



Material and Social Deprivation Index of Canada, 2021 – Description of the variables in the correspondence table

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

MARCH 2024

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This document is an update of: Blaser, C. & Gravel, N. (2020). Material and Social Deprivation Index (MSDI) of Canada, 2016 – Description of the variables in the correspondence table. Québec, Bureau d'information et d'études en santé des populations, Institut national de santé publique du Québec. 7 pages.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CA:	Census agglomeration
CMA:	Census metropolitan Area
DA:	Dissemination area
MIZ:	Metropolitan influenced zone
PCA:	Principal component analysis
SAC:	Statistical Area Classification

1 INTRODUCTION

This document contains a description of the variables in the correspondence table containing the values of the Material and Social Deprivation Index.

The correspondence table helps to establish a link between the Dissemination area (DA), specific geographical territories and different index versions. It includes the national version (all of Canada), the regional version (5 major Canadian regions) and two local versions: 4 Canadian geographical zones and the 3 major Census Metropolitan Area (CMAs; Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver).

For more information about the Material and Social Deprivation Index, please refer to the [methodological documents](#) and this [web page](#).

2 INDEX VERSIONS

The Material and Social Deprivation Index 2021 was created from 2021 Census data, for all DAs. Four index versions exist for Canada.

2.1 National version

The national version for Canada covers all ten provinces and the three territories. It is used to estimate the extent and geographical distribution of material and social inequality in all of Canada. The deprivation in all DAs is considered. This means that it is possible to compare the deprivation level of individuals living in a DA in Nova Scotia to that of residents of a DA in British Columbia. The national version is created with a principal component analysis (PCA) of which the results are grouped into quintiles (groups formed by 20% of the population) from the least deprived (quintile 1) to the most deprived (quintile 5) (see section 3). To create other groupings, use the (national) centiles of the deprivation measure in the correspondence table.

2.2 Regional version

The regional version presents the variations in deprivation within the five Canadian regions, namely the Atlantic Provinces, Québec, Ontario, the Prairies and British Columbia. The three territories are excluded from this version. The regional version is created with a separate PCA using all DAs in each of the five regions, grouped into quintiles (groups formed by 20% of the population), from the least deprived (quintile 1) to the most deprived (quintile 5) (see section 3).

2.3 Metropolitan version

The metropolitan version compares inequalities within each of the three largest CMAs which are Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver. This version is created with a separate PCA using all DAs in each of the 3 CMAs, grouped into quintiles (groups formed by 20% of the population), from the least deprived (quintile 1) to the most deprived (quintile 5) (see section 3).

2.4 Version for geographical zones

The version for geographical zones distinguishes four large geographical entities, i.e. the three largest CMAs (Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver) together; all the other CMAs combined (between 100 000 and one million people); all the census agglomerations (CAs) combined (between 10 000 and 100 000 people) and the small towns and rural regions combined (less < 10 000 people). This version is created with a separate PCA using all DAs in each of the four zones, grouped into quintiles (groups formed by 20% of the population), from the least deprived (quintile 1) to the most deprived (quintile 5) (see section 3).

3 DIMENSIONS

Each dimension, material and social, reveals specific aspects of deprivation. Thus, it is important to study them separately before combining them.



The groupings below are combinations of material and social deprivation levels, referred to by some papers as the “combined index”.

The material and the social dimension can be combined depending on the research objectives. However, INSPQ privileges two specific quintile groupings for the reasons described below.

The adequate grouping depends on the aspect which suits the research best:

- Deprivation profiles: difference between the two extreme quintiles (grouping 1), or
- Deprivation gradient: difference between all quintiles (grouping 2).

Grouping 1 – deprivation profiles

Matrix of material and social deprivation by quintile (Q)						
		Social deprivation				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
Material deprivation	Q1	C1	C1	C2	C3	C3
	Q2	C1	C1	C2	C3	C3
	Q3	C2	C2	C2	C3	C3
	Q4	C4	C4	C4	C5	C5
	Q5	C4	C4	C4	C5	C5

C1	Materially and socially privileged DA
C2	DA with average material and social deprivation
C3	Materially privileged but socially deprived DA
C4	Socially privileged but materially deprived DA
C5	Materially and socially deprived DA

Advantages of grouping 1:

- distinguishes deprivation profiles based on both the material and social dimension;
- facilitates the measure of the difference between the extreme groups (C1 and C5);
- detects inequality between extreme groups (C1 and C5) more clearly than grouping 2.

Disadvantages of grouping 1:

- creates groups of unequal size, varying between 16 and 24 % of the population.

Grouping 2 – deprivation gradient

Matrix of material and social deprivation by quintile (Q)						
		Social deprivation				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
Material deprivation	Q1	T1	T1	T1	T2	T3
	Q2	T1	T2	T2	T3	T4
	Q3	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
	Q4	T2	T3	T4	T4	T5
	Q5	T3	T4	T5	T5	T5
		T1	Materially and socially privileged DA			
		T2	DA with a tendency towards privilege			
		T3	DA privileged on one dimension but deprived on the other			
		T4	DA with a tendency towards deprivation			
		T5	Materially and socially deprived DA			

Advantages of grouping 2:

- creates 5 groups of equal size (true quintiles) each containing 20 % of the population;
- measures the difference between each one of the quintiles (gradient) in all population groups.

