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**Postal Codes <sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File  
(PCFRF) Reference Guide**  
**2003 Representation Order, November 2014**



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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- <sup>P</sup> preliminary
- <sup>r</sup> revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- <sup>E</sup> use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- \* significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

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# Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) 2003 Representation Order, Reference Guide

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This reference guide is intended for users of the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF). The guide provides an overview of the file, the general methodology used in its creation and important technical information.



## What's new?

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- The postal code<sup>OM</sup> reference date for this update is November 2014. This is the same as for the [Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File \(PCCF\)](#). The Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) refers to the federal electoral districts (FEDs) based on the 2003 Representation Order.
- The 'unique link' variable indicates if the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to one or more [FEDs \(Federal electoral districts\)](#).
- The 'weight' variable estimates the proportion of the population of a postal code<sup>OM</sup> that resides within each [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#).

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# 1. About this guide

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This reference guide is intended for users of the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF). The guide provides an overview of the file, the general methodology used in its creation and important technical information.

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## 2. Overview

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The Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is a digital file which provides a link between the six-character postal code<sup>OM</sup> and Canada's federal electoral districts (which are also known as federal ridings). The current version of the [PCFRE \(The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) links 850,656 active postal code<sup>OM</sup> records, existing as of November 2014, to the 308 federal electoral districts.

Elections Canada defines a federal electoral district (FED) as any place or territorial area entitled to return a Member of Parliament (MP) to serve in the House of Commons. Federal electoral district legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every ten years after the results of the decennial census. There are 308 [FEDs \(Federal electoral district\)](#) in the 2003 Representation Order, the most recent revision of the federal electoral districts limits. The [FEDs \(federal electoral district\)](#) are based on the 2001 Census population data.

### How to cite this guide

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### How to cite this product

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### Acknowledgements

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## 3. About this product

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### Purpose of the product

The Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) was conceived as a tool to provide a linkage between postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and federal electoral districts (FEDs).

### Definitions and concepts

Geographic terms and concepts are briefly defined in the [glossary](#) (Appendix A). More details can be found in the [2011 Census Dictionary](#) (Catalogue no. (number) 98-301-X) and the [2011 Illustrated Glossary](#) (Catalogue no. (number) 92-195-X).

### Content

The PCFRF contains a total of 845,603 postal codes<sup>OM</sup>. The number of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> by [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#), and whether those postal codes<sup>OM</sup> are linked to other [FEDs \(Federal electoral districts\)](#), is provided in Table 3.1.

Each record of the file contains the following:

- six-character postal code<sup>OM</sup>
- federal electoral district code – 2003 Representation Order
- federal electoral district name – English
- federal electoral district name – French
- unique link: an indicator of whether the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to more than one federal electoral district
- weight: for use in proportional allocation

Please see section 4, Technical specifications for the data descriptions and definitions.

## General methodology

Not applicable

## Limitations

Some postal codes<sup>OM</sup> straddle one or more FED (Federal electoral district) boundaries. The 'unique link' variable indicates if the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to one or more FEDs (Federal electoral districts).

Users often link the postal code<sup>OM</sup> in their data set to the FED (Federal electoral district) in the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File). When performing this link, users should be aware that the postal code<sup>OM</sup> in their data set may represent a mailing address used by a person, not necessarily where the person actually resides. Similarly, a postal code<sup>OM</sup> in a business-based mailing address may not necessarily indicate where the business activity took place.

Before using the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) with administrative files containing postal codes<sup>OM</sup>, users should be aware of some characteristics of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> that may affect their linkage to federal electoral districts on the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File).

### Postal delivery areas do not respect federal electoral district boundaries

A postal delivery area (as represented by the six-character postal code<sup>OM</sup>) may straddle one or more federal electoral district boundaries. This means that, in the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File, the same postal code<sup>OM</sup> may be linked to two or more (adjacent) federal electoral districts. Most federal electoral districts are affected in this way in both population centres and rural areas. Refer to Logical consistency in the Data quality section for further details.

### Postal codes<sup>OM</sup> may be associated with post office boxes at a postal station that is not in the same federal electoral district as the client using the post office box

The postal code<sup>OM</sup> associated with a lock box (post office box) may be geocoded to the physical location of the associated postal installation (post office). This could be located in a federal electoral district that is different from the ultimate destination of the mail delivery – the residential, industrial, or commercial location of the client renting the lock box.

### Canada Post Corporation (CPC) regularly retires postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and may also reactivate retired postal codes<sup>OM</sup> for use again

Users of the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) must keep in mind that the file contains only the postal codes<sup>OM</sup> from CPC (Canada Post Corporation) that are active as of November 2014.

If the addresses of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> in a user's administrative file are not updated to November 2014, there may be non-matches with the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) because some of the postal codes<sup>OM</sup> in the user's file may have been retired, or may even have been reactivated and re-assigned by CPC (Canada Post Corporation) to another range of addresses outside the riding where they had previously been used.

Statistics Canada maintains an audit trail of the birth dates and retirement dates of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> in the PCCF (Postal Code Conversion File). Users may wish to consult the Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File (PCCF), Reference Guide (Catalogue no. 92-154-G), available on the Statistics Canada website. An updated version of the PCCF (Postal Code Conversion File) including November 2014 postal codes<sup>OM</sup> is released concurrently with this version of the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File).

## Comparison to other products/versions

Linkage of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> to more detailed geographic areas, such as dissemination area or dissemination block, is available in the Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File (PCCF).

## Using with other products

Not applicable

## Reference date

The reference date for postal codes<sup>OM</sup> contained in the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) is November 2014. This is the same date as the postal codes<sup>OM</sup> contained in the Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File (PCCF) product released concurrently with this version of the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File).

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada to finalize the geographic framework for which the census data are collected, tabulated and reported. The geographic reference date for the 2011 Census is January 1, 2011.





**Table 3.1**  
**Number of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> by federal electoral district**

Federal electoral district code	Federal electoral district name	Number of postal codes <sup>OM</sup>	Number of postal code <sup>OM</sup> linked to other federal electoral districts	Percentage of postal codes <sup>OM</sup> linked to other federal electoral districts
10001	Avalon	699	11	1.57
10002	Bonavista - Gander - Grand Falls - Windsor	937	34	3.63
10003	Humber - St. Barbe - Baie Verte	1,639	15	0.92
10004	Labrador	390	4	1.03
10005	Random - Burin - St. George's	951	34	3.58
10006	St. John's East	3,914	74	1.89
10007	St. John's South - Mount Pearl	2,739	65	2.37
11001	Cardigan	706	11	1.56
11002	Charlottetown	1,891	6	0.32
11003	Egmont	1,061	3	0.28
11004	Malpeque	293	16	5.46
12001	Cape Breton - Canso	3,206	60	1.87
12002	Central Nova	1,328	25	1.88
12003	Dartmouth - Cole Harbour	3,281	50	1.52
12004	Halifax	3,567	29	0.81
12005	Halifax West	2,501	50	2.00
12006	Kings - Hants	1,593	19	1.19
12007	Cumberland - Colchester - Musquodoboit Valley	2,809	36	1.28
12008	Sackville - Eastern Shore	1,984	71	3.58
12009	South Shore - St. Margaret's	2,219	21	0.95
12010	Sydney - Victoria	5,094	56	1.10
12011	West Nova	868	20	2.30
13001	Acadie - Bathurst	5,116	14	0.27
13002	Beauséjour	8,624	95	1.10
13003	Fredericton	4,748	12	0.25
13004	Fundy Royal	7,145	133	1.86
13005	Madawaska - Restigouche	4,282	9	0.21
13006	Miramichi	4,718	44	0.93
13007	Moncton - Riverview - Dieppe	5,010	105	2.10
13008	New Brunswick Southwest	8,031	96	1.20
13009	Saint John	4,609	33	0.72
13010	Tobique - Mactaquac	7,045	45	0.64
24001	Abitibi - Témiscamingue	2,627	3	0.11
24002	Ahuntsic	2,262	3	0.13
24003	Alfred-Pellan	3,479	4	0.11
24004	Argenteuil - Papineau - Mirabel	2,174	35	1.61
24005	Beauce	2,981	23	0.77
24006	Beauharnois - Salaberry	2,546	11	0.43
24007	Beauport - Limoilou	3,707	10	0.27
24008	Berthier - Maskinongé	2,438	26	1.07
24009	Bourassa	2,152	24	1.12
24010	Brome - Missisquoi	3,164	24	0.76
24011	Brossard - La Prairie	2,961	2	0.07
24012	Chambly - Borduas	3,699	3	0.08
24013	Charlesbourg - Haute-Saint-Charles	3,913	0	0.00
24014	Montmorency - Charlevoix -	1,869	8	0.43

