



# Royal Canadian Mounted Police

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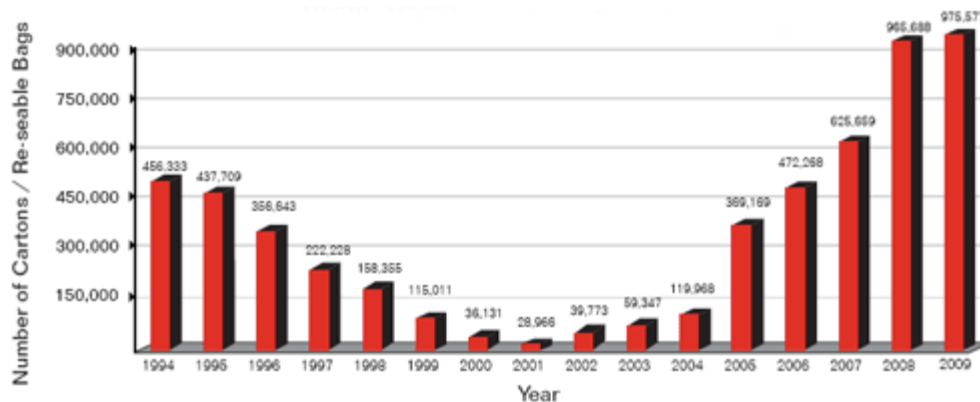
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## 2009 Contraband Tobacco Statistics

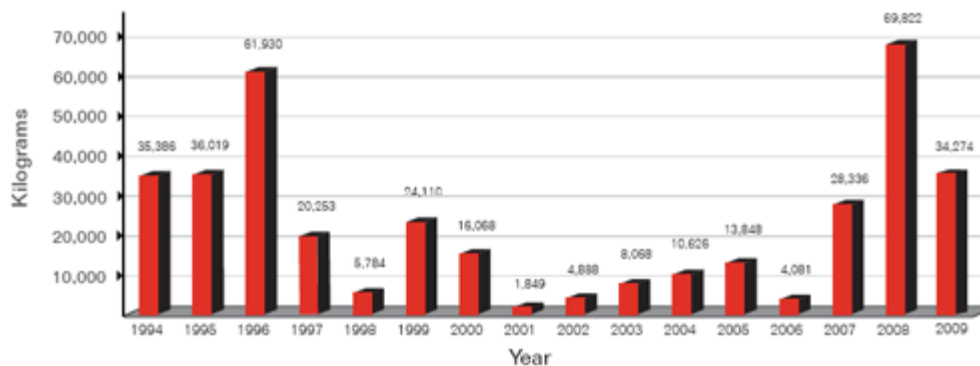
- In 2009, the RCMP seized approximately 975,000 cartons of illegal cigarettes Canada-wide, representing a slight increase over 2008's record high seizures of 965,000.
- The 2009 seizure statistics represent a 114% increase over the 1994 figures when RCMP seizures peaked at 456,333.
- There was a decrease in the 2009 RCMP seizures of fine cut tobacco and raw leaf tobacco; seized in 2009 were approximately 34,000 kilograms of fine cut tobacco, representing a 51% decrease from 2008 seizures, and 10 kilograms of raw leaf tobacco, representing a 99% decrease from 2008.
- In addition to the cigarette seizures in 2009, the RCMP also seized approximately 783,000 illegal cigars, representing an approximate 323% increase over 2008's seizures of 178,000.

### RCMP Cigarette Seizures: 1994 to 2009



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### RCMP Fine-Cut Tobacco Seizures: 1994 to 2009



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**Today, the illicit tobacco trade is primarily comprised of:**

- Illegally produced cigarettes/tobacco manufactured in the U.S.
- Illicitly produced cigarettes/tobacco manufactured in Canada
- Counterfeit tobacco products involving domestic and foreign brands making their way into the country via sea container (mostly from China)
- Diverted products that are destined for sale on reserves and end up being sold in Toronto, Halifax, Vancouver and other regions. These products are legitimate, but some levels of federal or provincial taxes are not collected in this way. This scheme also allows the seller to discount the product, which makes it appealing to consumers.
- Illicit sales via the internet (including illegally manufactured/counterfeited tobacco products and products on which duties or taxes are not paid).

Date Modified: 2010-04-20

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