Catalogue No. 92F0026XDB

Block-face Data File
1996 Census
Reference Guide

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1996 Block-face Data File

Reference Guide

Published by authority of the Minister
responsible for Statistics Canada

January 1998

Reference Guide for Catalogue 92F0026XDB

Ottawa

Note of appreciation

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

What's New in the 1996 Block-face Data File

- ***Address information reflects the 1996 Street Network Files.***
- ***Linkage to the new 1996 Federal Electoral District Representation Order.***

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1. About this Guide

This reference guide is intended for users of the 1996 Block-face Data File. It provides general information about the product, including a description and the general methodology used to create the product.

The data quality statement gives a detailed description of the various steps in the creation of the Block-face Data File. This statement also provides information to evaluate the suitability of the data for a particular use.

Technical specifications in Section 5 include system requirements, record layout and item descriptions.

Geographic terms and concepts highlighted in **bold** in the text are described in the Glossary, Section 6. More details can be found in the *1996 Census Dictionary*, (Catalogue number 92-351-XPE). Supplementary information is provided in the appendices and a list of related products and services is 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. Many geographic codes and numbers presented in this guide have been transcribed from computer screens and internal written reports and then key-entered. All efforts have been made to ensure a thorough verification of this product, however, there is no guaranty that the data are 100% accurate.

2. Overview

The Block-face Data File provides information for the smallest geographic entity available from Statistics Canada, namely, the **block-face**.

Block-faces are available where there is **Street Network File** (SNF) coverage, that is, for large urban centres with a population of 50,000 or more in the **urban core**. The Block-face Data File is available for 25 **census metropolitan areas** (CMA) and 18 **census agglomerations** (CA).

In some cases, only portions of CMAs/CAs are covered by SNF; thus some urban centres may be only partially covered by the Block-face Data File (Table 1).

The block-face information includes street name (including street type and direction), address range, **geographic codes**, x,y coordinates for a **representative point** and 1996 population and dwelling counts.

Table 1 - Block-face Data File coverage and number of records by CMA/CA

CMA/CA Name	Code	Coverage	Records	CMA/CA Name	Code	Coverage	Records
Abbotsford	932	Partial	5,710	Prince George	970	Full	5,754
Belleville	522	Partial	2,063	Québec	421	Partial	29,724
Brantford	543	Full	6,115	Red Deer	830	Full	3,676
Calgary	825	Partial	39181	Regina	705	Partial	11,306
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	408	Partial	8,965	Saint John	310	Partial	5,712
Edmonton	835	Partial	33,745	Sarnia	562	Full	5,760
Fredericton	320	Partial	3,278	Saskatoon	725	Partial	10,358
Guelph	550	Full	5,142	Sault Ste. Marie	590	Full	5,222
Halifax	205	Partial	9,918	Sherbrooke	433	Partial	3,975
Hamilton	537	Full	29,442	St. Catharines - Niagara	539	Full	30,875
Kamloops	925	Partial	5,216	St. John's	001	Partial	5,363
Kelowna	915	Partial	8,724	Stratford	553	Full	1,797
Kingston	521	Partial	4,680	Sudbury	580	Partial	4,921
Kitchener	541	Full	17,202	Thunder Bay	595	Partial	7,626
Lethbridge	810	Full	4,989	Toronto	535	Partial	120,952
London	555	Full	20,325	Trois-Rivières	442	Partial	6,995
Moncton	305	Partial	8,774	Vancouver	933	Full	88,134
Montréal	462	Partial	124,044	Victoria(+3 CSDs)	935	Full	19,397
North Bay	575	Partial	4,461	Windsor	559	Partial	11,554
Oshawa	532	Full	13,832	Winnipeg	602	Partial	35,442
Ottawa-Hull	505	Partial	51,738	Woodstock	544	Full	2,009
Peterborough	529	Partial	3837				

3. About this Product

3.1. Content

This product includes attribute information for a total of 827,933 block-faces in 43 large urban centres. The file includes street names (including street types and direction), address ranges, geographic codes, x,y coordinates for block-face representative points (or in some cases, EA representative points), and the corresponding population and dwelling counts from the 1996 Census.

Table 1 provides the total number of block-face records for each CMA/CA.

3.2. General Methodology

The address information relating to each block-face and the unique identifier for the corresponding 1996 enumeration area (EAuid) were extracted from the 1996 Street Network database maintained by Statistics Canada. The 1996 Street Network Files were also extracted from that database. An ARC/INFO® based system was used to create a representative point for each block-face.

Census households (in SNF areas) were linked to these block-faces through an automated process that matched household addresses to street address information. Population and dwelling counts for each block-face were obtained from the 1996 Census database using an in-house (STATPAK) retrieval program.

Households that could not be matched at the block-face level were linked to their corresponding EA. When this occured, an "artificial" block-face record was created for the enumeration area. These records contain no specific address information and the x,y coordinates are those of the enumeration area representative point. The population and dwelling counts associated with these records correspond to the households that could not be matched to a block-face for that EA.

A code for the **Federal Electoral District** (1996 Representation Order) was assigned to each representative point (block-face and EA) using the Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) **Digital Cartographic File** and ARC/INFO®.

For further details about the methodology used to produce the BFDF, refer to Section 4, Data Quality.

3.3. Reference Date

The **geographic reference date** is a date determined by Statistics Canada for the purpose of finalizing the geographic framework for which census data will be collected, tabulated and reported. For the 1996 Census, the geographic reference date is ***January 1, 1996***. The reference date for the streets and address ranges on the 1996 Block-face Data File is Census Day - May 14, 1996.

3.4. Comparison to 1991 Product

The 1996 BFDF is similar to the 1991 product. The 1996 BFDF reflects updated address information extracted from the 1996 Street Network Files

3.5. Limitations

Approximately 92% of the population and dwelling counts are linked to block-face representative points; the remaining 8% are linked to EA representative points. Absolute positional accuracy was not a priority in the creation of the Street

Network Files from which the Block-face Data File is extracted. Consequently, it is NOT recommended to use the positional information of this product for engineering applications, emergency dispatching services, or legal applications.

Unlike the SNFs, the BFDF does not contain any imputed addresses.

4. Data Quality

The purpose of this data quality statement is to provide detailed information so that users may evaluate the suitability of the data for their use. Five fundamental components of a data quality statement are: lineage, positional accuracy, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness (Statistics Canada, 1992).

The Block-face Data File was created using several input sources as described below. Data quality information for each input source is available upon request.

