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## Inventory of National Rural Health Research Related Databases

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Database name: **National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating**

Thematic Coverage: This survey collects information on Canadian contributory behaviour. The results will help build a better understanding of these activities which can in turn be used to develop programs and services to support them.

Maintained by: Special Surveys 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.

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Start Date: 1997  
Release Date: Approximately 9 months after data collection period  
Frequency of collection: Every three years (most recent 2000)

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Data Collection: Sample of population 15 years and older, based on the area sample of the Labour Force Survey. Data collected through telephone and personal interviews.

Sample size: Representative sample of 14,724 Canadians, aged 15 years and older.

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Geographic coverage: All provinces, excluding residents of the Territories, inmates of institutions, full-time members of the Armed Forces and residents on First Nation reserves

Lowest geographic level collected: Postal Code  
Lowest geographic level of release: Province  
Existing rural variable: Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) / Non-CMA are coded. Prince Edward Island has no CMA and the CMAs of Montreal and Toronto were each separate strata.

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) / Census Agglomeration (CA) and Non-CMA can be used as an urban / rural variable. CMA/CA and Non-CMA/CA can be used to construct a 5-level rural/urban variable. Urban core, urban fringe and rural fringe distinguish between central and peripheral urban and rural areas within a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA). **Urban core** is a large urban area around which a CMA or a CA is delineated. The urban core must have a population (based on the previous census) of at least 100,000 persons in the case of a CMA, or between 10,000 and 99,999 persons in the case of a CA. The urban core of a CA that has been merged with an adjacent CMA or larger CA is called the **secondary urban core**. **Urban fringe** is the urban area within a CMA or CA that is not contiguous to the urban core. It has a minimum population of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 per square kilometre, based on the previous census counts. **Rural fringe** is all territory within a CMA or CA not classified as an urban core or an urban fringe. The other levels

of geography in this classification are **urban area (small towns) that lie outside of CMA** and **rural area lying outside of CMA**.

Rural definitions that can be constructed from this database include (building block)<sup>†</sup>:

- ✓ 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)

<sup>†</sup> Results for these areas of geography could conceivably be derived from postal codes if respondent confidentiality is ensured.

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Data Elements:

Individuals were asked how they:

- Gave money and other resources to individuals and to organizations
- Volunteered time to help others and to enhance their communities
- Participated in the practices which help give substance to active citizenship

Notes:

The LFS uses a rotating panel sample design so that selected dwellings remain in the LFS sample for six consecutive months. One feature is that each of the six rotation groups can be used as a representative sample by itself. The NSGVP used five of the six rotation groups in the October 2000 LFS sample and collected information from one pre-selected household member. Proxy responses were not permitted.