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# DATA CRUNCH

Issue 12

January 2003

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## Publishing a Textbook? The DLI License and YOU

**Question:** Is it permissible for a faculty member (or other authorized University of Regina data user) to include Statistics Canada data in a textbook to be published by a commercial publisher, if the data was acquired through the Data Liberation Initiative?

**Answer:** No. Textbooks published through commercial publishers are not permissible as a profit motive is anticipated. For further information, contact Statistics Canada's Educational Division.

Consult the **Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) DATA ACQUISITION AND USE AGREEMENT:**

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/Dli/Document/agreement.htm>

## Save the PUMFs!

In this issue, you will likely be dismayed by the list of surveys for which pumfs (public use microdata files) have been cancelled. The two main reasons for not producing pumfs are Confidentiality and Cost.

Chuck Humphrey of the University of Alberta and Elizabeth Hamilton of the University of New Brunswick have been working on a project about research outcomes from the NPHS. During the course of this, they recently discovered that the Health Division decided not to create a public use file for the cycle 3 institutional survey. The Division was unsure that the institutional file was of use or value to researchers since very little research had been reported on the corresponding files from Cycles 1 and 2. Unfortunately, the overwhelming use of the health files from the first three cycles made the institutional file appear as the poor country cousin of the NPHS.

Humphrey and Hamilton have now encouraged managers of the Health division to invest in a public use file for the Cycle 3 institutional survey.

Humphrey states, "From the Statistics Canada perspective, the operational costs in creating a public use file are a barrier. Recently, these costs have been increasing due to changes insisted by the Data Release Committee, which must approve the design of a public use file before it can be released. Members of the DLI External Advisory committee have heard stories from author divisions where they have been required to alter a proposed public use file up to three times before being approved. The cost of production increases each time a

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file is rejected by the Data Release Committee. Some managers of divisions that have produced public use files in the past are becoming discouraged with the additional expenses needed to get a public use file approved by the Data Release Committee. During the October EAC meeting one manager asked why he should even bother trying to produce a public use file any longer”.

Humphrey and Hamilton hope that their research on the knowledge transfer resulting from the analysis of public use files will answer this manager’s query.

For more information on the study see:  
Hamilton, Elizabeth and Humphrey, Chuck. 2002. *DLI and the NPHS: A Study in Compatibility*. DLI Update - Fall 2002, 5(2), 2-6.

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/Dli/Document/fall-2002e.pdf>

## **Not Available:**

### **National Population Health Survey Cycle 3: Health Institutions 1998/99**

Currently there are no plans to create a pumf.

### **Survey of Household Energy Use 1998**

If you’ve been waiting for the pumf for this survey, originally scheduled for release in December 2001, you’ll be disappointed. The author division was unable to get it released and has decided to put their money into the new survey instead.

### **Homeowner Repair & Renovation Survey**

PUMFs are available through the DLI for the 1994 and 1995 survey years. However, the news from the Income Statistics Division is that the plans to create these files for the years 1996-1999 have been dropped and are not likely to be revived in the near future.

### **Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics: Wave 3**

The SLID wave 3 public-use file is longitudinal and will not be released due to confidentiality issues. Remote job submission will be the only way to access the data or the Research Data Centres.

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/rdc/index.htm>

## **Survey of Electronic Commerce & Technology**

Unfortunately for business e-commerce there is no pumf available for this survey. With eighty percent of economic activity being carried out by less than 20% of the businesses, confidentiality would be impossible to maintain. Some data are available on CANSIM: tables 358-0007 to 358-0012 and 358-0014.

<http://dc2.chass.utoronto.ca/cansim2/index.jsp>

## **Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC)**

The LSIC is a longitudinal survey that looks at the integration of immigrants into Canadian society. There are no plans for a PUMF for the LSIC because it is virtually impossible to construct one for confidentiality reasons.

The plan is to have the Master File placed in the Research Data Centres as a means to provide access for secondary research. Cross-sectional data on immigrants can be found in the 2001 Census.

## **National Graduates Survey 1995 Follow-Up**

The follow up to the survey of 1995 graduates that was conducted in 2000 had planned on releasing a public use file in 2002. Unfortunately due to confidentiality concerns the proposed file was rejected by the Microdata Release Committee at Statistics Canada. This is a cost recovery survey and as there is no budget left to try and create a file that could pass the Committee, therefore, a pumf will not be produced. The only way to access these data will be through the Research Data Centres <http://www.statcan.ca/english/rdc/index.htm> or through custom tabulations (which can be quite expensive, sigh...).

## **Over to You**

Any information you can share about your use of the PUMFs would be helpful. Send your comments to Marilyn Andrews, Data Librarian, Data Services, [Marilyn.Andrews@uregina.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Andrews@uregina.ca)

## Small Business Profiles

The Small Business Profiles are a source of detailed financial and employment statistics relating to the small business sector in Canada. They are intended as a performance benchmarking tool to be used by small business managers and practitioners in the planning of start-up and established businesses.

