

Survey Research

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News From COPAFS

*Items excerpted from the Council of Professional Assocs. on
Federal Statistics (COPAFS) newsletter.*

Update on 1997 Federal Statistical Agency Budgets (as of Summer 1996)

Congress is moving along faster than last year. The House of Representatives now has "markup figures" for all but one of the 11 major federal statistical agencies. The Census Bureau received only about half of its request for periodic programs. The bulk of this request was \$106 million for the 2000 Census (\$84 million markup figure). The Bureau of Labor Statistics was also underfunded but did receive the \$16 million requested for the Consumer Price Index revision. Full or nearly full funding was given to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the USDA Economic Research Service, the Energy Information Admin., the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Center for Education Statistics, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

Congress Is Reviewing Census Sampling

Congress wants to see a more accurate and cheaper Census. The 1990 Census attempted to reach every household with massive follow-up and eventually reached 98.2% of households, but the cost was \$750 million. At the same time, it missed a disproportionate number of minority residents. Clearly, changes in follow-up procedures could result in major cost savings.

The Census Bureau would like to adopt a new approach—SNRFU (sample for nonresponse follow-up). However, at least three congressional representatives already have come out against this idea, and two bills have been introduced that would prohibit or limit sampling. Stay tuned.

Confidentiality and Sharing of Federal Data

The Office of Management and Budget and the Treasury Dept. have submitted legislation (the Statistical Confidentiality Act of 1996) that would enable certain federal statistical agencies to share individually identified data. The bill would provide safeguards for confidentiality, while improving the efficiency of data gathering.

The bill would designate statistical data centers that could share information (the National Science Foundation Div. of Science Resources Studies, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics, the Energy Information Admin., and the IRS Statistics of Income Div.). This concept is encouraged by the research community to counterbalance declining resources for data collection. Congressional Representative Steve Horn (R-California) has indicated an interest in introducing the proposed legislation.

White House "Briefing Rooms"

Two federal statistics "briefing rooms" (Economic Statistics and Social Statistics) are now available on the Internet

at the White House Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr>. They present releases of selected economic and social indicators, organized by themes. There is no charge for access.

Current Research

NOTE: Further information on the studies described below should be obtained from the organizations conducting the studies at the addresses given at the beginning of each organization's listing. Information should not be requested through *Survey Research* or the Survey Research Laboratory. Study summaries are submitted to *Survey Research* with the understanding that additional information can be released to others.

Arkansas

University of Arkansas at Little Rock Institute for Economic Advancement

2801 S. University Ave., Library Bldg., #506, Little Rock, AR 72204; 501-569-8542; Fax: 501-569-8538

Economic Impact of Arkansas Volunteers—1995. Funded by the Div. of Volunteerism of the Dept. of Human Services, this mail and telephone survey sought to estimate the economic impact of volunteerism in Arkansas. A total of 1,185 public organizations were surveyed in the spring. Persons in Charge: Pat Davis and Janice Cook.

1996 Arkansas Manufacturing Wage and Fringe Benefits Survey. The Arkansas Industrial Development Commission sponsored this study, which it conducts annually to collect data to be used for economic development in Arkansas. This year, the data collection instrument was redesigned to facilitate mail packaging, visual presentation, and data analysis. In April, questionnaires were mailed to 2,640 establishments. Persons in Charge: Mark McManus and Pat Davis.

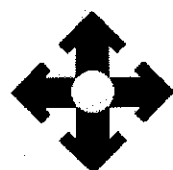
Consumer Sentiment Survey. Funded in part by the Arkansas Policy Foundation, this quarterly study collects data on consumer sentiment in Arkansas. Questions were asked on how people are getting along financially, future financial perceptions, buying patterns, and demographics. CATI interviews were completed in August with 410 randomly selected adults for third-quarter analysis. Persons in Charge: Mark McManus and Janice Cook.

Connecticut

Institute for Social Inquiry/Roper Center for Public Opinion Research University of Connecticut

Box U-164, 341 Mansfield Rd., Storrs, CT 06269-1164; 860-486-4440; fax: 860-486-6308; isi013@uconnvm.uconn.edu

National Economic Accomplishment Survey. This national survey for the *Reader's Digest* gauged the level of economic accomplishment Americans felt they have achieved. In July, 1,200 respondents aged 30 and over were interviewed by telephone and asked to compare their current



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financial situation to that of their parents when they were the same age and their current household income and consumption patterns to that of the family they grew up in. Additional questions asked about the economy and opportunities for future generations. Project Director: Everett Ladd; Project Manager: George Pittinico.

1996 Unanchored Voter Panel Study. Conducted in collaboration with the Center for Media Studies at Columbia Univ., this study examines the formation and change of voters' opinions and the impact of the media and campaign events on their opinions. Prior to the New Hampshire primary, 2,010 respondents intending to register to vote before election day were interviewed by telephone. Postconvention, postdebate, and postelection panels of 1,000 each will be accompanied by an additional cross section. Project Director: Kenneth Dautrich; Project Manager: Jennifer Necci Dineen.

Repetitive Strain Injuries and Worker's Compensation. The Section of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Dept. of Community Medicine of the Univ. of Connecticut Health Center seek to assess the scope of repetitive strain injuries (RSIs) and the involvement of people with RSIs with the state's Worker's Compensation system and to define diagnostic criteria and intervention effectiveness. Telephone interviews were conducted this year with 450 Connecticut residents affected by an RSI, 500 randomly selected uninjured residents, and 300 who filed Workers' Compensation claims. Project Director: Jila Salari Bick.

