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Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (2003 Representation Order) File (PCFRF), 2001 Census (Geography Products: Attribute Information Products), Reference Guide



March 2006

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Statistics Canada

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Note of appreciation

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What's new?

- The postal code reference date for this update is March 2006. This is the same as for the Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) and refers to the federal ridings based on the 2003 Representation Order.
- The names of 38 Federal Electoral Districts were changed through legislation on 2004 September 1. These changes are reflected in the Federal Electoral District Names File – 2003 Representation Order (FED03.dat).
- Since the last release of the PCFRF, the names of 2 Federal Electoral Districts were changed (back to their original names in the 2003 Representation Order) through legislation on 2005 February 24. These changes are also reflected in the Federal Electoral District Names File – 2003 Representation Order (FED03.dat).
- The boundaries between the Federal Electoral District of Miramichi (13006) and the Federal Electoral District of Acadie-Bathurst (13001) in New Brunswick were changed through legislation passed on 2005 February 24. The following three CSDs which belonged to Miramichi are now part of Acadie-Bathurst: 1315006 (Allardville PAR), 1315008 (Bathurst PAR), and 1315010 (Pabineau 11 R).

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1 About this guide

This guide is intended for users of the Postal Codes 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 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 810,242 active postal code records, existing as of March 2006, 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 FEDs in the 2003 Representation Order, the most recent revision of the federal riding limits.¹ The FEDs are based on the 2001 Census population data.

Reference dates

The reference date is March 2006 for postal codes contained in the PCFRF. This is the same date as the postal codes contained in the PCCF product released in June 2006.

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 was January 1, 2001.

1. Note that the terms "federal riding" and "federal electoral district" or "FED" are used interchangeably in this reference guide.

3 How to use this product

3.1 Purpose of the product

The 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.

3.2 Limitations

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 *Section 4 Data Quality*, on page 9.

3.3 Content

The PCFRF contains postal code data under license from Canada Post Corporation. The most recent Canada Post Corporation file from which this data was copied is dated March 2006.

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.

4.1 Postal code characteristics

Before using the 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.

Postal delivery areas do not respect federal riding boundaries

A postal delivery area (as represented by the six character postal code) may straddle one or more federal riding boundaries. This means that, in the Postal Code 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 4.4 Logical Consistency*, on page 11 in this guide for further details.

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

The postal code associated with a lock box (post office box) may be geocoded to the physical location of the associated postal installation (post office). This could be located in a federal riding that is different from the ultimate destination of the mail delivery – the residential, industrial, or commercial location of the client renting the lock box.

Canada Post Corporation (CPC) regularly retires postal codes and may also reactivate retired postal codes for use again

Users of the PCFRF must keep in mind that the file contains only the postal codes from CPC that are active as of March 2006.

If the addresses of postal codes in a user's administrative file are not updated to March 2006, 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 CPC 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 PCCF. Users may wish to consult the *Postal Code Conversion File Reference Guide* available on the Statistics Canada website (<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/92F0153GIE2005010.pdf>). An updated version of the file including March 2006 postal codes was released in June 2006.

Duplicate records

When either a 1996 FED boundary or 2003 FED boundary splits a block-face, block, or dissemination area, a duplicate postal code record is created.

4.2 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.

4.2.1 Source files

Two existing products of the Geography Division at Statistics Canada have been used to derive the PCFRF.

- The June 2006 PCCF links postal codes (provided by CPC on the Postal Code Address Master File updated to March 2006) to geographic codes for all 2001 Census geographic areas, including province and federal electoral district 1996 Representative Order and 2003 Representative Order codes. It also provides the geographic point co-ordinates representing the postal codes. The June 2006 PCCF 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 2001 January 1, except for the Federal Electoral District – 2003 Representation Order.
- The Federal Electoral District Names File (FED03.dat) contains the official name of each federal riding – 2003 Representation Order and its associated identification code. This file is updated based on name changes provided by Elections Canada. Where changes to the electoral boundaries have been provided by Elections Canada, the correspondence between FED 2003 representation order and postal codes is updated.

4.2.2 Method of derivation

The PCFRF was created by linking the active postal codes included in the June 2006 PCCF, containing March 2006 postal codes, to the list of federal electoral districts – 2003 Representation Order codes and names, using either the block or DA geography as linkage variables.