4.1. Lineage

Lineage includes descriptions of the source material from which the data were derived and the methods of derivation, including the dates of the source material and all transformations involved in producing the final digital files or map products.

Various ARC/INFO® and SAS® computer programs were used to extract, compile and verify the information.

The first program extracted the street attribute information (street name, street type, street direction and address range) and the unique identifier for the enumeration area (EAuid) from the street network database. The reference date for the network information is May 14, 1996. (Note: contrary to the 1996 Street Network Files, the BFDF does not contain imputed addresses).

Block-face representative points were computed along addressable streets and addressable sections of highways. The representative point is located at the mid-point of the block-face, set back a perpendicular distance of 22, 11, 5 or 1 metre from the street centre line. This variable "set back" distance is new in 1996 and was adopted to ensure that the block-face representative point was closer to the intended block-face than to any other.

The EAuid was linked to the 1996 Geographic Attribute Database (internal) to obtain the EA representative point coordinates and the geographic codes for selected geographic areas (census divisions, census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas / census agglomerations and census tracts). The 1996 Geographic Attribute Database was finalized in January 1997.

The Address Register, a database containing the address of all census households in areas covered by Street Network Files, was used to link census households to block-faces. An automated process linked approximately 92% of all census households, in areas covered by a Street Network File, to block-faces using information contained on the SNFs and the Address Register.

Eight percent of census households could not be linked to a block-face due to insufficient or missing address information from either source. These households were linked to their respective EAs.

Once all census households were linked, or geocoded, to a block-face or enumeration area, the corresponding 1996 population and dwelling counts were obtained using an in-house retrieval program (STATPAK).

The 1996 Representation Order for Federal Electoral Districts was proclaimed after the date set for the completion of the geographic framework of the 1996 Census. As a result, EA boundaries do not respect 1996 FED limits. In order to link block-faces to these new FEDs, a boundary overlay (point in polygon) was performed using the 1996 Federal Electoral District Digital Cartographic File and the representative points contained on the BFDF.

4.2. Positional Accuracy

Positional accuracy is the difference between the "true" position of a feature in the real world and the "estimated" position stored in the digital file or other product.

No measurements of positional accuracy of the representative points were made. Positional accuracy is presented here in terms of descriptive statements.

The 1996 Street Network Files were used to create the block-face representative points. Therefore, relative positional accuracy is maximized when the Block-face Data File is used in conjunction with the SNFs.

Block-face representative points were located using an automated process. Visual checks were performed to ensure proper placement of the points.

Enumeration area representative points were used to locate households that could not be linked to a specific block-face. These points are less precise than block-face representative points and may not be suitable for studies of areas smaller that the enumeration area itself.

The geographic co-ordinates contained on the BFDF were overlaid on the Enumeration Area Digital Cartographic Files to confirm that all points fall within their respective EA boundaries.

A small number of block-face representative points are not unique. For example, distinct block-faces may be assigned representative points having the same coordinate values.

4.3. Attribute Accuracy

Attribute accuracy refers to the accuracy of the non-positional information attached to each feature such as feature name and code.

The Block-face Data File reflects the accuracy of the Street Network Files from which street attributes were extracted. No measurement of non-positional accuracy of the Street Network Files were made. Street names were the primary focus of a limited number of tests undertaken to ensure the accuracy of the non-positional data contained in the SNF.

The geographic codes for higher level geographic areas in which the EA is located are taken from the 1996 Geographic Attribute Database. This database is created and maintained by the Geography Division of Statistics Canada. A very small number of linkage errors have been identified on that database since its final certification in the early part of 1997. These do not necessarily have any impact on the Block-face Data File. Documentation is available from Statistics Canada.

The federal electoral district (1996 Representation Order) were assigned in an overlay process, using the representative points and the digital FED boundary file. These digital boundaries may deviate from the exact description of the 1996 Representation Order Federal Electoral District as defined by Elections Canada. However, it has been demonstrated that the 1991 population counts obtained using these boundaries never differed by more than 1 % from the official 1991 population counts.

Population counts for block-faces within the same enumeration area total the official population count published for enumeration areas (1996 Census - 2A). The accuracy of population and dwelling counts is therefore assured to the enumeration area level.

4.4. Logical Consistency

Logical consistency is the degree to which features are accurately represented in the data structure and fulfill all the internal requirements of the data structure. In other words, how well elements of the data structure follow the rules imposed on them.

All block-face and EA representative points are guaranteed by an ARC/INFO® topology check to fall within the appropriate EA polygon.

4.4.1. Consistency with Other Products

The 1996 BFDF is consistent with other geographic products such as the Street Network Files (except for imputed addresses) and the Skeletal Street Network Files, GeoRef (for population and dwelling counts and enumeration area representative points) and the 1996 Digital Boundary / Digital Cartographic Files.

4.5. Completeness

Completeness expresses the degree to which the geographic entities (features) are captured according to the data capture specifications. It also contains information about selection criteria, definitions used and other relevant mapping rules.

The total population living in areas covered by Street Network Files is assigned to either a block-face or an enumeration area representative point on the BFDF.

The Block-face Data File does not provide information for those parts of CMAs or CAs outside Street Network File coverage. The file contains street attributes, codes and linkages to standard geographic areas, and population and dwelling counts for 810,412 block-face records (including unpopulated block-faces or block-faces where it was not possible to link census households). The file also contains 17,521 EA records for population and dwelling counts that could not be linked to block-faces.

The BFDF does not contain any data for four enumeration areas within SNF areas. The following EAs fall entirely in water and do not have any population : 24045001, 35029259, 35084301 and 59006411.

Some street names and address ranges were not available. No measurements of the completness of block-face coverage and street attibutes were made.

5. Technical Specifications

5.1. System Requirements

The 1996 Block-Face Data Files are available in ASCII format (.TXT).

The coordinates are based on NAD27 and are available in latitude and longitude.

5.2. Installation guidelines

The BFDF may be compressed into self-executable PKZIP® files (file extension .EXE). When this occurs, users can uncompress these files by executing them in DOS, or selecting them in Windows® and double clicking on the file icon, or execute them in the RUN dialog in Windows® 95 or Windows® NT4.0.

5.3. Record layout and field descriptions

The following record layout provides an overview of the 17 fields in the Block-face Data File. It contains the field number, size, position, type (numeric or alphanumeric) and brief description.

