

# Preview of Census Geography Products and Services



Census year 2011



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Census year 2011

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## 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

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This document has been created to provide a preview of the 2011 Census Geography product and service line resulting from ideas and suggestions submitted during the 2011 Census and Geography Consultation.

To help you prepare for the 2011 Census, this guide includes:

- a preview of 2011 Census geography dissemination products and services
- proposed changes to various geography products and services.

Technical limitations may result in some modifications to products described within this document. Users are encouraged to read the reference guides that accompany geography products for final product details.

Input from data users is important to Statistics Canada in planning the geography dissemination strategy. Your feedback has helped to inform us of users' needs and expectations and, where possible, to address them.

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

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## 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, posts online products through the Statistics Canada website ([www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)) and offers a variety of services.

For the 2011 Census, the geography product line will include geography concepts, enhancements and improvements to existing products, and a greater presence on the website. Geographic products will be made available in a variety of formats and provided for users to find and view their geographic area of interest on the Statistics Canada website.

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada to facilitate the operational requirements in order to finalize the geographic framework for which census data are collected, tabulated and reported. The reference date for the geographic areas contained in the 2011 Census geography products is January 1, 2011.

The *Preview of Census Geography Products and Services, 2011 Census* presents the proposed content of the 2011 Census geography product and service line as well as presents changes within the 2011 Census geography product line. The price description for many of the 2011 Census geography products and services described in this document indicates 'TBD' (To be determined). The 2011 Census pricing structure will be announced on the Statistics Canada website once it has been approved.

The document 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 (2006 Census) 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](http://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'.

# 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 data by providing an understanding of the terms related to geographic concepts, products and services. Geography is important to the national statistical system as well-defined geographic areas provide the framework for the collection, presentation and analysis of data. Visitors to the website can access the Illustrated Glossary which presents geographic concepts, products and services, as well as links to online tutorials and detailed definitions.

The 2011 Illustrated Glossary will be similar to the 2006 Illustrated Glossary in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Illustrated Glossary. The 2011 Illustrated Glossary will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-195-XWE	Internet	English	Free	February 8, 2012
92-195-XWF	Internet	French	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
HTML	2011, 2006, 2001	N/A	<a href="#">Illustrated Glossary</a>	

The 2006 Illustrated Glossary content listed below are hyperlinked to facilitate direct access to a particular definition.

## 2006 Illustrated Glossary Content

### Geographic units

- [Census agglomeration](#)
- [Census agricultural region](#)
- [Census division](#)
- [Census metropolitan area](#)
- [Census subdivision](#)
- [Census tract](#)
- [Census consolidated subdivision](#)
- [Designated place](#)
- [Dissemination area](#)
- [Dissemination block](#)
- [Economic region](#)
- [Federal electoral district](#)
- [Locality](#)
- [Place name](#)
- [Province/territory](#)
- [Rural area](#)
- [Urban area](#)
- [Urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe](#)

### **Products and services**

- [Cartographic boundary files](#)
- [Catalogue](#)
- [Custom services](#)
- [Dictionary](#)
- [Digital boundary files](#)
- [Geographic attribute file](#)
- [GeoSearch](#)
- [GeoSuite](#)
- [Population and dwellings counts](#)
- [Reference maps](#)
- [Road network files](#)
- [Road network and geographic attribute file](#)
- [Thematic maps](#)

### **Other terms**

- [Abbreviations](#)
- [Administrative areas](#)
- [Adjusted counts](#)
- [Block-face](#)
- [Census metropolitan area and census agglomeration influenced zones](#)
- [Coordinate system](#)
- [Datum](#)
- [Ecumene](#)
- [Geocoding](#)
- [Geographic code](#)
- [Geographic reference date](#)
- [Hierarchy of standard geographic units](#)
- [Land area](#)
- [Map projection](#)
- [National geographic database](#)
- [Population density](#)
- [Postal code](#)
- [Representative point](#)
- [Spatial data infrastructure](#)
- [Spatial data quality elements](#)
- [Standard geographical classification](#)
- [Statistical areas](#)
- [Statistical area classification](#)
- [Urban population size group](#)
- [Usual place of residence](#)
- [Workplace location](#)



## 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.

The 2011 Geography Catalogue will be similar to the 2006 Geography Catalogue in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Geography Catalogue. The 2011 Geography Catalogue will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-196-XWE	Internet	English	Free	February 8, 2012
92-196-XWF	Internet	French	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
HTML, PDF	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996	N/A	<a href="#">Geography Catalogue</a>	

The 2006 Geography Catalogue content listed below are hyperlinked to facilitate direct access to a particular product or service.

### 2006 Geography Catalogue

- [General information](#)
- [Geographic reference products](#)
- [Geographic data products](#)
- [Spatial information products](#)
- [Attribute information products](#)
- [Geographic services](#)
- [Other Statistics Canada related geographic products and services](#)

## Reference Guides

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

2011 Geography Reference Guides will be similar to the 2006 Geography Reference Guides in content and format. The 2011 reference guides will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release dates
Various	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011 to Fall 2012
Various	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011 to Fall 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
HTML, PDF	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996	N/A	<a href="#">Geography Reference Guides</a>	

The following is a list of proposed Geography reference guides for the 2011 Census.

