

Catalogue no. 92-196-X

Geography Catalogue



Census year 2011



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Geography Catalogue

Census year 2011

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada

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February 2012

Catalogue no. 92-196-X

ISBN 978-1-100-20068-2

Frequency: occasional

Ottawa

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.

Purpose of this document

The *Geography Catalogue* contains information found in the Statistics Canada online catalogue. In addition, it provides highlights of what is new about geographic products, illustrations of several products, a glossary of geographic terms, a geographic hierarchy diagram and a table showing the number of geographic units by province and territory.

For further information, contact us through the National inquiries line at 1-800-263-1136 or by e-mail at infostats@statcan.gc.ca.

Table of contents

Purpose of this document.....	4
General information	7
1. Reference documents.....	8
Illustrated Glossary.....	8
Geography Catalogue	8
Geography definitions (2011 Census Dictionary)	8
Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names.....	9
Reference guides	9
2. Attribute information products	10
Postal Code Conversion File.....	10
Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File	10
GeoSuite	11
Geographic Attribute File	12
Correspondence Files	12
3. Spatial information products	13
Boundary Files	13
Province and Territory Boundary Files	15
Census Division Boundary Files.....	15
Census Consolidated Subdivision Boundary Files.....	15
Census Subdivision Boundary Files.....	16
Economic Region Boundary Files	16
Census Metropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration Boundary Files	16
Federal Electoral District Boundary Files	17
Census Tract Boundary Files.....	17
Designated Place Boundary Files	18
Population Centre Boundary Files.....	18
Dissemination Area Boundary Files	19
Dissemination Block Boundary Files	19
Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary Files.....	19
Census Agricultural Region Boundary Files.....	23
Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File	23
Agricultural Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File	24
Road Network File.....	25
4. Maps	26
Reference Maps	26
National Reference Maps	26
Census Division and Census Subdivision Reference Maps	27
Census Tract Reference Maps, by Census Metropolitan Areas or Census Agglomerations	28
Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tracts, for Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations	30
Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Non-tracted Census Agglomerations	33
Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Subdivisions, for areas outside Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations	34
Thematic Maps.....	35
GeoSearch	36
5. Custom services	38
Custom Area Creation.....	38
Custom Product Creation	38
Custom Map Creation	38
Print-on-demand.....	38

Appendix A Glossary.....	39
Appendix B Hierarchy of standard geographic units for dissemination, 2011 Census	45
Appendix C Geographic units by province and territory, 2011 Census.....	46
Appendix D Census subdivision types by province and territory, 2011 Census.....	47

General information

To meet its mandate, Statistics Canada is required to 'collect, compile, analyse, abstract and publish statistical information relating to the commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic and general activities and conditions of the people of Canada' as well as to 'take the census of population of Canada and the census of agriculture of Canada' as provided in the Statistics Act.

The Geography Division of Statistics Canada maintains a spatially referenced geographic database in support of the Census of Population and Census of Agriculture, the National Household Survey, the Standard Geographical Classification and other Statistics Canada programs. The Geography Division also develops geographical concepts, delineates geographic areas, publishes maps and other reference materials, produces files, and offers a variety of services.

For the 2011 Census, the geography product line includes geography concepts, enhancements to existing products, and a greater presence on the website. Geographic products are available in a variety of formats and are available on the Statistics Canada website.

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada to finalize the geographic framework for which 2011 Census statistical data are collected, tabulated and reported. The reference date for 2011 Census standard geographic areas is January 1, 2011. More specifically, the census reports data according to the geographic areas (e.g., municipalities and equivalents referred to as census subdivisions) that are in effect on January 1, 2011, provided that Statistics Canada receives the information on the changes by March 1, 2011 (see *2011 Census Dictionary* – Geographic reference date for more details).

The *Geography Catalogue, Census year 2011* presents the content of the 2011 Census geography product and service line and highlights changes within the geography product and service line. The *Geography Catalogue* is organised into the following categories of products and services:

1. Reference documents
2. Attribute information products
3. Spatial information products
4. Maps
5. Custom services

A glossary and a table showing geographic units by province and territory are included as appendices.

Effective February 3, 2011, the term 'population centre' replaced the term 'urban area.' Population centres are classified into one of three groups based on the size of their population. For more information, see the note entitled *From urban areas to population centres* (www.statcan.gc.ca/subjects-sujets/standard-norme/sgc-cgt/urban-urbain-eng.htm). In addition, the terms 'urban core', 'urban fringe' and 'rural fringe' are replaced by the terms 'core', 'fringe' and 'rural area.'

Most products listed in the *Geography Catalogue, Census year 2011*, are available for free on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

1. Reference documents

Reference documents help users gain a better understanding of geographic concepts, products and services appropriate to their census and other data needs.

Illustrated Glossary

The Illustrated Glossary is a tool that helps users take advantage of census statistical data by providing an understanding of the terms related to geographic concepts. Geography is important to the national statistical system as well-defined geographic areas provide the framework for the collection, presentation and analysis of data. Users can access the Illustrated Glossary which presents geographic concepts as well as links to online tutorials and detailed definitions.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-195-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-195-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
HTML	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001

Geography Catalogue

The *Geography Catalogue* contains information found in the Statistics Canada online catalogue. In addition, it provides highlights of what is new about geographic products, illustrations of several products, a glossary of geographic terms, a geographic hierarchy diagram and a table showing the number of geographic units by province and territory.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-196-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-196-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
HTML, PDF	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996

Geography definitions (2011 Census Dictionary)

The Geography section of the *2011 Census Dictionary* provides an overview of what is new for the 2011 Census and the definitions for geographic concepts and other terms. The definitions include a detailed description of each term, delineation rules, special notes, data quality information or applications relevant to the term. Some historical information is also provided. The dictionary also includes a comprehensive subject index.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
98-301-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
98-301-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
HTML, PDF	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996

Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names

The *Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names* provides a summary of the changes to municipal boundaries, status and names that occurred within a given time period. The Geography Division of Statistics Canada processes the municipal changes based on information received through provincial/territorial gazettes, letters patent and orders-in-council. Changes occurring within the given time period that are not identified by Statistics Canada are not included within the Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names. The 2011 Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names provides a summary of changes that occurred between January 2, 2006 and January 1, 2011.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92F0009XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92F0009XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
HTML, PDF	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001

Reference guides

Most geography products are accompanied with a reference guide that describes the content, applications, data quality and record layouts.

For 2011, one reference guide covers all reference map series as well as thematic maps.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
Various	English	Beginning November 29, 2011
Various	French	Beginning November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
HTML, PDF	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996

Table 1.1 2011 Census Geography product reference guides

Catalogue number	Title	Release date
92-143-G	Reference Maps and Thematic Maps, Reference Guide	February 8, 2012
92-150-G	GeoSuite, Reference Guide	February 8, 2012
92-151-G	Geographic Attribute File, Reference Guide	February 8, 2012
92-153-G	Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), Reference Guide	To be determined
92-156-G	Correspondence Files, Reference Guide	November 29, 2011
92-159-G	Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File, Reference Guide	February 8, 2012
92-160-G	Boundary Files, Reference Guide (first edition)	November 29, 2011
92-160-G	Boundary Files, Reference Guide (second edition)	February 8, 2012
92-170-G	Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary File, Reference Guide	To be determined
92-500-G	Road Network File, Reference Guide	November 29, 2011
92F0193G	Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF), Reference Guide	To be determined

2. Attribute information products

Attribute information products include the Postal Code Conversion File, the Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File, GeoSuite, the Geographic Attribute File and Correspondence Files. Users are encouraged to read the reference guides that accompany geography products for more details.

Postal Code Conversion File

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) is an ASCII file that provides a link between the six-character postal code and standard census geographic areas (such as dissemination areas, census subdivisions and census tracts). By linking postal codes to Statistics Canada standard geographic areas, the file facilitates the extraction and subsequent aggregation of data for selected 2011 Census geographic areas.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-153-XCB	Bilingual	To be determined
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ASCII	1 National	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is an ASCII file that provides a link between the six-character postal code and federal electoral districts (2003 Representation Order). A federal electoral district, commonly referred to as a federal riding, is the area represented by a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (2003 Representation Order) (PCFRF), Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92F0193XCB	Bilingual	To be determined
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ASCII	1 National	2011, 2006, 2001