Field	Size	Position	Type	Description
1	20	1	AN	Street name
2	2	21	AN	Street type
3	2	23	AN	Street direction
4	5	25	AN	Address from
5	5	30	AN	Address to
6	9	35	N	Latitude
7	11	44	N	Longitude
8	1	55	AN	Population/dwelling linkage flag
9	4	56	N	Population count
10	4	60	N	Dwelling count
11	8	64	AN	Enumeration area unique identifier (EAuid)
12	4	72	AN	Census division unique identifier (CDuid)
13	7	76	AN	Census subdivision unique identifier (CSDuid)
14	3	83	AN	Census metropolitan area / Census agglomeration code
15	7	86	AN	Census tract name
16	5	93	AN	Federal Electoral District (1996 Representation Order) unique identifier (FED96uid)
17	6	98	AN	Sequence Number

Field Descriptions

Field 1: Street Name

Street names are generally based on municipal documents provided to the Street Network File program.

Users should note the following coding rules:

- names are truncated (at the end) if they exceed the maximum field size of 20 characters.
- formats of the word "Saint" and "Sainte" are abbreviated as ST and STE.
- most numeric streets are coded using the number rather than the alphabetic spelling (for example, First Avenue is 1 AV).
- most articles are coded at the end of the street name (for example, The Queensway becomes QUEENSWAY, THE, and De l'Église becomes ÉGLISE, DE L').
- all unidentified street names are coded using 3-digit numbers prefixed by a "Z" (e.g. Z001).

Field 2: Street Type

Street type is a two-letter code that identifies the different types of addressable streets.

Code	Type	Code	Type
	No type	LI	Line
AL	Alley / Allée	LK	Link
AU	Autoroute	LN	Lane
AV	Avenue	ME	Mews
BA	Bay	MO	Montée
BP	By Pass	PL	Place
BV	Boulevard	PM	Promenade
CA	Carré	PR	Park / Parc
CH	Chemin	PU	Plateau
CL	Circle / Cercle	PY	Parkway
CN	Concession	RD	Road
CO	Côte	RG	Rang
CR	Crescent	RI	Rise
CS	Close	RL	Ruelle
CT	Court / Cour	RO	Route
DR	Drive	RU	Rue
GN	Garden	RW	Row
GR	Green	SQ	Square
GT	Gate	ST	Street
GV	Grove	TL	Trail
HL	Hill	TR	Terrace / Terrrase
HT	Heights	VW	View
HY	Highway	WK	Walk
JA	Jardin	WY	Way

Field 3: Street Direction

Street direction is a one- or two-letter code that denotes the location of the street relative to a pre-defined origin (for example, Sherbrooke St. West). The street direction is included only if it is part of the street name. The direction should not be misconstrued as being the geographic direction of the street.

N	North / Nord
S	South / Sud
E	East / Est
W	West
O	Ouest
NE	North-East / Nord-Est
NW	North-West
NO	Nord-Ouest
SE	South-East / Sud-Est
SW	South-West
SO	Sud-Ouest

Field 4: Address From

"Address From" is a number representing the low civic address of the block-face. An unknown address is coded by the symbol "_____".

Field 5: Address To

"Address To" is a number representing the high civic address of the block-face. An unknown address is coded by the symbol "_____".

Field 6 : Latitude

This field contains the latitude (in degrees and decimals north of the equator) of the representative point (EA or block-face based on Field 8). The decimal place is explicit.

Field 7 : Longitude

This field contains the longitude (in degrees and decimals west of the prime meridian) of the representative point (EA or block-face based on Field 8). The decimal place is explicit.

Field 8: Population/Dwelling Linkage Flag

The population/dwelling linkage flag is a 1-digit code that denotes whether the population and dwelling counts of the Block-face Data File are linked to a block-face or to an enumeration area representative point**.**

Most census households in areas covered by Street Network Files can be linked to a specific block-face. In these cases, the population/dwelling linkage flag is set to "1" and the population and dwelling counts relate to the specific block-face.

In cases where census households could not be linked to a specific block-face (for reasons such as insufficient or missing address information or missing streets on the Street Network Files), population/dwelling linkage flag is set to

"2". This indicates that the population and dwelling counts on that record relate to the population and dwelling count for households not linked to a specific block-face within the enumeration area.

Field 9: Population Count

This field contains the unrounded population count (1996 Census, 2A-100%) assigned to each block-face. In some cases (see description for Field 8), this field contains the population living in dwellings that could not be linked to specific block-faces within a given enumeration area (EAuid).

Field 10: Dwelling Count

This field contains the unrounded occupied private dwellings count (1996 Census, 2A-100%) assigned to each block-face. In some cases (see description for field 8), this field contains the count of dwellings that could not be linked to specific block-faces within a given enumeration area (EAuid).

Field 11: Enumeration Area unique identifier (EAuid)

Each enumeration area (EA) is assigned a three-digit code that is unique within a federal electoral district (1987 Representation Order - FED). In order to uniquely identify each EA in Canada, the three-digit EA code must be preceded by the two-digit province code and the three-digit FED code.

This concatenated code (PR + FED + EA) is called the EAuid.

For example:

EAuid	**Description**
35009251	Province code 35 (Ontario)
	FED code 009 (Cambridge)
	EA code 251
4600951	Province code 46 (Manitoba)
	FED code 009 (Winnipeg North)
	EA code 251

Field 12: Census Division unique identifier (CDuid)

Each census division (CD) is assigned a two-digit code that is not unique among provinces, and is based on the Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) code. In order to uniquely identify each CD in Canada, the census division code must be preceded by the two-digit province code.

This concatenated code (PR + CD) is called the census division unique identifier (CDuid) and is equivalent to the SGC for CDs.

Field 13: Census Subdivision unique identifier (CSDuid)

Each census subdivision (CSD) is assigned a three-digit code that is not unique among provinces, and is based on the Standard Geographical Classification (SGC). In order to uniquely identify each CSD in Canada, the code must be preceded by the two-digit province code and the two-digit CD code.

This concatenated code (PR + CD + CSD) is called the CSDuid and is equivalent to the SGC for CSDs.

Field 14: Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration

Census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs) are assigned three-digit codes that uniquely identify each metropolitan area in Canada. The first digit is the same as the second digit of the province code in which the CMA or CA is located. If a CMA or CA spans a provincial boundary, then the province code assigned represents the province with the greater proportion of urban core population.

Field 15: Census Tract Name (CTname)

Every census tract (CT) is assigned a seven-character numeric "name" (including leading zeros, the decimal point and trailing zeros).

In order to uniquely identify each CT in Canada, the CTname must be preceded by the three-digit census metropolitan area or census agglomeration code.

