## Research Paper

Days of our lives: time use and
transitions over the life course

## School, work and the school-work combination by young people

1998, no. 3
by Sandra Franke
Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division
7-C1, Jean-Talon Building, Ottawa, K1A 0T6


Telephone: 1800 263-1136

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## School, work and the school-work combination by young people

Sandra Franke<br>Bureau of the director general, Census and Demographic Statistics Branch<br>Statistics Canada

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## School, work and the school-work combination by young people

How do young people manage to juggle the myriad of activities they take on during their transition to selfsufficiency? They study, hold down part-time jobs, play sports and hang out with friends, and take time for their personal and family life. Analyzing time use allows us to better understand the new ways young people in Canada make the transition to adulthood. This paper focuses specifically on the consequences of adding a job to the daily schedule of young people between 15 and 29 years of age. We begin by presenting some elements characterizing the paths taken by youth toward employment. This is followed by a review of the literature describing the ways the link between school and work have been studied and a short analysis of the sociodemographic profile of young people to identify the study populations for this analysis. Finally, results of the time use analysis are presented, comparing: 1) young people in high school and those at the postsecondary level; 2) the school-work combination and the complete transition to paid work. A gender-based analysis is a key to the analysis.

## Introduction

Until the 1980s, the passage from school to paid work experienced by youth in Canada followed a relatively linear path - education, career and subsequent lifestyle were closely linked. Since that time, however, this path has become more atypical, affected, for example, by major changes in the labour market (precariousness and instability of employment, highly specialized work, non-traditional jobs) ${ }^{1}$, and by changes with respect to the financing of education (increased tuition fees, student debt) ${ }^{2}$.

Many young people who wish to pursue their education beyond high school assume a heavy financial burden, notwithstanding that the benefits of their investments are increasingly uncertain. A gap is emerging between the aspirations of young people, their educational qualifications and their employment opportunities ${ }^{3}$. For instance, when the jobs held by young people are not related to their field of study, they have less opportunity to apply their skills and gain experience. These jobs are increasingly insecure and many graduates move from one job to another for several years, experiencing periods of unemployment ${ }^{4}$. Finally, contrary to other age groups, the incomes of youth have steadily decreased in the last twenty years, diminishing their ability to establish independence (Marquart, R., 1998:56) ${ }^{5}$.

This situation gives rise to new school to labour market transitions. Strategies for adapting to the current labour market include moving back and forth between school and work, or working and studying at the same time ${ }^{6}$. The transition from school to work has gone from being a simple event to a process, currently estimated to take eight years to complete ${ }^{7}$. The length of this process has an impact on other transitions, such as leaving the family home, entering a conjugal union and having children. The overlapping of these life experiences poses new challenges for young people, an increasing number of whom deal with situations that are different from the traditional student experience ${ }^{8}$ (Sales et al. 2001; Crysdale, S. et al., 1999; Stone, J.R. and Mortimer, J.T., 1998). The school to work transition experienced as a process is a new issue for policy makers (Wyn, J. and Dwyer, P., 2000).

[^0]
## Source and method for organising the data

This series of articles explores the effect of life course transitions on time use and quality of life. In order to examine the effect of a life transition the study population for each article was divided into two distinct groups: those who had experienced the transition being studied (post-transition group), and those who had not (pretransition group). In the absence of longitudinal data, there is no way of knowing whether those who had not experienced a particular life course transition ever will experience it.

This study uses data from Statistics Canada's 1998 General Social Survey (GSS) on time use. ${ }^{1}$ This was Canada's third national time use survey. ${ }^{2}$ The target population for the 1998 GSS was people aged 15 and over residing in Canada, excluding residents of the territories and full-time residents of institutions. The sample was selected using the elimination of non-working banks technique of random digit dialling. ${ }^{3}$ Respondents in the sample were assigned a day of the week or "designated day", and were asked to describe chronologically what they did on the day following the designated day. Trained interviewers then coded activities into a detailed classification system. The survey was conducted using Computer Assisted Telephone interviewing from February 1998 to January 1999 and an attempt was made to obtain an interview with one randomly selected person from each household. The final response rate was $78 \%$, yielding a total of 10,749 respondents with usable time use diary information.

The day is divided into four main activities: paid work, unpaid work, self-care and leisure. ${ }^{4}$ The average time spent per day on each activity is estimated over a seven-day week, and these means and other descriptive statistics are based on weighted data. Differences reported in the analysis are significant at the $<0.05$ level, unless otherwise specified.

1 The GSS is an ongoing annual survey program at designed to monitor changes in the living conditions and well being of Canadians over time, and to fill data gaps by providing information on social policy issues of current or emerging interest. Each year, the nationally representative survey focuses on a different core topic, time use being one of five core areas.

2 The other surveys took place in 1986 and 1992.
3 Statistics Canada estimates that less than $2 \%$ of the target population of households do not have a telephone. Survey estimates were adjusted to account for people without telephones.

4 See Appendix A for detailed activity codes.

## Research on the school to work relationship

Research on the diversity and complexity of recent transitions experienced by youth is in short supply (Wyn, J. and Dwyer, P., 2000:153). We know much more about the relationship between education, employability and financial self-sufficiency of young people than about the implications of time spent on education, their life style and quality of life. Moreover, due to the growing phenomenon of young people combining school and paid work, many studies have focused on the implications of student employment on academic and professional success, but few documented the consequences of this dual activity on the actual pace and quality of life of young people.

## Level of education, employability and economic self-sufficiency of youth

We know that the experiences of youth in transition differ according to sex and level of education. For young men, less education results in initial paid work experiences with longer working hours and relatively low incomes ${ }^{9}$. Despite this, they maintain a positive attitude about paid work (Marquart, R., 1998:56). It is possible that the types of jobs young men usually hold - blue collar or specialized trades - allow them to apply and develop skills, even if they do not have a high level of education (Gilbert, S and J. Frank, 1998). The situation is very different for young women. First, many of them do not work full-time or on a regular basis (Human Ressources Development Canada, 2000:36). Furthermore, the types of jobs they hold, especially if they have a low level of education -clerical, sales and service - require and result in a limited range of skills. Finally, their wages are relatively lower than those of young men at the same level ${ }^{10}$.

## Student employment and academic/professional success

Student employment, an important topic in the United States since the 1980s, has primarily been analyzed from the perspective labour market integration, establishing the link between experience and ease of integration (Statistics Canada, 1994; Stone, J.R. and Mortimer, J.T., 1998:187-192; Mael, F.A. and al., 1997:17; Ruhm, C., 1997; Mihalic, S.W. and Elliott, D., 1997) ${ }^{11}$. However, the nature of student employment is a key variable. The fact that many student jobs consist of non-standard duties, are not very fulfilling, and offer little opportunity to learn or apply skills, can lead to negative attitudes about education and the labour market in general (Schoenhals, M. and al., 1998; Stone and Mortimer, 1998). Other studies have looked at the consequences of schedule conflicts caused by working for pay while in school, such as stress, time spent on homework, academic achievement, absenteeism and the risk of drop-out. Some studies set the critical threshold at 15 hours per week, while others estimated that negative effects of employment were only felt after 20 hours per week (Stone, J. R. and Mortimer, J. T, 1998:199; Wegman, D.H. and Davis, L.K., 1999; Statistics Canada, 1994:1). Finally, while some have called for a public debate on the regulation of paid work hours for students, others caution against the unwanted effects of such a solution, which could encourage students to abandon their studies so that they can become financially self-sufficient sooner and enjoy the quality of life associated with it (Statistics Canada, 1998-1999:20).

