



Catalogue No. 92F00028GIE

Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File 1996 Representation Order

Reference Guide – June 2003 Postal Codes



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Statistics Canada

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Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics
Canada

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K1A 0T6.

January 2004

Catalogue no. 92F0028GIE

Ottawa

Note of Appreciation

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

What's new?

- The postal code reference date for this update is June 2003. Normally, the reference date for the January 2004 release should have been November 2003. As the 2001 road network is still utilized for the linkage of postal codes to standard geography, through the use of address information, the vintage of the later reduces the geocoding efficiency of new postal codes. Geocoding information is gathered through contact with individual municipalities. This results in significant delays in data capture.

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1. About this guide

This guide is intended for users of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF). It includes an overview of the file and its intended use, a description of the general methodology used to create the file and of the data quality and limitations of the file contents. A record layout of the fields in the file and a glossary of the terms used in this document are 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. All efforts have been made to ensure a thorough verification of this product, however, there is no guarantee that the data are 100% accurate.

2. Overview

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is a digital file, which provides a link between the six character postal code and Canada's federal ridings. The current version of the PCFRF links 783,774 active postal code **records**, existing as of June 2003, to the 301 federal ridings.

Elections Canada defines a federal electoral district as any place or territorial area entitled to return a Member of Parliament (MP) to serve in the House of Commons. FED legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every 10 years after the results of the decennial census. There are 301 FEDs based on the 1996 Representation Order, the most recent revision of the federal riding limits.¹

Reference Dates

The reference date is June 2003, for postal codes contained in the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File. This is the same date as the postal codes contained in the Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) product released in January 2004.

The geographic reference date is a date determined by Statistics Canada to finalize the geographic framework for which the Census data will be collected, tabulated and reported. The geographic reference date for the 2001 Census is January 1, 2001.

¹ Note that the terms "federal riding" and "federal electoral district" or "FED" are used interchangeably in this user guide.

3. How to use this product

Purpose of the product

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) was conceived as a tool for use with administrative files containing postal codes. By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organized and/or tabulated by federal riding. Using this tool, federal government departments will be able to respond more quickly and easily to MPs requests for information about their ridings. For example, the number and value of contracts awarded to a particular riding could be summarized. The ridings where petition signatories reside could also be identified in order to notify the appropriate Members of Parliament. Conversely, the postal codes for a given riding could be identified for general mailings to constituents; however, it should be noted that some postal codes do straddle one or more riding boundaries. Before using this file, users should first familiarize themselves with the information provided in the following section on data quality.

4. Data quality

Linkage data quality elements provide information on the fitness-for-use of a linkage database by describing why, when and how the data are created, and how accurate the data are. The elements include an overview describing the purpose and usage, as well as specific quality elements reporting on the lineage, positional accuracy, attribute accuracy, logical consistency and completeness. This information is provided to users for all linkage data products disseminated for the census.

Before using the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) with administrative files containing postal codes, users should be aware of some characteristics of postal codes that may affect their linkage to federal ridings on the PCFRF:

- 1) postal delivery areas do not always respect federal riding boundaries;
- 2) postal codes may be associated with post office boxes at a postal station that is not in the same riding as the client using the post office box;
- 3) Canada Post Corporation regularly retires postal codes and may also reactivate retired postal codes for use again;
- 4) Inclusion or exclusion of postal codes in a federal riding.

In the first case, a postal delivery area (as represented by the six-digit postal code) may straddle one or more federal riding boundaries, which means that, in the postal code/1996 federal riding file, the same postal code may be linked to two or more (adjacent) federal ridings. Most ridings are affected in this way in both urban and rural areas. Refer to section 4 *Logical Consistency* in this guide for further details.

In the second case, the postal code linkage to the federal riding is based on the mailing address information, and therefore it is the physical location of the post office that is linked to the riding rather than the ultimate destination of mail delivery - the residential, industrial or commercial location of the client renting a post office box - which could be located in another riding.

In the third case, users of the PCFRF must keep in mind that the file contains only the postal codes from Canada Post that are active as of June 2003.

If the addresses in a user's administrative file are not updated to June 2003, there may be non-matches with the PCFRF because some of the postal codes in the user's file may have been retired, or may even have been reactivated and re-assigned by Canada Post to another range of addresses outside the riding where they had previously been used. Statistics Canada maintains an audit trail of the "birth" dates and "retirement" dates of postal codes in the Postal Code Conversion File. Users may wish to contact their nearest Regional Reference Centre (addresses given at the end of this user guide) where detailed information about the Postal Code Conversion File is available in the *Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) User Guide*, Updated File including June 2003 Postal Codes produced by the Geography Division, Statistics Canada, January 2004.

