



CDP 101

A crash course on finding and using the data you need

May 15, 2019



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2. What data can be accessed using the CDP?
3. Geographies for CDP data
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7. A few quick tips





What is the CDP?

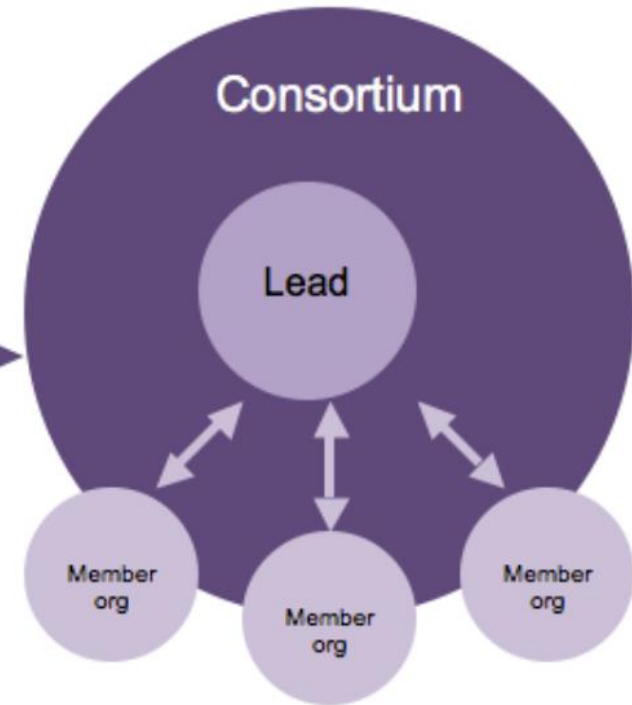
Community Data Program (CDP)

- Created by the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) in the mid-1990s to track poverty at the local level
- Now offers data products, analytical tools, and services that are unique in Canada and exclusive to CDP members
- Made up of 35 local consortia and one sector network
- Facilitates community access to data from Statistics Canada and other providers
- Makes data accessible and useful for all members with training and capacity building resources

Consortium model



The Community Data program includes
30+ consortiums across Canada.



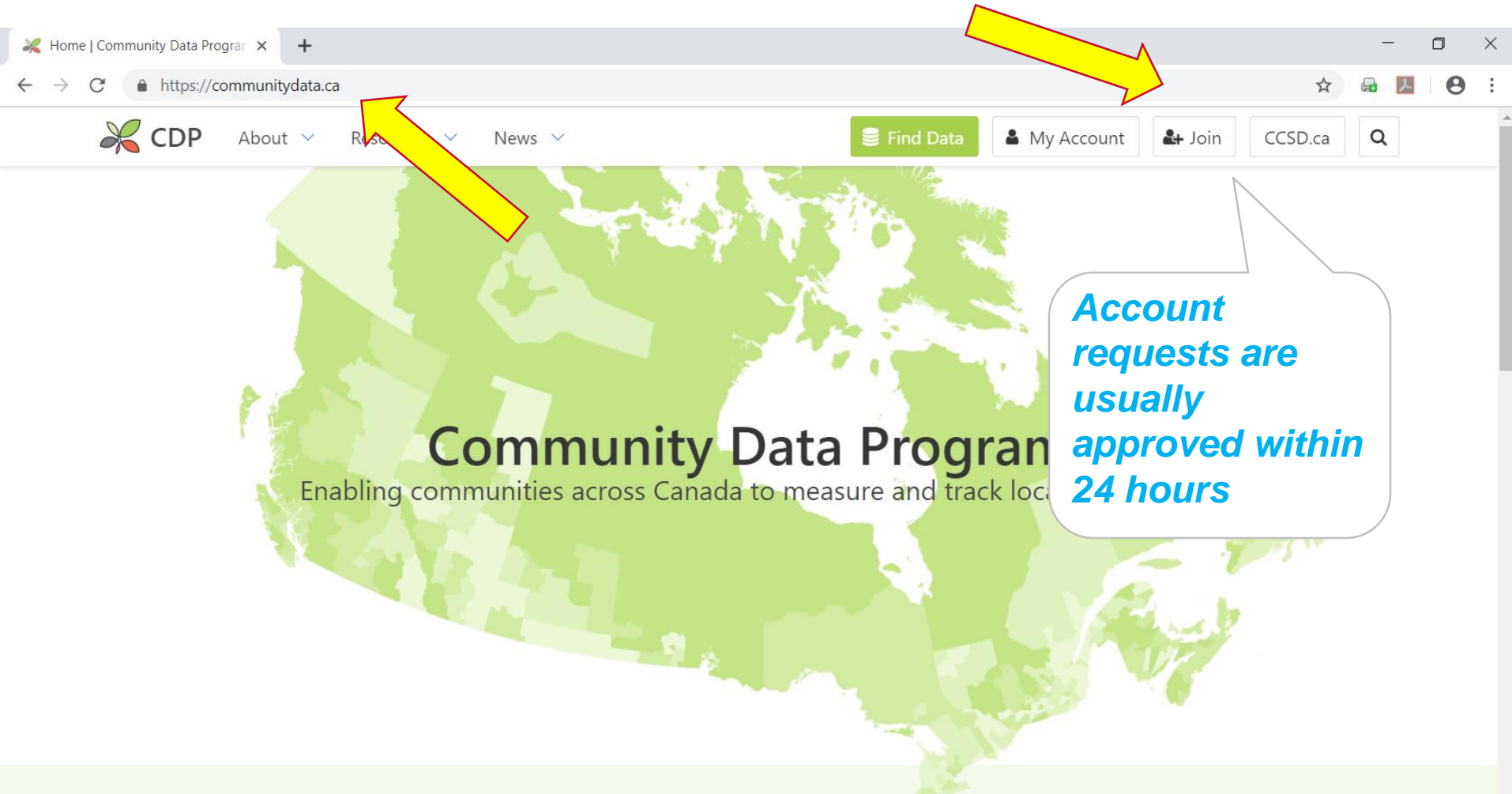
Within each Consortium, a Lead
organization acts as a liaison between the
CDP and member organizations.

CDP: Purpose

- Purchase and facilitate access to social data at the smallest geographies possible
- Train organizations to analyze community data and use it for better decision making
- Communicate and disseminate the results as widely as possible

- Portal for online access to CDP data
- Includes links to resources and training materials
 - Community data news
 - Archived webinars
 - Fillable infographics
- Access for new users usually arranged within one business day
- Beyond 20/20 software download available

Signing up for access



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Community Data Program (CDP) website. The browser's address bar displays <https://communitydata.ca>. The website header includes the CDP logo, navigation links for 'About', 'Resources', and 'News', and buttons for 'Find Data', 'My Account', 'Join', and 'CCSD.ca'. A large map of Canada serves as the background for the main content area, which features the text 'Community Data Program' and 'Enabling communities across Canada to measure and track local...'. Two yellow arrows point to the 'Join' button and the 'Resources' link. A speech bubble on the right contains the text: 'Account requests are usually approved within 24 hours'.

