



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
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1986 CENSUS

***PUBLIC USE MICRODATA FILE
ON HOUSEHOLDS AND HOUSING***

Documentation and User's Guide

April 1989

***La version française est disponible sur demande
(Fichier de microdonnées à grande diffusion sur les
ménages et les logements).***

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Introduction

The microdata file on households and dwellings, derived from the 1986 Census, contains a wide range of statistical data on the population of Canada, the provinces and most metropolitan areas.

These data are based on a sample of 115,000 households, representing approximately 1% of all households in Canada.

The file provides data on households per se, such as total income of household members, and the dwellings they occupy, such as date of construction. As well, extensive demographic, social and economic information about the household maintainer and his/her spouse, and about the maintainer's economic family are provided.

This file is unique among census products since it allows the users to return to the base unit of the census, enabling them to group data to suit their own requirements. As a result, it is a powerful analytical and research tool.

As it is imperative for Statistics Canada to preserve the confidentiality of the data, some of the information collected during the census are not available in this file.

This document informs users of the content of the file and how to use the computer tape. The reader will also find information on the characteristics of the sample, along with notes on the reliability of the estimates derived from the data.

Two other microdata files from the 1986 Census will also be available. One contains data on individuals, while the other provides data on families. These are expected to become available late in 1989. Similar files can also be obtained for the 1971, 1976 and 1981 Censuses.

For more information, or to order these products, please refer to Chapter 3.

Chapter 1 - Content

This chapter lists and describes the approximately 100 variables contained in the Household and Housing Public Use Microdata File. The record layout of the file is contained in Appendix A.

Overview of the Contents

An overview of the contents of the file is presented in Table A. The information is organized according to four themes:

- dwellings
- households
- household maintainer and spouse
- household maintainer's economic family.

The index lists each variable by order of appearance in the file (page 11) and by alphabetical order (page 15).

Description of Variables

The reader will also find in this chapter detailed information on each variable. In particular, a description of:

- the concept
- the universe (the group covered as well as all exclusions)
- the categories of a variable.

Caution must be exercised with the use and interpretation of some variables, such as the concept of household maintainer. In these cases, the reader is referred to Chapter 2 for associated data quality notes.

Confidentiality of Data

It is imperative that Statistics Canada preserve the confidentiality of the information collected. Considering the nature of the microdata file, special measures must be taken to meet this objective:

- (i) **Reduced Level of Detail:** Small geographic area identifiers for households are not given. It is also not possible to provide as detailed information on household characteristics as it is in other census products that present aggregate data. Some data have been aggregated, providing the maximum detail without disclosure, while maintaining the analytical value of the data. For example, the variable "Occupation of household maintainer" would not indicate "Physician", but rather the more general classification "Medical and Health Occupations". This category would also include other medical occupations, such as "Nurse".
- (ii) **Data Suppression:** To further protect the confidentiality of responses, categories which contain few persons must occasionally be suppressed. In these cases, the label "Not Available" is included in the description of the variable. In addition to suppression, other special techniques are applied. Income data are rounded to respect pre-established high and low revenue limits. Further information on income data is provided in Chapter 2.

TABLE A
OVERVIEW OF CONTENT

	PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLD MAINTAINER'S ECONOMIC FAMILY
	Page	Page
Number of Persons by Age Group	24	116
Size	34	-
Composition	35	114, 115, 121
Number of Unattached Persons in Household	36	-
Number of Economic Families in Household	37	-
Number of Lodgers in Household	38	-
Number of Employment Income Recipients	39	122
Number of Income Recipients	40	123
Income Status of Maintainer's Economic Family and Incidence of Low Income	-	124
Major Source of Income	41	125
Total Employment Income	42	126
Total Investment Income	43	127
Total Government Transfer Payments	44	128
All Other Income	45	129
Total Income	46	130

OCCUPIED PRIVATE
DWELLINGS

	Page
Structural Type	49
Period of Construction	50
Tenure	51
Presence of Mortgage	52
Tenure - Condominium	53
Number of Rooms	54
Main Type of Heating Equipment	55
Principal Heating Fuel	56
Value of Dwelling	57