GeoSuite

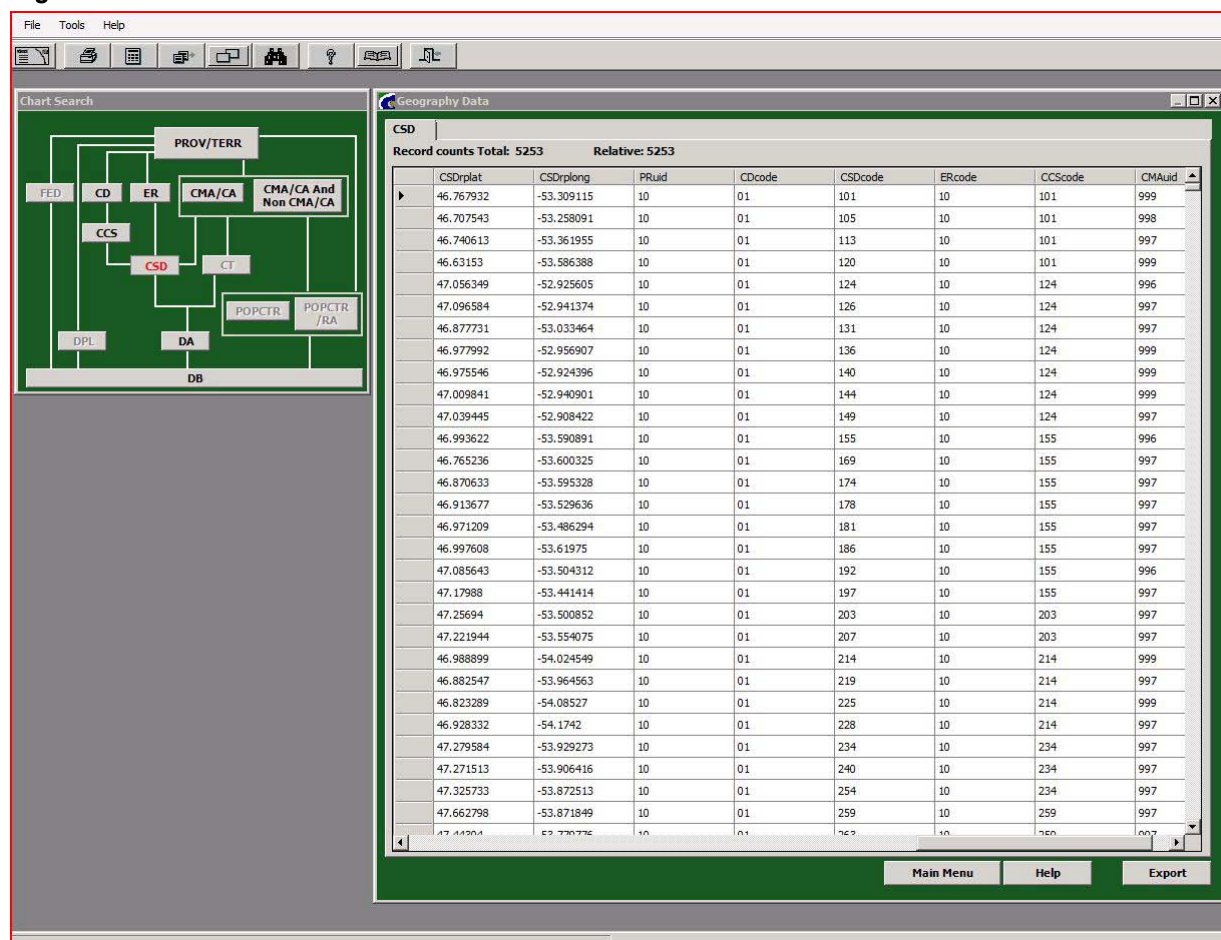
GeoSuite is a powerful search tool based on 2011 Census standard geographic areas. With GeoSuite, users may retrieve and query data, explore the links between geographic areas, obtain information on those areas and output data in tabular format. The information available includes 2011 population counts, 2011 dwelling counts, representative point coordinates, land area, geographic codes, names and, in some cases, 2006 Census population counts. GeoSuite includes a dissemination area reference map listing that facilitates identification of appropriate dissemination area reference maps.

GeoSuite includes 39 tables packaged in a Microsoft Access database along with a user interface, which are available in a single zipped file. GeoSuite is no longer disseminated in pre-cut CD-ROM format.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *GeoSuite, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-150-XBB	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
VB.net and MDB database	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 2.1 View of GeoSuite 2011: chart search



Geographic Attribute File

The Geographic Attribute File contains data at the dissemination block level, based on 2011 Census standard geographic areas. The data available include population counts, dwelling counts, and land area. In addition, the Geographic Attribute File contains higher level standard geographic codes, names and, where applicable, types and classes. Data for higher level standard geographic areas can be derived by aggregating dissemination block level data. The dissemination area representative point coordinates are also included in the Geographic Attribute File.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Geographic Attribute File, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-151-XBB	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ASCII, Excel	1	2011, 2006

Correspondence Files

Three different 2011 Census correspondence files provide users with tabular data that describes the correspondence between 2011 Census and 2006 Census standard geographic areas.

The Dissemination Area Correspondence File portrays the relationship between 2011 Census dissemination areas and 2006 Census dissemination areas. The Dissemination Area and Land Area Correspondence File portrays the percentage of the 2011 Census dissemination area's land area within the boundaries of 2006 Census dissemination areas. The Dissemination Block Correspondence File portrays the relationship between 2011 Census dissemination blocks and 2006 Census dissemination blocks.

Each file contains a unique identifier for the 2011 Census geographic area and the corresponding unique identifier for the 2006 Census geographic area. In addition, a relationship flag is included which indicates the degree of correspondence between the geographic areas, facilitating a comparison between census years.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Correspondence Files, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-156-XBB	Bilingual	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ASCII, Excel	3	2011, 2006

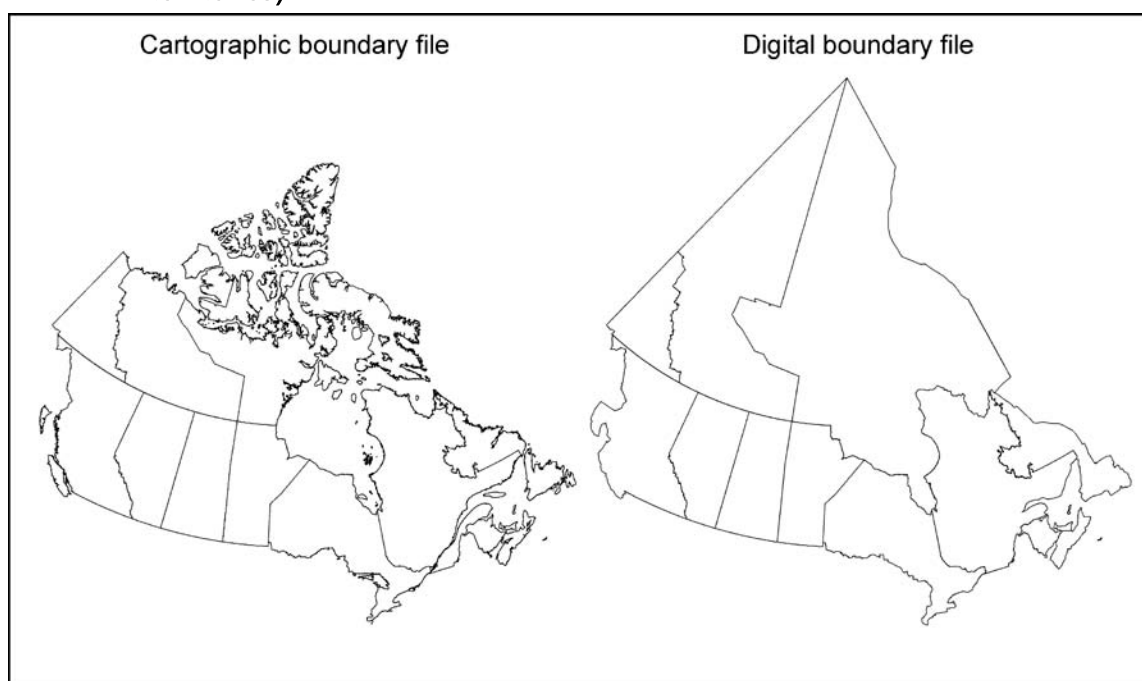
3. Spatial information products

Spatial information products provide the shape and location of geographic features. Geographic boundaries and road networks are available for mapping and geographic information system applications.

Boundary Files

There are two types of boundary files: cartographic and digital. Cartographic boundary files portray the geographic areas using only the major land mass of Canada and its coastal islands. Digital boundary files portray the full extent of the geographic areas, including the coastal water area. Figure 3.1 illustrates an example of cartographic and digital boundary files.

Figure 3.1 Example of a cartographic boundary file and a digital boundary file (provinces and territories)



New for the 2011 Census, within each boundary file the unique identifiers, names and types of all higher level geographic areas (where applicable) within the geographic hierarchy are included, where available at the time of release. See Table 3.1 for boundary file content.

Separate hydrographic reference files for inland rivers (line), inland lakes and rivers (polygon), and coastal waters are also available. These files can be used for additional reference purposes when mapping or displaying the boundaries using either the cartographic or digital boundary files.

Cartographic and digital boundary files are available for the following 2011 Census standard geographic areas:

- Province and Territory
- Census Division
- Census Consolidated Subdivision
- Census Subdivision
- Economic Region
- Census Metropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration
- Federal Electoral District
- Census Tract
- Designated Place
- Population Centre
- Dissemination Area
- Dissemination Block
- Census Forward Sortation Area
- Census Agricultural Region

Cartographic and digital boundary files are portrayed in latitude and longitude coordinates (North American Datum of 1983 [NAD83]); see figure 3.2.

