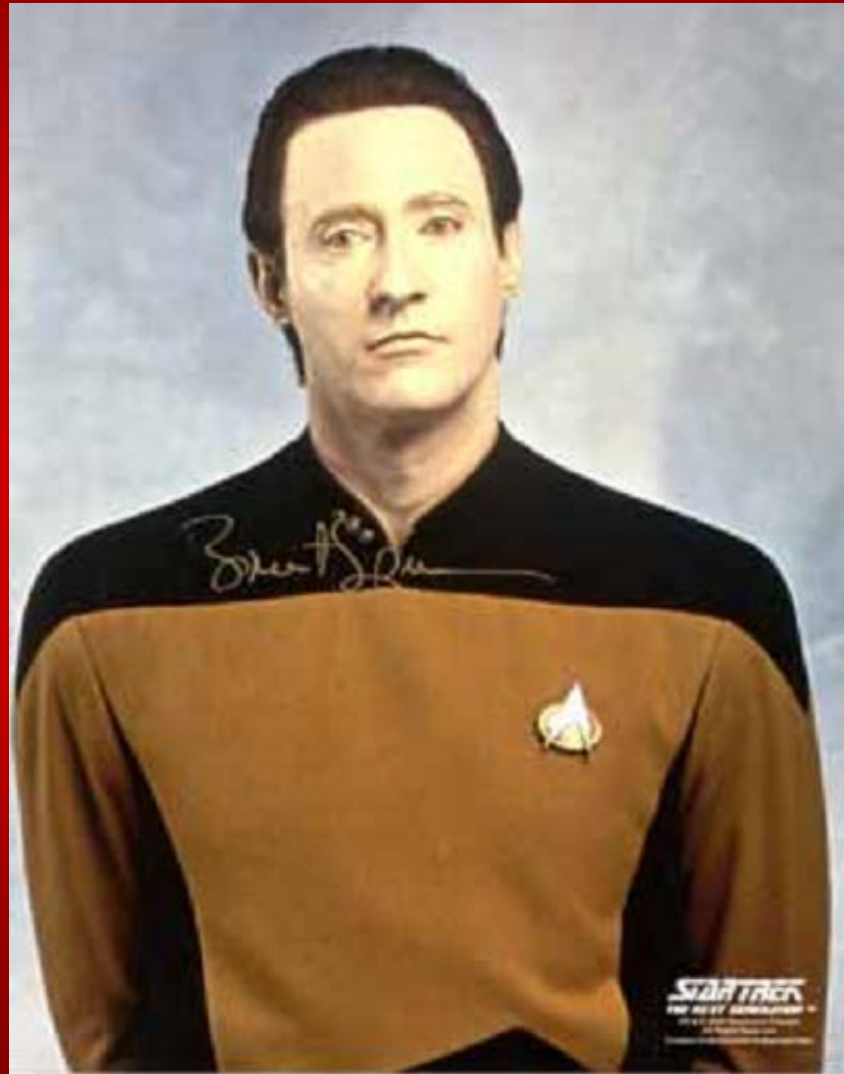


Doing data & statistics at the reference desk

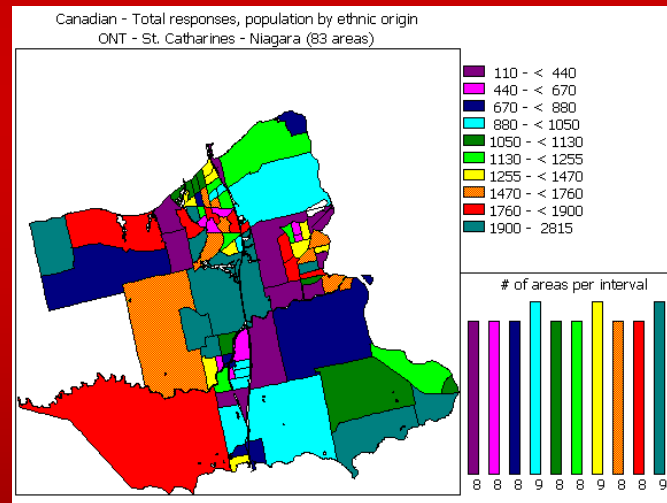
(some of)
what you'll need to know

not this kind of Data ...



... but these kinds!

Values: Values			
Geography	Toronto (535) 00001	0001.00 (5351012)	0002.00 (5351013)
Profile of CT(1)		00000	00000
Population, 1991 (100% data)	3,898,933.00	618.00	592.00
Population, 1996 (100% data)	4,263,757.00	695.00	563.00
Population percentage change, 1991-1996	9.40	12.50	-4.90
Land area in square kilometres, 1996	5,867.73	5.44	3.44
Total population by sex and age groups (100% data)	4,263,760.00	695.00	560.00



```

109991 122222 421222 24712233991199985122 193999999993999939999991
109991 331423 436214 27612233991199985122 193999999993999939999991
109991 121322 421213 25912233991199985122 193999999993999939999991
109991 121022 421410 17312233991199985122 193999999993999939999991
119991 341024 445210 236122339911999851223093999999993999939999991
119991 521222 521212 237112369911999851222893999999991999939999991
129991 341124 741411 32824433991199985122 293999999993999939999993
    
```

what's on the menu

- how to deal with numeric panic
- definitions
 - types of data & statistics, analysis
- things to learn about data and the reference interview
- sources of data & statistics
 - tools required

what's (mostly) not on the menu

- geographic data files
 - not qualified to deal with it in great detail
 - those interested will have attended Friday's session ("**GIS and Digital Map Reference for Non-Map Librarians**")
- details on 2001 Census of Canada
 - general overview only
 - those interested will already have attended Thursday's session ("**Get Familiar With Canada!**")

numeric panic!

- related conditions are numerophobia, arithmophobia, statistophobia
- in librarians, a condition brought on by a request for a statistical fact, figure, table or data
- symptoms include
 - a blank mind
 - feeling of a clenched fist in your stomach
 - urge to run from the reference desk

how to deal with numeric panic?

- ask the right questions
- search the right sources
- spread it around!
 - know who to turn to for help
 - train colleagues so the load doesn't fall only on you

what are data?

- facts or figures from which conclusions can be drawn
- numeric files created and organized
 - for analysis, or to create a new table
- includes geographic data
 - (to make maps)

what data are not

"The plural of anecdote is not data."

-- Roger Brinner

what are statistics?

