

Canadian Century Research Infrastructure

CHIEF_OCCUPATION_CODE_1

Definition: The first part of the three-part occupation code that was used in 1911 to classify the individual's occupation.

Source: Census Question

The table below indicates, for each census year, the numbers of the census questions corresponding to this variable.

Census Years	Schedule 1a	Schedule 1b	Schedule 1c	Schedule 2	Schedule 2a
1911	17				
1921					
1931					
1941					
1951					

Census Guide, 1911

A. Census Question	Chief occupation or trade.
B. Question Number	17 on Schedule 1.
C. Variable(s) and Codes	CHIEF_OCCUPATION CHIEF_OCCUPATION_CORR CHIEF_OCCUPATION_RET_IND OCCUPATION_CODE
D. Reference Point	As of census day, June 1, 1911.
E. Total Target Population	5 514 388
F. Statistical unit	The person.
G. Targeted Population	Each person more than 10 years of age.
H. Enumerators' Instructions	103. Chief occupation or trade. Chief or principal occupation or means of living will be entered in column 17, and in column 18 the employment or occupation by which the person for whom the entry is being made

supplements the earnings obtained from the chief or regular employment. An entry should be made in this column for every person of ten years and over. The record in column 17 should be either (1) the word or words which most accurately indicate the particular kind of work done by which the individual earns money or money equivalent, -- "physician," "carpenter," "farmer," "stenographer," "nurse," etc.; or (2) "income;" or (3) if no occupation the entry will be "none."

104. Income. For every person who does not follow a specific occupation but has an independent income, as from investments, pensions, superannuation, etc., the fact should be noted by writing the word "income" in column 17; and the entry "none" should be made for all persons ten years old and over who follow no occupation and who do not live on income.

105. Persons retired. Persons who on account of old age, permanent physical disability or otherwise are no longer following a gainful occupation should not be reported as of the occupation formerly followed. If living on their own income the entry should be "income," but if they are supported gratuitously by other persons or institutions the entry in this column should be "none."

106. Exceptions. Farmers or business men who have retired from active service but who still control an interest in the farm or enterprise in which formerly engaged are to be returned as under the name of the occupation, business or trade from which their living is obtained and the entry will be made thus: "Farmer r." for farmer retired, and "Grocer r." for grocer retired, or as the case may be.

107. Persons temporarily unemployed. Persons who are out of employment when visited by the enumerator may state that they have no occupation, when the fact is that they usually have an occupation but happen to be idle or unemployed at the time of the visit. In such cases the occupation followed by the person when employed should be obtained and recorded.

108. Farm workers. A person in charge of a farm should be returned as a farmer, whether he owns it or operates it as a tenant, renter or cropper; but a person who manages a farm for some one else for wages or salary should be reported as farm manager or farm overseer; and a person who works on a farm for some one else, but not as manager, tenant or cropper, should be reported as farm labourer.

109. Women doing housework. In the case of a woman doing housework in her own home, without salary or wages, and having no other employment,

the entry in column 17 should be "none." But a woman working at housework for wages should be returned in column 17 as housekeeper, servant, cook, chambermaid, etc., as the case may be; and the entry in column 22 should state the kind of place where she works, as private family, hotel, or boarding house. Or if a woman, in addition to doing housework in her own home, regularly earns money by some other occupation, whether pursued in her own home or outside, the kind of occupation should be stated in column 17 and the place where employed in column 22. For instance, a woman who regularly takes in washing should be reported as laundress or washerwoman in column 17, and the. Entry "at home" should be made in column 22.

110. Children working for parents. Children of ten years of age and over who work for their parents at home at general household work, or on the farm, or at any other work or chores, when attending school, should not be recorded as having an occupation. Those, however, who spend the major portion of their time at home, and who materially assist their parents in the performance of work other than household duties, should be reported as of the occupation in which their time is employed.

111. General or indefinite terms not to be used. The kind of class or occupation must be stated precisely in column 17, and the place where the person is employed as "farm," "woollen factory," "cotton factory," "mine," etc., will be carefully recorded in column 22. The occupation or trade of any person should not be described in column 17 by such indefinite terms as "manufacturer," "merchant," "cotton mill employee," "labourer," "miner," "manager," etc. A worker in a mine may be described in column 17 by his precise designation as miner, labourer, driver, foreman, driller, etc., but unless the kind or class of mine in which he operates is stated in column 22 the record will be useless for compilation into statistical tables. See Sample Schedule.

112. Mechanic. The word "mechanic" should be avoided in all cases, and the exact occupation given, as carpenter, blacksmith, painter, etc. Generally the term means one who has the art of using tools in shaping wood, metal, etc., as a handicraftsman or artisan; but this is not the sense in which it is to be understood in taking a census of the trade and occupation of the people. Specify the trade by its particular name in common use.

113. Agent. The different kinds of "agents" should be carefully distinguished by stating in column 22 the line of business followed. See Sample Schedule.

114. Retail or wholesale merchants. The enumerator will distinguish

carefully between retail and wholesale merchants; the kind or class will be entered in column 17 as retail or wholesale, and the kind of business, as dry goods, groceries, hardware, etc., will be entered in column 22.

115. Clerk. The use of the word “clerk” should be avoided whenever a more definite occupation can be named. Thus a person in a store who is engaged in selling goods should be recorded as a “salesman” or a “saleswoman.” A stenographer, typewriter, accountant, bookkeeper, cashier, etc., should be reported as such, and not as a clerk.

116. Illustrations of occupation. The following examples will illustrate the method of returning some of the common occupations (column 17) and places of employment or industry (column 22); these will also suggest to enumerators the distinctions which they are to make in the nearly two thousand other classes of occupation:

Column 17.	Column 22.	Column 17.	Column 22.
labourer	farm	miner	copper
labourer	street	miner	silver
labourer	odd jobs	miner	gold (placer)
labourer	garden	miner	gold (quartz)
labourer	nursery	mucker	coal
labourer	railroad	messenger	bank
labourer	ditching	messenger	express company
labourer	wharf	salesman	bicycle
labourer	gold mine	salesman	furs
labourer	coal mine	salesman	groceries
labourer	lead mine	salesman	dry goods
labourer	iron mine	inspector	bank
labourer	gravel pit	inspector	gas
labourer	stone quarry	inspector	school
labourer	cotton mill	stenographer	government
warper	cotton mill	stenographer	municipal
weaver	cotton mill	stamper	woolen mill
folder	cotton mill	carver	piano factory

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	doffer	cotton mill	carver	furniture
	spinner	cotton mill	engineer	locomotive
	manager	boarding house	engineer	lumber mill
	manager	bank	engineer	steamboat
	manager	flour mill	engineer	mechanical
	manager	piano factory	engineer	electrical
	cook	hotel	spinner	woolen mill
	cook	private family	president	life insurance co.
	superintendent	cotton factory	president	fire insurance co.
	superintendent	dry goods store	president	bank
	superintendent	insurance	blacksmith	general
	miner	coal	blacksmith	carriage factory
	miner	lead	blacksmith	car shop
	<p>120. Domestic gainful and non-gainful occupations. If married women or other female dependants, or children of ten years or over carry on a gainful or wage-earning occupation in any capacity, the kind of occupation will be given, and they will be classed as employers or employees as the case may be; but if they are only carrying on domestic affairs in a household, without wages they are not to be classed as having any occupation.</p> <p>121. Piece-work at home. A person doing piece-work at home will be entered in column 17 according to the occupation, whether employed under contract or agreement with a manufacturer or other employer of labour or as help to the person so employed, and will be classed in column 20 as an employee.</p>			
I. Remarks				

Codes: None

Remarks: None