

# Data Library Guide: BC Economic Atlas

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## Getting started with the BC Economic Atlas

The goal of this exercise is to get you familiar with using the BC Economic Atlas. For this example, you will use it to look up the city of Williams Lake, layer on some data, and then export the map as an image.

1. Let's start by going to the BC Economic Atlas website: google "BC Economic Atlas" to find the DataBC page. Click on the **yellow launch** button to start the application.
2. Once you start it up, you can use the search box at the top to pick your region. Let's search for "Williams Lake". From the result list on the left, select the second result (i.e., the city option), then click on **Zoom to Feature** then close the pop-up window. Once zoomed in, you can use the zoom bar at the top left of the map to zoom out a bit to get a better view of the whole city.
3. Next, click on the **I want to** button. This button allows you to starting adding layers of economic and other geospatial data to your map. Pick the first option, **Launch the BC Economic Layer Menu**. You can then select data you want to add by clicking on the plus signs. For example, go to **Citizen Services** layer group on the left, and then click on the plus sign next to **Schools K-12, BC Food Banks, and BC Health Care Facilities**. When you are done adding data, click on **Finish**.
4. You can also add data from the BC Geographic Data Warehouse similarly, or layer on any of your own shapefiles or KMLs. Try adding some data from the BC Geographic Data Warehouse from the **I want to** menu, such as **Provincial Forest** (search for it and select the first result).
5. You can toggle layers on and off from the map layer list on the left by selecting or deselecting a layer. Try turning off the **BC Health Care Facilities** layer.
6. You can also find more information about a layer after you have added it. From the layer list, click on any of those layers and select **metadata URL** to go to the DataBC record.
7. You can also change the basemap layer from the layer list. Expand **Basemap** from the layer list, select **Imagery** and deselect **Topographic**.
8. Click on the **wrench/screwdriver** icon on the top right to get more options and tools to use with your map. When you are happy with your map, click on the **Markup & Printing** tab. From this tab, I have the option to print or export my map as an image. Click on **Export Map**, select an image type, then click on **Create Image**. Then click on **View Image** to download and view the image of the map you created.
9. Finally, still in the **Markup & Printing** tab, check out the help documentation for more information on using the BC Economic Atlas application by clicking on **Help**.