
DATA CRUNCH

Issue 6

March 2001

Trade Analyser

The Trade Analyser Database is now available to the University of Regina from the Data Library Services home page <http://uregina.ca/datalibrary/>

This database includes tables for world trade (annual data for 1980-1997), and separate extensive tables for Canadian imports and exports (monthly data for 1988-1998). Each table contains historical time series data for many topics.

The topics are designated by different codes depending upon the table. Each table includes a number of variables that may be selected for output.

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) offers the ICPSR Summer Training Program as a complement to its data services. The Summer Program provides a comprehensive, integrated program of studies in research design, statistics, data analysis, and social methodology. Its instructional environment stresses integration of methods of quantitative analysis within a broader context of substantive social research, and instruction is coordinated with and reinforced by active participatory data analytic experiences utilizing high-end, networked microcomputers. The Program has become nationally and internationally recognized as a primary mechanism for basic and advanced training in the methodologies and technologies of research and instruction in the social sciences. The attractions of the Program center on the range of methodological instruction provided, the opportunity for intensive study, and the quality of instruction and supporting facilities.

Participants in each year's program generally represent about 25 different departments and/or disciplines from over 200 colleges, universities, and organizations in the U.S., Canada, and a score of other nations. While sociology, psychology, and political science continue to be represented by the largest number of participants, the increasing number of individuals from across the social and behavioral sciences illustrate the breadth of interest in and impact of the Program.

You must plan early. More information regarding the summer program is available at

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/TRAINING/SUMMER2001/>

Contact Marilyn Andrews concerning bursaries and application to the ICPSR summer program.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Trade Analyser**
- 1 ICPSR Summer Program/Bursary**
- 2 General Social Survey: Victimization**
- 2 General Social Survey: Bibliography**
- 2 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics**
- 2 Financial Performance Indicators for Canadian Business, 2000**
- 3 American National Election Study, 2000**
- 3 IASSIST Script Archive**
- 3 National Population Health Survey, 1998-99**
- 4 Recently Released/Coming Soon**
- 4 Contact Information**

General Social Survey Cycle 13: Victimization (1999)

Cycle 13 of the General Social Survey (GSS) is the third cycle (following cycles 3 and 8) that collected information in 1999 on the nature and extent of criminal victimization in Canada. The 1999 GSS was the first attempt by Statistics Canada to measure spousal violence through detailed questions on a traditional victimization survey. Steps were taken to improve the wording of questions, and to provide special training for interviewers to ensure sensitivity while collecting the most accurate data possible. This survey follows the 1993 Violence Against Women Survey, which focussed on physical and sexual violence against women. Unlike that survey, the GSS also measures violence against men.

The GSS is an annual telephone sample survey covering the non-institutionalized population aged 15 and over in all provinces. The Focus content for cycle 13 addressed two areas of emerging interest: public perception toward alternatives to imprisonment; and spousal violence and senior abuse. Other subjects common to all three cycles include perceptions of crime, police and courts; crime prevention precautions; accident and crime screening sections; and accident and crime incident reports.

The survey was conducted between February and December 1999. A total of 25,874 people were interviewed, more than double the usual sample of 10,000.

General Social Survey: Bibliography

This bibliography is a compilation of:

- ❑ Canada. Statistics Canada. General Social Survey. General social survey: bibliography. [Ottawa: Statistics Canada, n.d.]
- ❑ Papers using the Canadian General social survey data – GSS. By Jong Won Min Calgary, AB: University of Calgary. Faculty of Social Work, n.d.
- ❑ Updated and extensively revised by Susan Bastani, Data Library Service, University of Toronto, Feb. 2001

<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/datalib/major/gss.htm>

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)

The release of the 1998 cross-sectional PUMF from SLID has been postponed to the third quarter of 2001.

As well, longitudinal public-use microdata files from SLID, such as were produced for reference years 1993 and 1994, have been put on hold indefinitely due to the fact that, at present time, maintaining respondent confidentiality in such file cannot be achieved.

SLID will continue to produce microdata files, but they will only contain cross-sectional data. Furthermore, the content focus of the public-use files will shift heavily towards income variables, at the expense of labour and demographic variables. The files will resemble closely the content of the former Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) public-use microdata files. Therefore, the income variables will virtually represent the full SLID content on income, in cross-sectional form. In exchange, the labour and demographic variables will represent only a portion of the full SLID content on these topics, but will be very similar to what SCF had on its files from the Labour Force Survey (to which SCF was a supplement).

In the meantime, SLID data - including 1998 - are available through custom tabulations and remote access. It is also possible for researchers, under contractual arrangements, to access SLID data on premise in Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres, as well as in Research Data Centres that will open across the country in 2001.

Financial Performance Indicators for Canadian Business, 2000

Financial Performance Indicators for Canadian Business is an authoritative reference source of key financial ratios by industry. It is based on up-to-date, reliable and comprehensive data on Canadian businesses, derived from Statistics Canada databases of financial statements.

The indicators are designed to serve as financial performance benchmarks against which individual firms and industries can be compared. It allows firms to precisely position themselves within their peer group.

