

Certificate photo for top score in each category of entry (by BC district, S/P/DX): Howe Sound, near Squamish, BC.

British Columbia QSO Party 2025



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Sponsor Information

Orca DX and Contest Club
Callsign: VA7ODX
QSL Manager: VA7BEC
Website: www.orcadxcc.org
BCQP inquiries: va7bec@gmail.com

Behind the Scenes

By Rebecca VA7BEC, Contest Coordinator BCQP

Bands were buzzing

CONDX was very different from last year. All the bands were open, at least to a certain degree, but I don't think there was any time on Saturday or Sunday when the noise wasn't a seemingly endless and ferocious roar. It was tough for us at VA7ODX to pluck letters and numbers out of that whirling sandstorm. Some signals were well above the noise, but most were right at noise level. Completing a log entry was perhaps a little bit ears and a lotta bit ESP.

Was this QTH-specific? I don't think so. From comments received post-party as well as a close look at scores, I think others—in-province and outside BC—had a hard time hearing and being heard.

Saturday started off with an A-index above 20. It affected everyone. The low-band rally (40m, 80m and top band) on Saturday evening provided a good chance to have QSOs with BC stations in areas of the province where skip typically makes high-band QSOs difficult even when CONDX is good. Stations on Vancouver Island appear to have had a nice increase in activity on both PH and CW during the rally, logging contacts with other stations in BC as well as in other provinces and into the U.S.

Although VA7ODX was on the air to keep the BCQP profile high and provide QSO points, bonus points and the DEL mult, as testers, me and my CW sidekick would have liked to achieve a higher score and components thereof. Nevertheless, our log shows that we worked quite a few stations four, five and even eight (!) times over both modes, which is incredible given CONDX. We also noticed quite a few new VE7/VA7s on the

Saturday



Sunday



air for BCQP 2025 and more activations in certain districts that typically have only one active station and sometimes only on one mode.

Again, I wondered if this was QTH-specific or more geographically pervasive, and my analysis of log content confirmed that BCQP 2025 benefitted from a deep pool of BC stations on the air over both modes and for many hours.

Overall, the number of BC stations on the air was high, and the number of operators spending many hours in the chair despite the challenges caused by CONDX was also high, substantiated by the fact that dozens and dozens of BC callsigns appear in the majority of all logs—in-province and outside-BC submissions—over both modes.

Coinciding opportunities

BCQP is a wonderful opportunity for newcomers to the hobby—and to contesting in particular—to learn how to execute QSOs quickly and accurately, become familiar with logging software and, of course, deal with less-than-ideal propagation.

Coinciding events have the potential to create challenges and, I know, for some people, the situation devolves into chaos and frustration—can't find a frequency to run on or get QRM'd by other stations calling CQ only a few clicks away, have to deal with QSO exchange overload (details that aren't needed for the CQer's event), encounter operators in certain events who reply to a CQ BCQP with the exchange for their own event instead of the BCQP exchange, or simply ignore the station. Yes, for sure, there are challenges. But coinciding events put more stations on the air, which means there are more chances for QSOs and perhaps some lucrative multipliers that might otherwise be in short supply or not available at all were it not for other events putting operators at their radios.

Over the years, more operators have come to recognize the inherent value in reciprocal support and good on-air etiquette. They know it's a win-win opportunity.

The goal in any event, though, be that a contest or a special activation, should be **to have fun**.

Fun can be defined many ways—by smile-inducing moments, like when you put a lovely multiplier into the log, or by a high run rate or by a better score than last year or simply by catching the attention of an on-air pal—and increasing, BCQP provides potential for fun that makes time spent at the radio very enjoyable.

The automated route

BCQP 2025 marked a shift in post-party administration with the introduction of a log uploader and log-checking software. This streamlined confirmation of submitted logs and log-checking processes. Steep learning curve for me in getting a handle on the steps that lie between log-uploading and accessing log-checking results, but the end result exceeded expectations. My sincerest thanks to Bruce WA7BNM for the log uploader and to Trey N5KO and Ken K1EA for their patience in getting me set up to retrieve logs and access log-checking data.

Given that this was the first time using log-checking software, I thought I should perform log-checking the old way as a verification measure and to gather data for my number-crunching analysis that the software might not produce. Happily, the log-checking software proved to be extremely accurate, and also provided a lot of data that will, going forward, reduce my workload.

BCQP 2025 scores

BCQP 2025 attracted a lot of active participation, substantiated by more than 400 logs received—421 to be exact. While scores were generally not of the record-breaking level that characterized 2024, more log-submitting participants picked up certificates.

For a detailed breakdown of all scores for all submitted logs, please go to [BC Results](#) and [Outside BC Results](#) on the BCQP website.

Plaques

Many times, a super-high-scoring station will fall into several plaque categories, but the policy is one plaque per station, with priority given to geographically based categories.

In 2025, Team VE7SCC qualified as top BC multi-op and also found the most districts (32). Applying the Plaque Allocation Policy*, Team VE7SCC gets the top multi-op plaque with a score of 2,226,040, leaving the district plaque open to another station. Gary VA7RR qualified as top BC single-op but also had the top mixed mode score and the second-highest districts-found result (31). In line with the plaque policy, Gary VA7RR retains top BC (single-op) status with a score of 2,418,380, leaving the mixed mode plaque to another station along with the district plaque.

