

*Gender issues in the measurement of paid and unpaid work*

Expert Group Meeting on  
Methods for Conducting Time-Use Surveys  
23-27 October 2000  
New York

**Collecting time-use data, including context  
variables and simultaneous activities, at  
Statistics Canada**

# **Collecting Time Use Data, Including Context Variables and Simultaneous Activities, at Statistics Canada**

David Paton  
Statistics Canada  
Ottawa, K1A 0T6  
Canada

## **Abstract**

In the past 15 years Statistics Canada has conducted three major time use studies using a retrospective diary approach. These data were collected as part of the Canadian General Social Survey in 1986, 1992, and 1998. The approach used to collect this data, including contextual data and simultaneous activity dimensions, has evolved over that period. This working paper describes and comments on the methods used to collect the data, problems and deficiencies encountered, and the refinements made over the years.

## **What is the General Social Survey?**

The Canadian General Social Survey (GSS) is a sample survey that has been conducted by Statistics Canada annually since 1985. The GSS was added to Statistics Canada's social statistics program to provide regular ongoing data in areas such as health, time use, personal risk, education and employment, and social networks. To be able to provide detailed data on such a broad range of issues, the GSS covers one theme each year and repeats those themes every five years. Thus each year of data collection constitutes an independent survey, generally referred to as a cycle. Data collection is currently under way for Cycle 14.

From 1985 until 1998, the GSS used a sample size of about 10,000 persons to survey its target population of the non-institutional population of the ten provinces of Canada. Starting in 1999 the sample size was increased to about 25,000 persons. The data were collected for the 1985 to 1990 surveys over a period of two to three months, but starting with the 1991 sample, data collection has been spread over the entire year with independent samples selected each month. This change was made for both operational and analytic reasons. Interviewing throughout the year has led to better retention of trained interviewers, the possibility of using fewer, better-trained interviewers (Frederick, 1993), and the data obtained allow the assessment of some seasonal effects as well as providing estimates that average out any seasonal variation.

The sample is selected using random digit dialing (RDD) techniques and the interviews are conducted by telephone. It is a survey of individuals, and in each household selected using RDD a single person aged 15 or older is selected to respond to the questionnaire. Starting with the 1993 survey, the questionnaires have been administered and the data captured using computer-aided telephone interviewing methods (CATI). Prior to this the data were recorded on paper questionnaires and the data captured as a separate step.

The principal product of the GSS is a file of microdata that is publicly available and is used for analysis by federal government departments, other levels of government, academics, and interest groups. More detail on the objectives of the GSS and the methodology used can be found in Norris and Paton (1991).

The data collected by the GSS, like much social data, consist mostly of qualitative rather than quantitative variables. The GSS questionnaires have always been long and complicated, and there has been a tendency over time for the complexity and length of the questionnaires to increase. In the early cycles the target average length of interview was 20 minutes, whereas now the target has increased to 30 to 40 minutes. Response rates have varied over the years, with the highest observed in 1996 (a Census year in Canada) at 86%. Currently response rates are about 82%.

Time use data were collected by the GSS in 1986, 1992, and 1998 using a retrospective 24-hour diary. The 1986 and 1992 data were collected using telephone interviewing with the responses recorded by the interviewers on paper forms. The 1998 data were entered directly into machine-readable form by the interviewers using CATI software.

## Collecting Time Use Data in 1986

The data for the 1986 cycle of the GSS were collected between November 22 and December 22, 1986. The RDD sample had previously been screened to find the households and select the household respondent (between October 25 and November 21). Interviews were conducted six days a week, from Monday to Saturday. Each unit in the sample was assigned at random to a day of the week as its reference day. The management of the caseloads and assignment of cases to interviewers was done manually. An attempt was made to collect the time use data on the day after the reference day, or at most two days later, but this was not strictly controlled.

### **The 1986 Time Use Diary**

The paper questionnaire allowed for 44 time use episodes. Interviewers were able to use a second form to collect data when there were more than 44 time use episodes reported by the respondent. The maximum number of time use episodes reported was 58. For each episode, a description of the activity, the start and end times, the location of the activity, and who was with the respondent were recorded on the questionnaire by the interviewer. After the interview the descriptions were used to code the activities. For the exact questions used and the list of activity codes see Appendices A1 and A2.

More detail on the 1986 GSS can be found in Statistics Canada(1987).

### **Commentary I**

No secondary activity information was collected, and this lack was clearly demonstrated

to be a problem when analysts turned their attention to the amount of child care reported by the respondents. When there was a child under 5 in the household, respondents reported on average only 105 minutes of child care, while they reported being with children for 343 minutes. The 'with whom' dimension of time use helped point out the problem of only collecting child care as a primary activity. (Although we already knew from personal experience and personal observations that parents of young children need to spend more than 105 minutes per day taking care of their children.) As we were developing the 1992 survey, renewed interest in the value of unpaid work made us consider better ways to collect data on unpaid work, especially child care. Analysts also asked for more detail in the list used for coding activities as well as some extra detail in the 'where' contextual variable.

## Collecting Time Use Data in 1992

For the test of the 1992 questionnaire, conducted in the summer of 1991, there were four main changes introduced to the time use data collection: the list of activity codes was enriched, a question on secondary activities was added to the diary, there was a second, parallel diary for child care, and a series of questions was added asking directly about time spent on various types of unpaid work over a seven-day or one-month period. During the test, it was observed that the secondary activity questions were generally only successful when the interviewers probed for information, that the secondary activities reported depended to a large extent on the examples used for probing, and that the activities being reported were mostly media use, conversation, and child care. The secondary activity questions also contributed to longer interview times. From both focus group testing and impressions gained from observing interviews during this test it was apparent that much child care involved being available and responsible without active minute by minute involvement. For this type of child care, respondents were more likely to report it as part of the child care diary in response to the question **'at what times were you looking after your child/children?'** than in response to a question like **'Were you doing anything else at the same time?'** It was felt that the child care diary did a better job of collecting the child care information, and it was decided to drop the secondary activity question for the main survey.

The data for the 1992 cycle of the GSS were collected between mid-January and mid-December 1992. There were 12 independent monthly samples of approximately equal size. Interviews were conducted six days a week, from Monday to Saturday. Each unit in the sample was assigned at random to a day of the week as its reference day. The management of the case loads and assignment of cases to interviewers was again done manually. An attempt was made to collect the time use data on the day after the reference day, or at most two days later.

### **The 1992 Time Use Diary**

The paper questionnaire allowed for 50 time use episodes. Interviewers were able to use a second form to collect data when there were more than 50 time use episodes reported by the respondent. The maximum number of episodes reported was 57. For each episode a

description of the activity, the start and end times, the location of the activity (in more detail than in 1986), and who was with the respondent were recorded by the interviewer. After the interview the descriptions were used to code the activities. For the exact questions used and the list of activity codes see Appendices B1 and B2.

### **The 1992 Child Care Diary**

The paper questionnaire allowed for 10 child care episodes. For each period of child care the start and end times were recorded by the interviewer. No other contextual variables were collected, nor was any detail on the type of child care collected. (Some detail for type of primary child care was collected in the main time use diary.) For the exact questions used see Appendix B3.

### **The 1992 Direct Questions**

Direct questions about the amount of time spent on a number of activities over a seven-day or one-month period were also asked for a number of other types of activities that had been identified as being uncommon enough that they seemed difficult to capture using a 24-hour diary. These focussed on household work and on unpaid work for others or for organizations. The exact wordings of these questions are given in Appendix B4.

More detail on the 1992 GSS can be found in Statistics Canada(1993).

### **Commentary II**

One concern with the switch to collecting data over the entire year was that seasonality might make comparisons with the 1986 data difficult. Frederick (1993) found that for most types of activities seasonality was not a major factor. The exceptions were television watching, educational activities, entertainment, and sport and hobbies. More time was reported for the first two activities and less time for the last two in the November-December period than in the rest of the year. Seasonality was also found to be important for some subpopulations, such as students.

