

EMRB Municipal Data Sheet

13-member municipalities
3 towns, 4 counties, 6 cities



100,362

1,256.7 km²

(MUNICIPAL CENSUS, 2022)



Highlights

Strathcona County was the first rural self-governed area in Alberta, beginning in 1893. Located just east of the City of Edmonton, Strathcona County is classified as a specialized municipality with urban and rural areas. It is the second-largest municipality in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region.

The majority of its residents, 73% , reside in Sherwood Park.

Strathcona County is home to the majority of refining and petrochemical production in Western Canada. With a focus on economic, governance, and social, cultural and environmental sustainability, Strathcona County is committed to balancing the unique needs of its diverse community.

“ We are focused on creating a healthy economy, good governance, environmental sustainability, strong social supports , and a thriving cultural community as we work to become Canada's most livable community. ”

ROD FRANK | MAYOR



TAX BASE—ASSESSMENT

Residential	\$18.2B
Non-Residential	\$15.7B

Strathcona County's total municipal operating budget is \$410 million, with a capital budget of \$63 million.

Strathcona County's top three assessment contributors are residential, machinery and equipment, and non-residential.

ABOUT US

Specialized municipalities have the challenges and opportunities that come with land use planning and services for rural and urban areas.

The largest, single form of land use within the County is for agricultural purposes (100,000 hectares or almost 80% of total land-use).

Situated partially in Strathcona County the UNESCO-designated Beaver Hills Biosphere encompasses Elk Island National Park along with numerous provincial parks and protected areas. It is a critical source of surface and groundwater, and a large proportion remains in a natural, extensively treed, state.



REGIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Improved regional investment environment through enhanced coordination and alignment with provincial opportunities.
- Continued coordination of a regional transportation network to support regional economic development.
- Updated planning and initiatives to support regional growth and effective and efficient municipal servicing.

LOCAL STRATEGIC PLAN

The County's goals for 2023-26 are:

- Economic Prosperity
- Healthy and Safe Community
- Responsible Development
- Municipal Excellence

Each goal is supported by 3-4 specific priorities which can be accessed on our official website.

This focused strategic plan for 2023-26 strongly aligns Strathcona County's vision of establishing itself as Canada's most livable community.



Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board

Stats & Facts

(CANADIAN CENSUS, 2021)



Housing

→ 87% own their own homes



Employment

→ 62% employment rate with 68% participation rate



Work Force

(top 2 occupation sectors)

- 21% sales and service
- 20% trades, transport and equipment and related occupations



Education

→ 59% completed post-secondary education



DEMOGRAPHICS

Strathcona County's population has increased by more than 1% since the 2016 federal Census.

The average age is 41.4 years, with roughly 82% of the population being 15 years and older.

Close to 18% of the population is 65 years and older.

Visible minorities account for over 9% of the municipality's total population. The Indigenous population accounts for just under 5% and the immigrant population is just under 11%.



SETTING IDEAS IN MOTION

Strathcona County works to balance social responsibility and the environment. Through its Long-Term Financial Sustainability Framework, the County makes decisions that will foster and sustain a healthy economy benefitting residents, business and industry.

Strathcona County distinguishes itself by its dedicated investment in infrastructure and exceptional quality services, which serve to meet the unique needs of our specialized municipality.

Turning Challenges into Opportunities



The County is experiencing growth pressures as it relates to:

- Utilities and transportation infrastructure.
- Lack of available existing light/medium industrial building space.

GREATEST RISKS / CHALLENGES & CURRENT INVESTMENT NEEDS:

- Maintaining current service levels/tax rates resulting from past and future provincial government decisions/changes.
- Retaining low tax rates in an environment of inflation, interest rate changes, supply-chain challenges, reduction of grants twinned with impacts of other levels of governments downloading or reducing their services.
- Lack of available industrial inventory; appropriately zoned greenfield land situated for heavy industrial development in the Heartland area; and existing building space for new light/medium industrial.
- Meeting municipality's rural, urban, and industrial infrastructure needs.
- Balancing the municipality's rural, urban and industrial infrastructure needs against long term fiscal sustainability.

Untapped Opportunities

- Improving investment readiness.
- Identifying and preparing for investment changes and trends.