

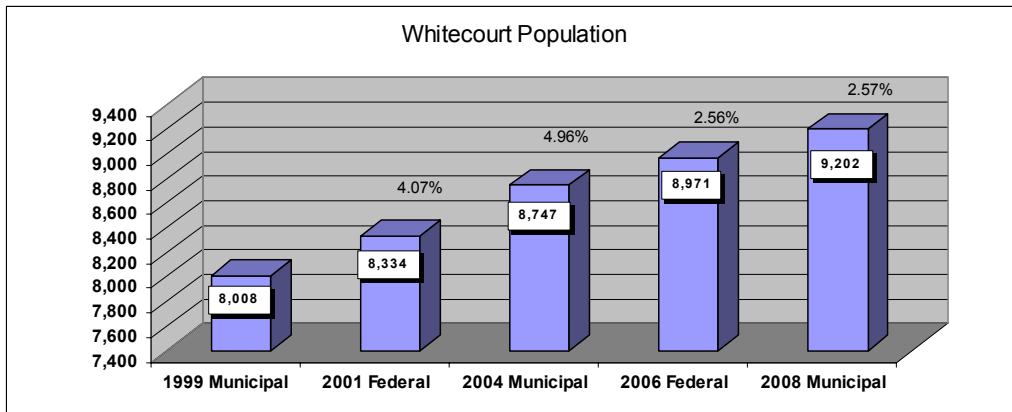
PRESS RELEASE

August 20, 2008

Census Update

The Town of Whitecourt is pleased to report that the 2008 municipal census count reveals that the current population is 9202. As indicated in the graph below, this is a 2.57% increase from the federal census conducted in 2006.

Federal and provincial grant programs for communities are often calculated on a per capita basis. The more people we have accounted for, the more government money Whitecourt qualifies for. The Census count also serves as a function for planning for new community services and improving existing ones including recreation facilities, transit, roads, and emergency response.



Mayor Trevor Thain says, "We thank all our residents for participating in the census process. Our census enumerators spent a lot of time and effort going door-to-door to obtain information for both the census count and the nuclear question. We appreciate the many evenings and weekends they worked to get this data for us. The continuing influx of people shows that Whitecourt and the surrounding area is considered to be a desirable place to live."

The Town will release the statistics on Whitecourt's gender and age breakdown in the near future.

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For more information, please contact:

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