

Alberta Locations

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
LIBRARY

OYEN

As of October, 1986

Overview

Population 1,015

Distance From Major Centres 403 km (250 miles) southeast of Edmonton
336 km (209 miles) east of Calgary

Connecting Highway(s) #9 east and west, #41 north and south

Railway(s) Canadian National

Major Economic Base Regional agricultural service centre

Economic Development Contacts

Municipal John B. Lijdsman, Town of Oyen
103 - 2nd Avenue East
Oyen, Alberta T0J 2J0
Tel: (403) 664-3511

Alberta Economic Development
and Trade Regional Office

Vaughan Hullock, Business Development
Representative
#217 Provincial Building
770 - 6th Street S.W.
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 4J6
Tel: (403) 529-3630

Information contained in this profile is as current as possible. However, where appropriate, preference is given to published data from standard sources over current, unpublished data. Source list available on request.

 THE
ALBERTA
ADVANTAGE

OYEN

Location

County/District Special Area #3
 Census Division #4
 Elevation 776 metres (2,498 feet)
 Latitude/Longitude 51°22'/110°28'

Climate

Temperature

Seasonal Averages — *January* -15.8° C (3.6° F)
 — *April* 3.6° C (38.5° F)
 — *July* 17.6° C (63.7° F)
 — *October* 5.4° C (41.7° F)

Annual Precipitation 353.8 mm (13.9 in.)

Rain 245.6 mm (9.7 in.)

Snow 107.8 cm (42.4 in.)

Frost Free Days 124

Hours Sunshine/Year 2490.3

Population

	Community	County/District	40 km Radius
1966	846	N/A	N/A
1971	929	N/A	N/A
1976	962	N/A	3,121
1981	1,018	2,056	N/A
Current Estimate	1,007	N/A	N/A

OYEN

Population Breakdown**As of:** 1986

Age	Males	Females	Total
0-14	113	96	209
15-19	33	37	70
20-24	45	61	106
25-44	153	125	278
45-64	76	86	162
65 +	82	109	191

Labour Force**As of:** 1981

	Male	Female
Population	375	375
Employed	265	215
Unemployed	10	5
Participation Rate	73.3	61.3
Unemployment Rate	3.6	2.2

Wage Rates*Prevailing Provincial (Hourly) Minimum Scales*

Full-Time Workers:

18 Years and Older \$3.80

Under 18 Years \$3.65

Part-Time Students: \$3.30

Detailed Salary and Wage Rates for Selected Areas Available Upon Request

Major Employers

OYEN

Name of Company	Business Activity	Number of Employees
Big Country Hospital & Auxiliary	Hospital Services	48
Oyen Lodge & Prairie Home	Senior Citizen Housing	13
H & H Foods	Grocery Store	12
Allens Agro Centre Ltd.	Farm Machinery Dealership	10
Scory Motors	Auto Dealer	9
Town of Oyen	Municipal Government	8
Acadia School Division	Education	7
Buck Stop Restaurant	Restaurant	7
Acadia Agro	Fertilizer	6
Oyen Drugs	Pharmacy	6
Don's Fine Foods	Grocery Store	6
U.F.A. Co-op	Farm Machinery Dealership	5
Oyen Flowers Ltd.	Greenhouse	4
C.A.R.A.	Research Facility	4

OYEN

Retail and Service Trade Statistics**As of:** 1984*Statistical Area Covered* Town of Oyen

	<i>Total Trade</i>	<i>Retail</i>	<i>Service</i>
Outlets	27	19	8
Employees			
<i>Full-Time</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Part-Time</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A
Payroll (\$000)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Receipts (\$000)	8,175	7,114	1,061
Major Services Available	Legal, Accounting, Heavy Mechanical, Welding and Machining, Plumbing, Electrical, Insurance, Concrete, Veterinary, Clothing		

Manufacturing Statistics**As of:** 1983*Statistical Area Covered* Town of Oyen

Establishments 3

Employees

Male

DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE "STATISTICS BUREAU ACT RSA"

*Female**Total*

Payroll (\$000)

Cost of Materials/Supplies (\$000)

Value of Shipments (\$000)