Figure 3.2 Example of a map projection and unprojected coordinates

Lambert conformal conic projection



Latitude/Longitude coordinates



To learn more details about these products, please consult the *Boundary Files, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Province and Territory Boundary Files

The Province and Territory Boundary Files portray the boundaries of the 10 provinces and 3 territories for which census data are disseminated. Provinces and territories are the major political (legislated) areas of Canada. The files contain the boundaries of all provinces and territories which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Census Division Boundary Files

The Census Division Boundary Files portray the census division boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A census division is a unit of regional government (such as a county or regional district) or an area treated as equivalent for statistical purposes. A census division is usually made up of a number of adjacent census subdivisions (municipalities). The files contain the boundaries of all census divisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Census Consolidated Subdivision Boundary Files

The Census Consolidated Subdivision Boundary Files portray the census consolidated subdivision boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A census consolidated subdivision is a grouping of adjacent census subdivisions (municipalities) used primarily for disseminating Census of Agriculture data. The files contain the boundaries of all census consolidated subdivisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Census Subdivision Boundary Files

The Census Subdivision Boundary Files portray the census subdivision boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A census subdivision is a municipality or an area treated as equivalent to a municipality for statistical purposes (for example, Indian reserves and unorganized territories). Municipal status is defined by laws in effect in each province and territory in Canada. The files contain the boundaries of all census subdivisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Economic Region Boundary Files

The Economic Region Boundary Files portray the economic region boundaries for which census data are disseminated. An economic region is a grouping of complete census divisions (with an exception in Ontario) created as a standard geographic area for analysis of regional economic activity. The files contain the boundaries of all economic regions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Census Metropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration Boundary Files

The Census Metropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration Boundary Files portray the boundaries of the census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations for which census data are disseminated. Census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations consist of one or more adjacent municipalities (census subdivisions) around a core. To form a census metropolitan area, the core must have a population of at least 50,000 and the entire census metropolitan area must have a total population of at least 100,000. To form a census agglomeration, the core must have a population of at least 10,000. The files contain the boundaries of all census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations defined for the census. Census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations crossing provincial boundaries appear in the boundary files in provincial parts.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-160-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Federal Electoral District Boundary Files

The Federal Electoral District Boundary Files portray the federal electoral district boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A federal electoral district is an area represented by a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons. The federal electoral district boundaries used for the 2011 Census are based on the 2003 Representation Order. The files contain the boundaries of all federal electoral districts which combined cover all of Canada. The Federal Electoral District boundary file portrays the federal electoral districts in effect on January 1, 2011.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-171-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-171-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Census Tract Boundary Files

The Census Tract Boundary Files portray the census tract boundaries for which census data are disseminated. Census tracts are small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population between 2,500 and 8,000. They are located in census metropolitan areas and in census agglomerations with a core population of 50,000 or more in the previous census. The files contain the boundaries of all census tracts located within the census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations for which census tracts are delineated.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-168-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-168-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991

Designated Place Boundary Files

The Designated Place Boundary Files portray the designated place boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A designated place is normally a small community or settlement that does not meet the criteria established by Statistics Canada to be a census subdivision (municipalities) or a population centre. Designated places are created by provinces and territories, in cooperation with Statistics Canada, to provide data for submunicipal areas. The files contain the boundaries of all designated places defined for the census.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-165-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-165-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001

Population Centre Boundary Files

The Population Centre Boundary Files portray the population centre boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A population centre has a minimum population of 1,000 persons and a population density of at least 400 persons per square kilometre, based on the current census population count. The files contain the boundaries of all population centres defined for the census. Population centres crossing provincial boundaries appear in the boundary files in provincial parts.

Effective February 3, 2011, the term 'population centre' replaced the term 'urban area.' Population centres are classified into one of three groups based on the size of their population. For more information, see the note entitled *From urban areas to population centres* (www.statcan.gc.ca/subjects-sujets/standard-norme/sgc-cgt/urban-urbain-eng.htm).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-166-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-166-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Census
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011

Dissemination Area Boundary Files

The Dissemination Area Boundary Files portray the dissemination area boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A dissemination area is a small area composed of one or more neighbouring blocks. The files contain the boundaries of all dissemination areas which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-169-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-169-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001

Dissemination Block Boundary Files

The Dissemination Block Boundary Files portray the dissemination block boundaries for which census data are disseminated. A dissemination block is an area bounded on all sides by roads and/or boundaries of standard geographic areas. The files contain the boundaries of all dissemination blocks which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-163-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-163-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006

Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary Files

The Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary Files portray the census forward sortation area boundaries for which census data are disseminated. They depict forward sortation area boundaries used for census dissemination, which are derived from postal codes obtained from census questionnaires. The census-based forward sortation area boundaries are not necessarily equivalent to forward sortation area boundaries in use by Canada Post Corporation, they are representations created by aggregating dissemination blocks.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-170-XWE	English	To be determined
92-170-XWF	French	To be determined
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006

See Table 3.1 for boundary file content for the 2011 Census.

Table 3.1 Content of Boundary files

Attribute	Description	Size	PR	CD	CCS	CSD	ER	CMA/CA	FED	CT	DPL	POPCTR	DA	DB	CFSA
Province or Territory Unique identifier	Uniquely identifies a province or territory.	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Province or Territory Name	Province or territory name.	55	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Province or Territory Name, English	Province or territory name in English.	30	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Province or Territory Name, French	Province or territory name in French.	30	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Province or Territory Abbreviated Name, English	English abbreviation of the province or territory name.	10	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Province or Territory Abbreviated Name, French	French abbreviation of the province or territory name.	10	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Census Division Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census division (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code).	4	...	X	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Division Name	Census division name.	40	...	X	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Division Type	Census division type.	3	...	X	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Economic Region Unique identifier	Uniquely identifies an economic region (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit economic region code).	4	...	...	...	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Economic Region Name	Economic region name.	85	...	...	...	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Consolidated Subdivision Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census consolidated subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census consolidated subdivision code).	7	...	...	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Consolidated Subdivision Name	Census consolidated subdivision name.	55	...	...	X	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Subdivision Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census subdivision code).	7	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Subdivision Name	Census subdivision name.	55	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Subdivision Type	Census subdivisions are classified according to designations adopted by provincial or territorial or federal authorities.	3	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census metropolitan area or census agglomeration.	3	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration Name	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration name.	100	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration Type	A one-character field identifying whether the unit is a census metropolitan area, a tracted census agglomeration or a non-tracted census agglomeration.	1	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...

Table 3.1 Content of Boundary files (continued)

Attribute	Description	Size	PR	CD	CCS	CSD	ER	CMA/CA	FED	CT	DPL	POPCTR	DA	DB	CFSA
Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial or territorial part of a census metropolitan area or census agglomeration (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit census metropolitan area or census agglomeration unique identifier).	5	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...
Statistical Area Classification Type	The Statistical Area Classification groups census subdivisions according to whether they are a component of a census metropolitan area, a census agglomeration, a census metropolitan area and census agglomeration influenced zone or the territories.	1	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Statistical Area Classification Code	The 3-digit Statistical Area Classification code.	3	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Federal Electoral District Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a federal electoral district (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit federal electoral district code).	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	X	...
Federal Electoral District Name	Federal electoral district name.	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	X	...
Federal Electoral District Name, English	Federal electoral district name in English.	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...
Federal Electoral District Name, French	Federal electoral district name in French.	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...
Census Tract Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census tract within a census metropolitan area or census agglomeration (composed of the 3-digit census metropolitan area or census agglomeration unique identifier followed by the 7.2-character census tract name).	10.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	X	X	...
Census Tract Name	Every census tract is assigned a 7.2-character numeric 'name' (including leading zeros, a decimal point and trailing zeros).	7.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	X	X	...
Designated Place Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a designated place (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 4-digit designated place code).	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...
Designated Place Name	Designated place name.	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...
Designated Place Type	Designated place type.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...
Population Centre Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a population centre.	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...
Population Centre Name	Population centre name.	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...
Population Centre Type	Population centre type.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...
Population Centre Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial or territorial part of a population centre (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 4-digit population centre unique identifier).	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...
Population Centre Size Class	Distinguishes between small population centres, medium population centres and large urban population centres.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...

Table 3.1 Content of Boundary files (continued)

Attribute	Description	Size	PR	CD	CCS	CSD	ER	CMA/CA	FED	CT	DPL	POPCTR	DA	DB	CFSA
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code).	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Dissemination Block Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a dissemination block (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code, the 4-digit dissemination area code and the 2-digit dissemination block code).	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...
Dissemination Block Representative Point Latitude Coordinate	Dissemination block representative point latitude coordinate, in decimal degrees.	9.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...
Dissemination Block Representative Point Longitude Coordinate	Dissemination block representative point longitude coordinate, in decimal degrees.	11.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...
Census Forward Sortation Area Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census forward sortation area (composed of 3 alphanumeric characters).	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X
Census Forward Sortation Area Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial or territorial part of a census forward sortation area (composed of the 2-digit province or territory unique identifier followed by the 3-character census forward sortation area unique identifier).	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X

... not applicable

X attribute for 2011 Census
PR Province or territory
CD Census division
CCS Census consolidated subdivision
CSD Census subdivision
ER Economic region
CMA/CA Census metropolitan area and census agglomeration
FED Federal electoral district
CT Census tract
DPL Designated place
POPCTR Population centre
DA Dissemination area
DB Dissemination block
CFSA Census forward sortation area

Census Agricultural Region Boundary Files

The Census Agricultural Region Boundary Files portray the census agricultural region boundaries for which Census of Agriculture data are disseminated. A census agricultural region is formed with one or several adjacent census division(s), with the exception of Saskatchewan, where it is a grouping of adjacent census consolidated subdivisions. Census agricultural regions are used primarily for disseminating Census of Agriculture data. The files contain the boundaries of all census agricultural regions which, when combined, cover all ten provinces of Canada.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Census Agricultural Region Boundary File Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
95-637-XWE	English	May 10, 2012
95-637-XWF	French	May 10, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981

Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File

The Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File contains a generalised population ecumene based on census population density data with at least one ecumene polygon appearing within every census division. This file can be used to produce small-scale thematic maps of statistical data.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-159-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-159-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006

Figure 3.3 Example of an ecumene mask with the provinces and territories generalized cartographic boundary file



Agricultural Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File

The Agricultural Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File contains a generalised agricultural ecumene displaying areas of significant agricultural activity, with polygons split by census division. This file can be used to produce small-scale thematic maps of agricultural statistical data.