Home | Community Data Program x +

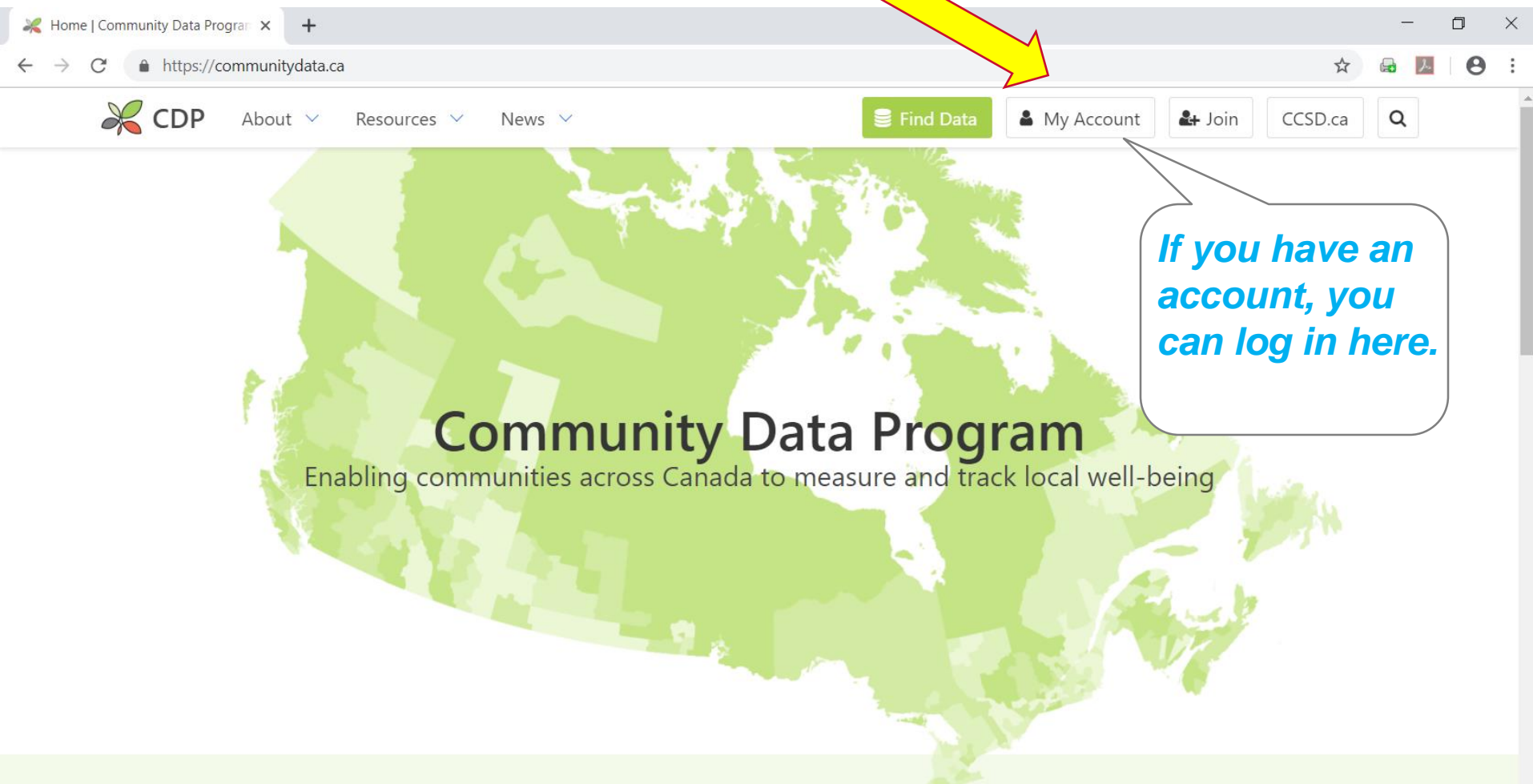
https://communitydata.ca

CDP About Resources News Find Data My Account Join CCSD.ca

Community Data Program
Enabling communities across Canada to measure and track local...

Account requests are usually approved within 24 hours

Logging in



Home | Community Data Program x +

https://communitydata.ca

CDP About Resources News Find Data My Account Join CCSD.ca

Community Data Program
Enabling communities across Canada to measure and track local well-being

If you have an account, you can log in here.

Accessing data



Home | Community Data Program x +

https://communitydata.ca

CDP About Resources News Find Data My Account Join CCSD.ca

Community Data Program

Enabling communities across Canada to measure and track local well-being

Anyone can browse through the offerings under the “Find Data” tab – but you need to be a member and logged in to download datasets.



**What data can be
accessed using the
CDP?**

Catalogue contents

- Small area data (e.g. Census Tracts)
- Municipal level data (i.e. Calgary, Rocky View County, Cochrane, etc.)
- Statistics Canada data at custom geographies (e.g. Calgary's Communities and Wards)
- Detailed custom cross tabulations of Statistics Canada data
- Non-Statistics Canada products (e.g. TransUnion credit and debt data)
- Analysis, reporting, and visualization tools (e.g. fillable infographics)

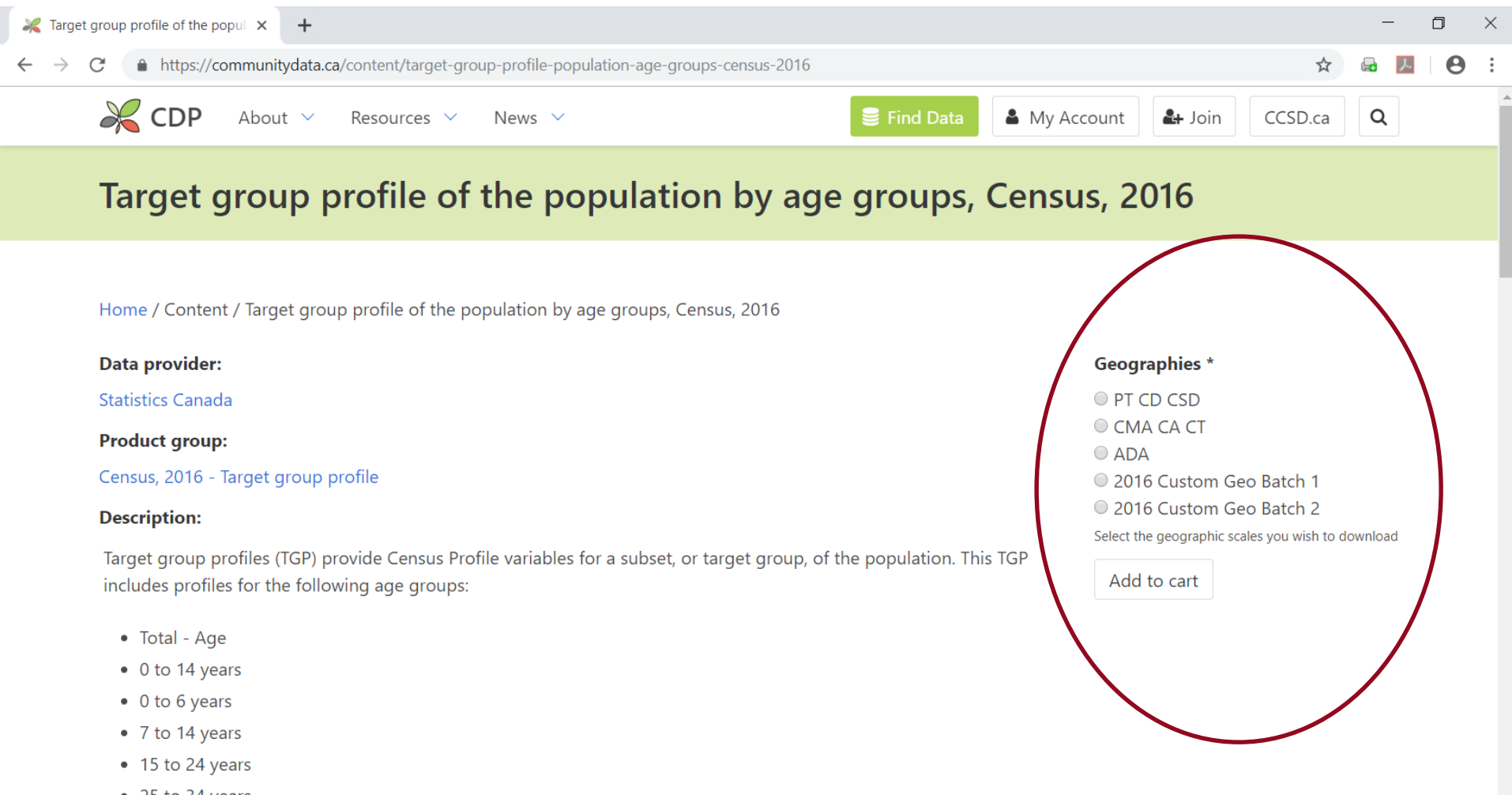


Geographies for CDP data

Geographies

- Various standard geographies available
- Custom geographies available for some products
- Statistics Canada standard geographies are identified with a numeric code
- Some geographies align across hierarchy and Statistics Canada provides files for each geographic family
- Many CDP data products have multiple files to cover the various geographies

Choosing the right geography



Target group profile of the population by age groups, Census, 2016

[Home](#) / [Content](#) / Target group profile of the population by age groups, Census, 2016

Data provider:
[Statistics Canada](#)

Product group:
[Census, 2016 - Target group profile](#)

Description:
 Target group profiles (TGP) provide Census Profile variables for a subset, or target group, of the population. This TGP includes profiles for the following age groups:

- Total - Age
- 0 to 14 years
- 0 to 6 years
- 7 to 14 years
- 15 to 24 years
- 25 to 34 years

