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# Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (2003 Representation Order) File (PCFRF), 2001 Census (geography products: attribute information products), Reference guide

June 2003



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Statistics Canada

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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.*

## What's new?

- The postal code reference date for this update is June 2003, the same as for the postal code federal riding file (PCFRF) based on the 1996 Representation Order released in January 2004.

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## 1. About this guide

This guide is intended for users of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF). It includes an overview of the file and its intended use, a description of the general methodology used to create the file and of the data quality and limitations of the file contents. A record layout of the fields in the file and a glossary of the terms used in this document are also included.

This reference guide is based on the best information available at the time of its release. It in no way constitutes a warranty of the data in the event that users may observe characteristics that deviate from those stated in this document. All efforts have been made to ensure a thorough verification of this product, however, there is no guarantee that the data are 100% accurate.

## 2. Overview

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is a digital file, which provides a link between the six character postal code and Canada's federal ridings. The current version of the PCFRF links 785,668 active postal code **records**, existing as of June 2003, to the 308 federal ridings.

Elections Canada defines a federal electoral district as any place or territorial area entitled to return a Member of Parliament (MP) to serve in the House of Commons. FED legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every 10 years after the results of the decennial census. There are 308 FED's based on the 2003 Representation Order, the most recent revision of the federal riding limits.<sup>1</sup>

### Reference Dates

The reference date is June 2003, for postal codes contained in the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File. This is the same date as the postal codes contained in the Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) product released in January 2004.

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada to finalize the geographic framework for which the Census data will be collected, tabulated and reported. The geographic reference date for the 2001 Census is January 1, 2001.

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<sup>1</sup> *Note that the terms "federal riding" and "federal electoral district" or "FED" are used interchangeably in this user guide.*

### 3. How to use this product

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) was conceived as a tool for use with administrative files containing postal codes. By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organized and/or tabulated by federal riding. Using this tool, federal government departments will be able to respond more quickly and easily to MPs requests for information about their ridings. For example, the number and value of contracts awarded to a particular riding could be summarized. The ridings where petition signatories reside could also be identified in order to notify the appropriate Members of Parliament. Conversely, the postal codes for a given riding could be identified for general mailings to constituents; however, it should be noted that some postal codes do straddle one or more riding boundaries. Before using this file, users should first familiarize themselves with the information provided in the following section on data quality.

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## 4. Data quality

*Linkage data quality elements provide information on the fitness-for-use of a linkage 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, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness. This information is provided to users for all linkage data products disseminated for the census.*

Before using the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) with administrative files containing postal codes, users should be aware of some characteristics of postal codes that may affect their linkage to federal ridings on the PCFRF:

- 1) postal delivery areas do not always respect federal riding boundaries;
- 2) postal codes may be associated with post office boxes at a postal station that is not in the same riding as the client using the post office box;
- 3) Canada Post Corporation regularly retires postal codes and may also reactivate retired postal codes for use again;
- 4) Inclusion or exclusion of postal codes in a federal riding.

In the first case, a postal delivery area (as represented by the six-digit postal code) may straddle one or more federal riding boundaries, which means that, in the postal code/2003 federal riding file, the same postal code may be linked to two or more (adjacent) federal ridings. Most ridings are affected in this way in both urban and rural areas. Refer to section 4 *Logical Consistency* in this guide for further details.

In the second case, the postal code linkage to the federal riding is based on the mailing address information, and therefore it is the physical location of the post office that is linked to the riding rather than the ultimate destination of mail delivery - the residential, industrial or commercial location of the client renting a post office box - which could be located in another riding.

In the third case, users of the PCFRF must keep in mind that the file contains only the postal codes from Canada Post that are active as of June 2003.

If the addresses in a user's administrative file are not updated to June 2003, there may be non-matches with the PCFRF because some of the postal codes in the user's file may have been retired, or may even have been reactivated and re-assigned by Canada Post to another range of addresses outside the riding where they had previously been used. Statistics Canada maintains an audit trail of the "birth" dates and "retirement" dates of postal codes in the Postal Code Conversion File. Users may wish to contact their nearest Regional Reference Centre where detailed information about the Postal Code Conversion File is available in the *Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) User Guide*, Updated File including June 2003 Postal Codes produced by the Geography Division, Statistics Canada, January 2004.

In the fourth case, postal codes are given the representative point co-ordinates of a block-face, block or of a dissemination area. Where a 2001 Federal Electoral District boundary splits a 2001 DA, block or block-face, the postal codes linked to that DA, block or block-face are included in the federal riding in which their co-ordinates fall.