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Agricultural Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
95-639-XWE	English	May 10, 2012
95-639-XWF	French	May 10, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006, 2001

Road Network File

The 2011 Road Network File is a digital representation of Canada's national road network. It contains information such as street names, types, directions and address ranges.

Streets are ranked according to five levels of detail, suitable for mapping at small to medium scales. User applications of this file may include mapping, geocoding, geographic searching, area delineation, and database maintenance as a source for street names and locations. Since statistical activities do not require absolute positional accuracy, relative positional accuracy takes precedence in the Road Network File. As a result, this file is not suitable for engineering applications, emergency dispatching services, surveying or legal applications. The Road Network File is portrayed in latitude and longitude coordinates (NAD83).

The 2011 Census Road Network File contains additional attributes that are not found in the intercensal road network files. New for 2011, the unique identifier, name and type for each side of a street arc (where applicable) are included for the following geographic levels: provinces and territories, census subdivisions (CSDs), census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations (CMAs and CAs).

To learn more details about this product, please consult the *Road Network File, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-500-XWE	English	November 29, 2011
92-500-XWF	French	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
ArcGIS® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	1 English 1 French	2011, 2006

4. Maps

Reference Maps

Reference maps illustrate the location of 2011 Census standard geographic areas for which 2011 Census statistical 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 streets, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes.

Over 10,000 reference maps are available for the 2011 Census. Given the diversity in size of geographic areas, different map scales and map coverages are required to show the appropriate level of detail. Descriptions of each series are provided below.

The 2011 Census Reference Maps, where applicable, contain embedded links enabling users to link between different maps, as is the case with 2006 Census Reference Maps.

To learn more details about reference and thematic maps, please consult the *Reference Maps and Thematic Maps, Reference Guide*, available on the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

National Reference Maps

For the 2011 Census, four national maps are available showing the location of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, census divisions, economic regions and census divisions, and Statistical Area Classification.

Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations

This map shows the general location of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations within each province and territory, with larger dots designating census metropolitan areas and smaller dots designating census agglomerations. The map also lists, both alphabetically and by order of unique identifier, the names of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, by province and territory.

The National Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations Reference Map PDF file contains embedded links. Census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations link to their respective census tract by census metropolitan area or census agglomeration map, which subsequently link to respective dissemination area by census tract maps.

Census Divisions

This map displays census division boundaries and unique identifiers within each province and territory, on a background of major lakes and rivers. The map also lists the census division names by order of census division unique identifier, by province and territory.

Economic Regions and Census Divisions

This map displays economic region and census division boundaries and unique identifiers within each province and territory. The map also lists, by province and territory, the economic region names by order of economic region unique identifier, within which their component census division unique identifiers and names are numerically listed.

Census metropolitan influenced zones (MIZs), census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs) Statistical Area Classification

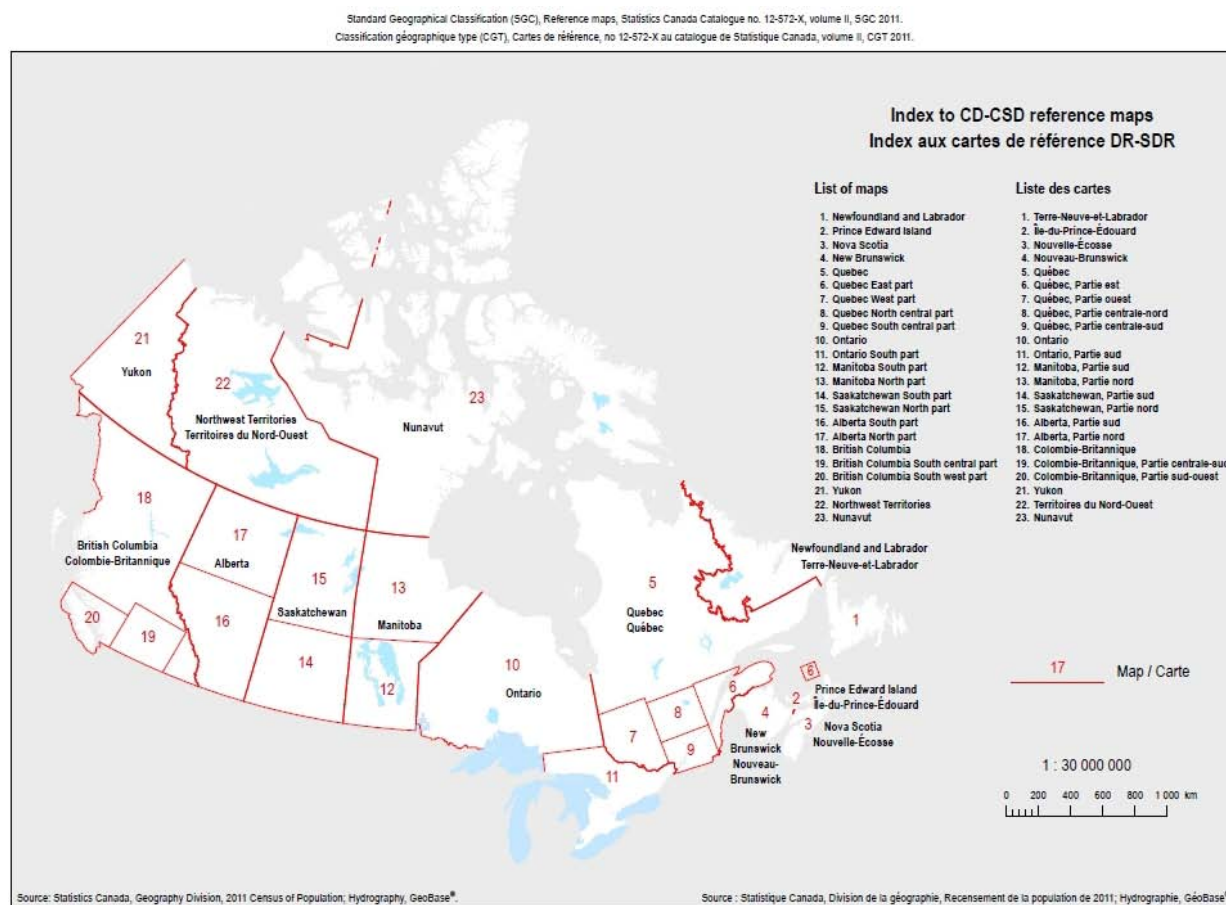
This map displays census subdivisions classified by colour according to the category of the Statistical Area Classification to which they are assigned. The categories include: component of a census metropolitan area or census agglomeration, component of a census metropolitan area and census agglomeration influenced zone (strongly influenced, moderately influenced, weakly influenced or not influenced), or component of the territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut).

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
12-572-X	Bilingual	November 22, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	4	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981

Census Division and Census Subdivision Reference Maps

The set of Census Division and Census Subdivision Reference Maps covers all of Canada, by province and territory. The maps display boundaries, names and unique identifiers of census divisions (e.g., counties and regional districts) and census subdivisions (e.g., cities, towns, villages, other local municipal entities, townships and Indian reserves). The maps also display boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.

Figure 4.1 Index map for census division and census subdivision reference maps



Catalogue number	Language	Release date
12-572-X	Bilingual	November 22, 2011
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	23	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981

Census Tract Reference Maps, by Census Metropolitan Areas or Census Agglomerations

The Census Tract Reference Maps, by Census Metropolitan Areas or Census Agglomerations cover all census metropolitan areas and the census agglomerations in the census tract program. The maps display boundaries and names of census tracts and census subdivisions, designated places and their names, as well as core, secondary core, fringe and rural areas within census metropolitan areas or census agglomerations. There are more than one hundred individual maps in this series, inset maps are available to show detail for the more concentrated areas. The maps also display street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes. The maps vary in scale and size. Embedded links enable users to link to respective dissemination area by census tract maps when viewing the maps on the Internet.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-146-X	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	120	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 4.2 Example of a census tract reference map, by census metropolitan area or census agglomeration

