GEO 151 Location, Location, Location | Winter 2023. - Neighborhood Analysis. In cities, land use, and social, physical, and built environments vary significantly by location. In this exercise you are to consider your own location - your neighbourhood - in the city and compare it to a contrasting location. In the first part of the assignment, you will evaluate the neighbourhood you live through your own perceptions of place. In the second and third parts you evaluate your neighbourhood (census tract) with the benefit of census data and compare it to benchmarks and another neighbourhood. Task One: Understanding neighbourhoods through perception Local knowledge and perceptions are powerful means of knowing places. For Task One, think about the characteristics of the neighbourhood you live in, and provide a one-page summary of your impressions. This summary in Task One is NOT to draw from any data or other sources but rather will be based only on your impressions and perceptions. Also include a map that you created of your neighbourhood – this can be hand drawn, or you can use an editable mapping platform like scribble maps, Google MyMaps, Google Earth, GIS software, etc. Task Two: Understanding neighbourhoods through census data Another way to know your neighbourhood is through quantitative data, which may confirm your impressions or provide new perspectives. For Task Two, you will analyze neighbourhoods as demarcated by the census – specifically, the census tract (CT). In this task you will use data at the census tract level from the 2021 Census. Go to Community Profiles at the Statistics Canada site: https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E ● Notice you have a tab with options: Place name, Postal code and Geographic code. Type in your home postal code (e.g., M5B 2K3 is the campus postal code) and select the census tract number under Census tracts (CT) (e.g., the CT in the vicinity of the campus is 5350034.02). This will take you to a results page. Scroll down and select your census tract number. This will give you your home CT. on this page the first option is ‘add geography’. Click on it and add your town or city. This will provide a benchmark geographic region for comparison (such as the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area). ● After clicking on ‘Add geography’, the census information for the benchmark region and your census tract will be visible on your screen. On the same page click on ‘Add or remove data’. This allows you to select the variables of interest for the assignment. On the left-hand side of the screen, click on ‘select all topics’ to deselect all topics. You should see 0 out of maybe 53 selected. Now select the specific variables and select the categories of interest. When done, go to the right-hand side and deselect ‘males’ and ‘females.’ We are only interested in the totals for both your CT and benchmark geographic region. Click apply on the right-hand side of the screen to populate your data. ● Download all of this data in CSV format to open in a spread sheet and save as an excel workbook. The CSV format will not allow you to create charts. ● In Excel (or other spreadsheet software), open a new tab, and copy over the data on the following themes for both your CT and the Toronto CMA and format it into a neat table (with column headings). From the Census Data - Population: o Any one population variable - Age: o Average age of the population - Household and dwelling characteristics o Include the top 2 dwelling types - Mother tongue: o Include the top mother tongue language - Immigrant status and period of immigration: o Immigrants (total) - Immigrants by selected place of birth: o Include top 2 places of birth - Occupation: o Include top 2 occupations - Main Mode of Commuting: o Include top mode of commuting - Income: o Average total income of households in 2020 ● Go back to the census profile page using this link https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/censusrecensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E and enter your postal code once again. This time when the results page opens select the option Map near your census tract; do this and you will see the boundaries of your home census tract. Copy the image of the map (right click > copy image or save image as) and save it to add to the report document. IMPORTANT DATA PROCESSING STEP Comparative data: In most cases it will be useful (and often necessary) to compare your areas using proportional (percentage) data as well as the actual numbers. Obviously in most cases you will be looking at vastly larger raw numbers for the CMA (with a population of approx. 2.7 m) compared to your home CT (average approx. 4,000) so it is sensible to compute and compare percentages. If the data are already ‘normalized’ as medians/averages (e.g., median income) do not try to convert them to percentages - averages are already valid for comparison across different areas. For example, if we compare the downtown CT 034 to the CMA, we can see the CT had only 1,725 one-person households compared to 470,615 for the CMA, but one-person households as a proportion of total households is 56.4% for the CT compared to only 23.7% for the CMA. Take care to use the appropriate total number to calculate the proportions. In the example above, it is sensible to use the total number of private households to calculate the % of one-person households. Age groups are sensibly calculated as a percentage of total population. A helpful hint: each time a row of data is indented in the data table it is a subset of an earlier number. Requirements for Task 2: 1. Include the map of your CT from Statistics Canada 2. Produce one table showing all the census data for both the census tract and the CMA. For those variables converted to percentages, you do not need to include the raw number version. 3. Create 4 charts (in Excel/other spreadsheet) to illustrate and compare similarities/differences in the percentage variables between the CT and CMA. Number your tables and charts and refer to these numbers in your discussion. Note: If you can access charts as you retrieve the data at the Statistics Canada website these will not be adequate; you need to create your own in Excel or similar software. 4. Using any of the data from your table and the charts you’ve created, provide a comprehensive description of your area, using the CMA as a comparative benchmark. Task Three: Discussion and Interpretation 1. Compare the characteristics of your neighbourhood as you perceived them in Task 1 with your CT description in Task 2. How do they differ? Which do you think is best to describe your neighbourhood? 2. In what ways are the census data week in their ability to describe your neighbourhood relative to your description in Task 1? 3. Does the geographical location of your CT within the city appear to influence its characteristics? In what ways? 4. Go the StatsCan website and explore the data for the following CTs: 5350130.00; 5350065.02; 5350401.19. Select one CT that you think contrasts your home CT. Compare your CT and this second CT in the characteristics where you think the differences are most apparent. Create one table to display the percentage differences for up to 4 variables and add it here. What (if any) differences do you observe between these two CTs? What might be the reason for any observed differences? Summary of all Requirements (worth 30 marks, 30% overall) Produce a neighbourhood analysis report of your findings, with the following requirements (clearly format your report using the headings as follows): 1. Task 1: Understanding neighbourhoods through perception (5 marks) ● One-page written impressions of your neighbourhood (4 marks) ● Neighbourhood map, produced by you (1 mark) 2. Task 2: Understanding neighbourhoods through census data (15 marks) ● CT map, from Statistics Canada (1 mark) ● Table showing the compiled statistics for your CT and the Toronto CMA (5 marks) ● 4 charts (4 marks) ● Written discussion of your table and charts (5 marks) 3. Task 3: Discussion and Interpretation (10 marks) ● Written response to 4 questions (8 marks) ● Table comparing the two CTs (2 marks) Format ● The report must not be more than 12 pages, including all tables and charts ● 1.5 spaced, standard 12-point font, with regular margins (approx. 1 inch or 2.5 cm) ● Use the headings and numbering to indicate what question you are answering. Place essential material such as graphs and tables in the text of the assignment (as soon after their first mention as possible). Tables and visual material should have descriptive captions (e.g. Figure 1, Table 1). ● If you refer to any sources, cite using the APA format – see here: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\_and\_citation/apa\_style/apa\_formatting\_and\_style\_gui de/general\_format.html. You do not need to cite the data source used in Task 2 in a reference list, instead you can state the following at the end of the report: The census data used in this report is from Statistics Canada Census of Population 2016, available at: https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E ● Due Date: March 20th, 2023, to D2L by 11:59pm. Course late policy and Turnitin policy apply.