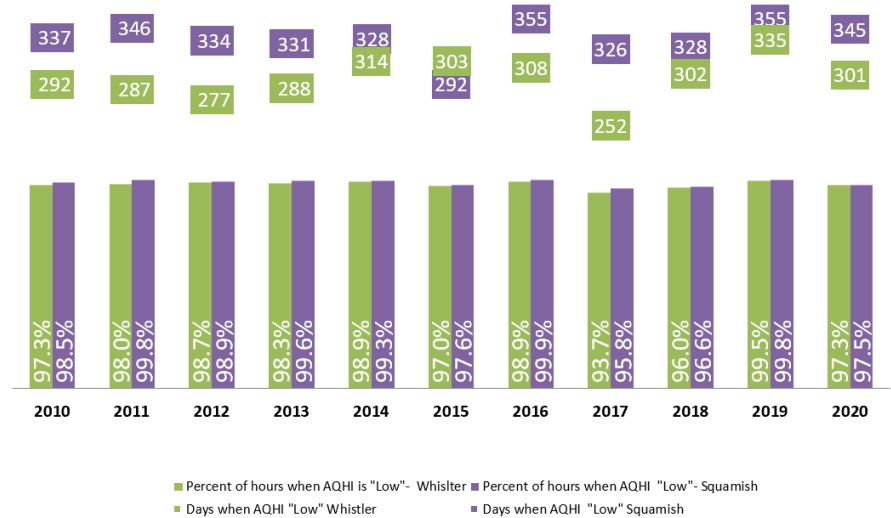
Time Frame: Year

Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- Overall, regional air quality is relatively good, but pressures from mobile, area and point source emissions – both existing and proposed – could result in poor or deteriorating air quality.¹
- Smoke is likely the most common factor driving changes in this indicator from year over year.
- [Air Quality Measurement](#)

Regional Air Quality - Air Quality Health Index is Low or Better



¹ Air Quality Management Plan Implementation Framework Report, 2015 – Sea to Sky Clean Air Society

RGS GOAL 6: ENCOURAGE THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS

The RGS advocates the sustainable use and appropriate management of parks and natural areas, to protect wildlife habitat and corridors and to maintain open space for active and passive recreation. The RGS promotes the sustainable use and management of parks and natural areas on a regional level in context with the Provincial Land and Resource Management Plans. Promoting the sustainable use and management of parks and natural areas on a regional level will contribute to their management by other levels of government. Defining areas for new local and regional parks and green space will create a legacy for future generations and ensure a diversity of recreational opportunities.

RECREATION FACILITIES

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the area of publically managed indoor and outdoor recreation facilities within the SLRD. It includes playing fields, gymnasiums, pools, and ice surfaces.

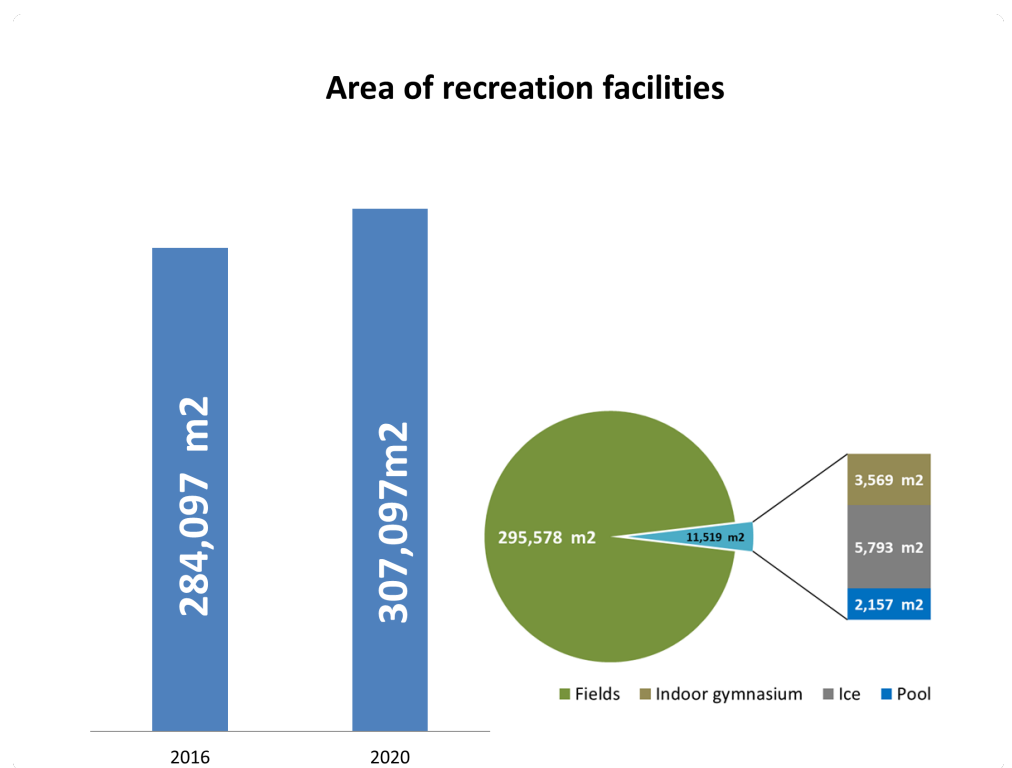
Why measure this?

Recreation and healthy lifestyles are important values for residents in the SLRD. Managed recreation facilities, parks and fields play an important role in facilitating recreation activities, social gathering, team activities and celebrations.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Recreation facilities and parks/fields area
			Source: SLRD, SLRD Member Municipalities, School Boards
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-
			Time Frame: Snapshot
			Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2021 there was approximately 307,000 m² of managed recreation facilities in SLRD member municipalities.
- As one would expect, fields make up the most significant portion of playing surfaces, followed by ice surfaces, gymnasiums and pools.
- Increases to 2020 include additional fields in Pemberton and increased gym space at Whistler Meadow Park.
- Squamish has the most significant total area mostly due to the playing fields.



