

# **SENIORS**

## **- USER'S GUIDE -**

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## INTRODUCTION

Urban planning, social policy, and local marketing strategies require a comprehensive understanding of regional socio-economic characteristics. The Small Area and Administrative Data Division (SAADD) provides various data sources which can contribute significantly to this knowledge.

The Seniors databank is one of these sources. This databank is compiled from information obtained through annual personal income tax returns and is updated annually.

Five Seniors tables are available for over 28,000 geographical areas.

Beginning with the 1990 tax year, four additional tables were added to the family databank, concentrating on seniors and their family situation. Beginning with the 1992 tax year, these four tables constitute this separate data product. With the 1994 data, a fifth table on senior individuals was added to the previous four. See also *Statistical tables - Footnotes and historical availability*.

## SECTION I -- THE DATA

### Data Source

Development of the small area family data (called the T1 Family File, or the T1FF) is based on the census family concept. This concept, specific to Statistics Canada, is similar to the traditional family concept. However, the small area family data include parent(s) and non-married children (i.e., who reported a marital status other than "married" on the tax form) living in the same dwelling, whereas the census family includes never-married children living with their parent(s).

Starting with the 1992 tax year, common law couples were recognized as a separate category on the T1 General tax form. As a result, the coverage of husband-wife families (in which common law families are included) is very high. This comparison was done using estimates from Statistics Canada's Demography Division (see Figure 1). Beginning with the 2000 data, same-sex couples reporting as a couple are included as common-law couples, and therefore counted in the husband-wife category.

The initial population used to develop the family units comprises all taxfilers for the reference year and represents approximately two-thirds of the Canadian population. The family units are formed from information obtained on the tax returns of the taxfiling family members.

First, taxfilers from the same family, including children, are matched using common links (e.g., spousal social insurance number, same name, same address). Prior to 1993, non-filing children were identified from information on their parents' tax form. Information from the federal Family Allowance Program was used to assist in the identification of children. Since 1993, children are added to the family by using the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) file, the provincial births files and previous years of the T1FF.

The remaining taxfilers who have not been matched in the family formation process become non-family persons. Non-family persons are not living with a spouse or child or parent. They may be living with a family to whom they are related (e.g., brother-in-law, cousin, grandparent) or unrelated (e.g., lodger, roommate). They may be living with other non-family persons or living alone.

The family databank approximates the total Canadian population. It contains information on sources of income (from the taxfilers) and some demographic indicators (derived from both the taxfilers and the non-filers).

The Seniors databank is a subset of the Family databank. Data begin with the 1990 tax year. A senior for the purposes of these data is a person 55 years of age or over. A senior family is a husband-wife family where at least one of the spouses is aged 55 or over, or a lone parent family where the parent is aged 55 or over.

## Data Quality

The introduction of the Federal Sales Tax Credit in 1986 and the Goods and Services Tax Credit in 1989 has resulted in more seniors filing tax returns. The seniors databank was created to meet a need for information on this specific age range - families with a spouse (and non-family persons) aged 55 and over.

The data that appear in the tables are taken directly from the family databank, built from the income tax and the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) records. Information on income is obtained from taxfilers and includes incomes of their non-filing spouses and dependants. Demographic information is derived from taxfilers and non-filing dependent spouses and/or children, such as the estimates of "total taxfilers and dependants".

Figures derived from the databank compare well with estimated population counts (see figure 1). Coverage rates of the databank population by family type are reported in figure 2.

**FIGURE 1 - COVERAGE BY AGE AND BY PROVINCE**

<b>2000 Rates of Coverage by Age</b>	
under 20	94.9%
20-24	88.1%
25-29	88.7%
30-34	92.4%
35-39	96.3%
40-44	96.2%
45-49	95.6%
50-54	94.8%
55-59	93.1%
60-64	95.5%
65-74	98.9%
75+	95.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>97.0%</b>

<b>2000 Rates of Coverage by Province</b>	
Newfoundland	97.5%
Prince Edward Island	98.6%
Nova Scotia	96.7%
New Brunswick	97.8%
Quebec	98.2%
Ontario	96.8%
Manitoba	98.2%
Saskatchewan	97.5%
Alberta	98.4%
British Columbia	93.8%
Yukon Territory	94.0%
Northwest Territories	94.9%
Nunavut	96.0%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>97.0%</b>

Coverage rates by age and by province are based on comparisons with the estimated population counts to July 1, 2002 from Statistics Canada catalogue number 91-213-XPB, *Annual Demographic Statistics*.

**FIGURE 2 - RATES OF COVERAGE**

<b>Rates of Coverage T1FF Compared to Population Estimates by Family Type</b>		
	<b>Husband-Wife Families</b>	<b>Lone-Parent Families</b>
T1FF (excluding territories)	7,099,750	1,311,690
Demography Division	6,947,337	1,329,771
Coverage	102.2%	98.6%

Sources: the Demography Division's *Annual Demographic Statistics* (annual, Statistics Canada catalogue number 91-213-XPB); the T1 Family File (T1FF) data are from the Small Area and Administrative Data Division's family databank, unpublished data.

The introduction of the FST and GST credits has also resulted in more low income families filing tax returns. This has caused the median family income figures for T1FF to be lower than the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF). Beginning in 1992, family total income was changed to include income of non-filing spouses reported on the taxfiler's income tax return. This has caused an increase in family total income as well as an increase in median income for 1992. Comparing the tax-based family median income figures (T1FF) to the Statistics Canada Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) shows the following results (figure 3). The SCF was replaced by the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID), and the definition of a family was changed for SLID.

**FIGURE 3 - COMPARISON OF FAMILY INCOMES**

Year	Median Income, all Families		% ratio (T1FF/SCF)
	T1FF	SCF	
1990	42,700	44,783	95.3%
1991	42,900	45,368	94.6%
1992	43,500	46,175	94.2%
1993	43,000	45,583	94.3%
1994	43,300	46,908	92.3%
1995	44,200	47,124	93.8%
1996	44,800	48,023	93.3%
1997	45,900	48,862	93.9%
1998	47,300	...	...
1999	48,600	...	...
2000	50,800	...	...

Not: The above T1FF medians are taken from the family databank being discussed here; the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) medians are from Statistics Canada's annual publication 13-208: *Family Incomes, Census Families*. The SCF estimates do not include the Territories (nor Nunavut in 1997) while the T1FF medians do include the North.



## Confidentiality and Rounding

All data are subject to the confidentiality procedures of rounding and suppression.

To protect the confidentiality of Canadians, counts are rounded. Rounding may increase, decrease, or cause no change to counts. Rounding can affect the results obtained from calculations. For example, when calculating percentages from rounded data, results may be distorted as both the numerator and denominator have been rounded. The distortion can be greatest with small numbers.

All reported amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Since 1990, data cells represent counts of 15 or greater, and are rounded to a base of 10. For example, a cell count of 15 would be rounded to 20 and a cell count of 24 would be rounded to 20.

For 1988 and 1989 data, all counts are 25 or greater and are rounded to the nearest 25. Reported amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

For data up to and including 1987, all counts are randomly rounded to a base of 5, and reported amounts are unrounded, but are adjusted according to the rounding of the counts.

Note: *Counts* represent the number of persons.  
*Reported amounts* are aggregate dollar amounts reported.

