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General Social Survey

FEATURES AND STATUS REPORT

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GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY
FEATURES AND STATUS REPORT
MARCH 1995

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

For more information...	i
1.0 GSS Products Available	ii
2.0 Features and Status Report	1
2.1 Introduction	1
2.2 Features	1
2.2.1 Content	1
2.2.2 Collection Methodology	3
2.2.3 Outputs	3
3.0 Status	4
3.1 Cycle 1	4
3.2 Cycle 2	4
3.3 Cycle 3	6
3.4 Cycle 4	6
3.5 Cycle 5	7
3.6 Cycle 6	8
3.7 Cycle 7	9
3.8 Cycle 8	10
3.9 Cycle 9	11
3.10 Cycle 10	12
Contacts	13
 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY	
Appendix 1: GSS Publication "Health and Social Support, 1985"	A1.1
Appendix 2A: GSS Publication "GSS Cycle 2 Language Module, 1986"	A2A
Appendix 2B: GSS Publication "Where does time go?"	A2B.1
Appendix 2C: GSS Publication "Ups and downs on the ladder of success"	A2C.1
Appendix 3A: GSS Publication "Patterns of Criminal Victimization in Canada"	A3A
Appendix 3B: GSS Publication "Accidents in Canada"	A3B
Appendix 4A: GSS Publication "Quality of work in the service sector"	A4A.1
Appendix 4B: GSS Publication "Human resource challenges of education, computer and retirement"	A4B
Appendix 5 : GSS Publication "Family and Friends, 1990"	A5
Appendix 6 : GSS Publication "Health Status of Canadians"	A6
Appendix 7 : Daily Bulletin, April 23, 1993, "Time Use of Canadians, 1992"	A7
Appendix 8 : Daily Bulletin, June 13, 1994, "GSS Cycle 8, Trends in Criminal Victimization, 1988-1993"	A8.1
Appendix 9 : General Social Survey - List of Working Papers	A9

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

The information listed below is available on request at no charge. To be added to the GSS Mailing List or receive any of the information, please mark the appropriate circle and return the form to the address indicated below.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Questionnaire package (Cycles 1 to 7) | <input type="radio"/> |
| Questionnaire package (Cycle 8) | <input type="radio"/> |
| Questionnaire package (Cycle 9) | <input type="radio"/> |
| Questionnaire package (Cycle 10) | <input type="radio"/> |

Preliminary Data Releases

- | | |
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| Cycle 2: Language Module | <input type="radio"/> |
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| Cycle 3: Personal Risk | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cycle 4: Work and Education | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cycle 5: Family and Friends | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cycle 6: Health | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cycle 7: Time Use of Canadians | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cycle 8: Personal Risk | <input type="radio"/> |

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RETURN TO:

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY
STATISTICS CANADA,
7-D8, JEAN TALON BUILDING
TUNNEY'S PASTURE,
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K1A 0T6

1.0 GSS PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

GSS also has a number of products which can be purchased. For more information, please contact one of the managers listed on page 13 of this report.

Public Use Microdata Files (User documentation included)

○	Cycle 1 Health and Social Support	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 2 Time Use, Social Mobility and Language	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 3 Personal Risk	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 4 Work and Education	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 5 Family and Friends	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 6 Health	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 7 Time Use of Canadians	\$ 750.
○	Cycle 8 Personal Risk	\$1,500.

The Canadian Association of Research Librarians (CARL) has formed a consortium of 23 University libraries to purchase the GSS Microdata Files for Cycles 1 to 5 and Cycles 6 to 8. Participating institutions have received the microdata files from CARL.

PUBLICATIONS

Cycle 1	<u>Health and Social Support, 1985</u> GSS Analysis Series 11-612, No. 1, \$30 Canada US \$32 United States \$32 Other Countries
Cycle 2	<u>Where does time go?</u> GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 4, \$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries
Cycle 2	<u>Ups and downs on the ladder of Success: Social mobility in Canada</u> GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 5, \$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries
Cycle 3	<u>Patterns of Criminal Victimization in Canada</u> GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 2, \$38 Canada \$46 Other Countries

- Cycle 3 Accidents in Canada
GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 3,
\$40 Canada
US \$48 United States
US \$56 Other Countries
- Cycle 4 Quality of Work in the Service Sector
GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 6,
\$40 Canada
US \$48 United States
US \$56 Other Countries
- Cycle 4 Human resource challenges of education,
computers and retirement
GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 7,
\$40 Canada
US \$48 United States
US \$56 Other Countries
- Cycle 5 Family and Friends.
GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 9
\$40 Canada
US \$48 United States
US \$56 Other Countries
- Cycle 6 Health Status of Canadians
GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No. 8
\$40 Canada
US \$48 United States
US \$56 Other Countries

To order these publications, please contact:

**Marketing Division
Publication Sales
Statistics Canada,
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0T6**

**By phone: 1-800-267-6677
or Facsimile 1-613-951-1584**

2.0 FEATURES AND STATUS REPORT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

For some time Statistics Canada has been aware of gaps in the national statistical information system with respect to data on socio-economic trends. These gaps cannot be filled through existing data sources or vehicles because of the level of detail required or the population to be covered. For example, there are no large scale household surveys in areas such as health, education and criminal victimizations.

In 1985, Statistics Canada initiated the General Social Survey (GSS) which over five years would cover major topics of importance. The GSS has two principal objectives: first, to gather data with a degree of regularity on social trends in order to monitor changes in Canadian society over time, and secondly, to provide information on specific policy issues of current or emerging interest. GSS is a continuing program with a single survey cycle each year.

2.2 FEATURES

This section briefly describes basic features of the GSS which are common across all survey cycles.

2.2.1 Content

To meet the stated objectives, the content of GSS is made up of three components: Classification, Core and Focus.

Classification content consists of variables which provide the means of delineating population groups and for use in the analysis of Core and Focus data. Examples of classification variables are age, sex, education and income.

Core content is intended to obtain information which monitors long-term social trends by measuring temporal changes in living conditions and well-being. Main topic areas for core content include health, time use, work and education, family and social support and personal risk. All Core content areas cannot be treated adequately in each survey cycle. Instead, each cycle covers a specific Core content area, which recurs on a periodic basis, usually every five years. Figure 1 shows the content by cycle until 1995.

Within a survey cycle, data related to both the status of the content areas as well as barriers and bridges to improving status are collected. For example Cycle 1 Core content included disability and health problems (health status measures) and smoking, alcohol use and physical activity (barriers and bridges to improving health status).

Figure 1: GSS content coverage

Cycle	Data Collection	Main Core content	Focus Issue
1	1985	Health	Social Support
2	1986	Time Use, Social Mobility	Language
3	1988	Personal Risk	Victim services
4	1989	Education and Work	No Focus Issue
5	1990	Family and Friends	No Focus Issue
6	1991	Health	Various health topics
7	1992	Time Use	Culture, Sport and Unpaid Work Activities
8	1993	Personal Risk	Alcohol and drug use
9	1994	Education and Work	Transition into retirement
10	1995	Family	Effects of Tobacco Smoke

Focus content is aimed at meeting the second objective of GSS, namely to provide information touching directly on a specific policy, issue or social problem, for example, youth employment. This does not imply that Core content has little relevance to policy questions and social issues. However, in comparison to Focus content, Core content is not principally driven by short term policy issues, but rather provides the means for monitoring and analysis of important aspects of behaviour and living conditions of Canadians over the long term. Focus content, in general, is not expected to be repeated on a periodic basis.

While resources for Classification and Core content are included as part of Statistics Canada's budget, costs associated with Focus content are recovered from sponsors.

2.2.2 COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

Telephone interviewing plays a major role in collection of data by GSS. This collection methodology is attractive because of lower collection, sample design and maintenance costs, as well as considerable flexibility with respect to sample design and size changes. Furthermore, centralized data collection should allow better monitoring and control of costs and data quality. Less than three percent of households in the ten provinces do not have telephones.

Nevertheless, phone interviewing does have some drawbacks: non-coverage of households, while low, is concentrated in population groups with low education attainment or income; response rates tend to be lower than for face-to-face interviews, and there are limitations on the amount and type of data which can be collected. Alternative collection methods may be more appropriate than phone interviewing for particular population groups and for particular types of data. Thus, GSS is not being confined to a single collection methodology.

The sample size of each cycle of the GSS is approximately 10,000 households¹, with the majority of data collected in non-proxy mode from one person per household. This sample is allocated across the ten provinces in order to improve the scope of regional estimates, even at some expense to national estimates. In some cycles sample size has been increased - Cycles 1, 2, 5, 6 and 9.

2.2.3 OUTPUTS

The GSS provides four main types of outputs:

- a) A series of publications which present national and some regional level summary data, primarily in the form of tables and charts, as well as initial analyses and findings. An important goal of this series is to display the range of survey data and to indicate the potential for further data analysis and research by others;
- b) Public use microdata files, together with supporting documentation, which will facilitate the use of GSS data by governments, universities, institutes, business, media and the general public. These files contain individual records, screened to ensure confidentiality, which permit detailed analyses, for example, by occupation, by education or by five-year age groups. Files are available on 9-track tape, tape cartridge and on microcomputer diskettes;
- c) Special request tabulation and analyses, primarily on a cost recovery basis. These are intended for users who do not have suitable computer facilities for manipulating the microdata files, do not wish to purchase the microdata files, or have specific requests not satisfied by published products.

