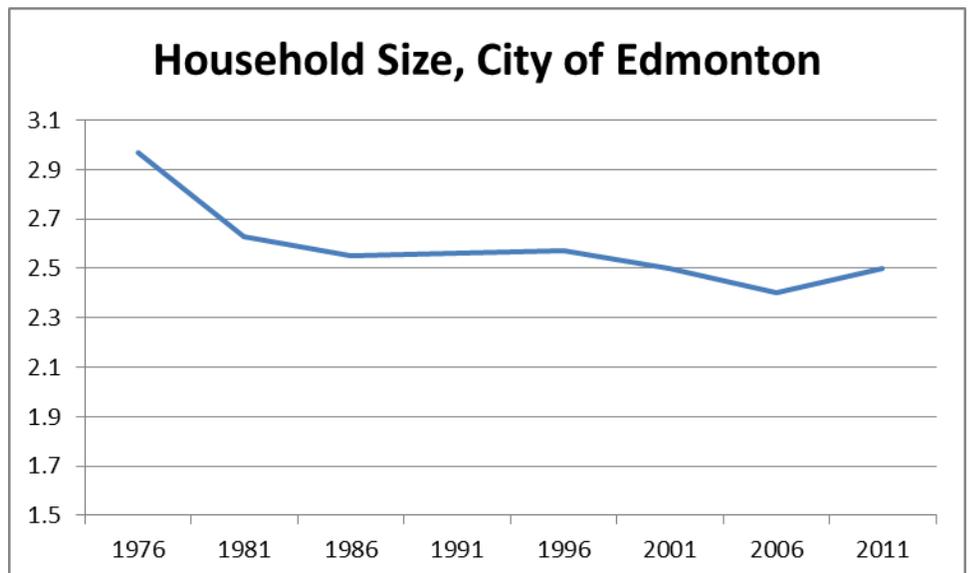
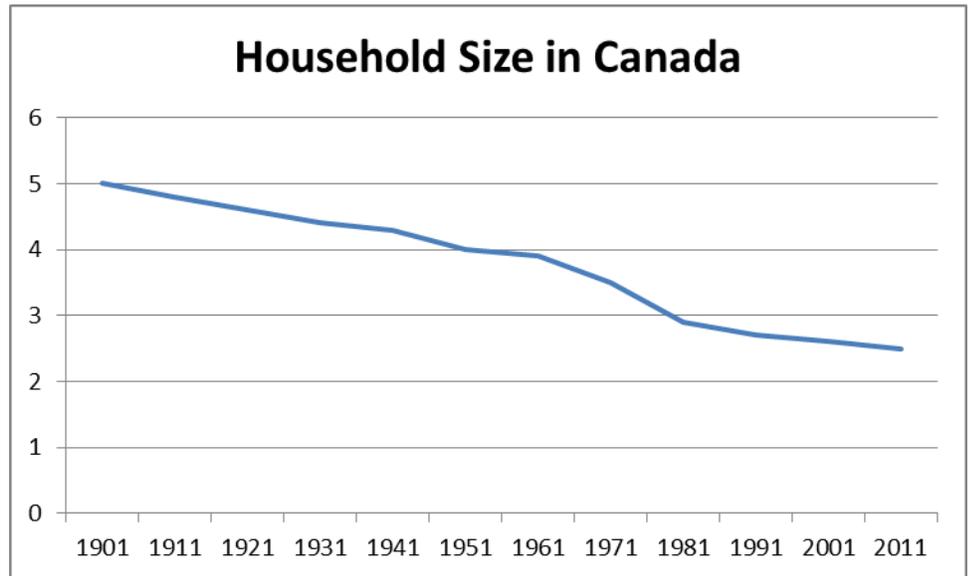


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## CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZES IN EDMONTON

