

Data Purchase and Access Working Group meeting
November 16, 2016
1:30 – 2:30pm Eastern time
<https://cdp.adobeconnect.com/theboardroom>
Teleconference number: 1-888-271-3643

PRESENT

Ted Hildebrandt - Halton
Heath Priston - Toronto
Jasmine Ing - Calgary
Valentyn Kliuchnyk - York
Isabelle Lépine - Montréal

AGENDA

1. Update on the income inequality tables
2. Update on the taxfiler custom cross-tabulations
3. Discussion and test-driving of the User Survey
4. Other business
5. Next meeting

1. Update on the income inequality tables

We are proceeding with the purchase of the updated income inequality tables. The new tables will change the decile methodology so that all deciles will contain exactly one tenth of the population, whereas previously the decile thresholds were determined and then deciles created so that no values overlapped two deciles. We are also ordering an extra first decile, bottom-coded so that negative income is coded as \$0. This will prevent supplemental suppression of the tenth decile. The cost for this re-order is such that we will not purchase previous years for this table at this time. Budget permitting, we can review this decision in future.

Members of the DPAWG agreed that this approach is reasonable but reiterated their interest in having the previous years' data should it become feasible to acquire them.

2. Update on the taxfiler custom cross-tabulations

Statistics Canada responded to our taxfiler custom cross-tabulation requests. The [details of the request](#) as well as [the response from STC](#) have been uploaded to the communitydata.ca server. Their response indicated that the requested cross-tabulations for Family Table 18 would result in a significant amount of suppression. After some discussion with the DPAWG, it was decided that a smaller set of age groups would be requested for F-18 and only at larger geographies (CSD, CD). Priority was put on the following age groups at the CSD level: 0-6, 0-12, 0-17, 55+, 75+

It was also determined that the \$1M+ income category would not be needed.

3. Discussion and test-driving of the User Survey

DPAWG were presented with the first draft of the User Survey which is to be distributed toward the end of November. The primary goal of this survey is to inform data acquisition decisions over the next five years, but most importantly, decisions regarding 2016 Census data acquisitions.

The first draft of the survey presented users with a list of data groups to rate on a scale of 1 to 5. Questions regarding custom geographies, geographies of interest and some supplemental questions about the LISTSERV and recent website changes were also presented.

Heath outlined the City of Toronto's approach to engaging stakeholders with respect to what will be needed for producing data products, profiles and a social atlas. The City and Social Planning Toronto are holding public consultations to find out what is the actual local need. The consultation will link to the Census and describe what information is collected, but will also find out what questions people are asking and how they can be answered

Overall, the first draft of the survey was perceived as being too detailed and inaccessible for most users and that it would not necessarily provide information that is more useful than the downloading history. It was suggested that there would be more use in trying to assess users' important issues and strategic priorities.

The CDP team is planning to hold a Leads' meeting on the Census Data purchase on January 19, 2017. Heath could present the City of Toronto's strategy for engaging stakeholders on their Census data needs at this meeting.

ACTION: The second draft of the survey will be crafted to be a bit 'softer', focusing on the policy needs of members. A comprehensive rating of product groups will not be requested, as this information can be obtained from the site's downloading history.

4. Other business

Statistics Canada is considering making Census Subdivision a standard geography for T1FF data tables in the future. Here is what information we recently received from STC:

"We are currently looking into the possibility of incorporating CSD geography in our T1FF standard tables. This would be done by modifying our processing system where some generic programs (ex. data suppression programs) run on multiple tables at the same time (instead of custom where we have to develop a complete set of programs for each separate table). Our resources to attempts to do this are limited, but if we can make this work, the cost for standard tables with CSD would be similar to our current cost structure for standard table. At the earliest, we would be doing this for our 2015 data reference year (tentative release late June 2018). We would not be going back retroactively in time with

this process, hence any table pre-reference year 2015 with CSD would still processed and priced as a custom cost recovery table.”

5. Next meeting

The CDP team is planning on holding a Leads’ teleconference on January 19, 2017 to discuss our plans for the upcoming Census order. The results from the User Survey would be presented at this meeting and a preliminary order would be compiled, if possible. This meeting can take the place of the next DPAWG meeting. The following meeting will take place approximately two months later, sometime in March. Details on this meeting will follow.