

# Using Census data to Enrich Alberta Non-profits

## Confidentiality & Geography



Delivering insight through data for a better Canada



Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

Canada



# AGENDA

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- Confidentiality standards and guidelines
- Highlights of standard Census Geography
- Website tour
  - Geography resources
    - Thematic maps
    - Focus on geography
- Exercise





# CONFIDENTIALITY STANDARDS & GUIDELINES



# SUPPRESSION

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No census data are released for all standard or aggregations of standard areas below a population size of **40**. No census data are released for six-character (FSA-LDU) postal codes, geo-coded areas and aggregations of the block, block-face or LDU levels for populations below **100**

Income characteristic data are suppressed for areas where the population, for all standard, custom and geo-coded geographic areas, is less than **250**, or where the number of private households is less than **40** (except for Place of Work tabulations)

For census tabulations that include **Place of Work** data, the 40, 100 and 250 are applied to the **Employed Labour Force** counts for these areas, rather than the population of the areas

Suppression also occurs when certain questions are not asked of all respondents

x	x	x	0.9	1.0
0.2	x	x	2.4	2.7
1.0	0.6	0.6	13.0	14.3
x	x	x	0.9	0.9
..	x	x	0.8	0.7
x	x	x	1.6	1.7
x	x	..	0.7	0.7
0.5	x	x	9.0	10.3

# RANDOM ROUNDING

## Short-Form Census (2A)

For short-form Census data, all counts are rounded to a base of 5

This means that all 2A counts will end in **either a 0 or 5**

## Long-Form Census (2B)/NHS

For long-form Census and 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), all counts greater than 10 are rounded to base 5, but counts less than 10 are rounded to base 10

This means that any 2B Census or 2011 NHS counts less than 10 will always be changed to **0 or 10**







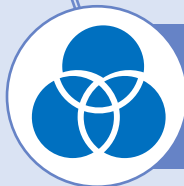
# CENSUS GEOGRAPHY



# GEOGRAPHIC HIERARCHY



Statistics Canada collects and maintains information on various types of geographic areas



The geographic hierarchy contains **administrative** and **statistical** geographic areas

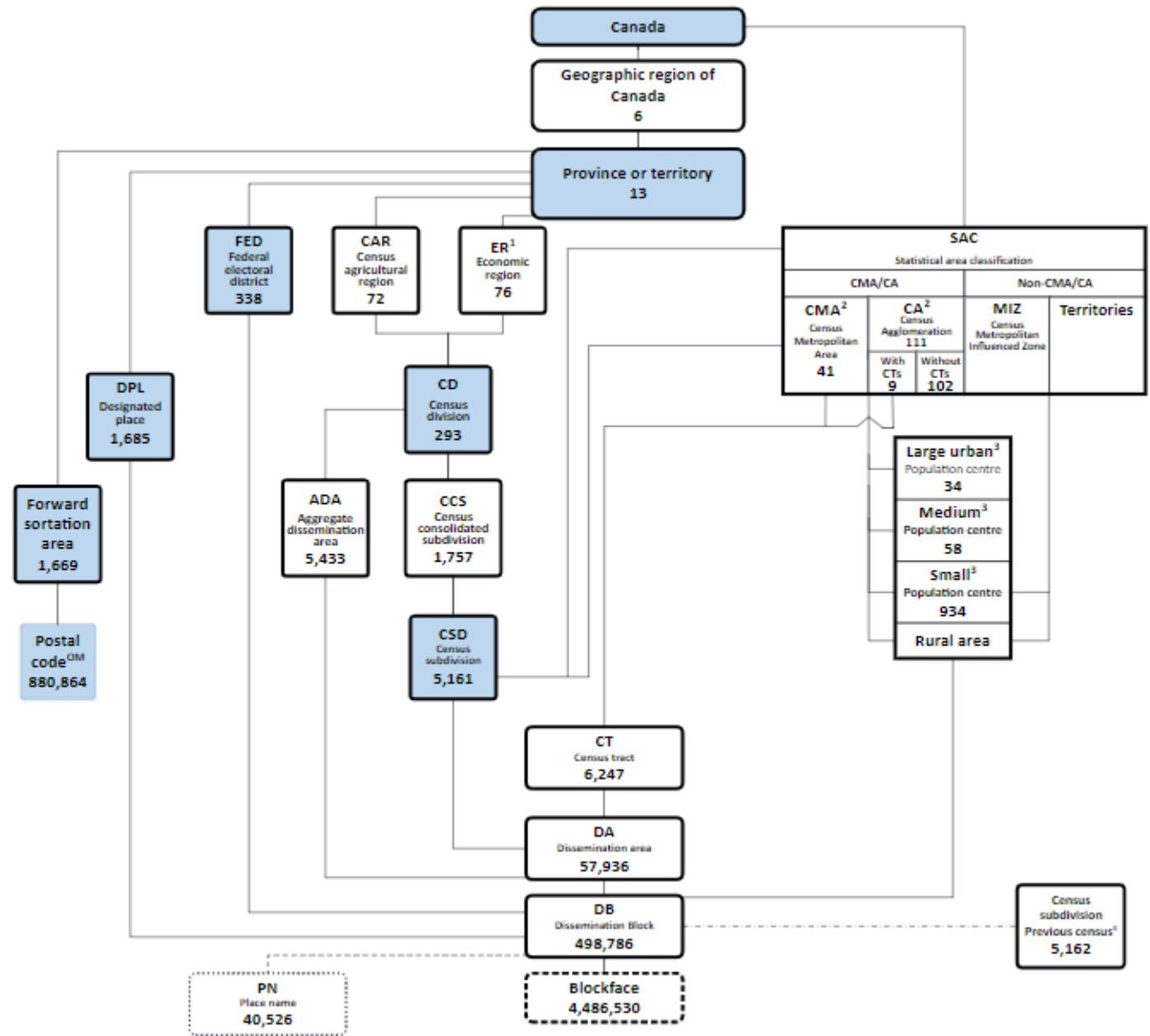


For the 2021 Census, the geographic reference date is January 1, 2021



This **reference date** is determined by Statistics Canada for the purpose of finalizing the geographic framework for which census data will be collected, tabulated and reported

