
Inventory of National Rural Health Research Related Databases

Database name:	General Social Survey - Cycle 6
Thematic Coverage:	This survey contains specific subject areas (e.g. health) that recur quinquennially. For the purposes of this database information will be restricted to GSS – Cycle 6 (Health). Cycle 6 monitors changes in the health of Canadians. The focus content covers measures of general health, health status indicators and occupational health.
Maintained by:	Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division, Statistics Canada
Availability:	A public release version of the data files is available through the Data Liberation Initiative (DLI). Some variables are suppressed and other are aggregated to protect the anonymity of individual survey respondents. Custom tabulations on the master file are available on a cost recovery basis.

Start Date:	1985
Release Date:	12 months after completion of the cycle's last interview
Frequency of collection:	Annual

Data Collection:	One person aged 15+ asked to complete this survey for the household through 100% telephone interviews.
Sample size:	11,000 households; weighted to represent all persons 15 years and older in Canada.

Geographic coverage:	All 10 provinces, excluding residents of the Territories and full-time residents of institutions.
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Lowest geographic level collected:	Postal code
Lowest geographic level of release:	Province
Existing rural variable:	No

Rural definitions that can be constructed from this database include (building block)[†]:

- ✓ Census "rural areas" (Enumeration Area)
- ✓ Rural and Small Town definition (Census Subdivision)
- ✓ Metropolitan area and census agglomeration Influenced Zones (Census Subdivision)
- ✓ OECD "rural communities" definition (Census Consolidated Subdivision)
- ✓ OECD "predominantly rural regions" definition (Census Division)
- ✓ Ehrensaft's "Beale codes" (Census Division)

[†] Results for these areas of geography could conceivably be derived from postal codes if respondent confidentiality is ensured.

Data Elements:

- Disability, short and long term measures
- Emotional health measures and satisfaction
- Health care utilization
- Health status indicators
- Life style, risk factors
- Occupational health measures

Notes:

Other Cycles of the GSS:

- Cycle 1: (1985) Health and social support
- Cycle 2: (1986) Time use, social mobility, and language knowledge and use
- Cycle 3: (1988) Personal risk (accidents and criminal victimization)
- Cycle 4: (1989) Work and education
- Cycle 5: (1990) Family and friends
- Cycle 6: (1991) Health, health status indicators, occupational health
- Cycle 7: (1992) Time use of Canadians
- Cycle 8: (1993) Personal risk (accidents and criminal victimization)
- Cycle 9: (1994) Education, work and retirement
- Cycle 10: (1995) The Family
- Cycle 11: (1996) Social and community support
- There was no survey administered in 1997
- Cycle 12: (1998) Time Use
- Cycle 13: (1999) Victimization
- Cycle 14: (2000) Access to and Use of Information Communication Technology