1. Topic
   1. My topic for this project is about trends in rental and housing costs for Canada and the United States from 2006-2021.
2. Importance/Motivation
   1. I find this topic interesting and important because mapping the changes in costs in Canada, the USA, and regions within both of the countries could help policymakers pinpoint which factors have led to potentially higher or lower costs.
3. Research Questions
   1. (Descriptive) Have housing/rental costs in Canada or the United States grown at a significantly faster rate than costs in the other country during this timeframe?
   2. (Causal) Does an influx of migration to a specific region, state, or city cause an equivalent amount of increases in cost? It would also be interesting to know if outward migration from a region causes a change in the opposite direction and if that change is similar in magnitude.
4. Data
   1. Canadian Census data from 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2021
      1. This link contains the entire series [Census of Population: Public Use Microdata Files (statcan.gc.ca)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/98m0001x/index-eng.htm)
      2. Covers a sample of the entire Canadian population and contains a wealth of different variables. Some of the variables I am interested in for this project are Shelter Cost, Tenure, Housing Value, income, mobility, etc.
   2. American Community Survey data from IPUMS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021
      1. I have an extract definition (not the actual data) saved as a JSON file in my repository so that I do not break IPUMS terms of service by sharing the data on a public repo. The link to IPUMS USA is: [IPUMS USA](https://usa.ipums.org/usa/)
      2. Covers a sample of the American population within all 50 states. I selected variables that are related to variables within the Canadian Census data such as mobility, tenure, housing costs, etc.
   3. I tried to get data directly from census.gov, but their api and data extraction system times out with requests of this size. Here is an example of the api query I used for census.gov (You don’t need a key) <https://api.census.gov/data/2022/acs/acs5/pums?get=WGTP,PWGTP,GRNTP,GRPIP,PINCP,HINCP,FINCP,VALP,PERNP,RNTP,AGEP,SRNT,ADJINC,ADJHSG,CIT,TEN,MV,ESR,RAC1P&ucgid=0200000US1,0200000US2,0200000US3,0200000US4>