# GEOGRAPHIC HIERARCHY







# HOW CAN I FIND THE GEOGRAPHY THAT I NEED?

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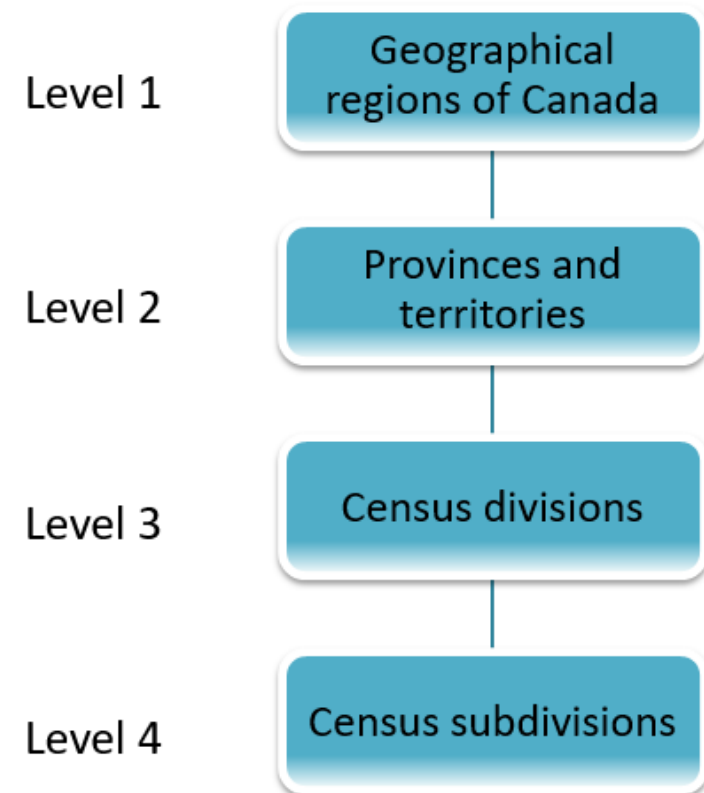
Most geographies are not tailored to or will 100% match the area the data user is interested in

There are several options to find comparable geographies:

- Use the hierarchy chart
- Search using maps
- Search using place name, postal code<sup>OM</sup>, or geographic code



# Geographic Code



Code	Geographical region of Canada
1	Atlantic
2	Quebec
3	Ontario
4	Prairies
5	British Columbia
6	Territories

Code	Provinces and Territories
10	Newfoundland and Labrador
11	Prince Edward Island
12	Nova Scotia
13	New Brunswick
24	Québec
35	Ontario
46	Manitoba
47	Saskatchewan
48	Alberta
59	British Columbia
60	Yukon
61	Northwest Territories
62	Nunavut

# Geographic Code Example

Seven-digit SGC Code Example: City of Oshawa				
Region	PR	CD	CSD	Name
3				Ontario
	35			Ontario
	35	18		Durham (Regional Municipality)
	35	18	013	Oshawa (City)

Geographic code for the city of Oshawa is **3518013**



# Administrative Area Geography Schema

## Administrative Area Geographies Schema Example

Geography	DGUI value	Value range
Country	0000	---
Geographical Regions	A0001	values 1 to 6
Provinces or Territories	A0002	values 10 to 62
Census Division	A0003	values nested in provinces
Federal Electoral	A0004	values nested in province or territory
Census Sub-Division	A0005	values nested in CD
Designated Places	A0006	values nested in Provinces/Territories
Forward Sortation Areas	A0011	Alphanumeric values from Canada Post (A1A)

**Source:** [Dissemination Geography Unique Identifier: Definition and Structure \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www.statcan.gc.ca)



# Statistical Area Geographic Schema

Statistical Area Geography Schema	
Geography	DGUI value
Economic region (ER)	S0500
Population Centre (POPCTR)	-
Census metropolitan area (CMA)	S0503
Census Agglomerations (CA)	S0504
Census tract (CT)	S0507
Statistical Area Classification (SAC) and Census Metropolitan Influenced Zones (MIZ)	-
Dissemination area (DA)	S0512
Aggregate dissemination area (ADA)	S0516
Dissemination block (DB)	S0513

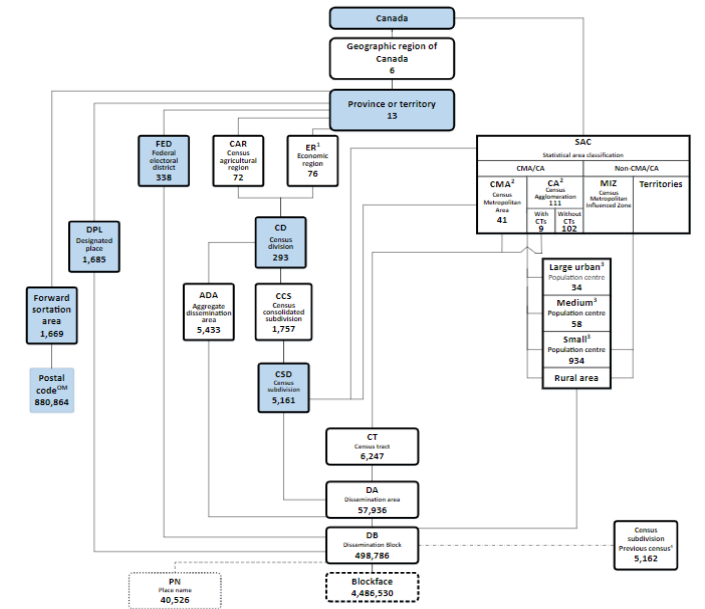
# HOW CAN I FIND THE GEOGRAPHY THAT I NEED?