## Suppressed Data

To maintain confidentiality, data cells have been suppressed whenever:

- areas comprise less than 100 taxfilers;
- cells represent less than 15 taxfilers<sup>1</sup>;
- cells were dominated by a single filer.

Suppressed data may occur:

**i) within one area:**

- when one of the *income* categories is suppressed, a second category must also be suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential data by subtraction (called residual disclosure) (see figure 3);

---

<sup>1</sup> Likewise, the median income is omitted when the rounded count of a category is less than 30 (15 on either side of the median).

- when one of the *gender* categories is suppressed, the other *gender* category must also be suppressed to avoid residual disclosure (see figure 3);
- when one age group category is suppressed, another age group must also be suppressed to avoid residual disclosure.

**ii) between areas:**

- when a variable amount in one area is suppressed, that variable amount is also suppressed in another area to prevent disclosure by subtraction.

**FIGURE 4 - SUPPRESSION OF INCOME DATA,  
AN ILLUSTRATION**

<b>Amount (Millions of Dollars)</b>			
	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>
Wages/Salaries/Commissions	6.7	3.4	10.2
Self-Employment	0.3	0.2	0.5
Dividends and Interest	1.2	1.1	2.3
Employment Insurance	0.7	0.3	1.0
Old Age Security/Net Federal Supplements	0.7	0.5	1.1
Canada/Quebec Pension Plan	1.1	0.5	1.6
Other Pensions	1.9	0.4	2.3
Canada Child Tax Benefits	x	x*	0.1
Goods and Services Tax Credit/Harmonized Sales Tax Credit	x**	x**	0.2
Workers' Compensation	0.1	0.1	0.2
Social Assistance	0.2	0.2	0.5
Provincial Refundable Tax Credits	0.1	0.1	0.2
RRSP Income	0.1	0.1	0.2
Other Income	0.6	0.6	1.2
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>22.3</b>

x - Confidential when reported by fewer than 15 taxfilers. (In the data supplied to clients, the suppressed cell will contain a "0".)

x\* For the same income variable, the value for the opposite gender was suppressed in the table to avoid disclosure by subtraction.

x\*\* The value for a second income variable was suppressed elsewhere in the table to avoid disclosure by subtraction.

## SECTION II -- THE DATA TABLES

### Content of Tables

#### **Table 1: Senior Family Units by Age Group**

Table 1a: Senior husband-wife families by age of older spouse and presence of children

Table 1b: Senior lone-parent families by age of parent and non-family persons by age

Table 1c: Total family units by age of older spouse/parent/non-family person and presence of children

#### **Table 2: Persons in Senior Family Units by Age Group and Gender**

Table 2a: Persons in senior husband-wife families by age group and gender

Table 2b: Persons in senior lone-parent families and senior non-family persons by age group and gender

Table 2c: Persons in total senior family units by age group and gender

#### **Table 3: Sources of Income of Senior Husband-Wife Families**

Counts and amounts by source of income and age of older spouse:

- employment income
- investment income
- pensions
- RRSP income
- other income
- total family income

#### **Table 4: Sources of Income of Senior Lone Parent Families and Non-family Persons**

Counts and amounts by source of income and age of parent or non-family person:

- employment income
- investment income
- pensions
- RRSP income
- other income
- total family income

#### **Table 5: Sources of Income of Senior Individuals by Age Group**

Counts and amounts by source of income and age:

- employment income
- investment income
- transfer payments
- RRSP income
- other income
- total income

## Statistical Tables - Footnotes and Historical Availability

### All tables:

- available for Census Divisions, Census Metropolitan Areas and all levels of the postal geography starting with the 1990 data.
- the income shown here could be reported by any member of the family.
- available for Census Tracts, Economic Regions and Federal Electoral Districts starting with 1999 data.
- starting with the 2000 data, the Husband-wife Family category includes same-sex couples

### Table 1:

- **Table 1a:** Senior husband-wife families by age of older spouse and presence of children
- **Table 1b:** Senior lone-parent families by age of parent and non-family persons by age
- **Table 1c:** Total family units by age of older spouse/parent/non-family person and presence of children
- available in its current format beginning with the 1990 data (as table 15 of the family series for 1990 and 1991).
- note that the age groupings are cumulative. This means, for example, that if a person is 87 years of age, that person will be included in the 55+ age group, the 60+ age group, the 65+ age group, the 70+ age group, etc.
- there is no age limit for children in these families.

### Table 2:

- **Table 2a:** Persons in senior husband-wife families by age group and gender
- **Table 2b:** Persons in senior lone-parent families and senior non-family persons by age group and gender
- **Table 2c:** Persons in total senior family units by age group and gender
- available in its current format beginning with the 1990 data (as table 16 of the family series for 1990 and 1991).
- age groupings are cumulative. This means, for example, that a person 87 years of age will be included in the 55+ age group, the 60+ age group, the 65+ age group, the 70+ age group, etc.

### Table 3:

- available in its current format beginning with the 1990 data (as table 17 of the family series for 1990 and 1991).
- the sources of income have changed over the years, depending on the information available from the T1 (most notably RRSP income first shown in the 1994 tables).
- since 1994, OAS payments also include guaranteed income supplements and spousal allowances.
- starting in 1999, the RRSP income includes only RRSP income of persons aged 65+ years.

Table 4:

- available in its current format beginning with the 1990 data (as table 18 of the family series for 1990 and 1991).
- the sources of income have changed over the years, depending on the information available from the T1 (most notably RRSP income first shown in the 1994 tables).
- since 1994, OAS payments also include guaranteed income supplements and spousal allowances.
- starting in 1999, the RRSP income includes only RRSP income of persons aged 65+ years.

Table 5:

- available in its current format beginning with the 1994 data.
- the sources of income have changed over the years, depending on the information available from the T1
- since 1994, OAS payments also include guaranteed income supplements and spousal allowances.
- in 1996, "transfer payments" was replaced by two separate categories: government transfers and other pensions. Prior to 1996, the category of other (private) pensions was included in the total transfer payments.
- starting in 1999, the RRSP income includes only RRSP income of persons aged 65+ years.

## SECTION III -- GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### **Age**

Is calculated as of December 31 of the reference year (i.e., tax year minus year of birth).

### **Alberta family employment tax credit**

Beginning in 1997, this refundable tax credit essentially replicates the federal child tax benefit working income supplement. The maximum annual credit is \$500 per qualified dependent child. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

### **Alimony**

Payments from one former spouse to the other, for couples that are separated or divorced. Child support is also included in this variable, as reported on line 128 of the T1 tax form, where both alimony and child support are reported together, without distinction. Starting with 1998, this information is taken from line 156 of the T1 (support payments received). Included in *Other income* in the statistical tables.

### **British Columbia family bonus**

Is a refundable tax credit commencing in July 1996 that essentially extends the federal child tax benefit working income supplement; it is administered by Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (formerly Revenue Canada) through the Canada Child Tax Benefit program. This tax credit applies to residents of British Columbia, and is calculated according to the earned income of the parents and the number of qualified dependants. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

### **Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB)**

Is a system that replaces (beginning with the 1993 data year) the previous federal Family Allowance program, the non-refundable child deduction and the refundable Child Tax Credit. It is an income supplement for individuals who have at least one qualified dependent child. The Canada Child Tax Benefit is also based on the individual's family income and the number of dependent children.

### **Canada/Quebec Pension Plan (CPP/QPP)**

Are compulsory contributory social insurance plans that protect workers and their families against loss of income due to retirement, disability or death. Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan benefits include all benefits reported for the reference year.

