Report on the Community Data Canada Roundtable: Updates to the Census 2016

The Community Data Program and CCSD hosted the Roundtable on the topic of the current census using Adobe Connect. The presentation was given by Joe Kresovic from Statistics Canada and questions were answered by both Mr. Kresovic and Dr. Michalowski. A list of questions appears in Annex 1.

Details of the Event

Date and Time:	Tuesday, May 3 at 2 - 3:30 pm ET (11 am - 12:30 pm PT) Monday, May 16 at 2 - 3:30 pm ET (11 am - 12:30 pm PT) Due to overwhelming registration the event was held twice.
Place:	The presentation took place online with Adobe Connect. https://cdp.adobeconnect.com/cdcroundtable/
Registration:	communitydata.ca/sign-up
Follow-up:	communitydata.ca/events
Total registrations:	244
Total attendees:	194

Event Summary

Canada's next census will take place in May 2016. Starting May 2, 2016, Statistics Canada will send census letters and packages to all Canadian households. The Government of Canada has asked Statistics Canada to reinstate the mandatory long-form census. As a result, the long-form census, formerly called the National Household Survey, will be collected on a mandatory basis for the 2016 cycle. One in four households will receive the long-form questionnaire, which contains the 10 questions from the short-form questionnaire plus additional questions on topics such as education, ethnicity, mobility, labour market activities and employment. Census information is important for all communities and is vital for planning services such as schools, daycare, family services, housing, police services, fire protection, roads, public transportation and skills training for employment. It is also the primary source of reliable demographic data for specific groups such as lone-parent families, seniors and language groups.

About Our Speakers

Joe Kresovic has more than 28 years of experience working at Statistics Canada on a number of programs, including four past censuses. He is director of Census Operations Division at Statistics Canada. His area of responsibility includes design and planning of field operations, mailout, processing, and dissemination for the Census of Population Program. Previously, he was director of Geography Division, and was a member of the planning and implementation

team for the redesign of the 2006 Census of Population. As chief of Special Projects and Integration in Service Industries Division, he managed the redesign of the business processes for the annual services statistics program. He received a Bachelor of Environmental Studies in geography and economics from the University of Waterloo, and a MBA from the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Margaret Michalowski is currently heading Census Subject Matter Secretariat (CSMS) of Statistics Canada. CSMS ensures that the Census of Population content is aligned with the needs for statistics related to demography, health, education, labour, income and social and Aboriginal fabric of the Canadian population. The Secretariat coordinates efforts to deliver consistent and high quality data from Canadian Censuses. Margaret was also involved with the 2006 Census as a manager of certification of the census data. Margaret' past responsibilities while at Statistics Canada included: oversight of innovation in the area of demographic statistics, management and editor-in-chief of Census Social Trends, the StatCan flagship publication; leading revamping of dissemination of analytical publication in social area; management of Immigration and Ethnocultural statistics program. In course of her professional career prior to Statistics Canada, she has worked in the academic institutions and research institutes. Her research interests include international and internal migration, ethnicity and aboriginal statistics, population aging, demographic estimates and projections, and quantitative methods. Dr. Michalowski is the author of over 50 papers and reports published in refereed journals and conference proceedings. She is actively involved in work of scientific societies (a past member of the Executive Council of the Canadian Population Society) and international organizations. She has a Ph.D. in statistics and demography from the Warsaw School of Economics, Poland.

Annex 1: Questions

May 3, 2016
Answered Questions (29)
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1. Hilary - Oxford: Some nerdy fun: http://www.cbc.ca/news/trending/census-2016-nerds-1.3563808
* Mary Clarke: Yes, I will put the powerpoint files up on the meeting at the end of the meeting.

2. David Hole: Will the slide deck be available for download?
* Mary Clarke: Yes, I will put the powerpoint files up on the meeting at the end of the meeting.

3. shauna: what if someone is away between now and May 10 and can't fill it out?
* Mary Clarke: Reminder letters will go out to those who do not respond, but people can complete in the month of May.

4. Scott McCullough: do you advertise in other languages
* Mary Clarke: The census is translated into 22 languages and can be done by phone as well as advertisting in community papers in other languages

5. Scott McCullough: do any of those organizations that you target advertise in other languages
* Mary Clarke: Yes

6. guest 3: What is the tool used to create the Data Viewer?
* Mary Clarke: The tool is not yet developed

7. County of Simcoe: To what level of geography will the Census Program Data Viewer be available?
* Mary Clarke: Census subdivisions will be the goal and is in development

8. Cheryl Hitchen: Sorry, where do we get the tool kit so we can use/share the banner?
* Mary Clarke: Email statcan.infostats-infostats.statcan@canada.ca

9. Anna - York Region: how will tax file income data be grouped into household units?
* Mary Clarke: The income data is linked to a person and then is linked to a household. Income data will be based on counts and not estimates this census.

