

CENSUS • RECENSEMENT

# Prescribed questions for the 2026 Census of Population

Community Data Program

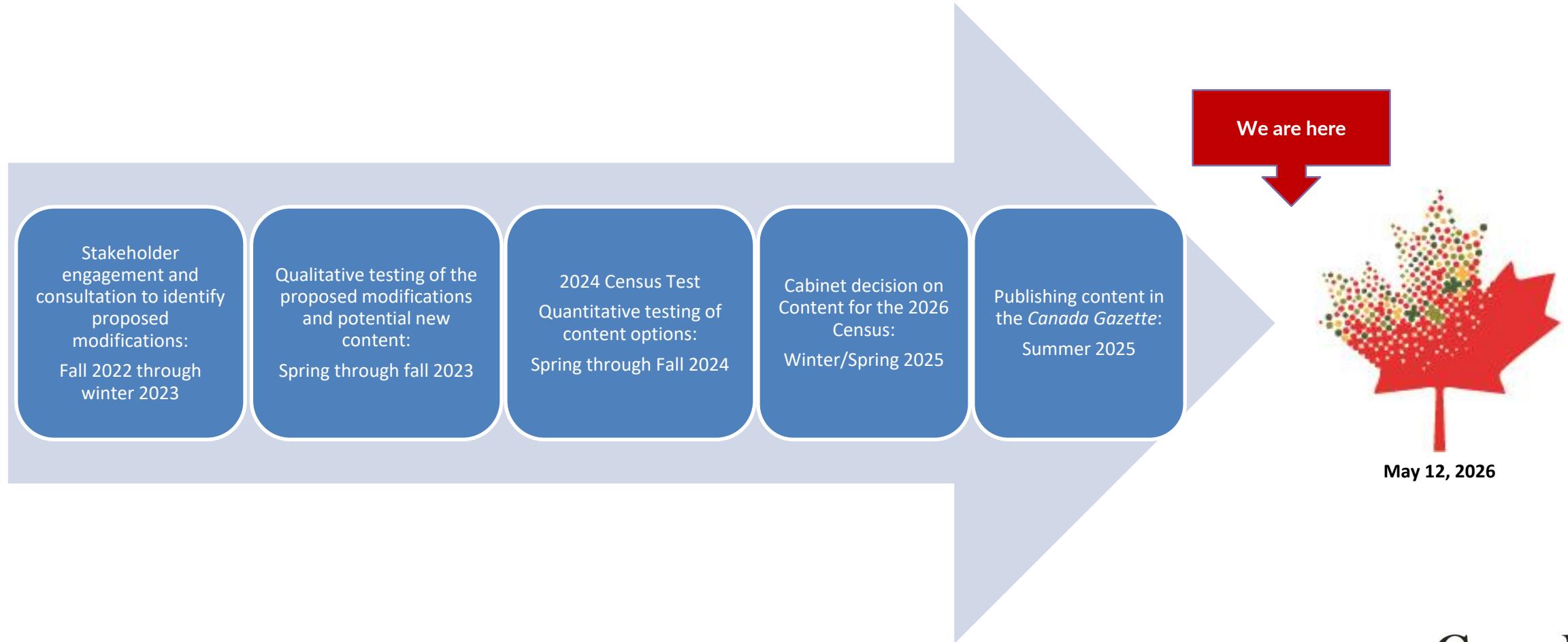
January 27, 2026





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## Timeline for determining the content of the 2026 Census





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## Overview of 2026 Census content

### New:

- General health
- Homelessness
- Sexual orientation, for Canadians aged 15 and over

### Returning in 2026:

- Religion

### Modified:

- Date of birth, sex at birth and gender
- Relationship to Person 1 and marital status
- Language of instruction
- Activities of daily living
- Non-official languages
- Ethnic or cultural origins
- Indigenous peoples

- Population group
- Canadian Military experience
- Education
- Labour market activities
- Commuting
- Child care
- Housing



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## New content: General health

GENERAL HEALTH	
The following question is about the general health status of members of this household.	
<b>18</b>	In general, how is this person's health?
Health means not only the <b>absence of disease or injury</b> but also <b>physical, mental and social well-being</b> .	
Mark " <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> " one circle only.	

