

G8 and G20 Summit Costs

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Overview

It is extremely difficult to come up with a single figure for how much the G8 and G20 summits cost, especially on a comparative basis across countries, since there are many variables to take into consideration. One needs to assess factors including: already available facilities at the summit sites, regular and overtime salaries, accommodations, travel expenses, meals, security, technology, infrastructure, communication and service staff. There are also differences in when and how hosts report, what they include as a special “summit” expense rather than as part of regular operation and capital budgets, how much of the pre-summit preparatory and post-summit implementation period they include, the timing of their fiscal years and exchange rates at the time of financial reporting and subsequently as most costs become known. Some hosts benefit from the use of large military and security facilities already in place, as in 2009, or use the summit as a trigger for major capital investments that benefit the country for a long time, as in 2000.

At present, it has been estimated that the 2010 G8 and G20 Summits that will be held in Canada, 200 kilometers away and a few hours apart, in June will cost approximately C\$1.1 billion, including C\$930 million for security.

British estimates from the 2005 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland suggest that it cost £90.9 million, the majority of which went to policing and security. The London G20 Summit was reported to have cost approximately \$30 million.

It is estimated that the 2002 Kananaskis Summit cost between C\$200 and C\$300 million. The 2000 Okinawa Summit is reported to have been one of the most costly. Media reports claim that the summit cost between \$750 and \$780 million.

Overall Costs: G8

Year	Country	Costs	Costs (in \$US at time of summit)
1981	Canada	C\$5.5 million ¹	\$4.75 million ²
1982	France	\$14.5 million ³	\$14.5 million
1988	Canada	C\$20-29.3 million ⁴	\$15-21 million
1994	Italy	C\$29.3 million+ ⁵	\$21 million
1995	Canada	C\$25-28 million ⁶	\$18-20 million
1996	France	\$4 million ⁷	\$4 million
2000	Japan	¥80 billion ⁸	\$734 million
2001	Italy	\$100-225 million ⁹	\$100-225 million
2002	Canada	C\$192-300 million ¹⁰	\$127-199 million
2003	France	NA	NA
2004	United States	NA	NA
2005	United Kingdom	£90.1 million ¹¹	\$157 million
2006	Russia	Rb10.7 million ¹²	\$397 million
2007	Germany	\$134 million ¹³	\$134 million
2008	Japan	¥60 billion ¹⁴	\$559 million
2009	Italy	€184.9 million ¹⁵	\$260 million
2010	Canada	C\$305 million ¹⁶	\$290 million

Notes: all figures based on publicly available information on reported costs. All numbers are rough estimates. 2010 Canadians figures assume 35:65 split between G8 and G20 based on security costs below.

¹ Figure is unconfirmed but likely came from official Canadian government documents. The figure is reported in Canadian dollars, but may not be accurate.

² Figure in 1990 USD.

³ Figure is unconfirmed. The figure is reported in US dollars, but may not be accurate.

⁴ Halifax Summit Office News Release. "Halifax Summit Budget to be 28 million." <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>. Global Television June 17, 1988 reported C\$20 million including \$60,000. for the people's summit at Ryerson

⁵ Halifax Summit Office News Release. "Halifax Summit Budget to be 28 million." <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>. Global Television June 17, 1988 reported C\$20 million including \$60,000. for the people's summit at Ryerson

⁶ Halifax Summit Office News Release. "Halifax Summit Budget to be 28 million." <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>.

⁷ <<http://www.nytimes.com/1996/06/29/world/reporter-s-notebook-hungry-for-respect-france-s-2d-city-puts-its-best-for.html?scp=7&sq=JUne+29%2C+1996&st=nyt>>

⁸ Okinawa Summit Religion v. Politics. < <http://www.jesuit.ie/ijnd/Okinawa%20summit.html>>; <<http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080701f1.html>>

⁹ Reid, Mark. "Calgary Herald." May 6 2002 <<http://www.geocities.com/ericsquire/articles/calher050602e.htm>>; Reuters, July 20, 2001; <<http://globalization.icaap.org/content/v1.1/paulmarsden.html>>

¹⁰ July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*; G8 summits costs reach \$192 million, *Globe and Mail* June 16, 2003, p. A6, CP story; Calgary Herald, April 24, 2002

¹¹ <<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/europe/papers-05/eup05-19.pdf>>

¹² http://www.sptimes.ru/index.php?action_id=2&story_id=18257

¹³ <<http://jewelsinthejungle.blogspot.com/2007/06/g8-summit-2007-in-germany-closes-with.html>>

¹⁴ <<http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080701f1.html>>

¹⁵ <http://www.g8italia2009.it/G8/Home/Summit/G8-G8_Layout_locale-1199882116809_CostiG8.htm>

¹⁶ <<http://www.cbc.ca/politics/story/2010/05/26/g8-g20-security-summit-toews.html>>

Overall Costs: G20

Year	Country	Costs	Costs (in US\$at time of summit)
2008	United States	NA	NA
2009	United Kingdom	\$20 million	\$20 million
2009	United States	NA	NA
2010	Canada	\$715 million	\$679 million

Notes: all figures based on publicly available information on reported costs. All numbers are rough estimates. 2010 Canadians figures assume 35:65 split between G8 and G20 based on security costs below.