	Haute-Côte-Nord			
24015	Châteauguay - Saint-Constant	2,976	4	0.13
24016	Chicoutimi - Le Fjord	3,839	5	0.13
24017	Compton - Stanstead	1,761	28	1.59
24018	Drummond	4,050	11	0.27
24019	Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	1,455	2	0.14
24020	Gatineau	3,558	5	0.14
24021	Hochelaga	1,983	7	0.35
24022	Honoré-Mercier	2,578	25	0.97
24023	Hull - Aylmer	4,238	6	0.14
24024	Jeanne-Le Ber	2,726	75	2.75
24025	Joliette	1,608	23	1.43
24026	Jonquière - Alma	4,791	10	0.21
24027	Lac-Saint-Louis	3,820	28	0.73
24028	La Pointe-de-l'Île	2,942	55	1.87
24029	LaSalle - Émard	1,794	13	0.72
24030	Laurentides - Labelle	2,092	28	1.34
24031	Laurier - Sainte-Marie	2,399	23	0.96
24032	Laval	3,007	28	0.93
24033	Laval - Les Îles	3,107	32	1.03
24034	Lévis - Bellechasse	2,691	7	0.26
24035	Longueuil - Pierre-Boucher	2,773	5	0.18
24036	Lotbinière - Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	2,317	16	0.69
24037	Louis-Hébert	3,749	10	0.27
24038	Louis-Saint-Laurent	3,726	22	0.59
24039	Manicouagan	2,274	0	0.00
24040	Marc-Aurèle-Fortin	3,652	28	0.77
24041	Haute-Gaspésie - La Mitis - Matane - Matapédia	2,443	4	0.16
24042	Mégantic - L'Érable	3,152	23	0.73
24043	Montcalm	2,588	30	1.16
24044	Mount Royal	2,388	15	0.63
24045	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce - Lachine	2,975	55	1.85
24046	Abitibi - Baie-James - Nunavik - Eeyou	1,522	3	0.20
24047	Outremont	1,487	9	0.61
24048	Papineau	1,741	1	0.06
24049	Pierrefonds - Dollard	2,841	25	0.88
24050	Pontiac	2,666	16	0.60
24051	Portneuf - Jacques-Cartier	3,772	6	0.16
24052	Québec	4,213	22	0.52
24053	Repentigny	4,075	5	0.12
24054	Bas-Richelieu - Nicolet - Bécancour	3,250	12	0.37
24055	Richmond - Arthabaska	3,594	21	0.58
24056	Rimouski-Neigette - Témiscouata - Les Basques	2,427	7	0.29
24057	Rivière-des-Mille-Îles	2,665	8	0.30
24058	Montmagny - L'Islet - Kamouraska - Rivière-du-Loup	1,752	7	0.40
24059	Rivière-du-Nord	3,544	7	0.20
24060	Roberval - Lac-Saint-Jean	2,891	5	0.17
24061	Rosemont - La Petite-Patrie	1,785	2	0.11
24062	Saint-Bruno - Saint-Hubert	3,108	4	0.13
24063	Saint-Hyacinthe - Bagot	2,543	15	0.59
24064	Saint-Jean	2,948	9	0.31
24065	Saint-Lambert	2,835	7	0.25
24066	Saint-Laurent - Cartierville	2,694	8	0.30
24067	Saint-Léonard - Saint-Michel	1,918	10	0.52
24068	Saint-Maurice - Champlain	4,120	12	0.29
24069	Shefford	2,788	21	0.75

24070	Sherbrooke	3,867	18	0.47
24071	Terrebonne - Blainville	2,765	25	0.90
24072	Trois-Rivières	4,529	7	0.15
24073	Vaudreuil-Soulanges	2,380	0	0.00
24074	Verchères - Les Patriotes	1,561	20	1.28
24075	Westmount - Ville-Marie	3,433	97	2.83
35001	Ajax - Pickering	2,678	15	0.56
35002	Algoma - Manitoulin - Kapuskinging	1,039	22	2.12
35003	Ancaster - Dundas - Flamborough - Westdale	2,820	108	3.83
35004	Barrie	2,896	7	0.24
35005	Beaches - East York	2,079	4	0.19
35006	Bramalea - Gore - Malton	3,195	46	1.44
35007	Brampton - Springdale	2,098	25	1.19
35008	Brampton West	3,145	15	0.48
35009	Brant	4,314	22	0.51
35010	Burlington	3,935	11	0.28
35011	Cambridge	3,858	16	0.41
35012	Carleton - Mississippi Mills	2,139	37	1.73
35013	Chatham-Kent - Essex	2,817	246	8.73
35014	Durham	2,010	24	1.19
35015	Davenport	1,707	34	1.99
35016	Don Valley East	1,593	14	0.88
35017	Don Valley West	2,473	34	1.37
35018	Dufferin - Caledon	3,326	30	0.90
35019	Eglinton - Lawrence	2,366	2	0.08
35020	Elgin - Middlesex - London	2,762	48	1.74
35021	Essex	2,487	17	0.68
35022	Etobicoke Centre	2,847	11	0.39
35023	Etobicoke - Lakeshore	3,450	42	1.22
35024	Etobicoke North	1,940	5	0.26
35025	Glengarry - Prescott - Russell	1,048	31	2.96
35026	Bruce - Grey - Owen Sound	1,753	32	1.83
35027	Guelph	3,685	20	0.54
35028	Haldimand - Norfolk	1,931	31	1.61
35029	Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock	1,072	42	3.92
35030	Halton	3,486	35	1.00
35031	Hamilton Centre	3,881	29	0.75
35032	Hamilton East - Stoney Creek	3,824	37	0.97
35033	Hamilton Mountain	3,565	45	1.26
35034	Huron - Bruce	1,056	45	4.26
35035	Kenora	1,223	9	0.74
35036	Kingston and the Islands	3,867	19	0.49
35037	Kitchener Centre	3,186	14	0.44
35038	Kitchener - Conestoga	2,628	26	0.99
35039	Kitchener - Waterloo	3,776	17	0.45
35040	Lanark - Frontenac - Lennox and Addington	2,732	71	2.60
35041	Leeds - Grenville	1,568	40	2.55
35042	London - Fanshawe	2,565	26	1.01
35043	London North Centre	3,789	27	0.71
35044	London West	3,197	43	1.35
35045	Markham - Unionville	2,688	11	0.41
35046	Lambton - Kent - Middlesex	1,686	281	16.67
35047	Mississauga - Brampton South	2,752	51	1.85
35048	Mississauga East - Cooksville	1,736	54	3.11
35049	Mississauga - Erindale	2,362	22	0.93
35050	Mississauga South	3,151	46	1.46
35051	Mississauga - Streetsville	1,977	34	1.72
35052	Nepean - Carleton	3,055	75	2.45
35053	Newmarket - Aurora	3,043	2	0.07
35054	Niagara Falls	4,410	12	0.27
35055	Niagara West - Glanbrook	1,513	39	2.58