Field 16: Federal Electoral District (1996 Representation Order) unique identifier

Uniquely identifies a federal electoral district (1996 Representation Order). The first two digits of the FED96uid identify the province or territory.

Field 17: Sequence number

This field uniquely identifies a block-face or enumeration area representative point for which there is data available from the 2B (20% sample) Census database. It is used internally at Statistics Canada for the retrieval of Census data for user-defined areas (through the Geocoding Service).

6. Glossary

Brief definitions of geographic terms and census concepts are presented here in summary form only. Users should refer to the 1996 Census Dictionary (Catalogue No. 92-351-XPE) for the full definitions and additional remarks related to these concepts and definitions.

Block-face

A block-face is one side of a city street between two consecutive street intersections.

Block-faces are also formed when streets intersect other visible physical features (such as railroads, power transmission lines and rivers) and when streets intersect with ***enumeration area*** boundaries.

Census Consolidated Subdivision (CCS)

A census consolidated subdivision (CCS) is a grouping of census subdivisions. Generally these are the smaller, more urban census subdivisions (towns, villages, etc.) are combined with the surrounding, larger, more rural census subdivision, in order to create a geographic level between the census subdivision and the census division.

Census Division (CD)

Census division (CD) is the general term applied to areas established by provincial law which are intermediate geographic areas between the municipality (census subdivision) and the province level. Census divisions represent counties, regional districts, regional municipalities and other types of provincially legislated areas.

In Newfoundland, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, provincial law does not provide for these administrative geographic areas. Therefore, census divisions have been created by Statistics Canada in cooperation with these provinces for the dissemination of statistical data. In the Yukon Territory, the census division is equivalent to the entire territory.

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), Census Agglomeration (CA), Consolidated Census Metropolitan Area, Consolidated Census Agglomeration, Primary Census Metropolitan Area (PCMA), Primary Census Agglomeration (PCA)

The census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations, consolidated census metropolitan areas, consolidated census agglomerations, primary census metropolitan areas and primary census agglomerations are delineated using the same conceptual base. The overall concept for delineating these geographic areas is one of a large urban area together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of social and economic integration with this urban area. Metropolitan area is a general term for all these areas. Non-metropolitan area is a term for all areas outside of the metropolitan area.

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)

A census metropolitan area (CMA) is a very large urban area (known as the urban core) together with adjacent urban and rural areas (known as urban and rural fringes) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. A CMA has an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census. Once an area

becomes a CMA, it is retained as a CMA even if the population of its urban core declines below 100,000. All CMAs are subdivided into census tracts. A CMA may be consolidated with adjacent census agglomerations (CAs) if they are socially and economically integrated. This new grouping is known as a consolidated CMA and the component CMA and CA(s) are known as the primary census metropolitan area (PCMA) and primary census agglomeration(s) [PCA(s)]. A CMA may not be consolidated with another CMA.

Census Agglomeration (CA)

A census agglomeration (CA) is a large urban area (known as the urban core) together with adjacent urban and rural areas (known as urban and rural fringes) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. A CA has an urban core population of at least 10,000, based on the previous census. However, if the population of the urban core of a CA declines below 10,000, the CA is retired. Once a CA attains an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census, it is eligible to become a CMA. CAs that have urban cores of at least 50,000, based on the previous census, are subdivided into census tracts. Census tracts are maintained for CAs even if the population of the urban cores subsequently fall below 50,000. A CA may be consolidated with adjacent CAs if they are socially and economically integrated. This new grouping is called a consolidated CA and the component CAs are called primary census agglomerations (PCAs).

Consolidated Census Metropolitan Area (Consolidated CMA)

A consolidated census metropolitan area (consolidated CMA) is a grouping of one census metropolitan area (CMA) and adjacent census agglomeration(s) CA(s) that are socially and economically integrated. An adjacent CMA and CA can be consolidated into a single CMA (consolidated CMA) if the total commuting interchange between them is equal to at least 35% of the employed labour force living in the CA. Several CAs may be consolidated with a CMA; each CMA/CA combination is evaluated for inclusion. For example, the consolidated Toronto CMA is composed of the Toronto PCMA and the PCAs of Georgina, Milton, Halton Hills, Orangeville and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Consolidated Census Agglomeration (Consolidated CA)

A consolidated census agglomeration (consolidated CA) is a grouping of adjacent census agglomerations (CAs) that are socially and economically integrated. Adjacent CAs are consolidated into a single CA (consolidated CA) if the total commuting interchange between two CAs is equal to at least 35% of the employed labour force living in the smaller CA. Several CAs may be consolidated with a larger CA; each pair of CAs is evaluated for inclusion. For example, the consolidated Chatham CA is composed of the Chatham PCA and the Wallaceburg PCA.

Primary Census Metropolitan Area (PCMA)

A census metropolitan area that is a component of a consolidated census metropolitan area is referred to as a primary census metropolitan area (PCMA).

Primary Census Agglomeration (PCA)

A census agglomeration that is a component of a consolidated census metropolitan area or consolidated census agglomeration is referred to as the primary census agglomeration (PCA).

Census Subdivision (CSD)

Census subdivision is the general term applying to municipalities (as determined by provincial legislation) or their equivalent (for example, Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories).

In Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and British Columbia, the term also describes geographic areas that have been created by Statistics Canada in cooperation with the provinces as equivalents for municipalities for the dissemination of statistical data.

Census Tract (CT)

Census tracts (CTs) are small geographic units representing urban or rural neighbourhood-like communities created in census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations (with an urban core population of 50,000 or more at the previous census).

CTs are initially delineated by a committee of local specialists (for example, planners, health and social workers, educators) in conjunction with Statistics Canada. Once a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA) has been subdivided into census tracts, the census tracts are maintained even if the urban core population of the CMA or CA subsequently declines below 50,000.

Digital Boundary Files (DBFs)

Digital boundary files (DBFs) are computer files that depict the official boundaries of standard census geographic areas. The boundaries sometimes extend beyond shorelines into water.

Digital Cartographic Files (DCFs)

Digital cartographic files (DCFs) are computer files that depict boundaries of standard census geographic areas which have been modified to follow shorelines and to include lakes.

Enumeration Area (EA)

An enumeration area (EA) is the geographic area canvassed by one census representative. It is the smallest standard geographic area for which census data are reported. All the territory of Canada is covered by EAs.

Federal Electoral District (FED)

A federal electoral district refers to any place or territorial area entitled to elect a representative member to serve in the House of Commons (source: Canada Elections Act, 1990). There are 295 FEDs in Canada according to the 1987 Representation Order and there are 301 FEDs in Canada according to the 1996 Representation Order.

