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**Lessons from the Buenos Aires Time Use Survey**

**Valeria Esquivel**

## *Lessons from the Buenos Aires Time Use Survey*

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The paper summarizes the methodological design and main findings of the Buenos Aires Time Use Survey. The survey was conducted in November and December 2005 as a module attached to the Buenos Aires Encuesta Anual de Hogares (Annual Household Survey) by the Directorate-General of Statistics and Census of the City Government, and it was design an analyzed as part of a cooperation agreement between the Statistical Office and Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento.

The survey, which drew upon and adapted the South African approach, is quite distinct from other Latin American experiences, which have either followed the task format (short task or 'exhaustive' approaches) or the 'stylized diary' approach. The paper shows how decisions in terms of questionnaire design were taken, the challenges faced and the strengths of the selected approach given the context in which it was applied. It also presents the design of the Classification of Activities, the main issues in enumerators' training, criteria adopted when editing, and the design of basic tabulates, including alternative treatment of simultaneous activities.

The paper describes results focusing on how paid and unpaid care work are distributed, and the length of the working day for men and women according to age, income strata and household type. It also shows 'daily rhythms' during week days and weekends.

Finally, the paper discusses the possibilities of applying this framework to conduct time use studies on a national basis.