## Time use and quality of life of young people in transition

According to this review of the literature, time is a key factor in the school-work relationship. However, time use by young people has not been explored extensively and even less so in the context of the transition from school to work (Gauthier, A. and Furstenberg, F.F., 2001:1). Studies that look at the extent to which schedule conflicts created by demands from school and paid work affect all other activities, such as leisure, sleep and social life are rare. Furthermore, not much is known about how the resulting time crunch is linked to stress and academic success (Mael, F. A. and al., 1997; Shanahan, M.J. and al. 1996). No recent Canadian studies have examined the effects of substituting time from one activity to another on the quality of life of young people in transition.

## Analytical strategy based on a socio-demographic profile of youth in Canada

This analysis is based on the 1998 General Social Survey (GSS). The 1998 GSS provides data on time use and quality of life for a sample of 1,376 young women and 1,195 young men between the ages of 15 and 29 . For this analysis, the sample was divided into sub-groups of youth who had and had not yet made the transition from

[^1]school to the labour market ${ }^{12}$. This analytical technique allowed us to simulate a transition to the labour market using cross-sectional data. When creating the pre-transition sub-groups, we distinguished between young people at the high school and postsecondary levels ${ }^{13}$. For the post-transition groups, distinctions were made between those employed young people with and without a high school diploma, and between those who had and had not engaged in postsecondary studies ${ }^{14}$. Two forms of school to work transitions were identified: 1) a partial transition to the labour market included young people who work for pay and whose main activity is studying; and 2) a complete transition included young people who were employed and no longer reported studying as their main activity.

| Table 1- Distribution of persons aged 15-29 by labour force status and sex |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Males |  |
|  | Females |  |
| Studying only | $\%$ |  |
| Combining study and work (partial transition) | 21 | 22 |
| In the labour force (complete transition) | 16 | 14 |
| Neither studying nor employed | 55 | 50 |
| Total study sub-groups | 8 | 14 |
| Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998. | 100 | 100 |

Table 1 shows the distribution of the population aged 15 to 29 across sub-groups. The first sub-group is made up of just under one-quarter of young Canadians who, at the time of the survey, studied but did not work for pay ${ }^{15}$. The second sub-group, approximately fifteen percent, consists of those who had started their transition to the working world by combining paid work and school ${ }^{16}$.

Table 2 - Distribution of high school and postsecondary students, aged 15 to 29 who are studying only or combining study and work by sex

|  | High school students |  | Postsecondary students |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Males | Females |  | Males |
|  | Females |  |  |  |
| Studying only | 58 | 72 | 57 | 51 |
| Combining study and work | 42 | 28 | 43 | 49 |
| Total high school and postsecondary students | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

Table 2 shows that at the high school level, men were more likely than women to work for pay, while the opposite was true at the postsecondary level. Table 3 shows that men also tend, on average, to devote more time to paid work (see also Appendix 1). This may in part explain why men delay pursuing postsecondary studies longer than women: $27 \%$ of men at the postsecondary level are less than 20 years of age, compared to $38 \%$ of women (see Appendix 2).

[^2]|  | Males |  |  | Females |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Light job' | More demanding job² | Total | Light | More demanding job² |
|  | \% |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school students | 100 | 62 | 38 | 100 | 69 | 31 |
| Postsecondary students | 100 | 76 | 24 | 100 | 83 | 17 |
| For high school students, a light job involves 15 or fewer hours per week. For postsecondary students, a light job involves 20 or fewer hours per week. <br> ${ }^{2}$. For high school students, a more demanding job more than 15 hours per week. For postsecondary students, a more demanding job involves more than 20 hours per week. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: Statistics Canada | neral So | Survey | Cycle 12 Time |  |  |  |

The third sub-group, approximately half of young Canadians, had completed their transition to the labour market. Table 4 shows that close to $70 \%$ were already aged 20 or more and most of them had at least a high school diploma ${ }^{17}$. It should be noted that a considerable proportion of the employed non-graduates were under 18 years of age ${ }^{18}$.

With respect to working hours, Table 5 shows that women and especially those without a high school diploma were most likely to have part-time jobs (see also Appendix 3). Some stated that they worked part-time because they couldn't find a full-time job, but many also said they preferred to work part-time, usually so that they could continue their studies as a secondary activity.

## Table 4 - Distribution of persons in the labour force' aged 15 to 29 by sex, age-group and level of education

|  | Total in labour force |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ \text { Age } \\ 15 \text { to } 29 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ 15 \text { to } 17 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ 18 \text { to } 19 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ 20 \text { to } 24 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Age } \\ 25 \text { to } 29 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
|  | \% |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |
| Without high school diploma | 17 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 5 |
| High school diploma | 20 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 8 |
| Some postsecondary education | 25 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 13 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 38 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 26 |
| Total in labour force | 100 | 5 | 8 | 34 | 53 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |
| Without high school diploma | 11 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| High school diploma | 16 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Some postsecondary education | 23 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 8 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 50 | 0 | 1 | 17 | 32 |
| Total in labour force | 100. | 6 | 6 | 38 | 50 |

Persons in the labour force exclude students (whether or not they are working) and those who are neither working nor studying.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

[^3]
## Table 5 - Distribution of persons in the labour force ${ }^{1}$ aged 15 to 29 by sex, level of education and working status

|  | Total males | Males |  | Total females | Females |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Part-time ${ }^{2}$ | Full-time |  | Part-time ${ }^{2}$ | Full-time |
| In labour force | \% |  |  |  |  |  |
| Without high school diploma | 100 | 14 | 86 | 100 | 49 | 51 |
| High school diploma | 100 | 3 | 97 | 100 | 30 | 70 |
| Some postsecondary education | 100 | 13 | 87 | 100 | 30 | 70 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 100 | 1 | 99 | 100 | 20 | 80 |

1. Persons in the labour force exclude students (whether or not they are working) and those who are neither working nor studying.
${ }^{2}$. Part-time work involves less than 30 hours per week.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

## Young people who are not in school and don't have a job

Table 6 shows the fourth sub-group which is made up of a considerable proportion of young people ( $14 \%$ of women and $8 \%$ of men) who had left school, but did not have a job at the time of the survey. Most of these "inactive" young people had at least a high school diploma ${ }^{19}$.

