

Subject RE: Subprovincial population estimation methods?
From Barry Edmonston <be@uvic.ca>
Date Wednesday, November 9, 2011 11:11 am
To Warren Munroe <publicconsultationadvocacy@Shaw.ca> , "jenna.hennebry@gmail.com" <jenna.hennebry@gmail.com> , "feng.hou@statcan.ca" <feng.hou@statcan.ca> , "dkerr@uwo.ca" <dkerr@uwo.ca> , "jliu8@lakeheadu.ca" <jliu8@lakeheadu.ca> , "milan@statcan.gs.ca" <milan@statcan.gs.ca> , "ravanera@uwo.ca" <ravanera@uwo.ca> , "margaret.michalowski@statcan.ca" <margaret.michalowski@statcan.ca> , "ftrovato@ualberta.ca" <ftrovato@ualberta.ca> , "agagnon4@uwo.ca" <agagnon4@uwo.ca> , "lgoldmann0105@rogers.com" <lgoldmann0105@rogers.com>

Dear Warren,

I am replying to your email about sub-provincial estimates. But, first of all, let me say that we welcome your application for your membership in the Canadian Population Society. If you wish to join, you can find membership information on our website.

Regarding sub-provincial population estimates, several CPS members have interests in the general topic of population estimates and projections. As a professional society, we do not carry out evaluations of provincial and federal government procedures for preparing estimates and projections. Several of our members participate, however, on advisory committees to government agencies and, as individuals, make suggestions for improvement of official population estimates and projections.

Although CPS members have an interest in the quality of official statistics, we do not as a professional society evaluate or make recommendations about procedures for preparing government population estimates and projections.

Sincerely, Barry Edmonston

Barry Edmonston, CPS President
Research Professor
Department of Sociology
University of Victoria
Victoria, BC V8W 3P5

From: Warren Munroe [publicconsultationadvocacy@Shaw.ca]
Sent: November 9, 2011 8:44 AM
To: Barry Edmonston; jenna.hennebry@gmail.com; feng.hou@statcan.ca; dkerr@uwo.ca; jliu8@lakeheadu.ca; milan@statcan.gs.ca; ravanera@uwo.ca; margaret.michalowski@statcan.ca; ftrovato@ualberta.ca; agagnon4@uwo.ca; lgoldmann0105@rogers.com; ravanera@uwo.ca
Subject: Subprovincial population estimation methods?

Hello Canadian Population Society,

I am interested in becoming a member of the Canadian Population Society, but first, I would like to know whether the CPS is interested in subprovincial population estimates and forecasts. Please allow me to elaborate.

I am a Population Analyst, having earned a Master of Arts degree majoring in Geography, with an emphasis in Statistics and population analysis, from Carleton University, where I was fortunate enough to be able to create self directed studies into the components of population change with adjunct Professors from Statistics Canada. Upon graduation, I was hired as the Population Analyst for BC Stats, with the role of provincial expert on migration (2002 to 2006).

Since 2002, I have continued to advocate the publication of the population estimation methods used by BC Stats. Recently, the 1998 methods were revised, and the methods to be used in 2011 are now available; however, the many changes that occurred, particularly between 2001 to 2011, have never been published. It is this practice and the real methods that I would like to discuss with the Canadian Population Society.

For example, BC Stats states there was "extensive analysis" of the use of telephone landlines along with electrical landlines as indicators of population change. (General Estimation System - August 2011, BC Stats).

I have been told by Statistics Canada Demography division that there is no consultation between the two agencies regarding methods, rather BC Stats sends subprovincial estimates that are then used by Statistics Canada in the Annual estimates to the CD level.

In my own experience, although I asked many times to see the testing of these variable, I never saw any write-up, while serving as the Population Analyst, nor since. I continue to request these be made public. Also I continue to request the opportunity for independent analysts, universities, societies, to verify the population numbers created by BC Stats.

Was the Canadian Population Society aware that BC Stats Population Section was using these two indicators to estimate population change?

Would the Canadian Population Society endorse efforts to make methods available in a timely manner as well as efforts to verify subprovincial population estimates.

Sincerely,

Warren Munroe, M.A.
Population Analyst
Public Consultation Advocacy

Subject BC Stats Population estimation methods
From Warren Munroe <publicconsultationadvocacy@Shaw.ca>
Date Thursday, October 6, 2011 9:43 am
To be@uvic.ca

Hello Barry,

Population estimates and forecasts from BC Stats were referred to in a report which recommended closing a school.

We found that the estimation methods paper on-line was from 1998; therefore, I asked about the many changes in the methods, especially over the last ten years.

Recently, this methods paper was revised. The paper refers to the past use of telephone landlines along with electrical landlines to estimate population.

Two questions:

What problems would there be with using these two indicators to estimate population change?

Was the Canadian Population Society aware that BC Stats was using these two indicators to estimate population change?

Warren Munroe, M.A.
Population Analyst
Public Consultation Advocacy