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## Lineage

*Describes the history of the linkage data, including descriptions of the source material from which the data were derived, and the methods of derivation. It also contains the dates of the source material, and all transformations involved in producing the final digital files.*

### Source Files

Two existing products of the Geography Division at Statistics Canada have been used to derive the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF):

- 1) January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), which links postal codes (provided by Canada Post Corporation (CPC) on the Postal Code Address Master File, updated to June 2003) to codes for all 2001 Census geographic areas, including province (PR) codes and federal electoral district (FED) Representative Order 1996 codes to geographic point co-ordinates representing the postal codes. The January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File contains over 1.9 million postal code records linked to the geographical areas used in the 2001 Census. These geographical areas have a reference date of January , 2001, except for the Federal Electoral District (based on the 2003 Representation Order).
- 2) The **Federal Electoral District (FED) Names File**, which contains the official name of each federal riding (based on the 2003 Representation Order) and its associated identification code.

### Method of Derivation

The PCFRF was created by linking the non retired postal codes included on the January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File, containing June 2003 postal codes, to the list of federal electoral district (Fed308) codes and names, using either the block or DA geography as linkage variables. A linkage table provided by Election Canada used contained links between the new list of federal electoral district (Fed308) codes and names and a list of blocks.

The resulting PCFRF file contains 785,668 non retired postal code **records** of which 772,445 are unique links to one federal electoral district. In total, 6,261 active postal codes (13,213 records) are linked to more than one federal electoral district (further details are provided in section 4 below). The number of postal code records by federal electoral district is provided in Appendix A.

### Attribute Accuracy

*Attribute accuracy refers to the quality of the non-positional information attached to each postal code.* The attribute accuracy of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is dependent on the accuracy of the Postal Code Conversion File and the table linking the blocks to the Fed308s.

## Logical consistency

*Describes the fidelity of relationships encoded in the data structure of the digital linkage data.*

Of the 785,668 active postal code **records** found on this file, there are 772,455 active postal codes uniquely linked to one federal riding and 6,261 active postal codes that are linked to two or more federal ridings. The following table summarizes them.

### Postal codes linked to 2 or more Federal Ridings

Number of Federal Ridings	Number of active postal codes	Number of records on postal code by federal riding file
2	5,692	11,384
3	462	1,386
4	94	326
5	11	55
6	2	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,261</b>	<b>13,213</b>

### Consistency with other products

Data contained in the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) are consistent with all 2001 Census related geographic products with the exception of the 2001 Census Forward Sortation Areas Boundary File (Catalogue No. 92F0170XCE) which represents only the FSA's reported in the 2001 Census and valid as of May 2001. The Postal Code Conversion File provides all postal codes (both in use and retired) and is updated twice a year to include recent postal codes.

## Completeness

*Refers to the degree to which geographic features, their attributes and their relationships are included or omitted in a dataset. It also includes information on selection criteria, definitions used, and other relevant mapping rules.*

Completeness in the context of the PCFRF is the degree to which all valid postal codes are accounted for. All postal codes, valid as of June 2003 according to Canada Post Corporation, have been linked to census geography.

The Federal Electoral District Names file contains 308 records, one for each federal electoral district (2003 Representation Order).

The data files are named using a file naming convention described in Appendix A and contain the following number of active postal code **records**:

Filename	Number of records
pcfrfEastFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfEstCEF308.exe - Atlantic provinces	93,859
pcfrfQueFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfQuéCEF308.exe - Québec	194,814
pcfrfOntFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfOntCEF308.exe - Ontario	263,549
pcfrfWestFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfOuestCEF308.exe - Prairie provinces, NWT and Nunavut	120,615
pcfrfBCFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfCBCEF308.exe - BC and the Yukon	112,831
pcfrfNatFED308_JUN03_fcpcéfNatCEF308.exe - Canada (National file)	785,668

## 5. Technical specifications

### File specifications

The current version of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is an ASCII file and does not include any software.

### Data descriptions and record layout

**Record Layout Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF)**

Position	Size	Type*	Field Description
1	6	C	Postal code
7	5	C	Federal riding (FED) code
12	56	C	English Federal riding (FED) name
68	56	C	French Federal riding (FED) name

\*The field type "C" refers to both alphabetic and numeric characters.

### Field descriptions

#### Postal Code

The postal code is a six-character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation for the processing (sortation and delivery) of mail.