## Table 6 - Distribution of persons aged 15 to 29 who are neither studying nor employed by sex and level of education

|  |  | Males |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Neither studying nor employed | 39 | 28 |
|  | $\%$ |  |
| Without high school diploma | 18 | 20 |
| High school diploma | 15 | 22 |
| Some postsecondary education | 28 | 29 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 100 | 100 |
| Total neither studying nor employed |  |  |

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

Table 7 shows that a large majority of women in this group (87\%) no longer live with their parents and just over half of them (64\%) have at least one child (generally a young child). In contrast, most men in this group still live with their parents $(71 \%)$ and do not have children ( $90 \%$ ). The data do not provide information about the proportion of young people who will to return to school or make the transition to paid work. However, studies have shown that women who have children before the age of 30 are less likely to continue their education or develop their career (Grindstaff et al. 1989). This group is excluded from the sample of the subsequent time use analysis.

[^4]| Neither studying nor working | Males | Females |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% |  |
| Living with parents | 71 | 13 |
| Living alone or with others | 14 | 12 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{2}$ | 15 | 76 |
| Total neither studying nor working | 100 | 100 |
| ${ }^{1}$. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. |  |  |
| Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998. |  |  |

## The move to independence and starting a family

The move from the parental home to an independent life is another significant step in life. Table 8 shows that from the age of 18 , when most young people begin their transition to paid work or to postsecondary education, the proportion living with their parents starts to drops significantly. Men tend to remain dependent on their parents longer than women, regardless of their age or their employment status. Financial self-sufficiency does not appear to be the only reason force driving the transition to independent living. Young people in postsecondary studies often leave the family home because of the distance to their educational institution. Many of them return to their parents' homes during school vacations, which do not make them truly independent.

|  | Males | Females |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% |  |
| Aged 15 to 29 years |  |  |
| Living with parents | 58 | 44 |
| Living alone or with others | 23 | 19 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{2}$ | 19 | 38 |
| Total aged 15 to 29 years | 100 | 100 |
| Aged 18 to 29 years |  |  |
| Living with parents | 47 | 31 |
| Living alone or with others | 29 | 23 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{3}$ | 24 | 47 |
| Total aged 18 to 29 years | 100 | 100 |
| Aged 20 to 29 years |  |  |
| Living with parents | 39 | 24 |
| Living alone or with others | 33 | 23 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{4}$ | 29 | 53 |
| Total aged 20 to 29 years | 100 | 100 |
| ${ }^{1}$ Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. <br> ${ }^{2}$ Among those aged 15 to 29 years, $10 \%$ of males and $21 \%$ of females are parents. <br> ${ }^{3}$ Among those aged 18 to 29 years, $12 \%$ of males and $26 \%$ of females are parents. <br> ${ }^{4}$ Among those aged 18 to 29 years, $14 \%$ of males and $29 \%$ of females are parents. |  |  |
| Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Surv |  |  |

Nevertheless, Table 9 illustrates that female students achieve independence sooner than male students. In fact, $47 \%$ of young women at the postsecondary level no longer lived with their parents, compared to $34 \%$ of young men. Finally, it should be noted that young women also enter conjugal relationships and become parents earlier than men: $38 \%$ of young women versus $19 \%$ of young men aged 15 to 29 were married or living common-law, and that $21 \%$ of women and $10 \%$ of men were parents. Studying is the primary activity of $7 \%$ of these young mothers, compared to $1 \%$ of fathers. Fathers were more likely to have completed their transition to paid work ( $89 \%$ of fathers versus $49 \%$ of mothers), while mothers were more likely not to be in the labour force ( $45 \%$ versus 9\%). See Appendix 4.

Table 9 - Distribution of persons aged 15-29 by living arrangement, level of education and sex ${ }^{1}$

|  | Males | Females |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% |  |
| High school students ${ }^{2}$ |  |  |
| Living with parents | 96 | 91 |
| Living alone or with others | 4 | 5 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{3}$ | 0 | 5 |
| Total high school students | 100 | 100 |
| Postsecondary students |  |  |
| Living with parents | 66 | 53 |
| Living alone or with others | 30 | 35 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{4}$ | 5 | 12 |
| Total postsecondary students | 100 | 100 |
| In the labour force |  |  |
| Living with parents | 40 | 32 |
| Living alone or with others | 29 | 21 |
| Living with a partner with or without children ${ }^{5}$ | 31 | 48 |
| Total in the labour force | 100 | 100 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
${ }^{2} 83 \%$ of high school students are under 18 years of age.
${ }^{3}$ Among high school students, $0 \%$ of males and $3 \%$ of females are parents.
${ }^{4}$ Among postsecondary students, $1 \%$ of males and $4 \%$ of females are parents.
${ }^{5}$ Among those in the labour force, $16 \%$ of males and $20 \%$ of females are parents.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

## Selecting the sample for the analysis of time use and quality of life

Because young people experience a variety of significant life transitions, the study population was restricted in order to better isolate the school to work transition. As mentioned above, young people who had left school, but did not have a job at the time of the survey were excluded from the analytical sample. The same applies for youth living with a conjugal partner and those with children. Also note that no distinction was made between those living with their parents and those who had already moved out ${ }^{20}$. Lastly, the study of the school to work transition from high school is restricted to the those aged 15 to 24 while the same analysis at the postsecondary level encompasses those aged 15 to $29^{21}$. Appendix 5 shows the sample used for the analysis of the various pre and post-transition sub-groups.

[^5]
## I- Time use analysis of high school students in transition to employment

Graph 1 show that young people whose primary activity is attending high school devote their time to studies (4.4 hours per day) and to leisure ( 6.8 hours per day for women and 7.7 hours per day for men). Women do not spend as much time on leisure as men ${ }^{* 22}$, but they do more unpaid work -1.4 versus 0.9 hours per day ${ }^{23}$. As opposed to other age groups throughout the life course, high school students have quite a lot of time for personal care, especially sleep ( 9 hours per day). See Appendix 6.

Graph 1- Daily activities at different stages of transition from high school to work for youth aged 15 to 24


Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

## Introduction of paid work to high school studies

The addition of a job to the school schedule of high school students has a major effect on their time use. On average, men spent more than an hour more per day than women on their paid jobs ( 1.9 hours per day versus 0.7 hours per day), such that they have to take even more time from other activities to accommodate their jobs. Graph 1 show how men reduce leisure time by 1.5 hours per day in order to ease the initial transition to the job market, while women sleep approximately one hour less. However, both groups spend nearly the same amount of time on productive activities ${ }^{24}$ since women who both study and work do about a half an hour more unpaid work than their male counterparts ( 1.7 hours per day versus 1.1 hours per day).

## Effects of the number of hours spent on employment on time use

The implications of working for pay while in school are affected by the number of hours spent working for pay. The sample size allowed us to create groups of high school students based on whether they had a 'light' job (15 hours per week or less) or a more 'demanding' job ( 15 hours to 40 hours per week) ${ }^{25}$. Graph 2 illustrates that the addition of a light job to the academic schedule of high school students does not drastically affect the time they

[^6]spend on their studies. We noticed instead that both sexes cut back on sleep by about one hour per day. A light job also affects leisure time, but the impact is different for each sex. See Appendix 7.

