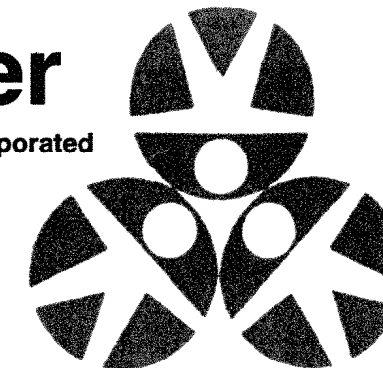


National Prosecutors Survey, 1994 (ICPSR 6785)	Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data [United States]: County-Level Detailed Arrest and Offense Data, 1994 (ICPSR 6669)
National Survey of the Japanese Elderly, 1987 (ICPSR 6842)	
Parenthood in Early Twentieth-Century America Project (PETCAP), 1900-1944 (ICPSR 6876)	Washington Post Virginia Governor Poll, September 1993 (ICPSR 6286)
Production and Consumption of Research in Police Agencies in the United States, 1989-1990 (ICPSR 6315)	Washington Post Virginia Governor Poll, October 1993 (ICPSR 6288)
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 1993 Panel (ICPSR 6886)	Washington Post Virginia Voters Poll, January 1994 (ICPSR 6616)

ACSPRI newsletter

Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated

Number 36, September 1997 ISSN 0158-6882



incorporating

SSDA news

Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences,
The Australian National University

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This newsletter is available at: <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/newsletter>

This newsletter is produced at the Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, 0200. Phone 02 6249 4400; Fax 02 6249 4722. Articles, letters, research notes, conference information and other contributions are encouraged. Write to the editors at the address listed above, or send by e-mail to ssda@anu.edu.au

This issue of the ACSPRI Newsletter/SSDA News was edited by Sophie Holloway with the assistance of Toni Greaves and Kim Au.

The ACSPRI Newsletter is online!

Send us your email address and we'll notify you when the latest edition is available.

For those of you with access to the internet this is the best way to receive the newsletter - it will offer you more up-to-date information and it's environmentally friendly!

<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/newsletter>

New ACSPRI WWW Pages

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri>)

The ACSPRI WWW pages provide more accessible, comprehensive, and timely information about ACSPRI services and activities. Web browsers may access the following ACSPRI pages at

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri>):

- **Introduction**
- **Services**
- **Membership**
- **Members**
- **ACSPRI Programs in Social Research Methods**
- **Newsletter**
- **What's New / Hotline**
- **Contact Information**

The online Newsletter is accessible at least a week before the printed version is posted. An "amendment to address details" form is included with the on-line Newsletter for those readers who wish not to receive the printed Newsletter, preferring instead to receive a reminder when the latest on-line version is available.

ACSPRI Membership News

Since the March issue of the Newsletter, ACSPRI has been pleased to welcome Dr **Satyanshu Mukherjee** as the new ACSPRI Representative from the Australian Institute of Criminology. His telephone number is (02) 6260 9290 and his fax number is (02) 6260 9201.

Mr **Richard Volpato**, of the Department of Sociology and Social Work, Hobart campus, returns as Representative from the University of Tasmania. Richard's telephone number is (03) 6226 2330 and his fax number is (03) 6226 2279.

A current, complete list of ACSPRI's academic and government members, with contact details for their Representatives, may be found on the ACSPRI web pages:

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/members.html>).

As of 1 July 1996, the Joining Fee for new (or rejoining) institutional members of ACSPRI is \$500. The annual subscription remains \$970.

1998 ACSPRI Summer Program

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/courses/summer>)
The Australian National University
27 January — 6 February

ACSPRI's 14th Summer Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology (SP98) will be co-hosted with the Research School of Social Sciences and the Faculties at the Australian National University from 27 January through 6 February, 1998. First week courses will begin on **Tuesday** (27 Jan.) and finish on **Saturday** (31 Jan.). Second week courses will run Monday to Friday (2-6 Feb.) as usual.

The 1998 Summer Program will offer standard and new courses/workshops in the areas of: survey research design; sampling; introductory statistics; program evaluation; policy analysis; decision making; regression analysis; factor analysis; measurement and scaling; data analysis in SPSS and SAS; log-linear modelling; structural equation models; multilevel analysis; statistical graphics; and qualitative research.

Comprehensive information about the Summer Program, including course descriptions, fees, and application procedures, is provided in the **Summer Program Course Booklet**, available on the SSDA WWW pages:

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/courses/summer>),

or from:

ACSPRI-SP98
Social Science Data Archives
Research School of Social Sciences
Institute of Advanced Studies
The Australian National University
Canberra ACT 0200

Tel: (02) 6249 4400; Fax: (02) 6249 4722
email: ssda@anu.edu.au

ACSPRI's 4th Winter Program

Returning to Perth for the second time in three years, ACSPRI held its 1997 Winter Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology at the University of Western Australia from 30 June to 4 July. The Program was co-hosted by UWA's Faculties of Economics, Commerce, Education and Law (ECEL) which, along with the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Centre for Water Research, provided computing facilities and technical support.

ACSPRI's first Winter Program at UWA in 1994 attracted 49 participants to five courses; its fourth Program attracted 121 to eight—an increase in participation of 147%. Average course enrolment (of 15.1) was the highest to date for any ACSPRI Program, Summer or Winter.

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Qualitative Research Techniques	16

Two-thirds of Program participants came from WA, and of these 65% were from the University of Western Australia, reflecting the substantial local publicising of the Program by co-hosts ECEL and from UWA staff and students who had participated at previous ACSPRI Programs. Curtin, Murdoch and Edith Cowan universities contributed 13, 7, and 1 participants, respectively. Participation from across the Nullarbor was evenly distributed between New South Wales (10), Queensland (10), South Australia (9), and Victoria (10), with three individuals coming from the ACT. Participation from non-ACSPRI member institutions was the highest it has been at any Winter Program, with state government departments in NSW, QLD, and SA alone sending eight participants.

Accommodation at the Program was provided at the UWA affiliated Kingswood College. The Student Guild did a superb job of catering morning and afternoon tea/coffee, as well as the Program's well attended Monday evening reception. The unofficial Program dinner was held on Wednesday evening at Stephenies Restaurant, overlooking the Swan River.

ACSPRI thanks its instructors for their fine teaching, the University of Western Australia for superb administrative, technical and catering support, and participants for their involvement in the 1997 Winter Program.

Forging the Will for a Canadian National Data Archive

Chuck Humphery
University of Alberta

The sad truth is that Canada does not have a national social science data archive. However, throughout the 1990's a movement has been afoot promoting the idea of a national data archive. Recently, the Canadian Public Data Users (CAPDU) has championed this cause.

CAPDU is composed of a membership concerned about public access to data for the purposes of scholarly research and policy analysis. This concern is particularly challenging because the current information culture in Canada presents many barriers to public data access. A comprehensive report of these obstacles is available in a discussion paper published in 1996 by the Data and Information Systems Panel of the Canadian Global Change Program entitled, "Data Policy and Barriers to Data Access in Canada: Issues for Global Change Research." ¹

One major threat to data access identified by this Panel is the disappearance of valuable digital records as a result of the failure to collect and to preserve research data through a systematic archiving program. The Canadian research enterprise has failed to provide proper infrastructural support to ensure the preservation of research data funded by Canadian granting agencies. Without an institution dedicated to the preservation of research data, Canada's digital research heritage is at great risk. There simply is no 911 number in Canada to phone when research data are in distress.

Compared to several other industrial nations, Canada is alone in not supporting a national data archive. Countries with prominent national data archives include Australia, Denmark, Germany, Israel, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. While the United States does not have a single national data archive, the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) has received extensive financial assistance from the National Science Foundation and functions as a national archive. Many countries recognize national data archives as a necessary element in the research infrastructure.

Why has Canada neglected the formation of a national data archive? Several historical factors contribute to an explanation. An association with the Institution for Social Research at the University

of Michigan to conduct the 1965 Federal Election Survey established an early relationship with the ICPSR, which became for many years the de facto data archive for Canadian academic researchers. In the 1970's, the Data Clearing House for the Social Sciences in Canada was begun to catalogue research data. However, by the end of the 1970's, the Data Clearing House closed and its catalogue disappeared.

The National Archives Machine-Readable Data unit served as an important leader in this area in the early 1980's, picking up where the Data Clearing House left off. But by the mid-1980's, chief administrators in the National Archives dissolved the unit claiming that as a format, machine-readable data should be administered by all of its units. The result has been that no single unit is looked upon as the authority in data archiving.

To bridge the gap in the late 1980's, a small group of university data libraries volunteered to serve as repositories for data resulting from research funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). By 1990, Appendix J in the SSHRC Grants: Guide for Applicants appeared listing potential repositories for electronic data. The intention was honourable but without the formal infrastructure of a national data archive, few deposits have been made and those that were deposited remain largely a mystery without a coordinated catalogue or inventory.