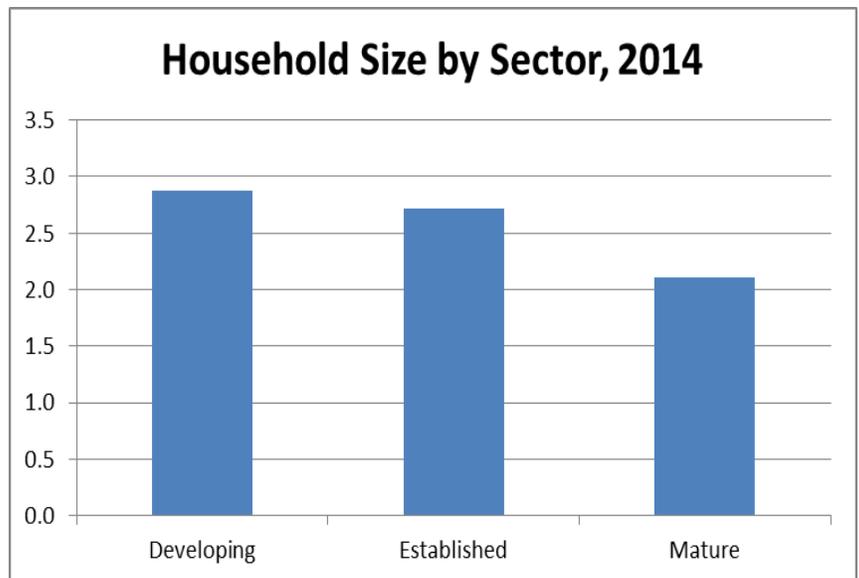
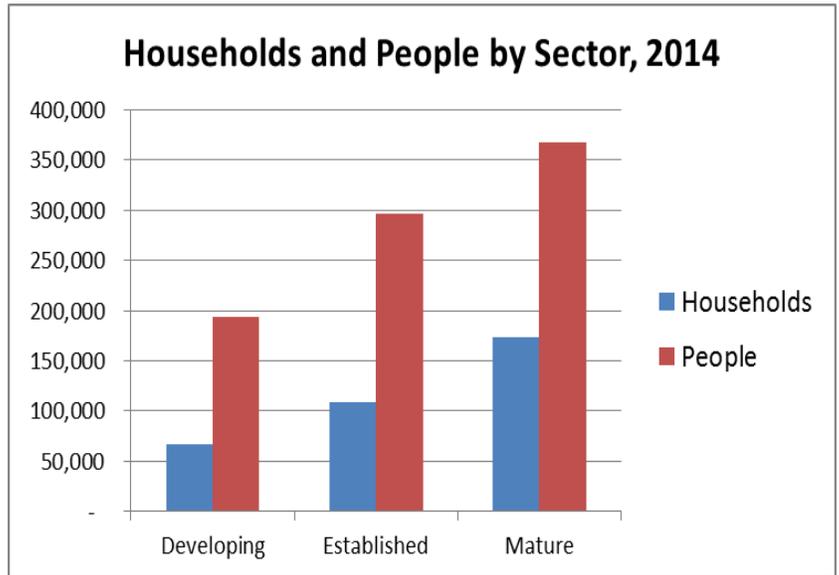
Households have been getting smaller across Canada for many decades. Changes in household size has implications for a variety of planning purposes including transportation, utilities as well as schooling and other service provision. Much of Edmonton was built to accommodate higher population densities than now exist and this has implications for the financial cost of providing municipal services.



# CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZES IN EDMONTON

## Household Size by Structure Type and City Sector

Household size in Edmonton (a household is an occupied dwelling unit), varies by structure type and by area of the City. Edmonton's built environment can be described by geographic sectors based on age of development: core, mature, established and developing (Map 1). The 12 core neighbourhoods are Edmonton's oldest and were mainly developed by the 1920s. Mature neighbourhoods are mainly those developed up to the 1960s. Established neighbourhoods were generally developed since the 1970s and include some relatively new neighbourhoods which were developed during the 2000s and are now complete. Developing neighbourhoods are still undergoing residential development.



# CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN EDMONTON

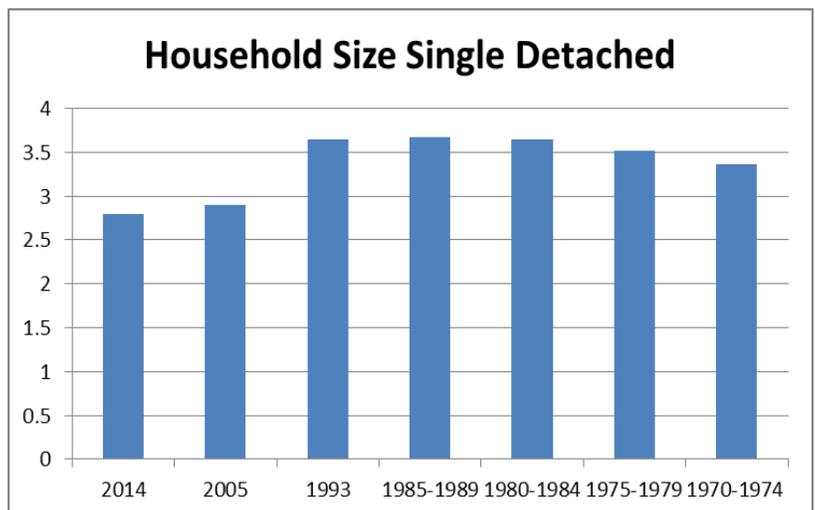
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## Household Size by City Sector

The mature sector (including the core) contains 107 neighbourhoods and the largest population and number of households of the sectors. This sector has a household size of 2.9 and the established sector has a household size of 2.7. The developing neighbourhoods have the highest household size at 2.9.

## Household Size for Single Detached Units

The single detached house is the most common housing type in Edmonton with 