Geocoding

Geocoding is the process of assigning geographic identifiers (codes) to map features and data records. The resulting geocodes permit data to be linked geographically. Statistics Canada's geocoding service links census households to small geographic units. This process makes it possible to produce census data tabulations for non-standard geographic areas such as provincial and municipal electoral districts, local planning areas and school districts.

Geographic Code

A geographic code is a unique number used to identify and access standard geographic areas for the purposes of data storage, retrieval and display.

Geographic Reference Date

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada for the purpose of finalizing the geographic framework for which census data will be collected, tabulated and reported. For the 1996 Census, the geographic reference date is January 1, 1996.

Latitude/Longitude

Latitude and longitude is a system of measuring location on the surface of the earth which recognizes that the earth is spherical. Latitude is the angle north or south of the equator, ranging from zero (0) degrees at the equator to ninety (90) degrees at the poles. Longitude is the angle east or west of the prime meridian (which runs through Greenwich, England), ranging from zero (0) degrees at the prime meridian to 180 degrees. For the land mass of Canada, latitudes range from roughly 42 to 83 degrees north of the equator and longitudes range from roughly 52 to 141 degrees west of the prime meridian. Latitude and longitude are often referred to as geographic coordinates.

Latitude/longitude coordinates are convenient for transferring and disseminating spatial digital data, but maps of Canada should not be plotted using latitude and longitude coordinates. The digital boundary files (DBFs), digital boundary files and street network files (SNFs) are disseminated with latitude/longitude coordinates.

Province/Territory

Province and territory refer to the major political divisions of Canada. From a statistical point of view, they are a basic unit for which data are tabulated and cross-classified. The ten provinces combined with the two territories cover the complete country.

Reference Map

Census reference maps show the location of the geographic areas for which census data are tabulated and disseminated. The main information depicted includes the boundaries, names and codes of census geographic areas, and major physical and cultural features such as roads, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes.

Representative Point

A representative point is a single point that represents a linear feature (block-face) or an areal feature (enumeration area). The point's location generally indicates either dwelling concentrations or centrality.

Standard Geographical Classification (SGC)

The Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) is Statistics Canada's official classification of geographic areas in Canada. The SGC provides unique numeric identification (codes) for three types of geographic areas. These are provinces and territories, census divisions (CDs) and census subdivisions (CSDs). The three geographic areas are hierarchically related.

Street Network Files (SNFs)

The street network files (SNFs) are digital files representing the street network for most large urban centres in Canada. The files also contain other visible physical and cultural features (such as hydrography, railroads, pipelines) and attribute information (for example, street and hydrographic names, and address ranges for streets with assigned addresses).

Urban Area (UA)

Urban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 per square kilometre, based on the previous census population counts. All territory outside urban areas is considered rural. Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Urban Core, Urban Fringe and Rural Fringe

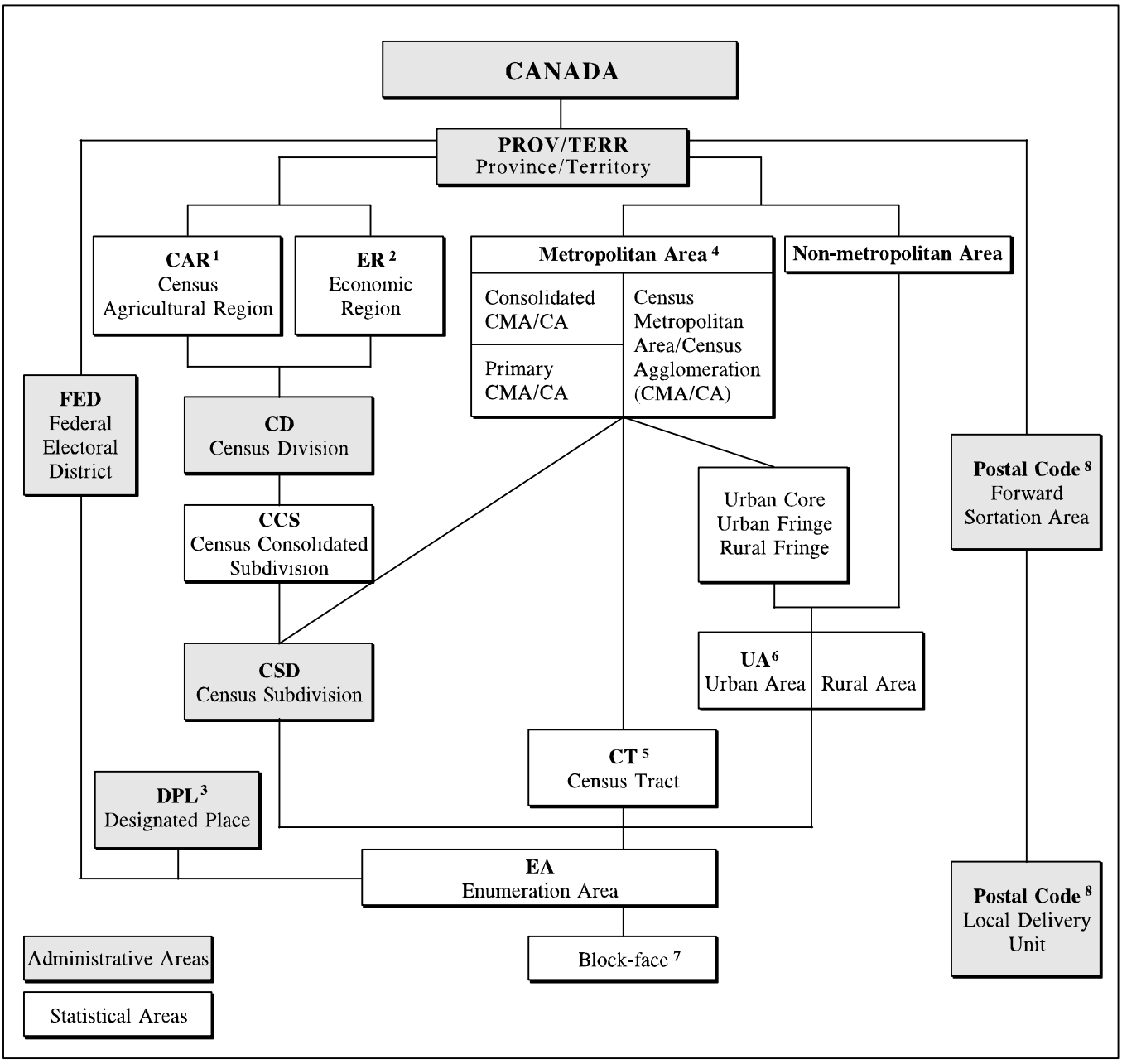
The urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe distinguish between central and peripheral urban and rural areas within a census metropolitan area (CMA), primary census metropolitan area (PCMA), census agglomeration (CA) or primary census agglomeration (PCA).