Within the last year and a half, a new initiative with Statistics Canada, called DLI, was begun to increase access to their data in post-secondary institutions. The question may be raised, "Is DLI not a data archiving project?" The answer is unequivocally, "No". DLI is a funding initiative that buys access to Statistics Canada data for Canadian post-secondary institutions. DLI is on the output side of the data-economy equation. The data products distributed through DLI are leased by the university community. The author divisions within Statistics Canada remain responsible for the preservation of these data files. This is not a criticism of how DLI functions but rather, is a clarification that DLI does not operate as a data archive.

DLI is a mechanism for disseminating standard data products (just as the Depository Services Program is a dissemination service for government information). The mandate of a national data archive entails more than data dissemination. For one thing, a Canadian national data archive would collect data

from a wider range of sources. Statistics Canada, albeit a very important data producer, is but only one source of Canadian data. Missing from DLI, for example, are all of the data products created from research supported by Canada's granting agencies.

In the fall of 1994, I wrote an article for the electronic journal, *Government Information in Canada*, entitled: "A Case for a National Social Sciences Data Archive."² I concluded this article with the observation that the time is ripe for a national data archive in Canada. The one missing ingredient, however, has been the political determination to act. Since this article was published, two new events heighten the need for a national data archive. First, Canada's participation in the Metropolis project supports major interdisciplinary research into immigration and integration. At the first National Conference on Immigration held in Edmonton in March of this year, I spoke of the need for an archiving policy among the four centres administering this project. Many heads in the audience nodded that yes, the preservation of data emanating from Metropolis research is indeed essential. However as researchers or policy analysts, archiving data is not a function they are going to perform. Implicitly, they are looking for someone else to pick up the responsibility. If a national data archive existed, the responsibility would fall on its shoulders. Without a national data archive, the responsibility will either fall on the individual researchers or on the four Centres, neither of which have the means nor skills to preserve immigration and integration data for future generations of Canadian researchers.

The second event has been the beginnings of a movement to inculcate a data culture in Canada. Paul Bernard has outlined the importance of this movement in his article published in *Government Information in Canada*, "Phase Two of the Data Liberation Initiative: Extending the Data Culture."³ One of the major premises of the data culture movement is readily accessible data available to researchers, policy analysts, decision-makers, journalists, and the public. Without an institution such as a national data archive, this premise may be baseless. Furthermore, a national data archive could provide leadership in such a movement and a forum for addressing public data issues.

The struggle to achieve the level of political will to create a national data archive in Canada continues. Canada's politicians and senior policy administrators need to be aware of the relatively small investment

needed to support such an institution compared to the overall expense in conducting research. For example, in 1994 approximately \$862.2 million CDN⁴, including grants, operations and administration, flowed through Canada's three major research granting agencies, the SSHRC, the Medical Research Council and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. A rough estimate of the amount required to operate a Canadian national data archive is one-half of one percent (0.5%) of these pooled expenditures. While this figure in absolute amounts is not trivial, the investment needed to support a national data archive would be but a small overhead expenditure of the above granting agencies. This is the message currently being presented to those with the authority to create a national data archive in Canada.

¹ Copies of this report can be obtained free of charge from The Canadian Global Change Program, c/o The Royal Society of Canada, 225 Metcalfe #308, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1P9. This report is also available on the Internet at the following URL: http://www.cgcp.rsc.ca/english/html_documents/publications/data/toc.htm.

² This article is available on the Internet at the URL: <http://www.usask.ca/library/gic/v1n2/humphrey/humphrey.html>.

³ This article is available on the Internet at the URL: <http://www.usask.ca/library/gic/v3n1/bernard/bernard.html>.

⁴ Statistics Canada, *Canada Year Book 1994* (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 1994).

Outcome of Review of (UK) ONS Multi-purpose Surveys

The UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) has recently announced the conclusions of its review of multi-purpose surveys yesterday, following a public consultation earlier this year. The main conclusions are:

- the General Household Survey (GHS) will be conducted in 1998/99;
- a full report on the 1996/97 GHS will be published;
- ONS will carry out further studies of options for reducing the cost of surveys. Among these will be a study of the feasibility of merging surveys and a study of the viability of switching to a biennial GHS;
- ONS will explore the scope for increasing the income it receives from surveys.

ONS is responsible for funding four major, continuous social surveys: the Labour Force Survey (LFS); the Family Expenditure Survey (FES); the International Passenger Survey (IPS); and the General Household Survey (GHS). Due to public expenditure constraints in 1997/98, fieldwork on the GHS was suspended for a year from April 1997.

Views expressed at an open meeting on the need for the GHS held by the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) on 5 March were taken into account by ONS as part of the public consultation. Survey users were asked to describe the uses they make of ONS surveys and to comment upon the impact on these uses of potential changes to the coverage, frequency, continuity or sample size of one or more of the surveys. Respondents to the consultation were asked to bear in mind the budgetary constraints to which ONS is subject and to consider priorities when commenting on their requirements. Almost 100 replies were received.

BACKGROUND NOTES

¹ The review was carried out by Elaine Chamberlain, an ONS statistician. She presented her findings at a meeting of the RSS last night. Copies of the review report are available from Keith Williams, Office for National Statistics, B3.10, 1 Drummond Gate, London SW1V 2QQ (Tel: 0171-533 5811).

² Details of the policy governing the release of new data, including a description of the release categories featured on the front page of ONS releases, are available from the press office.

³ Crown copyright 1997. ONS First Releases and statistical news releases are subject to Crown copyright protection. Data and text may be reproduced without fee provided use is for genuine news gathering and distribution purposes. Headline figures and short extracts may also be quoted in support of commentary or criticism. All other reproduction (especially for commercial use) requires specific copyright permission from the ONS and payment of a reproduction fee, or must be the subject of a commercial agreement that includes such permission.

Lievesley, Denise. [denise@essex.ac.uk]. "Review of UK Surveys - outcome." In IASSIST List. [IASST-L@columbia.edu]. 17 July 1997.

New Web Site for the AASR

(<http://www.csu.edu.au/research/aasr/>)

The central aim of the **Australian Association for Social Research (AASR)** is to advance the conduct, development and application of social research. To this end, the Association aims to:

- provide a forum for discussion and communication about social research activity among those involved in social science research;
- foster ties and cooperation between social researchers in academic, government and commercial organisations;
- form relationships with other bodies that advance the aims of the Association;
- encourage the development of social research methods and their use for both pure and applied social research;
- promote standards of work and codes of practice.

Since the AASR was founded in 1992, it has established a newsletter, *In Touch*, a journal, the *Australian Journal of Social Research*, and held three national Social Research Conferences. Most recently, it has established its own listserv discussion group, and relocated and revised its own Web Site.

For complete information about the Association, including membership details, future conferences, and contact details for its Executive, see the AASR home page (<http://www.csu.edu.au/research/aasr/>) or contact:

Dr Malcolm Rosier AASR Membership Office 249 Eramosa Rd West Moorooduc VIC 3933.
Phone: (03) 5978 8329 Fax: (03) 5978 8623
email: rosier@survey-design.com.au

Eurobarometer Databases at ZEUS

The Eurobarometer data-bases at ZEUS are now accessible via the Internet.

ZEUS — the "Zentrum fuer Europaeische Umfrageanalysen und Studien" at the University of Mannheim — is currently in a process of re-definition. As a first outgrowth of this, our Eurobarometer databases are now accessible via the Internet at:

<http://zeus.mzes.uni-mannheim.de>

It is now possible for every comparativist to identify survey questions relevant for his or her research, and to determine when and how often particular questions (or different but similar ones) have been

asked in the 25 years of Eurobarometer survey history. The obvious next step is to allow users to retrieve from our databases not just questionnaire information but the data itself — in the form of SPSS portable files containing multiple variables from a plurality of surveys, which will come with proper labelling and definition of missing cases. We are currently working on this.

Your evaluations of, and suggestions about, this new facility are very welcome!

Hermann Schmitt. [Hermann.Schmitt@mzes.uni-mannheim.de]. "[EB] Eurobarometer databases at ZEUS". In Eurobarometer [eurobarometer@icpsr.umich.edu]. 26 May 1997.

New Data Releases

The 1994 Study of American Families: A New Resource For Sibling-Based Research

In 1994, Robert D. Mare and Robert M. Hauser fielded a topical module for the General Social Survey (GSS) that focused on the role of families in the transmission and maintenance of socioeconomic inequality. Specifically, the module supplemented the usual GSS socioeconomic variables by collecting information about (a) GSS respondents' first occupations, (b) GSS respondents' mother's occupations when respondents were young, and (c) respondents' first spouses (if married more than once). In addition, the topical module included a second short test of cognitive ability, an abstract reasoning module from the Weschler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS). Finally, the 1994 GSS topical module obtained identifying information for one randomly selected sibling for each of the 2,992 GSS respondents who had at least one living sibling above the age of 25.