¹ Cycle 6 allowed data to be collected by proxy mode in cases where the person selected was ill or handicapped or in cases where language was a barrier.

- d) Special studies which illuminate aspects of the system used to develop, collect, process and analyse the General Social Survey data.

3.0 Status

This section summarizes progress to date for Cycles 1 to 10.

3.1 CYCLE 1

Initial work on Cycle 1 started in August 1984. Classification content to be used for this and subsequent cycles was identified. Core content on health covered short and long term disability, well-being, height and weight, health problems, smoking, alcohol use, physical activity, sleep and use of health care services. Focus content, concentrating on the elderly, included potential support networks, support received and given and social activities.

Questionnaires, procedures and manuals were produced for a pilot survey in March 1985, which was carried out through Toronto and Vancouver Regional Offices. A small field test to assess French versions of the questionnaires was mounted in May in Montreal. Interviewing for the main Cycle 1 sample took place across the ten provinces in September and October 1985. Persons aged 15 to 64 years old were interviewed by phone, with persons 65 years and older interviewed face-to-face.

Cycle 1 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	October 1985	No Charge
Public use microdata file plus user documentation (9-track tape-all ten provinces)	January 1987	\$750.
"Health and Social Support, 1985" (GSS Analysis Series, 11-612E, No.1)	January 1988	\$30 Canada US \$32 Other Countries

3.2 CYCLE 2

Core content development for Cycle 2 was initiated in August 1985, when the topic of "personal risk" was proposed. This topic covers risk from accidents, crime and the environment, that is, risk to a person from outside (the person) sources. However, in December 1985, a decision was taken to delay the personal risk Core content component.

Core content on Time Use and Social Mobility, intended for a later cycle, was moved forward as a replacement. The new Core content covered the topics of daily activities done on own and with other, inter- and intra- generational mobility, and personal well-being. A consortium of clients sponsored language knowledge and use as the topic for Focus content.

A pilot survey in July and August 1986 was carried out through the Montreal and Winnipeg Regional Offices for the main Cycle 2 sample (10,000 households across 10 provinces) was done, solely by telephone, in November and December 1986. An additional sample approximately 6,000 households, was interviewed by telephone during the same period and using the same questionnaires, except for the exclusion of the section on daily activities. This additional sample was concentrated in areas of New Brunswick, Québec and Ontario where there are significant proportions of both official language groups. Both sample selected only persons who were 15 years of age or older.

Cycle 2 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COSTS
Questionnaire package	December 1986	No charge
Preliminary data: Language module	January 1989	No charge
Preliminary data: Time use module and Social Mobility module	February 1989	No charge
Public Use Microdata file	December 1989	\$750.
"Where does time go?" (GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No.4)	August 1991	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries
"Ups and downs on the ladder of success: Social Mobility in Canada" (GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No.5)	December 1991	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries

3.3 CYCLE 3

Core content for Cycle 3 was on personal risk, with primary emphasis on exposure to accidents and crime. Focus content, sponsored by the Department of Justice, was on services to victims of crime.

A pilot survey was carried out through Halifax and Montreal Regional Offices in June and July 1987. Interviewing by telephone for the main Cycle 3 sample, of approximately 10,000 households, was done in January and February 1988. As in previous cycles, only persons 15 years of age or older were selected.

A small scale reinterview survey was introduced in Cycle 3 in order to obtain some consistency measures, primarily for Classification content variables.

Cycle 3 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	February 1988	No charge
Preliminary data (Tables)	April 1989	No charge
Working Paper #2 Guidelines for Working with Cycle Three Normalized Record Structure Files and Its Multiple Weighting Factors	January 1989	No charge
Public Use Microdata file	May 1990	\$750.
"Patterns of Criminal Victimization in Canada" (GSS Analysis Series, 11-612E, No.2)	April 1990	\$38 Canada US \$46 Other Countries
"Accidents in Canada" (GSS Analysis Series, 11-612E, No.3)	February 1991	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries

3.4 CYCLE 4

Development of Core content for Cycle 4, targeted at work and education. Three main themes underlie this content: work and education in the service economy, new technologies and human resources, and emerging trends in education and work. A small module on knowledge and attitudes to science and technology is also included.

A pilot survey was carried out through Halifax and Montreal Regional Offices in July and August 1988. Interviewing by telephone for the main Cycle 4 sample survey, of approximately 10,000 households, was done in January and February, 1989. In March a reinterview survey, containing a small subset of the questions asked in the main survey, was conducted in two regional offices. The primary aim of this reinterview survey was to obtain consistency measures for selected Core content variables.

Cycle 4 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	January 1989	No charge
Preliminary data(Tables)	January 1990	No charge
Working Paper on the design of the survey	January 1990	No charge
Public Use microdata file	July 1990	\$750.
"Quality of Work in the Service Sector" (GSS Analysis Series 11-612E, No.6)	March 1992	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries
"Human Resource challenges of education, computers and retirement" (GSS Analysis Series 11-612E No.7)	August 1992	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries

3.5 CYCLE 5

Core content for Cycle 5 concentrated on the respondent's family friends and the relationships and interactions with them. The content draws heavily on the 1984 Family History Survey for birth and marriage/cohabitation history questions and on the social support sections of GSS Cycle 1 (1985 Survey). Some comparisons will be possible with both of these earlier surveys.

A pilot survey was carried out in Halifax and Montreal in August 1989 and the main survey was conducted over the January to March 1990 period. The Seniors Secretariat, Health and Welfare Canada and the Ontario Department of Community and Social Services have funded additional sample for the population 65 and over across Canada and for the entire population in Ontario. Total sample size is approximately 14,000.

Cycle 5 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	February 1990	No charge
Preliminary Data (Tables)	January 1991	No charge
Working Paper (Refer to Appendix 9)	March 1990	No charge
Public Use Microdata File	June 1991	\$750.
"Family and Friends" (GSS Analysis August 1994 Series, 11-612E, No. 9)		\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$50 Other

3.6 Cycle 6

Cycle 6 marked the first repeat of the GSS core subject areas. Most of the core content of Cycle 6 repeated that of Cycle 1 (1985). As well, much of the core content was included in the Canada Health Survey (1978/79). The three surveys can be used to measure changes in health status over time.

Focus content was diffuse: flu vaccinations, and emotional health measures sponsored by various divisions of Health and Welfare Canada and a health state classification system sponsored internally by the Analytical Studies Branch of Statistics Canada.

The questions and associated procedures were successfully field tested in August, in Halifax, Montreal and Toronto. Data collection for Cycle 6 began the third week of January 1991 and continued to the second week of December 1991. The sample was evenly distributed over the 12 months to counterbalance seasonal variation. Data collection took place from 5 regional offices: Halifax, Montreal, Sturgeon Falls, Winnipeg and Vancouver. The sample size was approximately 11,500 respondents. This includes an oversample of 1,500 respondents by the Seniors Secretariat of Health and Welfare Canada. All interviewing was done by telephone.

In addition to the survey, two special projects were conducted. A feasibility pilot test of longitudinal data collection procedures was conducted in September 1991 and involved households that had participated in the 1990 GSS Cycle 5 Survey on Family and Friends.

Although the pilot test proved successful, any future longitudinal component will be contingent on funding support.

The second project involved a reinterview study. The principal focus of this study was a series of questions newly developed by researchers at McMaster University and intended to classify individuals along a continuum of health status. Other objectives of the reinterview were: to measure the quality of data obtained from the main survey; to measure the response variance of respondents, i.e., the extent to which respondents "changed" their answers from day to day; and to measure changes in the respondents' health.

Cycle 6 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	March 1991	No charge
Working Paper #4 Overview of 1991 General Social Survey on Health (GSS-6)	July 1991	No charge
Initial Data Release (Canadian Social Trends)	March 1992	No charge
Public Use Microdata File	June 1992	\$750.
"Health Status of Canadians" (GSS Analysis Series, 11-612E, No. 8)	March 1994	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other Countries

3.7 CYCLE 7

Core content for Cycle 7 was again time use, first covered in the 1986 GSS. The diary approach used in Cycle 2 was repeated. Coding of activities was expanded. A particular objective of the cycle is the measurement of unpaid work including domestic work, childcare, volunteer work, etc. Also included were questions to measure participation in sport and cultural activities. These questions were sponsored by Sports Canada, and various government departments and cultural organizations.

A pilot test was carried out in Halifax and Montreal in July 1991.

The sample size for the survey was approximately 10,000 respondents. Of these, approximately 9,000 respondents answered the questions in the time use diary. Interviewing was conducted throughout 1992 with the interviews spread equally over the 12 months.

Cycle 7 Output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	February 1992	No charge
Working Papers No 5 to 11 (see Appendix 9)		
Initial data release	April 1993	No charge
Public Use Microdata File	August 1993	\$750.

