

## DATA PURCHASE AND ACCESS WORKING GROUP

October 7, 2021

2:30pm - 4:00pm Eastern time

Connection details:

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88655380786>

### Attendance

Michael Ditor, CDP team

Ted Hildebrandt - Halton

Victoria Chapman - Simcoe

Luke Grazier - Regina

Jasmine Ing - Calgary

Peter Marriott - Vancouver

Perna Bhasin - Toronto

Louisa Wong - Hamilton

Valentyn Kliuchnyk - York

Laurie Dixon - KFLA

Gloria Duke-Aluko - Durham

### Agenda

- Data acquisition updates
- PCCF – problems and alternatives?
- Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth
- T1FF tables – CSD data
- T1FF tables – Working Poor and Income Inequality
- 2016 Census acquisitions - priority list discussion
- CMHC – CDP data sharing agreement
- Canadian Housing Survey
- Other business
- Next meeting

SOME INFORMATION HAS BEEN UPDATED OR ADDED SINCE THE MEETING. **THIS INFORMATION IS HIGHLIGHTED.**

### Data acquisition updates

These products have been acquired and cataloged recently:

- [Labour Force Survey - supplemental tables, monthly](#)

- [EIS - Employment insurance \(EI\) beneficiaries, monthly, unadjusted for seasonality](#)
- [2019 T1FF tables](#) – CSD data available for the Family, Individual and Senior tables
- [Canadian Emergency Response Benefit Statistics](#)

### Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF)

The working group discussed the PCCF due to errors that have been found, with the location for certain postal codes being found in the wrong Forward Sortation Area, or intersecting two Forward Sortation Areas.

"The difficulties with the PCCF in rural areas make it almost unusable".

The CDP team has previously raised this issue with STC and CPC, with the answer typically being that they are aware of the problems and that errors are to be expected in the file. Postal codes and Forward Sortation Areas are constructs that are designed for mail delivery and not for policy and program planning.

HOWEVER - This product is used widely and in some high priority areas (COVID planning) and more precision is required.

City of Toronto bought FSAs from a private vendor to try to superimpose FSAs on TO neighbourhoods, but they didn't have any benchmark to judge the quality of the product.

Hamilton has done work verifying the Single Link Indicator (SLI=1) point – has anyone else done this type of work?

**ACTION:** Raise the issue of the PCCF quality in our quarterly discussions with STC, both to request some testing and as an advocacy point (STC could raise the issue with Canada Post Corporation).

**ACTION:** global test of PCCF - compare SLI = 1 to app determination of postal code location; consult with private vendors

**UPDATE:** PCCF will be available in March on 2021 geographies. We typically receive our updated version of the file in January. We are looking into modifying our agreement with Canada Post Corporation in order to receive the update sooner.

### Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth

In a previous DPAWG meeting, there was a request to check with STC about the status of data dissemination from the CHSCY.

Context: Ontario paid for an oversample for this survey to be able to get data at LHIN and sub-LHIN geographies.

There is currently only one table available on the STC site that provides sub-provincial data from the CHSCY.

The division indicated that they did start a PUMF but their resources got redirected to other survey activities (including the development of the CHSCY 2022), so the production of the PUMF did not get very far. If resources become available and if there is demand, they may begin to work on the PUMF again, however their workload doesn't currently permit this.

CDP team asked about acquiring data and received a frequency table, which indicated that it may be difficult getting data at the CD level.

Custom tabulations are an option but turnaround time for estimates is approximately 45 days and data delivery is estimated at 6+ months, due to current workload/capacity limits.

**Note that the subject matter division is open to suggestions for tables to be produced:**

*There are currently no plans for more public tables for CHSCY, but if there is a proposed table the client can mention to us, I can bring it up with management to see if there is support/resources for us to produce such a table. It would have to be tied to an official release somewhere, and we'd need to talk to communications about how to get it published so we really can't guarantee anything, but it would be worthwhile to know what the client is proposing/in need of. If it's general enough to support the public good or further our work on data disaggregation, it may carry more weight.*

Here are the tables that have been released for the CHSCY:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/200723/dq200723a-cansim-eng.htm>

#### T1FF tables – CSD data

As of this year, these taxfiler tables will contain data at the Census Subdivision (CSD) level:

- Income of Families
- Income of Individuals
- Income of Seniors

Please note that there are data quality issues associated with using T1FF data at the CSD level. The file package contains a note to this effect, which you should read if you are using these data.

I requested a cost estimate for acquiring these T1FF Financial tables at CSD geographies

- Canadian Taxfilers Tables 1 & 2
- Charitable Donors Tables 1-3
- RRSP Contributors Tables 1-4

The tables would be expensive to produce and there are also some issues with comparability: the publicly released tables are produced using the *preliminary estimates* database, while any custom order would be produced using the *final estimates* database.

At this time, there is not a great demand for these tables at CSD geographies and so the program has no plans to acquire these.

#### T1FF – Working Poor and Income Inequality

There was a request during the meeting to know when the next order for these tables is planned. Typically we acquire these tables every two or three years – so we will not be acquiring these tables in the 2021-22 program year.

Jasmine Ing (Calgary): There is interest in how income supports affected poverty and having access to 2020 data would be useful.

**ACTION:** The need for timely data on the economic effects associated with the pandemic justify the acquisition of 2020 data on the working poor/income inequality during the 2022-23 program year.

#### Building Permit data

We have acquired more detailed Building Permit data at the PR, CMA, CA, CD, CSD and ER geo levels. The data will be acquired on a monthly basis, from 2016 until the present – and ongoing into the future.