35056	Nickel Belt	1,144	75	6.56
35057	Nipissing - Timiskaming	2,289	18	0.79
35058	Northumberland - Quinte West	2,595	25	0.96
35059	Oak Ridges - Markham	3,620	28	0.77
35060	Oakville	3,951	9	0.23
35061	Oshawa	3,612	7	0.19
35062	Ottawa Centre	4,181	36	0.86
35063	Ottawa - Orléans	2,792	90	3.22
35064	Ottawa South	3,359	84	2.50
35065	Ottawa - Vanier	3,252	11	0.34
35066	Ottawa West - Nepean	3,102	55	1.77
35067	Oxford	3,122	33	1.06
35068	Parkdale - High Park	1,737	12	0.69
35069	Parry Sound - Muskoka	1,128	11	0.98
35070	Perth - Wellington	1,965	50	2.54
35071	Peterborough	3,189	22	0.69
35072	Pickering - Scarborough East	2,239	23	1.03
35073	Prince Edward - Hastings	1,714	31	1.81
35074	Renfrew - Nipissing - Pembroke	3,058	11	0.36
35075	Richmond Hill	2,521	2	0.08
35076	St. Catharines	4,486	11	0.25
35077	St. Paul's	2,235	14	0.63
35078	Sarnia - Lambton	2,881	17	0.59
35079	Sault Ste. Marie	2,953	8	0.27
35080	Scarborough - Agincourt	1,678	1	0.06
35081	Scarborough Centre	2,139	19	0.89
35082	Scarborough - Guildwood	1,798	3	0.17
35083	Scarborough - Rouge River	1,907	4	0.21
35084	Scarborough Southwest	2,266	8	0.35
35085	Simcoe - Grey	1,733	49	2.83
35086	Simcoe North	2,455	26	1.06
35087	Stormont - Dundas - South Glengarry	2,241	26	1.16
35088	Sudbury	3,297	61	1.85
35089	Thornhill	3,122	6	0.19
35090	Thunder Bay - Rainy River	2,901	72	2.48
35091	Thunder Bay - Superior North	2,846	72	2.53
35092	Timmins - James Bay	1,990	25	1.26
35093	Toronto Centre	2,705	34	1.26
35094	Toronto - Danforth	2,199	21	0.95
35095	Trinity - Spadina	2,810	49	1.74
35096	Vaughan	3,019	3	0.10
35097	Welland	4,451	33	0.74
35098	Wellington - Halton Hills	1,983	49	2.47
35099	Whitby - Oshawa	3,549	9	0.25
35100	Willowdale	2,523	34	1.35
35101	Windsor - Tecumseh	3,334	15	0.45
35102	Windsor West	4,226	8	0.19
35103	York Centre	2,312	14	0.61
35104	York - Simcoe	2,133	33	1.55
35105	York South - Weston	2,158	32	1.48
35106	York West	1,487	7	0.47
46001	Brandon - Souris	2,162	5	0.23
46002	Charleswood - St. James - Assiniboia	2,223	16	0.72
46003	Churchill	779	14	1.80
46004	Dauphin - Swan River - Marquette	715	8	1.12
46005	Elmwood - Transcona	2,293	21	0.92
46006	Kildonan - St. Paul	2,153	32	1.49
46007	Portage - Lisgar	1,391	18	1.29
46008	Provencher	674	37	5.49
46009	Saint Boniface	2,522	14	0.56

46010	Selkirk - Interlake	922	44	4.77
46011	Winnipeg Centre	2,796	32	1.14
46012	Winnipeg North	2,172	25	1.15
46013	Winnipeg South	2,064	20	0.97
46014	Winnipeg South Centre	2,172	9	0.41
47001	Battlefords - Lloydminster	1,123	10	0.89
47002	Blackstrap	1,974	24	1.22
47003	Desnethé - Mississippi - Churchill River	190	13	6.84
47004	Cypress Hills - Grasslands	1,075	3	0.28
47005	Palliser	2,822	11	0.39
47006	Prince Albert	1,480	13	0.88
47007	Regina - Lumsden - Lake Centre	1,852	24	1.30
47008	Regina - Qu'Appelle	1,788	30	1.68
47009	Saskatoon - Humboldt	1,582	14	0.88
47010	Saskatoon - Rosetown - Biggar	1,979	74	3.74
47011	Saskatoon - Wanuskewin	1,799	77	4.28
47012	Souris - Moose Mountain	1,228	8	0.65
47013	Wascana	2,740	14	0.51
47014	Yorkton - Melville	788	5	0.63
48001	Fort McMurray - Athabasca	1,513	14	0.93
48002	Calgary East	3,746	77	2.06
48003	Calgary Centre-North	4,269	36	0.84
48004	Calgary Northeast	2,755	29	1.05
48005	Calgary - Nose Hill	2,421	6	0.25
48006	Calgary Centre	4,858	68	1.40
48007	Calgary Southeast	3,324	76	2.29
48008	Calgary Southwest	2,876	17	0.59
48009	Calgary West	3,330	31	0.93
48010	Crowfoot	1,585	35	2.21
48011	Edmonton - Mill Woods - Beaumont	3,125	189	6.05
48012	Edmonton Centre	5,127	201	3.92
48013	Edmonton East	4,641	195	4.20
48014	Edmonton - Leduc	3,916	150	3.83
48015	Edmonton - St. Albert	3,805	83	2.18
48016	Edmonton - Sherwood Park	3,615	198	5.48
48017	Edmonton - Spruce Grove	3,220	145	4.50
48018	Edmonton - Strathcona	4,688	96	2.05
48019	Lethbridge	3,808	4	0.11
48020	Macleod	1,197	99	8.27
48021	Medicine Hat	3,016	2	0.07
48022	Peace River	2,266	15	0.66
48023	Red Deer	3,067	7	0.23
48024	Vegreville - Wainwright	1,653	189	11.43
48025	Westlock - St. Paul	1,529	88	5.76
48026	Wetaskiwin	1,362	65	4.77
48027	Wild Rose	2,264	66	2.92
48028	Yellowhead	1,152	50	4.34
59001	Abbotsford	2,952	0	0.00
59002	Burnaby - Douglas	3,481	35	1.01
59003	Burnaby - New Westminster	3,149	62	1.97
59004	Cariboo - Prince George	3,968	75	1.89
59005	Chilliwack - Fraser Canyon	2,204	14	0.64
59006	Delta - Richmond East	3,549	45	1.27
59007	Pitt Meadows - Maple Ridge - Mission	3,703	3	0.08
59008	Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca	3,773	16	0.42
59009	Fleetwood - Port Kells	2,727	35	1.28
59010	Kamloops - Thompson - Cariboo	3,059	9	0.29
59011	Kelowna - Lake Country	4,170	8	0.19