3.8 CYCLE 8

The 1993 GSS again covered the topic of personal risk including both accidents and criminal victimization. Focus content for Cycle 8 was alcohol and drug use which was sponsored by the Health Promotion Directorate of Health and Welfare Canada. Cycle 8 marked the first time that GSS collected data using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI). With CATI, the survey questions appear on a computer monitor. The interviewer asks the respondent the questions, then enters the responses directly into the computer. Built in edits are programmed into CATI therefore resulting in better quality of data.

The survey was developed during the first half of 1992 and field tested during the summer of 1992 in Halifax and Montreal. Data collection began in February 1993 and continued throughout the calendar year to December, 1993 in four regional offices: Halifax, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver. Responses were obtained from 10,385 respondents for a total response rate of 82%. All interviewing was done by telephone.

Cycle 8 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	February 1993	No charge
Working Paper # 7 Overview of the 1993 General Social Survey on Personal Risk (GSS-8)	September 1993	No charge
Initial Data Release Trends in Criminal Victimization: 1988-1993 Juristat vol. 14, No. 13	June 1994	\$5
Public Use Microdata File	August 1994	\$1,500
Tables on Victimization Product No. 12F0042XPE	December 1994	\$40 Canada US \$48 United States US \$56 Other

3.9 CYCLE 9

Core content for Cycle 9 is again education, work and retirement, first covered in the 1989 GSS. Focus content for Cycle 9 covers transition into retirement and post-retirement activities. Also included are questions to measure social mobility, a topic covered in Cycle 2. The base sample size for Cycle 9 is 10,000, with a supplementary sample of 1,500 people aged 55 to 74 years old selected from the Labour Force Survey rotate-outs. As in Cycle 8, a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system is being used to collect the information.

The pilot test for Cycle 9 was conducted during the autumn of 1993 in Statistics Canada's regional offices of Halifax and Montreal. Data collection for the survey itself began in January 1994. Data were collected monthly, over the period January 1994 to December 1994 inclusive, taking place from 4 regional offices - Halifax, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver. Initial data release is scheduled for spring of 1995 and the public use microdata file should be available in the summer of 1995.

Cycle 9 output

OUTPUT	DATE RELEASED	COST
Questionnaire package	January 1995	No charge

3.10 Cycle 10

Cycle 10 focuses on Canadian families. This theme, in conjunction with the theme relating to social support and social networks was also covered under cycle 5. The increased interest in these two themes and their complexities has made their processing difficult within one survey. As a result, each theme is now covered under a separate survey (help and social support will form the focus content for Cycle 11).

More specifically, Cycle 10 collects data on family and marital history (marriage and common law relationships), joint custody arrangements, child leaving, contraception history, values and attitudes toward work for pay and work in the home and work interruptions. In addition to the core content, Cycle 10 includes two focus themes : the effects of environmental tobacco smoke, and wartime service, which targets persons aged 55 and over.

The survey is conducted using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing. The sample size for the survey is 10,000 households. The pilot test was carried out in the Montreal and Winnipeg regional offices in August 1994. Data collection began in January 1995 in the Halifax, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver Regional Offices and will continue throughout 1995. Initial data is scheduled to be released in the spring of 1996, while the microdata file will be available in the summer of 1996.

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY CONTACTS**Cycles 1, 3, 6 and 8:**

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FAX NO.: (613) 951-0387

**APPENDIX 1: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT
"HEALTH AND SOCIAL SUPPORT, 1985"**

**1.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
REPORT**

The first General Social Survey was carried out in September and October 1985, collecting information on health and related factors from 11,200 persons age 15 and older. The sample covered the non-institutionalized population of Canada; those aged 65 and older were over-sampled to increase the reliability of findings for this group. The data were gathered with telephone and face-to-face interviewing, with a response rate of approximately 85 percent.

The 1985 General Social Survey obtained information on the health status of persons 15 years of age and older, covering activity limitation, well-being and chronic health problems. Barriers and bridges to improving this status were also examined, including smoking, alcohol use and physical activity. In many cases, comparisons with the 1978 Canada Health Survey are possible. The first cycle of the General Social Survey also included a specific focus on older Canadians, covering support given and received, as well as social participation.

**Barriers and bridges to improved health
(chapter 2):**

- More than half of the Canadian population either smoke regularly or are exposed to second-hand smoke in their own homes. Data from the General Social Survey show that while only three Canadians in ten smoke daily, there are over three million additional non-smoking adults who live with someone who smokes.
- Regular cigarette smoking continues to decline, but there was confirmation of two disturbing trends - large numbers of young women smoking regularly and additional evidence suggesting that regular cigarette smokers are smoking more.
- Sixty-three percent of the adult Canadian population can be classified as current drinkers. While this figure is approximately the same as the 65% reported in the 1978-79 Canada Health Survey, those who do drink are consuming less alcohol per week.
- Nearly three in ten adult Canadians are active enough to anticipate health benefits which may include additional years of life.

- Active Canadians describe themselves as happier than their sedentary counterparts. They also tend to adopt other good lifestyle practices (such as avoidance of both smoking and heavy drinking).
- Nine out of ten Canadians contacted at least one type of health professional (physician, nurse or dentist) during the 12 months prior to the General Social Survey. Physician consultation is the most frequent type of contact and was reported by eight out of ten persons.
- Lower income Canadians tend to consult a physician on a more frequent basis than those with higher incomes.

Current health status (chapter 3):

- Over 80% of Canadians rate their health as good or excellent. An even higher proportion (88%) express satisfaction with their health.
- Canadians in general report high levels of happiness, with less than one in twenty of the adult population reporting some level of unhappiness. Those groups most likely to report unhappiness are the elderly, widowed, separated/divorced and the unemployed.
- Nearly 40% of the Canadian population 20 years of age and older can be classified as having excessive weight. This compares with over 50% found in the 1978-79 Canada Health Survey.
- Fewer than one in ten Canadians report spending one or more illness-related days in bed in the two weeks prior to the General Social survey. Young people, 15-24 years of age, are the most likely to report bed-days, followed by those 75 years of age and older, but it is the elderly who report the greatest number of bed-days.
- More than one in five Canadians report having arthritis or rheumatism, which are the most prevalent chronic conditions. Women are one-half again as likely to report this condition as are men.
- Canadians who are obese, underweight, or who smoke are more likely to report a range of health problems than are those who are within recommended weight limits and are non-smokers.

- Those who combine smoking with heavy drinking are more likely to report health problems than those engaging in either of these lifestyle practices alone.

Support networks and social participation of the elderly (chapter 4):

- Most people 55 years of age and older living outside institutions feel they are able to carry out routine daily activities without assistance, such as light housework, grocery shopping, meal preparation, managing money and personal care. However, three in ten say that they require help or are unable to do yard work, while one in five report having trouble with or being unable to do heavy housework.
- Two out of three persons 65 years of age and older provide support to organizations or persons outside their own household, with one in three providing more than one kind of support. Over half the persons in this age group provide financial support to organizations or persons outside the household, while one in six babysit or provide transportation for others.
- Seniors who have many social activities report being happier and healthier than those with few activities, even when compared to those of similar health status.

"Health and Social Support, 1985"

(Catalogue 11-612E, no. 1)

(Price: Canada \$30; elsewhere \$32)

Available from

Statistics Canada Publication Sales and Service

(613) 951-7276

APPENDIX 2A: RELEASE - DAILY BULLETIN - January 4, 1989
"GSS - Cycle 2 - LANGUAGE MODULE, 1986"

**General Social Survey - Language
Module
1986**

Among Canadians 15 years and older, 67% have English as their main language and 24% have French. Two per cent of the population is equally at ease in English and French and the same percentage reported that they are equally at ease in English and a non-official language. About 5% of the population indicated that they have a main language other than English or French.

French is less widespread in Quebec than English in the rest of the country. In fact, 84% of the Quebec population 15 years and older has French as their main language (10% English), while 88% of other Canadians have English as their main language (3% French). In Quebec, as in the rest of the country, about 2% of the population is equally at ease in English and French.

Other highlights show:

- Nearly nine out of 10 Canadians can speak English. About half of adults with French mother tongue indicated at least a good ability to speak English.
- About 35% of Canadians can speak French and 12% of adults with English mother tongue reported at least a good ability to speak French.
- In Quebec, 95% of the population has at least a good ability to speak French (49% English). Four of 10 adults with French mother tongue can speak English; 60% of those with English mother tongue can speak French.
- In the nine other provinces, 99% of the population can speak English (14% French). Among adults with French mother tongue, nine out of 10 speak English, while 10% of those with English mother tongue report having at least a good ability to speak French.
- Two out of 10 Canadians have at least a good ability to speak a non-official language. This proportion rises to about 90% for adults with a mother tongue other than English or French.

APPENDIX 2B: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "WHERE DOES TIME GO?"

1.1 HIGHLIGHTS

The second General Social Survey, carried out in November and December of 1986, collected information on time use, social mobility and language knowledge and use. The sample covered the non-institutionalized population, 15 years of age and older, throughout the 10 provinces of Canada. The data were gathered by telephone with an overall response rate of approximately 79%.