**Census families**

This definition of the family classifies people in the following manner: 1) husbands and wives (married or common law) living in the same dwelling, with or without children; 2) lone parents (male or female) with one or more children. Thus, the residual population is called "non-family persons" and is made up of persons living alone and of persons living in a household but who are not living with a spouse, a parent or a child. *See also Children.*

**Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)**

*See section on Geography.*

**Children**

In husband-wife and lone-parent families are taxfilers or imputed persons; taxfiling children report a marital status other than married, have no child of their own and live with their parent(s). There is no age limit to children; they may be of any age, unless otherwise specified. Previous to the 1998 data, taxfiling children had to report single as their marital status. Most children are identified from the CCTB file, a provincial births file or a previous T1FF.

**CityID**

Since names can be, in some cases, quite long and cumbersome for handling in electronic files, municipalities are given a city identification number.

**Counts**

indicate the number of persons or items represented in a variable (e.g., the number of taxfilers reporting income in the year in question).

**Dependants**

For the purpose of these databanks, dependants are the non-filing members of a family. We do not attempt to measure dependency in any way, but are able to identify certain non-filing family members, and include these in the total counts of people in a given area.

**Dividend income**

Includes dividend income from taxable Canadian corporations (such as stocks or mutual funds) as reported on line 120 of the personal income tax return, and then grossed down to the actual amounts received; dividend income does not include dividends received from foreign investments (which are included in interest income and reported on line 121).

**Employment income**

Includes wages and salaries, commissions from employment, training allowances, tips and gratuities, and self-employment income (net income from business, profession, farming, fishing and commissions).

**Employment Insurance (EI) *Previously Unemployment Insurance (UI)***

Comprises all types of benefits paid to individuals under this program, regardless of reason, including regular benefits for unemployment, fishing, job creation, maternity, parental/adoption, retirement, self-employment, sickness, training and work sharing.

**Families reporting income**

Is counted for a given source of income when that income is received by at least one family member. Families and individuals may report more than one source of income.

**Family benefits**

*See* Alberta family employment tax credit; British Columbia family bonus; New Brunswick child tax benefit supplement; Northwest Territories child benefit; Nova Scotia child tax benefit; Nunavut child benefit; Ontario child care supplement for working families; Quebec family allowance; Saskatchewan child benefit; Canada Child Tax Benefit.

**Family total income**

Is the sum of the total incomes of all members of the family (*see* Total income). New to the 1992 definition of total income is income for non-filing spouses. The information is derived from the taxfiling spouse.

**Goods and Services Tax (GST) credit**

Includes all amounts received through this program. In 1990, the Goods and Services Tax Credit began replacing the Federal Sales Tax (FST) Credit. By 1991, the FST Credit no longer existed. Beginning in 1997, the GST was harmonized with the provincial sales taxes in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and became the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) credit.

**Government transfer payments**

For the purpose of these data, transfer payments denote the following payments made to individuals by the federal or provincial governments: Employment Insurance, Family Allowance (to 1992), FST credit (in 1989 and 1990), GST credit (which began replacing the FST credit in 1990 and completely replaced it by 1991, and became the GST/HST credit starting in 1997), Child Tax Credit (to 1992), Canada Child Tax Benefit (starting with 1993), Old Age Security pension/net federal supplements, Canada and Quebec Pension plans, non-taxable income and provincial refundable tax credits (both beginning in 1990), Quebec family allowance (beginning in 1994), British Columbia family bonus (beginning in 1996), New Brunswick child tax benefit (beginning in 1997), Alberta family employment tax credit (beginning in 1997), Northwest Territories child benefit (beginning in 1998), Nova Scotia child tax benefit (beginning in 1998), Nunavut child benefit (beginning in 1998), Ontario child care supplement for working families (beginning in 1998) and the Saskatchewan child benefit (beginning in 1998). The individuals in this case receive these payments without providing goods or services in



return. Previous to the 1996 data, *Transfer payments* also included superannuation and other (private) pensions.

**Harmonized Sales Tax (HST)**

In Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the provincial sales tax has been harmonized with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) since 1997, to become the harmonized sales tax. For this reason, the federal GST credit is now known as the GST/HST credit.

**Husband-wife families**

Consist of a couple living together (whether married or common law) at the same address, and any children living at the same address; taxfiling children must report a marital status other than married. Previous to the 1998 data, taxfiling children had to report single as their marital status. Beginning in 2000, same-sex couples reporting as couples are counted as husband-wife families. *See also Census families.*

**Imputed persons**

Are persons who are not taxfilers, but are reported or otherwise identified by a taxfiler (for example, a non-filing spouse or child).

**Income aggregates**

Are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. *See also Total income* and the various sources of income.

**Interest income**

Refers to the amount Canadians claimed on line 121 of the personal income tax return. This amount includes interest generated from bank deposits, Canada Savings Bonds, corporate bonds, treasury bills, investment certificates, term deposits, annuities, mutual funds, earnings on life insurance policies and all foreign interest and foreign dividend incomes.

**Investment income**

Includes both interest income and dividend income.

**Level of geography**

Is a code designating the type of geographic area to which the information in the table applies. *See* the section on Geography for further information.

**Limited partnership income**

Is net income (i.e., gross income less expenses) from a limited partnership, where a limited partner is a passive or non-active partner whose liability as a member is limited to his/her investment. Included in *Other income* in the statistical tables.

**Lone-parent family**

Is a family with only one parent, male or female, and with at least one child. *See also Census families and Children.*

**Median**

Is the middle number in a group of numbers. Where a median income, for example, is given as \$26,000, it means that exactly half of the incomes reported are greater than or equal to \$26,000, and that the other half are less than or equal to the median amount. Median incomes in the data tables are rounded to the nearest hundred dollars. Zero values are not included in the calculation of medians for individuals, but are included in the calculation of medians for families.

**Negative income**

Generally applies to net self-employment income, net rental income and net limited partnership income. Negative income would indicate that expenses exceeded gross income.

**Net federal supplements**

Are part of the Old Age Security (OAS) pension program, intended to supplement the income of pensioners and spouses with lower income; payments take the form of a Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or a Spouse's Allowance (SPA). Between 1990 and 1993, Net Federal Supplements were included in non-taxable income.

**Net rental income**

Is income received or earned from the rental of property, less related costs and expenses.

**New Brunswick child tax benefit**

Since 1997, this benefit supplements the Canada Child Tax Benefit for New Brunswick residents at a maximum of \$250 per year per eligible child and another maximum \$250 per year, depending on the family earned income. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Non-family person**

Is an individual who is not living with a spouse, with children or with a parent. They may be living with a family to whom they are related (e.g., brother-in-law, cousin, grandparent) or unrelated (e.g., lodger, roommate). They may be living with other non-family persons or living alone. *See also Census families.*

**Non-negative income**

Is income that is zero or greater.

**Non-senior family**

Represents a husband-wife family where both spouses are under the age of 55, or a lone parent family where the parent is under the age of 55.