The mixed-mode plaque, renamed “Excellent Achievement: Mixed Mode,” goes to Team VE7SAR with a score of 1,458,680. The most districts contacted plaque, renamed “Excellent Achievement: Districts Contracted,” goes to Ken VE7BC with 26 districts.

Jim VE7ZO secured the Top CW plaque for a second consecutive year, with a score of 1,328,472.

Christine VA7TU maintained her status as Top YL with a score of 264,736.

Pam N5KW holds on to the Top YL (US) plaque with a score of 13,672.

The Top US plaque goes to first-time recipient Mike NE8P, with a score of 27,128.

Bob VE3WG returns to Top Canada outside BC status with a score of 18,700.

Aki JH2RMU is surely running out of wall space! He collected another Top DX plaque with a score of 2,910.

Orca DXCC continued its reign as the top-performing club with a score of 8,493,086, based on 19 club member logs (excludes sponsor station VA7ODX).

New treasure map for 2026

The population of BC is about five million, with most people living in the southwest corner of the province, in and around the cities of Vancouver and Victoria. Reflecting this population density, federal electoral districts—our multipliers in BCQP since we don't have counties—are concentrated in the Metro Vancouver and Metro Victoria regions. The further north and east you go, the larger and more sparsely populated the districts become.

The federal electoral map was redrawn to reflect changing population numbers across Canada and, with predictions of an early federal election in 2024, I expected new district names to be in place and the respective abbreviations for BCQP purposes to be used in BCQP 2025. I even prepared a new multiplier list, which I included in last year's report. However, no election was called before BCQP 2025, so the old list was used.

As many of you are undoubtedly aware, an election was called in April 2025, so the new multiplier list will go into effect for BCQP 2026.

The new map comprises 43 federal electoral districts, or ridings, of which 27 retain their old names and 16 are new or slightly revised.

Also note that even though some of the old riding names remain, the boundaries might have changed, and you (BC station) could be in a new district. If you voted in April, you'd know if there was a change.

BC stations, please check at elections.ca to confirm your federal electoral district.

Stations outside BC, be sure to listen to what the BC stations provide in the exchange. Don't rely on a database of past riding designators.

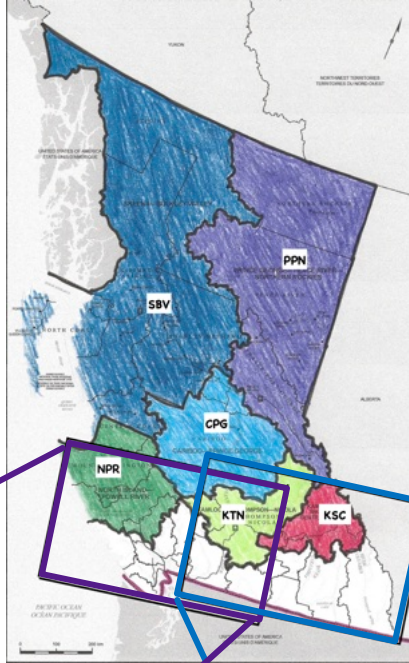
Note: Federal electoral districts in BC are defined here by abbreviations used only for BCQP.

New Multiplier List for BCQP 2026

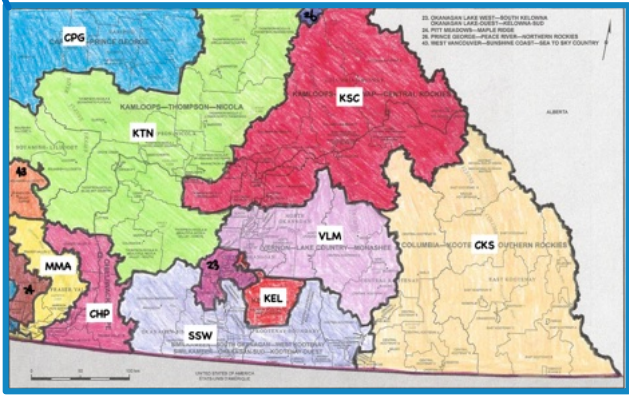
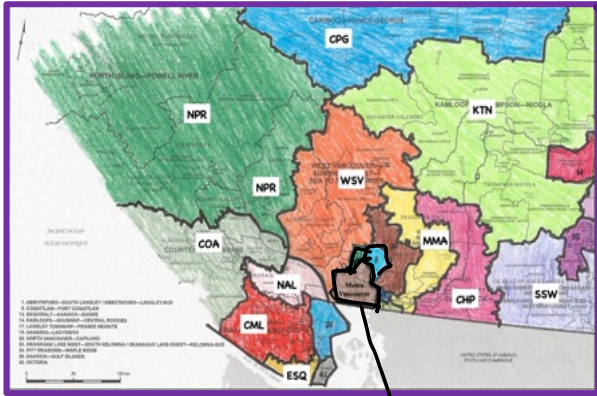
ASL	Abbotsford—South Langley
BNS	Burnaby North—Seymour
BUC	Burnaby Central
CHP	Chilliwack—Hope
CKS	Columbia—Kootenay—Southern Rockies
CLC	Cloverdale—Langley City
CML	Cowichan—Malahat—Langford
COA	Courtenay—Alberni
CPC	Coquitlam—Port Coquitlam
CPG	Cariboo—Prince George
DEL	Delta
ESQ	Esquimalt—Saanich—Sooke
FPK	Fleetwood—Port Kells
KEL	Kelowna
KSC	Kamloops—Shuswap—Central Rockies
KTN	Kamloops—Thompson—Nicola
LTF	Langley Township—Fraser Heights
MMA	Mission—Matsqui—Abbotsford
NAL	Nanaimo—Ladysmith
NBM	New Westminster—Burnaby—Maillardville
NPR	North Island—Powell River
NVC	North Vancouver—Capilano
OSK	Okanagan Lake West—South Kelowna
PMC	Port Moody—Coquitlam
PMM	Pitt Meadows—Maple Ridge
PPN	Prince George—Peace River—Northern Rockies
RCM	Richmond Centre—Marpole
RES	Richmond East—Steveston
SBV	Skeena—Bulkley Valley
SGI	Saanich—Gulf Islands
SSW	Similkameen—South Okanagan—West Kootenay
SUC	Surrey Centre
SUN	Surrey Newton
SWR	South Surrey—White Rock
VAC	Vancouver Centre
VAE	Vancouver East
VAG	Vancouver Granville
VAK	Vancouver Kingsway
VAQ	Vancouver Quadra
VIC	Victoria
VLM	Vernon—Lake Country—Monashee
VSF	Vancouver Fraserview—South Burnaby
WVS	West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky Country