The 1986 General Social Survey collected information on time use (what each respondent did, for how long, with whom and where, for a 24 hour period running from 4:00 a.m. one day to 4:00 a.m. the next), inter-generational and intra-generational mobility, personal well-being, and language knowledge and use. Some of the language variables refer to past periods in the respondent's lifetime such as the languages spoken at home in childhood and adolescence while many of the variables deal with the use of languages at the time of the survey.

This document covers only the time use portion of the survey. The social mobility and language information are presented in separate reports.

Time use and activities (chapter 2)

- Canadians aged 15 years and over spend 7.5 hours per day (averaged over a 7 day week) on productive activity, which includes paid work, education and unpaid work (i.e. domestic chores, primary child care and shopping) and 11.0 hours sleeping, eating and on other personal care activities. Free time averages 5.5 hours per day.
- Men and women allocate the same amount of time to productive activity, however the way they spend that time differs. The productive time for males is heavily concentrated on paid work, with an average of 4.7 hours per day, compared to 2.5 hours for females. The major component of productive activity for females, however, is unpaid work, with an average of 4.1 hours per day, compared to 1.9 hours for males.
- Overall, paid work amounts to less than one-half of total productive activity of all Canadians.
- On an average day 13 percent of Canadians 15 and over engage in educational activities such as attending classes, lectures, study and related activities.
- Time spent by students on their main activity education (6.2 hours per day) is comparable to the 6.6 hours per day allocated by employed workers to their main activity, paid work.

- On average, Canadians spend 1.8 hours per day on domestic activities. Women spend 2.5 hours per day, compared to 1.0 hours for men.
- On an average day, 83% of employed women do some housework. The average time spent by these women doing housework is 2.3 hours. In comparison, 51% of employed men do some housework on an average day, their average being 1.7 hours.
- Shopping and the use of services such as adult medical and dental care, increases with age. On a given day, 28% of people aged 15 to 24 shop or use services. Those that do, average 2 hours. However, 41% of people 65 and over shop or use services on a given day. Those that do, average 2.7 hours on such activities.
- Nearly 90% of parents spend time with their children each day. Those that do, spend an average of 5.2 hours interacting with their children. Over half of all parents with children less than 19 years of age and living at home, spend an average of 2 hours per day on primary child care.
- Retired persons sleep an average of 8.7 hours per day, 0.9 hours per day more than the employed.
- Having children limits the amount of free time available. Women with partner and a child(ren) less than 25 years of age have the least amount of free time, just 4.4 hours per day compared to an average of 5.8 hours per day for women with a partner and no children. Their male counterparts have 4.7 and 6.3 hours respectively.
- Television viewing accounts for more than 40% of free-time activity. On average, men watch 2.6 hours per day compared to 2.1 hours for women.
- Free time rises from an average of 4.7 hours on weekdays to 7.0 hours on Saturday and peaks at 7.5 hours on Sunday. Men have 0.3 hours more free time on weekdays than women, 0.7 more on Saturday and nearly one hour more free time on Sunday.

Location and social contacts (chapter 3)

- On an average day, Canadians aged 15 years and over spend 15.7 hours at home. Time spent at home increases continually with age, from an average of 14.1 hours for persons 15 to 24 years of age, to 19.3 hours per day for persons 65 years and over.

APPENDIX 2B: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "WHERE DOES TIME GO?"

- Whether Canadians drive or use public transit, they spend about the same amount of time on transportation. The 69% of the population who travel by car average 1.3 hours per day, about the same time as the 11% of the population who use public transportation.
- Students spend more than twice as much time with friends as the average Canadian 15 years of age and over, 5.2 hours a day compared to 2.4 hours.
- Living arrangements notably affect social contacts. Men living with a partner and child(ren) have the most time with people, an average of 11.8 hours a day, while women living alone spend the most time alone, an average of 8.4 hours a day.
- Female students living at home have a particularly heavy weekday workload averaging 10.1 hours of productive time per day compared to their male counterparts who average 8.9 hours per day.
- Retired males and females living alone have the most free time (9.3 and 8.4 hours respectively). Retirees living with a partner have about an hour less free time each day.
- Virtually everyone spends some time alone each day. Excluding time spent on selected personal care activities, retired males living alone spend the most time alone, an average of 10.6 hours per day. Their female counterparts average 9.8 hours per day alone.

Role groups and time use (chapter 4)

- Employed parents spend the most time on productive activities, on average more than 9 hours per day, leaving only about 4 hours for free time. During the week, employed parents do on average, more than 10.5 hours of productive work per day and have approximately 3 hours of free time while on weekends time is more evenly divided between productive work and free time.

APPENDIX 2C: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "UPS AND DOWNS ON THE LADDER OF SUCCESS"

HIGHLIGHTS

The second General Social Survey, carried out in November and December of 1986, collected information on time use, social mobility and language knowledge and use. The sample covered the non-institutionalized population, 15 years of age and older, throughout the 10 provinces of Canada. The data were gathered by telephone with an overall response rate of approximately 79%.

The 1986 General Social Survey collected information on time use (what each respondent did, for how long, with whom and where, for a 24 hour period running from 4:00 a.m. one day to 4:00 a.m. the next), inter-generational and intra-generational mobility, personal well-being, and language knowledge and use. Some of the language variables refer to past periods in the respondent's lifetime, such as, the languages spoken at home in childhood and adolescence, while many of the variables deal with the use of languages at the time of the survey.

This document covers only the social mobility portion of the survey. The time use and language information are presented in separate reports.

OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY

- Most Canadians experience occupational mobility in comparison to the occupations of their fathers (inter-generational mobility). Only 12% of women and 26% of men experienced no mobility at all.
- Occupational inheritance is most common among men whose fathers are in the professional classes, the upper white-collar sector, and in farming. Women experience little occupational inheritance between themselves and their fathers.
- Canadians are more likely to experience upward rather than downward inter-generational mobility. Forty-eight percent of women and 39% of men moved upward in the occupational hierarchy. Most of this occupational mobility was short range in nature.
- Women also experienced higher rates of downward mobility than men, in comparison to their fathers' occupations (40% compared with 36%).
- Ethnicity, as indicated by first language spoken, had opposite effects on the inter-generational mobility patterns of men and women. Men, whose first language was neither English nor French (allophones),

had the highest rates of upward occupational mobility and the lowest rates downward. Allophone women had the lowest rates upward and the highest rates downward.

- Nativity, as indicated by whether the respondent and both parents were born in Canada, had opposite effects on the inter-generational mobility patterns of men and women. Among men, the highest levels of upward occupational mobility and the lowest rates downward were among those who were not Canadian-born or whose parents were not Canadian-born. Among women, the lowest rates up and the highest rates down were found among those not Canadian-born.
- Most Canadians experienced no occupational mobility in their own working life (intra-generational mobility). Women were more likely to stay at one occupational level than men (56% compared with 49%, respectively).
- Men experienced more upward intra-generational mobility than women (32% compared with 24%, respectively), and were much more likely to experience long range upward mobility.
- Patterns of intra-generational mobility vary with age, but in opposite ways for men and women. Older men experienced more upward mobility, while older women experienced more downward mobility.

SOCIAL MOBILITY AND EDUCATION

- There has been substantial upgrading of educational levels between generations: 48% of parents, but only 14% of their children have not gone past Grade 8. Only 16% of parents have had at least some postsecondary education compared with 43% of their children. Canadians, who are 65 or older, are four times more likely to have no more than a Grade 10 education than people under age 40.
- About half of the educational mobility (i.e. excluding cases where the parents' and children's education level is the same) is "structural", due to overall upgrading, and half is "circulation" mobility.
- The chances of attaining a postsecondary education (at least some college or university) are twice as great for people whose parents had postsecondary education as for people whose parents did not go beyond Grade 10.
- In comparison to older Canadians, younger Canadians

APPENDIX 2C: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "UPS AND DOWNS ON THE LADDER OF SUCCESS"

have attained a higher level of education and are more likely to have exceeded their parents' level of education.

- Generally, the gender of the respondents or their parents accounts for little difference in educational mobility. One exception is that the son of a parent with Grade 8 or less has more of a chance of attaining a university degree than does a daughter. A second exception is, that in each age category, women are more likely to inherit the educational status of their mother.
- The chance of a woman being a full-time homemaker is higher if a woman's mother also was a full-time homemaker than when her mother had a job in the paid labour force.

STATUS ATTAINMENT

- Canadian-born women and men in the labour force come from similar socio-economic backgrounds, whereas in the early 1970s, women in the labour force were from higher socio-economic backgrounds than were men.
- Foreign-born women and men in the labour force come from higher socio-economic backgrounds than do Canadian-born women and men in the labour force.
- Women in the labour force, both Canadian- and foreign-born, have a higher average number of years of schooling than do men.
- Women's initial jobs in the labour market average slightly higher socio-economic status than do the first jobs of men.
- Men experience more upward mobility than do women, despite the fact that men average fewer years of schooling than women.

- Father's education and occupation has a stronger effect on the education levels and first jobs of men than of women.

- There is a stronger link between first job and current job of women than of men.

- Young, foreign-born women experience the least amount of upward mobility, and their occupational destinies are strongly influenced by their father's occupation and education.

- The higher the level of education and the greater the socio-economic status of a person's father, the more years of schooling people are likely to complete.