**Non-taxable income/provincial (refundable) tax credits**

Non-taxable income refers to the amounts included in a taxfiler's income when applying for refundable tax credits, but not included in the calculation of taxable income; these amounts include Workers' Compensation payments, Net Federal Supplements received (Guaranteed Income Supplements and/or Spouse's Allowance), and social assistance payments. Beginning with the 1994 data, information is available separately for Net Federal Supplements, Workers' Compensation and social assistance. Provincial tax credits are a refundable credit paid to individuals by the province in which he/she resided as of December 31 of the taxation year. *See also Provincial refundable tax credits.*

**Northwest Territories child benefit**

Beginning in July 1998, the Northwest Territories Child Benefit (NWTCB) is a tax-free monthly payment made to qualifying families with children under age 18. The Territorial Worker's Supplement, part of the NWTCB program, is an additional benefit paid to qualifying families with working income who have children under age 18. Benefits from these programs are combined with the CCTB into a single monthly payment. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Nova Scotia child benefit**

Beginning in October 1998, but retro-active to July 1998, the Nova Scotia Child Benefit (NSCB) will provide tax-free monthly payments to help low- and modest-income families with the costs of raising their children. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Nunavut child benefit**

Beginning in July 1998, the Nunavut Child Benefit (NCB) is a tax-free monthly payment made to qualifying families with children under age 18. The Territorial Worker's Supplement, part of the NWTCB program, is an additional benefit paid to qualifying families with working income who have children under age 18. Benefits from these programs are combined with the CCTB into a single monthly payment. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Old Age Security (OAS) pension**

Is part of the Old Age Security program, a federal government program that guarantees a degree of financial security to Canadian seniors. All persons in Canada aged 65 or older, who are Canadian citizens or legal residents, may qualify for a full OAS pension, depending on their years of residence in Canada after reaching age 18. Old Age Security benefits include all benefits reported for the reference year, excluding Guaranteed Income Supplements and Spousal Allowance benefits; *see also Net federal supplements and Non-taxable income.*

**Ontario child care supplement for working families**

Beginning in July 1998, the Ontario child care supplement for working families (OCCSWF) is not administered by the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (formerly Revenue Canada) and therefore families must apply for the supplement annually. This program is designed to provide assistance to low-to-middle income families with children *under the age of seven*. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Other income**

Includes net rental income, alimony, income from a limited partnership, retiring allowances, scholarships, amounts received through a supplementary unemployment benefit plan (guaranteed annual income plan), payments from income-averaging annuity contracts, as well as all other taxable income not included elsewhere. Beginning with the 1992 data, this variable also includes the imputed income of imputed spouses, as derived from the tax return of the filing spouse. *See also Total income.*

**Other pensions**

Include pension benefits (superannuation and private pensions) other than Old Age Security and Canada/Quebec Pension Plan benefits.

**Parent**

Is a person for whom we have identified one or more children living at the same address. *See also Census families and Children.*

**Provincial refundable tax credits**

Unlike non-refundable tax credits, these amounts are paid to the taxfiler, regardless of tax liability. Included are the refundable provincial tax credits received by taxfilers in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec (since 1990), British Columbia and the Northwest Territories (since 1993), Newfoundland and Nunavut (beginning in 1997), Quebec family allowances (beginning with 1994), the British Columbia family bonus (beginning with 1996), the New Brunswick child tax benefit (beginning in 1997), the Alberta family employment tax credit (beginning with 1997), the Northwest Territories child benefit (beginning with 1998), the Nova Scotia child tax benefit (beginning with 1998), the Nunavut child benefit (beginning with 1998), the Ontario child care supplement for working families (beginning with 1998) and the Saskatchewan child benefit (beginning

with 1998).

**Quebec family allowance**

Includes payment of a non-taxable allowance to the parent or guardian of one or more unmarried children under the age of 18 and not a ward of the province. The applicant must have resided in Quebec for at least one month or subject his/her income or that of the spouse to the Quebec income tax laws. The QFA rate varies according to the rank of the child in the family and according to the child's age. Available starting with 1994 data. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**RRSP income**

Is any money withdrawn from a Registered Retirement Savings Plan, either as a lump sum or as a periodic payment. Included in this amount are withdrawals and monies from RRSP annuities. Note that monies from RRIFs may be reported on line 115 (other pensions or superannuation) if the recipient is 65 years of age or older; otherwise, monies from RRIFs are reported on line 130 (other income). Information on RRSP income is available starting with the 1994 data. Information on RRSP income is available starting with the 1994 data. Starting in 1999, only RRSP income of persons aged 65 years or older is included.

**Saskatchewan child benefit**

Beginning in July 1998, the Saskatchewan Child Benefit (SCB) is a tax-free monthly payment that will help lower-income families with the cost of raising children under age 18. This benefit will help lower-income working families stay in the workforce rather than go on social assistance to meet their children's needs. Included in *Provincial refundable tax credits/Family benefits* in the statistical tables.

**Self-employment income**

Is net income from business, professional, commission, farming and fishing.

**Senior**

Is, for the purpose of these data, a person 55 years of age or over.

**Senior family**

Is a husband-wife family where at least one of the spouses is 55 years of age or over, or a lone parent family where the parent is 55 or over.

**Social assistance**

Includes payments made in the year on the basis of a means, needs or income test (whether made by an organized charity or under a government program). The value is reported on line 145 of the personal income tax return. Available only since 1994; previously included in Non-taxable income.

**Spouse**

Is either a husband or wife in a husband-wife family.

**Suburban service**

*See* section on Geography.

**Suppressed data**

Are intentionally omitted because they breach confidentiality. All data counts under a certain number are suppressed along with the corresponding income amounts. If the count for one cell or component is suppressed, then corresponding income aggregates in another cell are also suppressed to avoid disclosure by subtraction (called residual disclosure). *See* the section on Confidentiality.

**Taxfilers**

Most taxfilers are people who filed a tax return for the reference year and were alive at the end of the year. Starting with the 1993 tax year, those taxfilers who died within the tax year and who had a non-filing spouse had their income and their filing status attributed to the surviving spouse.

**Total income**

*Note: this variable was revised over the years, as reflected in the comments below; data users who plan to compare current data to data from previous years should bear in mind these changes. Also, it should be noted that all income amounts are gross, with the exception of net rental income, net limited partnership income and all forms of net self-employment income.*

Income reported by taxfilers from any of the following sources:

**Labour income****Employment income**

Wages/salaries/commissions

Other employment income as reported on line 104 of the tax form (tips, gratuities, royalties, etc.)

Net self-employment

Employment Insurance (EI) benefits

**Pension income**

Old Age Security/Net Federal Supplements (the latter including guaranteed income supplements and spouses' allowances since 1994)

Canada/Quebec Pension Plan  
 Superannuation and other (private) pensions  
 (Federal) Family Allowance benefits (up to and including 1992)  
 Quebec family allowance (beginning with 1994)  
 British Columbia family bonus (beginning with 1996)  
 New Brunswick child benefit supplement (beginning with 1997)  
 Alberta family employment tax credit (beginning with 1997)  
 Northwest Territories child benefit (beginning with 1998)  
 Nova Scotia child tax benefit (beginning with 1998)  
 Nunavut child benefit (beginning with 1998)  
 Ontario child care supplement for working families (beginning with 1998)  
 Saskatchewan child benefit (beginning with 1998)  
 Interest and other investment income  
 Dividend income  
 RRSP income (since 1994; previously in "other income")  
 Net limited partnership income (included in "other income")  
 Alimony (included in "other income")  
 Net rental income (included in "other income")  
 Income for non-filing spouses (since 1992; included in "other income")  
 Other incomes as reported on line 130 of the tax form (fellowships, bursaries, grants, etc.; included in "other income")  
 Federal Sales Tax (FST) credit (for 1989-1990 inclusive)  
 Goods and Services Tax (GST) credit (beginning in 1990)  
 Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) credit (beginning in 1997)  
 Child tax credit (up to and including 1992)  
 Canada Child Tax Benefit (starting with 1993)  
 Other non-taxable income (since 1990)  
     Workers' compensation payments (shown separately starting with 1994)  
     Social assistance payments (shown separately starting with 1994)  
     Guaranteed income supplements (included with Net Federal Supplements since 1994; previously in "non-taxable income")  
     Spouses' allowances (included with Net Federal Supplements since 1994; previously in "non-taxable income")  
 Provincial refundable tax credits in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba (since 1990), British Columbia and the Northwest Territories (since 1993), Newfoundland and Nunavut (since 1997).