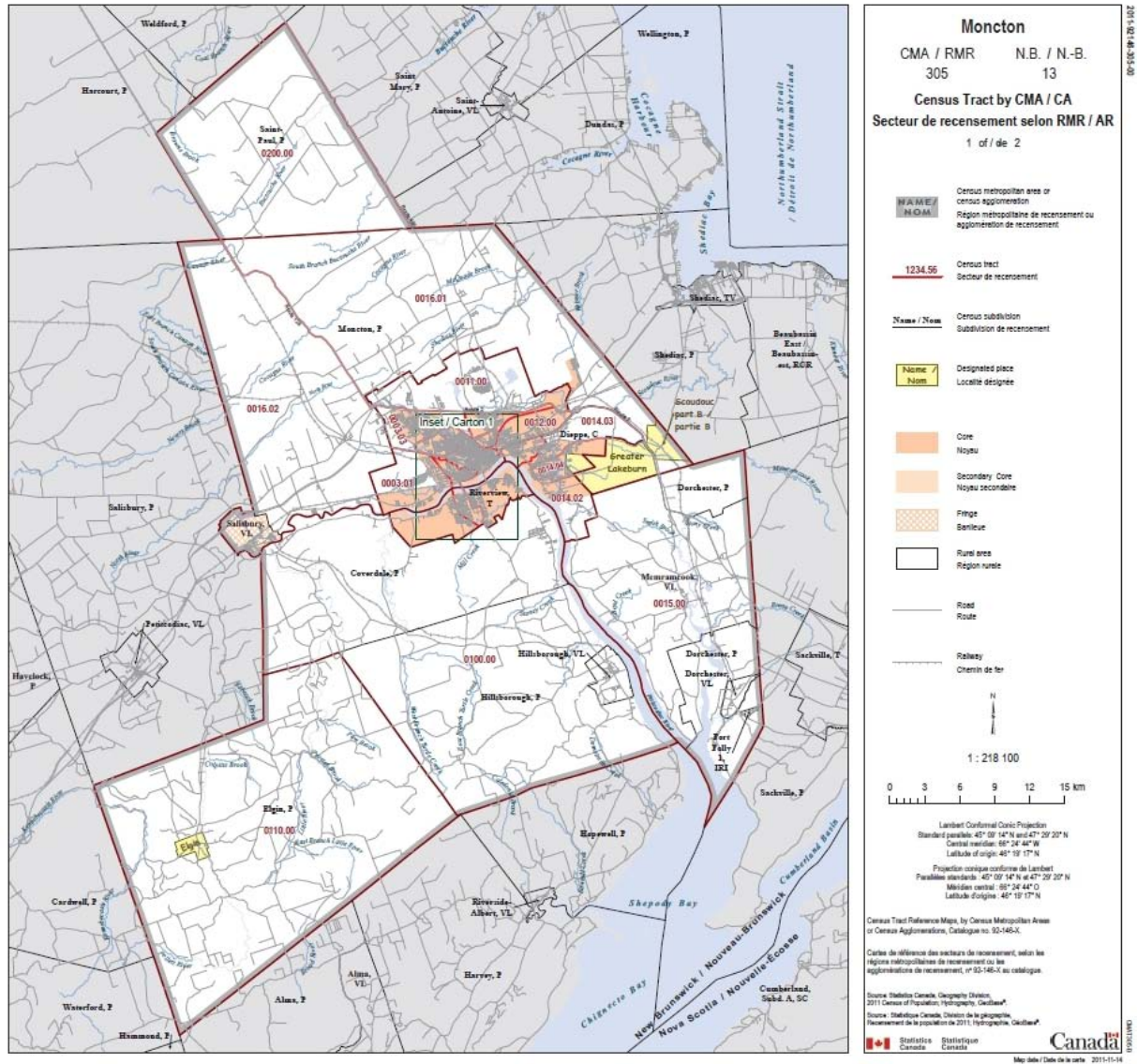
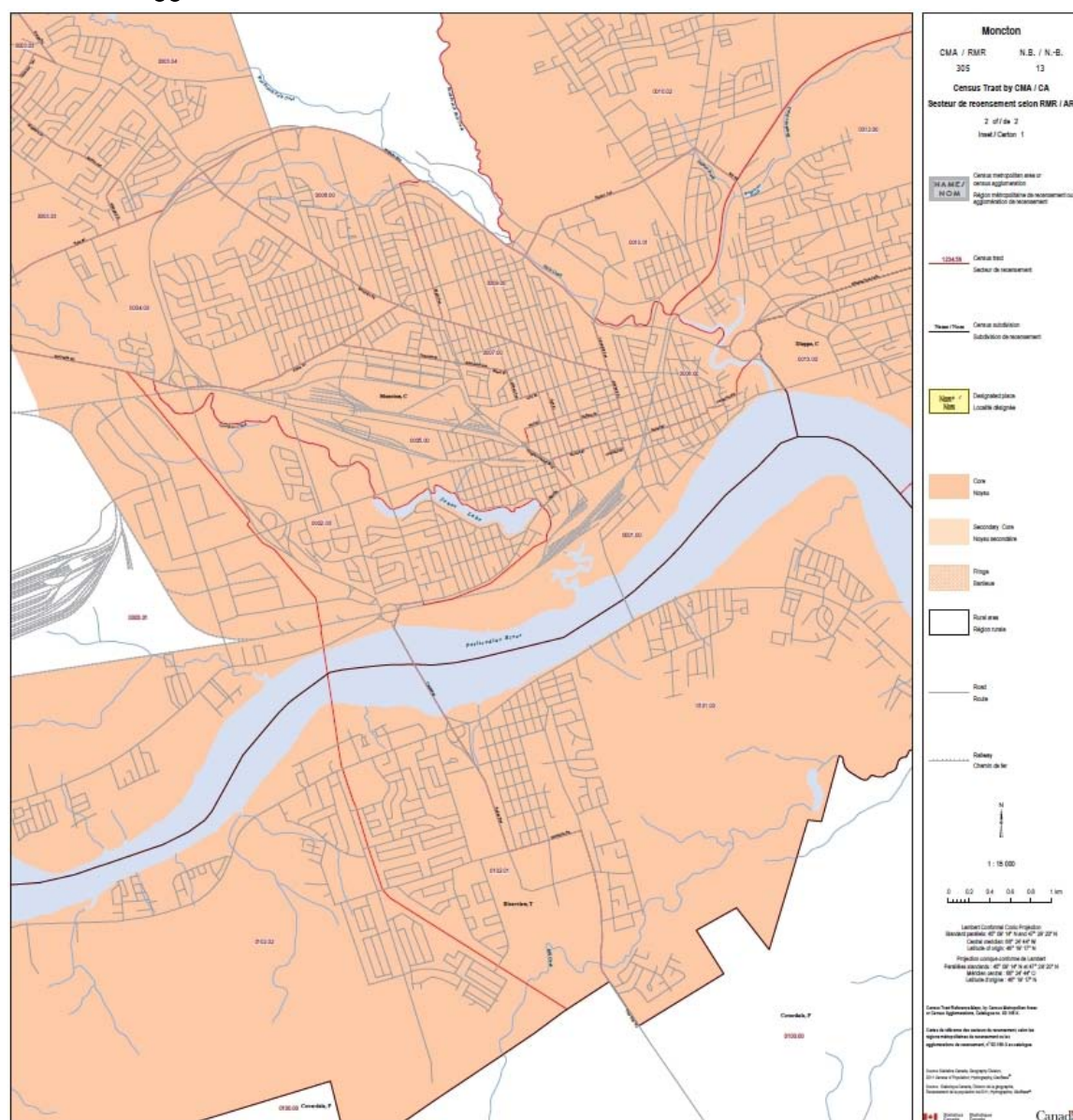


Figure 4.3 Detail from a census tract reference map, by census metropolitan area or census agglomeration



Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tracts, for Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations

The Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tract, for Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations cover all census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations that are part of the census tract program. Each map in the series covers one census tract and displays the boundaries and unique identifiers of dissemination areas within a census tract. There are more than 5,700 individual maps in the series. Inset maps are available to show detail for the more concentrated areas. The maps display census tract, census subdivision, and census metropolitan area or census agglomeration boundaries along with street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-147-X	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	5,799	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 4.4 Example of a dissemination area reference map, by census tracts, for census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations

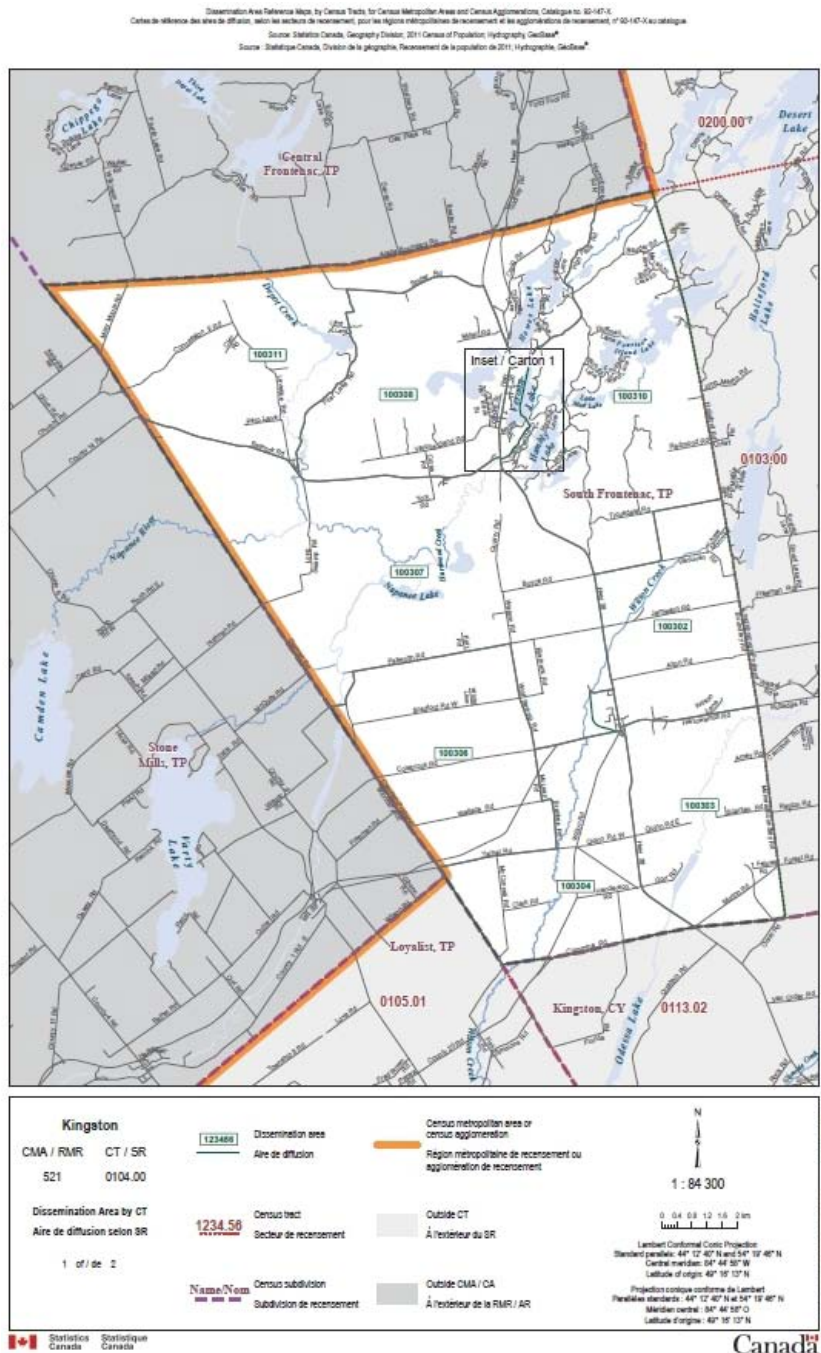
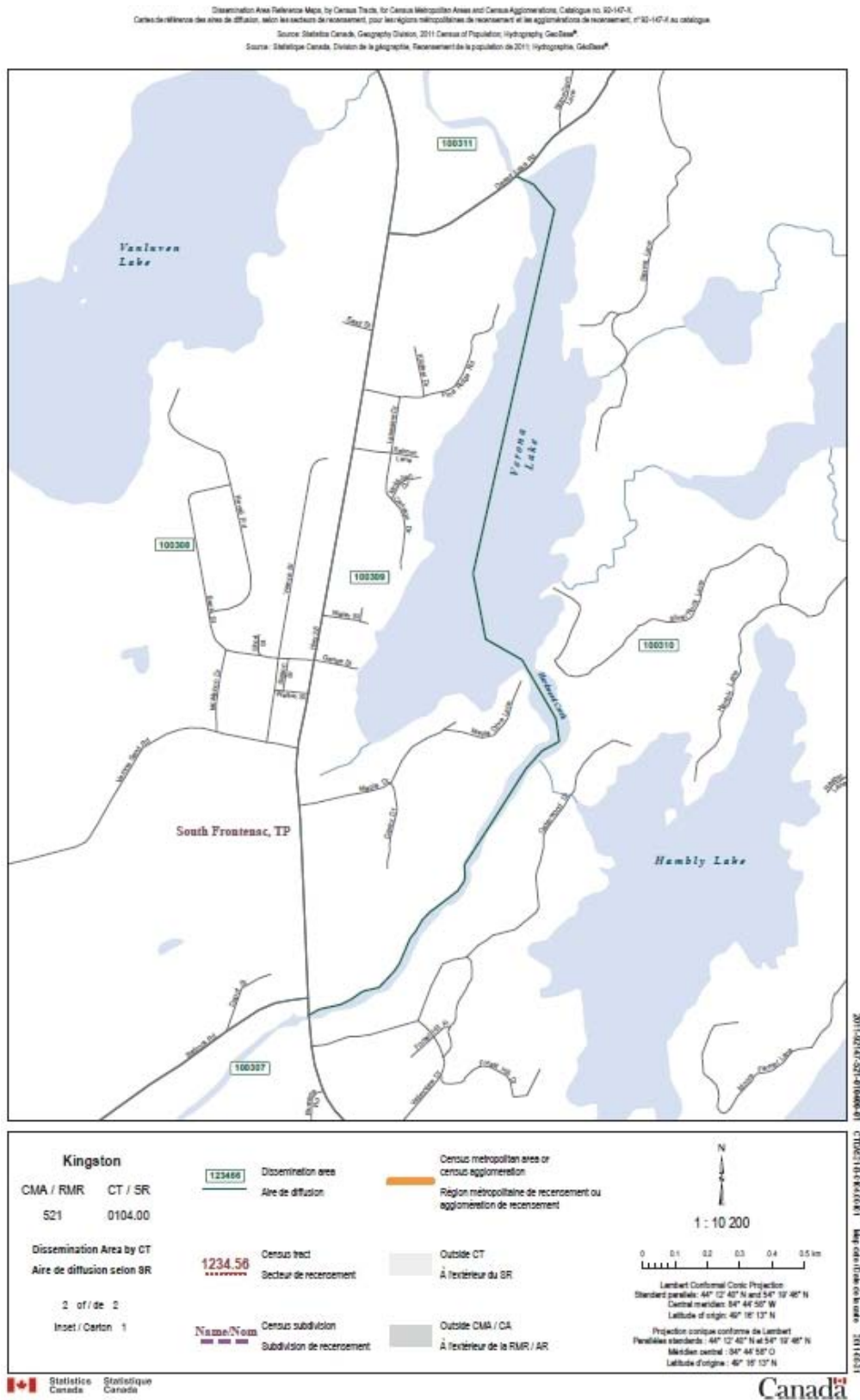


Figure 4.5 Detail from a dissemination area reference map, by census tracts, for census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations



Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Non-tracted Census Agglomerations

The Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Non-tracted Census Agglomerations cover census agglomerations that are not part of the census tract program. Each map in the series covers one census agglomeration and displays the boundaries and unique identifiers of dissemination areas, designated places and their names, core, fringe and rural areas, within a census agglomeration. There are more than 250 individual maps in this series, inset maps are available to show detail for the more concentrated areas. The maps also display census subdivision boundaries with street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-148-X	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	251	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 4.6 Example of a dissemination area reference map, by non-tracted census agglomerations

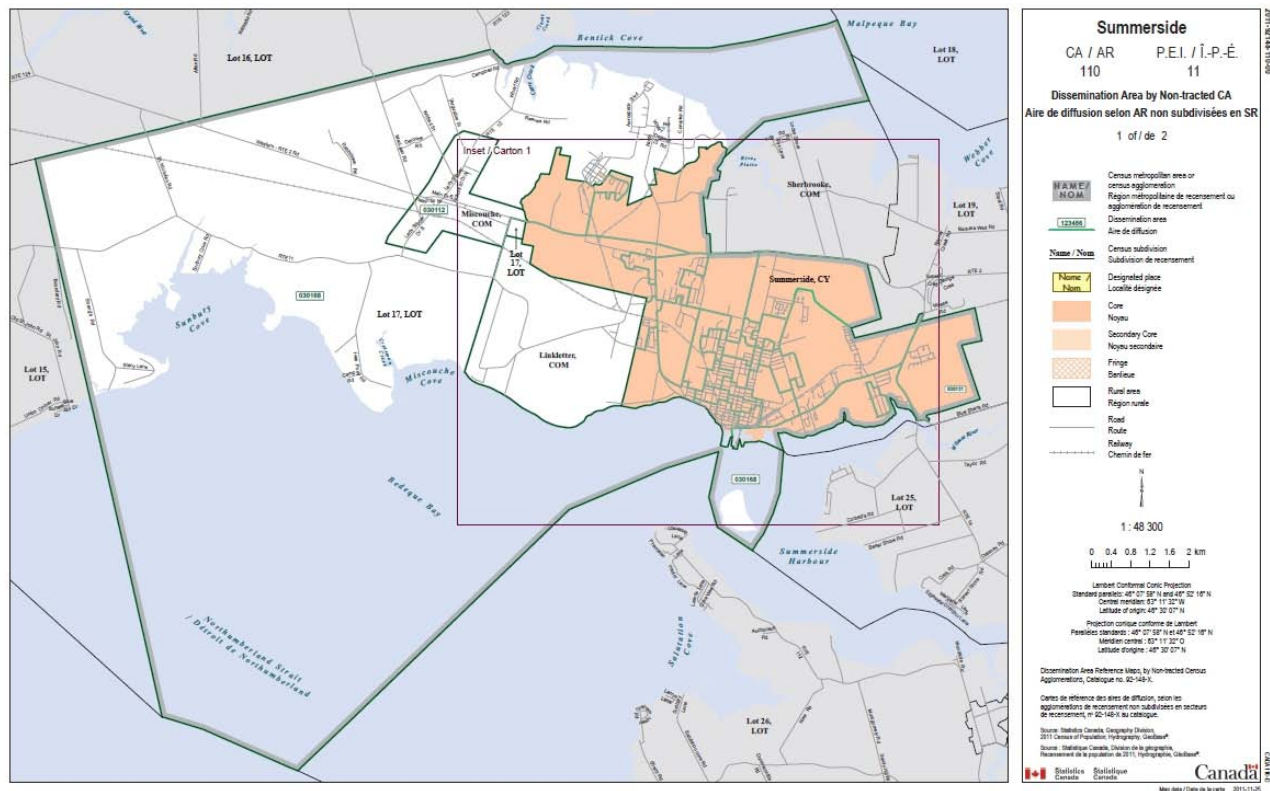
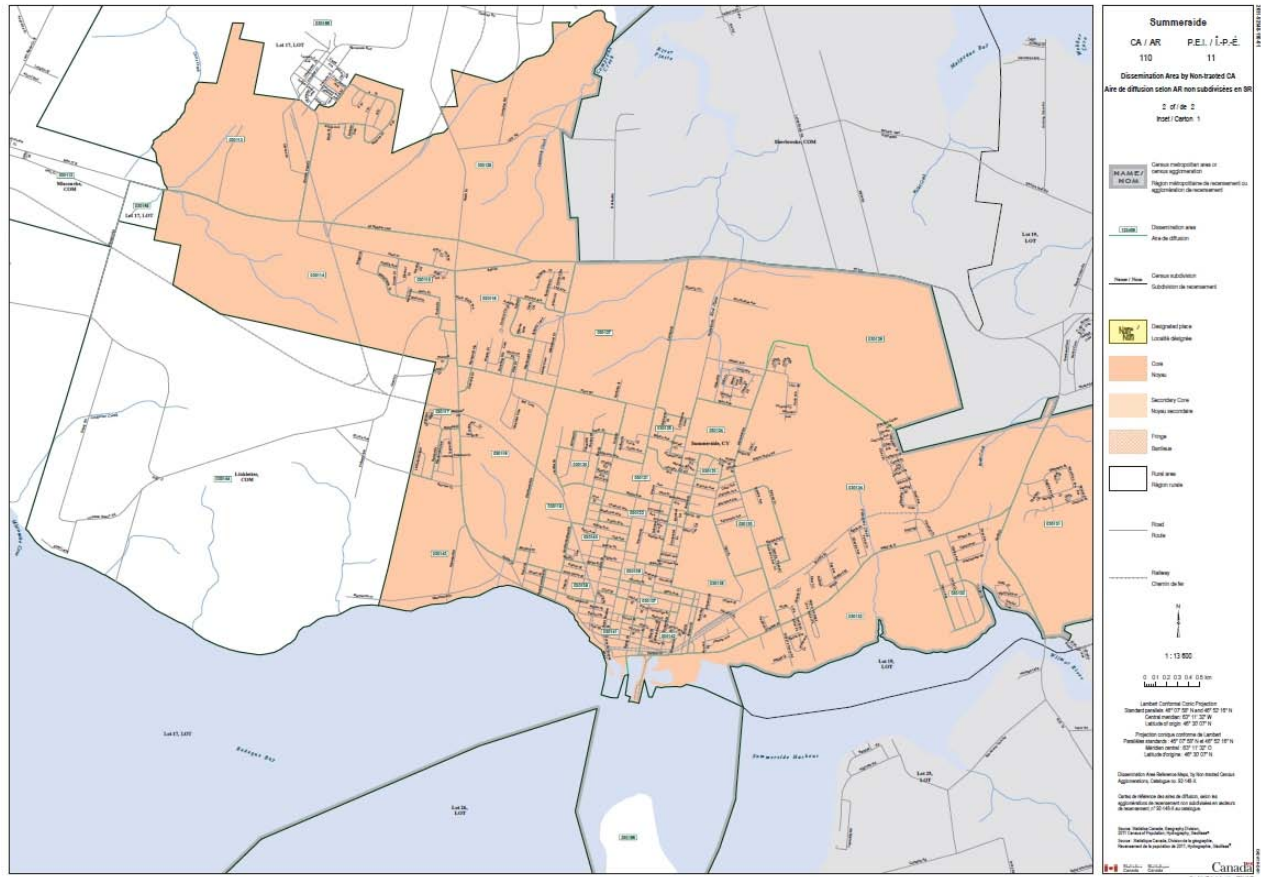