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/pm00019e.html>

## Is business data confidential?

As required by law, Statistics Canada ensures that only aggregate data (i.e. totals and averages) that do not in any way reveal information relating to individual companies are included in the statistics that comprise the profiles.

To prevent disclosure of individual company information, any small business profile consisting of less than five sampled businesses is not published.

## Survey of Information Technology

The Pilot Survey of Information Technology (IT) Occupations, 2000: Employer Survey was conducted by Statistics Canada, in February, March and April, 2000, on behalf of Human Resources Development Canada. The main objective of this survey of IT employers was to study labour market conditions for IT occupations and to produce statistical information on required skills and employment-related issues specific to information technology occupations within the business service sector in Canada.

One of the goals of this pilot survey was to assess the feasibility of conducting a national survey covering a variety of industries. The results of this pilot will help to design an effective sampling strategy that will allow reliable estimates to be produced from a national survey.



## Wives, Mothers and Wages: Does Timing Matter?

This recently published study suggests that the timing of motherhood has a significant bearing on the wages of Canadian women. Data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics formed the basis of this report

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/11F0019MIE/11F0019MIE2002186.pdf>

## NPHS Synthetic Data

The synthetic files for the National Population Health Surveys are now available. These files contain synthetic or dummy data corresponding to the master files for the years 1994-95, 1996-97, and 1998-99. It is extremely important to note that these synthetic files do not contain real data and should NEVER be used for analytical purposes. Their only purpose is to assist users to develop and test the computer programs that are to be submitted by remote job submission.

Remote Job Submission Process is not part of the DLI program. Users wishing to access this service must do so directly through the client services area of Health Division. For more information on this service please contact: [nphs-ensp@statcan.ca](mailto:nphs-ensp@statcan.ca)

## System of Factual Information on Sociological Topics (SOFIST)

In September 2000 VCIOM, the Russian Centre for Public Opinion and Market Research, with financial support of Ford Foundation initiated a project aimed at compiling a national sociological data archive. At present the archive houses more than 60 studies conducted by leading sociological agencies in Russia and functions as a program within framework of the Independent Institute for Social Policy. The archive has its own budget and staff. The archive gives an opportunity for scholars and research organizations to work with its data collections free. Welcome to the new archive!

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## RECENTLY RELEASED

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**2001 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE FARM DATA AND FARM OPERATIONS DATA: FULL RELEASES**

**CANADIAN BUSINESS PATTERNS 2001**

**CANADIAN TRAVEL SURVEY, 2000 & 2001**

**CANMAP PARKS 1.0 (DIGITAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA)**

**CENSUS 2001: AGE/SEX, FAMILIES/HOUSEHOLD LIVING, HOUSING, MARITAL STATUS, POPULATION/DWELLING**

**HOUSEHOLD INTERNET USE SURVEY 2001**

**INTER-CORPORATE OWNERSHIP 2002-4**

**RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE SURVEY, MAY 2002**

**SMALL BUSINESS PROFILES 2000**

**SURVEY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

**OCCUPATIONS, 2000 – PILOT SURVEY**

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## COMING SOON

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**CANADIAN COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY (WINTER 2003)**

**EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE SURVEY (EICS) 1997, 1998 & 1999 (WINTER 2003)**

**GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY, CYCLE 15 (WINTER 2003)**

**SURVEY OF FINANCIAL SECURITY (SUMMER 2003)**

**SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLD ENERGY USE, 1998 (WINTER 2003)**

**TRAVEL ACTIVITIES & MOTIVATION SURVEY (WINTER '03)**

**YOUTH IN TRANSITION SURVEY 2000 (WINTER 2003)**

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## LOST DATA RELEASES

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**SURVEY OF HOUSEHOLD ENERGY USE, 1998**

**NATIONAL GRADUATE SURVEY 1995: 2002 FOLLOW-UP – RDC'S**

**NATIONAL POPULATION HEALTH SURVEY – CYCLE 3: HEALTH INSTITUTIONS, 1998-99**

## Contact Information:

Marilyn Andrews, Data Librarian

e-mail: [Marilyn.Andrews@uregina.ca](mailto:Marilyn.Andrews@uregina.ca)

Tel: 585-5113

Raye Quickfall, Systems Support Co-ordinator

e-mail: [Raye.Quickfall@uregina.ca](mailto:Raye.Quickfall@uregina.ca)

Tel: 585-5420

Data Services is located in:

Education/Fine Arts Library, ED208.2

University of Regina.

Hours: Monday to Friday

Appointments recommended.

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

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