Graph 2 - Daily activities for high school students by hours spent at paid job


Transition stages of women
Transition stages of men

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998
Graph 3 shows how the total time spent by men on leisure drops by over one hour* after introducing a light job to their schedule, particularly for active leisure other than sports. Women substitute a good deal of the time spent watching television (1.3 hours per day) for other types of activities, but the total time spent on leisure remains unchanged.

What are the effects of a more demanding job? Graph 2 shows that the time these young people spend on their education varies but in fact, the difference is not statistically significant. One important difference involves the effect of a demanding job on sleep. High school women who work longer hours sleep about one hour per day less - as if they substitute sleep for studies - while their male counterparts sleep 0.5 hours more per day. This difference of nearly two hours of sleep between young men and women who hold demanding jobs in high school could once again be explained by the type of job held. Lastly, a demanding job has a considerable impact on leisure* for both women and men. A reduction of time spent watching television is the most important effect for both sexes (approximately 1.5 fewer hours per day for women and 1 hour less for men). Furthermore, women drop almost all time spent on sports from their schedules, while there is no significant variation for men. See Appendix 8.

Graph 3 - Time spent on leisure for high school students by hours spent at paid job


Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

## Complete transition from high school to employment

Once young people finish high school, greater gender differences in time use patterns emerge. Time use also varies for men based on their level of education (high school dropouts versus high school graduates). As we saw earlier, young women are more inclined to work part-time. Graph 1 illustrates that employed female dropouts spend 3.1 hours per day (approximately 20 hours per week) on paid work, compared to 4.9 hours per day ( 30 hours per week) spent by graduates counterparts ${ }^{26}$. Time substitution occurs primarily between education and paid work, since other activities are not rescheduled after the transition to the labour market. As opposed to men, employed young women also tend to keep up with a certain number of educational activities (nearly 1 hour per day), especially if they have not yet obtained their high school diploma. From this, we can guess that they are completing their studies on a part-time basis.

On the other hand, male dropouts stand out because their job tends to encroach on all their other activities, including sleep. In fact, they spend 7.1 hours per day ( 50 hours per week) on paid work (versus 5.4 hours per day for graduates*), which is much more than a simple substitution of time from education to paid work. Young male workers without a high school diploma spent a total of 8.6 hours per day on productive activity, versus 6 hours per day for women. Meanwhile, employed male graduates have a bit more time than male dropouts for sleep, leisure and unpaid work activities.

[^7]
## II- Time use analysis of postsecondary students in transition to employment

Graph 4 shows how the addition of paid work during and after postsecondary studies affects the time use of these young people ${ }^{27}$. Young women at the postsecondary level spent 1.2 hours more per day on their studies compared with their high school counterparts, while young men essentially maintained the same school schedule as in high school*. In total, female students devote 0.8 hour per day more than men to their education. This closely corresponds to the extra leisure time men have compared with their female colleagues. These women spent about an hour and a half less each day on leisure than when they were in high school, in particular on sports and other forms of active leisure ( 0.5 hours per day less for each activity) ${ }^{28}$. See Appendix 9.

Graph 4 - Daily activities at different stages of transition from postsecondary to work for youth aged 15 to 29


Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

## Introduction of paid work to postsecondary studies

When young men and women add paid employment to their postsecondary studies, their time use patterns are very similar. This is relatively rare during the life course. In contrast to female high school students, young women at the postsecondary level devote as much time as young men to their job (approximately 2 hours per day). The transition does not seem to affect the average time spent on education, but the number of hours devoted to working does in fact have an impact. In order to accommodate this transition both groups use their time similarly for personal care ( 0.5 hours less per day)* and young men also decrease their leisure time (1.5 hours less per day)*, especially for socializing and sports. Finally, both groups use 8.4 hours per day for productive activities, which results in fairly busy days compared to the consequences of a complete transition to

[^8]paid work once they leave school. Overall, the time crunch created by working for pay while attending postsecondary school results in diminished gender differences in time use.

## Effects of the number of hours spent on paid work on time use

The sample size allowed us to create groups of postsecondary students based on whether they had a 'light' job (defined this time at 20 hours per week or less) or a more 'demanding' job ( 20 hours to 40 hours per week) ${ }^{29}$. Graph 5 shows that a light job did not have a major effect on the time use of postsecondary female students. For males, however, it only affects their leisure time, particularly sports ( 0.5 hour less per day). Nonetheless, young men continue to enjoy more leisure time than young women, including 0.5 hours per day more for watching television*. The remaining differences between the two sexes were insignificant. See Appendix 10.

Graph 5 - Daily activities for postsecondary students by hours spent at paid job


Transition stages of women
Transition stages of men

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

What happens when a more demanding job is added? This time, the impact is greater, yet different for the two sexes. For female students, the time spent on education dropped from 6.4 hours per day to 2.9 hours per day ${ }^{30}$, and they also eliminated practically all of their active leisure (Graph 6). Male students experiencing the same transition experienced a dramatic drop in their leisure time (close to 4 hours per day); including sports ( 0.6 hours per day), other active leisure ( 0.7 hours per day), social activities ( 1.2 hours per day) and time spent watching television (1.3 hours per day). See Appendix 11.

It is difficult to determine how one activity is substituted for another when comparing different groups using cross-sectional data. However, these statistics provide a good indication of which types of activities are most affected by the school to work transition, as well as the direction and magnitude of the changes. Further studies are required to better understand why young men at the postsecondary level who add a job to their school

[^9]schedule sacrifice leisure time, while for young women, it is time spent on education that is most affected, especially since the opposite is true for high school students. To what extent and why does the transition to paid work seem to have different consequences in young students who work longer hours? The fact that young women spend more time then men on unpaid tasks may be part of the explanation, but the type of job held may also be a factor. It would also be worthwhile to examine the relationship between the rate of graduation and the time required to complete their studies comparing students who work while they study and students who are not employed.

## Graph 6 - Time spent on leisure for postsecondary students by hours spent at paid job



Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

## Complete transition from postsecondary studies to employment

A complete transition from postsecondary studies to the labour market relieves considerably the time use pattern of young people, especially when considering the busy schedules of those who combine work and study. A job clearly fills a good portion of daily activities, but a lot of room is still left for leisure activities and personal care. Graph 4 shows how men and women devote hours previously spent on studies to paid work ${ }^{31}$. Men gain approximately 0.5 hours per day for sleep and 0.5 hours per day for watching television, while women use the same amount of time (approximately one hour) for unpaid work ${ }^{32}$ and for education. It is interesting to note that like young women making the complete transition from high school to employment, young employed women who have had postsecondary training continue to study. In fact, it is time devoted to unpaid work and education that distinguishes the time use patterns of the two sexes once they have completed the transition to employment. However, the time spent on productive activities after the transition is approximately the same for both sexes ( 8.1 hours per day for women and 7.8 hours per day for men). Time spent on productive activities was higher for those who did not continue with postsecondary studies, with the exception of employed male high school dropouts, as described previously.