RGS GOAL 6: ENCOURAGE THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS

COMMERCIAL RECREATION OPERATORS

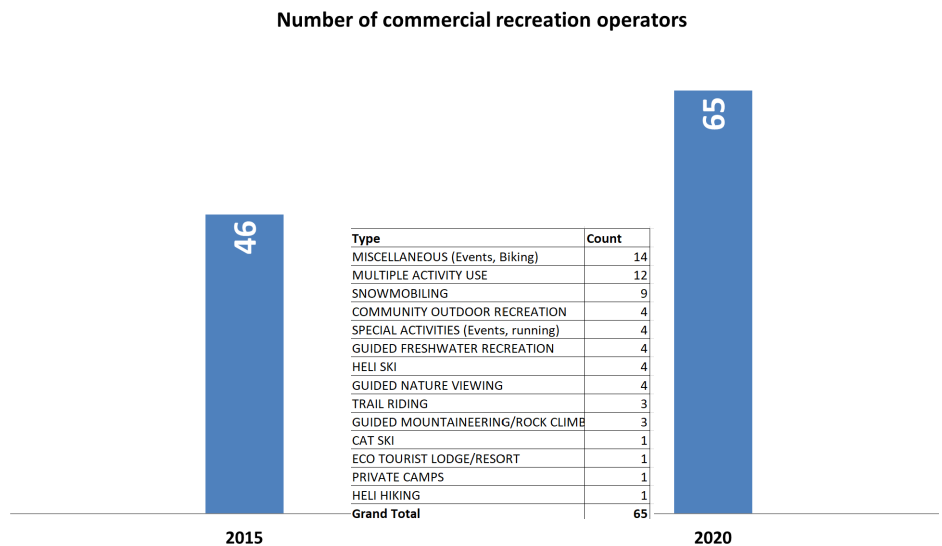
What is being measured?
 This indicator aims to represent the commercial recreation activity in the SLRD by accounting for the number of operators in the region. For 2015 and 2020 the results only include operators in the Sea to Sky Forest District.

Why measure this?
 Commercial recreation is a large part of the regional economy and reflects the quality of outdoor experiences available in the region. Ideally commercial participant numbers and non-commercial participation would be included and as data sources develop this could be explored.

Trends	Since 2015	3-year avg.	Indicator: Number of commercial recreation operators		
			Source: Forest Lands and Natural Resources, Sea to Sky Forest District		
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020 there were 65 unique commercial recreation organizations operating in the SLRD region (Sea to Sky Forest District). This does include the two alpine skiing tenure holders.
- The number of organizations operating in the area increased from 46 to 67. Much of the increase is related to mountain bike tour operators.
- The total tenure area for the organizations is 1.9 million hectares and includes any parcel within or connected to the Sea to Sky Forest District. Overlapping tenures inflates land coverage results somewhat and the total area increased from 1.6 million hectares in 2015.



RGS GOAL 7: CREATE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

The RGS supports the creation of healthy, secure, safe and accessible communities. A healthy community approach is one that is continually improving the physical and social environments that people live, learn, work and play in. They are mutually supportive and allow individuals the opportunity to live in a healthy, safe and meaningful society.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

What is being measured?

This indicator reports the proportion of Sea to Sky SD#48 and Gold Trail-West SD#74 kindergarten children considered provincially vulnerable based on the Early Childhood Development Index (EDI). The EDI, administered in BC school districts, assesses children’s school readiness through measuring the following five scales: physical health and wellbeing; social competence; emotional maturity; language and cognitive development; communication and general knowledge. ‘Vulnerable’ refers to a child scoring within the bottom 10% of the population.

Why measure this?

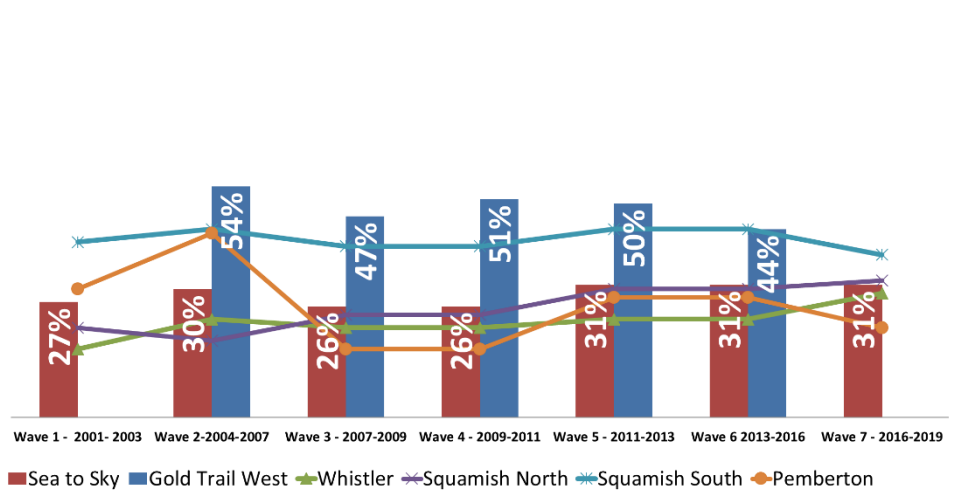
Childhood development tends to reflect the social and economic environment in which a child lives, and relates to overall community health. Research also shows that a person’s capacity for learning, coping and overall wellbeing is shaped in the first five years of their life. The frequent use of the indicator in other jurisdictions and background research support for the metric provides validation and opportunities for comparison.

Trends	1 Wave	3-Wave	Indicator: Proportion of total kindergarten children considered vulnerable based on the Early Childhood Development Index (EDI)
			Source: Human Early Learning Partnership UBC
			Trend Sensitivity: Variable Time Frame: Snapshot Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In Wave 7, 2016-2019, the proportion of children vulnerable in the Sea to Sky District was 31%. Gold Trail data is not available for this period.
- The Sea to Sky District results are stable with the most recent Waves, though increased slightly across the three-wave average.
- The Gold Trail-West results, though higher than other SLRD areas experienced a meaningful decrease in vulnerability from Wave 2 to Wave 6.

Proportion of total kindergarten children considered vulnerable based on the Early Childhood Development Index (EDI)



RGS GOAL 7: CREATE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

SAFE DRINKING WATER

What is being measured?

This indicator measures quality of drinking water in the SLRD by taking into account the hazard level ratings for medium and large SLRD water systems in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) area. **Low hazard** ratings generally comply with health requirements although there may be some minor deficiencies to resolve; may have outstanding conditions on Operating Permits; or may have some minor administrative deficiencies (ie lack of an annual report). **Moderate hazard** ratings may indicate incomplete treatment (ie not enhanced disinfection), there may be more serious deficiencies or deficiencies have not been corrected in a timely manner; not meeting conditions of Permit, or more serious administrative deficiencies. Most **high hazard** ratings are attributed to untreated surface water sources. Water systems can also have a high hazard rating due to chemical concentrations in the water, such as elevated arsenic levels.

Why measure this?