Security Costs: G8

Year	Country	Cost	Costs (in US\$at time of summit)
2001	Italy	\$40 million	\$40 million
2002	Canada	C\$140 million	\$93 million
2003	France	NA	NA
2004	United States	\$139.5 million	\$139.5 million
2005	United Kingdom	£80.1 million	\$140 million
2006	Russia	NA	NA
2007	Germany	€92 million	\$124 million
2008	Japan	¥30 billion	\$280 million
2009	Italy	€88.5 million	\$124 million
2010	Canada	C\$325.5 million ^a	\$309.4 million

Notes: all figures based on publicly available information on reported costs. All numbers are rough estimates. For details see below.

^a Figure divides estimated security costs of the G8 and G20 summits in 35:65 split as per Parliamentary Budget Officer estimate

Security Costs: G20

Year	Country	Cost	Costs (in US\$at time of summit)
2008	United States	NA	North America
2009	United Kingdom	£19.5 million	\$28.6 million
2009	United States	\$98.7 million	\$98.7 million
2010	Canada	C\$604.5 million ^a	\$574.6 million

Notes: all figures based on publicly available information on reported costs. All numbers are rough estimates. For details see below.

^a Figure divides estimated security costs of the G8 and G20 summits in 35:65 split as per Parliamentary Budget Officer estimate

Details

G20

2010 Toronto, Canada

“The cost of hosting the G8 and G20 summits next month in Ontario now stands at \$1.1 billion and further outlays are likely, federal documents show. The price tag includes \$160 million for hospitality, infrastructure, food safety and extra staffing. That amount is in addition to the \$933-million security bill the Tories revealed earlier this week. ...The additional \$160 million in costs includes about \$100 million for office and meeting spaces and pre-summit meetings. Another \$1.2 million is to ensure the food served to dignitaries is safe and healthy, while \$10 million has been spent on infrastructure and about \$50 million has been paid to spruce up the Huntsville area.”
<<http://www.cbc.ca/politics/story/2010/05/26/g8-g20-security-summit-toews.html>>

Total Security Spending for the 2010 G8 & G20 Summits

Department/Agency	Spending
Royal Canadian Military Police	\$507,459,400
Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness	\$278,310,228
National Defence	\$77,570,000
Canadian Security Intelligence Service	\$3,137,483
Health	\$2,266,619
Canada Border Services Agency	\$1,180,070
Transport	\$1,240,581
Canadian Air Transport Security Authority	\$399,399
Public Health Agency of Canada	\$583,330
Industry	\$2,839,000
Contingency Reserve (Fiscal framework)	\$55,000,000
Total	\$929,986,110

<<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/sites/pbo-dpb/documents/SummitSecurity.pdf>>

“Spending split of 65/35 percent based on PBO estimate based on consultations with security experts.”

<<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/sites/pbo-dpb/documents/SummitSecurity.pdf>>

2009 Pittsburgh, United States

“Last year’s G20 summit in Pittsburgh was reported to have cost \$18-million.”

<[http://news.nationalpost.com/2010/06/01/'airport-style'-screening-set-for-g20-summit/June 1, 2010](http://news.nationalpost.com/2010/06/01/'airport-style'-screening-set-for-g20-summit/June+1,+2010)>

“The official price tag for security at last year’s G20 summit in Pittsburgh was listed at \$18 million US, according to municipal and U.S. federal officials.”
<<http://www.cbc.ca/politics/story/2010/05/26/g8-g20-security-summit-toews.html>>

Department	G8 Sea Island (2004)		G20 Pittsburgh (2009)	
	Personnel	Total Cost (000's)	Personnel	Total Cost (000's)
National Guard	6,800	\$40,691	2,500	\$34,982
Local and state police, FBI	5,400	\$39,916	4,200	\$22,805
Diplomatic security	200	\$836	200	\$627
Secret Service	500	\$2,090	600	\$1,881
Various IC sources	75	\$1,319	125	\$2,274
Other security personnel	500	\$2,404	500	\$1,792
USSS NSSE Non-Personnel		\$13,857		\$5,514
Combat air patrol		\$38,460		\$28,845
Totals	13,475	\$139,573	8,125	\$98,719