Traffic Safety Project. The Transportation Inst. at the Univ. of Connecticut commissioned a telephone survey of 1,000 state residents this spring to measure the awareness and perceived effectiveness of traffic safety and education programs presented by the state's Dept. of Transportation. Project Director: Nancy Barth.

Survey of Possible Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators. This study was conducted for the Bureau of Waste Management, Connecticut Dept. of Environmental Protection. This spring, 390 businesses, high schools, and community colleges were contacted by telephone and asked about the use and disposal of various products that are considered hazardous in order to discover current practices and interest in a centralized disposal site. Project Director: Nancy Barth.

Illinois

Center for Business and Economic Research Bradley University

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Spring 1996 Peoria-Pekin MSA Consumer Sentiment. This project was sponsored by subscriptions and by Peoria public radio station WCBU-FM. It is part of an ongoing series of twice yearly household surveys of the Peoria-Pekin MSA. The purpose was to measure consumer confidence in the economy, air pollution perceptions, WCBU-FM's image, and concerns about Social Security funding. Telephone interviews were conducted with 220 adults in a stratified random sample of residential telephone listings. Director of Survey Research: Bernard Goitein.

National Opinion Research Center (NORC) University of Chicago

1155 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637; 312-753-7610; fax: 312-753-7886; depoyphi@norcmail.uchicago.edu

Resident Travel Cost Survey. In fall 1994, NORC administered an RDD telephone survey with about 2,000 residents who lived within 100 miles of a summer 1993 oil spill off the Florida coast on their use of salt water recreation. The survey was sponsored by the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Economics Research Group (EERG), Wilmington, Delaware. Principal Investigator: Theodore Tomasi (EERG); Project Director: Catherine Haggerty.

Evaluation of Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS). This is a two-wave (1996-97) national telephone survey to be conducted with 1,335 police chiefs who receive COPS funding or who did not apply for it. The study is being conducted for the Urban Inst. with National Inst. of Justice funds to evaluate the COPS Program (Title I, 1994 Crime Control Act). Principal Investigator: Jeffery Roth (Urban Inst.); Project Director: Catherine Haggerty.

Survey on Gun Violence. This is a nationwide RDD survey of 1,200 households to take place this fall on attitudes toward gun violence, policy, advertising, and safety. The study is being conducted for the Joyce Foundation in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Univ. Center for Gun Policy Research and a national panel of experts. Project Director: Catherine Haggerty.

Contingent Valuation Public Policy Pilot Study. This study explored the interest of the public in public policy initiatives (e.g., cleaning up polluted areas) by proposing scenarios in which the respondent sets priorities for using public funding. Fieldwork was conducted in July in Portland, Oregon; Spokane, Washington; and Salt Lake City, Utah, and included face-to-face interviews and a self-administered evaluation booklet. Using a modified area probability approach, 520 respondents were sampled. Project Director: Joan Law.

The Study of Terminally Ill Patients and Caregivers. This project will examine the health care experiences, attitudes, and perceptions of terminally ill patients and their caregivers by means of face-to-face interviews with a 4-month follow-up. The patient sample was selected from patient lists of physicians sampled in six sites. The study began in March and will conclude in December. It is being conducted for the Harvard Medical School with funds from the Commonwealth Fund and the Nathan Cummings Foundation. Principal Investigators: Ezekiel Emanuel and Linda Emanuel; Director: Alma Kuby.

Survey Research Laboratory University of Illinois at Chicago

910 W. Van Buren St., Ste. 500, Chicago, IL 60607; 312-996-5300; fax: 312-996-3358; info@srl.uic.edu or 909 W. Oregon St., Ste. 300, Urbana, IL 61801-3327; 217-333-4273; fax: 217-244-4408; info@srl.uic.edu

Adult Suicide Prevention. This study for Janet Grossman (Inst. for Juvenile Research, UIC) involves two focus

groups with mothers of youth seen in the emergency department of Riverside Hospital in Kankakee, Illinois, for attempted suicide. The study will test a theory of readiness and parent action in restricting the youths' access to firearms. Work began in July and will be completed this year. Project Coordinator: Gloria Chapa-Resendez.

Sickle Cell Disease: Moving From Child Care to Adult Care. Focus groups will be conducted with adolescents and young adults with sickle cell disease and with their parents and medical practitioners on the experiences and concerns of people with the disease as they move from child-centered to adult-centered care. The results will be used to develop a transitional protocol to reduce the number of patients lost to follow-up in the transition to adult-centered care. The study is being funded by the Chicago Health Policy Research Council. Principal Investigator and Project Coordinator: Elizabeth Hauser.

Mental Health Service Utilization Among Adolescents. This is the pilot for a proposed study to evaluate the validity of mental health service use information provided by parents about their children. It will allow the development of clearer hypotheses about salience of reporting-validity issues in services research and about the cognitive processes associated with service use reporting error. A sample of 200 cases will be selected for telephone interviews and medical records abstraction. Principal Investigators: Michael Fendrich and Catherine Nageotte (UIC Dept. of Psychiatry) and Timothy Johnson; Project Coordinator: Lynn Hamilton.

Pilot Survey of Female Veterans. A convenience sample of 200 female veterans seen at a Veteran's Affairs clinic will be interviewed face-to-face on whether their mental and physical health needs were met and on the quality of service. Work on this pilot study began this summer and will continue through December. Principal Investigator: Linda Grossman (Program for Mental Health Services Research on Women and Gender, UIC Psychiatric Inst.); Project Coordinator: Elizabeth Severns.