Access to clean, healthy drinking water is a basic health requirement for people living in or visiting the SLRD. It is also important to economic growth and overall well being of communities.

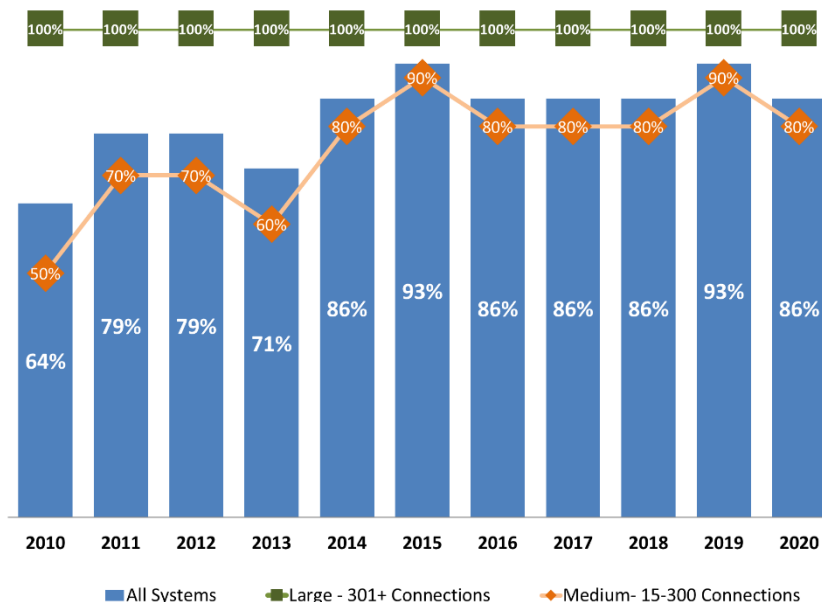
Note: Bralorne, Gold Bridge, Lillooet water systems are not included for the 2016-2020 report.

Trends 1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Proportion of systems reporting low hazard rating		
-7% points		Source: Vancouver Coastal Health, more details here: http://www.healthspace.ca/vch		
		Trend Sensitivity: 6% + or -	Time Frame: Year	Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, 86% or 12 of 14 of the medium to large water systems in the VCH jurisdiction in the SLRD achieved low hazard ratings.
- Results decreased slightly year over year and are stable on the three-year average.
- All (100%) of the larger systems in Whistler, Squamish and Pemberton continued to achieve low ratings during the year.

Proportion of water systems reporting low hazard ratings



- Of the medium sized systems, 8 of 10 or 80% of systems achieved low ratings during the year.
- For more detailed water quality reports on specific water systems please go to: <http://www.healthspace.ca/vch>

RGS GOAL 7: CREATE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

LEISURE ACTIVITY

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the population aged 12 -17 years of age and those 18 years or over who reported engaging in moderate physical exercise for a specified time frame. Moderate exercise is defined as an activity that causes a person to breathe harder and sweat at least a little. The standard for Adults 18 and above is 150 minutes per week and for Youth aged 12-17 it is 60 minutes per day. Results are broken out by SLRD based health service delivery areas.

Why measure this?

Recreation, leisure and exercise are important aspects of life for residents of the SLRD. Increased activity helps maintain a strong recreation culture in the area while also supporting healthy lifestyles.

Trends 1 year 3-year avg. **Indicator: Proportion of residents classified as active or moderately active.**

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 13-10-0113-01

Trend Sensitivity: Variable

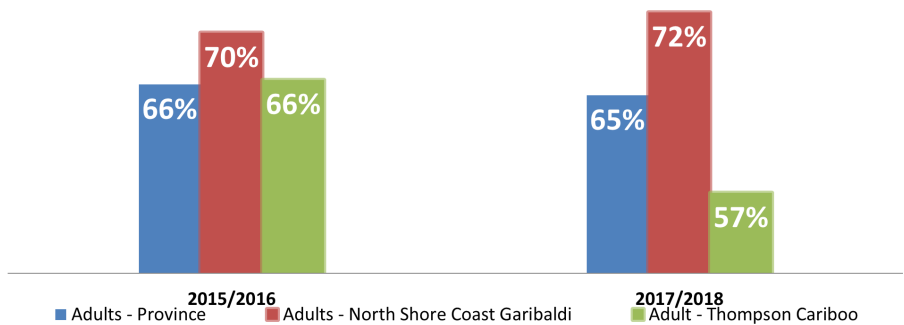
Time Frame: Snapshot

Availability: Variable

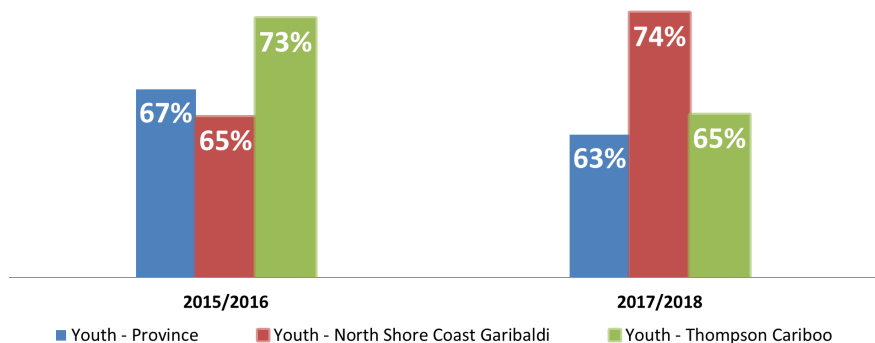
Latest Analysis

- In 2017/2018 survey, 70% of the Adult residents in the North Shore Coast Garibaldi (NSCG) and 57% of residents in the Thompson Cariboo (TC) health service delivery areas met the activity standard.
- In 2017/2018 survey, 74% of the youth residents in the NSCG and 65% of residents in the TC health service delivery areas met the activity standard.
- NSCG youth and adult rates were higher than the Canadian average and NSCG adult rates were also higher than the BC average.
- TC adult rates were lower than the BC average, but higher than the Canadian average. TC adult rates also decreased from 2015/16 to 2017/18.

Proportion of residents meeting a moderate level of activity standard



Proportion of residents meeting a moderate level of activity standard



RGS GOAL 7: CREATE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

TRAIL LENGTH

What is being measured?

The trail length indicator is intended to track the length of official commuter trails as well as recreation trails that are generally accessible to a large segment of the population (lower grade, wider, gravel or paved). Member municipalities provided trail distances based on this description.