- type of information obtained through mathematical operations on numerical data
- statistics are processed data, or data that have been analyzed in some way
- generally used to support an argument or position in a study or report

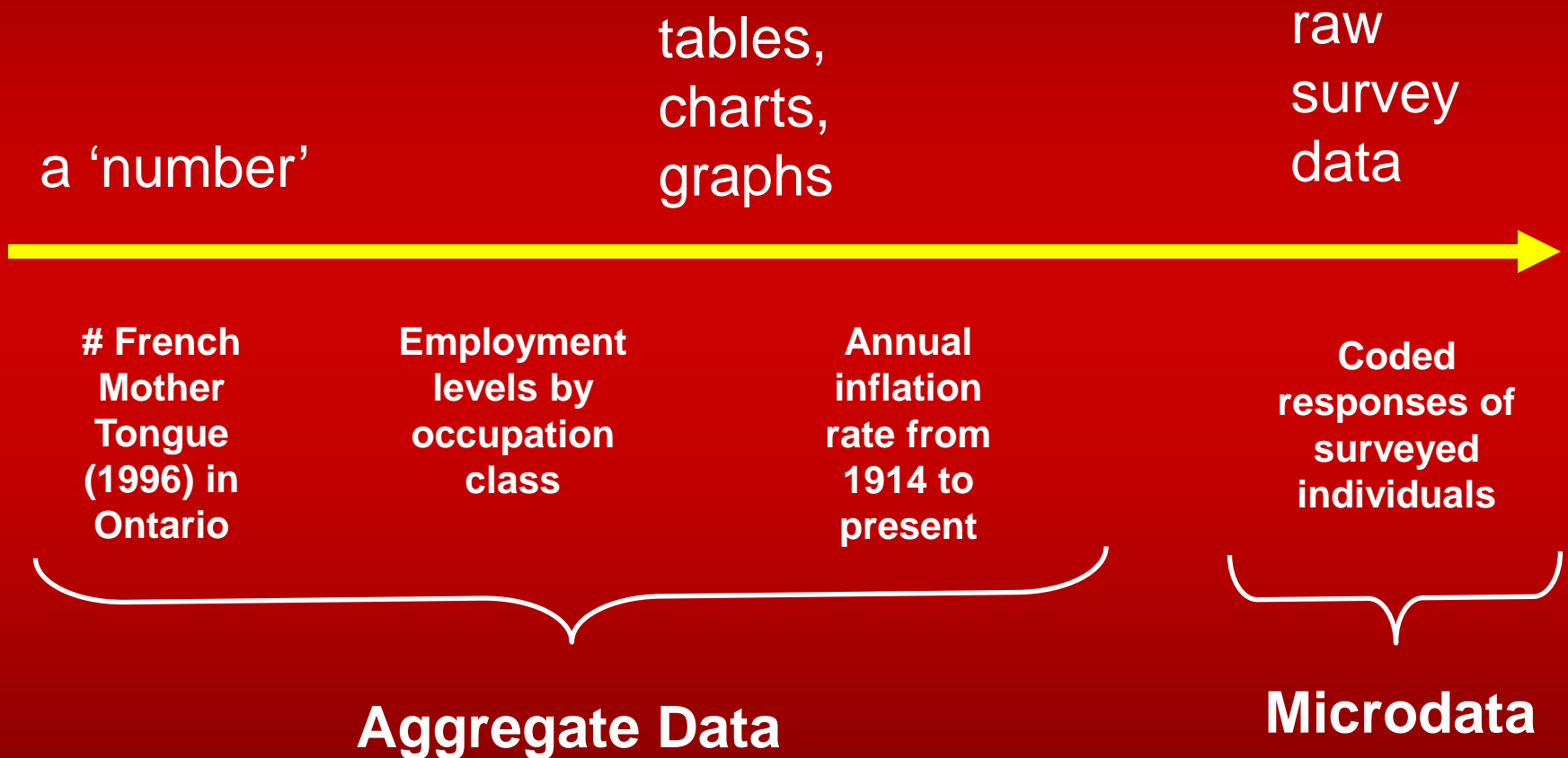
statistics

- in **print form**, typically found in statistical abstracts, census and other government publications (monograph or serial)
- in **digital form**, found on CD-ROM or in online databases

data vs. statistics

- difference between looking at a photograph and taking the photograph yourself
- statistics are like a photograph or postcard
 - a captured image of the data chosen by someone else
- data are like the view through a camera
 - you choose the view you want

the data continuum



aggregate data

- data that have been grouped or summarized in some way
 - e.g., by geography or age group
- boundary between aggregate data and statistics sometimes blurry

aggregate data structure

- **time**

- e.g., time series data from CANSIM, Labour Force Historical Review, multiple Census years

- **geography**

- e.g., Census data
- neighbourhood --> national

- **social content**

- e.g., injury data from Health Indicators Database

Beyond 20/20 table

Beyond 20/20 Visual Builder - [Labour force estimates by education, age group, sex, Canada, province, annual average]

File Edit View Dimension Item Data Source Tools Window Help

← Characteristics →

Geography: **Canada** Sex: **Both sexes** Age group: **15 years and over** Education level: **Total, all education levels**

Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Characteristics						
Population	23,030.7	23,359.3	23,671.1	23,969.0	24,284.9	24,617.8
Labour force	14,899.5	15,153.0	15,417.7	15,721.2	15,999.2	16,246.3
Employment	13,462.6	13,774.4	14,140.4	14,531.2	14,909.7	15,076.8
Full-time employment	10,883.0	11,139.7	11,466.6	11,849.2	12,208.1	12,345.2
Part-time employment	2,579.6	2,634.8	2,673.8	2,681.9	2,701.6	2,731.6
Unemployment	1,436.9	1,378.6	1,277.3	1,190.1	1,089.6	1,169.6
Not in labour force	8,131.1	8,206.2	8,253.4	8,247.8	8,285.6	8,371.5
Unemployment rate	9.6	9.1	8.3	7.6	6.8	7.2
Participation rate	64.7	64.9	65.1	65.6	65.9	66.0
Employment rate	58.5	59.0	59.7	60.6	61.4	61.2