Survey of Pharmaceutical, Medical Device, and Biotechnical Organizations. This study for Burt Weisbrod (Dept. of Economics, Northwestern Univ.) is being conducted with funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Questionnaires will be mailed to medical device, pharmaceutical, and biotechnical companies to assess the extent of their research and development projects and the long-term implications of those projects. The study began this fall and will continue through the spring. Project Coordinator: Diane O'Rourke.

Indiana

The Center for Survey Research Indiana University

1022 E. Third St., Bloomington, IN 47405; 812-855-2573; fax: 812-855-2818; kennedyj@indiana.edu; <http://www.indiana.edu/~csrwww/>

Cares. Sponsored by the Indiana Univ. Inst. for Drug Abuse Prevention and funded by the Cares Program,

Monroe County, Indiana, this study sought to find out how residents in two Indiana counties feel about drug and alcohol use and abuse as well as some of their own drug- and alcohol-related behaviors. RDD CATI interviews were conducted with 1,010 Monroe and Delaware County adults in the spring. Person in Charge: Kelley Cantrell.

Swimming Pool Accessibility Study. This study for the National Center on Accessibility sought to help establish national guidelines on swimming pool accessibility for swimmers with disabilities. In the spring and summer, a total of 510 CATI interviews were conducted with a prescreened national sample of swimmers with disabilities on the types of devices they use and their impressions of them and with managers of swimming pools on the facilities they provide for swimmers with disabilities. Project Director: John Kennedy; Project Manager: Jennifer Rudd.

Community Policing Survey. This study for the Indiana Univ. Center for Urban Policy and the Environment was funded by the Indianapolis Dept. of Public Safety. It measured resident attitudes toward conditions in 15 neighborhoods of Indianapolis in order to measure changes that occurred after the implementation of a community policing program. This was a follow-up to a similar survey conducted in 1995. CATI interviews were conducted with 5,395 randomly selected adults this summer. Project Director: John Kennedy; Project Manager: Heather Terhune.

Iowa

Survey Section Statistical Laboratory Iowa State University

219 Snedecor Hall, Ames, IA 50011; 515-294-5242; fax: 515-294-2456; nusser@iastate.edu or andywill@iastate.edu; <http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/survey/>

Ames Community School Census. Funded by the Ames School Board, a census of children under 7 years old will be conducted in this fall. Over 30 enumerators will be used to visit approximately 15,000 housing units in Ames, Iowa, to collect information useful for school board resource allocation. Project Director: Andy Williams.

An Evaluation of Educational Goals by Iowa State Univ. Graduating Seniors—Feasibility Study. This study will explore e-mail as a mode of data collection in a university population. A sample of 425 Iowa State Univ. seniors have been grouped into one of three components: e-mail users receiving an e-mail questionnaire, e-mail users receiving a telephone interview, and non-e-mail users receiving a telephone interview. Topics include educational attainment, alcohol use, sexual harassment, and attitudes toward e-mail. This research is being funded by the Univ. Project Director: Andy Williams.

A Project Evaluation of the North Central Assoc. Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. This study is being funded by the North Central Assoc. of Colleges and Schools, which grants accreditation to elementary, sec-

ondary, and postsecondary institutions in 19 states. The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education seeks opinions on its procedures and effectiveness from over 1,300 college and university presidents and individuals who visit campuses and evaluate academic programs. The project will be conducted this fall. Study Coordinator: Dianne Anderson.

Massachusetts

Center for Survey Research University of Massachusetts-Boston

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Study of Managed Care and Technology. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this telephone and mail study surveyed medical directors of HMOs and randomly selected primary care physicians about the practical aspects of managed care as reflected in the use of generic drugs and restrictive formularies; protocols concerning their use of MRIs, flexible sigmoidoscopies, PSA tests, diabetic retinopathy, and flu vaccines; and referral protocols with respect to selected specialists. Management tools were concurrently explored. Study Director: Brian Clarridge.

Across Ages: An Intergenerational Approach to Drug and Alcohol Prevention. Funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, this is an evaluation of a school-based intervention to curtail alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among youths in high risk settings. The program has been implemented in three middle schools in Springfield, Massachusetts, a racially mixed community in which large numbers of youths are economically disadvantaged. Self-administered questionnaires are completed during class time. The project will involve 250 youths per school year over a 3-year period. Study Director: Robert Aseltine.

Evaluation of an Automated Interviewer Monitoring System. Under a grant from the National Cancer Inst., Quantum Research Corp. has developed new computer software called TIMES for recording complex ratings and observations in a database while monitoring survey interviews. The system permits monitors to code on a delayed basis and to review interviews. CSR is developing and evaluating alternative protocols for improving interviewer supervision, evaluating survey questions, and producing management tools for field directors and study specific profiles of the quality of data collection. Study Director: Floyd J. Fowler, Jr.

National Technical Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Needs Assessment Harvard University

875 Massachusetts Ave., 7th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139; 617-864-9115; fax: 617-864-2658

Assessing Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Needs. NTC is assisting four states that will conduct surveys of adolescent substance abuse treatment needs. NTC has modified the Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children for telephone administration in a sample of 12,825 adolescents. The modifications include assessment of treatment

needs for the past year, met and unmet demand for treatment, and barriers to treatment. States will use this information along with data from other studies to determine statewide treatment needs. Study Director: P. Allison Minugh.