<input type="radio"/> Excellent
<input type="radio"/> Very good
<input type="radio"/> Good
<input type="radio"/> Fair
<input type="radio"/> Poor

### General health

- A simple, valid, reliable measure and an important indicator for overall health status and well-being that can be used for program evaluation and planning at all levels.
- Statistics Canada's harmonized content – used in many health surveys.
- Among top data gaps reported in consultation.



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## New content: Homelessness

HOMELESSNESS	
<b>34</b> Considering <b>homelessness experiences</b> , over the past 12 months, has this person stayed in a shelter, on the street or in parks, in a makeshift shelter, in a vehicle, or in an abandoned building?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
<b>35</b> Considering other types of housing challenges, over the past 12 months, has this person lived <b>temporarily</b> with friends, family or others <b>because they had nowhere else to live?</b>  <b>Include temporary</b> living arrangements where the person did not have the resources to secure their own permanent housing (person facing financial difficulties, fleeing abuse, recently evicted, etc.).  <b>Exclude</b> stays for vacation, family visits, or other voluntary short-term stays.	<input type="radio"/> Yes  ↳ Is this person <b>currently</b> living in this household <b>temporarily</b> because they have nowhere else to live?  ↳ <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No  <input type="radio"/> No

## Homelessness

New questions to capture:

- One-year retrospective experiences with absolute homelessness
- One-year retrospective experiences with hidden homelessness
- Current experience with hidden homelessness.

Among top reported data gaps, information could be used at all levels to evaluate requirements in the *National Housing Strategy Act* and for program evaluation and resource allocation.



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## New content: Sexual orientation

Questions 36 to 59 are asked only for persons aged 15 years and older  
(born before May 12, 2011).

This question collects information on sexual orientation to inform programs that promote equal opportunity for everyone living in Canada to share in its social, cultural, and economic life.

### 36 What is this person's sexual orientation?

Sexual orientation refers to how a person describes their sexuality.

- Heterosexual (i.e., straight)
- Lesbian or gay
- Bisexual or pansexual

Or please specify this person's sexual orientation:

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## Sexual Orientation

- Among the most frequently reported data gaps in census content.
- The addition of a question on sexual orientation on the 2026 Census would enable Statistics Canada to produce census data on the 2SLGBTQ+ population and provide opportunity for Canadians to respond to a questionnaire that reflects the diversity of the population.
- As of 1996, the *Canadian Human Rights Act* specifically includes Sexual orientation as one of the prohibited grounds for discrimination. It is the only one of the groups identified in the Act for which census data are not currently available.



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## Returning content: Religion

## Religion

- No changes to the question, but the list of examples of denominations or religions is updated for 2026.
- The question on religion is included for the first time in a census conducted in a census year ending with '6'.

# 2026 Census of Population Cycle

## CENSUS DAY

**MAY 2026**

All Canadians are invited to complete the census



**FEBRUARY 2026**

Early enumeration begins in First Nations communities, Métis Settlements, Inuit regions and other remote areas

**JANUARY 2026 to MAY 2026**

Census awareness campaign activities

**OCTOBER 2025 to MAY 2026**

Advertise, promote and hire for census jobs across Canada

YOUR CENSUS.  
YOUR COMMUNITY.  
YOUR FUTURE.

The census has been part of the Canadian Identity since 1666, and today is more important than ever. Census data are used by all levels of government, as well as businesses, academics, non-governmental organizations and others to plan for services that support employment, schools, public transit, hospitals and more.

The census provides high-quality data at multiple levels of geography and supports initiatives, such as the Disaggregated Data Action Plan, to reveal challenges faced by the most vulnerable populations in the country, helping to create a more equitable Canada.