For Help, press F1

10/10 Employment P M ENG

microdata

- unsummarized data
 - often samples of actual responses to surveys
- two types of microdata files
 - **master file** -- raw data, usually directly available only to STC employees and authorized researchers
 - **PUMF** (public-use microdata file) -- anonymized version of master file

excerpt from NPHS microdata file

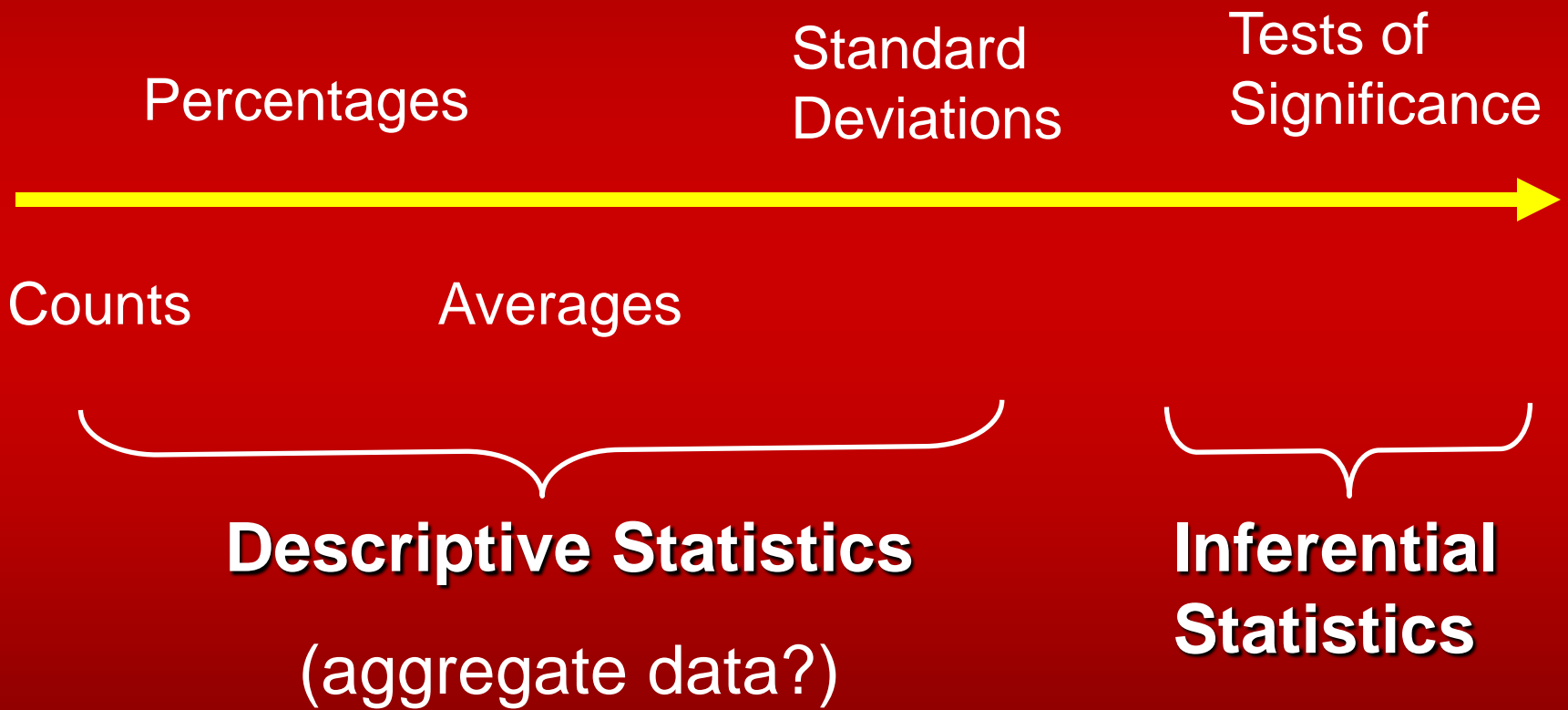
```
000010211210329664010201296296100299600096000000960009600096001000000000000000002
00002161131052966304020229629620029960010200300096000960000000000000000000002
00003081111041011501020229629610010030009600100103000960000000000000000000002
00004071121032966302020229629610029960010300000096000960000000000000000000002
00005152320210113020202296114114103100305000000960120600000000000000000000002
00006111220229662080202296296100299600096000000960009600096000000000000000002
000070322103296640102022962961002996006040010009600096000000010000000000002
0000802122032966405010229629610029960020400000096000960010000000000000000002
0000908211051012301020229611411429960080400100104001070010000000000000000002
```

column 8
-- sex of respondent

column 13 – pets?

column 42-44
-- # visits to eye specialist

the analysis continuum



Aggregate / Descriptive

Microdata / Inferential

Data continuum ...



A 'number'

Tables, Charts, Graphs

Raw Survey Data

Statistical analysis continuum ...



Counts

Percentages

Averages

Standard
Deviations

Significance
testing

aggregate data vs. microdata in the reference interview

- aggregate data is what you'll be working with at the reference desk (most of the time)
- microdata *usually* requires referral to data librarian or Statistics Canada, except when ...