### Proposed 2011 Geography reference guides

#### Attribute information products

- Correspondence Files, Reference Guide (92-156-G)
- Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), Reference Guide (92-153-G)
- Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF), 2003 Representation Order, Reference Guide (92F0193G)
- GeoSuite, Reference Guide (92-150-G)
- Geographic Attribute File, Reference Guide (92-151-G)

#### Spatial information products

- Road Network File, Reference Guide (92-500-G)
- Boundary Files, Reference Guide (92-160-G)
- Population Ecumene, Reference Guide (92-159-G)
- Census Forward Sortation Area Boundary File, Reference Guide (92-170-G)

#### Reference maps

- Reference Maps and Thematic Maps, Reference Guide (92-143-G)

## Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names

The *Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names* is a report that 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 will provide a summary of changes that occurred between January 2, 2006 and January 1, 2011. It will be similar in format to the 2006 Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names. The 2011 Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92F0009XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92F0009XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2001 - 2006 link	
HTML, PDF	2011, 2006	N/A	<a href="#">Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names</a>	

The January 2, 2001 to January 1, 2006 Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names content listed below are hyperlinked to facilitate direct access to a particular area of interest.

### Interim List of Changes to Municipal Boundaries, Status and Names

- [Main page](#)
- [About this product](#)
- [Table 1 Changes to census subdivisions in alphabetical order, by province/territory](#)
- [Table 2 Changes to census subdivision codes, names and types in numerical order, by province and territory](#)

## 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.

Technical limitations may result in some modifications to products described within this document. Users are encouraged to read the reference guides that accompany geography products for final product details.

### Postal Code Conversion File

The Postal Code Conversion File 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, census tracts). By linking postal codes to the Statistics Canada geographic areas, the file facilitates the extraction and subsequent aggregation of data for selected 2011 geographic areas.

The 2011 Postal Code Conversion File will be similar to the 2006 Postal Code Conversion File in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Postal Code Conversion File. The 2011 Postal Code Conversion File will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-153-XCB	Various	Bilingual	TBD	Fall 2012
2011 format	Censuses		Number of files	2006 link
ASCII file	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991		1 National 13 Provincial/Territorial	<a href="#">Postal Code Conversion File</a>

**Table 2.1 Content of Postal Code Conversion File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Postal Code	A six-character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation for the purpose of sorting and delivering mail.	Character	6
Forward Sortation Area	The first three characters of the postal code, designating a postal delivery area within Canada.	Character	3
Province or Territory Code	Uniquely identifies a province or territory	Character	2
Census Division Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census division (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code)	Character	4
Census Subdivision Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census subdivision code)	Character	7

**Table 2.1 Content of Postal Code Conversion File** (continued)

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Census Subdivision Name	Census subdivision name	Character	70
Census Subdivision Type	Census subdivisions are classified according to designations adopted by provincial/territorial or federal authorities	Character	3
Census Consolidated Subdivision Code	The 3-digit census consolidated subdivision code	Character	3
Statistical Area Classification Code	The 3-digit Statistical Area Classification code	Character	3
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	Character	1
Census Tract Name	Every census tract is assigned a 7.2-character numeric 'name' (including leading zeros, a decimal point and trailing zeros)	Character	7
Economic Region Code	The 2-digit economic region code	Character	2
Designated Place Code	The 4-digit designated place code	Character	4
Federal Electoral District Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a federal electoral district (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit federal electoral district code)	Character	5
Population Centre Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a population centre	Character	4
Population Centre Rural Area Type	Population centre rural area type	Character	1
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code)	Character	8
Dissemination Block Code	The 2-digit dissemination block code	Character	2
Representative Point Type	Identifies whether the record uses a block-face, dissemination block or dissemination area representative point as the coordinate.	Character	1
Latitude Coordinate	Latitude of representative point of lowest level geographic area for postal code record, in decimal degrees	Numeric	11

**Table 2.1 Content of Postal Code Conversion File (continued)**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Longitude Coordinate	Longitude of representative point of lowest level geographic area for postal code record, in decimal degrees	Numeric	13
Single Link Indicator	A geographic record for mapping a postal code representative point; can be used to establish a one-to-one relationship between postal codes and dissemination areas, dissemination blocks, or block-faces.	Character	1
Postal Code Type	Indicates the type of addresses used to identify the points of call served by the postal code.	Character	1
Community Name	Defined by Canada Post Corporation, denotes any city, town or village in Canada that is recognised as a valid mailing address.	Character	30
Delivery Mode Type	Delivery mode type as defined by Canada Post Corporation.	Character	1
Historic Delivery Mode Type	Historic delivery mode type retains the previous delivery mode type value, if known.	Character	1
Birth Date	The date when the postal code became effective (yyyymmdd).	Character	8
Retired Date	The date when a postal code was retired (yyyymmdd).	Character	8
Delivery Installation	Indicates whether the record represents coding to a post office where the mail can be accessed.	Character	1
Quality Indicator	Provides an indicator of the quality of the link established between the postal code and the geographic area.	Character	3
Source	Indicates the primary source of the geocoding.	Character	1
Population Centre Rural Area Size Class	Distinguishes between rural areas, small population centres, medium population centres and large urban population centres	Character	1

## Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File is an ASCII file that provides a link between the six-character postal code and the 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.