Michigan

Survey Research Center University of Michigan

Inst. for Social Research, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248; 313-764-8365; fax: 313-764-4353

Job Loss. This joint project with George Washington Univ. in Washington, DC, will study how couples cope with job loss and how negative impact can be lessened through training in job-seeking skills, financial management, and so on. Fourteen hundred couples will be recruited at Detroit-area Michigan Employment Security Commission offices for an in-home interview, after which they will be randomly assigned to either a control group to receive self-instructional materials or an experimental group to be invited to participate in a seminar. Three mail follow-ups over the course of a year will measure the effectiveness of the intervention. Principal Investigators: George Howe (George Washington Univ.), Richard Price, and Amiram Vinokur; Study Director: Zoanne Blackburn.

Health and Retirement Survey Wave III. With funds from the National Inst. on Aging, this longitudinal study will explore the timing and circumstances of retirement, Social Security and pension benefits conditional on retirement at different ages, and the relationships between health and retirement and help networks and retirement. CATI (and some CAPI) interviews are expected to be completed with 10,000 respondents, with oversamples of blacks, Hispanics, and persons living in Florida. Principal Investigators: F. Thomas Juster and Robert Willis; Study Director: Pat Veerkamp.

Campaign Discourse and Civic Engagement Project. This project, funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, will help identify which campaign communications at what points in the election cycle are most useful to voters in making electoral decisions. A content analysis of campaign media will be conducted. A panel survey of a national RDD sample of 1,000 adults and a reinterview of a panel of 455 New Hampshire residents have been conducted. Respondents viewed and answered questions on segments from news programs about the presidential campaign. They will be mailed a questionnaire, followed by a preelection telephone interview and a postelection mail questionnaire. Principal Investigators: Ann Crigler, Marion Just, and Steve Rosenstone; Study Directors: Steve Pennell and Stephanie Chardoul.

Minnesota

Minnesota Center for Survey Research University of Minnesota

2331 University Ave. S.E., Ste. 141, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3067; 612-627-4282; fax: 612-627-4288

The 1995-1996 Judicial Evaluation and Retention Survey. This survey was conducted by mail for the Hennepin

County Bar Assoc. to provide confidential evaluations to the judges of the Fourth Judicial District Bench and to provide the public with relevant information regarding the reelection of judges. Questionnaires were returned by 4,210 Bar Assoc. members. The study was completed in February. Project Manager: Lewis Horner.

The Minnesota Dept. of Veterans Affairs Customer Satisfaction Surveys. The main goal of this survey was to gather information from four primary client groups on their satisfaction with Dept. services and programs, procedures, and staff responsiveness. Questionnaires were sent to (a) county veterans service officers, (b) participants in benefits hearings, (c) individuals who had filed claims, and (d) individuals who had received benefits. The study was completed in September 1995, and 1,535 surveys were returned. Project Manager: Paula O'Loughlin.

North Carolina

Statistics, Health and Social Policy Unit Research Triangle Institute

P.O. Box 12194, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; 919-541-7008; fax: 919-541-7004; rak@rti.org

The Veterans Study of Memory in Aging (VSMA). The VSMA is sponsored by the National Inst. on Aging, which is collaborating with the Duke Univ. Medical Center (DUMC) on a longitudinal study of memory troubles in old age. The target population is World War II Navy and Marine Corps veterans. DUMC has contracted with RTI for the first year of this 4-year project to complete the initial phase of data collection. This summer, RTI traced veterans, mailed advance letters, and began CATI screenings. DUMC staff will visit a subsample of the screened veterans at home for further interviews and health examinations. Project Director: Randy Keesling.

Project DIRECT Evaluation Study. Project DIRECT (Diabetes Intervention Reaching and Educating Communities Together) is being funded by CDC to decrease the burden of diabetes in largely African American communities. RTI will conduct in-home surveys in intervention and comparison communities in Raleigh and Greensboro, North Caro-

lina, to assess intervention effectiveness. Respondents will be asked about their health, diet, and exercise habits. Those with diabetes will also complete a questionnaire on their diabetes care and complications and be asked for a blood sample. Interviews with 970 people without diabetes and 290 people with diabetes are expected to be completed. Principal Investigator: Ty Hartwell; Project Director: Wendy Visscher.

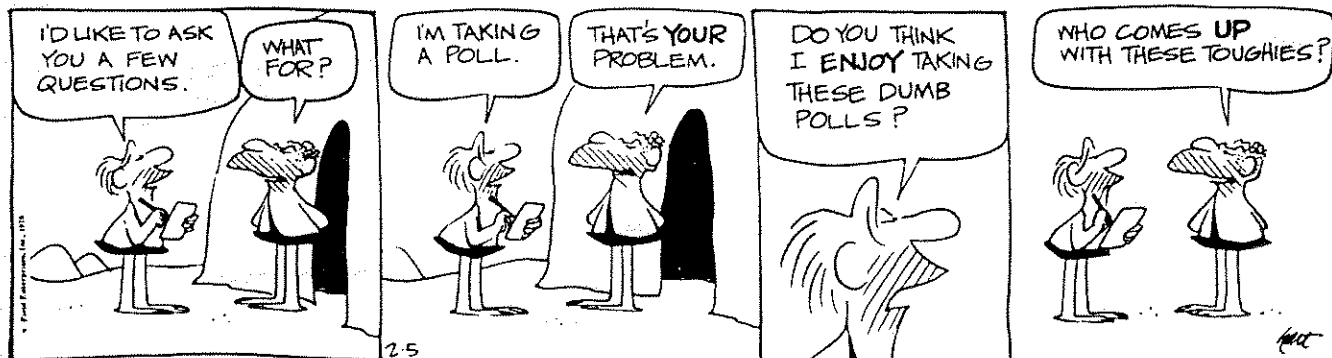
NIMH Multisite Study of Mental Health Service Use, Need, Outcomes, and Costs in Child and Adolescent Populations (UNOCCAP). UNOCCAP seeks to document the prevalence and incidence of psychiatric disorders and functional impairments among U.S. children and adolescents and the kinds and costs of mental health services they receive. NIMH awarded the grant to the UNOCCAP Steering Committee, which serves as the funding sponsor for this cooperative agreement with RTI. Preliminary studies will inform the design of the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Health, a major component of the agreement. RTI Principal Investigator: John Fairbank; Project Director: Michael Weeks.