In the fourth case, postal codes are given the representative point co-ordinates of a block-face, block or of a dissemination area. Where a 1996 Federal Electoral District boundary splits a 2001 DA, block or block-face, the postal codes linked to that DA, block or block-face are included in the federal riding in which their co-ordinates fall.

Lineage

Describes the history of the linkage data, including descriptions of the source material from which the data were derived, and the methods of derivation. It also contains the dates of the source material, and all transformations involved in producing the final digital files or map products.

Source Files

Two existing products of the Geography Division at Statistics Canada have been used to derive the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF):

- 1) January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), which links postal codes (provided by Canada Post Corporation (CPC) on the Postal Code Address Master File, updated to June 2003) to codes for all 2001 Census geographic areas, including province (PR) codes and federal electoral district (FED) codes and to geographic point co-ordinates representing the postal codes. The January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File contains over 1.9 million postal code records linked to the geographical areas used in the 2001 Census. These geographical areas have a reference date of January 1, 2001.
- 2) The **Federal Electoral District (FED) Names File**, which contains the official name of each federal riding (based on the 1996 Representation Order) and its associated identification code.

Method of Derivation

The PCFRF was created by merging a subset of the January 2004 Postal Code Conversion File, containing June 2003 postal codes, with the federal electoral district names file using the federal electoral district code as the common field which exists on both of the source files.

The subset of the Postal Code Conversion File was created by extracting unique occurrences of postal codes linked to a federal electoral district. Then all records representing retired postal codes within each federal electoral district were identified and deleted. The resulting PCFRF file contains 783,774 active postal code **records** of which 774,269 are unique links to one federal electoral district. In total, 4,447 active postal codes (9,505 records) are linked to more than one federal electoral district (further details are provided in section 4 below). The number of postal code records by federal electoral district is provided in Appendix A.

Attribute Accuracy

Attribute accuracy refers to the quality of the non-positional information attached to each postal code.

The attribute accuracy of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is dependent on the accuracy of the Postal Code Conversion File used as a data source. Please refer to the Postal Code Conversion File User Guide for further details.

Logical consistency

Describes the fidelity of relationships encoded in the data structure of the digital linkage data.

Of the 783,774 active postal code **records** found on this file, there are 774,269 active postal codes uniquely linked to one federal riding and 4,447 active postal codes that are linked to two or more federal ridings. The following table summarizes them.

Postal codes linked to 2 or more Federal Ridings

Number of Federal Ridings	Number of active postal codes	Number of records on postal code by federal riding file
2	3,958	7,916
3	380	1,140
4	96	384
5	13	65
Total	4,447	9,505

Consistency with other products

Data contained in the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) are consistent with all 2001 Census related geographic products with the exception of the 2001 Census Forward Sortation Areas Boundary File (Catalogue No. 92F0170XCE) which represents only the FSAs reported in the 2001 Census and valid as of May 2001. The Postal Code Conversion File provides all postal codes (both in use and retired) and is updated twice a year to include recent postal codes.

Completeness

Refers to the degree to which geographic features, their attributes and their relationships are included or omitted in a dataset. It also includes information on selection criteria, definitions used, and other relevant mapping rules.

Completeness in the context of the PCFRF is the degree to which all valid postal codes are accounted for. All postal codes, valid as of June 2003 according to Canada Post Corporation, have been linked to census geography.

The Federal Electoral District Names file contains 301 records, one for each federal electoral district (1996 Representation Order).

The final digital files are named using a file naming convention described in Appendix B and contain the following number of active postal code **records**:

Filename	Number of records
pcfrfEast_JUN03_fcpcéfEst.exe (Atlantic provinces)	93,608
pcfrfQue_JUN03_FcpcéfQué.exe (Quebec)	194,564
pcfrfOnt_JUN03_FcpcéfOnt.exe (Ontario)	262,809
PpcfrfWest_JUN03_FcpcéfOuest.exe (Prairie provinces, N.W.T. and Nunavut)	120,270
pcfrfBC_JUN03_FcpcéfCB.exe (B.C. & Yukon)	112,523
pcfrfNat_JUN03_FcpcéfFNat.exe (Canada)	783,774

5. Technical specifications

File specifications

The current version of the Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is an ASCII file and does not include any software or instructions on how to use the product within specific Geographical Information Systems (GIS) or mapping packages.

Data descriptions and record layout

Record Layout Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF)

Position	Size	Type*	Field Description
1	6	C	Postal code
7	5	C	Federal riding (FED) code
12	56	C	English Federal riding (FED) name
68	56	C	French Federal riding (FED) name

*The field type "C" refers to both alphabetic and numeric characters.