Geographies *

- ☐ PT CD CSD
- ☐ CMA CA CT
- ☐ ADA
- ☐ 2016 Custom Geo Batch 1
- ☐ 2016 Custom Geo Batch 2

Select the geographic scales you wish to download

[Add to cart](#)



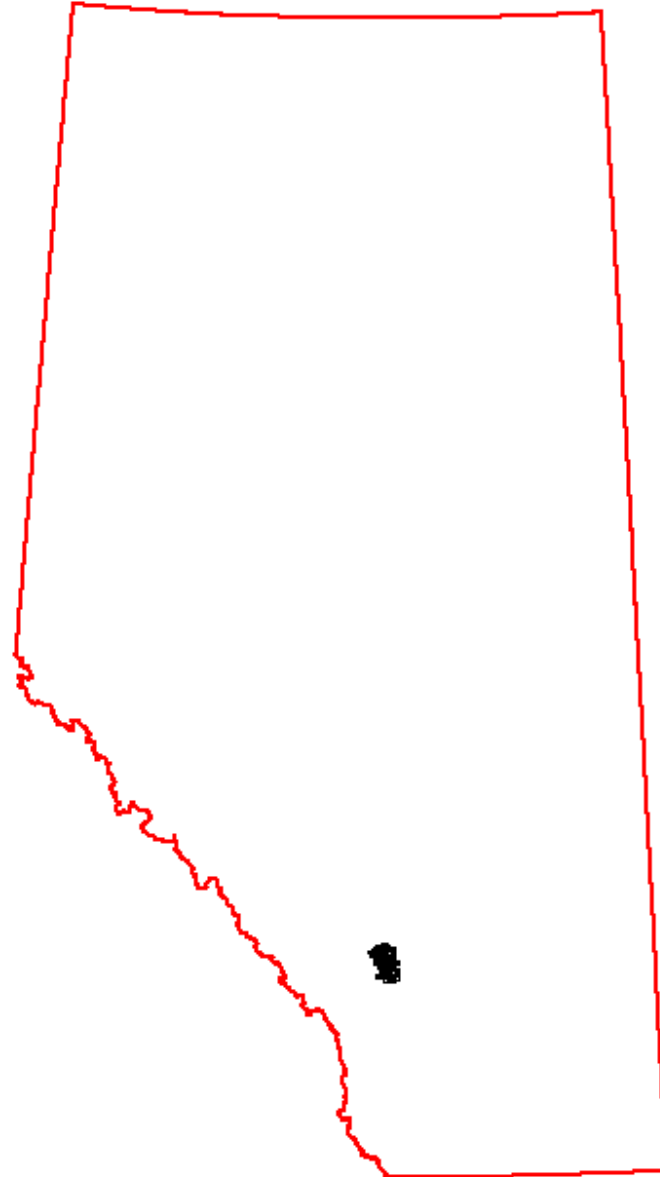
Types of geographies

- Bigger than a municipality
 - Province/Territory (PT)
 - Economic regions (ER)
 - Census Division (CD)
 - Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)
- Equal to a municipality
 - Census Subdivision (CSD)
- (Often) smaller than a municipality
 - Census Tracts (CT)
 - Dissemination Area (DA)
 - Forward Sortation Areas (FSA)
 - Postal codes (points)
 - Custom geographies (for Calgary: Communities, Wards, etc.)

48 - Alberta

PT: Province/territory

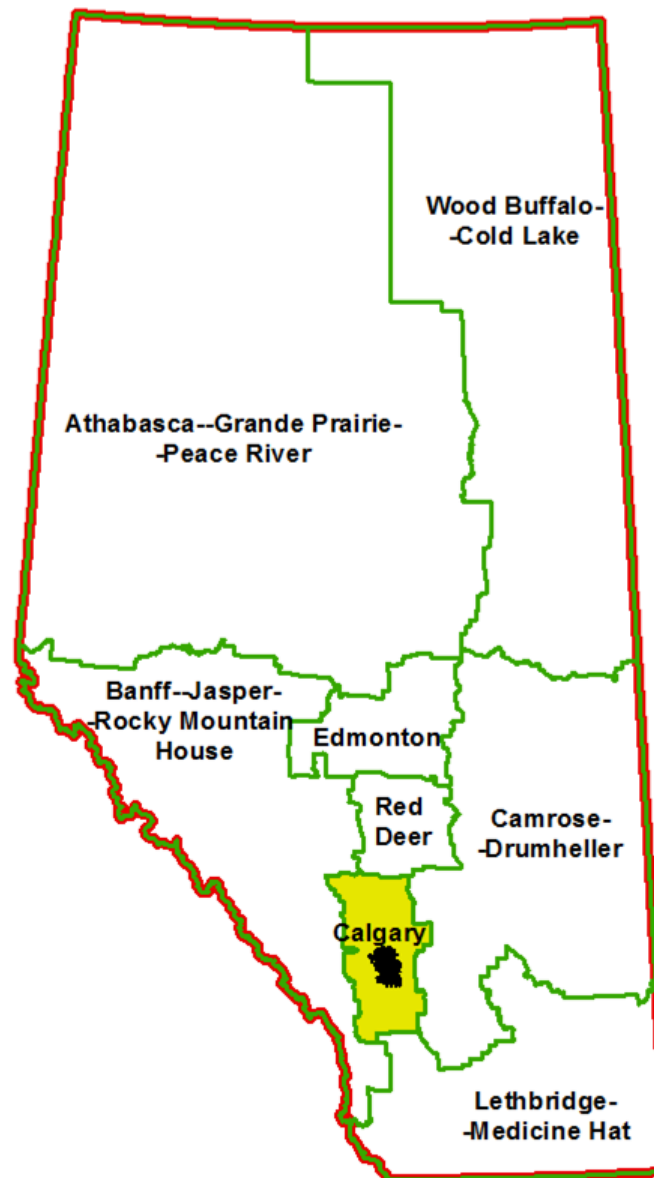
- 13 provinces and territories in Canada
- Identified by a two-digit code
- Alberta's two-digit code is 48
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada
- Some datasets are only available to provincial level



4830 – Calgary Economic Region

ER: Economic Region

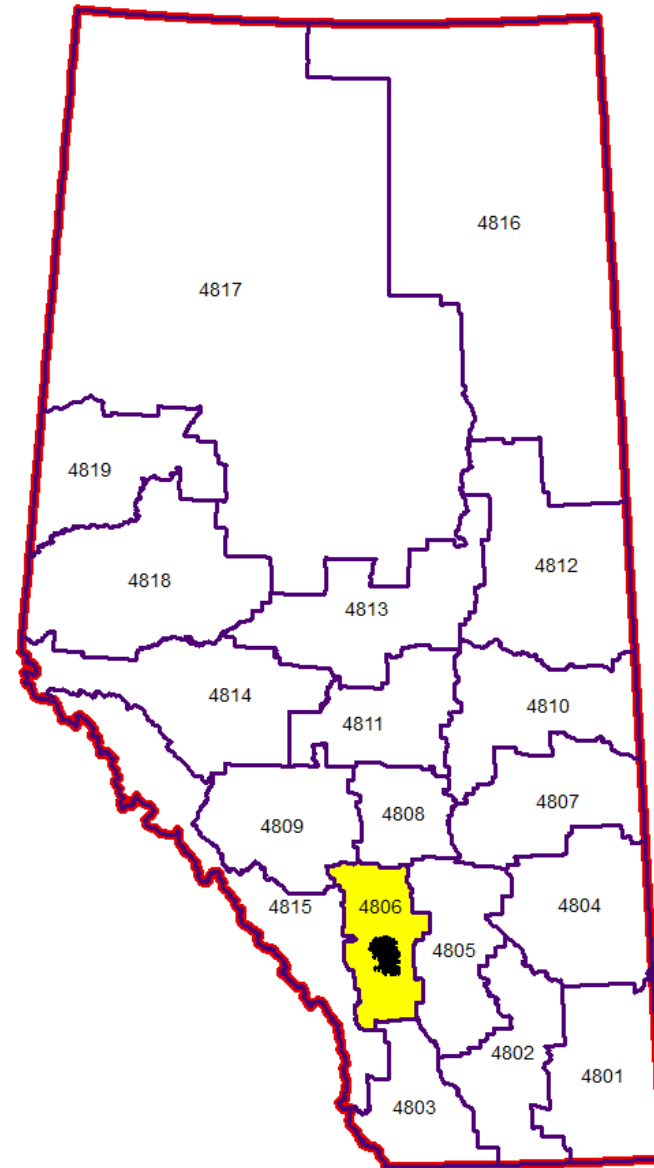
- 76 economic regions in Canada; 8 in Alberta
- Grouping of census divisions
- In all provinces and territories except Quebec, economic regions (ERs) are created by agreement between Statistics Canada and the province/territory concerned
- Identified by a two-digit code; to uniquely identify each ER in Canada, the two-digit province / territory code must precede the two-digit ER code (Calgary = 4830)
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada



4806 – Division No. 6

CD: Census Division

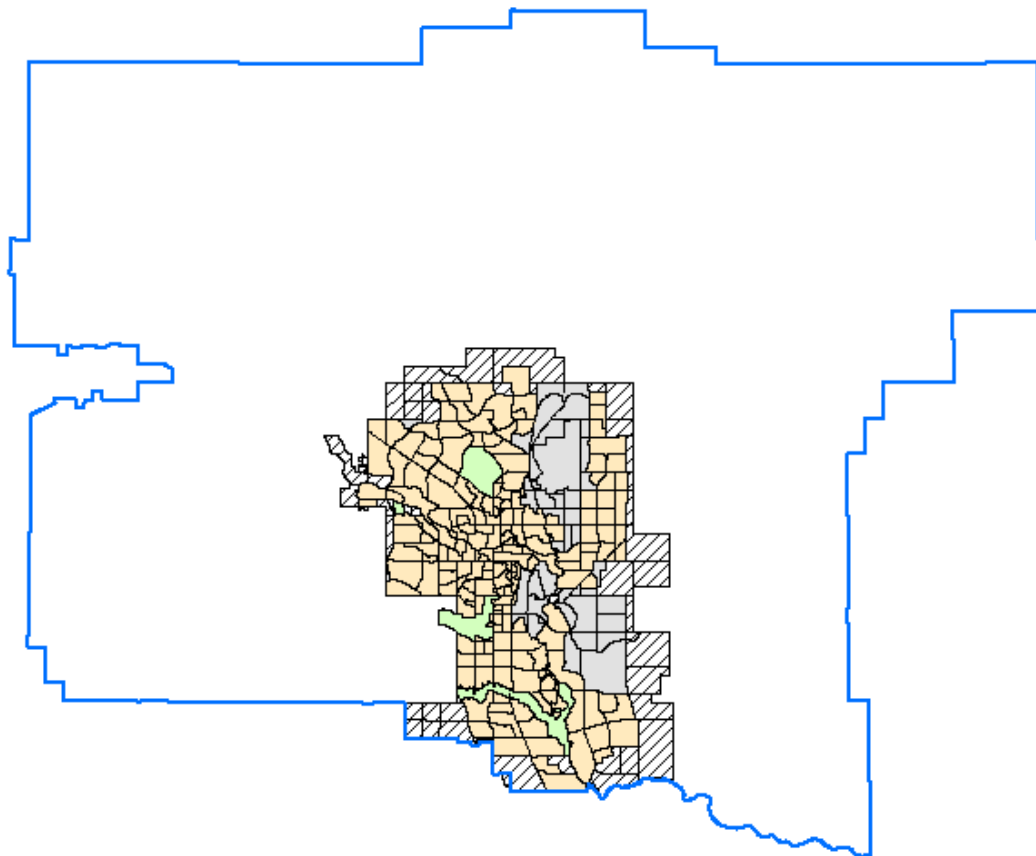
- 293 census divisions in Canada
- Grouping of adjacent census subdivisions
- Calgary is located in CD 06 – the boundary is the same as the Economic Region
- Identified by a two-digit code; 4-digit ID number with the province code at the start (i.e. 48 + 06 = 4806)
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada



825 - Calgary CMA

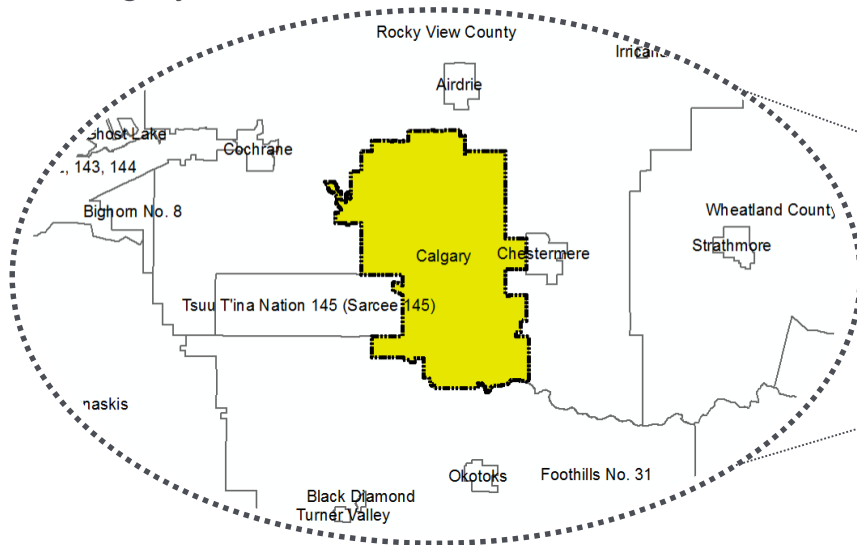
CMA: Census metropolitan area

- 35 CMAs in Canada
- Consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities around a core
- Must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the core
- Identified by a three-digit code
- Calgary CMA's three-digit code is 825
- Calgary CMA includes:
 - Calgary
 - Airdrie
 - Rocky View County
 - Cochrane
 - Chestermere
 - Crossfield
 - Tsuu T'ina Nation 145 (Sarcee 145)
 - Irricana
 - Beiseker
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada



CSD: Census Subdivision

- 5,162 CSDs in Canada
- Equivalent to a municipality
- Varies widely in size
- Classified into 54 types including CY (city), T (town), and VL (village)
- Lloydminster is composed of two CSDs, one for the Alberta part and one for the Saskatchewan part
- Identified by a three-digit code; Calgary's code is 016