Why measure this?

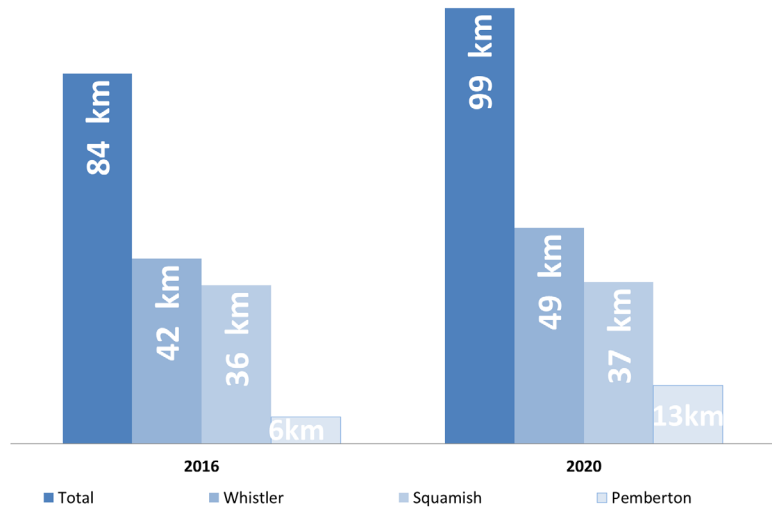
Recreation and commuting trails are important infrastructure for the achievement of both transportation and outdoor recreation utilization goals. Commuter and other trails are generally more accessible and therefore can appeal to a greater diversity of users and demographics.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Length of generally accessible and commuter trails
			Source: SLRD Member Municipalities
			Trend Sensitivity: 6% + or -
			Time Frame: Snapshot
			Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- Total trail length in 2020 was 99 km, an increase of 15 km from 2016.
- Whistler’s 49 km of trails account for just over half of all the trails and half of the new trail length. Squamish’s 37 km and Pemberton’s 13 km combine for just over half of the trails.
- Pemberton’s low-grade trail additions include the important Friendship Trail between the Village and Mount Currie.
- All communities reported having many more km’s of official and unofficial recreational hiking and biking trails. In many cases, these trails are relatively narrow, steep in sections and ungraded.

Length of low grade recreation and commuter trails



RGS GOAL 8: ENHANCE RELATIONS WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The RGS seeks to enhance our working relationships with the Squamish, Lil'wat and St'át'imc. The SLRD recognizes the significant opportunity to build constructive and enduring relationships with indigenous communities. The RGS, through the RGS process, provides a foundation for continued constructive dialogue into the future on regional land use and growth management issues. In addition to land use planning, building strong and respectful working relationships with First Nations is especially important given the many development pressures and challenges in the region and the complexity of issues facing all levels of government.

INDIGENOUS MEETINGS

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the number of meetings between the SLRD and First Nations governments on an annual basis.

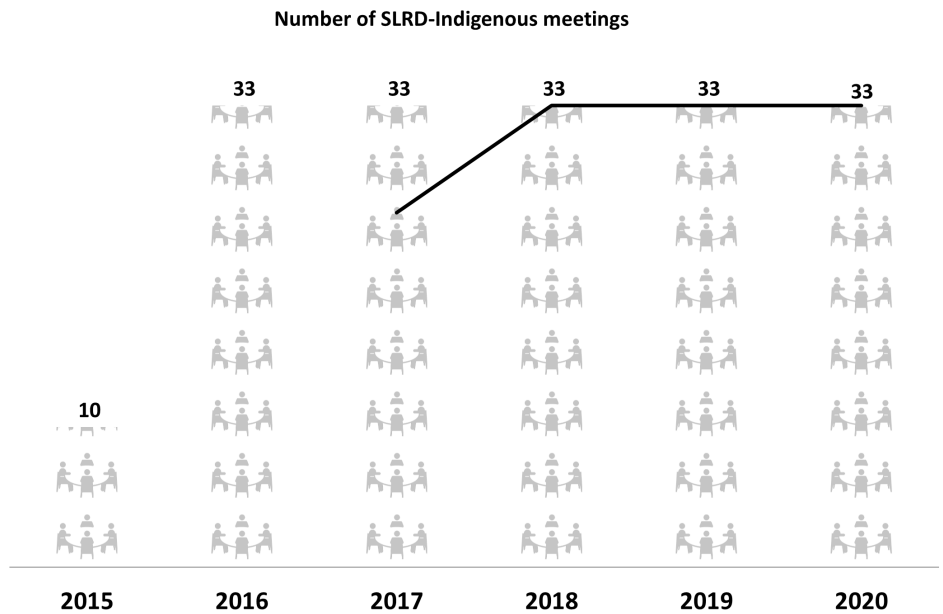
Why measure this?

Meetings between SLRD and Indigenous communities foster neighbour-to-neighbour relationships. These meetings may span various topics and departments and reflect organizational commitment to enhancing relations. Indigenous

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Number of SLRD-Indigenous meetings
			Source: SLRD
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +/-
			Time Frame: Year
			Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis:

- In 2020 SLRD staff estimated approximately 33 SLRD-Indigenous meetings.
 - The Joint Regional Emergency Program Coordination (REPC) group meets monthly.
- Other recent meetings include: coordination during emergency responses, joint planning for natural hazard projects, and shared emergency and fire services.



RGS GOAL 9: IMPROVE COLLABORATION AMONG JURISDICTIONS

Decision making over land use, health, safety, natural resources, environmental protection and many other issues of concern to residents within the regional district is a shared responsibility. The RGS intends to improve collaboration between all levels of government within the region- municipal/regional, provincial, federal and First Nations – as well as citizens. Better collaboration can lead to improved coordination and cooperation, which in turn can reduce duplication and inefficiencies in local governance and improve service delivery. It also builds on the core competencies of existing jurisdictions so that limited resources are utilized efficiently.

VOTER TURNOUT

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the relationship between the number of ballots cast and the number of eligible voters. Eligible voters is based on those 18 and over as of the most recent Census results.

Why measure this?

Voter turnout is a proxy indicator reflecting community commitment to the political system as well as involvement in decision making. Local elections determine who will be involved in regional collaborations. Poor turnout may reflect unfamiliarity with the democratic process, apathy, satisfaction, or a sense of disempowerment.

Trends 1 period

-6%
points

3-period avg.