The alphanumeric characters are arranged in the form ANA NAN, where "A" represents a letter of the alphabet and "N" a numeric digit. The first character of a postal code (allocated in alphabetic sequence from east to west across Canada) represents a province or territory or a major sector entirely within a province.

The first three characters represent a set of well-defined and stable areas known as the Forward Sortation Area (FSA). Rural FSAs are identifiable by the presence of a "0" in the second position of the FSA code.

The last three characters identify the Local Delivery Unit (LDU). In established urban areas, the LDU can specify a small and easily defined area within an FSA such as block-face (one side of a city street between consecutive intersections with streets), an apartment building, an office building, or a large firm or organization which does large volume business with the post office. In rural areas, the LDU denotes a service area - the area serviced by rural route delivery from a post office or station, e.g., a rural route, general delivery or post office box.

#### Federal Riding or Federal Electoral District Code

A federal electoral district is any place or territorial area entitled to return a member to serve in the House of Commons. FED legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every 10 years after the results of the decennial census. The 2003 Representation Order is the most current revision, and is based on 2001 Census population data.

## Appendix A: Postal Code by Federal Ridings File

This table shows the number of postal codes (or PCs) per federal riding (or FED)

### Field descriptions

#### Province (PR)

The major political division of Canada. From a statistical point of view, it is a basic unit for which data are tabulated and cross-classified. The province codes are: **10** - Newfoundland and Labrador, **11** - Prince Edward Island, **12** - Nova Scotia, **13** - New Brunswick, **24** - Quebec, **35** - Ontario, **46** - Manitoba, **47** - Saskatchewan, **48** - Alberta, and **59** - British Columbia.

#### Territory (TERR)

Three major political divisions of Canada, namely the Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. From a statistical point of view, these territories are equivalent to a province, i.e., a basic unit for which data are tabulated and cross-classified. The territory codes are: **60** - Yukon Territory, **61** - Northwest Territories, and **62** - Nunavut.

#### PR/FED

A two-digit provincial code is followed by a three-digit federal riding code, assigned by Elections Canada.

#### Federal Riding Names

Complete name of Federal Riding

#### Number of Postal Codes

The number of postal codes found within a Federal Riding

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
10001	Avalon	636
10002	Bonavista—Exploits	823
10003	Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte	1585
10004	Labrador	370
10005	Random—Burin—St. George's	578
10006	St. John's North	3359
10007	St. John's South	2462
11001	Cardigan	340
11002	Charlottetown	1667
11003	Egmont	987
11004	Malpeque	29
12001	Cape Breton—Canso	3201
12002	Central Nova	1263
12003	Dartmouth—Cole Harbour	3093
12004	Halifax	3438
12005	Halifax West	2138
12006	Kings—Hants	1461

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
12007	North Nova	1832
12008	Sackville—Eastern Shore	1530
12009	South Shore—St. Margaret's	1059
12010	Sydney—Victoria	5098
12011	West Nova	696
13001	Acadie—Bathurst	4584
13002	Beauséjour	8016
13003	Fredericton	4345
13004	Fundy	6520
13005	Madawaska—Restigouche	4175
13006	Miramichi	4899
13007	Moncton—Riverview—Dieppe	4363
13008	St. Croix—Belleisle	7627
13009	Saint John	4391
13010	Tobique—Mactaquac	7294
24001	Abitibi—Témiscamingue	2524
24002	Ahuntsic	2321
24003	Alfred-Pellan	3382
24004	Argenteuil—Mirabel	1756
24005	Beauce	2385
24006	Beauharnois—Salaberry	2347
24007	Beauport	3652
24008	Berthier—Maskinongé	1238
24009	Bourassa	2169
24010	Brome—Missisquoi	2723
24011	Brossard—La Prairie	2576
24012	Chambly—Borduas	3266
24013	Charlesbourg	3504
24014	Charlevoix—Montmorency	1722
24015	Châteauguay—Saint-Constant	2299
24016	Chicoutimi—Le Fjord	3590
24017	Compton—Stanstead	1373
24018	Drummond	3572
24019	Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	659
24020	Gatineau	3329
24021	Hochelaga	2086
24022	Honoré-Mercier	2445
24023	Hull—Aylmer	3835
24024	Jeanne-Le Ber	2550
24025	Joliette	1441
24026	Jonquière—Alma	4509
24027	Lac-Saint-Louis	3852
24028	La Pointe-de-l'Île	2864
24029	LaSalle—Émard	1772
24030	Laurentides—Labelle	1883
24031	Laurier	2442
24032	Laval	2941

