ArcGIS Business Analyst – 2023 Canadian Data Terminology

Age	Age data is reported for five-year age cohorts and select summary groups—for example, 15+, 65+, and 85+.
Aggregated Dissemination Area (ADA)	Aggregated Dissemination Areas (ADA) cover the entire country and, where possible, have a population between 5,000 and 15,000 based on the previous census population counts. 2023 count is 5,433.
Average household size	Average household size is calculated by dividing the number of persons in households by the number of households.
Business data	The Esri Canada business data is extracted from a comprehensive list of businesses licensed from Data Axle. Data Axle collects information on private and public Canadian companies. Individual businesses are located by address geocoding—not all will have an exact location. Businesses can be retrieved by their Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code as well as by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code and location. The Data Axle Business File can be used for locating both competitors and marketing opportunities. 2023 count is 1,005,447.
Census data	Provided by Environics Analytics, Census data includes all of the popular variables that analysts and marketers rely on from census profiles along with several important additional variables, including age and sex by single year of age, condo ownership, mortgages for houses versus condos and families by presence of children and age group. This database is enhanced by Environics Analytics' modellers to fill in missing data and correct for the effects of random rounding and suppression while maintaining a close relationship to the original Statistics Canada data. The result is a comprehensive set of demographic variables available for any geographic level-standard census and postal geographies or custom client areas.
Census Divisions (CD)	A group of neighbouring municipalities joined for the purposes of regional planning and managing common services (such as police or ambulance services). These groupings are established under laws in effect in certain provinces in Canada. For example, a census division might correspond to a large city, to a county or a regional district. In other provinces and the territories where laws do not provide for such areas, Statistics Canada defines equivalent areas for statistical reporting purposes in cooperation with these provinces and territories. CDs cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 count is 293.
Census Metropolitan Areas / Census Agglomerations (CMA / CA)	Area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A census metropolitan area must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. A census agglomeration must have an urban core population of at least 10,000. CMA/CAs do not cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 CMA count is 152.

Census Subdivisions (CSD)	Area that is a municipality or an area that is deemed to be equivalent to a municipality for statistical reporting purposes—for example, an Indian reserve or an unorganized territory. Municipal status is defined by laws in effect in each province and territory in Canada. CSDs cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 count is 5,161.
Current Dollars vs. Constant Dollars	Current Dollars describes income in the year in which a person, household, or family receives it, unadjusted for inflation. Constant Dollars describes income after adjustment for inflation from a previous date. For instance, the purchasing power of the income received in 2023, adjusted to a 2016 Constant Dollar, will be less than the Current Dollars amount.
Census Tracts (CT)	Small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population of 2,500 to 8,000. They are in census metropolitan areas and in census agglomerations with an urban core population of 50,000 or more in the previous census. A committee of local specialists (for example, planners, health and social workers, and educators) initially delineates census tracts in conjunction with Statistics Canada. Once a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA) has been subdivided into census tracts, the census tracts are maintained even if the urban core population subsequently declines below 50,000. CTs do not cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 count is 6,247.
Demographic data	Provided by Environics Analytics, Demographic Estimates and Projections (DemoStats) consists of current-year estimates and demographic projections for three, five and ten years into the future. It also includes historical estimates for the fifth year prior to the current year based on the same methodologies to ensure accurate trend analysis. DemoStats variables are available at the Dissemination Area (DA) level for all estimates and projections. DemoStats is created using innovative methods that combine econometric, demographic and geographic models and employs a variety of data inputs including the latest census, current economic indicators, post census estimates from federal and provincial governments, immigration statistics and economic data like building permits. DemoStats features variables on population, family structure, household size and type, diversity, labour force participation and income - including both averages and distributions.
Dissemination Areas (DA)	A Dissemination Area (DA) is an area bounded on all sides by roads and/or boundaries of standard geographic areas. The Dissemination Area is the smallest geographic area for which population and dwelling counts are disseminated. DAs cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 count is 57,935.
Diversity Index	The Diversity Index summarizes racial and ethnic diversity. The index shows the likelihood that two persons, chosen at random from the same area, belong to different racial or ethnic groups. The index ranges from 0 (no diversity) to 100 (complete diversity). For example, the diversity score for Canada is 59, which means there is a 59 percent probability that two people randomly chosen from the Canadian population would belong to different racial or ethnic groups.