Using this information about siblings' addresses and telephone numbers, the Study of American Families (SAF) then conducted a telephone interview with 1,155 of those siblings, asking essentially the same questions that were asked of 1994 GSS respondents in person. The SAF went beyond the GSS interview, however, by collecting information about a second selected sibling (in addition to the GSS respondent) and by asking about the educational and occupational attainments of a much larger number of relatives.

Guy, Laura. [guy@SSA.WISC.EDU]. "Data Availability Announcement." In IASSIST List. [IASST-L@yalevm.ycc.yale.edu]. 10 April 1997.

Growth of American Families, 1955 and 1960

These studies focus on women's attitudes toward fertility and family planning in 1955 and 1960. A group of child-bearing age women in the nation was interviewed using an area probability sample procedure. Information about their attitudes toward marriage, contraception and children was collected. Additional demographic and socioeconomic variables were included to identify factors influencing their family planning and fertility decisions.

Guy, Laura. [guy@dpls.dacc.wisc.edu]. "Data Availability Announcement." In Archive. [archive@dpls.dacc.wisc.edu]. 3 September 1997.

Soviet Nationalities Data: 1926 and 1959 Censuses

The data represent an attempt to compile as much of the systematically arranged quantitative data on Soviet nationalities as could be garnered from published sources. The principle sources were the 1926 and 1959 Soviet census reports (full references are included in the documentation) and such statistical handbooks as *Naradnoe khoziaistvo* and *Kul'turnoe stroitel'stvo*. The central goal was to compile all available quantitative information on the linguistic practices and level of socio-economic development of Soviet ethnic groups. All groups that had been granted recognition in the form of their own constituent Union Republic, Autonomous Republic or Autonomous Province (Oblast) have been included — at least an attempt was made to acquire information about such groups. In addition, for a number of "non-native" groups (Jews, Poles, Hungarians, Germans, etc.) whatever systematic information that could be found has been included — though for many purposes the researcher may wish to exclude these groups from the analysis. For almost all of the variables coded, the data are complete for the major nationalities of the Union Republics; for most variables data for up to 35 groups are complete; for some variables more than 50 groups are covered.

Guy, Laura. [guy@SSA.WISC.EDU]. "Data Availability Announcement." In IASSIST List. [iasst-l@columbia.edu]. 3 July 1997.

Conferences

National Assessment Institute 1997, Melbourne 1 to 3 October 1997

The Faculty of Education at The University of Melbourne will conduct the 1997 annual Assessment Institute from October 1 to October 3. The program this year has been expanded on that offered last year. A total of 17 courses are planned and leading specialists in each area have been recruited as instructors. Courses will enable participants to increase skills by attending their choice of subjects from a range of areas including basic assessment design, portfolio, assessment analysis and others in schools, training centres or the workplace.

The second annual National Assessment Institute offers a wide range of possibilities for training and upgrading of skills in assessment and related fields for those working in either schools or industry or both. Course notes will be provided. Some courses involve fieldwork either during the Institute or after, in order to achieve certification status.

Contact: NAI Box 71 Coldstream 3770.

Ph/Fax: (03) 5964 9296.

Email: pjprs@ozemail.com.au.

URL: <http://www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/LASE/files/ARC/courses.html>.

Training in Cross-National Research with Longitudinal Household Panels, CEPS/ INSTEAD, Differdange/Luxembourg 6 to 17 October 1997

The Panel Comparability (PACO) project is a centralized approach to create an international comparative database integrating micro data from various national longitudinal household panels over a larger number of years.

The aim of the (PACO) training workshops is to enable social scientists to turn regularly to cross-national and truly comparative panel data. The researchers will have the opportunity to get acquainted with the panel studies existing in Europe. The participants will meet with specialists in comparative research and panel analyses. They will learn more about the various national taxation and social security systems, the domestic labour markets, the way they operate and how they affect the various groups and categories of people within the total population.

The training session is intended for young researchers (under 35 years) who plan to use panel data, are engaged in comparative research or plan to undertake such work in future.

The PACO training course is supported by the Training and Mobility of Researchers (TMR) Programme of the European Community. This grant will be only available for citizens from the EU and associated states (Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Norway). It largely compensates (up to 100 %) for travel expenses, accommodation, meals and inscription fees.

More information about the PACO Project and the PACO Training Session can be found on the CEPS-Homepage where the application form can be downloaded.

<http://www.ceps.lu/>

Alternatively you could also ask us to send to you an Email containing (1) a description of the PACO Database, (2) the course program and (3) the application form. Please tell us if you can read attached Word-DOC files or if you want to receive 'ASCII' files.

Contact: Gunther Schmaus, PACO Project CEPS/INSTEAD, B.P.48 L-4501, Differdange/Luxembourg. Tel:+352-585855-509. Fax:+352-585560. Email: gunther.schmaus@ci.rech.lu.

**Professional Recognition of Social Work, Melbourne, Vic
10 November 1997**

This is the Australian Association of Social Workers Victorian Branch State conference. It will be the Victorian launch of the AASW's new Continuing Professional Education Policy which aims to raise the standards, accountability, and status of social work practice. Consideration will also be given to the impact of changes in the welfare state on the social work profession.

Contact: AASW Victorian Branch, PO Box 367, Carlton South 3053. Phone: (03) 9663 3889. Fax: (03) 9639 1820. Email: aaswvic@aasw.asn.au.

**Celebrating Cultures and Commonality - 2nd IAAH Pacific Rim Conference on Adolescent Health, Sydney, NSW
12-14 November, 1997**

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the founding of the International Association for Adolescent Health, this conference aims to promote the health and well-

being of young people throughout the Pacific Rim. The conference will provide a forum for the promotion of innovative and creative approaches to health promotion and service delivery; education, training and research; policy development and implementation; youth and community programs. Participants are invited to submit papers, posters and workshops no later than 16 May 1997.

Contact: Conference Secretariat, 2nd IAAH Pacific Rim Conference, Education Centre, The New Children's Hospital, PO Box 3515, Parramatta NSW 2124.

Ph: (02) 9845 2091/2092. Fax: (02) 9845 2999. Email: janicec@mania.com.au.

**Australian and New Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law, 17th Annual Conference, Adelaide SA
13-16 November**

ANZAPPL's annual congress is a forum for exploring interdisciplinary issues within the health, justice and correctional systems. The conference theme is 'Pivotal and ethical issues in mental health, the law and corrections'. Proposals for workshops, symposia, papers and posters are invited (deadline 28 April 1997).

Contact: Conference Secretariat, Festival City Conventions, PO Box 949, Kent Town SA 5071. Ph: (08) 8363 1307. Fax: (08) 8363 1604.

**Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Welfare in Australia 1997: What you need to know, Canberra, ACT
20 November 1997**

To coincide with the launch of *Australia's Welfare 1997: services and assistance*, the AIHW is presenting a one day conference on welfare in Australia. Plenary and concurrent sessions will be held to discuss the content of *Australia's Welfare 1997*, and other issues relevant to welfare services in Australia. Topics covered include family and welfare services in Australia, housing assistance, welfare expenditure, children's services, aged care services and disability services. The keynote speakers will be Dr Peter Travers (Associate Professor of Social Administration at Flinders University), Professor Peter Saunders (Director of the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW) and Professor Peter McDonald (former Deputy Director of Research at the Australian Institute of Family Studies).

Contact: Mark McCarthy, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Phone: (02) 6244 1027 Fax: (02) 6244 1044.

Email: mark.maccarthy@aihw.gov.au, or visit the AIHW web site: <http://www.aihw.gov.au>.

**Suicide and Families : Towards Better Research and Practice, Surfers Paradise, Qld
27-28 November 1997**

Co-sponsors of this conference are the Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention, Lifeline Brisbane, and the Queensland Department of Families, Youth and Community Care. The program has been designed to explore and debate the following topics: mental illness and family discord; family conflict and suicidal outcomes; child abuse and identification of suicidal risk factors (the roles of teachers and the roles of parents); violence in society and murder-suicide; role attachment and failed attachment; concepts of loss experienced in separation and divorce.

Contact: Eventcorp, PO Box 5718, West End Qld 4101. Phone: (07) 3846 2833. Fax: (07) 3846 5859. Email: evc@ozemail.com.au.