The colored maps provided on this page are based on maps available on the Elections Canada website (www.elections.ca).

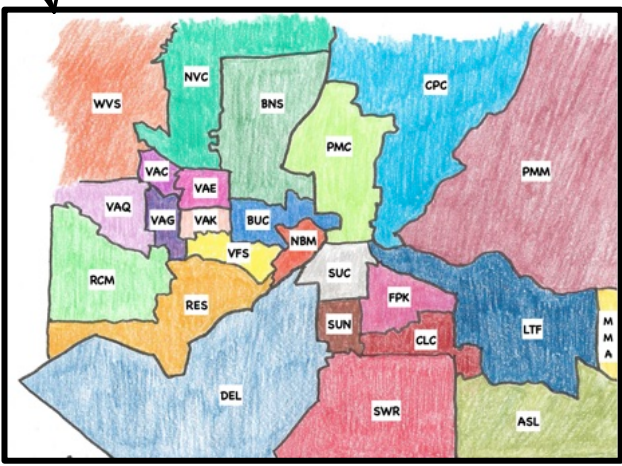
Larger versions of these BCQP-purposed maps can be found on the BCQP website.



The largest ridings are CPG, PPN and SBV (light blue, purple and navy blue, respectively) in Northern and Central BC.



The southwest corner of BC comprises Vancouver Island (seven ridings: CML COA ESQ NAL NPR SGI VIC) and Metro Vancouver and vicinity (26 ridings: ASL BNS BUC CHP CLC CPC DEL FPK LTF MMA NBM NVC PMC PMM RCM RES SUC SUN SWR VAC VAE VAG VAK VAQ VSB WVS).



The southeast corner of BC is vast geographically with a few key population hubs, notably, Kelowna and Kamloops. Districts

Metro Vancouver and vicinity

Plaque Recipients in 2025

Team VE7SCC (VA7DX VE7KW VE7MHM, VE7VT VE7WJ) takes the **Top BC (multi-op)** plaque with a score of 2,226,040.

Gary VA7RR retains **Top BC (single-op)** status with a score of 2,418,380.

Team VE7SAR (VE7KAT VA7XH VA7JDJ VE7TI VE7LXB VA7DVO VE7SXM VE7KGK VA7XB VA7VJ VE7NX VE7YEG) receives the **Excellent Achievement: Mixed Mode** plaque, with a score of 1,458,460.

Christine VA7TU adds to her **Top YL** plaque collection with a score of 264,736.

Pam N5KW holds on to the **Top YL (US)** plaque, with a score of 13,672.

Mike NE8P captures the **Top US** plaque with a score of 27,128.

Bob VE3WG returns to **Top Canada outside BC** status with a score of 18,700.

Jim VE7ZO again achieved **top CW** status, with a score of 1,328,472.

Aki JH2RMU continues to collect **top DX** plaques, with a score of 2,910.

Ken VE7BC found 26 districts and will receive an **Excellent Achievement: Districts Contacted** plaque.

Orca DXCC keeps top club status with a score of 8,493,086, based on 19 submitted logs. (Excludes results by sponsor station VA7ODX.)



**Plaque photo: Wonderland Lake,
Sea-to-Sky Gondola Summit**

* Plaque Allocation Policy

Under BCQP rules, only one plaque is awarded per station.

The BCQP Contest Committee believes that in the event a station qualifies in multiple plaque categories, including top score in BC, the US or other geographical location, the priority should be placed on the top score geographically, as applicable. Special plaques are awarded to stations with the next highest scores in the applicable sponsored plaque categories, which may be top scores in specific categories of entry and will be acknowledged as such.