*Monies not included in income above are: veterans' disability and dependent pensioners' payments, war veterans' allowances, lottery winnings and capital gains.*

**Unemployment Insurance (UI)**

*See* Employment Insurance (EI).

**User-defined areas**

Are areas that have been defined by the data users as the specific area for which they require data. This would apply only to areas which are not "standard areas" and could include any one or a combination of areas that comprised, for example, half of a letter carrier walk in one FSA and a portion of a walk in another FSA. In other words, the area whose boundaries are a portion of, or a combination of portions of standard areas. The smallest "building block" for these special areas is the six-character postal code. To obtain data, provide us with a list of the postal codes for which data are required and we will provide the aggregated data. Also, the user-defined area may be a total of a number of individual standard areas, grouped together for a total, rather than a number of individual areas each with their own total. Of course, the area must satisfy our confidentiality requirements, or no data can be produced. *See* section on Geography.

**Wages, salaries and commissions**

Include employment pay and commissions as stated on T4 information slips, training allowances, tips, gratuities and royalties. Starting in 1999, the total wages, salaries and commissions also includes tax-exempt employment income earned on an Indian reserve.

**Workers' compensation**

Includes any compensation received under Workers' Compensation in respect of an injury, disability or death. This value is reported on line 144 of the personal income tax return. Information on Workers' Compensation is available as a distinct income source starting with the 1994 data; previously included in Non-taxable Income.



## SECTION IV -- GEOGRAPHY

The data are available for the following geographic areas. See "Statistical Tables - Footnotes and Historical Availability" for further details. The mailing address at the time of filing is the basis for the geographic information in the tables.

### **Standard areas:**

#### **Postal Geography**

- Canada
- Provinces and Territories
- Cities
- Rural Communities
- Urban Forward Sortation Areas
- Postal Walks

#### **Census Geography**

- Economic Regions
- Census Divisions
- Census Metropolitan Areas
- Census Tracts
- Federal Electoral Districts

### **User-defined areas:**

Users may select a specific area of interest that is not a standard area for which data can be made available in standard format. To obtain data, provide us with a list of the postal codes for which data are required and we will provide the aggregated data. Of course, the area must satisfy our confidentiality requirements, or no data can be produced. See the "Special Geography" section for further information.

## Geographic Levels - Postal Geography

The various databanks compiled from the taxfile are available for different levels of the postal geography, and for some levels of the Census geography. Coded geographic indicators appearing on the data tables are shown below with a brief description.

Level of Geography (L.O.G.)	Postal Area	Description
12	Canada	This level of data is an aggregation of the provincial/territorial totals (code 11). The national total is identified by the region code Z99099.
11	Province or Territory Total	<p>This level of data is an aggregation of the following geographies within a province:</p> <p>City Totals .....Code 08  Rural Postal Codes .....Code 09  Other Provincial Totals.....Code 10</p> <p>These totals are identified by a provincial/territorial postal letter, then a "990" followed by the province/territory code, as follows:</p> <p>Newfoundland and Labrador ..... A99010  Nova Scotia ..... B99012  Prince Edward Island..... C99011  New Brunswick .....E99013  Quebec ..... J99024  Ontario ..... P99035  Manitoba..... R99046  Saskatchewan.....S99047  Alberta ..... T99048  British Columbia ..... V99059  Northwest Territories..... X99061  Nunavut ..... X99062  Yukon ..... Y99060</p>

Level of Geography (L.O.G.)	Postal Area	Description
10	Other Provincial Total ("P" Pot)	<p>This level of data is an aggregation of small communities in the province that had less than 100 taxfilers, where these communities are combined into a "pot". Before 1992, it was identified by the same codes as the provincial/territorial totals, and only the "Delivery Mode" codes 2 and 3 distinguished between the two. To avoid this problem, starting with the 1992 data, an "8" appears after the provincial/territorial letter instead of a "9". The "9" will be reserved for the provincial/territorial total, as explained in 11 above. These "pot" codes are as follows:</p> <p>Newfoundland and Labrador ..... A89010  Nova Scotia ..... B89012  Prince Edward Island..... C89011  New Brunswick .....E89013  Quebec ..... J89024  Ontario..... P89035  Manitoba..... R89046  Saskatchewan.....S89047  Alberta .....T99048  British Columbia ..... V89059  Northwest Territories..... X89061  Nunavut ..... X89062  Yukon ..... Y89060</p>
09	Rural Postal Code (Not in City )	<p>This level of geography pertains to rural communities that have one and only one rural postal code. These stand-alone rural postal codes can be identified by a "zero" in the second position of the postal code and a level of geography code 09.</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 4,144 areas coded as level of geography 09.</p>

Level of Geography (L.O.G.)	Postal Area	Description
08	City Total	<p>This level of data is an aggregation of the following geographies for unique place names within a province/territory:</p> <p>Urban FSA (Residential) .....Code 03  Rural Route.....Code 04  Suburban Services .....Code 05  Rural Postal Code (within city) .....Code 06  Other Urban Area .....Code 07</p> <p>They have the following format: e.g., Edmonton = T95479; Regina = S94876. The pattern is the postal letter of the city plus "9" in the second position (indicating a total), followed by a 4 digit numeric code for the community (often called "CityID").</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 943 areas coded as level of geography 08.</p>
07	Other Urban Area (Non-residential within city - "E" Pot)	<p>This aggregation of data (or "pot") covers non-residential addresses within an urban centre and all other data not otherwise displayed. Commercial addresses, post office boxes and general delivery are included, as are residential addresses with too few taxfilers to report separately. They can be recognized by codes that are similar to the city totals, with a distinguishing difference: an "8" will follow the city postal letter rather than the "9" of the city total (e.g., Edmonton = T85479; Regina = S84876).</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 484 areas coded as level of geography 07.</p>
06	Rural Postal Code (Within City)	<p>These data pertain to rural postal codes that belong to communities with more than one rural postal code. These occur in areas that were formerly serviced by rural delivery service and changed by Canada Post to urban delivery service or in communities served by more than one rural postal code. Rural postal codes of this type can be identified by a "zero" in the second position of the postal code and a level of geography code 06.</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 368 areas coded as level of geography 06.</p>