- A person's first job in the labour market is principally influenced by their level of education, and parental education and occupation have little direct effect on labour market entry.

- People's current jobs are influenced most by their starting positions in the labour force, and not by their level of schooling.

- Anglophone men experience more upward, intra-generational mobility than do francophone men, and anglophone women experience more upward, intra-generational mobility than do francophone women.

- The mobility experiences of francophones are more influenced by family origin and subsequent educational and first job attainments than is the case for anglophones. This suggests a slightly more open opportunity structure for anglophones.

APPENDIX 3A: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "PATTERNS OF CRIMINAL VICTIMIZATION IN CANADA"

1.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT

The third General Social Survey, carried out in January and February 1988, collected information on two types of personal risk - the risk of accident and criminal victimization - from 9,870 persons 15 years and older. The sample covered the non-institutionalized population throughout the 10 provinces of Canada. The data were gathered by telephone with a response rate of approximately 82%.

The 1988 General Social Survey collected the following types of information: attitudes to various components of the justice system; awareness of victim services; perception of risk with regard to accidents and crime incidents; and information on the kind and number of times the respondent had been involved in an accident or a crime incident during 1987. Each time an accident or criminal victimization was reported, a report was completed collecting details about the incident. In total, 2,404 Accident Incident Reports and 3,808 Crime Incident Reports were completed.

The current presentation covers only the criminal victimization data; the accident data are covered in a separate report.

The risk of victimization (chapter 2).

- An estimated 4.8 million Canadians 15 years and over were victimized by 5.4 million criminal incidents in 1987. Approximately one in three of these incidents were of a violent nature and a further 40% involved crimes against households.
- Among Canadians, the risk of personal victimization is highest for those who are male, young, single, residents of urban areas, and those who are students or unemployed. Greater risks are also faced by those Canadians who frequently engage in evening activities outside the home and among those who regularly use alcohol.
- Rates of household crime are generally greater for households with high incomes, for residences that are rented rather than owned, and for those located in urban areas.
- Risk of both personal and household crime increase from the eastern to the western regions of Canada.

Public reactions to crime and the criminal justice system (chapter 3).

- One in four Canadians indicated that they feel unsafe walking alone in their own neighbourhoods at night. The fear of crime is most frequently expressed by women, the elderly, urban residents, those who are divorced or separated or widowed and those who were victims of robbery or break and enter during the survey year.
- With respect to a number of dimensions of police service, at least one out of two Canadians perceive local police to be doing a good job. Overall, Canadians' views of the courts appear to be less favourable than their views of the police.
- Elderly Canadians and those who have lower levels of education are least likely to be familiar with services and programs intended to assist victims of crime.
- In response to crime, Canadians are most likely to state that they changed their daily activity patterns or installed new locks or burglar alarms and least likely to say that they changed their telephone numbers or took self-defence courses. Defensive behaviour of all types is more common among victims of crime.

The victimization experience (chapter 4).

- Except in the case of robbery, the majority of victimization incidents occurred in or around victims' residences. Almost two out of every three violent victimizations involved offenders with whom victims had some degree of familiarity.
- In total, the economic costs of criminal incidents exceeded one billion dollars in 1987.
- A small number of incidents caused victims to experience difficulties in carrying out their daily activities. Victims did not typically seek medical assistance in the aftermath of incidents involving violence.
- Overall, 40% of the victimization incidents revealed by the GSS came to the attention of the police. When the police did gain knowledge of crime incidents, they were most likely to do so as a result of action taken by the victim.
- In the majority of incidents, victims did not attempt to gain compensation from the courts or from insurance companies.
- In only about one in twenty incidents did victims contact a victim support agency for advice or assistance.

APPENDIX 3B: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "ACCIDENTS IN CANADA"

1.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT

The third General Social Survey, carried out in January and February 1988, collected information on two types of personal risk - the risk of accident and criminal victimization - from 9,870 people age 15 and over. The sample covered the non-institutionalized population throughout the 10 provinces. The data were gathered by telephone with a response rate of approximately 82%.

The 1988 General Social Survey collected the following types of information: attitudes to various components of the justice system; awareness of victim services; perception of risk with regard to accidents and crime incidents; and information on the kind and number of times the respondent had been involved in an accident or a crime incident during 1987. Each time an accident or criminal victimization was reported, a report was completed collecting details about the incident. In total, 2,404 Accident Incident Reports and 3,808 Crime Incident Reports were completed.

The current presentation covers only the accident data; crime victimization data are covered in a separate report.¹

Social and Environmental Factors (Chapter 2):

- An estimated one in five Canadians (3.8 million people) reported having had at least one accident in 1987. In total, these people reported 5.1 million separate incidents.
- Motor vehicle/traffic accidents accounted for one in three incidents reported. Those which occurred while participating in a sports or leisure activity were the next most frequently reported accidents (23%), followed by work-related accidents (21%). Just over one in ten accidents occurred in or around the home (13%).
- People who drank alcohol on a regular basis were more likely to have experienced one or more accidents in the past three years, than those who did not.
- Accident rates tended to be higher in the western provinces.

Consequences of Accidents (Chapter 3):

- Accidents resulted in one or more of the following consequences: personal injuries (79%), hospital care (45%), activity-loss days (79%), or financial loss (39%).
- Almost one out of two accidents resulted in hospital care (45%). In the majority of cases, however, this care was obtained on an out-patient basis, such as in a hospital emergency department. Fewer than one in ten resulted in an overnight stay in hospital (8%).

- In 1987, approximately 51 million activity-loss days, nine million bed-disability days and two million hospital days were attributable to accidents.
- Of all accidents, 36% resulted in the victims' spending one or more days in bed. Accidents in and around the home were somewhat more likely than other types to result in bed-days.
- In 1987, two out of three motor vehicle/traffic incidents resulted in financial loss (66%). Canadians paid approximately 1.1 billion dollars in personal out-of-pocket expenses for accidents. About one out of five sports-related accidents and home accidents resulted in financial loss (19% and 23%, respectively).

Prevention of Accidents (Chapter 4):

- Of the total population, one out of two accidents (52%) was viewed as being the result of carelessness or unsafe activity. In the remaining incidents, respondents stated that the accident was something that could not have been predicted or avoided.
- Personal carelessness was cited by 26% of respondents reporting work-related accidents. In 8% of work-related accidents, the victim stated that unsafe working conditions were responsible for the event.

Overview of Accident Types (Chapter 5):

- In 1987, Canadians reported 1.7 million motor vehicle/traffic accidents. These accidents represented 33% of all incidents.
- Of all motor vehicle accidents, 45% occurred to people under age 25. Thirty-one percent of all motor vehicle accidents involved men age 15-24.
- Almost two out of three (65%) work-related accidents resulted in hospital care.
- About 60% of all work-related accidents happened to people age 25-44.
- Work-related incidents were responsible for 39% of all spine and back injuries.
- Approximately 17 million days of activity-loss, 2.5 million days of bed-disability and, .4 million in-patient hospital days resulted from work accidents.
- Of all sports accidents, 65% occurred to men. Of these incidents, 38% were reported by men age 15-24.
- Falls comprised about 43% of all home accidents. With increasing age, falls constituted an increasing proportion of all incidents.

APPENDIX 4A: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "QUALITY OF WORK IN THE SERVICE SECTOR"

1.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT

The fourth General Social Survey (GSS), completed by Statistics Canada in the first few months of 1989, was developed around the general topic *Work and Education: Toward the Year 2000*. A total of 9,338 individuals were surveyed, representing the non-institutionalized population (aged 15 and over) of the 10 provinces. The response rate for this telephone survey was 80%.

Respondents in the 1989 GSS were questioned about a range of topics, including: education and work histories; current employment and educational activity; job satisfaction and other more material rewards from employment; education, work and retirement plans; experiences with new workplace technologies; and interest in science and technology. These questions addressed three general themes: *patterns and trends in work and education; new technologies and human resources; and work in the service economy*. This report focuses on the third theme, the quality of employment in Canada's service-based economy.

A profile of the employed labour force (Chapter 2)

- In 1989, 12.5 million Canadians aged 15 to 64 reported having a paid job. Seventy-one percent were employed in the service industries. About one-third of these service workers were working in the *lower-tier* services (retail trade and other consumer services). The rest were employed in *upper-tier* service industries (distributive services, business services, education, health and welfare, and public administration).
- Women and youth aged 15 to 24 were over-represented in the service sector, particularly in the lower-tier service industries. Lower-tier service sector workers were more likely to be employed in small, non-unionized work organizations.

Non-standard forms of work (Chapter 3)

- Part-time work was the most common form of non-standard employment, accounting for 15% (1.9 million) of all employed aged 15 to 64 in 1989. About half as many (7%; 878,000) reported seasonal jobs in which they normally worked nine or fewer months of the year. Roughly the same proportion were self-employed without any employees (858,000). Somewhat fewer (799,000; 8% of paid employees) were in temporary jobs (with a specific end date), while 5% (635,000) were holding more than one job.

