**2020 COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT**

# Golden



Photo: Leeza Perehudoff

APPLIED RESEARCH & INNOVATION
Selkirk College

COLUMBIA BASIN
RDI
RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
Selkirk College

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## Publication Details:

# Introduction

As part of the State of the Basin program, the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI) at Selkirk College has developed Community Profiles for municipalities and electoral areas within the Columbia Basin-Boundary region. The Columbia Basin-Boundary region is located in the southeast corner of British Columbia (BC) and includes the entire Regional Districts of East Kootenay (RDEK), Central Kootenay (RDCK), Kootenay Boundary (RDKB), as well as Golden, Revelstoke, Valemount, Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) Areas A and B, and a portion of Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) Area H (see map, below). This report covers the Town of Golden.

The primary goal of the State of the Basin reporting is to provide easily accessible and relevant data to help inform decisions that lead to greater community and regional well-being. State of the Basin research draws on available data from a variety of sources including federal, provincial, and local governments, crown corporations, and non-profit initiatives. Both open access sources and custom data requests are used.

Community profiles are intended to share area-specific data with local governments and other organizations to help build a better understanding of local conditions and trends and assist in making evidence-based planning and management decisions. These reports may also be useful for supporting communications with current residents, prospective residents, and for business and workforce attraction.

Indicators in this report are quantitative, and while quantitative indicators help establish foundational knowledge of well-being, they only tell part of the story. Qualitative information, including the RDI's subjective well-being research, can further contribute to the understanding of our communities and region. In order to describe geographic trends in indicators, this report compares community data with regional, provincial, and national data where appropriate. The geographic divisions used vary by indicator and depend on the topic being measured and the available data. **For additional community and regional comparisons for indicators in this report, please see the** State of the Basin website. Further community profiles (including electoral area profiles) can be found here.

Statistics Canada also offers a suite of data sets through their Census Program, where it is possible to search by place name and topic, and Census Mapper provides these data in mapped format. Interior Health has also developed Community Health Profiles for municipalities across BC. The Columbia Basin Climate Source website has area-specific climate data, including projections. BC Stats and Local Government Statistics are other online sources of community- and area-specific statistics.

If you have questions or feedback on this Community Profile, please contact the RDI.

# Location

The Town of Golden[1] is nestled between the spectacular Rocky Mountains to the east and the Purcell mountain range to the west, where the frothy Kicking Horse River flows into the mighty Columbia river. Combining a traditional British Columbia industrial base with a growing tourism sector, Golden attracts a broad cross-section of people from all over the world, who come to work, live, play, and stay. With spectacular scenery and access to numerous parks and wilderness areas, Golden is an enthusiastic mountain town offering plenty of outdoor recreation opportunities and cultural experiences. See www.golden.ca for more information.

| Golden | |
|---|---|
| **Regional District** | Columbia Shuswap |
| **Coordinates** | Longitude is 116°57'58"W<br>Latitude is 51°17'53"N |
| **Elevation** | 800 meters |
| **Area (km²)** | 11.4 km² |

# Demographics

Population characteristics help planners and local decision makers to evaluate current and future community needs, particularly with respect to service delivery and potential impacts to the local economy. [i,ii,iii]

## TOTAL POPULATION

| Population (Census)[3,4] | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 | Percent change 2006 to 2016 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Golden** | 3,811 | 3701 | 3708 | -2.7% |
| **Columbia Shuswap Regional District** | 50,141 | 50,512 | 51,366 | 2.4% |
| **British Columbia** | 4,113,487 | 4,400,057 | 4,648,055 | 13.0% |

| Population Estimate[5] | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Golden** | 4,016 | 4,074 | 4,131 |

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[i] Please see **Appendix A-1** for an important note regarding the use of random rounding in population and other demographic data sourced from Statistics Canada.

[ii] The RDI recognizes that gender identity is not a binary of male and female and that some transgender, non-binary, two spirit, and intersex populations may not be correctly represented by the data in this report. Databases that this report draws from, such as the 2016 census, limit responses to male or female. Canada's 2021 census will include more nuanced questions on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity to better represent LGBTQ2IA+ populations.

[iii] Population estimates are usually higher than Census counts for the same year. This is due to adjustments made to reflect those who were missed in the Census. In 2016 in BC, the population estimate was 4.1% higher than the Census count.[2]

## POPULATION DENSITY

| | Golden (2016)[3] | Columbia-Shuswap (2016)[3] | British Columbia (2016)[3] |
|---|---|---|---|
| **People per square-kilometer** | 325 | 1.8 | 5.0 |

## POPULATION PYRAMID

Population pyramids illustrate the age and sex structure of a population. As of 2016, 16% of the population in Golden was 65 or above, and 21% of the population was 19 or younger.[3]
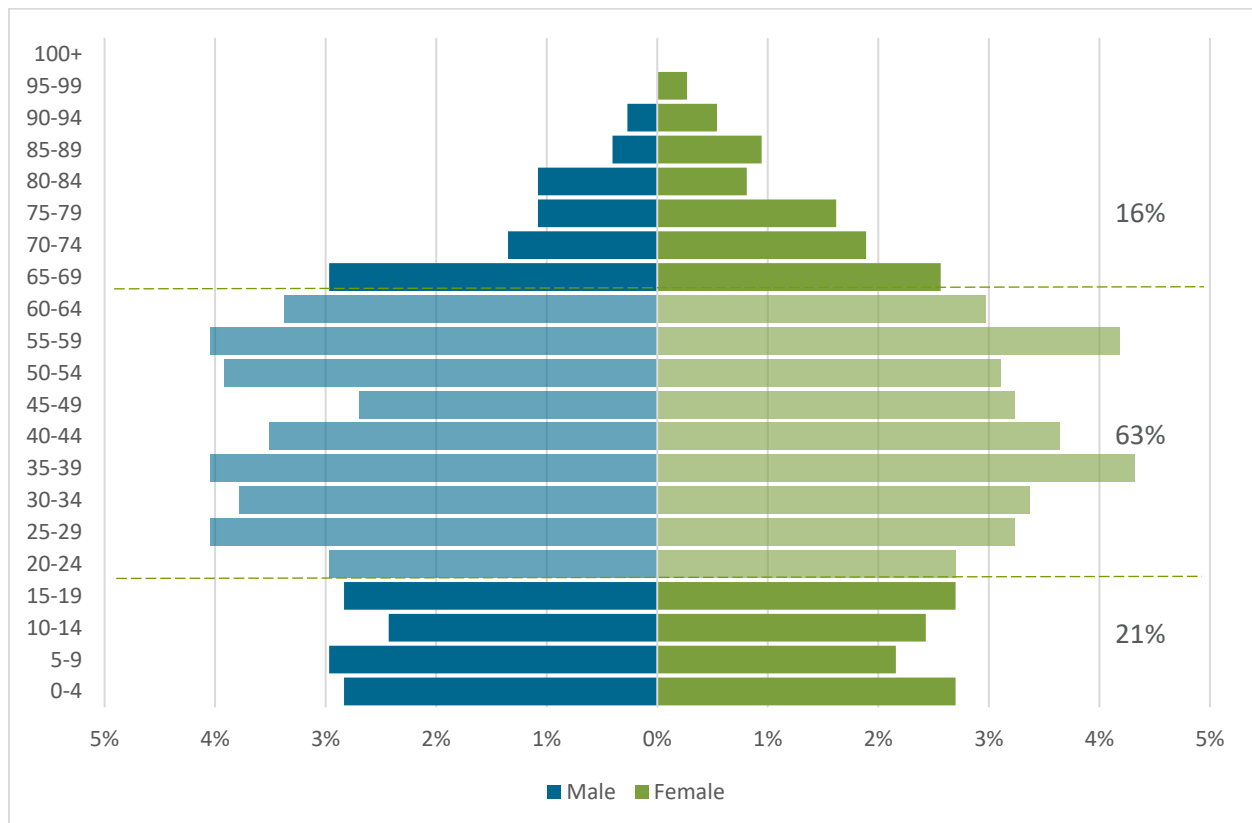