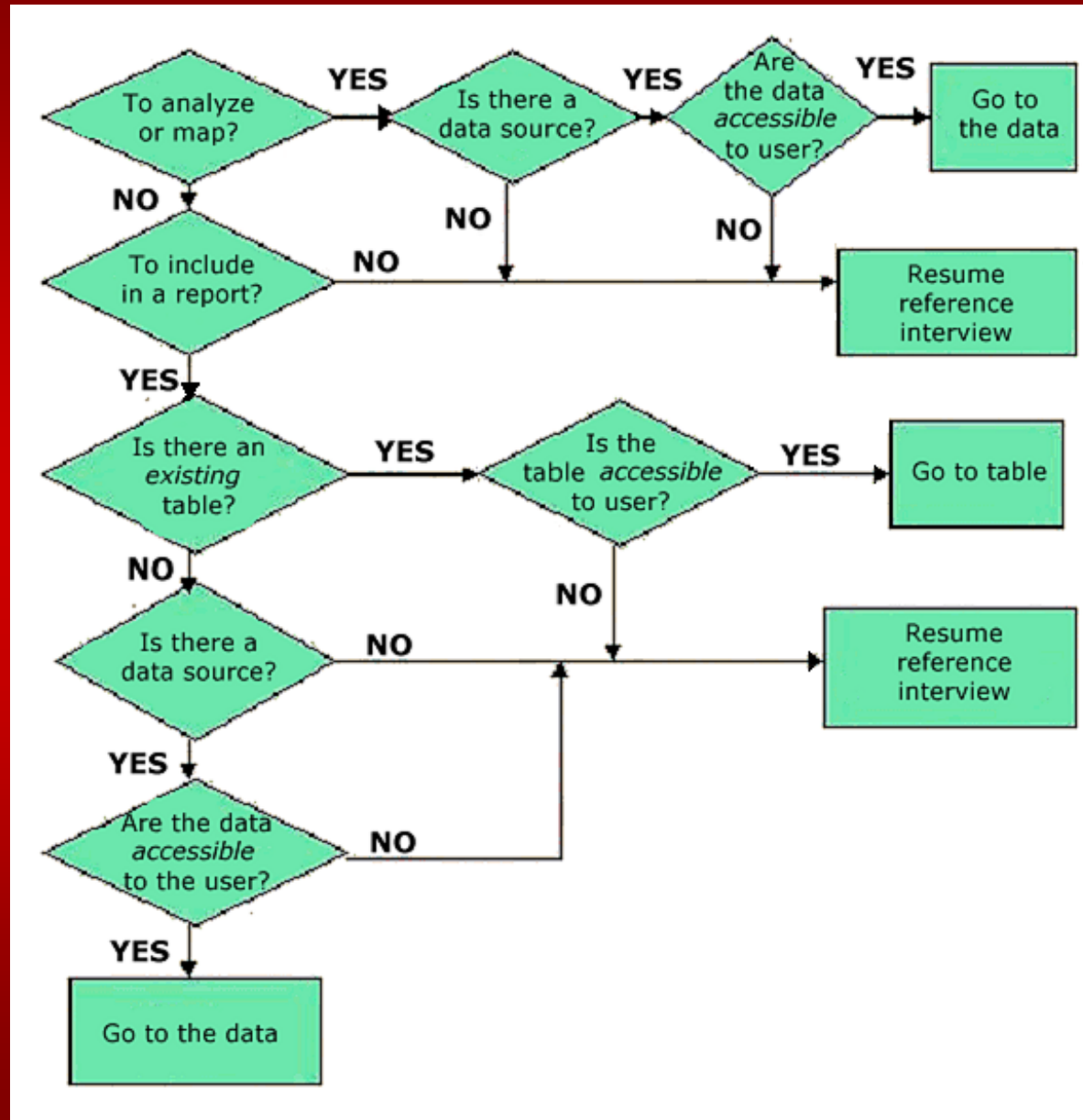
examples of Web interfaces to microdata

- **QWIFS**
(Queen's Web Interface For SPSS)
< [link](#) >
- TriUniversity Data Resources
< [link](#) >

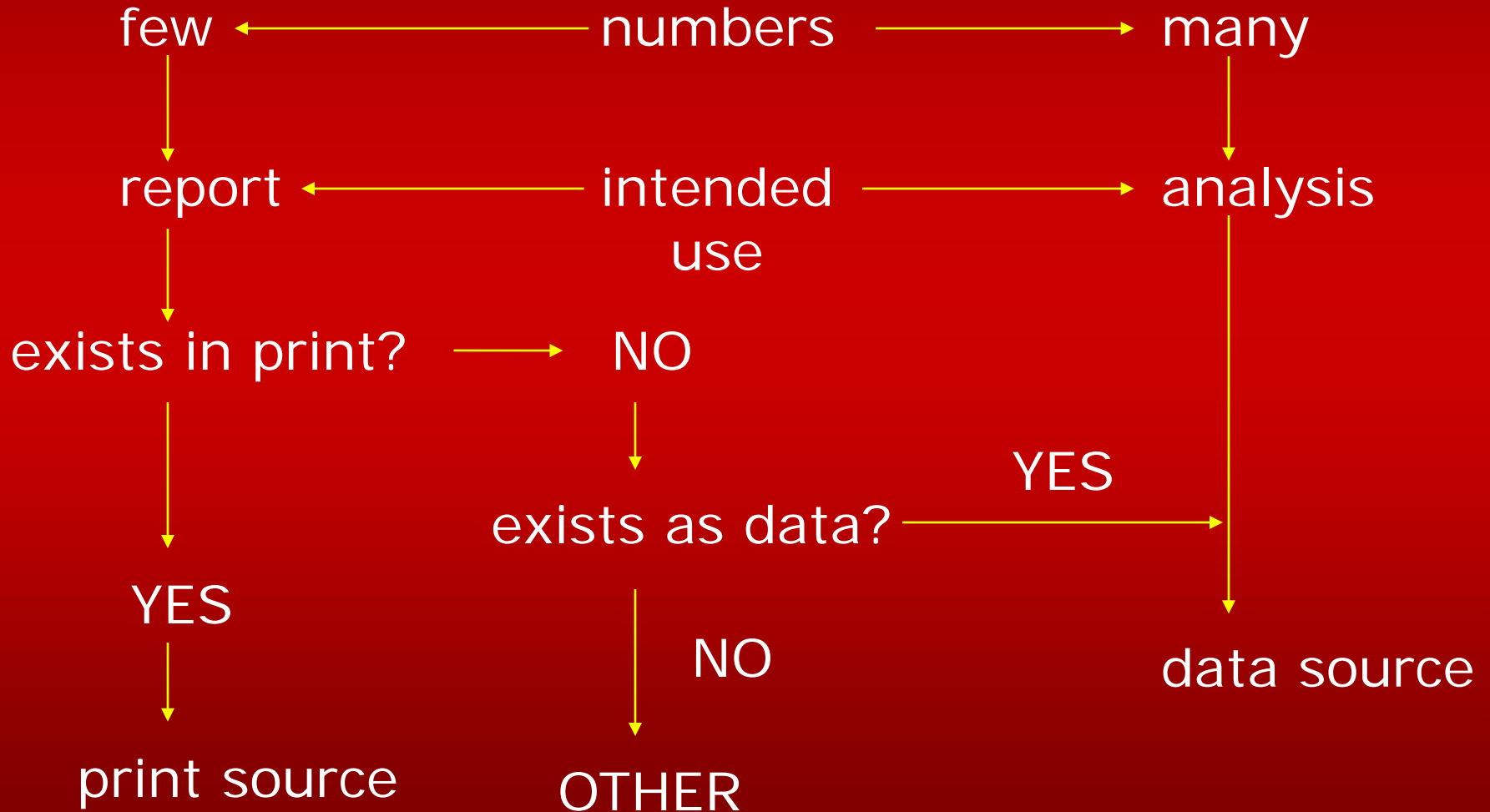
data at the desk: the reference interview