**2027 and beyond**  
Ongoing releases

**FALL 2026 to FALL 2027**

Certification, analysis and dissemination of results

**MAY 2026 to SEPTEMBER 2026**

Processing census questionnaires

**2021 to 2026**

Evaluation of the 2021 Census performance and engagement activities to inform the 2026 cycle

START

**NOVEMBER 2022 to MARCH 2023**

Content consultations with Canadians and key stakeholders

**MAY 2023 to OCTOBER 2024**

- Qualitative and quantitative content tests
- Field operations test
- Systems tests

**JULY 2024 to DECEMBER 2024**

Analysis of census test results

**SPRING 2025**

Cabinet decisions on Census Day and census content

**JUNE 2025 to JANUARY 2026**

Finalize census questionnaires

**SUMMER 2025**

Census content published in the *Canadian Gazette* and on the Statistics Canada website

**JULY 2025 to SUMMER 2026**

Print questionnaires, letters and communications materials

**SEPTEMBER 2025 to JANUARY 2026**

Final systems testing



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## Current and future steps

2025-26

- Complete systems adjustments and infrastructure fit-up
- Printing the questionnaires and letters
- Census website goes live for recruitment
- Data operations centre in service
- Recruit Statistics Act field staff
- Census website goes live for EQ collection in January 2026
- Early enumeration in February 2026

2027-28

- Complete dissemination
- Data quality studies

2026-27

- Complete systems adjustments and infrastructure fit-up (ongoing)
- Printing questionnaires continues (ongoing)
- Main data collection period starting in May 2026
- NRFU in May through July 2026
- Data processing in April through September 2026
- Release population and dwelling counts

2028-29

- Complete the evaluation of the cycle.



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## Published products

- [The Daily](#) (July 4, 2025)
- [Road to 2026](#) (July 4, 2025)
- [Canada Gazette](#) (July 5, 2025)
  
- [Census Content Consultation Report](#) (April 17, 2024)
- [Regional Discussion Report: Review of First Nations, Métis and Inuit questions for the 2026 Census of Population](#) (May 29, 2024)
- [Census Dissemination Consultation Report](#) (Fall 2024)



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# Questions?



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# Appendix



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## Modifications to existing content (1)

Content	Modifications for 2026
Date of birth, sex at birth and gender	New sequence and updated definitions.
Relationship to Person 1 and marital status	New sequence and updated help text.
Language of instruction	A skip has been added to the electronic questionnaire, for children under the age of 3, for whom these questions do not apply.
Activities of daily living	Replaced outdated and sensitive terminology.
Knowledge of non-official languages	Wording changes in English to improve data quality, comparability to French, and capture sign languages.
Ethnic or cultural origins	Updated help text and revised list of examples of Indigenous origins, country-based origins, and other origins.



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## Modifications to existing content (2)

Content	Modifications for 2026
Indigenous identity	Removed terms “North American Indian” and “Indian” from questions where possible, explaining use of term with help text where it cannot be removed (i.e., “Registered or Treaty Indian” per the <i>Indian Act</i> ).
Population group	Removed existing skip so that those who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit can also report identifying with another population group and added an additional answer category for “First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)”.
Métis government, organization or settlement	Updated names of Métis organizations to be more current.
Canadian military experience	Moved the question from the short to the long form, improved question wording and added additional response categories.



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## Modifications to existing content (3)

Content	Modifications for 2026
Education	Improved college program duration question to adhere to international standards and improve usefulness. Updated the school attendance question with a defined reference period to improve comparability with the T2202 tax form.
Labour market activities	Reordered questions to allow for new flows for certain populations and reduce response burden. Added answer category that allows respondents to self-identify “retired” status to skip labour force questions that do not apply to them.
Commuting	Changes focussed on measuring new hybrid work arrangements and include an adjustment to the <i>Place of Work</i> question to permit hybrid work arrangements.
Child care	Expanded question to identify both paid and unpaid child care for each child and changed question to include children aged 13 and under.
Housing	Replaced the question about « dwelling on a farm operation » with data collected from the Census of Agriculture.