Level of Geography (L.O.G.)	Postal Area	Description
05	Suburban Service	<p>Sparsely populated fringe areas of urban centres may receive their postal service from an urban post office by delivery designated as "suburban service". Their region code retains all six characters of the postal code. Suburban Services are located inside an urban FSA, usually adjacent to more highly populated areas, and mail is delivered by a contractor to group boxes, community mail boxes and/or external delivery sites (e.g., kiosks, miniparks).</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 22 areas coded as level of geography 05.</p>
04	Rural Route	<p>Reasonably well settled rural areas may receive their postal service from an urban post office by delivery designated as "rural route", where mail is delivered by a contractor using a motorized vehicle to a group of boxes or to gate boxes. Their region code retains all six characters of the postal code. Rural routes are located outside an urban FSA.</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 886 areas coded as level of geography 04.</p>
03	Urban FSA (Residential Area)	<p>The urban Forward Sortation Area (FSA, identified by the first three characters of the postal code) includes all residential addresses covered by the first three characters of a postal code in a particular urban area (not including levels 04 and 05). Only residential FSAs are considered for these databanks. This level of data is an aggregation of:</p> <p>Postal Walk.....Code 01 Other Postal Walk.....Code 02</p> <p>An Urban FSA of this type can be identified by the FSA followed by three blanks.</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 1,838 areas coded as level of geography 03.</p>

<b>Level of Geography (L.O.G.)</b>	<b>Postal Area</b>	<b>Description</b>
02	Other Postal Walk	<p>This level of data is an aggregation of urban residential postal codes unallocated to a letter carrier route and postal walks with less than 100 taxfilers. A postal walk record of this type can be identified by a region code which is the FSA followed by three blanks, and the postal walk number "XXXX".</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 190 areas coded as level of geography 02.</p>
01	Postal Walk	<p>This is the finest level of data and is an aggregation of urban residential postal codes allocated to a letter carrier route. A postal walk of this type can be identified by a region code which is the FSA followed by three blanks, and the postal walk number. An average FSA contains 11 walks.</p> <p>The 2000 databanks contain 19,654 areas coded as level of geography 01. The total population of these postal walks is 22,382,150 (with an average population of 1,138). The walks range in size from 100 to 5,140.</p>

## Adding postal areas without duplication

Data files according to the postal geography will often contain subtotals and totals. Many data users need to add certain geographies in order to come up with a total for their particular area of interest. However, including subtotals during this process results in double-counting some populations, and this leads to an erroneous total. The following is a summary of which postal areas are aggregations in the standard postal geography.

Postal walks (Level of Geography, or LOG 1) and walk pots (LOG 2) add up to urban Forward Sortation Areas (FSAs, LOG 3).

Urban FSAs (LOG 3), rural routes (LOG 4), suburban services (LOG 5), rural postal codes within a city (LOG 6) and other urban areas (LOG 7) add up to city totals (LOG 8).

City totals (LOG 8), rural postal codes not in a city (LOG 9) and other areas in a province (LOG 10) add up to provincial/territorial totals (LOG 11).

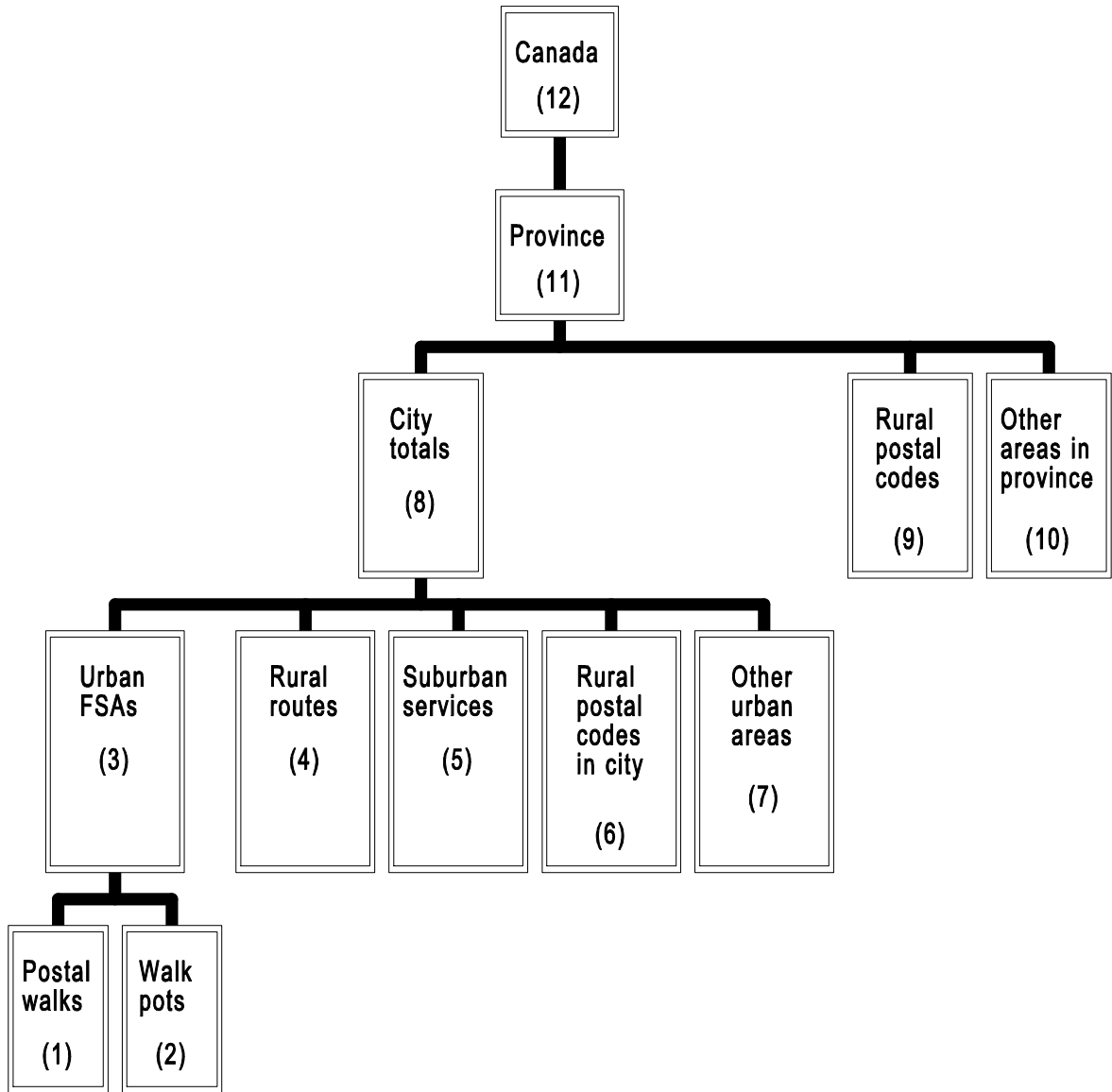
Provincial/territorial totals (LOG 11) add up to the Canada total (LOG 12).

Thus, using the Level of geography codes:

$$1 + 2 = 3$$

$$3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 = 8$$

$$8 + 9 + 10 = 11$$





## Concordance files

A concordance file accompanies data that are aggregated by postal walk. This file lists all of the six-character postal codes for which there is information, and identifies the postal walk to which each postal code is assigned. An urban Forward Sortation Area (FSA) may be split between two or more municipalities, and so the FSA label as well as the city identification number (or CityID) become important parts of the geographic identifiers. It is a combination of CityID, FSA label and postal walk number that creates unique geographic identifiers. The concordance file consists therefore of the CityID, the FSA label (called the postal area), the postal walk number and the six-character urban postal code. By simply browsing the concordance file, one can determine which postal codes make up a given walk. The following illustration is an example of a concordance file.