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
24033	Laval—Les Îles	2908
24034	Lévis—Bellechasse	2453
24035	Longueuil	2681
24036	Lotbinière—Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	2040
24037	Louis-Hébert	3607
24038	Louis-Saint-Laurent	3155
24039	Manicouagan	2200
24040	Marc-Aurèle-Fortin	3536
24041	Matapédia—Matane	2211
24042	Mégantic—L'Érable	2798
24043	Montcalm	1774
24044	Mount Royal - Mont-Royal	2394
24045	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Lachine	2922
24046	Nunavik—Eeyou	1453
24047	Outremont	1492
24048	Papineau	1746
24049	Pierrefonds—Dollard	2725
24050	Pontiac	2406
24051	Portneuf	1543
24052	Québec	4096
24053	Repentigny	3775
24054	Richelieu	2934
24055	Richmond—Arthabaska	2903
24056	Rimouski—Témiscouata	1940
24057	Rivière-des-Mille-Îles	2466
24058	Rivière-du-Loup—Montmagny	1623
24059	Rivière-du-Nord	3211
24060	Roberval	2757
24061	Rosemont—La Petite-Patrie	1766
24062	Saint-Bruno—Saint-Hubert	2949
24063	Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot	2385
24064	Saint-Jean	2777
24065	Saint-Lambert	2819
24066	Saint-Laurent—Cartierville	2552
24067	Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	1870
24068	Saint-Maurice—Champlain	4005
24069	Shefford	2160
24070	Sherbrooke	3476
24071	Terrebonne—Blainville	2397
24072	Trois-Rivières	4180
24073	Vaudreuil-Soulanges	2056
24074	Verchères—Les Patriotes	1230
24075	Westmount—Ville-Marie	3436
35001	Ajax—Pickering	2218
35002	Algoma—Manitoulin—Kapusking	1034
35003	Ancaster—Dundas—Flamborough—Westdale	2650
35004	Barrie	2753

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
35005	Beaches—East York	2322
35006	Bramalea—Gore—Malton	2429
35007	Brampton—Springdale	1876
35008	Brampton West - Brampton-Ouest	2315
35009	Brant	4167
35010	Burlington	3883
35011	Cambridge	3657
35012	Carleton—Lanark	1844
35013	Chatham-Kent—Essex	2473
35014	Clarington—Scugog—Uxbridge	1670
35015	Davenport	1699
35016	Don Valley East	1698
35017	Don Valley West	2636
35018	Dufferin—Caledon	1338
35019	Eglinton—Lawrence	2406
35020	Elgin—Middlesex—London	2636
35021	Essex	2385
35022	Etobicoke Centre	2903
35023	Etobicoke—Lakeshore	3377
35024	Etobicoke North	1912
35025	Glengarry—Prescott—Russell	984
35026	Grey—Bruce—Owen Sound	1702
35027	Guelph	3432
35028	Haldimand—Norfolk	1843
35029	Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock	974
35030	Halton	2225
35031	Hamilton Centre	3866
35032	Hamilton East—Stoney Creek	3770
35033	Hamilton Mountain	3444
35034	Huron—Bruce	1000
35035	Kenora	1107
35036	Kingston and the Islands	3690
35037	Kitchener Centre	3140
35038	Kitchener—Conestoga	2214
35039	Kitchener—Waterloo	3571
35040	Lanark—Frontenac—Lennox and Addington	2646
35041	Leeds—Grenville	1535
35042	London—Fanshawe	2505
35043	London North Centre	3675
35044	London West	2939
35045	Markham—Unionville	2623
35046	Middlesex—Kent—Lambton	1461
35047	Mississauga—Brampton South	2617
35048	Mississauga East—Cooksville	1661
35049	Mississauga—Erindale	2125
35050	Mississauga South	3126
35051	Mississauga—Streetsville	1997