The 2011 Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File will be similar to the 2006 Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File. The 2011 Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92F0193XCB	Various	Bilingual	TBD	Fall 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ASCII file	2011, 2006, 2001	1 National 5 Regional	<a href="#">Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File</a>	

**Table 2.2 Content of Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Postal Code	A six-character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation for the purpose of sorting and delivering mail.	Character	6
Federal Electoral District Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a federal electoral district (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit federal electoral district code)	Character	5
Federal Electoral District Name, English	Federal electoral district name in English	Character	56
Federal Electoral District Name, French	Federal electoral district name in French	Character	56
Unique Link	Unique link value given in the file can be either '1', which indicates the postal code is linked to one federal electoral district, or '2', which indicates that the postal code is linked to two or more federal electoral districts.	Character	1
Weight	Estimates the proportion of the population of a postal code that resides within each federal electoral district.	Character	3

## GeoSuite

GeoSuite is a tool used for data retrieval, query and tabular output. GeoSuite allows users to explore the links between all standard levels of geography and to identify geographic codes, names, unique identifiers and, where applicable, types, as well as land area and population and dwelling counts. GeoSuite includes a dissemination area reference map listing that facilitates identification of appropriate dissemination area reference maps.

GeoSuite contains data for the following geographic units: Canada, provinces and territories, economic regions, census divisions, census consolidated subdivisions, census subdivisions, designated places, federal electoral districts, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, census tracts, population centres, dissemination areas and dissemination blocks.

GeoSuite 2011 will be similar to GeoSuite 2006 in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for GeoSuite. GeoSuite, including its search interface, will be available for the 2011 Census in a zipped file format. It will not be disseminated in pre-cut CD-ROM.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-150-XCB	Internet	Bilingual	TBD	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
VB.net and MDB database, zipped	2011, 2006, 2001	N/A	<a href="#">GeoSuite</a>	

## Geographic Attribute File

The Geographic Attribute File is an ASCII file containing geographic data disseminated at the block level. The file includes population and dwelling counts, land area, geographic codes, names, unique identifiers and, where applicable, types.

The 2011 Geographic Attribute File will be similar to the 2006 Geographic Attribute File in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Geographic Attribute File. The 2011 Geographic Attribute File will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-151-XBB	Internet	Bilingual	TBD	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ASCII file	2011, 2006	1	<a href="#">Geographic Attribute File</a>	



The Geographic Attribute File will be comprised of the following content:

**Table 2.3 Content of Geographic Attribute File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Dissemination Block Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a dissemination block (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code, the 4-digit dissemination area code and the 2-digit dissemination block code)	Character	10
Dissemination Block Population	2011 Census dissemination block population	Numeric	8
Dissemination Block Total Private Dwellings	2011 Census dissemination block total private dwellings	Numeric	8
Dissemination Block Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents	2011 Census private dwellings occupied by usual residents	Numeric	8
Dissemination Block Land Area	2011 Census dissemination block land area	Numeric	12.4
Dissemination Block Indian Reserve Refusal Flag	2011 Census Indian reserve refusal flag	Character	1
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code)	Character	8
Dissemination Area Representative Point X Coordinate	The dissemination area representative point x coordinate in Lambert format	Numeric	17.8
Dissemination Area Representative Point Y Coordinate	The dissemination area representative point y coordinate in Lambert format	Numeric	17.8
Dissemination Area Representative Point Latitude Coordinate	The dissemination area representative point latitude coordinate, in decimal degrees	Numeric	9.6
Dissemination Area Representative Point Longitude Coordinate	The dissemination area representative point longitude coordinate, in decimal degrees	Numeric	11.6
Province or Territory Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a province or territory	Character	2
Province or Territory Name	Province or territory name	Character	55
Province or Territory Name, English	Province or territory name in English	Character	30
Province or Territory Name, French	Province or territory name in French	Character	30

**Table 2.3 Content of Geographic Attribute File (continued)**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Province or Territory Abbreviated Name, English	English abbreviation of the province or territory name	Character	10
Province or Territory Abbreviated Name, French	French abbreviation of the province or territory name	Character	10
Federal Electoral District Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a federal electoral district (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit federal electoral district code)	Character	5
Federal Electoral District Name	Federal electoral district name	Character	85
Economic Region Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies an economic region (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit economic region code)	Character	4
Economic Region Name	Economic region name	Character	85
Census Division Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census division (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code)	Character	4
Census Division Name	Census division name	Character	40
Census Division Type	Census division type	Character	3
Census Subdivision Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census subdivision code)	Character	7
Census Subdivision Name	Census subdivision name	Character	55
Census Subdivision Type	Census subdivisions are classified according to designations adopted by provincial/territorial or federal authorities	Character	3
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	Character	1
Statistical Area Classification Code	The 3-digit Statistical Area Classification code	Character	3
Census Consolidated Subdivision Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census consolidated subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census consolidated subdivision code)	Character	7

**Table 2.3 Content of Geographic Attribute File (continued)**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Census Consolidated Subdivision Name	Census consolidated subdivision name	Character	55
Designated Place Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a designated place (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 4-digit designated place code)	Character	6
Designated Place Name	Designated place name	Character	85
Designated Place Type	Designated place type	Character	3
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration	Character	3
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Name	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration name	Character	100
Census Metropolitan Area/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	Character	1
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial/territorial part of a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit census metropolitan area/census agglomeration unique identifier)	Character	5
Census Tract Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census tract within a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration (composed of the 3-digit census metropolitan area/census agglomeration unique identifier followed by the 7.2-character census tract name)	Character	10.2
Census Tract Code	Uniquely identifies a census tract	Character	4
Census Tract Name	Every census tract is assigned a 7.2-character numeric 'name' (including leading zeros, a decimal point and trailing zeros)	Character	7.2
Population Centre Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a population centre	Character	4
Population Centre Name	Population centre name	Character	100
Population Centre Rural Area Type	Population centre rural area type	Character	1
Population Centre Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial/territorial part of a population centre (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 4-digit population centre unique identifier)	Character	6
Population Centre Rural Area Size Class	Distinguishes between rural areas, small population centres, medium population centres and large urban population centres	Character	1

## Correspondence Files

There will be three 2011 Census correspondence files that provide users with tabular data that describes the correspondence between two vintages of geographic areas.