[^10]
## Time use and quality of life of youth

Following the model of the other articles in this series on time use, one of the objectives of this study was to link data on time use among youths in transition with quality-of-life indicators. In addition to the time use diary, Cycle 12 of the General Social Survey contains a number of more subjective questions for measuring the perception of time-stress, as well as more general questions on the degree of satisfaction with a few of the main aspects of life: health, work, finances, the balance between work and family, self-esteem, wellbeing, life in general, etc.

Is the quality of life of young people affected by the changes in time use that occur in their transitions from high school to postsecondary education and then to the labour market? Is combining education and work a source of stress? Does the number of hours devoted to paid work affect the perception of stress in the same way for young women and young men? The literature offers several interesting hypotheses to be tested in the Canadian context. For example, some authors contend that the level of wellbeing among youths is positively related to the time devoted to socializing, volunteer work and active leisure (Farnworth, 2000; Ferron et al., 1999, Fletcher et al, 2000). Thus, when holding a job encroaches on these activities, as we have seen in our analysis, we could hypothesize that the quality of life of these youths may suffer. By contrast, other researchers maintain that on the contrary, holding a job while going to school may be a source of validation and self-esteem for youths (Mortimer, Shanahan and Ryu, 1993). According to Lewis et al (1998), the stress level does not depend so much on the type of activities in which youths engage on a daily basis but rather on their total workload. Other relevant hypotheses could also be put forward as to possible links between stress levels in the young and the observed decrease in hours of sleep during transitions.

Unfortunately, our sample is not large enough for these hypotheses to be tested with sufficient precision. However, the next cycle of the General Social Survey devoted to time use, planned for 2004, should accommodate analysts who wish to explore these questions in greater depth, given the substantial increase in sampling.

## Summary and discussion

This paper describes how the lifestyles of young men and women change when making a transition from school to work by analyzing time use. The increase in the duration of studies and in the number of students combining school and paid work gives an idea of the extent to which youth today juggle overlapping experiences. However, when we only look at the impact on educational attainment or of the effect of work experience on academic and professional success, we do not get a complete picture of the school to work transition experience. By focusing our analysis on the reorganization of time devoted to different activities by young people, we were able to more concretely identify the changes taking place during this transition. Our analysis made it possible to highlight some differences between the school-work transition experiences of the two sexes.

## The transition process does not occur not at the same pace for both sexes

Young men make the transition to paid work earlier than their female counterparts. As early as high school, they are more likely than young women to have a job and to devote many hours to it. They also make the full transition to employment more quickly, and do not always wait to complete their high school studies. If they continue with postsecondary education, they wait longer to do so than young women. It would be important to determine whether this is a consequence of the time devoted to paid work. We noted the opposite effect at the postsecondary level. In this case, young women are more likely than young men to work while in school although young men still tend to spent longer hours at the job. Does this explain why young women are more apt to complete their postsecondary studies? Once their studies are completed, employed young men continue to devote much more time to work than young women, since women are more likely to have a part-time job, possibly in order to complete their studies part-time. It seems that young women are still in their transition process even after they have put aside their full-time studies. Finally, we should mention that young men live with their parents longer, while women experience conjugal life and parenthood earlier. This suggests that young men make the transition to paid work earlier, but remain dependent on their parents longer, while young women take more time to make the transition to paid work, but become independent sooner. It would be interesting to conduct a more in-depth study on how these differences influence the success of the transition to paid work.

## The effects on time use when paid work is combined with studies differ for both sexes

Our analysis shows that the school-work combination does not involve the same compromises as a full transition to work. While it goes without saying that combining school and work is more restrictive on time, it is nevertheless interesting to see that the reorganization of daily activities is not solely based on simply substituting paid work hours for study hours. Other activities are also rescheduled. In high school, a job does not affect the time devoted to studies, but leads to a decrease in the amount of sleep for both sexes, active leisure for men and some passive leisure activities (television) for women. The transition to postsecondary studies coincides with a significant reduction in sleep time in both sexes. Other activities are also rearranged after a job is added to the school schedule. A light job for postsecondary students ( $20 \mathrm{~h} / \mathrm{w}$ or less) reduced the time that young men spend on sports, but did not change the time use of young women. A more demanding job had more considerable effects: the time spent on leisure declined for both men and women, and the time spent on studies by young women was also greatly reduced. We once again suggest that a more in-depth study of the relationship between the type of job held during school years and time use be conducted.

The various realities experienced by today's young Canadians have important implications for the education sector. This is all the more true since the transition to the labour market increasingly encroaches on other important life transitions. Examples include the duration of training programs, the time required to complete programs, status-related privileges (full-time versus part-time), criteria for the financial support of students, maternity and parental leave, etc. ${ }^{33}$. Finally, there may be important health implications of the effects of schedule conflicts on time for physical activities and for sleep.

[^11]
## Appendix A

## Detailed Activity Codes

## A. PAID WORK AND EDUCATION

1. Paid Work

011 Work for Pay at Main Job
012 Work for Pay at Other Job(s)
021 Overtime Work
022 Looking for Work
023 Unpaid Work in a Family Business or Farm
030 Travel During Work
040 Waiting/Delays at Work
070 Coffee/Other Breaks
080 Other Work Activities
832 Hobbies Done For Sale or Exchange
842 Domestic Home Crafts Done For Sale or Exchange
2. Education

500 Full-Time Classes
511 Other Classes (Part-Time)
512 Credit Courses on Television
520 Special Lectures: Occasional
530 Homework: Course, Career/Self-Development
550 Breaks/Waiting for Class
580 Other Study
3. Commuting

090 Travel: To/From Work
590 Travel: Education
893 Travel: Hobbies \& Crafts for Sale
B. UNPAID WORK
4. Cooking/Washing Up

101 Meal Preparation
102 Baking, Preserving Food, Home Brewing, etc.
110 Food (or Meal) Cleanup
5. Housekeeping

120 Indoor Cleaning
130 Outdoor Cleaning
140 Laundry, Ironing, Folding
151 Mending/Shoe Care
152 Dressmaking and Sewing
6. Maintenance and Repair

161 Interior Maintenance and Repair
162 Exterior Maintenance and Repair
163 Vehicle Maintenance
164 Other Home Improvements
7. Other Household Work

171 Gardening/Grounds Maintenance
172 Pet Care
173 Care of House Plants
181 Household Management
182 Stacking and Cutting Firewood
183 Other Domestic/Household Work, n.e.s.
184 Unpacking Groceries
185 Packing and Unpacking Luggage and/or Car
186 Packing and Unpacking for a Move of the Household
190 Travel: Domestic Work
8. Shopping for Goods and Services

301 Groceries
302 Everyday Goods and products (Clothing, Gas, etc.)
303 Take-out Food
304 Rental of Videos
310 Shopping for Durable Goods
320 Personal Care Services
331 Financial Services
332 Government Services
340 Adult Medical and Dental Care (Outside Home)
350 Other Professional Services (Lawyer, Veterinarian)
361 Automobile Maintenance and Repair Services
362 Other Repair and Cleaning Services
380 Other Shopping and Services
390 Travel: Shopping for Goods and Services
9. Child Care

