Central Demographics File (Consolidation File)

Date range: January 1, 1985 onward)
Note: Some data fields are not available for all years. Contact PopData for details at: dataaccess.popdata.bc.ca

The Central Demographics File (also known as the Consolidation File) is Population Data BC's central demographics file for research requests. Requests for access to demographic information should, in most cases, refer to this file rather than to individual content data files.

The Consolidation File contains basic demographics such as age and sex, geo-codes indicating location of residence, and registration data. The primary base of information are the MSP Registration and Premium Billing (R&PB) files, but other data sources are also used to augment this base, e.g. to identify individuals who appear not to be registered but still receive health care services.

Core vs Non-Core Data

Core Data: Some BC Ministry of Health data sets available through PopData and HDPBC are called 'Core Data'. A Core Data set is a standardized 'bundle' of commonly requested variables. A Core Data set may not include ALL the variables available in the data set. For example, some Core Data variables, such as geography or organisational codes, are suppressed to meet privacy legislation requirements.

Non-Core Data: Non-Core Data are variables that are **NOT** included in the standardized Core Data set. Non-Core Data is available for request **as an addition** to the Core Data set.

For the majority of DARs, requesting access to Core Data ONLY may make the data access approval process quicker and may expedite data provision. Data requests that include Non-Core Data will be subject to regular rather than expedited processes, both for application review and data provisioning.

ALL AVAILABLE VARIABLES

Demographic Fields

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
Sex	Core	Client Sex.
Year of birth	Core	Year of Birth.
Month of birth	Core	Month of Birth.
Day of birth	Non-Core	Day of Birth.
Born in period flag	Core	Born in period flag.
Year of death	Core	Year of death.
Month of death	Core	Month of death.
Day of death	Non-Core	Day of death.
Died in period flag	Core	Died in period flag.
Death date source	Core	The source of the provided death date.

Geographic Fields

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
BC resident flag	Core	BC resident flag. Indicates if the given client is deemed a BC resident or not (based on client having at least one day of MSP eligibility in period).
Neighbourhood income per single person equivalent	Core	Neighbourhood income per single person equivalent
Neighbourhood income (SES) quintile / decile	Core	Neighbourhood income (SES) quintile / decile
First three characters of the postal code (forward sortation area)	Core	Three Digit Postal Code (Forward Sortation Area; FSA).
Postal code	Non-Core	Six Digit Postal Code.
Community health service area (CHSA)	Non-Core	Community health service area (CHSA).
Local health area (LHA)	Core	Local health area (pre 2018)
Local health area (LHA)	Core	Local Health Area (LHA).
Health service delivery area (HSDA)	Core	Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA).
Health authority (HA)	Core	Health Authority (HA).
Community health service area (CHSA) urban/rural classifications	Core	Community health service area (CHSA) urban/rural classifications
Local health area (LHA) urban/rural classifications	Core	Local health area (LHA) urban/rural classifications
Census tract (CT)	Non-Core	Census tract (CT).
Dissemination area (DA)	Non-Core	Dissemination area (DA).
Census subdivision (CSD)	Core	Census subdivision (CSD).
Census division (CD)	Core	Census division (CD).
Census metropolitan area / census agglomeration area(CMA/CA)	Core	Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration Area (CMA/CA).
Statistical Area Classification Type (SACTYPE).	Core	Statistical Area Classification Type (SACTYPE).

Economic region (ER)	Core	Economic region.
Federal electoral district (FED)	Core	Federal electoral district (FED).
Population centre/rural area type	Core	Population centre/rural area type
Population centre and rural area classification	Core	Population centre and rural area classification.
Community Size Code	Core	Community Size Code.
Community size and Metropolitan Influence Zone (MIZ)	Core	Community size and Metropolitan Influence Zone (MIZ).
Immigrant Tercile	Core	Immigrant Tercile

Registration Fields

Name	Core vs Non-Core	Description
MSP contract number *	Core	Contract Identity Number (MSPID) is an eight or nine digit number used to define a family unit for Premium Billing and Registration (R & PB) purposes. NUMBERS IN THIS FIELD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PROJECT-SPECIFIC ID NUMBERS.
Days eligible for MSP coverage	Core	MSP eligible days.
MSP eligible label	Core	Active or implied eligibility. A code indicating if the coverage is active (not cancelled for the time period) or implied (cancelled eligible).
Coverage start date	Core	Coverage start date. It determines if a person is listed in a year/fiscal year. Client roster includes everybody with a PHN who was alive that year/fiscal year no matter if the person was in BC or not. It is different from MSP eligibility date.
Coverage end date	Core	Client Roster Coverage End Date. It determines if a person is listed in a year/fiscal year. Client roster includes everybody with a PHN who was alive that year/fiscal year no matter if the person was in BC or not. It is different from MSP eligibility date.
MSP start date	Core	Start date of the first formal or implied MSP coverage period falling within the period.
MSP end date	Core	End date of the last formal or implied MSP coverage period falling within the period.
Account role	Core	Account role is an alphanumeric code indicating if the record belongs to the plan holder, spouse, or dependent within the context of a Medical Services Plan (MSP) Contract.
Account subscriber flag	Core	Subscriber flag is a two-digit alphanumeric code indicating if the record belongs to the plan holder within the context of a Medical Services Plan (MSP) Contract.
Account holder not covered flag	Core	Indication of whether or not the Group covers the Account Holder. For example, active members of the Canadian Forces are not eligible for MSP but coverage can be provided for an eligible spouse or children.
Account holder only covered flag	Core	Indication that only the Account Holder can be covered as a beneficiary under the Group.
Non-registered former BC client receiving service within a year	Core	Indicates that the client is a BC client who has prior MSP coverage and received a BC-paid service during the subsequent period while not identified as eligible within R&PB/RAPID.
Non-registered BC infant died in hospital flag	Core	Non-registered infant died in hospital
MSP premium assistance code	Core	A categorization of clients as to the extent to which their premium payments are subsidized, and the basis for subsidies where these occur.
Supplemental MSP benefits flag	Core	Indication of whether or not the accounts under the Group are eligible to get benefits over and above basic MSP Benefits.
Pharmacare plan eligibility flags	Non-Core	Various flags available by special request. Contact PopData for more information.

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