
Inventory of National Rural Health Research Related Databases

Database name: **Health Personnel Database**

Thematic Coverage: This database collects on the number of health care professionals in Canada.

Maintained by: CIHI

Availability: Data disclosure is determined by CIHI's Privacy and Confidentiality Policy (see www.cihi.ca). If privacy and confidentiality criteria are met, data can be released at the sub-provincial level. Costs are dependent upon the level data required, plus programming and processing fees.

Start Date: 1970 (depending on occupation)
 Release Date: Approximately 15 months after reference period
 Frequency of collection: Annual

Data Collection: Most data are supplied by national and provincial / territorial professional organizations and licensing authorities, governments, and educational institutions.

Sample size: Number of members of health professional associations by province/territory

Geographic coverage: All provinces and territories
 Lowest geographic level collected: Postal Code
 Lowest geographic level of release: Province / Territory
 Existing rural variable: No

Rural definitions that can be constructed from this database include (building block)[†]:

✓ Census "rural areas"	(Enumeration Area)
✓ Rural and Small Town definition	(Census Subdivision)
✓ Metropolitan area and census agglomeration Influenced Zones	(Census Subdivision)
✓ OECD "rural communities" definition	(Census Consolidated Subdivision)
✓ OECD "predominantly rural regions" definition	(Census Division)
✓ Ehrensaft's "Beale codes"	(Census Division)

[†] Results for these areas of geography could conceivably be derived from postal codes if respondent confidentiality is ensured.

Data elements:

Data in this database represents aggregate counts by province/territory and year for selected health professions.

- Where possible, data on active-licensed health personnel are provided from the appropriate licensing organization
- Counts of graduates of health professional educational/training programs are provided for most health professions

Notes:

For more information, contact hpdb@cihi.ca