



Catalogue no. 75F0010XIE

# Labour Market and Income Data Guide

Choosing the best data source for your needs



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Statistique  
Canada

Canada

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## How to obtain more information

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Statistics Canada  
Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division

# Labour Market and Income Data Guide

Choosing the best data source for your needs

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada

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## Note of Appreciation

*Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing cooperation involving Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.*

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# 1. Introduction

The Labour Market and Income Data Guide has been designed with the user in mind. It holds in one place a wealth of information on labour and income statistics available from Statistics Canada. It begins by introducing the reader to Statistics Canada, then outlines methods by which he or she can access relevant data.

The individuals and households section deals principally with people. They need residences to live in, places to work in and areas to buy consumer goods. Several surveys, such as the census, provide demographic information on different areas of the country. This section also provides information about such surveys as the Survey of Household Spending (SHS) and the General Social Survey on Time Use.

The labour market section emphasizes the workplace. It lists and describes such surveys as the Labour Force Survey and the Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours.

The income section considers the economic well-being of Canadians. Price index surveys (SHS, for example) offer important information on the direction and magnitude of price changes through time.

With each survey listed is a brief description of the content, the data, its uses, and an example of how it might be used. Furthermore, the guide lists relevant products, and refers users to several hypothetical case studies related to the data. It offers a contact person or service in case more information about the survey is required.

Finally, this document provides a list of Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres and depository libraries.

## 2. About Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada is the country's national statistical agency, with programs organized into three broad areas: demographic and social; socio-economic; and economic.

Statistics Canada's operations are governed by the *Statistics Act*. This Act identifies specific areas in which the Agency must collect, compile, analyze, and publish statistical information. Under the *Statistics Act*, the Agency is committed to a client-oriented service, particularly with respect to product lines and dissemination methods.

Statistics Canada is divided into approximately 60 divisions. Each division is responsible for a particular activity in the collection, processing or dissemination of statistics. These divisions are grouped into six fields, each reporting to the Chief Statistician of Canada.

Statistics are collected from many different sources and in many different ways. Statistics Canada data are generally produced from surveys but they can also be generated as a by-product of administrative activities. For example, import and export data can be obtained from customs forms.

### 2.1 Delivering statistical information

Two types of survey are used to collect statistical data: sample and census. Sample surveys use the responses of a portion of the population to provide estimates for the whole group or population. In census surveys, every possible respondent is surveyed. Statistics Canada publications give descriptions of the methodology used to obtain the data.

The Agency makes a clear distinction between delivering information to the public and delivering information to specific users. Individuals, businesses and organizations requiring customized information or a standard product are charged for its cost. The public in general has free access to statistical information through the following channels.

#### **The Media:**

All Statistics Canada data are officially released in *The Daily*. (*The Daily* is also available on the Statistics Canada website, [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca); see Chapter 3). This bulletin, issued each working day, provides summary information on key indicators and advises readers of the availability of new data, products and services. *The Daily* is delivered free of charge to the media, which in turn keep Canadians informed.

#### **Libraries:**

All catalogued publications, including *The Daily*, are distributed through the Depository Services Program (DSP) to some 700 libraries across Canada (see list in Chapter 7). The public may visit any of these institutions. Statistics Canada's library, which is open to the public, maintains a complete set of all information released.

#### **Reference centres:**

Statistics Canada operates nine reference centres in major cities across Canada. The public can, at no charge, consult Statistics Canada publications, electronic products, maps, microfiche and related publications from other sources. The centres offer research assistance and study facilities. More details, including addresses and phone numbers, are given in Chapter 7.



**Internet:**

Statistics Canada's website at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca) provides a wealth of information about Canada and Canadians. More details are given in Chapter 3.

**Inquiry services—by telephone, visit or mail:**

Inquiry services are available in both official languages across the country. Telephone inquiries, including service for the hearing impaired, are answered locally and through toll-free lines. Simple requests for the most current data are answered free of charge. More complex inquiries are dealt with on a cost-recovery basis. Our national enquiries number is 1 800 263-1136. The national order line is 1 800 267-6677 and our TDD line is 1 800 363-7629.

**2.2 Cost-recovery services**

Customized client requests are considered specialized products and services. They are priced to recover costs incurred. They include

- custom products and services, based on client needs, such as special surveys, tabulations and analyses from existing databases, research and consultation;

- standard products and services, which anticipate user needs and are sold at pre-set prices. They include *Infomat* (a weekly summary of major releases), all publications, and online access to the Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System (CANSIM), covering all major economic and social data topics.

It is Statistics Canada policy that the costs of producing and disseminating information in publications (in hard-copy form) be fully recovered from sales.

**2.3 Protecting confidentiality**

Statistics Canada is governed by the *Statistics Act*, which guarantees confidentiality of information. This provision is not affected by either the *Access to Information Act* or any other legislation. Statistics Canada cannot, by law, release any information that would identify an individual or organization.

For example, Statistics Canada has access, for statistical purposes only, to administrative records from a number of sources, including Revenue Canada. Absolutely no one except authorized Statistics Canada staff—not even the courts or Revenue Canada—has access to Statistics Canada's files. Individual survey files are never, under any circumstances, made available. Statistics Canada takes seriously its commitment to protect the confidentiality of all information it collects.

## 3. Statistics Canada on the Internet

Statistics Canada's website at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca) is the newest route to statistical information profiling Canada's businesses, economy and society. This easy-to-navigate and searchable site provides a wealth of information about Canada and Canadians. Because this site is ever evolving, it may differ from what is described in this document.

The website offers many exploration options, among them, "Daily news," "1996 Census," "Canadian statistics," "Products and services," "In Depth" (a collection of selected articles from Statistics Canada flagship publications) and "Concepts, definitions and methods." These are described in Sections 3.1 to 3.7.

### 3.1 Daily news

*The Daily* is used for the first (official) release of statistical data and publications produced by Statistics Canada. It provides highlights of newly released data along with their sources if readers need more detailed information. Statistics Canada also provides users with

- the latest release from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) with information on major labour market trends such as shifts in employment, hours worked and unemployment rates;
- the latest release from the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI is a general indicator of the rate of price change for consumer goods and services;
- monthly and quarterly economic indicators. These are tables on gross domestic product, labour market, Consumer Price Index, international trade, et cetera;
- the latest release of flagship publications such as *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, *Labour Force Update* and *Canadian Social Trends*;
- previous issues of *The Daily*, *The Daily Archives* and more. *The Daily* also contains weekly and monthly schedules of upcoming major new releases and announces new non-print products and services.

### 3.2 1996 Census

Every five years, Statistics Canada conducts a census of population to measure the number and key characteristics of people living in Canada. Under the topic "1996 Census," users will find tables with data from the 1996 Census of Population and the 1996 Census of Agriculture. General information such as the history and content of the census is also presented.

### 3.3 Canadian statistics

Statistics Canada publishes a wide variety of information on economic and social conditions in Canada. This information is structured under the headings, "The Economy," "The Land," "The People" and "The State."

Under **The Economy** users may select "The Latest Indicators" to find key monthly and quarterly measures of economic performance for Canada and each province. Data on gross domestic product, Consumer Price Index, labour force characteristics and merchandise trade are available here. Other options provide annual data covering most aspects of Canada's economy.

**The Land** covers geography and the environment. Canada's land, water and resources as well as air quality, forest fires and animal life are just some of the topics covered.

**The People** provides tables on the following topics: population; health; education; labour, employment and unemployment; culture, leisure and travel; and families, households and housing. Under families, households and housing users can find information on marital status, family size, family characteristics, income and expenditures, shelter costs, time spent on activities, and more.

Finally, statistics presented under **The State** cover two topics: government (including government finances and information on public administration); and justice and crime.

### 3.4 Products and services

Here are two examples of products and services available on Statistics Canada's website:

#### Catalogue

Under this heading is a search and retrieval system designed to provide up-to-date information on all Statistics Canada products and services: Information on Products and Services (IPS).

IPS allows a search for Statistics Canada products and services by keyword or by catalogue number (see Ordering from the catalogue, Chapter 4). In response, it displays a comprehensive list of catalogue numbers with their corresponding titles. Selecting a particular catalogue number will lead to a description of the item, which includes an ORDER HERE option.

#### CANSIM

Statistics Canada's website gives users access to CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System). CANSIM is a multi-subject database that provides statistical information for a fee. It covers business, labour, manufacturing, finance, wholesale and retail trade, international trade, transportation, agriculture, population estimates, health and more. CANSIM records (over 700,000) are structured as time series, that is, measurements taken regularly over a period of time. Activity in every sector of Canadian life is measured and reflected in CANSIM records, producing a picture of change through time.

Simple onscreen directions and keyword searches lead to the data series and give the option of downloading information in several formats: text (ASCII), spreadsheet (WK1), webpage (HTML), as well as others. Time series can be retrieved from CANSIM by using the subject and themes list, by conducting a keyword search, by specifying one or more unique databank identifier(s) or by specifying a unique matrix number. For example, a chosen time series can be presented as an ASCII table, with titles. Quarterly or annual averages for certain dates can be specified.

The cost is \$3 per time series (payable by credit card only).

### 3.5 The "In Depth" bin

The "In Depth" bin holds Statistics Canada's flagship analytical periodicals: *Canadian Economic Observer*, *Canadian Social Trends*, *Education Quarterly Review*, *Focus on Culture*, *Health Reports*, *Innovation Analysis Bulletin*, *Juristat* (analysis on Canada's justice system), *Labour Force Update*, *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, *Services Indicators*, and *Travel-log*.

This section offers a summary of the lead article of the most recent issue of each publication, and in most cases a PDF version of the entire article. Descriptive information about the periodical and a link to the order desk are also provided.

The following is a brief outline of some of the periodicals related to labour and income data:

#### *Canadian Economic Observer*

This is Statistics Canada's monthly flagship publication for economic statistics. Each issue includes a monthly summary of the economy, major economic events and a feature article. The leading indicator analysis is also available in each issue. A statistical summary offers a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

#### *Canadian Social Trends*

As Statistics Canada's most popular periodical on social trends, this quarterly magazine transforms data from over 50 national surveys into information users can put to use in their work. *Canadian Social Trends* features key topics of major importance to policy makers and planners, social workers, students and teachers, insurance agents, marketing executives, human resource professionals, hospital administrators, bankers and investment brokers.

#### *Labour Force Update*

*Labour Force Update* is a quarterly serial that provides comprehensive information on current labour market issues. Most of the data come from the monthly Labour Force Survey, a major Statistics Canada survey with enormous analytical potential. This serial also brings together relevant data from a number of other Statistics Canada program areas.

#### *Perspectives on Labour and Income*

This quarterly publication brings together and analyzes a wide range of labour and income data. Each issue presents approximately five articles covering topics such as youths in the labour market, pensions and retirement, work arrangements, education and training, and trends in family income, to name a few. The publication also devotes sections to new products, surveys, research projects, conferences, and selected data for more than 50 labour and income statistical indicators.

### **3.6 Concepts, definitions and methods—search tool**

The headings under this section pertain to the underpinnings of Statistics Canada's surveys, programs and the statistical methods used to collect and analyze data. Discussion papers on concepts such as youth unemployment and poverty can be found on the site. Specific information about certain surveys, such as the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (see page 67) and the Census of Population (see page 19), is also available.

Of specific interest is an option called "Integrated meta database/Statistical data documentation system," within which is the thematic search tool for research in social statistics (a version covering business statistics will be available in the future). This guide notes whether data are available for a particular subject, and if so, where to find them.

The first screen shows a list of main themes, each of which leads to an alphabetical listing of all variables from all surveys related to the theme. Each variable leads to a list of surveys (including recent reference years) that contain the variable. For each year information on the survey is provided, along with a dictionary of terms (where available), the questionnaire used for the survey, a thematic listing of survey variables, the record layouts of public use microdata files, outputs from the source (linked to the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* or the IPS system when available), and contact points.

### 3.7 Other topics available

After locating a specific publication, some users may want to visit the “Service Centres” option, which gives information on the location of our regional offices, libraries and other distributors of our data.

The “Education Resources” option introduces programs and products designed to integrate Canadian statistical information into teaching and learning. This option offers data sources and pedagogical techniques designed to include Statistics Canada in lectures, lesson plans, and so on.

“About Statistics Canada” provides background and general information, including a look at the *Statistics Act*, which outlines Statistics Canada’s mandate. Information about Canada’s first official statistician—Jean Talon—is also available. There is also a telephone directory for the government of Canada.

Finally, four more options are available: they are “Site map,” “Links to other sites,” “Canada quiz,” and an option to switch to the French version.

## 4. Ordering from the catalogue

This guide mentions various publications, products and services. Each one has a registration number, which is to be used when a product is ordered. The first numbers identify the publication, product or service number. The three letters following this number identify its qualities. Consider, for example, *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE).

### 4.1 Explanation of numbers

The first two numbers stand for the subject group. In the example above, 75 represents the Labour and Household Surveys Analysis subject group. The character following this number indicates the product or class, which in this case is a book or report (“-”). The next three digits constitute a unique number applied to that product or service. In this sequence of three, the first refers to frequency (“0”) and the last two form a sequential accession number (“01”). The frequency indicator for books/reports is as follows:

- 0 – Daily/Weekly/Monthly/ Seasonal/Quarterly/Semi-annual
- 1 – Census
- 2 – Annual
- 3 – Census
- 4 – Biennial
- 5 – Occasional
- 6 – Irregular

### 4.2 Explanation of letters

- The first letter represents the stage of the publication of the product.
  - P** Preliminary a product produced before final confirmation of data
  - X** not relevant to this product
- The second letter represents the medium/mode in which the product is delivered.
  - P** Paper/print
  - F** Facsimile
  - C** CD-ROM
  - I** Internet
  - D** Diskette
- The third letter represents the language in which the product is delivered.
  - E** English
  - F** French
  - B** Bilingual

### 4.3 Symbols used in tables

In this guide, a table or a graph has been included after the survey description whenever possible. Here is a list of standard symbols that are used in Statistics Canada tables and publications.

- .. figures not available
- ... figures not appropriate or not applicable
- nil or zero
- amount too small to be expressed
- p** preliminary figures
- r** revised figures
- x** confidential to meet secrecy requirements of the *Statistics Act*.

## 5. Information on Statistics Canada's data

This chapter provides an overview of Statistics Canada's labour market and income data. It summarizes related surveys, products and studies and classifies the information into one of the following fields:

- individuals and households
- labour market
- national accounts
- other

Relevant cases studies are listed in Chapter 6. Whenever possible, a sample table or chart is included after the survey description.

For more information or to order a product, please visit the website ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)), use the order form at the end of the guide, or contact the nearest Statistics Canada's regional office (listed in Chapter 7) or the name listed after each survey/product.





## 5.1. Individuals and households

<b>Aboriginal Peoples Survey .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Census of Population .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Demography/Population Estimates .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX) .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Food Expenditure Survey (FOODEX) .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>General Social Survey on Time Use .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS) .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Survey of Household Spending (SHS) .....</b>	<b>38</b>

## Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS)

**What it's about:** collects data on Aboriginal persons (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit) living both on and off Indian reserves and settlements in Canada; it was designed to provide a wide range of information on their lifestyles and living conditions, including such information as housing conditions, health, social issues, income and expenses, employment history, schooling, disability, mobility, and the use of Aboriginal language(s)

**Whom we survey:** Census of Population is used as the sampling frame for the APS. Those individuals who indicated on question 15 of their census questionnaire that they had Aboriginal ancestry and/or indicated on question 16 that they were registered under the *Indian Act of Canada* were identified as the target population for the post-censal APS. A selected sample of the target population then participated in the survey. The APS asks respondents whether they identify with an Aboriginal group; that is, do they consider themselves to be North American Indian, Métis or Inuit.

**How we collect the data:** a sample of 135,000 persons (92,000 on reserve and 43,000 off reserve) participated in the 1991 APS. Data for the adult questionnaire were collected through personal interviews with selected persons. Data for the children's questionnaire (for those under 15 years) were obtained from a parent or guardian; however, some children 12 or older could respond for themselves. The data were collected approximately six months after Census day.

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories, 11 census metropolitan areas, Indian reserves and settlements with a minimum APS population of 40 persons, selected Aboriginal communities with a minimum APS population of 40 persons, an aggregate of all other rural areas for a province, an aggregate of all other urban areas for a province.

**Demographic detail:** includes age, sex, education and major field of study, marital status, household relationship, mother tongue,

language spoken at home, knowledge of official languages, place of birth, citizenship, period or year of immigration and disability.



### Information collected:

- selected census variables
- Aboriginal groups
- on reserves and settlements/off reserves and settlements
- level of schooling
- employment and training history
- nature and type of business ownership
- expenditures and sources of income
- housing conditions
- ability to speak, read or write an Aboriginal language
- availability of services in an Aboriginal language
- participation in traditional activities
- nutrition and health condition
- social issues facing Aboriginal communities
- mobility patterns
- nature and severity of disability

**Frequency:** proposed to follow each Census of Population (if funding is secured). The next cycle of the APS is planned for 2001.

**Time frame:** 1991, 2001

**Reference period:** varies according to data collected

**Release date:** staged release of data starting 18 months after collection

**Response rates, 1991:**  
on-reserve population – 79%;  
off-reserve population – 78%.

**What makes the data valuable:** data can assist communities, organizations and government departments to

- plan economic development strategies to support Aboriginal businesses and to identify business opportunities
- identify barriers to Aboriginal employment and to help develop needed training programs

- help determine gaps and priorities in Aboriginal health and social services, facilities and programs
- plan school curricula and adult training courses
- improve services and facilities at home, work and school for persons with disabilities
- assess the demand for programs and services in Aboriginal languages
- determine the extent of participation in traditional activities and barriers to participation
- assess perceived health conditions and social issues in the community
- determine the demand for housing and related services

**How to use the data:** see case studies 4, 9, 15 and 28



#### Where to find the data:

##### Regular publications:

- *User's Guide to 1991 Aboriginal Data* (Catalogue no. 89F0028GPE) (free of charge)
- *Age and Sex—Aboriginal Data* (Catalogue no. 94-327-XPB)
- *Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues* (Catalogue no. 89-533-XPB)
- *Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility* (Catalogue no. 89-534-XPB)
- *1—Disability 2—Housing* (Catalogue no. 89-535-XPB)

##### Community profiles:

- A statistical profile of approximately 600 Aboriginal communities with a population of 40 or more who participated in the APS
- A diskette version of the community profiles, using C-91 software

##### Analytic reports:

- *A Profile of The Métis* (Catalogue no. 89-547-XPE)
- *Health Profile of Aboriginal Children (under 15 years of age): Canada, Provinces and Territories* (Catalogue no. 89-535-SPE)

##### Special tabulation and microdata in an electronic format:

- Microdata file for Aboriginal adults living on and off Indian reserves and settlements, and selected Aboriginal communities

##### Workshop:

- The APS workshop was designed to familiarize both new and experienced data users with the APS and the information it collected. For further information on the 1991 APS, please contact



##### The Post-Censal Surveys Program

(613) 951-9416  
 fax: (613) 951-4378  
 patrmar@statcan.ca

Extract from an article published in *The Daily*

## MAJOR RELEASE

### Canada's Aboriginal languages

1996

During the past 100 years or more, some 10 of Canada's once-flourishing Aboriginal languages have become extinct, and at least a dozen are on the brink.

As of 1996, only 3 out of 50 Aboriginal languages—Cree, Inuktitut and Ojibway—had large enough populations to be considered truly secure from the threat of extinction in the long run. This is not surprising in light of the current situation. Of some 800,000 persons who claimed an Aboriginal identity in 1996, only 26% said an Aboriginal language was their mother tongue, and even fewer spoke it at home.

The 50 Aboriginal languages belong to 11 major language families—10 First Nations and Inuktitut. Some of these families are large and strong, others small and vulnerable.

The three largest families together represent 93% of persons with an Aboriginal mother tongue. About 147,000 people have Algonquian as mother tongue, the family that includes Cree and Ojibway. Another 28,000 have Inuktitut, and 20,000 have Athapaskan. The remaining 8 language families account for 7% of persons with an Aboriginal mother tongue, an indication of these languages' relative size.

Since a large base of speakers is among the essential factors to ensure long-term viability, the more speakers a language has, the better are its chances of survival. Inuktitut, Cree and Ojibway all boast more than 20,000 people with an Aboriginal mother tongue.

In contrast, endangered languages rarely have more than a few thousand speakers, and often they have only a few hundred. For instance, the two smallest and weakest language groups, Kutenai and Tlingit, have mother tongue populations of only 120 and 145, respectively.

#### Aboriginal languages underwent steady erosion between 1981 and 1996

Between 1981 and 1996, most Aboriginal languages experienced a steady erosion in linguistic vitality. Although the number of people reporting an Aboriginal mother tongue increased nearly 24% during the 15-year period, the number of those who spoke an Aboriginal language at home grew only 7%.

As a result, for every 100 people with an Aboriginal mother tongue, the number whose home language was most often an indigenous language declined from 76 in 1981 to 65 in 1996.

#### Note to readers

*This report is based on an article in the publication Canadian Social Trends that explores which of Canada's Aboriginal languages are flourishing and which are in danger of disappearing.*

*The article examines the factors that differentiate viable languages from endangered ones. In addition, it compares language use and maintenance patterns between 1981 and 1996 to understand what happened to Aboriginal languages over the years, and what the future may hold for them.*

*The article uses data from the 1981 to 1996 censuses as well as the **1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey**. The 1996 Aboriginal identity population includes those people who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit. In 1991 and in previous censuses, the Aboriginal population was defined using the ethnic origin question based primarily on ancestry. Because of changes in concepts and measures of the Aboriginal population over time, the time-series analysis from the census is restricted to language-based data only.*

Endangered languages experienced the largest declines. For example, for every 100 individuals with Salish languages as a mother tongue, the number who used it at home fell from 35 in 1981 to only 12 by 1996. Tlingit and Kutenai had practically disappeared by the 1990s as languages most often spoken at home...

Source: "Canada's Aboriginal Languages." *The Daily*, Monday, December 14, 1998

## Census of Population

**What it's about:** provides demographic, social, economic and cultural information on the Canadian population (families, households and dwellings)

**Whom we survey:** all Canadian citizens and landed immigrants; refugee claimants and persons in Canada on student visas or work permits were also enumerated in 1996.

**How we collect the data:** household survey; labour market and income data are collected from a 20% sample of the population aged 15 and over excluding institutional residents, through self-enumeration, or by canvasser enumeration in remote and northern areas of the country and on Indian reserves.