Indicator: Proportion of the registered voters voting in SLRD area municipal elections

Source: Civic Info and Elections BC

Trend Sensitivity: 3% +or-

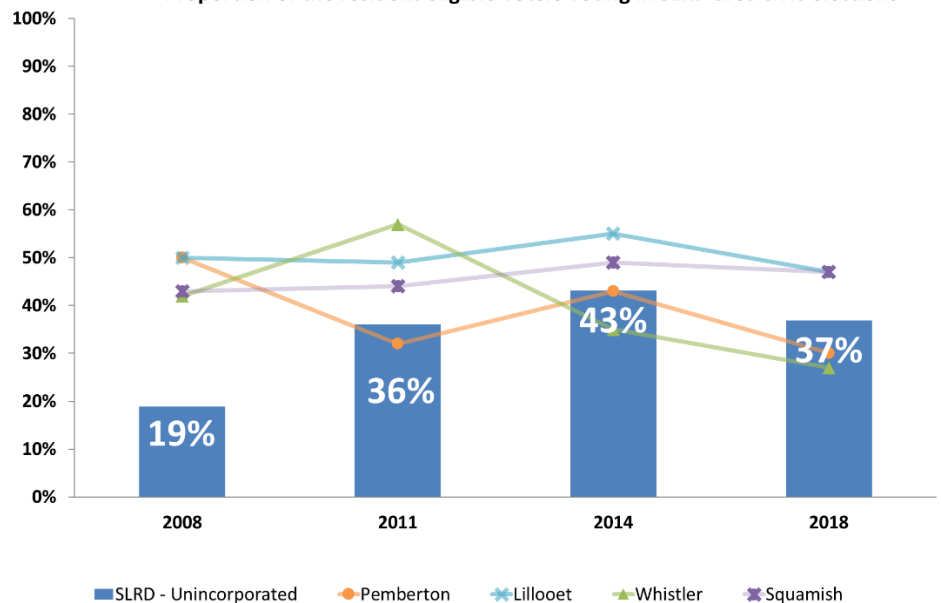
Time Frame: Snapshot

Availability: Every 3-4 years

Latest Analysis

- In 2018, 118 or 37% of eligible voters in the SLRD- Electoral Area A voted during the civic elections. Electoral Area B, C, D directors were acclaimed.
- The results in 2018, shows a slightly lower turnout compared to 2014 when elections took place in Electoral Area B and C (A and D were acclaimed in, 2014).
- 2011 results reflect elections in Area C and D. 2008 results reflect elections in Area D only.

Proportion of the resident eligible voters voting in SLRD area civic elections



RGS GOAL 9: IMPROVE COLLABORATION AMONG JURISDICTIONS

RGS COLLABORATION

What is being measured?

This indicator tracks the number of RGS Steering Committee meetings that take place on an annual basis.

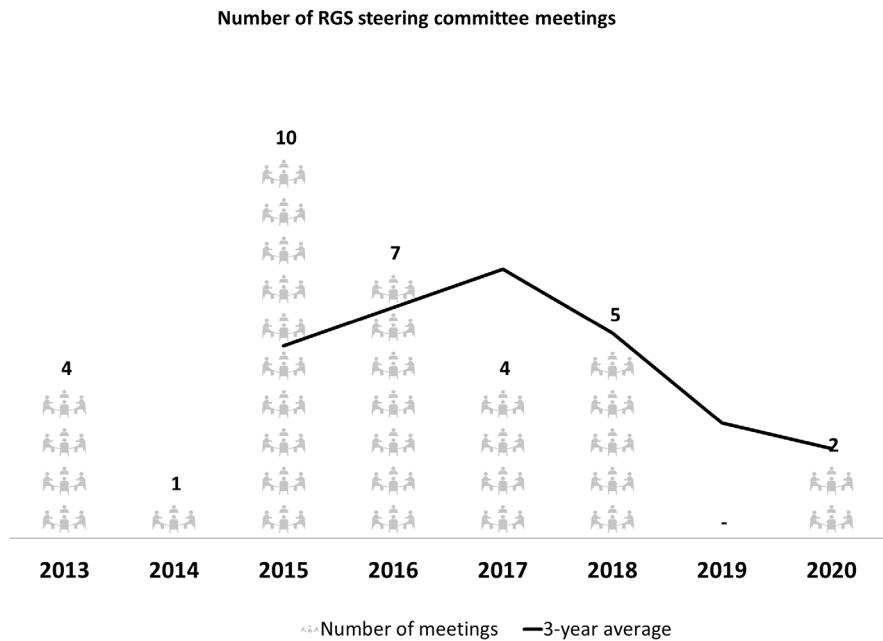
Why measure this?

The SLRD RGS Steering Committee is comprised of the planning director, or another official appointed by the applicable Board/Council, of the SLRD and each member municipality, as well as representative from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The RGS Steering Committee is integral to implementation of the RGS. All proposed amendments are reviewed by the RGS Steering Committee, with input provided to the SLRD Board to inform decisions.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Number of RGS Steering Committee meetings
	+2		Source: SLRD
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% +or-
			Time Frame: Year
			Availability: Annually

Latest Analysis

- The RGS Steering Committee met two times over the course of 2020 which is two more than 2019 when there were no meetings.
- The frequency of RGS committee meetings has declined steadily from 2015, which reflects the completion of the RGS Review project.



RGS GOAL 10: PROTECT AND ENHANCE FOOD SYSTEMS

The RGS endorses Smart Growth Principles, which includes ensuring the integrity of a productive agricultural land base. The highest and best use of agricultural land is for agriculture and the protection of agricultural land helps to promote the agricultural sector. Further, predicted changes in climate, energy costs, population growth, water availability and agricultural production suggest that protecting and enhancing the capacity of the regional food system is vital to community resilience. The ability to grow and access food is a key component of developing complete communities.

WORKABLE FARM LAND

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the total area of workable farm land in the SLRD. It includes all farm classified area from the Census of Agriculture excluding woodlots, natural pasture land and other land.

Why measure this?

