

Using Beyond 20/20: A Brief Guide

Statistics Canada uses *Beyond 20/20* software for several database products (e.g., *IDLS - Internet Data Library System*). The software permits the manipulation of variables (known as **dimensions** in *Beyond 20/20*) to create your own spreadsheet of data. The software can be downloaded free of charge and is currently available on all on-campus computers. If you require the software, follow this link to download the *Beyond 20/20 Professional Browser*: <http://estat.statcan.ca/Estat/English/beyond20.shtml>



Definitions & Concepts of Beyond 20/20


- **TABLE:** A combination of multi-dimensional data and text.
- **DIMENSION:** A dimension describes an aspect of the table data. Tables can have up to eight dimensions. The dimension tiles of the example table shown below include: Geography, Sex, Frequency of Language, and Detailed Language.
- **ITEM:** An item is an element within a dimension. For example, **French** is an item in the "Detailed language" dimension.

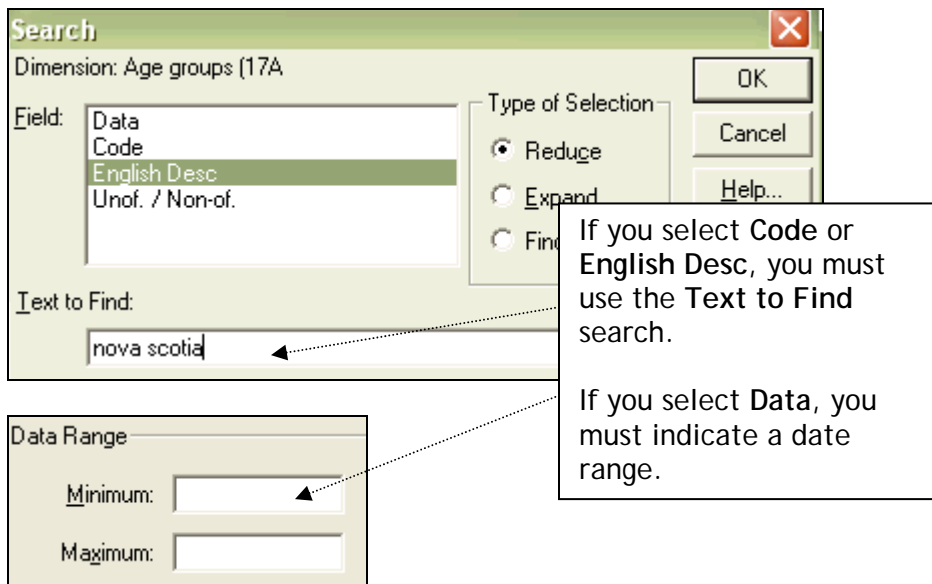
The screenshot shows the 'Professional Browser - Detailed Language' window. The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Dimension, Item, Window, and Help. The toolbar contains icons for file operations and a 'Detailed Language' dropdown menu. The main display area shows a table titled 'Detailed Language Spoken at Home (72), Frequency of Language Spoken at Home'. The table has columns for 'Geography: Canada (CA) 20000', 'Sex (3): Total - Sex', and 'Frequency of Language Spoken at Home' with sub-columns 'Total - Frequency...', 'Only', and 'Mostly'. The 'Detailed Language' dimension is active, showing items: English, French, Cantonese, Mandarin, Hakka, and Chinese, n.o.s. Callouts identify: 'Previous Item Button', 'Active Dimension Box', 'Next Item Button', 'Dimension Bar', 'Dimension Tiles', and a 'Note indicator - double-click this symbol to learn more about a particular dimension or item.' (pointing to the 'i' icon in the table header).


Geography: Canada (CA) 20000	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Total - Frequency...	Only	Mostly
English		21,863,020	18,267,825	1,506,980
French		7,214,290	5,861,135	586,455
Cantonese		345,730	189,425	95,645
Mandarin		110,710	54,065	
Hakka		3,570	900	
Chinese, n.o.s.		392,945	199,995	

Overview of Functions

- To display items of a dimension:
 1. Click and highlight a dimension tile.
 2. Click on the **Display Active Dimension** button in the toolbar .
 3. The active dimension will display on a separate pop-up screen. To return to the original view, close  the pop-up screen.