- There was considerable overlap across the three non-standard employment situations. For example, 40% of temporary workers were in part-time jobs, while almost 15% of part-time workers were in part-year positions.
- Own-account self-employment and multiple jobs do not necessarily imply a precarious employment situation. However, when part-time, part-year and temporary work were combined (all of which clearly suggest employment insecurity), 2.8 million (22%) employed 15- to 64-year-old Canadians were observed in non-standard jobs. Using this more restricted definition, young workers and women were found to be considerably over-represented in non-standard jobs.
- The lower-tier service industries (retail trade and other consumer services) exhibited the highest rates of non-standard employment, with over one-third of people working in these sectors in non-standard jobs. However, the upper-tier education, health and welfare industries also had almost 30% of their employees in non-standard jobs.
- While many non-standard jobs were a product of the expanding service economy, one-quarter of Canadians employed in the traditional blue-collar construction sector were also in non-standard jobs, particularly part-year and temporary jobs. In addition, part-year work was fairly common in the natural resource-based industries, while almost half of those employed in agriculture were self-employed (without employees). Thus, some types of non-standard work have long been part of Canada's staple-based economy.

Extrinsic work rewards (Chapter 4)

- The average 1988 personal income of the currently employed (who were in the same job with the same employer) 15- to 64-year-old Canadians was \$27,199. Part-time workers, who constituted the bulk of those in non-standard jobs, reported personal 1988 incomes about one-third the size of those reported by full-time workers. In turn, the female/male income ratio of .61 reflected the over-representation of women in lower-paying, often part-time jobs, in clerical, sales and service occupations.
- Incomes in lower-tier service industries were much lower than in goods-producing and upper-tier service industries. The ratio of clerical, sales and service

APPENDIX 4A: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "QUALITY OF WORK IN THE SERVICE SECTOR"

incomes to managerial and professional incomes was also lower in retail trade and other consumer services. While seniority has a strong positive effect on personal income, workers in the lower-tier services must remain longer with an employer before seniority translates into higher incomes.

- Almost two-thirds of employed 15- to 64-year-old Canadians reported having medical insurance, just over half had a dental plan and an employer-paid pension plan, while four out of ten stated that their employer provides paid maternity leave.
- Fringe benefits were less common in the lower-tier services, where work organizations were smaller and unions were less established, as well as in agriculture and construction. Within each industry, workers in non-standard jobs were less likely to receive these fringe benefits.
- About one-third of employed 15- to 64-year-old Canadians had received a promotion in the past five years. Nevertheless, over half evaluated their career development and promotion opportunities positively. The lower-tier services appeared to offer somewhat fewer promotion opportunities, but it was very clear that non-standard workers received fewer promotions.

Intrinsic work rewards (Chapter 5)

- Job satisfaction remained high among Canadian workers in 1989. While only one in ten stated that they were dissatisfied with their job, a somewhat larger minority evaluated their pay negatively. But over half of employed Canadians strongly agreed that they had a lot of freedom in how they did their job, and almost half strongly agreed that their job required a high level of skill.
- Alternatively, almost one-third strongly agreed that their job involved repetitious work. More than four out of ten stated that their job was not at all related to their education. And almost one-quarter considered themselves to be overqualified for their job, including large numbers of those with postsecondary educational credentials.
- Workers in non-standard jobs reported less job autonomy, more repetitious work and lower skill requirements. Workers in the lower-tier services, especially those in non-standard jobs, typically reported lower skill requirements and a greater mismatch between their education and job. They were also more likely to say they were overqualified for their job, and were less likely to agree that their pay was good. Since women and youth were over-represented in non-standard jobs in the lower-tier services, they also tend to report fewer intrinsic work rewards.

APPENDIX 4B: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "HUMAN RESOURCE CHALLENGES OF EDUCATION, COMPUTERS AND RETIREMENT"

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT

Education and human resources (Chapter 2)

- Before 1950, only 4% of those entering studies for their highest degree or diploma reported their main activity in the previous year had been working at a job or business; by the 1980s, this increased to 28%.
- In 1989, one in four Canadians aged 15 and over planned to begin an educational program leading toward a degree, diploma or certificate in the next five years.

Developing human resources: the links between education and employment (Chapter 3)

- In 1989, 3.2 million, or 26% of the employed, planned to begin an educational program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate in the next five years.
- 1.7 million, or 14% of those employed, were enrolled in an educational program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate.
- About half of the employed who were enrolled in an educational program chose their field of study either to improve their present career or to change careers, while 20% made the choice because of an interest in the subject.
- Substantial numbers of workers were in jobs requiring less than their level of education. For example, 21% of individuals with postsecondary diplomas were in jobs requiring a high school diploma.
- 36% of the employed were in jobs closely related to their education, while 43% reported no relationship in this regard.

Computers (Chapter 4)

- In 1989, 6.4 million Canadians, about one-third of those aged 15 and over, had taken a course on computer use.
- 9.6 million Canadians, or 47% of the adult population aged 15 and over, were able to use a computer.
- Ability to use a computer was highest among residents of Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario, and among individuals under age 25.
- Playing computer games was the most common use of a computer during the 12 months prior to the 1989 GSS,

reported by 73% of users, followed by data entry and word processing (63%), record-keeping (48%), data analysis (32%) and programming (26%).

Computers in the workplace (Chapter 5)

- More than one-third of those employed at the time of the 1989 GSS (4.2 million individuals) reported using computers, such as mainframes, personal computers, or word processors in their job.
- 29% of the employed reported that their work had been greatly affected by the introduction of computers or automated technology in the last five years, whereas 41% encountered no effects at all.
- Two-thirds of workers whose jobs had been greatly or somewhat affected by technological change during the 1984-1989 period, reported increased skills as a result.

Retirement (Chapter 6)

- In 1989, only one in three employed Canadians supported the idea of mandatory retirement, with 60% of these individuals believing that the age should be less than 65.
- Among the employed, 43% intended to retire before age 65, whereas 34% had no planned retirement age and 14% planned to retire at age 65.
- Only 28% of the formerly employed retired because they had reached mandatory retirement age. Health reasons were an equally important cause of retirement cited by 27%.
- 43% of retirees enjoyed life more after retiring than before and 17% enjoyed retired life less.

APPENDIX 5: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "FAMILY AND FRIENDS"

1.1 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT

The fifth General Social Survey (GSS), completed by Statistics Canada in the first months of 1990, was developed around the general topic Family and friends. A total of 13,495 individuals were surveyed, representing the non-institutionalized population (aged 15 and over) of the ten provinces. The response rate for this telephone survey was 76% of eligible households.

Respondents in the 1990 GSS were questioned about a range of topics, including: aspects of the respondent's relationships with parents and grandparents, brothers, sisters and friends; relationships with their children, their children's birth history, type of child care provided and contact with children living outside the household; fertility intentions; household help shared by persons living together, and household help given and received by persons not living in the household; physical and emotional support; marriage and common-law history; satisfaction measures; and background socio-economic questions for classification purposes.

HIGHLIGHTS

Marriage and Common-law Unions

- Between 1984 and 1990, the proportion of Canadians who reported that they were currently married declined from 63% to 58%. However, 9% of Canadians were living common law in 1990, up from 6% in 1984, so that overall, there was a small drop in the proportion living in a marital union (69% in 1984 and 67% in 1990).
- Twenty-eight percent of Canadians in 1990 reported that they had lived in a common-law union at some time in their lives. This was up significantly from 16% in 1984. The greatest increases were among those aged 40-49, more than doubling from 10% in 1984 to 24% in 1990 and among those aged 30-39 almost doubling from 21% to 40%.
- Among currently-married Canadians in 1990, 19% had lived common law with their current spouse before they were legally married. More than a third of those aged 18-29 (37%) had done so, with 28% of those aged 30-39 reporting the same.

- In 1990, among persons aged 40-49, 27% of first marriages had ended in separation or divorce, up from 19% in 1984. Of those in that age group whose first marriage had ended in divorce, separation or widowhood, one-third were remarried and one-fifth were living common law at the time of the survey. As well, nearly half remained without a partner.
- Most Canadian men (71%) who had never been married expected to marry at some time in their lives. Never-married women were slightly less confident in their expectations, with 67% expecting to marry. The young were the most optimistic - 80% of those aged 18-29 expected to marry some day. Among this age group, only 10% did not expect to marry and another 10% did not know.

Child Bearing and Birth Intentions

- The average age at the birth of first child has risen since 1984 for both men and women. It rose from 25.8 years in 1984 to 26.6 years in 1990 among men and from 23.1 years to 23.5 years among women.
- Among Canadians aged 15-44 with one child, 26% said that they or their partner were unable to have more children (the majority by choice), compared with 51% of people with two children and 60% with three or more children.
- Of young Canadians aged 15-24 who have not had children, almost 90% indicated they intend to have children and the majority intend to have at least two. Only 5% of this age group indicated that they did not intend to have children, while 6% were unsure of their intentions.

Sharing Housework

- Although women continue to do the majority of housework overall, young couples tend to share it more equally. For example, among women less than 35 years of age 13% reported that their partners shared meal preparation. Among women aged 35 and over 5% reported that their partners shared meal preparation. Comparable figures for meal clean-up were 16% and 9%, and 15% versus 7% for house cleaning and laundry. Interestingly, more men than women tended to report that the housework was shared equally; for example, 12% of men, compared with 8% of women, said they shared meal preparation. Furthermore, for all age groups, common-law men shared in the work more than married men.