59012	Kootenay - Columbia	1,549	5	0.32
59013	Langley	3,241	0	0.00
59014	Nanaimo - Alberni	3,757	19	0.51
59015	Nanaimo - Cowichan	3,058	19	0.62
59016	Newton - North Delta	3,100	25	0.81
59017	New Westminster - Coquitlam	3,894	15	0.39
59018	Okanagan - Shuswap	2,847	9	0.32
59019	North Vancouver	4,069	17	0.42
59020	Okanagan - Coquihalla	2,509	17	0.68
59021	Port Moody - Westwood - Port Coquitlam	2,789	12	0.43
59022	Prince George - Peace River	3,452	71	2.06
59023	Richmond	2,562	22	0.86
59024	Saanich - Gulf Islands	3,850	30	0.78
59025	Skeena - Bulkley Valley	1,784	8	0.45
59026	British Columbia Southern Interior	2,472	13	0.53
59027	South Surrey - White Rock - Cloverdale	3,468	12	0.35
59028	Surrey North	3,265	13	0.40
59029	Vancouver Centre	3,036	56	1.84
59030	Vancouver East	3,346	39	1.17
59031	Vancouver Island North	3,269	3	0.09
59032	Vancouver Kingsway	3,246	19	0.59
59033	Vancouver Quadra	4,181	41	0.98
59034	Vancouver South	3,108	23	0.74
59035	Victoria	4,923	24	0.49
59036	West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast - Sea to Sky Country	3,337	24	0.72
60001	Yukon	983	0	0.00
61001	Western Arctic	510	0	0.00
62001	Nunavut	28	0	0.00
Total		<b>850,656</b>		



## 4. Technical specifications

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### Record layout and data descriptions

**Table 4.1**  
**Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) record layout**

Position	Size	Type <sup>1</sup>	Description
1	6	C	Postal code <sup>OM</sup>
7	5	C	Federal electoral district code
12	56	C	Federal electoral district name - English
68	56	C	Federal electoral district name - French
124	1	C	Unique link
125	3	C	Weight

## Postal code<sup>OM</sup>

The postal code<sup>OM</sup> is a six-character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation (CPC) for the sortation and delivery of mail.

The alphanumeric characters are arranged in the form ANA NAN, where 'A' represents a letter of the alphabet and 'N' a numeric digit. The first character of a postal code<sup>OM</sup> (allocated in alphabetic sequence from east to west across Canada) represents a province or territory or a major sector entirely within a province.

The first three characters represent a set of well-defined and stable areas known as the forward sortation area<sup>®</sup> (FSA<sup>®</sup>). Rural FSA<sup>®</sup> (Forward sortation areas) are identifiable by the presence of a '0' in the second position of the FSA<sup>®</sup> (Forward sortation area) code.

The last three characters identify the local delivery unit (LDU). In population centres, the LDU (Local delivery unit) can specify a small and easily defined area within an FSA<sup>®</sup> (Forward sortation area) such as block-face (one side of a city street between consecutive intersections with streets), an apartment building, an office building, or a large firm or organization which does large volume business with the post office. In rural areas, the LDU (Local delivery unit) denotes a service area – the area serviced by rural route delivery from a post office or station (e.g. (for example) a rural route, general delivery, or post office box).

## Federal electoral district code

A federal electoral district (FED) is any place or territorial area entitled to return a member to serve in the House of Commons. FED (Federal electoral district) legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every ten years after the results of the decennial census. The 2003 Representation Order is the most current revision, and is based on 2001 Census population data. This code uniquely identifies a federal electoral district – 2003 Representation Order. The first two digits identify the province or territory.

## Federal electoral district name – English

This contains the English name of the federal electoral district from the 2003 Representation Order.

## Federal electoral district name – French

This contains the French name of the federal electoral district from the 2003 Representation Order.

## Unique link

The unique link value given in the file can be either '1,' which indicates the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to one FED (Federal electoral district), or '2,' which indicates that the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to two or more FEDs (Federal electoral districts).

## Weight

The 'weight' estimates the proportion of the population of a postal code<sup>OM</sup> that resides within each FED (Federal electoral district). If a postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to only one FED (Federal electoral district) in the PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File), the weight is equal to 1. When a postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to more than one FED (Federal electoral district), the sum of weights for that postal code<sup>OM</sup> equals 1.0.

## File specifications

The current version of the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is an ASCII file and does not include any software or instructions on how to use the product within specific Geographical Information Systems (GIS) or mapping packages.

## Software formats

Not applicable

## System requirements

Not applicable

## Installation instructions

Not applicable

## Geographic representation

Not applicable

## File naming convention

The naming convention for PCFRF (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) data files is bilingual and reflects the reference date (November 2014) of the Canada Post Corporation data used in the release. The file name for this release is pcfrfNatFED2003 NOV14 fcpcefNatCEF2003. zip





## 5. Data quality

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Linkage data quality elements provide information on the fitness-for-use of a spatial database by describing why, when and how the data are created, and how accurate the data are. The quality elements include an overview reporting on lineage, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness. This information is provided to users for all linkage data products.

### Lineage

Lineage describes the history of the linkage data, including descriptions of the source material from which the data were derived, and the methods of derivation. It also contains the dates of the source material, and all transformations involved in producing the final digital files.

### Sources

The sources used to derive the Postal Codes<sup>OM</sup> by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) are as follows:

- The November 2014 Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File (PCCF) links postal codes<sup>OM</sup> (provided by Canada Post Corporation [CPC] on the Address Lookup File updated to November 2014) to geographic codes for all 2011 Census geographic areas, including province and federal electoral

district 2003 Representative Order codes. The November 2014 [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#) contains over 1.7 million postal code<sup>OM</sup> records linked to the geographic areas used in the 2011 Census. These geographical areas have a reference date of January 1, 2011, except for the Federal electoral district – 2003 Representation Order.

- The [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) contains postal code<sup>OM</sup> data under license from Canada Post Corporation. The most recent Canada Post Corporation file from which this data is copied is dated November 2014.
- Federal electoral district (FED) names are derived from the Statistical Registers and Geography Division's Spatial Data Infrastructure. The source of the geographic names and codes of federal electoral districts is the 2003 Representation Order of the Chief Electoral Office, Elections Canada. The Spatial Data Infrastructure contains a table with the name of each federal electoral district and its associated identification code. This table is updated based on name changes provided by Elections Canada. Where changes to the electoral boundaries have been provided by Elections Canada, the correspondence between the federal electoral district and postal codes<sup>OM</sup> is updated.
- The 2011 Census of Population is used as a source for deriving the weights. When a postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) to more than one [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#), the number of persons reporting the postal code<sup>OM</sup> in the census may be used to derive the weights.

## Method of derivation

The [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) is created by extracting the active postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and the related [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#) codes included in the November 2014 [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#), containing November 2014 postal codes<sup>OM</sup>. Each [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#) code in this file is linked to the list of federal electoral districts – 2003 Representation Order codes and names. The linkage to the [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#) on the November 2014 [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#) is based on the dissemination block or dissemination area geocoded in the [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#).