- To search for items within a dimension: Highlight the dimension tile, and then click the **Next Item** button to scroll through the items. Alternatively, if you know exactly what item you are looking for (e.g., looking for the item “Nova Scotia” or the postal code B3 within the Geography dimension), follow the directions below:
 1. Click and highlight a dimension tile.
 2. Click on the **Search** button in the toolbar .
 3. The Search Box will appear - notice the **Field**, **Type of Selection**, or **Date Range** and **Text to Find** search options.
 4. Enter your search data or text (e.g., Nova Scotia) as shown below.



5. To return to the original table view, click **Dimension** (on the toolbar), then click **Reset**.
- To sort items in a dimension: Use this function to reorder items within a dimension.
 1. Click and highlight the dimension tile.
 2. Click on the **Sort Dimension** button .
 3. If you want to sort the dimension based on data value, click the “Data” field and then select either “Increasing” or “Decreasing”. If you want to sort by “Code” or “English desc.”, select either increasing (numeric or alphabetic) or decreasing (numeric or alphabetic).
 4. To return to the original table view, click **Dimension** (on the toolbar), then click **Reset**.

Customizing your Tables

- **Switching Dimensions:** Use this function to change the table view by dragging and dropping dimensions.
 1. Click and drag the selected dimension tile.
 2. Drop it on top of the dimension tile you want to switch.
 3. To return to the original table view, click **View** (on the toolbar), and select **Reset**.

Note: Only dimensions can be dragged and dropped - rows and columns cannot be moved with this feature.

- **Showing & Hiding Items:** This function is used to either show or hide particular items in a table. Select items in a dimension you wish to hide or show by first clicking on them.
 1. If you wish to select more than one item at a time, hold the control key [Ctrl] and click on each item.
 2. Go up to the **Item** in the top toolbar.
 3. Click **Show** from the drop down menu.
 4. To do the reverse, click on **Hide**.
 5. To return to the original table view, click on **View** (on the toolbar) and select **Reset**.
- **Nesting Dimensions:** Nesting displays one dimension tile within another. This function allows you to display more than one dimension along the columns and rows of your table at the same time. For example, in the following table, you want to move the Sex dimension over to the left column along with the Age Groups dimension.
 1. Click and drag the selected dimension (e.g., Sex).
 2. Position it over the column border until the border is highlighted (dark blue/black colour).
 3. Drop when the border is highlighted.

BEFORE

Geography (i): Canada (01) 20000	Sex (3) (i): Total - Sex		
Mother tongue (i)	Total - Mother tongue	English	French
Age groups (1... (i)			
Total - Age gro...	31,612,895	18,588,050	6,843,465
Under 5 years	1,690,540	1,085,225	315,640
5 to 9 years	1,809,375	1,185,880	345,260
10 to 14 years	2,079,925	1,353,725	422,880
15 to 19 years	2,140,495	1,387,560	422,575
20 to 24 years	2,080,380	1,296,845	414,570

AFTER

Geography (i): Canada (01) 20000		Total - Mother tongue	English
Mother tongue (i)	Sex (3) (i)		
Total - Age groups	Total - Sex	31,612,895	18,588,050
	Male	15,475,970	9,159,000
	Female	16,136,930	9,429,050
Under 5 years	Total - Sex	1,690,540	1,085,225
	Male	864,600	554,770
	Female	825,940	530,455

Source: Statistics Canada. 2006. *Census of Canada, 2006. Table 97-555-XCB2006020: Mother Tongue (8), Age Groups (17A) and Sex (3) for the Population of Canada, Provinces, Territories and Forward Sortation Areas, 2006 Census - 100% Data*, [machine readable data file]. Retrieved May 20, 2009 from <http://janus.ssc.uwo.ca/idls/>. Beyond 20/20.

Exporting Data

- **Exporting Data:** Click on **File** (on the toolbar), then click **Save As**. You will be given the option to save in several formats. It is recommended that you download the file in Excel format (.xls).
- If the worksheet you wish to export is too large, the download will not occur. You may need to break the file down into smaller components (by province, by single gender, by single units of age).



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