The Dissemination Area Correspondence File will describe the relationship between the 2011 dissemination area and the 2006 dissemination area. The Dissemination Area and Land Area Correspondence File will describe the percentage of the 2011 dissemination area's land area within the boundaries of the 2006 dissemination area. The Dissemination Block Correspondence File will describe the relationship between the 2011 dissemination block and the 2006 dissemination block.

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.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-156-XBB	Internet	Bilingual	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ASCII file	2011, 2006	3	<a href="#">Correspondence Files</a>	

The 2011 Census Correspondence Files will be comprised of the following content:

**Table 2.4 Content of Dissemination Area Correspondence File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier, 2011 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code), 2011 Census	Character	8
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier, 2006 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code), 2006 Census	Character	8
Dissemination Block Unique Identifier, 2011 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination block (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code, the 4-digit dissemination area code and the 2-digit dissemination block code), 2011 Census	Character	10
Dissemination Area Relationship Flag	Relationship flag indicating if the 2011 dissemination area is equal to the 2006 dissemination area or has a one-to-many relationship, a many-to-one relationship or a many-to-many relationship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – one 2011 dissemination area to one 2006 dissemination area</li> <li>2 – one 2011 dissemination area was many 2006 dissemination areas</li> <li>3 – many 2011 dissemination areas were one 2006 dissemination area</li> <li>4 – many 2011 dissemination areas were many 2006 dissemination areas</li> </ul>	Character	1

**Table 2.5 Content of Dissemination Block Correspondence File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Dissemination Block Unique Identifier, 2011 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination block (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code, the 4-digit dissemination area code and the 2-digit dissemination block code), 2011 Census	Character	10
Dissemination Block Unique Identifier, 2006 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination block (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code, the 4-digit dissemination area code and the 2-digit dissemination block code), 2006 Census	Character	10
Dissemination Block Relationship Flag	Relationship flag indicating if the 2011 dissemination block is equal to the 2006 dissemination block or has a one-to-many relationship, a many-to-one relationship or a many-to-many relationship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – one 2011 dissemination block to one 2006 dissemination block</li> <li>2 – one 2011 dissemination block was many 2006 dissemination blocks</li> <li>3 – many 2011 dissemination blocks were one 2006 dissemination block</li> <li>4 – many 2011 dissemination blocks were many 2006 dissemination blocks</li> </ul>	Character	1

**Table 2.6 Content of Dissemination Area and Land Area Correspondence File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier, 2011 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code), 2011 Census	Character	8
Dissemination Area Unique Identifier, 2006 Census	Uniquely identifies a dissemination area (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 4-digit dissemination area code), 2006 Census	Character	8
Dissemination Area Relationship Flag	Relationship flag indicating if the 2011 dissemination area is equal to the 2006 dissemination area or has a one-to-many relationship, a many-to-one relationship or a many-to-many relationship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – one 2011 dissemination area was one 2006 dissemination area</li> <li>2 – one 2011 dissemination area was many 2006 dissemination areas</li> <li>3 – many 2011 dissemination areas were one 2006 dissemination area</li> <li>4 – many 2011 dissemination areas were many 2006 dissemination areas</li> </ul>	Character	1
Dissemination Area Percentage	Percentage of the 2011 dissemination area's land area within the extent of the 2006 dissemination area	Number	6.2

### 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.

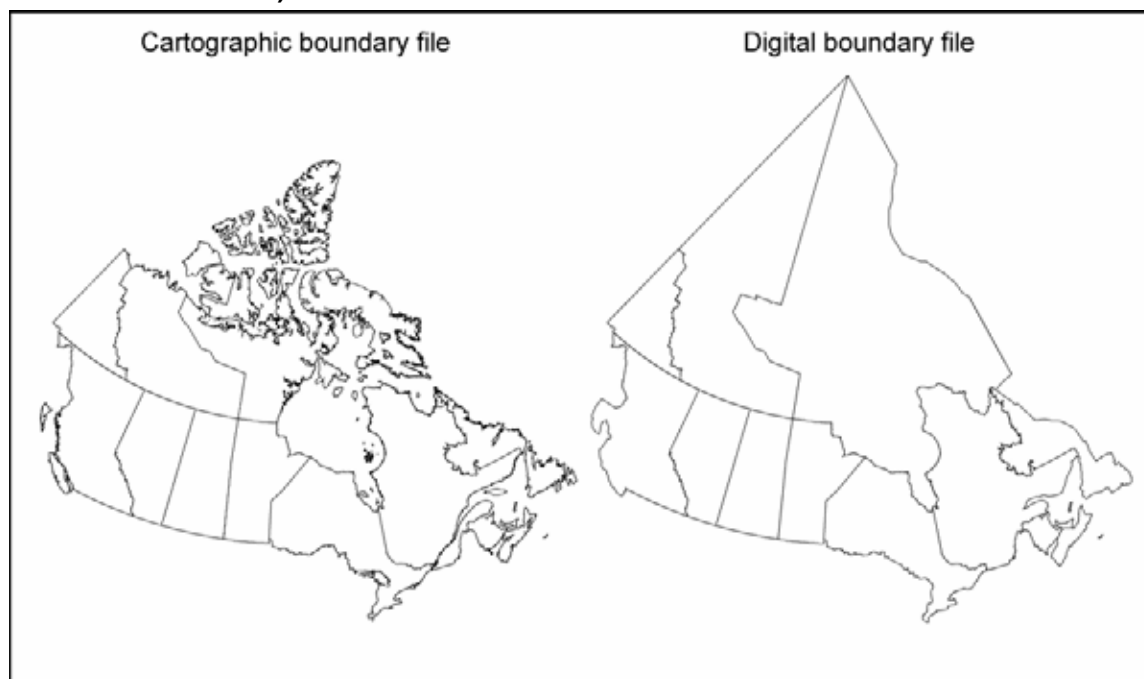
Technical limitations may result in some modifications to products described within this document. Users are encouraged to read the reference guides that accompany geography products for final product details.