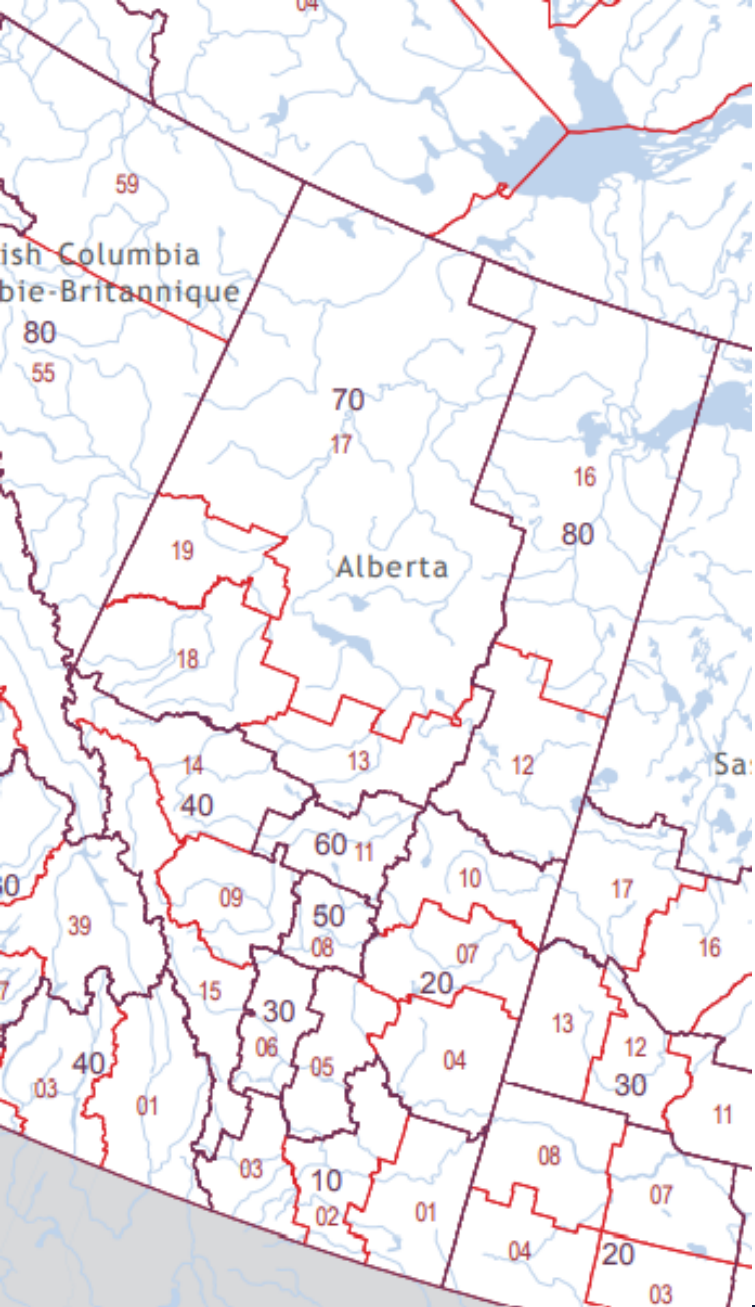
## Use the hierarchy chart

- When looking at large administrative areas
- To know what other levels are part of the area
- If the area of interest has a name

**Link:**

[https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/dict/fig/index-eng.cfm?ID=F1\\_1](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/dict/fig/index-eng.cfm?ID=F1_1)