# Content changes for 2026

## 2021 Census

### 2 What was this person's sex at birth?

Sex refers to sex assigned at birth.

### 3 What is this person's gender?

Refers to current gender which may be different from sex assigned at birth and may be different from what is indicated on legal documents.

### 4 What are this person's date of birth and age?

If exact date of birth is not known, enter best estimate. For children less than 1 year old, enter 0 for age.

- Male
- Female

- Male
- Female

Or please specify this person's gender:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Day      Month      Year

Age

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--

## 2026 Census

### 2 What are this person's date of birth and age?

If exact date of birth is not known, enter best estimate. For children less than 1 year old, enter 0 for age.

Day      Month      Year

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Age

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### 3 What is this person's gender?

Gender refers to an individual's personal and social identity as a man (or a boy), a woman (or a girl), or a person who is not exclusively a man (or a boy) or a woman (or a girl), for example, non-binary, agender, gender fluid, queer or Two-Spirit.

- Man (or boy)
- Woman (or girl)

Or please specify this person's gender:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### 4 What was this person's sex at birth?

Sex at birth refers to the sex recorded on a person's first birth certificate. It is typically observed based on a person's reproductive system and other physical characteristics.

- Male
- Female

Date of birth  
Gender  
Sex at birth

A new sequence to allow for dynamic use of "woman", "girl", "man", "boy" according to new Statistics Canada collection standards for these topics.

Updated definitions of "sex at birth" and "gender" to improve respondent understanding.



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## 2021 Census

### 7 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".

- Husband or wife of Person 1
- 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
- Roommate, lodger or boarder

Other relationship – specify:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## 2026 Census

### 5 What is the relationship of this person to Person 1?

Common-law refers to two people who live together as a couple and who are not married, **regardless of the duration** of the relationship.

- Married spouse of Person 1
- Common-law partner of Person 1
- Child of Person 1 **and** another person living at this address
- Child of Person 1 **only** (mark if no other legal parent of this person lives at this address)
- Stepchild of Person 1
- Parent of Person 1
- Grandchild of Person 1
- Spouse or partner of child of Person 1
- Parent of spouse or partner of Person 1
- Sibling of Person 1
- Foster child of Person 1
- Roommate, lodger or boarder of Person 1

Other relationship – specify:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## Relationship to person 1 (R2P1)

R2P1 now appears before the Marital status module.

Text changes to response categories to use inclusive and gender-neutral language which better reflects changes in Canada's social context.



# Content changes for 2026



## 2021 Census

### 5 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

### 6 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 married, regardless of the duration of the relationship.

- Yes
- No

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### Marital status

Updated help text for Common-law partnerships to improve respondent understanding.

## 2026 Census

Questions 6 and 7 are asked only for persons aged 15 years and older (born before May 12, 2011).

### 6 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

### 7 Is this person living with a common-law partner?

Common-law refers to two people who live together as a couple and who are not married, regardless of the duration of the relationship.

- Yes
- No



# Content changes for 2026



## CENSUS · RECENSEMENT

### 2021 Census

**13** Did this person do any of their **primary or secondary schooling in French** in Canada (including immersion)?

Mark "X" one circle only.

**14** In which type of program was this schooling in French done?

- Yes (previously or currently attending)
- No → Go to question 18

A regular French program in a French-language school

A French immersion program in an English-language school  
→ Go to question 18

Both types of programs

Other program — specify:

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**15** For how many years did this person attend a **regular French program** in a **French-language school**?

Number of years in **primary** schooling (including kindergarten and middle school)

--	--

Number of years

Number of years in **secondary** schooling

--	--

Number of years

→ Go to question 18

**16** Did this person do any of their **primary or secondary schooling in an English-language school** in Canada (including immersion)?