#### 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.

The 2011 Census boundary files will be similar to the 2006 Census boundary files in content and format. However, new for the 2011 Census, within each boundary file the unique identifiers, names and types of all higher level geographic areas within the geographic hierarchy are included, where available at the time of release. See Table 3.1 for boundary file content proposed for the 2011 Census.

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



Separate files for rivers, lakes and oceans will also be available. These 'water' layers can be used for additional reference purposes when mapping or displaying the boundaries in either the cartographic or digital boundary files.

Cartographic and digital boundary files will be portrayed in latitude and longitude coordinates (NAD83). They will be available for the following geographic areas:

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

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all provinces and territories which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 municipalities. The files will contain the boundaries of all census divisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all census consolidated subdivisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all census subdivisions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 unit for analysis of regional economic activity. The files will contain the boundaries of all economic regions which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	



## 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 will 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	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-160-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-160-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all federal electoral districts which combined cover all of Canada. The Federal Electoral District boundary file will portray the federal electoral districts in effect on January 1, 2011.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-171-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	November 29, 2011
92-171-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 of 2,500 to 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 will contain the boundaries of all census tracts located within the census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations for which census tracts are delineated.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-168-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	November 29, 2011
92-168-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 (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. The files will contain the boundaries of all designated places defined for the census.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-165-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	February 8, 2012
92-165-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	February 8, 2012
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 concentration 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 will 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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/subjects-sujets/standard-norme/sgc-cgt/urban-urbain-eng.htm)).

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
TBD	Internet	English	TBD	February 8, 2012
TBD	Internet	French	TBD	February 8, 2012
2011 formats		Census	Number of files	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)		2011	1 English 1 French	

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all dissemination areas which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-169-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	November 29, 2011
92-169-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006, 2001	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 will contain the boundaries of all dissemination blocks which combined cover all of Canada.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-163-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	November 29, 2011
92-163-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

## 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 captured from the census questionnaires. Therefore, the census-based forward sortation area boundaries are not necessarily equivalent to forward sortation area boundaries in use by Canada Post Corporation, but are representations created from dissemination blocks.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-170-XWE	Internet	English	TBD	Fall 2012
92-170-XWF	Internet	French	TBD	Fall 2012
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

See Table 3.1 for boundary file content proposed 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/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/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/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/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/territorial or federal authorities	3	...	...	...	X	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration	3	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Name	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration name	100	...	...	...	X	...	X	...	X	...	X	X	X	...
Census Metropolitan Area/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/Census Agglomeration Provincial Part Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies the provincial/territorial part of a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 3-digit census metropolitan area/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/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/census agglomeration (composed of the 3-digit census metropolitan area/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/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/territorial part of a population centre (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 4-digit population centre unique identifier)	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	...	...	...
Population Centre Size Class	Identifies whether a population centre is small, medium or large urban	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/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/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/territorial part of a census forward sortation area (composed of the 2-digit province/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/territory  
 CD Census division  
 CCS Census consolidated subdivision  
 CSD Census subdivision  
 ER Economic region  
 CMA/CA Census metropolitan area/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

## 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.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-159-XWE	Internet	English	Free	February 8, 2012
92-159-XWF	Internet	French	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Boundary Files</a>	

**Table 3.2 Content of Population Ecumene Census Division Cartographic Boundary File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Ecumene Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies an ecumene polygon	Character	3
Ecumene Flag	A one digit code where the value '1' represents 'ecumene' and the value '0' represents 'out of ecumene (sparsely populated)'	Character	1

## Supplementary hydrographic layers

The supplementary hydrographic layers will be provided to allow for the mapping of inland water, oceans, Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. The hydrographic layers are created to be used in conjunction with the boundary files. Table 3.3 displays the content of the interior water bodies (polygons), coastal water bodies (polygons) and interior rivers (lines). Table 3.4 displays the recommended ranks for scale dependent mapping.

**Table 3.3 Content of supplementary hydrographic layers**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Hydrography Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a water feature	Character	8
Hydrography Feature Name	Feature name	Character	200
Hydrography Feature Type	Feature type description	Character	8
Hydrography Feature Rank	Feature rank	Character	1
Province or Territory Unique Identifier	Uniquely identifies a province or territory	Character	2



**Table 3.4 Recommended ranks for scale-dependent mapping**

Interval (1:)	Rank	Number of polygons (2006)	Number of lines (2006)
10,000,000 plus	1	87	0
6,000,000 to 9,999,999	2	2,555	7,360
2,000,000 to 5,999,999	3	2,091	9,762
500,000 to 1,999,999	4	7,526	18,157
100,000 to 499,999	5	12,967	36,526
25,000 to 99,999	6	49,697	36,475

## Road Network File

The 2011 Road Network File is a digital representation of Canada's national road network. It will contain information such as street names, types, directions and address ranges. For the 2011 Census, the Road Network and Geographic Attribute File will be transformed into a new 2011 Road Network File that will include road rank and road class. On each side of every road arc, there will be unique identifiers and names for the following levels of geography:

- province/territory
- census subdivision
- census metropolitan area/census agglomeration

Roads are ranked according to four 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 will be portrayed in latitude and longitude coordinates (NAD83).

