
English

Anglais

Important: *This document is for reference purposes only.
The census questionnaire must be completed in English or in French, online or on paper.*

2A

2016 CENSUS QUESTIONS
and reasons why the questions are asked

Introduction

The census provides a portrait of our people and the places in which we live. Census information is important for your community and is vital for planning its public services. Be part of this new portrait of Canada and complete your census questionnaire.

In order to reduce the number of questions in this questionnaire, Statistics Canada will obtain your income information from personal income tax and benefits records.

By law, your household must complete a census questionnaire. Your answers are collected under the authority of the *Statistics Act* and will be kept strictly confidential.

The information that you provide may be used by Statistics Canada for other statistical and research purposes or may be combined with other survey or administrative data sources.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Part 1

The first part of this booklet contains the questions asked on the 2016 Census questionnaire.

Part 2

The second part contains the reasons why Statistics Canada asks the questions and indicates the important data requirements met by the questions.

Have a question?

Statistics Canada agents are available Monday to Friday (except holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Telephone

1-800-263-1136 (toll free)

1-514-283-8300 (international)

TTY

1-800-363-7629

Part 1
2016 Census questions

STEP A

CONFIDENTIAL WHEN COMPLETED

1. What is your **telephone number**? (_____) - _____ - _____
2. What **email address** could we use to contact your household, if applicable?
3. What is the **address** of this dwelling?
Number (and suffix, if applicable) (e.g., 302, 151 B, 16 1/2)
Street name, street type (e.g., DR = Drive), direction (e.g., N = North)
Apartment/unit number
City, municipality, town, village, Indian reserve
Province/territory
Postal code
4. What is the **mailing address** of this dwelling, if different from above?
(e.g. Rural Route, PO Box, Lot and Concession or General Delivery)

This information is collected under the authority of the *Statistics Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. S-19.

STEP B

1. **Including yourself**, how many persons usually live at this address on May 10, 2016? **Include:** all persons who have their main residence at this address, even if they are temporarily away.

See the instructions on page 3 (joint custody, students, landed immigrants, secondary residence, etc.).

_____ ← Number of persons

2. **Including yourself**, list **all persons** who usually live here on May 10, 2016.
Important: Begin the list with an **adult** followed, if applicable, by that person's spouse or **common-law partner** and by their **children**. Continue with **all other persons** who usually live at this address.

	FAMILY NAME(S)	GIVEN NAME(S)
Person 1		
Person 2		
Person 3		
Person 4		
Person 5		
Person 6		
Person 7		
Person 8		
Person 9		
Person 10		

1. WHOM TO INCLUDE IN STEP B

- All persons who have their **main residence** at this address on May 10, 2016, including newborn babies, room-mates and persons who are temporarily away,
- **Canadian citizens, landed immigrants** (permanent residents), persons asking for **refugee status** (refugee claimants), persons from **another country** with a **work** or **study permit** and family members living here with them,
- Persons staying at this address temporarily on May 10, 2016 who have **no main residence elsewhere**.

2. WHERE TO INCLUDE PERSONS WITH MORE THAN ONE RESIDENCE

- **CHILDREN IN JOINT CUSTODY** should be included in the home of the parent where they live most of the time. Children who spend equal time with each parent should be included in the home of the parent with whom they are staying on May 10, 2016.
- **STUDENTS** who return to live with their parents during the year should be included at their parents' address, even if they live elsewhere while attending school or working at a summer job.
- **SPOUSES OR COMMON-LAW PARTNERS TEMPORARILY AWAY** who stay elsewhere while working or studying should be listed at the main residence of their family, if they return periodically.
- **PERSONS IN AN INSTITUTION** for **less than six months** (for example, in a home for the aged, a hospital or a prison) should be listed at their usual residence.