Field descriptions

Postal Code

The postal code is a six-character alphanumeric code defined and maintained by Canada Post Corporation for the processing (sortation and delivery) of mail.

The alphanumeric characters are arranged in the form ANA NAN, where "A" represents a letter of the alphabet and "N" a numeric digit. The first character of a postal code (allocated in alphabetic sequence from east to west across Canada) represents a province or territory or a major sector entirely within a province.

The first three characters represent a set of well-defined and stable areas known as the Forward Sortation Area (FSA). Rural FSAs are identifiable by the presence of a "0" in the second position of the FSA code.

The last three characters identify the Local Delivery Unit (LDU). In established urban areas, the LDU can specify a small and easily defined area within an FSA such as block-face (one side of a city street between consecutive intersections with streets), an apartment building, an office building, or a large firm or organization which does large volume business with the post office. In rural areas, the LDU denotes a service area - the area serviced by rural route delivery from a post office or station, e.g., a rural route, general delivery or post office box.

Federal Riding or Federal Electoral District Code

A federal electoral district is any place or territorial area entitled to return a member to serve in the House of Commons. FED legal limits and descriptions are the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer, and are usually revised every 10 years after the results of the decennial census. The 1996 Representation Order is the most current revision, and is based on 1991 Census population data.

Appendix A: Postal Code by Federal Ridings File

This table shows the number of postal codes (or PCs) per federal riding (or FED)

Field descriptions

Province (PR)

The major political division of Canada. From a statistical point of view, it is a basic unit for which data are tabulated and cross-classified. The province codes are: **10** - Newfoundland and Labrador, **11** - Prince Edward Island, **12** - Nova Scotia, **13** - New Brunswick, **24** - Quebec, **35** - Ontario, **46** - Manitoba, **47** - Saskatchewan, **48** - Alberta, and **59** - British Columbia.

Territory (TERR)

Three major political divisions of Canada, namely the Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. From a statistical point of view, these territories are equivalent to a province, i.e., a basic unit for which data are tabulated and cross-classified. The territory codes are: **60** - Yukon Territory, **61** - Northwest Territories, and **62** - Nunavut.

PR/FED

A two-digit provincial code is followed by a three-digit federal riding code, assigned by Elections Canada.

Federal Riding Names

Complete name of Federal Riding

Postal Code Count

The number of postal codes found within a Federal Riding

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
10001	Bonavista - Trinity - Conception	150
10002	Burin - St. George's	569
10003	Gander - Grand Falls	782
10004	Humber - St. Barbe - Baie Verte	1568
10005	Labrador	370
10006	St. John's East	4152
10007	St. John's West	2161
11001	Cardigan	149
11002	Egmont	986
11003	Hillsborough	1897
11004	Malpeque	40
12001	Bras D'or - Cape Breton	3348
12002	Cumberland - Colchester	1717
12003	Dartmouth	2916
12004	Halifax	3112
12005	Halifax West	3087
12006	Kings - Hants	1466
12007	Pictou - Antigonish - Guysborough	1260
12008	Sackville - Musquodoboit Valley - Eastern Shore	1526

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
12009	South Shore	603
12010	Sydney - Victoria	4938
12011	West Nova	688
13001	Acadie - Bathurst	4880
13002	Beauséjour - Petitcodiac	9581
13003	New Brunswick Southwest	6902
13004	Fredericton	3561
13005	Fundy - Royal	7135
13006	Madawaska - Restigouche	4535
13007	Miramichi	4656
13008	Moncton - Riverview - Dieppe	4732
13009	Saint John	3724
13010	Tobique - Mactaquac	6417
24001	Abitibi - Baie-James - Nunavik	1731
24002	Ahuntsic	2445
24003	Anjou - Rivière-Des-Prairies	2409
24004	Argenteuil - Papineau - Mirabel	2064
24005	Beauce	2385
24006	Beauharnois - Salaberry	2344
24007	Beauport - Montmorency - Côte-de-Beaupré - Île-d'Orléans	2875
24008	Bellechasse - Etchemins - Montmagny - L'Islet	710
24009	Berthier - Montcalm	377
24010	Bourassa	2008
24011	Brome - Missisquoi	2713
24012	Brossard - La Prairie	2576
24013	Chambly	3266
24014	Champlain	2772
24015	Charlesbourg - Jacques-Cartier	3511
24016	Charlevoix	1743
24017	Châteauguay	2304
24018	Chicoutimi - Le Fjord	3361
24019	Compton - Stanstead	1152
24020	Drummond	3573
24021	Frontenac - Mégantic	1973
24022	Bonaventure - Gaspé - Îles-De-la-Madeleine - Pabok	644
24023	Gatineau	4053
24024	Hochelaga - Maisonneuve	1998
24025	Hull - Aylmer	3835
24026	Joliette	3236
24027	Jonquière	2963
24028	Kamouraska - Rivière-Du-Loup - Témiscouata - Les Basques	1206
24029	Notre-Dame-De-Grâce - Lachine	2355
24030	Lac-Saint-Jean - Saguenay	2195
24031	Lac-Saint-Louis	4486
24032	Lasalle - ÉMard	1772
24033	Laurentides	3941
24034	Laurier - Sainte-Marie	2341