American National Election Study, 2000

The 2000 National Election Study entailed both a pre-election interview and a post-election re-interview. A freshly drawn cross section of the electorate was taken to yield 1807 cases. The 65 minute pre election survey went into the field September 5th, nine weeks before election day. The 65 minute post election study, unique to the time series in that no president elect was named for several days, went into the field the day after the election, November 8th, and remained in the field until December 21st.

Because of the study's most innovative feature, a carefully designed mode experiment, the data represent two presidential studies in 2000, side by side. The core study preserves our past commitment to probability area sample and face to face interviewing: 1000 respondents interviewed prior to the election and 862 were re-interviewed face to face after the election. Supporting the core study, we used the efficiencies of RDD sampling and telephone interviewing: 803 respondents were interviewed by phone prior to the election and 862 respondents were interviewed by phone after the election. As such, the experiment will define sharply the differences between the two modes and allow us to learn what a shift to telephone interviewing will mean for the NES time-series.

Contact Marilyn Andrews for the ICPSR release.

IASSIST Script Archive

To encourage the sharing of utilities for managing, manipulating and analyzing machine readable social sciences data files, an anonymous ftp archive for IASSIST (International Association for Social Science Information Service and Technology) members is hosted by the Geospatial and Statistical Data Center at the University of Virginia. This ftp archive is intended for compiled programs, source code, and scripts, as well as other documentation about the management, manipulation, and use of machine-readable social sciences data files.

<http://quincy.lib.virginia.edu/iassist/home.html>

For information on IASSIST contact Marilyn Andrews.

National Population Health Survey, 1998-99

The National Population Health Survey (NPHS) used the Labour Force Survey sampling frame to draw the initial sample of approximately 20,000 households starting in 1994 and for the sample top-up this third cycle. The survey is conducted every two years. The sample collection is distributed over four quarterly periods followed by a follow-up period and the whole process takes a year. In each household, some limited health information is collected from all household members and one person in each household is randomly selected for a more in-depth interview.

The survey is designed to collect information on the health of the Canadian population and related socio-demographic information. The survey is designed to produce both cross-sectional and longitudinal estimates. The questionnaires includes content related to health status, use of health services, determinants of health, a health index, chronic conditions and activity restrictions. The use of health services is probed through visits to health care providers, both traditional and non-traditional, and the use of drugs and other medications. Health determinants include smoking, alcohol use and physical activity. A special focus content for this cycle includes family medical history with questions about certain chronic conditions among immediate family members and when they were acquired. As well, a section on self-care has also been included this cycle. The socio-demographic information includes age, sex, education, ethnicity, household income and labour force status.

DataCrunch is available on-line:

<http://uregina.ca/datalibrary/datacrunch.html>

WOW!

As of March 6, 2001, there were 805,845 time series on CANSIM. If purchased individually the total cost to the user would be **\$2,417,535.00**. CANSIM is available to the University of Regina community as part of the DLI.

RECENTLY RELEASED

CANADIAN TOBACCO USE MONITORING SURVEY 2000

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR CANADIAN BUSINESS, 2000

NATIONAL POPULATION HEALTH SURVEY (NPHS) - HOUSEHOLD COMPONENT, 1998-99

POSTAL CODE CONVERSION FILE (PCCF), Nov. 2000

POSTAL CODES BY FEDERAL RIDING FILE (PCFR), Nov. 2000

RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE SURVEY, 1999

SOCIAL POLICY SIMULATION DATABASE AND MODEL (SPSD/M) VER 8.1

SURVEY OF SMOKING HABITS, 1986

WORLD TRADE ATLAS - CANADIAN EDITION (ASCII)

COMING SOON

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE SURVEY (EICS) 1997, 1998 & 1999 (MAY 2001)

GENERAL SOCIAL SCIENCE SURVEY, CYCLE 14: ACCESS TO & USE OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (JUNE 2001)

HOMEOWNER REPAIR AND RENOVATION SURVEY 1996 - (AUGUST 2001)

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 1999 (MARCH 2001)

NATIONAL GRADUATE SURVEY, 1995 - 2000 FOLLOW-UP (SUMMER 2001)

NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH (NLSCY) - CYCLE 3, 1998-99 (SPRING 2001)

SURVEY OF FINANCIAL SECURITY (SPRING 2001)

SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLD ENERGY USE, 1998 (MAY 2001)

SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLD SPENDING, 1999 (MAY 2001)

SURVEY OF LABOUR AND INCOME DYNAMICS (SLID) (FALL 2001)

TRAVEL ACTIVITIES & MOTIVATION SURVEY (MAY 2001)

Contact Information:

Marilyn Andrews
Head, Government Publications and Data Library Services
e-mail: Marilyn.Andrews@uregina.ca
Tel: 585-5113

Data Library Services is located in:
Dr. John Archer Library, LY311
University of Regina.
Hours: Monday to Friday, except holidays.
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Previous issues of Data Crunch:

<http://uregina.ca/datalibrary/datacrunch.html>

Send to:

If you wish to have your name added to our mailing list please let us know. Likewise, if you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list please inform us.