

Alberta.—Here also there are “cities”, “towns”, “villages” and rural municipalities known as “municipal districts”. The latter three classes come under general acts, while each of the seven cities has its own charter. There are 57 towns, 132 villages, and 59 municipal districts, but less than one-fifth of the Province is so organized. There are also some unincorporated “improvement districts” administered by the Province in less densely settled areas.

British Columbia.—This Province has less than 0.5 p.c. of its area organized into municipalities. Additional small areas have sufficient population to require administration of local activities by the Provincial Government. There are 34 “cities”, 35 “villages”, and 28 “districts”, the latter being chiefly rural municipalities, except for those adjacent to the principal cities of Victoria and Vancouver, which are largely urban in character. It should, however, be emphasized that the application of the name “city” is somewhat different from the commonly accepted meaning in that several of them have populations of less than one thousand and, perhaps half or more would not normally be incorporated as cities in any other province of Canada.

22.—Municipalities in Canada by Types of Organization and by Provinces, 1948¹

Province	Cities	Towns	Villages	Total Urban	Rural	Total Local Municipalities	Counties	Total Incorporated Municipalities
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
P. E. Island.....	1	7	—	8	—	8	—	8
Nova Scotia.....	2	41	—	43	24	67	—	67
New Brunswick. .	3	19	4	26	15	41	—	41
Quebec.....	30	124	317	471	1,084	1,555	76	1,631
Ontario.....	29	145	156	330	582 ²	912	33	950
Manitoba.....	4	33	27	64	115 ³	179	—	179
Saskatchewan....	8	83	398	489	303 ⁴	792	—	792
Alberta.....	7	57	132	196	59 ⁵	255	—	255
British Columbia.	34	—	35	69	28	97	—	97
Totals.....	118	509	1,069	1,696	2,210	3,906	114	4,020

¹ Newfoundland entered Confederation in 1949. See paragraph on municipal organization above.
² Includes 11 local improvement districts. ³ Includes 5 units of self-government officially known as “suburban municipalities”.
⁴ Does not include 81 improvement districts. ⁵ Does not include 58 improvement districts.

On the basis of the 1941 Census, over 10,689,000 or 93 p.c. of the population of the nine provinces was contained in incorporated municipalities. The following table, showing the comparable situation for each province, gives an indication of the development of self-government from the standpoint of the local population. The 800,000 persons excluded comprised those on Indian Reserves and in areas that have not yet reached the stage of development where self-government is felt to be necessary or desirable.