Thank you to the following 2025 plaque sponsors:

Orca DXCC (Top BC – Single-Op)

Coquitlam Amateur Radio Emergency Services Society (Top BC – Multi-Op)

Kewpie Doll (Top YL)

Dick N7RO (Top US)

Cowichan Valley Amateur Radio Society (Top Canada outside BC)

Surrey Amateur Radio Club (Most Federal Electoral Districts Contacted)

Rebecca VA7BEC and Koji VA7KO (Top DX)

North Shore Amateur Radio Club (Top Mixed Mode)

Elizabeth VE7YL (Top CW)

Delta Amateur Radio Society (Top BC Club)

Don KK4E (Top YL (US))



Individuals:

VA7BEC & VA7KO

VE7YL

"Kewpie Doll"

KK4E

N7RO

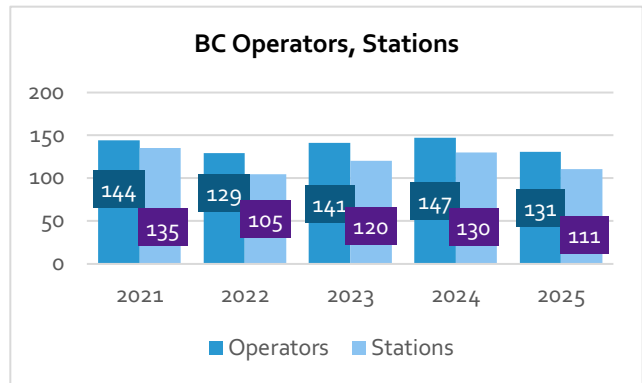


Crunching the Numbers 2025

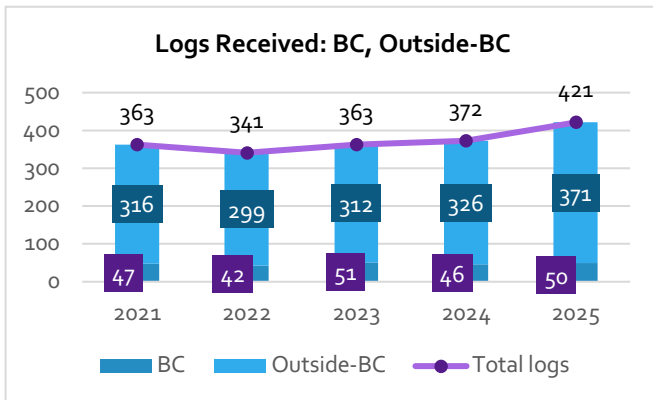
An analysis of log content can reveal trends that might otherwise be missed

BC Stations/Operators on the Air

Extrapolated from the content of submitted logs, the number of in-province stations on the air in 2025 reached 111, down 19 from a year ago. The number of BC operators involved in BCQP 2025, at single-op stations or in multi-op teams, also decreased, settling at 131, down 16 year on year. Of these 131 active operators, 110 were single-ops and 21 were in teams (multi-op stations).



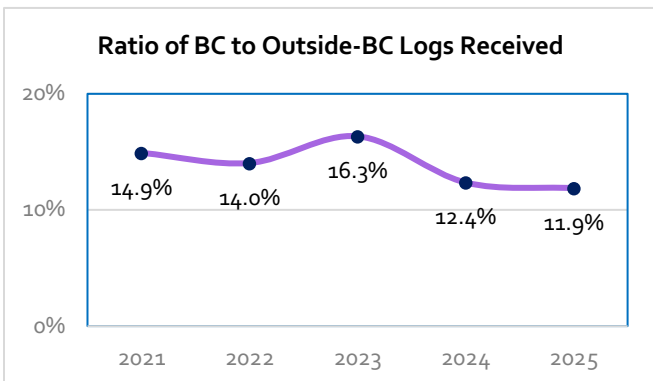
Logs Received



The number of logs received hit an all-time high of 421, up 49 year on year, reflecting a small increase in logs received from BC stations—up four, to 50—and a big increase in logs from stations outside BC—up 45, to 371.

A breakdown of outside-BC logs shows 40 logs from other parts of Canada, 324 logs from the U.S., and seven from DX entities.

As usual, the number of logs received from outside BC comprised a significant percentage of the total—88.1%—up slightly from 87.6% in 2024.



Viewed from the BC perspective, the BC-to-outside-BC ratio fell to 11.9%, from 12.4% a year ago, as the huge increase in logs from outside the province overshadowed growth in the number of logs received from BC stations.

Note that a low BC-to-outside BC ratio should not be interpreted as an indicator of low BC participation. Many BC operators get on the air for an hour or two every few hours when CONDX perks up but don't bother to send in a log. Did they not keep a log? Did they lose the scrap of paper? Did they procrastinate too long about turning the scrap of paper into a Cabrillo log? Was the log too small—from the operator's perspective—to warrant the steps of submitting a log? Many possible reasons.

Submitted logs show 111 VE7/VA7 callsigns. Of these, 24 are unique. That is, they appear in only one submitted log. Are they accidental participants, who were just tuning through the bands, heard a station calling CQ BCQP and answered? Or casual participants who only had a couple of hours that unfortunately coincided with horrible CONDX, leading to one measly Q and not worth submitting a log for? Or a busted callsign of someone who didn't send in a log and thus doesn't show up reciprocally as a NIL (not in log) in the submitted log report? Again, many possible reasons and no definitive answers.

