

# **A Journey through Data: the Riches of the Research Data Centres (RDCs)**

**All-Congress Symposium, Wednesday 2 June 2004  
Room 105, Drake Centre  
08:30-17:30**

## **Abstracts and biographic sketches**

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Symposium **A journey through data: the riches of the Research Data Centres.**  
 All-Congress Symposium. Congress Special Event # 900.  
 Location Room 105, Drake Centre, Fort Gary campus.  
 Organizer Gustave Goldmann (Research Data Centres, Statistics Canada).  
 Note: *Free enrolment. Advance registration requested. For more information contact Gustave Goldmann (gustave.goldmann@statcan.ca).*

Rajulton Fernando (Department of Sociology, University of Western Ontario), Chair.  
*A journey through data: the riches of the Research Data Centres.*  
 All-Congress Symposium. Wednesday 2 June 2004.

Ten papers will be presented in this Symposium: (1) *An overview of the Research Data Centre (RDC) program and this symposium.* (2) *The Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS).* (3) *The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC).* (4) *The Youth in Transition Survey (YITS) and other educational data.* (5) *The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY).* (6) *The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS).* (7) *The National Population Health Survey (NPHS).* (8) *The General Social Surveys (GSS).* (9) *The Workplace and Employee Survey (WES).* (10) *The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID).*

**Rajulton Fernando** is a Professor in the Department of Sociology of the University of Western Ontario in London. He received a PhD in Demography from the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. His research interests are techniques of longitudinal and event history analysis, and modeling various demographic phenomena such as fertility, mortality, migration and family life histories. One of his works relevant to this Symposium is the *Special Issue on Longitudinal Methodology, Canadian Studies in Population*, Volume 28, No. 2, 2001. Rajulton was the Guest Editor of this Special Issue, an outcome of the Workshop on Longitudinal Research held at the University of Western Ontario in October 1999. This Special Issue and the many workshops that Rajulton has given on Longitudinal Research describe his research interests and contributions to the field.

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Gustave Goldman (Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada).  
*An overview of the Research Data Centre (RDC) program and this symposium.*  
All-Congress Symposium, Wednesday morning pre-break, 2 June 2004.

This all-day Symposium is organized by the Canadian Population Society in collaboration with the partners in the Research Data Centre Program, which are Statistics Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and participating universities. Invited speakers will focus on the major longitudinal data sets plus important cross-sectional data sets available in the RDCs. Participants will learn about the analytical potential of these data, and about various methodological issues that need to be considered when analysing them. This symposium should be of interest to quantitative social scientists and applied statisticians interested in topics such as the dynamics of poverty, the effectiveness of training programmes, the consequences of economic restructuring, the influence of childhood experiences on human capital and social outcomes, and other aspects of social and health policy.

**Gustave Goldmann** is a senior researcher and social demographer in the Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, and Program Manager for Statistics Canada's Research Data Centres. He holds a BSc in Mathematics and Computer Science from the University of Ottawa, and an MA and PhD in Sociology from Carleton University in Ottawa. Gustave has held a variety of senior positions at Statistics Canada, and is currently the manager responsible for the development and implementation of a series of Research Data Centres across Canada. His previous responsibilities included the development of major analytical monographs based on data from the 1991 Census of Population and related sources. Gustave's research activities and interests include questions related to Aboriginal demography, the acculturation and adaptation of immigrants, and issues related to ethnic groups and ethnicity. He has published extensively on these topics in Canadian and international journals, and is currently working on a book dealing with the determinants of acculturation of immigrants coming to Canada. Outside of work, he is a choral singer, a scuba diver, an experienced emergency first aid responder, a long-time member of the Canadian Ski Patrol, and devoted to Raelle, his wife of 36 years.

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Barry Edmonston (Department of Sociology, Portland State University), Chair.  
*Ethno-cultural roots*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 1: Wednesday morning pre-break,  
2 June 2004.

Two papers will be presented in this session: (1) *The Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS)*.  
(2) *The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC)*.

**Barry Edmonston** is Director of the Population Research Center and Professor in the School of Urban Studies and Planning at Portland State University, and is currently a visiting faculty member in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto. He received his PhD, with a specialization in Population Studies, from the University of Michigan. He was previously a faculty member at Stanford University and Cornell University and served as a researcher at the Urban Institute and the National Academy of Sciences. His teaching interests include social demography, immigration, population distribution, urban ecology, demographic methods, and applied statistics. His recent articles and books have dealt with public policies issues for the United States census, the settlement and adaptation of immigrants, and the demographic and social effects of immigration. His current research interests are in the demographic effects of immigration, immigration statistics, internal migration of the foreign born, and demographic changes in home ownership.