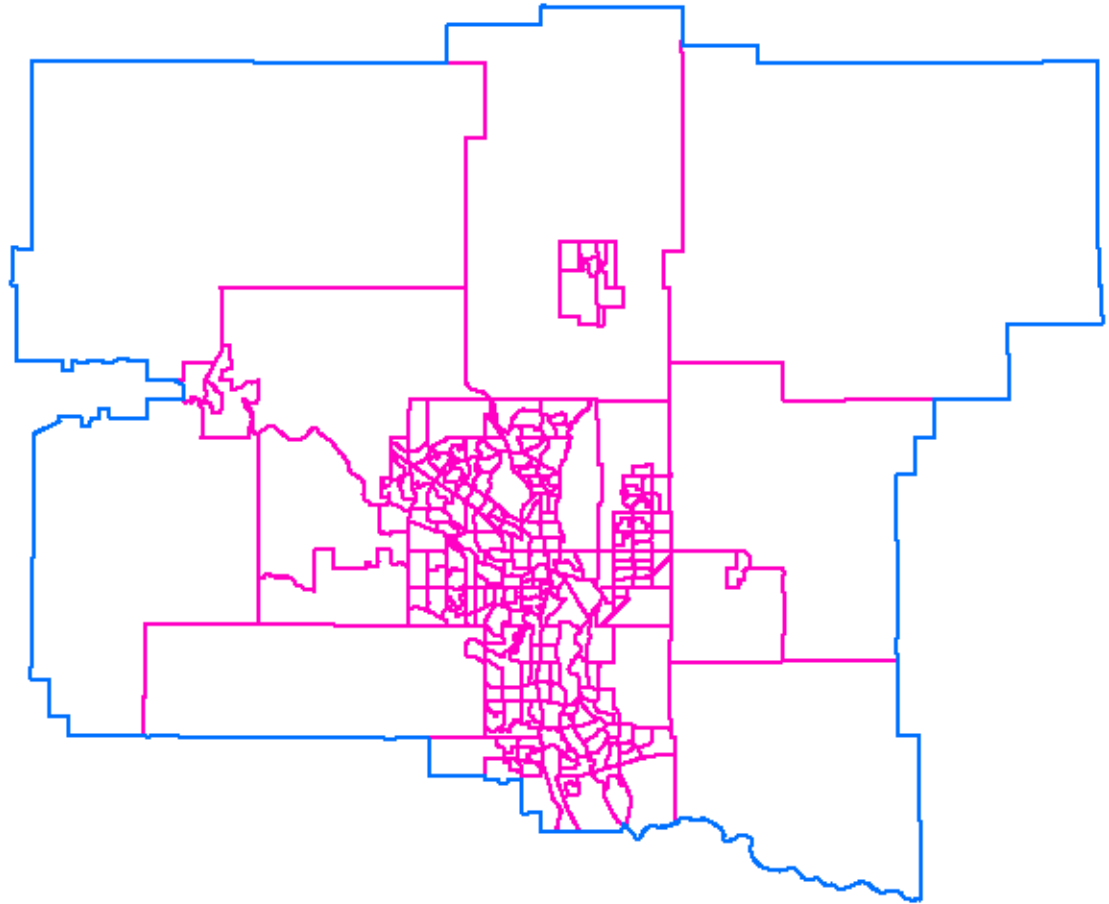


- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada

Census Tracts

CT

- 5,721 CTs in Canada
- Target population between 2,500 and 8,000 with a preferred average of 4,000
- Must follow permanent and easily recognizable physical features
- Should be as homogeneous as possible in terms of socioeconomic characteristics
- Respects the boundaries of the CMA but does not necessarily respect the boundaries of the CSD
- Identified with a seven-digit number including a period and two decimal places (e.g. 8250035.01) – the first three digits are the CMA number (i.e. 825)
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada

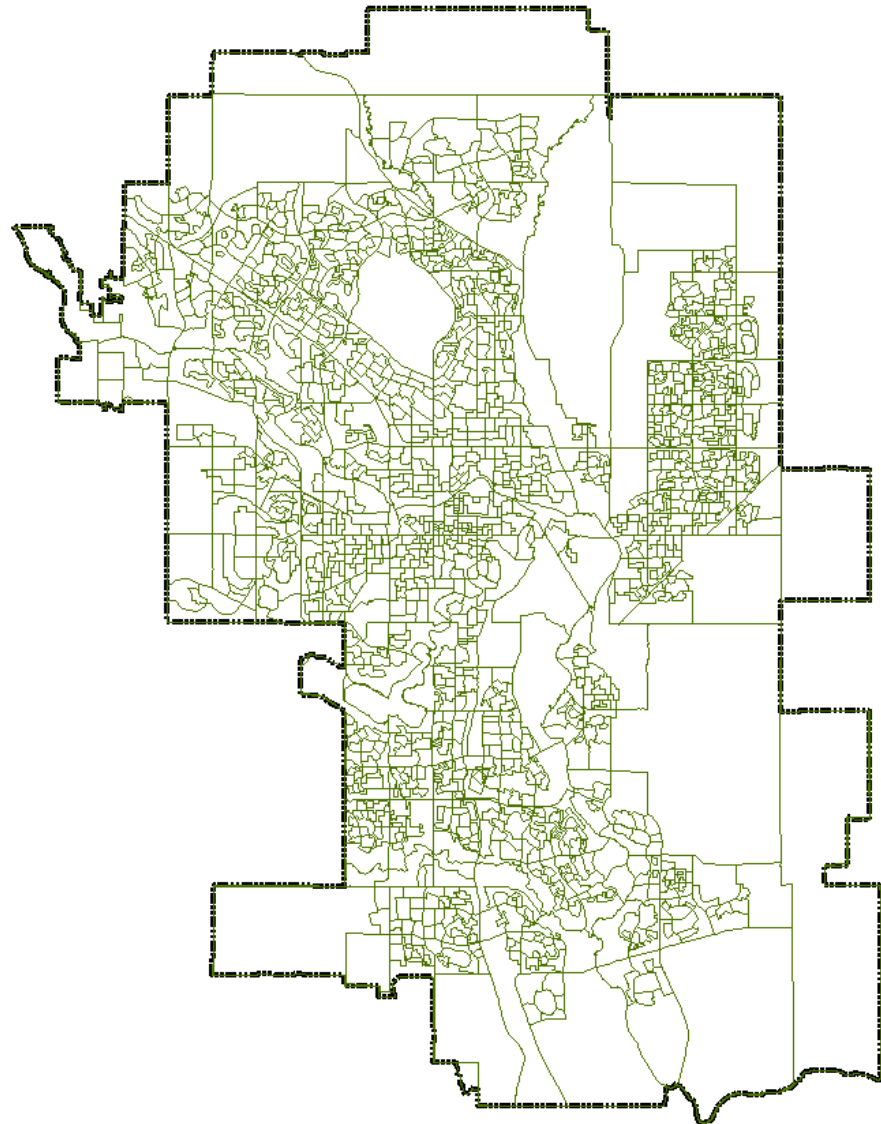


***The 2016 Census Tract reference maps by CMA are available from Statistics Canada at:
https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/geo/map-carte/ref/cma_ca_ct-rmr_ar_sr/index-eng.cfm

Dissemination Areas

DA

- 56,590 DAs in Canada
- Small area composed of one or more neighbouring dissemination blocks, with a population of 400 to 700 persons.
- It is the smallest standard geographic area for which all census data are disseminated.
- Identified with a 4-digit code.
- To uniquely identify each DA in Canada, 2-digit province code and 2-digit census code must precede the 4-digit DA code (eg. 48061234)
- Geographic boundary file available from Statistics Canada



FSA

-

Postal Codes

PC

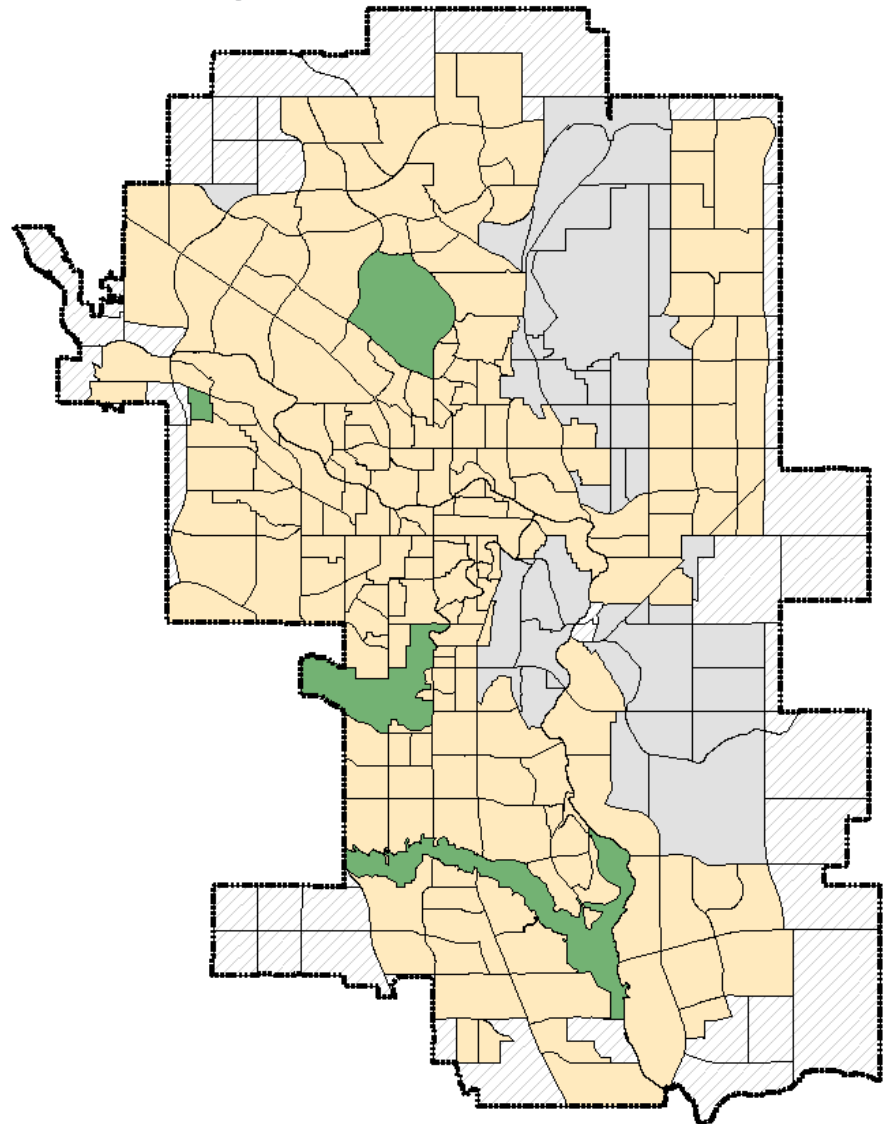
- More than 800K postal codes in Canada
- Very fine-grained information
- Use extreme caution due to confidentiality concerns
- Postal code conversion file links six-character postal codes to standard geographies and is available through CDP