SHELTER COSTS

	Page
Monthly Gross Rent	58
Monthly Cash Rent	59
Owner's Major Payments (Monthly)	60
Monthly Payments for Principal, Interest and Property Taxes	61

	HOUSEHOLD MAINTAINER	MAINTAINER'S SPOUSE
	Page	Page
Demographic		
Age	62	89
Sex	63	90
Marital Status	64	91
Mobility Status	71	96
Cultural		
Place of Birth	66	91
Ethnic Origin	67	92
Period of Immigration	68	95
Mother Tongue	69	93
Official Language	70	94
Schooling		
Highest Level of Schooling	72	97
Labour Force		
Occupation	73	98
Activity	75	100
Class of Worker	77	102
Weeks Worked in 1985	79	104
Work Activity in 1985	80	105
Income		
Major Source of Income	81	106
Employment Income	82	107
Investment Income	83	108
Government Transfer Payments	84	109
Retirement Pensions and Other Money Income	85	110
Total Income	86	111
Family		
Economic Family Status	65	-

List of Variables by Order in which they Appear in File

Variable	Page
Identification and Geography	
Province	19
Urban/Rural Code	20
Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) Code	21
Household Weight	23
Private Households	
Indicator of Persons 0-4 Years of Age	24
Indicator of Persons 0-17 Years of Age	25
Number of Persons Under 5 Years of Age	26
Number of Males 5 to 17 Years of Age	27
Number of Females 5 to 17 Years of Age	28
Number of Persons 18 to 24 Years of Age	29
Number of Persons 25 to 59 Years of Age	30
Number of Persons 60 to 64 Years of Age	31
Number of Persons 65 to 74 Years of Age	32
Number of Persons 75 Years of Age and Over	33
Household Size	34
Household Composition	35
Number of Unattached Individuals	36
Number of Economic Families	37
Number of Lodgers	38
Number of Employment Income Recipients	39
Number of Income Recipients	40
Major Source of Household Income	41
Total Household Employment Income	42
Total Household Investment Income	43
Total Household Government Transfer Payments	44
All Other Household Income	45
Total Household Income	46
Occupied Private Dwellings	
Structural Type of Dwelling	49
Period of Construction	50
Tenure	51
Presence of Mortgage	52
Tenure - Condominium	53
Number of Rooms	54
Main Type of Heating Equipment	55
Principal Heating Fuel	56
Value of Dwelling	57

List of Variables by Order in which they Appear in File - Continued

Variable	Page
Shelter Costs	
Monthly Gross Rent	58
Monthly Cash Rent	59
Owner's Major Payments (Monthly)	60
Monthly Payments for Principal, Interest and Property Taxes	61
Household Maintainer	
Age	62
Sex	63
Marital Status	64
Household Maintainer's Economic Family Status	65
Place of Birth	66
Ethnic Origin	67
Period of Immigration	68
Mother Tongue	69
Official Language	70
Mobility Status	71
Highest Level of Schooling	72
Occupation	73
Labour Force Activity	75
Class of Worker	77
Weeks Worked in 1985	79
Work Activity in 1985	80
Major Source of Income	81
Employment Income	82
Investment Income	83
Government Transfer Payments	84
Retirement Pensions and Other Money Income	85
Total Income	86
Maintainer's Spouse	
Age	89
Sex	90
Place of Birth	91
Ethnic Origin	92
Mother Tongue	93
Official Language	94
Period of Immigration	95
Mobility Status	96
Highest Level of Schooling	97
Occupation	98
Labour Force Activity	100
Class of Worker	102
Weeks Worked in 1985	104