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*The Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS)*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 1. Wednesday morning pre-break, 2 June 2004.

The Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS) was developed by Statistics Canada in partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage in order to provide new and important information on the ethnic and cultural background of people in Canada and how that relates to their lives today. The survey followed the 2001 Census, with the census providing the frame for the sample. The target population for the survey was persons aged 15 years or older living in private households in the 10 provinces. The population did not include persons living in collective dwellings, persons living on Indian reserves, persons of Aboriginal origins living off-reserve, or persons living in Northern and remote areas. (There was a separate post-censal survey designed for Aboriginal peoples, the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, which was conducted in 2001 and 2002.) The survey data can help us to better understand how people's backgrounds affect their participation in the social, economic and cultural life of Canada, as well as how Canadians of different ethnic backgrounds interpret and report their ethnicity. Topics covered in the survey include ethnic ancestry, ethnic identity, place of birth, visible minority status, religion, religious participation, knowledge of languages, family background, family interaction, social networks, civic participation, interaction with society, attitudes, satisfaction with life, trust and socio-economic activities. The survey explores both objective and subjective dimensions of ethnicity.

**Jennifer Chard** is a Senior Analyst for Immigration and Ethnicity Statistics in the Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division of Statistics Canada. She works from the Statistics Canada Western Region and Northern Territories Office in Vancouver. For the past five years, Jennifer has worked on all stages of the Ethnic Diversity Survey, from content development through to data analysis and dissemination. She has also worked with the 1996, 2001 and 2006 census ethno-cultural variables including those concerning ethnic origin and visible minority status. She also provides advice with respect to the design, processing and dissemination of ethno-cultural questions for other surveys. Her publications include *Ethnic diversity: a portrait of a multicultural society* (with co-authors Jennifer Chard and Andrea Levett, Statistics Canada catalogue 89-593-XIE, 2003), chapters on "Immigrant Women" (with co-authors Jane Badets and Linda Howatson-Leo) and "Women in a visible minority" in *Women in Canada 2000: a gender-based statistical report* (Statistics Canada catalogue 89-503-XPE, 2000), as well as an article on "Visible minorities in Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal" (co-authored with Viviane Renaud, in *Canadian Social Trends* 1999).

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*The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC).*

All-Congress Symposium, Part 1. Wednesday morning pre-break, 2 June 2004.

There exists a growing need for information on recent immigrants to Canada. As part of adapting to life in Canada, many immigrants face challenges such as finding suitable accommodation, learning or becoming more fluent in one or both of Canada's official languages, participating in the labour market or accessing education and training opportunities. While integration may take many years, this survey is designed to examine the first four years of settlement, a time when newcomers establish economic, social and cultural ties to Canadian society. The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC), conducted jointly by Statistics Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada under the Policy Research Initiative, is a comprehensive survey designed to study the process by which new immigrants adapt to Canadian society. About 12,000 immigrants aged 15 and older who arrived in Canada from abroad between October 2000 and September 2001 were interviewed. By late 2005, when all three waves of interviews have been completed, the survey will provide a better understanding of how the settlement process unfolds for new immigrants. It will provide valuable information on how immigrants are meeting various challenges associated with integration and what resources are most helpful to their settlement in Canada. The main topics include housing, education, recognition of foreign credentials, employment, income, the development and use of social networks, language skills, health, values and attitudes, and satisfaction with the settlement experience.

**Jessie-Lynn MacDonald** is a project manager for the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada, within the Special Surveys Division of Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She managed the content development for wave two of the survey and is currently doing analysis and managing the analysis and dissemination for wave one. Jessie-Lynn received her MA in sociology and psychology with a minor in criminology from Carleton University. Her research interests include parental abduction, immigration, and children's issues.

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Satya Brink (Learning Policy Directorate, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada), Chair. *Children and education*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 2: Wednesday morning post-break, 2 June 2004.

Two papers will be presented in this session: (1) *The Youth in Transition Survey (YITS)*. (2) *The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY)*.