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces and territories, counties, federal electoral districts, census metropolitan areas, census agglomerations (urban centres with a population from 10,000 to 99,999), municipalities, census consolidated subdivisions, enumeration areas, census tracts (neighbourhoods) and block faces (geocoding allows data users to obtain estimates for very specific geographic areas)

**Demographic detail:** includes age, sex, education and major field of study, marital status, household relationship, ethnic and cultural origin, mother tongue, language spoken at home, knowledge of official languages, place of birth, citizenship, period or year of immigration, and disability



### Information collected:

- occupation (approximately 500 codes)
- industry (approximately 400 codes)
- class of worker (paid worker, self-employed, unpaid family worker)
- place of work and mode of transportation (employed labour force)
- number of full-time and/or part-time weeks worked in calendar year preceding census
- labour market activities in week preceding census
- actual hours worked in week preceding census
- unpaid work

- employment income: wages and salaries, net non-farm self-employment income, and net farm income
- government transfer payments: Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan Benefits, Employment Insurance Benefits, Child Tax Benefits, and other government transfers
- other money income: investment income, retirement pensions and other income
- total income from various sources for individuals, families and households

**Frequency:** With the 1986 Census, labour market and income data have been collected every 5 years (quinquennial census). Prior to that, they were collected every 10 years (decennial census).

**Time frame:** combined industry/occupation data since 1881, wage and salary data since 1901, labour force data since 1951, employment income and total income since 1961

**Reference period:** the previous calendar year for income and weeks worked; the week before Census Day for labour force activity and for class of worker, occupation and industry of employed persons; the previous 17 months for class of worker, occupation and industry of persons not employed the week before Census Day

**Release dates:** employment and unemployment data from the 1996 Census were available 22 months after Census Day; income data were available 24 months after Census Day

**Response rate:** approximately 95% (varies according to question)

### What makes the data valuable:

- extensive geographic and characteristic detail
- many characteristics available for cross-tabulation
- includes the Yukon and the Northwest Territories
- consistent historical database
- accurate data

- ability to derive new variables and create custom tabulations

**How to use the data:** see case studies 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 22, 27 and 30



### Where to find the data:

#### 1996 Census labour and income products:

- *Labour Market Activities including Industry and Occupation, Household Activities, Place of Work and Mode of Transportation* (Nation series, Package no. 7) (Catalogue no. 93F0027XDB96000)
- *Sources of Income, Earnings and Total Income, Family and Household Income* (Nation series, Package no. 9) (Catalogue no. 93F0029XDB96000)
- *Labour Characteristics of the Canadian Population* (Dimensions series, Package no. 1) (Catalogue no. 94F0024XDB)
- *Unpaid Work Profile* (Dimensions series, Package no. 7) (Catalogue no. 94F0025XDB)
- *Profile of Occupations* (Dimensions series, Package no. 8) (Catalogue no. 94F0026XDB)
- *Profile of Industries* (Dimensions series, Package no. 3) (Catalogue no. 94F0027XDB)
- *Occupation by Industry with Employment Income* (Dimensions series, Package no. 2) (Catalogue no. 94F0028XDB)
- *Workplace Location Tables* (Dimensions series, Package no. 12) (Catalogue no. 94F0029XDB)
- *Mode of Transportation Tables* (Dimensions series, Package no. 13) (Catalogue no. 94F0030XDB)
- *Total Income of Individuals* (Dimensions series, Package no. 20) (Catalogue no. 94F0018XDB)
- *Employment Income of Individuals* (Dimensions series, Package no. 21) (Catalogue no. 94F0019XDB)
- *Wages and Salaries of Paid Workers* (Dimensions series, Package no. 22) (Catalogue no. 94F0020XDB)
- *Income of Census Families and Non-Family Persons* (Dimensions series, Package no. 23) (Catalogue no. 94F0021XDB)

- *Low Income Among Children, Families and Population* (Dimensions series, Package no. 24) (Catalogue no. 94F0022XDB)
- *Income of Private Households* (Dimensions series, Package no. 25) (Catalogue no. 94F0023XDB)

#### 1991 Census labour and income publications:

- *Labour Force Activity* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-324-XPB)
- *Labour Force Activity of Women by Presence of Children* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-325-XPB)
- *Occupation* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-327-XPB) (according to the 1980 Standard Occupational Classification [SOC])
- *Industry and Class of Worker* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-326-XPB) (according to the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification [SIC])
- *Selected Income Statistics (for Individuals, Families and Households)* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-331-XPB)
- *Employment Income by Occupation* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-332-XPB)
- *Place of Work* (Nation series) (Catalogue no. 93-323-XPB)
- *Female Baby Boomers: A Generation at Work* (Focus on Canada series) (Catalogue no. 96-315-XPE)
- *The Self-employed* (Focus on Canada series) (Catalogue no. 96-316-XPE)
- *The Earnings of Canadians* (Focus on Canada series) (Catalogue no. 96-317-XPE)
- *Family Income in Canada* (Focus on Canada series) (Catalogue no. 96-318-XPE)
- *Occupation according to the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification* (Catalogue no. 92-344-XPE)
- *Occupation according to the National Occupational Classification* (Catalogue no. 93-352-XPE)

#### 1986 Census trends publications:

- *Occupational Trends, 1961-1986* (Catalogue no. 93-151-XPB) (according to the 1971 SOC)
- *Industry Trends, 1951-1986* (Catalogue no. 93-152-XPB) (according to the 1970 SIC)



**Other sources:**

- For a complete list of all 1996 Census products and services, consult the *1996 Census Catalogue* (Catalogue no. 92-350-XPE) or the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* (Catalogue no. 11-204-XPE) or IPS online at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

**Technical reports or user guides:**

- Summary reports for selected variables will be made available on the Internet at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)

**Machine-readable summary tables, profiles:**

- The 1996 summary and profile tables are designed to meet the needs of users who wish to study the characteristics of small areas. Summary tables generally feature two or three interrelated variables (for example, labour force activity by age and sex), while profile tables provide basic univariate

distributions. Data are available on CD-ROM, diskette and hard copy. See *1996 Census Catalogue* (Catalogue no. 92-350-XPE).

**Microdata files:**

- The 1996 public use microdata files contain a wide selection of social, cultural, labour and income data on the population of Canada, the provinces and selected metropolitan areas with a population of 250,000 or more. Data files are available at the individual (Catalogue no. 95M0010XCB), family (Catalogue no. 95M0012XCB) or household (Catalogue no. 95M0011XCB) level.

**Custom tabulations:**

- This service develops products that meet clients' exact requirements in terms of content, geography, format and output medium. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office.

Chart using Census data

<b>Population by selected age groups and sex for Canada, provinces and territories, 1996 Census</b>							
Region and sex	Total	Age group					
		Under 15	15-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 +
<b>Canada</b>	<b>28,846,760</b>	<b>5,901,280</b>	<b>3,857,170</b>	<b>9,360,620</b>	<b>6,199,855</b>	<b>2,061,935</b>	<b>1,465,910</b>
Men	14,170,030	3,025,215	1,955,175	4,629,975	3,071,835	943,365	544,460
Women	14,676,735	2,876,065	1,901,990	4,730,640	3,128,020	1,118,570	921,445
<b>Newfoundland</b>	<b>551,795</b>	<b>109,790</b>	<b>88,375</b>	<b>176,730</b>	<b>117,420</b>	<b>34,205</b>	<b>25,270</b>
Men	272,575	56,195	44,750	86,160	59,090	16,315	10,070
Women	279,215	53,595	43,630	90,570	58,325	17,890	15,200
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>134,555</b>	<b>29,100</b>	<b>19,395</b>	<b>40,120</b>	<b>28,495</b>	<b>9,185</b>	<b>8,270</b>
Men	66,060	14,815	9,930	19,840	14,160	4,280	3,030
Women	68,495	14,290	9,465	20,280	14,330	4,900	5,240
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>909,280</b>	<b>180,110</b>	<b>123,670</b>	<b>287,465</b>	<b>198,925</b>	<b>64,780</b>	<b>54,335</b>
Men	442,350	92,110	61,960	140,535	98,630	29,220	19,895
Women	466,930	87,995	61,715	146,925	100,295	35,550	34,445
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>738,130</b>	<b>144,610</b>	<b>105,970</b>	<b>235,300</b>	<b>159,075</b>	<b>51,680</b>	<b>41,500</b>
Men	362,935	74,200	53,635	116,405	79,505	23,555	15,625
Women	375,195	70,405	52,335	118,890	79,570	28,120	25,880
<b>Quebec</b>	<b>7,138,795</b>	<b>1,372,190</b>	<b>947,985</b>	<b>2,331,025</b>	<b>1,626,895</b>	<b>519,680</b>	<b>341,025</b>
Men	3,493,365	701,705	481,310	1,161,775	798,850	230,935	118,805
Women	3,645,425	670,485	466,675	1,169,250	828,050	288,745	222,220
<b>Ontario</b>	<b>10,753,575</b>	<b>2,214,225</b>	<b>1,401,475</b>	<b>3,496,210</b>	<b>2,307,565</b>	<b>793,465</b>	<b>540,635</b>
Men	5,257,910	1,136,380	709,570	1,713,405	1,135,985	362,500	200,070
Women	5,495,665	1,077,845	691,905	1,782,810	1,171,580	430,965	340,565
<b>Manitoba</b>	<b>1,113,900</b>	<b>244,620</b>	<b>153,780</b>	<b>339,830</b>	<b>223,505</b>	<b>81,875</b>	<b>70,295</b>
Men	547,535	125,365	78,105	169,560	110,980	37,120	26,415
Women	566,365	119,255	75,685	170,265	112,530	44,755	43,875
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<b>990,240</b>	<b>228,585</b>	<b>141,355</b>	<b>286,285</b>	<b>188,400</b>	<b>75,980</b>	<b>69,630</b>
Men	489,425	117,110	71,990	142,585	94,205	35,940	27,595
Women	500,815	111,480	69,360	143,700	94,190	40,040	42,040
<b>Alberta</b>	<b>2,696,825</b>	<b>614,485</b>	<b>376,945</b>	<b>915,855</b>	<b>522,630</b>	<b>156,550</b>	<b>110,355</b>
Men	1,348,305	315,120	191,960	460,440	263,960	74,015	42,810
Women	1,348,525	299,365	184,985	455,420	258,670	82,530	67,545
<b>British Columbia</b>	<b>3,724,500</b>	<b>735,175</b>	<b>483,785</b>	<b>1,218,050</b>	<b>811,645</b>	<b>272,350</b>	<b>203,490</b>
Men	1,840,305	377,555	244,595	602,155	408,100	128,280	79,620
Women	1,884,200	357,620	239,190	615,895	403,545	144,075	123,875
<b>Yukon</b>	<b>30,765</b>	<b>7,385</b>	<b>4,085</b>	<b>11,705</b>	<b>6,230</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>425</b>
Men	15,880	3,845	2,100	5,795	3,420	530	185
Women	14,885	3,540	1,985	5,910	2,810	400	235
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>64,400</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>10,350</b>	<b>22,050</b>	<b>9,065</b>	<b>1,265</b>	<b>675</b>
Men	33,380	10,825	5,280	11,320	4,940	670	340
Women	31,020	10,175	5,070	10,725	4,125	590	330

Source: [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca), Census Bin



## Demography/Population Estimates

**What it's about:** Statistics Canada collects, produces, analyzes and publishes quarterly and annual demographic statistics and is also responsible for census demographic and demolingistic characteristics.



### Data available:

Current population counts derived from estimates and future population counts derived from projections are both available and include (among others)

- households (unpublished data but available upon request), census families and population estimates for Canada, the provinces and the territories
- population estimates for census metropolitan areas and census divisions
- household, family and population projections for Canada, the provinces and the territories
- population projections for census metropolitan areas (CMAs)
- components of population growth (births, deaths, marriages, immigration, emigration, interprovincial migration, returning Canadians and non-permanent residents)
- type of family (husband-wife, lone-parent)
- census families and households by size and by type

**Uses:** The data, which provide detailed family and household profiles by province, are used in several government programs including all transfer programs to provinces. As they are good indicators for gauging the evolution of the housing industry (number of housing starts, type of dwelling, et cetera), they are also used by private sector companies and by housing market analysts.



### Where to find the data:

#### Internet products:

Quarterly

- *Quarterly Demographic Statistics* (Catalogue no. 91-002-XIB)
- *Annual Demographic Statistics* (Catalogue no. 91-213-XIB)
- *Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada* (Catalogue no. 91-209-XPE)

#### Print products:

Occasional

- *Projections of Households and Families for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1994-2016* (Catalogue no. 91-522-XPB)
- *Projections of Population for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1993-2016* (Catalogue no. 91-520-XPB)

#### Services:

- Customized data products are available on a cost-recovery basis.

#### CANSIM:

- Matrix: 1 to 6, 397, 5731, 5772 to 5779, 6151 to 6186, 6190 to 6201, 6213 to 6225, 6230 to 6241, 6270 to 6295, 6303 to 6343, 6365 to 6393, 6470, 6471, 6516, 6900 to 6912, 6981, 6982 and 8150

**Please contact your nearest Statistics Canada regional office or**



#### ESTIMATES:

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dellosa@statcan.ca

An article related to population estimates that was released in *The Daily*

## FEATURES

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### Annual demographic statistics

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1998

*Annual demographic statistics*, released today, is the first edition to use 1996 Census data and to include a CD-ROM. The publication provides the most recent data on population by age and sex, as well as data on census families, vital statistics and all levels of migration including international and interprovincial, and migrations among census metropolitan areas and census divisions. In addition, the publication includes population projections up to 2003, and population estimates and projections for the new territory of Nunavut and the remaining part of the Northwest Territories.

The bonus is the attached CD-ROM, which provides historical depth to the comprehensive demographic data of the publication. The historical time series includes population data back to 1971 for provinces and territories, and back to 1991 for census divisions and census metropolitan areas.

These data are organized in files that are easy to retrieve and to manipulate. This allows users to make their own customized demographic analysis in their preferred spreadsheet software (the files can be opened in any recent spreadsheet software). The CD-ROM population figures are the best denominators to calculate any “per capita” rates required for market research, quantitative analysis and planning.

The 1998 edition of *Annual demographic statistics* (Catalogue no. 91-213-XPB, \$125 including the CD-ROM; Internet version: Catalogue no. 91-213-XIB, \$56 excluding the CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order publications*. For more information about this product, contact Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; [chamlis@statcan.ca](mailto:chamlis@statcan.ca)), Demography Division.

*Source: The Daily, Thursday, April 1, 1999*

# Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX)

## (now Survey of Household Spending)

**What it's about:** obtained estimates of the expenditures, income, and other characteristics of families and individuals living in private households in Canada

**Whom we surveyed:** families and individuals living in private households in the 10 provinces, plus Whitehorse and Yellowknife, for the national survey, and in selected metropolitan areas for the urban survey; excludes persons living on Indian reserves, families of official representatives of foreign countries living in Canada, members of religious and other communal colonies, persons living full time in institutions (for example, inmates of penal institutions or chronic care patients living in hospitals and nursing homes)

**How we collected the data:** sample of approximately 14,000 households for the national survey and 7,000 households for the urban survey; personal interviews in January, February and March following the reference year

**Geographic detail:** Canada (10 provinces), provinces, selected metropolitan areas, and size of area of residence (rural/urban) for the national survey, and selected metropolitan areas for the urban survey

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationship and household type, immigration status and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- expenditures for detailed categories of consumer goods and services
- quantity owned for detailed categories of household appliances, home entertainment equipment and dogs and cats
- type of cars and recreation vehicles owned by households, as well as distance driven and business use
- types of stores where detailed categories of household furnishings and equipment, and recreation equipment were purchased
- dwelling characteristics

- assets changes
- mortgages and other loans
- occupation, employment status
- annual income, detailed for various sources (for example, wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, interest, dividends, pension, social programs)

**Frequency:** national coverage: 1969, 1978, 1982, 1986, 1992, 1996; selected cities coverage: 1955, 1957, 1962, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1984, 1990. In 1997, this survey was replaced by the Survey of Household Spending

**Time frame:** related data available since 1938; conceptually similar since 1964; easily accessible by computer since 1969

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** eight months after the end of the data collection period

**Response rate:** on average 75%

**What makes the data valuable:** the only source of detailed expenditures by household characteristics

**How to use the data:** see case study 19



### Where to find the data:

#### Occasional publication:

- *Family Expenditure in Canada* (Catalogue no. 62-555-XPB)

#### Standard and custom tabulations, and microdata:

- These products are available upon request. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



Client Services  
Income Statistics Division  
1 888 297-7355  
(613) 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
income@statcan.ca

Extract of an article related to FAMEX that appeared in *The Daily*

## MAJOR RELEASE

### Household spending

1997

Households spent, on average, an estimated \$49,950 on everything from child care to travel to communications in 1997, virtually unchanged from 1996.

Personal income taxes continue to make up the largest share of household spending. In 1997, an average of 21 cents of every dollar went towards personal income taxes, followed by 20 cents for shelter, 12 cents for transportation and 11 cents for food.

The remaining 36 cents were spent on a variety of items such as recreation, personal insurance and pension contributions, household operations, clothing, gifts and contributions to charity.

The average amount paid on personal income taxes was estimated at \$10,630, essentially unchanged from 1996 (\$10,750). In 1997, households spent an average of \$9,870 on shelter costs, \$5,700 on food and \$6,200 on transportation, also virtually unchanged from the previous year. (Comparisons of expenditures are not adjusted for inflation.)

Because of conceptual changes for some variables and a substantial reduction in the number of questions asked in the 1997 survey, comparisons with data from previous years are not straightforward. Data for 1996 in this release are adjusted for any conceptual differences. See the *Note to readers*.

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#### Note to readers

*The data for this release came from the 1997 Survey of Household Spending. In previous years, expenditure data came from the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX). Readers should be cautious when making comparisons with previously released expenditure data.*

*Until 1996, the Family Expenditure Survey was conducted on a periodic basis, generally every four years. Beginning with the 1997 reference year, a new annual survey, the Survey of Household Spending, integrated much of the content of the Family Expenditure Survey and the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey. The Survey of Household Spending has a sample size that is 50% larger than that of the FAMEX survey. The number of questions asked in the new survey, however, is considerably lower than in the previous surveys. As a result, for some expenditure categories, less detailed information can be presented.*

*The integration of facilities and equipment data with spending information will allow for a richer data source. Housing characteristics such as the number of bedrooms, the type of heating equipment and fuel, and the presence of equipment such as computers, modems, and cellular phones can now be studied with spending patterns of different household types.*

*Data for the Survey of Household Spending were collected between January and March 1998 in all the provinces and territories, capturing detailed information on spending and housing characteristics from almost 18,000 households. All figures in this release have been rounded.*

#### Changes to concepts

*There have been some important conceptual changes in selected expenditure data. When comparing time series, users should take note of the changes. Below are some of the changes that relate to the data in this release.*

**Shelter:** *Prior to 1997, the mortgage interest payments of homeowners were included in shelter expenses. For 1997, regular mortgage payments, including both principal and interest, are included under shelter. Previously, mortgage principal was not included as an expenditure.*

**Gifts to non-household members:** *Prior to 1997, gifts to non-household members were collected separately, but as of 1997 these expenditures are included with all other household expenditures. Gifts of clothing to individuals outside the household are included in the total expenditure on clothing but are also available separately.*

*There have been other changes to expenditure items such as clothing which are not specifically discussed in this release. Revised estimates for previous years reflecting conceptual changes will be made available in 1999.*

Source: The Daily, Thursday, February 11, 1999

## Food Expenditure Survey (FOODEX)

**What it's about:** obtains estimates of the food expenditures, income, and other characteristics of families and individuals living in private households in Canada

**Whom we survey:** families and individuals living in private households in the 10 provinces, plus Whitehorse and Yellowknife, for the national survey, and in selected metropolitan areas for the urban survey; excludes persons living on Indian reserves, families of official representatives of foreign countries living in Canada, members of religious and other communal colonies, persons living full time in institutions (for example, inmates of penal institutions or chronic care patients living in hospitals and nursing homes)

**How we collect the data:** sample of approximately 14,000 households for the national survey and 7,000 households for the urban survey; annual sample divided into 12 monthly subsamples; personal interviews and 2 one-week diaries in which household members enter their detailed food expenditures

**Geographic detail:** Canada (10 provinces), provinces, selected metropolitan areas, and size of area of residence (rural/urban) for the national survey, and selected metropolitan areas for the urban survey

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationship and household composition, immigration status and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- expenditures for detailed categories of food goods purchased from stores and types of meals purchased from restaurants
- quantities purchased for the detailed categories of food from stores and number of meals from restaurants
- type of stores and type of restaurants where expenditure made
- where consumed (on or off the premises) in the case of food from restaurants
- occupation, employment status and work experience for the preceding 12 months

- total income in the preceding 12 months, detailed for various sources (for example, wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, interest, dividends, pensions, social programs)

**Frequency:** national coverage: 1969, 1978, 1982, 1986, 1992, 1996; selected cities coverage: 1955, 1957, 1962, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1984, 1990

**Time frame:** related data available since 1938; conceptually similar since 1964; easily accessible by computer since 1969

**Reference period:** present calendar year

**Release date:** 11 months after the end of the data collection period

**Response rate:** 80%

### What makes the data valuable:

- the only source of detailed food expenditures (values, quantities and where purchased) by household characteristics
- data conceptually linkable with results from other surveys such as the Survey of Consumer Finances, the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey and the Labour Force Survey, and data from the census

**How to use the data:** see case study 21



### Where to find the data:

#### Occasional publication:

- *Family Food Expenditure in Canada* (Catalogue no. 62-554-XPB)

#### Standard and custom tabulations, and microdata:

- These products are available upon request. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Client Services

Income Statistics Division  
1 888 297-7355  
(613) 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
income@statcan.ca

Table using data from FOODEX

<b>Average weekly food expenditure by selected metropolitan area, 1996</b>	
	Average weekly food expenditure (\$)
St. John's	124.57
Charlottetown-Summerside	97.26
Halifax	118.54
Saint John	94.10
Québec	113.09
Montréal	119.80
Ottawa	129.58
Toronto	113.35
Thunder Bay	101.02
Winnipeg	102.74
Regina	102.89
Saskatoon	96.21
Calgary	120.51
Edmonton	104.00
Vancouver	124.77
Victoria	118.82
Whitehorse	153.39
Yellowknife	147.64

*Source: "Family Food Expenditure, 1996," The Daily, Wednesday, February 4, 1998*



## General Social Survey on Time Use

**What it's about:** collects diary data on individuals for a reference day; provides statistics on average time spent per day on a series of activities such as paid work, unpaid work and leisure time

**Whom we survey:** persons aged 15 and over residing in private dwellings in the 10 provinces of Canada

**How we collect the data:** telephone interviews from approximately 10,000 respondents selected by random digit dialing

**Geographic detail:** Canada and provinces

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, household composition, immigration status and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- start and end time of each activity, duration, activity type, where and with whom
- work experience (weeks worked last year, occupation and industry last week, work arrangement)
- annual income of respondent and of household