Districts Activated

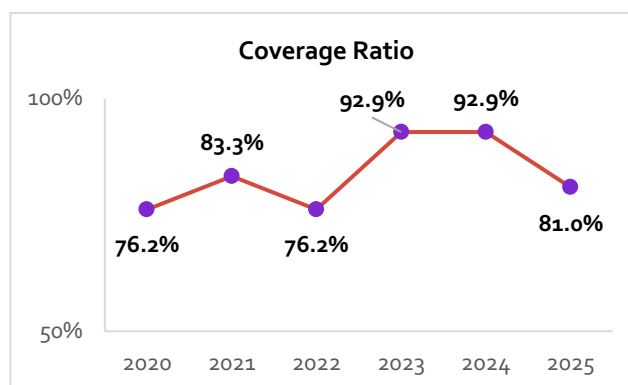
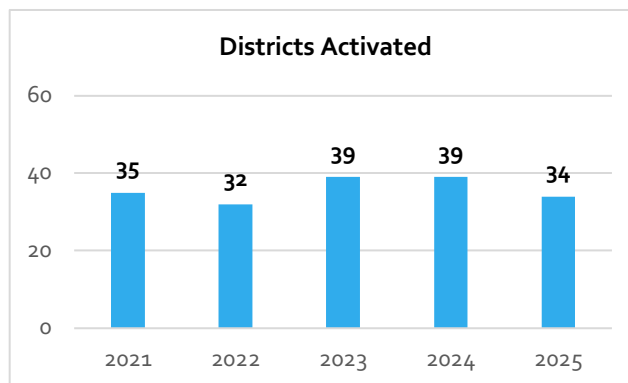
The number of activated federal electoral districts—the multipliers in BCQP since the province does not have the typical QSO party county exchange—fell to 34^{note}, for a coverage ratio of about 81%.

A look at log content shows that in-province stations and outside-BC stations found many of the same districts, but not all, which underscores the impact of location and a little bit of luck in catching the attention of two-mode stations when they switch modes, part-time participants in little-activated districts as well as accidental participants. A caution, however, regarding accidental participants: They typically aren't aware of BCQP—👂—or the required exchange—👂👂—and may give a place name, a provincial electoral district or make up a name when prompted for BCQP exchange.

Anyone on the receiving end of an “I don't know the district,” can direct the operator to elections.ca to figure out the federal electoral district.

Reverse-searching after the fact through QRZ to get a postal code and then using elections.ca may lead to a busted district if the QRZ data is old or not applicable to the location where the accidental participant was operating from, and definitely wrong if the callsign was logged incorrectly.

The most-activated districts, that is, districts represented by two or more stations with a pervasive, multi-hour presence, were COA, CPC, CPG, DEL, KTC, LAA, NAL, SBV, VIC and WVS.



Coverage in 2025: 34 out of 42 (80.9%)

ABF BNS BUS CHP CLC CML COA CPC CPG CSN DEL
ESQ KEL KOC KTC LAA NAL NOS NPR NVA PMM
PPN RIC SBV SGI STR SUN SWK SWR VAC VAG VAQ
VIC WVS

Coverage in 2024: 39 out of 42 (92.9%)

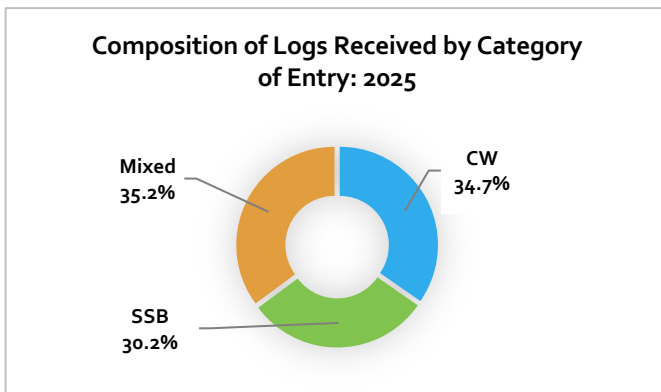
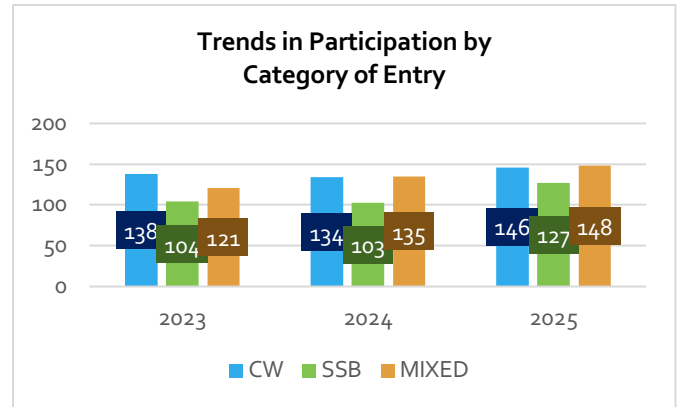
ABF BNS BUS CHP CLC CML COA CPC CPG CSN DEL
ESQ KEL KOC KTC LAA MMF NAL NOS NPR NVA
NWB PMC PMM PPN RIC SBV SGI STR SUC SUN SWK
SWR VAC VAE VAG VAQ VIC WVS

The number of activated districts excludes invalid (miscopied or just plain wrong) three-letter designators.

