



## 2016 BC Race Participation Trends

Contrary to some media reports, participation in running events in British Columbia reached record highs in 2016.

Year	2014	2015	2016
No. of Events	303	295	309
No. of Finishers	168,568	164,539	172,249

Overall participation rebounded after a decline in 2015, growing 4.7% to record numbers in 2016.

However, a number of larger events reported declines.

Year	2014	2015	2016
No. of Finishers in the 20 Largest Events	109,781	103,405	105,836
Percentage of All Finishers	65.13%	62.85%	61.44%

The market share of the 20 largest events has declined 3.69% over the last two years.

The Vancouver Sun Run 10K remains the largest single race in Canada (35,033 finishers), and the Emperor's Challenge in Tumbler Ridge is BC's largest off-road race.

The 10K distance is the most popular, making up almost 70,000 finishers (half of those from the Vancouver Sun Run). The Half Marathon (40,000) and 5K (25,000) are the next most popular distances.

Women make up over 56% of participants overall. But men make up more than 50% of participants at the marathon distance and beyond.

The 30-39 age group makes up 29% of participants, followed by the 20-29 year olds (25%), and the 40-49 year olds (22%).

BC Athletics is the Provincial non-profit amateur sport organization for Track & Field, Road Running, Marathons/Ultras, Cross Country/Trail Running and Race Walking. A Branch member of Athletics Canada, BC Athletics is made up of individual members, member clubs and affiliated organizations. The purpose of the Association is to promote, encourage and develop the widest participation and the highest proficiency in the sport of Athletics.

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