The resulting PCFRF file contains 810,242 active postal code records of which 798,430 are unique links to one federal electoral district. In total, 5,612 active postal codes (11,812 records) are linked to more than one federal electoral district (further details are provided in *Section 4.4 Logical Consistency*, on page 11). The number of postal code records by federal electoral district is provided in *Appendix A Postal Codes by Federal Ridings*, beginning on page 13.

4.3 Attribute accuracy

Attribute accuracy refers to the quality of the non-positional information attached to each postal code.

The attribute accuracy of the PCFRF is dependent on the accuracy of the PCCF and the table linking the blocks or dissemination areas to the federal ridings.

4.4 Logical consistency

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

Of the 810,242 active postal code records found on this file, there are 798,430 active postal codes uniquely linked to one federal riding and 5,612 active postal codes that are linked to two or more federal ridings. The following table summarizes them.

FEDs	Active postal codes	Records
1	798,430	798,430
2	5,125	10,250
3	400	1,200
4	75	300
5	10	50
6	2	12

4.5 Consistency with other products

Data contained in the 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 FSAs reported in the 2001 Census and valid as of May 2001.

4.6 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 and active as of March 2006 according to CPC, 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 B Data file Naming Convention*, on page 23. Each file contains the following number of active postal code records:

Filename	Region	Records
pcfrfEastFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfEstCEF308.exe	Atlantic provinces	96,628
pcfrfQueFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfQuéCEF308.exe	Quebec	202,805
pcfrfOntFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfOntCEF308.exe	Ontario	271,667
pcfrfWestFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfOwestCEF308.exe	Prairie provinces, NWT, Nunavut	124,658
pcfrfBCFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfCBCEF308.exe	BC, Yukon	114,484
pcfrfNatFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfNatCEF308.exe	Canada	810,242

5 Technical specifications

5.1 File specifications

The current version of the PCFRF is an ASCII file and does not include any software or instructions on how to use the product within specific Geographical Information Systems (GIS) or mapping packages.

5.2 PCFRF record layout and data descriptions

PCFRF record layout

Position	Size	Type ¹	Description
1	6	C	Postal code
7	5	N	Federal riding code
12	56	C	English Federal riding name
68	56	C	French Federal riding name

1. The field type "N" refers to numeric values while "C" refers to both alphabetic and numeric characters

Postal code

The postal code is a six character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by CPC for the 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 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. This code uniquely identifies a federal electoral district – 2003 Representation Order. The first two digits identify the province or territory.

Appendix A Postal codes by federal ridings

FED	FED name	Count
10001	Avalon	637
10002	Bonavista - Gander - Grand Falls - Windsor	850
10003	Humber - St. Barbe - Baie Verte	1602
10004	Labrador	367
10005	Random - Burin - St. George's	878
10006	St. John's East	3556
10007	St. John's South - Mount Pearl	2606
11001	Cardigan	372
11002	Charlottetown	1750
11003	Egmont	1011
11004	Malpeque	26
12001	Cape Breton - Canso	3205
12002	Central Nova	1281
12003	Dartmouth - Cole Harbour	3142
12004	Halifax	3512
12005	Halifax West	2312
12006	Kings - Hants	1496
12007	Cumberland - Colchester - Musquodoboit Valley	1871
12008	Sackville - Eastern Shore	1783
12009	South Shore - St. Margaret's	1112
12010	Sydney - Victoria	5153
12011	West Nova	701
13001	Acadie - Bathurst	4952
13002	Beauséjour	8157
13003	Fredericton	4542
13004	Fundy Royal	6645
13005	Madawaska - Restigouche	4227
13006	Miramichi	4665
13007	Moncton - Riverview - Dieppe	4609
13008	New Brunswick Southwest	7747
13009	Saint John	4468
13010	Tobique - Mactaquac	7393
24001	Abitibi - Témiscamingue	2527
24002	Ahuntsic	2279
24003	Alfred-Pellan	3423
24004	Argenteuil - Papineau - Mirabel	1840
24005	Beauce	2566
24006	Beauharnois - Salaberry	2405
24007	Beauport - Limoilou	3727
24008	Berthier - Maskinongé	2268
24009	Bourassa	2168
24010	Brome - Missisquoi	2828

