

Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

Annual component

Complement to the user guide

2019-2020 Public Use Microdata file

June 2024



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Canada

The following document is a complement to the 2019-2020 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) Microdata User Guide and presents the approach used to transform the 2019-2020 Master files into Public Use Microdata Files (PUMF). Note that CCHS PUMFs are only comprised of the content of the master file and excludes any Rapid Response content, sub-samples, or sample buy-ins. For more information on these types of content, see the main CCHS user guide.

1. Documentation

The 2019-2020 questionnaire serves as reference for the 2019-2020 PUMF data file. The questionnaire will display additional questions that are not represented in the PUMF due to suppressions and other restriction methods that have been applied to the data.

The 2019-2020 PUMF data dictionary does not include the corresponding question names which can be found in the questionnaire. For variables that have been grouped or capped, the category 'Not Stated' includes the responses 'Don't Know', 'Refusal' and 'Not Stated'.

2. Conversion of 2019-2020 Master File to Public Use Microdata File (PUMF)

The approach for creating a PUMF is intended to balance the requirements for maintaining respondent confidentiality by minimizing disclosure risks, while providing the most useful data to users at the provincial level. The following paragraphs outline some of the procedures applied to convert the CCHS master file into a PUMF.

Geography: Health regions fall under provincial jurisdiction and are used as the basis for the sample design of the CCHS. As mentioned in Section 5.2 of the User Guide, there are 107 health regions across Canada.

Some health regions have population sizes that were considered to be too small to appear individually in the PUMFs. These health regions were grouped with other(s) for the purpose of publication. The approach for keeping or collapsing health region geography in the PUMF entails applying a minimum population size for the given geography – 70, 000 inhabitants. This resulted in:

- i. collapsing 25 HRs into 12 health region groupings in Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia;
- ii. one Quebec HR (Nord-du-Québec, 2410) being excluded from the PUMF due to its small population size and its demographic characteristics that did not lend itself well to being collapsed with other HRs;
- iii. The territories (Yukon, Nunavut, and the Northwest Territories) have sample sizes too small to appear individually in the PUMFs. Thus, the territories were grouped together for the purpose of publication.

After the grouping of HR, the CCHS PUMF is comprised of 91 HRs/HR groupings across the country. The list of regions before and after collapsing is available in section 5 of this document.

Optional content suppression: Because optional content selection in CCHS is done at the provincial and territorial levels, with the grouping of the territories it becomes necessary to adjust the optional content. If an optional module was included in at least one, but not all three territories, this data cannot be kept on the PUMF. Only optional content that was selected by all three can be kept.

Additionally, the 2019-2020 master and PUMF files only contain optional content data for modules that were asked in both years, which applies to the vast majority of optional content data.

Disclosure control: As mentioned earlier, the 2019-2020 PUMF is designed to preserve the analytical value of data as much as possible while ensuring the potential for identifying individual respondents is minimal. Several controls were implemented in creating the PUMF file. Restriction methods such as removing direct identifiers (e.g., sample ID, name, telephone number), reducing, recoding, and/or suppressing detail based on small frequencies given

specific socio-demographic characteristics were used. Examples of variables from the master file that were not included in the PUMF due to a high risk of disclosure (either because the variable is a risk on its own or is so in combination with other variables) include: attempted suicide in the past 12 months, used ecstasy in lifetime, and whether the respondent is presently pregnant.

In addition, some response categories were deemed to be at possible risk of disclosure and were regrouped so as to be included on the PUMF. Examples include: employment status, number of times consulting health professionals, number of years since stopping smoking, and main source of household income. With these regroupings in place, the 2019-2020 PUMF contains both fewer variables and is less detailed compared with the master file, while still preserving the analytical value of the data.

Age of respondent: Respondents' age is provided as age grouping in the CCHS PUMFs. These groupings follow the sample allocation design for CCHS. The following age groups are available on the 2019-2020 CCHS PUMF:

- i) 12 to 17 years
- ii) 18 to 34 years
- iii) 35 to 49 years
- iv) 50 to 64 years
- v) 65 and older

Although information on some variables were collected for people of a specific age bracket, some data for certain ages still had to be suppressed to ensure confidentiality. For example, labour force data were collected for respondents aged 15 to 75. Because there is an age group limitation of 65 years and older on the PUMF, publishing labour force data for 65 to 75 year olds would reveal more detail about their age within the 65+ group. Therefore, labour force data (LBF) and some main activity data (MAC) are only available on the PUMFs for respondents aged 18-64 (similar treatment is applied for the 15-17 year old respondents).