Urban core is a large urban area around which a CMA or a CA is delineated. The urban core must have a population (based on the previous census) of at least 100,000 in the case of a CMA, or between 10,000 and 99,999 in the case of a CA.

Urban fringe is the urban area within a CMA or CA that is not contiguous to the urban core.

Rural fringe is all territory within a CMA or CA not classified as urban core or urban fringe.

Appendix A. Hierarchy of National, Metropolitan and Postal Code Geographic Units, 1996



[1] Census agricultural regions in Saskatchewan are made up of census consolidated subdivisions.
[2] Economic regions in Ontario are made up of municipalities (census subdivisions).
[3] Currently there are no designated places in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories.
[4] Five CMAs/CAs cross provincial boundaries.
[5] All CMAs and only CAs with urban core population of 50,000 or more at the previous census have census tracts.
[6] Five UAs cross provincial boundaries.
[7] Only in areas covered by street network files (SNFs).
[8] The postal code is captured as provided by the respondent on all the questionnaires for 1996. Although shown and treated as part of the geography hierarchy, strictly speaking, it is not a geographic unit and, therefore, there is no exact relationship between postal codes and enumeration areas.

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1996 Street Network Files and Street Network and Feature Extension Files Reference Guide. Industry Canada, 1998. 1996 Census of Canada. Catalogue number 92F0024XDE, 92F0100XDE to 92-F0136XDE.

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Revised 12/11/96

Geography Products and Services

This section provides brief descriptions of Geography products and services related to the 1996 Census. For additional details, contact the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

General Reference Products

92F0085XCB GeoRef

GeoRef is a powerful data retrieval and tabular output tool with software and data on a CD-ROM. GeoRef allows users to explore the links between all standard levels of geography and to determine geographic codes, names, and population and dwelling counts. In addition to the standard census areas, GeoRef provides EA correspondence data (for 1996 census EAs and 1991 EAs) and an EA reference map listing that facilitates identification of appropriate EA reference maps.

Reference Maps

Reference maps identify census geographic areas and assist users in locating boundaries, allowing them to relate census data to actual physical locations. Over 7,500 reference maps are available for geographic areas that range in size from enumeration areas (the census collection unit) to federal electoral districts (Members of Parliament's ridings), from census tracts (neighbourhoods) to census agglomerations and census metropolitan areas (large urban centres), and from census subdivisions (municipalities) to census divisions (counties). Reference maps are available individually or as sets.

92F0087XPB Federal Electoral Districts/Enumeration Areas (FED/EA) Reference Maps (1987 Representation Order)

These reference maps show 1996 Census enumeration areas by federal electoral district. The federal electoral district boundaries are based on the 1987 Representation Order which was in effect on Census Day (May 14, 1996). These FED/EA maps are designed for the general reference of EA boundaries. For more specific identification of enumeration areas, users should refer to the more detailed EA Reference Maps for Large Urban (92F0090XPB), Small Urban (92F0088XPB) and Rural (92F0091XPB) areas. The FED/EA maps are reproduced on demand.

92F0090XPB Large Urban Enumeration Areas (EA) Reference Maps

These black and white EA reference maps cover all 25 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the 18 census agglomerations (CAs) that are in the Census Tract Programme. Approximately 4,200 maps to generally one map per census tract to show enumeration area (EA) boundaries and codes on a background of detailed street networks and other visible features. Also shown on the maps are census tract, census subdivision, federal electoral district and CMA or CA boundaries. These maps are reproduced on demand. Package prices are available when all Large Urban (92F0090XPB), Small Urban (92F0088XPB) and Rural (92F0089XPB) EA Reference Maps for Canada or Provinces and Territories are purchased together.

92F0088XPB Small Urban Enumeration Areas (EA) Reference Maps

Approximately 870 reference maps cover smaller urban municipalities (census subdivisions) not in the Census Tract Programme. The maps depict enumeration area (EA) boundaries and codes. Federal electoral districts are also shown on these maps. The size and scale of the maps vary, depending on the area covered. These maps are reproduced on

demand. Package prices are available when all Large Urban (92F0090XPB), Small Urban (92F0088XPB) and Rural (92F0089XPB) EA Reference Maps for Canada or Provinces and Territories are purchased together.

92F0091XPB Rural Enumeration Areas (EA) Reference Maps

Approximately 2,400 maps depict enumeration area boundaries and codes in rural areas of Canada. Also shown are boundaries for census subdivisions, census divisions, federal electoral districts, census metropolitan areas and tracted census agglomerations. The maps, based on Natural Resources Canada's national topographic series, are at a scale of 1:50,000 or 1:250,000 for the 10 provinces and at a scale of 1:1,000,000 for Yukon Territory and 1:4,000,000 for Northwest Territories. These maps are reproduced on demand. Package prices are available when all Large Urban (92F0090XPB), Small Urban (92F0088XPB) and Rural (92F0089XPB) EA Reference Maps for Canada or Provinces and Territories are purchased together.

92F0089XPB Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions (CD/CSD) Reference Maps: Individual Maps

A total of 21 provincial maps showing the boundaries, names and codes for census divisions (areas such as counties and regional districts) and census subdivisions (such as cities, municipalities, towns, villages, other local municipal entities, townships and Indian reserves) are available for sale individually. The maps also show the boundaries for census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. Each province is covered by one to four maps, with scales ranging from 1:375,000 to 1:6,000,000. The maps have the same general look as in 1991, although they have been produced using computer-assisted technology from digital geographic databases. The reference information, including water bodies, major roads and railroads, comes from the Digital Chart of the World (DCW).

Note: The entire set of provincial maps are available in the publication, Standard Geographical Classification. Volume II (Catalogue No. 12-572-XPB). Also included in the publication are three maps of Canada at 1:10,000,000 scale, one showing census divisions, one showing economic regions, and one showing point locations of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations,

92-354-XPB Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts (CMA/CA/CT) Reference Maps

This publication includes reference maps of all census metropolitan areas (55 maps covering 25 CMAs) and census agglomerations with census tracts (29 maps covering 18 CAs). The maps show boundaries and names of the census tracts, census subdivisions, primary census metropolitan areas and primary census agglomerations which make up the CMAs/CAs, as well as the urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe. Also shown are rivers, lakes, railroad tracks, provincial boundaries and other significant features. The map scales range from 1:25,000 to 1:2,000,000. The publication also includes a Canada map (1:10,000,000 scale) showing point locations of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations in 1996.