**Frequency:** quinquennial; conducted in 1986, 1992 and 1998 (GSS cycles 2, 7 and 12)

**Time frame:** data are available every five years from 1986

**Reference period:** for the diary, one or two days prior to the interview

**Release date:** 1986 and 1992 data available; 1998 data scheduled for release Autumn 1999

**Response rate:** 79% in 1986, 77% in 1992, estimated 78% in 1998

### What makes the data valuable:

- measure trends in time use
- provide data on perception and attitudes on time use
- allow for analysis by wide variety of socio-demographic variables

**How to use the data:** see case study 27



### Where to find the data:

#### Analytic report:

- *Where Does Time Go?* (based on 1986 data, Catalogue no. 11-612-MPE, no. 4)
- *As Time Goes By ... Time Use of Canadians* (based on 1992 data, Catalogue no. 89-544-XPE)

#### Other sources:

- *Canadian Social Trends* (Catalogue no. 11-008-XPE), quarterly  
Winter 1989: How Canadians spend their day  
Winter 1990: Commuting time  
Fall 1993: Time use of Canadians in 1992  
Winter 1993: Are you time crunched?
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly  
Summer 1994: Getting there

#### Special tabulation and microdata files:

- Special tabulations meeting specific user requirements are available on a cost-recovery basis (1998 data forthcoming)
- Public use microdata files for each survey cycle that allow users to do their own tabulations (1998 file forthcoming). For further information, please contact



### Client Services and Dissemination

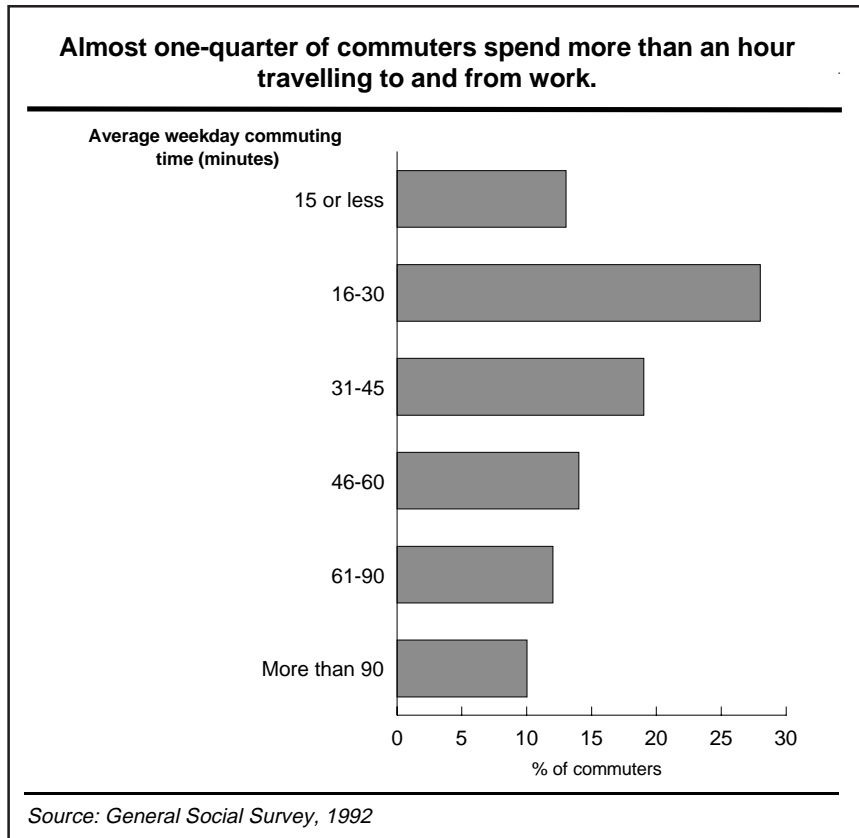
Housing, Family and Social Statistics  
Division

(613) 951-5979

fax: (613) 951-0387

hfssdlf@statcan.ca

Chart using data from General Social Survey on Time Use



Source: "Getting to Work," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Summer 1994



## Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS)

**What it's about:** the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS), together with the 1983-84 Canadian Health and Disability Survey, is part of Statistics Canada's National Disability Database Program. HALS collects data on persons with disabilities living in Canada; it provides a wide range of information on the nature and severity of disabilities, and the barriers that persons with disabilities encounter with household tasks, employment, education, accommodation, transportation, finances and economic self-sufficiency, and recreation and lifestyles, as well as their use of and need for assistive devices, and their out-of-pocket expenses related to disability.

**Whom we survey:** the Census of Population is used as the sampling frame for the HALS household survey. Those individuals who responded affirmatively to question 18 (on activity limitation) and/or question 19 (on long-term disability) on the census questionnaire were identified as the target population for the post-censal HALS. A sample of the target population was then selected to participate in the survey. There are two HALS household surveys, one for adults (aged 15 and older), and one for children (under 15 years of age). There is also a HALS institutions survey, which was administered to adults with disabilities (aged 15 and older) who had spent a continuous six months or more in a health-care institution.

**How we collect the data:** sample of approximately 35,000 individuals was selected for the HALS household survey, and 10,000 for the HALS institutions survey. A significantly large sample of 113,000 persons who responded negatively to census questions 18 or 19 was also selected in order to test for false negatives. For the household surveys, interviews were conducted by telephone; the institutions survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews with the selected individual or, when this was not possible, with the institutional staff or next-of-kin. The data are collected approximately six months after Census day.

**Geographic detail:** 1986 HALS—Canada, provinces, territories, 19 census metropolitan areas (CMAs), 200 sub-provincial areas for all

age groups; 1991 HALS - Canada, provinces, territories for all age groups, and 17 CMAs for the population aged 15 to 64

**Demographic detail:** includes age, sex, education and major field of study, marital status, household relationship, ethnic and cultural origin, mother tongue, language spoken at home, knowledge of official languages, place of birth, citizenship, period or year of immigration and disability



### Information collected:

- selected census variables
- age, sex, nature and severity of disability
- difficulty experienced in carrying out everyday tasks (for example, preparing meals, shopping, personal finances)
- use of technical aids and services
- level of education and barriers to education
- employment and barriers to employment
- modifications required to the work or home environment
- need of and access to transportation
- type of accommodation
- extent of participation in recreational activities

**Frequency:** following the Census of Population since 1986

**Time frame:** 1986, 1991

**Reference period:** varies according to data collected

**Release date:** staged release of data starting 12 months after collection

**Response rates:** for the household surveys—87%; for the institutions survey—96%

**What makes the data valuable:** HALS data can help individuals and agencies to

- establish the size of the population of adults and children with disabilities
- determine the nature and severity of disability among adults and children
- develop policies, programs and services for persons with disabilities

- improve services and facilities at home, at work, and in other areas for adults with disabilities
- evaluate existing employment programs
- design employment programs and identify needed training programs
- assess educational trends
- plan school curricula and training programs
- develop recreational activities for children with disabilities
- improve services and facilities at home, at play, and at school for children with disabilities
- establish the size of the population of adults with disabilities living in institutions.

**How to use the data:** see case studies 4, 5, 7, 9, and 27



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publications:

##### 1991 HALS

- *Health and Activity Limitation Survey—1991 User's Guide* (free of charge)
- *Adults with Disabilities: Their Employment and Education Characteristics* (Catalogue no. 82-554-XPB)
- *Selected Characteristics of Persons with Disabilities Residing in Households* (Catalogue no. 82-555-XPB)
- *Methodology: The Health and Activity Limitation Survey 1991 (Household Component)* (non-catalogued)

##### 1986 HALS

- *The Health and Activity Limitation Survey User's Guide* (free of charge)
- *Highlights: Disabled Persons in Canada* (Catalogue no. 82-602-XPB)

- *Subprovincial/Subterritorial Data* (Catalogue nos. 82-603-XPB to 82-614-XPB)
- *Special Topic Reports* (Catalogue no. 82-615-XPB, Volumes 1-6) selected characteristics of sub-groups with disabilities
- *A Profile of Persons with Disabilities in Canada* (Focus on Canada Series) (Catalogue no. 98-126-XPB)
- *Disability and the Labour Market* (STC 2208)
- *A Profile of Three Disabled Populations* (82-559-XPB)
- *Children and Youth with Disabilities in Canada* (82F0004XPB)
- *Sample Design for the Health and Activity Limitation Survey* (STC 2960)

#### Special tabulations and microdata in an electronic format:

- Microdata file for adults living in households
- Microdata file for adults living in institutions
- Proposed microdata file for children
- Custom data tabulations are available on a cost-recovery basis

#### Workshop:

- The HALS workshop is designed to familiarize both new and experienced data users with the HALS and the information it collected. For further information on both the 1986 and 1991 HALS, please contact



**The Post-Censal Surveys Program**  
(613) 951-5979

Abstract of a report based on the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS)

## The Calculation of Health-adjusted Life Expectancy for a Canadian Province Using a Multi-attribute Utility Function: A first attempt

**Published in:** English and French format

---

### Abstract:

Life expectancy of Canadians has increased by approximately five years in the last quarter century. It is not clear if the addition of quantity to life is also adding quality. In this paper we present the application of a health status index to calculate the Health-adjusted Life Expectancy for the population of Ontario, Canada's largest province. Health-adjusted Life Expectancy is calculated by combining a life table stationary population with cross-sectional population estimates of self-reported health status from the 1990 Ontario Health Survey. Health status is obtained from the Comprehensive Health Status Measurement System developed by McMaster University. It is based on eight health attributes and a multi-attribute utility function which produces an overall health status index score for each individual. It should be stressed that the index is provisional because it is based on a utility function estimated for an earlier study with a somewhat different health status measurement system, modified for use with the Ontario Health Survey. Health status for the household population was estimated by applying the provisional formula to the 1990 Ontario Health Survey. Health status for the institutionalized population was imputed using a combination of the 1990 Ontario Health Survey and the 1986-87 Canadian Health and Activity Limitation Survey. Application of the Sullivan method to the 1985-1987 Ontario life table stationary population in conjunction with the provisional index, resulted in a Health-adjusted Life Expectancy at age 15 of 53.6 years for men, 5.7 years less than their life expectancy, and of 57.9 years for women, 7.6 years less than life expectancy.

**Division responsible for data:** Analytical Studies Branch

**Authors:** Jean-Marie Berthelot, Roger Roberge and Michael C. Wolfson

*Source: [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca), Products and Services, Research Papers*

## Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey

**What it's about:** collects data on repair and renovation expenditures made by homeowners on their dwellings; provides information on the type of expenditure, such as contracted work and materials bought by homeowners

**Whom we survey:** all homeowner households living in private dwellings, except for households in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories and households on Indian reserves

**How we collect the data:** subsample of the March Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample consisting of 24,000 households; data collected by telephone interviews

**Geographic detail:** Canada (10 provinces), provinces and size of area of residence (rural/urban)

**Demographic detail:** age of household head



### Information collected:

repair and renovation expenditures of homeowner households (contract work or materials only) by

- size of area of residence
- type of dwelling
- age of household head
- household income
- period of construction of dwelling
- year moved to dwelling

**Frequency:** annual

**Time frame:** data available since 1987

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** end of calendar year in which survey is conducted

**Response rate:** 85%

### What makes the data valuable:

- the most complete source of information on repair and renovation work
- provide entrepreneurs with a good estimate of their market share and help them to target potential markets
- identify the type of household most likely to spend on home improvement
- highlight the most frequently reported types of repair and renovation projects

**How to use the data:** see case study 22



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publications:

- *Homeowner Repair and Renovation Expenditure in Canada* (Catalogue no. 62-201-XPB), annual

#### Special tabulations and microdata:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Client Services

Income Statistics Division  
1 888 297-7355  
(613) 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
income@statcan.ca

Abstract of an article published in *The Daily*

## MAJOR RELEASE

### Home repairs and renovations

1997

Canadians got out their hammers and nails in 1997, increasing spending on home repairs and renovations for the first time in three years. And more of them appeared to be doing it themselves.

Homeowners spent \$12.8 billion to improve and maintain their dwellings, up 7.3% from 1996. Spending increased faster on building materials than it did on contractors, indicating a movement toward “do-it-yourself” activity.

On average, homeowners spent \$1,712 in 1997, up \$95 from the previous year. Although this average spending was still considerably below the peak of \$2,197 in 1989, it was the first increase since 1994.

Of the nation’s 7.5 million homeowners in 1997, 9.2% spent more than \$5,000. Still, for many homeowners, expenditures were modest (about 17% spent less than \$250).

---

#### Note to readers

*The data from the Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey were collected from a sample of approximately 20,300 homeowners, which represent about 70% of the total home renovation market.*

*Expenditures (with examples) are broken down as follows: **Additions:** adding a room, deck, garage, fence; **Renovations and alterations:** remodelling rooms such as bathrooms and kitchens, upgrading doors or windows, adding eavestroughing; **Replacement of equipment:** replacing plumbing, electrical fixtures, heating or air conditioning equipment, replacing flooring; **New installations:** installation of equipment and fixtures which were not in the dwelling previously (plumbing, electrical, air conditioning wall-to-wall carpeting); **Repairs and maintenance:** interior and exterior painting, repairs to walls and ceilings, caulking and weather-stripping, fence and deck repairs. Contract work includes contract (including labour and materials) and/or separate hired labour costs. Materials include all building supplies purchased by the homeowner.*

*All survey data presented in this release are in current dollars, except in the first table. Current dollars were converted to constant dollars using indices reflecting changes in union wages and the price of materials in the construction field were used. Only total expenditures have been adjusted for inflation. Therefore, only this data series is available in constant dollars.*

---

The larger increase in spending on building materials may be a result of a number of factors including activity in the housing market. According to the Canadian Real Estate Association, resales increased 3% in 1997. At the same time new housing construction increased 18%, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Homeowners who move tend to still make some improvements to tailor their new home to their preference.

Homeowners, on average, allocate about \$6 to contractors out of every \$10 they spend on repairs and renovations.

Source: *The Daily*, Monday, November 23, 1998

## Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF)

**What it's about:** collects data on the income of individuals, families and households; provides statistics on income distributions, earnings of men and women, dual-earner families, low income rates

**Whom we survey:** all persons aged 15 and over residing in Canada, except residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, institutional residents and full-time members of the Armed Forces (exclusions account for less than 3% of the population)

**How we collect the data:** sub-sample of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) consisting of 35,000 households; telephone interviews since 1988 (before that, personal interviews)

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, size of area of residence (from rural to cities with 500,000+ population) and selected census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationship and household composition, Canadian-born or year of immigration, and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- annual income by source
  - earnings (wages, self-employment)
  - investment income (interest, dividends)
  - government transfers (EI, OAS, C/QPP, Social Assistance, Child Tax Benefit)
  - pensions
  - other income
- income tax payable, refundable tax credits
- annual work experience (weeks worked, weeks unemployed)

**Frequency:** annual supplement to LFS. Note: 1998 (1997 income) is the final year for SCF. Commencing in 1999 (1998 income) cross-sectional estimates will be derived from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID).

**Time frame:** most data are conceptually consistent since 1971

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** data are published by the end of the collection year

**Response rate:** 80%

### What makes the data valuable:

- provides time series data on sources of income of Canadian individuals, families and households
- can be linked with the full range of LFS data
- provides annual low-income rates
- can link income and labour market data of individuals with family data
- provides income distribution from before-tax and after-tax bases

**How to use the data:** see case studies 2, 7, 24, 25, and 30



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publications:

- *Income Distributions by Size in Canada* (Catalogue no. 13-207-XPB), annual
- *Family Incomes, Census Families* (Catalogue no. 13-208-XPB), annual
- *Income After Tax, Distributions by Size in Canada* (Catalogue no. 13-210-XPB), annual
- *Earnings of Men and Women* (Catalogue no. 13-217-XPB), annual
- *Household Facilities by Income and Other Characteristics* (Catalogue no. 13-218-XPB), annual
- *Characteristics of Dual-earner Families* (Catalogue no. 13-215-XPB), annual

#### Occasional publication:

- *The Distribution of Wealth in Canada, 1984* (Catalogue no. 13-580-XPB)

#### Analytic reports:

- *Changes in the Distribution of Wealth in Canada, 1970-1984* (Catalogue no. 13-588-MPB, no. 1)
- *Pensions and Incomes of the Elderly in Canada, 1971-1985* (Catalogue no. 13-588-MPB, no. 2)
- *The Characteristics of Dual-earner Families* (Catalogue no. 13-588-MPB, no. 3)



**Other sources**

- Research papers (uncatalogued)
- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call: (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly
- *Canadian Social Trends* (Catalogue no. 11-008-XPE), quarterly

**Microdata files:**

- Five annual public use microdata files are available that allow users to do their own tabulations on individuals, census families, economic families and households; the fifth file permits record linkage among the four data files.

**Custom tabulations:**

- Special tabulations meeting specific user requirements are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or

**Client Services**

Income Statistics Division  
(613) 951-4633  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
income@statcan.ca

Table created with Survey of Consumer Finances data

<b>Low income measures by family type, 1980 to 1996</b> <i>based on one-half adjusted median family unit income</i>									
Family type	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
	\$								
One adult	6,300	7,118	7,680	7,794	8,293	8,842	9,379	9,803	10,536
Two adults/ One adult, one child	8,820	9,965	10,752	10,912	11,610	12,379	13,131	13,724	14,750
Three adults	11,340	12,812	13,824	14,029	14,927	15,916	16,882	17,645	18,965
Two adults, one child/ One adult, two children	0,710	12,101	13,056	13,250	14,098	15,031	15,944	16,665	17,911
Four adults	13,860	15,660	16,896	17,147	18,245	19,452	20,634	21,567	23,179
Three adults, one child	13,230	14,948	16,128	16,367	17,415	18,568	19,696	20,586	22,126
Two adults, two children/ One adult, three children	12,600	14,236	15,360	15,588	16,586	17,684	18,758	19,606	21,072
Five adults	16,380	18,507	19,968	20,264	21,562	22,989	24,385	25,488	27,394
Four adults, one child	15,750	17,795	19,200	19,485	20,733	22,105	23,448	24,508	26,340
Three adults, two children	15,120	17,083	18,432	18,706	19,903	21,221	22,510	23,527	25,286
Two adults, three children/ One adult, four children	14,490	16,371	17,664	17,926	19,074	20,337	21,572	22,547	24,233
Six adults	18,900	21,354	23,040	23,382	24,879	26,526	28,137	29,409	31,608
Five adults, one child	18,270	20,642	22,272	22,603	24,050	25,642	27,199	28,429	30,554
Four adults, two children	17,640	19,930	21,504	21,823	23,220	24,758	26,261	27,448	29,501
Three adults, three children	17,010	19,219	20,736	21,044	22,391	23,873	25,323	26,468	28,447
Two adults, four children/ One adult, five children	16,380	18,507	19,968	20,264	21,562	22,989	24,385	25,488	27,394

*Source: Survey of Consumer Finances*

*Source: Low Income Measures, Catalogue no. 13-582-XPB*

## Survey of Household Spending (SHS) (formerly the Family Expenditure Survey [FAMEX] and Household Facilities and Equipment Survey [HFE])

**What it's about:** The Survey of Household Spending merges the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX) and the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey. It obtains estimates of the expenditures, income, household facilities and equipment and other characteristics of families and individuals living in private households in Canada.

**Whom we survey:** families and individuals living in private households across Canada, excluding persons living on Indian reserves, families of official representatives of foreign countries living in Canada, members of religious and other communal colonies, persons living full time in institutions (for example, inmates of penal institutions or chronic care patients living in hospitals and nursing homes)

**How we collect the data:** sample of approximately 24,000 households in 1997 and 20,000 in 1998; personal interviews in January, February and March following the reference year

**Geographic detail:** Canada (10 provinces), provinces/territories, selected metropolitan areas, size of area of residence (urban/rural)

**Demographic detail:** standard tabulations: household type, income quintile, housing tenure; also available: age, sex and employment status of household members



### Information collected:

- dwelling and household characteristics
- heating equipment, fuel
- household appliances and equipment
- expenditures for detailed categories of consumer goods and services
- spending on cars and recreation vehicles, number owned by households
- changes in assets
- mortgages and other loans
- annual income, detailed for various sources (for example, wages and salaries, net income from self-employment, interest, dividends, pensions, social programs)

**Frequency:** annual since 1997

**Time frame:** before 1997, refer to the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX) and the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey

**Reference period:** previous calendar year for expenditure data and December 31 of the reference year for household facilities and equipment data

**Release date:** end of calendar year in which survey is conducted

**Response rate:** 76%

### What makes the data valuable:

- the only source of detailed expenditures by household characteristics
- the only source of household facilities and equipment data

**How to use the data:** see case studies 19 and 29



### Where to find the data:

#### Occasional publication:

- *Family Expenditure in Canada* (Catalogue no. 62-555-XPB)

#### Standard and custom tabulations, and microdata:

- These products are available on request. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Expenditure Surveys

Income Statistics Division  
(613) 951-7355  
1 888 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
income@statcan.ca



Extract of an article published in *The Daily*

## Household spending, 1997

Households spent, on average, an estimated \$49,950 on everything from child care to travel to communications in 1997, virtually unchanged from 1996. Personal income taxes continue to make up the largest share of household spending. In 1997, an average of 21 cents of every dollar went towards personal income taxes, followed by 20 cents for shelter, 12 cents for transportation and 11 cents for food.

The remaining 36 cents were spent on a variety of items such as recreation, personal insurance and pension contributions, household operations, clothing, gifts and contributions to charity.

The average amount paid on personal income taxes was estimated at \$10,630, essentially unchanged from 1996 (\$10,750). In 1997, households spent an average of \$9,870 on shelter costs, \$5,700 on food and \$6,200 on transportation, also virtually unchanged from the previous year. (Comparisons of expenditures are not adjusted for inflation.)

Because of conceptual changes for some variables and a substantial reduction in the number of questions asked in the 1997 survey, comparisons with data from previous years are not straightforward. Data for 1996 in this release are adjusted for any conceptual differences. See the *Note to readers*.

