

Background on the data

Availability and sources of the data

- ICBC data on crashes, auto crime, vehicle insurance policies and driver population data is available by late spring/early summer of the following year (i.e., spring 2021 for 2020 data). The source is ICBC's Enterprise Data Warehouse.
- Police data on crashes and fatalities is available by late summer/early fall of the following year (i.e., summer 2021 for 2020 data). The source is the Police Traffic Accident System.
- Violation ticket/contravention data is available three months after month end (i.e., March data would be available in July). The open data set on contraventions is updated at least twice a year. The source is ICBC's Hadoop Big Data database.
- Counts may differ from previous editions due to further development of data, rounding, late reporting or corrections.

Regions

- In some reports, regional statistics are provided. British Columbia's regions are divided as follows:
 - Lower Mainland: Includes the entire south-west corner of mainland B.C., from Pemberton to Boston Bar. It includes the Fraser Valley, Greater Vancouver and the southern Sunshine Coast.
 - Vancouver Island: Also encompasses the Gulf Islands and the mainland coastal community of Powell River.
 - Southern Interior: Includes the southern third of the province, including the Kamloops area, Okanagan and Kootenay regions, as far west as Boston Bar and Lillooet.
 - North Central: Includes the central Interior as far south as 100 Mile House, the Peace River district, Prince Rupert and Haida Gwaii, and all points north.
- In some reports, insufficient location details were available or gathered when the incidents were reported and these are listed as "Unknown".

Rounding guidelines

The table below summarizes ICBC's rounding guidelines based on the size of the number. A combination of rounding can occur within the same table. Open data sets and crash maps use unrounded numbers.

Averages and totals are based on unrounded numbers.

Fatal victim averages are rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Example	Description	Rounding rule	Final format
0	zero	Unchanged	0
67	Between 5 and 99	Do not round	67
548	Hundreds	Round to the nearest ten	550
4,679	Thousands	Round to the nearest hundred	4,700
15,345	Ten thousands	Round to the nearest thousand	15,000
784,345	Hundred thousand and greater	Round to the nearest five thousand	785,000

Data collection and processing

ICBC crash data

- ICBC crash data is gathered from reports made to ICBC by insured registered vehicle owners, drivers, pedestrians and cyclists.
- As of September 2019, multiple counting of a small number of crashes has been adjusted. Crash counts for years 2013 or later may be slightly lower than previously published.
- ICBC crash data is generally much larger in volume than police crash data because:
 - Basic insurance coverage through ICBC is mandatory; therefore crash occurrences are reported to ICBC.
 - Whereas, police do not attend all crashes. Typically only the more serious crashes involving injury or fatality are attended. In addition, the number of reports submitted by individuals to police is very low, as it's not mandatory that a crash be reported to police.

Police data

- Since 2008, there have been several legislative changes regarding the reporting of motor vehicle crashes to/by a police officer. This has led to a marked decrease in the number of police-attended crash reports submitted to ICBC, particularly for crashes that do not involve fatalities. Therefore, our statistics on contributing factors include only those reported in fatal crashes.
- Police crash data is gathered from reports completed by police or submitted by individuals to police.

Note

All data on icbc.com is made available under [ICBC's Open Data Licence](#).

If you have any questions about the data, please email data.support@icbc.com.