TIME USE SURVEY

METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS

PURPOSE OF THE STATISTICAL SURVEY
The purpose of the Survey on Time Use is to collect the data on the use of time for population according to different socio-economic characteristics and habits.

The Survey on Time Use was carried out continuously from 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001. The survey for Slovenia is harmonised with Eurostat's guidelines.

LEGAL BASIS FOR THE SURVEY
The survey is implemented on the basis of the Slovenian National Statistics Act (OJ RS No. 45/95) and the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys.

OBSERVATION UNITS
Observation units were all individuals usually living in the selected households. A household is a single person or a group of persons who live together and share expenses related to common living and eating.

Temporarily absent persons, who were not present at the time of survey for more than 3 months, were excluded from the survey, i.e. persons in prisons, persons in hospitals, workers temporarily working in other countries, etc.

Persons in armed forces were counted as household members, but they did not answer the survey questionnaire. All persons who were absent (up to 3 months) at the time of the survey were counted as household members, but they did not answer the questionnaire if absent for
more than 14 days from designated date. Children under 10 years of age were also counted as household members, but they did not answer the questions or fill in the diaries.

**COVERAGE**
The sample included 4,500 households in Slovenia, each quarter 1,122 to 1,128 households. The sample was evenly distributed throughout the survey period, from 1 April 2000 until 31 March 2001.

The results, presented in this issue of Rapid Reports, are based on responses of 2364 households and are final.

The sampling frame for the survey was the Central Register of Population. Thus households were selected with different probability according to their size, which we had to consider in the weighting procedure.

The sample design was stratified two-stage. The sample was stratified according to size of the settlement and percentage of rural population in the settlement. Primary sampling units were clusters of enumeration areas and secondary sampling units were persons. Altogether 750 primary sampling units were selected, and within them six persons per unit were selected.

Besides households, the diary days were also randomly selected. Each household member aged 10 years or more filled in the diary for two randomly selected days, one weekday and one weekend day (Saturday or Sunday).

The data were weighted for unequal probability of selection adjusted for unit non-response and calibrated to the known population values according to region, age, household size and sex of respondent.

The response rate was 54.3% and the refusal rate was 22.6%. In the calculation of the response rate only households with at least one diary were considered.

**SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION**
The data were collected with household questionnaires, personal questionnaires and the time use diaries. Time use diaries cover 24-hours periods and are divided into 10-minutes intervals where the respondents recorded their activities.

Every person filled in the two diaries for two days defined in advance: one weekday (from Monday to Friday) and the other weekend day (Saturday or Sunday). If the person was not present, we postponed the filling of the diaries for seven or fourteen days. In any case the day remained the same. For example, if the originally designated day was Monday, in the case of postponement the diary was also filled on Monday. All household members filled in the diaries on the same date.

**DEFINITIONS**
As regards activity, the respondents are divided according to their activity during the week before the survey (from Monday to Sunday).
Working age population are all persons aged 15 years or over.

Persons in employment are those who during the last week (from Monday to Sunday) prior to the interview did any work for payment (in cash or kind) or family gain. Persons who were not working but had a job from which they were temporarily absent are also included. The same applies to workers on lay-offs, persons on maternity leave and unpaid family workers.

Unpaid family workers are those who were not in paid employment or self-employment during the last week prior to the interview, but did some work on the family farm, in the family enterprise or some other kind of family gainful activity; they normally do not receive regular payment.

Unemployed persons are those who during the last week prior to the interview:
- did not work (not in paid employment or self-employment and did not do any paid work) but
- were actively seeking work and
- were currently available for work (within two weeks).

The labour force are persons in employment and unemployed persons.

Inactive persons are those, aged 15 years or over, who are not classified as persons in employment or as unemployed persons.

Average time per day spent by persons is calculated on the basis of all diaries. In tables with notes, average time is calculated on the basis of those diaries in which an individual activity was recorded.

Primary activities are the activities that were written down in the time use diaries as the primary activity.

Secondary activities are activities going on besides primary activities.

All activities are the primary and secondary activities together.

Household care and informal help to other households involves activities connected with food preparation, household upkeep, making and care for textiles, gardening, construction and repairs, shopping and services, household management and informal help to other households.

Family care includes activities connected with childcare and help to an adult family member. All travelling of persons is included to group travelling with the exception of travelling where the principal purpose is sport (walking, cycling, etc).

EXPLANATIONS
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PUBLISHING
The final results were published in the publication Rapid reports 15/3 from 20th June 2002.
REVISION OF THE DATA

OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS
Methodology was published in the series Methodological Material, Time use survey, No 8, year 2002, ISSN 1408-1482 ISBN 961-6349-82-1. The publication is available only in Slovenian language.

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