<<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/sites/pbo-dpb/documents/SummitSecurity.pdf>>

“Mayor Luke Ravenstahl announced today that the final tally for G-20 public safety costs came in under budget by approximately \$2 million dollars and will be fully reimbursed by state and federal authorities. The total local security costs were \$12,238,348 which includes the costs of all police, fire and EMS overtime, training, insurance, outside agency expenses, equipment, housing and meals, and CIS information systems/surveillance. City Council authorized the City to spend \$16 million in G-20 safety costs. Of that, the City had identified \$14.3 million in outside revenue sources.”
<<http://rnc08report.org/archive/1307.shtml>>

2009 London, England

“It’s a good thing for British newspaper reader Reuben Camara that he doesn’t pay taxes in Canada. The Lancashire resident was outraged last year at the price-tag for an April summit that brought the G20 leaders to London for two days. Billed in some quarters as the “budget” summit, the meeting cost an estimated \$30 million.”
<<http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/torontog20summit/article/828308--g20-canada-s-billion-dollar-summit-mystery>>

Canada’s estimated price tag dramatically exceeds costs for past G8 and G20 summits, including last year’s G20 gathering in London, for which news reports pegged security at about \$20 million.

<<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Summit+security+costs+will+undergo+after+fact+probes/3077877/story.html#ixzz0slpSuI5c>>

G8

2010 Muskoka, Canada

“The cost of hosting the G8 and G20 summits next month in Ontario now stands at \$1.1 billion and further outlays are likely, federal documents show. The price tag includes \$160 million for hospitality, infrastructure, food safety and extra staffing. That amount is in addition to the \$933-million security bill the Tories revealed earlier this week ... The additional \$160 million in costs includes about \$100 million for office and meeting

spaces and pre-summit meetings. Another \$1.2 million is to ensure the food served to dignitaries is safe and healthy, while \$10 million has been spent on infrastructure and about \$50 million has been paid to spruce up the Huntsville area.”
<<http://www.cbc.ca/politics/story/2010/05/26/g8-g20-security-summit-toews.html>>

Total Security Spending for the 2010 G8 & G20 Summits

See Toronto 2010 above.

“Spending split of 65/35 percent based on PBO estimate based on consultations with security experts.”

<<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/sites/pbo-dpb/documents/SummitSecurity.pdf>>

2009 L’Aquila, Italy

“In total, the costs incurred in organizing the G8 Aquila amounted to €184,897,674.92”

<http://www.g8italia2009.it/G8/Home/Summit/G8-G8_Layout_locale-1199882116809_CostiG8.htm>

“The summit alone cost over \$600 million” <http://www.fpif.org/articles/g8_summit_feed_the_hungry_or_fuel_hunger>

2008 Hokkaido-Toyako, Japan

“Japan plans to spend more than ¥60 billion in taxpayer money to host next week’s Group of Eight summit in Hokkaido and related events. ...Of the ¥60 billion-plus to host the meetings, about ¥30 billion will be used by the National Police Agency for patrolling the venues, including taking counterterrorism measures, and about ¥25.5 billion will be spent by the Foreign Ministry. The Defense Ministry and Japan Coast Guard budgeted around ¥1 billion each for transporting the leaders and patrolling sea areas near the venue. The Foreign Ministry plans to spend around ¥9 billion on preparing the communications infrastructure between the summit venue in Toyako and Rusutsu, where the international media center will be located. The ministry budgeted around ¥5 billion for the media center, which is constructed on a parking lot in a ski resort and will accommodate around 3,000 people from the press and governments. Inside and outside the center, cutting-edge environmental technology, including fuel cells and heat pumps, will be exhibited. The center itself boasts eco-friendly features, including solar panels, “green” walls and a snow cooling system. Once the summit is over, however, the building will be demolished. ...In Toyako, five working lunches and dinners are scheduled involving the G8 and other countries’ leaders. Masamoto declined to disclose how much has been budgeted for the meals, because they are still being coordinated. Japan again plans to pass out souvenirs to the leaders, their aides and the press, he said. Although Masamoto again refused to fully disclose the budget and planned gifts for the same reason, he said the government wants to give the leaders “something good with the theme of the environment and tradition.” Gifts being considered include writing implements for the leaders’ aides and chopsticks, “furoshiki” wrapping cloth and “uchiwa” fans for the press corps, he said. With the gifts, Masamoto said the government hopes the participants and media learn about Japan, Hokkaido and the environment.
<<http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080701f1.html>>

