**Definitions**

**Urban and Rural/Remote (Statistics Canada)**

**Urban Areas (Population Centres)** are areas with a population of at least 1,000 and no fewer than 400 persons per square kilometre.

Population centres are classified into three groups, depending on the size of their population:

* small population centres, with a population between 1,000 and 29,999
* medium population centres, with a population between 30,000 and 99,999
* large urban population centres, with a population of 100,000 or more.

**Rural and Remote Areas** include all territory lying outside urban areas (population centres). Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Rural population includes all population living in rural areas of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as population living in rural areas outside CMAs and CAs.

Included in rural areas are:

* small towns, villages and other populated places with less than 1,000 population according to the current census (2016)
* rural areas of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations that may contain estate lots, as well as agricultural, undeveloped and non-developable lands
* agricultural lands
* remote and wilderness areas.

**Intersectionality**

Groups of people are not homogenous. Our experiences are affected by intersecting parts of our identity, the context we are in and our lived realities.

We all have multiple identity factors that intersect to make us who we are. This includes identities such as: gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age and mental or physical disability. This is called intersectionality.

**Vulnerable Groups**

Vulnerable groups may experience (or be at greater risk of experiencing) physical, social or economic impacts from the pandemic. Vulnerability is often the result of what are known as systemic or societal barriers, including an individual or household’s financial, mental, cognitive, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination.

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| Caregivers | Refers to someone providing significant (full- or part-time) care to a friend or family member of any age with a disability or mental illness who needs help with everyday life needs.  (Professional caregivers may be considered workers who are vulnerable.) |
| Children and youth: Children and youth ages 0-18 |  |
| Children and youth: Youth ageing out of care | Youth that no longer have access to child protection (financial, educational, mental health, etc.) supports as a result of their age (or will soon lose access.) |
| Children and youth: Other vulnerable youth ages 19-29 | May include youth experiencing a variety of challenges or barriers, such as lack of employment, discrimination, etc. |
| Indigenous (all) | First peoples of Canada including First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. |
| Indigenous: First Nations |  |
| Indigenous: Inuit |  |
| Indigenous: Métis |  |
| Low income or living in poverty | Low income cut-offs (LICOs) are established using data from the Survey of Household Spending (see Statistics Canada.) The Government of Canada does not have an official definition of poverty. However, poverty is often assessed by measuring the number of Canadians with low incomes. |
| Members of LGBTQ2+ communities | People who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Two-Spirit or don’t identify as exclusively masculine or feminine‍. |
| Newcomers (all) | Permanent and temporary residents. |
| Newcomers: Permanent Residents (Immigrants and Refugees) | **Immigrants:** Persons residing permanently in Canada who were born outside of Canada, excluding temporary foreign workers, Canadian citizens born outside Canada and those with student or working visas.  **Refugee:** Person who is granted refugee status and has the right to reside permanently in Canada. |
| Newcomers: Temporary Residents | Persons residing permanently in Canada who were born outside of Canada, excluding temporary foreign workers, Canadian citizens born outside Canada and those with student or working visas. Examples include: asylum-seekers and international students. |
| Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) | An official-language minority is either a French-speaker or French-speaking population living outside of Quebec, where English is predominant, or an English-speaker or English-speaking population living in Quebec, where French is predominant. |
| People experiencing homelessness | Homelessness is the situation of an individual or family who does not have a permanent address or residence; the living situation of an individual or family who does not have stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it. |
| People experiencing domestic or gender-based violence |  |
| People living in group homes or supportive living |  |
| People living with mental illness |  |
| People struggling with addiction |  |
| Persons with disabilities | The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities describes persons with disabilities as those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. |
| Prison populations (detained and incarcerated people) | People detained or incarcerated in jails or prisons in Canada. |
| Racialized (all) | The process of social construction of race is called racialization: “the process by which societies construct races as real, different and unequal in ways that matter to economic, political and social life.”  The Employment Equity Act uses the term “visible minority” to mean persons, other than Indigenous (Aboriginal) peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour. According to the Census, the visible minority population consists mainly of the following groups. |
| Racialized: South Asian |  |
| Racialized: Chinese |  |
| Racialized: Black |  |
| Racialized: Filipino |  |
| Racialized: Latin American |  |
| Racialized: Arab |  |
| Racialized: Southeast Asian |  |
| Racialized: West Asian |  |
| Racialized: Korean |  |
| Racialized: Japanese |  |
| Racialized: Group(s) not otherwise specified |  |
| Seniors and Elders (not in care) | Persons aged 55+ |
| Seniors and Elders living in care | Persons aged 55+ and living in long-term care or assisted living setting. |
| Students (Postsecondary) | Canadian students enrolled in postsecondary education (university or college) in Canada. |
| Workers who are vulnerable (e.g. essential workers, temporary foreign workers, informal labour market, etc.) | Includes workers and apprentices who are increasingly physically, economically or socially vulnerable as a result of the pandemic. This may include:   * Essential workers: Workers may been formally or informally recognized as essential and this may vary by jurisdiction. May include critical infrastructure and other workers in sectors such as but not limited to: grocery and food services, health care, utilities, sanitation, etc. * Those hired through Canada’s Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program, including in sectors such as caregiving, agriculture and more. * Workers in the informal labour market (e.g. sex workers, gig economy, undocumented workers, etc.) |
| Veterans | Any former member of the Canadian Armed Forces who successfully underwent basic training and is honourably discharged. |
| Women and girls |  |