92F0092XPB Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts (CMA/CA/CT) Reference Maps - Individual Maps

Individual reference maps for census metropolitan areas (55 maps covering 25 CMAs) and census agglomerations with census tracts (29 maps covering 18 CAs) are available. The maps show boundaries and names of the census tracts, census subdivisions, primary census metropolitan areas and primary census agglomerations which make up the CMAs/CAs, as well as the urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe. Also shown are rivers, lakes, railroad tracks, provincial boundaries and other significant features. The map scales range from 1:25,000 to 1:2,000,000.

Note: The entire set of maps is available in the publication Census Metropolitan Areas, Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts. Reference Maps (Catalogue No. 92-354-XPB).

Population and Dwelling Counts

Population and dwelling counts from the 1996 Census are available in a variety of formats and geographic breakdowns. In addition to the publication and CD-ROM described below, population and dwelling counts are available in GeoRef (92F0085XCB) and the Block-face Data File (92F0026XDB).

93-357-XPB A National Overview. Population and Dwelling Counts

This publication provides population and dwelling counts established by the 1996 Census of Canada. The levels of geography covered are: provinces and territories, federal electoral districts (1987 Representation Order), census divisions, census subdivisions, designated places, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, urban and rural areas. The geographic boundaries of these areas are those that were in force on January 1, 1996 (geographic reference date for the 1996 Census of Canada). The publication also includes population and dwelling counts for forward sortation areas (first three characters of the postal code) as reported by census respondents on Census Day (May 14, 1996).

92F0086XCB Postal Code Counts

Postal Codes Counts is a new product for 1996 that contains population and dwelling counts for all six-character postal codes reported by respondents. The population and dwelling counts are provided by individual postal code, by forward sortation area (FSA - first three characters of the six-character postal code) and by province or territory. The data are provided with Windows™-based software that enables users to perform simple data manipulations such as searching the data set for specific postal codes, importing groups of postal codes for which counts are required and exporting groupings of postal codes. Documentation and reference material are contained in electronic form on the CD-ROM.

Digital Boundary Files and Digital Cartographic Files

Digital Boundary Files (DBFs) portray the official boundaries used for 1996 Census collection and, therefore, often extend as straight lines into bodies of water. In Digital Cartographic Files (DCFs), these boundaries were modified to follow the coastlines and shorelines on the perimeter of Canada's land mass, including major islands. The DCFs also include a separate map layer showing lakes and some rivers and estuaries. This “water” layer can be used for additional reference purposes when mapping or displaying the boundaries. DCFs provide a framework for thematic mapping and geographic analysis that are possible using commercially available geographic information systems (GIS) or other mapping software. DBFs may not be suitable for mapping or display where realistic shoreline is required. The DCFs are available by standard packages and prices; DBFs are available on request for the same price.

92F0029XDE Provinces and Territories Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Provinces and Territories Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. The boundaries of the provinces and territories were generalised to meet the requirements of most desk-top mapping packages. Consequently, this product is not consistent with others in the series. The Provinces and Territories DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0030XDE Federal Electoral Districts (1987 Representation Order) Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Federal Electoral Districts (1987 Representation Order) Digital Boundary File and Digital Cartographic File were created by aggregating the component EA boundaries from the 1996 Census. They may differ slightly from the Digital Boundary File based on 1991 enumeration areas (92F0070XDB). The Federal Electoral Districts Digital Cartographic File is a new product and is available in two versions. The boundaries of the first version are consistent with all other levels of standard geography. A more generalised version is also available for small scale mapping of the country as a whole. The two versions of the FED DCF are available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0031XDE Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Digital Cartographic File

The Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Digital Cartographic File depicts the boundaries of the Federal Electoral Districts (FEDs) according to the 1996 Representation Order. Since this is not a standard level of geography for the 1996 Census, the cartographic file was created with a different methodology and, therefore, is not entirely consistent with other files in the series. Users should be aware that the FED boundaries used for the taking of the 1996 Census were based on the 1987 Representation Order. The 1996 representation order was proclaimed on January 8, 1996 and is in force on the first dissolution of Parliament that occurs at least one year after its proclamation. The Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0032XDE Census Divisions Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Census Divisions Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. The Census Divisions DCF is available in two versions. The boundaries of the first version are consistent with all other levels of standard geography. A more generalised version is also available for small scale mapping of the country as a whole. The two versions of the Census Divisions DCFs are available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0033XDE Census Consolidated Subdivisions Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Census Consolidated Subdivisions Digital Boundary (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. Census Consolidated Subdivisions DCFs are available as standard packages for Canada and the provinces and territories.

92F0034XDE Census Subdivisions Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Census Subdivisions Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. The Census Subdivisions DCF is available as a standard package for Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts.

92F0035XDE Census Metropolitan Areas/Census Agglomerations Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The 1996 Census Metropolitan Areas/Census Agglomerations Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. The Census Metropolitan Areas/Census Agglomerations DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0036XDE Census Tracts Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

Users of the 1991 Census Tracts Digital Cartographic File will notice a major difference between the 1991 and the 1996 product. In 1991, all bodies of water were integrated with the boundaries on a single map layer. The 1996 boundaries follow the coastlines and shorelines on the perimeter of Canada's land mass, including major islands. Users can see the remaining shorelines (in-land bodies of water) by overlaying the separate "water" layer. The 1996 Census Tracts DCFs are consistent with all other levels of standard geography. This was not case in 1991. The Census Tracts DCFs are available as standard packages for Canada, the provinces, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with census tracts.

92F0037XDE Urban Areas Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Urban Areas Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. The Urban Areas DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0038XDE Designated Places Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Designated Places Digital Boundary File (DBF) and Digital Cartographic File (DCF) are two of a series of products that depict boundaries of standard geography levels. Designated places are a new standard geography level for 1996. The Designated Places DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0039XDE 1996 Census Forward Sortation Areas Digital Cartographic File

The 1996 Census Forward Sortation Areas (FSAs) Digital Cartographic File depicts FSA boundaries derived from postal codes captured from the 1996 Census questionnaires. By analysing the postal codes reported by census households, a single FSA was assigned to each enumeration area (most often the FSA reported by the largest number of census households). FSA polygons were formed by grouping enumeration areas. Therefore, the Census based FSA boundaries respect enumeration area boundaries. The 1996 Census Forward Sortation Areas DCF is available as a standard package for Canada.