“The 2008 G8 summit in Japan wracked up security costs of \$381-million” <<http://www.nationalpost.com/Airport+style+screening+summit/3094786/story.html>>

“The Japanese Government is spending £285 million hosting next week’s Group of Eight summit, more than three times the cost of the same event in Britain, at a time when industrialised countries are threatening to renege on their aid commitments to Africa.” <<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/asia/article4272578.ece>>

2007 Heiligendamm, Germany

“‘They’re excellent at building fences!’ she said, pointing out a high-security fence currently being built around the hotel. The barrier is 14 kilometers long (8.7 miles) and is planned to cost some 12.4 million euros (\$16.3 million) to erect ... “‘The current official estimate is that our G8 summit in Heiligendamm will cost a round 92 million euros just for security.’” <<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,2346773,00.html>>

“The Germany summit cost \$134 million, much of it spent on security. Measured by the organizers’ outlay or by the media coverage the event receives, it appears as if the protests themselves have become the point. <<http://jewelsinthejungle.blogspot.com/2007/06/g8-summit-2007-in-germany-closes-with.html>>

2006 St. Petersburg, Russia

“Running the G8 summit cost Russia 10.7 billion rubles (\$397 million), according to official data, Interfax reported. The federal government spent 3.2 billion rubles (\$119 million) directly on preparing and running the event in St. Petersburg.” <http://www.sptimes.ru/index.php?action_id=2&story_id=18257>

2005 Gleneagles, Scotland

“The total cost of hosting the G8 Summit was £90.9 million of which £60.1 million was funded by Scottish sources (the Police, the Scottish Executive and other public sector bodies). The vast majority of this, £72 million, was related to policing, but was offset by a contribution of £20 million from the UK Treasury. The FCO investment was £10.7m.” <<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/europe/papers-05/eup05-19.pdf>>

“G8 summit Gleneagles, Scotland, July 2005: \$110 million” <<http://www.cbc.ca/politics/story/2010/05/26/g8-g20-security-summit-toews.html>>

2004 Sea Island, Georgia

Governor Perdue says the federal government’s picking up the sizeable tab for top level security (WOTC TV July 16, 2003)

The U.S. Congress allocated \$25 million for G-8 security costs, and the state kicked in \$1.3 million to pay for some road improvements near Sea Island and Brunswick.

<http://www.frbatlanta.org/pubs/econsouth/econsouth-vol_6_no_1-georgia_coast_braces_for_g-8_whirlwind.cfm?redirected=true>

See Pittsburgh 2009 above.

2002 Kananaskis, Canada

“The 2002 Kananaskis Summit came with a price. Security reportedly cost taxpayers in excess of \$200 million.” (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

“Security costs to keep world leader’s safe at last June’s uneventful G8 summit in the Rocky Mountains have soared past \$140 million, newly disclosed figures show. That brings the total cost of the 30-hour meeting of the world’s eight largest industrialized nations to at least \$192 million.” (G8 summits costs reach \$192 million, *Globe and Mail* June 16, 2003, p. A6, CP story).

“Ottawa will create a multimillion-dollar compensation fund for lost business and damage to private property during the G-8 summit, and will pay for prosecuting protesters arrested during the June meeting of world leaders in Kananaskis,” — “Deal to compensate for G-8,” *Calgary Herald*, May 23, 2002

“The price tag for the Kananaskis summit has been estimated at about \$300 million,” — “Police buying armoured vehicles: G-8 funding pays the bill,” *Calgary Herald*, April 24, 2002

“Martin said the summit will cost between \$1 million and \$2 million to stage and the costs would be ‘largely picked up by the Canadian government,’ — “Halifax to host G-7 finance ministers meeting in June: Martin,” *Canadian Press*, April 19, 2002

“A \$300,000 Wild West hootenanny for 5,000 will be the City of Calgary’s contribution to the G-8 summit, as city hall tries to lasso an economic spinoff from the two-day meeting of world leaders in late June,”- “City rustles up G-8 wingding, Mayor hopes \$300,000 party will attract tourists,” *Calgary Herald*, April 16, 2002

“But it will cost Canadian taxpayers at least \$100 million to protect the eight men who are scheduled ... Once the costs of feeding, accommodating, entertaining and providing working facilities for the delegations are taken into account, the bill could exceed \$200 million.” *Toronto Star* editorial “Summit too costly,” December 28, 2001, A38.