Whereas the 1986 data only gave us two views of the time use with respect to children, these data gave us three diary-based views. Based on childcare as the primary activity of the respondent, those in households with at least one child under 5 reported 124 minutes of childcare, a significant increase from 1986, perhaps due to changes in society, due to the enrichment of the coding set, or to a combination of both. Time spent with children increased to 392 minutes. The third view, the new one, found respondents reporting 632 minutes of child care. This remarkable difference highlights the special nature of child care mentioned above: it often represents responsibility and some proximity without the provider either directly doing anything or actually being with the child(ren). It nevertheless represents a role that needs to be filled and that could be filled by someone paid to do it.

There was in fact a fourth view of childcare provided by the direct question: **Last week, how many hours did you spend looking after children who live in your household?** The average for this for the same subpopulation was 761 minutes. The difference between this number and the diary based number can largely be attributed to the respondent error implicit in switching from 24-hour recall to 8-day recall and between the mental exercises of remembering and reporting the individual episodes in a recent 24-hour period and that of totalling the time spent over seven days on all such episodes. It is interesting to note that relative to the child care diary times, males tended to over-estimate their time spent on child care by about one third when answering the direct question, while women only over-estimated by about one fifth. More analysis of the validity of the four ways of looking at child care using 1992 GSS data can be found in Frederick(1993)

## Collecting Time Use Data in 1998

In general we were satisfied with the additional data collected in 1992 through the use of the childcare diary and the direct questions on unpaid work. The child diary was retained for the 1998 survey, and in a less detailed form the direct unpaid work questions were retained. The 12 categories of unpaid work used in 1992 were reduced to three: unpaid childcare for any children; unpaid housework, yardwork or home maintenance for anyone; and unpaid care or assistance to any seniors. See Appendix C5 for the exact wording used.

The coding system was refined somewhat, with a few new activity codes introduced and a few of the old ones removed. The biggest change to the coding of the data was that the coding process was built into the questionnaire, with the interviewers using a series of screens to first classify the activity generally and then more specifically until enough detail was available to assign a unique code.

A number of new context variables were introduced to provide more detail about the characteristics of unpaid help given to organizations or persons outside the household. Finally, more detail was collected for the 'with whom' context variable.

Two possible methods for enriching the dataset at potentially low cost were investigated during the development of the 1998 survey. There was a long standing request that the survey collect diaries from more than one household member and/or for more than one day, preferably a weekday and a weekend day. These additional diaries could be collected at low cost since the time spent finding a household, selecting the respondent and collecting demographic data would already have been done. A test survey was conducted to investigate the possibility of collecting these additional diaries. The results were not encouraging. The success rates for collecting a diary for a second person were low (20-30% lower than the rates for the first person). Collecting diaries from the respondent for two days with the same call led to lower data quality for the diary with the longest recall, and collecting the second diary on a second call led to a low response rate for complete (with two diary) cases (20% lower). In addition, collecting an additional

diary or in some cases three additional diaries (one extra for the respondent, and two spouse diaries) added significantly to the response burden of an already long interview. It was decided that the disadvantages of the two-person and/or two-diary approaches outweighed the advantages.

The data for the 1998 cycle of the GSS were collected between February 1998 and January 1999. There were 12 independent monthly samples of approximately equal size. Interviews were conducted seven days a week. Each unit in the sample was assigned at random to a day of the week as its reference day. Unlike the previous two time use cycles, the management of the case load was performed by the computer aided telephone interviewing software. Cases were eligible for collection only on the two days after their reference days with priority given to collecting data on the day after. Diaries were collected with 24 hour recall in 68% of the responding cases.

### **The 1998 Time Use Diary**

The computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) questionnaire allowed for 60 time use episodes. Interviewers were able to use a text field and fields for notes to describe the characteristics of additional time use episodes when a respondent reported more than 60 time use episodes. 60 was the maximum number of time use episodes reported (only 3 respondents of 10,749 reported more than 55 time use episodes). Unlike the 1986 and 1992 surveys, interviewers no longer recorded the description of each activity, but rather categorized the activity using a series (usually two) of screens that led to a code being assigned to the activity. For the choices presented to the interviewers on these screens see Appendix C2. As was the case for the other surveys, for each episode the start and end times, the location of the activity, and who was with the respondent were captured by the interviewer, although more detail was collected for the 'who' variable. In addition, several other contextual variables were added to collect better information about unpaid work for persons outside the household or for organizations. For the exact questions used and the list of activity codes see Appendices C1 and C3.

### **The 1998 Child Care Diary**

The 1998 child care diary was virtually the same as the one used in 1992. The CATI questionnaire allowed for 10 child care episodes. For each period of child care the start and end times were captured by the interviewer. As in 1992, no other contextual variables were collected, nor was any detail on the type of child care collected. For the exact questions used see Appendix C4.

More detail on the 1998 GSS can be found in Statistics Canada (1999).

### **Commentary III**

In general we were satisfied with the data collected by this survey. The change in the method of assigning the activity codes reduced field costs and had little apparent impact on the quality of the data collected. The gradual refinement of the set of codes over the

three surveys produced a more useful breakdown for analysis.

While editing the data, one problem with the set of activity codes was revealed. If the list of codes is examined closely it will be noted that they describe not only what was being done, but some of them imply special values of certain context variables such as where, with whom, why, etc. (in the extreme, some codes do not describe what was being done at all, only why it was being done, '011' - Work for Pay at Main Job is an example of this extreme). For example, the activity of eating could be given any of these five codes: '050' - Meals/Snacks at Work; '430' - Meals at Home; '431' - Other Meals (Non-restaurant, Non-socializing); '440' - Restaurant Meals; or '752' - Socializing with Meal (excluding Restaurants), depending on where and with whom the eating took place. However, when the context variables that were asked explicitly (with whom, where) were compared with the activity code during editing, large numbers of inconsistencies were found. This is a drawback of both the activity coding structure that we used and the interaction between our coding method and this structure. The coding structure made it important that the activity code be consistent with the context variables rather than letting each variable describe a different dimension of the time use episode. With the new activity coding method, the answers to the context variables were not always available to the interviewer at the time of determining the activity code; they were asked explicitly only after the code had been assigned. Sometimes of course, they would be included in the respondent's answer to '**And then, what did you do?**' However, it seems that the interviewers did not always probe enough to correctly assign the activity code. Perhaps it was not always obvious that probing was necessary to find the correct code.

In retrospect, it seems as if the coding structure used during data collection was largely determined by analytic needs; it remains the code structure on the analysis file. There has been ongoing feedback from the field, but this feedback generally focuses on the most difficult situations and would not suggest a major change in approach. A major change in approach suggested by the problem noted above that might make things simpler and more dependable in the field would be to separate the field coding structure from the analysis structure. Of course, it must be possible to derive the codes that are needed by analysts from the data collected but that does not require that these codes be used in the field. In the example above of eating meals, it might be simpler and easier for interviewers and respondents to report that the activity was 'eating a meal' rather than being forced to choose between the five possibilities and then report where and with whom the meal was eaten. Later, during processing, the activity code and the values of the contextual variables would be used to derive the five 'eating a meal' analysis codes.

This approach to collecting the characteristics of each time use episode would emphasize the importance of the context variables, putting such characteristics of the episode as 'with whom', 'where', and 'for what purpose' closer to the same level of importance as the 'what' dimension of the episode. It would make analysis easier for those analysts who are interested in examining time use from the point of view of one of these other characteristics. It could however make analysis more difficult for analysts used to working with the current coding structure. This problem could be solved by deriving activity codes that follow our traditional structure during processing.



One concern about making such a change would be that our coding structure and the strategy for collecting the codes has been relatively successful in the field. Through the incorporation of feedback from interviewers, we have refined the questionnaire to make the process as easy as possible for the respondent and the interviewer. There would undoubtedly be some resistance to making a major change to the questionnaire. Fortunately, there are relatively few of our activity codes that combine contextual information with the activity description, so changes to the questionnaire would be limited, and where there would be changes, they would simplify the choices for interviewers and respondents.

