



The Canadian Community Health Survey On Mental Health and Wellbeing (2002)

The Canadian Community Health Survey is a **national health survey** that will ask individuals in Canada about their physical and mental wellbeing, factors that affect their health and their use of health care services. Statistics Canada, in collaboration with Health Canada and the provincial ministries of health, is conducting the survey.

Providing vital information for health care planners

The focus of this year's survey is mental health. By providing the most comprehensive national examination of this topic in recent years, the survey will allow health care professionals to address the important issues surrounding mental health.

Interviewing will begin in May 2002 and will continue over 8 months.

Most people experience temporary challenges to their emotional well-being, such as coping with stressful events. Yet, the World Health Organization estimates that over their lifetime one in four people will experience problems related to mental health, ranging from mild depression to serious emotional disorders. Because of this, the survey will also provide information with which to examine the social and economic impacts of mental illnesses.

The survey fulfils a critical need for complete and up-to-date information on the mental health and wellbeing of Canadians. It will provide the first ever comprehensive look at mental health with respect to who is affected and the access and utilization of health care services. In order to provide a complete picture, this survey will also collect information on the positive factors which contribute to good mental health.

Using the survey results, health care professionals will have a better understanding of the overall mental health of Canadians. This will assist them in developing programs to benefit not only those persons in need, but their families and the community as a whole.

Who will be interviewed

Approximately 40,000 randomly-selected people across Canada, age 15 and over, will be interviewed. Although a respondent's participation in this survey is voluntary, it is important to collect information from each selected individual, in order to have the most reliable and complete data.

Broad content to meet information needs

The survey content was determined through consultations with health care professionals, researchers, and policy and program planners at all levels of government.

Access to data

During the interview, Statistics Canada will ask respondents for permission to share the information with the provincial and territorial ministries of health. Data tables, analysis, workshops and conferences are being planned to ensure broad access to survey results.

Confidentiality

Like all Statistics Canada surveys, this survey is conducted under the authority of the *Statistics Act*, which ensures that the information provided by respondents will remain completely confidential. No personal information that could identify a respondent or other family members can be given to anyone without his or her permission.

Results

Statistics Canada will release preliminary results in the summer/fall of 2003. They will be announced in *The Daily*, on Statistics Canada's web site at www.statcan.ca.

Questions

If you have any further questions about the Canadian Community Health Survey, please consult the CCHS information on Statistics Canada's Web site at www.statcan.ca/health_surveys or contact Ronald Gravel at (613) 951-4592 or by e-mail at ronald.gravel@statcan.ca.

Detailed questions from the general public should be referred to one of these Statistics Canada Regional Offices:

Toll-free number:		Local calls:	
Atlantic	1-800-554-6086	Halifax	(902) 426-6086
Quebec/Nunavut	1-800-363-6720	Montreal	(514) 283-5724
Ontario	1-800-387-0714	Toronto	(416) 973-6544
Prairies/NWT	1-800-263-1136	Winnipeg	(204) 983-2773
British Columbia/Yukon	1-800-663-0172	Regina	(306) 780-6089
TDD for the hearing impaired	1-800-363-7629	Edmonton	(780) 495-2225
		Vancouver	(604) 666-1288