The 1996 Employer Health Insurance Survey (EHIS). The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is sponsoring this CATI survey with a national sample of 25,000 private and public employers who do and do not offer health insurance to their employees. Topics will include health insurance programs and employee benefits; the types of plans offered and their benefits, deductibles, premiums, and plan enrollments; and general information on the workforce of the organizations. Project Director: R. Paul Moore.

1997 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA). The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin. funds the NHSDA, which started in 1971 and is now conducted annually. The 1997 survey, the federal government's primary source of national data on substance use, contains questions on health, illegal behaviors, and other substance abuse topics. The PAPI survey will be self-administered in person by 18,000 individuals aged 12 and older on a quarterly schedule. The 1997 NHSDA will also test the feasibility of utilizing CAPI/audio-CASI. Project Director: Tom Virag; National Field Director: Kelly Wayne.

B.C.

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Adolescent Drug Abuse Treatment Outcome Study (DATOS-Adolescent). Sponsored by the National Inst. on Drug Abuse, this longitudinal study examines the outcomes of long-term residential, short-term inpatient, and outpatient treatments for drug abuse and the extent to which their impacts are mediated by sociodemographic and psychosocial characteristics. Personal interviews were conducted with 3,400 youths aged 11 through 19 from 37 youth-oriented treatment programs in six metropolitan areas. One-year postdischarge follow-ups (fifth wave) are currently in progress. Principal Investigator: John Fairbank; Project Manager: Patricia Kristiansen.

Oregon

Oregon Survey Research Laboratory University of Oregon

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Federal Emergency Management Survey. CATI interviews were conducted in February with 430 residents in order to obtain information on the exposure in 22 Western Oregon counties to services offered on the experimental FEMA Recovery Channel. This survey assessed the extent to which households affected by recent floods have been made aware of FEMA services through its televised messages. Project Director: Patricia Gwartney.

Lane County Survey of Families and Children. This CATI survey, sponsored by the Oregon Commission on Children and Families, asked 800 residents of Lane County, Oregon, questions about various family-related issues, including parent education, training, and support; child and parent risk factors; children's rights and safety; child care; community involvement; and six questions from the National Issues Convention. Interviews were conducted in the spring. Principal Investigator: Patricia Gwartney; Project Director: Amy Barlow.

Lane Community College Student Survey 1996. This survey assessed student use of and satisfaction with various services offered by Lane Community College. Working with the Students First! group at the college, OSRL planned, pretested, and implemented a CATI survey of 415 the College's students in May. Principal Investigator: Patricia Gwartney; Project Director: Kimberlee Langolf.

Campus Climate Survey on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns. In June, a mail survey was conducted with 710 Univ. of Oregon students, faculty, and staff to assess their experiences relevant to their sexual orientation. The survey included an assessment of the general classroom and workplace environments, experiences with campus services, and personal safety concerns. The Univ.'s Office of Student Life sponsored the survey, which parallels a study conducted in 1990. Project Director: Kimberlee Langolf.

Oregon Dept. of Transportation Construction Site Survey. This prototype survey assessed issues of safety, convenience, travel behavior, and taxpayer satisfaction with an extensive road construction project northwest of Portland.

CATI interviews were conducted with 410 area residents in July. Project Director: Amy Barlow.

Univ. of Oregon Student Health Center Survey 1996. This annual telephone survey of Univ. of Oregon students assesses a range of student health-related behaviors including smoking, drinking, sexual behavior, stress and exercise levels, and general health behavior. In May, 405 CATI interviews were conducted. Principal Investigator: Patricia Gwartney; Project Director: Amy Barlow.

Pennsylvania

Institute for Survey Research Temple University

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Evaluating Family Experiences With Clients and Services in Ohio. This study for Richard Tessler (Social and Demographic Research Inst. at the Univ. of Massachusetts) is funded by the Ohio Dept. of Mental Health. It will evaluate family experiences in caring for a relative with a serious mental illness and gather family evaluations of mental health services. In the summer, 145 family members interviewed in 1995 were reinterviewed by CATI; in a separate study, the family members had been named by persons with serious mental illness as someone they can count on to help them out from time to time. Study Director: Ellin Spector.

Long-term Services and Outcomes in Rural Drinkers Study: 12 and 18 Month Follow-ups. This study constitutes the third and fourth waves of a longitudinal study being conducted for the Univ. of Arkansas for Medical Sciences with funding from the National Inst. on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. For the 12-month wave, 640 telephone interviews will be started this fall. Interviews with 560 respondents for the 18-month wave will terminate in March of 1998. Respondents in six southern states will be asked questions about well-being, consequences of drinking, and use of local health-related services. Study Director: Frederick Licari.