## Conclusions

The strategy used to collect time use data used by the first GSS time use survey in 1986 has proven to be quite robust. Small changes have been suggested and implemented over the years to the level of detail in the activity codes used, and in the context variables collected. The lack of secondary activity data was and still is a major weakness with the strategy. The most significant data gap created by the lack of simultaneous activity data was in the information on child care, and this gap was filled through the introduction of a parallel diary specifically for child care.

The coding structure used for time use at Statistics Canada includes a few codes that not only depend on what was being done, but also on the context variables such as 'where' and 'with whom'. It has been found that for these activity codes, the context data collected with the direct questions are often inconsistent with the context implicit in the assigned code, indicating that at the time of choosing the code, the interviewers had difficulty adequately incorporating the context information in the coding process. This problem could be solved by simplifying the coding structure, combining codes for the same activity in different contexts, and using the direct context questions to provide the contextual detail. This approach would make the data more useful for a wider range of analyses, while the problem of direct comparability with previous GSS datasets could be solved by deriving, at the processing stage, a set of activity codes equivalent to the traditional ones.

## Bibliography

- Frederick, J. (1993). 'Measuring child care and sleep, Some Results from the 1992 Canadian General Social Survey.' Paper presented at the 1993 Meetings of the Association for Time Use Research, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Frederick, J. (1993). 'A Comparison of Results from the General Social Survey on Time Use - 1986 and 1992.' General Social Survey Working Paper #11, Statistics Canada.
- Norris, D.A. and Paton, D.G. (1991). Canada's General Social Survey: Five Years of

Experience. **Survey Methodology**, 17, 227-240.

Statistics Canada (1988). The 1986 General Social Survey - Cycle 2: Time Use, Social Mobility and Language Use (Public Use Microdata File Documentation and User's Guide). Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada (1993). The 1992 General Social Survey - Cycle 7: Time Use (Public Use Microdata File Documentation and User's Guide). Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada (1999). 1998 General Social Survey, Cycle 12: Time Use (Public Use Microdata File Documentation and User's Guide). Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 12M0012GPE.

### About the Author

David Paton is a Senior Methodologist in the Household Survey Methods Division of Statistics Canada. He is responsible for the methodology of the General Social Survey, and has worked on that survey in some capacity since its inception. He has worked on a number of other surveys, many of them using random digit dialing for sample selection, as well as on the analysis of data from complex surveys. He can be contacted at HSMD, 16th floor R. H. Coats Bldg., Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0T6; e-mail: [paton@statcan.ca](mailto:paton@statcan.ca).

## Appendix A1

### The 1986 Time Use Diary

For each activity, the following questions were asked:

**a. And then, what did you do next?**

This field provided the interviewers with three lines (70 mm each) to write in a description of the activity and a two character field for coders to use. The codes were added before the questionnaire were data captured; only the codes were captured.

**b. When did this start?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**c. When did this end?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**d. Where were you? / Were you still...**

Seven response categories were provided.

Three were 'Place' categories:

- Respondent's Home,
- Work Place,
- Other Place.

The other four were 'In Transit' categories:

- Car,
- Walk,
- Bus and Subway,
- Other.

**e. Who was with you? / Were you still...**

Six response categories were provided, more than one could be selected:

- Alone,
- Spouse/Partner,
- Children of the Household,
- Friend(s),
- Other Person(s)

For the first activity, items a) and b) were a little different:

- a. **First of all, starting at 4:00 AM, what were you doing?**
- b. (the answer 04:00 was pre-printed on the form)

Before the data were captured, the diaries were reviewed by coders and a code from the following list was assigned to each activity.

## Appendix A2

### GSS 1986 ACTIVITY CODES

#### **Employed Work**

- 01 Work for Pay
- 02 Extra to Work/Overtime/Looking for Work
- 03 Travel During Work
- 04 Waiting, Delays at Work
- 05 Meals-Snacks at Work
- 06 Idle Time Before or After Work
- 07 Coffee, Other Breaks
- 08 Uncodeable Work Activities
- 09 Travel: To-From Work

#### **Domestic Work**

- 10 Meal Preparation
- 11 Meal Clean-up (Dishes/Clearing Table)
- 12 Indoor Cleaning (Dusting/Vacuuming)
- 13 Outdoor Cleaning (Sidewalks/Garbage)
- 14 Laundry, Ironing, Folding
- 15 Mending
- 16 Home Repairs, Maintenance
- 17 Gardening, Pet Care
- 18 Other Uncodeable Housework (Bills)
- 19 Travel: Domestic work

#### **Care of Children**

- 20 Baby Care
- 21 Child Care
- 22 Helping Teaching, Reprimanding Children
- 23 Reading, Talking, Conversation with Children

- 24 Play with Children
- 25 Medical Care - Child
- 28 Other Child Care (Unpaid Babysitting)
- 29 Travel: Child Care

### **Shopping and Services**

- 30 Everyday Shopping (Food, Clothing, Gas)
- 31 Shopping for Durable Household Goods  
(House, Car)
- 32 Personal Care Services (Hairdresser)
- 33 Government and Financial Services
- 34 Adult Medical & Dental Care (Outside  
Home)
- 35 Other Professional Services (Lawyer)
- 36 Repair Services (Cleaning, Auto,  
Appliance)
- 37 Waiting, Queuing for Purchase
- 38 Other Uncodeable Services
- 39 Travel: Goods or Services

### **Personal Care**

- 40 Washing, Dressing, Packing
- 41 Adult Medical Care (At Home)
- 42 Help and Personal Care to Adults
- 43 Meals at Home/Snacks/ Coffee
- 44 Restaurant Meals
- 45 Night Sleep/Essential Sleep
- 46 Incidental Sleep, Naps
- 47 Relaxing, Thinking, Resting
- 48 Other Personal Care or Private Activities
- 49 Travel: Personal care

### **School and Education**

- 50 Full-time Classes
- 51 Other Classes - Part-time
- 52 Special Lectures: Occasional
- 53 Homework: Course, Career,  
Self-Development
- 54 Meals-Snacks, Coffee at School
- 55 Breaks or Waiting for Class to Begin
- 56 Leisure and Special Interest Classes
- 57 ---
- 58 Other Uncodeable Study

59 Travel: Education

### **Organizational, Voluntary and Religious Activity**

- 60 Professional, Union, General
- 61 Political, Civic Activity
- 62 Child, Youth, Family Organization
- 63 Religious Meetings, Organizations
- 64 Religious Services/Prayer/Read Bible
- 65 Fraternal, Social Organizations
- 66 Volunteer Work, Helping
- 67 ---
- 68 Other Uncodeable Organizations
- 69 Travel: Organizations

### **Entertainment (Attending)**

- 70 Sports Events
- 71 Pop Music, Fairs, Concerts
- 72 Movies, Films
- 73 Opera, Ballet, Drama
- 74 Museums and Art Galleries
- 75 Visits, Entertaining Friends/Relatives
- 76 Socializing at Bars, Clubs
- 77 ---
- 78 Other Social Gatherings
- 79 Travel: Entertainment

### **Sports & Hobbies (Participation)**

- 80 Sports, Physical Exercise, Coaching
- 81 Hunt, Fish, Camp
- 82 Walk, Hike
- 83 Hobbies
- 84 Domestic Home Crafts
- 85 Music, Theatre, Dance
- 86 Games, Cards, Arcade
- 87 Pleasure Drives, Sightseeing
- 88 Other Uncodeable Sport or Active Leisure
- 89 Travel: Sports, Hobbies

### **Media and Communication**

- 90 Radio
- 91 Television, Rented Movies
- 92 Records, Tapes, Listening

- 93 Reading Books, Magazines
- 94 Reading Newspapers
- 95 Talking, Conversation, Phone
- 96 Letters and Mail
- 98 Other Uncodeable (Media or  
Communication)
- 99 Travel: Media or Communication

**Residual Codes**

- 26 Missing Time (Gaps)
- 27 Refusal
- 97 Activity Not Stated

## Appendix B1

### The 1992 Time Use Diary

For each activity, the following questions were asked:

**a. And then, what did you do next?**

This field provided the interviewers with two lines (150 mm each) to write in a description of the activity and a three character field for coders to use. The codes were added before the questionnaire were data captured; only the codes were captured.

