



LFS - SAMPLE DESIGN

At every stage of the sample design, probability sampling techniques are used to ensure that the sample is random yet representative of the intended survey population.

The sample design is similar for each province.

Each province consists of a number of economic regions - areas of similar economic structure formed on the basis of federal-provincial agreements.

Each economic region is divided into Self-Representing Units (SRU's), Non-Self-Representing Units (NSRU's) and Special Areas. SRU's are cities whose population exceeds 15,000 persons or whose unique characteristics demand their establishment as self-representing units. NSRU's are those areas lying outside the SRU's. Special Areas consist of military establishments, hospitals and other institutions and remote areas.

SRU's and NSRU's are delineated into Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) which are areas that can be conveniently visited by an interviewer. A sample of PSU's is selected.

Selected PSU's are then delineated into clusters of dwellings which correspond to blocks or block faces (in urban areas) and correspond to recognizable physical boundaries (in rural areas). A sample of the clusters is selected and all private dwellings in selected clusters are listed by field enumerators.

Within each selected cluster, a sample of dwellings is selected from the list of dwellings.

Within each selected dwelling, LFS information is obtained for each civilian household member 15 years of age or older.