---

### Note to readers

*The data for this release came from the 1997 Survey of Household Spending. In previous years, expenditure data came from the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX). Readers should be cautious when making comparisons with previously released expenditure data.*

*Until 1996, the Family Expenditure Survey was conducted on a periodic basis, generally every four years. Beginning with the 1997 reference year, a new annual survey, the Survey of Household Spending, integrated much of the content of the Family Expenditure Survey and the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey. The Survey of Household Spending has a sample size that is 50% larger than that of the FAMEX survey. The number of questions asked in the new survey, however, is considerably lower than in the previous surveys. As a result, for some expenditure categories, less detailed information can be presented.*

*The integration of facilities and equipment data with spending information will allow for a richer data source. Housing characteristics such as the number of bedrooms, the type of heating equipment and fuel, and the presence of equipment such as computers, modems, and cellular phones can now be studied with spending patterns of different household types.*

*Data for the Survey of Household Spending were collected between January and March 1998 in all the provinces and territories, capturing detailed information on spending and housing characteristics from almost 18,000 households. All figures in this release have been rounded.*

### Changes to concepts

*There have been some important conceptual changes in selected expenditure data. When comparing time series, users should take note of the changes. Below are some of the changes that relate to the data in this release.*

**Shelter:** *Prior to 1997, the mortgage interest payments of homeowners were included in shelter expenses. For 1997, regular mortgage payments, including both principal and interest, are included under shelter. Previously, mortgage principal was not included as an expenditure.*

**Gifts to non-household members:** *Prior to 1997, gifts to non-household members were collected separately, but as of 1997 these expenditures are included with all other household expenditures. Gifts of clothing to individuals outside the household are included in the total expenditure on clothing but are also available separately.*

*There have been other changes to expenditure items such as clothing which are not specifically discussed in this release. Revised estimates for previous years reflecting conceptual changes will be made available in 1999.*

---

On average, the one-fifth (quintile) of households with the lowest incomes spent a total of \$16,700, compared with \$97,930 spent by the one-fifth of households with the highest incomes. After adjusting for differences in household size, the average expenditure per person was \$10,250 in the lowest income quintile and \$28,800 in the highest income quintile...

Source: *The Daily*, Thursday, February 11, 1999



## 5.2. Labour market surveys

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## Absence from Work Survey (AWS)

**What it's about:** obtains information about work absences of at least two weeks duration due to illness, accident or pregnancy, and the financial compensation received by paid employees for such absences

**What we survey:** subset of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample; namely, persons employed as paid workers at some time during the previous year

**How we collect the data:** subsample of the LFS consisting usually of 31,000 households; data collected mainly by telephone interviews

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status and family relationships



### Information collected:

- number of absences of two or more weeks
- reason for the two most recent absences and their duration
- types of compensation received from most recent absence
- number of weeks each type of compensation was received

**Frequency:** annual supplement to the February LFS

**Time frame:** data are consistent since 1977

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** two months after collection

**Response rate:** 95%

### What makes the data valuable:

- very timely information
- provides detailed compensation data
- can be linked to LFS data

**How to use the data:** see case study 7



### Where to find the data:

#### Published articles:

- November 1982 and March 1987 issues of *The Labour Force* (Catalogue no. 71-001-XPB), monthly

#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

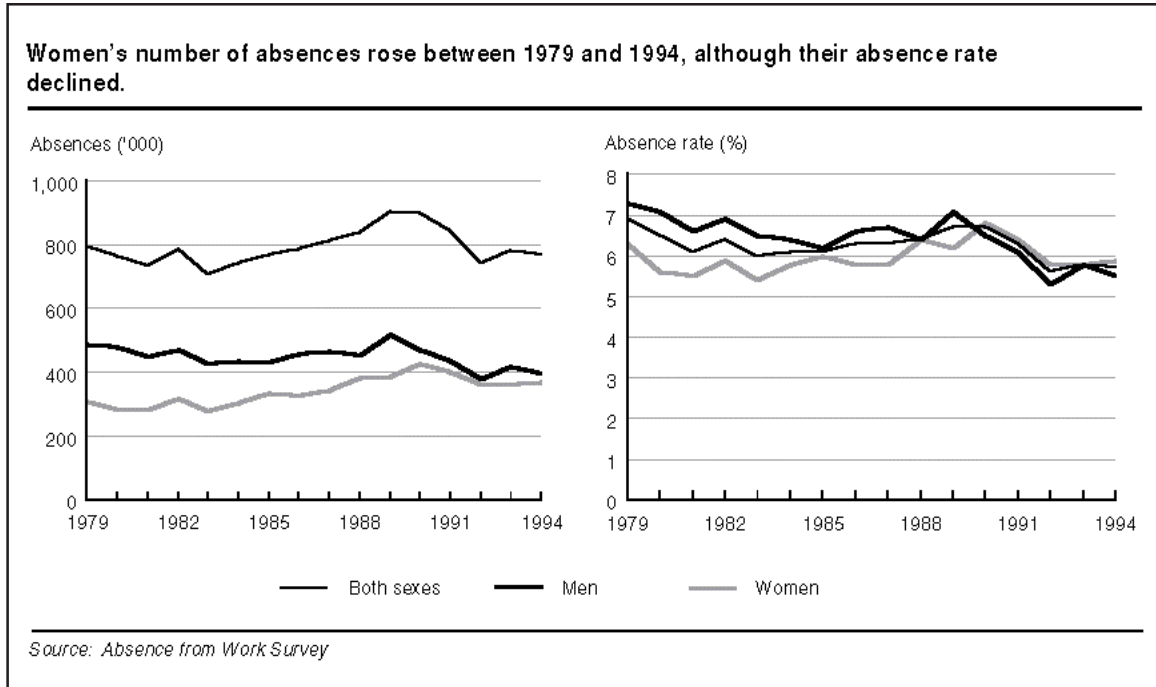
- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Special Surveys Division

(613) 951-4598  
1 800 461-9050  
fax: (613) 951-0562  
[special@statcan.ca](mailto:special@statcan.ca)

Chart using data from Absence from Work Survey



Source: "Work Absences and compensation," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Autumn 1996

## Employment Insurance statistics

**What it's about:** Statistics Canada has the mandate to compile Employment Insurance statistics, which are prepared from the information obtained from Human Resources Development Canada

**Whom we survey:** all persons contributing Employment Insurance (EI) premiums (insured population), those who are claiming EI benefits (claimants), and those who are receiving benefits (beneficiaries)

**How to collect the data:** administrative data provided by Human Resources Development Canada

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories, census divisions, census metropolitan areas, and small areas defined by postal codes

**Demographic detail:** age and sex



### Information collected:

- claims (initial and renewal) received (by province)
- disqualifications and disentitlements by reason
- benefit payments (regular, illness, training, maternity, and others) and weeks paid
- beneficiaries by type of benefit (regular, illness, training, maternity, and others)
- beneficiaries by sex, age, occupation
- weeks of insurable employment
- insurable earnings and weeks on claim
- hours of insurable employment
- contributors and their contributions

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** summary data start in 1943

**Reference period:** for beneficiaries, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) reference week (usually the week including the 15th day of the month); for claims and benefits, the whole month

**Release dates:** preliminary data are available 60 days after the reference month, and final data are available 120 days after the reference month

### What makes the data valuable:

- timely information
- long time series
- free of sampling errors
- small area data
- presents information complementary to the LFS for the purpose of comparison and analysis
- covers all provinces and territories

**How to use the data:** see case study 5



### Where to find the data:

#### Other sources:

- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call: (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

- Employment Insurance statistics for detailed geographic areas are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



#### Labour Division

(613) 951-4090  
fax: (613) 951-4087  
labour@statcan.ca

Table using Employment Insurance data

<b>Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits</b>		
	Seasonally adjusted	
	February 1999	January to February 1999
		% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>528,420</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Newfoundland	34,130	1.4
Prince Edward Island	8,510	-2.5
Nova Scotia	28,090	-1.6
New Brunswick	33,820	-1.0
Quebec	178,280	0.7
Ontario	111,410	-1.6
Manitoba	13,620	-0.3
Saskatchewan	12,780	3.4
Alberta	38,130	3.2
British Columbia	66,320	2.3
Yukon	1,170	-3.0
Northwest Territories	1,220	-0.2

Source: "Employment Insurance, February 1999 (preliminary)," *The Daily, Tuesday, April 27, 1999*

## General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement

**What it's about:** collects data on education, work and retirement and focuses on the transition into retirement and post-retirement activities

**Whom we survey:** persons aged 15 and over residing in private dwellings in the 10 provinces of Canada

**How we collect the data:** telephone interviews from approximately 10,000 respondents selected by random digit dialing

**Geographic detail:** Canada and provinces

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, household composition, immigration status and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- educational attainment and intentions
- transition from education to work to retirement
- occupational history
- job satisfaction and working conditions
- post-retirement activities (in 1994 cycle)
- work interruptions (in 1994 cycle)
- social mobility (in 1994 cycle as well as in 1992 time-use cycle)
- computer use
- annual income of respondent and of household

**Frequency:** quinquennial

**Time frame:** conducted in 1989 and 1994 (GSS cycles 4 and 9)

**Reference period:** occupational history (first job, job held five years ago, last job and current job)

**Release date:** microdata file and publication also available now

**Response rate:** 81% in 1989 and 1994

### What makes the data valuable:

- provides partial information on work history
- allows for linkage between work and education
- provides detailed information on education history
- provides information on perception and attitudes related to work

**How to use the data:** see case study 32



### Where to find the data:

#### Analytic reports:

- *Quality of Work in the Service Sector* (Catalogue no. 11-612-MPE, no. 6)
- *Human Resource Challenges of Education, Computers and Retirement* (Catalogue no. 11-612-MPE, no. 7)
- *Canada's Changing Retirement Patterns: Findings from the General Social Survey* (Catalogue no. 89-546-XPE)

#### Other sources:

- *Canadian Social Trends* (Catalogue no. 11-008-XPE), quarterly
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

#### Special tabulation and microdata files:

- Special tabulations meeting specific user requirements are available on a cost-recovery basis. Public use microdata files for each survey cycle that allow users to do their own tabulations are also available. For further information, please contact:



### Client Services and Dissemination

Housing, Family and Social Statistics  
Division

(613) 951-5979

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Extract related to the General Social Survey from an article that appeared in *The Daily*

## Labour force update: older workers

1997

Older workers today have increasingly been less likely to participate in the labour force than 20 years ago. In the 1990s, concern has grown that the continued drop in the participation rate indicates that older workers, particularly men, are increasingly at risk of losing their jobs, as employers—keen to trim payrolls—no longer require their skills and services. This view is reinforced by the fact that employment for older men declined earlier this decade.

However, as a result of shifting demographics, the coming generation of older workers might face brighter employment prospects. They may, in fact, be encouraged to stay in the labour market longer than today's older workers have been able to.

This development could occur because there will be relatively fewer workers aged 25 to 54 to support the needs of both the young and the old in coming years. As the population ages, the pool of older workers will grow. Between 1976 and 1997, individuals aged 55 to 64 accounted for 13% of the working age population. This share began to increase at the outset of 1998, and it is projected to reach 20% by 2015.

This means that a major change will occur in the age structure of the population. In the early 1990s, there were 64% more Canadians aged 15 to 24 than aged 55 to 64. However, by 2015, there will be 12% fewer people aged 15 to 24 than aged 55 to 64.

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### Note to readers

*This release is based on a profile of older workers published in the Spring 1998 issue of Labour force update, available today.*

*This issue draws on current and historical data on working men and women over 55 years of age. The analysis describes the major labour-market trends affecting older workers, and it profiles the characteristics of workers over 55 and their relative risk of job loss over time. Briefly examined are retirement patterns and potential differences between today's older workers and those in the next generation.*

*Labour force update primarily derives its data from the Labour Force Survey, but it also uses data from varied sources such as the 1995 Survey of Work Arrangements, the Survey of Consumer Finances, the 1996 Survey of Changes in Employment, the General Social Survey, and Pension Plans in Canada.*

---

### Older men are less likely than 20 years ago to be in the labour market

The labour force participation rate of men aged 55 to 64 has been declining over the past 20 years. In 1976, 76.7% were either working or actively looking for a job, compared with 60.6% by 1997.

Older women's involvement in the labour force differs from older men's. Increasingly, older women have been taking part in the labour force: their participation rates have risen from 31.8% in 1976 to 36.5% by 1997...

*Source: The Daily, Thursday, May 28, 1998*

## Help-wanted Index

**What it's about:** serves as an early indicator of labour market conditions by measuring changes in the demand for labour from help-wanted ads published in selected metropolitan area newspapers

**What we analyze:** 22 newspapers from across Canada (excluding the Yukon and Northwest Territories)

**How we collect the data:** measure help-wanted advertisement volume in the classified sections of 22 major metropolitan area newspapers

**Geographic detail:** Canada and five regions (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and British Columbia) and metropolitan areas surveyed

**Demographic detail:** none



**Information collected:**

- help-wanted advertisements

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** data are available from 1981 onwards

**Reference period:** the Saturday of the Labour Force Survey reference week (usually the week including the 15th day of the month)

**Release date:** usually the first week following the reference month

**What makes the data valuable:** the only labour demand indicator published on a regular basis by Statistics Canada

**How to use the data:** see case study 14



**Where to find the data:**

**Occasional publications:**

- *Help-wanted Index, 1981-1998* (Catalogue no. 71-540-XIB)
- *Help-wanted Index, 1962 to 1988* (Catalogue no. 71-204-XPB), (old help-wanted index)

**Other sources:**

- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call: (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

**Special tabulations:**

- On request, indices are available for the metropolitan areas surveyed. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Labour Division**

(613) 951-4090

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News article referring to the Help-wanted Index

[The Moncton Times and Transcript]

## Help-wanted Index rises

**Byline:**

**Dateline:**

**Section:**

**Page:** *E2* **Length:**

**Date:** *Saturday March 13, 1999*

**Edition:**

Statistics Canada's Help-wanted Index, which tracks employers' hiring intentions, rose in February for the third consecutive month.

The index is based on the number of want ads in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas across the country. It showed a 0.7% increase in the index in February, meaning there was an increase in the number of ads.

The index is measured on a scale that hit 148 in February. It stood at 100 in 1996.

Increases were recorded in New Brunswick (2.6%), British Columbia (1.7%), Newfoundland (1.5%), Quebec (1.4%) and Saskatchewan (0.8%). Alberta showed a 1.5% decline. The other provinces were unchanged.

## Labour Force Survey (LFS)

**What it's about:** collects data on the labour market activities and demographic characteristics of the working-age population of Canada; provides estimates of the number and characteristics of the employed, the unemployed, and persons not in the labour force; is a vehicle for supplementary surveys on the labour market and other issues

**Whom we survey:** the population aged 15 and over residing in Canada, except residents of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, (Yukon is surveyed, but is not included in the national totals), persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Armed Forces (exclusions account for about 2% of the population)

**How we collect the data:** sample of over 50,000 households or more than 100,000 individuals. Households are in the sample for six months—a personal interview is conducted the first time; telephone interviews are conducted in subsequent months.

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, census metropolitan areas, economic regions and some census agglomerations (the smaller the population of an area, the more the data are subject to sampling variability)

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationships and household composition



### Information collected:

- employment
- unemployment
- usual and actual hours of work
- employee hourly and weekly wages
- industry of current or most recent job
- occupation of current or most recent job
- class of worker (employee, self-employed, unpaid family worker)
- public/private sector
- union status
- overtime hours, whether paid or unpaid
- permanent/temporary work
- workplace and firm size

- family information (for example, the number of unemployed family members)
- school attendance (full- or part-time and type of institution)
- hours of work lost, by reason
- job tenure
- duration of unemployment
- methods of job search and type of job sought
- reasons for working part time
- identification of “discouraged workers”
- involuntary part-time work
- multiple jobholding

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** some data back to 1946; most data series are consistent since 1976; NAICS and SOC91 data back to 1987

**Reference period:** a given week of the month, usually the week including the 15th day of the month

**Release dates:** within 13 days of collection

**Response rate:** 95%

### What makes the data valuable:

- very timely information
- long time series
- can be linked to supplementary survey data such as volunteer work, child care, and absence from work
- seasonally adjusted data available for many series
- cover all industries
- cover the self-employed

**How to use the data:** see case studies 1, 2, 3, 7, 12, 14, 15, 24, 27, and 32



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publications:

- *Labour Force Information* (Catalogue no. 71-001-PPB), monthly
- *Labour Force Update* (Catalogue no. 71-005-XPB), quarterly

- *Labour Force Historical Review* on CD-ROM (Catalogue no. 71F0004XCB), annual
- *Historical Labour Force Statistics* (Catalogue no. 71-201-XPB), annual

**Topics covered in *Labour Force Update*:**

Spring 1997: Youths and the labour market  
Summer 1997: Hours of work  
Fall 1997: The self-employed  
Winter 1997: An overview of the 1997 labour market  
Spring 1998: Older workers  
Summer 1998: A new perspective on wages  
Fall 1998: A Canada-U.S. labour market comparison  
Winter 1998: An overview of the 1998 labour market  
Spring 1999: Employment by industry and occupation based on new classifications  
Fall 1999: Supplementary measures of unemployment

**Other sources:**

- *Guide to the Labour Force Survey* (Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE) ([www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm))
- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call: (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

**Special tabulations and microdata files:**

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Marc Lévesque**

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Abstract of a research paper using Labour Force Survey data

## The Duration of Unemployment During Boom and Bust

**Published in:** English and French format

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### Abstract:

The research reported in this paper has both a substantive and a methodological objective. The main objective is to contrast developments in the average duration of unemployment in Canada during the 1990-91 recession with developments during that of 1981-1982. In doing so a new measure of the average duration of unemployment is also introduced to the Canadian literature: the average completed duration of unemployment for a cohort of individuals that begin their spell of unemployment at the same time. Cyclical variations in this statistic are in sharp contrast with those of the average duration of unemployment that is published as a part of the *Labour Force Survey*.

The Canada-wide average duration of unemployment for those individuals becoming unemployed during the 1990-91 recession is, at 19.6 weeks, about the same as that experienced during the 1981-82 recession. What distinguishes the recent recession from that of a decade ago is the fact that the chances of leaving unemployment during the first two months of unemployment appear to be better, but the chances of leaving at three months and longer are worse: unemployment has become more polarized. This finding is attributed to a long-standing structural change that occurred in the aftermath of the 1981-1982 recession, and that was not reversed by the recovery and expansion of the 1980s. We note that there is a great deal of cyclical variation in the duration of unemployment in Canada. Fluctuations in the duration of unemployment account for about 65% of any changes in the unemployment rate, while fluctuations in the incidence of unemployment account for the remaining 35%. We also find that upswings in the business cycle disproportionately increase the probability of leaving unemployment for the shorter-term unemployed. Recovery and expansion does relatively little to improve the exit probabilities of the longer-term unemployed. The most notable development in the data is the extent of the change that has occurred in the Ontario labour market. Those permanently laid off in Ontario have suffered a 107% increase in the duration of unemployment between 1988 and 1992. This is due to a very large decline in the probability of leaving unemployment during the first month of unemployment.

---

**Division responsible for data:** Analytical Studies Branch

**Author:** Miles Corak

*Source: [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca), Products and Services, Research Papers*

## Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS)

**What it's about:** provided measures of labour market participation (for example, periods of unemployment through a one-, two- or three-year period) and information on the characteristics of up to five jobs held during the calendar year

**Whom we surveyed:** persons aged 16 to 69 residing in Canada, except residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, institutional residents and full-time members of the Armed Forces

**How we collected the data:** subsample of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) consisting of 40,000 households; cross-sectionally representative sample for 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 and two longitudinally representative files for 1986/1987 and 1988/1989/1990; data initially collected by personal or telephone interview as a supplement to the LFS, with a subsequent telephone interview one to two years later

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, economic regions and census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, education, family relationships and household composition



### Information collected:

- labour market participation (employment, unemployment and inactivity) over the past year
- usual work schedule (hours per day, days per week, weeks per month)
- usual wage or salary (hourly, weekly, annually)
- union membership and collective agreement coverage
- private pension plan coverage
- firm size
- reasons for job loss or work interruptions
- duration of spells of employment, unemployment and inactivity

**Frequency:** this survey was conducted annually from 1987 to 1991 with the reference year being the previous calendar

year (this survey has been replaced by the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics [SLID])

**Time frame:** first conducted in 1987 (data exist for 1986 to 1990 reference years). The survey has been superseded by the Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** within 10 to 12 months of collection

**Response rate:** 96% of responding LFS individuals, 3% attrition for longitudinal component

**Related surveys:** the design of the LMAS is based in part on three former LFS supplementary surveys:

*Annual Work Patterns Survey:* conducted annually from 1979 to 1986 (except 1982); estimated the number of persons employed, unemployed or attending school full time during the reference year

*Survey of 1981 Work History:* conducted in January 1982; provided detailed information on up to four jobs held by Canadians in 1981, including industry, occupation, work schedules, wages and salaries, and union membership

*Survey of Union Membership:* conducted in December 1984; restricted to the current or most recent paid job held that year; collected information on wages and salaries, union membership, pension coverage and work schedules

### What makes the data valuable:

- detailed information on employment patterns and concentration of unemployment
- provide longitudinal data on patterns of employment and unemployment over a two- or three-year period
- availability of wage rate, salary, union membership and pension plan coverage data
- the first year of each two- or three-year cycle of the survey can be linked to LFS data



**How to use the data:** see case studies 9, 12 and 15



**Where to find the data:**

**Past publications:**

- *Labour Market Activity Survey* (discontinued)
- *Patterns of Full- and Part-year Employment and Unemployment: Results of the Annual Work Patterns Survey, 1977 to 1980* (Catalogue no. 71-531-XPB)
- *FLUX: Two Years in the Life of the Canadian Labour Market: findings of the Statistics Canada Labour Market Activity Survey 1986-87* (Catalogue no. 71-538-XPE)

**Other sources:**

- *The Labour Force* (Catalogue no. 71-001-XPB), monthly
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

**Special tabulations and microdata:**

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Special Surveys Division**

(613) 951-4598  
 1 800 461-9050  
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 special@statcan.ca

Table using data from Labour Market Activity Survey

<b>Employment growth and unionization</b>			
	Women with one year-round job		
	Total	Unionized jobs	
	'000	'000	%
<b>1981</b>			
Goods sector	486	135	28
Service sector	2,134	766	36
<b>1986</b>			
Goods sector	427	127	30
Service sector	2,380	1,041	44
	%		
<b>1981-1986 change</b>			
Goods sector	-12	-6	...
Service sector	12	36	...

*Source: Survey of Work History, 1981; Labour Market Activity Survey, 1986.*

*Source: "Unionization and women in the service sector," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Autumn 1989.*

## Labour Unions Returns (CALURA)

**What it's about:** evaluates the extent and effect of the association of Canadian unions with international labour unions. Financial and other information from certain corporations and labour unions with activities in Canada is collected under the auspices of the *Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act* (CALURA).

**What we surveyed:** all labour unions having 100 or more members resident in Canada that meet the requirements of the Act

**How we collected the data:** information supplied by various unions and corporations through a mail-out/mail-back survey and telephone follow-up

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories and census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** sex (obtained from membership data)



**Information collected:** (obtained from the labour unions portion of CALURA)

- number of unionized workers by industry
- the amount of dues paid by union members
- assets, liabilities, income and expenditures by fund and type of union (international, national, government)

**Frequency:** annual (the last released survey data pertain to 1995)

**Time frame:** data have been collected since 1962; a major series break occurred in 1983 when 1981 revisions to CALURA came into effect. CALURA ceased collecting data with the 1996 survey.