(not pictured)

Custom geography example: Calgary Communities

COM

- 298 Communities in Calgary
- Commonly understood social grouping for Calgarians
- Classified into different types:
 - Residential, Major Park, Industrial, Residual Sub-Area
- Aligns with the city limit but not with ward boundaries
- Population varies widely, from less than 200 to almost 20,000
- Geographic boundary file available from City of Calgary Open Data Catalogue
- Communities are one of the custom geographies that our CDP data is tabulated by

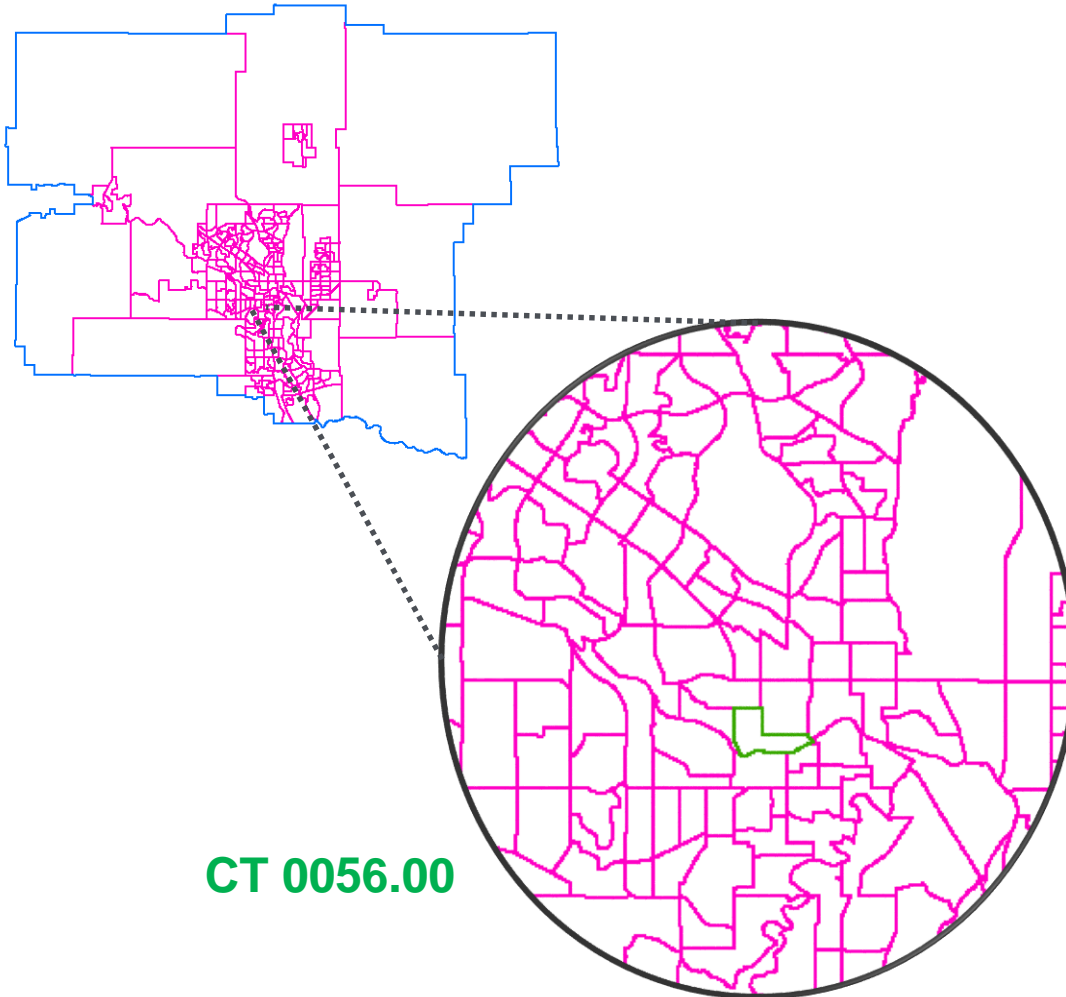


Hierarchy

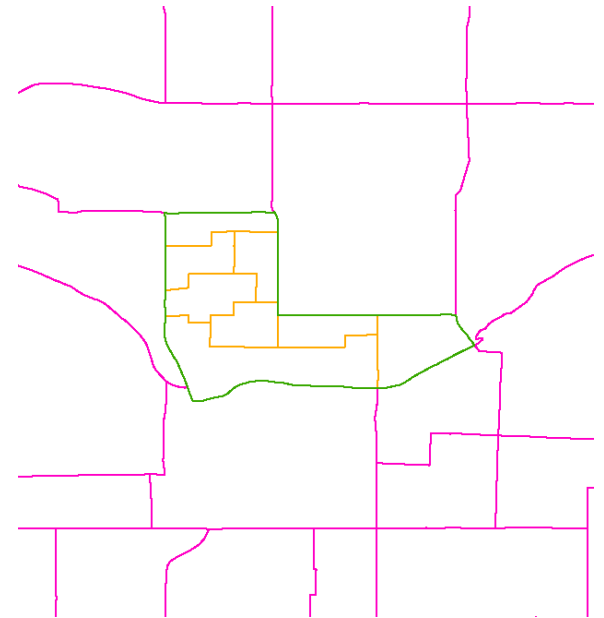
- Geography families: some geographies are designed to “nest” with others
 - PT-CD-CSD
 - CMA-CT-DA

