

USER GUIDE

Ontario Marginalization Index Map

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to describe the Ontario Marginalization Index (ON-Marg) map: what it is and how to use it.

The ON-Marg map provides an interactive way to visualize and explore the geographic distribution of marginalization in Ontario. This map supports evidence-based public health by promoting understanding of the geographic patterns of marginalization in Ontario and within each public health unit, and enabling conversations about health equity planning.

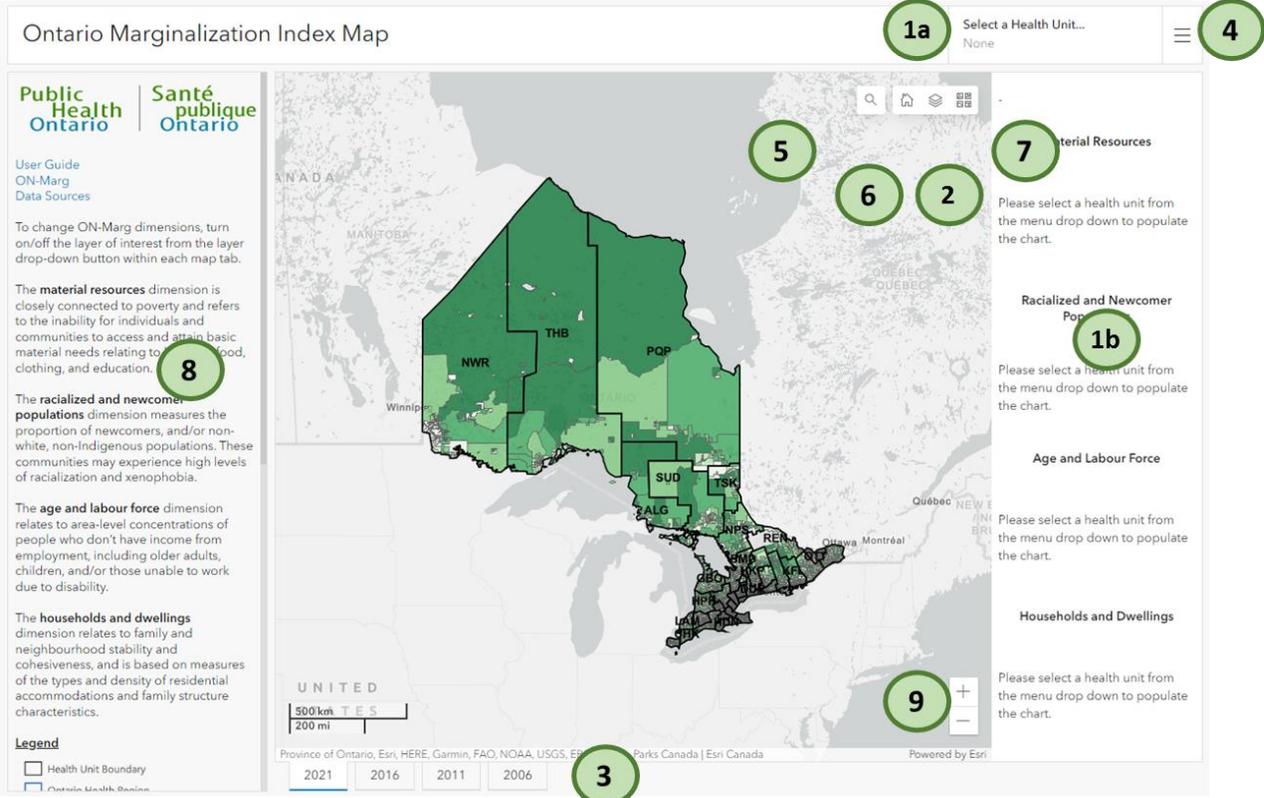
The map contains the following elements:

- Four dimensions of ON-Marg, each divided into five quintiles containing 20% of the Dissemination Areas (DAs) in Ontario, ranked from 1 (low marginalization) to 5 (high marginalization):
 - **material resources** (previously called 'material deprivation')
 - **racialized and newcomer populations** (previously called 'ethnic concentration')
 - **age and labour force** (previously called 'dependency')
 - **households and dwellings** (previous called 'residential instability')
- Four time periods (2006, 2011, 2016, 2021)
- Reference layers showing Ontario public health unit boundaries, Ontario Health region boundaries, and Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) boundaries (for historical purposes)
- Charts showing the distribution of ON-Marg quintile values within the selected public health unit.

More information on the index can be found in the [Ontario Marginalization Index User Guide](#).

Using the Map

Users are presented with a map of Ontario initially displaying the 2021 material resources dimension of ON-Marg at the DA-level. Information about the map and the four dimensions of ON-Marg are to the left of the map. Users can change the dimension and year, and use the map 'as is' to zoom into and out of areas of interest. To populate information in the right column, users can choose a public health unit (PHU) to display charts summarizing the distribution of ON-Marg quintiles within that PHU.



1. Selecting a Public Health Unit

The “Select a health unit...” drop down list can be used to select a PHU of interest. Choosing a PHU will populate the four charts to the right of the map (1b). These charts show the number of DAs within the chosen health unit that are assigned to each quintile, across all four ON-Marg dimensions. Please note that the quintiles have been assigned at the provincial level and therefore, will not represent solely the chosen PHU.

A search box is also provided once the drop down list is opened where users can instead type text to look up a health unit.

2. Changing Dimensions

The layer list button can be used to change the dimension of ON-Marg that is currently displayed on the map. Clicking on the layer list button opens a list containing the available ON-Marg dimension and reference map layers. Click the eye symbol to turn layers on (👁️) and off (👁️).

Please note that although users are able to select multiple layers, only one ON-Marg layer should be turned on at a time, as it may cause the map colours to appear distorted.

3. Changing Years

The year tabs can be used to change the ON-Marg data to the available 2021, 2016, 2011, and 2006 census years. Changing the tab will switch the map and chart contents to the chosen year. To aid in comparing an ON-Marg dimension over time, ensure the same layers are turned on within each of the comparison maps.

4. Accessing additional content

Selecting this menu icon will allow users to access additional content, including this user guide, data sources and information about ON-Marg.

5. Searching for a location

The magnifying glass button can be used to enter a location of interest. The map will zoom to the selected location, however the charts will not change and will remain focussed on the PHU selected.

6. Returning to home view

The home button can be used return the map to the default map view, the Province of Ontario.

7. Changing basemaps

The basemaps button can be used to change the basemap and label fonts shown within the map. Changing these base maps can provide additional reference and context when looking at the ON-Marg dimensions and reference boundary layers, such as satellite imagery.

8. Using the legend

The leftmost section of the map display provides information on the four dimension of ON-Marg and the legend explaining the map colours. Users can scroll on the legend section to view addition text.

9. Navigating the map

Panning or zooming within the map is performed using the L-click mouse button and drag or scroll wheel mouse functions, respectively. Alternatively, zooming can be performed using the buttons in the bottom right of the map or by holding shift + L-click mouse button and then dragging a box around the area of interest (to zoom in) or shift+ctrl + L-click mouse button and then dragging a box around the area of interest (to zoom out).

Citation

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