

EVDS 628: Census Data Workshop

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Overview

Introduction to the Census of Canada

Census Geography

Census data sources



What is a Census?

- Survey that collects data from all members of a population
- in Canada the "de jure" method is used rather than the "de facto"
- Conducted every 5 years (since 1956)
- Since 1941, sampling has been used for the "long form" part



Purpose of the Census

- Governed by the Statistics Act
- Used to determine the number of seats in parliament
- Used to adjust federal electoral district boundaries to achieve equal representation
- Population estimates for transfer payments
- Support decision making, planning public services
- and much more...



Historical Census Firsts

- 1666 first census in New France
- 1851 first decennial census
- 1871 first census after Constitution Act
- 1906 first census of province of Alberta
- 1956 first national quinquennial census
- 2006 first online questionnaire
- 2011 elimination of long form questionnaire
- 2016 reinstatement of long form questionnaire



Evolution of Census Questions

- 1931 questions on home appliances including radios
- 1941 question on flush toilets & running water
- 1951 question on wartime service
- 1976 head of household definition changed
- 2001 question on same-sex couples
- 2006 92 year question on personal information

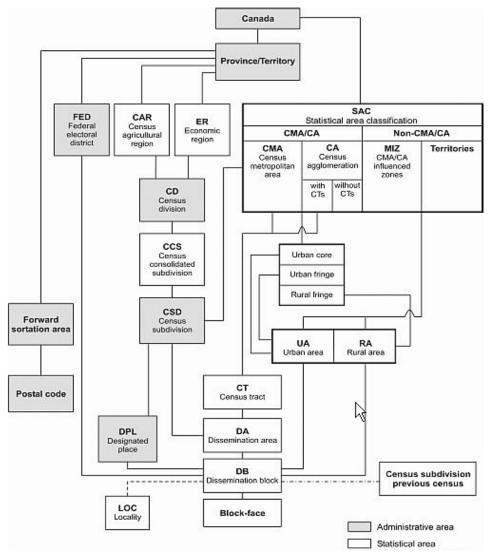


Census Universes

- Dwellings structures
- Households
- Families (economic & census)
- Individuals



Census Geography



- CensusMetropolitan Area
- Census Subdivision
- Census Tract



Census Divisions & Subdivisions

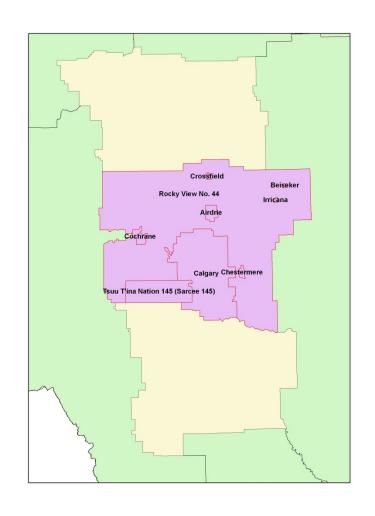
- Province Alberta (48)
- Census Division No. 6
- Census Subdivision Calgary
- Census Code = 4806016





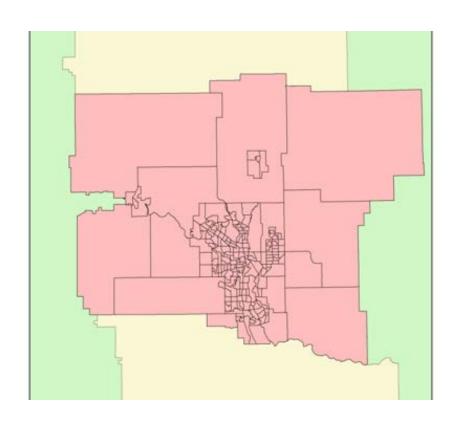
Calgary CMA vs. Calgary CSD

- Calgary CMA containscensus subdivisions
- Calgary CMA population in 2016 is 1,392,609
- Calgary CSD population in 2016 is 1,239,220





Calgary CMA (825) – Census Tracts

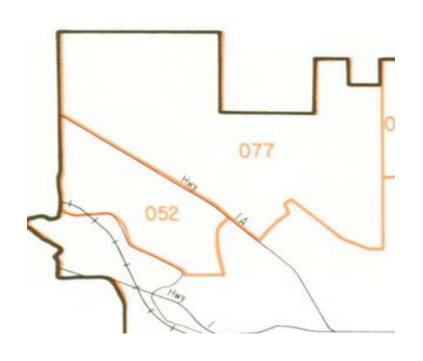


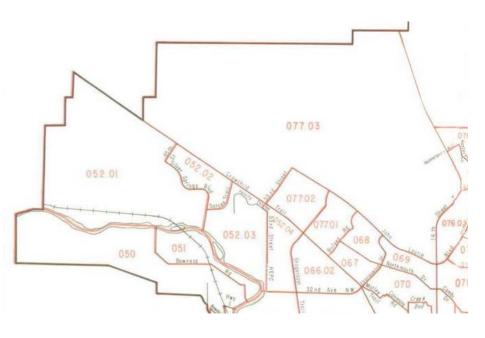
- Created by local specialists
- 2500-8000 population
- Fairly homogeneous
- Follow physical features
- Relatively stable
- Splits reflect changes (decimal numbers)

Changes in Census Tracts

1976 Census Tracts

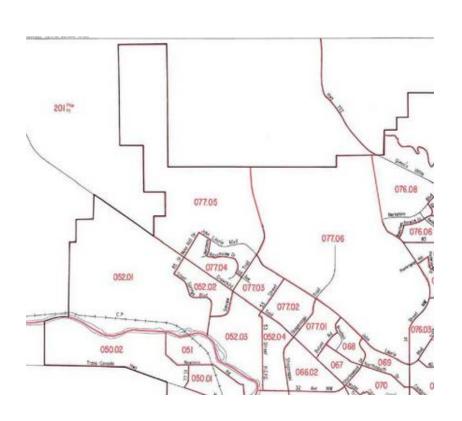
1981 Census Tracts



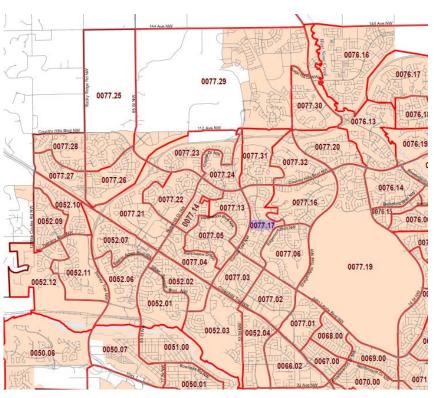


Changes in Census Tracts

1986 Census Tracts



2016 Census Tracts





Community vs. Census Tract

http://arcg.is/19Orar

Note: O is a capital "oh" and NOT zero



Census Data Source and Guide

Statistics Canada Census Program

Canadian Census Analyzer (UofT)

- Guide to the Census (LibGuide)
 - Access to project data (1986-2011 Calgary census tract data) under "Class Data" tab



Requiring Assistance

- Drop by Spatial & Numeric Data Services
- Contact me at ppeller@ucalgary.ca
- I am also available for one-on-one consultations
 - please email and book an appointment.