**Reference period:** the calendar year for membership data and the fiscal year for financial data

**Related surveys:** Survey of Union Membership 1984; Labour Force Survey (since January 1997); Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID); Survey of Work Arrangements

**Release date:** 18 to 24 months after the reference period

**What makes the data valuable:**

- the only continuous major source of data on unionization
- provide a breakdown of members affiliated with international, national and government unions
- give a financial picture of trade unions

**How to use the data:** see case studies 12 and 16



**Where to find the data:**

**Regular publication:**

- *Annual Report of the Minister of Industry, Science and Technology under the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act. Part II, Labour Unions* (Catalogue no. 71-202-XPB) (discontinued after 1995)

**Other source:**

- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly
- "Unionization in Canada: A retrospective" Supplement to Summer 1999 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*



**Labour Unions Section**

Industrial Organization and Finance  
Division  
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Highlights of an analytical supplement based on CALURA data

# Unionization in Canada: A retrospective

Supplement

Catalogue no. 75-001-SPE

Summer 1999

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Canada's unionization rate edged up slightly to 32.3% in 1995 from 32.1% in 1994. This advance marks a reversal in the downward trend that began in 1991.
- ◆ Between 1966 and 1995, women's unionization rate almost doubled, from 15.9% to 30.0%. The rate for men fell slightly during the same period, from 38.4% to 34.4%. The 1995 figures mark the highest level of unionization for women and the lowest for men since these rates were first recorded in accordance with the *Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act* (CALURA).
- ◆ The decline in men's union membership and rates can be traced in part to the shift of employment from the heavily unionized male-dominated goods-producing industries to the less unionized service industries.
- ◆ The rise in women's union membership and rates over the years can be attributed to several factors. Among the most important are the growing share of women in the heavily unionized public sector; increasing presence of women in some heavily unionized male-dominated industries; union inroads into less unionized female-dominated service industries; and increased unionization among part-time workers.
- ◆ International unions have lost their influence over the years. In 1962, almost 7 in 10 union members in Canada belonged to an international union; by 1995 the number had fallen to less than 3 in 10.
- ◆ Larger unions (50,000 or more members) are the norm now. In 1966, they numbered only 4, and they accounted for 22% of total union membership. By 1995, the number had risen to 18, and represented 55% of total membership.

Source: Perspectives on Labour and Income, *Summer 1999*.

## Longitudinal Administrative Databank (LAD)

**What it's about:** consists of a 10% longitudinal sample of people identified on the personal tax file (T1). Income and some demographic data are available for individuals and census families as well as non-families.

**How we collected the data:** The LAD consists of annual segments. Each year of the LAD consists of a 10% sample from the annual T1 Family File (T1FF). The LAD follows a sample of individuals through time. Once selected, individuals are in the sample whenever they appear on the annual T1 Family File (T1FF). Since the population of taxfilers increases over time, to maintain a 10% sample, each year the databank is topped up with a sample of new filers.

**Geographic detail:** The large sample (2.2 million persons in 1996) ensures reliable estimates for Canada, the provinces, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and some subprovincial regions, based on aggregations of postal codes.

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, and census family composition



**Information collected:** The following is a partial list of the income variables that are available.

- total income
- earnings from T4 slips
- wages and salaries
- Employment Insurance benefits
- investment income
- self-employment income
- income after-tax
- transfer payments
- RRSP contributions
- RRSP/RRIF income
- C/QPP contributions
- C/QPP benefits
- taxes

**Frequency:** on an annual basis, an additional year of data is added to the LAD.

**Time frame:** available for the years 1982 to 1996.

**Reference period:** taxation year

**Release date:** data are released within 18 months of tax filing

**Response rate:** coverage was 96% of Statistics Canada's official population estimates in 1996

**What makes the data valuable:**

- span a 15-year period
- annual segments are added as they become available
- provide researchers and analysts with a comprehensive tool for studying the changes in income that Canadians and their families experience

**Related data:** T1 Family File



**Where to find the data:**

**Custom tabulations:**

- Custom tabulations are available on a cost-recovery basis for Canada, the provinces, CMAs, cities and some subprovincial regions based on postal codes. Availability of data are dependent on sample size and confidentiality restrictions.

**Products:**

The following reference documents are available upon request:

- An Introduction to the Longitudinal Administrative Databank
- LAD Dictionary
- *Income Dynamics: 1989-1994* (Catalogue no. 13F0023XPE)
- LAD Research Papers

**Other source:**

- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly



**Small Area and Administrative Data Division**

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Table using LAD data

<b>Table 1. Change in family composition, all separated persons, 1987-1993</b>							
	T <sub>-1</sub>	T <sub>0</sub>	T <sub>+1</sub>	T <sub>+2</sub>	T <sub>+3</sub>	T <sub>+4</sub>	T <sub>+5</sub>
	'000						
<b>Men</b>							
Sample size	381	381	306	251	198	148	99
	%						
Family composition							
<b>All separated men</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Couples	100 *	10	30	39	45	50	54
Single parents	... *	29	18	16	14	13	11
Single persons	... *	61	52	46	41	37	35
Proportion of men who declared dependent children under 18	100	32	36	39	40	42	42
	'000						
<b>Women</b>							
Sample size	448	448	374	310	244	184	123
	%						
Family composition							
<b>All separated women</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Couples	100 *	10	26	33	38	42	45
Single parents	... *	83	68	61	55	50	46
Single persons	... *	8	5	6	7	8	9
Proportion of women who declared dependent children under 18	100	89	89	86	82	79	76

Source: Longitudinal Administrative Databank, 1986-1993

\* By definition, in the year preceding separation (T<sub>-1</sub>) everyone in the sample is married.

Source: "Family income after separation," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Summer 1997

## National Work Injuries Statistics Program

**What it's about:** supplies data on work-related time-loss injuries and illnesses

**Whom we surveyed:** census of all persons whose claims for compensation for time-loss or permanent disability were accepted by workers' compensation boards and commissions

**How we collected the data:** administrative records obtained from provincial and territorial workers' compensation boards and commissions

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces and territories

**Demographic detail:** age and sex



### Information collected:

- month and year of injury
- occupation of injured person
- industry of the employer
- nature of injury (burn or fracture, for example)
- part of body injured (arm, leg or back, for example)
- source of injury (machine or chemical, for example)
- type of accident (fall or electric shock, for example)

**Frequency:** annual up to 1994 (data are now compiled by the National Work Injuries Statistics Program [NWISP] of the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada)

**Time frame:** data are available from 1982 to 1994 (paper only)

**Reference period:** calendar year

**Release date:** within 12 months of reference year

### What makes the data valuable:

- data available by industry, occupation and province
- very detailed classification of injuries

**How to use the data:** see case studies 10 and 11



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Work Injuries* (Catalogue no. 72-208-XPB), annual (discontinued after 1994)

#### Special tabulations and microdata:

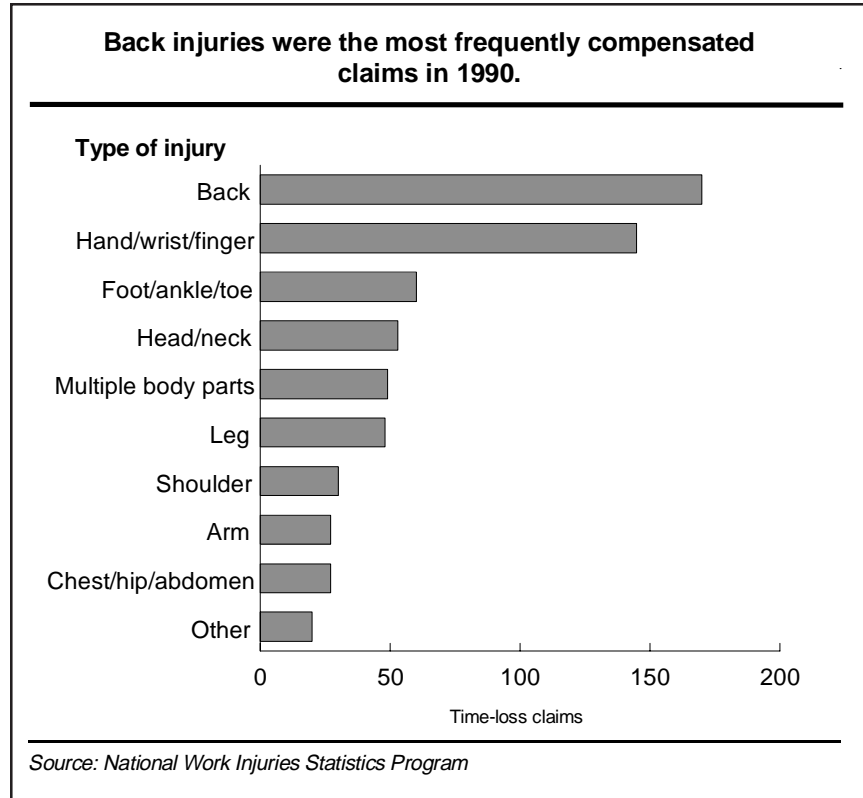
- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### NATIONAL WORK INJURIES STATISTICS PROGRAM (NWISP)

Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada (AWCBC)  
 (905) 542-3633  
 fax: (905) 542-0039  
 contact@awcbc.org or  
 www.awcbc.org

Chart using data from National Work Injuries Statistics Program



Source: "Back injuries at work, 1982-1990," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Autumn 1992



## Pension Plans in Canada Survey

**What it's about:** offers a wide range of data on pension plans provided by employers

**Whom we survey:** census of all employer-sponsored pension plans in Canada

**How we collect the data:** the information is taken from administrative records of government pension authorities provided to Statistics Canada; for approximately 5% of the plans, employers are surveyed directly by Statistics Canada

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces and territories

**Demographic detail:** sex



### Information collected:

- type of pension plan
- proportion of earnings contributed to pension plans
- pension coverage by province
- private/public sector and industry breakdown

**Frequency:** annual (except for 1991)

**Time frame:** comparable data are available for selected years starting in 1960

**Reference period:** January 1

**Release date:** 18 months after the reference period

### What makes the data valuable:

- the major source of data on work-related pension plans
- contain information on the extent of pension plan coverage
- provide data on selected characteristics of pension plans such as eligibility criteria, type of plan, contribution and benefit rates, vesting provisions, retirement ages and death benefits

**How to use the data:** see case study 13



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Pension Plans in Canada* (Catalogue no. 74-401-XPB), biennial (data for some of the intervening years have been released in a non-standard, uncatalogued report)

#### Special tabulations and microdata:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Client Services

Income Statistics Division  
1 888 297-7355  
(613) 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
[income@statcan.ca](mailto:income@statcan.ca)

Table using data from the Pension Plans in Canada Survey

<b>RPP membership by type of plan and sector</b>					
	All plans *		Defined benefit		
	Members	Coverage **	Members	Coverage **	
	'000	%	'000	%	
<b>Both sectors</b>					
1986	4,668	43.6	4,296	40.1	
1988	4,845	42.5	4,430	38.8	
1990	5,109	42.4	4,634	38.4	
1992	5,318	45.0	4,776	40.4	
1994	5,215	44.2	4,645	39.3	
<b>Public sector</b>					
1986	2,086	83.6	2,043	81.9	
1988	2,172	88.0	2,120	82.3	
1990	2,266	89.7	2,212	87.5	
1992	2,555	95.1	2,464	91.7	
1994	2,461	92.1	2,360	88.4	
<b>Private sector</b>					
1986	2,582	31.4	2,252	27.3	
1988	2,673	30.3	2,310	26.1	
1990	2,844	29.8	2,422	25.4	
1992	2,764	30.2	2,312	25.2	
1994	2,759	30.2	2,285	24.9	

Sources: Pension Plans in Canada database, Labour Force Survey and Public Institutions Division  
 \* Includes combination and other hybrid plans, as well as defined benefit and defined contribution plans.  
 \*\* Number of members as a percentage of total paid workers. Members residing in the Yukon and Northwest Territories and outside Canada are excluded from this calculation, since the Labour Force Survey does not cover these areas.

Source: "Pension fact or fiction?" Perspectives on Labour and Income, Summer 1996

## Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH)

**What it's about:** measures payroll employment, paid hours and earnings of workers in most industries

**What we survey:** firms and institutions of all sizes in every industry (except agriculture, fishing and trapping, private households, religious organizations and the military)

**How we collect the data:** information is collected from

- a census of administrative records from Revenue Canada for firms having 100 employees and more
- a sample of administrative records from Revenue Canada for firms having fewer than 100 employees
- a sample survey (Business Payrolls Survey) conducted to estimate the variables not reported on administrative records

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories

**Demographic detail:** none



### Information collected:

- employment (all employees, salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, other employees)
- payrolls (all employees, salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, other employees)
- average weekly earnings including/excluding overtime earnings for salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, and other employees
- average weekly hours of employees paid by the hour
- average standard work week of salaried employees
- average weekly overtime hours of employees paid by the hour
- average hourly earnings including/excluding overtime of salaried employees and employees paid by the hour

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** data are available since January 1983

**Reference period:** the last seven days of the month

**Release dates:** preliminary data are published within 60 days of the reference period, and revised estimates 30 days later

**Response rate:** 85% (for final estimates)

### What makes the data valuable:

- largest monthly business survey in Canada
- timely information
- extensive industrial detail
- detailed geographic data
- the only source of current weekly earnings data

**Related surveys:** Before the introduction of SEPH in 1983, three main sources were used to collect data on employment, earnings and hours: the Employment, Payrolls and Manhours Survey (ES-1—survey of large firms in commercial industries); the Employment Sample Survey (ES-2—survey of small firms in the commercial industries), and other employment surveys covering institutions and organizations in the non-commercial sector (GAP—surveys of education, health and welfare, and religious organizations). For information on linking SEPH data with the ES-1, ES-2 and GAP, please consult one of the labour market consultants in the Labour Statistics Division.

**How to use the data:** see case studies 3, 17 and 27



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (Catalogue no. 72-002-XPB), monthly.

#### Special reports:

- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XDB) (diskette product)
- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XCB) (CD-ROM product)

- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XIB) (Internet)
- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 10-3000XKB) (kit, paper and diskette)
- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 10-3009XKB) (kit, paper and CD-ROM)

**Other sources:**

- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001E), quarterly
- *Canadian Economic Observer* (Catalogue no. 11-010-XPB), monthly

- *Industry Profiles* (Catalogue no. 15-205M), annual
- *Services Indicators* (Catalogue no. 63-016-XPB), quarterly
- *Industrial Monitor* (Catalogue no. 15F0015XPE), monthly

**Special tabulations:**

- Data collected by the survey can be custom-tabulated to meet particular data needs on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**SEPH Statistics Customer Service Section**

Labour Division  
 (613) 951-4090  
 fax: (613) 951-4087  
 labour@statcan.ca

Table using SEPH data

<b>Average weekly payrolls, employment and earnings (excluding overtime), by industry sector, 1994</b>					
	Average weekly payrolls		Employment		Average weekly earnings
	\$ millions	%	'000	%	\$
<b>All industries *</b>	<b>5,764</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10,447</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>551.69</b>
Service sector	4,141	72	7,996	77	517.97
Goods sector	1,589	28	2,392	23	664.38

Source: Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours  
 \* Includes employees who have not been classified by industry.

Source: "Are service jobs low-paying?" Perspectives on Labour and Income, Spring 1996

## Survey of Job Opportunities

**What it's about:** identified persons not in the labour force who wanted to work, although they were not currently seeking employment (including discouraged workers); examined their recent labour market activities, the type of employment wanted and their reasons for not looking for work. The results of the Survey of Job Opportunities complemented the monthly measures of “discouragement” derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The LFS identifies persons who looked for work in the previous six months but not in the past four weeks, because they believe no work is available. The Survey of Job Opportunities covered a much broader group, since it included all persons who reported wanting a job, whether or not they had ever actively looked for one.

**Whom we surveyed:** all persons aged 15 and over residing in Canada, except residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, institutional residents and full-time members of the Armed Forces (exclusions account for less than 3% of the population)

**How we collected the data:** used complete LFS sample of 62,000 households; data were collected by personal and telephone interviews

**Geographic detail:** Canada and provinces

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationships and household composition



### Information collected:

- previous employment information and job search data on discouraged workers (also see the LFS profile)

**Frequency:** conducted annually as a supplement to the March LFS, except in 1989 and 1990; also conducted in September 1981 and 1984. This survey has been subsumed by the Labour Force Survey as of 1997.

**Time frame:** data are consistent since 1979

**Reference period:** March or September LFS reference week

**Release date:** data were available within four weeks of collection

**Response rate:** 95%

### What makes the data valuable:

- provide industry trends
- can be linked to LFS data

**How to use the data:** see case study 7



### Where to find the data:

#### Published articles:

- selected issues of *The Labour Force* (Catalogue no. 71-001-XPB), monthly
- selected issues of *Labour Force Information* (Catalogue no. 71-001-PPB), monthly
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force: Job Search Activities and the Desire for Employment* (Labour Force Survey Research Papers no. 21, 23, 25, 27 and 30)

#### Special tabulations and microdata:

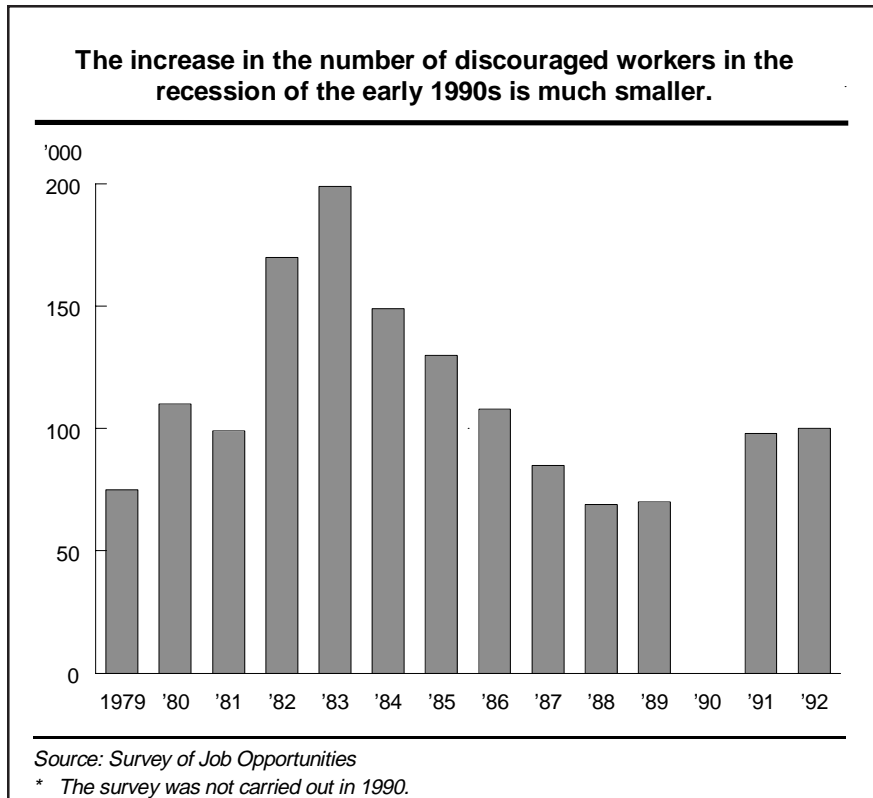
- These are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Special Surveys Division

(613) 951-4598  
1 800 461-9050  
fax: (613) 951-0562  
special@statcan.ca

Chart using data from Survey of Job Opportunities



Source: "Discouraged workers - where have they gone?" Perspectives on Labour and Income, Autumn 1992

## Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)

**What's it about:** provides longitudinal and annual measures of the labour market experiences and economic well-being of Canadians

**Whom we survey:** all persons, regardless of age, residing in the 10 Canadian provinces, except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Armed Forces

**How we collect the data:** a preliminary interview takes place at the beginning of each panel to collect background information. Each of the six years has a split-interview format, with labour topics covered in January and income topics in May

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, economic regions, census metropolitan areas, urban/rural areas

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, marital spells, immigration status, mother tongue, country of birth, registered Indian or member of visible minority, education and place of birth of parents, fertility, household characteristics, and economic and census family characteristics, including life events, blended families, number of generations, major activity and health



### Information collected:

- nature and pattern of labour market activity (class of worker, number of jobs, job changes, labour force status and main job, earnings)
- job characteristics (firm size, how job obtained, industry, occupation, usual hours, work schedule, absences from work)
- paid workers (union membership, job benefits)
- jobless periods (duration, job search, desire for employment)
- activity limitation (incidence and effect on labour market activity)
- work history
- educational attainment and activity (enrolment, type of institution, field of study, type of degree, years of schooling)
- geographic mobility

- income by source
- earnings (wages, self-employment)
- investment income (interest, dividends, capital gains)
- government transfers (EI benefits, workers' compensation, Social Assistance, C/QPP)
- pension income (employment pensions or superannuation, RRIFs)
- other income (support payments, RRSP withdrawals)

**Frequency:** a new panel is introduced every three years (starting in 1993) and remains in the survey for six years; labour interview, annually in January after reference year; income interview, annually in May after reference year (the respondents can avoid this interview if they agree to have their income tax file consulted)

**Time frame:** first panel covers reference years 1993 to 1998; second panel covers reference years 1996 to 2001, and so on.

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** 15 months after the reference year

**Response rate:** over 90% (labour and income interviews and access to income tax file combined)

**Related surveys:** starting point for content development was Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) for labour content; Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) for income content

### What makes the data valuable:

- detailed examination of changes and transitions at the microdata level
- analysis of spell (unemployment, not in labour force) durations
- analysis of flows into and out of different statuses
- data at the person level, economic and census family level and job level
- mix of detailed labour and income data for six years
- starting with reference year 1998, SLID will be the principal source of annual personal income statistics, replacing the Survey of Consumer Finances



**How to use the data:** A summary of the research themes is given in the June 1998 *Survey Overview—Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics* (Catalogue no. 75F0011XPB). More details are provided in the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics Microdata User's Guide* (Catalogue no. 75M0001GPE). Both are available free of charge on the Internet. Also see case studies 7, 9, 12, 15, 23, 24, 25 and 26.



**Where to find the data:**

**SLID Working Paper Series:**

- available on paper for a small fee, or free of charge on the Internet, 15 to 20 issues per year (Catalogue no. 75F0002MIE)

**SLID Public Use Microdata on CD-ROM:**

- comes with the microdata user's guide. Latest issue: four waves of data available in Autumn 1999 (Catalogue no. 75M0001XCB)

**Other sources:**

- *The SLID Electronic Data Dictionary* (Catalogue no. 75F0026XIB) provides a list of variables and code sets available on diskette or on the Internet (free of charge).
- A workshop for SLID data users is also offered by the survey staff when and where the demand is sufficient.