<b>PR/FED</b>	<b>FEDERAL RIDING NAMES</b>	<b>Number of Postal Codes</b>
35052	Nepean—Carleton	2431
35053	Newmarket—Aurora	2634
35054	Niagara Falls	4284
35055	Niagara West—Glanbrook	1398
35056	Nickel Belt	1122
35057	Nipissing—Timiskaming	2201
35058	Northumberland—Quinte West	2497
35059	Oak Ridges—Markham	2348
35060	Oakville	3834
35061	Oshawa	3378
35062	Ottawa Centre	4105
35063	Ottawa—Orléans	2596
35064	Ottawa South	3308
35065	Ottawa—Vanier	3237
35066	Ottawa West—Nepean	3064
35067	Oxford	2935
35068	Parkdale—High Park	1761
35069	Parry Sound—Muskoka	1068
35070	Perth—Wellington	1877
35071	Peterborough	2994
35072	Pickering—Scarborough East	2199
35073	Prince Edward—Hastings	1665
35074	Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke	2942
35075	Richmond Hill	2394
35076	St. Catharines	4444
35077	St. Paul's	2247
35078	Sarnia—Lambton	2839
35079	Sault Ste. Marie	2926
35080	Scarborough—Agincourt	1684
35081	Scarborough Centre	2034
35082	Scarborough—Guildwood	1737
35083	Scarborough—Rouge River	1793
35084	Scarborough Southwest	2165
35085	Simcoe—Grey	1021
35086	Simcoe North	2254
35087	Stormont—Dundas—South Glengarry	2154
35088	Sudbury	3167
35089	Thornhill	2924
35090	Thunder Bay—Rainy River	2587
35091	Thunder Bay—Superior North	2358
35092	Timmins—James Bay	1919
35093	Toronto Centre	2641
35094	Toronto—Danforth	2166
35095	Trinity—Spadina	2632
35096	Vaughan	2409
35097	Welland	4359
35098	Wellington—Halton Hills	1822

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
35099	Whitby—Oshawa	3190
35100	Willowdale	2445
35101	Windsor—Tecumseh	3258
35102	Windsor West	4349
35103	York Centre	2336
35104	York—Simcoe	1777
35105	York South—Weston	2128
35106	York West	1359
46001	Brandon—Souris	2083
46002	Charleswood—St. James	2190
46003	Churchill	736
46004	Dauphin—Swan River	706
46005	Elmwood—Transcona	2212
46006	Kildonan—St. Paul	1982
46007	Portage—Lisgar	1256
46008	Provencher	239
46009	Saint Boniface	2402
46010	Selkirk—Interlake	855
46011	Winnipeg Centre	2822
46012	Winnipeg North	2143
46013	Winnipeg South	1779
46014	Winnipeg South Centre	2161
47001	Battlefords—Lloydminster	1105
47002	Blackstrap	1728
47003	Churchill River	271
47004	Cypress Hills—Grasslands	1079
47005	Palliser	2716
47006	Prince Albert	1481
47007	Regina—Lumsden—Lake Centre	1757
47008	Regina—Qu'Appelle	1795
47009	Saskatoon—Humboldt	1472
47010	Saskatoon—Rosetown—Biggar	1905
47011	Saskatoon—Wanuskewin	1604
47012	Souris—Moose Mountain	1186
47013	Wascana	2629
47014	Yorkton—Melville	820
48001	Athabasca	1278
48002	Calgary East	3652
48003	Calgary North Centre	4328
48004	Calgary Northeast	2429
48005	Calgary—Nose Hill	1932
48006	Calgary South Centre	4733
48007	Calgary Southeast	2591
48008	Calgary Southwest	2618
48009	Calgary West	2968
48010	Crowfoot	1244
48011	Edmonton—Beaumont	2543

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	Number of Postal Codes
48012	Edmonton Centre	5311
48013	Edmonton East	4601
48014	Edmonton—Leduc	3075
48015	Edmonton—St. Albert	3411
48016	Edmonton—Sherwood Park	3152
48017	Edmonton—Spruce Grove	2730
48018	Edmonton—Strathcona	4628
48019	Lethbridge	3470
48020	Macleod	828
48021	Medicine Hat	2784
48022	Peace River	1920
48023	Red Deer	2592
48024	Vegreville—Wainwright	1466
48025	Westlock—St. Paul	984
48026	Wetaskiwin	1226
48027	Wild Rose	1638
48028	Yellowhead	845
59001	Abbotsford	2841
59002	Burnaby—Douglas	3415
59003	Burnaby—New Westminster	3032
59004	Cariboo—Prince George	3768
59005	Chilliwack—Fraser Canyon	1958
59006	Delta—Richmond East	3453
59007	Dewdney—Alouette	3472
59008	Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca	3379
59009	Fleetwood—Port Kells	2523
59010	Kamloops—Thompson	2890
59011	Kelowna	3889
59012	Kootenay—Columbia	1515
59013	Langley	3039
59014	Nanaimo—Alberni	3407
59015	Nanaimo—Cowichan	2912
59016	Newton—North Delta	3075
59017	New Westminster—Coquitlam	3800
59018	North Okanagan—Shuswap	2675
59019	North Vancouver	4008
59020	Okanagan—Coquihalla	2254
59021	Port Moody—Westwood—Port Coquitlam	2597
59022	Prince George—Peace River	3313
59023	Richmond	2454
59024	Saanich—Gulf Islands	3952
59025	Skeena—Bulkley Valley	1766
59026	Southern Interior	2392
59027	South Surrey—White Rock—Cloverdale	3294
59028	Surrey North	3349
59029	Vancouver Centre	2892
59030	Vancouver East	3429