**Satya Brink**, PhD, is Director of Policy Research in the Learning Policy Directorate of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada in Gatineau. She previously was the Director of Child, Youth and Social Development Studies in the Applied Research Branch of Human Resources Development Canada. Her new responsibilities include the development of evidence for policies related to lifelong learning (from early childhood to late adulthood) and its relationship to key adult roles, using data from surveys such as the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, the Youth in Transition Survey, the International Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey, and the Adult Education and Training Survey.

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Lynn Barr-Telford, Fernando Cartwright (Centre for Education, Statistics Canada). *The Youth in Transition Survey (YITS)*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 2. Wednesday morning post-break, 2 June 2004.

Education statistics in the Research Data Centres include two parallel surveys: the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and the Youth in Transition Survey (YITS). The *Youth in Transition Survey (YITS)* is a survey intended to provide longitudinal data to study school-work transitions of young people (adolescents and young adults) and the factors that influence such transitions. Content includes virtually all formal educational experiences and most labour-market experiences, and influencing factors such as family background, school experiences, achievement, aspirations and expectations, and employment experiences. Information obtained from the survey will help clarify the nature and causes of short and long-term challenges young people face in school-work transitions, and support policy planning and decision making to prevent or remedy these problems. The *Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)* is an international assessment of the skills and knowledge of 15 year-olds which aims to assess whether students approaching the end of compulsory education have acquired the knowledge and skills that are essential for full participation in society. PISA was developed jointly by member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). PISA assessments take place every three years and focus on three domains: reading literacy, mathematical literacy and scientific literacy. While the three domains form the core of each cycle, two-thirds of the assessment time in each cycle are devoted to a 'major' domain. The survey gathers cross-sectional data, and uses a new sample of 15 year-olds for each cycle of the survey. The first cycle of PISA took place in 2000 with reading as the major assessment domain. In 2003, mathematics was the major domain and in 2006, science will be the major domain. *Relationship between PISA and YITS*. During their first year of participation in PISA/YITS, respondents who are 15 years old (the reading cohort and math cohort) will participate in both PISA and YITS. As PISA is a cross-sectional survey, PISA will not be implemented during subsequent follow-ups. Rather, respondents will be followed using YITS. *Cohorts*. To date there are three different cohorts included in the PISA/YITS program: 1) an 18 to 20 year old cohort which began in 1999; 2) a reading cohort, which began in 2000; and 3) a math cohort which began in 2003. Current plans call for the three cohorts to be followed biannually. *Websites: www.pisa.gc.ca and www.pisa.oecd.org*.

**Lynn Barr-Telford** is Chief of the Survey Development and Analysis Section of the Centre for Education Statistics at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She has been working in the field of education research since graduating with a Master's degree Sociology from Ottawa's Carleton University in 1991. Lynn has been involved in the development and analysis of some of Statistics Canada's major education surveys including the School Leavers Survey and its follow-up, the National Graduates Surveys, the Youth in Transition Survey, the Programme for International Student Assessment, and the Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey.

**Fernando Cartwright** is an Analyst in the Survey Development and Analysis Section of the Centre for Education Statistics at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. He has a BEd from the University of Alberta, and an MEd in Educational Psychology, also from the University of Alberta. Fernando's research follows two divergent paths. The first is policy research examining the correlates of success across a broad range of economic and educational outcomes for children and adults. Most of this work has used data from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). His second field of research involves mathematical modeling of latent or poorly observed data. These models are directly applicable to the development of measurement instruments and reporting of results across a wide range of indicators and surveys. Among other work, he has authored or co-authored four Research Papers in Statistics Canada's series on *Education, Skills and Learning* (cat. 81-595MIE), and articles in *Education Quarterly Review* (cat. 81-003XIE) and *School Effectiveness and School Improvement* (2003).

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*The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY)*.  
All-Congress Symposium, Part 2. Wednesday morning post-break, 2 June 2004.

The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) is a long-term study of Canadian children that follows their development and well-being from birth to early adulthood. The NLSCY began in 1994 and is jointly conducted by Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada. The survey is designed to collect information about factors influencing a child's social, emotional and behavioural development and to monitor the impact of these factors on the child's development over time. It covers a comprehensive range of topics including the health of children, information on their physical development, learning and behaviour as well as data on their social environment (family, friends, schools and communities). Data for 2000/2001 (cycle 4) were released on June 16, 2003.