Virginia

Survey Research Laboratory Virginia Commonwealth University

Center for Public Policy, 901 W. Franklin St., VCU Box 843016, Richmond, VA 23284-3016; 804-828-8813; fax: 804-828-6133; jbradfor@hibbs.vcu.edu

Recipient Household Survey for the Virginia Medallion Program. As part of the evaluation of Virginia's Medicaid managed care programs, this survey is being conducted to compare the perceived quality of medical care between the programs. A total of 1,620 telephone interviews are expected to be completed on health status, satisfaction, and access to care. Advance letters were sent asking recipients to call a toll free number to complete the survey and offering a \$5 incentive. Nonresponders were contacted by

telephone and will be interviewed face-to-face. Project Director: Kevin Fisher.

Survey of Virginia Hispanics Concerning HIV/AIDS. The purpose of this study, conducted for the Virginia HIV Community Planning Committee in the spring of 1995, was to replicate among Hispanic Virginians an earlier 1995 general population survey in Virginia. English and Spanish telephone interviews were conducted with 490 Hispanic Virginians randomly chosen from Census tracts where Hispanic residence was highest on beliefs concerning HIV transmission and prevention, responsibility for HIV prevention and payment for treatment, respondent risk behavior, and the role of religious organizations. Project Directors: Judy Bradford and David Kenamer.

Children's Access to Health Care: Special Emphasis on Immigrant Families. This telephone survey was conducted for INOVA Health System, Fairfax, Virginia, on the access of children under 12 in the Mason District of Fairfax County to health care, the access of their families to illness and accident prevention information, and level and type of insurance coverage. Special efforts were made to reach the area's Hispanic, Korean, Vietnamese, and other immigrants. Last fall, adults from 505 families provided information on 835 children in interviews in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese. Project Directors: David Kenamer and Judy Bradford.

Increasing the Utilization of WIC Program Benefits in Virginia. Paired telephone ($n = 805$) and mail ($n = 360$) surveys of staff in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) were conducted to identify barriers to participation and offer recommendations to remove these barriers. Respondents provided data about recipients who had and had not ever missed a WIC food check pickup. The study was funded by the USDA through the Virginia Dept. of Health, Div. of Public Health Nutrition. Project Directors: Wayne Thacker and Bonnie Schneiders.

Washington

Social and Economic Sciences Research Center Washington State University

Wilson Hall, Rm. 133, Pullman, WA 99164-4014; 509-335-1511; fax: 509-335-0116; tarnaij@mail.wsu.edu

Dept. of Licensing Survey. During the summer and fall of 1995, SESRC conducted a mail survey with persons who had received driver's licenses or permits from the state of Washington in the previous 18 months. The sample was stratified by east/west and rural/urban residence, and half received an ink pen incentive and a postscript encouraging response. Respondents were asked about customer satisfaction, preferences, and needs for future service delivery; 1,440 surveys were completed. Principal Investigator: John Tarnai; Study Director: Mary Boynton.

Survey of Univ. Students and Faculty. In the spring, a telephone survey of 405 students and 360 faculty members was conducted for the Compton Union Building (CUB) at Washington State Univ. to assess current use and opinions about expansion, additions, and funding of services

for the CUB and campus recreation facilities. Principal Investigator: Danna Moore; Study Director: Mary Boynton.

Survey of Employers and Job Seekers. The purpose of these two mail surveys was to assess satisfaction with the services provided by the State's Employment Security Dept. among Washington residents seeking jobs and Washington businesses recruiting job applicants. The study sought to determine the opinions of those who have utilized the Dept. to seek work, to identify ways to improve the quality of services to better match job seekers to employers, and to ascertain which factors influence the extent of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with Employment Security Job Service Center services. Principal Investigator: Danna Moore; Study Director: Mary Boynton.

National Survey on Higher Education. This survey assessed public interest in and need for work-related education and training beyond high school. The study was funded by the Kellogg Foundation, the Farm Foundation, the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, USDA, and the universities involved in the study. A total of 1,125 RDD interviews were conducted. Principal Investigator: Don Dillman; Study Director: Priscilla Salant.

Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin Survey Center College of Letters and Science University of Wisconsin-Madison

2412 Social Science Bldg., 1180 Observatory Dr., Madison, WI 53706; 608-262-1688; fax: 608-262-8400; rlee@ssc.wisc.edu

The Rock County Community Assessment. The purpose of this study was to conduct a community assessment of the attitudes, opinions, and experiences of Rock County, Wisconsin, residents, particularly regarding social services. Funding was from the Rock County Family Resource Network (Project: Uniting Rock County). In May, 670 RDD CATI interviews were completed. The city of Beloit was oversampled to allow comparison with Janesville and the rest of the county. Project Director: John Stevenson.

Update to List of Academic and Not-for-Profit Survey Research Organizations

Connecticut

The full name of the Inst. for Social Inquiry at the Univ. of Connecticut is the Inst. for Social Inquiry/Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Illinois

The Northwestern Univ. Survey Laboratory closed in August.

Iowa

The Statistical Laboratory at Iowa State Univ. home page address should read <http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/survey/>.

Kansas

The Survey Research Laboratory at the Inst. for Public Policy and Business Research at the Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, has a new director, Kevin Nelson.

Massachusetts

The listing for the Center for Research and Global Competitiveness at the Univ. of Massachusetts Dartmouth, now the Center for Business Research and Competitiveness, should read

Dr. Harvey Kahalas, Director
Center for Business Research and Competitiveness
Univ. of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Rd.
North Dartmouth, MA 02747
508-999-8895
Fax: 508-999-8813
hkahalas@umassd.edu

Minnesota

A new addition has been made to the List:

Dr. Paul W. Mattessich, Director
Wilder Research Center
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
Suite 210
1295 Bandana Blvd. North
St. Paul, MN 55108
612-647-4600
Fax: 612-647-4623
research@wilder.org

Ohio

A new survey unit at Ohio State Univ. became operational in July:

Dr. Paul J. Lavrakas, Director
Survey Research Unit
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
The Ohio State Univ.
0126 Derby Hall
Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-6672
Fax: 614-292-6673
lavrakas.1@osu.edu

Washington

John Tarnai is now Director of the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center at Washington State Univ.