Breakdown of Logs by Category of Entry

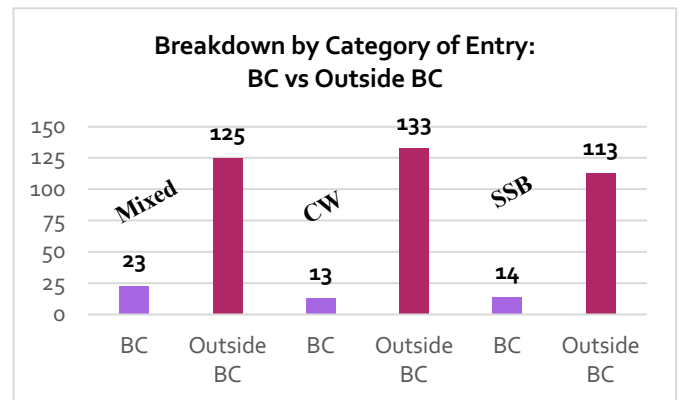
By category of entry, 146 logs were CW-only, 127 logs were SSB-only and 148 logs were mixed mode. More logs were received in all categories of entry.

While the number of logs received overall and the number of logs received in each category of entry were up, the total Q count and the number of Qs on CW and on SSB were down. There was an obviously increase in participation, but putting activity into loggable Qs was a challenge in 2025, most likely due to CONDX.

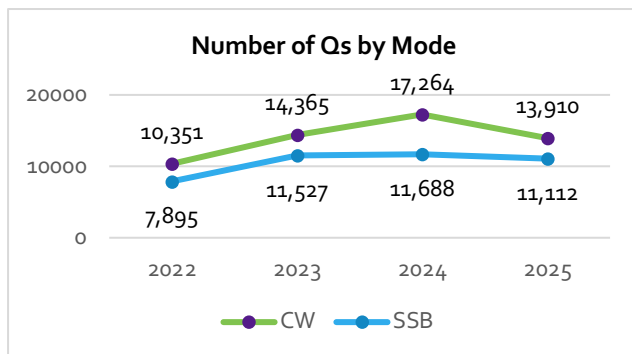


Breaking down logs received in 2025 by category of entry, CW-only logs accounted for 34.7% of all logs received, down from 36.0% in 2024. SSB-only logs, which had been charting south, reversed course, rebounding from 27.7% in 2024 to 30.2%. Mixed mode logs comprised 35.2% of all logs received, down slightly from 36.3% in 2024.

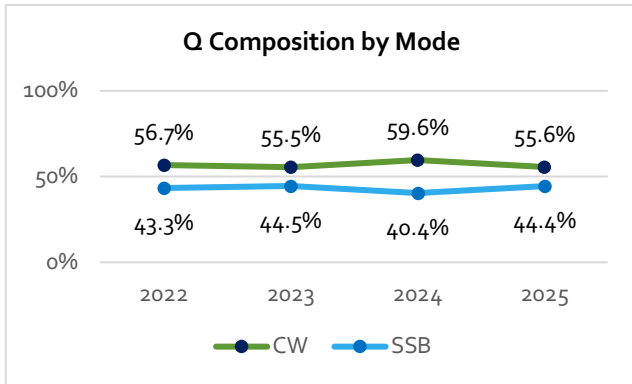
The above percentages are based on all logs received. Looking at logs from BC stations only, mixed mode remained the preferred category of entry, with 23 out of 50 logs being mixed mode and representing 46% of all BC logs.



Number of Qs by Mode, Ratio Perspective



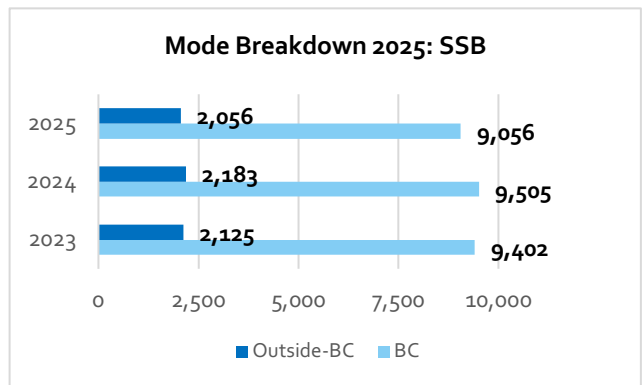
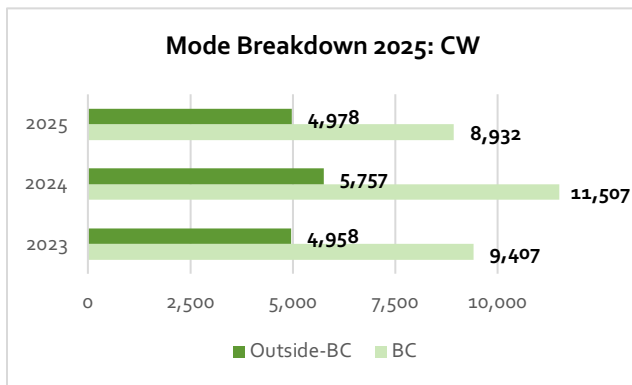
On a number basis, a breakdown of valid QSOs by mode, based on data in logs received, shows a significant year-on-year decrease for CW. The CW Q count dropped to 13,910, from 17,264 Qs in 2024, while the SSB Q count held relatively steady, at 11,112, compared with 11,688 Qs in 2024.