FED	FED name	Count
24011	Brossard - La Prairie	2710
24012	Chambly - Borduas	3374
24013	Charlesbourg - Haute-Saint-Charles	3744
24014	Montmorency - Charlevoix - Haute-Côte-Nord	1763
24015	Châteauguay - Saint-Constant	2782
24016	Chicoutimi - Le Fjord	3613
24017	Compton - Stanstead	1403
24018	Drummond	3665
24019	Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	1403
24020	Gatineau	3423
24021	Hochelaga	2065
24022	Honoré-Mercier	2489
24023	Hull - Aylmer	3980
24024	Jeanne-Le Ber	2664
24025	Joliette	1473
24026	Jonquière - Alma	4551
24027	Lac-Saint-Louis	3846
24028	La Pointe-de-l'Île	2884
24029	LaSalle - Émard	1765
24030	Laurentides - Labelle	1915
24031	Laurier - Sainte-Marie	2444
24032	Laval	2986
24033	Laval - Les Îles	3005
24034	Lévis - Bellechasse	2571
24035	Longueuil - Pierre-Boucher	2735
24036	Lotbinière - Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	2145
24037	Louis-Hébert	3714
24038	Louis-Saint-Laurent	3352
24039	Manicouagan	2219
24040	Marc-Aurèle-Fortin	3605
24041	Haute-Gaspésie - La Mitis - Matane - Matapédia	2223
24042	Mégantic - L'Érable	3058
24043	Montcalm	2340
24044	Mount Royal	2399
24045	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce - Lachine	2934
24046	Abitibi - Baie-James - Nunavik - Eeyou	1458
24047	Outremont	1491
24048	Papineau	1738
24049	Pierrefonds - Dollard	2793
24050	Pontiac	2454
24051	Portneuf - Jacques-Cartier	1966
24052	Québec	4167
24053	Repentigny	3891
24054	Bas-Richelieu - Nicolet - Bécancour	2971

FED	FED name	Count
24055	Richmond - Arthabaska	2974
24056	Rimouski-Neigette - Témiscouata - Les Basques	2220
24057	Rivière-des-Mille-Îles	2505
24058	Montmagny - L'Islet - Kamouraska - Rivière-du-Loup	1639
24059	Rivière-du-Nord	3310
24060	Roberval - Lac-Saint-Jean	2789
24061	Rosemont - La Petite-Patrie	1776
24062	Saint-Bruno - Saint-Hubert	2978
24063	Saint-Hyacinthe - Bagot	2433
24064	Saint-Jean	2839
24065	Saint-Lambert	2831
24066	Saint-Laurent - Cartierville	2627
24067	Saint-Léonard - Saint-Michel	1868
24068	Saint-Maurice - Champlain	4015
24069	Shefford	2413
24070	Sherbrooke	3532
24071	Terrebonne - Blainville	2536
24072	Trois-Rivières	4306
24073	Vaudreuil-Soulanges	2181
24074	Verchères - Les Patriotes	1458
24075	Westmount - Ville-Marie	3391
35001	Ajax - Pickering	2502
35002	Algoma - Manitoulin - Kapuskasing	1030
35003	Ancaster - Dundas - Flamborough - Westdale	2691
35004	Barrie	2819
35005	Beaches - East York	2289
35006	Bramalea - Gore - Malton	2897
35007	Brampton - Springdale	1986
35008	Brampton West	2637
35009	Brant	4210
35010	Burlington	3898
35011	Cambridge	3738
35012	Carleton - Mississippi Mills	1935
35013	Chatham-Kent - Essex	2501
35014	Durham	1778
35015	Davenport	1709
35016	Don Valley East	1632
35017	Don Valley West	2599
35018	Dufferin - Caledon	2720
35019	Eglinton - Lawrence	2398
35020	Elgin - Middlesex - London	2668
35021	Essex	2436
35022	Etobicoke Centre	2904
35023	Etobicoke - Lakeshore	3414