APPENDIX 5: HIGHLIGHTS FROM GSS REPORT "FAMILY AND FRIENDS"

- While women continue to be responsible for meal preparation, meal clean-up and house cleaning and laundry, three-quarters of men (married and common law) said that they were solely responsible for house maintenance and outside work. In comparison, women reported that 67% of their partners were solely responsible.

Helping Family and Friends

- In 1990, three-quarters of Canadians said they had provided unpaid help (i.e. housework, house maintenance, transportation, child care or financial support) to someone outside their household at least once during the 12 months prior to the survey. Canadians were most likely to provide help with transportation (50%), followed by house maintenance and outside work (32%), child care (32%), financial support (25%) and housework (18%).
- Exchanges of informal support occurred across all generations. For example, among those aged 15-24, 80% reported providing support and 77% reported receiving it. On the other hand, 54% of seniors aged 65 and over reported providing support, while 52% reported receiving help. Friends were most likely to be both the providers and receivers of help.

Family Contacts

- More than one out of two Canadians (55%) whose parents lived together, lived within 50 km of their parents. An additional 15% lived within 50-200 km. At the other extreme, 15% were more than 1,000 km from their parents.
- More than two-thirds of Canadians whose parents lived together saw their parents at least once a month. If both parents were alive, but not living together, contact was somewhat less, particularly for fathers — only 39% saw their father, compared with 61% who saw their mother at least once a month.
- As expected, distance is a big factor in determining the frequency of contact. For example, 80% of people living within 10 km of their mother saw her at least once a week, compared with 24% of those 51-100 km away, and approximately 2% that lived further than 100 km.

- Overall, 7% of Canadians had contact with at least one of their brothers or sisters daily and another 27% saw them weekly. Canadians reported a greater frequency of contacts with their brothers or sisters by letter or phone than by personal visits. However, women were more frequent letter writers or phone callers than men: 46% of women versus 33% of men had letter or phone contacts at least once a week. Only 10% had not seen their brothers or sisters within the past 12 months.

- In 1990, approximately one half of the population aged 15-44 had at least one living grandparent. Nearly 40% of Canadians saw at least one of their grandparents, a minimum of once a month. Only 20% had not seen any of their grandparents within the past year.

Seniors

- Despite the high mobility of the Canadian population, more than two-thirds of seniors aged 65 and over lived within 50 km of one of their children. Nearly 80% lived less than 100 km away from at least one child.
- Seniors also had much contact with their children — 57% saw at least one of their children a minimum of once a week and an additional 21% saw them at least once a month. Seniors had much less contact with siblings. Only 23% saw a sibling at least once a week, while another 18% of those aged 65 and over had monthly contact.
- Forty-five percent of married/common-law men aged 65 and over, compared with 36% of women said they would turn to their spouse or partner for emotional support when they felt down or depressed. Married/common-law women of this age group were more likely than men to turn to relatives and friends (31% and 12%, respectively, for women versus 19% and 5%, respectively, for men). Unmarried men aged 65 and over (including those widowed, divorced and never married), would turn to relatives (39%) and friends (28%). Women were more likely to turn to relatives (53%) than friends (18%).

APPENDIX 6: RELEASE - DAILY BULLETIN - March 16, 1992
"GSS - Cycle 6 - HEALTH, 1991"

**General Social Survey - Health
1991**

**Highlights - A Trend to a Healthier
Lifestyle**

Smoking

Over the past 25 years, the proportion of Canadians who are regular smokers has declined. In 1991, about 5.4 million people or 26% of the population aged 15 years and over smoked daily, down from 41% in 1966. However, while the rate among men dropped sharply from 54% in 1966 to 26% in 1991, the percentage of smokers among women dipped only slightly from 28% to 26%. As a result, the smoking rates of men and women have now converged.

Within the next five years, if current trends continue, smoking may be more prevalent among women than among men. At ages 15 to 19, the smoking rate of women (20%) now exceeds that of men (12%).

Alcohol Consumption

The majority of Canadians consume alcohol, but the proportion of drinkers is declining. In 1991, 11.6 million people or 55% of the population aged 15 years and over were "current drinkers," in that they consumed alcohol at least once a month. This level of consumption was down from 65% in 1978. There were, however, wide variations in the prevalence of drinking and the amount of alcohol consumed. Men were more likely than women to be drinkers, and men who were drinkers tended to consume more alcohol than did their female counterparts. For both sexes, drinking peaks at ages 20 to 24 and then declines with advancing age. In 1991, 80% of men and 58% of women aged 20 to 24 years were current drinkers.

Heavy drinking is relatively rare among Canadians. In 1991, 10% of adults who were current drinkers had 14 or more drinks a week. Heavy drinking was more common among men (15% of current drinkers) than among women (4%), a disparity that prevailed at all ages.

Physical Activity

Canadians of all ages reported an increased level of physical activity compared with just a few years ago.

In 1991, based on the energy they typically expended in leisure pursuits, 6.7 million Canadians aged 15 years and over or 32% of the adult population were physically "very active." This was up from 1985, when about 27% of adults were defined as very active.

Men are more likely than women to be very active. In 1991, 39% of men and 26% of women were physically active. For both sexes, this was an increase from 1985, when the corresponding figures were 31% and 23%. The physically active component of the population is highest among young people and declines with advancing age. For example, in 1991, 55% of 15- to 24-year-olds were very active compared to 12% of those aged 65 and over. In all age groups, however, the 1991 figures represent increases from 1985.

Weight Relative to Height

Despite increased levels of physical activity in recent years, the proportion of Canadian adults who are overweight has risen. In 1991, approximately 3.7 million people aged 20 to 64 were overweight according to Health and Welfare Canada standards. This estimate represented 23% of the population aged 20 to 64 in 1991, whereas 17% of those in this age range were overweight in 1985.

Men are more likely than women to be overweight. In 1991, 28% of men were overweight compared to 18% of women. The proportion of those who are overweight tends to rise with advancing age.

APPENDIX 7: RELEASE - DAILY BULLETIN - April 23, 1993
"GSS - Cycle 7 - TIME USE OF CANADIANS, 1992"

**General Social Survey of 1992 -
Time Use of Canadians**

Canadians' time allocation depends on many factors, in particular whether one is employed (full-time or part-time), unemployed, a student, retired or keeping house. The way people allocate their time differs by the day of the week, that is to say it differs from weekdays to weekends.

When averaged for the whole population aged 15 and over and for all seven days of the week, in 1992, Canadians spent 15% of their time on activities related to paid work, 15% on unpaid work (such as domestic chores and volunteer activities), 24% on leisure activities and free time, and 2% on activities related to education. The remaining 44% of Canadians' time was spent on sleep (34%) and other personal care activities.

Reflecting their higher labour force participation and the fact that a higher proportion of men are employed full time, men spent 17% of their time at paid work compared with 10% for women. By contrast, women spent far more of their time on unpaid work, 19% compared with 11% for men.

Not surprisingly, the time Canadians devoted to unpaid work varied according to their main activity. People whose main activity was keeping house spent the most time on unpaid work — about 6.3 hours a day. Retired people and those looking for work averaged over 4.0 hours of unpaid work a day, whereas employed people averaged only 2.8 hours. The least amount of unpaid work was done by students, whose daily average was 1.4 hours.

Other Highlights

- During a working day, Canadians employed full time averaged 7.8 hours a day at their main job and 48 minutes commuting.
- Full-time employment and the presence of young children in a household affect the amount of time

Note to Users

The General Social Survey (GSS), a continuing program with a five-year cycle, has two principal objectives: to gather data on social trends, in order to monitor changes in Canadian society over time; and to provide information on specific social policy issues.

The seventh cycle of the GSS, conducted from January to December 1992, collected data about time use, perception of time, unpaid work and leisure activities. A sample of 9,815 persons aged 15 and over was interviewed in the 10 provinces.

A data file from this survey will be released in the summer of 1993.

spent on unpaid work. The effect on mothers, however, is greater than the effect on fathers. In 1992, mothers employed full time and whose youngest child was under six spent an average of 5.4 hours a day on unpaid work, compared with 3.4 hours for their male counterparts.

- In 1992, 45% of adults reported that they cut back on their sleep when they needed more time for other activities. Also, a similar proportion of persons frequently felt that they were not accomplishing what they set out to do or that they often felt under stress when they had insufficient time. About one-third felt trapped in a daily routine, felt constantly under stress by trying to do more than they could handle, or worried that they were not spending enough time with family and friends.
- Generally, women were more likely than men to feel these pressures. For instance, 26% of women wanted to spend more time alone, whereas the figure for men was 19%.

APPENDIX 8: RELEASE - DAILY BULLETIN - JUNE 13, 1994
"GSS Cycle 8 - Trends in criminal victimization, 1993"

Trends in criminal victimization
1988-1993

Canadians were no more at risk of becoming victims of crime in 1993 than they were five years earlier, according to the 1993 general social survey (GSS). The survey's results show that overall rates of victimization have either remained the same or decreased since 1988.