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
24035	Laval Centre	3376
24036	Laval East	3629
24037	Laval West	3567
24038	Lévis-Et-Chutes-de-la-Chaudière	4446
24039	Longueuil	2237
24040	Lotbinière-L'Érable	869
24041	Louis-Hébert	3605
24042	Manicouagan	1341
24043	Matapédia - Matane	1680
24044	Mercier	2780
24045	Mount Royal	2394
24046	Outremont	1617
24047	Papineau - Saint-Denis	1807
24048	Pierrefonds - Dollard	3028
24049	Pontiac - Gatineau - Labelle	2195
24050	Portneuf	1998
24051	Québec	4210
24052	Québec East	4052
24053	Repentigny	3712
24054	Bas-Richelieu - Nicolet - Bécancour	2923
24055	Richmond - Arthabaska	2896
24056	Rimouski-Neigette-Et-La Mitis	2223
24057	Roberval	2698
24058	Rosemont - Petite-Patrie	1766
24059	Témiscamingue	1895
24060	Rivière-Des-Mille-Îles	3278
24061	Saint-Bruno - Saint-Hubert	2949
24062	Saint-Hyacinthe - Bagot	2385
24063	Saint-Jean	2777
24064	Saint-Lambert	2637
24065	Saint-Laurent - Cartierville	2552
24066	Saint-Léonard - Saint-Michel	1870
24067	Saint-Maurice	3326
24068	Shefford	2160
24069	Sherbrooke	3701
24070	Terrebonne - Blainville	3732
24071	Trois-Rivières	3311
24072	Vaudreuil - Soulanges	2056
24073	Verchères - Les-Patriotes	1845
24074	Verdun - Saint-Henri - Saint-Paul - Pointe Saint-Charles	1803
24075	Westmount - Ville-Marie	3940
35001	Algoma - Manitoulin	636
35002	Barrie - Simcoe - Bradford	3852
35003	Beaches - East York	2423
35004	Bramalea - Gore - Malton - Springdale	3021
35005	Brampton Centre	2245
35006	Brampton West - Mississauga	3356

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
35007	Brant	4156
35008	Toronto - Danforth	1844
35009	Bruce - Grey - Owen Sound	1699
35010	Burlington	3228
35011	Cambridge	3811
35012	Davenport	1591
35013	Don Valley East	1755
35014	Don Valley West	2635
35015	Dufferin - Peel - Wellington - Grey	1358
35016	Durham	2132
35017	Eglinton - Lawrence	2454
35018	Elgin - Middlesex - London	2643
35019	Erie - Lincoln	2277
35020	Essex	2473
35021	Etobicoke Centre	2664
35022	Etobicoke - Lakeshore	3377
35023	Etobicoke North	2151
35024	Glengarry - Prescott - Russell	1090
35025	Ottawa - Orléans	2586
35026	Guelph - Wellington	3462
35027	Haldimand - Norfolk - Brant	1496
35028	Halton	3717
35029	Hamilton East	3441
35030	Hamilton Mountain	3289
35031	Hamilton West	3307
35032	Hastings - Frontenac - Lennox and Addington	791
35033	Huron - Bruce	993
35034	Kenora - Rainy River	1604
35035	Chatham - Kent Essex	2473
35036	Kingston and The Islands	3686
35037	Kitchener Centre	3228
35038	Kitchener - Waterloo	3776
35039	Lambton - Kent - Middlesex	1442
35040	Lanark - Carleton	3501
35041	Leeds - Grenville	1535
35042	London North Centre	3675
35043	London - Fanshawe	2501
35044	London West	2939
35045	Markham	3457
35046	Mississauga Centre	1997
35047	Mississauga East	1898
35048	Mississauga South	2832
35049	Mississauga West	2656
35050	Nepean - Carleton	2492
35051	Niagara Centre	3746
35052	Niagara Falls	3442
35053	Nickel Belt	776