Mark "X" one circle only.

**17** For how many years did this person do their **schooling in an English-language school** in Canada (including immersion)?

Number of years in **primary** schooling (including kindergarten)

--	--

Number of years

Number of years in **secondary** schooling

--	--

Number of years

### 2026 Census

**12** Did this person do any of their **primary or secondary schooling in French** in Canada (including immersion)?

Mark "X" one circle only.

**13** In which type of program was this schooling in French done?

- Yes (previously or currently attending)
- No → Go to question 17

A regular French program in a French-language school

A French immersion program in an English-language school  
→ Go to question 17

Both types of programs

Other program — specify:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**14** For how many years did this person attend a **regular French program** in a **French-language school** in Canada?

Number of years in **primary** schooling (including kindergarten and middle school)

--	--

Number of years

Number of years in **secondary** schooling

--	--

Number of years

→ Go to question 17

**15** Did this person do any of their **primary or secondary schooling in an English-language school** in Canada (including immersion)?

Mark "X" one circle only.

**16** For how many years did this person do their **schooling in an English-language school** in Canada (including immersion)?

Number of years in **primary** schooling (including kindergarten)

--	--

Number of years

Number of years in **secondary** schooling

--	--

Number of years

### Language of instruction

Added a skip, on the electronic questionnaire, for children under the age of 3 for whom these questions do not apply.

Changes to the questions to improve data quality.



# Content changes for 2026



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## 2021 Census

**18**

Does this person have any:

a) difficulty seeing (even when wearing glasses or contact lenses)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

b) difficulty hearing (even when using a hearing aid)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

c) difficulty walking, using stairs, using their hands or fingers or doing other physical activities?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

d) difficulty learning, remembering or concentrating?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

e) emotional, psychological or mental health conditions (e.g., anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, substance abuse, anorexia, etc.)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

f) other health problem or long-term condition that has lasted or is expected to last for six months or more?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

**Exclude:** any health problems previously reported in questions 18 a) to 18 e) above.



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## 2026 Census

**17**

Does this person have any:

a) **difficulty seeing** (even when wearing glasses or contact lenses)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

b) **difficulty hearing** (even when using a hearing aid)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

c) **difficulty walking, using stairs, using their hands or fingers or doing other physical activities?**

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

d) **difficulty learning, remembering or concentrating?**

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

e) **emotional, psychological or mental health conditions** (e.g., anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, substance use disorder, anorexia, etc.)?

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

f) **other health problem or long-term condition that has lasted or is expected to last for six months or more?**

No  Often  
 Sometimes  Always

**Exclude:** any health problems previously reported in questions 17 a) to 17 e) above.

## Activities of daily living

Replaced outdated and sensitive terminology (change from “substance abuse” to “substance use disorder”) in part ‘e’.

# Content changes for 2026



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## 2021 Census

**22** What language(s), other than English or French, can this person speak well enough to conduct a conversation?

None  
OR

Other language(s) — specify:


## 2026 Census

**22** What language(s), other than English or French, does this person know well enough to conduct a conversation?

If applicable, include sign languages.

None  
OR

Other language(s) — specify:


## Knowledge of non-official languages

Wording changes in English to improve data quality, comparability to French, and capture sign languages.

# Content changes for 2026



## 2021 Census

## CENSUS · RECENSEMENT

**23** What were the ethnic or cultural origins of this person's ancestors?

Ancestors may have Indigenous origins, or origins that refer to different countries, or other origins that may not refer to different countries.

For examples of ethnic or cultural origins, visit [www12.statcan.gc.ca/ancestry](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/ancestry)

Specify as many origins as applicable using capital letters.

<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						

## 2026 Census

**23** What were the ethnic or cultural origins of this person's **ancestors**?

Ancestors refer to the people from whom one is descended (grandparents, great grandparents, etc.)

For examples of ethnic or cultural origins, visit [www12.statcan.gc.ca/ancestry](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/ancestry)

Specify as many origins as applicable using capital letters.