- proper reference interview will help you tremendously
- makes referrals more efficient

reference interview -- one view



another view



essential factors in data reference interview

- geography
 - determines jurisdiction, reporting agency
- time
 - current / historical / both (time series)
- level of observation
- intended use
- format

how to know where to look

- know your users
- know your sources
 - don't ignore print sources
- know your limitations
- know who to ask for help!

jurisdiction & reporting agency

Canada

Federal

- National Accounts
- Census
- Trade

Provincial

- Health
- Education

United States

Federal Departments

- Commerce
- Labor
- Justice
- Agriculture

International

United Nations

OECD

IMF

World Bank

Eurostats

Canadian data

- Statistics Canada is generally the first stop for Canadian data
- search tools:
 - the *Daily*
 - Online Catalogue
 - Thesaurus
 - CANSIM
 - E-STAT

The Daily



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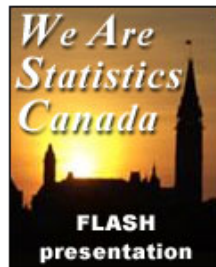
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2001
Census



Latest indicators

Population estimate (October 2002)	31,485,623
Consumer Price Index (December 2002)	3.9%
Unemployment rate (December 2002)	7.5%
Gross Domestic Product (October 2002)	0.3%

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[Tuesday, January 28, 2003](#)

Canadian Community Health Survey, Public Use Microdata File

2000-2001

The Public Use Microdata File from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), 2000-2001 is now available. Data were collected from over 130,000 respondents, aged 12 or older, residing in households across all provinces and territories.

The Public Use Microdata File from the 2000-2001 CCHS provides data for 106 health regions or combined health regions across Canada. It comes on CD-ROM, with a built-in Beyond 20/20 application, and includes information on a wide range of topics, including alcohol consumption and dependence, chronic health conditions, fruit and vegetable consumption, general health, use of health services, height and weight, injuries, physical activity, restriction of activities and smoking. It also provides information on the socio-demographic characteristics, the income and the labour force characteristics of the population.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number [3226](#).

To order a copy of the Public Use Microdata File or custom tabulations from the 2000-2001 CCHS, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; fax: 613-951-0792; hd-ds@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division. This product is available free of charge to public organizations in the health sector for research and non-commercial purposes.

The initial results from the CCHS 2000-2001 were released in *The Daily* on May 8, 2002. Several articles based on these data and containing detailed analysis have also been published in *Health reports* ([82-003-XIE](#), \$15/\$44; [82-003-XPE](#), \$20/\$58). Many indicators are also available in *Health indicators* ([82-221-XIE](#), free).



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The Daily

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

FEATURED PRODUCTS

- [Health indicators, volume 2002, no. 1](#)

MAJOR RELEASES

- [Canadian Community Health Survey: A first look, 2000/01](#)

Although the proportion of people who are active in their leisure time has grown, the proportion who are obese has also increased, according to new results from the Canadian Community Health Survey. From 1994/95 to 2000/01, the number of obese Canadians aged 20 to 64 grew by more than 500,000 to almost 2.8 million. One in eight Canadians also reported unmet health care needs. These self-reported needs varied more within each province than between provinces.

OTHER RELEASES

- [Part-time university faculty, 1990/91 to 1997/98](#)
- [Production of poultry and eggs, March 2002](#)
- [Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins, March 2002](#)
- [Steel pipe and tubing, March 2002](#)
- [Cement, March 2002](#)

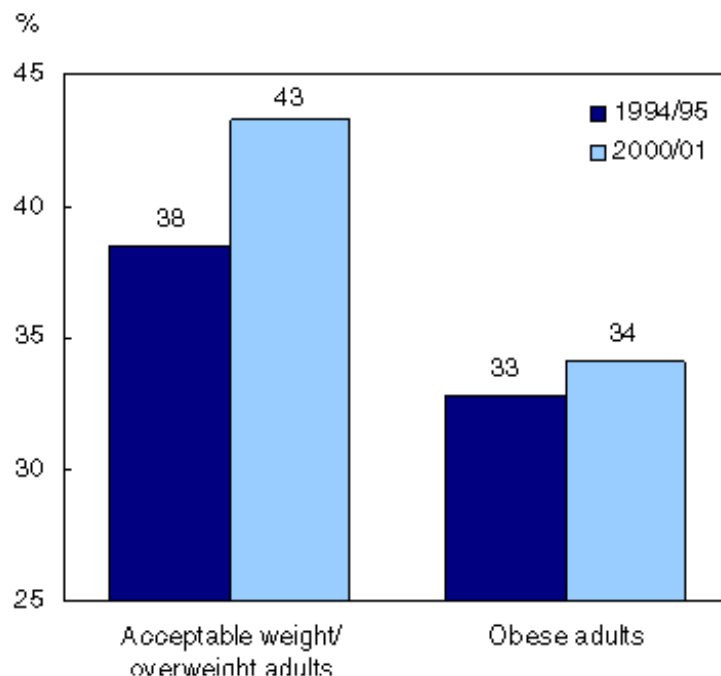
Canadian Community Health Survey: A first look

2000/01

Although the proportion of people who are active in their leisure time has grown, the proportion who are obese has also increased, according to new results from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS). This survey provides a wealth of data on Canadians' health status, risk factors, and health care use. This release provides links to a number of [maps and tables](#) with additional data.

CCHS data show that from 1994/95 to 2000/01, the number of obese Canadians aged 20 to 64 grew by 24% (or more than 500,000 to almost 2.8 million). These individuals represented about 15% of the adult population, or one out of every seven people, up from 13% six years earlier.

Rate of active and moderate physical activity





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Data tables

Statistics Canada obtains its health indicators data from various sources, as does the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).

If you select an indicator for which the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is responsible, a new browser window will open on CIHI's website.