200 Child Care (Infant to 4 Years Old)
211 Putting Children to Bed
212 Getting Children Ready for School
213 Personal Care for Children of the Household
220 Helping/Teaching/Reprimanding
230 Reading/Talking/Conversation with Child
240 Play with Children
250 Medical Care - Household Child
260 Unpaid Babysitting
281 Help and Other Care - Household Children
291 Travel: Household Child
10. Adult Care

271 Personal Care - Household Adults
272 Medical Care - Household Adults
282 Help and Other Care - Household Adults
292 Travel: Household Adults
11. Civic and Voluntary Activity

800 Coaching
600 Professional, Union, General Meetings
610 Political, Civic Activity
620 Child, Youth, Family Organizations
630 Religious Meetings, Organizations
651 Fraternal and Social Organizations
652 Support Groups
660 Volunteer Work, (Organizations)
671 Housework and Cooking Assistance
672 House Maintenance and Repair Assistance
673 Unpaid Babysitting
674 Transportation Assistance
675 Care for Disabled or III
676 Correspondence Assistance
677 Unpaid Help for a Business or Farm
678 Other Unpaid Help
680 Other Organizational, Voluntary and Religious Activity
691 Travel: Civic \& Voluntary Activity
892 Travel: Coaching

## C. SELF CARE

## 12. Night Sleep

450 Night/Essential Sleep
13. Meals (excl. Restaurant Meals)

050 Meals/Snacks at Work
430 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Home
431 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Another Place (excl. Restaurants)
540 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at School
642 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Religious Services
661 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Place of Volunteer Work
14. Other Personal Activities

400 Washing, Dressing
410 Personal Medical Care at Home
411 Private Prayer, Meditation and Other Informal Spiritual Activities
460 Incidental Sleep, Naps
470 Relaxing, Thinking, Resting, Smoking
480 Other Personal Care or Private Activities
492 Travel: Other Personal Activities
640 Religious Services/Prayer/Bible Readings
692 Travel: Religious Services
D. LEISURE
15. Socializing

060 Idle Time Before/After Work
440 Restaurant Meals
491 Travel: Restaurant Meals
701 Professional Sports Events

| 702 | Amateur Sports Events |
| :--- | :--- |
| 711 | Pop Music, Concerts |
| 712 | Fairs, Festivals, Circuses, Parades |
| 713 | Zoos |
| 720 | Movies, Films |
| 730 | Opera, Ballet, Theatre |
| 741 | Museums |
| 742 | Art Galleries |
| 743 | Heritage Sites |
| 751 | Socializing with Friends/Relatives (No Meal) |
| 752 | Socializing with Friends/Relatives (With Meal) |
| 753 | Socializing with Friends/Relatives (Non-residential or institutional) |
| 754 | Socializing with Friends/Relatives (Institutional, e.g. Hospital, Nursing Home) |
| 760 | Socializing at Bars, Clubs (No Meal) |
| 770 | Casino, Bingo, Arcade |
| 780 | Other Social Gatherings (Weddings, Wakes) |
| 791 | Travel: Sports and Entertainment Events |
| 792 | Travel: Socializing (Between Residences) |
| 793 | Travel: Other Socializing |
| 950 | Talking, Conversation, Phone |

## 16. Watching Television

911 Watching Television (Regular Scheduled TV)
912 Watching Television (Time-shifted TV)
913 Watching Rented or Purchased Movies
914 Other Television Watching

## 17. Other Passive Leisure

900 Listening to the Radio
920 Listening to CDs, Cassette Tapes or Records
931 Reading Books
932 Reading Magazines, Pamphlets, Bulletins, Newsletters
940 Reading Newspapers
961 Reading Mail
962 Other Letters and Mail
980 Other Media or Communication
990 Travel: Media and Communication
18. Active Sports

801 Football, Basketball, Baseball, Volleyball, Hockey, Soccer, Field Hockey
802 Tennis, Squash, Racquetball, Paddle Ball
803 Golf, Miniature Golf
804 Swimming, Waterskiing
805 Skiing, Ice Skating, Sledding, Curling, Snowboarding
806 Bowling, Pool, Ping-pong, Pinball
807 Exercises, Yoga, Weightlifting
808 Judo, Boxing, Wrestling, Fencing
809 Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Windsurfing, Sailing (Competitive)
810 Other Sports
811 Hunting
812 Fishing
813 Boating
814 Camping
815 Horseback Riding, Rodeo, Jumping, Dressage
816 Other Outdoor Activities/Excursions
821 Walking, Hiking, Jogging, Running

822
891

Bicycling
Travel: Active Sports
19. Other Active Leisure

560 Leisure and Special Interest Classes
831 Hobbies Done Mainly for Pleasure
841 Domestic Home Crafts Done Mainly for Pleasure
850 Music, Theatre, Dance
861 Games, Cards, Puzzles, Board Games
862 Video Games, Computer Games
863 General Computer Use (Excluding Surfing the Net or Playing Games)
864 Surfing the Net (As a Leisure Activity)
871 Pleasure Drives as a Driver
872 Pleasure Drives as a Passenger in a Car
873 Other Pleasure Drives, Sightseeing
880 Other Sport or Active Leisure
894 Travel: Other Active Leisure
20. Residual Time

001 Missing Gap in Time
002 Refusals

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Study sub-groups of students with a job by sex and working hours per week ${ }^{1}$

|  | Total | $<=15$ <br> hours/week | 16-40 hours/week |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. |  | \% |
| Males |  |  |  |
| High school students with a job | 213,036 | 63 | 37 |
| Postsecondary students with a job | 174,828 | 43 | 57 |
| Females |  |  |  |
| High school students with a job | 142,785 | 69 | 31 |
| Postsecondary students with a job | 190,265 | 53 | 47 |

${ }^{1}$ Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

Appendix 2 - Study subgroups of young people by sex and age group ${ }^{1}$

| Transition stages | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & 15-29 \end{aligned}$ | 15-17 | 18-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 330,269 | 92 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| High school student with a job | 237,951 | 77 | 17 | 6 | 0 |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 292,800 | 7 | 21 | 52 | 20 |
| Postsecondary student with a job | 217,493 | 6 | 20 | 63 | 11 |
| Employed without a high school diploma | 269,150 | 25 | 11 | 33 | 31 |
| Employed with a high school diploma | 317,319 | 1 | 16 | 41 | 43 |
| Employed with some postsecondary education | 406,787 | 0 | 8 | 39 | 53 |
| Employed postsecondary graduate | 612,805 | 0 | 3 | 28 | 69 |
| Neither studying nor employed | 262,303 | 11 | 16 | 43 | 30 |
| Total males | 2,946,877 | 21 | 12 | 33 | 34 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 393,468 | 82 | 14 | 4 | 1 |
| High school student with a job | 151,653 | 82 | 13 | 5 | 0 |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 248,783 | 6 | 29 | 49 | 15 |
| Postsecondary student with a job | 236,154 | 6 | 35 | 48 | 12 |
| Employed without a high school diploma | 161,977 | 43 | 9 | 19 | 29 |
| Employed with a high school diploma | 227,305 | 4 | 22 | 34 | 40 |
| Employed with some postsecondary education | 322,596 | 0 | 5 | 60 | 36 |
| Employed postsecondary graduate | 710,264 | 0 | 1 | 34 | 64 |
| Neither studying nor employed | 409,704 | 4 | 9 | 33 | 53 |
| Total females | 2,861,904 | 20 | 13 | 33 | 35 |