**b. When did this start?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**c. When did this end?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**d. Where were you? / Were you still...**

Ten response categories were provided.

Four were 'Place' categories:

- Respondent's Home,
- Work Place,
- Someone else's Home
- Other Place.

The other six were 'In Transit' categories:

- Car(Driver),
- Car(Passenger),
- Walk,
- Bus and Subway,
- Bicycle,
- Other.

**e. Who was with you? / Were you still...**

Six response categories were provided, more than one could be selected:

- Alone,
- Spouse/Partner,
- Children of the Household,
- Friend(s),



- Other Person(s)

For the first activity, items a) and b) were a little different:

- On [designated day], at 4:00 AM, what were you doing?**  
(When this first activity was sleeping, and extra question was asked: **What time did you fall asleep?**, with a four character hour and minute written in (24-hour clock was used).)
- (the answer 04:00 was pre-printed on the form)

## Appendix B2

### GSS 1992 ACTIVITY CODES

#### EMPLOYED WORK

- 011 Work for Pay at Main Job
- 012 Work for Pay at Other Job(s)
- 021 Overtime Work
- 022 Looking for Work
- 023 Unpaid Work in a Family Business or Farm
- 332 Government Services (e.g. UIC) - applying for or collecting UIC
- 030 Travel During Work
- 040 Waiting/Delays at Work
- 050 Meals/Snacks at Work
- 060 Idle Time Before/After Work
- 070 Coffee/Other Breaks
- 080 Other Work Activity
- 090 Travel: To/From Work

#### DOMESTIC WORK

- 101 Meal Preparation
- 102 Baking, Preserving Food, Home Brewing, etc.
- 110 Food (or Meal) Cleanup
- 120 Indoor Cleaning
- 130 Outdoor Cleaning
- 171 Gardening/Grounds Maintenance  
- raking cut grass or leaves
- 182 Stacking and Cutting Firewood
- 140 Laundry, Ironing, Folding
- 151 Mending/Shoe Care
- 152 Dressmaking and Sewing
- 161 Interior Maintenance and Repair

- 162 Exterior Maintenance and Repair
- 163 Vehicle Maintenance
- 164 Other Home Improvements
- 171 Gardening/Grounds Maintenance
- 172 Pet Care
- 173 Care of House Plants
- 181 Household Administration, e.g. Paying Bills, Menu Planning, etc.
- 183 Other Domestic Work (not specified above)
- 190 Travel: Domestic

### **CARE OF CHILDREN**

- 200 Baby Care - Household Child
- 210 Child Care - Household Child
- 220 Helping/Teaching/Reprimanding
- 281 Other Child Care - visiting with child's teacher
- 230 Reading/Talking/Conversation with Child
- 240 Play with Children
- 250 Medical Care - Household Child
- 260 Unpaid Babysitting
- 281 Other Child Care
- 673 Unpaid Babysitting
- 291 Travel: Household Child

### **SHOPPING AND SERVICES**

- 301 Groceries
- 302 Clothing, Gas, etc.
- 303 Take-out Food
- 310 Shopping for Durable
- 320 Personal Care Services (e.g. Haircut)
- 331 Financial Services (e.g. banking)
- 332 Government Services (e.g. UIC)
- 610 Political, Civic Activity - jury duty or attending court
- 340 Adult Medical and Dental Care
- 350 Other Professional Services
- 361 Automobile Maintenance and Repair
- 362 Other Repair Services (e.g. T.V., Appliance)
- 370 Waiting for Purchases or Services
- 380 Other Shopping and Services
- 350 Other Professional Services - take pet to vet
- 390 Travel: Goods/Services

### **PERSONAL CARE**

- 400 Washing, Dressing

- 183 Other Domestic Work - packing
- 410 Personal Medical Care (Home)
- 272 Medical Care - Household Adults
- 675 Care for Disabled or Ill
- 271 Personal Care - Household Adults
- 282 Other Care to Household Adults
- 671 Housework and Cooking Assistance
- 672 House Maintenance and Repair Assistance
- 674 Transportation Assistance
- 675 Care for Disabled or Ill
- 676 Correspondence Assistance
- 677 Unpaid Help for a Business or Farm
- 678 Other Unpaid Work
- 430 Meals at Home/Snacks/Coffee
- 431 Other Meals (non-restaurant/non-socializing)
- 440 Restaurant Meals
- 450 Night Sleep/Essential Sleep
- 460 Incidental Sleep, Naps
- 470 Relaxing, Thinking, Resting
- 480 Other Personal Care or Private Activities
- 491 Travel: Restaurant Meals
- 492 Travel: Other Personal Activities
- 292 Travel: Household Adult

## **SCHOOL AND EDUCATION**

- 500 Full-Time Classes
- 511 Other Classes (Part-Time)
- 512 Credit Courses on Television
- 520 Special Lectures: Occasional
- 530 Homework: Course, Career/  
Self-Development
- 540 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at School
- 550 Breaks/Waiting for Class
- 560 Leisure and Special Interest Classes
- 580 Other Study
- 590 Travel: Education

## **ORGANIZATIONAL, VOLUNTARY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY**

- 600 Professional, Union, General
- 610 Political, Civic Activity
- 620 Child, Youth, Family Organization
- 630 Religious Meetings, Organizations
- 640 Religious Services/Prayer/Bible  
Readings
- 651 Fraternal and Social Organizations (e.g. Lions' Club)

- 652 Support Groups (e.g. Al-Alon, AA)
- 660 Volunteer Work, (Organizations)
- 671 Housework and Cooking Assistance
- 672 House Maintenance and Repair Assistance
- 674 Transportation Assistance
- 675 Care for Disabled or Ill
- 676 Correspondence Assistance
- 630 Religious Meetings, Organizations - volunteer work dealing exclusively with church
- 680 Other Organizational, Voluntary and Religious Activity
- 610 Political, Civic Activity - hearings or meetings at city hall
- 691 Travel: Civic & Voluntary Activity
- 692 Travel: Religious Services
- 674 Transportation Assistance

### **ENTERTAINMENT (Attending)**

- 701 Professional Sports Events
- 702 Amateur Sports Events
- 711 Pop Music, Concerts
- 712 Fairs
- 713 Zoos
- 720 Movies, Films
- 730 Opera, Ballet, Theatre
- 741 Museums
- 742 Art Galleries
- 743 Heritage Sites
- 751 Socializing (No Meal)
- 752 Socializing (w/Meal, Excl. Restaurants)
- 753 Socializing (at non-private residence)
- 760 Socializing at Bars, Clubs (no meal) - watching home movies
- 780 Other Social Gatherings (Weddings, Wakes)
- 914 Other Television Viewing (home recorded movies)
- 791 Travel: Sports, Movies & Other Entertainment Events
- 792 Travel: Socializing (In Homes)
- 793 Travel: Other Socializing

### **SPORTS AND HOBBIES (PARTICIPATION)**

- 800 Coaching
- 801 Football, Baseball, Hockey, etc.
- 802 Tennis, Squash, Racquetball, etc.
- 803 Golf, Miniature Golf
- 804 Swimming, Water-skiing
- 805 Skiing, Ice-Skating, etc.
- 806 Bowling, Pool, etc.