**Custom products:**

- “do-it-yourself” custom retrievals: a data user may write a program to be sent to Statistics Canada in electronic form and run against the internal database. After suppression for confidentiality, the output is sent back to the user.
- custom retrievals: these products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Client Services**

Income Statistics Division  
 (613) 951-7355 or toll free at  
 1 888 297-7355  
 fax: (613) 951-3012  
 dynamics@statcan.ca

Table using SLID data

<b>Work experience of 15-to-69 year-olds, 1993</b>			
	Both sexes	Men	Women
	%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Never worked full time	19	15	23
With at least some full-time experience	81	85	77
Only full-year full-time	58	69	46
Some part-year or part-time*	23	16	31
<b>Years of experience**</b>			
5 or less	16	12	20
6 to 10	15	12	18
11 to 15	13	12	13
16 to 20	12	13	11
21 to 25	8	9	6
26 to 30	6	7	4
Over 30	12	20	5

Source: *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics*  
 \* Includes years with a mixture of full- and part-time work  
 \*\* Full-year full-time equivalent; see *Sizing up experience and education*

Source: “*Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics: encountering low income,*” *The Daily, March 25, 1999*



## Survey of Work Arrangements (SWA)

**What it's about:** collects comprehensive data on the work arrangements (for example, schedules and routines) of Canadian workers, as well as information on emerging work arrangements such as flexitime, on-call work, working from home and moonlighting; information on job quality is also collected

**Whom we survey:** the population aged 15 to 69 years and over residing in Canada, except residents of the Yukon or Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, institutional residents and members of the Armed Forces

**How we collect the data:** sub-sample of the Labour Force Survey (LFS), consisting of approximately 27,000 households

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, and census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** sex, age, education, marital status, family relationships



### Information collected:

- weekly and daily work schedules of employees
- non-typical work arrangements such as shift work, flexitime and work from home, and reasons for arrangement
- multiple jobholding (and reasons)
- reasons for self-employment
- selected indicators of job quality (for example, earnings, non-wage benefits)

**Frequency:** irregular supplement to LFS

**Time frame:** data are available for 1991 and 1995

**Reference period:** November LFS reference period

**Related surveys:** Labour Force Survey (LFS); General Social Survey (GSS); Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID); Workplace and Employee Survey (WES)

### What makes the data valuable:

- the only major source of data on the work arrangements of Canadians (and reasons)
- many aspects of job quality of employees
- motivations for moonlighting and self-employment

**How to use the data:** see case study 33



### Where to find the data:

#### Special publications:

- *Work Arrangements in the 1990s* (Catalogue no. 71-535-MPB, no. 8)
- *Work Arrangements* (Catalogue no. 71-535-MPB, no. 6)

#### Other source:

- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

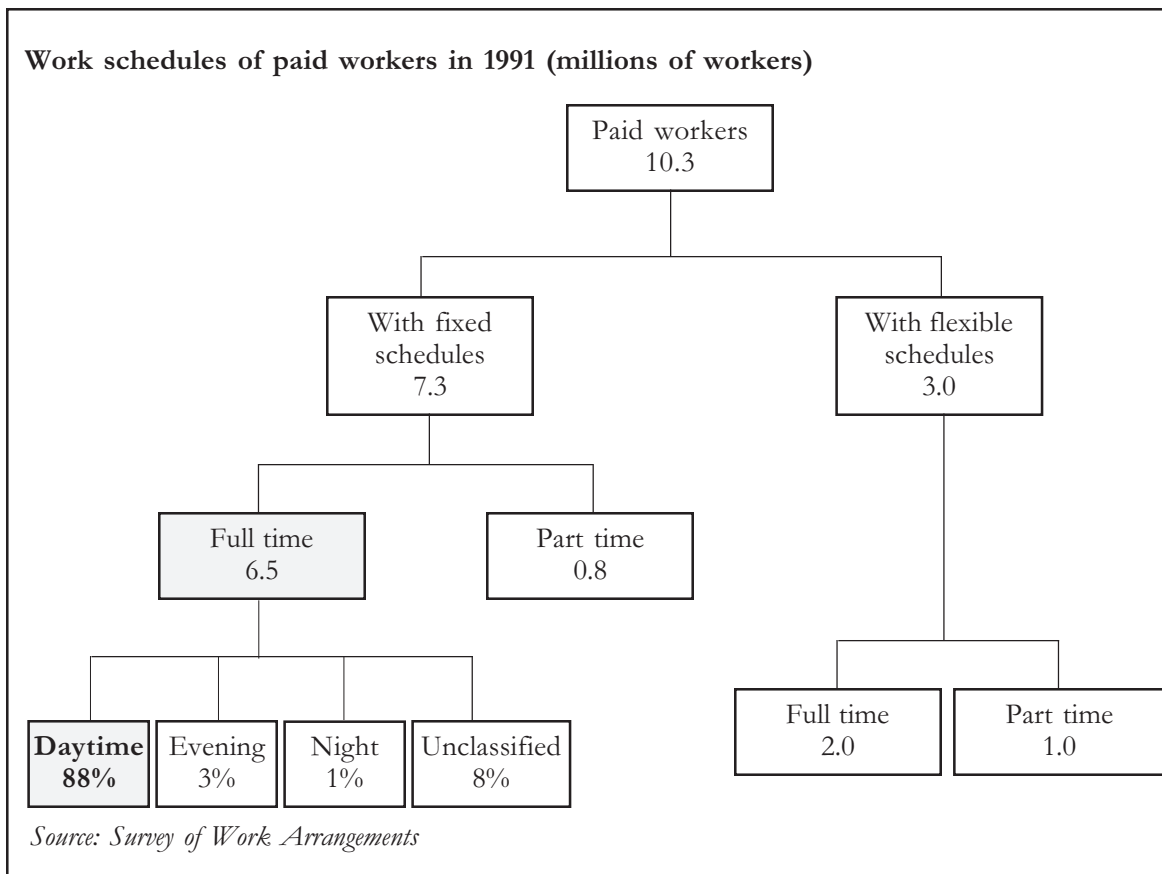
#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Elizabeth Majewski**  
Special Surveys Division  
(613) 951-4584  
fax: (613) 951-0562  
majeeli@statcan.ca

Chart using data from the Survey of Work Arrangements



Source: "Working 9 to 5," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Summer 1994

## Workplace and Employee Survey (WES)

**What it's about:** measures the adjustments businesses are making in the face of rapid technological advancements, new directions in public policy and global competition. The emphasis is on human resource practices, labour requirements and the interaction of employers and employees in the workplace.

**Whom we survey:** the final pilot sample included 748 establishments and 1,960 workers. Intended survey will sample up to 7,000 establishments and 40,000 workers.

**How we collect the data:** survey of employers selected from a register of all businesses in Canada; survey of employees from the same workplaces

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, and census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** none



### Information collected:

- the structure of the workforce
- hiring
- unfilled vacancies and separations
- compensation
- training
- hours of work
- workplace organization
- collective bargaining
- business strategy
- innovation
- technology
- job characteristics
- educational requirements
- many more variables for all major industries
- As report is based on the pilot survey, the results are, in a sense, a case study. While they apply only to the particular industry/province combinations noted, the selected industries cover the major sectors of the economy.

**Frequency:** annual

**Time frame:** pilot survey in 1996, full survey in 1999

**Reference period:** calendar year

### What makes the data valuable:

- will help design training programs for unemployed workers
- will help to develop educational materials
- evaluate labour and social policies
- could be used to develop a labour cost index



### Where to find the data:

#### Special publication:

- *The Evolving Workplace: Findings from the Pilot Workplace and Employee Survey* (Catalogue no. 71-583-XPE)

#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Labour Division

(613) 951-4090

(613) 951-4087

labour@statcan.ca

Some results from the WES pilot project

According to the results of the employee survey, 10.6% of workers had been hired since January 1995, that is, during the year preceding the interviews. This proportion varies considerably, depending on industry and establishment size. At the time of the survey, for example, one employee in four in the transportation, storage, and wholesale trade sector, and one in five in the business service sector, had been hired within the last year. In contrast, the education and health services sector and the communications and other utilities sector had decreases as establishment size increased. New employees made up 17.1% of the workforce in small establishments, defined as those having one to 19 employees. This proportion declines as establishment size increases, and amounts to 3.6% among establishments with 500 or more employees. These data suggest that there is greater employment stability in very large establishments. Those employed by large establishments have tended to be on the job longer than those who worked for small establishments, in part because of higher staff turnover in small establishments.

**Table 5.6. New hires by industry**

Industry	% of new workers
Logging, forestry, mining, quarries, and oil wells	17.4
Manufacturing: scale-based	3.8
Manufacturing: product-differentiated	17.8
Manufacturing: science-based	8.1
Construction	18.9
Transportation and storage; wholesale trade	25.9
Communications and other utilities	2.1
Retail trade and commercial services	13.8
Finance and insurance	9.4
Real estate operators and insurance agents	10.7
Business services	20.9
Education and health services	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.6</b>

Source: The Evolving Workplace: Findings from the Pilot Workplace and Employee Survey, *Catalogue no. 71-583-XPE*

## Other labour market data sources

### Special surveys

The special surveys program of Statistics Canada provides a wide range of labour market data other than those already described in this guide. The program's ad hoc surveys, many of which are conducted as supplements to the Labour Force Survey, collect data of special interest that are not normally produced as part of the national statistical program of Statistics Canada. They are directed mostly toward particular and immediate policy issues and are carried out for sponsors on a cost-recovery basis. The following are some of the special surveys conducted in recent years:

**Adult Education and Training Survey**—1990, 1992, 1994, 1988—provides information on the number of persons who participated in adult education and training programs in the past 12 months, the type of training, the reasons for taking training and type of financial assistance received.

**The Earning Supplement Project, Displaced Worker Survey**—1997—is designed to determine the effectiveness of an earnings supplement incentive as a means of helping Employment Insurance claimants return to work.

**The International Adult Literacy Survey**—1994—sheds light on the relationship between performance, educational attainment, labour market participation and employment for those at certain literacy levels. It also compares Canadian literacy levels with those in other countries.

**National Graduates Survey**—(first conducted in 1984 and included respondents who graduated in 1982; same respondents were recontacted in 1987 and a longitudinal file was created; in 1988, the graduates from 1986 were surveyed, and in 1991 they were followed up; in 1992, the graduates of 1990

were surveyed and in 1997, the graduates of 1995 were surveyed)—provides information on the extent to which graduates of postsecondary school programs have been successful in obtaining employment after graduation, on the relationship between employment and field of study, and on underemployment, unemployment and job/career satisfaction.

A complete list of the special surveys conducted each year can be found in the annual publication, *Overview of Special Surveys* (Catalogue no. 12F0030XPE [1976 to 1993]; Catalogue no. 12F0030XIE [1994 on]). Users who have specific data needs may want to consider sponsoring a special survey on a particular subject. For more information on special surveys, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or

### Special Surveys Division

(613) 951-4598  
1 800 461-9050  
fax: (613) 951-0562

### Other Statistics Canada surveys

Employment data are also collected in other surveys conducted by Statistics Canada. These include the Survey of Manufactures, as well as many other smaller surveys. In addition, the Small Business and Special Surveys Division provides tax-based employment data. Information on these surveys can be found in the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* (Catalogue no. 11-204-XPE).



### 5.3. Income surveys

<b>Estimates of labour income .....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement .....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Labour Force Survey (LFS) .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) .....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Longitudinal Administrative Databank (LAD) .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) .....</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) .....</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds .....</b>	<b>88</b>



## Estimates of labour income

**What it's about:** provides estimates of wages and salaries and supplementary labour income by province and industry

**Whom we survey:** all paid employees

**How we collect the data:** combination of administrative data from Revenue Canada and data based on various annual and monthly Statistics Canada surveys (mainly the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours and Labour Force Survey)

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories and abroad

**Demographic detail:** none



### Information collected:

- wage and salary data by industry and province
- supplementary labour income, such as employers' contributions to health and welfare schemes, pension plans, workers' compensation, Employment Insurance, Canada/Quebec Pension Plans and retirement allowances
- wage and salary data by government, personal and business sector

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** data are available from 1961

**Reference period:** calendar month

**Release date:** two months after collection

### What makes the data valuable:

- long time series
- detailed industry data by province
- annual government, personal and business sector estimates

- labour income is over 50% of gross domestic product
- only source of supplementary labour income estimates

**How to use the data:** see case studies 18 and 31



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Estimates of Labour Income* (Catalogue no. 13F0016XPB), monthly

#### Other sources:

- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly
- *Canadian Economic Observer* (Catalogue no. 11-010-XPB), monthly
- *National Economic and Financial Accounts* (Catalogue no. 13-001-XPB), quarterly

#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

- Special tabulations meeting specific user requirements are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Government, Labour and Unincorporated Business Section**  
Income and Expenditure Accounts  
Division  
(613) 951-4049  
fax: (613) 951-3618

An extract of an article published in *The Daily*

## Estimates of labour income

January 1999 (preliminary)

Labour income declined slightly (-0.2%) in January, following strong growth (+0.5%) in December 1998. While employment continued to increase in January, this gain was moderated by a decline in average weekly earnings.

Decreases in wages and salaries occurred in most of the goods-producing industries. After five consecutive monthly gains, manufacturing declined 0.3%. Logging and forestry, mines, quarries and oil wells, construction and other utilities also recorded decreases in January.

In contrast, wages and salaries rose in trade and finance, insurance and real estate, pushed primarily by gains in employment. Commercial and personal services grew for an eighth consecutive month.

**Note:** Labour income consists of wages and salaries (88%), plus supplementary labour income (12%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employers' contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and Employment Insurance plans. Labour income accounts for about 52% of gross domestic product. Users of the labour income data should note that the seasonally adjusted data are revised back to January 1998.

**Available on CANSIM:** matrices 6597-6624.

The January 1999 issue of the **Tables and analytical document: Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates** (Catalogue no. 13F0016XPB, \$20/\$200) is now available.

At 8:30 a.m. on release day, data sets are available for purchase on microcomputer diskette (Catalogue no. 13F0016XDB). Seven days after the official release date, these diskettes become available at a lower cost. To purchase either of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640; [iea-crd@statcan.ca](mailto:iea-crd@statcan.ca)), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Katherine Fraser (613-951-4049; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Source: "Estimates of Labour Income," *The Daily*, Thursday, April 1999

## General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement

**What it's about:** collects data on education, work and retirement and focuses on the transition into retirement and post-retirement activities

**Whom we survey:** persons aged 15 and over residing in private dwellings in the 10 provinces of Canada

**How we collect the data:** telephone interviews from approximately 10,000 respondents selected by random digit dialing

**Geographic detail:** Canada and provinces

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, household composition, immigration status and mother tongue



### Information collected:

- educational attainment and intentions
- transition from education to work to retirement
- occupational history
- job satisfaction and working conditions
- post-retirement activities (in 1994 cycle)
- work interruptions (in 1994 cycle)
- social mobility (in 1994 cycle as well as in 1992 time-use cycle)
- computer use
- annual income of respondent and of household

**Frequency:** quinquennial

**Time frame:** conducted in 1989 and 1994 (GSS cycles 4 and 9)

**Reference period:** occupational history (first job, job held five years ago, last job and current job)

**Release date:** microdata file and publication also available now

**Response rate:** 81% in 1989 and 1994

### What makes the data valuable:

- provide partial information on work history
- allow for linkage between work and education
- provide detailed information on education history
- provide information on perception and attitudes related to work

**How to use the data:** see case study 32



### Where to find the data:

#### Analytic reports:

- *Quality of Work in the Service Sector* (Catalogue no. 11-612-MPE, no. 6)
- *Human Resource Challenges of Education, Computers and Retirement* (Catalogue no. 11-612-MPE, no. 7)
- *Canada's Changing Retirement Patterns: Findings from the General Social Survey* (Catalogue no. 89-546-XPE)

#### Other sources:

- *Canadian Social Trends* (Catalogue no. 11-008-XPE), quarterly
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

#### Special tabulation and microdata files:

- Special tabulations meeting specific user requirements are available on a cost-recovery basis.
- Public-use microdata files for each survey cycle that allow users to do their own tabulations are also available. For further information, please contact



### Client Services and Dissemination

Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division

(613) 951-5979

fax: (613) 951-0387

hfssdlf@statcan.ca

*Note: See page 47 to see an article using GSS data*

## Labour Force Survey (LFS)

**What it's about:** collects data on the labour market activities and demographic characteristics of the working-age population of Canada; provides estimates of the number and characteristics of the employed, the unemployed, and persons not in the labour force; is a vehicle for supplementary surveys on the labour market and other issues

**Whom we survey:** the population aged 15 and over residing in Canada, except residents of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, (Yukon is surveyed, but is not included in the national totals), persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Armed Forces (exclusions account for about 2% of the population)

**How we collect the data:** sample of about 53,000 households or over 100,000 individuals (less than 1% of the population). Households are in the sample for six months—a personal interview is conducted the first time, followed by telephone interviews conducted in subsequent months.

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, census metropolitan areas, economic regions and some census agglomerations (the smaller the population of an area, the more the data are subject to sampling variability)

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, education, marital status, family relationship and household composition



### Information collected:

- employment
- unemployment
- usual and actual hours of work
- employee hourly and weekly wages
- industry of current or most recent job
- occupation of current or most recent job
- class of worker (employee, self-employed, unpaid family worker)
- public/private sector
- union status

- overtime hours, whether paid or unpaid
- permanent/temporary work
- workplace and firm size
- family information (for example, the number of unemployed family members)
- school attendance (full- or part-time and type of institution)
- hours of work lost, by reason
- job tenure
- duration of unemployment
- methods of job search and type of job sought
- reasons for working part time
- identification of “discouraged workers”
- involuntary part-timers
- multiple jobholders

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** most data series are consistent since 1976

**Reference period:** a given week of the month, usually the week including the 15th day of the month

**Release dates:** within 13 days of collection

**Response rate:** 95%

### What makes the data valuable:

- very timely information
- long time series
- can be linked to supplementary survey data such as volunteer work, child care, and absence from work
- seasonally adjusted data available for many series
- cover all industries
- cover the self-employed

**How to use the data:** see case studies 1, 2 and 27



## Where to find the data:

### Regular publications:

- *Labour Force Information* (Catalogue no. 71-001-PPB), monthly
- *Labour Force Update* (Catalogue no. 71-005-XPB), quarterly
- *Labour Force Historical Review* on CD-ROM (Catalogue no. 71F0004XCB), annual
- *Historical Labour Force Statistics* (Catalogue no. 71-201-XPB), annual

### Topics covered in *Labour Force Update*:

- Spring 1997: Youths and the labour market
- Summer 1997: Hours of work
- Fall 1997: The self-employed
- Winter 1997: An overview of the 1997 labour market
- Spring 1998: Older workers
- Summer 1998: A new perspective on wages
- Fall 1998: A Canada-U.S. labour market comparison
- Winter 1998: An overview of the 1998 labour market
- Spring 1999: Employment by industry and occupation based on new classifications

### Other sources:

- *Guide to the Labour Force Survey* (Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE) ([www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/labour/index.htm))
- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

### Special tabulations and microdata files:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



### Marc Lévesque

Labour Force Survey Program  
(613) 951-2793  
fax: (613) 951-2869  
[levemar@statcan.ca](mailto:levemar@statcan.ca)

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*Note: See page 52 to see an abstract of a research paper using LFS data.*

## Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS)

**What it's about:** provides measures of labour market participation (for example, periods of unemployment through a one-, two- or three-year period) and information on the characteristics of up to five jobs held during the calendar year

**Whom we surveyed:** persons aged 16 to 69 residing in Canada, except residents of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, persons living on Indian reserves, institutional residents and full-time members of the Armed Forces

**How we collected the data:** subsample of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) consisting of 40,000 households; cross-sectionally representative sample for 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 and two longitudinally representative files for 1986/1987 and 1988/1989/1990; data initially collected by personal or telephone interview as a supplement to the LFS with a subsequent telephone interview one or two years later

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, economic regions and census metropolitan areas

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, education, family relationships and household composition



### Information collected:

- labour market participation (employment, unemployment and inactivity) over the past year
- usual work schedule (hours per day, days per week, weeks per month)
- usual wage or salary (hourly, weekly, annual)
- participation in Employment and Immigration Canada retraining and job search programs
- union membership and collective agreement coverage
- private pension plan coverage
- firm size
- reasons for job loss or work interruptions
- duration of spells of employment, unemployment and inactivity

**Frequency:** annual

**Time frame:** first conducted in 1987 (data exist for 1986 to 1990 reference years). The survey has been superseded by the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics.

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** within 10 to 12 months of collection

**Response rate:** 96% of responding LFS individuals, 3% attrition for longitudinal component

**Related surveys:** the design of the LMAS is based in part on three former LFS supplementary surveys:

#### Annual Work Patterns Survey:

conducted annually from 1979 to 1986 (except 1982); estimated the number of persons employed, unemployed or attending school full time during the reference year

#### Survey of 1981 Work History:

conducted in January 1982; provided detailed information on up to four jobs held by Canadians in 1981, including industry, occupation, work schedules, wages and salaries, and union membership

#### Survey of Union Membership:

conducted in December 1984; restricted to the current or most recent paid job held that year; collected information on wages and salaries, union membership, pension coverage and work schedules

### What makes the data valuable:

- detailed information on employment patterns and concentration of unemployment
- provide longitudinal data on patterns of employment and unemployment over a two- or three-year period
- availability of wage rate, salary, union membership and pension plan coverage data
- the first year of each two- or three-year cycle of the survey can be linked to LFS data

**How to use the data:** see case studies 9, 12 and 15



**Where to find the data:**

**Past publications:**

- *Labour Market Activity Survey* (discontinued)
- *FLUX: Two Years in the Life of the Canadian Labour Market* (Catalogue no. 71-538-XPE)

**Published articles:**

- *The Labour Force* (Catalogue no. 71-001-XPB), monthly
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

**Special tabulations and microdata:**

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



**Special Surveys Division**

(613) 951-4598  
1 800 461-9050  
fax: (613) 951-0562  
[special@statcan.ca](mailto:special@statcan.ca)

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*Note: See page 54 to see a table created from LMAS data.*



## Longitudinal Administrative Databank (LAD)

**What it's about:** consists of a 10% longitudinal sample of people identified on the personal tax file (T1). Income and some demographic data are available for individuals and census families as well as non-families.

**How we collected the data:** The LAD consists of annual segments. Each year of the LAD consists of a 10% sample from the annual T1 Family File (T1FF). The LAD follows a sample of individuals through time. Once selected, individuals are in the sample whenever they appear on the annual T1 Family File (T1FF). Since the population of taxfilers increases over time, to maintain a 10% sample, each year the databank is topped up with a sample of new filers.

**Geographic detail:** The large sample (2.2 million persons in 1996) ensures reliable estimates for Canada, the provinces, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and some subprovincial regions, based on aggregations of postal codes.

