

The City of Vancouver has been helping Vancouver residents find affordable, suitable housing for more than 50 years. The City's role in housing has changed over time, but the commitment remains the same – to assist families and individuals who are unable to afford housing in the private market.

affordable housing

City of Vancouver Housing Centre

The Housing Centre tracks the key factors that affect the city and metropolitan housing markets. By keeping in touch with changes in the supply and demand for housing, as well as changing demographics and social concerns, the Housing Centre monitors affordability and identifies emerging housing issues. This information helps staff advise Council on housing policy, initiatives and development proposals.

This fact sheet gives an overview of housing in Vancouver. For more details, along with graphs that illustrate changing patterns in housing, go to "Housing" on the City's web page (<http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca>).

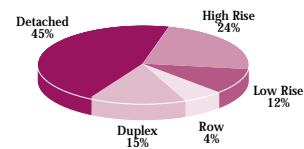
Amount of Housing

Vancouver is a very attractive place to live and work. In the first half of the 1990s, the city's housing stock grew faster than in any other period since the 1960s. On average, about 3,800 new dwellings were created each year. Over the 1991-1996 period, the number of dwellings created in Vancouver was equivalent to the total number of dwellings in Maple Ridge.

In mid-1996, there were 218,540 occupied dwellings in the city, making up almost one-third of all housing in the metropolitan region.

Type of Housing

There is a complete range of housing in Vancouver. Although most of the growth in the past 30 years has been in the form of higher density apartments, almost 60% of Vancouver's residents live in detached or duplex dwellings.



Rental Housing

The city has a very large supply of rental housing. In 1996, 58% of all dwellings – 127,000 – were rental. The city has the highest proportion of rental housing to owner-occupied housing in the metropolitan area. Overall, the metro figure is 33%.

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Fifty Years

over fifty years of helping Vancouver residents through housing programs and partnerships