- 807 Exercises, Yoga, Weight Lifting
- 808 Judo, Boxing, Wrestling, Fencing
- 809 Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking and Sailing
- 810 Other Sports, e.g. Frisbee, Catch
- 815 Horseback Riding, Rodeo, Jumping, Dressage
- 816 Other Outdoor Activities - Excursions
- 822 Biking
- 811 Hunting
- 812 Fishing
- 813 Boating
- 814 Camping
- 809 Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking and Sailing
- 821 Walking, Hiking
- 822 Biking
- 831 Hobbies Done Mainly for Pleasure
- 832 Hobbies Done For Sale or Exchange of Items
- 841 Domestic Home Crafts Done Mainly for Pleasure
- 842 Domestic Home Crafts Done For Sale or Exchange of Items
- 850 Music, Theatre, Dance
- 861 Games, Cards, Arcade
- 862 Video Games/Computer Games
- 863 General Computer Use (Not Games)
- 871 Pleasure Drives as a Driver
- 872 Pleasure Drives as a Passenger in a Car
- 873 Other Pleasure Drives (e.g. bus tour)
- 880 Other Sport or Active Leisure
- 863 General Computer Use (Not Games)
- 891 Travel: Active Sports
- 893 Travel: Hobbies & Crafts For Sale or Exchange
- 894 Travel: Other Active Leisure
- 892 Travel: Coaching

## **MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION**

- 900 Listening to the Radio
- 911 Watching Television (regular scheduled television)
- 912 Watching Television (time-shifted television)
- 913 Watching Rented or Purchased Movies
- 914 Other Television Viewing (home recorded movies)
- 512 Credit Courses on Television
- 920 CD's, Tapes, Records, Listening
- 931 Reading Books
- 932 Reading Magazines
- 940 Reading Newspapers
- 950 Talking, Conversation, Phone
- 961 Reading Mail

- 962 Other (Writing letters)
- 980 Other Media or Communication
- 990 Travel: Media or Communication

## **RESIDUAL CODES**

- 001 Missing Gap in Time
- 002 Refused Information

## Appendix B3

### The 1992 Child Care Diary

The paper questionnaire allowed for 10 child care activities.

First two questions were asked:

**C4. When did your children wake up on [designated day]?**

**C5. When did your children go to sleep on [designated day]?**

For the up to 10 child care activities, the starting and ending times were collected with:

**C6. On [designated day], at what times were you looking after your child/children?**

There were ten pairs of four character fields to write in the start and end hours and minutes (24-hour clock was used).

## Appendix B4

### The 1992 Direct Questions

**D2: Last week, how many hours did you spend looking after children who live in your household?**

**D3: Last week, did you spend any time doing housework, including cooking, grocery shopping and laundry for your household?**

- Yes...For how many hours?
- No

**D4: Last week, did you do any unpaid work to maintain or improve your house, yard or automobile?**

- **Yes...For how many hours?**
- **No**

**D7: Now let's talk about unpaid help you may have given to friends, neighbours or relatives who did not live with you.**

**D8a: Last month, did you help someone else with housework, including cooking, grocery shopping and laundry?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D8b: Last month, did you help someone else with repairs or maintenance on a house, yard or automobile?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D8c: Last month, did you look after another person's child?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D9: Now I would like to ask you about other types of unpaid help that you gave to organizations or persons, including to other household members.**

**D10a: Last month, did you help someone else with transportation, shopping or getting around outdoors?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D10b: Last month, did you provide personal care to someone who was disabled or ill?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D10c: Last month, did you help anyone to write letters, solve problems, find information or fill out forms?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D10d: Last month, did you help anyone with carrying on a business or with farming?**

- **Yes...For how many hours? (last month)**
- **No**

**D11a: Last month, did you do any volunteer work that I have not mentioned so far for an organization?**

- **Yes...For how many hours?** (last month)
- **No**

**D11b: Last month, did you help anyone in a way that I have not mentioned so far?**

- **Yes...For how many hours?** (last month)
- **No**



## Appendix C1

### The 1998 Time Use Diary

For each activity, the following questions were asked:

**a. And then, what did you do?**

At this point the interviewers followed a series of screens that narrowed the description of the activity down to the detail needed to assign the three digit codes for the type of activity. When they were unable to adequately classify the activity this way there was a 72-character field to type in a description of the activity for subsequent manual coding.

**b. When did you start?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**c. When did this end?**

The four character hour and minute was written in (24-hour clock was used).

**d. Where were you? / Were you still...**

Ten response categories were provided.

Four were 'Place' categories:

- Respondent's Home,
- Work Place,
- Someone else's Home
- Other Place.

The other six were 'In Transit' categories:

- Car(Driver),
- Car(Passenger),
- Walk,
- Bus and Subway,
- Bicycle,
- Other.

**e. Who was with you? / Were you still...**

Eleven response categories were provided, more than one could be selected:

Household members:

- Alone,

- Spouse/Partner,
- Children(under 15),
- Parents or Parents-in-law,
- Other Person(s)

Non-household members:

- Children(under 15) of the respondent,
- Children(over 14) of the respondent,
- Parents or Parents-in-law,
- Other Family Members,
- Friends,
- Other Person(s)

For some activity codes, additional questions were asked:

**f. Did this activity help a person outside your household or an organization?**

- Person (*go to g2*)
- Organization (*go to h2*)
- No (*go to next episode*)

**g2. Was the person helped 65 years or older?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**g3. Does the person you helped have a long-term health or physical limitation?**

- Yes
- No

**h1. What is this person's relationship to you?**

- Parent(s) or parent(s) in-law,
- Children of the respondent living outside of the household,
- Other member(s) of the family living outside the household,
- Friend(s),
- Neighbour(s),
- Co-worker(s),
- Others.

**h2. Was this organization mostly concerned with seniors, children, persons with disabilities or other?**

- Seniors
- Children
- Persons with disabilities
- Other

For the first activity, items a) and b) were a little different:

- a. **On [designated day], at 4:00 AM, what were you doing?**  
 (When this first activity was sleeping, and extra question was asked: **What time did you fall asleep [designated day -1] night?**, with a four character hour and minute written in (24-hour clock was used).)
- b. (the answer 04:00 was pre-printed on the form)
- c. (When the last activity was sleeping, an extra question was asked: **What time did you wake up?**, with a four character hour and minute written in (24-hour clock was used).) This was needed because the last episode needed to end at 4:00 AM so that the diaries could be edited by the computer system. The previous cycles did not have this constraint so they collected the wake up time as the time of the end of the activity.

## Appendix C2

### CATI Coding Screens Used to Collect the Activity Code in 1998

A series of screens were presented to the interviewers. In the following description of the screens, [code 450] should be interpreted as 'Assign the code '450' to this time use episode's activity code, then continue with question 'b', **When did you start?**, and [goto A] means present Screen A to the interviewer now.

#### Screen 1

If first activity, ask "**On {designated day}, at 4:00 a.m. what were you doing?**"  
 Otherwise ask "**What did you do next?**"

Interviewer: If respondent is involved in two concurrent activities, ask respondent to identify the most important activity.

- <1> sleeping (essential/night) [code 450]
- <2> washing, dressing [code 400]
- <3> meals, personal care activity (include naps and relaxation) [goto A]
- <4> meal preparation (exclude baking) [code 101]
- <5> meals/snacks/coffee (at Home) [code 430]
- <6> meal clean up [code 110]
- <7> domestic/household work [goto B]

- <9> paid work and related activities [goto C]
- <10> care giving (children and adults) [goto D]
- <11> shopping or obtaining services [goto E]
- <12> school or education related activity [goto F]
- <13> organizational, civic, voluntary or religious activity [goto G]
- <14> socializing [goto H]
  
- <15> attending events or visiting sites (sports, concerts, theatre, museums, etc.) [goto I]
- <16> walking, participating in sports, physical exercise or outdoor activity [goto J]
- <17> using the computer [goto K]
- <18> passive leisure activities (reading, music, T.V., videos) [goto L]
- <19> hobbies, crafts, games or other leisure activity [goto M]
- <20> travel related activity [goto N]
- <21> other activities (several activities grouped together, no activity lasting 5 minutes) [goto P]
  
- <x> don't know [code 001]
- <r> refused [code 002]
- <0> diary complete, perform edits then go to section C of the questionnaire

### **Screen A - Meals - personal care**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> night sleep/essential sleep [code 450]
- <2> naps/lying down [code 460]
- <12> relaxing, thinking, resting, smoking [code 470]
  
- <3> meals/snacks/coffee at home (include take-out eaten at home) [code 430]
- <4> meals at restaurant [code 440]
- <5> meals/snacks at work [code 050]
- <16> coffee/other breaks at work [code 070]
- <6> meals/snacks/coffee at place of volunteer work [code 661]
- <7> meals/snacks/coffee at school [code 540]
- <8> meals/snacks/coffee at religious service [code 642]
- <9> other meals/snacks/coffee (e.g. at cottage, park, picnic, hotel)-SPECIFY [code 431 & goto S]
  