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<b>PR/FED</b>	<b>FEDERAL RIDING NAMES</b>	<b>Number of Postal Codes</b>
59031	Vancouver Island North	3138
59032	Vancouver Kingsway	3194
59033	Vancouver Quadra	4073
59034	Vancouver South	3056
59035	Victoria	4652
59036	West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast	3046
60001	Yukon	929
61001	Western Arctic	494
62001	Nunavut	30

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## Appendix B: Data File Naming Convention

The naming convention for PCFRF data files has been designed to be bilingual and to reflect the reference date of the Canada Post Corporation (CPC) data used in the release.

### **Structure of file names**

*data type Province\_CPC version date\_French translation*

*data type* – Type of data (PCFRF)

*Province* – Name abbreviation of province or region.

*CPC version date* – reference date of Canada Post Corporation postal code data

*French translation* – Type of data (French translation: fcpcéf)

Data files in this release are the following:

#### National File

pcfrfNatFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfNatCEF308.exe

#### Provincial Files

pcfrfEastFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfEstCEF308.exe

pcfrfQueFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfQuéCEF308.exe

pcfrfOntFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfOntCEF308.exe

pcfrfWestFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfOuestCEF308.exe

pcfrfBCFED308\_JUN03\_fcpcéfCBCEF308.exe

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- .2002e. *Standard Geographical Classification, Volume II*. 2001 Census of Canada. (Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 12-572-XPB). Ottawa: Minister responsible for Statistics Canada.

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## Geography products and services

This section provides brief descriptions of Geography products and services related to the 2001 Census. For additional details, consult the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

### 1. Reference Maps

Reference maps show the location of the geographic areas for which census data are tabulated and disseminated. The maps display the boundaries, names and codes of standard geographic areas, as well as major cultural and physical features, such as roads, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes. Over 5,600 reference maps are available for the 2001 Census. Given the diversity in size of these geographic areas, different map scales and map coverages are required to show the appropriate level of detail. Descriptions of each series are provided with the individual catalogue entries below.

#### National Reference Maps

- 92F0172XCB Reference Maps – Complete Set, 2001 Census
- 92F0144XIB Census Divisions, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Economic Regions and Census Divisions, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Statistical Area Classification, 2001 Census Subdivisions
- 92F0152XPE Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Reference Map

#### 92F0149XPB 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 codes of census divisions (such as counties and regional districts) and census subdivisions (such as cities, towns, villages, other local municipal entities, townships and Indian reserves). The maps also show the boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. There are 22 maps that vary in scale (ranging from 1:310,000 to 1:3,500,000).

#### 92F0145XPB Census Tract Reference Maps, by Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration

The series of Census Tract Reference Maps covers all 27 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the 19 census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts. The maps show the boundaries and names of census tracts and census subdivisions, as well as the urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe within the CMAs or CAs. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features. There are 85 maps in the series, with one to four maps covering each CMA or CA. The map scales range from 1:25,000 to 1:2,000,000, and the maximum map dimensions are approximately 91 cm by 101 cm (36 inches by 40 inches).

#### 92F0146XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tract, for Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations.

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Census Tract covers all 27 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the 19 census agglomerations (CAs) that are part of the census tract program. Each map in the set covers one census tract (CT) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CT. The maps also show census tract, census subdivision, and census metropolitan area or census agglomeration boundaries on a background of detailed street networks and other visible features such as rivers, lakes and railroad tracks.

There are approximately 4,800 maps in this set—generally one map per census tract. The dimensions of each map are approximately 27 cm by 43 cm (11 inches by 17 inches).



**92F0147XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by non-tracted Census Agglomeration**

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Non-tracted Census Agglomeration covers the smaller census agglomerations that are not part of the census tract program. Each map in the set covers one census agglomeration (CA) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CA. The maps also show the boundaries of census subdivisions (municipalities), as well as urban areas, and representative points for designated places. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features.

There are approximately 100 maps in this set—generally one map per census agglomeration (The maps vary in scale and size; the maximum map dimensions are approximately 91 cm by 101 cm (36 inches by 40 inches)).