One in four Canadians is a victim of crime

About one-quarter of the 10,385 Canadians aged 15 and over who responded to the survey in 1993 indicated that they had been victims of at least one crime in the preceding year. That was the same proportion as in 1988, when the victimization survey was first conducted.

Judging from these results, in 1993 Canadians were at no more risk of being victims of any of the crimes examined in the survey than they were in 1988.

The likelihood of an individual being the victim of an assault, robbery or personal theft either decreased or remained unchanged from 1988 to 1993. The same was true for the chances of a household being victimized through incidents such as breaking and entering, motor vehicle theft, theft of property, or vandalism.

Although the overall levels of victimization recorded by the GSS changed little, perceptions of personal safety changed somewhat. For example, fewer Canadians in 1993 indicated that they felt "very safe" walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark. The percentage dropped to 32% in 1993, from 40% in 1988.

Canadians were also divided on whether crime had increased in their neighbourhood. Nearly one in two (46%) believed that crime had increased. But about the same proportion believed that it had either stayed the same (43%) or decreased (4%) over the five-year period. The remaining 8% expressed no opinion.

Generally, it appears that Canadians believe that their own neighbourhood has the same amount or less crime than other areas of Canada. Crime may be perceived as a problem, but, for the most part, Canadians see it as being located elsewhere.

Note to users

This report uses information from the 1993 and the 1988 general social surveys (GSS) on personal risk. For the 1993 survey, telephone interviews were conducted from February to December 1993 with 10,385 Canadian adults aged 15 and over. Respondents were asked about their experiences with crime and with the criminal justice system in the 12 months preceding the interview. Although this reference period includes part of both 1992 and 1993, the results are, for clarity, cited as 1993. The reference period for victimizations surveyed in 1988 was the previous calendar year (1987). However, for questions related to "feelings of safety" and "perceptions of crime" the reference period was the time when the respondent was surveyed (early 1988). Again, for clarity, the results are simply cited as 1988.

For both surveys, the sample targeted the non-institutionalized population in the 10 provinces, excluding households without telephones (2% of the population). The survey's results are representative of the Canadian population aged 15 years and over.

Since 1985, the GSS has collected data on the living conditions and well-being of Canadians. Its objectives are to monitor changes in society over time and to produce information on specific policy issues of current or emergent interest. The five-year repeating cycle examines one of the five core content subjects: health, time use, personal risk, education and work, and family.

Future releases will concentrate on the remaining two main content areas of cycle 8: accidents, and alcohol and drug use.

Definitions of victimization

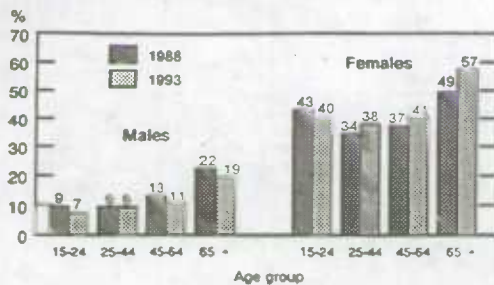
Personal victimization includes crimes of: theft/attempt of personal property, sexual assault, robbery/attempt, and assault. (Overall personal victimization rates in 1988 and 1993 are not strictly comparable because of a change in the measurement of the incidence of sexual assault in 1993.)

Violent victimization includes crimes of: sexual assault, robbery/attempt, and assault.

Household victimization includes crimes of: break and enter/attempt, motor vehicle theft/attempt, theft of household property/attempt, and vandalism.

Crime reported to the GSS by respondents may or may not have been reported to the police. Consequently, differences exist between GSS data and crime statistics reported by police departments.

Females felt less safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark in 1993¹



¹ Includes the categories "very unsafe" and "somewhat unsafe".

Source: general social survey, 1988 and 1993

Women and young people face higher risks

In the 1993 survey, the total personal victimization rate for young Canadians aged 15 to 24 was three times that for those over the age of 24, and was 11% higher for women than for men (largely because sexual assaults are rarely perpetrated against males).

For personal theft and assault, women's rates were similar to men's rates in the 1993 survey, while the robbery rate for men was double that for women (12 incidents per 1,000 population for men vs 6 incidents per 1,000 population for women).

Marital status also seemed to influence victimization rates in 1993. Separated or divorced women had the highest rate of personal victimization. The rate for separated and divorced women was twice as high as the rate for separated and divorced men (374 incidents per 1,000 population for women vs 187 incidents per 1,000 population for men).

As well, the single women's rate was 27% higher than the single men's rate. Married women and married men had the same total victimization rate (85 incidents per 1,000 population).

Strangers are committing higher proportions of offenses

Although most violent offenses were committed by offenders known to the victim in both survey years, a higher proportion of violent victimizations were committed by strangers in 1993 than in 1988.

The proportion of assaults committed by strangers increased to 38%, from 27%. The proportion of robberies committed by strangers increased to 67%, from 45%. In fact, robbery was the only offence category in which strangers comprised the majority of offenders in 1993. As for sexual assaults, only 22% were committed by strangers in 1993.

A substantial number of crimes are never reported

The 1993 victimization survey showed, as did the 1988 survey, that a substantial number of victimizations are never reported to the police.

Most notably, 90% of sexual assaults and 68% of non-sexual assaults were never brought to the attention of the police. Robbery was the only crime that showed evidence of an increase in reporting from 1988 (32% reported) to 1993 (47% reported).

Individuals apparently reported crimes when they perceived it to be useful. The most common reasons given in 1993 for not reporting an incident were: the crime was best dealt with in another way, the crime was too minor, and the police could not do anything about it.

However, for about 3 of 10 sexual assaults and for about 1 of 5 assaults, respondents listed "fear of revenge" as a reason for not reporting the crime.

The vol. 14, no. 13 issue of *Juristat: trends in criminal victimization, 1988-1993* (85-002, \$5/\$60) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Christine Wright (613-951-6643) or Gord MacKay (613-951-6659), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

For further information on the general Social Survey, contact Ed Praught (613-951-9180), Housing Family and Social Statistics Division. □

Personal victimization rates per 1,000 population

Victim characteristics	Type of incident							
	Theft, personal property		Sexual assault ¹		Robbery		Assault	
	1988	1993	1988	1993	1988	1993	1988	1993
Canada	59	51	--	17	13	9	68	67
Urban	70	57	--	18	14	9	72	72
Rural	46	36	--	14	--	--	56	53
Age								
15 - 24	123	93	--	48	39	23	145	155
25 - 44	65	61	--	17	10	9	80	69
45 - 64	22	29	--	--	--	--	19	38
65 +	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Male	58	51	--	--	17	12	74	68
Female	61	51	--	29	10	6	63	66

¹ There were too few cases reported in 1988 to make statistically reliable estimates. New questions concerning sexual assault were added to the 1993 survey.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

Source: general social survey, 1988 and 1993.

APPENDIX 9: GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY (GSS) - LIST OF WORKING PAPERS

- No. 1 **WORK AND EDUCATION: TOWARD THE YEAR 2000** - An introduction to the 1989 General Social Survey, by Harvey Krahn and Graham S. Lowe, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta.
- No. 2 **GUIDELINES FOR WORKING WITH CYCLE THREE NORMALIZED RECORD STRUCTURE FILES AND IT'S MULTIPLE WEIGHTING FACTORS**, by Kevin Murphy, Dave Paton, Edward Praught, January, 1989.
- No. 3 **FAMILY AND FRIENDS: TOWARD THE YEAR 2000** - An introduction to the 1990 General Social Survey, by Thomas K. Burch and David J. DeWit, Population Studies Centre, University of Western Ontario (revised, March 1990).
- No. 4 **OVERVIEW OF 1991 GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY ON HEALTH (GSS-6)**, by Carol Strike, July, 1991.
- No. 5 **GUIDELINES FOR TIME USE DATA COLLECTION**, by Andrew S. Harvey, Department of Economics, Saint Mary's University, Hensen College, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada and Fellow, Statistics Canada.
- No. 6 **ECE/INSTRAW JOINT WORK SESSION ON STATISTICS OF WOMEN**, April 27-29, 1992, **Measuring Unpaid Work: The Canadian Experience**, prepared by Judith Frederick, Douglas Norris and Ghislaine Villeneuve, Statistics Canada.
- No. 7 **OVERVIEW OF 1993 GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY ON PERSONAL RISK (GSS-8)**, by Valerie Pottie Bunge, September, 1993.
- No. 8 **TIME USE MODULE OF THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY**, by Andrew S. Harvey, Department of Economics, Saint Mary's University, Hensen College, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada and Fellow, Statistics Canada.
- No. 9 **OVERVIEW OF THE 1992 GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY ON TIME USE (GSS-7)**, prepared by Judith A. Frederick and David P. Horlor (revised August, 1993).
- No. 10 **ESTIMATING THE VOLUME OF UNPAID WORK ACTIVITIES IN CANADA, 1992: An evaluation of data from the General Social Survey**, by Bernie Paillé, Statistics Canada, January, 1994.
- No. 11 **A COMPARISON OF RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY ON TIME USE - 1986 and 1992**, by Judith Frederick, Statistics Canada, December, 1993.

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