From a composition perspective, the CW ratio (number of CW QSOs as a percentage of all valid QSOs in all submitted logs) fell by the same amount that the SSB ratio (number of SSB QSOs as a percentage of all Qs in submitted logs) rose.

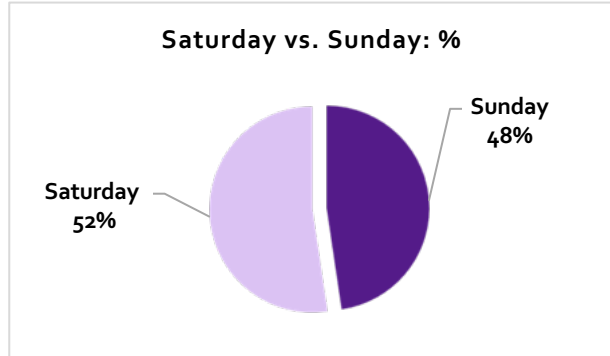
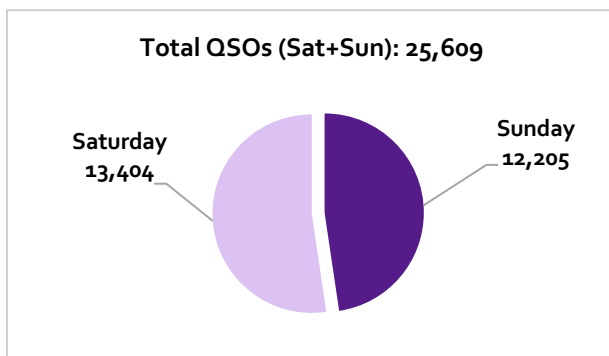
The CW ratio, which rebounded in 2024 after several years of decline, dipped 4.0 points, to 55.6%, in 2025, while the SSB ratio climbed 4.0 points year on year, to 44.4%.

Overall Breakdown of Qs by Mode: BC vs. Outside BC



Saturday vs. Sunday Analysis*

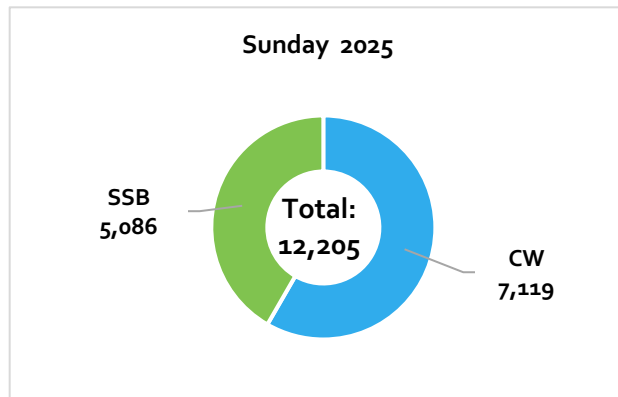
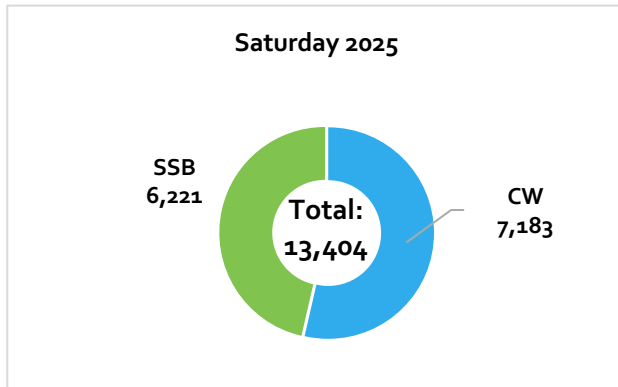
There are many ways to gauge activity: CW vs. SSB, inside BC vs. outside BC, Saturday vs. Sunday and combinations thereof. A caveat, of course, is that even if activity is relatively even on both days, Saturday is a longer operating block than Sunday—12 hours vs. eight hours—so Q counts would likely be higher on Saturday. But the gap tends to be rather small, and in fact, Sunday tends to see high average hourly activity.