3. Bootstrap Weights for the PUMF

The 2019-2020 PUMF includes bootstrap weights which are disseminated for users to estimate variances. For confidentiality reasons, the bootstrap weights for the public-use-microdata-file (PUMF) are not generated using the same methodology as for the CCHS master and share files. All bootstrap weights on the PUMF are strictly positive.

Also note that due to the removal of one health region from the PUMF, the sums of bootstrap weights by replicate are not exactly equal. The effect on the variance is negligible.

4. Content

The CCHS content can be divided into two categories, optional content and common content modules.

Optional content

The optional content component is designed to give provinces and territories the opportunity to select content that addresses their own public health priorities. The 2019-2020 PUMF includes only those modules that were selected for both years by a province or by all three Territories.

Common content

As mentioned in sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the User Guide, common content modules include questions asked of all respondents. This common content is divided into three components: the annual core content, and one year and two-year theme content.

5. Health Region Groupings

The 2019-2020 Master file 107 health regions have been grouped into 91 health regions for the PUMF. These groupings are detailed below. The PUMF health regions (variable GEODGHR4) are similar to what was produced for previous CCHS years, with additional grouping compared to the last 2017-2018 PUMF.

Health regions for dissemination, before PUMF

Newfoundland and Labrador

- 1011 Eastern Regional Integrated Health Authority
- 1012 Central Regional Integrated Health Authority
- 1013 Western Regional Integrated Health Authority
HA
- 1014 Labrador-Grenfell Regional Integrated Health Authority

Prince Edward Island

- 1100 Prince Edward Island

Nova Scotia

- 1201 Zone 1 - Western
- 1202 Zone 2 - Northern
- 1203 Zone 3 - Eastern
- 1204 Zone 4 - Central

New Brunswick

- 1301 Zone 1
- 1302 Zone 2
- 1303 Zone 3
- 1304 Zone 4
- 1305 Zone 5
- 1306 Zone 6
- 1307 Zone 7

Quebec

- 2401 Région du Bas-Saint-Laurent
- 2402 Région du Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean
- 2403 Région de Québec
- 2404 Région de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec
- 2405 Région de l'Estrie
- 2406 Région de Montréal
- 2407 Région de l'Outaouais
- 2408 Région de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- 2409 Région de la Côte-Nord
- 2410 Région du Nord-du-Québec
- 2411 Région de la Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- 2412 Région de la Chaudière-Appalaches
- 2413 Région de Laval
- 2414 Région de Lanaudière
- 2415 Région des Laurentides
- 2416 Région de la Montérégie

Health regions for PUMF

Newfoundland and Labrador

- 10911 Eastern Regional Integrated Health Authority
- 10912 Central Regional Integrated Health Authority
- 10913 Western Region/Labrador-Grenfell Regional Integrated

Prince Edward Island

- 11901 Prince Edward Island

Nova Scotia

- 12901 Zone 1 - Western
- 12902 Zone 2 - Northern
- 12903 Zone 3 - Eastern
- 12904 Zone 4 - Central

New Brunswick

- 13901 Zone 1
- 13902 Zone 2
- 13903 Zone 3
- 13904 Zones 4 and 5

- 13906 Zones 6 and 7

Quebec

- 24901 Région du Bas-Saint-Laurent
- 24902 Région du Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean
- 24903 Région de Québec
- 24904 Région de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec
- 24905 Région de l'Estrie
- 24906 Région de Montréal
- 24907 Région de l'Outaouais
- 24908 Région de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- 24909 Région de la Côte-Nord
N/A – dropped from PUMF
- 24911 Région de la Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- 24912 Région de la Chaudière-Appalaches
- 24913 Région de Laval
- 24914 Région de Lanaudière
- 24915 Région des Laurentides
- 24916 Région de la Montérégie