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
35054	Nipissing	2197
35055	Northumberland	2393
35056	Oak Ridges	3800
35057	Oakville	3635
35058	Oshawa	3619
35059	Ottawa Centre	4105
35060	Ottawa South	3257
35061	Ottawa - Vanier	3277
35062	Ottawa West - Nepean	3009
35063	Oxford	2935
35064	Parkdale - High Park	1801
35065	Parry Sound - Muskoka	1068
35066	Perth - Middlesex	1883
35067	Peterborough	2995
35068	Pickering - Ajax - Uxbridge	2529
35069	Prince Edward - Hastings	1741
35070	Renfrew - Nipissing - Pembroke	2942
35071	Sarnia - Lambton	2834
35072	Sault Ste. Marie	2906
35073	Scarborough - Agincourt	1551
35074	Scarborough Centre	2447
35075	Scarborough East	1974
35076	Scarborough - Rouge River	2175
35077	Scarborough Southwest	2161
35078	Simcoe - Grey	1029
35079	Simcoe North	2254
35080	St. Catharines	4039
35081	St. Paul's	2207
35082	Stoney Creek	3027
35083	Stormont - Dundas - Charlottenburgh	2151
35084	Sudbury	3045
35085	Thornhill	2905
35086	Thunder Bay - Atikokan	2205
35087	Thunder Bay - Superior North	2237
35088	Timiskaming - Cochrane	964
35089	Timmins - James Bay	1852
35090	Toronto Centre - Rosedale	3076
35091	Trinity - Spadina	2149
35092	Vaughan - King - Aurora	3497
35093	Haliburton - Victoria - Brock	973
35094	Waterloo - Wellington	2263
35095	Ancaster - Dundas - Flamborough - Aldershot	2642
35096	Whitby - Ajax	3419
35097	Willowdale	2618
35098	Windsor - St. Clair	3171
35099	Windsor West	4349
35100	York Centre	1972

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
35101	York North	2306
35102	York South - Weston	2120
35103	York West	1477
46001	Brandon - Souris	2073
46002	Charleswood St. James - Assiniboia	1997
46003	Churchill	747
46004	Dauphin - Swan River	700
46005	Portage - Lisgar	1248
46006	Provencher	243
46007	Saint Boniface	2396
46008	Selkirk - Interlake	865
46009	Winnipeg North Centre	2365
46010	Winnipeg Centre	2686
46011	Winnipeg South	2199
46012	Winnipeg South Centre	1950
46013	Winnipeg North - St. Paul	1830
46014	Winnipeg - Transcona	2262
47001	Battlefords - Lloydminster	1105
47002	Blackstrap	1727
47003	Churchill River	271
47004	Cypress Hills - Grasslands	1073
47005	Palliser	2716
47006	Prince Albert	1481
47007	Regina - Qu'appelle	1795
47008	Regina - Lumsden - Lake Centre	1757
47009	Saskatoon - Humboldt	1478
47010	Saskatoon - Rosetown - Biggar	1745
47011	Souris - Moose Mountain	1186
47012	Saskatoon - Wanuskewin	1763
47013	Wascana	2629
47014	Yorkton - Melville	814
48001	Athabasca	1578
48002	Calgary Centre	5130
48003	Calgary East	3332
48004	Calgary Northeast	3366
48005	Calgary - Nose Hill	3271
48006	Calgary Southeast	2895
48007	Calgary Southwest	2997
48008	Calgary West	3826
48009	Crowfoot	1131
48010	Edmonton Centre-East	4705
48011	Edmonton North	3439
48012	Edmonton Southeast	3087
48013	Edmonton Southwest	3512
48014	Edmonton - Strathcona	4467
48015	Edmonton West	4822
48016	Elk Island	2417

PR/FED	FEDERAL RIDING NAMES	POSTAL CODE COUNT
48017	Lakeland	1409
48018	Lethbridge	3470
48019	Macleod	1167
48020	Medicine Hat	2785
48021	Peace River	1917
48022	Red Deer	2751
48023	St. Albert	2241
48024	Wetaskiwin	2153
48025	Wild Rose	1929
48026	Yellowhead	848
59001	Burnaby - Douglas	3394
59002	Cariboo - Chilcotin	1702
59003	Delta - South Richmond	4354
59004	Dewdney - Alouette	3484
59005	Esquimalt - Juan De Fuca	3367
59006	Fraser Valley	3514
59007	Kamloops, Thompson And Highland Valleys	2872
59008	Kelowna	4377
59009	Kootenay - Columbia	1510
59010	Langley - Abbotsford	3287
59011	Nanaimo - Alberni	3407
59012	Nanaimo - Cowichan	2912
59013	New Westminster - Coquitlam - Burnaby	3922
59014	Okanagan - Shuswap	2674
59015	North Vancouver	4320
59016	Okanagan - Coquihalla	1786
59017	Port Moody - Coquitlam - Port Coquitlam	3901
59018	Prince George - Bulkley Valley	2272
59019	Prince George - Peace River	3125
59020	Richmond	3271
59021	Saanich - Gulf Islands	3955
59022	Skeena	1751
59023	South Surrey - White Rock - Langley	3647
59024	Surrey Central	4231
59025	Surrey North	3516
59026	Vancouver Centre	3315
59027	Vancouver East	3767
59028	Vancouver Island North	3137
59029	Vancouver Kingsway	3186
59030	Vancouver Quadra	4234
59031	Vancouver South - Burnaby	3626
59032	Victoria	4649
59033	Kootenay - Boundary - Okanagan	2388
59034	West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast	2741
60001	Yukon	929
61002	Western Arctic	494
62001	Nunavut	30