- <10> washing, dressing [code 400]
- <11> personal medical care at home [code 410]
  
- <13> private prayer, meditation and other informal spiritual activities [code 411]
- <14> religious services/prayer/bible reading [code 640]
- <15> other personal care or private activities (e.g. washroom activities, sex) [code 480]

## **Screen B - domestic/household work**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> meal preparation [code 101]
- <2> baking, preserving food, home brewing, etc. [code 102]
- <3> food (or meal) cleanup [code 110]
- <4> laundry, ironing, folding laundry [code 140]
- <5> mending clothes shoe care [code 151]
- <6> dressmaking, sewing (for self or household member) [code 152]
  
- <7> indoor cleaning [code 120]
- <8> outdoor cleaning (garbage, snow removal, garage) [code 130]
- <9> gardening/grounds maintenance [code 171]
- <10> care of house plants [code 173]
- <19> unpacking groceries [code 184]
- <11> other domestic/household work - SPECIFY [code 183 & goto S]
  
- <12> interior maintenance and repair [code 161]
- <13> exterior maintenance and repair of home [code 162]
- <14> other home improvements [code 164]
  
- <15> household management (organizing/planning activities, paying bills, etc.) [code 181]
- <16> vehicle maintenance [code 163]
- <17> pet care (walking, grooming, feeding) [code 172]
- <18> stacking and cutting firewood [code 182]

## **Screen C - Paid Work and related activities**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> work for pay at main job [code 011]
- <2> work for pay at other job(s) [code 012]
- <3> idle time before/after work hours [code 060]
- <4> waiting/delays at work during work hours [code 040]
  
- <5> overtime work [code 021]
- <6> unpaid work in a family business or farm [code 023]
- <7> looking for work [code 022]
- <8> professional, union, general meetings [code 600]
- <9> other work activities - SPECIFY [code 080 & goto S]
  
- <10> meals/snack at work [code 050]
- <11> coffee/other breaks [code 070]
  
- <12> hobbies done for sale or exchange [code 832]

<13> domestic home crafts done for sale or exchange [code 842]

### **Screen D - Care giving/Social support**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

#### Care to household child(ren)

- <1> child care (infant to 4 years old) [code 200]
- <18> putting the children to bed [code 211]
- <19> getting children ready for school [code 212]
- <2> helping, teaching, reprimanding [code 220]
- <3> reading to, talking/conversation with children [code 230]
- <4> play with children [code 240]
- <5> medical care - household children [code 250]
- <6> unpaid babysitting - household children [code 260]
- <7> help and other care - household children - SPECIFY [code 281 & goto S]

#### Care to household adult (15 or older)

- <8> personal care - household adults [code 271]
- <9> medical care - household adults [code 272]
- <10> help and other care - household adults - SPECIFY [code 282 & goto S]

#### Care to member(s) of another household - unpaid help

- <11> housework or cooking assistance [code 671]
- <12> house maintenance or repair assistance [code 672]
- <13> babysitting [code 673]
- <14> care for disabled or ill [code 675]
- <15> correspondence assistance (letters, bills, forms) [code 676]
- <16> unpaid help for a business or farm [code 677]
- <17> other unpaid work/help [code 678]

### **Screen E - Shopping or obtaining services**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> grocery store, market, convenience store [code 301]
- <2> everyday goods and products (clothing, gas, gifts) [code 302]
- <3> durable goods (house, apartment, car, large appliances) [code 310]
- <4> take out food [code 303]
- <5> automobile maintenance and repair (car wash, oil change, tire rotation) [code 361]
- <6> other repair and cleaning services (dry cleaner, t.v. repair, furnace) [code 362]
- <7> personal care services (barbers, beauticians) [code 320]
- <8> financial services (banking, insurance, loans, taxes, financial consulting) [code 331]
- <9> government services (post office, police, driver's license, library, EI, welfare) [code 332]

- <10> adult medical and dental care, including having prescriptions filled [code 340]
- <11> other professional services (lawyer, decorator, photographer, etc.) [code 350]
- <12> rental of video [code 304]
- <13> other shopping and services (garage sale, run errand) - SPECIFY [code 380 & goto S]

**Screen F - Education and related activities**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> full-time classes [code 500]
- <2> other classes (part-time) [code 511]
- <3> credit courses on television [code 512]
- <4> special lectures (occasional outside regular work or school) [code 520]
- <5> homework (course, career, self-development) [code 530]
- <6> leisure and special interest classes [code 560]
- <7> meals/snacks/coffee at school [code 540]
- <8> breaks/waiting for class [code 550]
- <9> other education related activities (e.g. school assembly) - SPECIFY [code 580 & goto S]

**Screen G - Organizational, civic, voluntary and religious activities**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> professional, union, general meetings [code 600]
- <2> political, civic activity (e.g. voting, jury duty, city council, donating blood) [code 610]
- <3> child, youth, family organizations (e.g. scout leader, school volunteer) [code 620]
- <4> coaching (competitive sports or leisure sports - unpaid) [code 800]
- <5> religious meetings, organizations (e.g. choir practice, church socials) [code 630]
- <6> religious services/prayer/bible reading [code 640]
- <7> meals/snacks/coffee at religious services [code 642]
- <8> fraternal and social organizations (e.g. Lions' Club) [code 651]
- <9> support groups (e.g. Al-Alon, AA, Weight Watchers) [code 652]
- <10> volunteer organizational work (e.g. fund raising, meetings) [code 660]
- <11> meals/snacks/coffee at place of volunteer work [code 661]
- <19> other civic, voluntary or religious activity - SPECIFY [code 680 & goto S]

Unpaid Help given to another private household

- <12> housework or cooking assistance [code 671]

- <13> house maintenance or repair assistance [code 672]
- <14> unpaid babysitting [code 673]
- <15> care for disabled or ill person [code 675]
- <16> correspondence assistance (letters, bills, forms) [code 676]
- <17> help for a business or farm [code 677]
- <18> other unpaid work/help [code 678]
- <20> transporting assistance to someone other than a household member [code 674]

### **Screen H - Socializing**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> restaurant meals [code 440]
- <2> socializing at a private residence (no meal) [code 751]
- <3> socializing at a private residence (with meal) [code 752]
- <4> socializing at bars, clubs [code 760]
- <5> casino, bingo, arcade [code 770]
- <6> other socializing (e.g. at malls, hospitals) - SPECIFY [code 753 & goto S]
- <7> other social gatherings (e.g. weddings, wakes) - SPECIFY [code 780 & goto S]

### **Screen I - Attending events or visiting sites**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> professional sports events [code 701]
- <2> amateur sports events [code 702]
- <3> pop music concerts [code 711]
- <4> fairs, circuses, parades, amusement park, ice follies [code 712]
- <5> zoos, botanical gardens, planetarium, observatory [code 713]
- <6> movies/films at a theatre/cinema, art films, drive-in movies [code 720]
- <7> classical music concerts, opera, ballet, theatre [code 730]
- <8> museums (excluding art museums) [code 741]
- <9> art galleries (art exhibition) [code 742]
- <10> heritage sites (archaeological sites) [code 743]
- <11> casino, bingo, arcade [code 770]

### **Screen J - Participation in active sports**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> coaching sports competitively or leisurely (unpaid) [code 800]
- <2> football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, hockey, soccer, field hockey [code 801]
- <3> tennis, squash, racquetball, paddle ball [code 802]
- <4> golf, miniature golf [code 803]



- <5> swimming, water skiing [code 804]
- <6> walking, hiking, jogging, running [code 821]
- <7> bicycling [code 822]
- <8> exercises, yoga, weight lifting [code 807]
  
- <9> skiing, ice skating, sledding, curling, snowboarding [code 805]
- <10> bowling, pool/billiards, ping-pong, pinball [code 806]
- <11> judo, boxing, wrestling, fencing [code 808]
- <12> rowing, canoeing, kayaking, wind surfing, sailing (competitive) [code 809]
- <13> other sports (frisbee, catch, track & field, roller skating, skateboarding) [code 810]
  