Figure 4.7 Detail from a dissemination area reference map, by non-tracted census agglomerations

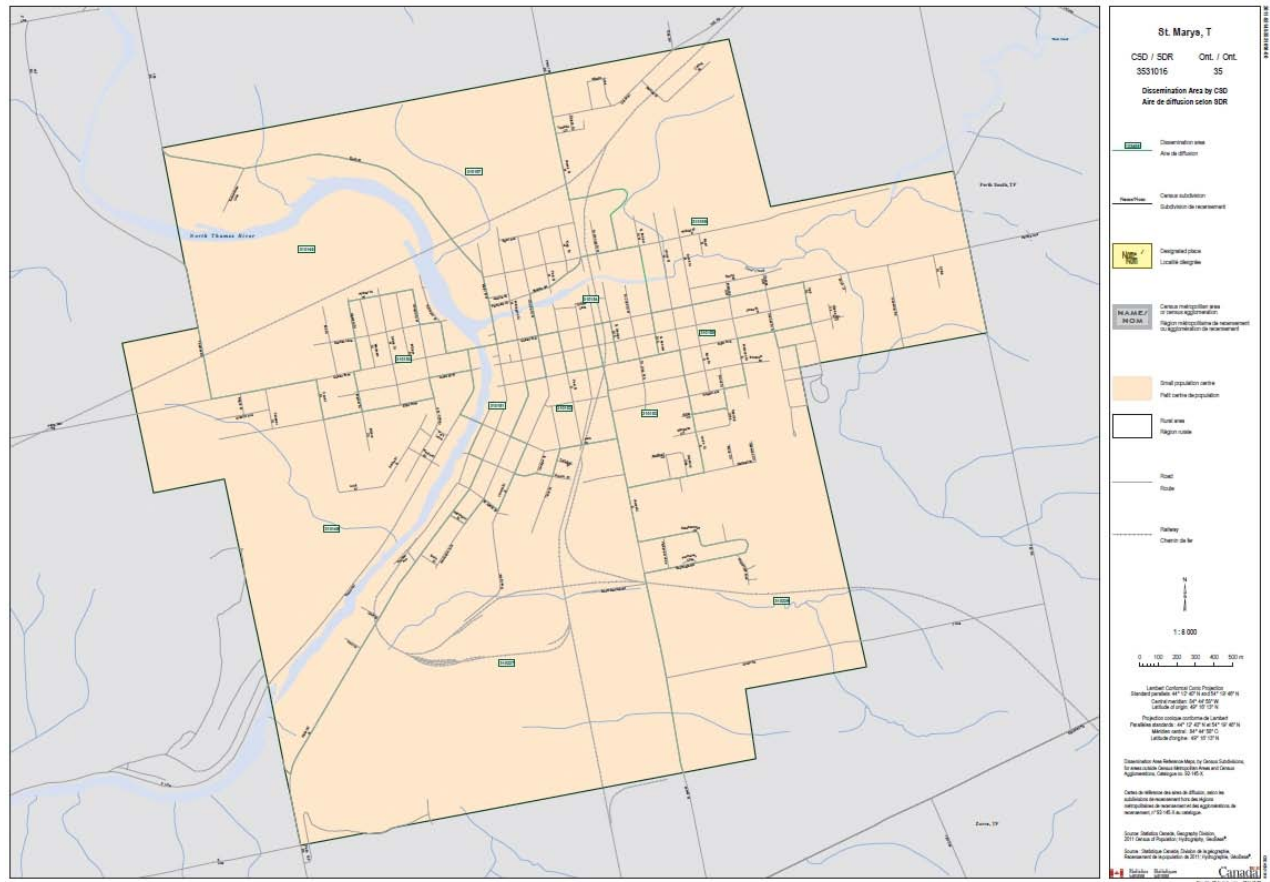


Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Subdivisions, for areas outside Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations

The Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Subdivisions, for areas outside Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations cover areas outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. Each map in this series covers one census subdivision and displays the boundaries and unique identifiers of dissemination areas, designated places and their names, as well as population centres and rural areas within a census subdivision. There are more than 4,300 individual maps in this series. The maps also display census subdivision boundaries with street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-145-X	Bilingual	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
PDF	4,324	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 4.8 Example of a dissemination area reference map, by census subdivisions, for areas outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations



Thematic Maps

A thematic map focuses on the spatial variability of a specific distribution or theme (such as population density or average annual income) for standard geographic areas, whereas a reference map focuses on the location and names of geographic features. Thematic maps normally include some location or reference information to help users familiarize themselves with the geographic area covered on the map.

Thematic maps are available to provide a visual overview of 2011 Census statistical data presented in an analytical paper.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-173-XIE	English	Beginning February 8, 2012
92-173-XIF	French	Beginning February 8, 2012

Thematic maps, as PDF files, are available to accompany the following 2011 Census releases:

Table 4.1 2011 Census theme and release date

2011 Census theme	Release date
Population and dwelling counts	February 8, 2012
Age and Sex	May 29, 2012
Families, households and marital status; Structural type of dwelling and collectives	September 19, 2012
Language	October 24, 2012

GeoSearch

This interactive mapping application makes it easy to find many places in Canada, see them on a map, and get basic geographic and demographic data for those places. To find a specific place of interest, users can click and zoom in on a map of Canada or they can search by place name, street name, street intersection or postal code. GeoSearch displays the appropriate map showing boundaries and other features. GeoSearch automatically shows, for the selected places, the type of geographic area and its relationship to other geographic areas. A thematic mapping option is also available for selected census topics (for selected levels of geography). GeoSearch also includes links to 2011 Census reference maps.

New functionality for 2011 allows users to view data for more than one geographic area at a time and automatically display additional census data for each selected geographic area (including population and dwelling counts). It also includes improved search capabilities and allows users to display two types of geographic boundaries at the same time.

Catalogue number	Language	Release date
92-142-XWE	English	February 8, 2012
92-142-XWF	French	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Number of files	Censuses
Internet application	N/A	2011, 2006, 2001

Figure 4.9 View of GeoSearch 2011 on the Statistics Canada website

GeoSearch 2011 - Provinces / Territories (PR/T)



5. Custom services

A variety of services are available, including custom area creation, product creation, mapping and print-on-demand.

Custom Area Creation

Geography Custom Area Creation service allows users to define their own geographic areas for census data tabulations. Custom geographic areas are produced from the aggregation of standard geographic areas, or block-faces where available. Confidentiality constraints apply.