FED	FED name	Count
35024	Etobicoke North	1908
35025	Glengarry - Prescott - Russell	999
35026	Bruce - Grey - Owen Sound	1726
35027	Guelph	3527
35028	Haldimand - Norfolk	1883
35029	Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock	982
35030	Halton	2561
35031	Hamilton Centre	3882
35032	Hamilton East - Stoney Creek	3787
35033	Hamilton Mountain	3468
35034	Huron - Bruce	1007
35035	Kenora	1165
35036	Kingston and the Islands	3729
35037	Kitchener Centre	3156
35038	Kitchener - Conestoga	2404
35039	Kitchener - Waterloo	3659
35040	Lanark - Frontenac - Lennox and Addington	2677
35041	Leeds - Grenville	1543
35042	London - Fanshawe	2529
35043	London North Centre	3745
35044	London West	3068
35045	Markham - Unionville	2700
35046	Lambton - Kent - Middlesex	1646
35047	Mississauga - Brampton South	2704
35048	Mississauga East - Cooksville	1688
35049	Mississauga - Erindale	2224
35050	Mississauga South	3131
35051	Mississauga - Streetsville	2003
35052	Nepean - Carleton	2581
35053	Newmarket - Aurora	2827
35054	Niagara Falls	4308
35055	Niagara West - Glanbrook	1450
35056	Nickel Belt	1155
35057	Nipissing - Timiskaming	2209
35058	Northumberland - Quinte West	2523
35059	Oak Ridges - Markham	2856
35060	Oakville	3902
35061	Oshawa	3468
35062	Ottawa Centre	4161
35063	Ottawa - Orléans	2672
35064	Ottawa South	3369
35065	Ottawa - Vanier	3258
35066	Ottawa West - Nepean	3081
35067	Oxford	2990

FED	FED name	Count
35068	Parkdale - High Park	1748
35069	Parry Sound - Muskoka	1088
35070	Perth - Wellington	1902
35071	Peterborough	3042
35072	Pickering - Scarborough East	2219
35073	Prince Edward - Hastings	1682
35074	Renfrew - Nipissing - Pembroke	2956
35075	Richmond Hill	2459
35076	St. Catharines	4457
35077	St. Paul's	2238
35078	Sarnia - Lambton	2848
35079	Sault Ste. Marie	2930
35080	Scarborough - Agincourt	1675
35081	Scarborough Centre	2058
35082	Scarborough - Guildwood	1797
35083	Scarborough - Rouge River	1851
35084	Scarborough Southwest	2196
35085	Simcoe - Grey	1475
35086	Simcoe North	2277
35087	Stormont - Dundas - South Glengarry	2162
35088	Sudbury	3167
35089	Thornhill	3070
35090	Thunder Bay - Rainy River	2629
35091	Thunder Bay - Superior North	2499
35092	Timmins - James Bay	1923
35093	Toronto Centre	2743
35094	Toronto - Danforth	2155
35095	Trinity - Spadina	2703
35096	Vaughan	2501
35097	Welland	4392
35098	Wellington - Halton Hills	1894
35099	Whitby - Oshawa	3400
35100	Willowdale	2480
35101	Windsor - Tecumseh	3317
35102	Windsor West	4302
35103	York Centre	2342
35104	York - Simcoe	1826
35105	York South - Weston	2154
35106	York West	1390
46001	Brandon - Souris	2112
46002	Charleswood - St. James - Assiniboia	2206
46003	Churchill	757
46004	Dauphin - Swan River - Marquette	711
46005	Elmwood - Transcona	2225

FED	FED name	Count
46006	Kildonan - St. Paul	2014
46007	Portage - Lisgar	1296
46008	Provencher	461
46009	Saint Boniface	2431
46010	Selkirk - Interlake	858
46011	Winnipeg Centre	2829
46012	Winnipeg North	2148
46013	Winnipeg South	1838
46014	Winnipeg South Centre	2170
47001	Battlefords - Lloydminster	1118
47002	Blackstrap	1754
47003	Desnethé - Missinippi - Churchill River	271
47004	Cypress Hills - Grasslands	1061
47005	Palliser	2732
47006	Prince Albert	1485
47007	Regina - Lumsden - Lake Centre	1778
47008	Regina - Qu'Appelle	1785
47009	Saskatoon - Humboldt	1445
47010	Saskatoon - Rosetown - Biggar	1902
47011	Saskatoon - Wanuskewin	1695
47012	Souris - Moose Mountain	1190
47013	Wascana	2703
47014	Yorkton - Melville	817
48001	Fort McMurray - Athabasca	1348
48002	Calgary East	3753
48003	Calgary Centre-North	4337
48004	Calgary Northeast	2589
48005	Calgary - Nose Hill	2106
48006	Calgary Centre	4817
48007	Calgary Southeast	2818
48008	Calgary Southwest	2760
48009	Calgary West	3153
48010	Crowfoot	1350
48011	Edmonton - Mill Woods - Beaumont	2711
48012	Edmonton Centre	5331
48013	Edmonton East	4691
48014	Edmonton - Leduc	3350
48015	Edmonton - St. Albert	3523
48016	Edmonton - Sherwood Park	3442
48017	Edmonton - Spruce Grove	2880
48018	Edmonton - Strathcona	4691
48019	Lethbridge	3587
48020	Macleod	940
48021	Medicine Hat	2918