**Rural Health Informatics Forum - RHIF97, Frankston, Vic and Townsville, Qld
27-28 November 1997**

The Australian Rural Health Research Institute - Monash University is hosting this rescheduled inaugural Forum at the Monash Frankston (Vic) Campus. A modified program will be hosted by the Townsville (Qld) Rural Health Training Unit. Keynotes and presentations will be seen at both venues by video conference, together with interactive plenary sessions. There will also be a simultaneous 'virtual conference' on the Internet, covering proceedings and facilitating email correspondence with authors and participants during the forum. Papers, posters, workshops and exhibitions are invited in the following areas: telehealth, technical and human support issues, consumer issues, case studies and demonstrations, and education and professional support using IT.

Contact: Ms Lorraine Thatcher, Australian Rural Health Research Institute, Locked Bag 1, Moe, Vic 3825. Phone: (03) 5127 0816. Fax: (03) 5127 0737. Email: lorraine.thatcher@med.monash.edu.au.

**8th International Conference on Management of Data, COMAD '97, Chennai Madras, India
18-20 December 1997.**

For almost a decade, COMAD has been a premier conference aimed at furthering research in the database arena. COMAD has served as a forum for researchers, users, system builders and consultants to discuss novel and challenging applications of database technology in the engineering of complex systems. COMAD '97 is the 8th in the series and will continue to strengthen this trend and aim at furthering the goal of stimulating new research directions in databases. The theme of this year's COMAD conference is — Internet and Databases.

Contact: Dr D. Janaki Ram. Phone +91 44 2351365 ext. 3521/3501. Email: comad97@lotus.itm.ernet.in URL: <http://lotus.itm.ernet.in/~comad97>.

**VALA 98 Conference, Melbourne, Vic
28-30 January 1998**

The Victorian Association for Library Automation (VALA) conference is the major Australian forum where the use of technology in libraries is discussed. This conference will feature invited overseas and Australian keynote speakers, plenary and concurrent sessions and a trade exhibition featuring the latest products from leading suppliers throughout Australia. VALA'98 hopes to explore not only the electronic/digital management of information, but also a wide range of infrastructure topics.

Contact: Convention Network, 224 Rouse Street, Port Melbourne, VIC, 3207. Phone: (03) 9646 4122. Fax: (03) 9646 7737. Email: convnet@peg.apc.org.

**2nd International Conference on Drinking Patterns and their Consequences, Perth, WA
1-5 February 1998**

A Thematic Meeting of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol, hosted by the National Centre for Research into the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Curtin University of Technology.

This conference will bring together researchers from many parts of the globe with an interest in the implications of different drinking patterns for the occurrence of alcohol related harm. Traditionally, alcohol research has concentrated on measures of the volume of alcohol intake over extended periods of time and their relationship to harm. There is a growing interest in applying additional measures which are sensitive to drinking patterns (e.g.

frequency of drinking 'binges') to both better predict and to better understand a wide range of alcohol related harms, both social and physical. This conference will explore further the significance of drinking patterns defined in terms of beverage type, time, place, setting and culture (see November 1996 issue of *Addiction* for selected papers from first conference).

Papers are invited around the following themes:

- Models and measures of hazardous drinking patterns
- Drinking pattern, culture and ethnicity
- Drinking settings
- Alcohol, drugs and injury (intentional and unintentional)
- Beneficial effects of alcohol in moderation
- Patterns of consumption and harm across geographical areas
- Implications for Drinking Guidelines.

Deadline for receipt of Abstracts (maximum 250 words) is 30 September 1997.

Contact: Tim Stockwell, National Centre for Research into the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Curtin University of Technology, GPO Box U1987, Perth, WA, 6001. Ph: (09) 368 2055. Fax: (09) 367 8141. Email: tim@ncrpda.curtin.edu.au.

**IRISS'98: Internet Research and Information for Social Scientists, Bristol, UK
25-27 March 1998.**

The first international IRISS conference aims to bring together social scientists who are interested in the Internet, either as a means of supporting their work, or as a focus of their research.

The conference's three themes: Skills, Sites and Social Effects reflect the practical and theoretical questions raised by the increased role of networked information in the social sciences and society. Topics for debate include:

- how can social scientists make effective use of the Internet in their work?
- where and how are social scientists using the Internet to enhance their work and what effect is it having on traditional roles and working methods?
- what high quality information can the Internet supply to social scientists?
- what impact does the Internet have on individuals and society and what visions do we have for the future?

We invite papers and participation from

- practitioners in the field who use the Internet to support their day to day work
- researchers using Internet information and communication in their research
- librarians developing their Internet knowledge and skills to serve a social science user group
- educators interested in using the Internet for teaching and learning
- information providers who publish on the Internet and wish to reach the social science community

In addition to concurrent paper and workshop sessions the conference will feature an ongoing poster session and a dedicated Internet gallery in a full networked environment enabling contributors to display high quality Internet resources.

Further details are available at:

<http://www.sosig.ac.uk/iriss/>

Contact: Isobel Clarke, Institute for Learning and Research Technology, University of Bristol, 8 Woodland Road, Bristol BS8 1TN. Ph: +44 (0)117 928 8474 Fax: +44 (0)117 928 8473 Email: iriss-info@bris.ac.uk.

**International Youth 98 Symposium - Public Spaces, Public Voices, University of Melbourne, Vic
23-26 April 1998**

The International Youth 98 Symposium will be jointly organised by the National Clearinghouse for Youth Studies (University of Tasmania) and the Youth Research Centre (University of Melbourne). It will be a research and practice symposium on the themes of: Young people and public spaces; Activating young people's voices; Youth agency and action. Expressions of interest in presenting to be returned by 31 July 1997 to Youth 98 Secretariat, National Clearinghouse for Youth Studies, GPO Box 252-64, Hobart Tas 7001.

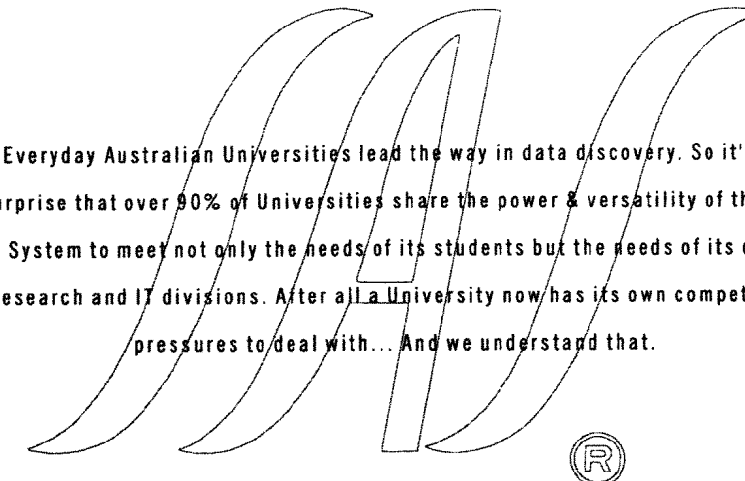
Phone: (03) 6226 2591. Fax: (03) 6226 2578
Email: NCYS@educ.utas.edu.au

Contact: Youth 98, Youth Research Centre, Faculty of Education, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, Vic, 3052.

Phone: (03) 9344 8251. Fax: (03) 9344 8256.
Email: yrc@edfac.unimelb.edu.au.

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SSDA News

Staff News

Since the last Newsletter, Sophie Holloway has returned to the SSDA, Kim Au has joined our IT Support staff, and Sue Trevenar has been away on extended maternity leave (to have her son Luke).

SSDA Web Pages

(<http://ssda.anu.edu.au>)

The SSDA Web pages are a main point of user contact with SSDA services and staff. These pages are updated regularly.

About the SSDA - describes our function to preserve machine readable data and facilitate secondary analysis of data.

Accessing our Data - includes online data order form.

Data Holdings - complete, searchable catalogue of all SSDA Australian Studies, Polls, and Census holdings.

Depositing Data - provides information for data deposit procedures with the SSDA.

Online User's Guides - a growing library of all SSDA Special User's Guides.

Downloading Data - our primary means of data distribution.

Online Analysis - OASSIS allows basic statistical analysis of our most popular data sets.

SSDA Staff - telephone numbers and email addresses for all SSDA/ACSPRI staff members.

What's New? - provides updates of new releases.

General queries can be directed to Email: ssda@anu.edu.au or Phone: (02) 6249 4400

Change of Address?

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Drop us a line on
email (ssda@anu.edu.au)
or phone us on 02 6249 4400

The Survey of Aspects of Literacy — an update from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

During 1996, the ABS conducted the Survey of Aspects of Literacy (SAL), a \$3,000,000 project which was part of the International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS) being coordinated by the OECD and Statistics Canada. Over a four year period (1994 to 1998), 26 countries will take part in the IALS, resulting in internationally comparable data about the literacy skills of their adult populations. It is anticipated that Statistics Canada will eventually become a repository for most countries' microdata files, and will facilitate access to these for research and analysis.