Transportation

Connecting Highways (Load Limits)	#9 (none), #41 (75%)
Truck Transport	Leens Transport Leo's Express Highway 9 Transport
Available Warehouse and Terminal Facilities	Yes
Railways	Canadian National
Available Warehouse and Terminal Facilities	NO
Pick-up and Delivery	No
Spur Trackage	Yes
Air Services	
Local Airport	Oyen Municipal
All Weather Facilities	Yes
Longest Runway	923 metres (3,036 feet)
Carriers (scheduled/charter)	Charter Klarenbach Aviation Ltd.
Nearest Commercial Services	Medicine Hat Municipal Airport 191 km (119 miles) south
Nearest Air Freight Facilities	Medicine Hat Municipal Airport 191 km (119 miles) south
Bus Services	
Local	No
Intercommunity	Regularly Scheduled

Utilities*Contact the Following for Service Rates and Details***Electric Power**

Transalta Utilities Corporation
 113 - 1st Avenue W.
 Oyen, Alberta T0J 2J0
 Tel: (403) 664-3835

Natural Gas

Northwestern Utilities Limited
 113 - 1st Avenue W.
 Oyen, Alberta T0J 2J0
 Tel: (403) 664-3655

Telephone

Alberta Government Telephones
 456 - 5th Street S.E.
 Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0N1
 Tel: (403) 529-3311

Water Supply

Source of Water 6 wells

Reservoir Capacity — Treated Water 227,300 l. (50,000 gals.)

Pumping Capacity 864 l. (190 gals.) per minute

Average Line Pressure 310.5 kPa (45 p.s.i.)

Average Daily Consumption 409,140 l. (90,000 gals.)

Restrictions none specified

Water Analysis (milligrams per litre)

<i>Data Source</i>	Alberta Environment		<i>Date</i>	April, 1985
<i>Total Dis. Solids</i>	979.6	<i>Cl</i> 19.0	<i>SO₄</i>	480.0
<i>Total Hardness</i>	455.1	<i>F</i> 0.19	<i>NO₃/NO₂</i>	2.55
<i>Total Alkalinity</i>	275.8	<i>Fe</i> 0.17	<i>NO₂</i>	0.05
<i>pH</i>	8.1	<i>Mg</i> 42.0	<i>HCO₃</i>	336.2
		<i>K</i> 6.9	<i>CO₃</i>	0.0
		<i>Na</i> 142.0	<i>Ca</i>	113.0

Utilities (cont'd.)

OYEN

Sewage

Type of Treatment Lagoon: 3 aerobic ponds (sloughs)

Provision for Disposal of Chemicals None

Industrial Fuels Available

Coal: Regional Oil: Local Propane: Local

Other Municipal Services**Garbage***Method/Frequency of Collection**Industrial* Truck/3 times weekly*Commercial* Truck/3 times weekly*Residential* Truck/weekly*Solid Waste Disposal* Land Fill Site

Fire Protection Volunteer

Police Protection R.C.M.P.

Other Services Industrial Surveillance/R.C.M.P.

Municipal Finance

Mill Rates (Year) 1985

Industrial/Commercial 34.970*Residential* 27,810

Per Capita Debt 840 (1983)

Year of Last General Assessment 1982

Latest Total Assessment 18,762,400

Equalized Assessment Per Capita 5,867 (1986)

Basis of Assessment; *Land at 65% of market value. Industrial buildings at 65% of present day replacement costs. Equipment at 65% of present day replacement cost (15% on new equipment).*

Business Properties

OYEN

As of October, 1986

The Town of Oyen has recently acquired 74 hectares (182.44 acres) of highway commercial/industrial land which is presently unserviced and unsubdivided. This land lies adjacent to the community and mainly on the east side of Highway #41.

The private sector has one lot of .6 hectare (1.52 acres) of serviced land in the light industrial park north of the Canadian National Railway tracks.

There are no light industrial buildings vacant at this time and there is very limited commercial space available.

OYEN

Building Permits

	<i>Value (\$000)</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	As of: 1985 <i># Permits</i>
Residential	145	11	11
Commercial	210	16	2
Industrial	160	12	2
Institutional	815	61	2
Total	1,330	100	17

Housing

Residential Lots — Availability Ample Supply

Single Detached Homes Limited Supply

Mobile Home Lots Ample Supply

3-Bdrm., 1200 Sq. Ft. Bungalow — *Sample*

Average Cost (incl. land) \$70,000

Average Taxes \$1,000

Rental Accommodation

Apartments 1 Fourplex, 2 Duplexes

Vacancy Rate 0% (October, 1986)