2001 Genoa, Italy

“About 250 billion lire (\$100 million) was spent on improving the city’s appearance and infrastructure for the summit and on organization and security,” — FACTBOX- Costs of the G8 Summit in Genoa,” *Reuters*, July 20, 2001

“Police initially arrested 280, many of them foreign, though many have now been freed. Damage has been estimated at \$45 million,” — “G8 violence: Ministers under Fire,” *CNN*, July 26, 2001

“the event costs \$225 million, including \$40 million for security” (Calgary Herald, May 6, 2002)

“In the run up to the Genoa summit \$100 million was spent on sprucing up the city, before \$80 million was spent on the summit itself. Finally, the riots caused another \$20 million of damage to property. Who knows how much will be paid out in further personal insurance claims? So \$200 million is spent on a glittering set of meetings in the media spotlight. The outcome? A new global AIDS health fund, to “continue progress” on debt relief, a determination to press ahead with a new trade round and to avoid protesters by attending next year’s summit in the Canadian Rockies. To the outside world it looked like a poor outcome from such a well hyped and prestigious occasion.”
<<http://globalization.icaap.org/content/v1.1/paulmarsden.html>>

2000 Okinawa, Japan

“Japan last hosted the annual summit in 2000 in Kyushu and Okinawa. That and related events cost in excess of ¥80 billion, about ¥20 billion more than the budget for this year’s gatherings, said Kenichi Masamoto, a Foreign Ministry official in the G8 summit secretariat. ‘The previous (Japanese) summit was held for the first time in a provincial area. So we wanted no mistakes and tried to provide as much hospitality as possible,’ Masamoto said. Before the Kyushu-Okinawa gathering, Japan hosted three summits, all in Tokyo. Masamoto admitted the Kyushu-Okinawa gathering drew public criticism about spending at a time when Japan’s economy was in a prolonged slump.
<<http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080701f1.html>>

“The G8 leaders’ summit was held at the luxury Busena Terrace Beach Resort, on a remote peninsula. The Japanese government spent US\$750 million on the summit and two preparatory meetings of ministers, a sum that Jubilee 2000 estimates would have been enough to cancel the servicing of one year’s debt from Guyana, Rwanda, Laos, Zambia, Nicaragua, Benin, Cambodia and Haiti,” “OKINAWA: Thousands protest against G8 summit,” by Sean Healy, <<http://www.nadir.org/nadir/initiativ/agn/free/genova/>>

“While previous G8 summits have been criticized in the press — most recently Okinawa, for example, for the expenditure of \$750-million on facilities — the decibel level rose significantly after Genoa,” — “Kananaskis might be the time for a makeover,” National Post, June 4, 2002

“The G8 summit in Okinawa will undoubtedly be remembered for its astonishing £500 million cost,” The G8 Summit and World Poverty, Harry Barnes MP

1996 Lyon, France

“Officials estimate the cost of all the preparations at about \$4 million, but they expect the visitors to spend more than \$5 million.” <<http://www.nytimes.com/1996/06/29/world/reporter-s-notebook-hungry-for-respect-france-s-2d-city-puts-its-best-for.html?scp=7&sq=JUne+29%2C+1996&st=nyt>>

1995 Halifax, Canada

“The Halifax Summit Office (HSO) confirmed today that its budget for this year’s G-7 Summit Meeting will be approximately \$28 million.” <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>

“the last G-8 held in Canada, at Halifax in 1995, cost only \$25 million,” — “Summit cost called small price to pay PM’s pointman says G-8 benefits are tremendous,” Calgary Herald, April 27, 2002

1994 Naples, Italy

“The \$28 million budget for the Halifax Summit is well below the cost of last year’s Naples Summit and lower than the \$29.3 million price-tag for the 1988 Toronto Summit,” stated Len Edwards, the Executive Director of the Halifax Summit Office. <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>

1988 Toronto, Canada

“The \$28 million budget for the Halifax Summit is well below the cost of last year’s Naples Summit and lower than the \$29.3 million price-tag for the 1988 Toronto Summit,” stated Len Edwards, the Executive Director of the Halifax Summit Office. ... The real cost of this year’s Halifax Summit is considerably less than the Toronto Summit if the comparison is made in constant dollars. Treasury Board estimates that the \$29.3 million price-tag for the 1988 Toronto Summit would be approximated more accurately at \$37.1 million using 1995 dollars.” <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>

Halifax Summit Office News Release. “Halifax Summit Budget to be 28 million.” <<http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Current/HalifaxSummitG7/Release/Budget01.html>>. Global Television June 17, 1988, reported C\$20 million including \$60,000 for the people’s summit at Ryerson