

## **Canadian Century Research Infrastructure Project**

### **Relationship Background**

**Root variable:** Relationship

#### **Synopsis of code set construction:**

This code set was constructed using the expected responses from the Enumerator Guides and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics (DBS) code books, and by consulting the microdata for imputed values DBS did not expect or did not distinguish. Any imputed value that was a sensible response was given a code.

The Team decided to make the Relationship to Head codes gender-specific. IPUMS does not specify gender in their Relationship codes because they maintain that Sex and Relationship to Household Head are two distinct questions, and that researchers can easily search both terms at once. CCRI uses gender-specific codes because they:

- a. Prevent us from removing detail from the enumerated responses. Coded data will more closely resemble the answers people actually gave;
- b. Allow for important distinctions in French responses, where a person's sex is often implied in the response;
- c. Act as a check on the Sex response, as discrepancies between responses to Sex and Relationship to Head will be apparent to researchers.

Because the project over sampled large dwellings, many of the distinct responses in this column were related to occupations or occupational relationships instead of blood or family relationships.

#### **Understanding the numeric code:**

The code begins at 1, ascending upwards sequentially.

#### **The categories are as follows:**

The first group represents relatives to head of household. These codes range from 1 through to 115.

- 1-12 = Head/Spouse/Parents
- 13-26 = Children
- 27-41 = Grandparents/Grandchildren
- 42-52 = Brothers/Sisters
- 53-56 = Cousins
- 57-66 = Uncles/Aunts/Nieces/Nephews
- 67-74 = Great grandparents/Great nieces-nephews
- 75-96 = In-Laws
- 97-100 = Godparent/Godchildren

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101-115= other

104 = Relatives not elsewhere classified

The second group is non-relatives, from code 116 to 999.

116-122 = Partners/friends/visitors/companions (and their relatives)

123-127 = Boarders (and their relatives)

128-133 = Lodgers (and their relatives)

134-138 = Roomers/tenants/other residents (and their relatives)

139-142 = Partners/friends/visitors/companions (and their relatives)

143-208 = Domestic employees

245-249 = Relatives of domestic employees

250-265 = Farm workers (and their relatives)

300-383 = Institutions –General

400-453 = Institutions –Education

501-599 = Institutions –Religious

601-611 = Institutions –Justice

651-680 = Institutions –Military and Ships

701-728 = Institutions –Medical

749-999 = Other – Employees (and their relatives)

The third group is made up of French responses that have dual, diverse English translations, such as “Belle-Mère”, which can mean either Step-Mother or Mother-in-law.

1000-1009 = French-only responses

#### **Code set application notes:**

- Occupational responses: Many individuals gave occupational responses for their relationship to head. We used the code set of Other –employees and responses to account for these.
- Familial/economic responses: In cases where responses indicated both a familial and an economic relationship, the economic relationship was used as a primary identifier. For example, “Lodger son” was coded to ‘Lodger’s Son.”
- Familial/Legal responses: In cases where responses suggested both a familial and a legal relationship, responses were coded to suggest that the individual was most likely not a blood relative of the household head. For example, “Wife’s son” was coded to “Stepson.”
- Illegible responses: Data entry operators were instructed to enter a question mark for each illegible character in a response. These values were coded to “Illegible.”