Table 2. Summary of Census and Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) Canadian national data sources for bicycling and walking, compared to features of a national household travel surveys.

	Census Journey to Work	CCHS Physical activity	CCHS Work or School	Comparison: design features of a national household travel survey
Data collection timing	Spring (census date)	Year-round	Year-round	Year-round: Include month indicator to enable study of seasonal trends
Frequency	Every 5 years	Annual	Annual	If modeled on UK benchmark, annual
How is transportation queried?	Main mode of commute to work on census day or previous week	Leisure activities in previous 3 months	Walking or bicycling to work or school in previous 3 months	All modes of transport; trip type indicator to distinguish work, school and other destinations; all modes of transport included so trips using multiple modes tally every mode used, rather than mode used for greatest distance
Destinations included	Work only	Leisure only (work excluded)	Work or school (combined)	All
Specific origin and destination points	Work commute only	No	No	Yes
Distance travelled	Work commute only	No	No	Yes, for all trips and all modes
Sample size	Approximately 20-25% sample of Canadian population	Approximately 65,000	Approximately 65,000	Sample size sufficient for data stratification to provincial and municipal levels
Age coverage	15 + , only if employed outside the home	12+	12 +	All: Surveillance of healthy physical activity and childhood injury epidemiology requires data on travel patterns among people of all ages
Covariates Available	Demographics, employment, education, household structure, costs and income	Demographics, wide range of self-reported health behaviours and health status indicators	Demographics, wide range of self-reported health behaviours and health status indicators	Demographics (age, sex, ethnicity, education, income), reasons for modal choice on trips (e.g. cost, health status, etc.), can enable linkage to health/injury databases
Spatial data (trip locations)	Average coordinates for census geography of home and work location	No	No	Emerging smartphone technology (mobile applications) can enable subsets of participants to record and submit spatially referenced trip location data. Historically not available.