List of Variables by Order in which they Appear in File - Concluded

Variable	Page
Maintainer's Spouse - Concluded	
Work Activity in 1985	105
Major Source of Income	106
Employment Income	107
Investment Income	108
Government Transfer Payments	109
Retirement Pensions and Other Money Income	110
Total Income	111
Maintainer's Economic Family	
Number of Persons in Economic Family	114
Number of Adults	115
Number of Persons 65 Years of Age and Over	116
Number of Persons Under 6 Years of Age	117
Number of Persons 6 to 15 Years of Age	118
Number of Persons 16 to 17 Years of Age	119
Number of Persons 18 to 24 Years of Age	120
Economic Family Composition	121
Number of Employment Income Recipients	122
Number of Income Recipients	123
Income Status of Maintainer's Economic Family and Incidence of Low Income	124
Major Source of Family Income	125
Total Family Employment Income	126
Family Investment Income	127
Total Family Government Transfer Payments	128
All Other Family Income	129
Total Family Income	130

List of Variables by Alphabetical Order

Variable	Page
Identification and Geography	
Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) Code	21
Household Weight	23
Province	19
Urban/Rural Code	20
Private Households	
All Other Household Income	45
Household Composition	35
Household Size	34
Indicator of Persons 0-4 Years of Age	24
Indicator of Persons 0-17 Years of Age	25
Major Source of Household Income	41
Number of Economic Families	37
Number of Employment Income Recipients	39
Number of Females 5-17 Years of Age	28
Number of Income Recipients	40
Number of Lodgers	38
Number of Males 5-17 Years of Age	27
Number of Persons Under 5 Years of Age	26
Number of Persons 18 to 24 Years of Age	29
Number of Persons 25 to 59 Years of Age	30
Number of Persons 60 to 64 Years of Age	31
Number of Persons 65 to 74 Years of Age	32
Number of Persons 75 Years of Age and Over	33
Number of Unattached Individuals	36
Total Household Employment Income	42
Total Household Government Transfer Payments	44
Total Household Income	46
Total Household Investment Income	43
Occupied Private Dwellings	
Main Type of Heating Equipment	55
Number of Rooms	54
Period of Construction	50
Presence of Mortgage	52
Principal Heating Fuel	56

List of Variables by Alphabetical Order - Continued

Variable	Page
Occupied Private Dwellings - Concluded	
Structural Type of Dwelling	49
Tenure	51
Tenure - Condominium	53
Value of Dwelling	57
Shelter Costs	
Monthly Cash Rent	59
Monthly Gross Rent	58
Monthly Payments for Principal, Interest and Property Taxes	61
Owner's Major Payments (Monthly)	60
Household Maintainer	
Age	62
Class of Worker	77
Employment Income	82
Ethnic Origin	67
Government Transfer Payments	84
Highest Level of Schooling	72
Household Maintainer's Economic Family Status	65
Investment Income	83
Labour Force Activity	75
Major Source of Income	81
Marital Status	64
Mobility Status	71
Mother Tongue	69
Occupation	73
Official Language	70
Period of Immigration	68
Place of Birth	66
Retirement Pensions and Other Money Income	85
Sex	63
Total Income	86
Weeks Worked in 1985	79
Work Activity in 1985	80

List of Variables by Alphabetical Order - Concluded

Variable	Page
Maintainer's Spouse	
Age	89
Class of Worker	102
Employment Income	107
Ethnic Origin	92
Government Transfer Payments	109
Highest Level of Schooling	97
Investment Income	108
Labour Force Activity	100
Major Source of Income	106
Mobility Status	96
Mother Tongue	93
Occupation	98
Official Language	94
Period of Immigration	95
Place of Birth	91
Retirement Pensions and Other Money Income	110
Sex	90
Total Income	111
Weeks Worked in 1985	104
Work Activity in 1985	105
Maintainer's Economic Family	
All Other Family Income	129
Economic Family Composition	121
Family Investment Income	127
Income Status of Maintainer's Economic Family and Incidence of Low Income	124
Major Source of Family Income	125
Number of Adults	115
Number of Employment Income Recipients	122
Number of Income Recipients	123
Number of Persons in Economic Family	114
Number of Persons Under 6 Years of Age	117
Number of Persons 6 to 15 Years of Age	118
Number of Persons 16 to 17 Years of Age	119
Number of Persons 18 to 24 Years of Age	120
Number of Persons 65 Years of Age and Over	116
Total Family Employment Income	126
Total Family Government Transfer Payments	128
Total Family Income	130