The resulting [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) file contains 850,656 active postal code<sup>OM</sup> records of which 840,971 are unique links to one federal electoral district. In total, 4,632 active postal codes<sup>OM</sup> (9,685 records) are linked to more than one federal electoral district (further details are provided in [Logical consistency](#) later in this section). The number of postal code<sup>OM</sup> records by federal electoral district and whether those postal codes<sup>OM</sup> are linked to other [FEDs \(Federal electoral district\)](#) is provided in [Table 3.1](#).

The unique link variable is derived based on the postal code<sup>OM</sup> and [FED \(federal electoral district\)](#) codes in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#). If the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to only one [FED \(federal electoral district\)](#), the unique link is assigned a value of 1, otherwise it is assigned a value of 2.

The 'weight' estimates the proportion of the population of a postal code<sup>OM</sup> that resides within each [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#). If a postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to only one [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#) in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#), the weight is equal to 1. If the postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to more than one [FED \(Federal electoral district\)](#) and is reported in the 2011 Census, the weight is equal to the proportion of the population that reported the postal code<sup>OM</sup> in each of the [FEDs \(Federal electoral district\)](#). If the postal code<sup>OM</sup> was not reported in the census, the weight is estimated using the address ranges in the service area of the postal code<sup>OM</sup> as found in the Address Lookup File from Canada Post Corporation. If necessary, the weights for a postal code<sup>OM</sup> are normalised and adjusted using the single link indicator variable in the [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#) so that the sum of weights equals 1.0.

## Positional accuracy

Not applicable

## Attribute accuracy

Attribute accuracy refers to the accuracy of the quantitative and qualitative information attached to each feature (such as population for a population centre, street name, census subdivision name and code).

The attribute accuracy of the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) is dependent on the accuracy of the geocodes for the dissemination blocks and dissemination areas in the [PCCF \(Postal Code Conversion File\)](#). The linkage of the dissemination blocks or dissemination areas to the [FEDs \(federal electoral district\)](#) is based on the boundaries of the [FEDs \(federal electoral district\)](#) as found in the Spatial Data Infrastructure.

The accuracy of the weight variable is based on the linkage to the [FED \(federal electoral district\)](#) in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#), the population reporting the postal code<sup>OM</sup> in the census as well as address range data in Canada Post's Address Lookup File.

The population on which the weight variable in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) is based was derived from the total population data of the 2011 Census. Population counts are determined according to the 'de jure' method. This means that people are enumerated at their usual place of residence, regardless of where they may have been on Census Day, May 10, 2011. For more information on the quality of 2011 Census data, see [Appendix C in the 2011 Census Dictionary](#).

If a postal code<sup>OM</sup> is linked to more than one [FED \(federal electoral district\)](#) in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#) and was not reported in the census, address range data from the Address Lookup File is used to estimate the weight. This is the case for about 1% of the postal codes<sup>OM</sup> in the [PCFRF \(Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File\)](#). Because large populations residing in apartments or collective dwelling units may be represented by only one address, this method can underestimate the weight associated with these populations.

## Logical consistency

Logical consistency describes the fidelity of relationships encoded in the data structure of the digital linkage data.

Of the 850,656 active postal code<sup>OM</sup> records found on this file, there are 840,971 active postal codes<sup>OM</sup> uniquely linked to one federal electoral district and 4,632 active postal codes<sup>OM</sup> that are linked to two or more federal electoral districts. The following table summarizes them.

**Table 5.1**

## Count of postal codes<sup>OM</sup> linked to federal electoral districts

Number of federal electoral districts	Active postal codes <sup>OM</sup>	Number of records
1	840,971	840,971
2	4,271	8,542
3	318	954
4	33	132
5	3	15
6	7	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>845,603</b>	<b>850,656</b>

### Consistency with other products

Data contained in the PCFRE (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) are consistent with all 2011 Census related geographic products with the exception of the 2011 Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary File (Catalogue no. (number) 92-179-X), which represents only the forward sortation areas<sup>®</sup> reported in the 2011 Census. The PCFRE (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) is derived from the Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Conversion File (PCCF), and is consistent with that file.

### Completeness

Completeness refers to the degree to which geographic features, their attributes and their relationships are included or omitted in a dataset. It also includes information on selection criteria, definitions used, and other relevant mapping rules.

Completeness in the context of the PCFRE (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File) is the degree to which all valid postal codes<sup>OM</sup> are accounted for. Almost all postal codes<sup>OM</sup>, valid and active as of November 2014 according to Canada Post Corporation, have been linked to census geography.

There are 308 FFDs (federal electoral district) in the 2003 Representation Order of the Chief Electoral Office, Elections Canada. All of these FFDs (federal electoral district) are included in the PCFRE (Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File).



## Appendix A

### Glossary

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#### **Adjusted counts**

'Adjusted counts' refer to previous census population and dwelling counts that were adjusted (i.e. (that is to say), recompiled) to reflect current census boundaries, when a boundary change occurs between the two censuses.

#### **Block-face**

A block-face is one side of a street between two consecutive features intersecting that street. The features can be other streets or boundaries of standard geographic areas.

Block-faces are used for generating block-face representative points, which in turn are used for geocoding and census data extraction when the street and address information are available.

#### **Census agricultural region**

Census agricultural regions (CARs) are composed of groups of adjacent census divisions. In Saskatchewan, census agricultural regions are made up of groups of adjacent census consolidated subdivisions, but these groups do not necessarily respect census division boundaries.

#### **Census consolidated subdivision**

A census consolidated subdivision (CCS) is a group of adjacent census subdivisions. Generally, the smaller, more densely-populated census subdivisions (towns, villages, etc. (and so on)) are combined with the surrounding, larger, more rural census subdivision, in order to create a geographic level between the census subdivision and the census division.

#### **Census division**

Census division (CD) is the general term for provincially legislated areas (such as county, *municipalité régionale de comté* and regional district) or their

equivalents. Census divisions are intermediate geographic areas between the province/territory level and the municipality (census subdivision).

### **Census metropolitan area and census agglomeration**

A census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA) is formed by one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a population centre (known as the core). A CMA (census metropolitan area) must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more must live in the core.

A CA (census agglomeration) must have a core population of at least 10,000. To be included in the CMA (census metropolitan area) or CA (census agglomeration), other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the core, as measured by commuting flows derived from previous census place of work data.

If the population of the core of a CA (census agglomeration) declines below 10,000, the CA (census agglomeration) is retired. However, once an area becomes a CMA (census metropolitan area), it is retained as a CMA (census metropolitan area) even if its total population declines below 100,000 or the population of its core falls below 50,000. Small population centres with a population count of less than 10,000 are called fringe. All areas inside the CMA (census metropolitan area) or CA (census agglomeration) that are not population centres are rural areas.

When a CA (census agglomeration) has a core of at least 50,000, it is subdivided into census tracts. Census tracts are maintained for the CA (census agglomeration) even if the population of the core subsequently falls below 50,000. All CMAs (census metropolitan areas) are subdivided into census tracts.

### **Census metropolitan influenced zone**

The census metropolitan influenced zone (MIZ) is a concept that geographically differentiates the area of Canada outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). Census subdivisions (CSDs) within provinces that are outside CMAs (census metropolitan areas) and CA (census agglomeration)s are assigned to one of four categories according to the degree of influence (strong, moderate, weak or no influence) that the CMAs (census metropolitan areas) or CA (census agglomeration)s have on them. CSDs (Census subdivisions) within the territories that are outside CA (census agglomeration)s are assigned to a separate category.