## LABOUR FORCE POPULATION PYRAMID

The chart below shows the age range distribution of children, emerging labour force, primary labour force, and seniors within the Golden population.[3]
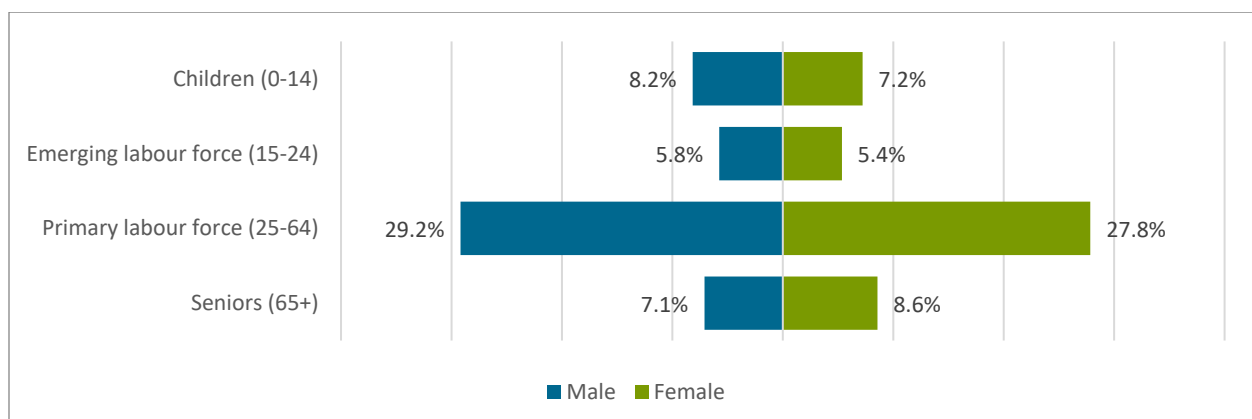
## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Population projections are available for each Local Health Area within the Columbia Basin-Boundary.[6] Golden is covered by the Golden Local Health Area.[iv]

|  | Golden Local Health Area | British Columbia |
|---|---|---|
| **Percent change in population projected 2020 to 2040** | 1% | 23% |

## AVERAGE AGE

|  | Golden (2016)[3] | | | British Columbia (2016)[3] | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** |
| **Total population** | 3,710 | 1,865 | 1,845 | 4,648,055 | 2,278,245 | 2,369,815 |
| **Average age of population (yrs)** | 41 | 39.9 | 42.1 | 42.3 | 41.5 | 43.1 |

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[iv] The Golden Local Health Area covers the Town of Golden and CSRD-A.

# Families & Households

Family characteristics such as size and composition of families can help inform social, economic, health, and education programming, as well as planning and development around infrastructure needs.[3]

## FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

| | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Average household size** | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.4 |
| **Total number of families in private households** | 1,025 | 15,650 | 1,311,345 |
| **Total couple families** | 870 | 13,870 | 1,113,405 |
| **Couples without children** | 485 | 9,110 | 577,790 |
| **Couples with children** | 385 | 4,755 | 535,610 |
| **One child** | 185 | 2,010 | 221,065 |
| **Two children** | 155 | 1,960 | 230,705 |
| **Three or more children** | 45 | 780 | 83,840 |
| **Total lone-parent families** | 155 | 1,785 | 197,940 |
| **Female parent** | 120 | 1,365 | 155,670 |
| **Male parent** | 35 | 420 | 42,265 |
| **One child** | 90 | 1,115 | 125,890 |
| **Two children** | 45 | 495 | 54,900 |
| **Three or more children** | 15 | 170 | 17,145 |
| **Total persons not in census families[v] in private households (singles)** | 820 | 9,395 | 882,895 |

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[v] A "census family" is a married or common law couple (regardless of sex) and the children of either/both spouse (if any), or a lone parent with a minimum of one child living in the same household. All members of a census family must live in the same dwelling to be considered a census family. Children are not limited by age so long as they are living in the same household and do not themselves have a spouse, common-law partner, or child in the same dwelling.[7]

## MARITAL STATUS

The chart below shows males and females who are married, living common law, single, separated, divorced or widowed as a percent of the total Golden population aged 15 years and older.[3]



Married: Male 22%, Female 21%
Living common law: Male 7%, Female 7%
Single (never married): Male 16%, Female 11%
Separated: Male 1%, Female 2%
Divorced: Male 3%, Female 4%
Widowed: Male 1%, Female 5%

■ Male  ■ Female
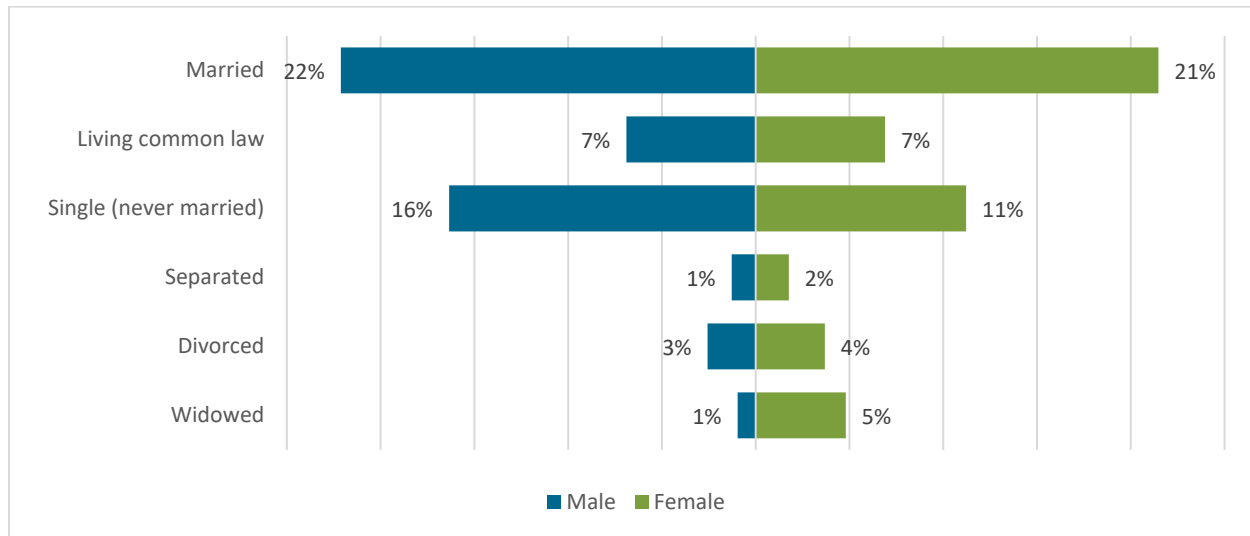
# Mobility

This indicator measures the movement of people into and out of the community with respect to where they lived five years prior. Non-movers are those who have not moved. Non-migrants are people who have moved within the same region. Migrants include those who moved within the province (intra-provincial), those who moved to or from another province (inter-provincial), and those who moved to Canada from another country (external migrants).[3]

|  | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Non-movers** | 58.9% | 62.4% | 57.4% |
| **Movers non-migrants** | 15.5% | 15.0% | 21.7% |
| **Intra-provincial migrants** | 9.4% | 13.2% | 11.6% |
| **Inter-provincial migrants** | 13.5% | 7.8% | 3.9% |
| **External migrants** | 2.6% | 1.5% | 5.4% |

# Cultural Characteristics

Cultural characteristics can enhance our understanding of a community and provide important context for other indicators. Language, ethnic origin, and Aboriginal identity[vi] are a few indicators that provide insight into a region's cultural diversity.[3]

## ETHNIC ORIGIN



Bar chart titled "Percentage of Residents" comparing Golden, Columbia-Shuswap, and British Columbia:

- Oceania origins: 1.9%, 0.8%, 0.9%
- Asian origins: 9.3%, 3.3%, 28.8%
- African origins: 0.3%, 0.6%, 1.3%
- Latin; Central and South American origins: 0.7%, 0.6%, 1.5%
- Caribbean origins: 0.0%, 0.1%, 0.5%
- European origins: 78.3%, 84.5%, 62.7%
- Other North American origins: 26.2%, 26.6%, 20.2%
- North American Aboriginal origins: 11.0%, 8.6%, 6.6%

Legend: Golden, Columbia-Shuswap, British Columbia

## ABORIGINAL IDENTITY



Bar chart comparing Golden, Columbia-Shuswap, and British Columbia:

- Aboriginal identity: 10.0%, 7.3%, 5.9%
- First Nations: 2.6%, 3.3%, 3.8%
- Métis: 7.1%, 3.7%, 2.0%
- Inuk (Inuit): 0.3%, 0.1%, 0.0%
- Multiple Aboriginal: 0.0%, 0.2%, 0.1%

Legend: Golden, Columbia-Shuswap, British Columbia

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[vi] Calculations performed using the published estimated total population. The sum of the ethnic groups is greater than the total because a person may report more than one ethnic origin in the census. For additional information, refer to *Ethnic Origin Reference Guide, Census of Population, 2016*

## Language Spoken Most Often at Home

|  | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **English** | 94.2% | 97.6% | 83.2% |
| **French** | 1.4% | 0.6% | 0.4% |
| **Non-official languages** | 4.4% | 1.8% | 16.4% |

# Infrastructure

Infrastructure is the physical foundation for community well-being. Water, sewer, utilities, roads, and waste management are all critical for a functioning healthy municipality.