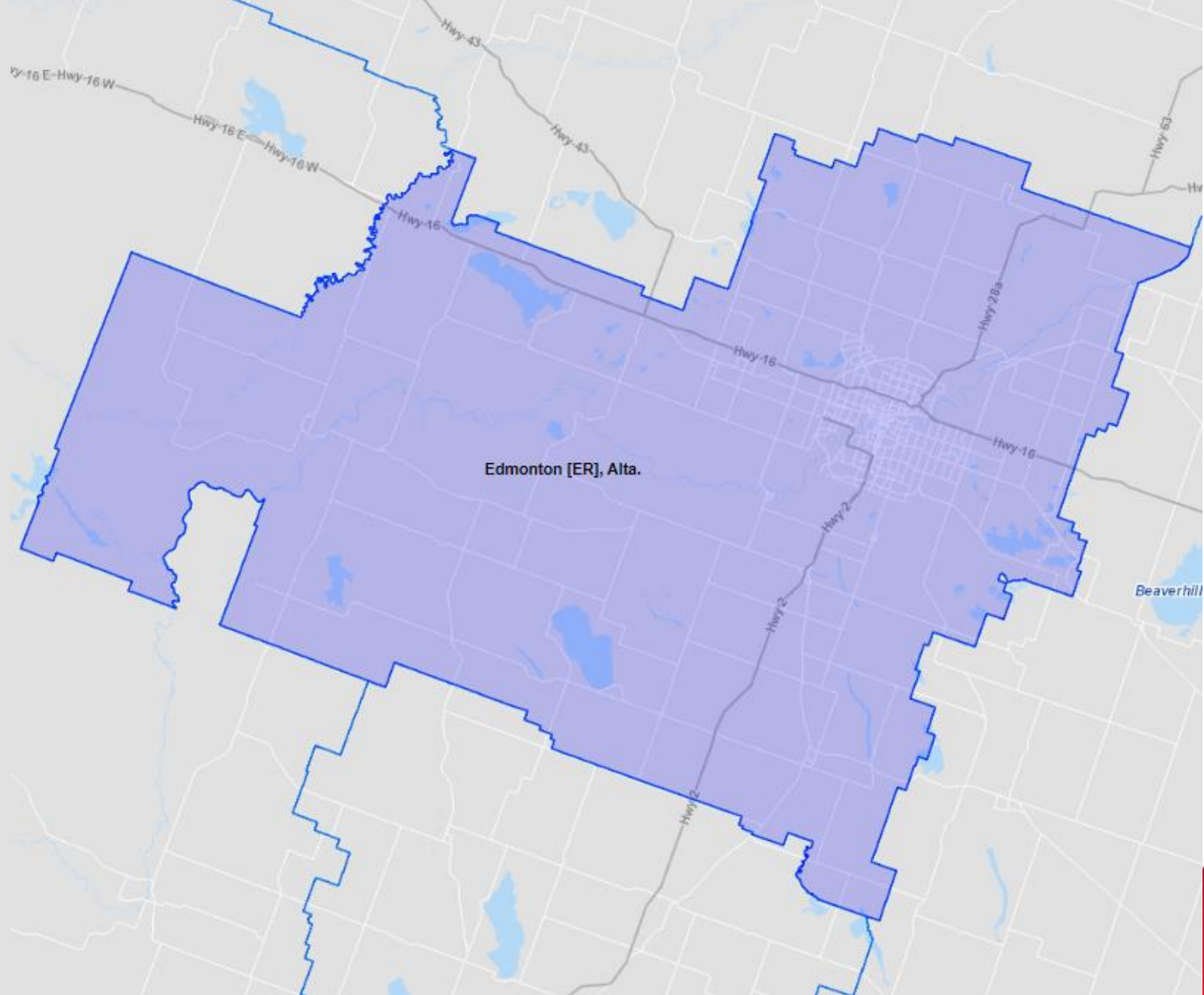


## ECONOMIC REGION (ER)

An economic region (ER) is a **grouping of complecensus divisions (CDs)**, with one exception in Ontario, created as a standard geographic unit for analysis of regional economic activity.



# EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION (ER) BOUNDARY



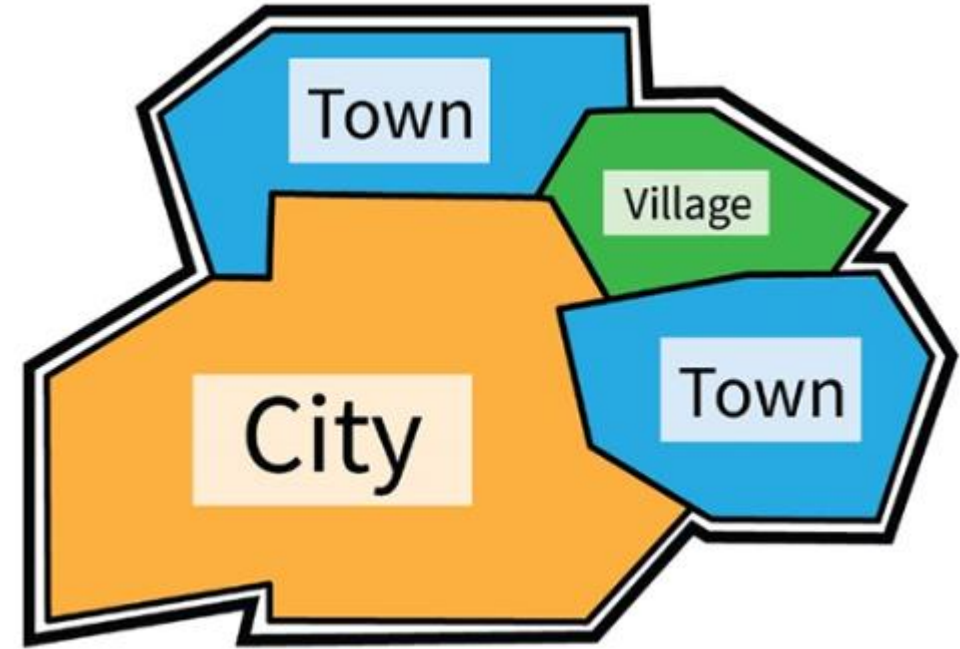


# CENSUS DIVISION (CD)

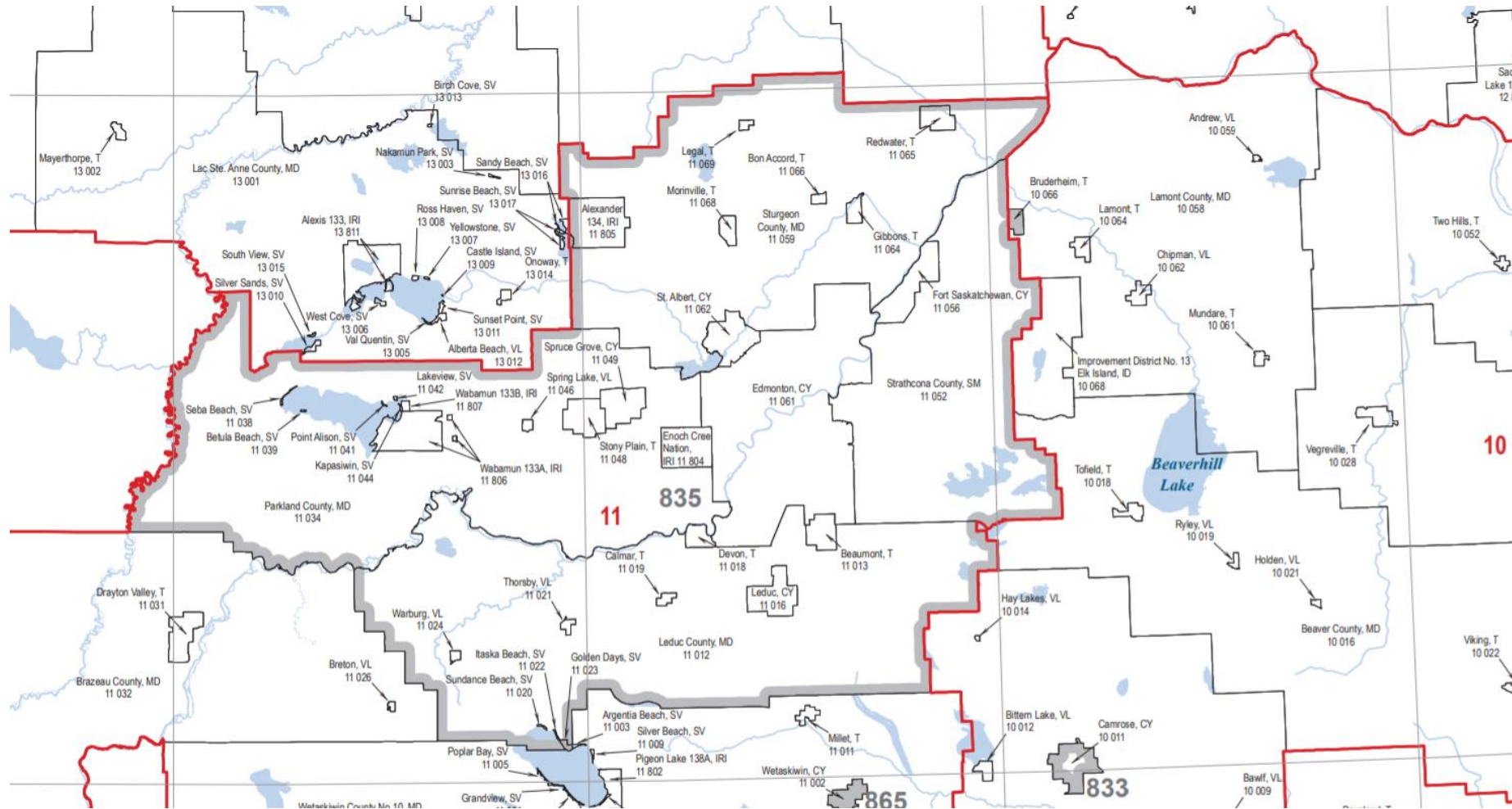
Group of **neighboring municipalities joined together** for the purposes of regional planning and managing common services (such as police or ambulance services).