In the meantime, the ABS has published Aspects of Literacy: Profiles and Perceptions, 1996 (Catalogue no. 4226.0), and the main report from this survey was released in early September.

There is uncertainty, however, about whether an Australian public-use, microdata file, or Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF), will be produced from this survey. Approaches were made to all agencies involved in the survey's User Advisory Group, which included Commonwealth Departments, the Australian National Training Authority, State Departments, the Australian Council for Educational Research, business umbrella groups, and the Australian Education Union. None of these organisations expressed any interest in obtaining such a file, preferring to rely on the ABS's ability, over a number of years, to respond to ad hoc needs for extra tables and analyses. However, this was some time ago.

With the imminent release of the data, and the wind down of resourcing for the project, the ABS wants to make sure, before it is too late, that it correctly understands the demand for a CURF (that is, to confirm its earlier assessment, or to reach a conclusion that there is now real demand). Accordingly, the ABS is again seeking expressions of interest in a CURF. The standard price for these products is \$7500, and the ABS would need to be assured that there are at least four organisations intending to purchase this product before committing resources to its production.

Should sufficient interest be forthcoming from the user community, the ABS would need to address the confidentiality issues through its microdata review mechanisms, to seek in principle approval from the Australian Statistician for the release of a file, and to prepare the file and associated documentation for release (most likely on CD ROM). Realistically, it would be six elapsed months from the time a decision was made to proceed before a file would be available. Anyone wishing to pursue

this possibility, which would include the opportunity to shape the content of the file, should contact me by telephone on 06 252 5936, or by email (mel.butler@abs.gov.au) as soon as possible, but no later than the end of September.

Mel Butler
Director of the SAL
Australian Bureau of Statistics
(tel: 06 252 5936; internet: mel.butler@abs.gov.au)

ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (1975 - 1997)

The last issue of the Newsletter (#35, March, 1997, pp 22-23) included a table provided by the ABS of its recent Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs). At the request of SSDA/ACSPRI, the Bureau has now provided a comprehensive list of all CURFs from the period 1975 to 1997, including

some that have yet to be released. In the table below, each survey, its 'reference period', and its current retail price are listed, along with the medium of ABS distribution and appropriate 'Product Number' (note that 'electronic delivery' refers to any of 'floppy diskette', 'magnetic tape', and/or 'CD-Rom').

Title	Reference Period	Price
Australian Families (Magnetic Tape- #4412.0)	1982	\$1,000
Australian Housing Survey (Floppy Diskette- #4186.0.15.001) (Magnetic Tape- #4186.0.25.001)	1994	\$5,000
Census 81 - Sample Files (Magnetic Tape- #2165.0)	1981	\$1,000
Census 86 - Household Sample Files (Magnetic Tape- #2196.0)	Jun 1986	\$5,000
Census of Population and Housing: Household sample file (Electronic Delivery- #2913.0)	Aug 1991	\$5,000
Child Care Arrangements Survey (Magnetic Tape- #4413.0)	1984	\$1,000
Disability, Ageing and Carers (Floppy Diskette- #4431.0.151)	1993	\$5,000
Families in Australia (Magnetic Tape- #4417.0)	1992	\$5,000
Household Expenditure Survey, Australia (Floppy Diskette- #6544.0.151) (Magnetic Tape- #6544.0.251)	1975-76 1984 1988-89 1993-94	\$1,000 \$1,000 \$5,000 \$7,500
Income and Housing Costs and Amenities Survey, Australia (Magnetic Tape- #6541.0)	1989-90	\$5,000
Income & Housing Costs Survey, Australia (Floppy Diskette- #6541.0.151) (Magnetic Tape- #6541.0.251)	1994-95	\$7,500
Income and Housing Costs and Amenities Survey, Australia (Floppy Diskette- #6542.0)	1989-90	\$5,000
Income Distribution Survey, Australia, Sample File (Magnetic Tape- #6551.0)	1986	\$5,000
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants (Magnetic Tape- #6250.0.251)	1993	\$5,000

Labour Mobility (Floppy Diskette- #6209.0.151)	1984 1986 1994	\$1,000 \$5,000 \$5,000
National Health Survey (Formerly Australian Health Survey) (Electronic Delivery- #4324.0.551)	1977-78 1983 1989-90	\$1,000 \$1,000 \$5,000
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey (Floppy Diskette- #4188.0.151)	1994	\$5,000
Rental Investors' Survey (Floppy Diskette- #8711.0.151) (Magnetic Tape- #8711.0.251)	Jul 1993	\$5,000
Survey Rental Tenants (Floppy Diskette- #4138.0.151) (Magnetic Tape- #4138.0.251)	Apr 1994	\$5,000
Time Use Survey (Pilot Test NSW) (Magnetic Tape- #4113.1)	May-Jun 1987	\$5,000
Time Use Survey, Australia (Magnetic Tape- #4152.0)	1992	\$5,000
Training and Education Experience, Australia (Formerly "How Workers Get Their Training") (Floppy Diskette- #6278.0.151) (Magnetic Tape- #6278.0.251)	1989 1993	\$5,000 \$5,000
Working Arrangements (Magnetic Tape- #6342.0.251)	1993	\$5,000
Australian Deaths file (#NA)		\$800
Australian Perinatal file (#NA)		\$800
State Deaths files (#NA)		\$200
Yet to be released		
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns (CD Rom- #6286.0.301)	1994-96	\$7,500
Census of Population and Housing, Household Sample File (Electronic Delivery- #2913.0)	1996	\$7,500
Income & Housing Costs Survey, Australia (Floppy Diskette- #6541.0.151)	1995-96	\$7,500
National Health Survey, Sample File, Australia (Electronic Delivery- #4324.0.551)	1995	\$7,500
National Nutrition Survey (#NA)	1995	\$7,500
National Health and Nutritional Survey (#NA)	1995	\$7,500
Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing (#NA)	1997	\$7,500
Training and Education Experience, Australia (Magnetic Tape- #6278.0.251)	1997	\$7,500
Women's Safety Survey (Floppy Diskette- #4128.0.151) (CD Rom- #4128.0.301)	1996	\$7,500

All Labour Force Supplementary Surveys can be confidentialised and released as unit record files

AWIRS 95 and Panel Data

The complete Australian Workplace Industrial Relations Survey (AWIRS) 95 and Panel data has been released by the Department of Industrial Relations. The data is supplied with SPSS and SAS program files. Below is the **Research Topic (Abstract)** from the User's Guide produced by the Department of Industrial Relations.

AWIRS 95 was the second comprehensive workplace survey conducted by the Department of Industrial Relations. The first AWIRS was conducted between October 1989 and May 1990 and involved interviews with managers and union delegates in 2353 workplaces. It was conducted because of the absence of any systematic, comprehensive data base. Disparate studies could not be aggregated as they covered a wide time frame and used a range of non-comparable methodologies. Thus a main priority of AWIRS 90 was to establish the first cross-sectional picture of workplace industrial relations in Australia.

AWIRS 90 represented a benchmark against which changes could be judged. It was conducted in the expectation that future surveys would be able to measure changes at regular intervals of around five years. In this respect, the idea of an Australian series was modeled on the British program which has seen the conduct of three major workplace industrial relations surveys since 1980 and a fourth due in the field in the second half of 1997.

The 1995 survey comprises four streams:

- a sample of 2001 workplaces with 20 or more employees covering all major ANZSIC divisions except division A (agriculture, forestry and fishing) and sub-division 82 (defence), across all States and Territories (main survey);
- a sample of 19 155 employees selected randomly from the main survey workplaces (employee survey);
- a sample of managers at 1075 workplaces with 5 to 19 employees covering all major ANZSIC divisions except division A (agriculture, forestry and fishing) and sub-division 82 (defence), across all States and Territories (small workplace survey);
- a sample of 698 workplaces from the first AWIRS sample (AWIRS 90) of 2004 workplaces that were still operating in 1995 with 10 or more employees (panel survey).

The main survey and the panel survey both consisted of four different questionnaires. Three of these were delivered by personal interview and the

fourth was posted to, and completed by, the workplace and picked up at the time of the interviews. The employee survey was administered by a self-completion questionnaire individually addressed and provided to employees at their workplace. The small workplace survey was administered by a telephone interview.

If you wish to obtain a copy of the AWIRS data, please contact the SSDA on 02 6249 4400 or email: ssda@anu.edu.au

Online User's Guide Library

Since the last Newsletter in March 1997, the following titles from our Special User's Guide Series have been made available on our Online User's Guides bookshelf.

The new online User's Guides are:

- National Social Science Survey 1994
- National Campaign Against Drug Abuse 1985
- National Campaign Against Drug Abuse 1988
- National Drug Strategy Household Survey 1995
- Issues in Multicultural Australia 1988.