## Water Services

| | |
|---|---|
| **Provider** | Town of Golden |
| **Average per capita demand (2015)[8]** | 751 L/capita/day * |
| **Annual residential unmetered water flat rate (2021)[9]** | $316.08 |
| **Metered annual flat rate (2021)[9]** | $93.24 |
| **Metered quarterly consumption rate ($/m³)** | |
| 0-1,100 (m³) | $0.64 |
| 1,101-4,399 (m³) | $0.74 |
| Over 4,399 (m³) | $0.83 |

\* For comparison, average per capita demand for BC is 503 liters (2017)[10]

## Sewer Services

| | |
|---|---|
| **Provider** | Town of Golden |
| **Type of treatment** | Secondary |
| **Annual sewer flat rate (2021) (residential)[11]** | $397.32 |
| **Annual sewer flat rate (2021) (industrial/commercial/institutional)[11]** | varies by type |

## Service Providers

| | |
|---|---|
| **Electric power[12]** | BC Hydro |
| **Natural gas[13]** | N/A |
| **Telecommunications[14]** | Telus, Shaw, Xplornet, Bell, Rogers, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation, Eastlink, FlexiNET |

## Landfill & Waste Management

| | |
|---|---|
| **Landfill location(s)[15]** | Golden Landfill |
| **Regional District municipal solid waste disposal rate (2018)[16]** | 730 kg/person/year* |
| **Type of service[17]** | Curbside garbage and recycling pick-up |

\* For comparison, average per capita waste disposal rate for BC is 505 kg/person/year (2018)[18]

## TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Traffic volume data are taken from traffic count stations within, or routes that directly enter, the municipality. Permanent count stations are reported when available. When permanent count stations are not available, numbers from short count stations are reported.[vii,19]

| Station location | Annual Average Daily Traffic (2019) (number of vehicles) | Monthly Average Daily Traffic (2019) January | Monthly Average Daily Traffic (2019) July |
|---|---|---|---|
| Route 1, 2.5 km east of Route 95, Golden (P-37-1EW) (Permanent) | 6,617 | 3,627 | 12,131 |
| Kicking Horse, Route 1, 15km East of Route 95, Golden (P-37-5EW) (Permanent) | 6,680 | N/A | 11,846 |
| Twin Slides, Route 1, approx. 47km East of Revelstoke (P-37-4EW) (Permanent) | 5,612 | 3,213 | N/A |

## BC TRANSIT

Golden is serviced by BC Transit's Golden/Cranbrook Health Connections route. This route is a partnership between Kootenay East Regional Hospital District, RDEK, and BC Transit to provide residents with transportation to non-emergency medical appointments. There are no other fixed routes offered. For more information on how Golden is serviced by the BC transit system, visit https://www.bctransit.com/cranbrook/home.

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[vii] Traffic volumes are monitored continuously at permanent count stations, and over a minimum of 48-hour period every three years at short count stations.

# Housing

Housing stock, diversity, availability, and costs are an important basic foundation of functioning and affordable communities. Several indicators related to housing are included in this community profile.

## DWELLING CHARACTERISTICS

| Dwellings by Structure[3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of occupied private dwellings | 1,595 | 22,455 | 1,881,970 |
| Single-detached house | 900 | 15,880 | 830,660 |
| Apartment in a building that has 5 or more storeys | 0 | 20 | 177,830 |
| Other attached dwelling | 415 | 4,170 | 824,190 |
| Semi-detached house | 85 | 590 | 57,395 |
| Row house | 90 | 875 | 147,830 |
| Apartment or flat in duplex | 60 | 920 | 230,075 |
| Apartment in a building that has fewer than 5 storeys | 170 | 1,680 | 385,140 |
| Other single-attached house | 5 | 100 | 3,755 |
| Movable dwelling | 285 | 2,390 | 49,290 |

| Dwellings by Period of Construction[3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of occupied private dwellings | 1,595 | 22,455 | 1,881,970 |
| 1960 or before | 200 | 2,700 | 267,560 |
| 1961 to 1980 | 750 | 7,980 | 559,485 |
| 1981 to 1990 | 215 | 2,810 | 289,565 |
| 1991 to 2000 | 225 | 4,405 | 331,865 |
| 2001 to 2005 | 75 | 1,345 | 125,335 |
| 2006 to 2010 | 75 | 2,060 | 171,945 |
| 2011 to 2016 | 60 | 1,145 | 136,210 |
| Private dwellings in need of major repairs | 6.9% | 7.0% | 6.3% |

## RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY VALUES

| Golden Single-Family Residential Property Value[20] | 2020 | 2021 | % Change | Columbia Basin-Boundary (2021) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Median assessed value[viii] | $378,000 | $417,000 | 10% | $352,100 |

| % of Single-Family Residential Dwellings in Different Value Categories | Golden (2021) | Columbia Basin-Boundary (2021) |
|---|---|---|
| Number of single-family dwellings | 1,160 | 57,830 |
| $0 to $99,999 | 0.2% | 4.1% |
| $100,000 to $199,999 | 4.8% | 11.3% |
| $200,000 to $299,999 | 8.3% | 21.1% |
| $300,000 to $399,999 | 30.1% | 23.7% |
| $400,000 to $499,999 | 34.9% | 16.3% |
| $500,000 to $599,999 | 14.5% | 9.8% |
| $600,000 and over | 7.2% | 13.7% |

## HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

| Household Occupation[3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total private dwellings | 1,753 | 29,798 | 2,063,417 |
| Private dwellings occupied by usual residents | 91.1% | 75.4% | 91.2% |

*"Private dwelling occupied by usual residents" refers to a private dwelling in which a person or a group of persons is permanently residing.

| Private Households by Tenure[3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Private households who are owners | 73.4% | 79.7% | 68.0% |
| Private households who are renters | 27.0% | 20.2% | 31.8% |
| Private households in band housing | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.2% |

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[viii] Assessed value as of the July 1 of the previous year. Ex: 2020 assessed value as of July 1, 2019.

## HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Housing is considered unaffordable when more than 30% of a household's income is spent on shelter costs. Shelter costs include electricity, oil, gas, wood, or other fuels, water and other municipal services, mortgage payments, property taxes, condominium fees, and rent.[ix, 3]
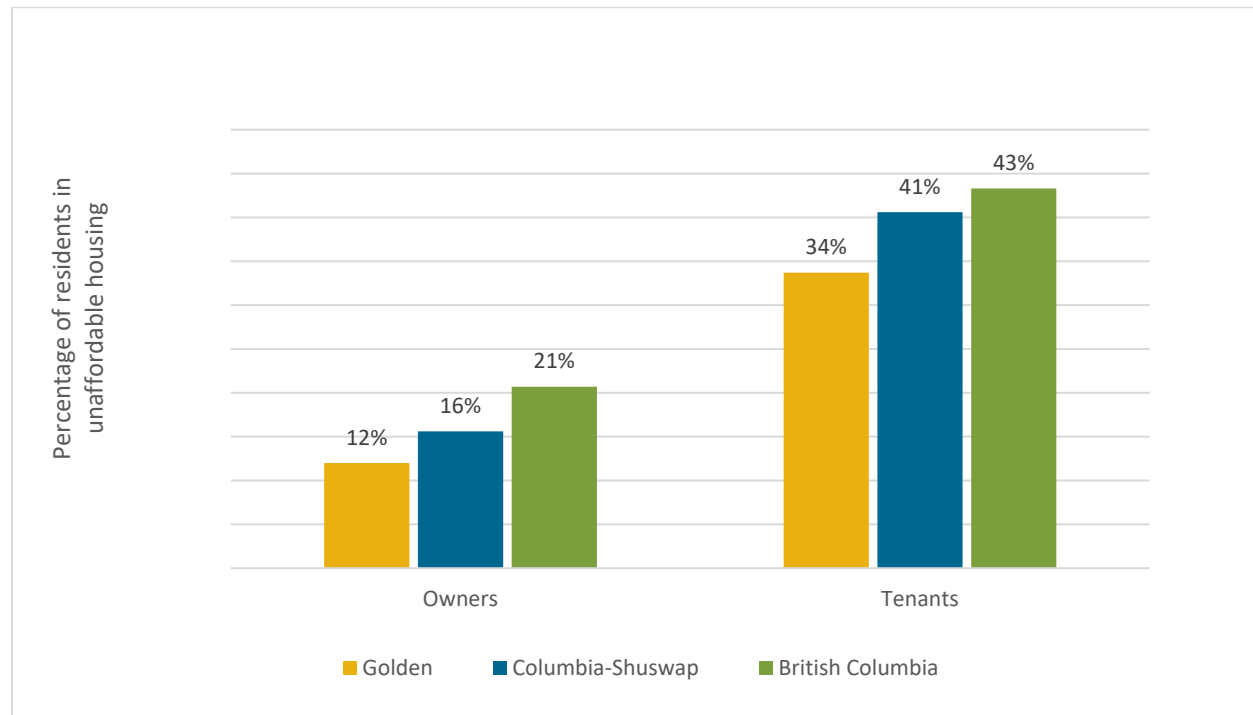


## VACANCY RATES

Vacancy rates are an important indicator of the availability of affordable housing. A balanced vacancy rate is 3%.[21, x]



