

## SPECIAL FOCUS: ACCOMMODATION CATEGORIES

The revenue data contained in the *Tourism Room Revenue* report is earned by a wide variety of accommodation properties throughout British Columbia. Large hotels in Vancouver are very different from small fishing lodges in remote wilderness regions, yet both appear in the data.

In 1995, more motels operated in BC than any other accommodation type. There were just over 800, nearly 40% of the 2,179 total that operated through the year. (Note that there are significant seasonal variations in the number of properties that are open in a given month.) These motels had just over one-quarter of the rooms, 19,962. The 576 hotels in BC made up 26% of the properties, but had more than twice as many rooms as the motels (40,629).

The remaining properties were vacation rentals (such as cabins and wilderness lodges), with 21% of the total, and fishing lodges (5%). Both these accommodation types are made up of properties with a fewer number of rooms than hotels and motels, and as a result their share of the provincial room total is smaller. Vacation rentals account for 10% of the rooms in the province, and fishing lodges 2%.

The province's hotels, with a quarter of the properties and just over half of the rooms, earned nearly three-quarters of the revenue in 1995. This disproportionate distribution is even more evident in the large hotel (more than 250 rooms) category. Just over 1% of the properties provided 14% of the rooms and earned nearly 30% of the revenue. As was discussed in the previous *Tourism Room Revenue* "Special Focus", these large hotel properties are concentrated in Downtown Vancouver, with the remainder Whistler, Victoria, and Harrison Hot Springs.

The number of accommodation properties has remained virtually unchanged since 1989. However, there have been significant shifts in the types. There has been a steady decline in the numbers of fishing lodges and motels, while at the same time the number of vacation rentals has increased.

The number of hotels in the province has dropped, although there has been growth in the number of large hotels. A decrease in the number of small hotels accounts for most of the decline. It is suspected that this is a result of the closure of "beverage" hotels, those whose operations centred around a beverage room, as neighbourhood pubs have proliferated.

### Motels outnumber hotels, but hotels lead earnings more than 4 to 1 (1995 totals)

<u>ACCOMMODATION CATEGORY</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Properties</u>	<u>Rooms</u>
BRITISH COLUMBIA - Total	\$995,359	2,179	72,842
	<u>% of Provincial Total</u>		
Fishing Lodges	0.9%	5.1%	1.7%
Hotels	73.5%	25.7%	55.8%
250+ rooms	29.1%	1.2%	13.8%
150-249 rooms	12.2%	1.5%	8.3%
76-149 rooms	18.1%	5.3%	16.0%
1-75 rooms	14.1%	17.6%	17.7%
Motels	16.3%	37.1%	27.4%
Vacation Rentals	6.9%	20.8%	10.2%
Other	2.3%	11.3%	4.9%