

# EMRB Municipal Data Sheet

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



CITY OF  
**FORT SASKATCHEWAN**  
ALBERTA

 27,088

 56.5 km<sup>2</sup>

(CANADIAN CENSUS, 2021)

## Highlights

Founded as a North West Mounted Police (NWMP) Fort in 1875, the city is rich in history. The re-created Fort Heritage Precinct explores almost 150 years of history through tours, programming and research opportunities.

Fort Saskatchewan is a founding member of Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association. Today, the Heartland is Canada's largest hydrocarbon processing region, and one of the world's most attractive locations for chemical, petrochemical, oil and gas investment.

The city is located along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River and boasts more than 80 km of paved trails, along with many natural areas and outdoor amenities for everyone to explore.

“ We really embrace industry, agriculture and the RCMP within our community. ”

GALE KATCHUR | MAYOR



## TAX BASE—ASSESSMENT

<b>Residential</b>	<b>\$3.7B</b>
<b>Non-Residential</b>	<b>\$2.9B</b>

Fort Saskatchewan's total municipal operating budget is \$82 million, with a capital budget of \$12 million.

Fort Saskatchewan's top three assessment contributors are residential, machinery and equipment (DIP), and commercial improved property.

## ABOUT US

Fort Saskatchewan has a proud heritage and the people and events of our past have left their imprints upon the region. From the Indigenous peoples to the industries of today, the people of Fort Saskatchewan built a community through ingenuity and hard work. Although the area's geography and geology provided the foundation for settlement and industrial development, it is the spirit and resourcefulness of the people who have made Fort Saskatchewan what it is today.

Fort Saskatchewan was incorporated as a village in 1899, as a Town in 1904, and a City in 1985. The City started experiencing population growth after the founding of Sherritt Gordon Mines in 1952. The City experienced mild growth in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and significant growth more recently. Since 2000, the population has doubled, and in the 2021 federal census, it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest growing municipality in the Region and the 8<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city over 10,000 in the province.



## REGIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Diversify the regional economy.
- Future transportation network corridor planning.
- Service partnerships.

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The City's strategic priorities are:

- Positioned for growth.
- Excellence in government.
- A thriving community.
- Well planned and maintained municipal infrastructure.



Edmonton Metropolitan  
Region Board

# Stats & Facts

(CANADIAN CENSUS, 2016)



## Commute

→ 61% commute for work outside municipality



## Housing

→ 76% own their own homes



## Employment

→ 69% employment rate with 74% participation rate



## Work Force

(top 2 occupation sectors)

- 23% trades, transportation, equipment operators, etc.
- 20% sales and services



## Education

→ 56% completed post-secondary education



## DEMOGRAPHICS

From the 2016 Stats

Canada report to the most recent 2021 report, Fort Saskatchewan's population has increased just over 12%.

According to the 2016 Stats Canada report, the average age is 34 years, with roughly 80% of the population being 15 years plus.

Slightly over 11% of the population are 65 years and older.

Visible minorities account for roughly 7% of the population. The indigenous population accounts for 6% and the immigrant population is just under 8%.



## SETTING IDEAS IN MOTION

The City of Fort

Saskatchewan not only focuses on attracting new investment, it also continues to support the existing businesses community so that they may expand.

Home to more than 27,000 people, the City proudly manages state of the art recreation, culture and historic amenities including 80 km of outdoor trails, a performing arts theatre and fitness centre within the Dow Centennial Centre and the 1875 – 1885 NWMP Fort Representation in historic downtown.

## Turning Challenges into Opportunities



*The City is rapidly growing and continues to experience population growth that is estimated to be above 2%.*

- Recent annexation of 950 hectares of land for residential and commercial development. Work is underway to prepare this land and set standards for future development.
- With rapid population growth comes the need to balance new services while sufficiently funding existing infrastructure and services. The City's growth has historically occurred in waves, linked with the success of the Alberta's Industrial Heartland. The City anticipates significant growth coinciding with Dow's recent announcement to build the world's first net-zero ethane cracker within the City.
- While the population grows, pressure on existing recreation facilities continues to increase. Additional investment into recreational amenities will be necessary to maintain and enhance services.

### CURRENT CHALLENGES / INVESTMENT NEEDS:

- Increased pressure on our transportation networks.
- Increased investment in annual infrastructure maintenance.
- Challenging to secure investment within established neighbourhoods.

### GREATEST RISKS FACING FORT SASKATCHEWN:

- Federal regulations imposed upon large industry.
- Lack of reinvestment in established communities, potentially resulting in linear sprawl.
- Loss of provincial funding.

## Untapped Opportunities

- Pivoting heavy industry to lower emission technologies.
- River valley enhancements, showcasing the City as a bookend of the river valley trail.
- Recently annexed lands.



CITY OF  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

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