**André Cyr** is a senior methodologist for the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. He graduated from l'Université de Moncton in mathematics, and has had a long and varied career at Statistics Canada for over 23 years. During his last five years with the NLSCY, André's area of responsibility has focused on education data and psychometric measurements of children's performance and ability, issues related to confidentiality, and the development and release of special products such as the Public Use Microdata File and the NLSCY Synthetic File. Prior to his involvement with the NLSCY, André was a senior analyst with the travel and tourism portfolio, where he had once worked as a survey methodologist. Other domains where he has worked as a survey methodologist include the Culture Statistics Program, the Cultural Labour Force Survey, Small Area and Administrative Data, the Survey of Consumer Finance, the Household Expenditure Survey and the Labour Force Survey.

**Charles Tardif** is a senior methodologist with the Longitudinal Special Surveys Methods section of the Social Surveys Methods Division of Statistics Canada in Ottawa.

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Philippe Finès (Régie régionale de la santé et des services sociaux de l'Outaouais, and Health Analysis and Measurement Group, Statistics Canada), Chair. *Population health*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 3: Wednesday afternoon pre-break, 2 June 2004.

Two papers will be presented in this session: (1) *The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)*. (2) *The National Population Health Survey (NPHS)*.

**Philippe Finès** is presently working at Statistics Canada – in cooperation with the Régie régionale de la santé et des services sociaux de l'Outaouais (RRSSSO) – mainly on a Health Canada grant to analyze the relation between mortality and income in Canada. He received a PhD in Statistics from the Université de Sherbrooke. Philippe's thesis was on the inclusion of uncertainty in classification models. He examined the impact of a perturbation of data and costs on the results given by a discriminant analysis model, and developed tools allowing one to measure how much a given statistical model is robust and efficient. Philippe has collaborated in the analysis of numerous social and epidemiological surveys, and in doing so acquired expertise in large data base management and various types of statistical software. He also has considerable experience in the teaching of mathematical concepts to students of various levels.

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Mario Bédard (Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada). *The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 3. Wednesday afternoon pre-break, 2 June 2004.

The central objective of the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) is to gather health-related data at the sub-provincial levels of geography (health region or combined health regions). The strength of this survey lies in the economic, social, demographic, occupational and environmental correlates of health at a community and regional level. The results of this survey should aid in the development of public policy, help in the understanding of the determinants of health and increase understanding of the relationship between health status and health care utilization. The survey is composed of two sections. The first section includes questions based on common content that are asked of all respondents. The second section involves optional content, selected by the health regions for inclusion in the survey within their specific geo-political boundaries. Data from the *Canadian Community Health Survey - Mental Health and Well-being* can be used to provide national estimates of major mental disorders and problems, and to illuminate the issues associated with disabilities and the need for and provision of health care. Topics include access to and use of mental health care services, comorbidity and disability associated with mental health, and first lifetime episode of a mental health disorder. The survey also collects information on many determinants and correlates of mental health, such as socio-demographic information, income, stress, medication use and social support.

**Mario Bédard** is a senior analyst with the Health Statistics Division of Statistics Canada in Ottawa. He holds a Masters degree in economics from the University of Ottawa. For the last four years Mario has managed the Data Access Unit for Canada's two main population health surveys: the National Population Health Survey (NPHS) and the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS). His responsibilities with the surveys encompass all aspects of dissemination and data access, including capacity building with respect to data usage and analysis. Previously, Mario worked in the Demography Division and in the Social Survey Methods Division. In addition to numerous reports concerning the health surveys, Mario has published reports on interprovincial migration (with Margaret Michalowski, 1997) and labour market income dynamics based on administrative data (1985).

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France Bilocq (Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada). *The National Population Health Survey (NPHS)*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 3. Wednesday afternoon pre-break, 2 June 2004.

