

StatCan Blog, June 2015

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The 2011 National Household Survey—the complete statistical story

In today's *StatCan Blog*, Chief Statistician Wayne R. Smith addresses issues and questions concerning the quality of 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) data. In late 2010, the mandatory long-form census was replaced with the voluntary NHS.

The Chief Statistician outlines the mitigating strategies and tools adopted by the agency to protect data quality. He addresses the three principal challenges associated with the NHS: sampling error risk, non-response bias, and the variability of response rates at various geographic levels.

While acknowledging the NHS challenges, Mr. Smith says that the survey yields "a rich and robust database of information" fit for use for all Canadians.

The June 2015 edition of the *StatCan Blog* is now available from the *Stay Connected* module of our website.

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