Example: CMA > CT > DA

CTs inside the CMA



DAs inside the CT



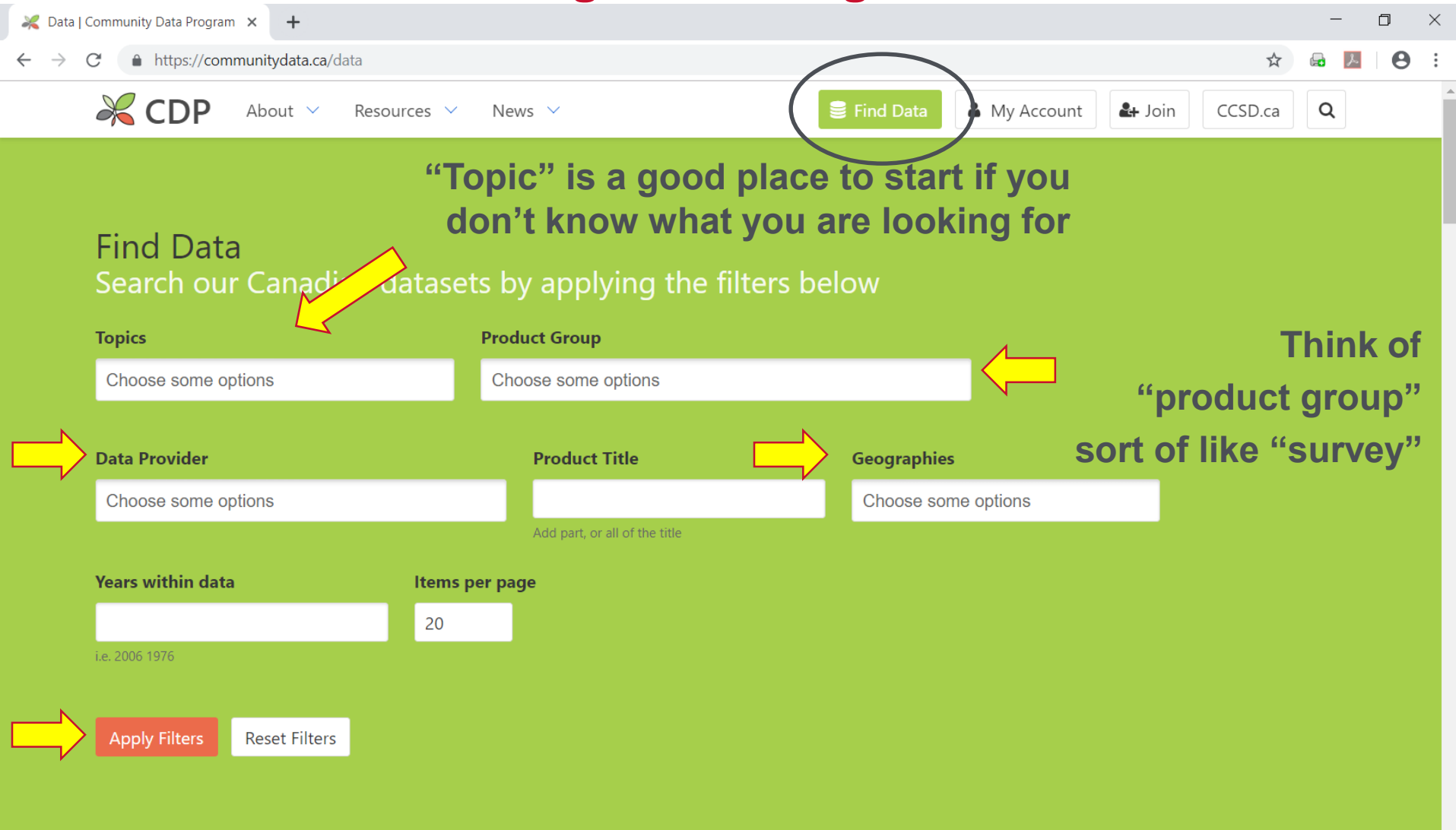
When / why to use different geographies

- **Use CMA** for information that is not available at the level of the city-proper:
e.g. monthly labour force survey results
- **Use custom geographic areas (like Calgary Communities)** when you want to communicate results to the public / stakeholders in a way that is easily understandable
- **Use CTs** when you want to cross-tabulate variables that are not available within our custom geography products; similar scale to a neighbourhood
- **Use DAs** for a finer-grained look at a portion of a neighbourhood



How to find data in the CDP catalogue

Searching the catalogue: the filters



Data | Community Data Program

https://communitydata.ca/data

CDP About Resources News

Find Data My Account Join CCSD.ca

“Topic” is a good place to start if you don’t know what you are looking for

Find Data
Search our Canadian datasets by applying the filters below

Topics
Choose some options

Product Group
Choose some options

Data Provider
Choose some options

Product Title
Add part, or all of the title

Geographies
Choose some options

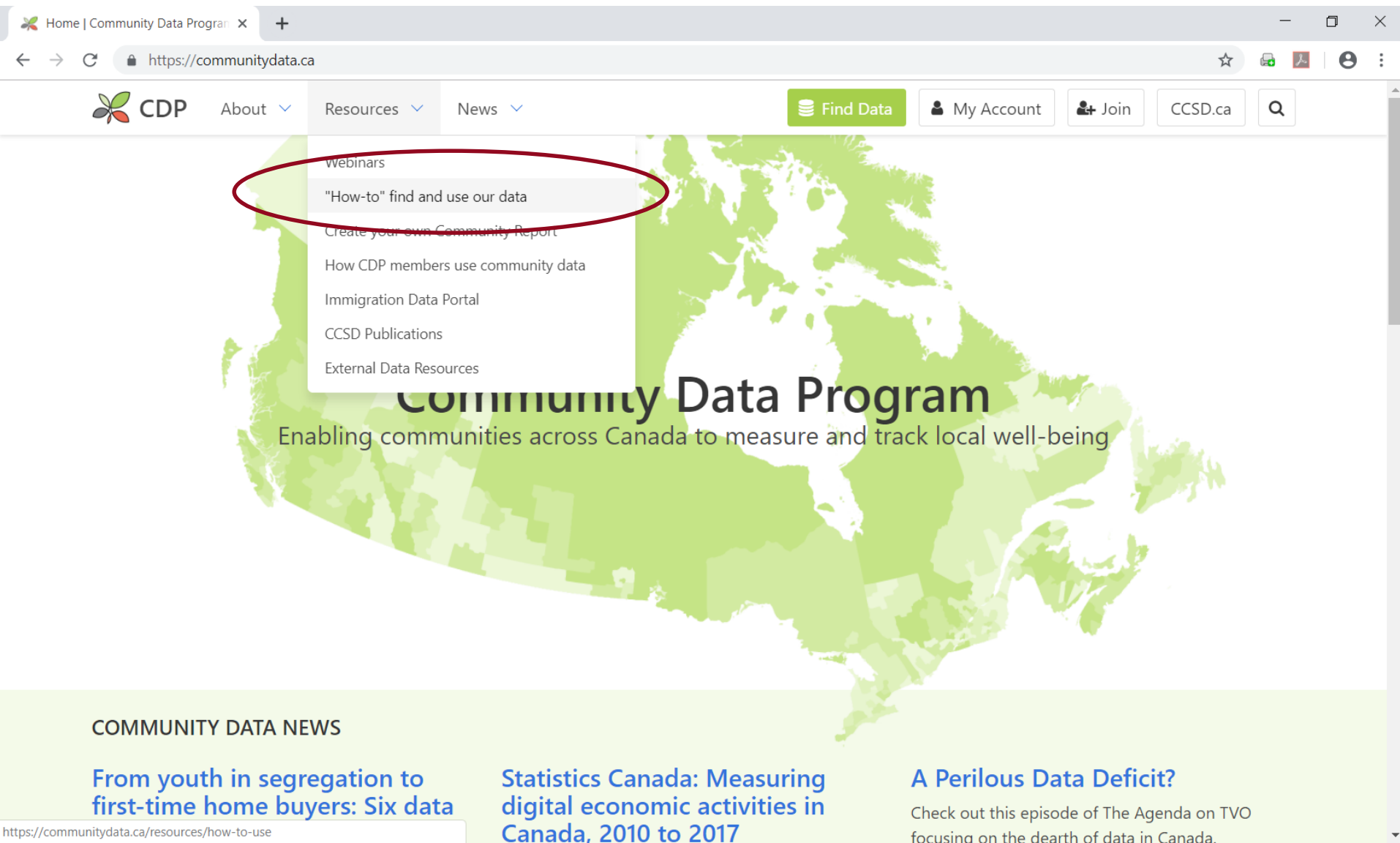
Years within data
i.e. 2006 1976

Items per page
20

Apply Filters **Reset Filters**

Think of “product group” sort of like “survey”

Other tools to find data



Home | Community Data Program | [+](#)

[https://communitydata.ca](#)

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- webinars
- "How-to" find and use our data
- Create your own Community Report
- How CDP members use community data
- Immigration Data Portal
- CCSD Publications
- External Data Resources

Community Data Program

Enabling communities across Canada to measure and track local well-being

COMMUNITY DATA NEWS

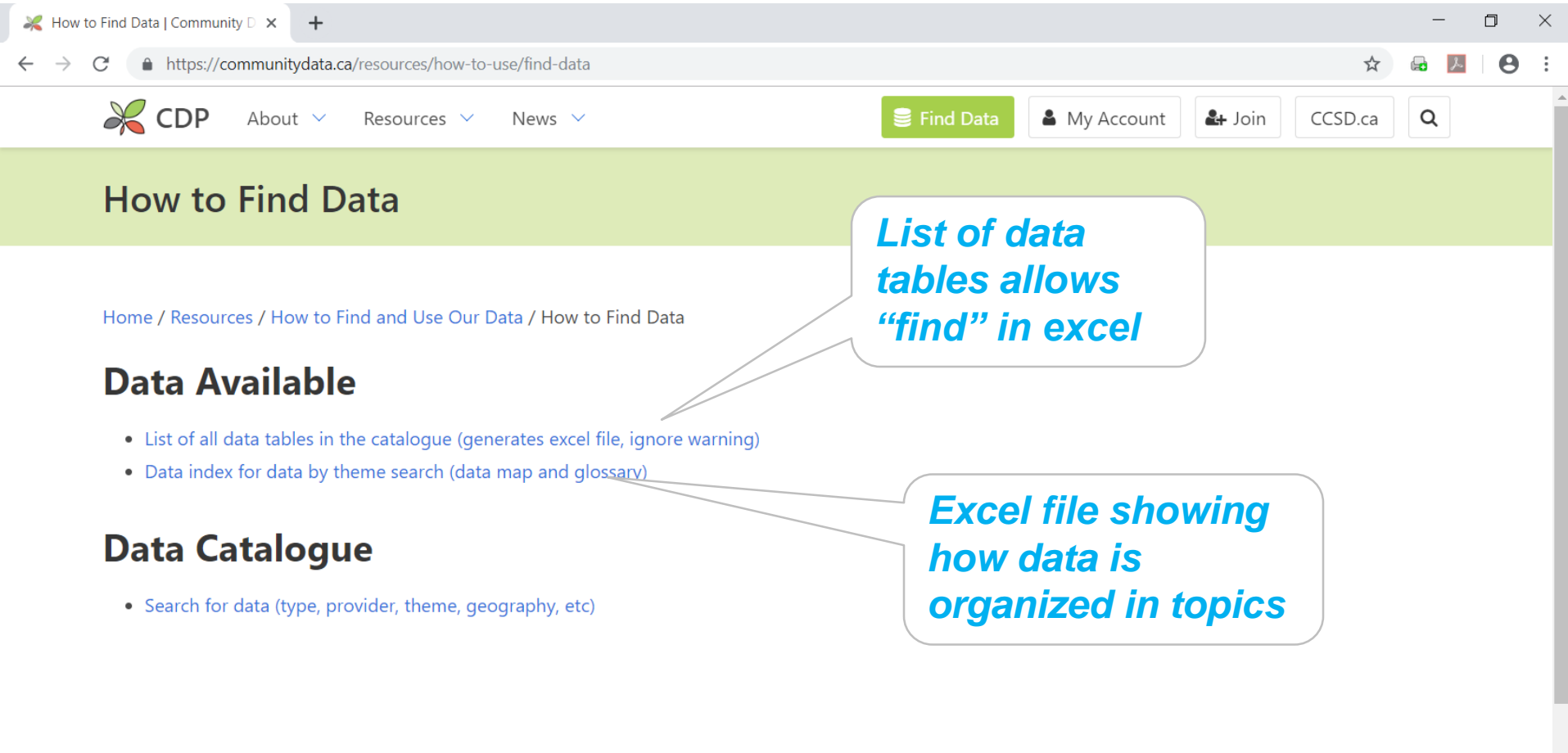
From youth in segregation to first-time home buyers: Six data