[Health status](#)

[Non-medical determinants of health](#)

[Health system performance](#)

[Community and health system characteristics](#)

Health status	
Well-being	
Statistics Canada	CIHI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-rated health Self-esteem 	
Health conditions	
Statistics Canada	CIHI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Body mass index (BMI) Chronic conditions Low birth weight Cancer incidence Injuries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injuries Food and waterborne diseases



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Health conditions

Body mass index (BMI)

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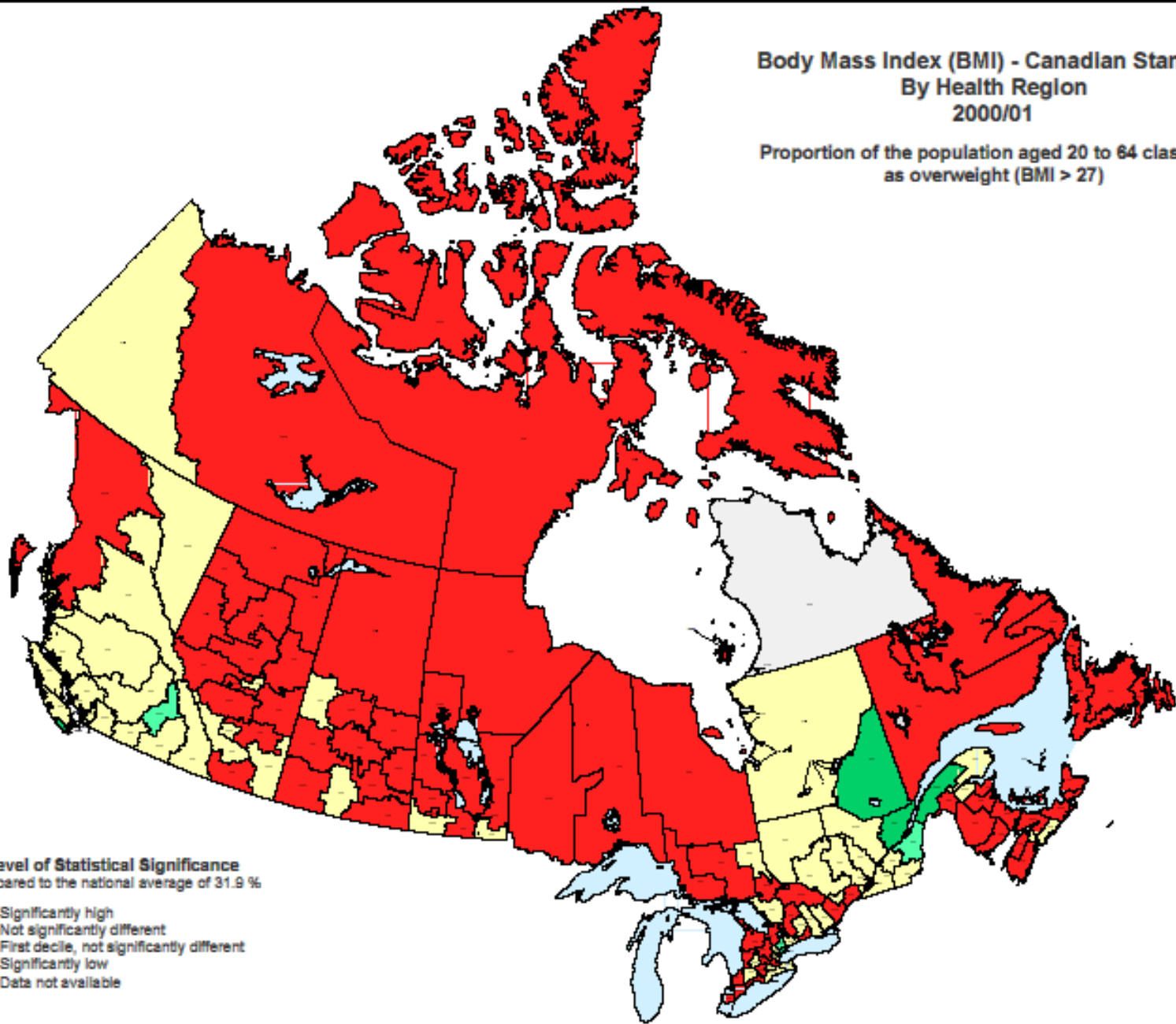
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 2000/01	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By age group and sex, Canada 	HTML PDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups 	HTML PDF MAP
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 1994/95-1998/99	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By age group and sex, Canada excluding territories 	HTML PDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, Canada and provinces 	HTML PDF
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 1994/95-1996/97	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, territories 	HTML PDF
Body mass index (BMI), International standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 2000/01	CANSIM

Body Mass Index (BMI) - Canadian Standard By Health Region 2000/01

Proportion of the population aged 20 to 64 classified
as overweight (BMI > 27)

Level of Statistical Significance
Compared to the national average of 31.9 %

- Significantly high
- Not significantly different
- First decile, not significantly different
- Significantly low
- Data not available



0 200 400
kilometres



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Health conditions

Body mass index (BMI)

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Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 2000/01	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By age group and sex, Canada 	HTML PDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups 	HTML PDF MAP
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 1994/95-1998/99	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By age group and sex, Canada excluding territories 	HTML PDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, Canada and provinces 	HTML PDF
Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 1994/95-1996/97	CANSIM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By sex, territories 	HTML PDF

Body mass index (BMI), International standard, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, 2000/01	CANSIM
---	------------------------

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CANSIM II
Help

Geography (199 items)

Select all

Deselect all

View checklist and footnotes

Quinte-Kingston and Rideau District Health Council, Ontario [3502]
Durham-Haliburton-Kawartha and Pine Ridge District Health Council,
Ontario [3503]
Toronto District Health Council, Ontario [3504]
Simcoe-York District Health Council, Ontario [3505]

Age group (8 items)

Select all

Deselect all

View checklist

Total, 20-64 years
20-34 years
20-24 years
25-34 years
35-44 years

Sex (3 items)

Select all

Deselect all

View checklist

Both sexes
Men
Women

Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard (6 items)

Select all

Deselect all

View checklist

Total, body mass index
Underweight - BMI under 20.0
Acceptable weight - BMI 20.0-24.9
Some excess weight - BMI 25.0-27.0
Overweight - BMI higher than 27.0
Body mass index, not stated

Characteristics (8 items)

Select all

Deselect all

View checklist

Number of persons
Low 95% confidence interval - number of persons
High 95% confidence interval - number of persons
Coefficient of variation - number of persons
Percent

Note: By default, only data for the most recent year available will be retrieved (this select a different time frame.