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-500-XWE	Internet	English	Free	November 29, 2011
92-500-XWF	Internet	French	Free	November 29, 2011
2011 formats	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
ArcInfo® (.SHP), Geography Markup Language (.GML), and MapInfo® (.TAB)	2011, 2006	1 English 1 French	<a href="#">Road Network File</a>	

The 2011 Census Road Network File will contain additional attributes that are not found in the intercensal road network files.

**Table 3.5 Content of Road Network File**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Arc Unique Identifier	Unique identifier of the arc	Numeric	10
Arc Street Name	Street name associated with the arc	Character	50
Arc Street Type	Street type associated with the arc	Character	6
Arc Street Direction	Street direction associated with the arc	Character	2
Arc Address, Left-hand side, FROM node	Civic address found on the left-hand side of the arc at the FROM node	Numeric	9
Arc Address, Left-hand side, TO node	Civic address found on the left-hand side of the arc at the TO node	Numeric	9
Arc Address, Right-hand side, FROM node	Civic address found on the right-hand side of the arc at the FROM node	Numeric	9
Arc Address, Right-hand side, TO node	Civic address found on the right-hand side of the arc at the TO node	Numeric	9
Province or Territory Unique Identifier, Left-hand side	Uniquely identifies a province or territory, left-hand side of arc	Character	2
Province or Territory Name, Left-hand side	Province or territory name, left-hand side of arc	Character	55
Province or Territory Unique Identifier, Right-hand side	Uniquely identifies a province or territory, right-hand side of arc	Character	2
Province or Territory Name, Right-hand side	Province or territory name, right-hand side of arc	Character	55
Census Subdivision Unique Identifier, Left-hand side	Uniquely identifies a census subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census subdivision code), left-hand side of arc	Character	7
Census Subdivision Name, Left-hand side	Census subdivision name, left-hand side of arc	Character	55
Census Subdivision Type, Left-hand side	Census subdivisions are classified according to designations adopted by provincial/territorial or federal authorities, left-hand side of arc	Character	3
Census Subdivision Unique Identifier, Right-hand side	Uniquely identifies a census subdivision (composed of the 2-digit province/territory unique identifier followed by the 2-digit census division code and the 3-digit census subdivision code), right-hand side of arc	Character	7
Census Subdivision Name, Right-hand side	Census subdivision name, right-hand side of arc	Character	55

**Table 3.5 Content of Road Network File (continued)**

Attribute	Description	Field type	Size
Census Subdivision Type, Right-hand side	Census subdivisions are classified according to designations adopted by provincial/territorial or federal authorities, right-hand side of arc	Character	3
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Unique Identifier, Left-hand side	Uniquely identifies a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration, left-hand side of arc	Character	3
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Name, Left-hand side	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration name, left-hand side of arc	Character	100
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Type, Left-hand side	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration type, left-hand side of arc	Character	1
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Unique Identifier, Right-hand side	Uniquely identifies a census metropolitan area/census agglomeration, right-hand side of arc	Character	3
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Name, Right-hand side	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration name, right-hand side of arc	Character	100
Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Type, Right-hand side	Census metropolitan area or census agglomeration type, right-hand side of arc	Character	1
Road Rank	A 1-digit code that identifies the rank of road segments	Numeric	1
Road Class	A 2-digit code that identifies the different types of road segments	Numeric	2

## 4. Maps

### Reference Maps – 2011 Census

Reference maps illustrate 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 roads, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes.

It is anticipated that over 10,000 reference maps will be 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 Reference Map Series will be similar to the 2006 Reference Map Series in content and format. There are no significant changes proposed for the Reference Maps. The 2011 reference maps will contain content applicable to the 2011 Census.

The 2011 Reference Map Series, where applicable, will contain embedded links enabling users to link between map series as was the case in 2006.

### National Reference Maps

For the 2011 Census, four national maps will be 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 large dots designating census metropolitan areas and small dots designating census agglomerations. The map also lists by order of unique identifier, the census metropolitan area and census agglomeration names, by province and territory.

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

#### Census Divisions

This map shows the 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 shows the 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.

#### Statistical Area Classification

This map shows 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	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
12-572-XWE/F	Internet	Bilingual	Free	TBD
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	4 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

## 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 show the 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 show the boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
12-572-XWE/F	Internet	Bilingual	Free	TBD
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	23 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

## 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 show the boundaries and names of census tracts and census subdivisions, designated places and their names, as well as core, secondary core, fringe and rural area within the census metropolitan areas or census agglomerations. There are several maps in the series and inset maps are created to show detail for the more concentrated areas. The maps also display census subdivision boundaries with detailed street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes. The maps vary in scale and size. Embedded links exist enabling the user to link to the respective dissemination area by census tract map when viewing the maps on the Internet.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-146-UIB	Internet	Bilingual	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	131 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

## Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tract, 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 several maps in the series. Inset maps are created 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	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-147-XIB	Internet	Bilingual	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	5,269 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

### 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 area, within a census agglomeration. There are several maps in this series and inset maps are created to show detail for the more concentrated areas. The maps also display census subdivision boundaries with detailed street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-148-UIB	Internet	Bilingual	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	271 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

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

The Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Subdivision, 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. The maps also display census subdivision boundaries with detailed street network and other visible features such as railroads, rivers and lakes.