<https://communitydata.ca/resources/how-to-use>

Statistics Canada: Measuring digital economic activities in Canada, 2010 to 2017

A Perilous Data Deficit?

Check out this episode of The Agenda on TVO focusing on the dearth of data in Canada.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://communitydata.ca/resources/how-to-use/find-data>. The page has a green header with the title "How to Find Data". Below the header, there is a breadcrumb trail: Home / Resources / How to Find and Use Our Data / How to Find Data. The main content area is titled "Data Available" and contains two bullet points: "List of all data tables in the catalogue (generates excel file, ignore warning)" and "Data index for data by theme search (data map and glossary)". The "Data Catalogue" section is also visible, with a bullet point: "Search for data (type, provider, theme, geography, etc)". Two callout boxes are present: one pointing to the first bullet point under "Data Available" with the text "List of data tables allows 'find' in excel", and another pointing to the "Data index for data by theme search" link with the text "Excel file showing how data is organized in topics".

How to Find Data

Home / Resources / How to Find and Use Our Data / How to Find Data

Data Available

- List of all data tables in the catalogue (generates excel file, ignore warning)
- Data index for data by theme search (data map and glossary)

Data Catalogue

- Search for data (type, provider, theme, geography, etc)

List of data tables allows "find" in excel

Excel file showing how data is organized in topics

Understanding CDP files

- Census profile
 - Standard info from Statistics Canada
- Target group profile
 - Similar standard info from Statistics Canada, but for a particular target group
- Data tables, ex:
 - The number in brackets tells you how many items are in the category. Example:
 - Language spoken most often at home (8) is high level combinations of English, French, and non-official languages
 - Language spoken most often at home (269) is a comprehensive listing of individual languages



How to open files from the CDP catalogue

Beyond 20/20 format

- The majority of the data on the CDP site is in Beyond 20/20 tables, which have the extension ".ivt" (or ".ivt") at the end of the file name.
- Beyond 20/20 has supported publishing of Statistics Canada data for more than 20 years. Beyond 20/20 is designed to present multidimensional data in a manner that is easy to view, easy to analyze, and easy to understand.
- Beyond 20/20 files are like pivot table with all the information already in place; they help you to move dimensions around to get the view that you are interested in.

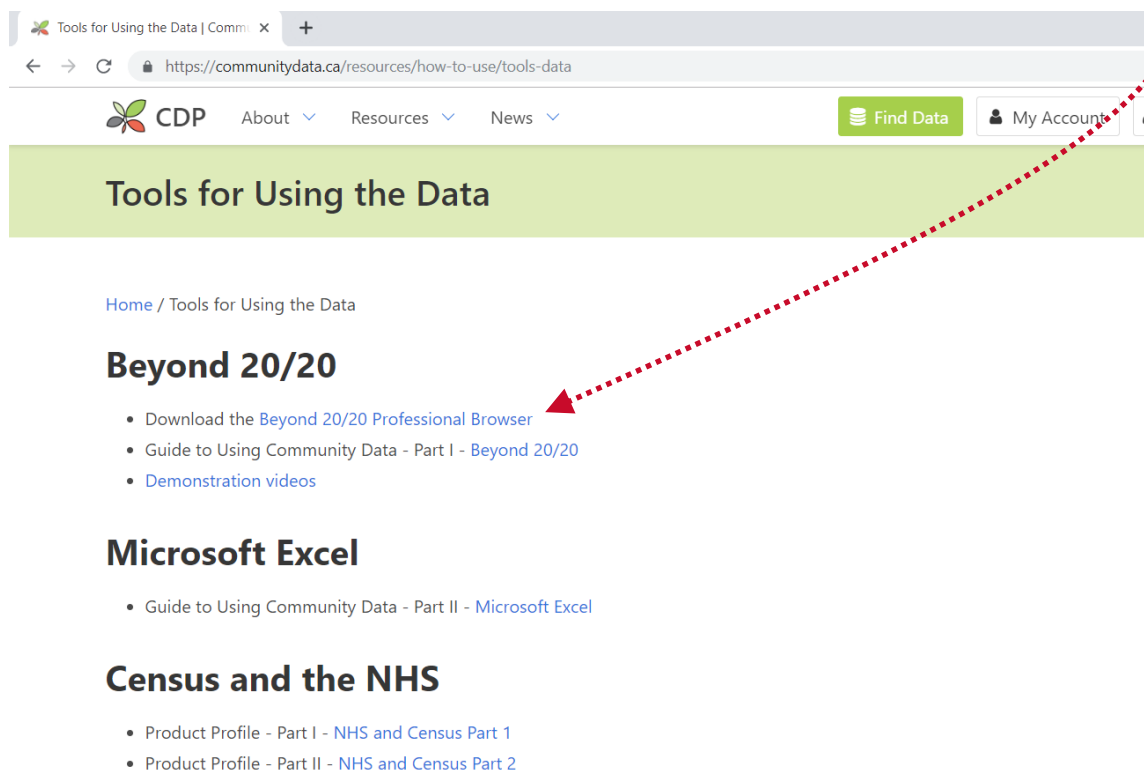
***You will need
Beyond 20/20
Browser software to
view this data. Free
download at:***

***[https://communitydata.ca/resources/
how-to-use/tools-data](https://communitydata.ca/resources/how-to-use/tools-data)***

Downloading the Beyond 20/20 browser

- Click on the “Resources” tab at the top > “How to find and use our data” > “Tools for using the data” > Download the Beyond 20/20 Professional Browser

This software is free for anyone to download. Statistics Canada also publishes some of its publicly available data in .ivt format.



Tools for Using the Data | Comm: x +

https://communitydata.ca/resources/how-to-use/tools-data

CDP About Resources News Find Data My Account

Tools for Using the Data

Home / Tools for Using the Data

Beyond 20/20

- Download the [Beyond 20/20 Professional Browser](#)
- Guide to Using Community Data - Part I - [Beyond 20/20](#)
- [Demonstration videos](#)

Microsoft Excel

- Guide to Using Community Data - Part II - [Microsoft Excel](#)

Census and the NHS

- Product Profile - Part I - [NHS and Census Part 1](#)
- Product Profile - Part II - [NHS and Census Part 2](#)



Demo



A few quick tips

A few quick tips

- When in doubt, the Census Profile is often a good place to start
- If you need basic information for the municipal level or larger, sometimes the Statistics Canada website provides quick, html based access to the data you need
- Check definitions of all items in Beyond 20/20 to ensure the meaning is consistent with your understanding
- Refer to the Census dictionary and other Statistics Canada documentation to clarify definitions if necessary
- Review technical reports and other documentation provided by Statistics Canada if available



Thank you!

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