From: 2000 To: 2000 (Every 2 years data)



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CANSIM II Help

Table 105-0008: Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, by age group and sex, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups, every 2 years

Survey or program details:

Canadian Community Health Survey - [3226](#)

Select an output format from the list below, then click Go:

-- SCREEN OUTPUT (select a format below) --

The frequency of the output data will be left unchanged

The output will contain data as retrieved

Titles and labels will be in English

Data for 2000 to 2000 will be included in the table.

Statistics Canada assumes responsibility for the quality of data as retrieved with the frequency unchanged. Clients take responsibility for any manipulations made to the original data.

Go

Note: The Beyond 20/20 [output format](#) requires the Beyond 20/20 Table Browser, which may be [downloaded from Beyond 20/20 Inc.](#)



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Table 105-0008: Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, by age group and sex, household population aged 20 to 64 excluding pregnant women, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups, every 2 years

Survey or program details:

Canadian Community Health Survey - [3226](#)

Select an output format from the list below, then click Go:

Bar graph (vertical) ▼

--- SCREEN OUTPUT (select a format below) ---

HTML Table, time as columns ▼

HTML Table, time as rows

HTML Table, if possible with a maximum of 12 columns

Bar graph (vertical)

Bar graph (horizontal)

--- DOWNLOADABLE FILE (select a format below) ---

CSV (Comma-separated values) for database loading

CSV file for spreadsheet use, time as columns

CSV file for spreadsheet use, time as rows

CSV file for spreadsheet use, time as columns, with data quality indicators

CSV file for spreadsheet use, time as rows, with data quality indicators

PRN (Tab-separated values) file for spreadsheet use

PRN (Tab-separated values) for database loading

PRN (Tab-separated values) file for spreadsheet use, with data quality indicators

Beyond 20/20 v5.2+ Table

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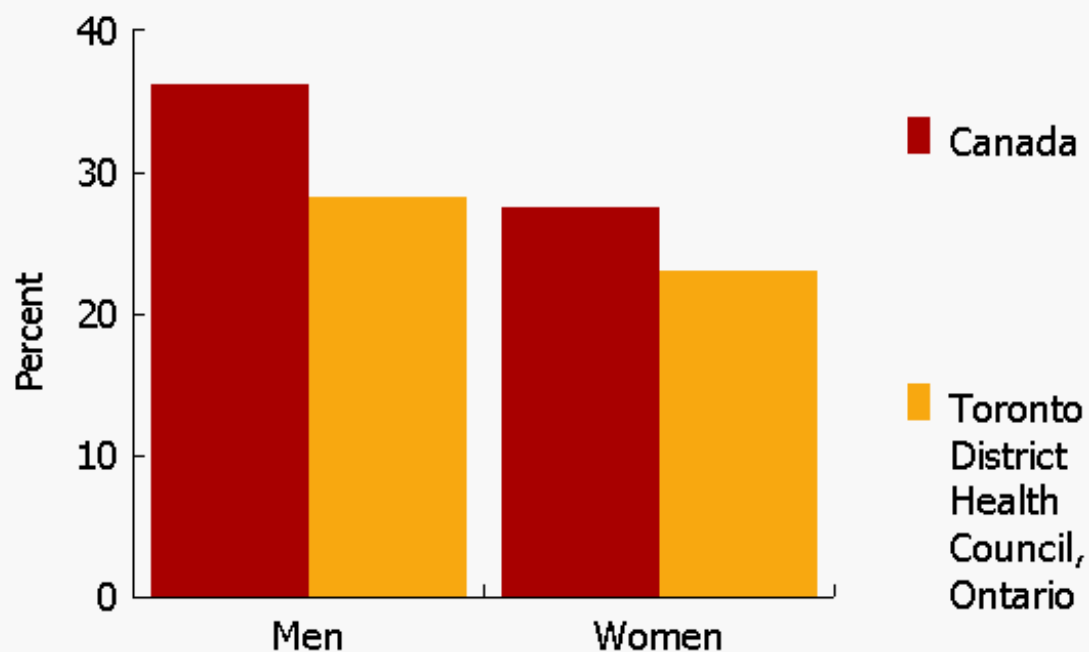
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Body mass index (BMI), Canadian standard, by age group and sex



2000 - Total, 20-64 years;
Overweight - BMI higher than 27.0

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM II, table 105-0008

Beyond 20/20

- application used by STC to display many of their data tables
- easily handles large tables with multiple dimensions
- user can easily manipulate the data to get the desired presentation
- data can also be exported to other formats

[link to table](#)

STC online catalogue

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Consumer Price Index (December 2002)	3.9%
Unemployment rate (December 2002)	7.5%
Gross Domestic	0.2%

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- [Canadian International Merchandise Trade](#): detailed trade data at the 8- and 10-digit commodity level
- [Other international trade statistics](#)

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Statistics Canada's analytic periodicals [CLICK HERE](#)

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and	the phrase		within	page
and	the phrase		within	page
and	the phrase		within	page

Dated Anytime

in the last week

between March 20, 2001 and March 27, 2001

and any within: Medium

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Results do not include contents of the [International Merchandise Trade database](#) (\$) or [CANSIM II](#) (\$), Statistics Canada's socio-economic database.

Results for: +"canadian community health survey"

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[82M0013XCB Canadian Community Health Survey](#) 28 Jan 2003

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<http://www.statcan.ca/english/IPS/Data/11-522-XIE20010016258.htm> - 5.5KB

[11-522-XCB20010016258 Preventing non-response in the Canadian Community Health Survey](#) 12 Sep 2002

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Canadian Community Health Survey

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Catalogue No.: 82M0013XCB

Latest issue: 2000-2001

Release date: January 28, 2003

Frequency: Biennial

Medium: CD-ROM

Language: Bilingual (English/French) edition

Status: New

Subject: Health

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The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) collects information on the health of the Canadian population, aged 12 and older and related socio-economic data. The survey is designed to provide reliable cross-sectional estimates at provincial, territorial and health region levels.