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, and census family composition



**Information collected:** The following is a partial list of the income variables that are available.

- total income
- earnings from T4 slips
- wages and salaries
- Employment Insurance benefits
- investment income
- self-employment income
- income after-tax
- transfer payments
- RRSP contributions
- RRSP/RRIF Income
- C/QPP contributions
- C/QPP benefits
- taxes

**Frequency:** on an annual basis, an additional year of data is added to the LAD.

**Time frame:** available for the years 1982 to 1996.

*Note: See page 58 to see a table created from LAD data.*

**Reference period:** taxation year

**Release date:** data are released within 18 months of tax filing

**Response rate:** coverage was 96% of Statistics Canada's official population estimates in 1996

**What makes the data valuable:**

- span a 15-year period
- annual segments are added as they become available
- provide researchers and analysts with a comprehensive tool for studying the changes in income that Canadians and their families experience

**Related data:** T1 Family File



**Where to find the data:**

**Custom tabulations:**

Custom tabulations are available on a cost-recovery basis for Canada, the provinces, CMAs, cities and some subprovincial regions based on postal codes. Availability of data are dependent on sample size and confidentiality restrictions.

**Products:**

The following reference documents are available upon request:

- An Introduction to the Longitudinal Administrative Databank
- LAD Dictionary
- *Income Dynamics: 1989-1994* (Catalogue no. 13F0023XPE)
- LAD Research Papers

**Other source:**

- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly



**Small Area and Administrative Data Division**

Client Services

(613) 951-9720

fax: (613) 951-4745

saadinfo@statcan.ca

## Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH)

**What it's about:** measures payroll employment, paid hours and earnings of workers in most industries

**What we survey:** firms and institutions of all sizes in every industry (except agriculture, fishing and trapping, private households, religious organizations and the military)

**How we collect the data:** information is collected from

- a census of administrative records from Revenue Canada for firms having 100 employees and more
- a sample of administrative records from Revenue Canada for firms having fewer than 100 employees
- a sample survey (Business Payrolls Survey) conducted to estimate the variables not reported on administrative records

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, territories

**Demographic detail:** none



### Information collected:

- employment (all employees, salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, other employees)
- payrolls (all employees, salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, other employees)
- average weekly earnings including/excluding overtime earnings for salaried employees, employees paid by the hour, and other employees
- average weekly hours of employees paid by the hour
- average standard work week of salaried employees
- average weekly overtime hours of employees paid by the hour
- average hourly earnings including/excluding overtime of salaried employees and employees paid by the hour

**Frequency:** monthly

**Time frame:** data are available since January 1983

**Reference period:** the last seven days of the month

**Release dates:** preliminary data are published within 60 days of the reference period, and revised estimates 30 days later

**Response rate:** 85% (for final estimates)

### What makes the data valuable:

- largest monthly business survey in Canada
- timely information
- extensive industrial detail
- detailed geographic data
- the only source of current weekly earnings data

**Related surveys:** Before the introduction of SEPH in 1983, three main sources were used to collect data on employment, earnings and hours: the Employment, Payrolls and Manhours Survey (ES-1—survey of large firms in commercial industries); the Employment Sample Survey (ES-2—survey of small firms in the commercial industries), and other employment surveys covering institutions and organizations in the non-commercial sector (GAP—surveys of education, health and welfare, and religious organizations). For information on linking SEPH data with the ES-1, ES-2 and GAP, please consult one of the labour market consultants in the Labour Statistics Division.

**How to use the data:** see case studies 3, 17 and 27



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (Catalogue no. 72-002-XPB), monthly.

#### Special reports:

- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XDB) (diskette product)
- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XCB) (CD-ROM product)

- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 72F0002XIB) (Internet)
- *Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours, 1986-1998* (Catalogue no. 10-3099XKB) (kit, paper and diskette)

**Other sources:**

- CANSIM (Canadian Socio-Economic Information Management System), Statistics Canada's publicly accessible database; for further information, please call (613) 951-8200
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001E), quarterly
- *Canadian Economic Observer* (Catalogue no. 11-010-XPB), monthly
- *Industry Profiles* (Catalogue no. 15-205M) annual

- *Services Indicators* (Catalogue no. 63-016-XPB) quarterly
- *Industrial Monitor* (Catalogue no. 15F0015XPE) monthly

**Special tabulations:**

- Data collected by the survey can be custom-tabulated to meet particular data needs on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or

**SEPH Statistics Customer Service Section**

Labour Division  
(613) 951-4090  
fax: (613) 951-4087  
labour@statcan.ca

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*Note: See page 64 for an example of a table using SEPH data.*

## Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)

**What's it about:** provides longitudinal and annual measures of the labour market experiences and economic well-being of Canadians

**Whom we survey:** all persons, regardless of age, residing in the 10 Canadian provinces, except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions and full-time members of the Armed Forces

**How we collect the data:** a preliminary interview takes place at the beginning of each panel to collect background information. Each of the six years has a split-interview format, with labour topics covered in January and income topics in May

**Geographic detail:** Canada, provinces, economic regions, census metropolitan areas, urban/rural areas

**Demographic detail:** age, sex, marital status, marital spells, immigration status, mother tongue, country of birth, registered Indian or member of visible minority, education and place of birth of parents, fertility, household characteristics, and economic and census family characteristics, including life events, blended families, number of generations, major activity and health



### Information collected:

- nature and pattern of labour market activity (class of worker, number of jobs, job changes, labour force status and main job, earnings)
- job characteristics (firm size, how job obtained, industry, occupation, usual hours, work schedule, absences from work)
- paid workers (union membership, job benefits)
- jobless periods (duration, job search, desire for employment)
- activity limitation (incidence and effect on labour market activity)
- work history
- educational attainment and activity (enrolment, type of institution, field of study, type of degree, years of schooling)
- geographic mobility

- income by source
- earnings (wages, self-employment)
- investment income (interest, dividends, capital gains)
- government transfers (EI benefits, workers' compensation, Social Assistance, C/QPP)
- pension income (employment pensions or superannuation, RRIFs)
- other income (support payments, RRSP withdrawals)

**Frequency:** a new panel is introduced every three years (starting in 1993) and remains in the survey for six years; labour interview, annually in January after reference year; income interview, annually in May after reference year (the respondents can avoid this interview if they agree to have their income tax file consulted)

**Time frame:** first panel covers reference years 1993 to 1998; second panel covers reference years 1996 to 2001, and so on.

**Reference period:** previous calendar year

**Release date:** 15 months after the reference year

**Response rate:** over 90% (labour and income interviews and access to income tax file combined)

**Related surveys:** starting point for content development was Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) for labour content; Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) for income content

### What makes the data valuable:

- detailed examination of changes and transitions at the microdata level
- analysis of spell (unemployment, not in labour force) durations
- analysis of flows into and out of different statuses
- data at the person level, economic and census family level and job level
- mix of detailed labour and income data for six years
- starting with reference year 1998, SLID will be the principal source of annual personal income statistics, replacing the Survey of Consumer Finances

**How to use the data:** A summary of the research themes is given in the June 1998 *Survey Overview—Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics* (Catalogue no. 75F0011XPB). More details are provided in the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics Microdata User's Guide* (Catalogue no. 75M0001GPE). Both are available free of charge on the Internet. Also see case studies 7, 9, 12, 15, 23, 24, 25 and 26.



#### **Where to find the data and documentation:**

##### **SLID Working Paper Series:**

- available on paper for a small fee, or free of charge on the Internet, 15 to 20 issues per year (Catalogue no. 75F0002MIE)

##### **SLID Public Use Microdata on CD-ROM:**

- comes with the microdata user's guide. Latest issue: four waves of data available in Autumn 1999 (Catalogue no. 75M0001XCB)

#### **Other sources:**

- *The SLID Electronic Data Dictionary* (Catalogue no. 75F0026XIB) provides a list of variables and code sets available on diskette or on the Internet (free of charge).
- A workshop for SLID data users is also offered by the survey staff when and where the demand is sufficient.

#### **Custom products:**

- “do-it-yourself” custom retrievals: a data user may write a program to be sent to Statistics Canada in electronic form and run against the internal database. After suppression for confidentiality, the output is sent back to the user.
- custom retrievals: these products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information, please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



#### **Client Services**

Income Statistics Division  
(613) 951-7355 or toll free at  
1 888 297-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
[dynamics@statcan.ca](mailto:dynamics@statcan.ca)

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*Note: See page 68 for an example of a table created from SLID data.*

## Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds

**What it's about:** provides data on the income, expenditures, and assets of trusteed pension funds

**What we survey:** census of the approximately 3,500 trusteed pension funds in Canada. The unit of analysis is the fund, not the plan (which describes the conditions for membership, collecting benefits, et cetera). Information on the plans is available through the survey, entitled Pension Plans in Canada.

**How we collect the data:** data concerning the funds are collected from employers and unions who sponsor trusteed pension plans, or from pension fund managers who manage the funds on behalf of the plan members. They mail back either completed questionnaires or financial statements in lieu of completed questionnaires

**Geographic detail:** Canada only

**Demographic detail:** none



### Information collected:

- sources of income of funds, including contributions by employees and employers, investment income, profits from securities transactions, and miscellaneous sources
- types of disbursements from funds, including benefit payouts, the purchase of annuities for members, administration costs, losses on securities transactions, and administration costs charged to the fund
- the book and market values of fund assets, by major asset type, for example, stocks and bonds
- breakdown by sector (public/private)
- type of organization of employer, such as provincial public sector or incorporated company

**Frequency:** annual (except for 1991) until 1994; biennial since then

**Time frame:** first published in 1953

**Reference period:** financial year-end of funds falling within April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997 for the latest edition available (1996)

**Release date:** the publication is released approximately 12 months after the reference end-period; the next (1998) edition will be available Spring 1999

### What makes the data valuable:

- the most comprehensive data on the investment of pension fund assets
- a complete measure of the second largest pool of investment capital in Canada (after the financial assets of chartered banks)

**How to use the data:** see case study 20



### Where to find the data:

#### Regular publication:

- *Trusteed Pension Funds: Financial Statistics* (Catalogue no. 74-201-XPB)

#### Other sources:

- A quarterly survey of the largest trusteed pension funds is also conducted, which collects summary information on income, expenditures and assets; these data are supplemented with estimates for smaller funds based on information from the census of funds, and are published in *Quarterly Estimates of Trusteed Pension Funds* (Catalogue no. 74-001-XPB)
- *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE), quarterly

#### Special tabulations and microdata tapes:

- These products are available on a cost-recovery basis. For further information please contact your closest Statistics Canada Regional Office or



#### Client Services

Income Statistics Division  
(613) 951-7355  
fax: (613) 951-3012  
dynamics@statcan.ca

Table using data from the Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds

<b>Table 1. Reserves and membership in employer-sponsored plans</b>		
	Proportion of all plans	
	Reserves in 1987	Members in 1988
	%	
Trusteed	57	71
Insurance companies	13	14
Government consolidated revenue funds	30	15
Canadian government annuities	--	..

*Source: Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds and Survey of Pension Plans in Canada*

*Source: "The performance of trusteed pension funds," Perspectives on Labour and Income, Spring 1988*



## 5.4. Keeping up to date

A list of publications and the range of available information have been provided for each source of labour market and income data described in this guide. But how are users notified when information is available to the public? It is the policy of Statistics Canada to announce all new data and publication releases in *The Daily* (available on the Statistics Canada website, [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). The information in this daily bulletin is also supplied in a more condensed form in a weekly digest called *Infomat* (Catalogue no. 11-002-XPE).

In addition, the quarterly publication *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (Catalogue no. 75-001-XPE) contains a “What’s new?” column that describes recent or upcoming surveys and research projects conducted inside and outside Statistics Canada. New publications, data releases and other items related to labour and income issues are also discussed.

## 6. Case studies

The following are hypothetical case studies representing the different types of users who may need employment, unemployment or income data. The examples highlight some conceptual problems that may be encountered. As indicated, more than one source is often needed to fully meet the user's needs.

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### Case study 1: Journalist

A business reporter is doing a comparison of unemployment trends from the 1970s to the 1990s. She needs to know what types of people (sex, age group, marital status, education) are unemployed, employed or not in the labour force.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Force Survey; Census

*Why use these?*

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) started in 1945 but labour market-related estimates consistent with those published today are available only from 1966 onwards. The LFS collects all the demographic information needed on the employed, unemployed and people not in the labour force.

Consistency over time is also an issue when using census data but the time series is longer. The labour market data from the census relate to the week before Census Day—generally late May.

.....

### Case study 2: Academic researcher

A sociology professor from New Brunswick is studying the barriers to promotion that North American women have faced since they began entering the workforce in higher

numbers. He needs background data on employed and unemployed women back to 1976 by industry and occupation, and data on earnings.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Force Survey; Census; Survey of Consumer Finances

*Why use these?*

Employment and unemployment data by major industry and occupation groupings are available from the Labour Force Survey. (The unemployment data refer to the industry and occupation of the last job held for persons who reported having a job in the past year, not to the type of job being sought.) The LFS also offers consistent, detailed industry and occupation information. Consistent series are available since 1987. The census can also be consulted for specific years (for example, 1986, 1991 and 1996). The Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) and the census both provide earnings data, but the SCF estimates are annual while the more detailed census data are available only once every five years. Since the SCF is conducted on the same sample as the LFS, the complete array of LFS demographic and labour-related variables may be cross-tabulated with SCF earnings information.

Both census and SCF data need to be used with particular care when they are being cross-tabulated by industry and occupation. The earnings data from both sources pertain to the previous calendar year, but the person's industry and occupation may refer to a different, current job. (Detailed industry and wage data are also available from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours, but sex is not identified—one of this researcher's key requirements.)

.....

**Case study 3: Academic researcher**

A professor at an American university is studying the performance and economic importance of the forest product industry in the 15 principal timber-producing states. She also wants to include the Canadian provinces in her assessment of the North American timber-related industries. She needs employment and average weekly earnings data for specific timber-related industries for the last 10 years.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours; Labour Force Survey

*Why use these?*

Current monthly payroll employment and earnings data are available at the detailed industry level for the timber-related industries in Canada from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH). This detail is also available for the provinces and territories. SEPH also produces a wood industry profile that could be used by the professor. Detailed earnings information back to January 1983 on the primary industries related to wood, manufacturing, retail and wholesale trade are included in the profile package.

The Labour Force Survey offers employment and earnings information on this industry. It supplements the SEPH data by providing estimates of total employment in the industry, including the self-employed. SEPH provides data on the employees on company payrolls. Beginning in 1997, the LFS began collecting earnings data for employees.

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**Case study 4: Political researcher**

A researcher for a member of the official opposition is seeking information on the geographic distribution of employed and unemployed professionals and unskilled labourers. The party will use this information to plan its campaign platforms and prepare speeches to be used in public appearances across the country.

*What data sources are available?*

Census; Aboriginal Peoples Survey; Health and Activity Limitation Survey

*Why use these?*

This data user needs employment and unemployment estimates for small areas for selected occupations, grouped to form “professional” and “unskilled” categories. Because these terms mean different things to different people, Statistics Canada’s Standard Occupational Classification (Catalogue no. 12-565-XPE) should be used to enable the data user to identify those occupations he or she wishes to include in the “professional” and “unskilled” categories. Census data on the number of persons employed and unemployed in the two derived occupational categories can then be obtained for small areas. (Federal electoral districts are part of standard census geography; results can be obtained for other areas as well; for example, provincial electoral districts, through geocoding.)

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey and the Health and Activity Limitation Survey provide similar data to those of the census, but also provide information on barriers to employment and on the performance of unpaid work.

.....

**Case study 5: Political researcher**

A researcher calling on behalf of a member of Parliament wants to know how many persons are receiving Employment Insurance benefits in his riding. He needs this information by age and sex for policy planning purposes.

*What data sources are available?*

Employment Insurance statistics; Health and Activity Limitation Survey

*Why use these?*

Employment Insurance statistics, which are published monthly, are detailed by sex, age, occupation, insurable earnings, type of benefit

received, and number of weeks on claim. Because the statistics come from a census of all persons receiving Employment Insurance benefits, they can be tabulated for very fine geographic areas, such as areas defined by postal codes. It is possible for this member of Parliament to obtain the required data by census metropolitan area, census agglomeration, federal electoral districts or other small areas specified by him.

The Health and Activity Limitation Survey provides socio-economic information on persons with disabilities who receive Employment Insurance sickness benefits, or other types of benefit or pension.

.....

**Case study 6: Municipal government official**

A western municipal government task force needs to know whether there are enough well-paid workers in its growing municipality to warrant a large-scale upgrading of the downtown core area with boutiques and specialty shops.

*What data sources are available?*

Census

*Why use this?*

The municipal task force will require income and employment by occupation estimates for its municipality. The latest census can provide employment and income estimates for small areas (for example, neighbourhoods) for that year. It also permits comparisons with neighbouring areas as well as provincial and national averages.

.....

**Case study 7: Federal government analyst**

A government department is conducting a study on workers aged 55 and older. It needs to know the employment levels, income, absences and job opportunities associated with this group in order to create part-time jobs for retirement-age persons.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Force Survey; Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID); Survey of Consumer Finances; Absence from Work Survey; Survey of Job Opportunities; Health and Activity Limitation Survey

*Why use these?*

The Labour Force Survey paints an excellent picture of labour market conditions for this group. It provides an up-to-date understanding of employment and unemployment conditions for older workers. It also estimates the number of people absent from work in a given month and the reasons for their absence.

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics can provide all data required. In particular, SLID provides weekly and monthly labour force status, detailed income from employment and other sources, and detailed job characteristics including job absences. SLID provides a continual integrated data service to meet the needs of this study, starting with data for 1993.

The Survey of Consumer Finances offers data on sources and levels of income. The Absence from Work Survey and the Survey of Job Opportunities provide additional information on lengthy work-related absences and on the employment expectations of persons outside the labour force. The continuity of these data series allows this user to monitor labour market-related changes among older workers over time.

Because disability increases with age, the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS) offers detailed information on the employment and income levels of workers aged 55 and older, as well as any assistive devices or modifications to the workplace they may require because of their disability. HALS also provides data on the need for and availability of specialized transportation services and required accommodation in the workplace.

.....

**Case study 8: Market researcher**

A Toronto-based market research firm has been asked to find out where professionals aged 25 to 35 with above-average incomes are concentrated in Canada. The firm's client is preparing a direct mail advertising campaign for the sale of natural leather briefcases.

*What data sources are available?*

Census

*Why use this?*

An efficient direct mail advertising campaign requires the identification of very small areas, such as enumeration areas, within which significant numbers of the target group reside. The census is the only data source that permits the production of estimates for small socio-demographic groups within such areas. In addition, historical data are available for some enumeration areas. This information could then be used to determine whether the identified areas were undergoing growth or decline in the target population.

.....

**Case study 9: Labour market researcher**

A Victoria communications company has been offered a contract to do a study on the work patterns of workers aged 25 to 55. The study focuses on the re-employment problems encountered by older workers who have suffered a job loss. This information will be used in the development of government retraining policies to aid such workers.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Market Activity Survey; Aboriginal Peoples Survey; Health and Activity Limitation Survey; Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

*Why use these?*

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics and Labour Market Activity Survey are designed specifically to identify inefficiencies

in the labour market. For different reference periods, both can measure variables such as the length of time workers are unemployed before finding new employment, what problems they have looking for new jobs, their need for retraining and whether they eventually find full- or part-time work.

The Health and Activity Limitation Survey provides information on barriers in the labour market faced by persons with disabilities. These barriers include the availability and accessibility of work-related training courses, reasons for leaving the workforce, problems encountered during job searches, and required adaptations to the workplace. Persons who are working, who are looking for work or who have stopped looking for work are included in the survey.

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey gathers information on the respondent's employment history, including performance of full- or part-time work and work performed without pay. The survey also collects information on barriers to employment, including the need for retraining, lack of available jobs, the need for child support, and discrimination.

.....

**Case study 10: Product researcher**

A manufacturer of safety boots wants to study foot injuries from accidents on construction sites in Canada.

*What data sources are available?*

National Work Injuries Statistics Program

*Why use this?*

The now discontinued National Work Injuries Statistics Program collected 1982-to-1994 data on work-related injuries and illnesses in Canada. This manufacturer's needs can be met through the provision of a cross-tabulation of information on foot injuries in Canada's construction industry by nature of injury, source of injury and type of accident. (Data from 1995 on have been compiled by workers' compensation boards.)

.....

**Case study 11: Medical researcher**

A dermatologist at a Calgary hospital is studying work-related skin diseases. She would like to know which occupations are most likely to have workers afflicted with dermatitis, as well as the demographic characteristics of these workers.

*What data sources are available?*

National Work Injuries Statistics Program

*Why use this?*

The now discontinued National Work Injuries Statistics Program provided data on occupational dermatitis. Statistics for 1982 to 1994 are also available on the cause of the illness, the part of the body affected, and the age and sex of the worker. (Data from 1995 on have been compiled by workers' compensation boards.)

.....

**Case study 12: Industry association**

A Montréal-based industry association wants to know how unionization in Canada has changed since 1984. The association wants to compare union density rates by industry and examine differences by province.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Market Activity Survey; Labour Unions Returns; Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics; Labour Force Survey

*Why use these?*

These data can be used to calculate union density rates. The Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) provides information on union membership and collective agreement coverage on up to five jobs held (1986 to 1990). Selected results from the LMAS can be used for comparison with SUM data. From 1987 to 1995, Labour Unions Returns obtained annual information on unionization

by industry, province and sex. Since 1997, the Labour Force Survey has provided this information.

Beginning in 1993, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics has collected detailed job characteristics, including union coverage and union membership.

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**Case study 13: Employee benefit consultant**

A Winnipeg-based consultant wants to determine whether there has been an increase in the number of defined contribution pension plans in the last two years.

*What data sources are available?*

Pension Plans in Canada Survey

*Why use this?*

Data from the Pension Plans in Canada Survey give information on the terms and conditions of employer-sponsored pension plans in Canada, including eligibility criteria, contribution and benefit rates, type of benefit and retirement age. The number of male and female members of these plans is also available. From these data, it is possible to determine the change in the number and percentage of defined contribution plans from 1960 to the present, as well as the change in the percentage of members covered by these plans.

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**Case study 14: Financial analyst**

A financial analyst at the Bank of Canada is revising the economic forecast for the 1990s. She would like to know whether there has been an increase in the demand for workers in the last year.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Force Survey; Help-wanted Index



*Why use these?*

While the Labour Force Survey is designed to measure the supply of labour, it is an excellent indicator of labour demand. The number of people working as employees, for example, is equivalent to the “filled” demand for labour from firms.

The Help-wanted Index uses classified help-wanted advertisements published in selected metropolitan areas to derive a measure of employers’ (unfilled) demands for workers, which in turn partly reflects labour market conditions. The index is available (starting in 1981) on a monthly basis for Canada and five regions (Atlantic provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie provinces and British Columbia), and for the metropolitan areas surveyed.

