21 Facts & Figures

Local Government Numbers & Population

	Number	%	Population
Cities	50	26	3,605,450
District Municipalities*	51	27	901,174
Towns	14	7	99,024
Villages**	43	23	49,967
Island Municipality	1	<1	4,222
Regional Municipality	1	<1	4,365
Indian Government District	1	<1	730
Sub-Total	161	85	4,664,932
RD Unincorporated Areas	29	15	***549,873
Total	190	100	5,214,805

Adapted from 2021 estimates in "Municipal and sub-provincial areas population, 2011-2021":

https://alpha.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/7C93FBB8DB234266A19A57601FE36E3D

- * includes Resort Municipality of Whistler
- ** includes Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality
- includes unincorporated areas of regional districts, as well as the Stikine Region and unincorporated areas of Northern Rockies Regional Municipality.

Classes of Municipalities

Villages: population less than 2,500

Towns: population between 2,501 and 5,000

Cities: population over 5,000

Districts: large geographic areas (over 800 hectares) with low population

density (fewer than five persons a hectare) [s. 10 LGA]

Please note that the above criteria are not applied strictly, and there are:

- Cities with populations of 4,000 and even less than 1,000;
- Towns with populations of just over 10,000; and
- District municipalities with higher population densities.

Employment

Total employment by local governments in BC is estimated to be approximately 44,608*.

^{*}Estimate based on self-reported figures from local governments.

Elected Officials

Mayors	160	
Councillors	*870	
Subtotal: Municipal Officials	1,030	
Electoral Area Directors	158	
Islands Trust Trustees	26	
Subtotal: Non-municipal Officials	184	
Total	1.214	

Source: CivicInfo BC 2022 Local Election Results.

https://localelections.ca/

Regional Boards Composition

Total Number of Directors	421	
Islands Trust Trustees	26	
Electoral Area Directors	158	
First Nation Directors	7	
Municipal Directors from 161 municipalities*	230	
Regional District Boards (including Islands Trust)	28	

^{*} Some municipalities have more than one director because of their population (see Fact Sheet #16 – Regional Districts). Also note that the Sechelt Indian Government District does appoint one voting Director to the Sunshine Coast Regional District.

Council Sizes

Size of Council (Mayor & Councillors)	Number of Municipalities	
* 5	61	
7	88	
9	12	
11	1	
Total	162	

Source: CivicInfo BC 2022 Local Election Results.

Community Size & Representation

Municipal Population	Number of Municipalities	Number of Elected Officials	
< 1,000	29	149	
1,000 – 1,999	18	94	
2,000 – 4,999	34	208	
5,000 - 9,999	20	134	

^{*} Includes the Sechelt Indian Government District's 5-member Advisory Council.

^{*} Includes Sechelt Indian Government District.

Total	161	1033	
> 199,999	4	38	
100,000 – 199,999	8	70	
50,000 – 99,999	8	60	
25,000 – 49,999	11	77	
10,000 – 24,999	29	203	

Adapted from 2021 estimates in "Municipal and sub-provincial areas population, 2011-2021":

https://alpha.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/7C93FBB8DB234266A19A57601FE36E3D

Includes Sechelt Indian Government District.

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