Disadvantages of grouping 2:

- detects less differences between the two extreme groups (T1 and T5) than grouping 1.

4 VARIABLE DESCRIPTION (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Variable	Description
CENTMAT	Grouping of DAs in the national version (Canada) of the deprivation index. The material percentiles range from 1 (least deprived DA) to 100 (most deprived DA). Empty cell – Data not available.
CENTSOC	Grouping of DAs in the national version (Canada) of the deprivation index. The social percentiles range from 1 (least deprived DA percentile) to 100 (most deprived DA percentile). Empty cell – Data not available.
CMA ¹	Census Metropolitan Area code 001 - St. John's 205 - Halifax 305 - Moncton 310 - Saint John 320 - Fredericton 408 - Saguenay 421 - Québec 433 - Sherbrooke 442 - Trois-Rivières 447 - Drummondville 462 - Montréal 505 - Ottawa - Gatineau 521 - Kingston 522 - Belleville - Quinte West 529 - Peterborough 532 - Oshawa 535 - Toronto 537 - Hamilton 539 - St. Catharines - Niagara 541 - Kitchener - Cambridge - Waterloo 543 - Brantford 550 - Guelph 555 - London 559 - Windsor 568 - Barrie 580 - Greater Sudbury 595 - Thunder Bay 602 - Winnipeg 705 - Regina 725 - Saskatoon 810 - Lethbridge 825 - Calgary 830 - Red Deer 835 - Edmonton 915 - Kelowna 925 - Kamloops 930 - Chilliwack 932 - Abbotsford - Mission 933 - Vancouver 935 - Victoria 938 - Nanaimo
CR	Canadian region: Atlantic Canada, Québec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia
DA	Dissemination area code from Statistics Canada in numerical format.
DAPOP2021	Dissemination area population. This data can be missing when the DA did not participate in the Census or show the value '0' from random rounding of the population figure.
MIZ	Statistical Area Classification (SAC) 1. Census Metropolitan Area 2. Census agglomerations (CAs) with census tracts 3. CAs with no census tract 4. Strong metropolitan influenced zone 5. Moderate metropolitan influenced zone 6. Weak metropolitan influenced zone 7. No metropolitan influenced zone 8. Territories (Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, except CAs of Whitehorse and Yellowknife)
MUNIC	Code of the municipality to which the DA belongs.

¹ Only the list of the most populated CMAs (> 100,000 inhabitants) is indicated in this table. To find a match for a specific geographic code, please consult the [Statistics Canada web page](#).

PR	Province code 10 – Newfoundland and Labrador 11 – Prince Edward Island 12 – Nova Scotia 13 – New Brunswick 24 – Québec 35 – Ontario 46 – Manitoba 47 – Saskatchewan 48 – Alberta 59 – British Columbia 60 – Yukon 61 – Northwest Territories 62 – Nunavut
QUINTMAT	Grouping of DAs in the national version (Canada) of the deprivation index. The material quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTMATCMA	Grouping of DAs in the metropolitan version of the deprivation index. The material quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTMATCR	Grouping of DAs in the Canadian region version of the deprivation index. The material quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTMATZONE	Grouping of DAs in the zone version of the deprivation index. The material quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTSOC	Grouping of DAs in the national version (Canada) of the deprivation index. The social quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile

	5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTSOCCMA	Grouping of DAs in the metropolitan version of the deprivation index. The social quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTSOCCR	Grouping of DAs in the Canadian region version of the deprivation index. The social quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
QUINTSOCZONE	Grouping of DAs in the zone version of the deprivation index. The social quintiles range from 1 (least deprived DAs) to 5 (most deprived DAs). 1 – DA in least deprived quintile 2 – DA in less deprived quintile 3 – DA in average quintile 4 – DA in more deprived quintile 5 – DA in most deprived quintile empty – Data not available
SCOREMAT	Deprivation index - Material factor score
SCORESOC	Deprivation index - Social factor score
ZONE	Geographical zone 1. Three largest CMAs (Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver) 2. All other CMAs including Québec, Trois-Rivières, Ottawa-Gatineau, Hamilton, Edmonton, Regina, etc. (> 100 000 inhabitants) 3. All census agglomerations (between 10 000 and 100 000 inhabitants) 4. Small towns and rural regions (<10 000 inhabitants)

5 COLOUR CODE FOR MAPS AND INFOGRAPHICS

	R	G	B	Couleur
	255	255	255	White (missing value ¹)
	204	204	204	Gray (value 0 ²)
	110	161	101	Dark green
	176	231	176	Light green
	255	236	176	Yellow
	135	174	192	Light blue
	68	126	163	Dark blue
	236	189	158	Light orange
	235	133	93	Dark orange
	162	110	166	Light purple
	122	70	130	Dark purple

¹ DA without index value (collective households, Indian reserves).

² Maps: no assignation could be done; wrong or missing postal code or too recent to be included in the file.