92F0040XDE Enumeration Areas (EA) Digital Boundary File/Digital Cartographic File

The Enumeration Areas Digital Cartographic File (DCF) is available for the first time. In 1991, only the Digital Boundary File was available. The EA DCFs are available as standard packages for Canada, the provinces and territories and Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) and some Census Agglomerations (CA).

Digital Street Files

Geography Division maintains a street network database of Canada's large urban centres on an ongoing basis. While this database represents less than 1 % of Canada's land area, it accounts for 62% of Canada's population. Several products originate from this database including very detailed Street Network Files, less detailed Skeletal Street Network Files, and the Block-face Data File.

92F0024XDE Street Network Files (SNF)

The Street Network Files (SNFs) are digital files representing the street network for most large urban centres in Canada. The files also contain other visible physical and cultural features (such as hydrography, railroads, pipelines) and attribute information (for example, street and hydrographic names and address ranges for streets with assigned addresses). Streets and addresses are updated to reflect the information collected on Census Day to May 14, 1996. In

combination with the user's appropriate software, the Street Network Files are useful for route planning, delivery services and mapping. The SNFs are available as standard packages for Canada, all provinces but Prince Edward Island, and for Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) and some Census Agglomerations (CA).

92F0025XDE Skeletal Street Network Files (SSNF)

The Skeletal Street Network Files (SSNF) are "thinned-out" Street Network Files consisting of cartographic reference features such as major streets (with street names but no address ranges) and some railway features used to define the census tract boundaries. The SSNFs are available as standard packages for Canada, Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) and some Census Agglomerations (CA).

92F0100XDE - 92F0136XDE Street Network and Feature Extension Files (SNFEF)

The Street Network and Extension Files (SNFEFs) are digital files that extend the coverage of the Street Network Files (SNFs) to the defined limits of the census metropolitan area / census agglomeration (CMA/CA). The SNFEFs contain all the features of the SNFs plus a road and feature network from the National topographic Data Base (NTDB) extending from the SNF coverage to the CMA/CA limit. The NTDB based portion of the SNFEFs do not have address ranges.

SNFEFs cover a total of 29 centres: 26 CMAs and CAs that have partial SNF coverage, and 3 CAs with no SNF coverage.

Since standard boundary file products may not match the feature extensions in the SNFEF, adjusted boundary files are also available for clients wanting a complete CMA/CA package (see sections on Census Tracts DBF/DCF, Census Subdivisions DBF/DCF and Enumeration Areas DBF/DCF for specific information).

92F0026XDB Block-face Data File (BFDF)

The Block-face Data File (BFDF) contains 1996 Census population and dwelling counts for block-faces in urban centres covered by the Street Network Files (92F0024XDE). A block-face is generally one side of a city street between two consecutive intersections; it is also the smallest geographical unit available from Statistics Canada. The BFDF also links the block-face to all other levels of standard geography (enumeration areas and above) through geographic codes. The file includes street names with address ranges as well as co-ordinates for a point representing the approximate centre of each block-face. The BFDFs are available as standard packages for Canada and for large urban centres.

Postal Code Products

The postal code products described below use postal codes that are obtained regularly from Canada Post Corporation. Two other products listed above, Postal Code Counts (92F0086XCB) and 1996 Census Forward Sortation Areas Digital Cartographic File (93F0038XDE), are based on postal codes provided by respondents on census questionnaires.

92F0027XDB 1996 Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF)

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) provides a link between the six-character postal code and the standard 1996 Census geographic areas (such as enumeration areas, municipalities, census tracts, etc.). It also provides the x,y co-ordinates 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, and for large urban centres.

92F0027UDB 1996 Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) - Update

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) provides a link between the six-character postal code and the standard 1996 Census geographic areas (such as enumeration areas, municipalities, census tracts, etc.). It also provides the x,y co-ordinates for a point representing the approximate location of the postal code to support mapping. The PCCF is updated on a semi-annual basis. Updates released in July provide new postal codes as of January of the release year. Updates released in January provide new postal codes as of July of the previous year. Clients must purchase the Postal Code Conversion File (92F0027XDB) at the initial cost; then subsequent updated files may be purchased at the update rate. An additional discount on updates is given to PCCF update subscribers. The subscription will require that they pay in advance for at least one updated file per year until the new PCCF for the 2001 Census is released. The PCCF updates are available as standard packages for Canada and provinces and territories.

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

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (1996 Representation Order) File (PCFRF) is a flat ASCII file which provides a link between the six character postal code and Canada's federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order). A federal electoral district (FED) is any place or territorial area entitled to return a member of Parliament (MP) to serve in the House of Commons and is commonly referred to as a federal riding. The PCFRF is available as standard packages for Canada and for 5 regions to Atlantic Provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie Provinces and Northwest Territories, and British Columbia and Yukon Territory.

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

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (1996 Representation Order) File (PCFRF) is a flat ASCII file which provides a link between the six character postal code and Canada's federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order). A federal electoral district (FED) is any place or territorial area entitled to return a member of Parliament (MP) to serve in the House of Commons and is commonly referred to as a federal riding. The PCFRF is updated on a semi-annual basis. Updates released in July provide new postal codes as of January of the release year. Updates released in January provide new postal codes as of July of the previous year. Clients must purchase the PCFRF (92F0028XDB) at the initial cost; then subsequent updated files may be purchased at the update rate. The PCFRF updates are available for Canada and for 5 regions to Atlantic Provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie Provinces and Northwest Territories, and British Columbia and the Yukon Territory.

Services

97C0005 Geocoding Service

The 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 an aggregation at the block-face level in large urban centres with Street Network File coverage, and at the enumeration level in small urban centres and rural areas. The user is thereby able to purchase census data for these custom areas. Cost estimates for this service will be provided based on the complexity of the request.

97C0006 Geography Custom Services

If the standard geography products do not satisfy a user's need, Geography Custom Services are available to produce non-standard geographic products by special request. Examples include alternative packaging of Digital Cartographic Files, special data retrievals, manipulations or merges using any of the geography computer files (postal codes, attribute

files, boundary files and Street Network Files). Cost estimates for this service will be provided based on the nature and complexity of the request.

97C0007 Geography Custom Mapping

Thematic maps and other custom maps may be produced as a special request. Cost estimates for this service will be provided based on the complexity of the request.