IF THIS ADDRESS IS:

- a **SECONDARY RESIDENCE** (for example, a cottage) for **ALL PERSONS** who stayed here on May 10, 2016 (all these persons have their main residence elsewhere in Canada), mark this circle. Print your name, your telephone number and **your main residence address** at the bottom of this page. Do not answer other questions.
 - a **DWELLING OCCUPIED ONLY BY RESIDENTS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY VISITING CANADA** (for example, on vacation or on a business trip), mark this circle. Print your name, your telephone number and **your country of residence** at the bottom of this page. Do not answer other questions.
 - the **HOME OF A GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANOTHER COUNTRY** (for example, embassy or high commission) and family members, mark this circle. Print your name, your telephone number and **the country that you represent** at the bottom of this page. Do not answer other questions.
-

STEP C

Did you leave anyone out of step B because **you were not sure** the person should be listed? For example, a student, a child in joint custody, a person temporarily away, a person who lives here temporarily, a resident from another country with a work or study permit, a refugee claimant, etc.

- No
- Yes → Specify the name, the relationship and the reason.

Name(s) and
relationship _____

Reason _____

STEP D

1. Is anyone listed in step B a **farm operator** who **produces at least one agricultural product intended for sale**? For example, crops, livestock, milk, poultry, eggs, greenhouse or nursery products, Christmas trees, sod, honey, bees, maple syrup products, furs, etc.
 - ☐ No → **Go to step E**
 - ☐ Yes
 2. Does this **farm operator** make the **day-to-day management decisions** related to the farm?
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Yes
-

STEP E

Copy the names in step B to question 1, on the top of page 4. Keep the same order.

If **more than five persons** live here, you will need an extra questionnaire; call 1-855-700-2016.

1. NAME

In the spaces provided, copy the names in the same order as in **step B**. Then answer the following questions for **each** person.

PERSON 1

Family name

Given name

The following questions refer to each person's situation on **May 10, 2016**, unless otherwise specified.

2. What is this person's **sex**?

- ☐ Male
 - ☐ Female
-

3. What are this person's **date of birth and age**?

Example: 23 (Day) 02 (Month) 1974 (Year) 40 (Age)

If exact date is not known, enter best estimate.

For children under the age of 1, enter 0.

4. What is this person's **marital status**?

Mark " X " one circle only.

- ☐ Never legally married
 - ☐ Legally married (and not separated)
 - ☐ Separated, but still legally married
 - ☐ Divorced
 - ☐ Widowed
-

5. Is this person living with a **common-law** partner?

Common-law refers to two people who live together as a couple but who are not legally married to each other.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

6. What is the relationship of this person to Person 1?

If none of the responses in the list describes this person's relationship to Person 1, then specify a response under "Other relationship".

PERSON 1

- **PERSON 1**

PERSON 2

- **Opposite-sex** husband or wife of Person 1
- **Opposite-sex** common-law partner of Person 1
- **Same-sex** married spouse of Person 1
- **Same-sex** common-law partner of Person 1
- Son or daughter of Person 1 only
- Grandchild of Person 1
- Son-in-law or daughter-in-law of Person 1
- Father or mother of Person 1
- Father-in-law or mother-in-law of Person 1
- Brother or sister of Person 1
- Foster child
- Room-mate, lodger or boarder
- Other relationship — specify:

PERSON 3, etc.

- Son or daughter of both Persons 1 and 2
- Son or daughter of Person 1 only
- Son or daughter of Person 2 only
- Grandchild of Person 1
- Son-in-law or daughter-in-law of Person 1
- Father or mother of Person 1
- Father-in-law or mother-in-law of Person 1
- Brother or sister of Person 1
- Foster child
- Room-mate, lodger or boarder
- Other relationship — specify:

7. Can this person speak English or French well enough to conduct a conversation?

Mark “ X ” one circle only.

- ☐ English only
 - ☐ French only
 - ☐ Both English and French
 - ☐ Neither English nor French
-

8. a) What language does this person speak **most often** at home?