Families	Households in which one or more persons in the household are related to the householder (formerly, the head of the household) by birth, marriage or adoption. The census tabulates only one family per household. These data are contained in the Adjusted Census and DemoStats.
Federal Electoral Districts (FED)	A Federal Electoral District is an area represented by a member of the House of Commons. The Federal Electoral District boundaries used for the latest Census were based on the Representation Order for the most recent federal election held prior to the Census. FEDs cover all the territory of Canada. 2023 count is 338.
Federal Sortation Area (FSA)	The Canadian postal code (PC) is a six-character alphanumeric combination (ANA NAN) assigned to one or more postal addresses in a specific delivery area (e.g. M4B 1G5). The first three digits of the PC are the Forward Sortation Area (FSA). The last three digits are the LDU. An FSA will comprise one or more LDUs. The number of FSAs in Canada increases intermittently as new population centres are built. FSA boundaries are based on the FSA boundaries provided by the latest Census and are updated annually based on the Canada Post FSA listings current as of the end of the year before the current data release. All provided Census, Demographic, Spending and Segmentation data is summarized to these FSAs. 2023 count is 1,667.
Home value	The estimate of value is presented for total owner-occupied units.
Home value base	This is the sum of the home value distribution.
Household	Household is an occupied housing unit. Household type is identified by the presence of relatives and the number of persons living in the household. Family households, with or without children, include married couples and other families - a male or female householder with no spouse present. Nonfamily households may be a group of unrelated persons or a single person living alone. These data are contained in the Adjusted Census and DemoStats.
Household income	See Income.
Household income base	This is the sum of the household income distribution.
Household Spend data	Provided by Environics Analytics, Household Spend (HS) data provides current estimates of average annual expenditures for categories of goods and services used by Canadian households - everything from mortgage payments, household furnishings and utilities to vitamins, mobile phones, footwear and games of chance. This wide-ranging database lets you analyze potential expenditures by both average dollars per household and total dollars spent for any geographic level—from the entire nation down to a small trade area—regardless of where a consumer made the purchase. HS is produced annually with DA disposable income data from Environics Analytics' DemoStats and PRIZM segment spending patterns based on a recent Survey of Household Spending conducted by Statistics Canada. **Note**: All spending data are reported as positive dollars within the data.

Income	Income is a forecast of income for the current year, based on the most recent Census calendar year. Income amounts are expressed in current dollars, including an adjustment for inflation or cost-of-living increases. These data are contained within the DemoStats. **Note**: All Income data is reported as negative dollars because spending data is reported as positive dollars.
Index	An index is the ratio of a local percent (rate) to a benchmark percent (rate), or another base—for example, $$Index = \left[\left(\frac{\%local}{\%CAN}\right)\right] \times 100$$
Local Delivery Unit (LDU)	The Canadian postal code (PC) is a six-character alphanumeric combination (ANA NAN) assigned to one or more postal addresses in a specific delivery area—for example, M4B 1G5. The last three digits of the PC are the Local Delivery Unit (LDU) and identify a specific delivery area within the associated FSA.
Median	This is a value that divides a distribution into two equal parts. A median is a positional measure that is unaffected by extremely high or low values in a distribution that may affect an average.
Median age	Median age is calculated from the distribution of age by five-year groups. These data are contained in the current DemoStats.
Median home value	This estimate divides the distribution of home values into two equal parts. Linear interpolation is used if the median home value falls below $1,000,000. If the median falls in the upper home value interval of $1,000,000+, it is represented by $1,000,001.
Median household income	This is the value that divides the distribution of household income into two equal parts. Pareto interpolation is used if the median falls in an income interval other than the first or last. For the lowest interval, <$10,000, linear interpolation is used. If the median falls in the upper income interval of $300,000+, it is represented by the value of $300,001.
Per capita income	This is the average income for all persons calculated from the aggregate income of persons 15 years and older.
Population	This is the total number of residents in an area. Residence refers to the **usual place** where a person lives, which is not necessarily the legal residence. For example, college students are counted where they attend school.
Postal Code (PC)	A two part, six-character alphanumeric combination (ANA NAN), the PC comprises an FSA LDU and is assigned to one or more postal addresses in a specific delivery area—for example, M4B 1G5. It is an integral part of every postal address in Canada which is used to identify the various processing/delivery facilities, post offices and local delivery areas.

Province (PR)	Province and territory refer to the major political units of Canada. From a statistical point of view, province and territory are basic areas for which data are tabulated. Canada is divided into 10 provinces and three territories.
Rate, annual percent	This is calculated as an annual compound rate of change from 2017 to 2023 for population, households, and families. $$Rate = \left[\left(\frac{P_{10}}{P_{00}}\right)^{\frac{1}{10.25}} - 1\right] \times 100$$
Shopping centre data	Provided by Environics Analytics, the Directory of Shopping Centres tracks information on shopping centre records. It is produced annually by Rogers Publishing, listing most shopping malls in Canada, along with data on the number of stores, floor area, anchor tenants, food courts and parking spaces. The Directory of Shopping Centres includes traditional and new format shopping centres and includes a geocoded location database for mapping and other analytical applications. 2023 count is 3,092.