*Type of Buildings:* Residential and/or Non Residential (more detailed list of types available upon request)

*Type of Work:* new plus new/Improvement, Conversions, Deconversion, Demolition, Improvement and Pool

*Variables:* Value, Number of Permits, Number of Units (units for Residential buildings only)

#### 2021 Census custom table - priority list discussion

Here are the instructions to be given regarding the 2021 Census custom table priority setting exercise:

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A file has been created to help set acquisition priorities for custom 2021 Census tables. Leads and DPAWG members are invited to use this file to indicate their priorities.

- The file includes a table listing all 2016 Census products that were received by the CDP and some products from the priority list that were not received.

- An initial priority score is given to each product based on the number of downloads it received.
- Some corrections to the initial score have been made – for example, based on the length of time a product has been available. Products that were not received were given an average score based on similar products.
- A link to the table's catalogue page or to the table's specifications is provided.

#### *Standard geographies*

- **Each person participating in the priority-setting exercise will have 25 points that they can distribute among the listed tables.** Participants can give more than one point to a table (e.g., 25 points to one table or 1 point to 25 different tables).
- The default for each table is that we will acquire it for all available Census geographies (CA-PR-CD-CSD-DA; CMA-CA-CT; ADA). It is only when a table is too large or expensive to get at smaller geographic levels that we do not acquire all available geographies.

#### *Custom geographies*

- Tables must be produced at standard geographies before they can be produced at custom geographies. For this reason, while we can set priorities for which tables to produce at custom geographies, but production logistics may decide when and what tables are produced. We will consider high-priority tables for standard geographies to be good candidates for production at custom geographies.
- **Each person participating in the priority-setting exercise will have 25 points that they can distribute to indicate which tables should be acquired at custom geographies.** Participants can give more than one point to a table (e.g., 25 points to one table or 1 point to 25 different tables).
- For the time being, only the Census Profile and the detailed Age & Sex table have been flagged for production at custom geographies.

#### *New variables and concepts*

Participants should also indicate if there are new priorities or tables that they would like to see acquired by the program. The 2021 Census contains variables and concepts that were not available with the 2016 Census, such as:

- gender vs sex
- military service
- schooling in minority language
- updated Indigenous population categories
- religion

Feel free to provide comments or detailed suggestions for tables or variables that you would like to see acquired. Your feedback can also take the form of questions that you would like to have answered with these data. New suggestions do not take away from the 25 points that participants have to allocate.

#### 2016 Census production:

- 100 tables 2016 Census tables received
- 41 tables from 2016 Census received at custom geographies

- 10 tables from the priority list were not received

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With respect to new variables in the 2021 Census...

**ACTION:** ask STC what their reporting plans are regarding new gender data (geo level, cross-tabs)

**ACTION:** Can STC improve their reporting (wrt 2016) on gender diversity? All gender categories should be reported in the Census Profile.

These data will indicate/validate interest in cross-tabulating gender

Gender more interesting than sex as cross-tab – reflects lived experience of respondent

#### 2021 Census – custom geo data

**OUTSTANDING:** verify when 2021 Age & Sex table can be produced at custom geos – make sure order is in the queue

Custom geography geocoding can only begin in earnest as of September 2022 at the earliest, when the STC geographers have access to the final block face boundary file. This Census they have not been given access to a preliminary block face boundary file.

**NOTE HOWEVER that custom geography submissions can be submitted to STC (via the CDP) at any time. There is preliminary work that can be done before September 2022 and it will help us to get in the queue early. Remember to fill out the metadata sheet.**

#### CMHC – CDP data sharing agreement

Received these tables:

##### Rental Market Survey

*Variable:* Vacancy rate (October)

*Cross-tabulations:* Bedroom type, Row/apartment type, Year of construction, Structure size, Rent ranges, Rent quartiles

*Geographies:* CAN, Prov, CMA, CSD, Zone, Neighbourhood, CT + **Census Division**

*Years:* 2010 - 2021

We have an outstanding question about CMHC's methodology for generating CD-level data, which we would like to have answered before publishing these tables.

##### Canadian Housing Survey

We have submitted a cost estimate request for tables from the CHS with National, P/T, CD and CSD level data. If it is too costly to acquire CSD-level data, then we may only get data down to the CD level, as the CHS is not expected to produce much publishable data at the CSD level.

We have requested cost estimates for the Dwelling satisfaction variables, crossed by tenure:

- Dwelling satisfaction - overall
- Dwelling satisfaction - having enough space
- Dwelling satisfaction - having enough bedrooms
- Dwelling satisfaction - affordability
- Dwelling satisfaction - dwelling condition
- Dwelling satisfaction - soundproofing
- Dwelling satisfaction - accessibility
- Dwelling satisfaction - safety and security within the home
- Dwelling satisfaction - energy efficiency
- Dwelling satisfaction - temperature control in winter
- Dwelling satisfaction - temperature control in summer

We have also requested data at the P/T, CD and CSD levels for this table:

*Waitlist status including length of time, by tenure including social and affordable housing*

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=4610004201>

*previous note:*

Members are invited to submit their priorities for acquisitions from the Canadian Housing Survey. A document with the more interesting concepts/dimensions will be shared with the group, as well as a list of standard tables that we could try to order at more useful geographies. [If you'd like more reference material, here are the data dictionaries from the CHS.](#)

### Canadian Housing Statistics Program

We met with the head of the production team for the CHSP. They are not particularly open to producing custom tabulations for the CDP, but are interested in engaging with this group feedback on how they can improve the program or what they produce.

The CHSP has produced a number of tables at the CSD level, [which can be found here.](#)

### Next meeting

Week of December 6, 2021

Other business

No other business.