**92F0148XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Division, for Areas Outside Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations**

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Census Division covers areas outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). Each map in the set covers one census division (CD) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CD. The maps also show the boundaries of census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, as well as urban areas and representative points for designated places. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features.

**2. Geographic Data Products**

Geographic data products are those that contain 2001 Census population and dwelling counts.

**93-360-XPB National Overview Tables, 2001 Census**

The National Overview tables provide population and dwelling counts established by the 2001 Census of Canada. The levels of geography covered are Canada, provinces and territories, and other geographic areas including census subdivisions (municipalities), census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. For selected geographies, the tables provide percentage change in the population and dwellings between 1996 and 2001. Data are also provided for land area and population density. Geographic Boundaries are those in effect on January 1, 2001.

**92F0150XCB GeoSuite, 2001 Census**

GeoSuite is a tool for data retrieval, query and tabular output, with software and data on a CD-ROM. GeoSuite allows users to explore the links between all standard levels of geography and to determine geographic codes, names, and population and dwelling counts. GeoSuite includes a dissemination area (DA) reference map listing that facilitates identification of appropriate DA reference maps.

**3. Linkage Information Products**

Linkage information provides the shape and location of geographic features. The boundaries, road network and other features of standard geographic areas are available in digital form for mapping and geographic information system (GIS) applications. These products include Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs), Road Network Files (RNFs) and Skeletal Road Network Files (SRNFs).

**Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs), 2001 Census**

Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs) contain the boundaries of standard geographic areas together with the shoreline around Canada and the larger inland lakes, all integrated in a single layer. In the second edition (released October 8, 2002), the hydrography was generalized by removing small lakes from the file to reduce noise. Large rivers emptying into the oceans were closed off, then the interior hydrography (double line river and lake polygons) was extracted to create the supplementary hydrography. The coordinates are latitude/longitude and are based on the North American Datum of

1983 (NAD83). The Cartographic Boundary Files for 2001 replace the Digital Cartographic Files produced for the 1996 Census.

Cartographic Boundary Files can be used with Census of Population, Census of Agriculture or other Statistics Canada data for data analysis and thematic mapping (with appropriate software). Geographic codes provide the linkage between the statistical data and the geographic area boundaries. CBFs can also be used to create new geographic areas by aggregating standard geographic areas, and for other data manipulations available with the user's software. The CBFs can be used with the Road Network Files and Skeletal Road Network Files, which provide additional geographic context for mapping applications.

92F0160XCE Provinces and Territories Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0163XCE Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0161XCE Census Divisions and Economic Regions Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0167XCE Census Consolidated Subdivisions Cartographic Boundary Files  
 92F0162XCE Census Subdivisions Cartographic Boundary Files  
 92F0165XCE Designated Places Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0166XCE Census Metropolitan Areas/Census Agglomerations Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0168XCE Census Tracts Cartographic Boundary Files  
 92F0164XCE Urban Areas Cartographic Boundary File  
 92F0169XCE Dissemination Areas Cartographic Boundary Files

#### **92F0159XCE Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File, 2001 Census**

The Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File contains a generalised population ecumene based on 2001 Census population density data with at least one ecumene polygon for every census division (CD). It can be used to produce small-scale thematic maps of statistical data.

For the 2001 Census, a population ecumene was defined based on population density criteria at the block level. The resulting detailed population ecumene polygons were generalised and small, non-contiguous ecumene pockets were aggregated to ensure visibility for small-scale thematic mapping at the census division level (see Figure 9). When ecumene boundaries are used for dot and choropleth mapping, they give a more accurate depiction of the linkage distribution of data within standard geographic areas.

The Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File is available as a standard package for Canada free on the Internet or it can be purchased on CD-ROM through the nearest regional office. This file is not a Cartographic Boundary File and it has its own reference guide.

#### **92F0170XCE Census Forward Sortation Areas Boundary File**

The 2001 Census Forward Sortation Area (FSA) Boundary File contains the boundaries of 1,577 forward sortation areas (the first three characters of a postal code) derived from postal codes captured from the 2001 Census of Population questionnaires. Through analysis of the postal codes reported by Census households, a single Forward Sortation Area was assigned to each reported block based on the most frequently reported Forward Sortation Area for the block. Unreported blocks were assigned a Forward Sortation Area based on proximity to reported blocks in the same province or territory.