There are now twenty fully downloadable User's Guides (in rich text format) available Online. We welcome any comments or suggestions (ssda@anu.edu.au).

Special User's Guide for ISSS 1994

The Special User's Guide for the International Social Science Survey, (formerly the National Social Science Survey) 1994. (Principal Investigators Jonathan Kelley, Clive Bean, M.D.R. Evans, Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University; and Krzysztof Zagorski, University of Melbourne) is now available with the SSDA's Online User's Guides.

Below is the **Research Topic (Abstract)** found in the **Study Description** of the new User's Guide.

International Social Science Survey 1994 User's Guide for the Machine-Readable Data File SSDA Study No. D966

This file is the seventh in the National Social Science Survey (NSSS) series and repeats many of the questions asked in the previous rounds. The survey also includes questions asked as part of the

International Social Survey Programme. Comparative data from all countries in the Programme are processed and distributed by the Zentralarchiv für Empirische Sozialforschung (ZA) at the University of Cologne (Private Business and Government Enterprises, and Environment II).

The data file contains a wide range of attitudinal questions. Sections cover attitudes to government policies; trade unionism; attitudes to political leaders, parties and election issues; voting and party identification; feeling thermometer ratings of political leaders, groups and institutions; standard of living when growing up and now; courtship and marriage; abortion; euthanasia; religious beliefs and behaviours; sexual relations and working women.

The Private Business and Government Enterprises module covers quality of private business and government enterprises.

The Inequality module covers government regulation of business; importance of hierarchical pay structure; estimates of actual and ideal salaries for various work positions; conflicts between social groups; deciding factors in pay rates; actual and ideal social structure, and respondents' position in the structure.

The Environment module includes opinions on science and nature, government involvement in environmental protection; pollution and the effects on the environment and health; behaviours to protect the environment, such as recycling; and environmental group membership.

Background variables include respondents' occupation, education and qualifications; income, assets and standard of living; trade union membership, political orientation, and religion; birthplace of parents and grandfathers, education and political orientation of parents and spouse, education of grandfathers, children and siblings.

This User's Guide is available free of charge online (URL - <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/bookshelf.html>). The data set can be ordered through our online Data Order Form (URL - http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/data_order_form.html). User's can also access this data through our OASISS site (URL - <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/oasiss.html>) to perform recodes and run crosstabulations and frequencies.

News from the ABS

The SSDA regularly receives a number of newsletters and bulletins from State ABS offices, which provide useful background information and discussion on the ABS survey activities, new user services and methodological issues, such as variable coding. Extracts from these publications are reproduced in the SSDA News for the information of our readers: **further information on any of these items should be obtained directly from the ABS offices.**

Survey Of Mental Health And Well-Being

During May and June, over 170 interviewers received intensive training on the computer aided instrument for the survey. They are currently conducting interviews in all States and Territories across Australia. When the survey is completed about 10,000 fully responding interviews are expected from adults aged 18 years or over.

Initial reactions from both interviewers and respondents have been very positive. Most interviews have been completed within an hour and the majority of respondents' comments have been supportive, emphasising the importance of collecting information about mental health in Australia.

Work on output tables for the initial publication is well advanced and the first comments from the Survey Output Advisory Group have been incorporated. The next stage will involve finalising policy tables for the Department of Health and Family Services. Work has continued in parallel on the supporting documentation, such as the Survey Users' Guide and Technical Papers, to accompany the Confidentialised Unit Record File being planned for release in the first half of 1998.

The initial, summary publication is expected to be released in early 1998.

Contact: Tony Cheshire (02) 6252 6415

Survey Of Disability, Ageing And Carers

This survey will be conducted in mid-1998. Pilot testing of the survey is currently being undertaken.

The survey will estimate the total number of people in Australia who have a disability; and the numbers of people who have a disadvantage in self-care, mobility, communication, employment or education. Data on the level of support needed and received in

these areas will be collected together with unmet need and reasons for not receiving enough assistance. A module is being developed covering difficulties with managing emotions (behaviour for children), relationships and making decisions.

People with disabilities, and all people aged 60 and over will be asked about activities in which they participate, and the need for, and receipt of assistance with health care, housework, home maintenance, meal preparation, personal affairs (paying bills, writing letters), and transport. For Carers, there will be a focus on employment experience, expanding on questions asked in the 1993 survey.

Information on disability has also been collected in the 1992 Time Use Survey, the 1993/94 Household Expenditure Survey, and the Survey of Training and Education. This allows comparisons of time use patterns of people with disabilities compared with other people, and the expenditure of households having someone with a disability.

Contact: Joan Burnside (02) 6252 5315

Aspects of Literacy, Assessed Skill levels, Australia, 1996

This report (ABS Catalogue no. 4228.0), to be released by the ABS on International Literacy Day (8 September), will contain objective measures of adult Australians' literacy skill levels when it comes to dealing with material printed in English, including comparisons between States/Territories, and with other countries that have so far taken part in the International Adult Literacy Survey. As well as chapters that present a statistical profile of literacy skills, and a detailed description of the Item Response Theory methodology, the publication features four articles which comment on the data from different perspectives. These are:

- So - how many people can't read? (Marion Norton)
- The quantitative literacy performance of Australians (Joy Cumming)
- Literacy, numeracy and the labour market (Paul Miller)
- Public policy and literacy research data: will knowing lead to doing? (Joseph Lo Bianco)

The results of the survey, and their implications, will be the subject of a National Forum being held by the Australian Council for Adult Literacy in Canberra on 16 September (contact Despina Scarano on 0419 469 180 for more information).

Information over and above what is in the 150 page publication will also be available via the ABS's Information and Statistical consultancy services.

Contact: Mel Butler (02) 6252 5936

Australian Demographic Trends 1997

Australian Demographic Trends (ABS Catalogue No. 3102.0) provides an overview of Australia's population trends throughout this century, especially in the past 10-20 years.

The publication covers population growth and distribution, age and sex composition, fertility, mortality, and international and internal migration. In addition, time series from the turn of the century for the main demographic indicators are presented.

The following are some of the highlights from the publication:

The years from 1984 to 1994 were a period of continuing decline in mortality rates, which in the context of low fertility rates resulted in continued ageing of the population. In 1993-94 the median age increased by 0.35 years to 33.4 years, this is the most rapid increase in the median age since 1921.

In 1993-95 life expectancy at birth was 75 years for males and 81 years for females, an increase since the turn of the century of 20 years and 22 years respectively.

Fertility patterns have changed dramatically in recent years. Late last century Australia's fertility rate was falling, reaching an estimated 3.5 babies per woman by the turn of the century. In the mid 1970's, Australia's total fertility rates fell below two babies for the first time since records have been kept. It has remained there ever since. In 1995, Australian women had an average of 1.82 babies each. While there had been stability in the total fertility rate over the past two decades, the age of mothers and the proportion of births outside marriage have both increased significantly.

Contact: John Paice (02) 6252 6411

Australian Social Trends 1997

On 19 June 1997 the ABS released this year's edition of *Australian Social Trends* (ABS Catalogue No. 4102.0).

Information in the publication has been organised by major areas of social concern including population, family, health, education, work, income and expenditure, and housing.

The health chapter comprises a number of reviews including *Health of the Population*, which broadly examines the general health of Australians using data from the 1995 National Health Survey. It includes some analysis of causes of death, self-assessed health status, recent illness, long-term conditions, health risk factors and health-related actions.

More specific areas are discussed such as health issues specially relating to children, including immunisation, breast feeding and health risk factors.

The impact on health of current patterns of infectious diseases in Australia is examined from an historical perspective. The AIDS review looks at trends in the number of HIV cases diagnosed and the number of AIDS-related deaths. It also provides a profile of people infected by HIV, and discusses the major transmission modes of the virus.

Australian Social Trends also includes summary tables for each area of social concern, illustrating the changes that have taken place over the last decade as well as international comparisons. Summary tables for the Health chapter present indicators relating to health status, some causes of death, health risk factors, use of health services, and expenditure on health per person and as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product.

Contact: Glenice Taylor (02) 6252 6214

Recent Additions to SSDA Holdings

Additions to the SSDA holdings are listed below. Please note that some of these carry an Access Category which should be read as follows:

A: the depositor wishes to be informed (by the Archives) of use being made of the data, in order to comment on that use and make contact with colleagues of similar interests

B: the depositor wishes to be informed of each request to use the data in order to give or withhold permission

E: there is an embargo period - no access is permitted until after the date specified

S: there are special access conditions peculiar to the data set in question

U: as specified in the User Undertaking Form, the user is required to obtain permission in writing of

the original depositor of the data, or an authorised representative, before publishing any interpretation of such materials

tba: to be advised (Access Category not determined).