${ }^{1}$ Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

Appendix 3 - Study sub-groups of employed persons (non-students) by sex and working status ${ }^{1}$

|  | Total | Part-time ${ }^{2}$ | Full-time |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% |  |
| Males |  |  |  |
| Without a high school diploma | 247,695 | 14 | 87 |
| With a high school diploma | 277,868 | 3 | 98 |
| With some postsecondary education | 348,444 | 13 | 87 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 518,114 | 1 | 99 |
| Females |  |  |  |
| Without a high school diploma | 144,277 | 49 | 51 |
| With a high school diploma | 203,261 | 30 | 71 |
| With some postsecondary education | 259,226 | 30 | 71 |
| Postsecondary graduate | 618,540 | 20 | 81 |

${ }^{1 .}$ Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
2. Part-time work involves less than 30 hours per week.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

## Appendix 4 - Living arrangement of study subgroups by sex and age-group ${ }^{1}$


${ }^{1}$. Percentages may not add to total due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

| Appendix 5 - Sample sizes of sub-groups by sex for the analysis of time use and quality of life |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Females | Males |
|  | No. |  |
| Total survey sample | 5,893 | 4,856 |
| Sample of age subgroups |  |  |
| 15 to 24 years | 744 | 671 |
| 15 to 29 years | 1,376 | 1,195 |
| Population excluded from study |  |  |
| 15 to 24 years |  |  |
| Neither studying nor working for pay | 103 | 52 |
| Living with a partner with or without children | 145 | 39 |
| 15 to 29 years |  |  |
| Neither studying nor working for pay | 246 | 92 |
| Living with a partner with or without children | 412 | 152 |
| Population included in analysis: Student or employed person, not living with a partner and had no children |  |  |
| 15 to 24 years | 496 | 580 |
| 15 to 29 years | 718 | 951 |
| Study population before transition to work |  |  |
| High school student 15 to 24 years of age without a job | 109 | 115 |
| Postsecondary school student 15 to 29 years of age without a job | 86 | 87 |
| Study population for partial transition to work |  |  |
| High school student 15 to 24 years of age with a job | 46 | 78 |
| Postsecondary school student 15 to 29 years of age with a job | 63 | 60 |
| Study population after complete transition to work |  |  |
| 15 to 24 years |  |  |
| Employed person without a high school diploma | 38 | 71 |
| Employed person with a high school diploma | 41 | 63 |
| 15 to 29 years, employed with at least some postsecondary education | 214 | 227 |

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

| Appendix 6 - Daily activities at different stages of transition from high school to work for youth aged 15 to 24 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unpaid Work | Education | Paid work | Personal Care | Leisure |
| Transition stages | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 0.9 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 10.9 | 7.7 |
| High school student with paid job | 1.1 | 4.4 | 1.9 | 10.5 | 6.2 |
| Employed without high school diploma | 1.3 | 0.2 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 6.1 |
| Employed with high school diploma | 1.7 | 0.1 | 5.4 | 9.9 | 6.9 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 1.4 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 11.2 | 6.8 |
| High school student with paid job | 1.7 | 4.8 | 0.7 | 10.3 | 6.5 |
| Employed without high school diploma | 1.9 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 10.7 | 7.3 |
| Employed with high school diploma | 1.8 | 0.0 | 4.9 | 10.8 | 6.5 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

| Appendix 7 - Hours per day spent on daily activities for high school students by working hours and sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unpaid Work | Education | Paid work | Other Personal Care | Leisure | Sleep |
|  | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 0.9 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 7.7 | 9.0 |
| High school student working 15 or fewer hours/week | 1.2 | 5.1 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 6.5 | 8.1 |
| High school student working 16-40 hours/week | 0.7 | 3.6 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 5.9 | 9.5 |
| Female |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 1.4 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 6.8 | 9.0 |
| High school student working 15 or fewer hours/week | 1.8 | 4.5 | 0.5 | 2.3 | 6.9 | 8.1 |
| High school student working 16-40 hours/week | 1.3 | 6.7 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 4.8 | 7.8 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada. General Social Survey. Cycle 12 Time Use. 1998.

Appendix 8 - Hours per day spent on leisure activities for high school students by sex and working hours

| Hours spent at paid job | Total leisure | Television | Other passive leisure | Sociali- <br> zing | Other active leisure | Sports |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 7.7 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 1.3 |
| High school student working 15 or fewer hours/week | 6.5 | 2.1 | 0.3 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 1.4 |
| High school student working 16-40 hours/week | 5.9 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 0.9 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High school student without a job | 6.8 | 2.6 | 0.6 | 2.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| High school student working 15 or fewer hours/week | 6.9 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 3.1 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| High school student working 16-40 hours/week | 4.8 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 3.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

| Appendix 9 - Daily activities at different stages of transition from postsecondary to work for youth aged 15 to 29 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unpaid Work | Education | Paid work | Personal Care | Leisure |
| Transition stages | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student / No job | 1.2 | 4.8 | 0.8 | 10.1 | 7.0 |
| Postsecondary student with paid job | 1.5 | 5.1 | 2.3 | 9.4 | 5.6 |
| Employed with postsecondary education | 1.3 | 0.1 | 6.4 | 9.9 | 6.2 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student / No job | 1.8 | 6.4 | 0.4 | 10.1 | 5.3 |
| Postsecondary student with paid job | 1.5 | 5.1 | 2.6 | 9.4 | 5.5 |
| Employed with postsecondary education | 2.6 | 0.2 | 5.3 | 9.9 | 6.0 |

Percentage may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada. General Social Survey. Cycle 12 Time Use. 1998.

Appendix 10 - Hours per day spent on daily activities for study sub-groups of postsecondary students by sex and working hours

| Hours spent at paid job | Paid work | Unpaid Work | Education | Leisure | Other Personal Care | Sleep |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 0.8 | 1.2 | 4.8 | 7.0 | 1.8 | 8.4 |
| Postsecondary student working 20 or fewer hours/week | 1.0 | 1.8 | 5.3 | 6.4 | 1.4 | 8.1 |
| Postsecondary student working 21-40 hours/week | 6.1 | 0.6 | 5.2 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 8.0 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 0.4 | 1.8 | 6.4 | 5.3 | 2.0 | 8.1 |
| Postsecondary student working 20 or fewer hours/week | 2.4 | 1.5 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 1.6 | 7.8 |
| Postsecondary student working 21-40 hours/week | 3.6 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 6.5 | 1.6 | 7.7 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

## Appendix 11 - Hours per day spent on leisure activities for postsecondary students by sex and hours spent at paid job

| Hours spent at paid job | Total leisure | Television | Other passive leisure | Socializing | Other active leisure | Sports |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number of hours per day |  |  |  |  |  |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 7.0 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 3.3 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| Postsecondary student working 20 or fewer hours/week | 6.4 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 2.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 |
| Postsecondary student working 21-40 hours/week | 2.9 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postsecondary student without a job | 5.3 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 2.6 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| Postsecondary student working 20 or fewer hours/week | 5.0 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 3.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Postsecondary student working 21-40 hours/week | 6.5 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 4.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 |

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, Cycle 12 Time Use, 1998.