Census subdivisions within provinces are assigned to a MIZ (metropolitan influenced zone) category based on the percentage of their resident employed labour force that commutes to work in the core(s) of CMAs (census metropolitan areas) or CA (census agglomeration)s. CSDs (Census subdivisions) with the same degree of influence tend to be clustered. They form zones around CMAs (census metropolitan areas) and CA (census agglomeration)s that progress through the categories from 'strong' to 'no' influence as distance from the CMAs (census metropolitan areas) and CA (census agglomeration)s increases. As many CSDs (Census subdivisions) in the territories are very large and sparsely populated, the commuting flow of the resident employed labour force is unstable. For this reason, CSDs (Census subdivisions) in the territories that are outside CA (census agglomeration)s are assigned to a separate category that is not based on their commuting flows.

### **Census subdivision**

Census subdivision (CSD) is the general term for municipalities (as determined by provincial/territorial legislation) or areas treated as municipal equivalents for statistical purposes (e.g. (for example), Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories).

### **Census tract**

Census tracts (CTs) are small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population between 2,500 and 8,000 persons. They are located in census metropolitan areas and in census agglomerations that had a core population of 50,000 or more in the previous census.

A committee of local specialists (for example, planners, health and social workers, and educators) initially delineates census tracts in conjunction with Statistics Canada. Once a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA) has been subdivided into census tracts, the census tracts are maintained even if the core population subsequently declines below 50,000.

### **Coordinate system**

A coordinate system is a reference system based on mathematical rules for specifying positions (locations) on the surface of the earth. The coordinate values can be spherical (latitude and longitude) using angular units of measure such as degrees, minutes and seconds or planar (Lambert conformal conic) using linear units such as metres.

Cartographic boundary files, digital boundary files, representative points and road network files are disseminated in Lambert conformal conic projection.

### **Core, fringe and rural area**

The terms 'core,' 'fringe' and 'rural area' replace the terms 'urban core,' 'urban fringe' and 'rural fringe' for the 2011 Census. These terms distinguish between population centres (POPCTRs) and rural areas (RAs) within a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA).

A CMA (census metropolitan area) or CA (census agglomeration) can have two types of cores: the core and the secondary core. The core is the population centre with the highest population, around which a CMA (census metropolitan area) or a CA (census agglomeration) is delineated. The core must have a population (based on the previous census) of at least 50,000 persons in the case of a CMA (census metropolitan area), or at least 10,000 persons in the case of a CA (census agglomeration).

The secondary core is a population centre within a CMA (census metropolitan area) that has at least 10,000 persons and was the core of a CA (census agglomeration) that has been merged with an adjacent CMA (census metropolitan area).

The term 'fringe' includes all population centres within a CMA (census metropolitan area) or CA (census agglomeration) that have less than 10,000 persons and are not contiguous with the core or secondary core.

All territory within a CMA (census metropolitan area) or CA (census agglomeration) that is not classified as a core or fringe is classified as rural area.

### **Datum**

A datum is a geodetic reference system which includes an ellipsoid and an origin against which the latitude and longitude of all other points on the earth's surface are referenced. A datum may often be associated with a particular ellipsoid (mathematical reference model of the earth).

### **Designated place**

A designated place (DPL) is normally a small community or settlement that does not meet the criteria established by Statistics Canada to be a census

subdivision (an area with municipal status) or a population centre.

Designated places are created by provinces and territories, in cooperation with Statistics Canada, to provide data for submunicipal areas.

#### **Dissemination area**

A dissemination area (DA) is a small, relatively stable geographic unit composed of one or more adjacent dissemination blocks. It is the smallest standard geographic area for which all census data are disseminated. DAs (Dissemination areas) cover all the territory of Canada.

#### **Dissemination block**

A dissemination block (DB) is an area bounded on all sides by roads and/or boundaries of standard geographic areas. The dissemination block is the smallest geographic area for which population and dwelling counts are disseminated. Dissemination blocks cover all the territory of Canada.

#### **Economic region**

An economic region (ER) is a grouping of complete census divisions (CDs) (with one exception in Ontario) created as a standard geographic unit for analysis of regional economic activity.

#### **Ecumene**

Ecumene is a term used by geographers to mean inhabited land. It generally refers to land where people have made their permanent home, and to all work areas that are considered occupied and used for agricultural or any other economic purpose. Thus, there can be various types of ecumenes, each having its own unique characteristics (population ecumene, agricultural ecumene, industrial ecumene, etc.).

#### **Federal electoral district**

A federal electoral district (FED) is an area represented by a member of the House of Commons. The federal electoral district boundaries used for the 2011 Census are based on the 2003 Representation Order.

#### **Geocoding**

Geocoding is the process of assigning geographic identifiers (codes or x,y coordinates) to map features and data records. The resulting geocodes permit data to be linked geographically to a place on the earth.

Households, postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and place of work data are linked to block-face representative points (coordinates) when the street and address information is available; otherwise, they are linked to dissemination block (DB) representative points. In some cases, postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and place of work data are linked to dissemination area (DA) representative points when they cannot be linked to DBs. As well, place of work data are linked to census subdivision representative points when the data cannot be linked to DAs.

#### **Geographic code**

A geographic code is a numerical identifier assigned to a geographic area. The code is used to identify and access standard geographic areas for the purposes of data storage, retrieval and display.

#### **Geographic reference date**

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada for the purpose of finalizing the geographic framework for which census data will be collected, tabulated and reported. For the 2011 Census, the geographic reference date is January 1, 2011.

#### **Geographical region of Canada**

The geographical regions of Canada are groupings of provinces and territories established for the purpose of statistical reporting. The six geographical regions of Canada are: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia and Territories.

#### **Land area**

Land area is the area in square kilometres of the land-based portions of standard geographic areas. Land area data are unofficial and are provided for the sole purpose of calculating population density.

#### **Map projection**

A map projection is the process of transforming and representing positions from the earth's three-dimensional curved surface to a two-dimensional (flat) surface. The process is accomplished by a direct geometric projection or by a mathematically derived transformation.

The Lambert conformal conic map projection is widely used for general maps of Canada at small scales and is the most common map projection used at Statistics Canada.

#### **National Geographic Database**

The National Geographic Database (NGD) is a shared database between Statistics Canada and Elections Canada. The database contains roads, road names and address ranges. It also includes separate reference layers containing physical and cultural features, such as hydrography and hydrographic names, railroads and power transmission lines.

#### **Place name**

'Place name' refers to selected names of active and retired geographic areas as well as names from the Canadian Geographical Names Data Base. Place names include names of census subdivisions (municipalities), designated places and population centres, as well as the names of some local places.

#### **Population centre**

A population centre (POPCTR) has a population of at least 1,000 and a population density of 400 persons or more per square kilometre, based on the current census population count. All areas outside population centres are classified as rural areas. Taken together, population centres and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Population centres are classified into three groups, depending on the size of their population:

- small population centres, with a population between 1,000 and 29,999
- medium population centres, with a population between 30,000 and 99,999
- large urban population centres, with a population of 100,000 or more

Population centre population includes all population living in the cores, secondary cores and fringes of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as the population living in population centres outside [CMA \(census metropolitan areas\)](#) and [CA \(census agglomerations\)](#).

### Population density

Population density is the number of persons per square kilometre.

### Postal code<sup>OM</sup>

The postal code<sup>OM</sup> is a six-character code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation for the purpose of sorting and delivering mail.

