

# Data Library Guide: CANSIM

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## Downloading Data from CANSIM

For this example, you will download some data on poverty in Vancouver for the last 10 years.

1. Google “CANSIM” to go to the CANSIM website.
2. Browse by **Income, pensions, spending and wealth**.
3. Select **Low Income and inequality**.
4. Select the data table for **Persons in low income families, by age and sex of major income earner, annual, 1976 to 2011** by clicking on the **table number link** on the far right (i.e., **202-0803**).
5. Click on **add/remove data** to get more options.
6. For Step 1, select only **Vancouver**, instead of Canada, as the geographical area. For Step 2, select only **Low income measure after tax**. For Step 3, select only **Percentage of persons in low income**. For Step 4, select only **Persons in families whose major income earner is 24 years old or less**, **Persons in families whose major income earner is a male**, and **Persons in families whose major income earner is a female**. For the years, select **2000 to 2011**. Then click on **Apply**.
7. Now you can see that the table has updated with the data selected. To download this data as a CSV file so that we can open in Excel, click on the **Download** tab, keep the defaults and click on **Download Data**. Then click on the download link and save the file somewhere you can find it, and open it up to confirm that you have the data.

## Mapping CANSIM data

For this example, you will map 2013 wind power by province. *Note: These instructions refer to mapping instructions found in the handout titled “Data Library Guide: Census Mapping (CMA by CTs using CHASS)”.*

1. Google “CANSIM” to go to the CANSIM website.
2. Search for wind.
3. Select the data table for *Electric power generation, by class of electricity producer, annual (Megawatt hour), 2005 to 2014* by clicking on the table number link on the far right.
4. Click on **add/remove data** to get more options.

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5. Select **all the provinces**, instead of Canada. Make sure only **Total all classes of electricity producer** is selected. For **Type of Electricity**, select just **Wind Power Turbine**. For dates, select **2014** for both start and end years. Then click on **Apply**.
6. Now you can see that the table has updated with the data needed: wind production by province. Download this data as a CSV file we can open in Excel. Click on the **Download** tab, keep the defaults and click on **Download Data**. Then click on the download link and save the file to C:\Temp.
7. Open up the data. Delete any header rows above the column headings and any rows below the data. ArcMap also doesn't like column headers to have spaces in them. Remove spaces or rename them to one-word headers, such as **Class** and **Type**. Then save the file as Excel, giving it a more useful name, such as *WindPower.xlsx*.
8. Download the Statistics Canada Census boundary file for provinces and extract it, by using the instructions in steps 7-12, page 2 of the handout "Data Library Guide: Census Mapping (CMA by CTs using CHASS)" as a guide, but choosing **Provinces/Territories** instead of **Census Tracts**.
9. Add your data and boundary file and join them in ArcMap, by using the instructions in steps 13-23, pages 2-10 of the handout "Data Library Guide: Census Mapping (CMA by CTs using CHASS)" as a guide; however, in this case you'll be matching the column **Geography** in your CANSIM data with the column **PRENAME** in your boundary file (PRENAME = Province English Name). You'll notice that Nunavut drops off your map because there is no data in your CANSIM table for it.
10. Finally, colour code your data, by using the instructions in steps 24-25, pages 11-12 of the handout "Data Library Guide: Census Mapping (CMA by CTs using CHASS)" as a guide; however, in this case, you are just mapping the column **2014** for **Field Value**, with no normalization field (as we're not calculating a percentage this time).