- <14> hunting (as a sport) [code 811]
- <15> fishing (as a sport) [code 812]
- <16> boating (motorboats or rowboats) [code 813]
- <17> camping [code 814]
- <18> horseback riding, rodeo, jumping, dressage [code 815]
- <19> other outdoor activities/excursions (picnic, car rally, bird watching) [code 816]

### **Screen K - Using the computer**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

#### As a leisure activity

- <18> reading letters [code 961]
- <1> writing, typing letters [code 962]
- <2> computer games [code 862]
- <3> surfing the net [code 864]
- <4> computer - general use [code 863]

#### For household management

- <5> organizing/planning activities, household finances, etc. [code 181]

#### For work

- <6> work for pay at main job [code 011]
- <7> work for pay at other job(s) [code 012]
- <8> overtime work [code 021]
- <9> unpaid work in a family business or farm [code 023]
- <10> looking for work [code 022]
- <11> professional, union, general meetings [code 600]

#### For schooling

- <12> full-time classes [code 500]
- <13> other classes (part-time) [code 511]
- <14> credit courses on television [code 512]
- <15> special lectures (occasional outside regular work or school) [code 520]
- <16> homework (course, career, self-development) [code 530]

<17> other computer use - SPECIFY [code 995 & goto P]

### **Screen L - Television, reading and passive leisure**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

#### Television

- <1> scheduled programming [code 911]
- <2> recorded programming/time-shifted viewing [code 912]
- <3> rented or purchased movie [code 913]
- <4> other television viewing (video recorded home movies) - SPECIFY [code 914 & goto S]

#### Reading

- <7> newspapers [code 940]
- <5> books [code 931]
- <6> magazines [code 932]
- <8> the bible and other religious text [code 640]
- <9> mail (including flyers and advertisements) [code 961]

#### Music/News

- <10> listening to the radio [code 900]
- <11> listening to CD's, tapes, records [code 920]

#### Other passive leisure activities

- <12> talking, conversation with household member only [code 950]
- <15> talking on the phone [code 950]
- <13> writing/typing letters, sending greeting cards [code 962]
- <14> other media or communication - SPECIFY [code 980 & goto S]

### **Screen M - other leisure activities**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

- <1> hobbies done mainly for pleasure (painting, sketching, photography) [code 831]
- <2> hobbies done for sale or exchange of items [code 832]
- <3> home crafts done mainly for pleasure (sewing, needlework) [code 841]
- <4> home crafts done for sale or exchange of items [code 842]
  
- <5> games, cards, puzzles [code 861]
- <6> video games [code 862]
- <7> singing or playing music, drama, dance [code 850]
- <8> other leisure activity - SPECIFY [code 880 & goto S]
  
- <9> computer games [code 862]
- <10> computer - surfing the net (as a leisure activity) [code 864]

<11> computer - general use (as a leisure activity) [code 863]

<12> pleasure drives (as the driver) [code 871]

<13> pleasure drives (as a passenger in a car) [code 872]

<14> other pleasure drives (e.g. on a tour bus) [code 873]

### **Screen N - Travel - To/From**

Interviewer: probe if necessary

<1> work [code 090]

<2> travel during work [code 030]

<3> domestic work (e.g. travel to laundromat, to the dump) [code 190]

<4> related to child care (appointment, event, school) [code 291]

<5> related to adult care - household member (appointment, event) [code 292]

<6> transporting assistance to someone other than a household member [code 674]

<7> shopping or obtaining services [code 390]

<8> restaurant [code 491]

<9> personal care activities [code 492]

<10> education activities [code 590]

<11> civic, voluntary or religious activity [code 691]

<12> religious services [code 692]

<13> between residences for socializing [code 792]

<14> other socializing (to bars, hospitals, weddings) [code 793]

<15> attend sports, movies or other entertainment events or visit sites [code 791]

<16> coaching activities [code 892]

<17> participate in active sports/outdoor activities [code 891]

<18> pleasure drives (as the driver) [code 871]

<19> pleasure drives (as a passenger in a car) [code 872]

<20> other pleasure drives (e.g. on a tour bus) [code 873]

<21> sale of hobbies and crafts [code 893]

<22> other leisure activities [code 894]

<23> other passive leisure activities (e.g. pick up CD at friends) [code 990]

<24> undetermined purpose - SPECIFY [code 995 & goto P]

**Screen P - Specify the activity** (Interviewer cannot identify which path to take from screen 1. The activity will have a code 995 assigned to it.)

Description of the activity(ies): (Field 72 characters long)

### Screen S - Specify the activity

Description of the activity(ies): (Field 72 characters long)

## Appendix C3

### GSS 1998 ACTIVITY CODES

Note: The activities in *italic* are those who were asked questions f., g2., g3., h1., and h2. on helping somebody or an organisation. See questions in Appendix C1.

#### EMPLOYED WORK

- 011 WORK FOR PAY AT MAIN JOB
- 012 WORK FOR PAY AT OTHER JOB(S)
- 021 OVERTIME WORK
- 022 LOOKING FOR WORK
- 023 UNPAID WORK IN A FAMILY BUSINESS OR FARM
- 030 TRAVEL DURING WORK
- 040 WAITING/DELAYS AT WORK
- 050 MEALS/SNACKS AT WORK
- 060 IDLE TIME BEFORE/AFTER WORK
- 070 COFFEE/OTHER BREAKS
- 080 OTHER WORK ACTIVITY
- 090 *Travel: To/From Work ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

#### DOMESTIC WORK

- 101 *Meal Preparation*
- 102 *Baking, Preserving Food, Home Brewing, etc.*
- 110 *Food (or Meal) Cleanup*
- 120 *Indoor Cleaning*
- 130 *Outdoor Cleaning*
- 140 *Laundry, Ironing, Folding, Drying*
- 151 *Mending/Shoe Care*
- 152 *Dressmaking and Sewing*
- 161 *Interior Maintenance and Repair*
- 162 *Exterior Maintenance and Repair*
- 163 *Vehicle Maintenance*
- 164 *Other Home Improvements*

- 171 *Gardening/Grounds Maintenance*
- 172 *Pet Care*
- 173 *Care of House Plants*
- 181 *Household Management, e.g. Organizing and Planning Activities, Paying Bills, etc.*
- 182 *Stacking and Cutting Firewood*
- 183 *Other Domestic Work (not specified above)*
- 184 *Unpacking groceries*
- 185 *Packing and unpacking luggage and/or car*
- 186 *Packing and unpacking for a move of the household*
- 190 *Travel: Domestic **ONLY when** WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **CARE OF CHILDREN**

- 200 CHILD CARE (INFANT TO 4 YEARS OLD - HOUSEHOLD CHILD)
- 211 PUTTING THE CHILDREN TO BED
- 212 GETTING THE CHILDREN READY FOR SCHOOL
- 213 PERSONAL CARE FOR CHILDREN OF THE HOUSEHOLD
- 220 HELPING/TEACHING/REPRIMANDING
- 230 READING/TALKING/CONVERSATION WITH CHILD
- 240 PLAY WITH CHILDREN
- 250 MEDICAL CARE - HOUSEHOLD CHILD
- 260 UNPAID BABYSITTING
- 271 PERSONAL CARE - HOUSEHOLD ADULTS
- 272 MEDICAL CARE - HOUSEHOLD ADULTS
- 281 OTHER CHILD CARE
- 282 OTHER CARE TO HOUSEHOLD ADULTS
- 291 *Travel: Household Child **ONLY when** WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*
- 292 *Travel: Household Adult **ONLY when** WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **SHOPPING AND SERVICES**

- 301 *Groceries*
- 302 *Clothing, Gas, etc.*
- 303 *Take-out Food*
- 304 *Video rental*
- 310 *Shopping for Durable*
- 320 PERSONAL CARE SERVICES (E.G HAIRCUT)
- 331 *Financial Services (e.g. banking)*
- 332 *Government Services (e.g. UIC)*
- 340 *Adult Medical and Dental Care*
- 350 *Other Professional Services*
- 361 *Automobile Maintenance and Repair*