50% (occupied and vacant) of all dwelling units in 2014. This housing type has a large impact on the City as it is the lowest in density per hectare of all housing types. Changes in household size in single detached houses have a sizeable impact on population densities for large sectors of Edmonton. The chart below shows that household sizes for single detached houses has fallen sharply in the 2000s compared with previous decades.



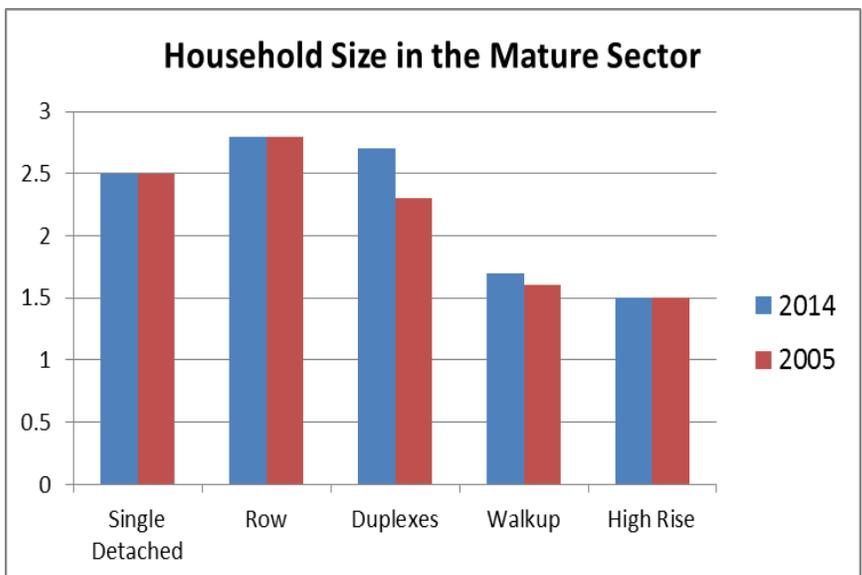
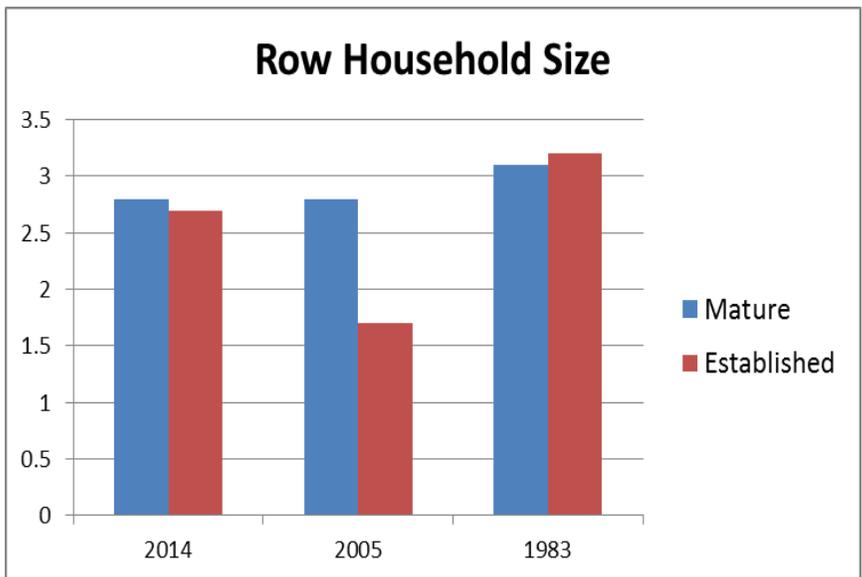
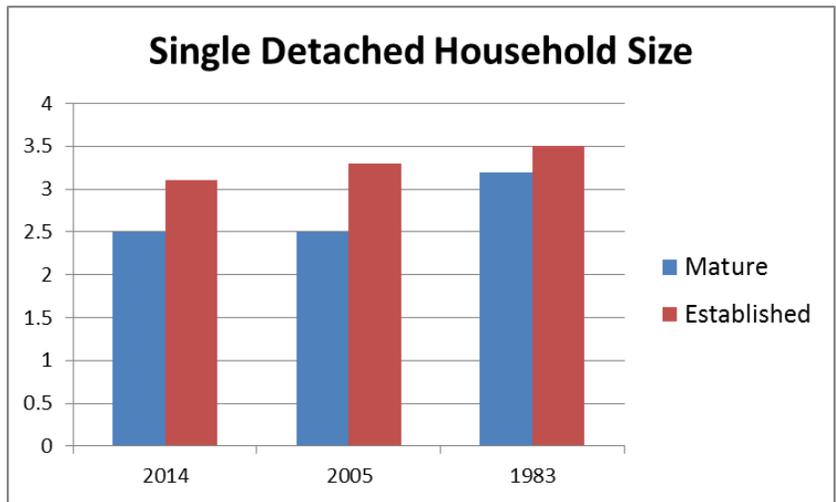
# CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN EDMONTON

