

1996 Census of Population

This page was intentionally left blank.

Overview of 1996 Census of Population Products and Services

The 1996 Census collects information from the population of Canada in order to paint a statistical portrait of the country and its inhabitants in terms of their demographic, cultural, social and economic characteristics. This portrait is disseminated in various ways and is available in various forms.

The full line of census products and services is divided into five main categories: reference products, digital geography products, standard data products, analytical products and custom services. Each category is described in detail in a separate section.

Description

Reference products: This category consists of general reference products (Catalogue, Dictionary, Census Handbook, technical reports) and geographic reference products (Geography Catalogue, GeoSuite, reference maps). They cover various aspects of the census and are intended to support the use of census data.

Digital geography products: There are two groups in this category. One group contains attribute information and comprises the Block-face Data File, the Postal Code Conversion File and the Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File. The other group contains spatial information and consists of the Digital Boundary Files and Digital Cartographic Files, Street Network Files and Skeletal Street Network Files. The prices of geography products depend on their geographic coverage and other factors. For the 1996 Census, the prices of many geography products have been lowered.

Standard data products: Products in this category provide tabulations taken from the census database. They contain statistical information about every characteristic of the population, households, dwellings and families, characteristics that are measured in the census. They are the Population and Dwelling Counts, The Nation series, the Area Profiles, the Basic Summary Tables, the Dimensions series and the Public Use Microdata Files. The prices of standard data products are based on the specific features of each product.

Analytical products: Using the 1996 Census data, Statistics Canada analysts will prepare articles on social, demographic and economic issues for publication in periodicals such as Canadian Social Trends, Canadian Economic Observer and Perspectives on Labour and

Income, and in professional statistics and demography journals. Subscription fees and single issue prices vary.

Custom services: Custom services are geared towards clients who require more detailed data than that found in our Standard Data Products. Users can obtain products which are designed to meet their specific data or geographic needs. Product types include custom tabulations, semi-custom profiles, place of work & mode of transportation custom products at the sub-census subdivision level, geocoding services, geography custom services and geography custom mapping.

The prices and production time of tabulation services vary, particularly with the type and complexity of the requirement.

Census products on the Internet (free products):

Population and dwelling counts: These selected tables provide population and dwelling counts for Canada, provinces and territories, 1991 and 1996 Censuses – 100% Data

Nation tables: These selected data tables from the Nation Series present social and economic characteristics of the population for Canada and are available at the Statistics Canada Census site.

Statistical Profile of Canadian Communities: A statistical profile is presented for all Canadian communities (cities, towns, villages, Indian reserves and settlements, etc.).

Reference Products: The 1996 Census Dictionary (final edition), the 1996 Census Catalogue (final edition) and four technical reports will be available as free downloadable products.

Geographic areas

Census data are produced for a number of standard geographic areas. These areas are either administrative or statistical.

Administrative areas

Provinces and territories
Federal electoral districts (FEDs)*
Census divisions (CDs)
Census subdivisions (CSDs)
Designated places (DPLs)
Postal codes (FSAs and LDUs)

*Available for the 1987 Representation Order and the 1996 Representation Order.

Statistical areas

Census agricultural regions (CARs)
Economic regions (ERs)
Census consolidated subdivisions (CCSs)
Census metropolitan areas (CMAs)
Census agglomerations (CAs)
Consolidated census metropolitan areas
Consolidated census agglomerations
Primary census metropolitan areas (PCMAs)
Primary census agglomerations (PCAs)
Census tracts (CTs)
Urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe
Urban areas (UAs)
Rural areas
Enumeration areas (EAs)

Custom geographic areas

Areafiles
Geocoding

Media

Many more census products are being offered in electronic form for the 1996 Census and, as a result, some of them have been made available more quickly than the corresponding products were for previous censuses. Users can obtain a number of products on diskette, CD-ROM, or on the Internet, and some products continue to be available in hard-copy form (on paper), such as general reference products and area profiles (CDs, CSDs and CTs).