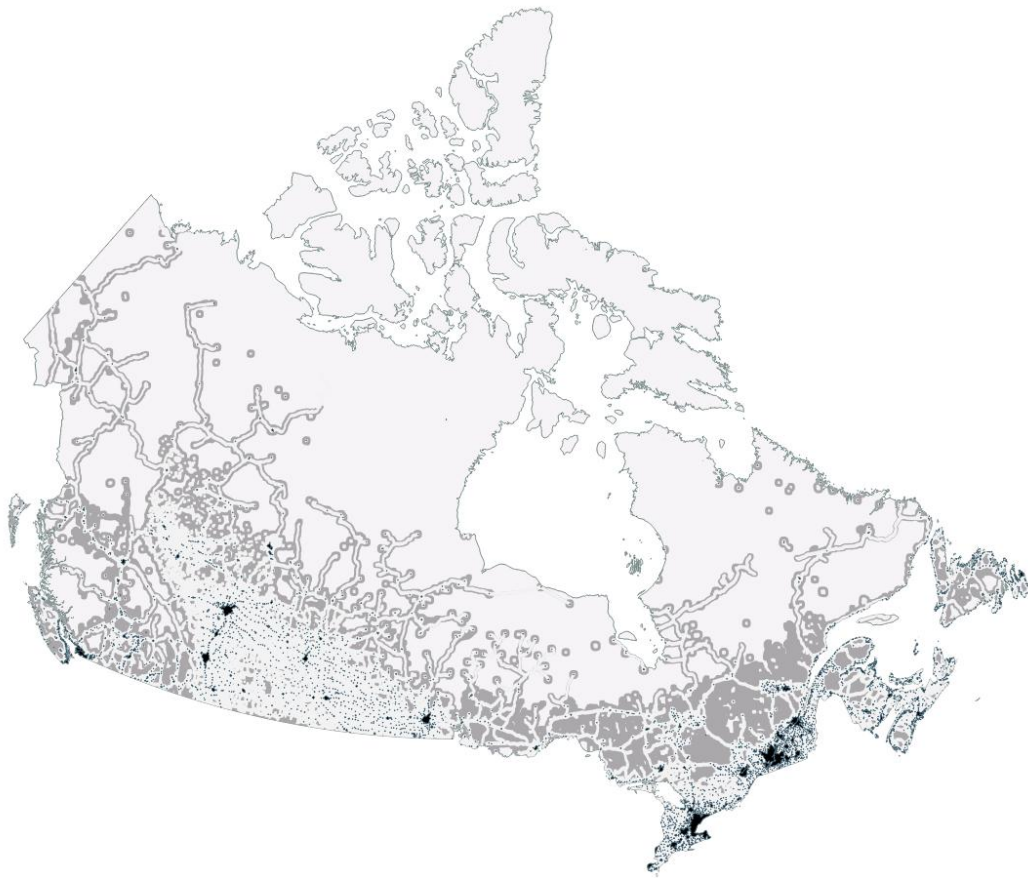


CanEcumene GIS Database Vers. 1.0

- Supplement A - Human Habitat Indicators



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Purpose

This document is intended as a supplement to the CanEcumene Technical Reference Ver. 1.0. documentation. In particular, it deals with describing 'Human Habitat Indicator' (HHI) data compiled for ecumene places.

Rationale

The HHI tables provide a selected set of indicators that are intended to be used to describe human settlement areas in Canada as analogous to natural habitats. There are three important points to be kept in mind when using these data:

- 1) This is not a comprehensive set of variables that would be used for more robust socio-economic or demographic analyses¹. Rather, it is targeted at specific dimensions that are considered to be key variables that can be used as 'part' of an assessment of either individual communities, or groups/clusters of communities in a region.
- 2) Because this is a mappable database, the most meaningful information comes not from the quantitative values individual communities on an individual basis, but how these values cluster on a regional basis. This type of analysis can be done using GIS-based functions such as proportional or colour symbol mapping, or in a more advanced manner, spatial interpolation between communities.
- 3) As an 'indicator' database, the data is intended to 'indicate' something, and not represent a 'direct measure' of that thing. Further analyses are always required when using and properly interpreting indicator data.

The key dimensions that these indicators cover include the following:

- **Human Habitat Growth/Decline** (via Population and Residential Development)
- **Population Demographics** (via Youth and Aging Population Proportions)
- **Employment and Skills** (via Labour Force and Education)
- **Economic Conditions** (via Housing Market and Household Income)

For a more complete discussion on these indicators, consult Eddy and Dort (2011).

¹ For other types of socio-economic and demographic analyses, users are encouraged to use the Census of Canada and National Household Survey (NHS) (2001) data which contain over 400 variables.

Data Description

The HHI Indicators are provided in two table formats: 1) a master Excel (.XLS) file and 2) as separate dBase (.DBF) files as follows:

1) TabHHIndicatorsMaster.xls

2) TabHHIndicatorsALL.dbf, and TabHHIndicatorsSEL.dbf

- The .xls file contains 5 spreadsheets including a Data Description sheet at the beginning that documents all the fields in the subsequent tables.
- The HHIndicatorsAllRecordsMissData and HHIndicatorsSelRecordsNoMissData sheets contain all the data including primary counts from which the indicators were calculated using the formulas specified in the Data Description sheet.
- The difference between the 'ALL' and the 'SEL' sheets (and the corresponding .DBF files) is the 'ALL' tables contain data for all ecumene places including records with missing data (data that were suppressed from some of the Census periods and many from the NHS 2011 survey). The 'SEL' tables contain only records for which there are 'no missing data'. This is provided for those who wish to work only with records for which complete time series trends are available for each community.
- As with the Labour Force data tables provided with the CanEcumeneBasicVers. 1.0 package, the HHI data is also keyed on the HHUID field which allows users to directly link these tables to any of the CanEcumenePopPlaces shape files for mapping and spatial analysis purposes.

References and Links

Eddy, B. and Dort, A., 2011. Integrating Socio-Economic Data for Integrated Land Management (ILM): Examples from the Humber River Basin, Western Newfoundland. GEOMATICA Vol. 65, No. 3, 2011 pp. 283-291