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ This situation has more of an impact on young people, particularly if they do not have any postsecondary qualifications (Marquart, R., 1998:55).
    ${ }^{2}$ See Little (1997) on the increase in tuition fees in Canada and Plager and Chen (1999) on student debt. You can also refer to Sales et al. (2001) which shows how financial contributions from parents decrease radically from the age of 23 , the age at which young people are considered independent. McGrath (1996) singles out financial constraints as one of the main obstacles to continuing postsecondary studies.
    ${ }^{3}$ In all OECD countries, the number of students having studied at the postsecondary level has increased as the unemployment rate of young people has risen. Some go as far as contending that education policies lag behind job development and, to a certain point, postpone the transition to work (Wyn, J. and Dewyer, P., 2000:152).
    ${ }^{4}$ Job-hopping is the sign of a difficult transition, but not necessarily one of failure in the career path, since having a series of jobs may be associated with a desire for greater challenges or a higher salary (Stone, J.R. and Mortimer, J.T., 1998).
    ${ }^{5}$ Young people, particularly men, live with their parent longer (Boyd, M. and Norris, D. 1999).
    ${ }^{6}$ The number of working hours per week has been increasing among adolescents since the late 1980s, unlike among other age groups. Furthermore, working hours are continually added to time spent on studying (Statistics Canada, 1994:3). More and more students consider paid work as part of their life style and not just one of their activities (Sales et al, 2001:180).
    ${ }^{7}$ In 1998, the transition process was believed to start at the age of 16 and end at around 23 (Statistics Canada, 1998-1999:3). However, we have observed that the student population is aging. Students 25 years and up now represent one-quarter of the full-time student population in Canada. (Sales et al, 2001:168, based on data from Statistics Canada).
    ${ }^{8}$ We know, for example, that one-third of young people combine work and school by choice instead of working full-time (Wyn, J. and Dwyer, P., 2000).

[^1]:    ${ }^{9}$ In 1995, the median wage of non-graduate young men was $\$ 400 /$ week (versus $\$ 260 /$ week for young women), while high school graduates earned $\$ 430 /$ week (versus $\$ 336 /$ week for young women) (Schwartz, S. et al., 1998:79).
    ${ }^{10}$ Ibid. However, a recent study showed that the wages of young women are on the rise, as opposed to those of young men, which results in a smaller gap between the sexes (Finnie, 2000).
    ${ }^{11}$ The US Department of Labor believes that work experience combined with on-the-job training, or a specialized postsecondary or college education, is worth more than experience based solely on undergraduate university training, especially when studies are not directly related to the field of work (Stone, J.R. and Mortimer, J.T., 1998:189). They predict that in 2006, only 23\% of jobs in the United States will require a university education, while $51 \%$ will essentially demand a more or less intensive experience in the workplace. The same trend is developing in Canada (Marquardt, R., 1998:55).

[^2]:    ${ }^{12}$ The limits inherent to the Survey and to our method clearly do not allow us to take into account all the variables that affect the success of transitions to the labour market, such as the level of education of parents, type of school or family history for example.
    ${ }^{13}$ The passage from one level to another is itself an important transition for young people (Human Ressources Development Canada, 2000:11)
    ${ }_{15}^{14}$ Many authors agree that a high school diploma is a determining factor in a successful transition to work (see literature review).
    ${ }^{15}$ Students are defined as those who declared studies as their main activity, even if on a part-time basis (the proportion of which is low).
    ${ }^{16}$ The GSS does not distinguish between summer jobs and jobs held during the school year.

[^3]:    ${ }^{17} 83 \%$ of men and $89 \%$ of women (Table 4)
    ${ }^{18} 25 \%$ of men compared to $43 \%$ of women (Appendix 2)

[^4]:    ${ }^{19} 71 \%$ of women and $61 \%$ of men (Table 6)

[^5]:    ${ }^{20}$ It should be noted, however, that preliminary analysis revealed that this event appears to intensify most of the effects that can be attributed to the transition to paid work, primarily because the transition to self-sufficiency usually involves an increase in the number of paid working hours.
    ${ }^{21}$ We realize that nearly all young people finish their high school studies before the age of 25 , and that after this age, a considerable proportion continue to study at the postsecondary level or enter the labour market for the first time (Sales et al., 2001:168; Bowlby, G., 2000).

[^6]:    ${ }^{22}\left(^{*}\right)$ indicates the difference is statistically significant at a $90 \%$ level only. When not mentioned, the difference is significant at $95 \%$.
    ${ }^{23}$ The difference basically lies in the time taken to run errands.
    ${ }^{24}$ Total time spent on paid work, unpaid work and studies.
    ${ }^{25}$ The number of working hours was limited to 40 hours per week in order to remain within normal working hours.

[^7]:    ${ }^{26}$ While the difference between female dropouts and graduates is not statistically significant, it is when compared with men.

[^8]:    ${ }^{27}$ While young people may not claim to have a 'real' job, some do mention having paid tasks (approximately $2 \mathrm{~h} / \mathrm{w}$ for women and $4 \mathrm{~h} / \mathrm{w}$ for men). These small jobs are undoubtedly an initial way for these young people of entering the working world. For the purposes of the ${ }_{28}$ analysis, these respondents are considered to be unemployed.
    ${ }^{28}$ The difference in sports between young men and young women is reliable at a $90 \%$ confidence level.

[^9]:    ${ }^{29}$ No significant difference showed in time spent on education between groups who worked less than 15 hours per week and those who worked 15 to 40 hours per week. The differences started to show when the number of hours of paid work was cut off at 20 hours per week.
    ${ }^{30}$ We must note that the differences in time spent on studies between the two sexes during a partial transition are statistically insignificant.

[^10]:    ${ }^{31}$ The difference in paid work between young men and women is not significant.
    ${ }^{32}$ The difference in sleep and television time for men, as well as the difference in time for unpaid work for women are significant to a confidence level of $90 \%$.

[^11]:    ${ }^{33}$ Some institutional policies stipulate that students working for an educational institution shall receive compensation in the form of an academic scholarship rather than a salary. These students, thus deprived of their status as workers, cannot benefit from rights, such as employment insurance, maternity/parental leave, RRSPs, etc. This method could also make it difficult to recognize the work experience nonetheless acquired.