Catalogue number	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-145-UIB	Internet	Bilingual	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
PDF	2011, 2006, 2001	4,470 (2006)	<a href="#">Reference Maps</a>	

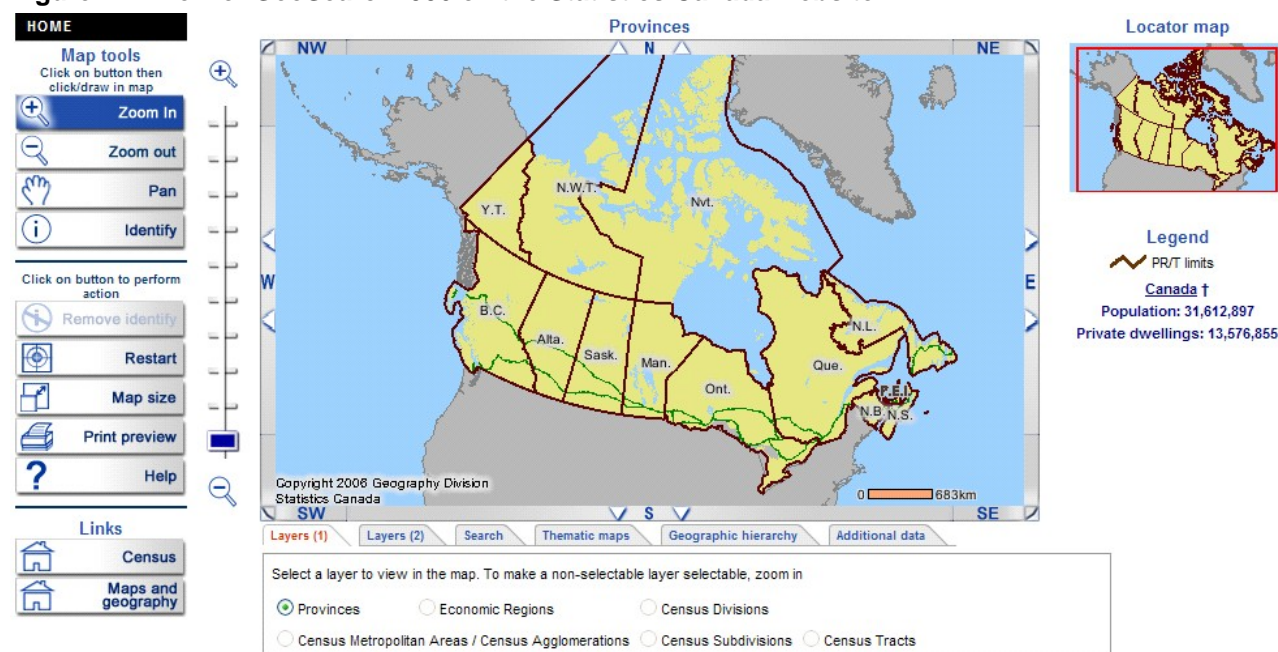
## GeoSearch

Updated for the 2011 Census, 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 will display 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 includes links to 2011 Census reference maps and various census products.

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	Medium	Language	Price	Release date
92-142-XWE	Internet	English	Free	February 8, 2012
92-142-XWF	Internet	French	Free	February 8, 2012
2011 format	Censuses	Number of files	2006 link	
Internet application	2011, 2006, 2001	N/A	<a href="#">GeoSearch</a>	

**Figure 4.1 View of GeoSearch2006 on the Statistics Canada website**



## 5. Custom services

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

### Custom Area Creation

The Custom Area Creation service provides clients the capacity to define their own geographic areas of study for census data tabulations. User-defined areas are produced from the aggregation of standard census geographic areas, or where possible, block-faces.

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

### Custom Product Creation

The Custom Product Creation service is available to produce non-standard geographic products that satisfy client's needs. For example, it is possible to produce a different set of geographic files, retrieve data, as well as manipulate or merge data from geography products.

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

### Custom Map Creation

The Custom Map Creation service produces thematic maps and other maps, specially designed to meet client's needs.

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



## Appendix A Glossary

### **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) contain the boundaries of standard geographic areas together with the shoreline around Canada. Selected inland lakes and rivers are available as a supplementary layer.

### **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 population centre, as measured by commuting flows derived from 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. The population centres in the CMA or CA that are not contiguous to the core, or a secondary core, are referred to as fringe. All remaining area inside the CMA or CA is called rural area.

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 area and census agglomeration influenced zone**

The census metropolitan area and census agglomeration influenced zone (MIZ) is a concept that geographically differentiates the area of Canada outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). Census subdivisions 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 and/or CAs have on them.

Census subdivisions (CSDs) are assigned to a MIZ category based on the percentage of their resident employed labour force that has a place of work in the core(s) of a CMA or a CA. 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.

### **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 of 2,500 to 8,000. They are located in census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and in census agglomerations (CAs) with 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 CMA or CA has been subdivided into census tracts, the CTs 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) or planar (such as Universal Transverse Mercator).