Catalogue number	Price	Availability
97C0005	The minimum cost for this service is to be determined. Cost estimates are provided based on client's specifications, and on the complexity of the request.	October 24, 2012

Custom Product Creation

The Custom Product Creation service is available to produce non-standard geographic products that satisfy client's individual requirements. Clients may require various custom geographic files, special data retrievals, manipulations of geographic data, or combinations of data from a variety of sources.

Catalogue number	Price	Availability
97C0006	The minimum cost for this service is to be determined. Cost estimates are provided based on client's specifications, and on the complexity of the request.	November 29, 2011

Custom Map Creation

The Custom Map Creation service provides users with custom thematic maps, reference maps and other user defined maps, designed and produced specifically to meet their data and/or analytical requirements.

Catalogue number	Price	Availability
97C0007	The minimum cost for this service is to be determined. Cost estimates are provided based on client's specifications, and on the complexity of the request.	November 29, 2011

Print-on-demand

A print-on-demand service for maps is available.

Catalogue number	Price	Availability
97C0010	The minimum cost for this service is to be determined. Cost estimates are provided based on client's specifications, and on the complexity of the request.	November 29, 2011

Appendix A Glossary

Adjusted counts

'Adjusted counts' refer to previous census population and dwelling counts that were adjusted (i.e., recomputed) 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.

Cartographic boundary files

Cartographic boundary files (CBFs) portray the boundaries of standard geographic areas together with the shoreline around Canada. Selected inland lakes and rivers are available as supplementary layers.

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.) 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 must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more must live in the core. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. To be included in the CMA or CA, 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 declines below 10,000, the CA is retired. However, once an area becomes a CMA, it is retained as a CMA 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 or CA that are not population centres are rural areas.

When a CA has a core of at least 50,000, it is subdivided into census tracts. Census tracts are maintained for the CA even if the population of the core subsequently falls below 50,000. All CMAs 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 and CAs are assigned to one of four categories according to the degree of influence (strong, moderate, weak or no influence) that the CMAs or CAs have on them. CSDs within the territories that are outside CAs are assigned to a separate category.

Census subdivisions within provinces are assigned to a MIZ category based on the percentage of their resident employed labour force that commutes to work in the core(s) of CMAs or CAs. CSDs with the same degree of influence tend to be clustered. They form zones around CMAs and CAs that progress through the categories from 'strong' to 'no' influence as distance from the CMAs and CAs increases. As many CSDs in the territories are very large and sparsely populated, the commuting flow of the resident employed labour force is unstable. For this reason, CSDs in the territories that are outside CAs 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., 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 (Universal Transverse Mercator) using linear units such as metres.

Cartographic boundary files, digital boundary files, representative points and road network files are disseminated in latitude/longitude coordinates.

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 or CA 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 or a CA 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, or at least 10,000 persons in the case of a CA.

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

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

All territory within a CMA or CA 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.

Digital boundary files

Digital boundary files (DBFs) portray the boundaries used for census data collection and, therefore, often extend as straight lines into bodies of water.

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 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^{OM} 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^{OM} 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.

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

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 CMAs and CAs.

Population density

Population density is the number of persons per square kilometre.

Postal code^{OM}

The postal code^{OM} 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^{OM} 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 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.

Road network file

The road network file (RNF) contains streets, street names, types, directions and address ranges. Address ranges are dwelling-based.

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 and CAs.

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.

The SDI 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 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 classifies all CSDs 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.

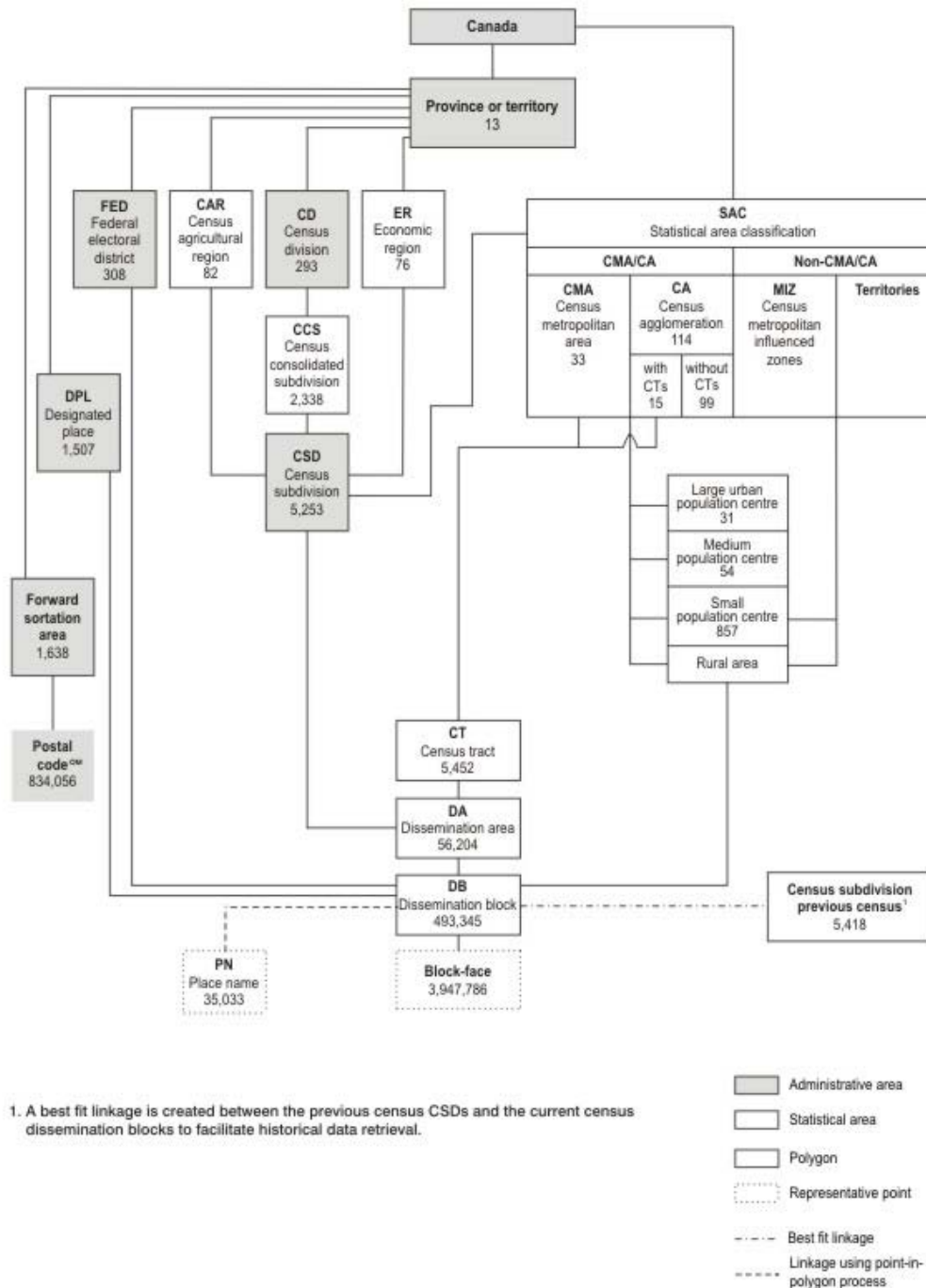
The SAC provides unique numeric identification (codes) for these hierarchically-related geographic areas. It was established for the purpose of reporting statistics.

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., predominant farm types) or quantitative (e.g., percentage population change).

Appendix B Hierarchy of standard geographic units for dissemination, 2011 Census

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



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

Appendix C Geographic units by province and territory, 2011 Census

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

Geographic unit	Canada 2006	Canada 2011	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Y.T.	N.W.T.	Nt.
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	0	0	0
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 (CSD)	5,418	5,253	376	113	99	273	1,285	574	287	959	435	743	37	41	31
CSD dissolutions (Jan. 2, 2006 to Jan. 1, 2011)	221	...	3	0	1	6	13	13	13	26	19	126	0	1	0
CSD incorporations (Jan. 2, 2006 to Jan. 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 ¹	15 ¹	1	2	2	4	0	0	0
Census agglomeration (CA)	111	114	3	2	4	5 ¹	25 ¹	28 ¹	4	7 ¹	16 ¹	21	1	1	0
CA with census tracts	15	15	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	3	4	0	0	0
CA without census tracts	96	99	3	2	4	4 ¹	22 ¹	24 ¹	4	7 ¹	13 ¹	17	1	1	0
Census tract	5,076	5,452	47	0	93	102	1,371	2,273	173	109	573	711	0	0	0
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	811	857	29	6	35	30 ¹	224 ¹	237 ¹	42 ¹	59 ¹	101 ¹	87	1	3	7
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	54	54	0	1	1	2	13	19	1	2	6	9	0	0	0
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	29	31	1	0	1	1	6 ¹	14 ¹	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 ^{OM}	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

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.

Appendix D Census subdivision types by province and territory, 2011 Census

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

Census subdivision type		Canada	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Y.T.	N.W.T.	Nvt.
		5,253	376	113	99	273	1,285	574	287	959	435	743	37	41	31
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 / Paroisse (municipalité de)	150	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PE	Paroisse (municipalité de)	179	...	...	...	...	179	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RCR	Rural community / Communauté rurale	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RDA	Regional district electoral area	158	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158	...	...	...
RG	Region	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table D.1 Census subdivision types by province and territory, 2011 Census (continued)

Census subdivision type		Canada	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Y.T.	N.W.T.	Nvt.
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	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

... not applicable

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population.