CityID	Postal area	Postal walk	Postal code
6092	K1B	52	K1B3K5
6092	K1B	52	K1B3V5
6092	K1B	52	K1B4C6
6092	K1B	52	K1B4N7
6092	K1B	52	K1B4N9
6092	K1B	52	K1B4M8
6092	K1B	52	K1B4N9
2434	K1B	57	K1B3V6
2434	K1B	57	K1B3V7
2434	K1B	57	K1B3V8
2434	K1B	57	K1B3V9
2434	K1B	57	K1B4V1

### "Vintage" of the postal walks

The postal walks represented in the 2000 databanks were coded from a May 2002 Canada Post Corporation file with a January 2002 basefile.

### Old walk/new walk file

Since postal walks are subject to change, we will also supply on request, along with postal walk aggregated data and the corresponding concordance file, a third file called the Old walk/new walk file. This file shows the percentage change in the postal walks between the date of the walks to which the data are attached and the latest such information available to us from Canada Post. This file compares the six-character urban postal codes that make up the postal walk at two different points in time. It shows the percentage of the postal codes from the original (old) walk that are included in the newer walk, and the percentage of the new walk that is derived from the old. The following illustration is an example of an old walk/new walk file.

**Comparison Between Old Walks (June 2001)  
and New Walks (June 2002)**

<b>CityID</b>	<b>FSA</b>	<b>Old walk #</b>	<b>New walk #</b>	<b>% of old included in new</b>	<b>% of new derived from old</b>
2434	K1B	50	50	94	74
2434	K1B	50	51	6	8
2434	K1B	51	50	33	26
2434	K1B	51	51	61	92
2434	K1B	51	57	6	5
2434	K1B	57	57	91	50
2434	K1B	57	58	9	100
2434	K1B	52	52	29	10
2434	K1B	52	60	71	100
2434	K1B	53	52	20	24
2434	K1B	53	53	60	100
2434	K1B	53	58	20	33
2434	K1B	54	54	93	83
2434	K1B	54	55	7	5
2434	K1B	55	55	100	89
2434	K1B	56	52	30	14
2434	K1B	56	56	70	100
2434	K1B	58	52	12	10
2434	K1B	58	55	12	5

## Geographic Levels - Census Geography

Data are also available for the following levels of the Census geography; the following table shows the coded designators for these geographies, as well as a brief description of each.

Level of Geography	Name	Description
61	Census Tract	<p>Census Tracts (CTs) are small geographic units representing urban or rural neighbourhood-like communities in census metropolitan areas (see definition below) or census agglomerations with an urban core population of 50,000 or more at time of 1996 Census. CTs are delineated by a committee of local specialists (such as planners, health and social workers and educators) in conjunction with Statistics Canada.</p> <p>The 2000 data banks contain 4,168 areas coded as level of geography 61.</p>
51	Economic Region	<p>An economic region is a grouping of complete census divisions (see definition below) with one exception in Ontario. Economic regions (ERs) are used to analyse regional economic activity. Within the province of Quebec, ERs are designated by law. In all other provinces, they are created by agreement between Statistics Canada and the provinces concerned. Prince Edward Island and the territories each consist of one economic region.</p> <p>The 2000 data banks contain 75 areas coded as level of geography 51.</p>

Level of Geography	Name	Description
41	Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)	<p>The general concept of a CMA is one of a very large urban area, together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that urban area. CMAs have an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census.</p> <p>There are 26 CMAs in the 2000 databanks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>001, St. John's, Newfoundland</li> <li>205, Halifax, Nova Scotia</li> <li>310, Saint John, New Brunswick</li> <li>408, Chicoutimi-Jonquière, Québec</li> <li>421, Québec, Québec</li> <li>433, Sherbrooke, Québec</li> <li>442, Trois-Rivières, Québec</li> <li>462, Montréal, Québec</li> <li>505, Ottawa-Hull (Québec part)</li> <li>505, Ottawa-Hull (Ontario part)</li> <li>532, Oshawa, Ontario</li> <li>535, Toronto, Ontario</li> <li>537, Hamilton, Ontario</li> <li>539, St-Catharines-Niagara, Ontario</li> <li>541, Kitchener, Ontario</li> <li>555, London, Ontario</li> <li>559, Windsor, Ontario</li> <li>580, Sudbury, Ontario</li> <li>595, Thunder Bay, Ontario</li> <li>602, Winnipeg, Manitoba</li> <li>705, Regina, Saskatchewan</li> <li>725, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</li> <li>825, Calgary, Alberta</li> <li>835, Edmonton, Alberta</li> <li>933, Vancouver, British Columbia</li> <li>935, Victoria, British Columbia</li> </ul>

Level of Geography	Name	Description
31	Federal Electoral District	<p>A federal electoral district (FED) refers to any place or territorial area entitled to elect a representative member to serve in the House of Commons (source: <i>Canada Elections Act</i>, 1990). There are 301 FEDs in Canada according to the 1996 Representation Order. The Representation Order is prepared by the Chief Electoral Officer describing, naming and specifying the population of each electoral district established by the Electoral Boundaries Commission and sent to the Governor in Council.</p> <p>The 2000 data banks contain 301 areas coded as level of geography 31.</p>
21	Census Divisions (CDs)	<p>General term applying to geographic areas established by provincial law (or in conjunction with Statistics Canada, as in the cases of Newfoundland, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) and intermediate between census subdivisions and the province (e.g., counties, regional districts, regional municipalities, etc.)</p> <p>In Newfoundland, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, Statistics Canada in co-operation with those provinces has created census divisions.</p> <p>There are 288 CDs in the 2000 databanks, based on the 1996 Census boundaries.</p>

## Geographic Levels - Special Geography

Clients may select geographical areas of their own definition, areas that are not part of the standard areas listed here (for example, bank service areas, retail store catchment areas). For this, clients must submit a list of the postal codes that make up their special area, and we will aggregate the micro data to correspond to that area of interest. Information ordered for special, or "user-defined" areas will be coded according to the following:

<b>Level of Geography</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
93	Total for all user-defined areas	This level represents the sum total of all user-defined areas, and is the total of levels 91 and 92 described below.
92	Other user-defined areas	This level of geography represents all user-defined areas that were too small, in terms of population, to have information compiled on those areas individually (i.e. fewer than 100 taxfilers). Such areas are grouped into this "other" category.
91	Special user-defined area	Any area showing a code "91" is an area defined by a specific user according to that user's needs (for example, school catchment areas, health districts, etc.)

## Conversion files

When a client is interested in purchasing data for areas that are considered non-standard geography by Small Area and Administrative Data Division, a conversion file is usually necessary. A combination of postal codes making up one or more special area(s) is commonly referred to as a conversion file (an electronic file used by our staff to aggregate the different postal areas that make up the user-defined area. Simply provide us with the postal codes related to the area and we will compile the data (subject to our confidentiality restrictions). This list should include all postal codes for each area.

This would apply only to an area that is not a standard area. It could include any one or a combination of areas whose boundaries are a combination of standard areas or a combination of postal codes. User-defined areas may be branch service or school catchment areas, neighbourhoods or almost any other region.