For data sets listed as having no special Access Category, users must still sign a standard Undertaking Form prior to access.

Data can be ordered via the SSDA's WWW pages at http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/data_order_form.html, or in writing, or by Email. Intending users should specify particular floppy disk, FTP or download requirements, if applicable, when ordering. Charges for data can be supplied on request.

Industrial Relations Department. **Workplace Bargaining Survey, 1992.** (SSDA Study No. 827)

The Workplace Bargaining Survey was conducted with the aim of providing a coherent and rigorous body of research to assist in informing debate and policy formulation regarding the nature and future direction of the wage fixing system. The survey investigates the processes and outcomes of workplace bargaining, evaluates the effect of existing institutional and public policy arrangements on workplace bargaining, and assesses the outcomes of workplace bargaining on workplace reform, productivity, efficiency and equity.

In particular, the aim of the survey was to obtain an overview of patterns of bargaining, the different levels at which bargaining took place, the parties involved, and the different bargaining arrangements, processes, and outcomes which have developed in Australian Industry since the establishment of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission's (AIRC) Enterprise Bargaining Principle (EBP) in October 1991. Areas of interest included the form and structure of agreements, whether they were registered with tribunals, and their relationship to workplace and legislative reform.

Background variables included interviewee's title, number of employees (full time and part time, male and female), main type of activity, and type of organisation (public or private sector).

Access Category: A

Baker, Robert G., Curtin University. **Academic Staff Perceptions Survey, 1993.** (SSDA Study No. 940)

This study was conducted to investigate how academic staff valued teaching and learning and how they perceived it was valued across the university. It specifically focused on the 'Valuing of Teaching' in relation to: research and publishing, promotional processes, students, university administration, key aspects of teaching including modes of delivery, assessment, feedback, personal teaching development, school/department teaching and development, and the demographics of teaching at Curtin University.

Variables included academics' position, status, years at Curtin University, academic area, total years of university teaching, school/college teaching, teaching qualifications, promotions, student assessment, class sizes, performance evaluation, personal and area teaching development and university administration.

Background variables include sex and highest level of qualification.

Access Category: A

Simms, Marian J, The Australian National University. **Party Elites, Australia, 1992-1996.** (SSDA Study No. 945)

The purpose of the survey was to examine the role of the elites (from the organisational wings) within the three major Australian political parties in the selection of candidates, the making of international rules and the development of party policy. Elite members of these parties were asked questions about the extent of their own commitment to ideologically oriented parties, the commitment of their political opponents, and their state party as a whole. They were also questioned about their own views on a range of economic, political and social issues. The majority of the respondents were also asked about the commitment of the average voter to ideologically oriented parties, and the average voter's views on a range of economic, political and social issues.

Background variables include respondent's age, sex, educational level and occupation.

Access Category: E (16th April 2002)

Stimson, Robert, et al., Queensland University of Technology. **Migration In Australia: A Study Of The Gold Coast, 1994.** (SSDA Study No. 954)

The study investigates the nature of long-distance migration to the Gold Coast in Queensland's south-east. Respondents were asked for socioeconomic and structural information relating to their household, about various aspects of their migration decision and its impact, as well as perceptions and expectations of the Gold Coast. The questionnaire also included open-ended questions concerning the move from the former place of residence and the move to the Gold Coast, including reasons for leaving where they lived previously, and reasons for choosing the Gold Coast as a destination. Respondents were asked about their level of satisfaction with the relocation to the Gold Coast, and about the extent to which they maintained contact with their place of origin.

The focus in this survey was on the household as a unit. Background variables including age, sex, country of birth and marital status were taken from a spokesperson for the household.

Access Category: A

Stimson, Robert et al., Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute. **Community Health Needs Study: Inala-Ipswich Corridor, 1994.** (SSDA Study No. 955)

The Inala-Ipswich Corridor Community Health Needs Study is a component of the Better Building Cities Program which aims to improve the quality of the living environments for residents in the Ipswich-Inala corridor and to hasten the pace of institutional reform at the Wolston Park Hospital Complex at Wacol and the Challinor Centre at Ipswich. The objectives of the study were to undertake a comprehensive community assessment of the corridor population in conjunction with State and Local Government departments; to determine current and potential future health needs for the Corridor consistent with trends in population projections, and to assess community expectations and utilisation of health and related services.

Residents of the corridor were asked to provide information on the following: ownership of private health insurance; use and location of, and preference for, health services such as hospitals and dental clinics; consultations with GPs and the result

of these consultations; referral to and use of specialists; awareness of kinds of health facilities in the West Moreton region and those that were used; satisfaction with services in the areas, and health services deemed necessary for the area.

Background variables include age, sex, age when left school, post-school qualifications, employment status, main source of income, use of pensions or benefits, length of time lived in West Moreton region, main language spoken at home and structure of household.

Access Category: A

Quinn, David, Peetz, David, Goodwin, Miles. Department of Industrial Relations. **Workplace Bargaining Survey, 1994.** (SSDA Study No. 958)

The 1994 Workplace Bargaining Survey included both a management questionnaire and a workplace survey of employees. The survey was conducted with the aim of providing a coherent and rigorous body of research to assist in informing debate and policy formulation regarding the nature and future direction of the wage fixing system. The survey investigates the processes and outcomes of workplace bargaining, evaluates the effect of existing institutional and public policy arrangements on workplace bargaining, and assesses the outcomes of workplace reform, productivity, efficiency and equity.

The aim of the survey was to obtain an overview of patterns of bargaining, the different levels at which bargaining took place, the parties involved, and the different bargaining arrangements, processes, and outcomes which have developed in Australian Industry in the previous twelve months in relation to the Australian Industrial Relations Commission's (AIRC) Enterprise Bargaining Principle (EBP). Areas of interest included the form and structure of agreements, whether they were registered with tribunals, and their relationship to workplace and legislative reform.

Background variables for both the employee and management surveys included respondent's age, sex, occupation and country of birth.

Access Category: A

David McDonald, Australian Institute of Criminology. **National Police Custody Survey, August 1992.** (SSDA Study No. 967)

This study is the second in a series of police custody surveys recommended by the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and provides information on those being taken into custody and held in police cells or related secure police detention facilities.

Police filling out surveys were asked to provide the following details on detainees - age, sex, time of lodgement and release from cell, reason for detention and release, and whether the detainee is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Harvey, David & Strasser, Roger. Monash University. **General Practitioners' Role in the Health System, 1995.** (SSDA Study No. 971)

The aim of this study was to investigate general practitioners' (GPs) and patients' perceptions of the terms 'resource manager' and 'gatekeeper' in respect to their adequacy as descriptors of the role of GPs in the Australian health system. Through this it looked to enable identification of aspects of the GPs' role which will be amenable to enhancement through appropriate education programs or policy changes. It also aimed to investigate the relationships between measured perceptions and independent variables associated with the practice, the GP and the patient, and to produce information of value to policy discussions on the future of health services including financing and public education proposals.

Variables investigated include GP status, GP and patient satisfaction, GP integration with health service, GP and patient opinion of health service, competition within the GP profession, patient rights, patient needs versus costs, Medicare and billing procedures.

Background variables include year of birth, sex, country of birth, marital status, occupation and education level.

Access Category: A

Boreham, Paul, et al., Labour and Industry Research Unit, Department of Government, University of Queensland. **Enterprise Bargaining Survey, Queensland, 1994.** (SSDA Study No. 974)

The Queensland Enterprise Bargaining Survey sought workplace level information on Queensland organisations with operational enterprise agreements. The rationale for the survey was that, although information was available on the formal provisions in the enterprise agreements, there was a scarcity of data on their impact at workplace level.

Variables collected include number of full time, part time and casual workers; hours worked by employees; arrangements to deal with workplace/enterprise change; the involvement of unions in the workplace; and the role of women in the workplace.

Access Category: A

Boreham, Paul and Whitehouse, Gillian, University of Queensland. **Hospitality And Retail Industry Survey, Brisbane, 1994.** (SSDA Study No. 975)

The Hospitality and Retail Industry Survey, Brisbane 1994 sought workplace level information in two large service sector industries. It is based on hospitality and retail workplaces in the Brisbane area and within this area specific types of workplaces were chosen - accommodation establishments in hospitality and grocery stores in retail. The survey focused on issues such as trends in part-time and casual work, flexibility, training, consultation and productivity.

Variables collected include employee working patterns, employee levels, organisation of work hours, pay rates, employee training and careers, staff turnover, consultation with employees, employment of women, general performance of the workplace and union membership and industrial relations.