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[82M0020XCB Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey microdata file](#) 22 Jan 2003

The Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey has been conducted for Health Canada since 1999, and provides data on tobacco use and related issues. The primary ...
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/IPS/Data/82M0020XCB.htm> - 9.4KB

[11-008-XPE20020036394 Underweight Canadians](#) 17 Dec 2002

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[82F0077XIE Report on smoking prevalence in Canada](#) 16 Dec 2002

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STC publications on the Web

- two ways to get them
 - free, direct from Statistics Canada
 - free (to eligible institutions) via DSP

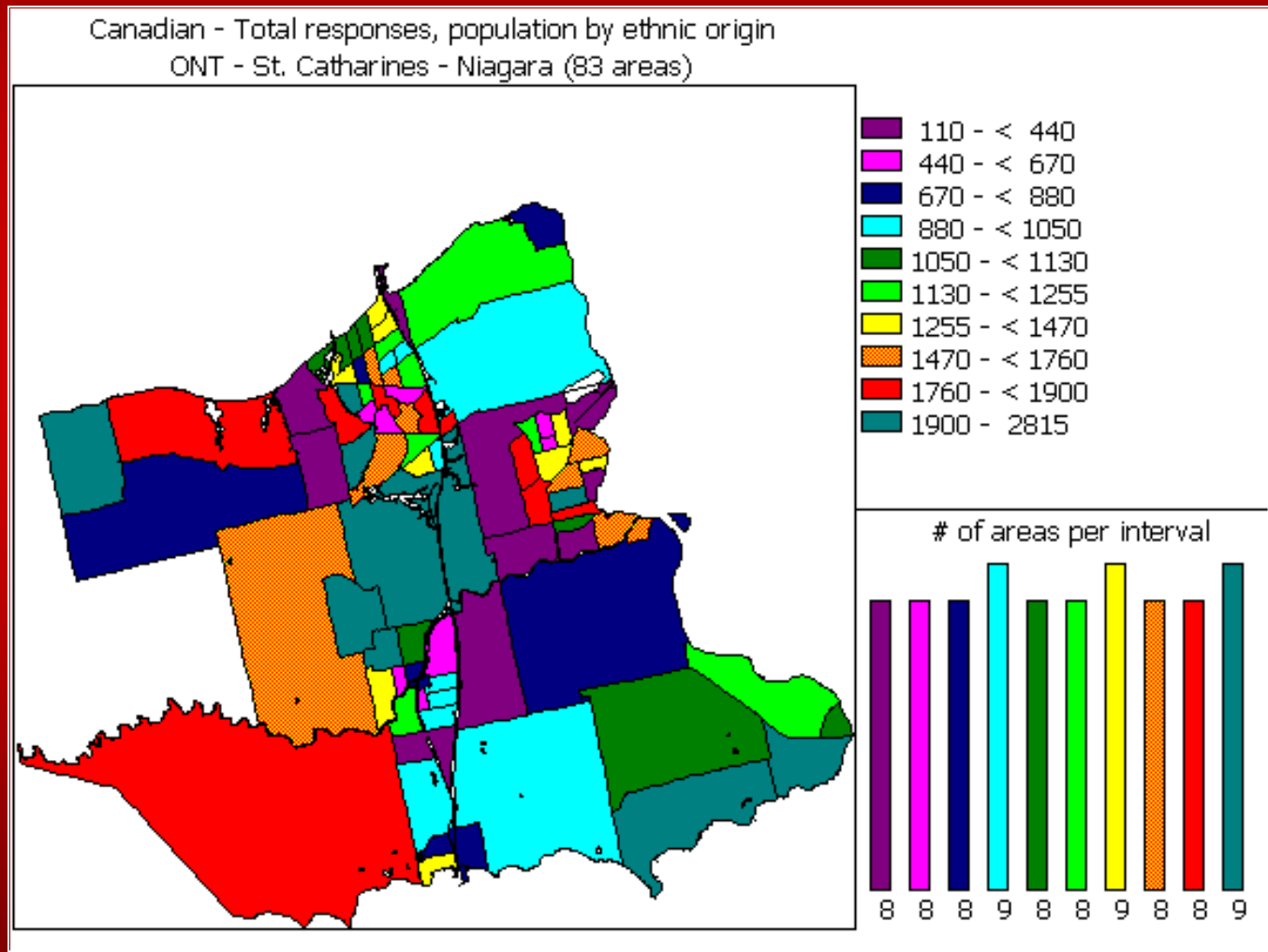
CANSIM

- premier source of Canadian time-series data
- available through
 - subscription via UofT (DLI only)
 - E-STAT (educational institutions, DLI & DSP)
 - STC – same interface as E-STAT, but updated continuously; \$3/time series

E-STAT

- intended for use by education community, and DSP libraries
- provides “free” access to CANSIM
 - CANSIM on E-STAT only updated once a year
- census data from 1986-2001, and selected censuses from 1665-1871
- data can be mapped/exported

map generated in E-STAT



2001 Census

- lots of material available on STC website, and much more to come
 - much more than for 1996 census
- two levels of access
 - level 1: general population
 - level 2: DLI & DSP institutions

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information available from STC

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The user and the nature of the query will determine where, along the continuum, you drop in...

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SERVICE	Statistics Canada Website	Depository Service Program	Data Liberation Initiative	Customized Tabulations & Pay per View	Remote Job Submission	Research Data Centres
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Products:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Daily Canadian Statistics - Census - Statistical profiles of Canadian communities - Downloadable publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper publications - Electronic publications: includes priced downloadable publications & select CD ROMS 	Standard data products: aggregate data bases, microdata files and geography files	Tables from confidential files that are specially produced by Statistics Canada for a fee and access to specialized databases	"Dummy" or synthetic files to build analysis setups that must then be submitted to STC for processing	Confidential data files from the longitudinal surveys begun in the 1990's
Notes	WARNING: some parts of the Website are fee-based	Some DSP libraries provide off-site access to authenticated users	Interface to CANSIM I and Trade Analyzer available through CHASS (University of Toronto) by subscription	Specialized databases include CANSIM II and Trade Analyzer	Services available for selected titles. Remote job submission is the most developed for NPHS.	Applications can now be submitted through the SSHRC Web site.

training & instruction

- ask your data person for a training session
- take advantage of training offered by CAPDU/DLI
- get to know the most heavily-used sources
- if you find a really good source, tell somebody!

training, etc.

- create your own web page(s) of favourite and/or heavily-used sources
 - York
 - UofT
 - "cheat sheets"
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP!

sources of help

- **CAPDU**
Canadian Association of Public Data Users
- **DLILIST**
Data Liberation Initiative
- **INFODEP**
Depository Services Program
- Don't be afraid to ask questions; all the stupid ones have already been asked -- by "experts"!



<http://www.yorku.ca/walterg/ola2003/>