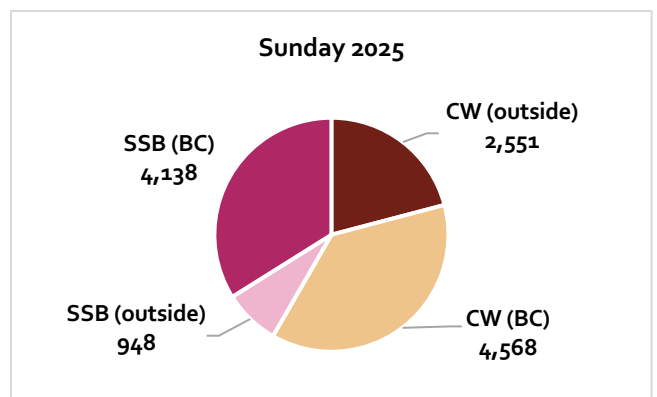
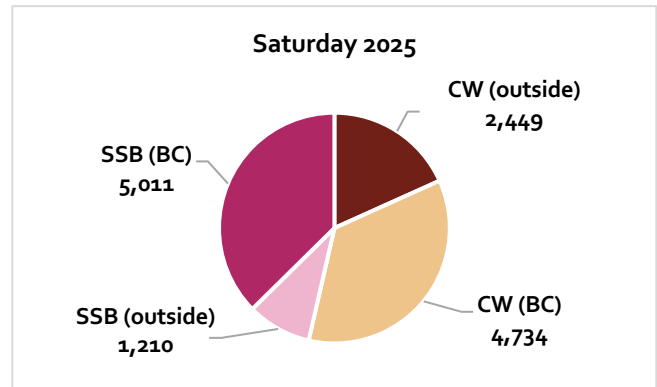
Looking at total Qs and breakdowns by mode by day, in 2025, the total number of Qs in submitted logs came to 25,609, compared with 28,952 Qs in 2024, down 11.5% year on year for a 52:48 split. Of the 2025 tally, 13,404 Q were logged on Saturday and 12,205 Qs were logged on Sunday. In 2024, the daily tally was almost even, but in 2025, Sunday saw about 1,000 Qs less than Saturday.

* The Saturday+Sunday analysis is based on all QSOs, including invalid QSOs and QSOs in checklogs.

Qs by Mode by Day: Overall



Qs by Mode by Day: BC vs. Outside BC



Qs by mode by day: Overall

The **two-day CW total** was 14,302 Qs, with 7,183 on Saturday and 7,119 on Sunday. To compare, in 2024, the two-day CW total was 17,264 Qs, with 8,427 on Saturday and 8,837 on Sunday. In 2024 and again 2025, there was a fairly even split between the two days despite the duration difference.

As percentages, Saturday CW Qs represented 53.6% of all Saturday Qs, and Sunday CW Qs represented 58.3% of all Sunday Qs, down from 56.8% and 62.6%, respectively, in 2024.

The **two-day SSB total** was 11,307 Qs, with 6,221 on Saturday and 5,086 on Sunday. To compare, in 2024, the two-day SSB total was 11,688 Qs, with 6,413 on Saturday and 5,275 on Sunday.

As percentages, Saturday SSB Qs represented 46.4% of all Saturday Qs, and Sunday SSB Qs represented 41.7% of all Sunday Qs, up from 43.2% and 37.4%, respectively, in 2024.

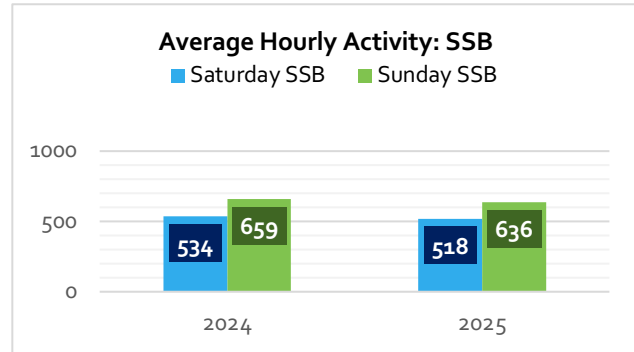
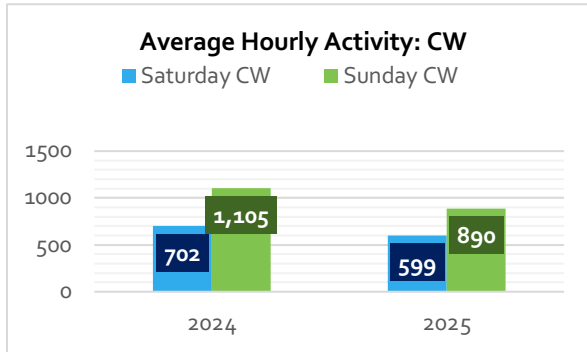
Qs by mode by day: BC vs outside-BC

Of the Saturday CW amount, 4,734 Qs were in BC logs and 2,449 Qs were in outside-BC logs. Of the Sunday amount, 4,568 Qs were in BC logs and 2,551 Qs were in outside-BC logs.

Of the Saturday SSB amount, 5,011 Qs were in BC logs and 1,210 Qs were in outside-BC logs. Of the Sunday amount, 4,138 Qs were in BC logs and 948 Qs were in outside-BC logs.

The takeaway from this data is that both Saturday and Sunday were well-attended, but in 2025, Saturday saw more activity than Sunday. CW was definitely the popular mode overall.

Average Hourly Activity



Looking at average hourly activity—that is, the average number of BCQP-related QSOs per hour, based on all QSOs in submitted logs—Sundays tend to be more productive on both modes. The average was, of course, fueled by a very dedicated group of BC operators and the outside-BC operators who were keen to find them.

Also, as shown in the graphs, average hourly CW activity slipped in 2025, but held more or less at a year-on-year par for SSB.

Five-Year Trends