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**Case study 15: Social policy analyst**

A Maritimes-based research institute wants to study the integration of youths into the labour market. It needs to know the types of jobs held by young Canadians, especially those who are no longer in school, and the length of time these jobs are held.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Market Activity Survey; Aboriginal Peoples Survey; Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics; Labour Force Survey

*Why use these?*

From 1986 to 1990, the Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) collected job-related data over a 36-month reference period. From the LMAS it can be determined whether youths who changed jobs moved to a new employer or simply changed jobs while still working for the same employer. The LMAS also provides a breakdown of in-school and out-of-school youths. Since 1993, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) has identified individuals entering the labour force. Also available from SLID is information on educational attainment (including major field of study), dates of

jobless spells, dates of employer spells, collection of Employment Insurance benefits and social assistance, and job search activities.

The Labour Force Survey is an important background source of information on the types of jobs held by student and non-student youths. Furthermore, the data from the LFS indicate net changes in job conditions and offer limited information on the massive flows that make up the net change.

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey provides employment-history data for Aboriginal people aged 15 and older, including the nature, type and duration of work undertaken, name and location of the business, industry or service, how the work was found, and whether individuals held more than one job during the same 12-month reference period.

.....

**Case study 16: Union researcher**

A researcher for a national union wishes to examine the extent to which U.S.-based international unions operate in Canada. He needs to know how the international distribution of the unionized workforce has changed over the past two decades, as well as the industrial sectors, by province, in which the changes have occurred.

*What data sources are available?*

Labour Unions Returns

*Why use this?*

Labour unions returns data, available for 1962 to 1995, cover every labour union operating in Canada with 100 or more members. Union membership data, published annually by industry and province, distinguish international from Canadian-based national and government employees’ unions.

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**Case study 17: Entrepreneur**

A Toronto manufacturer has a contract with a large utility company to produce generators over a period of several years. Since the cost of labour and materials changes over time, the client and the manufacturer must reach an agreement on a fair price for the product over the term of the contract.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours;  
Industrial Product Price Index

*Why use these?*

Earnings data from the Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours in conjunction with materials price indices obtained from the Industrial Product Price Index data series provide useful information on labour and materials cost changes over time. The contract can incorporate escalation clauses that will ensure that cost changes over time are adequately reflected in the product price.

.....

**Case study 18: Economic researcher**

An economic researcher in the Department of Finance would like to compare the provincial differences between government and business sector wages and salaries over the last 10 years.

*What data sources are available?*

Estimates of Labour Income

*Why use this?*

Annual estimates for wages and salaries by province or territory for the business, government and personal sectors would provide the researcher with the data he requires. These data are available from the Estimates of Labour Income, back to 1961.

.....

**Case study 19: Social policy analyst**

A social policy analyst wants to compare the spending patterns of single-income families with those of dual-income families. She would like to know how the addition of a second income affects the expenditure patterns of families over time across Canada.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Household Spending

*Why use this?*

This survey provides detailed expenditure data on households with and without dual incomes. Data are available annually since 1997, and at four-year intervals before that.

.....

**Case study 20: Personnel manager**

A personnel manager of a new manufacturing firm is establishing a pension plan for its employees. He would like to know how pension fund assets are typically invested.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds

*Why use this?*

The Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds provides the most comprehensive data available on the investment of pension fund reserves. The survey also reveals the contributions of employers and employees to these pension funds. Because annual data are available from 1957 onwards, the performance of trusteed pension funds can be examined over an extended time frame.

.....

**Case study 21: Nutritionist**

A nutritionist wants to compare the nutrient content of food purchased by households living in rural versus urban areas. He also would like to know if the level of income has an influence on purchase patterns.



*What data sources are available?*

Food Expenditure Survey

*Why use this?*

This survey provides the quantities purchased for over 200 food items. Data are available separately for rural and urban areas. The nutritionist could assign nutrient components to each food item to get an estimate of the nutrient quantities purchased. Also, as well as standard tabulations available by predetermined income classes, custom tabulations can be produced for other income classes.

.....

**Case study 22: Store owner**

The owner of a medium-size store, specializing in do-it-yourself construction supplies, is planning to open a new store in another city. He has asked a consultant firm to investigate the potential market for his products and to recommend a location. Furthermore, the store owner wants a better market to expand his business and possibly start his own franchise.

*What data sources are available?*

Census; Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey

*Why use these?*

With the use of expenditure patterns by value and type of dwelling, age of household head, household income and period of construction from the Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey, the consultant could identify the characteristics of households that have the highest spending on construction materials. With information from the census, the consultant firm can identify neighbourhoods in the new city with similar characteristics.

.....

**Case study 23: Social policy analyst**

An analyst wishes to know how long it takes a person to find new employment after losing

his job. He also wishes to know whether a number of short-term jobs are required to lead to a more “permanent” one.

*What data are available?*

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

*Why use this?*

From the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics dates of jobless spells (from which durations can be calculated) are available, as well as methods of job search used, school attendance, and start and end dates with each employer. Also available are job characteristics such as occupation, work schedule, wage, reason for losing a job, and method of finding a job.

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**Case study 24: Academic researcher**

An academic researcher would like information on the work arrangements of dual-earner families.

*What data are available?*

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics; Survey of Consumer Finances; Labour Force Survey

*Why use these?*

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) provides a wide variety of data related to a person’s family situation. For example, the SLID database contains information on dates of employer spells, dates of absences (from an employer) of one week or more, work schedules and hours worked, wage, family income, number and ages of children. The Survey of Consumer Finances provides baseline, historical data on families by the number of earners and work activity (number of weeks worked, full- or part-time work) of spouses.

Since 1997, the Labour Force Survey has collected earnings information for employees. Also beginning in 1997, the LFS began collecting data on temporary and permanent work arrangements. This survey also gathers

information on full- and part-time employment and marital status, which would also help the researcher determine the work arrangements of dual-earner families.

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**Case study 25: Social policy analyst**

A social policy analyst wants to know the effect of marital breakdown on the income level of the partners.

*What data are available?*

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics;  
Survey of Consumer Finances

*Why use these?*

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) identifies family relationships of individuals. The SLID database includes annual income, duration of marriage, number of children, family wealth, transitions into and out of the labour force, geographic mobility, job characteristics, characteristics of other persons with whom each person lives. The Survey of Consumer Finances provides baseline, historical data on individuals by marital status and by family characteristics.

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**Case study 26: Government researcher**

A parliamentary committee studying poverty is interested in knowing whether people are “trapped” in low income or whether there is significant movement into and out of low income.

*What data are available?*

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

*Why use this?*

With the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics it is possible to follow such characteristics as annual family income and demographic events within a family such as births, deaths, marriage, separation and divorce, as well as labour market transitions

between employed, unemployed and not in the labour force, and receipt of Employment Insurance, social assistance or workers’ compensation.

.....

**Case study 27: Litigation lawyer**

A lawyer is representing a client who has sustained permanent injuries from an automobile accident. The client is seeking restitution for loss of current and future income, as well as changes in lifestyle and any retraining to be undertaken as a result of the injuries.

*What data sources are available?*

Census; Health and Activity Limitation Survey; Labour Force Survey; Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours; General Social Survey on Time Use

*Why use these?*

Information on the nature and severity of disability, as well as its effect on labour force activity, future income and competitive advantage, and access to education, health and social services can be obtained from the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS). HALS, together with the census, allows comparisons to be made between the population with disabilities and the total Canadian population. The Labour Force Survey provides a range of participation rates over time by single year of age. The Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours will provide the lawyer with detailed current and historical earnings information that would help him forecast his client’s future income losses. From the General Social Survey on Time Use average number of hours spent on various activities can be obtained by sex, age and living arrangements.

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**Case study 28: Economist**

An economic research institute wants to study the spending patterns of a particular Aboriginal community. Specifically, it needs to

determine the amount, type, and value of goods and services purchased outside the community in order to assess the viability of creating or expanding certain types of local businesses.

*What data sources are available?*

Aboriginal Peoples Survey

*Why use this?*

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) can provide data for a four-week reference period on the proportion of total money spent outside this community as well as the types of goods and services purchased elsewhere. The APS also collects data on type of business ownership, and whether or not business customers or clients are local.

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**Case study 29: Journalist**

A journalist is planning a series of articles on the changing lifestyles of Canadian households and the new “gadgets” now being used. He wants to know the living arrangements of Canadian families as well as the labour saving and entertainment equipment they use at home.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Household Spending

*Why use this?*

The Survey of Household Spending (SHS) provides information on dwelling and household characteristics as well as information on ownership of a wide range of household appliances and home entertainment equipment. It also provides information on ownership of vehicles, home computers and other home electronic equipment.

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**Case study 30: Academic researcher**

An economics professor is looking at the distribution of income among different provinces and family types. She is interested in comparing the current distribution of income with that before the 1990-92 recession. She wants data for part of a larger study on income equity in Canada.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Consumer Finances; Census

*Why use these?*

Income distributions for provinces and different family types are available on an annual basis from the Survey of Consumer Finances. Census income data can provide historical data, and detailed data for sub-provincial areas.

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**Case study 31: Public policy analyst**

A public policy analyst must evaluate the effect of the change in employers’ rate of contribution to Employment Insurance since 1970.

*What data sources are available?*

Estimates of Labour Income

*Why use this?*

The analyst can use Employment Insurance contributions, a component of supplementary labour income data available from the Estimates of Labour Income. These annual data are available back to 1961.

.....

**Case study 32: Lawyer**

A lawyer who has an injured worker as a client would like to know the estimated age of retirement for construction workers. This information will be used to estimate the average time his client would normally have worked.

*What data sources are available?*

General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement; Labour Force Survey

*Why use these?*

The General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement provides information on education, work and retirement. Data related to work are available by type of industry and occupation for different points in time, before and after studies, for last employment and current employment. Longitudinal analysis is also possible using the two cycles (4 and 9) of this survey.

From the Labour Force Survey, the average age of retirement can be determined. Because of the nature of the question on retirement, the average age of retirement in 1997, for example, cannot be determined until the end of 1998.

.....

**Case study 33: Labour market researcher**

A labour market researcher wants to know how work arrangements are evolving over the years. Specifically, he wishes to know whether the increasing entry of mothers into the workforce has been accompanied by changes in work arrangements that facilitate better balance between work and family responsibilities.

*What data sources are available?*

Survey of Work Arrangements

*Why use this?*

The Survey of Work Arrangements provides detailed information on work schedules (for example, start and end times of the workday, days worked in a week, flexitime, daytime and shift work, casual and on-call work) and work arrangements (for example, work from home, part- and full-time work, permanent and non-permanent work, and job sharing) of employees. It also provides relevant demographic information such as sex, family and marital status and presence and ages of children.

The survey was first conducted in November 1991 and repeated in November 1995.

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## 7. How to find more help

Statistics Canada publishes data in a variety of ways. Despite developments over the past few years in the dissemination of data via computers and microcomputers, the primary means of publishing statistics is still conventional hard copy, that is, books and bulletins containing tables of figures. Finding information in the most useful format can pose a problem for both experienced and inexperienced users. Most wish to do research on their own. But the golden rule is, if in doubt—ask! Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres are listed on the next page. Readers who need more help are urged to contact them.

### 7.1 Regional Reference Centres

The Advisory Services Division of Statistics Canada provides an information dissemination network across the country through nine regional Reference Centres. Each Reference Centre has a collection of current publications and reference documents that can be consulted or purchased, along with maps and other products. Copying facilities for printed materials are available on site.

Each Reference Centre provides a wide range of additional services from dissemination services (a free telephone enquiries line for the most recent basic data) to advisory services. The latter can identify your needs, establish sources or availability of data, consolidate and integrate data from different sources, develop profiles, analyze highlights or tendencies and, finally, train in the use of products, services, Statistics Canada concepts and statistical data.

For more information, call the nearest Reference Centre (listed below) or, if you are outside the local calling area, the national toll-free enquiries number. This will put you in touch with the Regional Reference Centre serving your area.

**National enquiries line (Canada and United States): 1 800 263-1136**

**Telecommunications device for the hearing impaired: 1 800 363-7629**

**Order-only line (Canada and United States): 1 800 267-6677**

### Regional Reference Centres

#### ATLANTIC REGION REFERENCE CENTRE

Serving the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
1741 Brunswick Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Box 11  
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia B3J 3X8

(902) 426-5331 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (902) 426-9538  
atlantic.info@statcan.ca

#### QUEBEC REGION REFERENCE CENTRE

Serving the province of Quebec except the National Capital Region:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
200 René Lévesque Blvd. W.  
Guy Favreau Complex  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower  
MONTREAL, Quebec H2Z 1X4

(514) 283-5725 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (514) 283-9350

#### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION REFERENCE CENTRE

Serving the National Capital Region:

Statistics Canada  
Statistical Reference Centre (National  
Capital Region)  
R.H. Coats Building, Lobby  
Holland Avenue  
OTTAWA, Ontario K1A 0T6  
  
(613) 951-8116 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (613) 951-0581  
infostats@statcan.ca

#### ONTARIO REGION REFERENCE CENTRE

Serving the province of Ontario except the  
National Capital Region:

Advisory Services  
Arthur Meighen Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
25 St. Clair Avenue East  
TORONTO, Ontario M4T 1M4  
  
(416) 973-6586 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (416) 973-7475

#### PRAIRIE REGION REFERENCE CENTRES

This region has four Reference Centres.

Serving the province of Manitoba:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Via Rail building, Suite 200  
123 Main Street  
WINNIPEG, Manitoba R3C 4V9  
  
(204) 983-4020 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (204) 983-7543  
statswpg@Solutions.net

Serving the province of Saskatchewan:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Park Plaza, Suite 440  
2365 Albert Street  
REGINA, Saskatchewan K4P 4K1  
  
(306) 780-5405 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (306) 780-5403  
statcan@sk.sympatico.ca

Serving Northern Alberta and the Northwest  
Territories:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Park Square, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
10001 Bellamy Hill  
EDMONTON, Alberta T5J 3B6  
  
(780) 495-3027 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (780) 495-5318  
ewiecall@statcan.ca

Serving Southern Alberta:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Discovery Place, Room 201  
3553 - 31 Street N.W.  
CALGARY, Alberta T2L 2K7  
  
(403) 292-6717 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (403) 292-4958  
degagnej@cadvision.com

#### PACIFIC REGION REFERENCE CENTRE

Serving the province of British Columbia and  
the Yukon Territory:

Statistics Canada  
Advisory Services  
Library Square Office Tower  
600-300 West Georgia Street  
VANCOUVER, British Columbia  
V6B 6C7  
  
(604) 666-3691 or 1 800 263-1136  
fax (604) 666-4863  
stcvan@statcan.ca



## 7.2 Depository libraries

The following is a list of 50 “full depository” libraries (that is, they subscribe to all of Statistics Canada products). Over 650 other depository libraries subscribe to most popular Statistics Canada products.

### STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

The Statistics Canada Library and Information Centre in Ottawa maintains complete current and historical records of all Statistics Canada publications, both catalogued and non-catalogued. The Library and Information Centre staff is available to help users find the required information.

### Statistics Canada Library and Information Centre

R.H. Coats Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
120 Parkdale Ave  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6

(613) 951-8219

fax: (613) 951-0939

library@statcan.ca, Internet: www.statcan.ca

### DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

The following libraries receive all Statistics Canada publications and all other federal government publications.

#### NEWFOUNDLAND

St. John’s  
Memorial University—Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Government Documents  
St. John’s, Newfoundland A1B 3Y1

#### NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax  
Dalhousie University—Killam Memorial Library  
Government Documents  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4H8

#### Wolfville

Acadia University—Library  
Wolfville, Nova Scotia  
BOP 1X0

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Charlottetown  
Government Services Library  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island  
C1A 7N8

#### NEW BRUNSWICK

Fredericton  
New Brunswick Legislative Library  
766 King Street  
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1

University of New Brunswick  
Harriet Irving Library  
Government Documents  
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H5

#### Moncton

University of Moncton  
Champlain Library  
Government Documents  
Moncton, New Brunswick E1A 3E9

#### Sackville

Mount Allison University  
Ralph Pickard Bell Library  
Government Documents  
Sackville, New Brunswick EOA 3C0

#### QUEBEC

Québec  
Bibliothèque de l’Assemblée nationale  
Service des documents officiels canadiens  
Edifice Pamphile  
Québec, Québec G1A 1A5

#### Ste-Foy

Université Laval—Bibliothèque générale  
Service des documents officiels  
Pavillon Bonenfant  
Cité universitaire  
Ste-Foy, Québec G1K 7P4

#### Montréal

Bibliothèque municipale de Montréal  
Publications officielles  
5650, rue d’Iberville  
Bureau 400  
Montréal, Québec H2G 3E4

Services Documentaires Multimédia  
Publications officielles fédérales  
75, rue de Port-Royal est, bureau 300  
Montréal, Québec H3L 3T1



Concordia University Libraries  
Publications officielles  
1455 de Maisonneuve boulevard ouest  
Montréal, Québec H3G 1M8

Université de Montréal  
Bibliothèque des sciences humaines et sociales  
Publications officielles  
3150, rue Jean Brillant  
Montréal, Québec 13C 3T2

McGill University Library  
Government Documents  
3459 McTavish Street  
Montréal, Quebec H3A 1Y1

Université du Québec à Montréal  
Bibliothèque service des publications  
des gouvernements internationaux  
1200, rue Berri  
Montréal, Québec H2L 4S6

Sherbrooke  
Université de Sherbrooke  
Bibliothèque générale  
Publications gouvernementales  
Cité universitaire  
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# Global view of surveys and other data sources

Survey/data source	Supplement to the LFS <sup>1</sup>	Frequency	Approximate sample size and/or data source	Reference period	Collection period	Demo-graphic data <sup>2</sup>	Industry data	Occu-pation data	Income data		Employment data	Work activity <sup>4</sup>	Unem-ployment data
									Earnings	Other <sup>3</sup>			
Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS)		Quinquennial, if funding permits	135,000 individuals	Varies according to data collected	Following the Census of Population	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>5</sup>	✓		✓
Absence from Work Survey (AWS)	✓	Annual	31,000 households	Previous calendar year	February	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Census of Population		Quinquennial	Household survey consisting of 20% sample of the population for labour market and income data	Varies according to data collected	June	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment Insurance statistics		Monthly	Administrative data compiled from Human Resources Development Canada records	LFS reference week	Calendar month	✓		✓	✓	✓ <sup>6</sup>			✓ <sup>7</sup>
Estimates of labour income		Monthly	Data compiled from various sources (e.g., SEPH and Revenue Canada - Taxation files)	Calendar month	Calendar month		✓		✓	✓ <sup>8</sup>			
Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX)		Variable	14,000 households for the national survey; 7,000 for selected city surveys	Previous calendar year	January, February and March	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Food Expenditure Survey		Variable	14,000 households for the national survey; 7,000 for selected city surveys	Food: present calendar year; income: previous year	Throughout survey year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
General Social Survey on Time Use		Quinquennial	10,000 individuals	One or two days prior to interview	24-hour period	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>9</sup>	✓
General Social Survey on Education, Work and Retirement		Quinquennial	10,000 individuals	Occupational history	Depends on the variable	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>7</sup>
Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS)		Quinquennial	35,000 persons for household survey, 10,000 for institutions survey	Varies according to data collected	Following the Census of Population	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Help-wanted Index		Monthly	22 newspapers	Usually the week including the 15th day of the month	Calendar month						✓ <sup>10</sup>		
Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey	✓	Annual	24,000 households	Previous calendar year	March	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Labour Force Survey (LFS)		Monthly	50,000 households or 100,000 individuals	Usually the week including the 15th day of the month	The week following the reference period	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS)	in the first year only ✓	Annual from 1987 to 1991 (Replaced by SLID)	40,000 households	Previous calendar year	January	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>5</sup>	✓	✓	✓

# Global view of surveys and other data sources – concluded

Survey/data source	Supplement to the LFS <sup>1</sup>	Frequency	Approximate sample size and/or data source	Reference period	Collection period	Demographic data <sup>2</sup>	Industry data	Occupation data	Income data		Employment data	Work activity <sup>4</sup>	Unemployment data
									Earnings	Other <sup>3</sup>			
Labour unions returns (CALURA)		Annual (collection ceased with 1995 survey)	Data collected from unions and corporations	Membership: calendar year; financial: fiscal year	Calendar year	✓	✓				✓		
Longitudinal Administrative Databank		Annual	10% sample from T1 Family File	Taxation year	Ongoing	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
National Work Injuries Statistics Program		Annual	Administrative data received from provincial and territorial workers' compensation boards and commissions	Calendar year	Calendar year	✓	✓	✓					
Pension Plans in Canada Survey		Annual (except for 1991)	Administrative data compiled from government pension authorities	January 1	Calendar year	✓	✓						
Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF)	✓	Annual	35,000 households	Previous calendar year	April	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH)		Monthly	96,000 establishments	Last seven days of the month	The month following the reference period		✓		✓		✓		
Survey of Household Spending		Annual (Replaces FAMEX)	24,000 households in 1997; 20,000 households in 1998	Expenditure: previous calendar year; facilities and equipment: Dec. 31	January, February and March	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Survey of Job Opportunities	✓	Annual (most years)	50,000 households	March (occasionally September) LFS reference week	March (occasionally September)	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)	First year preliminary interview only	Annual (two interviews) (Replaces LMAS)	Two panels, each with 15,000 to 20,000 households	Previous calendar year	January and May	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Survey of Trusteed Pension Funds		Biennial since 1994	Data collected from employers and pension fund managers	December 31 or closest fiscal year end	February		✓ <sup>11</sup>						
Survey of Work Arrangements	✓	Irregular 1991, 1995	27,000 households	LFS reference week	November				✓			✓	
Workplace and Employee Survey		Annual	7,000 establishments; 40,000 workers	Calendar year	Employers: spring; employees: summer		✓		✓		✓	✓	

<sup>1</sup> Variables can be tabulated with Labour Force Survey variables.

<sup>2</sup> For example, age, sex, education, ethnic origin, period of immigration, mother tongue.

<sup>3</sup> Includes investment income, government transfer payments, pensions and miscellaneous income.

<sup>4</sup> Refers to the number of weeks worked and whether these weeks were full- or part-time.

<sup>5</sup> Data are available on the type of income received (for example, Employment Insurance benefits or Child Tax Benefit) but not the amount received.

<sup>6</sup> Measures benefits paid.

<sup>7</sup> Provides data on the number of persons receiving regular benefits.

<sup>8</sup> Supplementary labour income, such as employers' contributions to health and welfare schemes, pension plans, workers' compensation and Employment Insurance.

<sup>9</sup> Based on main activity during previous week.

<sup>10</sup> Provides an index of job vacancies.

<sup>11</sup> Public/private sector breakdown only.