- ☐ English
- ☐ French
- ☐ Other language — specify:

b) Does this person speak any other languages **on a regular basis** at home?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, English
- ☐ Yes, French
- ☐ Yes, other language — specify:

9. What is the language that this person **first learned** at home **in childhood** and **still understands**?

If this person no longer understands the first language learned, indicate the second language learned.

- ☐ English
- ☐ French
- ☐ Other language — specify:

This question is for all persons listed on the questionnaire. If you are answering on behalf of other people, please **consult each person**.

10. Does this person **agree** to make his or her **2016 Census information available in 2108** (92 years after the census)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Only if you answer “Yes” will your responses be available to future generations and historical researchers, **92 years after the 2016 Census, in 2108.**

STEP F

If more than six persons live here, you will need an extra questionnaire; call 1-855-700-2016.

You have now completed your questionnaire. Please **mail it today**. If you have lost the return envelope, please mail the questionnaire to:

Statistics Canada
PO BOX 99998 STN FED-GOVT
Ottawa, ON K1A 9Z8

Thank you for your cooperation.

COMMENTS

Please use the space provided below if you have concerns, suggestions or comments to make about:

- the steps to follow or the content of this questionnaire (for example, a question that was difficult to understand or to answer),
- the characteristics of the questionnaire (for example, the design, the format, the size of the text).

THE LAW PROTECTS WHAT YOU TELL US

The confidentiality of your responses is protected by law. All Statistics Canada employees have taken an oath of secrecy. Your personal information cannot be given to anyone outside Statistics Canada without your consent. This is your right.

Part 2

Reasons why the questions are asked

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

The census provides a statistical portrait of the country and its people. In Canada, it is mandatory for all residents to participate in the census.

WHY IS THE CENSUS IMPORTANT?

Information from the census will be used by governments, businesses, associations, community organizations and many others to make important decisions for your community, your province or territory, and the entire country.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE?

The information you provide will be kept confidential, in accordance with the *Statistics Act*. Your information may be used by Statistics Canada in support of our other surveys or for analysis. No one outside of Statistics Canada can have access to information that identifies individuals.

YOUR ROLE IN THE CENSUS

The information you provide will help ensure that the 2016 Census accurately reflects Canada's changing society. Your responses will ensure that your community has the information it needs for planning services such as child care, schooling, family services, housing, and skills training for employment.

WHY WE ASK THE CENSUS QUESTIONS

STEP A – We need your telephone number to contact you in case there is information missing on your questionnaire. An email address provides an alternative method of communication with your household. We need your address, as well as your mailing address, to ensure that all dwellings are counted.

STEP B and C – These steps help you decide who should be included and who should not be included on your questionnaire. They help us ensure everyone we need to count is counted, and that no one is counted twice.

STEP D – This step tells us if someone in your household operates a farm. It also ensures that we count all farms for the Census of Agriculture.

STEP E – The spaces provided in **Question 1** at the top of page 4 allow you to copy the names from Step B.

The information you provide in these questions and throughout the questionnaire should reflect each person's situation on **May 10, 2016**, unless the questions specify otherwise. This reference date ensures that the information collected in the questionnaire provides an accurate snapshot of Canada's society at this point in time in our history.

BASIC POPULATION INFORMATION – Questions 2 to 6 provide information about the living arrangements of people in Canada, the family size, the number of children living with one parent or two parents, and the number of people who live alone. This information is used for planning social programs, such as Old Age Security and the Canada Child Tax Benefit. It is also used by communities to plan a variety of services such as daycare centres, schools, police, fire protection and residences for senior citizens.

Questions 7 to 9 are used to provide a profile of the linguistic diversity of Canada's population. This information is used to estimate the need for services in English and French, and to better understand the current status and the evolution of Canada's various language groups.

ACCESS TO PERSONAL CENSUS INFORMATION 92 YEARS AFTER THE CENSUS

Question 10 provides each person with the opportunity to make an informed decision about what happens to his or her personal census information in 92 years.

Consenting to the release of census information in 92 years will help future generations better understand the Canada of today, and will benefit historical, academic and genealogical research.