These groupings are established under laws in effect in certain provinces of Canada.

Census division (CD) is the general term for provincially legislated areas (such as county, *municipalité régionale de comté* (MRC) and regional district) or their equivalents.



# CENSUS DIVISION (CD) AROUND EDMONTON, ALBERTA



# Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) & Census Agglomeration (CA)

A census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA) is formed by **one or more adjacent municipalities centred on a population centre** (known as the core).

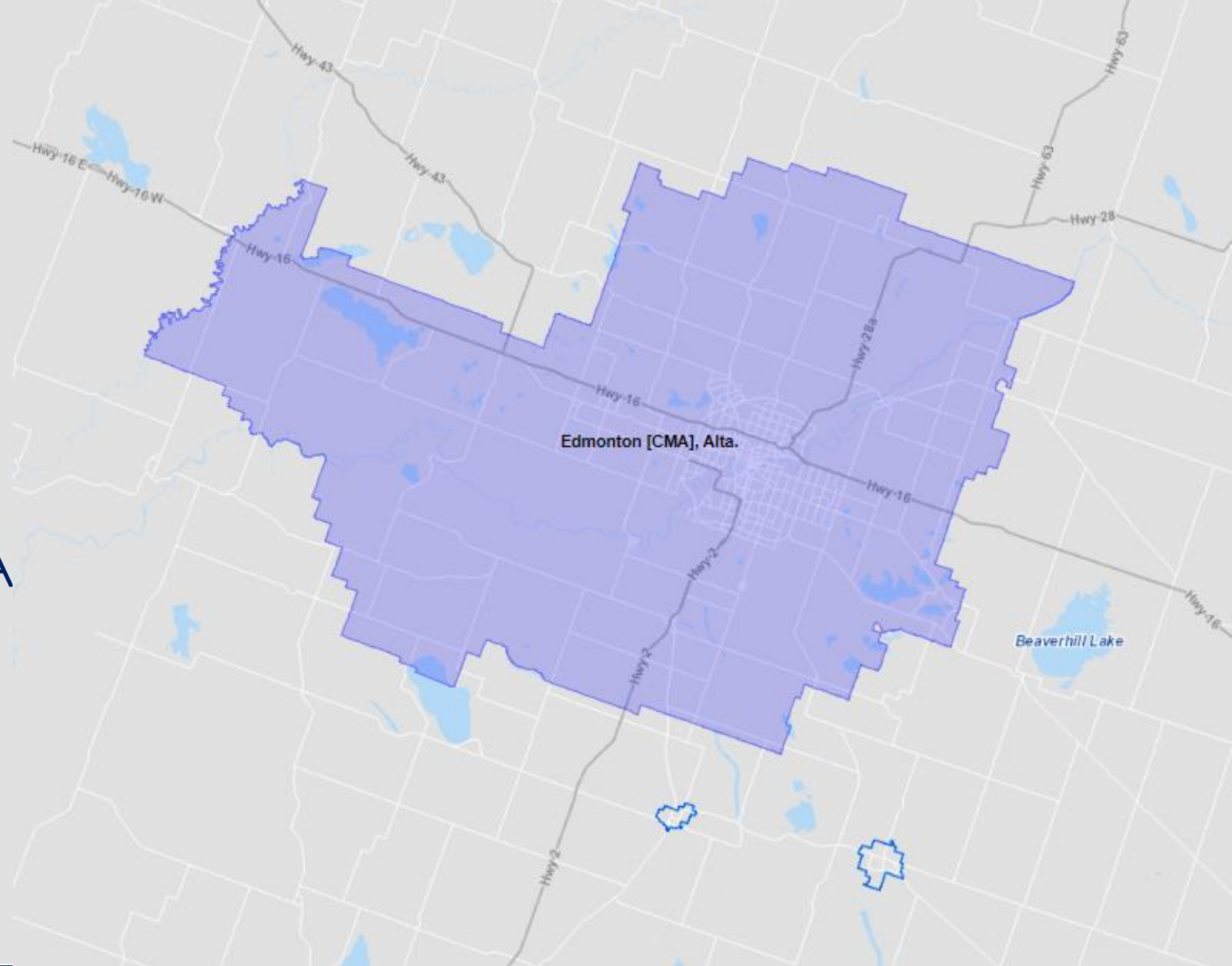
A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 based on data from the current Census of Population Program, of which 50,000 or more must live in the core based on adjusted data from the previous Census of Population Program.