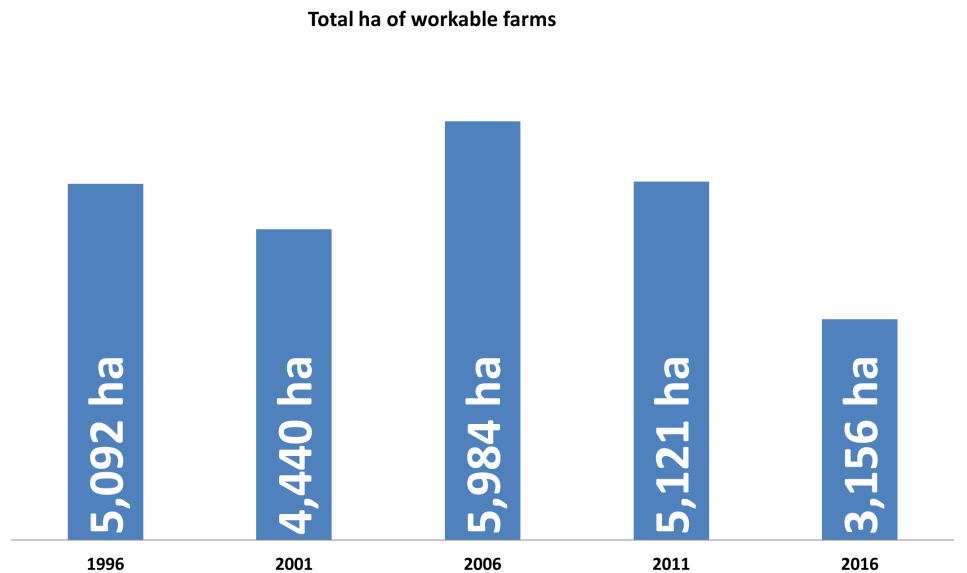
The workable farm area represents the production of food, economic health of farms, and food security in the region.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total ha of workable farms		
	-38%	-8%	Source: Statistics Canada - Census of Agriculture, BC Assessments		
			Trend Sensitivity: 1% + or -	Time Frame: Snapshot	Availability: Every 5 years

Latest Analysis

- In 2016, 3,156 ha of agriculture area was considered working land.
- Results decreased 38% or by about 2,000 ha from the last Census in 2011.
- Most of the decrease is due to a reduction in the area of hay crops as the area of vegetables, berries/fruits and field crops increased from 2011.
- The number of farms stayed about the same at 138 compared to 140 in 2011.

* The SLRD completed multiple detailed [agricultural land use inventories](#) between 2014 and 2020.



RGS GOAL 10: PROTECT AND ENHANCE FOOD SYSTEMS

AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the total area Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR) in the SLRD as well as the cumulative exclusions from the reserve.

Why measure this?

The Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) is a provincial zone in which agriculture is recognized as the priority use. Farming is encouraged and non-agricultural uses are restricted. This high valued land is important to protect for food security and the regional economy.

Trends 1 year

3-year avg.

Indicator: ALR land in the SLRD

Source: BC Agricultural Land Commission

Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -

Time Frame: Year

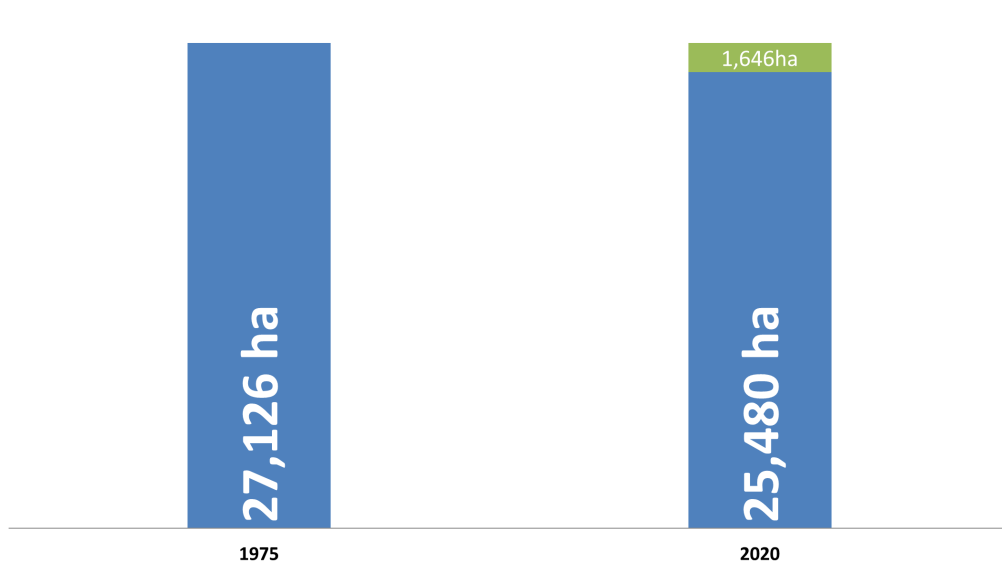
Availability: Yearly

Latest Analysis

- In 2020, there was 25,480 hectares of ALR in the SLRD.
- Exclusions from the reserve occurred prior to 2015, but no land has been excluded in the past five years.
- Since the ALR was initiated in 1975 there has been 1,646 ha excluded from the reserve in the SLRD.

* The SLRD completed multiple detailed [agricultural land use inventories](#) between 2014 and 2020.

Total ha of ALR in the SLRD



RGS GOAL 10: PROTECT AND ENHANCE FOOD SYSTEMS

URBAN AGRICULTURE

What is being measured?

This indicator measures the number of community urban agriculture plots in the larger SLRD communities.

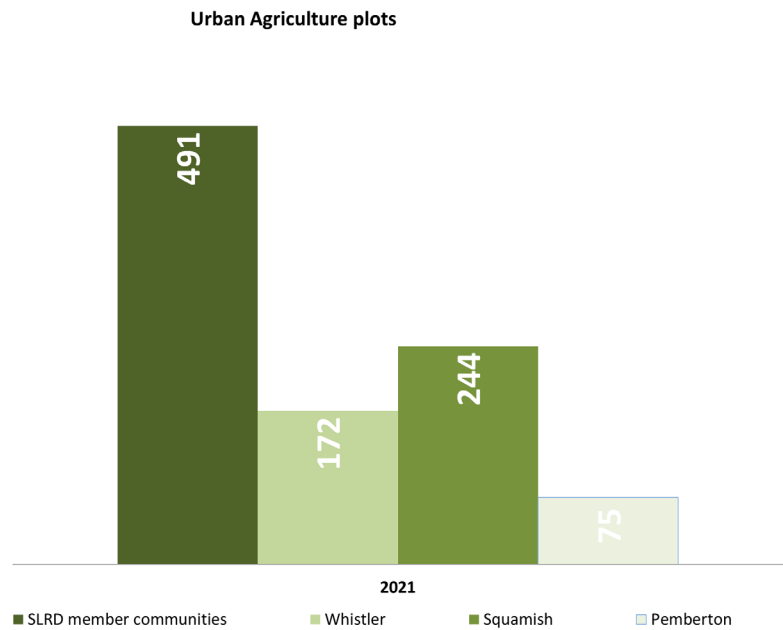
Why measure this?

