



# Families in Statistics Canada Surveys

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Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada



# Measuring Families

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- ◆ Definition of “Family”.
- ◆ New family types.
- ◆ Families in longitudinal surveys.
- ◆ Who is the respondent?
- ◆ Family Surveys vs. Families in Surveys.





# Major Data Sources

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- ◆ Census
- ◆ General Social Surveys
- ◆ National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth
- ◆ Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics
- ◆ Other Surveys
- ◆ Administrative Tax Data





# 2006 Census

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- ◆ Content Similar to 2001
- ◆ Changes to Education Questions
- ◆ Income Questions





# General Social Surveys

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- ◆ Family (2006, 2001, 1995, 1990)
- ◆ Time Use (2005, 1998, 1992, 1986)
- ◆ Aging and Social Support (2002, 1996)
- ◆ Victimization (2004, 1999, 1993, 1988)





# GSS – Family (2001)

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- ◆ Fertility, Marriage/Co-habitation Histories
- ◆ Work and Education Histories
- ◆ Parents, Brother, Sisters
- ◆ Values and Attitudes





# GSS – Time Use

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- ◆ Time Use Diary
- ◆ Child Care
- ◆ Perceptions of Time/Family Work Balance
- ◆ Limited Information of Activities of Spouse





# GSS – Aging and Social Support

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- ◆ Care Giving/Receiving
- ◆ Retirement
- ◆ Social Contacts







# National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth

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- ◆ Longitudinal Component
  - Cycle 6 (2004/05)
- ◆ Early Years (Ages 0-5)





# Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

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- ◆ Longitudinal – 6 years
- ◆ Follows households/families of initial sample





# Administrative Data

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- ◆ Family Tax File (1982 – 2003)
- ◆ Longitudinal Tax File ( 1982 – 2002)





# Other Surveys

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1. Survey of Household Spending
2. Survey of Financial Security
3. Labour Force Survey
4. Maternal Experiences Survey
5. Ethnic Diversity
6. Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants
7. Participation and Activity Limitations
8. Aboriginal Peoples Survey





# Challenges in Shaping Future Directions

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- ◆ What are the priority needs?
- ◆ What can we stop doing?
- ◆ How do we best work with the research community on content?
- ◆ Limits of large scale surveys.

