

Online Meetings on Gender Statistics 12–14 October 2020

ABSTRACT

Title	Measuring gender identity in social programs at Statistics Canada
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<p>The Canadian federal government has made multiple efforts to promote the inclusion of the gender diverse population when developing policies. For example, it adopted Bill C-16 in June 2017 to add gender expression and gender identity as protected grounds to the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code. The 2018 federal budget included funding for the creation of the Center for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Statistics at Statistics Canada. The budget also mentioned the effort made by Statistics Canada to include the concept of gender in the census.</p> <p>Statistics Canada developed new sex at birth and gender variables and classifications to measure the concepts of sex at birth and gender to better reflect how Canadians describe themselves, and address information gaps on Canada’s transgender population, including people who are non-binary. These new sex at birth and gender standards were released in April 2018. Statistics Canada is currently in the process of implementing into its different statistical vehicles gender by default, sometimes in combination with sex at birth depending on the context. This is consistent with the Government of Canada’s recommendations to modernize the sex and gender information practices.</p> <p>These new questions will be included in the 2021 Census of Population questionnaire. In preparation for the next census, Statistics Canada is in the process of updating its gender standard and developing a dissemination strategy and an analytical framework for the gender variable.</p> <p>In this presentation, we will present Statistics Canada’s sex at birth and gender standards, and discuss the challenges related to introducing gender in Canadian social statistics programs from a collection, processing and dissemination point of view. We will also provide an overview of the main changes that will be introduced to the gender standard.</p>	