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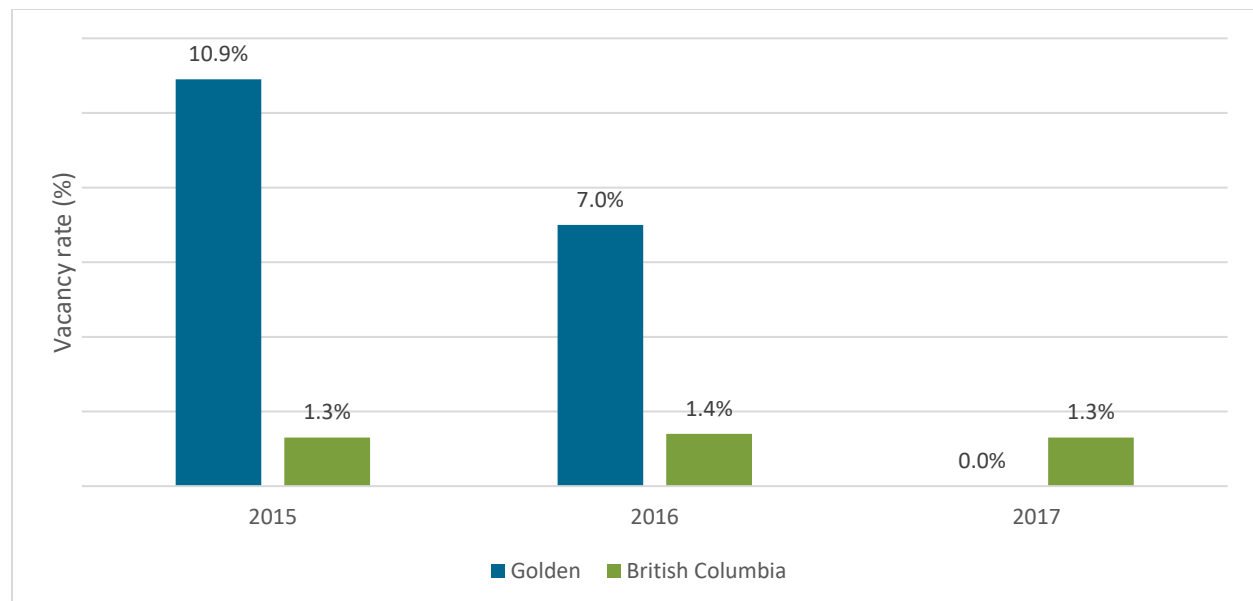
[ix] Please see **Appendix A-2** for limitations of Statistics Canada's shelter-cost-to-income ratio calculations.

[x] CMHC is no longer collecting data for small municipalities; current data are only available for Nelson and Cranbrook.

# Income

Income is a substantial determinant of personal well-being and income levels reflect economic opportunity.

## INDIVIDUAL INCOME

| After-tax individual income[22,23] | Golden (2018)[xi] | | Columbia-Shuswap (2018) | | British Columbia (2018) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Number** | **Percent** | **Number** | **Percent** | **Number** | **Percent** |
| **Under $5,000** | 250 | 4.8% | 2,340 | 5.3% | 273,160 | 7.2% |
| **$5,000 to $9,999** | 220 | 4.2% | 2,290 | 5.2% | 210,040 | 5.5% |
| **$10,000 to $14,999** | 350 | 6.7% | 3,530 | 8.1% | 300,860 | 7.9% |
| **$15,000 to $19,999** | 400 | 7.7% | 4,170 | 9.5% | 342,760 | 9.0% |
| **$20,000 to $24,999** | 470 | 9.1% | 4,530 | 10.3% | 333,430 | 8.8% |
| **$25,000 to $34,999** | 850 | 16.4% | 7,450 | 17.0% | 541,660 | 14.2% |
| **$35,000 to $49,999** | 970 | 18.7% | 8,050 | 18.4% | 680,440 | 17.9% |
| **$50,000 to $74,999** | 1,070 | 20.6% | 7,320 | 16.7% | 647,200 | 17.0% |
| **$75,000 to $99,999** | 420 | 8.1% | 2,660 | 6.1% | 274,600 | 7.2% |
| **$100,000 to $149,999** | 150 | 2.9% | 1,200 | 2.7% | 142,420 | 3.7% |
| **$150,000 to $199,000** | x | x | 180 | 0.4% | 32,590 | 0.9% |
| **$200,000 to $249,999** | x | x | 60 | 0.1% | 11,480 | 0.3% |
| **$250,000 and over** | x | x | 60 | 0.1% | 15,680 | 0.4% |
| **Median** | $39,590 | | $34,170 | | $36,100 | |
| **Average** | $36,888 | | $48,196 | | $50,016 | |

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[xi]Note: 'x' designates that for reliability or confidentiality purposes, data is not published

## SOURCE OF INCOME

Source of income data can provide insight into the general income structure of a population.[24]

| Source of Income (2018) | Golden (% tax filers) | Columbia-Shuswap (% tax filers) | British Columbia (% tax filers) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Employment income | 80.5% | 69.6% | 73.6% |
| Self-employment income | 14.5% | 13.7% | 12.7% |
| Investment income | 30.6% | 34.4% | 34.2% |
| Employment insurance | 11.9% | 10.4% | 6.5% |
| Old Age Security / Net Federal Supplement | 18.1% | 29.1% | 22.1% |
| Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan | 24.1% | 36.7% | 26.7% |
| Canada Child Tax Benefit | 12.7% | 11.0% | 11.8% |
| GST/HST credit | 29.1% | 32.6% | 34.3% |
| Workers compensation | 3.3% | 3.2% | 2.6% |
| Social assistance | 2.5% | 3.8% | 5.1% |
| Provincial Refundable Tax Credits/Family Benefits | 32.8% | 35.8% | 37.2% |
| Other Government Transfers | 7.5% | 6.4% | 6.3% |
| Private pensions | 15.4% | 22.7% | 16.9% |
| RRSP | 1.5% | 2.3% | 1.7% |
| Other income | 19.7% | 22.2% | 22.3% |

## LOW INCOME MEASURE

The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a commonly used, internationally comparable measure of low income. The LIM threshold is 50% of median national adjusted after tax-income, where 'adjusted' means household size is taken into account. A person is considered to be in low income when their after-tax income is below the LIM threshold for their household size..[xii,25]

The table and chart below provide a comparison by age bracket and year-to-year total population of persons with low-income in Golden, regional district, and BC.[26,27,28,29,30]

| Percent of Individuals with Low Income | Golden (2018) | Columbia-Shuswap (2018) | British Columbia (2018) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **0-17 years old** | 12.6% | 17.9% | 18.5% |
| **18-64 years old** | 12.7% | 15.4% | 18.0% |
| **65+ years old** | 13.4% | 11.9% | 18.2% |
| **All Ages** | 12.8% | 15.0% | 18.1% |
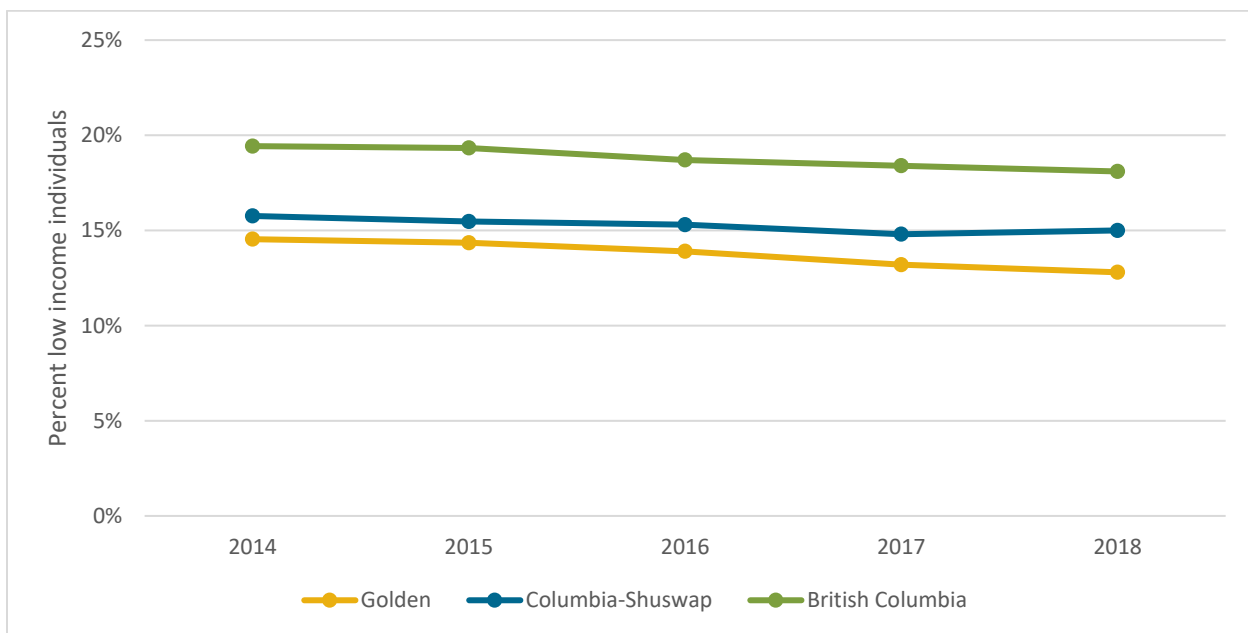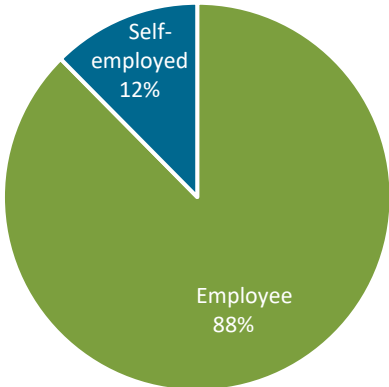
xii In 2018, Statistics Canada introduced a new methodology for calculating the LIM threshold, which allows for individual economic well-being to be analyzed (in comparison, previous calculations considered the entire household as a single unit with the assumption of an equitable distribution of resources).[25] Data represented here uses the new methodology, and for that reason, cannot be compared with previous State of the Basin analyses of Low Income Measure.