Announcements

COPAFS Seminar in November

The Council of Professional Assocs. on Federal Statistics (COPAFS) will host a seminar November 12-13 called "Statistical Methodology in the Public Service." It will

focus on a variety of topics that have been explored in a statistical working paper series under the auspices of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. Subjects will include what the public needs to know about federal statistics, training federal statisticians, reviewing and reporting quality in survey data, and survey integration initiatives in health data. The 2-day seminar will be held in Bethesda, Maryland, and the registration fee is \$125. For further information, contact Edward Spar or Susan Cohen at the COPAFS office at 703-836-0404.

JPSM Short Course

The Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM) will offer a 2-day short course called "Introduction to Survey Measurement Quality," presented by Paul Biemer November 21-22. The course will be held at the Univ. of Maryland Inn and Conference Center in College Park. The registration fee is \$400 for nonstudents and \$250 for full-time university students. For further information, contact JPSM by phone at 800-937-9320 (direct 313-763-2359) by fax at 313-764-8263, or by e-mail at jpsm@umich.edu.

GSS Student Paper Competition

The National Opinion Research Center at the Univ. of Chicago announces the second annual General Social Survey (GSS) Student Paper Competition. Papers must be based on data from the 1972-1994 GSSs or from the GSS's International Social Survey Program, represent original and unpublished work, and be written by a student or students at an accredited college or university. College graduates are eligible for 1 year after receiving their degree.

Papers will be judged on their contribution to understanding of contemporary American society, development and testing of social science models and theories, statistical and methodological sophistication, and quality of writing. The 40-page limit (double spaced) includes tables, references, appendices, and so on. Separate prizes will be awarded to the best undergraduate and graduate-level entries. Winners will receive \$250, a plaque, and the MicroCase Analysis System, including data from the 1972-1994 GSSs. Winning papers will be eligible for publication in the GSS Student Report Series.

Send two copies of each paper for receipt by February 15 to Tom Smith, General Social Survey, National Opinion Research Center, 1155 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637. For further information, contact Dr. Smith at 312-753-7877; fax: 312-753-7886; smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu.

Personnel Notes

John Tarnai, formerly Associate Director of the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center at Washington State Univ., has been promoted to Director. A new Research Associate has been hired: *Dretha Phillips*, formerly of the Dept. of Sociology at Roanoke College, Virginia.

At the Center for Survey Research, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, *Heather Terhune* was promoted to Project

Manager, and *John Novak* was promoted to Special Research Assistant.

Rachel Woolley has joined the National Opinion Research Center as Survey Director, previously having worked for Blue Cross-Blue Shield.

Don Camburn joined the Research Triangle Inst. as a Principal Scientist in the Survey Research Div. He was previously with Abt Associates.

Response Analysis has two new Senior Research Directors: *Edward Freeland*, who comes to Response Analysis from Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., and *John Zeglarski*, who comes from Ronin Corp. *Krystal Backus* and *Kevin Kelly* have been promoted and are now Research Associates. *Roy Baldassari* has been promoted to Senior Vice President. *Nancy Cox* and *Shannon Wenzel* are now Senior Research Associates.

New staff members at the Survey Research Laboratory, Virginia Commonwealth Univ., are *Audrey Jordan*, Research Associate, formerly employed by the Virginia Dept. of Mental Health; *J. Clifford Fox*, Senior Research Associate, formerly employed by the Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium in Richmond, Virginia; *Peter Maynard*, Research Associate, who received his Ph.D. from the Univ. of Tennessee in March; and *Anne Kisor*, Research Associate, who received her Ph.D. from Virginia Commonwealth Univ. in May.

Jobs ⇌ People

This free column is for the convenience of people available for work in survey research and organizations that have job openings in survey research. Listings should be sent to Diane O'Rourke, Managing Editor, *Survey Research*, Survey Research Laboratory, Univ. of Illinois, 909 W. Oregon St., Ste. 300, Urbana, IL 61801-3327 or e-mailed to survey@srl.uic.edu. Names will be coded if requested.

Openings

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, anticipates an opening for the position of **Director of the Div. of Health Interview Statistics**. The Director provides leadership in the design, development, and operation of statistical and information systems based on household interview surveys, including the National Health Interview Survey. Candidates must have experience in planning, coordinating, and directing large-scale population-based surveys; broad knowledge of health research and policy issues; and demonstrated expertise in conducting analytic and methodological research. For additional information, contact Gina Wise, Personnel Management Specialist, NCHS, 6525 Belcrest Rd., Rm. 1175, Hyattsville, MD 20782; 301-436-6052 ext. 134; gbw8@nch11a.em.cdc.gov.

The Inst. for Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at the Univ. of Connecticut seeks candidates for **Assistant or Associate Professor**. Research and teaching will focus on survey research within the Puerto Rican, Mexican American, and

other Latino communities in the United States. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in political science or communication sciences. The position is tenure-track and will be a joint appointment among the Inst. for Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, the department of the candidate's discipline, and the Inst. for Social Inquiry/Roper Center for Public Opinion Research. Training and background in survey methodology and experience in public opinion survey research, a commitment to teaching, and the capacity to establish and run a regional and national survey program focusing on Latinos are required. Screening of applicants will begin December 1, 1996, and the position will begin on September 1, 1997. Send curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, and a statement of research and teaching interests to Prof. Scott Cook, Acting Director, Inst. for Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, 354 Mansfield Rd., Beach Hall, Rm. 412, U-137, Storrs, CT 06269-2137. We encourage applications from members of underrepresented groups, including minorities, women, and people with disabilities. (Search #97A60)

Publications

NOTE: The publications listed below should be obtained from the author, organization, or publisher cited or from your local library. They are not available through *Survey Research* or the Survey Research Laboratory.