Medical

Hospitals/No. Beds	1 Active 32 1 Auxillary/30	Health Units	Big Country Health Unit
No. Doctors	1	No. Dentists	2
No. Surgeons	1	Optometrists	Hanna
Medical Clinics	1	No. Chiropractors	Hanna
Ambulance Service	Yes	Nursing Homes	0
		Senior Citizens Lodge	Yes

OYEN

Education

Schools

<i>Day Care/Nursery</i>	0
<i>Elementary</i>	2
<i>Junior High</i>	2
<i>High School</i>	1
<i>Vocational</i>	Medicine Hat College 191 km (119 miles) south
<i>Other</i>	0

Additional Programs

Big Country Educational Consortium Programs

Financial Institutions

Toronto Dominion
Treasury Branch

Communications

Newspapers	Oyen Echo - weekly
Radio Stations	Drumheller, Calgary, Camrose, Edmonton broadcast stations
Television Channels	Medicine Hat, Calgary, Red Deer broadcast channels 3 cable channels

Tourist/Accommodation Facilities

Hotels/Motels

Alberta Hotel
Alberta Motel
Antelope Inn

Meeting Facilities

Provincial Building
Legion Hall
Oyen Senior Citizens' Recreation Centre

Parks and Campgrounds — *See Alberta Accommodation Guide For Details*

Recreational Facilities

Swimming Pool
Golf Course
Roller Skating Rink
Horseshow Pits (6)
Tennis Court
Curling Rink
Baseball Diamonds (4)
Skating Rink

Organizations

Golf Club
Cubs/Scouts
Royal Canadian Legion
Kinsmen - Kinettes
Minor Hockey Association
Brownies

Baseball Leagues:
Ladies Fastball
Men's Fastball
Minor Baseball
Men's Hardball
Men's Slowpitch

Lions Club
Chamber of Commerce
Senior Citizens' Club
Gun Club
Art Club
Mini Fitness Club

Regional Resources

OYEN

Resources Available Locally Natural gas, oil, sand/gravel, agriculture

Products Wheat, oats, barley, canola, flax, rye, beef cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs, fresh flowers, bedding plants

Brief History

Oyen is a cheerful, thriving, friendly small town 336 km (209 miles) east of Calgary on the crossroads of Highways 9 and 41.

The townsite was surveyed in 1912. The necessary petition was sent to the government and the little settlement became a village on January 17, 1913. A Mounted Police post was established, a hotel was built, the first train came to Oyen, the first newspaper "The Oyen News" was established and a school was opened, all in 1912 and 1913.

The community survived many difficult years, finding ingenious ways to meet its needs such as hauling three empty country schools to Oyen to form a high school dormitory. The building later became a Legion Hall.

A new Legion Hall has been built since then which contains a social area plus two meeting rooms and has a capacity of 350 to 400 persons.

In the 1960s times changed. Oyen became a town. It was now headquarters for the Acadian School Division and a new high school had been built. In 1970 a library, gymnasium and additional classrooms were built. That year the new hospital and a nurses' residence were also opened.

The community financed construction of the medical-dental clinic. Oyen's health care is well covered by a medical complex which encompasses the hospital, medical-dental clinic and the Big Country Health Unit. Twenty-six extended care beds have been added recently to the Big Country Hospital that serves the area.

Government**Municipal Office**

Town Office
 103 - 2nd Avenue E.
 Oyen, Alberta T0J 2J0
 Tel: (403) 664-3511

Council Mayor Douglas Lehman and 6 Councillors

Administration Contact John B. Lijdsman, Municipal Administrator
 103 - 2nd Avenue E.
 Oyen, Alberta T0J 2J0
 Tel: (403) 664-3511

Planning Authority

Palliser Regional Planning Commission
 115 West Municipal Road
 Hanna, Alberta T0J 1P0
 Tel: (403) 854-3371

Member of Parliament

Arnold Malone
 House of Commons
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
 Tel: (613) 992-4460

Member of Legislative Assembly

Henry Kroeger
 708 Legislature Annex
 Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6
 Tel: (403) 427-1847

Provincial/Federal Services**Provincial**

Agriculture
 Government Services
 Social Services & Community Health
 Energy & Natural Resources
 Fish & Wildlife Division
 Attorney General

Federal

Post Office
 Tourist Information Centre
 Transportation
 Municipal Affairs

Alberta Economic Development and Trade

Edmonton Offices 17th Floor, 10025 Jasper Avenue
 Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3Z3

Telephone: (403) 427-5267

Telex: 037-3651