# Labour Force

## CLASS OF WORKER & OCCUPATIONS

This indicator gives an overview of the make-up of the local workforce and industries.[3] The pie charts show the percentage of the employed labour force who are self-employed versus those who are employed by others. The tables provide numbers and percentages of the labour force in specific occupations for Golden, the regional district, and BC.[xiii]

| Golden (2016) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **% Self-employed v. % Employees** | **Occupation** | **Number of persons** | **Percent** |
| | Sales and services | 680 | 32.3% |
| | Trades, transport and equipment operators and related | 400 | 19.0% |
| Self-employed 12% | Business, finance and admin | 150 | 7.1% |
| | Management | 195 | 9.3% |
| | Education, law and social, community and government | 200 | 9.5% |
| Employee 88% | Health | 115 | 5.5% |
| | Natural and applied sciences | 80 | 3.8% |
| | Natural resources, agriculture and related production | 90 | 4.3% |
| | Manufacturing and utilities | 110 | 5.2% |
| | Art, culture, recreation and sport | 75 | 3.6% |

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[xiii] The labour force includes persons aged 15 and older, employed or unemployed.[31] Occupation is determined by the kind of work done and descriptions of the main activities in the job.[32]

## Columbia-Shuswap (2016)

| % Self-employed v. % Employees | Occupation | Number of persons | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Sales and services | 6,325 | 24.9% |
| | Trades, transport and equipment operators and related | 5,180 | 20.4% |
| | Business, finance and admin | 2,790 | 11.0% |
| | Management | 2,910 | 11.5% |
| | Education, law and social, community and government | 2,030 | 8.0% |
| | Health | 1,525 | 6.0% |
| | Natural and applied sciences | 1,275 | 5.0% |
| | Natural resources, agriculture and related production | 1,320 | 5.2% |
| | Manufacturing and utilities | 1,115 | 4.4% |
| | Art, culture, recreation and sport | 640 | 2.5% |

Self-employed 18% / Employee 82%

## British Columbia (2016)

| % Self-employed v. % Employees | Occupation | Number of persons | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Sales and services | 595,225 | 24.1% |
| | Trades, transport and equipment operators and related | 360,970 | 14.6% |
| | Business, finance and admin | 368,940 | 14.9% |
| | Management | 275,000 | 11.1% |
| | Education, law and social, community and government | 269,255 | 10.9% |
| | Health | 162,865 | 6.6% |
| | Natural and applied sciences | 161,520 | 6.5% |
| | Natural resources, agriculture and related production | 64,235 | 2.6% |
| | Manufacturing and utilities | 76,745 | 3.1% |
| | Art, culture, recreation and sport | 93,100 | 3.8% |

Self-employed 14% / Employees 86%

## LABOUR FORCE BY INDUSTRY

| Industry[3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Accommodation and food services | 18.1% | 10.0% | 8.4% |
| Retail trade | 10.0% | 12.3% | 11.5% |
| Manufacturing | 9.0% | 8.8% | 6.4% |
| Transportation and warehousing | 8.6% | 5.7% | 5.2% |
| Health care and social assistance | 7.9% | 9.3% | 11.0% |
| Arts; entertainment and recreation | 7.6% | 4.3% | 2.3% |
| Construction | 7.1% | 11.1% | 8.1% |
| Educational services | 6.0% | 5.3% | 7.0% |
| Public administration | 4.8% | 3.6% | 5.1% |
| Professional; scientific and technical services | 4.3% | 4.4% | 8.0% |
| Administrative and support; waste management and remediation services | 4.3% | 4.4% | 4.4% |
| Other services (except public administration) | 4.3% | 4.6% | 4.5% |
| Agriculture; forestry; fishing and hunting | 3.1% | 5.5% | 2.6% |
| Finance and insurance | 1.4% | 2.3% | 3.8% |
| Mining; quarrying; and oil and gas extraction | 0.7% | 2.0% | 1.0% |
| Information and cultural industries | 0.7% | 1.0% | 2.7% |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0.7% | 2.3% | 2.2% |
| Wholesale trade | 0.5% | 1.6% | 3.3% |
| Utilities | 0.0% | 0.6% | 0.5% |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% |

## PLACE OF WORK

| Place[3] | Golden (2016) | | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | | British Columbia (2016) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| **Worked at home** | 120 | 6.3% | 2,280 | 9.9% | 196,510 | 8.5% |
| **Worked outside Canada** | 0 | 0.0% | 45 | 0.2% | 16,040 | 0.7% |
| **No fixed workplace address** | 275 | 14.3% | 4,010 | 17.4% | 326,180 | 14.1% |
| **Worked at usual place[xiv]** | 1,525 | 79.4% | 16,780 | 72.6% | 1,766,965 | 76.6% |

## COMMUTE TO WORK

| Commute Duration [xv,3] | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Less than 15 minutes** | 70.6% | 55.7% | 28.8% |
| **15 to 29 minutes** | 16.9% | 23.6% | 32.9% |
| **30 to 44 minutes** | 4.2% | 9.8% | 20.3% |
| **45 to 59 minutes** | 2.2% | 3.5% | 8.8% |
| **60 minutes or more** | 5.8% | 7.4% | 9.1% |

## UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment rates are a strong indicator of economic health. Unemployment rates based on the 2016 Census are shown.[3] Labour Force Survey data at the economic development region level are updated more frequently and can be found in the State of the Basin Unemployment indicator.

| Unemployment Rate | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** | 8.8% | 9.0% | 6.7% |
| **Male** | 6.8% | 10.6% | 7.1% |
| **Female** | 10.5% | 7.2% | 6.3% |

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[xiv] "Usual place" means working at a specific address and reporting to the same workplace location at the beginning of each shift.[33]

[xv] Total used in calculations is the employed labour force aged 15 years and over in private households with a usual place of work or no fixed workplace.[34]

## LABOUR FORCE REPLACEMENT RATE

The Labour Force Replacement Rate is a measure of the number of people who will be entering vs. leaving the workforce in the next 15 years. For the purpose of this measurement, those considered to be entering the workforce are members of the population aged 0-14, and those leaving are those aged 50-64. A rate of 1.0 means the child and retiree populations are the same. A rate of less than 1.0 means an area is likely unable to maintain the current labour force with local replacement workers.[3]

| | Golden (2016) | Columbia-Shuswap (2016) | British Columbia (2016) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Labour Force Replacement Rate** | 0.72 | 0.52 | 0.67 |

# Education

## EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

The early years are crucial in influencing a range of health and social outcomes. Research shows that many challenges in adults, including mental health and criminality, have their roots in early childhood. The Early Development Instrument (EDI) assesses the developmental readiness of children in five core areas. These are: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communication skills and general knowledge.[xvi] The EDI is used to assess the percentages of vulnerable children in each core area. Children are categorized as "vulnerable" when it is believed that they will need additional support in order to avoid future challenges in school and society. Data are available at the school district or neighbourhood level.