- 362 *Other Repair Services (e.g. T.V., Appliance)*
- 380 *Other Shopping and Services*
- 390 *Travel: Goods/Services **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **PERSONAL CARE**

- 400 WASHING, DRESSING
- 410 PERSONAL MEDICAL CARE (HOME)
- 411 PRIVATE PRAYER, MEDITATION AND OTHER INFORMAL SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES
- 430 MEALS AT HOME/SNACKS/COFFEE
- 431 OTHER MEALS (NON-RESTAURANT/NON-SOCIALIZING)
- 440 RESTAURANT MEALS
- 450 NIGHT SLEEP/ESSENTIAL SLEEP
- 460 INCIDENTAL SLEEP, NAPS
- 470 RELAXING, THINKING, RESTING
- 480 OTHER PERSONAL CARE OR PRIVATE ACTIVITIES
- 491 *Travel: Restaurant Meals **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*
- 492 *Travel: Other Personal Activities **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **SCHOOL AND EDUCATION**

- 500 FULL-TIME CLASSES
- 511 OTHER CLASSES (PART-TIME)
- 512 CREDIT COURSES ON TELEVISION
- 520 SPECIAL LECTURES: OCCASIONAL
- 530 *Homework: Course, Career/Self-Development*
- 540 MEALS/SNACKS/COFFEE AT SCHOOL
- 550 BREAKS/WAITING FOR CLASS
- 560 LEISURE AND SPECIAL INTEREST CLASSES
- 580 OTHER STUDY
- 590 *Travel: Education **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **ORGANIZATIONAL, VOLUNTARY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY**

- 600 *Professional, Union, General*
- 610 *Political, Civic Activity*
- 620 *Child, Youth, Family Organization*
- 630 *Religious Meetings, Organizations*
- 640 RELIGIOUS SERVICES/PRAYER/BIBLE READINGS
- 642 MEALS, COFFEE, SNACK AT RELIGIOUS SERVICES
- 651 *Fraternal and Social Organizations (e.g. Lions' Club)*
- 652 *Support Groups (e.g. Al-Alon, AA)*
- 660 *Volunteer Work, (Organizations)*
- 661 MEALS, COFFEE, SNACK AT PLACE OF VOLUNTEER WORK

- 671 *Housework and Cooking Assistance*
- 672 *House Maintenance and Repair Assistance*
- 673 *Unpaid Babysitting*
- 674 *Transportation Assistance*
- 675 *Care for Disabled or Ill*
- 676 *Correspondence Assistance*
- 677 *Unpaid Help for a Business or Farm*
- 678 *Other Unpaid Work*
- 680 OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL, VOLUNTARY AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY
- 691 *Travel: Civic & Voluntary Activity **ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR***
- 692 *Travel: Religious Services **ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR***

### **ENTERTAINMENT (Attending)**

- 701 PROFESSIONAL SPORTS EVENTS
- 702 AMATEUR SPORTS EVENTS
- 711 POP MUSIC, CONCERTS
- 712 FAIRS
- 713 ZOOS
- 720 MOVIES, FILMS
- 730 OPERA, BALLET, THEATRE
- 741 MUSEUMS
- 742 ART GALLERIES
- 743 HERITAGE SITES
- 751 SOCIALIZING (NO MEAL)
- 752 SOCIALIZING (W/MEAL, EXCL. RESTAURANTS)
- 753 SOCIALIZING (AT NON-PRIVATE RESIDENCE)
- 754 SOCIALIZING WITH FRIENDS/RELATIVES (INSTITUTIONAL RESIDENCE)
- 760 SOCIALIZING AT BARS, CLUBS (NO MEAL) - WATCHING HOME MOVIES
- 770 CASINO, BINGO, ARCADE
- 780 OTHER SOCIAL GATHERINGS (WEDDINGS, WAKES)
- 791 *Travel: Sports, Movies & Other Entertainment Events **ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR***
- 792 *Travel: Socializing (In Homes) **ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR***
- 793 *Travel: Other Socializing **ONLY when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR***

### **SPORTS AND HOBBIES (PARTICIPATION)**

- 800 *Coaching*
- 801 FOOTBALL, BASEBALL, HOCKEY, ETC.
- 802 TENNIS, SQUASH, RACQUETBALL, ETC.
- 803 GOLF, MINIATURE GOLF

- 804 SWIMMING, WATERSKIING
- 805 SKIING, ICE SKATING, ETC.
- 806 BOWLING, POOL, ETC.
- 807 EXERCISES, YOGA, WEIGHT LIFTING
- 808 JUDO, BOXING, WRESTLING, FENCING
- 809 ROWING, CANOEING, KAYAKING AND SAILING
- 810 OTHER SPORTS, E.G. FRISBEE, CATCH, SKATEBOARDING
- 811 HUNTING
- 812 FISHING
- 813 BOATING
- 814 CAMPING
- 815 HORSEBACK RIDING, RODEO, JUMPING, DRESSAGE
- 816 OTHER OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES - EXCURSIONS
- 821 WALKING, HIKING
- 822 BIKING
- 831 HOBBIES DONE MAINLY FOR PLEASURE
- 832 *Hobbies Done For Sale or Exchange of Items*
- 841 DOMESTIC HOME CRAFTS DONE MAINLY FOR PLEASURE
- 842 *Domestic Home Crafts Done For Sale or Exchange of Items*
- 850 MUSIC, THEATRE, DANCE
- 861 GAMES, CARDS
- 862 VIDEO GAMES/COMPUTER GAMES
- 863 *General Computer Use (Excluding Surfing the Net or Playing Games)*
- 864 SURFING THE NET (AS A LEISURE ACTIVITY)
- 871 *Pleasure Drives as a Driver*
- 872 PLEASURE DRIVES AS A PASSENGER IN A CAR
- 873 OTHER PLEASURE DRIVES (E.G. BUS TOUR)
- 880 OTHER SPORT OR ACTIVE LEISURE
- 891 *Travel: Active Sports **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*
- 892 *Travel: Coaching **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*
- 893 *Travel: Hobbies & Crafts For Sale or Exchange **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*
- 894 *Travel: Other Active Leisure **ONLY** when WHERE = <5> DRIVER OF THE CAR*

## **MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION**

- 900 LISTENING TO THE RADIO
- 911 WATCHING TELEVISION (REGULAR SCHEDULED TELEVISION)
- 912 WATCHING TELEVISION (TIME-SHIFTED TELEVISION)
- 913 WATCHING RENTED OR PURCHASED MOVIES
- 914 OTHER TELEVISION VIEWING (HOME RECORDED MOVIES)
- 920 CD'S, TAPES, RECORDS, LISTENING
- 931 READING BOOKS
- 932 READING MAGAZINES
- 940 READING NEWSPAPERS



- 950 TALKING, CONVERSATION, PHONE
- 961 READING MAIL
- 962 OTHER (WRITING LETTERS)
- 980 OTHER MEDIA OR COMMUNICATION
- 990 *Travel: Media or Communication* **ONLY** when *WHERE* = <5> *DRIVER OF THE CAR*

#### **RESIDUAL CODES**

- 001 MISSING GAP IN TIME
- 002 REFUSED INFORMATION

### Appendix C4

#### The 1998 Child Care Diary

The CATI questionnaire allowed for 10 child care activities.

First two questions were asked:

**C4. When did your children wake up on [designated day]?**

**C5. When did your children go to sleep on [designated day]?**

For the up to 10 child care activities, the starting and ending times were collected with:

**C6. On [designated day], at what (other) times were you looking after your child/children?**

There were ten pairs of four character fields to write in the start and end hours and minutes (24-hour clock was used).

### Appendix C5

#### The 1998 Direct Questions on Unpaid Work

**E1: The next few questions refer to unpaid activities.**

**E2: Last week, how many hours did you spend looking after one or more of your own children or the children of others, without pay? any time doing housework, including cooking, grocery shopping and laundry for your household?**

**E3: Last week, how many hours did you spend doing unpaid housework, yardwork or home maintenance for members of your household or others?**

**E4: Last week, how many hours did you spend providing unpaid care or assistance to one or more seniors?**