

SOFTWARE CLUSTERS IN CANADA

SNAPSHOT: WHO'S IN CANADA?

20-20 Technologies Inc. | 3M Company | Accenture | Agfa HealthCare | Amazon.com, Inc. | Autodesk Inc. | BlackBerry | BridgeWays Inc. | CGI Group Inc. | Cisco Systems, Inc. | Constellation Software, Inc. | Computer Modeling Group Ltd. | Corel Corporation | Coveo Solutions Inc. | DOSarrest Internet Security LTD | BeyondTrust, Inc. | Facebook, Inc. | Foster Moore Limited | Fujitsu Canada, Inc. | Google Canada | Hootsuite Media Inc. | HP Enterprise Services, LLC | IBM | Intel Corporation | Intuit Canada ULC | LGS Group Consulting Corporation | Microsoft Corporation | Mitel Networks Corporation | Mphasis Wyde Canada | OpenText Corporation | Oracle Corporation | Q1 Labs Inc. | QNX Software Systems Limited | Radialpoint SafeCare Inc. | Salesforce.com, Inc. | Shopify Inc. | Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. | SAP AG | Thales Group | Timeless Technologies Inc. | Twitter, Inc. | Wipro Limited



SOFTWARE SECTOR AT A GLANCE³

- » Number of Companies: **28,684**
- » Revenues: **\$49.1 billion**
- » Employment: **313,014**
- » Contribution to Canada's GDP: **\$26.2 billion**
- » R & D expenditures: **\$2 billion**

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver (British Columbia)

- Focus: digital entertainment & interactive; film, TV, VFX, animation, video gaming and VR. Also cloud & quantum computing, artificial intelligence and machine learning.
- Vancouver is the #1 VFX and Animation cluster in the world and the #3 biggest film and TV production center globally. Vancouver is a top 10 video game development center.
- Rated #1 startup ecosystem in Canada; local world leading companies include Slack, Hootsuite and Dwave.

Digital Media / ICT - Locations that might interest you:

- Positioned at the top of the west coast tech corridor. Proximity to key markets of San Francisco and LA.

ALBERTA

Calgary (Alberta)

- Focus: film & TV (production and post production), digital media, music.
- Calgary Film Center.

Edmonton (Alberta)

- Focus: high-tech industries, especially in nanotechnology, microelectromechanical systems(MEMS), machine learning and artificial intelligence.
- Tax credits available in the ICT sector.

ONTARIO

Toronto (Ontario)

- The Toronto Region's technology sector ranks as the third-largest in North America behind only San Francisco and New York.
- Focus: gaming, digital media, artificial intelligence, mobile applications, enterprise software, cloud computing, cybersecurity, hardware manufacturing, telecommunications.
- Key companies include IBM, Alphabet (Google), HP, Cisco Systems, Microsoft.

Ottawa (Ontario)

- Most technology-intense city in Canada and home to Canada's largest technology research park. Software subsectors focus: artificial intelligence, SaaS, autonomous vehicles, data analytics/big data, e-commerce, IoT. Key companies include Microsoft, Oracle, SAP, IBM, Amazon and EMC-Dell. Homegrown global champions include Blackberry, Shopify, Halogen, and many more.
- Ottawa is also an established center of excellence for communications technology (wireless, telecom, photonics, optics and semiconductors). Nokia, Blackberry, Ciena, Cisco, Ericsson and Huawei are developing and manufacturing their next generation products in Ottawa.
- Over 90% of Canada's industrial telecommunications R&D is undertaken in Ottawa.
- Ottawa hosts over 150 interactive digital media companies. Focus: gaming, animation, VR/AR.
- Ottawa International Animation Festival held yearly.

Waterloo Region (Ontario)

- Second highest start-up density per capita in the world. Home to disruptors of technology such as the first smartwatch (Pebble – acquired by FitBit), first smartphone (BlackBerry), and the basis for Yahoo's search engine platform (Open Text).
- A hub for innovation and talent; more than 200,000 highly educated and skilled ICT professionals (the University of Waterloo is Canada's #1 engineering school), and the lowest ICT labor costs in the G7. Part of Canada's Tech Supercluster – the Toronto-Waterloo Corridor, a 112km corridor.
- Clusters in Waterloo ICT sector include IoT, Security (cybersecurity, encryption and threat detection), quantum computing, artificial intelligence / machine learning, and big data.
- Leading foreign & Canadian companies include SAP, Square, Google, Huawei, EA, Oracle.
- Incentives allow companies to earn back 30 to 50% of their R&D costs.

Digital Media / ICT - Locations that might interest you:

London (Ontario)

- 300 ICT/content creation companies employing highly qualified, low cost talent.
- Focus: interactive game development, animation, digital services, digital creative, video.

Hamilton (Ontario)

- Hamilton's ICT and Digital Media sector includes communications, wireless technologies, e-business, animation, gaming, enterprise and simulation.
- Hamilton has an International Soft Landing Program.

QUEBEC

Montreal (Quebec)

- Montreal is a video game industry powerhouse with 90,000 IT jobs, more than 120 game studios and 10,000 video game developers. Also emerging as a leading VFX and animation hub. Key companies: Ubisoft, Square Enix, Technicolor, Tata Communications, Hitachi Group/Above Security.
- Generous incentive programs for e.g. R&D, video game development, multimedia & film production and software development.
- Montreal has the lowest operating costs in the ICT sector among the twenty largest North American metropolitan regions.
- Focus: artificial intelligence (world leading), VR/AR, gaming, VFX, data centers, data analytics, mobile apps and technologies, smart city and smart buildings.

Quebec (Quebec)

- The region is the second largest hub for insurance companies and an ICT hotspot employing 23,500 people in more than 500 companies. Focus: software, video games, animation, visual effects, VR, big data, cloud technologies, insurtech and smart city. Major players include CGI, Fujitsu, Oracle, and R&D centers of IBM, Scientific Games and Thales.
- Over 139 companies specializing in animation, special effects, video games, design, 3D environments, programming, web and mobile content, stereoscopy, cinema and virtual and augmented reality providing jobs for some 2,800 people. Key companies: Ubisoft, Gearbox Software, Frima Studio.
- In 2017, French company Artisan Studio announced to move its operations to Quebec city to develop Japanese-style RPGs in collaboration with world-class leading artists from the Final Fantasy series.

EASTERN PROVINCES

Prince Edward Island

- Focus: mobile video game development, testing, game analytics, marketing. Key companies: Electronic Arts, Ice Jam Games, Rev IQ and Sculpin.
- [LaunchPad PEI](#) program gives companies access to low cost office space, recruitment support and more. Entrepreneurs that are interested in expanding their business to Canada through Canadian Citizenship might be able to do so via the Start-Up Visa Program.