10. Ash Roy: Little off topic, I am curious about propulation project. Can you please shade some light on it? I am more interested - how I can get population project by neighbourhood?
* Mary Clarke: census produces counts at dissemination block. Population estimates is not available at neighbourhood.

11. guest 3: Will the data be available (free or for purchase) at the postal code level?
* Mary Clarke: There is a privacy concern for postal code level so a similiar levels of data will be

available. There are restrictions from Canada Post as well.

12. Niagara Region - OP: Are you aware what data sets will be provided at the ADA dissemination level
* Mary Clarke: Census profiles should be produced to ADA dissemination areas. Data tables will be available based on data quality and privacy.

13. Kaitlyn Carr: Has CRA data been used in the past to accompany census data?
* Mary Clarke: Yes

14. Andy Mong: For Age Characterists, will there be age breakdown available for all single ages in addition to the age groupings? For example, in the 2011 Census Profile, there was only a breakdown of each age between 15 to 19, but not for the other age groups.
* Mary Clarke: Age categories are being reviewed. For small populations, they are not likely to be available.

15. Isabelle Lépine: I can not possibly have understood the information during the presentation. The households selected for the long form received the invitation yesterday, where they will receive a new one?
* Mary Clarke: Short and long form invitations were sent yesterday. If no response, they will receive follow-up.

16. Peel Public Health: Since the release schedule is earlier by 10 months, can we also expect that custom requests e.g., data by custom levels of geography, will also get addressed sooner?
* Mary Clarke: To be confirmed

17. Durham Region: What sampling strategy was used to select long-form census participants (1 in 4)?
* Mary Clarke: Random sampling

18. Anna - York Region: back to the grouping of income information into household income - did we get it right that Short form willbe providing key info for the linking of individual income into hh income regardless if they are related or not?
* Mary Clarke: The construction of the family or household is from the census and the income is attached to the invidual from the income data.

19. City of Calgary: Given the new approach to gathering income information directly from Canada Revenue Agency, what are your strategies for gathering income information from non-filers or late filers?
* Mary Clarke: There will be attempt to link up using other CRA databases.

20. Isabelle Lépine: Sorry previous question was baddly translate.   : I might not understood the information during the presentation. Do households selected for the long form received the invitation yesterday, or will they receive a other invitation for long form?

* Mary Clarke(privately): Isabelle, you may ask questions in french if you like

21. Tracey Lewis: Will the 20/20 Browser still be in use?
* Mary Clarke: Yes

22. Durham Region: How were long-form households selected?
* Mary Clarke: Every 4th household

23. Chris Borst: Is there anything new being done this year to encourage the participation of First Nations ("reserves")?
* Mary Clarke: Continue an outreach program. Participation and success is expected to continue.

24. Laura Tucker: Can the Q&A's be available for download?
* Mary Clarke: I can try!

25. Scott McCullough: Any new attempts to count extremely marginalized groups -- such as persons homeless??
* Mary Clarke: Those in shelters will be counted, but not those on the street

26. County of Simcoe: so will there still be an option for the respondent to say No to linking to their CRA data?
* Mary Clarke: No, there is no option. EVeryone is informed about the approach.

27. City of Calgary: We didn't understand the response about the low income lines. Were you saying both the long form and the short form profiles include income information? And that the short form will include 4 income concepts (the LICOs and the LIMs) whereas the long form will include 5 income concepts (LIMs, LICO, and MBM)?
* Mary Clarke: Yes, long form includes the MBM because CRA does not have this available.

28. City of Calgary: What is the approach to collective dwellings this year for the long-form? Does it include non-institutional collective dwellings as well as private households?
* Mary Clarke: Same as 2011. Long form will only address private households.

29. Isabelle Lépine: Concernant le renevu. Est-ce qu'ils savent déjà s'ils vont diffuser la population ayant un faible revenu en 2015 fondé sur la mesure de faible revenu après impôt (MFR-ApI) ou vont-il revenir au seuil de faible revenu (SFR)
* Mary Clarke: It will depend on the data quality.

Open Questions (27)
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30. (Deleted) Gustavo: Thanks
31. County of Simcoe: can you please elaborate on how income data from both short and long forms will be collected from CRA data?

32. guest 8: Can you elaborate on how income will be handled differently from previous censuses?

33. (Deleted) Ash Roy: i meant population projection by neighbourhood

34. David Hole: CAUTION: If participants click on Q&A hyperlinks they will risk being shut out of the room.

35. County of Simcoe: the question was what will be the method used to link data from the census with CRA data

36. Kaitlyn Carr: The Ottawa Neighbourhood Study will be providing the data at a neighbourhood level http://neighbourhoodstudy.ca/

37. Michael Ditor: As you know, we are a consortium of data users that together purchases a great deal of data from the Census. After the last Census, all standard topic-based tabulations were made free, usually to the CMA level, but below this level they were available at a cost. We understand that all data are now free and come with an open license and that it is your time that we are paying for. What obstacles do you see to prevent ALL standard tables from being free for ALL standard geographies -that is, down to the census tract and dissemination area? If you can't speak specifically to this question, please speak generally about the price of data for Canadians and Statistics Canada's need to balance cost recovery against your mandate to publish and disseminate.