A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000 also based on data from the previous Census of Population Program.





# EDMONTON CENSUS METROPOLITAN AREA (CMA) BOUNDARY

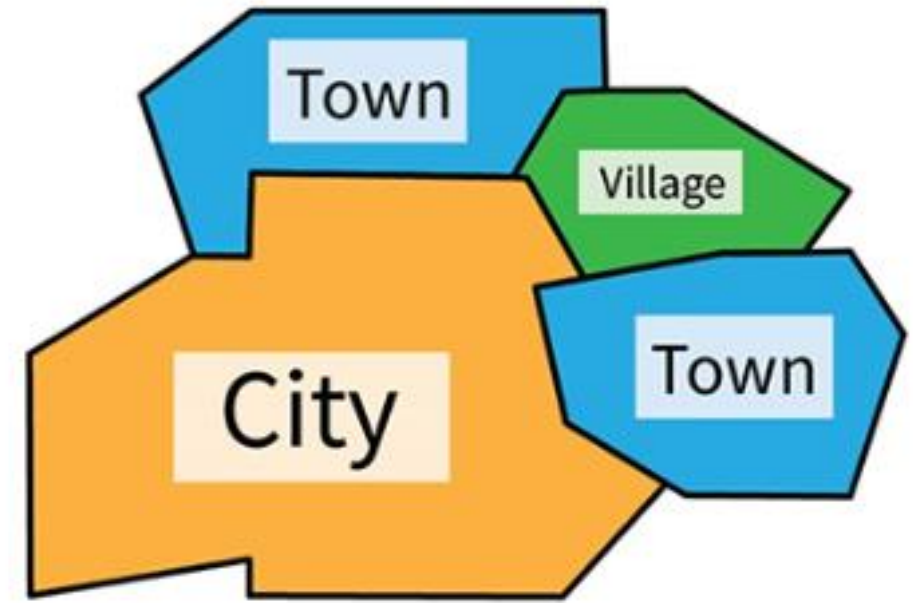




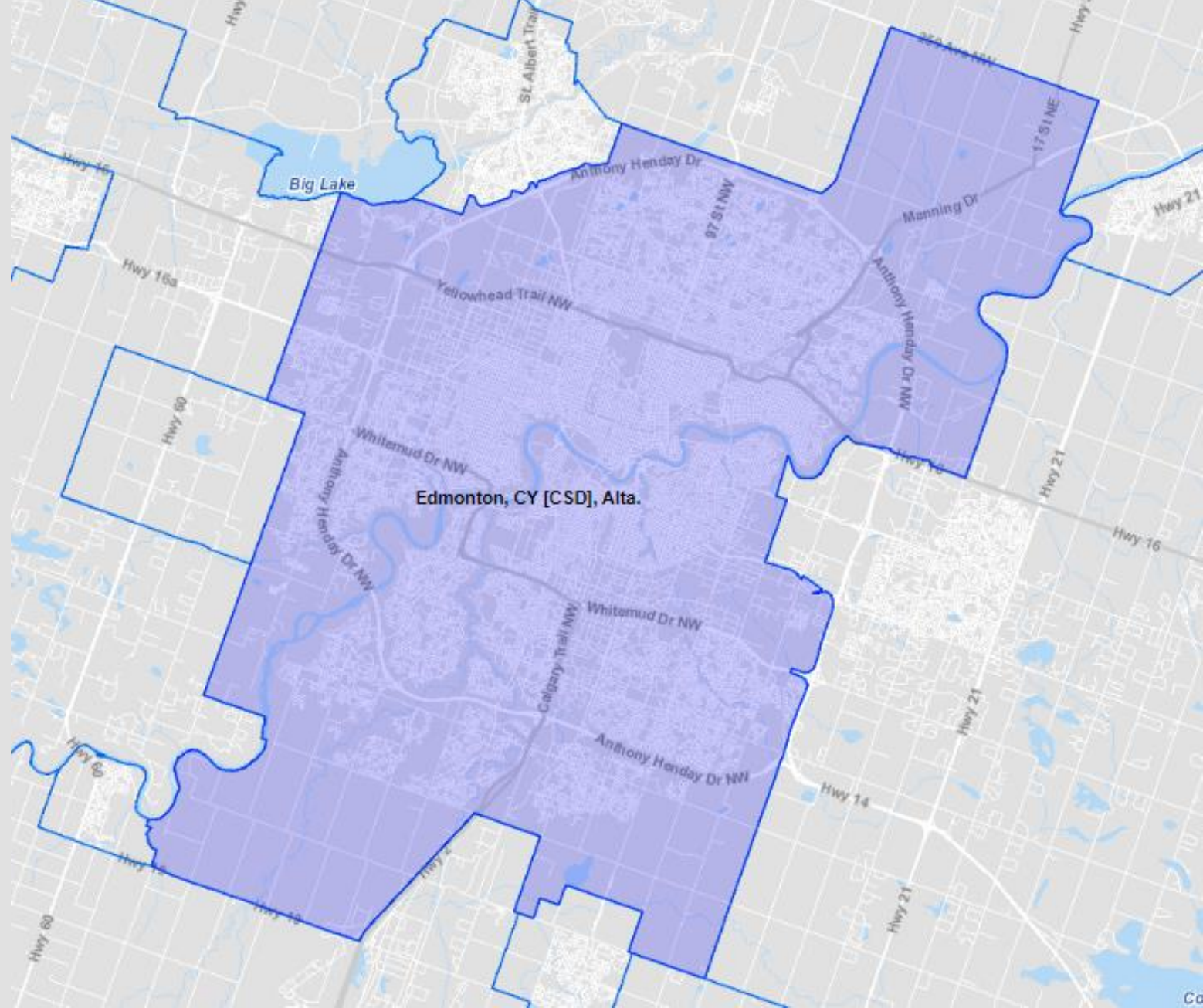
# CENSUS SUBDIVISION (CSD)

Census subdivision (CSD) is the **general term for municipalities** (as determined by provincial/territorial legislation) **or areas treated as municipal equivalents** for statistical purposes (e.g., Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories).