<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						
<input type="text"/>						

## Ethnic or cultural origins

The on-screen instructional text about "ancestors" has been revised to help respondents understand how far back in their family tree to go.

The linked list of 500+ examples has been revised to be strictly alphabetic vs. divided into three columns (Indigenous origins, country-based origins, and other origins).

## ***Content changes for 2026***

2021 Census



# CENSUS • RECENSEMENT **2026 Census**

<p><b>24</b> Is this person First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)?</p> <p><b>Note:</b> First Nations includes Status and non-Status individuals.</p> <p>If "Yes", mark "X" the circle(s) that best describe(s) this person now.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No, not First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, First Nations</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, Métis</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, Inuk (Inuit)</p>
<p><b>26</b> Is this person a Status Indian (Registered or Treaty Indian as defined by the <i>Indian Act</i> of Canada)?</p> <p>The term "Indian" is used in this question as a legal term within current legislation.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, Status Indian (Registered or Treaty)</p>
<p><b>27</b> Is this person a member of a First Nation?</p> <p><b>Include self-governing First Nations.</b></p> <p>If "Yes", which First Nation?</p> <p>For example, Westbank First Nation, Atikamekw of Manawan, Red Rock Indian Band.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, member of a First Nation</p> <p>Specify name of First Nation:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 1.2em;"></div>

## Indigenous identity

Removed terms “North American Indian” and “Indian” from questions where possible, explaining use of term with help text where it cannot be removed (i.e., “Registered or Treaty Indian” per the *Indian Act*).

# Content changes for 2026

## 2021 Census

This question collects information in accordance with the *Employment Equity Act* and its Regulations and Guidelines to support programs that promote equal opportunity for everyone to share in the social, cultural and economic life of Canada.

**25** Is this person:

Mark “” more than one circle or specify, if applicable.

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Arab
- Latin American
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
- Korean
- Japanese

Other group – specify:

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## 2026 Census

The following question collects information to support programs that promote equal opportunity for everyone to share in the social, cultural and economic life of Canada.

**25** Which population group or groups best describe this person?

Mark “” all groups that apply, or specify another group, if applicable.

- White
- South Asian (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
- First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Arab
- Latin American
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
- Korean
- Japanese

Or please specify another group:

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## Population group

Removed existing skip so that those who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit can also report identifying with another population.

Added an additional answer category for “First Nations, Métis or Inuk (Inuit).”

Updated question in response to feedback from data users and stakeholders on the question wording and answer options.



# Content changes for 2026



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## 2021 Census

**28** Is this person a registered member of a Métis organization or Settlement?

If "Yes", which Métis organization or Settlement?

**Note:** Mark "X" one of the listed signatories of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord or specify a Métis organization or Metis Settlement (for example, Kikino Metis Settlement).

- No
- Yes, registered member of a Métis organization or Settlement

Name of Métis organization or Settlement

- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Manitoba Metis Federation
- Métis Nation – Saskatchewan
- Métis Nation of Alberta
- Métis Nation British Columbia

Or specify organization or Settlement:


## 2026 Census

**28** Is this person a registered member or citizen of a Métis government, organization or Settlement?

If "Yes", which Métis government, organization or Settlement?

Mark "X" one circle only or specify.

- No
- Yes, registered member or citizen of a Métis government, organization or Settlement

Name of Métis government, organization or Settlement

- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Manitoba Métis Federation
- Métis Nation – Saskatchewan
- Métis Nation of Alberta (Otipemisiwak Métis Government)
- Métis Nation British Columbia

Or specify Métis organization or Alberta Metis Settlement:


## Métis government, organization or Settlement

Updated questions to improve data quality for membership of a Métis organization.

Updated names of Métis organizations to be more current.