### Province or territory

'Province' and 'territory' refer to the major political units of Canada. From a statistical point of view, province and territory are basic areas for which data are tabulated. Canada is divided into 10 provinces and 3 territories.

### Reference map

A reference map shows the location of the geographic areas for which census data are tabulated and disseminated. The maps display the boundaries, names and unique identifiers of standard geographic areas, as well as major cultural and physical features, such as roads, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes.

### Representative point

A representative point is a coordinate point that represents a line or a polygon. The point is centrally located along the line, and centrally located or population weighted in the polygon.

Representative points are generated for block-faces, as well as for selected geographic areas – province/territory (PR), federal electoral district (FED), economic region (ER), census division (CD), census metropolitan area/census agglomeration (CMA/CA), census subdivision (CSD), population centre (POPCTR), designated place (DPL), census tract (CT), dissemination area (DA) and dissemination block (DB).

Households, postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and place of work data are linked to block-face representative points (coordinates) when the street and address information is available; otherwise, they are linked to dissemination block (DB) representative points. In some cases, postal codes<sup>OM</sup> and place of work data are linked to dissemination area (DA) representative points when they cannot be linked to DBs. As well, place of work data are linked to census subdivision (CSD) representative points when the data cannot be linked to DAs.

### Rural area

Rural areas (RAs) include all territory lying outside population centres (POPCTRs). Taken together, population centres and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Rural population includes all population living in rural areas of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as population living in rural areas outside [CMAs \(census metropolitan areas\)](#) and [CAs \(census agglomerations\)](#).

### Spatial Data Infrastructure

The Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) is an internal maintenance database that is not disseminated outside of Statistics Canada. It contains roads, road names and address ranges from the National Geographic Database (NGD), as well as boundary arcs of standard geographic areas that do not follow roads, all in one integrated line layer. The database also includes a related polygon layer consisting of basic blocks (BB; basic blocks are the smallest polygon units in the database, and are formed by the intersection of all roads and the arcs of geographic areas that do not follow roads), boundary layers of standard geographic areas, and derived attribute tables, as well as reference layers containing physical and cultural features (such as hydrography, railroads and power transmission lines) from the [NGD \(National Geographic Database\)](#).

The [SDI \(Spatial Data Infrastructure\)](#) supports a wide range of census operations, such as the maintenance and delineation of the boundaries of standard geographic areas (including the automated delineation of dissemination blocks and population centres) and geocoding. The [SDI \(Spatial Data Infrastructure\)](#) is also the source for generating many geography products for the 2011 Census, such as cartographic boundary files and road network files.

### Spatial data quality elements

Spatial data quality elements provide information on the fitness for use of a spatial database by describing why, when and how the data are created, and how accurate the data are. The elements include an overview describing the purpose and usage, as well as specific quality elements reporting on the

lineage, positional accuracy, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness. This information is provided to users for all spatial data products disseminated for the census.

### Standard Geographical Classification

The Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) 2011 is Statistics Canada's main classification of geographic areas in Canada. It is designed to classify statistical information by geographic areas. The classification consists of four levels: geographical regions of Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions (such as counties and regional municipalities) and census subdivisions (such as municipalities). The four geographic levels are hierarchically related; a seven-digit code is used to show this relationship.

### Statistical Area Classification

The Statistical Area Classification (SAC) groups census subdivisions according to whether they are a component of a census metropolitan area, a census agglomeration or a census metropolitan influenced zone (MIZ). The [MIZ \(metropolitan influenced zone\)](#) classifies all [CSDs \(Census subdivisions\)](#) in provinces and territories that are outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.

The Statistical Area Classification is a variant of the Standard Geographical Classification (SGC). Census subdivisions (CSDs) form the lowest level of

the classification variant. The next level consists of individual census metropolitan areas (CMAs), census agglomerations (CAs) and census metropolitan influenced zones (MIZs). The highest level consists of three categories that cover all of the land mass of Canada:

- census metropolitan areas
- census agglomerations
- outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.

The SAC (Statistical Area Classification) provides unique numeric identification (codes) for these hierarchically-related geographic areas. It was established for the purpose of reporting statistics.

#### **Thematic map**

A thematic map shows the spatial distribution of one or more specific data themes for selected geographic areas. The map may be qualitative in nature (e.g. (for example), predominant farm types) or quantitative (e.g. (for example), percentage population change).

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#### **Note**

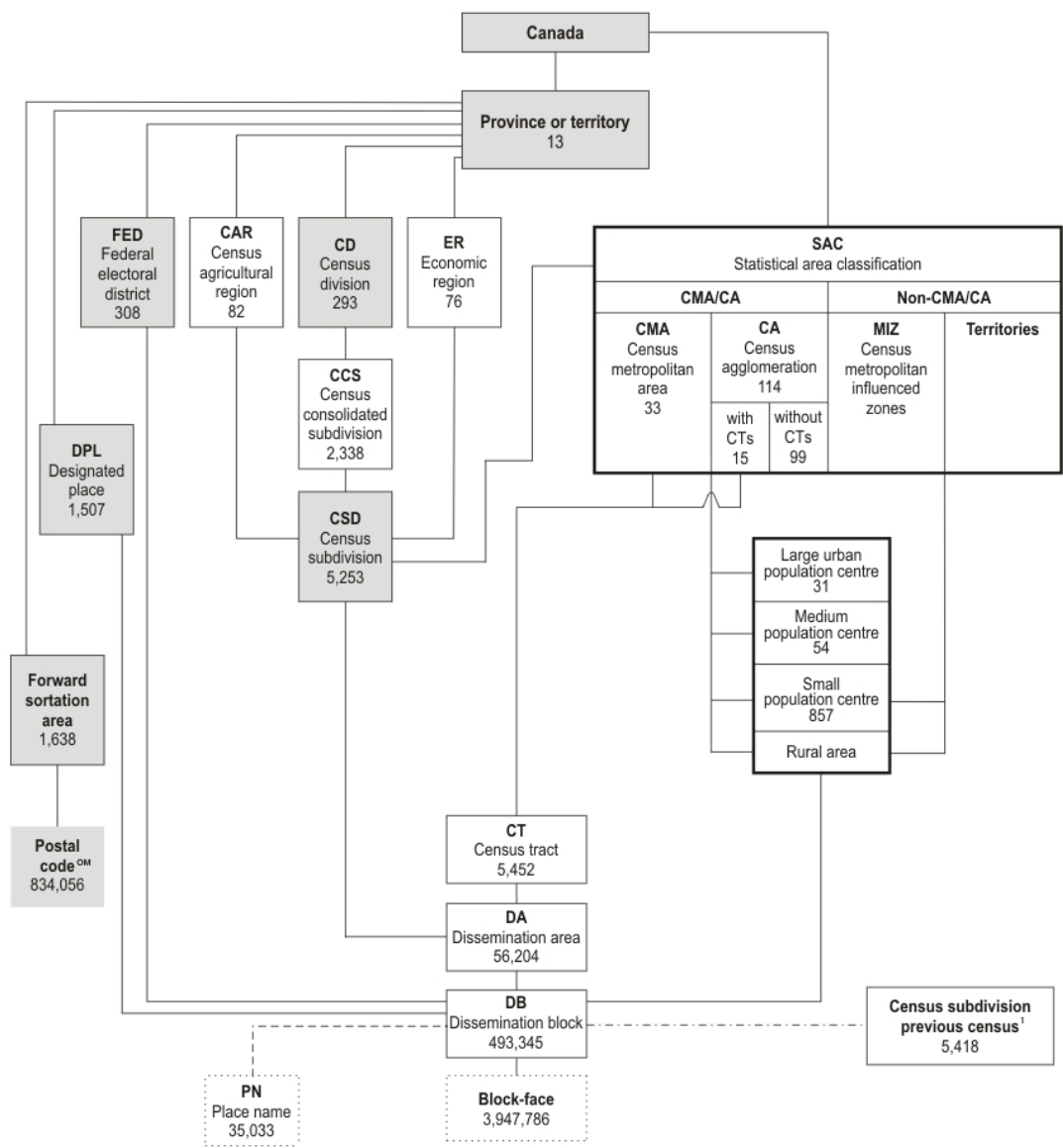
OM: Postal code is an official mark of Canada Post Corporation.