38. Ted Hildebrandt: For low income statistics, will the 2016 Census results be available by both LICO and LIM (AT & BT)?

39. City of Calgary: What low income measure(s) will be reported in standard Statistics Canada products? (i.e. LICO-BT, LIM-AT, etc.)

40. Ash Roy: Thanks @Mary

41. Chris Borst: What plans have been made to allow for any continuing motivated non-response following the politicization of the last Census?

42. Ash Roy: i beleive it would available by FSA level

43. Tracey Lewis: I'm sorry but I did not understand whether a postal code conversion file is going to be available on the Stats Can website to users or not?

44. Mary K. Cichocki-Beaudry: It may be premature, but will there be any comparisons or analyses comparing 2011 NHS data and the 2016 Long form data? A retrospective so to speak?

45. Isabelle Lépine: Merci beaucoup pour votre réonse en français. Vous avez bien répondu à ma question !!!

46. County of Simcoe: Not a question, but the Census Program Data Viewer looks like it'll be a great tool! Also, the use of infographics for profiles is great!

47. Anna: is 2016 income data going to be comparable with 2006 income data for trend analysis?

48. Tracey Lewis: I believe the presenter said earlier that the sampling fraction CHANGED from 1 in 3 previously, to 1 in 4 for this Census ? Why the change?

49. (Deleted) City of Calgary: We didn

50. City of Calgary: Which census produts (short form profile, long form profile, others) will include income information?

51. Durham Region: 6

52. Hamilton PHS: 2

53. County of Simcoe: 4 people!

54. Inga Kaletka: 2
55. Hilary - Oxford: Chat box not working here. We had 4 attendees here.
56. City of Calgary: THe audio just cut out
57. City of Calgary: we didn't hear the answer!
58. Anna: thank you!
59. City of Calgary: Are there any plans to rebase LICO? It was based in 1992 and hasn't been updated other than through CPI.

May 16, 2016
Answered Questions (8)
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1. WDG Public Health: Will the new Census Data Viewer show 2016 data or will census trends from 2011, 2006 and prior be shown as well?
* Mary Clarke: The data viewer is still in construction. The focus will be on 2016 data. Over 300 different indicators are being developed. Comparision will be across communities and to higher level geographies.

2. guest: What has been the online response rate to date?
* Mary Clarke: Over 60% responses from Canadians already. Online responses are exceeding expectations. Better quality data and more complete responses come online. People are guided through the online census and it is easy to fill out.

3. A. Simon Mielniczuk: How are online respondents compared to non-respondents?
* Mary Clarke: Hard to comment until analysis is done. There is still time to respond.

4. Christina: Is the income data provided through tax filer information? I noticed there was not a question regarding consent to access this information this year.
* Mary Clarke: Information is in census guide and electronic questionnaire. Income data is coming from administrative file. This lessens respondents burden. This was also done in previous census.

5. WDG Public Health: Do you forsee a shift making use of administrative data sets to provide information on census topics in the way that CRA data is used to provide income data (e.g., using CIC data to inform immigration data instead of the census)
* Mary Clarke: There are definitely options there. There is an attempt to not be asking questions again that have already been asked. A lot of analysis of other data sources needs to be done before matching them with the census.

6. guest: I recall there being a question on the long form regarding perceived value of owned property. What is the intent of this question?
* Mary Clarke: These are housing questions. Often used by CMHC for policy and planning and program evaluation.

7. Michael Ditor: The Census is used as a gold standard to validate weightings used in other

surveys, correct? Do you have information or specific examples on the benefits of the return of the long-form Census with respect to other surveys conducted by Statistics Canada?
* Mary Clarke: First, hope to collect less-biased data than in 2011. We did not have the same level of information from all groups. The mandatory character of the 2016 census will improved quality and can eliminate the biased of non-response. Census is biggest survey that Statistics Canada conducts. Other surveys are representative and can be weighted using census data.

8. Akm Alamgir: Scales of data collection (e.g. q11) are different from standrad 5-stem scales. Do you think that the comparability will be hampered?
* Mary Clarke: Question 11 was redesigned. This question was posed to provide basis for follow-up questions. This will allow for better comparability for international data. While comparability to past data is very important, it cannot be paramount to quality of data.

Open Questions (2)
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9. Jith: 1
10. (Deleted) WDG Public Health: Will there be health unit profiles publicly available online in addition to the community profiles?
11. Akm Alamgir: Regarding q#19, in September 2013, UN grouped Afghanistan as the South Asian country. Here we're taking them into the West Asian ethnic group. Do you anticipate a validity issue on this inclusion criteria?