

North America’s Top 20 Most Open Cities Announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

London, ON, March 18th, 2021 — Today, PSD announces North America’s Most Open Cities with the City of Edmonton, Alberta maintaining their number one spot for the fifth consecutive time. Next, Ottawa, Ontario moves into the second place spot, with Winnipeg, Manitoba coming in third. All top 3 organizations achieved excellent scores and made great strides this year in all three competency categories.

This year’s Most Improved overall is the City of Coral Gables, Florida with an impressive jump from 30th place to 9th overall, with Canada’s Most Improved being Region of Peel’s jump from 29th place to 17th place.

In 2015, PSD launched the Open Cities Index (OCI)—Canada’s first benchmarking study for municipal open data initiatives—and has expanded to invite organizations from all over North America. This tool provides a way for local governments to measure the maturity and performance of their open data programs while providing insight on how they can improve. With open access to public sector data becoming increasingly important through legislation and public demand, the OCI aims to push the conversation forward.

In the 2020 iteration of the OCI, questions were asked in three competency categories: Readiness, Implementation, and Impact. The OCI has evolved to include the data that everyone around the globe is most concerned about right now—COVID-19. This year, a new dataset category was added specifically to gather data on how municipalities have adapted to share COVID-19-related data with their community and external organizations.

In total, 41 organizations across North America participated with an increase of respondents in the United States. In the top 20, six Canadian provinces are represented as well as two US states.

“Through the years we’ve been conducting the OCI, we’ve had the privilege of watching municipalities grow and improve their open data programs. Not only that, with the increase in participation it’s become clear that public sector organizations value transparency more than ever and are ready and willing to put in the work,” says Matthew Dawe, Vice President of PSD. “With COVID-19 still such a big concern, it’s never been a better time for those organizations to make sure their citizens have easy, open access to data.”

PSD congratulates all participants of this year’s Open Cities Index on taking the steps to improve transparency and look forward to new and returning participants in the 2021 OCI survey to be announced later this year.

[Learn more and view the full report here.](#)

Top 20 Most Open Cities

2020 Rank (2019 Rank*)	Organization Name	Country	Prov/State	Total %
1 (-)	City Of Edmonton	Canada	AB	98.40%
2 (+1)	City of Ottawa	Canada	ON	97.60%
3 (-1)	City of Winnipeg	Canada	MB	96.30%
4 (-)	The City of Calgary	Canada	AB	83.70%
5 (-)	Ville de Montréal	Canada	QC	81.50%

North America's Top 20 Most Open Cities Announced

6 (+1)	Halifax Regional Municipality	Canada	NS	69.00%
7 (-1)	City of New Westminster	Canada	BC	68.20%
8 (+1)	City of Mississauga	Canada	ON	51.60%
9 (+5)	City of Burlington	Canada	ON	50.20%
9 (+21)	City of Coral Gables	USA	FL	50.20%
11 (+4)	City of Victoria	Canada	BC	48.40%
12 (+1)	City of Brandon	Canada	MB	44.70%
13 (*)	City of Los Angeles	USA	CA	43.90%
14 (+3)	Durham Region	Canada	ON	41.80%
15 (+10)	City of Greater Sudbury	Canada	ON	39.20%
16 (+8)	Strathcona County	Canada	AB	32.10%
17 (+12)	Peel Region	Canada	ON	31.10%
18 (*)	City of Waterloo	Canada	ON	30.30%
19 (+7)	District of North Vancouver	Canada	BC	28.20%
20 (+7)	District of Squamish	Canada	BC	26.60%

(-) same rank as 2019, (+#) ranks increased, (-#) ranks decreased, () new participant

For more information or to set up an interview, send an email request to our communications coordinator.

Kate Coleman
 Marketing & Communications Specialist
kcoleman@psdrccs.com



About the OCI:

The OCI measures the maturity of open data programs in municipalities and other public sector organizations using a standardized annual survey. First launched in 2015, the OCI has helped government organizations build awareness and capacity related to open data programming—generally understood as the publication of government data sets to be accessed freely by the public.

About PSD:

PSD Citywide empowers local governments of all sizes with infrastructure asset management, budgeting, and GIS solutions. Our web-based software has been implemented by more than 500 municipalities across Canada to modernize asset management, maintenance management, permitting, budgeting, and GIS. PSD created the OCI to address a gap noticed in several municipalities in regards to how asset management and budget data is communicated. Our aim with this project is to help municipalities better engage with their citizens and create more transparency moving forward.