Appendix B: Data File Naming Convention

The naming convention for PCFRF data files has been designed to be bilingual and to reflect the reference date of the Canada Post Corporation (CPC) data used in the release.

Structure of file names

data type Canadian prov_region_CPC version date_French translation

data type – Type of data (PCCF)

Canadian prov_region – Standard Geographic Classification (SGC) is used for the assignment of provincial codes

CPC version date – reference date of Canada Post Corporation postal code data

French translation – Type of data (French translation: fcpcéfCanadian prov_region)

Data files in this release are the following:

National File

pcfrfNat_JUN03_fcpcéfNat.exe

Provincial / Territorial Files

pcfrfBC_JUN03_fcpcéfCB.exe

pcfrfEast_JUN03_fcpcéfEst.exe

pcfrfOnt_JUN03_fcpcéfOnt.exe

pcfrfQue_JUN03_fcpcéfQuè.exe

pcfrfWest_JUN03_fcpcéfOuest.exe

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- .2002b. *2001 Census Handbook*. 2001 Census of Canada. (Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 92-379-XPB). Ottawa: Minister responsible for Statistics Canada.
- .2002c. *Population and Dwelling Counts*. 2001 Census of Canada. (Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 93-360-XPB). Ottawa: Minister responsible for Statistics Canada.
- .2002d. *Standard Geographical Classification, Volume I*. 2001 Census of Canada. (Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 12-571-XPB). Ottawa: Minister responsible for Statistics Canada.
- .2002e. *Standard Geographical Classification, Volume II*. 2001 Census of Canada. (Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 12-572-XPB). Ottawa: Minister responsible for Statistics Canada.

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Geography products and services

This section provides brief descriptions of Geography products and services related to the 2001 Census. For additional details, consult the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

1. Reference Maps

Reference maps show the location of the geographic areas for which census data are tabulated and disseminated. The maps display the boundaries, names and codes of standard geographic areas, as well as major cultural and physical features, such as roads, railroads, coastlines, rivers and lakes. Over 5,600 reference maps are available for the 2001 Census. Given the diversity in size of these geographic areas, different map scales and map coverages are required to show the appropriate level of detail. Descriptions of each series are provided with the individual catalogue entries below.

National Reference Maps

- 92F0172XCB Reference Maps – Complete Set, 2001 Census
- 92F0144XIB Census Divisions, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Economic Regions and Census Divisions, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2001
- 92F0144XIB Statistical Area Classification, 2001 Census Subdivisions
- 92F0152XPE Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Reference Map

92F0149XPB Census Division and Census Subdivision Reference Maps

The set of Census Division and Census Subdivision Reference Maps covers all of Canada, by province and territory. The maps show the boundaries, names and codes of census divisions (such as counties and regional districts) and census subdivisions (such as cities, towns, villages, other local municipal entities, townships and Indian reserves). The maps also show the boundaries of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. There are 22 maps that vary in scale (ranging from 1:310,000 to 1:3,500,000).

92F0145XPB Census Tract Reference Maps, by Census Metropolitan Area or Census Agglomeration

The series of Census Tract Reference Maps covers all 27 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the 19 census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts. The maps show the boundaries and names of census tracts and census subdivisions, as well as the urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe within the CMAs or CAs. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features. There are 85 maps in the series, with one to four maps covering each CMA or CA. The map scales range from 1:25,000 to 1:2,000,000, and the maximum map dimensions are approximately 91 cm by 101 cm (36 inches by 40 inches).

92F0146XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Tract, for Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations.

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Census Tract covers all 27 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the 19 census agglomerations (CAs) that are part of the census tract program. Each map in the set covers one census tract (CT) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CT. The maps also show census tract, census subdivision, and census metropolitan area or census agglomeration boundaries on a background of detailed street networks and other visible features such as rivers, lakes and railroad tracks.

There are approximately 4,800 maps in this set—generally one map per census tract. The dimensions of each map are approximately 27 cm by 43 cm (11 inches by 17 inches).