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# Content changes for 2026



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## 2021 Census

### 11 Has this person ever served in the Canadian military?

Canadian military service includes service with the Regular Force or Primary Reserve Force as an Officer or Non-Commissioned Member. It does not include service with the Cadets (COATS), the Supplementary Reserve or the Canadian Rangers.

Mark "X" one circle only.

- Yes, currently serving in the Regular Force or the Primary Reserve Force
- Yes, but no longer serving in the Regular Force or the Primary Reserve Force
- No

## 2026 Census

### CANADIAN MILITARY EXPERIENCE

#### 31 Has this person ever served in the Canadian military?

Do not include service as a Cadet (youth program).

Yes, currently serving in the Canadian military

What type of service is this? Mark all that apply.

- Regular Force
- Reserve Force

Specify other type of service:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Yes, but no longer serving in the Canadian military

What type of service was this? Mark all that apply.

- Regular Force
- Reserve Force

Specify other type of service:

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No Canadian military service

## Canadian military experience

Moved the question from the short to the long form.

Improved question wording with additional categories.



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# Content changes for 2026



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## 2021 Census

34

b) Has this person completed a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma?

Include qualifications obtained in Canada or outside Canada.

Exclude any certificates or diplomas reported in question 34 a) above.

Mark all that apply.

For example, accounting technology, industrial engineering technology, legal assistant.

College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma

- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of less than 3 months
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of 3 months to less than 1 year
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of 1 year to 2 years
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of more than 2 years
- No

37

a) At any time **since September 2020**, was this person attending school, such as high school, college, CEGEP or university?

**Report only** attendance for courses that can be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree. Distance learning for credit is included.

Attendance at any time since September 2020

- Yes
  - ➡ Continue with the next question
- No, was not attending school at any time since September 2020
  - ➡ Go to question 38

## 2026 Census

38

b) Has this person completed a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma?

Include qualifications obtained in Canada or outside Canada.

Exclude any certificates or diplomas reported in question 38 a) above.

Mark **“X”** all that apply.

For example, accounting technology, industrial engineering technology, legal assistant.

College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma

- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of less than 3 months
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of 3 months to less than 1 year
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of 1 year to less than 2 years
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a 2-year program
- Yes, certificate or diploma from a program of more than 2 years
- No

41

a) At any time **between September 2025 and May 2026**, was this person attending school, such as high school, college, CEGEP or university?

**Report only** attendance for courses that can be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree. Distance learning for credit is included.

Attendance at any time between September 2025 and May 2026

- Yes
  - ➡ Continue with the next question
- No, was not attending school at any time between September 2025 and May 2026
  - ➡ Go to question 42

## Education

Improved college program duration question to adhere to international standards and improve usefulness.

Updated the school attendance question to a more defined reference period to improve comparability with the T2202 tax form.



Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

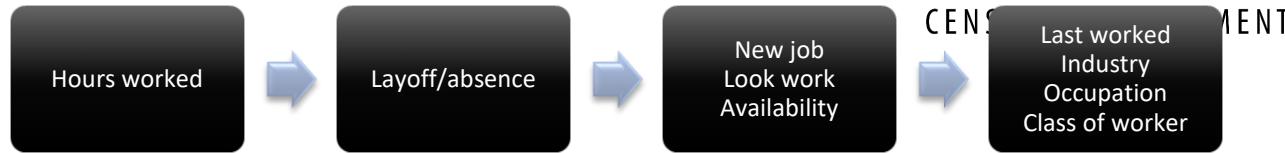
Canada

# Content changes for 2026

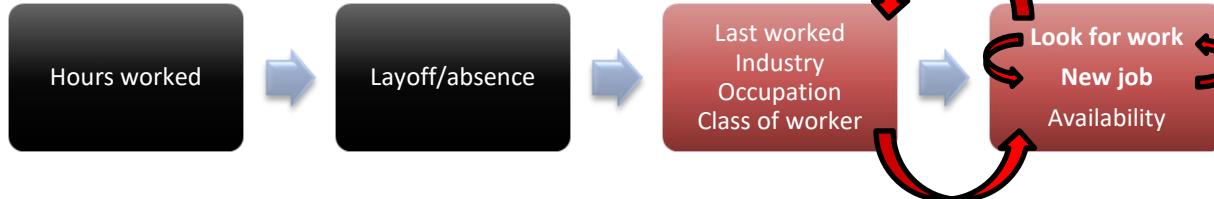


## CENSUS

### 2021 Questionnaire



### 2026 Questionnaire



### 2021 Census

**39** During the week of **May 2 to May 8, 2021**, was this person on temporary lay-off or absent from their job or business?

Mark "X" one circle only.

- No
- Yes, on temporary lay-off from a job to which this person expects to return
- Yes, on vacation, ill, on strike or locked out, or absent for other reasons

### 2026 Census

**43** During the week of **May 3 to May 9, 2026**, was this person on **temporary** lay-off or absent from their job or business?

Mark "X" one circle only.

- No
- No, retired
- Yes, on temporary lay-off from a job with indication of being recalled within the next 6 months
- Yes, on vacation, ill, on strike or locked out, or absent for other reasons

## Labour market activities

Changes focussed on reducing respondent burden, improving quality of Labour Force Status estimates and aligning better with international and Statistics Canada concepts:

- Removed 2 questions and 1 sub-question;
  1. What was the **main** reason this person **did not work for the whole year in 2023**, meaning from 49 to 52 weeks?
  2. What was the **main** reason this person worked mostly part time instead of full time in 2023?
  3. Section, plant, department write-in line under "For whom did this person work?"
- Reordered questions to allow for new flows for certain populations and reduce response burden.
- Added answer category that allows respondents to self-identify "retired" status to skip labour force questions that do not apply to them.

# Content changes for 2026



CENSUS • RECENSEMENT

## 2021 Census

**53** a) What time did this person's trip to work **usually** begin?

:  a.m.  
hour min p.m.

b) How many minutes did this person's trip to work **usually** last?

← Number of minutes

## 2026 Census

**57** a) What time does this person's trip to work **usually** begin?

Hybrid workers respond for the days they commute to work.

Usual time  
Specify the usual time this person leaves for work

:  a.m.  
hour min p.m.

No usual time (e.g., shift worker)

b) How many minutes does this person's trip to work **usually** last?

Hybrid workers respond for the days they commute to work.

← Number of minutes

OR

No usual duration

## Commuting

Changes focussed on measuring new hybrid work arrangements and include an adjustment to the *Place of Work* question to permit hybrid work arrangements.



Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

## ***Content changes for 2026***



## CENSUS • RECENSEMENT

## 2021 Census

**56** In 2020, did this person pay for child care, such as day care or babysitting, so that this person could work at their paid job(s)?

When child care or day camps help several people work, enter the amount only once.

Answer "Yes" or "No". If "Yes", also enter the total amount for 2020.

Yes  
 No

## Child care

Expanded question to identify both paid and unpaid child care for each child; universe 13 and under instead of 15+.

## 2026 Census

**60** In 2025, did this person usually attend any child care arrangement (e.g., a daycare centre, a home-based child care, or other arrangement with or without costs)?

**Include** before or after school programs and care provided by a relative or a non-relative used on a regular basis.

**Exclude** child care provided by parent or guardian, school attendance, occasional child care arrangements for school holidays and homeschooling.

Yes

 Specify the **total** amount paid by your household for this child care arrangement in **2025**.

Do not double count any amounts that were already reported.

If your household used child care without incurring any costs (fully subsidized daycare, child care provided by a relative, etc.), mark “\$0 – used child care with no payment”.

### Total amount paid for child care in 2025

\$       00



CENSUS • RECENSEMENT

## 2021 Census

**E6** Is this dwelling located on an agricultural operation that is operated by a member of this household?

## Housing

Replaced the question about « dwelling on a farm operation » with data collected from the Census of Agriculture.