## Mature Sector (including Core)

Since 1983, household size for single detached houses in mature neighbourhoods has declined from 3.2 to 2.5 in 2014. With no change since 2005, household sizes for single detached houses in the mature sector has likely stabilized. Household sizes for single detached houses in established neighbourhoods fell from 3.5 in 1983 to 3.3 in 2005 and 3.1 in 2014. With an ageing demography, household size probably has further to fall in established neighbourhoods.

Household size for row housing in the mature sector declined from 3.1 in 1983 to 2.8 in 2014 with no change since 2005. Household size for row housing in established neighbourhoods fell from 3.2 in 1983 to 1.7 in 2005 and 2.7 in 2014.

Generally, housing units with the lowest unit densities such as single detaching houses have the highest household sizes with high rise apartments having the lowest household sizes. For mature sector, this pattern is modified. Household sizes in row housing units have a higher household size than low density single detached houses.

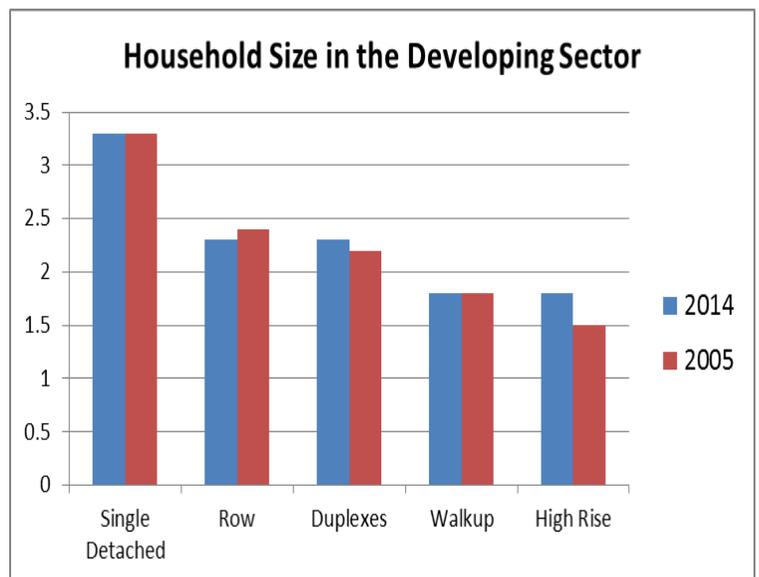
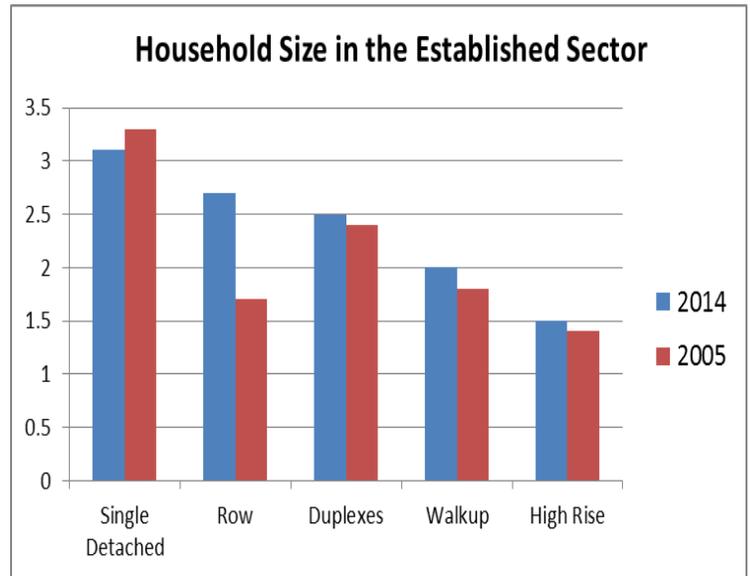


# CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN EDMONTON

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Generally, housing units with the lowest unit densities such as single detaching houses have the highest household sizes with high rise apartments having the lowest household sizes. For mature sector, this pattern is modified. Household sizes in row housing units have a higher household size than low density single detached houses.

For both established and developing sectors, single detached housing has the highest household size and high rise apartments have the lowest household size.



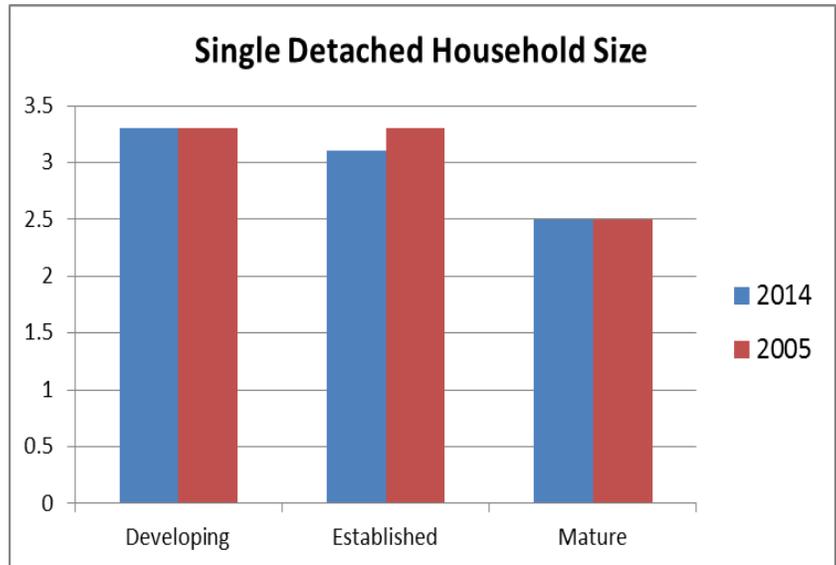
## CHANGING HOUSEHOLD SIZE IN EDMONTON

Household sizes for single detached houses are slightly higher in the developing neighbourhoods and slightly higher than those in the established sector and substantially higher than in the mature sector.

### Summary

Household size is smallest in the mature sector (including core) and highest in the developing neighbourhoods. The life cycle of a neighbourhood accounts for much of this as the large number of mature neighbourhoods have developed from having high numbers of families with children to having much smaller numbers of children living at home.

Household size for single detached houses in the mature sector appears to have stabilized after decades of decline. Household size for single detached houses in the established sector shows continued declines. Single detached housing in the developing areas has the highest household size in the City and with a young demographic will likely not have household size decline for many years.