Urban agriculture is encouraged in order to help people living in more settled areas to learn about food and food systems while building community with fellow urban gardeners. These activities also help reduce food costs and build the capacity for growing food and ultimately food security.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Plots of urban agriculture
			Source: AWARE Whistler, Stewardship Pemberton, Squamish CAN
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or - Time Frame: Year Availability: Yearly

Latest Analysis

- As of 2021, there were 491 garden plots in Whistler, Squamish and Pemberton combined.
- Squamish has the most plots at 244, followed by Whistler at 172 and Pemberton at 75.



RGS GOAL 11: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The RGS seeks to address climate change through the directions put forth in all SLRD RGS Goals. Additionally, the RGS recognizes the need for climate responsibility and a continued commitment to climate leadership. Taking action on climate change will require provincial and federal leadership to support sector-based changes. It will also require local leadership and broad community commitment – by local governments, by community members, by business owners and entrepreneurs, and by visitors. The Regional Growth Strategy supports taking action on climate change through mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation strategies seek to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption, with targets being critical motivators for action on mitigation. Adaptation strategies identify and address the potential local impacts of climate change, with intention of using various methods to build community resilience.

ENERGY USE

What is being measured?

Total energy used includes electricity delivered, the energy used to generate space and water heating/cooling, as well as transportation energy. The embodied energy of the products used in the region are not included. *Transportation energy use estimated based on ICBC registered vehicles.

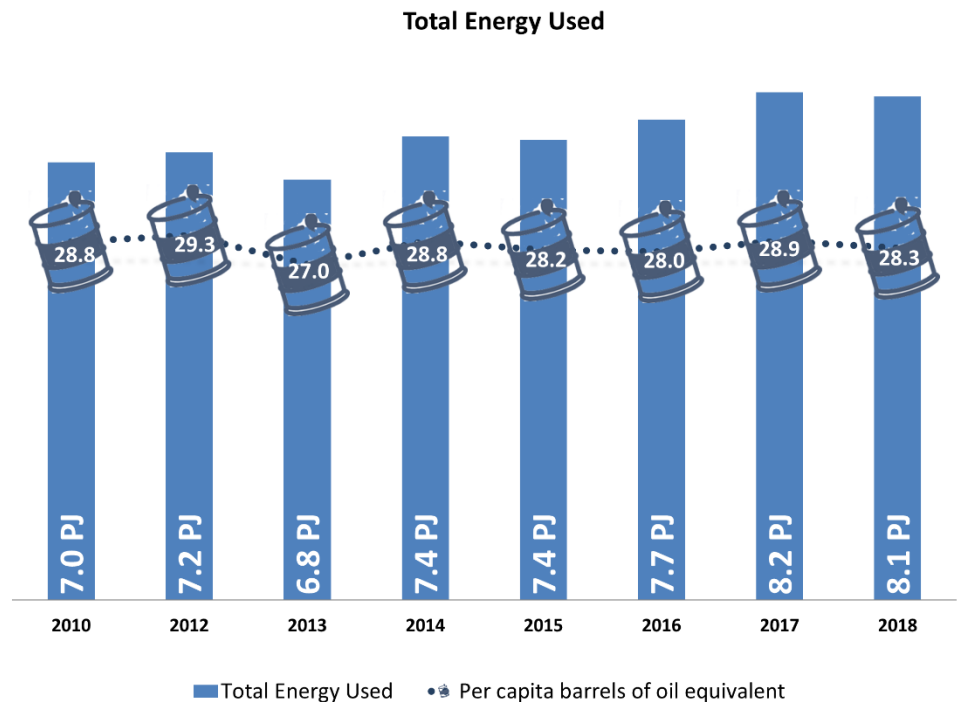
Why measure this?

Energy is a critical input to certain aspects of day to day living and business success in the region. Using non-renewable energy use has an impact on future energy supplies as well as ecosystem and human health locally and abroad. Even large renewable projects such as hydroelectric dams have significant impacts on land and aquatic ecosystems. An ability to reduce dependence on energy resources reflects more sustainable communities and may help regional residents and businesses better adapt to future energy price increases.

Trends	1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total Energy Used		
	-1%	+3%	Source: BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory, ICBC		
			Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or -	Time Frame: Year	Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2018, SLRD energy use totaled 8.1 petajoules (PJ), or the equivalent of about 1.3 million barrels of oil worth of energy.
- Per capita usage was the equivalent of 28 barrels of oil for every resident.
- Total energy use was more than the past eight-year average, but 1% less than 2017.



RGS GOAL 11: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

What is being measured?

Total annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions results include the emissions released from electricity generation, the energy used to generate heat/cooling, transportation energy as well as emissions resulting from landfilled waste. The embodied emissions of the products used in the region are not included. *Transportation emissions are estimated based on ICBC registered vehicles.

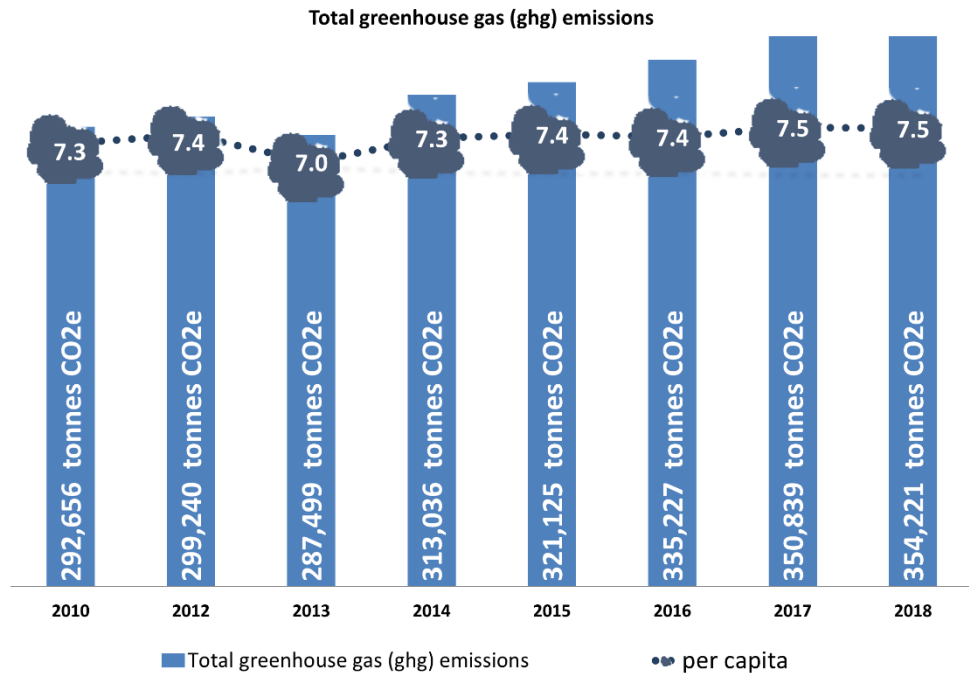
Why measure this?

Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are contributing to global climate change and increased ocean acidification. This changing climate will impact on the SLRD economy, community life, visitor experiences as well as directly on the local natural environment. Climate change, ocean acidification and GHG emissions are global and local issues that require solutions at all levels. Reducing the regional contribution is an important aspect of environmental stewardship as well as an opportunity to develop new business opportunities.

Trends 1 year	3-year avg.	Indicator: Total greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions
+1%	+3.3%	Source: BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory
		Trend Sensitivity: 3% + or - Time Frame: Year Availability: Variable

Latest Analysis

- In 2018, SLRD GHG emissions totaled 354,221 tonnes.
- Greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1% from 2017 to 2018, and the per capita emissions remained about the same.
- In 2018, transportation contributed 68% of the total GHG emissions, followed by buildings at 25% and solid waste at 7%.



APPENDIX 1

Main RGS Goal	Short Name	Long Name	Source	Positive Direction	Margin for reporting trends
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Diversity of Industry	Concentration of jobs in specific export like industries	BC Stats Community Profiles/Census Canada	Decrease	3% + or -
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Median Income	Inflation adjusted median income of SLRD based tax filers	BC Stats, Neighbourhood Tax file Income Data	Increase	1% + or -
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Total Income	Total income reported by SLRD based tax filers	BC Stats, Neighbourhood Tax file Income Data	Increase	1% + or -
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Room Revenue	Room revenue in the SLRD	BC Stats	Increase	1% + or -
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Population	Population	BC Statistics Estimates and Statistics Canada, Census Age Counts.	Increase	1% + or -
Achieve a Sustainable Economy	Connectivity	Proportion of the population where all high speed communications infrastructure is available	Industry Canada Broadband Maps, TELUS	Increase	3% + or -
Create Healthy and Safe Communities	Child Development	Proportion of total kindergarten children considered vulnerable based on the Early Childhood Development Index (EDI)	Human Early Learning Partnership UBC	Decrease	Variable
Create Healthy and Safe Communities	Safe Drinking Water	Proportion of systems reporting low hazard rating	Vancouver Coastal Health		

Main RGS Goal	Short Name	Long Name	Source	Positive Direction	Margin for reporting trends
Create Healthy and Safe Communities	Leisure Activity	Proportion of residents classified as active or moderately active.	Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) table 1050501	Increase	Variable
Create Healthy and Safe Communities	Trail Length	Length of low grade recreation and commuter trails	SLRD Member Municipalities	Increase	6% + or -
Encourage the Sustainable Use of Parks and Natural Areas	Recreation Facilities	Area of recreation facilities	SLRD, SLRD Member Municipalities, School Boards	Increase	1% +or-
Encourage the Sustainable Use of Parks and Natural Areas	Commercial Recreation Participants	Number of commercial recreation participant trips	BC Integrated Land Management Bureau, Adventure Tourism Branch	Increase	3% + or -
Enhance Relations with Aboriginal Communities	SLRD/Indigenous Community Meetings	Number SLRD/Indigenous Community meetings or engagements	SLRD	Increase	1% +or-
Focus Development into Compact, Complete, Sustainable Communities	Energy Use	Total Energy Used	BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory	Decrease	3% + or -
Focus Development into Compact, Complete, Sustainable Communities	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Total greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions	BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory	Decrease	3% + or -

Main RGS Goal	Short Name	Long Name	Source	Positive Direction	Margin for reporting trends
Focus Development into Compact, Complete, Sustainable Communities	Landfilled Waste	Total amount of landfilled waste	BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory or	Decrease	3% + or -
Focus Development into Compact, Complete, Sustainable Communities	Population Densities	Number of people per developable hectare	BC Community Energy and Emissions Inventory	Increase	1% +or-
Improve Collaboration among Jurisdictions	Voter Turnout	Proportion of the registered voters voting in SLRD area municipal elections	Elections BC	Increase	1% +or-
Improve Collaboration among Jurisdictions	Number of RGS steering committee meetings	Number of RGS steering committee meetings	SLRD	Increase	1% +or-
Improve Transportation Linkages and Options	Highway safety	Fatalities on major SLRD highways	ICBC, BC Government	Decrease	1% +or-
Improve Transportation Linkages and Options	Transit Commutes	Percentage of SLRD residents commuting to work via transit	Statistics Canada, Census, National Household Survey	Increase	1% +or-
Improve Transportation Linkages and Options	Vehicle Number	Number of registered vehicles	ICBC	Decrease	1% +or-
Protect Natural Ecosystem Functioning	Water Use	Total potable water use	SLRD		1% +or-

Main RGS Goal	Short Name	Long Name	Source	Positive Direction	Margin for reporting trends
Protect Natural Ecosystem Functioning	Species at Risk	Number of species at risk existing within the SLRD	BC Ministry of the Environment	Decrease	1% +or-
Protect Natural Ecosystem Functioning	Regional Air Quality	Annual Ozone PPB 4th Highest 8-hr Ave - 3yr roll - in Whistler	BC Ministry of the Environment	Decrease	1% +or-
Support a Range of Quality Affordable Housing	Housing Affordability	Ratio of median single family house price to median income	http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/Lgd/infra/statistics_index.htm	Decrease	1% +or-
Support a Range of Quality Affordable Housing	Housing Diversity	Proportion of multi-residential occupied private dwellings	Census	Increase	1% +or-
Protect and enhance food systems	Workable Farm Land	Total ha of workable/active farms	Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture, BC Assessment	Maintain-Increase	1% + or -
Protect and enhance food systems	Status of ALR	Number of subdivisions; number of non-farm use applications approved; amount of land removed from the ALR; amount of land included in the ALR.	ALC	Maintain-Increase	1% + or -
Protect and enhance food systems	Urban Agriculture	Number of community garden plots	Local Non-profits	Maintain-Increase	3% + or -