Health regions for dissemination, before PUMF

Ontario

3526 Algoma
3527 Brant
3530 Durham
3533 Grey Bruce
3534 Haldimand-Norfolk
3535 Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge
3536 Halton
3537 Hamilton
3538 Hastings and Prince Edward Counties
3539 Huron
3554 Perth
3540 Chatham-Kent
3541 Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington
3542 Lambton
3543 Leeds, Grenville and Lanark
3544 Middlesex-London
3546 Niagara
3547 North Bay Parry Sound
3563 Timiskaming
3549 Northwestern
3556 Porcupine
3551 Ottawa
3553 Peel
3555 Peterborough
3557 Renfrew
3558 Eastern Ontario
3560 Simcoe Muskoka
3561 Sudbury
3562 Thunder Bay
3565 Waterloo
3566 Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph
3568 Windsor-Essex
3570 York
3575 Oxford Elgin St. Thomas
3595 City of Toronto

Manitoba

4601 Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
4602 Prairie Mountain Health
4603 Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority
4604 Northern Regional Health Authority
4605 Southern Health

Health regions for PUMF

Ontario

35926 Algoma
35927 Brant
35930 Durham
35933 Grey Bruce
35934 Haldimand-Norfolk
35935 Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge
35936 Halton
35937 Hamilton
35938 Hastings and Prince Edward
35939 Huron/Perth

35940 Chatham-Kent
35941 Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington
35942 Lambton
35943 Leeds, Grenville and Lanark
35944 Middlesex-London
35946 Niagara
35947 North Bay Parry Sound/Timiskaming

35949 Northwestern/Porcupine

35951 Ottawa
35953 Peel
35955 Peterborough
35957 Renfrew
35958 Eastern Ontario
35960 Simcoe Muskoka
35961 Sudbury
35962 Thunder Bay
35965 Waterloo
35966 Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph
35968 Windsor-Essex
35970 York
35975 Oxford Elgin St. Thomas
35995 City of Toronto

Manitoba

46901 Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
46902 Prairie Mountain Health
46903 Interlake-Eastern /Northern

46905 Southern Health

Health regions for dissemination, before PUMF

Saskatchewan

4701 Sun Country RHA
4702 Five Hills RHA
4703 Cypress RHA
4704 Regina Qu'Appelle RHA
4705 Sunrise RHA
4708 Kelsey trail RHA
4706 Saskatoon RHA
4707 Heartland RHA
4710 Prairie North RHA
4709 Prince Albert Parkland RHA

4714 Mamawetan/Keewatin/Athabasca RHA

Alberta

4831 South Zone
4832 Calgary Zone
4833 Central Zone
4834 Edmonton Zone
4835 North Zone

British Columbia

5911 East Kootenay
5912 Kootenay-Boundary
5913 Okanagan
5914 Thompson/Cariboo
5921 Fraser East
5922 Fraser North
5923 Fraser South
5931 Richmond
5932 Vancouver
5933 North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
5941 South Vancouver Island
5942 Central Vancouver Island
5943 North Vancouver Island
5951 Northwest
5953 Northeast
5952 Northern Interior

Territories

6001 Yukon Territory
6101 Northwest Territories
6201 Nunavut

Health regions for PUMF

Saskatchewan

47901 Sun Country/Five Hills/Cypress

47904 Regina Qu'Appelle RHA
47905 Sunrise/Kelsey Trail

47906 Saskatoon RHA
47907 Heartland/Prairie North

47909 Prince Albert Parkland/Mamawetan-Keewatin Yatthé-Athabaska

Alberta

48931 South Zone
48932 Calgary Zone
48933 Central Zone
48934 Edmonton Zone
48935 North Zone

British Columbia

59911 East Kootenay
59912 Kootenay-Boundary
59913 Okanagan
59914 Thompson/Cariboo
59921 Fraser East
59922 Fraser North
59923 Fraser South
59931 Richmond
59932 Vancouver
59933 North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
59941 South Vancouver Island
59942 Central Vancouver Island
59943 North Vancouver Island
59951 Northwest/Northeast

59952 Northern Interior

Territories

60901 Yukon/Northwest Territories/Nunavut