Municipal status is defined by laws in effect in each province and territory in Canada.



# CITY OF EDMONTON CENSUS SUBDIVISION (CSD) BOUNDARY



# CENSUS TRACT (CT)

Census tracts (CTs) are **small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population of fewer than 7,500 persons**, based on data from the previous Census of Population Program

CTs are located in census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and in census agglomerations (CAs) that had a core population of 50,000 or more in the previous census.









# DISSEMINATION AREA (DA)

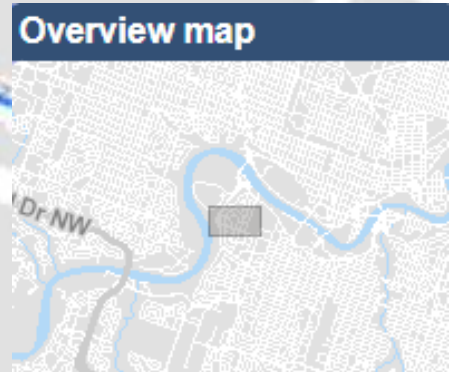
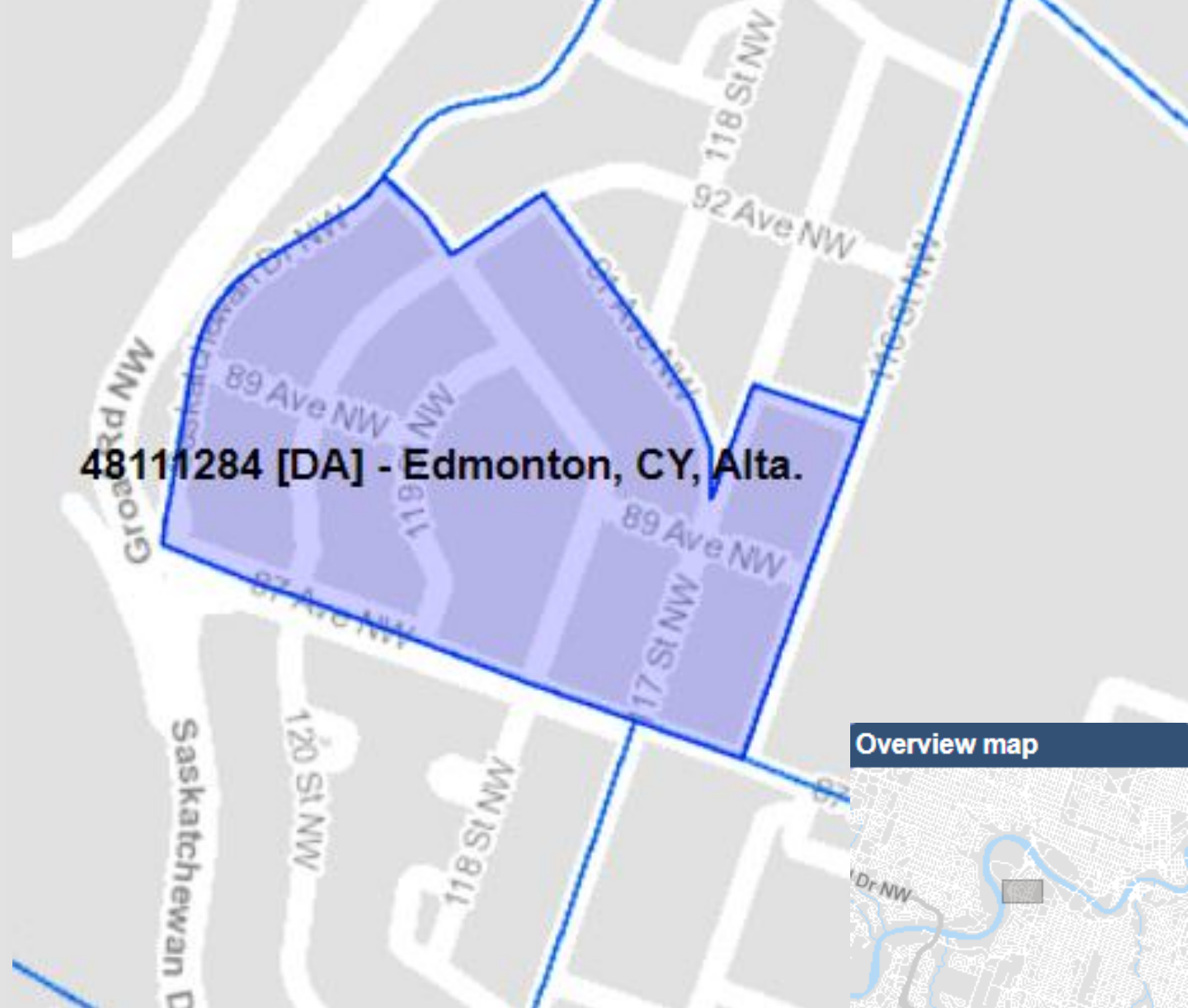
A dissemination area (DA) is a **small, relatively stable geographic unit composed of one or more adjacent dissemination blocks** with an average population of 400 to 700 persons based on data from the previous Census of Population Program.

It is the smallest standard geographic area for which all census data are disseminated.

DAs cover all the territory of Canada.



# DISSEMINATION AREAS (DA) IN EDMONTON CMA



# DISSEMINATION BLOCK (DB)

A dissemination block (DB) is an **area bounded on all sides by roads and/or boundaries** of Statistics Canada's standard geographic areas for dissemination.

The dissemination block is the smallest geographic area for which population and dwelling counts are disseminated.

Dissemination blocks cover all the territory of Canada.









## Census Concepts and Variables

We will explore the Census data concepts and variables

You will learn about the reference materials available and how to access highlight tables and data profiles.

