

# Economics 361

January 2012

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## Assignment No. 1

Access Statistics Canada data available on-line in the CANSIM database on annual real earnings of individual men and women workers since 1980 in Canada. Steps to access these data series:

- Using an on-campus computer, get on the Economics Department webpage:  
<http://www.econ.queensu.ca/>.
- On this webpage, click on the “Queen’s” tab on the top RHS of the page, then click on “More resources”, and then “Library Resources”.
- Click on CANSIM at CHASS – University of Toronto.
- Click on Historical version of CANSIM.
- Click on CANSIM II at CHASS.
- Click on Continue in English.
- Click on Access CANSIM II (5<sup>th</sup> bullet down).  
\* Access a CANSIM II Series by label.

Under “Access a CANSIM II Series by label”, type in a desired series label such as v25655152 (earnings for men), and click on “Submit”. At the bottom of the screen (you will need to scroll down a bit), click on “Retrieve”. Then either save the series onto your drive or disk, or print out a hard copy using the toolbar options at the top of your screen. Then go back two screens, type in a new series label such as v25655632 (earnings for women) and repeat the retrieval of this series.

Use these two data series to examine what has happened to earnings levels of women and men in Canada since 1980.

- i) What are the major patterns that have occurred in these two series?
- ii) What explanation can you offer for these changes?

**Expected length:** 6 - 10 pages (printed, double spaced).

**Due:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 (in class).