FED	FED name	Count
48022	Peace River	2033
48023	Red Deer	2765
48024	Vegreville - Wainwright	1490
48025	Westlock - St. Paul	1021
48026	Wetaskiwin	1249
48027	Wild Rose	1817
48028	Yellowhead	861
59001	Abbotsford	2893
59002	Burnaby - Douglas	3427
59003	Burnaby - New Westminster	3062
59004	Cariboo - Prince George	3900
59005	Chilliwack - Fraser Canyon	2018
59006	Delta - Richmond East	3518
59007	Pitt Meadows - Maple Ridge - Mission	3554
59008	Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca	3462
59009	Fleetwood - Port Kells	2629
59010	Kamloops - Thompson - Cariboo	2935
59011	Kelowna - Lake Country	4019
59012	Kootenay - Columbia	1526
59013	Langley	3119
59014	Nanaimo - Alberni	3637
59015	Nanaimo - Cowichan	2950
59016	Newton - North Delta	3085
59017	New Westminster - Coquitlam	3828
59018	Okanagan - Shuswap	2744
59019	North Vancouver	4025
59020	Okanagan - Coquihalla	2303
59021	Port Moody - Westwood - Port Coquitlam	2644
59022	Prince George - Peace River	3374
59023	Richmond	2508
59024	Saanich - Gulf Islands	3978
59025	Skeena - Bulkley Valley	1771
59026	British Columbia Southern Interior	2411
59027	South Surrey - White Rock - Cloverdale	3366
59028	Surrey North	3369
59029	Vancouver Centre	2913
59030	Vancouver East	3309
59031	Vancouver Island North	3177
59032	Vancouver Kingsway	3208
59033	Vancouver Quadra	4091
59034	Vancouver South	3049
59035	Victoria	4680
59036	West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast - Sea to Sky Country	3069
60001	Yukon	933

FED	FED name	Count
61001	Western Arctic	506
62001	Nunavut	29

Appendix B Data file naming convention

The naming convention for PCFRF data files is bilingual and reflects the reference date of the CPC data used in the release.

Name structure

data type / region / FED / CPC version date / French translation

<i>data type</i>	pcfrf
<i>region</i>	name abbreviation of region
<i>FED</i>	FED indicator
<i>CPC version date</i>	reference date of CPC postal code data
<i>French translation</i>	fcpcéf

Data files in this release are:

National file

pcfrfNatFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfNatCEF308.exe

Regional files

pcfrfEastFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfEstCEF308.exe

pcfrfQueFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfQuéCEF308.exe

pcfrfOntFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfOntCEF308.exe

pcfrfWestFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfOwestCEF308.exe

pcfrfBCFED308_MAR06_fcpcéfCBCEF308.exe

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Appendix D Geography products and services

This section provides brief descriptions of Geography products and services related to the 2001 Census. For additional details, contact us by e-mail or by visiting our Web site.

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 Map¹

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

1. Inquiries concerning Federal Electoral District maps can be directed to Elections Canada (www.elections.ca or 1 800-463-6868)

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 2001 January 1.

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. Spatial information products

Spatial 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
- 92F0194XCE Federal Electoral Districts (2003 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 spatial 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. 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. 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 Codes 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 PCCF 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 Codes 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 (92F0028XDB) 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.

92F0193XCB Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (2003 Representation Order)

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) provides a link between the six character postal codes and the federal electoral districts (2003 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 700,000 postal codes to the 308 federal electoral districts.

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

92F0193UCB Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (2003 Representation Order)– Update

The Postal Codes 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 (92F0193XCB) at the initial price may then purchase subsequent updated files (92F0193UCB) 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).

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.

97C0007 Geography Custom Mapping

Thematic maps and other maps, specially designed to meet customer needs, can be produced.

Appendix E End-use licence agreement

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