# Appendix B

## Hierarchy of standard geographic units for dissemination, 2011 Census

Figure B.1  
Hierarchy of standard geographic units for dissemination, 2011 Census



1. A best fit linkage is created between the previous census CSDs and the current census dissemination blocks to facilitate historical data retrieval.

-  Administrative area
-  Statistical area
-  Polygon
-  Representative point
-  Best fit linkage
-  Linkage using point-in-polygon process

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population; Canada Post Corporation, May 2011.



**Table C.1**  
**Geographic units by province and territory, 2011 Census**

Geographic unit	Canada		Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
	2006	2011													
Federal electoral district (2003 Representation Order)	308	308	7	4	11	10	75	106	14	14	28	36	1	1	1
Economic region	76	76	4	1	5	5	17	11	8	6	8	8	1	1	1
Census agricultural region	82	82	3	3	5	4	14	5	12	20	8	8	...	...	...
Census division	288	293	11	3	18	15	98	49	23	18	19	29	1	6	3
Census consolidated subdivision	2,341	2,338	89	68	43	151	1,005	316	126	300	77	153	1	6	3
Census subdivision	5,418	5,253	376	113	99	273	1,285	574	287	959	435	743	37	41	31
Dissolutions (January 2, 2006 to January 1, 2011)	221	...	3	0	1	6	13	13	13	26	19	126	0	1	0
Incorporations (January 2, 2006 to January 1, 2011)	...	56	2	0	0	3	4	2	3	1	1	33	2	5	0
Designated place	1,289	1,507	183	0	65	167	106	114	97	194	261	319	1	0	0
Census metropolitan area	33	33	1	0	1	2	6 <sup>1</sup>	15 <sup>1</sup>	1	2	2	4	0	0	0
Census agglomeration with census tracts	111	114	3	2	4	5 <sup>1</sup>	25 <sup>1</sup>	28 <sup>1</sup>	4	7 <sup>1</sup>	16 <sup>1</sup>	21	1	1	0
without census tracts	15	15	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	3	4	0	0	0
Census tract	96	99	3	2	4	4 <sup>1</sup>	22 <sup>1</sup>	24 <sup>1</sup>	4	7 <sup>1</sup>	13 <sup>1</sup>	17	1	1	0
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	5,076	5,452	47	0	93	102	1,371	2,273	173	109	573	711	0	0	0
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	811	857	29	6	35	30 <sup>1</sup>	224 <sup>1</sup>	237 <sup>1</sup>	42 <sup>1</sup>	59 <sup>1</sup>	101 <sup>1</sup>	87	1	3	7
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	29	31	1	0	1	1	6 <sup>1</sup>	14 <sup>1</sup>	1	2	2	4	0	0	0
Place name	21,411	35,033	1,836	709	3,138	2,679	6,985	8,091	1,839	2,687	3,117	3,528	195	153	76
Dissemination area	54,626	56,204	1,071	293	1,645	1,454	13,622	19,964	2,179	2,467	5,711	7,582	68	98	50
Dissemination block	478,831	493,345	8,732	3,573	15,842	15,415	109,455	132,777	30,471	51,610	66,332	55,529	1,359	1,492	758
Block-face	3,739,041	3,947,786	81,868	27,050	155,484	135,411	842,992	1,003,813	201,005	362,238	525,180	577,975	13,036	15,612	6,122
Forward sortation area®	1,625	1,638	35	7	77	111	418	526	64	48	153	190	3	3	3
Postal code™	805,640	834,056	10,878	3,316	27,852	58,617	212,162	276,844	24,568	21,923	80,948	115,435	968	516	29

... not applicable

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1. Census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations, large urban population centres and small population centres crossing provincial boundaries are counted in both provinces, and, therefore, do not add up to the national total.

**Sources:** Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population; Canada Post Corporation, May 2011.



**Table D.1  
Census subdivision types by province and territory, 2011 Census**

Census subdivision type		Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
C	City / Cité	6	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CC	Chartered community	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
CG	Community government	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
CN	Crown colony / Colonie de la couronne	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
COM	Community	33	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CT	Canton (municipalité de)	45	...	...	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CU	Cantons unis (municipalité de)	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CV	City / Ville	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CY	City	149	3	2	...	4	...	46	9	16	17	49	1	1	1
DM	District municipality	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	...	...	...
HAM	Hamlet	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	24
ID	Improvement district	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...
IGD	Indian government district	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
IM	Island municipality	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
IRI	Indian reserve / Réserve indienne	961	3	4	25	18	27	139	75	168	81	419	...	2	...
LGD	Local government district	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
LOT	Township and royalty	67	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M	Municipality / Municipalité	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
MD	Municipal district	76	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	64	...	...	...	...	...
MÉ	Municipalité	619	...	...	...	...	619	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
MU	Municipality	54	...	...	...	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NH	Northern hamlet	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
NL	Nisga'a land	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
NO	Unorganized / Non organisé	137	...	...	...	...	96	16	10	2	...	...	4	6	3
NV	Northern village	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
P	Parish / Péroisse (municipalité de)	150	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PE	Péroisse (municipalité de)	179	...	...	...	...	179	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RCR	Rural community / Communauté rurale	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RDA	Regional district electoral area	158	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158	...	...	...
RG	Region	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RGM	Regional municipality	4	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
RM	Rural municipality	413	...	...	...	...	...	...	117	296	...	...	...	...	...
RV	Resort village	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...
S-É	Indian settlement / Établissement indien	28	...	...	...	...	6	5	4	1	4	3	5	...	...

SA	Special area	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
SC	Subdivision of county municipality / Subdivision municipalité de comté	28	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SÉ	Settlement / Établissement	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...
SET	Settlement	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	3
SG	Self-government / Autonomie gouvernementale	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
SM	Specialized municipality	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
SNO	Subdivision of unorganized / Subdivision non organisée	92	92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SV	Summer village	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51	...	...	...	...
T	Town	743	277	7	31	13	...	88	51	147	108	14	3	4	...
TC	Terres réservées aux Cris	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TI	Terre inuite	12	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TK	Terres réservées aux Naskapis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TL	Teslin land	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
TP	Township	207	...	...	...	...	...	207	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TV	Town / Ville	15	...	...	...	14	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
V	Ville	222	...	...	...	...	...	222	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VC	Village cri	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VK	Village naskapi	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
VL	Village	550	...	...	...	66	45	11	19	266	95	43	4	1	...
VN	Village nordique	14	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,253</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>

... not applicable

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population.