92F0147XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by non-tracted Census Agglomeration

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Non-tracted Census Agglomeration covers the smaller census agglomerations that are not part of the census tract program. Each map in the set covers one census agglomeration (CA) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CA. The maps also show the boundaries of census subdivisions (municipalities), as well as urban areas, and representative points for designated places. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features.

There are approximately 100 maps in this set—generally one map per census agglomeration (The maps vary in scale and size; the maximum map dimensions are approximately 91 cm by 101 cm (36 inches by 40 inches).

92F0148XPB Dissemination Area Reference Maps, by Census Division, for Areas Outside Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations

The set of Dissemination Area Reference Maps by Census Division covers areas outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). Each map in the set covers one census division (CD) and shows the boundaries and codes of dissemination areas within that CD. The maps also show the boundaries of census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, as well as urban areas and representative points for designated places. The maps include background information such as rivers, lakes, railroad tracks and provincial boundaries, and other significant features.

2. Geographic Data Products

Geographic data products are those that contain 2001 Census population and dwelling counts.

93-360-XPB National Overview Tables, 2001 Census

The National Overview tables provide population and dwelling counts established by the 2001 Census of Canada. The levels of geography covered are Canada, provinces and territories, and other geographic areas including census subdivisions (municipalities), census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations. For selected geographies, the tables provide percentage change in the population and dwellings between 1996 and 2001. Data are also provided for land area and population density. Geographic Boundaries are those in effect on January 1, 2001.

92F0150XCB GeoSuite, 2001 Census

GeoSuite is a tool for data retrieval, query and tabular output, with software and data on a CD-ROM. GeoSuite allows users to explore the links between all standard levels of geography and to determine geographic codes, names, and population and dwelling counts. GeoSuite includes a dissemination area (DA) reference map listing that facilitates identification of appropriate DA reference maps.

3. Linkage Information Products

Linkage information provides the shape and location of geographic features. The boundaries, road network and other features of standard geographic areas are available in digital form for mapping and geographic information system (GIS) applications. These products include Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs), Road Network Files (RNFs) and Skeletal Road Network Files (SRNFs).

Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs), 2001 Census

Cartographic Boundary Files (CBFs) contain the boundaries of standard geographic areas together with the shoreline around Canada and the larger inland lakes, all integrated in a single layer. In the second edition (released October 8, 2002), the hydrography was generalized by removing small lakes from the file to reduce noise. Large rivers emptying into the oceans were closed off, then the interior hydrography (double line river and lake polygons) was extracted to create the supplementary hydrography. The coordinates are latitude/longitude and are based on the North American Datum of

1983 (NAD83). The Cartographic Boundary Files for 2001 replace the Digital Cartographic Files produced for the 1996 Census.

Cartographic Boundary Files can be used with Census of Population, Census of Agriculture or other Statistics Canada data for data analysis and thematic mapping (with appropriate software). Geographic codes provide the linkage between the statistical data and the geographic area boundaries. CBFs can also be used to create new geographic areas by aggregating standard geographic areas, and for other data manipulations available with the user's software. The CBFs can be used with the Road Network Files and Skeletal Road Network Files, which provide additional geographic context for mapping applications.

92F0160XCE Provinces and Territories Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0163XCE Federal Electoral Districts (1996 Representation Order) Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0161XCE Census Divisions and Economic Regions Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0167XCE Census Consolidated Subdivisions Cartographic Boundary Files
 92F0162XCE Census Subdivisions Cartographic Boundary Files
 92F0165XCE Designated Places Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0166XCE Census Metropolitan Areas/Census Agglomerations Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0168XCE Census Tracts Cartographic Boundary Files
 92F0164XCE Urban Areas Cartographic Boundary File
 92F0169XCE Dissemination Areas Cartographic Boundary Files

92F0159XCE Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File, 2001 Census

The Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File contains a generalised population ecumene based on 2001 Census population density data with at least one ecumene polygon for every census division (CD). It can be used to produce small-scale thematic maps of statistical data.

For the 2001 Census, a population ecumene was defined based on population density criteria at the block level. The resulting detailed population ecumene polygons were generalised and small, non-contiguous ecumene pockets were aggregated to ensure visibility for small-scale thematic mapping at the census division level (see Figure 9). When ecumene boundaries are used for dot and choropleth mapping, they give a more accurate depiction of the linkage distribution of data within standard geographic areas.

The Population Ecumene Census Division Boundary File is available as a standard package for Canada free on the Internet or it can be purchased on CD-ROM through the nearest regional office. This file is not a Cartographic Boundary File and it has its own reference guide.