The chart below shows the percentage of children vulnerable in each core area, as well as the percentage of children vulnerable in one or more core areas, for the Golden neighbourhood.[xvii] Percentages for the province as a whole are shown for comparison. These data are from the most recent wave (Wave 8) of data collection, which took place in 2019/20.[35]



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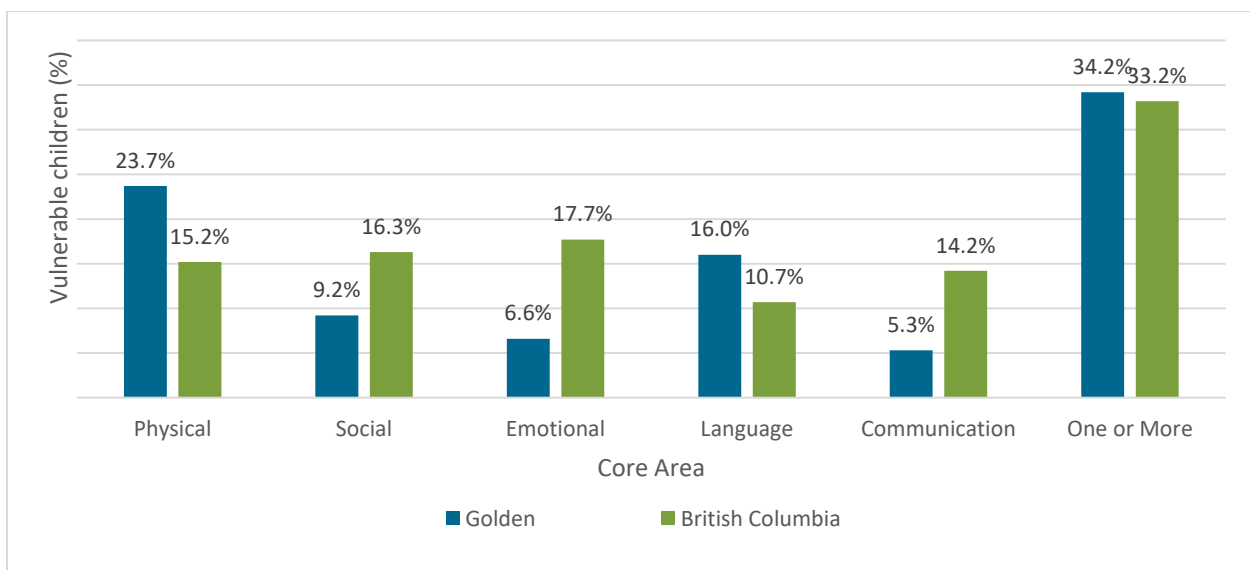
[xvi] For more information on what is measured within each core area, see **Appendix A-3**.
[xvii] The Golden neighbourhood covers the Town of Golden.

The chart below shows the trend over EDI collection periods for the Golden neighbourhood.



| | Wave 2 (2004-2007) | Wave 3 (2007-2009) | Wave 4 (2009-2011) | Wave 5 (2011-2013) | Wave 6 (2013-2016) | Wave 7 (2016-2019) | Wave 8 Yr 1 (2019-2020) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Golden | 34.6% | 31.5% | 40.0% | 37.1% | 25.6% | 21.7% | 34.2% |

Core Area: One or More
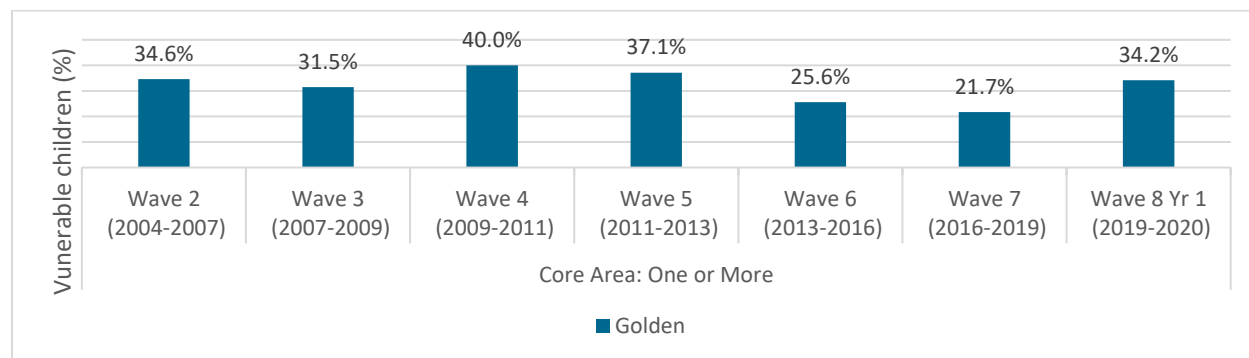
## PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Golden falls within the Rocky Mountain School District (#6).[xviii] Student enrollment measures the number of all school-age persons and adults who are enrolled in public schools and working towards high school graduation. Enrollment trends provide information about changes in the school-age population and is valuable for forecasting and planning.[xix] [36]

| Rocky Mountain (SD 6) | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total student enrollment | 3323 | 3384 | 3470 | 3460 | 3343 |
| Elementary student enrollment | 1995 | 2042 | 2116 | 2132 | 2091 |
| Secondary school enrollment | 1322 | 1335 | 1336 | 1327 | 1252 |
| Indigenous students | 744 | 742 | 762 | 764 | 716 |
| English language learners[37] | 57 | 70 | 34 | 29 | Mask |
| French immersion | 147 | 147 | 162 | 174 | 171 |
| Non-residents[37] | 108 | 86 | 79 | 78 | Mask |

\* Differences between total and elementary and secondary enrollments are due to a small number of enrolled adults

## HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

High school completion rates indicate how successful our families, schools, and communities are in supporting youth in achieving graduation. This indicator measures the proportion of students who graduate high school within six years of the first time they enroll in grade 8.[38] High school graduation is generally a minimum education level for most employment and a foundation for positive workplace conditions and future employment success.

| | 2015/2016 | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rocky Mountain (SD 6) | 85.0% | 92.4% | 90.5% | 86.5% | 84.5% |
| All BC Public Schools | 86.8% | 87.3% | 88.5% | 88.8% | 89.6% |

[xviii]The Rocky Mountain school district covers multiple municipalities and electoral areas, therefore numbers reported reflect the full school district and are not limited to Golden.
[xix] Due to revisions in 2020 to the Ministry of Education's Protection of Personal Information when Reporting on Small Populations policy, data masking occurs when any cells have fewer than 10 observations, even if the summed total for a category exceeds 10. This impacts reporting enrollment past the 2019/20 school year on categories with lower numbers such as French immersion.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Education levels are highly correlated with social determinants of health such as income, employment security, and socio-economic opportunity. This indicator measures the highest level of attainment of people aged 25 to 64 years (2016).[3]



| Category | Golden | CSRD | British Columbia |
|---|---|---|---|
| University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above | 15.1% | 15.5% | 29.9% |
| University certificate or diploma below bachelor level | 2.9% | 3.6% | 3.9% |
| College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma | 20.9% | 23.7% | 20.9% |
| Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma | 11.1% | 15.4% | 9.1% |
| Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree | 50.1% | 58.3% | 63.9% |
| Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate | 31.4% | 29.9% | 26.5% |
| No certificate; diploma or degree | 18.5% | 11.8% | 9.6% |

# Quality of Life & Civic Engagement

## LIFE EXPECTANCY

Life expectancy is a widely used indicator of population health. This indicator reports on the number of years a person is expected to live based on mortality statistics for a Local Health Area (LHA).[39] Golden is covered by the Golden Local Health Area.

|  | Life Expectancy 2015-2019 Average |
|---|---|
| **Golden Local Health Area** | 82.5 |
| **British Columbia** | 82.7 |

## VOTER TURNOUT

Voter turnout is an indicator of resident involvement in politics and can be seen as a reflection of civic mindedness and citizen engagement. This indicator measures the percentage of eligible voters who voted in local elections.[40]

|  | 2008 | 2011 | 2014 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Golden** | 40.4% | 25.4% | 43.5% | 23.2% |
| **Columbia Basin-Boundary average** | 41.5% | 36.7% | 44.5% | 44.0% |