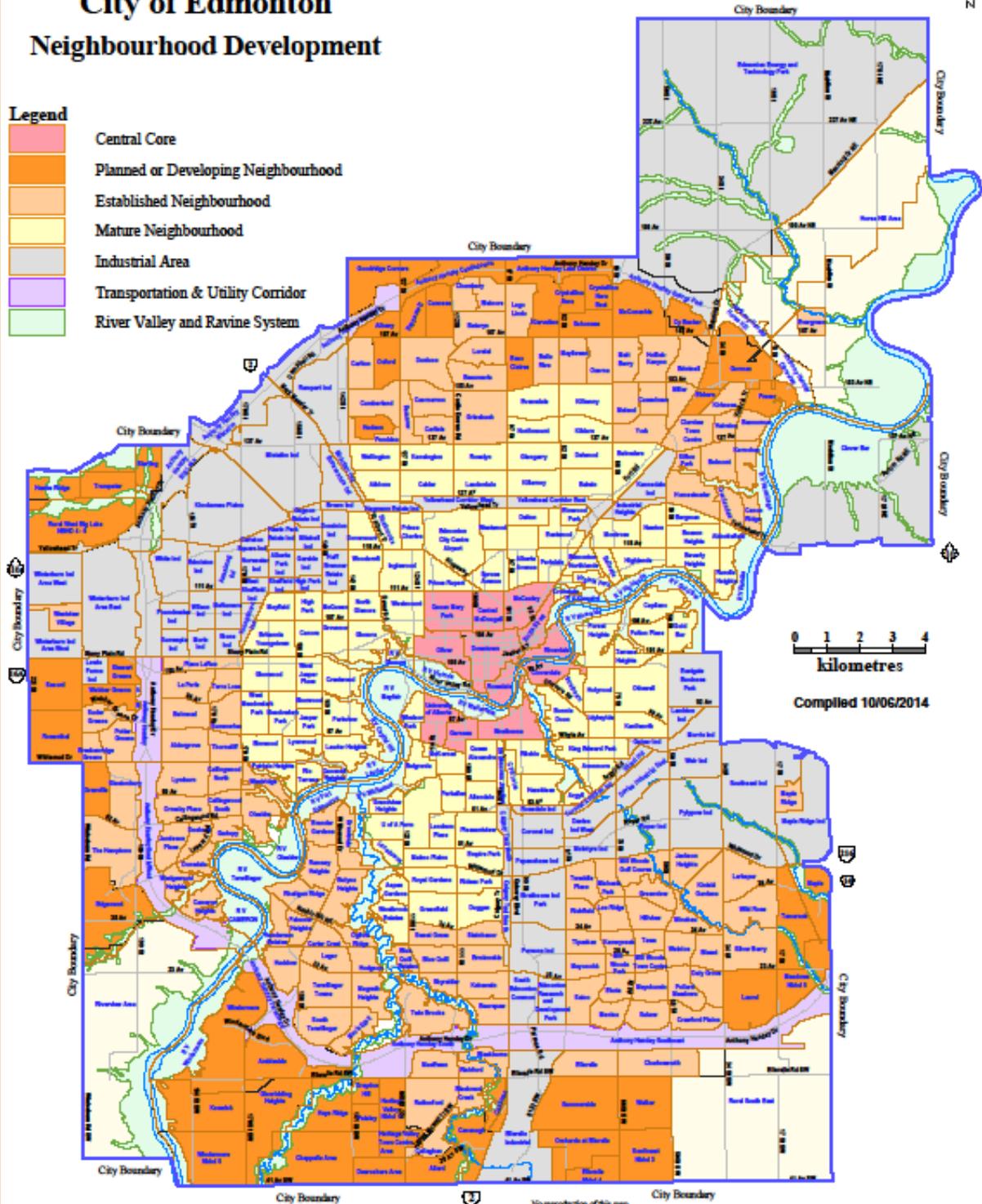


Sources: City of Edmonton Census and Census of Canada.

# City of Edmonton Neighbourhood Development

## Legend

- Central Core
- Planned or Developing Neighbourhood
- Established Neighbourhood
- Mature Neighbourhood
- Industrial Area
- Transportation & Utility Corridor
- River Valley and Ravine System



0 1 2 3 4  
kilometres

Compiled 10/06/2014

Map compiled by:  
GIS and Cartography Unit  
Urban Planning and Environment Branch

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