

APPENDIX 1. Geographic definitions

Geographic Definitions			
Ontario	Definition	Alberta	Definition
1.5M+	Physician practices in a CMA/CA of 1.5M population or more.		
500K-<1.5M	Physician practices in a CMA/CA of 500K to 1.5M population	Metro (500K+)	Population >500,000. Calgary and Edmonton proper.
100K-<500K	Physician practices in a CMA/CA of 100 to 500K population.	Mod. Metro Influence (100k-500k)	defined by AHS Local Geography areas immediately surrounding Calgary and Edmonton. These are deemed as commuter communities (live outside of Calgary/Edmonton but commute to Calgary/Edmonton for work and business).
10K-<100K	Physician's practice is located in a CMA/CA with at least 10K but less than 100K population	Urban (25K-<500K)/	5 major urban centres with populations > 25,000 but less and 500,000 (Grand Prairie, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat)
Rural/Strong Metro influence	Physician's practice is in a CSD outside a CMA/CA, but where at least 30% of the population is employed in a CMA/CA.	Mod. Urban influence	Local Geographic areas surrounding the 5 urban centres. These areas are typically considered rural

			given that their populations are low and the Local Geographic areas do not define these areas properly (refer to note below).
Rural/Moderate Metro influence	Physician's practice is in a Non-CMA/CA CSD but between 5-30% of employed people work in a CMA/CA	Rural Centre (10K - < 25K)	10,000 to less than 25,000 population (Brooks, Canmore, Wetaskiwin, Camrose, Lloydminster, Cold Lake). These areas are considered rural but are defined for the purpose of special studies. All 5 areas have unique populations and industries but belong to the rural area.
Rural/Weak Metro influence	Physician's practice is outside any CMA/CA and fewer than 5% of employed people work in a CMA/CA	Rural (<10K)	populations less than 10,000 and up to 200 kilometres from a Metro or Urban centre. These include towns, villages, hamlets, and agricultural areas.
		Rural Remote	greater than 200 kilometres from a Metro or Urban centre. Industries tend to include oil & gas, forestry, hunting/trapping, tourism and sometimes

			pockets of agriculture
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Statistics Canada Standard Geographic Classifications 2016 - Definitions

Census agglomeration: See the definition of census metropolitan area.

Census metropolitan area

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 of which 50,000 or more must live in the core, based on adjusted data from the previous census. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000, also based on data from the previous census. To be included in the CMA or CA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the core, as measured by commuting flows derived from data on place of work from the previous census.

If the population of the core of a CA falls below 10,000, the CA is retired from the next census. However, once an area becomes a CMA, it is retained as a CMA even if its total population falls below 100,000 or the population of its core falls below 50,000. All areas inside the CMA or CA that are not population centres are rural areas.

When a CA has a core of at least 50,000, based on the previous Census of Population, it is subdivided into census tracts. Census tracts are maintained for the CA even if the population of the core subsequently falls below 50,000. All CMAs are subdivided into census tracts.

Census metropolitan category

The census metropolitan categories are groupings of census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations and census metropolitan influenced zones outside census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations established for the purpose of statistical reporting. There are three census metropolitan categories:

1. Census metropolitan areas (CMAs)
2. Census agglomerations (CAs)
3. Outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs)

Census metropolitan influenced zone

The census metropolitan influenced zone (MIZ) is a concept that geographically differentiates the area of Canada outside census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). Census subdivisions (CSDs) within provinces that are outside CMAs and CAs are assigned to one of four categories according to the degree of influence (strong, moderate, weak or no influence) that the CMAs or CAs have on them. CSDs within the territories that are outside CAs are assigned to a separate category.

A municipality within a province is assigned to a census metropolitan influenced zone (MIZ) category based on the percentage of its employed labour force that commutes to work in one or more of the municipalities (census subdivisions) that are part of the delineation core of a CMA or CA. The calculation

of the employed labour force excludes the category of no fixed workplace address. CSDs with the same degree of influence tend to be clustered. They form zones around CMAs and CAs that progress through the categories from 'strong' to 'no' influence as distance from the CMAs and CAs increases. As many CSDs in the territories are very large and sparsely populated, the commuting flow of the resident employed labour force is unstable. For this reason, CSDs in the territories that are outside CAs are assigned to a separate category that is not based on their commuting flows.

CSDs outside CMAs and CAs are assigned to the following MIZ categories:

Strong metropolitan influenced zone: This category includes CSDs in provinces where at least 30% of the CSD's resident employed labour force (excluding the category of no fixed workplace address) commutes to work in any CMA or CA. It excludes CSDs from the previous census with fewer than 40 persons in their resident employed labour force.

Moderate metropolitan influenced zone: This category includes CSDs in provinces where at least 5% but less than 30% of the CSD's resident employed labour force (excluding the category of no fixed workplace address) commute to work in any CMA or CA. It excludes CSDs from the previous census with fewer than 40 persons in their resident employed labour force.

Weak metropolitan influenced zone: This category includes CSDs in provinces where more than 0% but less than 5% of the CSD's resident employed labour force (excluding the category of no fixed workplace address) commute to work in any CMA or CA. It excludes CSDs from the previous census with fewer than 40 persons in their resident employed labour force.

No metropolitan influenced zone: This category includes CSDs in provinces where none of the CSD's resident employed labour force (excluding the category of no fixed workplace address) commute to work in any CMA or CA. It also includes CSDs from the previous census with fewer than 40 persons in their resident employed labour force.

Territories (outside CAs): This category includes CSDs in the territories outside CAs.