

Statistics Canada Definitions

Visible minority population

The *Employment Equity Act* defines visible minorities as 'persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.'

Not a visible minority

Includes respondents who reported 'Yes' to the Aboriginal identity question (Question 18) as well as respondents who were not considered to be members of a visible minority group.

Mother tongue

Refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census.

Language spoken most often at home - 20% sample data

Refers to the language spoken most often at home by the individual at the time of the census. Other languages spoken at home on a regular basis were also collected.

Other language(s)

Includes responses indicating single responses of a non-official language and multiple responses. Multiple responses include cases where one non-official language is in combination either with English or French or with both official languages.

Educational

'Highest certificate, diploma or degree' refers to the highest certificate, diploma or degree completed based on a hierarchy which is generally related to the amount of time spent 'in-class.' For postsecondary completers, a university education is considered to be a higher level of schooling than a college education, while a college education is considered to be a higher level of education than in the trades. Although some trades requirements may take as long or longer to complete than a given college or university program, the majority of time is spent in on-the-job paid training and less time is spent in the classroom.

College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma

'College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma' replaces the category 'Other non-university certificate or diploma' in previous censuses. This category includes accreditation by non-degree-granting institutions such as community colleges, CEGEPs, private business colleges and technical institutes.

High school certificate or equivalent

'High school certificate or equivalent' includes persons who have graduated from a secondary school or equivalent. Excludes persons with a postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree. Examples of postsecondary institutions include community colleges, institutes of technology, CEGEPs, private trade schools, private business colleges, schools of nursing and universities.

Labour force activity - 20% sample data

Labour force activity - Refers to the labour market activity of the population 15 years and over in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006).

In the labour force

Labour force - Refers to persons who were either employed or unemployed during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006). In past censuses, this was called 'total labour force.'

Employed

Employed - Refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006):

- (a) did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice;
- (b) were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.

Unemployed

Unemployed - Refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either:

- (a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks;
- (b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job;
- (c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Not in the labour force

Not in the labour force - Refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were neither employed nor unemployed. It includes students, homemakers, retired workers, seasonal workers in an 'off' season who were not looking for work, and persons who could not work because of a long-term illness or disability.

Occupation

Occupation - National Occupational Classification for Statistics 2006. Refers to the kind of work persons were doing during the reference week, as determined by their kind of work and the description of the main activities in their job. If the person did not have a job during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to enumeration (May 16, 2006), the data relate to the job of longest duration since January 1, 2005. Persons with two or more jobs were to report the information for the job at which they worked the most hours.

Place of work status - 20% sample data

Employed labour force 15 years and over who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006):

(a) did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice

(b) were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.