The National Population Health Survey (NPHS) collects information related to the health of the Canadian population and related socio-demographic information. It is composed of three components: the household survey, the health care Institutions survey and the Northern territories survey (now part of the CCHS). The first cycle of data collection began in 1994. The objectives of the NPHS are to: aid in the development of public policy by providing measures of the level, trend and distribution of the health status of the population; provide data for analytic studies that will assist in understanding the determinants of health; collect data on the economic, social, demographic, occupational and environmental correlates of health; increase the understanding of the relationship between health status and health care utilisation, including alternative as well as traditional services; provide information on a panel of people who will be followed over time to reflect the dynamic process of health and illness; provide the provinces and territories and other clients with a health survey capacity that will permit supplementation of content or sample; allow the possibility of linking survey data to routinely collected administrative data such as vital statistics, environmental measures, community variables, and health services utilisation. *The NPHS household component* includes household residents in all provinces, except Indian Reserves, Canadian Forces Bases and some remote areas in Québec and Ontario. Limited information was collected from all household members, and one person aged 12 years and over in each household was randomly selected for a more in-depth interview. The questionnaire included components on health status, use of health services, risk factors and demographic and socio-economic status. The selected person in each household is followed at two year intervals as part of the longitudinal component. A minimum of 1,200 households in each province ensures reliable estimates by sex and age groups. Some provinces have chosen to increase the sample size to increase the utility of the survey. *The NPHS health institutions component* was developed for people living in health care institutions: hospitals, nursing homes, and residential facilities for people with disabilities--because this population is rarely covered by national surveys and it has health characteristics different from those of the general population. Respondents were randomly chosen from selected health care institutions. The questionnaire included components on health status, risk factors, social support, contact with health care providers, and demographic and socio-economic status. Information provided permits the study, over time, of the transitions from households to institutions and vice versa, at the national level.

**France Bilocq** is Chief of the National Population Health Survey (NPHS) in the Health Statistics Division at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She has a BSc in Statistics from Laval University, Québec. Since 2000, she has managed a multidisciplinary team which is responsible for conducting the NPHS, processing the information, releasing the data and supporting data users. From 1985 to 2000 France worked as a methodologist in various domains (such as business surveys, agriculture surveys, statistical consultation, questionnaire design, census) at Statistics Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and l'Institut de la statistique et des études économiques (INSEE) in France.

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*Social and economic well-being.*

All-Congress Symposium, Part 4: Wednesday afternoon post-break, 2 June 2004.

Three papers will be presented in this session: (1) *The General Social Surveys (GSS)*. (2) *The Workplace and Employee Survey (WES)*. (3) *The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)*.

**Pascale Beaupré** is a social science researcher for the Demography Division at Statistics Canada. She holds a BSc in Sociology and Demography and an MSc in Demography, both from the Université de Montréal. Her research in family demography focuses on the trends in children's home leaving, lone parenthood, the diversification of conjugal trajectories in Canada, and most recently, the relationship between type of conjugal union and its stability.

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Susan Stobert (General Social Survey, Statistics Canada). *The General Social Surveys (GSS)*. All-Congress Symposium, Part 4. Wednesday afternoon post-break, 2 June 2004.

The General Social Survey (GSS) program, originating in 1985, conducts telephone surveys. Each survey contains a core topic, focus or exploratory questions, and a standard set of socio-demographic questions used for classification. More recent cycles have also included some qualitative questions, which explore opinions and perceptions. The target population for most cycles has been all individuals aged 15 and over living in a private household in one of the ten provinces. The two primary objectives of the GSS are to gather data on social trends in order to monitor temporal changes in the living conditions and well being of Canadians, and to provide immediate information on specific social policy issues of current or emerging interest. Until 1998, the sample size was approximately 10,000 persons. This was increased in 1999 to at least 25,000, so results could be useable at both the national and provincial levels and possibly for some smaller population groups. The sample design will not allow for estimates for Aboriginal peoples. *Cycle 17* (2003) was the first cycle of the GSS to be devoted to social engagement. Using the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) definition of social capital, it collected information on social networks, civic participation, and trust and reciprocity. *Cycle 16* (2002) was a survey of aging and social support. Unlike all other cycles of the GSS, this cycle sampled only persons aged over 45. The survey collected data on help received by seniors because of long-term health limitations, help provided to seniors as well as new content on transitions to retirement and retirement experience. *Cycle 15* (2001) concentrated on the respondent's family. Topics covered included marital history, common-law unions, biological, adopted and step children, family origins, child leaving and fertility intentions. This theme was repeated from *Cycle 10* (1995) and *Cycle 5* (1990). *Cycle 14* (2000) was the first cycle to collect detailed information on access to and use of information communication technology in Canada. Topics included general use of technology and computers, technology in the workplace, development of computer skills, frequency of internet and email use, nonusers and security and information on the internet. *Cycle 13* (1999) focussed on victimization and public perceptions of crime and the justice system. It was the third time that the GSS had examined the nature and extent of criminal victimization in Canada. The survey measured the occurrence of eight specific offences: three violent crimes (sexual assault, robbery, and assault), four household crimes (break and enter, motor vehicle/parts theft, theft of household property and vandalism) and theft of personal property. *Cycle 18* (2004) will repeat this theme. *Cycle 12* (1998) core content of time use repeated that of *Cycle 7* (1992) and *Cycle 2* (1986), and provided data on the daily activities of Canadians. Question modules were also included on unpaid work activities, cultural activities and participation in sports. *Cycle 11* (1996) concentrated on help given or received during temporary difficult times or out of necessity due to long-term health or physical limitations in daily activities either inside or outside the household. *Cycle 9* (1994) marked the first repeat of the core subject on education, work and retirement, originally covered in *Cycle 4* (1989). Although the core content was the same in both cycles, there are differences between the two surveys. For example, Cycle 9 focused more on quality of life after retirement and post-retirement activities than Cycle 4. In addition, the Cycle 9 questionnaire had two new sections: social origin and work interruptions.