## CRIME SEVERITY INDEX

Crime rates are a common indicator of public safety. The police reported Crime Severity Index (CSI)[41] includes all Criminal Code violations including traffic, as well as drug violations and all Federal Statutes. It measures the volume and severity of police-reported crime.[xx]
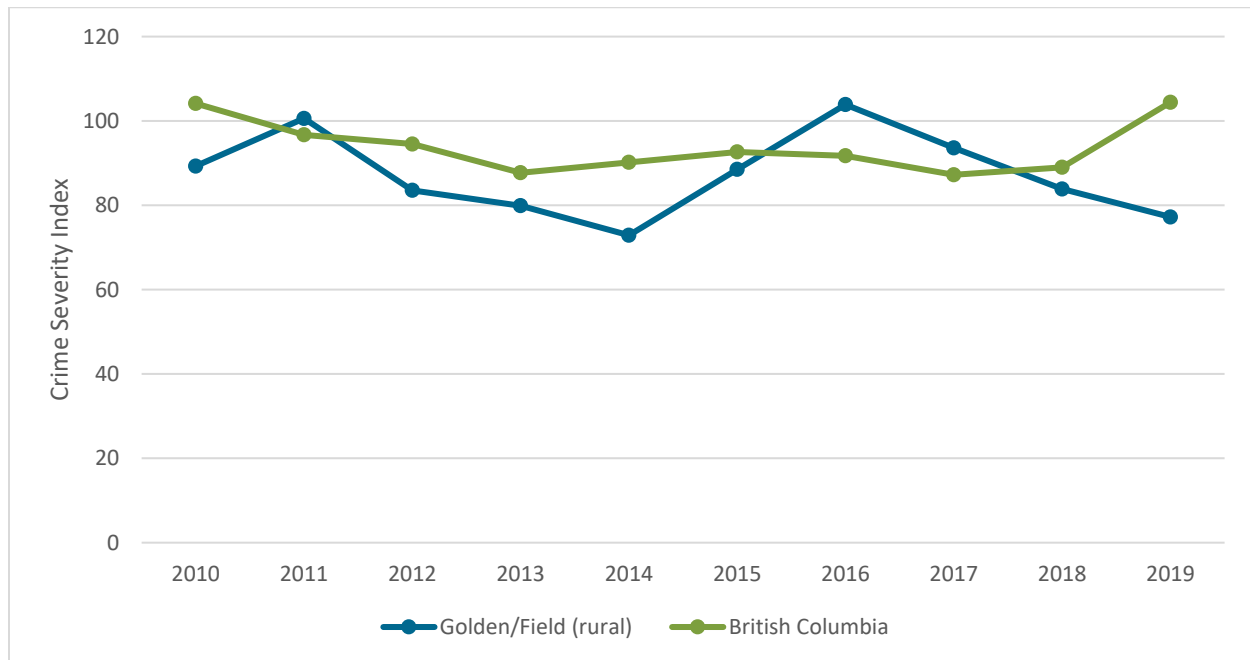


## CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Charitable donations play a role in improving well-being by providing support to a variety of initiatives. Charitable giving reflects a capacity to give, and is tied to the economy, in that people may give more or less depending on their financial situation and the state of the economy.[42]

| | Golden (2018) | Columbia-Shuswap (2018) | British Columbia (2018) | Canada (2018) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total # of tax-filers** | 5,020 | 42,670 | 3,702,970 | 27,394,970 |
| **Total charitable donors** | 900 | 7,040 | 683,150 | 5,324,280 |
| **Percent charitable donors** | 17.9% | 16.5% | 18.4% | 19.4% |
| **Total charitable donations ($'000)** | $885 | $12,105 | $1,758,810 | $9,952,505 |
| **Median donation** | $180 | $430 | $470 | $310 |
| **Median income** | $64,610 | $53,280 | $62,360 | $61,940 |

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[xx] Due to the small population in rural communities, the CSI can change dramatically from year to year due to a small amount of crime. Data for police services with populations less than 5,000 should be used with caution.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE

Libraries play an important role in the vibrancy of a community, as libraries are often a gathering place for residents where a diversity of programs and services are offered. Library statistics are useful for providing an indication of the health and capacity of these facilities in serving community needs and interests.[43,44]
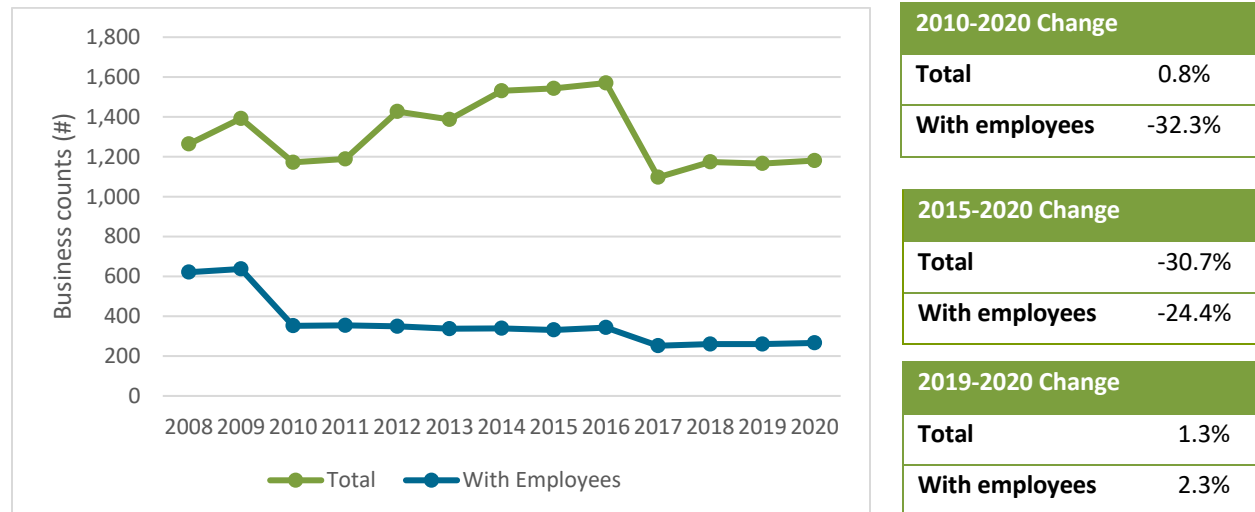
| | Golden Public Library (2019)* | Average all libraries in Columbia Basin-Boundary (2019)* |
|---|---|---|
| **Population served** | N/A | 7,489 |
| **Total active cardholders as % of population served** | N/A | 35.9% |
| **Attendance at children's and young adult programs** | N/A | 3,004 |
| **Total full-time equivalent employees (FTE)** | N/A | 3.8 |
| **Volunteer hours worked** | N/A | 1144.2 |
| **Number of in-person visits** | 31,230 | 47,324 |
| **Total visits per capita** | N/A | 9.9 |
| **Average hours open per week** | N/A | 40.3 |
| **Total local government support** | N/A | 265,314 |
| **Local government support per capita** | N/A | 36.4 |
| **Total other revenue** | N/A | 48,960 |

**\*Columbia** Basin-Boundary averages do not include the Golden or Revelstoke libraries, as these branches are part of the Okanagan Regional Library and comprehensive data by branch are not available. See Gaps and Further Research for more information.

# Business

## BUSINESS COUNTS

Trends in the number of businesses within a region is an indicator of economic health.[45] In the chart below, "total" refers to total number of businesses both with and without employees, and "with employees" refers only to those businesses that have employees other than the owner.



| 2010-2020 Change | |
|---|---|
| **Total** | 0.8% |
| **With employees** | -32.3% |

| 2015-2020 Change | |
|---|---|
| **Total** | -30.7% |
| **With employees** | -24.4% |

| 2019-2020 Change | |
|---|---|
| **Total** | 1.3% |
| **With employees** | 2.3% |

## BUSINESS FORMATIONS

The number of business incorporations is an indicator of the overall business climate, providing a sense of an expanding or contracting economy.[46]

| Year | Golden | Columbia-Shuswap | British Columbia |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2016** | 40 | 264 | 43,556 |
| **2017** | 40 | 289 | 46,247 |
| **2018** | 45 | 295 | 46,245 |
| **2019** | 33 | 285 | 44,657 |
| **2020** | 38 | 315 | 47,789 |

## BUILDING PERMITS

This indicator measures the building permit construction value issued annually by a defined region. Building permits are a well-accepted indicator of economic performance. Values below are reported in thousands.[xxi]

| Year | Golden[47] ($'000) | Columbia-Shuswap [48] ($'000) | British Columbia[47] ($'000) |
|------|------|------|------|
| 2015 | $8,742 | $6,932 | $12,971,649 |
| 2016 | $4,499 | $8,203 | $12,492,196 |
| 2017 | $8,893 | $7,609 | $14,668,692 |
| 2018 | $14,877 | $16,946 | $18,361,550 |
| 2019 | $12,613 | $40,336 | $23,044,653 |

## VISITOR CENTRE STATISTICS

Visitor Centre Statistics are a common indicator of tourism, an economic sector for many regions. Numbers for the Golden Visitor Center have been provided below.[49]

| Year | Total Visitors Golden Visitor Centre | Change from previous year Golden | Change for all visitor centres in BC |
|------|------|------|------|
| 2016 | N/A | N/A | 0.6% |
| 2017 | 10,984 | N/A | -2.6% |
| 2018 | 16,102 | 46.6% | -8.2% |
| 2019 | 18,070 | 12.2% | 10.6% |
| 2020 | 4,590 | -74.6% | -70.1% |

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[xxi] Building permit data source has shifted from BC Stats to Local Government Statistics based on data availability, so caution should be used when comparing results from this community profile to previous profiles. Regional district totals do not include municipalities with their own building inspection services. For the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, these municipalities are: Revelstoke and Sicamous.

# Local Government

Local governments are required to submit data annually to the BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, including annual reports and financial statements. Municipal revenues and expenses and taxes on a representative house[xxii] provide an indication of a local government's capacity, financial needs and priorities, and costs to residents.

## MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENSES

| Municipal Revenue[50] | Golden (2019) | Percent of Total Revenue |
|---|---|---|
| Total Own Purpose Taxation and Grants in Lieu | $6,125,485 | 45.8% |
| Sale of Services | $2,578,817 | 19.3% |
| Transfers from Federal Governments | $20,720 | 0.2% |
| Transfers from Provincial Governments | $1,297,720 | 9.7% |
| Transfers from Regional and Other Governments | $2,663,991 | 19.9% |
| Investment Income | $284,984 | 2.1% |
| Income from Government Business Enterprise | $0 | 0.0% |
| Developer Contributions | $0 | 0.0% |
| Disposition of Assets | $0 | 0.0% |
| Other Revenue | $411,549 | 3.1% |
| Total Revenue | $13,383,266 | |

| Municipal Expenses[51] | Golden (2019) | Percent of Total Expenses |
|---|---|---|
| General Government | $2,334,077 | 21.6% |
| Protective Services | $814,307 | 7.5% |
| Solid Waste Management and Recycling | $355,705 | 3.3% |
| Health, Social Services and Housing | $69,001 | 0.6% |
| Development Services | $376,072 | 3.5% |
| Transportation and Transit | $1,591,698 | 14.7% |
| Parks, Recreation and Culture | $1,300,628 | 12.0% |
| Water Services | $483,575 | 4.5% |
| Sewer Services | $628,334 | 5.8% |
| Other Services | $142,028 | 1.3% |
| Amortization | $2,736,403 | 25.3% |
| Other Adjustments | -$15,522 | -0.1% |
| Total Expenses | $10,816,306 | |

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[xxii] A representative house is based on the assessment and occurrence of single-family residential properties, and does not include vacant properties, multi-family, strata, etc.

| Representative House[52] | Golden (2020) |
|---|---|
| House value | $321,339 |
| School | $648 |
| General Municipal Total | $1,677 |
| Regional District | $172 |
| Hospital | $77 |
| BCA, MFA, and other | $103 |
| Total Residential Variable Rate Taxes | $2,677 |
| Total Residential Parcel Taxes | $146 |
| Total Residential User Fees | $803 |
| Total Residential Property Taxes and Charges | $3,626 |

# Environment

The environment is a foundation for many aspects of well-being. Parks and protected areas help to safeguard wild spaces and species and provide opportunity for residents and visitors to recreate and connect with nature. Weather and climate conditions and trends help us understand the context in which a community operates, and climate projections can help with forecasting and adaptive planning.

## PARKS & PROTECTED AREAS

Golden has 2 national parks as well as 2 provincial parks and protected areas within a 40-kilometer radius of the municipality. It also has at least 18 local parks and greenspaces which intersect its boundaries.[53]

| Golden | | |
|---|---|---|
| National & provincial parks and protected areas | Glacier National Park<br>Yoho National Park | Burges James Gadsden Park<br>Marl Creek Park |
| Local greenspaces | Alexander Park<br>Bretton Park<br>Canyon Ridge Park<br>Centennial Park<br>Confluence Park<br>Dogwood Park<br>Edelweiss Slough<br>Golden Community Cemetery<br>Keith King Memorial Park | King Acreas Park<br>Kinsmen Park<br>Kumsheen Park<br>Mount 7 Passive Park<br>Mount 7 Rec Plex<br>Reflection Lake<br>Spirit Square<br>Green Space (unnamed)<br>Green Space (unnamed) |

## WEATHER & CLIMATE

Weather and climate data are based on the Government of Canada's 1981-2010 Climate Normals and Averages.[xxiii] The numbers presented below are from the Golden A weather station.[55]

| | January (Year of Occurrence) | July (Year of Occurrence) |
|---|---|---|
| **Daily average (°C)** | -7.9 | 17.3 |
| **Daily maximum (°C)** | -4.3 | 24.5 |
| **Daily minimum (°C)** | -11.5 | 10 |
| **Extreme maximum (°C)** | 8.3 (1906) | 40 (1941) |
| **Extreme minimum (°C)** | -46.1 (1907) | -2.2 (1946) |
| **Rainfall monthly average (mm)** | 6.4 | 50.6 |
| **Snowfall monthly average (cm)** | 45.3 | 0 |
| **Extreme daily rainfall (mm)** | 53.3 (1918) | 47 (1915) |
| **Extreme daily snowfall (cm)** | 45.7 (1920) | 0 |
| **Extreme snow depth (cm)** | 86 (1982) | 0 |

## FROST-FREE DATES

Frost-free dates are based on data from the Golden A weather station.[55,xxiv]

| | Average Date of Last Spring Frost | Average Date of First Fall Frost | Average Length of Frost-Free Period |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Frost-free dates** | May 15 | September 22 | 129 Days |

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[xxiii] The terms "climate normals" and "climate averages" are interchangeable, and refer to numbers based on observed climate values for a specific location over a specific time frame.[54]

[xxiv] Caution should be used when comparing frost free dates between community profiles. Cranbrook, Radium Hot Springs, Invermere, Fernie, Revelstoke, and Valemount data is taken from Climate Atlas of Canada[56] which calculates frost free dates based on data from 1976-2005. All other profiles use data from The Government of Canada climate normals and averages[55] which calculate frost free dates based on data from 1981-2010.

# Modeled Climate Data – History & Projections

Climate data were modeled across the Columbia Basin-Boundary on a scale consisting of a 10x10 km grid. The figures below show median values from the results of 12 climate models for each time period and for low carbon and high carbon emission scenarios for the grid closest to Golden.[57] Low carbon scenarios assume global greenhouse gas emissions will be drastically reduced from current levels, while high carbon scenarios assume greenhouse gas emissions will continue increasing at current rates. For more area-specific climate data, visit the Columbia Basin Climate Source website.

| Variable | Recent Past (1951 - 1980) | Near Future (2021 - 2050) | | Far Future (2051 - 2080) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Low Carbon | High Carbon | Low Carbon | High Carbon |
| Annual mean temperature | 4.1 °C | 5.9 °C | 6.3 °C | 7.0 °C | 8.2 °C |
| Annual total precipitation | 491 mm | 519 mm | 523 mm | 535 mm | 542 mm |

# Gaps and Further Research

During the compilation of data for these community profiles, a number of gaps and opportunities for further research were identified. These are discussed below.

## VACANCY RATES

These results come from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) annual Rental Market Surveys. As some communities have very small rental markets, information for some municipalities is suppressed for confidentiality reasons. CMHC is no longer collecting data for small municipalities; therefore, current data are only available for Nelson and Cranbrook.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE

The Okanagan Regional Library (ORL) system does not provide individualized data by branch with the exception of in person visits and circulation. The Town of Golden and City of Revelstoke branches are part of the ORL and have not been included in the Columbia Basin-Boundary averages.

## 2021 CENSUS

The 2021 Census of Population occurs in May 2021. The information collected during the census is vital for rural community development and planning. Data is collected about demographics, and well as social and economic well-being.[58] Beginning May 3, 2021, Canadians can complete the census questionnaire online, and doing so follows COVID-19 restrictions while fulfilling the obligation of completing the census.

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# Appendix A: Data Notes

## 1. RANDOM ROUNDING IN CENSUS DATA

Statistics Canada uses random rounding in census data to ensure that the confidentiality of census respondents is protected. Values within census datasets (including the 2016 census profiles, which are used frequently as a data source within this report) are rounded up or down to a multiple of 5 or 10. Each individual value is rounded, and therefore the total value for the category may not add up to the sum of the individual values. Random rounding occurs each time data are pulled from the Statistics Canada website. Values in the same data set accessed at different times may therefore differ slightly.[59]

## 2. SHELTER-COST-TO-INCOME RATIO CALCULATION

Data gathered by Statistics Canada for the shelter-cost-to-income ratio are subject to the following limitations:

- Some households are excluded from the calculation (e.g. those living in band housing, on an agricultural operation operated by a household-member, and households with negative or zero household income)

- Differences in the reference periods for shelter cost and income data may result in relatively high shelter-cost-to-income-ratios for some households. This is because shelter cost data were gathered in 2016, while the reference period for income data is from 2015. Furthermore, reported 2015 household income may only represent income for part of the year for some households.[60]

## 3. EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT SCALES

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is based on questionnaires filled out by kindergarten teachers. The questionnaires measure five core areas that have been identified as predictors of "adult health, education and social outcomes." See the table below for example questions from the questionnaire.[61] For more information on how these data are collected, visit http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/edi/.

| Core Area | Example Questions |
|---|---|
| Physical health and well-being | "Can the child hold a pencil, pen or crayons? Is the child on time for school each day?" |
| Language and cognitive development | "Is the child interested in reading and writing? Can the child count and recognize numbers?" |
| Social competence | "Does the child share with others? Is the child self-confident? Will he/she invite bystanders to join in a game?" |
| Emotional maturity | "Is the child able to concentrate? Is the child aggressive or angry? Is the child impulsive (does he/she act without thinking)?" |
| Communication skills and general knowledge | "Can the child tell a short story? Can the child communicate with adults and children?" |