Access Category: A

Jones, Roger, The Australian National University, McAllister, Ian, University of New South Wales & Gow, David, University of Queensland. **Australian Federal Election Returns, 1996.** (SSDA Study No. 978)

The Australian Federal Election Returns, 1996 contains election returns for all candidates for both the House of Representatives and the Senate for the 1996 Australian Federal Election, as supplied by the Australian Electoral Commission. Variables include the sex, party, electorate, state, house, number of votes, percentage of votes, ballot details,

incumbancy and the result for each candidate. A percentage measure of Labor two party preferred for the years of 1996, 1993 and 1990 is included.

Kelly, Jennifer, AGB McNair. Bland, Luz, Blackburn, Mark, Victorian Health and Community Services. **Victorian Drug Strategy Household Survey, 1995.** (SSDA Study No. 979)

The 1995 Victorian Drug Household Survey (VDHS) is the second in a series of Victoria-specific surveys run in parallel with the National Drug Strategy Surveys (NDSS). It was conducted as an extension to the fifth National Campaign Against Drugs and Alcohol (NCADA) National Drug Household Survey (NDHS) 1995. Prior to 1995, the NCADA NDHS had been conducted on four occasions: 1985, 1988, 1991 and 1993. In 1993, a Victoria-specific extension was also completed and was the first in Victorian series. In 1993 and 1995, additional interviews were conducted in Victoria using a Victoria-specific questionnaire, which contained questions of particular interest to Victorian Government organisations, as well as some core questions which were the same as those asked in the National survey.

The purpose of the VDHS was to provide information about what the Victorian community understands about drug issues and what Victorians see as priorities for government action in relation to drug issues. Also, it was intended to provide a baseline measure of community attitudes and knowledge from which to develop and evaluate the Victorian Drug Strategy.

The main variables include: perception of drug(s) causing most deaths in Australia; perception of drug(s) causing most concern for the community generally; the drug causing the most concern to the respondent personally; the number of standard drinks considered to be a risk to health; personal use of licit and illicit drugs; attitudes towards licit and illicit drugs; knowledge of information about drugs and services available for users; reaction to measures used to limit or restrict use and sale of licit and illicit drugs; and where to allocate government funds in an effort to reduce drug abuse.

Demographic variables include age, sex, location, employment status, marital status, country of birth and highest education level.

Access Category: A

Geoff Parkinson, Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs. **Australian Youth Survey, 1995: Wave 7.** (SSDA Study No. 980)

The Australian Youth Survey (AYS) is a longitudinal survey program based on annual interviews with a cohort of young people aged 16-19 in 1989, with a new sample of 16 year olds added each year from 1990-1994. From 1995, no further additions were made to the sample and interviews were conducted by telephone rather than face-to-face.

The survey aims mainly at providing data on the dynamics of the youth labour market, and in particular to address questions which are not readily covered with available sources of cross-sectional data. Labour market topics include detailed work history, job search behaviour, job training and experience with the Commonwealth Employment Service. Other topics related to the main labour market theme include secondary schooling and retention to Year 12, career advice, post-secondary education and qualifications, transition from school/study to work, health, housing and financial conditions.

Basic demographic variables include age, sex, marital status, size of household, country of birth, racial origin, parental education and occupation, religion, income, and area of residence.

Access Category: S

1. no restriction on groups to which data is to be supplied
2. DEETYA to be notified of all data supply
3. DEETYA to receive a copy of each piece of research based on AYS data
4. all groups receiving data to be charged the same price

Geoff Parkinson, Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs. **Australian Youth Survey, 1996: Wave 8.** (SSDA Study No. 981)

The Australian Youth Survey (AYS) is a longitudinal survey program based on annual interviews with a cohort of young people aged 16-19 in 1989, with a new sample of 16 year olds added each year from 1990-1994. From 1995 (Wave 7), no further additions were made to the sample and interviews were conducted by telephone rather than face-to-face.

The survey aims mainly at providing data on the dynamics of the youth labour market, and in particular to address questions which are not readily covered with available sources of cross-sectional data. Labour market topics include detailed work history, job search behaviour, job training and experience with the Commonwealth Employment Service. Other topics related to the main labour market theme include secondary schooling and retention to Year 12, career advice, post-secondary education and qualifications, transition from school/study to work, health, housing and financial conditions.

Basic demographic variables include age, sex, marital status, size of household, country of birth, racial origin, parental education and occupation, religion, income, and area of residence.

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ICPSR Additions

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins of February and May 1997. Data sets are not currently held by the SSDA, but may be ordered from ICPSR on request. Contact the SSDA for more details.

ABC News Abuse and Excuse Poll, February 1994 (ICPSR 6619)

ABC News Bosnia Attack Poll, February 1994 (ICPSR 6620)

ABC News "Nightline" Clinton Somalia Poll, October 1993 (ICPSR 6290)

ABC News "Nightline" Congressional Budget Poll, July 1993 (ICPSR 6282)

ABC News "Nightline" Haiti Poll, October 1993 (ICPSR 6291)

ABC News "Nightline" Somalia Poll, October 1993 (ICPSR 6289)

ABC News Perot Poll, November 1993 (ICPSR 6295)

ABC News Poll, September 1993 (ICPSR 6285)

ABC News Viewpoint Poll, April 1994 (ICPSR 6624)

ABC News Whitewater Poll, March 1994 (ICPSR 6621)

ABC News Whitewater Revisited Poll, April 1994 (ICPSR 6623)

ABC News/NHK G7 Summit Poll, June 1993 (ICPSR 6281)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, May 1993 (ICPSR 6280)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, August 1993 (ICPSR 6283)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, November 1993 (ICPSR 6292)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, January 1994 (ICPSR 6617)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, February 1994 (ICPSR 6618)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, March 1994 (ICPSR 6622)

ABC News/Washington Post Poll, May 1994 (ICPSR 6625)

African Coup Events Data, 1986-1990 (ICPSR 6869)

Aging of Veterans of the Union Army (Version C-1): United States Federal Census Records for Veterans of the Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Regiments, 1850, 1860, 1900, 1910 (ICPSR 6836)

Aging of Veterans of the Union Army (Version M-2): Military, Pension, and Medical Records for Veterans of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Regiments, 1820-1940 (ICPSR 6837)

Alameda County [California] Health and Ways of Living Study, 1974 Panel (ICPSR 6838)

American National Election Study, 1996: Pre- and Post-Election Survey (ICPSR 6896)

British Crime Survey, 1992: Teenage Booster Sample (ICPSR 6834)

Census of Population and Housing, 1970 [California]: Summary Statistic File 4A—Population and Housing [Fourth Count] (ICPSR 6712)

Central and Eastern Eurobarometer 6: Economic and Political Trends, October-November 1995 (ICPSR 6835)

Comparative Analysis of Small and Large Group Health Care Utilization and Costs, 1988-1990: [Western Pennsylvania] (ICPSR 6859)

Current Population Survey, February 1996: Displaced Workers (ICPSR 6879)

Dynamics of Population Aging in Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Countries, Census Microdata Samples: Czech Republic, 1991 (ICPSR 6857)

Employment and Ozone Data for Industries in Urban Counties in the United States, 1977-1990 (ICPSR 6639)

Estimating the Elasticities of Demand for Cocaine and Heroin With Data From 21 Cities From the Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) Program, 1987-1991 (ICPSR 6567)

Euro-Barometer 39.A: Health and Safety Issues, March-June 1993 (ICPSR 6194)

Eurobarometer 43.1: International Trade and Radiation Protection, April-May 1995 (ICPSR 6839)

Eurobarometer 43.1BIS: Regional Development and Consumer and Environmental Issues, May-June 1995 (ICPSR 6840)

Eurobarometer 44.0: Cancer, Education Issues, and the Single European Currency, October-November 1995 (ICPSR 6721)

Families of Missing Children: Psychological Consequences and Promising Interventions in the United States, 1989-1991 (ICPSR 6140)

General Social Surveys, 1972-1996: [Cumulative File] (ICPSR 6870)

Legidoscope: Trend Surveys of French Public Opinion and Media Usage, September 1992-May 1993 (ICPSR 6826)

Multi-User Database on the Attributes of United States Appeals Court Judges, 1801-1994 — ICPSR 6796)

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 1994 (ICPSR 6825)

National Assessment Program Survey of Criminal Justice Agencies in the United States, 1992-1994 (ICPSR 6481)

National Corrections Reporting Program, 1993: [United States] (ICPSR 6823)

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey I: Epidemiologic Follow-Up Study, 1992 (ICPSR 6861)

National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 1994 (ICPSR 6824)

National Household Education Survey, 1993 (ICPSR 6877)

National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1992 (ICPSR 6887)

National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 1993 (ICPSR 6852)

National Medical Expenditure Survey, 1987: Data From the Household Survey, Health Insurance Plans Survey, Survey of American Indians and Alaska Natives, and Institutional Population Component [Research File 40R] (ICPSR 6868)