**Susan Stobert** is Chief of the General Social Survey at Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Statistics and a Master's degree in Mathematics from Carleton University. Prior to joining the General Social Survey, she worked with other survey areas at Statistics Canada and was a methodologist for Health Canada.

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*The Workplace and Employee Survey (WES).*

All-Congress Symposium, Part 4. Wednesday afternoon post-break, 2 June 2004.

The overall goal of the Workplace and Employee Survey (WES) is to examine the way in which employers and their employees respond to the changing competitive and technological environment. Information on workforce characteristics and job organization is important in understanding the dynamic nature of the workplace. The target population for the employer component is defined as all business locations in Canada that have paid employees, with the following exceptions: a) Employers in Yukon and Northwest Territories. b) Employers operating in crop production and animal production; fishing, hunting and trapping; private households, or public administration. The target population for the employee component is all employees working in the selected workplaces who receive a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency T-4 Supplementary form. If a person receives a T-4 slip from two different workplaces, then the person would be counted as two employees in the WES frame. Data for 2001 were released on July 11, 2003.

**Marie Drolet** is a Senior Research Economist with the Business and Labour Market Analysis Division of Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She has a BA (Honours) in Economics from Queen's University in Kingston, and an MA in Economics (Labour Economics and Econometrics) from McMaster University in Hamilton. Marie is currently Research Manager for the Workplace and Employee Survey. Her research now concerns women in the Canadian labour market, and the importance of parental education and income on access to post-secondary education. Her work has been published in the *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Canadian Economic Observer*, *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, *Canadian Social Trends*, the Statistics Canada income research paper series, and the Analytical Studies Branch research paper series.

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*The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)*.

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The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) complements traditional survey data on labour market activity and income with an additional dimension: the changes experienced by individuals over time. At the heart of the survey's objectives is the understanding of the economic well-being of Canadians: what economic shifts do individuals and families live through, and how does it vary with changes in their paid work, family make-up, receipt of government transfers or other factors? The survey's longitudinal dimension makes it possible to see such concurrent and often related events. SLID is the first Canadian household survey to provide national data on the fluctuations in income that a typical family or individual experiences over time which gives greater insight on the nature and extent of poverty in Canada. Added to the longitudinal aspect are the "traditional" cross-sectional data: the primary Canadian source for income data and providing additional content to data collected by the Labour Force Survey (LFS). Particularly in SLID, the focus extends from static measures (cross-sectional) to the whole range of transitions, durations, and repeat occurrences (longitudinal) of people's financial and work situations. Since their family situation, education, and demographic background may play a role, the survey has extensive information on these topics as well. Data for 2001 were released on June 25, 2003.

**Heather Lathe** is a Senior Analyst for the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) in the Income Statistics Division of Statistics Canada in Ottawa. She has a Bachelor of Translation and a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Ottawa and a Master of Economics from Queen's University in Kingston. Currently Heather is SLID project leader for the income and housing content of the survey. Her accomplishments in SLID include work on the "market basket measure" of poverty and other measures of low income and income inequality, evaluating the impact of the National Child Benefit on family incomes, and the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics Microdata User's Guide* (Product Number 75M0001GPE/F, June 1996). Prior to joining SLID, Heather worked in the Income and Expenditure Accounts Division and the Communications Division of Statistics Canada. She has also worked with CUSO as an economic analyst for the Department of Finance in Sierra Leone, and as a teaching assistant at the University of Geneva.

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