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

The **secondary core** is a population centre within a CMA that has at least 10,000 people 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 people 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 that specifies the size and shape of the earth, and the base point from which the latitude and longitude of all other points on the earth's surface are referenced.

### **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 2011 Census 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 their 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) to map features and data records. The resulting geocodes permit data to be linked geographically.

Households, postal codes and place of work data are linked to block-face representative points 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 representative points when the data cannot be linked to DAs.

**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 to facilitate the operational requirements in order to finalize the geographic framework for which census data are collected, tabulated and reported. For the 2011 Census, the geographic reference date is January 1, 2011.

**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.

**Place name**

Place name provides information on local place names and includes selected records of active and retired geographic areas as well as names from the Canadian Geographic Names Database. Place names provide users with a means for searching and mapping on localized place names.

**Polygon**

An area of space delineated by a boundary composed of line segments.

**Population centre**

A population centre (POPCTR) has a population of at least 1,000 and a population density of 400 or more people 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.

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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/subjects-sujets/standard-norme/sgc-cgt/urban-urbain-eng.htm)).

**Population density**

Population density is the number of persons per square kilometre.

**Postal code**

The postal code 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 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 and place of work data are linked to block-face representative points 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 representative points when the data cannot be linked to DAs.

#### **Road network file**

The road network file (RNF) contains roads, road names, types, directions, address ranges and road ranks for the entire country. Address ranges are dwelling-based.

#### **Rural area**

Rural areas (RAs) include all territory lying outside population centres. Taken together, population centres and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Rural population includes all population living in the 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 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) is Statistics Canada's official classification for three types of geographic areas: provinces and territories, census divisions (CDs) and census subdivisions (CSDs). The SGC provides unique numeric identification (codes) for these hierarchically related geographic areas.

#### **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, a census metropolitan area and census agglomeration influenced zone (strong MIZ, moderate MIZ, weak MIZ or no MIZ), or the territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut). The SAC is used for data dissemination purposes.

#### **Thematic map**

A thematic map shows the spatial distribution of one or more specific data themes for standard geographic areas. The map may be qualitative in nature (e.g., predominant farm types) or quantitative (e.g., percentage population change).

#### **Unique identifier**

The unique identifier is a unique numerical identifier assigned to a geographic area. The unique identifier is used to identify and access standard geographic areas for the purposes of data storage, retrieval and display.

## Appendix B Geographic units by province and territory, 2006 Census

**Table B.1 Geographic units by province and territory, 2006 Census**

Geographic unit	Canada 2001	Canada 2006	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Y.T.	N.W.T.	Nvt.
Federal electoral district (2003 Representation Order)	301 <sup>1</sup>	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	288	11	3	18	15	98	49	23	18	19	28	1	2	3
Census consolidated subdivision	2,446	2,341	89	68	43	151	1,008	316	127	300	77	156	1	2	3
Census subdivision (CSD)	5,600	5,418	377	113	100	276	1,294	585	297	984	453	836	35	37	31
CSD dissolutions (January 2, 2001 to January 1, 2006)	340	...	9	0	0	0	282	5	7	29	4	4	0	0	0
CSD incorporations (January 2, 2001 to January 1, 2006)	...	158	5	0	2	1	100	4	6	11	5	24	0	0	0
Designated place	1,261	1,289	182	0	49	167	83	88	58	159	262	240	1	0	0
Census metropolitan area	27	33	1	0	1	2	6 <sup>2</sup>	15 <sup>2</sup>	1	2	2	4	0	0	0
Census agglomeration (CA)	113	111	3	2	4	5 <sup>2</sup>	26 <sup>2</sup>	28 <sup>2</sup>	3	7 <sup>2</sup>	12 <sup>2</sup>	22	1	1	0
CA with census tracts	16	15	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	3	4	0	0	0
CA without census tracts	94	96	3	2	4	4 <sup>2</sup>	23 <sup>2</sup>	24 <sup>2</sup>	3	7 <sup>2</sup>	9 <sup>2</sup>	18	1	1	0
Census tract	4,798	5,076	46	0	88	99	1,289	2,136	168	105	491	654	0	0	0
Urban area	913	895	32	7	36	32 <sup>2</sup>	226 <sup>2</sup>	260 <sup>2</sup>	38 <sup>2</sup>	58 <sup>2</sup>	107 <sup>2</sup>	95	1	3	5
Locality	52,291	52,558	2,445	964	3,924	3,450	12,617	10,905	2,349	3,898	3,472	7,708	363	173	290
Dissemination area	52,993	54,626	1,062	292	1,633	1,439	13,408	19,177	2,152	2,431	5,357	7,471	78	84	42
Dissemination block	478,707	478,831	8,199	3,251	14,656	14,864	108,751	126,244	30,421	51,729	65,071	52,808	1,261	967	609
Block-face	3,764,232	3,739,041	78,376	26,190	154,564	132,873	835,458	942,567	198,063	361,069	507,859	473,418	11,888	11,620	5,096
Forward sortation area	1,595	1,625	35	7	76	110	415	522	64	48	150	189	3	3	3
Postal code	758,658	805,640	10,378	3,157	25,313	57,355	202,972	269,676	23,943	21,541	76,924	112,904	942	506	29

... not applicable

1. Federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order).
2. Census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations and urban areas crossing provincial boundaries are counted in both provinces, and, therefore, do not add up to the national total.

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population; Canada Post Corporation, May 2006.

Note: The number of geographic units by province and territory for the 2011 Census are not yet defined. The table above displays the number of geographic units by province and territory for the 2006 Census.