

February 2010

QUESTION:

What are the different Statistics Canada products available for neighbourhood data, especially language data?

ANSWER: *Up to date as of February 18, 2010*

Statistics Canada website (free data – Census tract profile)

Costs: free

Time to get data: immediate

Contents: covers major themes, but data not broken down for immigrants only

Contents – language: data not broken down for non-official languages, knowledge of official languages, mother tongue and home language

Note: data for neighbourhoods will need to be calculated using Census tracts (cannot add averages)

Statistics Canada website (paid data)

Costs: varies, generally \$65 per table + cost for each geographic area

Time to get data: 3-6 weeks

Contents: varies, relevant tables include:

- 94-581-XCB2006005: Profile for Census Metropolitan Areas, Tracted Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 2006 Census
- 97-557-XCB2006012: Immigrant Status and Place of Birth (38), Sex (3) and Age Groups (10) for the Population of Census Metropolitan Areas, Tracted Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 2006 Census - 20% Sample Data

Contents – language:

- 97-555-XCB2006041: Detailed Language Spoken Most Often at Home (103), Other Language Spoken Regularly at Home (9), Generation Status (4) and Sex (3) for the Population 15 Years and Over of Census Metropolitan Areas, Tracted Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 2006 Census - 20% Sample Data
- 97-555-XCB2006014: Detailed Mother Tongue (103), Knowledge of Official Languages (5), Age Groups (17A) and Sex (3) for the Population of Census Metropolitan Areas, Tracted Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 2006 Census - 20% Sample Data
- 97-555-XCB2006027: Detailed Mother Tongue (103), Language Spoken Most Often at Home (8), Other Language Spoken Regularly at Home (9) and Age Groups (7) for the Population of Census Metropolitan Areas, Tracted Census Agglomerations and Census Tracts, 2006 - 20% Sample Data

Note: except for 97-555-XCB2006041 (which includes generation status), data on language crosstabulated with immigrant status is not available by Census tracts; data in profile not available for immigrants only; data for neighbourhoods will need to be calculated using Census tracts (cannot add averages)

Semi-custom tabulations (topic-based tabulations)

Costs: \$305 per table + \$3.90 per geographic area (if less than 100)

Time to get data: 3-6 weeks

Contents: varies, can customize geography of any free/paid tables on the StatCan website

Contents – language: can order data by Census tracts / neighbourhood

- 97-557-XCB2006021: Immigrant Status and Period of Immigration (9), Knowledge of Official Languages (5), Detailed Mother Tongue (103), Age Groups (10) and Sex (3) for the Population of Canada, Provinces, Territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2006 Census - 20% Sample Data

Semi-custom tabulations (target group)

Costs: \$305 per table + \$3.90 per geographic area (if less than 100)

Time to get data: 3-6 weeks

Contents: comprehensive (see attached Excel file). Limited to 1 target group (i.e. all immigrants, recent immigrants, etc) per table

Contents – language: home language (90+ languages), mother tongue (90+), knowledge of official languages, knowledge of non-official languages, etc.

Custom tabulations

Costs: minimum \$1,115 per table

Time to get data: 6-8 weeks

Contents: access to full Census

Contents – language: access to detailed data only limited by confidentiality guidelines

Research Data Centre (master file)

Costs: \$3,500 for 20 individual days of access + \$1,750 for each additional 10 days

Time to get data: proposal must be approved by SSHRC and StatCan and each applicant must receive security clearance. Count up to 6 months to go through the entire process, from writing the proposal to being approved.

Contents: access to full Census

Contents – language: access to detailed data only limited by confidentiality guidelines

Note: microdata, must be familiar with the Census and software such as SPSS/SAS to use. Data at the neighbourhood level must generally be rounded to nearest 50, must follow strict confidentiality guidelines

NOTES:

Rush data requests: add 50% to the cost of table, possible at the discretion of StatCan analysts

Custom geography: i.e. combining Census tracts to have data at the neighbourhood level, available for semi-custom and custom tabulations, add 1 week to data request

Confidentiality issues: StatCan will suppress individual variables whenever necessary

Rounding: unless specified, data is rounded to the nearest 5