Each postal code on a conversion file, therefore, is linked to a corresponding area code. The postal code is used as the basis for the tabulation of economic and demographic data for each area. Refer to the example below for a typical conversion file received by the Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

<b>Postal code</b>	<b>User Area</b>
A1A1A1	0001
A1A1A2	0001
A1A1A3	0001
A1A1A4	0001
A1A1A5	0001
A1A1A6	0001
A1A1A7	0002
A1A1A8	0002
A1A1A9	0002
A1A1B1	0002
A1A1B2	0002
A1A1B3	0003
A1A1B4	0003
A1A1B5	0003
A1A1B6	0003
A1A1B7	0003
A1A1B8	0004
A1A1B9	0004
A1A1C1	0004
A1A1C2	0004
A1A1C3	0004



Note:

- 1) The conversion file should have a record length of 10 bytes. The first six bytes should represent the postal code and the following four bytes should represent the user-defined area.
- 2) The postal code does not have a space between the third and fourth characters.
- 3) The user-defined area code is only four characters in length.
- 4) Our system cannot accommodate user-defined areas with hierarchical levels. In the previous example, areas 0001 and 0002 could not add up to their own total, with areas 0003 and 0004 adding up to their own separate total. Generating this type of hierarchical information means submitting this conversion file to our programs several times, thus increasing costs.

## **WE INVITE YOUR COMMENTS!**

We are always working on ways to improve our products. The comments we receive concerning quality and presentation are essential to meet this objective. If you have any suggestions in this regard, we encourage you, the user, to provide us with your comments.

### **Data in many forms**

Statistics Canada disseminates data in a variety of forms. In addition to publications, both standard and special tabulations are offered. Data are available on the Internet, compact disk, diskette, computer printouts, microfiche and microfilm and magnetic tape. Maps and other geographic reference materials are available for some types of data. Direct online access to aggregated information is possible through CANSIM, Statistics Canada's machine-readable database and retrieval system.

### **How to obtain more information**

Inquiries about these data and related statistics or services should be directed to:

Client Services  
Small Area and Administrative Data Division  
Statistics Canada  
Room 1306, Main Building  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0T6

Phone: (613) 951-9720

Fax: (613) 951-4745

*saainfo@statcan.ca*

Toll-Free: 1-866-652-8443

Toll-Free: 1-866-652-8444

Local Statistics Canada Reference Centres are listed on the last page. You can also visit our World Wide Web site at <http://www.statcan.ca>.

Toll-free access is provided for all users who reside outside the local dialling area of any of the Regional Reference Centres.

**National enquiries line 1-800-263-1136**

**National telecommunications device for the hearing impaired 1-800-363-7629**

**Order-only line (Canada and the United States) 1-800-267-6677**

**National Toll-free Fax Order line 1-877-287-4369**

### **Standards of service to the public**

Statistics Canada is committed to serving its clients in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner and in the official language of their choice. To this end, the agency has developed standards of service that its employees observe in serving its clients. To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

## LIST OF DATA PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

The Small Area and Administrative Data Division of Statistics Canada tabulates statistical data derived from administrative records - most notably, the taxfile. The resulting demographic and socio-economic databanks available are listed in the table below, along with their identifying product number and the usual release dates.

<b>Product name</b>	<b>Product number</b>	<b>Release date</b>
RRSP Contributors	17C0006	November
RRSP Contribution Limits (Room)	17C0011	November
Canadian Savers	17C0009	November
Canadian Investors	17C0007	November
Canadian Investment Income	17C0008	November
Canadian Taxfilers	17C0010	November
Canadian Capital Gains	17C0012	December
Charitable Donors	13C0014	December
Neighbourhood Income and Demographics	13C0015	July
Economic Dependency Profiles	13C0017	July
Labour Income Profiles	71C0018	July
Families	13C0016	July
Seniors	89C0022	July
Migration Estimates	91C0025	September

## REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

The Advisory Services Division of Statistics Canada provides an information dissemination network across the country through nine regional Reference Centres. Each Reference Centre has a collection of current publications and reference documents that can be consulted or purchased, along with microcomputer diskettes, CD-ROMs, maps, and other products. Copying facilities for printed materials are available on site.

Each Reference Centre provides a wide range of additional services. On the one hand, the Dissemination Services: a free telephone inquiries line for the most recent basic data. On the other hand, Advisory Services: identification of your needs, establishing sources or availability of data, consolidation and integration of data coming from different sources and development of profiles, analysis of highlights or tendencies and, finally, training on products, services, Statistics Canada concepts and also the use of statistical data.

For more information, you can call the Reference Centre closest to you by dialling the number on the following page; if you are outside the local calling area, please dial the national toll-free inquiries number and you will be in contact with the Regional Reference Centre serving your area.

National Toll-Free **Inquiries** Line (Canada and United States): 1 800 263-1136

Telecommunications Device for the **Hearing Impaired**: 1 800 363-7629

Toll-Free **Order Only** Line (Canada and United States): 1 800 267-6677

National Toll-Free **Fax Order** Line (Canada and United States): 1 877 287-4369

## ATLANTIC REGION

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Serving the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
1741 Brunswick Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Box 11  
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3X8

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Local calls: (902) 426-5331  
Fax number: (902) 426-9538  
E-mail: [atlantic.info@statcan.ca](mailto:atlantic.info@statcan.ca)

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## QUEBEC REGION

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Serving the province of Quebec (except the National Capital Region) and the territory of Nunavut.

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
200 René Lévesque Blvd. West  
Guy Favreau Complex  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower  
MONTREAL, Quebec  
H2Z 1X4

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Local calls: (514) 283-5725  
Fax number: (514) 283-9350

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## NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

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Serving the National Capital Region.

Statistics Canada  
Statistical Reference Centre  
(National Capital Region)  
R.H. Coats Building, Lobby  
Holland Avenue  
OTTAWA, Ontario  
K1A 0T6

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Local calls: (613) 951-8116  
Fax number: (613) 951-0581  
E-mail: [infostats@statcan.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.ca)

## ONTARIO REGION

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Serving the province of Ontario except the National Capital Region.

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Arthur Meighen Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
25 St. Clair Avenue East  
TORONTO, Ontario  
M4T 1M4

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Local Calls: (416) 973-6586  
Fax number: (416) 973-7475

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## PRAIRIE REGION

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This region has three Reference Centres serving the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Serving the province of Manitoba:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Via Rail Building, Suite 200  
123 Main Street  
WINNIPEG, Manitoba  
R3C 4V9

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1186  
Local calls: (204) 983-4020  
Fax number: (204) 983-7543  
E-mail: [statswpg@Solutions.net](mailto:statswpg@Solutions.net)

Serving the province of Saskatchewan:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Park Plaza, Suite 440  
2365 Albert Street  
REGINA, Saskatchewan  
S4P 4K1

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1186  
Local calls: (306) 780-5405  
Fax number: (306) 780-5403  
E-mail: [statcan@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:statcan@sk.sympatico.ca)

Serving Alberta and the Northwest Territories:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Pacific Plaza, Suite 900  
10909 Jasper Avenue N.W.  
EDMONTON, Alberta  
T5J 4J3

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1186  
Local calls: (780) 495-3027  
Fax number: (780) 495-5318  
E-mail: [ewieall@statcan.ca](mailto:ewieall@statcan.ca)

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## PACIFIC REGION

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Serving the province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory.

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Library Square Office Tower  
600-300 West Georgia Street  
VANCOUVER, British Columbia  
V6B 6C7

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Local calls: (604) 666-3691  
Fax number: (604) 666-4863  
E-mail: [stcvan@statcan.ca](mailto:stcvan@statcan.ca)