## Data products & Analyses

We will introduce the multi-variable cross tabulations available on the StatCan website

You will also learn how to use the Beyond 2020 data browser to view and manipulate data tables.





## Topics selected by Participants

We will cover topics that you identify as relevant to your interests and data needs

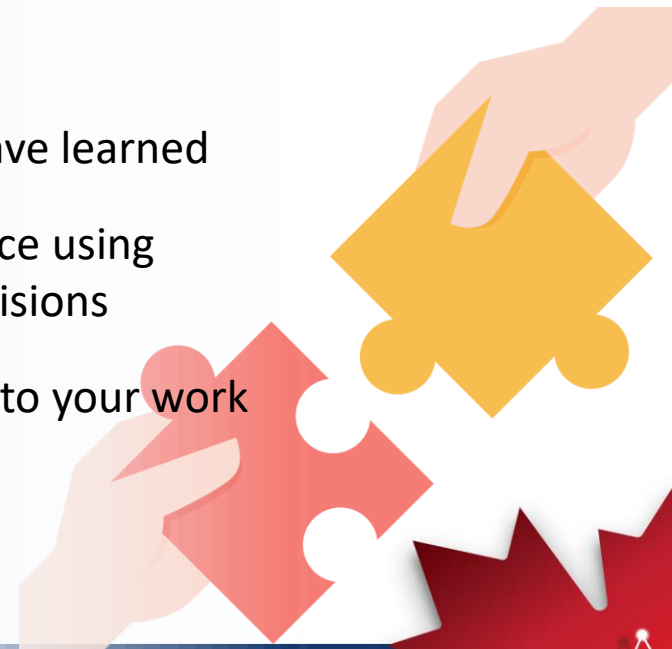
For example, we can help you with historical comparisons or how to create a Census profile

## Summary & Exercises

In this final session, you will apply everything you have learned

You will collaborate with other participants to practice using Census data to make informed, evidence-based decisions

We will focus on topics that you identify as relevant to your work



# FINDING 2021 CENSUS DATA ON STATISTICS CANADA WEBSITE



www.statcan.gc.ca

The screenshot shows the Statistics Canada website interface. At the top, there are logos for Statistics Canada and Statistique Canada, along with a search bar. A navigation menu includes links for Subjects, Data, Analysis, Reference, Geography, Census, Surveys and statistical programs, About StatCan, and Canada.ca. The main content area features a large banner for the 'Census Program' and 'Census of Population', describing it as a detailed statistical portrait of Canada. Below the banner are navigation links for Census data, Census analysis, Census reference, Census topics, Census geography, and Census of Agriculture. A 'Key indicators' section displays four metrics for Canada: English-French bilingualism rate (18.0%), Population with more than one language spoken at home (18.7%), Population with English as first official language spoken (75.5%), and Population with French as first official language spoken (21.4%). A 'Census news' section lists upcoming releases for August 17, 2022, including the Census Profile, Data tables, and various infographics. A final box indicates the next major 2021 Census release is on September 21, 2022, with 22 days remaining, focusing on Indigenous peoples and housing.

Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

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Home

Census Program  
**Census of Population**  
A detailed statistical portrait of Canada and its people by their demographic, social and economic characteristics.

Census data Census analysis Census reference Census topics Census geography Census of Agriculture

Key indicators | [View all key indicators](#)

Canada

Indicator	Value (%)
English-French bilingualism rate (%)	18.0
Population with more than one language spoken at home (%)	18.7
Population with English as first official language spoken (%)	75.5
Population with French as first official language spoken (%)	21.4

Census news | [View all releases](#)

- 17 AUG 2022 [Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population](#)
- 17 AUG 2022 [Data tables, 2021 Census of Population](#)
- 17 AUG 2022 [Data visualization: Mother tongue by geography](#)
- 17 AUG 2022 [Infographic: Increasing diversity of languages, other than English or French, spoken at home](#)

Next major 2021 Census release

September 21, 2022  
**22 days**  
Indigenous peoples • Housing  
[View release plans](#)

# ACTIVITY

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## 2021 Census Profiles

Recall that you can compare up to four geographies, side by side. **Enter the postal code** for your own home, office, or other place of interest. Then, select the **Census Subdivision (CSD)** which contains this postal code.

From there, select the **Census Tract (CT)**. Add the **Aggregate Dissemination Area (ADA)**. Finally, add the **Dissemination Area (DA)**.

Check the maps using the **“i” option** beside the geography name/code that you select. Start selecting the appropriate ADA and keep adding geographies in your profile.



- Do any of these areas meet your criteria of the geography you are interested in?
- Will it be enough to aggregate more units (more DA's or more ADA's) to meet your needs?
- Can you get a better definition of your geography by using the Dissemination block from GeoSuite?
- Can you create your area of interest by aggregating several geographies?

**Tell us your thoughts!**

**What process are you using to define your geography of interest using the SGD units that are available?**

Now, **focus in one topic** of the data available (Household, religion, income, etc.) and **compare the different geographies**. Does the comparison produce enough information to satisfy your data needs? What else is missing?



# CONTACT US

Toll-free: 1-800-263-1136  
Email: [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)

Thank-you!

# Questions?

## LINKS TO STATCAN WEBSITE

Keeping these links handy for future reference:

- Census Profile:

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

- GeoSuite :

<https://geosuite.statcan.gc.ca/geosuite/en/index>

- GeoSearch:

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/geo/maps-cartes/geosearch-georecherche/index2021-eng.cfm?client=census&language=EN&DGUID=2021A000011124>

# Helpful Links

[Release plans - 2021 Census dissemination planning \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/28-661-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[2021 Census of Population – Data products \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Select from a list of geographies - Alberta \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Focus on Geography Series \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[GeoSearch \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Census Program Data Viewer \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Data tables, 2021 Census of Population \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[2021 Census of Population - Analytical products \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Dictionary, Census of Population, 2021 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

[Reference materials, 2021 Census \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-629-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