#### **92F0157XCE Road Network Files (RNF), 2001 Census**

Road Network Files (RNFs) contain a road layer for the entire country and a province/territory boundary layer. The road layer includes roads, with road names and address ranges (arc attributes), and geographic codes to identify blocks, census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas/census agglomerations, and provinces/territories (polygon attributes). Address ranges are mainly available in the large urban centres of Canada. The province/territory boundary layer incorporates hydrography (the

shoreline around Canada and the larger inland lakes) with the boundaries and the geographic codes. The digital coordinates are in latitude/longitude and are based on the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83).

Road Network Files are available for Canada, for individual provinces and territories, and for census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and those census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts.

#### **92F0158XCE Skeletal Road Network Files (SRNF), 2001 Census**

The Skeletal Road Network Files contain selected roads (with road names, but no addresses) that are derived from Road Network Files (Catalogue No. 92F0157XCE). The selected roads are ranked according to four levels of detail (see Figure ?). The different levels of detail are suitable for mapping at small to medium scales. The SRNF can be used to provide some cartographic reference features when producing thematic maps with the Cartographic Boundary Files. The positional accuracy of the SRNF does not support cadastral, surveying or engineering applications. The SRNF does not include hydrography.

The Skeletal Road Network Files are available for Canada, provinces and territories, and census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and tracted census agglomerations (CAs).

#### **92F0177XCE Block Digital Boundary File**

Block digital boundary files portray the official boundaries used for the 2001 Census. They often extend as straight lines into bodies of water. Digital boundary files provide a framework for mapping and geographic analysis that are possible using commercially available geographic information systems (GISs) or other mapping software. The files may not be suitable for mapping or display where realistic shoreline is required.

### **4. Attribute Information Products**

Attribute information products are those that give descriptive information about the features. The attribute files include Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) and Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF).

#### **92F0153XCE Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF)**

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) provides a link between six-character postal code and standard 2001 Census geographic areas (such as dissemination areas, municipalities, census tracts). It also provides the x,y (latitude/longitude) coordinates for a point representing the approximate location of the postal code to support mapping.

The PCCF is available as standard packages for Canada, the provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and some census agglomerations (CAs). A reference guide is included.

#### **92F0153UCE Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) – Update**

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) is updated with new postal codes on a semi-annual basis and is available in January and July. Clients must purchase the Postal Code Conversion File at the initial price; then subsequent updated files (92F0154UCE) may be purchased at the update or subscription rate. The update rate is a flat rate that in most cases is much lower than the initial purchase price. An additional 25% discount on updates is given to PCCF update subscribers. The subscription requires clients to pay in advance for at least one updated file per year until the PCCF reflecting the geography of the 2001 Census is released.

The PCCF Updates are available as standard packages for Canada and the provinces and territories. A reference guide is included.

**92F0028XDB Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (1996 Representation Order) File**

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) provides a link between the six character postal codes and the federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order). A federal electoral district (FED), commonly referred to as a federal riding, is an area represented by a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons.

The PCFRF is intended as a tool for use with administrative files containing postal codes. By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organised and/or tabulated by federal riding. This PCFRF allows a link of more than 680,000 postal code records to the 301 federal electoral districts.

The PCFRFs are available as standard packages for Canada and five regions. A reference guide is included.

**92F0028UDB Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (1996 Representation Order) File (PCFRF) – Update**

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is updated with new postal codes on a semi-annual basis and is available in January and July. Updates released in July provide new postal codes effective January of the release year. Updates released in January provide new postal codes in use in July of the previous year. Clients who purchase the PCFRF (92F0193GIE) at the initial price may then purchase subsequent updated files (92F0028UDB) at the update rate.

The PCFRF Updates are available as standard packages for Canada and five regions.

**5. Geographic Services**

A variety of services is available, including custom mapping, custom data extraction (geocoding) and the development of custom geography products.

**97C0006 Geography Custom Service**

If standard geography products do not satisfy a client's needs, the Geography Custom Service is available to produce non-standard geographic products. Examples include alternative packaging of geographic files, special data retrievals, manipulations or merges using any of the geography computer files (postal codes, attribute files, boundary files and road network files). Contact the nearest regional office for details.

**97C0005 Custom Area Creation Service (formerly Geocoding Service)**

The Custom Area Creation Service (formerly called Geocoding Service) allows users to define their own geographic areas of study (user-defined areas or aggregations of standard census geographic areas) for census data tabulations. This custom geography is produced from the aggregation of blocks, or where necessary, block-faces within the road network file coverage. The custom area files thus created are then passed to Census for data tabulation. Contact the nearest regional office for details.

**97C0007 Geography Custom Mapping**

Thematic maps and other maps, specially designed to meet customer needs, can be produced. Contact the nearest regional office for details.

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