

19.7 Provinces and territories of Canada, dates of admission to Confederation, legislative processes by which admission was effected, present area and seat of government

Province, territory or district	Date of admission or creation	Legislative process	Present area km ²	Seat of provincial or territorial government
Ontario ¹	July 1, 1867	Act of Imperial Parliament - The British North	1 068 580	Toronto
Quebec ²	July 1, 1867	America Act, 1867 (Br. Stat. 1867, c. 3) and	1 540 680	Quebec
Nova Scotia	July 1, 1867	Imperial Order in Council, May 22, 1867	55 490	Halifax
New Brunswick	July 1, 1867		73 440	Fredericton
Manitoba ³	July 15, 1870	Manitoba Act, 1870 (SC 1870, c. 3) and Imperial		
		Order in Council, June 23, 1870	649 950	Winnipeg
British Columbia	July 20, 1871	Imperial Order in Council, May 16, 1871	947 800	Victoria
Prince Edward Island	July 1, 1873	Imperial Order in Council, June 26, 1873	5 660	Charlottetown
Saskatchewan ⁴	Sept. 1, 1905	Saskatchewan Act, 1905 (SC 1905, c. 42)	652 330	Regina
Alberta ⁴	Sept. 1, 1905	Alberta Act, 1905 (SC 1905, c. 3)	661 190	Edmonton
Newfoundland	Mar. 31, 1949	The British North America Act, 1949 (Br. Stat. 1949 c. 22)	405 720	St. John's
Northwest Territories ⁵	July 15, 1870	Act of Imperial Parliament - Rupert's Land Act, 1868 (Br. Stat. 1868, c. 105) and Imperial Order in Council, June 23, 1870		
			3 426 320	
Mackenzie ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920		1 382 740	
Keewatin ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920	Order in Council, Mar. 16, 1918	600 590	Yellowknife
Franklin ⁶	Jan. 1, 1920		1 422 990	
Yukon Territory ⁷	June 13, 1898	Yukon Territory Act, 1898 (SC 1898, c. 6)	483 450	Whitehorse
Canada			9 970 610 ⁸	

¹The area of Ontario was extended by the Ontario Boundaries Extension Act, 1912, (SC 1912, c. 40).

²Extended by Quebec Boundaries Extension Act, 1912 (SC 1912, c. 45).

³Extended by the Extension of Boundaries Act of Manitoba, 1881 and the Manitoba Boundaries Extension Act, 1912 (SC 1912, c. 32).

⁴Saskatchewan and Alberta created as provinces in 1905 from the area formerly comprised in the provisional districts of Assiniboia, Athabaska, Alberta and Saskatchewan established May 17, 1882 by minute of Canadian Privy Council concurred in by Dominion Parliament and Order in Council, Oct. 2, 1895.

⁵By an Imperial Order in Council passed on June 23, 1870 pursuant to the Rupert's Land Act, 1868 (Br. Stat. 1868, c. 105), the former territories of the Hudson's Bay Company known as Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory were transferred to Canada effective July 15, 1870. These territories were designated as the North-West Territories by the Act of SC 1869, c. 3, and as the Northwest Territories by RSC 1906, c. 62. By Imperial Order in Council of July 31, 1880 (effective Sept. 1, 1880), all British territories and possessions in North America not already included within Canada and all islands adjacent thereto (with the exception of the Colony of Newfoundland and its dependencies) were annexed to Canada and these additional territories were formally included in the North-West Territories by SC 1905, c. 27. The province of Manitoba was formed out of a portion of the territories by the Manitoba Act, 1870 (SC 1870, c. 3) and a further portion was added to Manitoba in 1881 by SC 1881, c. 14. The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were formed out of portions of the territories in 1905 and in 1912 other portions were added to Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

⁶By SC 1876, c. 21, a separate district to be known as the District of Keewatin was established and provision was made for the local government thereof. The Act was expressed to come into force by proclamation. It provided that portions of the District might be re-annexed to the North-West Territories by proclamation; in 1886 a portion of the District of Keewatin was re-annexed and in 1905 the entire Keewatin District was re-annexed. The Act of 1876 was never proclaimed. By Order in Council of May 8, 1882 the provisional districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Athabaska were created for the convenience of settlers and for postal purposes. By Order in Council of Oct. 2, 1895 the further provisional districts of Ungava, Franklin, Mackenzie and Yukon were created. The boundaries of these provisional districts were re-defined by Order in Council of Dec. 18, 1897. Subsequently the Yukon Territory was formed, the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were created and other portions of the territories were annexed to Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. By Order in Council dated Mar. 16, 1918 (effective Jan. 1, 1920) the remaining portions of the Northwest Territories were divided into three provisional districts known as Mackenzie, Keewatin and Franklin.

⁷The provisional district of Yukon established in 1895 was created a judicial district of the North-West Territories by proclamation issued pursuant to Sect. 51 of the North-West Territories Act (RSC 1886, c. 50) on Aug. 16, 1897 and, by the Yukon Territory Act (SC 1898, c. 6), was declared to be a separate territory.

⁸Recalculated figures 1981.

19.8 Number of municipalities classified by type and size group, by province, as at Jan. 1, 1980-83

Year, type and size group	Nfld.	PEI	NS	NB	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	BC	YT	NWT	Canada
1980													
TYPE													
Regional municipalities	—	—	—	—	75	39	—	—	—	28	—	—	142
Metropolitan and regional municipalities ¹	—	—	—	—	3	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Counties and regional districts	—	—	—	—	72	27	—	—	—	28	—	—	127
Unitary municipalities	168	38	65	115	1,520	789	185	794	332	140	3	7	4,156
Cities ²	2	1	3	6	65	47	5	11	10	33	2	1	186
Towns	166	8	38	21	195	144	35	138	107	11	1	5	869
Villages	—	29	—	88	247	120	40	346	167	58	—	1	1,096
Rural municipalities ³	—	—	24	—	1,013	478	105	299	48	38	—	—	2,005
Quasi-municipalities ⁴	140	—	—	—	—	11	17	—	19	329	4	18	538
Total	308	38	65	115	1,595	839	202	794	351	497	7	25	4,836