1995 ASA-SSRM/AAPOR Proceedings Available

The *American Statistical Association 1995 Proceedings of the Section on Survey Research Methods* are now available. The two-volume, 1,177-page proceedings include papers presented at the August 1995 Annual Meetings of the American Statistical Assoc. (ASA) as well as the May 1995 American Assoc. for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) conference. The cost is \$55 for ASA members and \$78 for nonmembers, plus \$7 for shipping. To order a set, contact ASA at 1429 Duke St., Alexandria, VA 22314-3402, 703-684-1221; fax: 703-684-2037.

SMPO Proceedings Available

SMPO: Proceedings of the International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality, Contributed Papers (conference held April 1-4, 1995, Bristol, U.K.) is now available. Copies can be purchased for \$40 from the American Statistical Assoc. (see announcement above for contact information). The invited papers from this conference will be published early next year as a monograph volume by John Wiley and Sons.

SOI Methodology Report

The IRS has announced the availability of *Turning Administrative Systems Into Information Systems: 1995*, the latest edition of a set of IRS methodological reports produced by the Statistics of Income Div. (SOI). The report draws together selected papers on administrative

records research presented at professional conferences, primarily the 1995 American Statistical Assoc. conference. The report includes sections on SOI's migration data, sample designs, weighting and estimation, analytical approaches to quality improvement, and record linkage applications for health care policy.

To obtain a free copy, contact Statistics of Income Div. CP:R:S:S:P, Internal Revenue Service, P.O. Box 2608, Washington, DC 20013-2608; 202-874-0410; fax: 202-874-0964; e-mail: soi.sis@wpgate.irs.gov.

New Publication on Survey Methodology

The Social Survey Div. of the Office for National Statistics in London is publishing the *Survey Methodology Bulletin* twice yearly (in January and July). The contents of the current issue (July 1996) are

- Amanda White. Foreword.
- Debbie Collins & Amanda White. In search of an income question for the 2001 Census.
- Jean Martin, Sarah Cheesbrough, Tricia Dodd, Graham Farrant, & Anthony McKernan. Asking the self-employed about their income.
- Howard Meltzer. Ethical issues in conducting surveys of psychiatric morbidity.
- Jeremy Barton. Selecting stratifiers for the Family Expenditure Survey (FES).
- Charles Lound. Allocating primary sampling units for annual surveys to months of the year.

Sampson Low. Quality—an international perspective. Forthcoming seminars, conferences and meetings. New Methodology Series. Subscriptions and enquiries.

Subscriptions run £5.00 per copy in the U.K. and Ireland and £6.00 overseas. Preferred form of payment is by international money order, payable in pounds. Copies of current and previous issues can be obtained by contacting Ms. M. O'Riordan, Rm. 304, Office for National Statistics, St. Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP; 0171-396-2533.

New Methodological Publications

- Baker, R. P., Bradburn, N. M., & Johnson, A. (1995). Computer-assisted personal interviewing: An experimental evaluation of data quality and costs. *Journal of Official Statistics*, 11, 413-431.
- Bates, N., Martin, E. A., DeMaio, T. J., & de la Puente, M. (1995). Questionnaire effects on measurements of race and Spanish origin. *Journal of Official Statistics*, 11, 433-459.
- Belli, R. E., & Schuman, H. (1996). The complexity of ignorance. *Qualitative Sociology*, 19, 423-430.
- Davison, W. P. (1996). The third-person effect revisited. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 8, 113-119.

Changes of address or new contributions for *Survey Research*

Return to: *Survey Research* Newsletter
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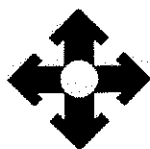
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- de Vries, W., Keller, W., & Willeboordse, A. (1996). Reducing the response burden: Some developments in the Netherlands. *International Statistical Review*, *64*, 199-213.
- Ganzeboom, H. B. G., & Treiman, D. J. (1996). Internationally comparable measures of occupational status for the 1988 International Standard Classification of Occupations. *Social Science Research*, *25*, 201-239.
- Gaskell, G. D., Wright, D. B., & O'Muircheartaigh, C. (1995). Context effects in the measurements of attitudes: A comparison of the consistency and framing explanations. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, *34*, 383-393.
- Luppes, M. (1995). A content analysis of advance letters from expenditure surveys of seven countries. *Journal of Official Statistics*, *11*, 461-480.
- Nordbotten, S. (1995). Editing statistical records by neural networks. *Journal of Official Statistics*, *11*, 391-411.
- Price, V., & Tewksbury, D. (1996). Measuring the third-person effect of news: The impact of question order, contrast and knowledge. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *8*, 120-141.
- Schuman, H., & Krysan, M. (1996). A study of far right resentment in America. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *8*, 10-30.
- Tourangeau, R., Rasinski, K., Jobe, J., Smith, T., & Pratt, W. (1995). *Sources of error in a survey on sexual behavior*. Washington, DC: National Opinion Research Center.
- Tourangeau, R., & Smith, T. W. (1996). Asking sensitive questions: The impact of data collection mode, question format, and question context. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *60*, 275-304.



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