92F0170XCE Census Forward Sortation Areas Boundary File

The 2001 Census Forward Sortation Area (FSA) Boundary File contains the boundaries of 1,577 forward sortation areas (the first three characters of a postal code) derived from postal codes captured from the 2001 Census of Population questionnaires. Through analysis of the postal codes reported by Census households, a single Forward Sortation Area was assigned to each reported block based on the most frequently reported Forward Sortation Area for the block. Unreported blocks were assigned a Forward Sortation Area based on proximity to reported blocks in the same province or territory.

92F0157XCE Road Network Files (RNF), 2001 Census

Road Network Files (RNFs) contain a road layer for the entire country and a province/territory boundary layer. The road layer includes roads, with road names and address ranges (arc attributes), and geographic codes to identify blocks, census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas/census agglomerations, and provinces/territories (polygon attributes). Address ranges are mainly available in the large urban centres of Canada. The province/territory boundary layer incorporates hydrography (the

shoreline around Canada and the larger inland lakes) with the boundaries and the geographic codes. The digital coordinates are in latitude/longitude and are based on the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83).

Road Network Files are available for Canada, for individual provinces and territories, and for census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and those census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts.

92F0158XCE Skeletal Road Network Files (SRNF), 2001 Census

The Skeletal Road Network Files contain selected roads (with road names, but no addresses) that are derived from Road Network Files (Catalogue No. 92F0157XCE). The selected roads are ranked according to four levels of detail (see Figure ?). The different levels of detail are suitable for mapping at small to medium scales. The SRNF can be used to provide some cartographic reference features when producing thematic maps with the Cartographic Boundary Files. The positional accuracy of the SRNF does not support cadastral, surveying or engineering applications. The SRNF does not include hydrography.

The Skeletal Road Network Files are available for Canada, provinces and territories, and census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and tracted census agglomerations (CAs).

92F0177XCE Block Digital Boundary File

Block digital boundary files portray the official boundaries used for the 2001 Census. They often extend as straight lines into bodies of water. Digital boundary files provide a framework for mapping and geographic analysis that are possible using commercially available geographic information systems (GISs) or other mapping software. The files may not be suitable for mapping or display where realistic shoreline is required.

4. Attribute Information Products

Attribute information products are those that give descriptive information about the features. The attribute files include Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) and Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF).

92F0153XCE Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF)

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) provides a link between six-character postal code and standard 2001 Census geographic areas (such as dissemination areas, municipalities, census tracts). It also provides the x,y (latitude/longitude) coordinates 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, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and some census agglomerations (CAs). A reference guide is included.

92F0153UCE Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) – Update

The Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF) is updated with new postal codes on a semi-annual basis and is available in January and July. Clients must purchase the Postal Code Conversion File at the initial price; then subsequent updated files (92F0154UCE) may be purchased at the update or subscription rate. The update rate is a flat rate that in most cases is much lower than the initial purchase price. An additional 25% discount on updates is given to PCCF update subscribers. The subscription requires clients to pay in advance for at least one updated file per year until the PCCF reflecting the geography of the 2001 Census is released.

The PCCF Updates are available as standard packages for Canada and the provinces and territories. A reference guide is included.

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

The Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) provides a link between the six character postal codes and the federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order). A federal electoral district (FED), commonly referred to as a federal riding, is an area represented by a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons.

The PCFRF is intended as a tool for use with administrative files containing postal codes. By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organised and/or tabulated by federal riding. This PCFRF allows a link of more than 680,000 postal code records to the 301 federal electoral districts.

The PCFRFs are available as standard packages for Canada and five regions. A reference guide is included.

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

The Postal Code by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) is updated with new postal codes on a semi-annual basis and is available in January and July. Updates released in July provide new postal codes effective January of the release year. Updates released in January provide new postal codes in use in July of the previous year. Clients who purchase the PCFRF (92F0028XDB) at the initial price may then purchase subsequent updated files (92F0028UDB) at the update rate (see Table 11 for details).

The PCFRF Updates are available as standard packages for Canada and five regions.

5. Geographic Services

A variety of services is available, including custom mapping, custom data extraction (geocoding) and the development of custom geography products.

97C0006 Geography Custom Service

If standard geography products do not satisfy a client's needs, the Geography Custom Service is available to produce non-standard geographic products. Examples include alternative packaging of geographic files, special data retrievals, manipulations or merges using any of the geography computer files (postal codes, attribute files, boundary files and road network files). Contact the nearest regional office for details.

97C0005 Custom Area Creation Service (formerly Geocoding Service)

The Custom Area Creation Service (formerly called 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 the aggregation of blocks, or where necessary, block-faces within the road network file coverage. The custom area files thus created are then passed to Census for data tabulation. Contact the nearest regional office for details.

97C0007 Geography Custom Mapping

Thematic maps and other maps, specially designed to meet customer needs, can be produced. Contact the nearest regional office for details.

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